



The Back Mountain's Newspaper Since 1889

The Dallas Post

35¢

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Vol. 104 No. 29

Dallas, Pennsylvania

Wednesday, July 21, 1993

Water rate cut slashed

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Water rates will go down for customers of General Waterworks at the end of the year, but not as much as had previously been expected.

According to a press release from the Public Utility Commission (PUC), the PUC approved a smaller rate decrease of \$341,000, rather than the \$420,800 originally requested by General Waterworks, owner of the Dallas, Shavertown, Noxen and Harveys Lake water companies which service 2,900 area customers.

Average yearly bills will be reduced from \$446 to \$315, instead of the proposed \$232, except for Harveys Lake customers, where bills will drop from \$262 to \$224, instead of \$255.

The rate reduction came about after General Waterworks asked the PUC for permission to merge with the Dauphin Consolidated Water Supply Company, which services 28,200 customers in portions of Dauphin, York, Perry and Cumberland counties.

The rate reduction comes on the heels of a substantial rate increase which the PUC approved for General Waterworks customers December 12, 1992, hiking water rates 100 percent in Harveys Lake, 61.6 percent in Dallas and Dallas Township, 32.4 percent in Noxen and 5.57 percent in Shavertown.

General Waterworks' general manager Mike Coyle said that the rate hike had been necessary because General Waterworks was merging four separate water companies which weren't operating profitably.

Under the terms of the latest settlement, General Waterworks may not file for another rate hike before April 1, 1994.



POST PHOTO: GRACE R. DOVE
"ZOO-RIFFIC ARK PARK" - Rachel Hiller, Hilary Koehl and Cheryl Kirkwood show off the duck marionettes that they made at the Back Mountain's first ecumenical vacation Bible school, based on the creation story and held July 12-16 at Gate of Heaven Church.

Gate of Heaven hosts region's first ecumenical Bible school

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Back Mountain kids from five churches made history last week with a visit to the "Zoo-riffic Ark Park," the area's first-ever ecumenical vacation Bible school, based on universal Christian themes centered around the creation story and our animal friends.

Representing Gate of Heaven, St. Therese's, St. Paul's Lutheran, Prince of Peace Episcopal and Shavertown United Methodist churches, 234 kids from preschool to sixth grade met at Gate of Heaven for a week of Bible lessons, games, crafts and snacks. Although they said the Lord's Prayer differently and did differ-

ent things in church, the children found that their faiths actually had a lot in common.

"It didn't matter that we all go to different churches," said Mark Liparella, 12, of St. Therese's parish. "We all believe in God and everybody knows Jesus."

Mark also helped to look out for the younger children and especially enjoyed helping with the refreshments. "I loved to serve the other kids," he said.

Andrew Volpetti, 11, from Shavertown United Methodist, enjoyed "reading about God," the creation story and the story of Noah's Ark.

"The music was great," he said, singing a phrase from "I Got That Joy in my Heart."

Nine year-old George Sprague, also from St. Therese's, especially enjoyed hearing a tape of Bill Cosby's version of Noah's Ark.

"It made me laugh and helped me to remember it better," he said.

Megan Lipski, 5, from Gate of Heaven, said that she liked the crafts and coloring posters of animals.

"God made them. It was nice of Him to give us animal friends," she said.

Amy Roberts, 9, of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, looked forward to seeing the play "Balaam and his Donkey," to be performed by a

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DAMA preps for next trash, recycling pact

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

The Dallas Area Municipal Authority (DAMA) will soon be seeking bids for its trash and recycling program, as the initial 30-months of the program wind down.

Six months from the end of the present contract, DAMA is breaking even hauling household trash and recyclables from three Back Mountain communities, even though delinquencies are running at three times the estimated rate.

Serving 5,600 homes in Dallas Borough, Dallas Township and Kingston Township, DAMA contracted with Danella Environmental Technologies of Taylor to begin collecting trash and recyclables July 1, 1991, in response to state-mandated recycling in the two townships. Dallas Borough joined the program because it operates at a cost below what individual haulers were charging borough residents.

With a 15 percent delinquency rate and 45 hardship cases who pay a reduced monthly rate of \$7.87 instead of the regular monthly rate of \$11.25, DAMA's executive director Tom Bagley said that the authority is "at best breaking even." DAMA, Danella and the municipalities where the eligible families live each contribute \$1.11 to make up the difference for the 45 hardship cases, Bagley said.

A recent survey of non-payers found 60 percent of them used

the service. That is a problem for DAMA, but not for Danella, according to Mike Kon, general manager of the Taylor firm. Kon said Danella contracted to be paid for serving a specified number of homes, and is paid whether or not the residents pay DAMA.

The authority recently submitted the draft of a bid proposal to the three participating municipalities, with three contract periods: January 1, 1994-December 31, 1996, January 1, 1997-December 31, 1998 and January 1, 1999-December 31, 2000.

The last two contract periods are optional, according to the bid proposal. Any hauler will be eligible to bid on the contract, once it is advertised in September, Bagley said.

Bagley said that operational costs, such as those covering recycling, equipment and other costs, are borne by Danella, who is locked into its bid price of \$10.12 monthly per household for the duration of the present contract.

"Certainly the glut on the recyclables market, particularly in newsprint, has affected the haulers, but I think that it's a lot cheaper for them to use a processor who handles commingled recyclables, rather than separating everything by hand first," Bagley said.

Kon agreed that recycling is not the business it once was thought to become. "I don't think

See DAMA, pg 14

Alan Landis gains Fulbright fellowship to Colombia

He's one of only 700 nationwide

By DAVE KONOPKI
Post Correspondent

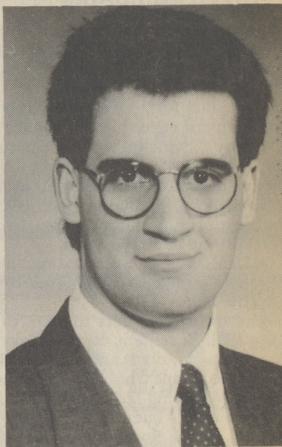
Most young Americans would never even notice. And even if they did, most young Americans probably wouldn't even care.

But when Shavertown resident Alan Landis heard about the bombing of a building in Bogota, Colombia that killed 12 people, his heart began to beat a little faster.

That's because for one year, beginning on July 28, Bogota will be home for the Dallas High School graduate.

Landis, a recent graduate of the University of Scranton, has been awarded a J. William Fulbright Fellowship grant for graduate research in a foreign

See LANDIS, pg 14



ALAN LANDIS

KT trailer park owner wants pipe paid for

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Michael Kester, Sr., and his son, Michael, Jr., owners of Echo Valley Trailer Park in Kingston Township want the township's supervisors to reimburse them for a drainage pipe that they say the township told them to install, and are prepared to go to court to get their money.

Kingston Township manager Jeff Box says that the township never told Kester to install a new drainage pipe.

At the supervisors' regular meeting Wednesday, July 14, Michael Kester, Sr., asked for \$1,850 as reimbursement for the pipe, which he installed to accommodate a creek running across the trailer park's property and underneath its access road.

Kester said that he had first approached the supervisors in the fall of 1992 about reimbursement for the pipe, and made a second request in June.

"Mr. Box sent me a letter that my request was denied because the pipe is on private property, although the supervisors never took any formal action at a public meeting on my request," Kester said. "I am very displeased about this."

Kester said that the two-foot diameter pipe had become "over-taxed" from runoff from developments along Harris Hill Road,

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KT cop appears on national ad

His wife's reaction? 'She laughed.'

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

When Kingston Township Patrolman Frank Ziegler's picture appeared on a nationwide ad for safety equipment, he endured several weeks of good-natured ribbing from his fellow officers.

Although Kingston Township has many photogenic policemen, Ziegler said that he was selected simply by having been at the right place at the right time.

"When I came in to work at 2 p.m. one day last year, Chief Sabol told me that I had to have my picture taken," he said. "He gave me a tie and sent me outside with the photographer. Luckily I had just gotten a haircut."

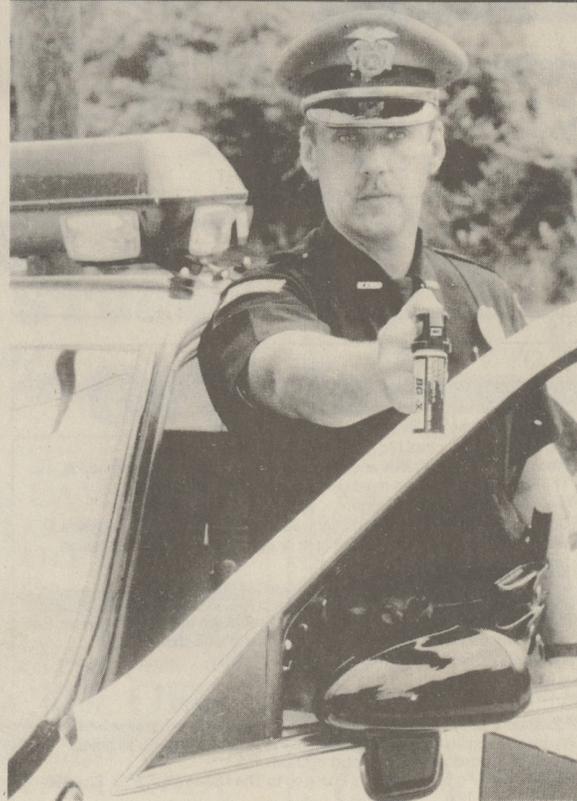
The ad promotes a potent defensive spray commonly known as "pepper mace," consisting of powdered red-hot pepper, which can disable aggressive people, dogs or drunks.

Ziegler, who has been certified to use the spray through Defense Tactics Institute, said that he had to pose for several different shots and "sign my life away" in releases for the ad, which he did for free.

Defense Tactics Institute's owner, Dave Berman, has conducted training and certifica-

See KT COP, pg 14

One Spray Can Save Your Life!



POSTER GUY - Kingston Township patrolman Frank Ziegler appears on the front of a 4-page flyer for pepper mace, a personal protection spray. Ziegler's 4-color image has been distributed throughout the United States.



American Red Cross blood drive
Tuesday, July 27, 1-6 p.m., Trucksville United Methodist Church.
Appts.: 823-7161, walk-ins welcome.

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