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PIZZA WARS II

Okay, pizza lovers, now's your chance. Pizza Wars II, the sequel to a popular promotion held in 1990, begins this week in The Dallas Post.

Pizza Wars II gives connoisseurs of the round or square delicacies an opportunity to vote for the best varieties in the Back Mountain. Voters will select their top choice in three categories; thin crust, thick crust, and with "the works."

So that entrants will have plenty of time to sample the choices, an entry ballot will appear in The Post this week and the following two issues. Ballots also will be available at participating restaurants.

At the completion of the contest, three winners will be drawn, one each from ballots for the winning pizzerias. Each winner will receive a \$35 gift certificate to the restaurant they voted for. Complete rules appear on pages 8 and 9.

In addition to The Post, sponsors are The Dough Company, Grotto Pizza, Little Caesar's, Mimmo's, Pizza Hut, Pizza Perfect, Red's Subs and Three Guys Pizza.

DALLAS



Dallas Fire gets new breathing equipment

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Don't rock the boat

Members of Boy Scout Troop 165, Trucksville, learned how to bring a swamped canoe into shore as part of an eight-hour water safety course held Saturday, July 18, at Frances Slocum State Park, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. Troop member Frank Brennan, front, works with Jim Wallace of Dallas to bring the canoe in. (Post photo/Grace R. Dove)

Construction for water line to prison breaks Jackson Twp. laws

It's a state project, so local laws don't apply

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

A pump house being constructed in Jackson Township to send water from Ceasetown Dam to Chase Prison is in violation of local zoning ordinances. But there isn't much that the township can do about it because it is a state project.

Located on a triangular plot between Old Route 29 at Mizdall Road and the present Route 29, the facility is 17 feet from Route 29

and ten feet from the dirt road, according to zoning officer Robert Culp.

Ordinances require a front yard setback of at least 30 feet, Culp said. "Even the Job Johnny on the work site violates the law; it opens directly onto the dirt road," Culp said.

"The pump house for the water line had to be built in a specific area, although we knew that we could not meet the setback requirements," commented Rose

Wuenschel, press secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of General Services, which handles state purchasing and contractors' services.

Wuenschel said that the state is applying to Jackson Township for a zoning variance, although it is not required to obtain variances or other permits. "We want to be a good neighbor," she explained.

Another complaint about the construction project deals with a

See WATER LINE, pg 3

Back Mountain incomes are tops in county

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

Average incomes charted on pg. 16

It's become a political truism that the 1980s were a time when the rich got richer, and the poor got poorer.

For the Back Mountain, the first half of the statement at least, has been true.

When the 1980 census was taken, median Back Mountain incomes were well above incomes in other parts of Luzerne County. Data from the 1990 census shows that incomes in Back Mountain towns have risen between 79% and 102%. In Luzerne County as a whole, incomes have risen an average of only 69%.

For area business people, that increase is what they expected to see.

"It's just always been our understanding over the past 25 years that the Back Mountain has been the only area in the Wyoming Val-

ley that has shown both population growth and the highest incomes," said George Nicholson, a vice president at Humford Equities in charge of the Dallas Shopping Center.

For Nicholson, that understanding has made it easy to find tenants for the shopping center.

Sandy Insalaco, a co-owner of Insalaco's Supermarkets, was banking on the growing affluence of the Back Mountain when he decided to build a new supermarket in Dallas Township.

"Clearly we saw potential there for another supermarket," said Insalaco. "We saw there was going to be growth in the area. We've seen growth from 1986 to today."

See INCOMES, pg 16

Police intern learns the ropes in Dallas Twp.

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

That serious young man in plainclothes riding with the officers on duty in the Dallas Township police cruiser this past spring wasn't a new undercover detective. He is Peter Fleschut, the sixth criminal justice student to complete an internship with the department.

A resident of Trucksville, Fleschut graduated in June from Luzerne County Community College with an associate's degree in criminal justice. Serving a semester-long internship was required for graduation.

"I became interested in police work because it's very challenging and a continuous learning process," Fleschut said. "The internship gave me the opportunity to observe officers in all phases of their work, from routine traffic stops to their role in magistrate's hearings."

The first lessons were in radio communication procedures and

the police radio codes. Police use words for letters of the alphabet when checking license plates and spelling difficult names, for example "alpha" for "a" and "charlie" for "c."

Numbers, known as the "police 10-codes," are a form of radio shorthand to speed communication, so that a "10-52" is an ambulance call, a "10-50" is an accident and "10-4" means "okay."

Observing officers on all three shifts, Fleschut learned how officers make traffic stops, handle routine patrols, calculate the VASCAR formula used in speed control and file reports.

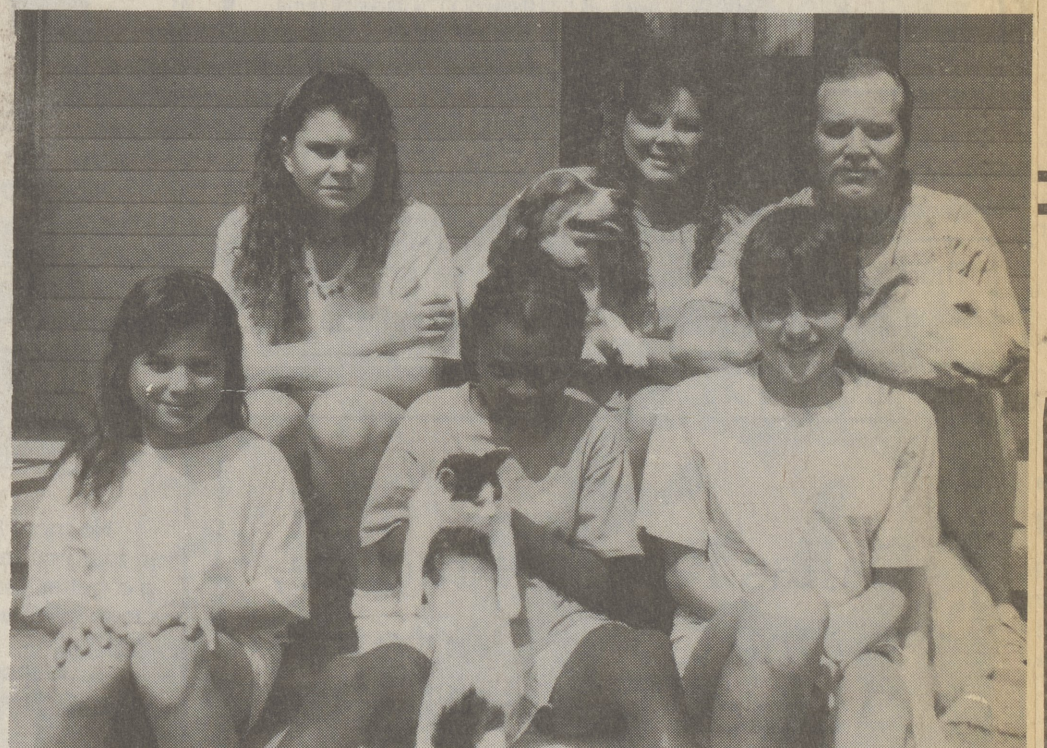
"Safe police practices - approaching a vehicle and when to call for a backup - are extremely important," he said.

Internship wasn't just sitting in the cruiser and watching an officer work, however. Chief Miers kept Fleschut on his toes, quizzing him on how he would react in specific

See POLICE INTERN, pg 16



BEST BUDDIES - The Johnson family of Kunkle shared two weeks of their summer with Fresh Air children Davina Wilson, Ashley Whittington and Sharell Aponte. Enjoying the playhouse are Davina, Kristi Johnson and Ashley, top row; Sharell and Sara Johnson, bottom row. (Post photo/Grace R. Dove)



ENJOYING A SUNNY DAY - The Swanson family of Harveys Lake has welcomed Fresh Air child Shawntiasha Smith for two weeks' vacation. Family members include, front row from left: Alaina, Shawntiasha with Axl the cat and Amanda; back row from left: Ember, Missy the beagle, Valerie and Todd. (Post photo/Grace R. Dove)

City kids get a breath of fresh air in Back Mountain

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Until this summer, Sharell Aponte had never seen the stars in the night-time sky. She had never caught a lightning bug.

But this summer she is seeing a world entirely different from her home in New York City as one of several Fresh Air children visiting Back Mountain families for two weeks, courtesy of the Fresh Air Fund in New York City and area host families.

Sharell, Ashley Whittington and Davina Wilson are visiting Jim and Lorraine Johnson of Kunkle, while Shawntiasha Smith is spending two weeks with Todd and Valerie Swanson at Harveys Lake.

Both the Johnsons and the Swansons volunteered to be Fresh Air families because they would someday like to be foster parents. Being Fresh Air families is a good introduction.

The Johnsons started out with Sharell, but they took in Davine

and Ashley after unforeseen difficulties forced two other host families to suddenly withdraw from the program.

"It's been like a marathon slumber party here," Lorraine Johnson laughed. The Johnson home is a beehive of activity, with daughters Sara, 12 and Kristi, 8 showing their Fresh Air sisters interesting things in the woods and around Harveys Lake.

Ten-year-old Sharell hoped that the weather would be clear one

evening during her visit so that she could see the stars for the first time. She had never heard crickets or seen lightning bugs before visiting the Johnsons. "And the spiders here are huge!" she exclaimed.

Sharell, who wants to be a dancer, a model or a hairdresser when she grows up, taught her Fresh Air sisters to make box braids, similar to the hairstyle popularized by the actress Bo Derek. "We braided everyone's hair Thursday. It took all day," laughed

Lorraine. Nine-year-old Davina, who wants to be either a lawyer or a teacher, loves to swing high on the backyard swing set, and has fallen in love with Lorraine's home cooking. She has three brothers and a sister at home.

Seven-year-old Ashley loves computers and looks forward to learning some "computer stuff" from Jim Johnson. When she grows

See FRESH AIR, pg 16