

Back Mountain seniors meet

Irene Katyl, president, opened the Back Mountain Senior Citizen's May business meeting with a prayer poem, "God is Beside Us", followed by the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

Reports were submitted by Sophie Kapral, secretary; Joseph Baltrushes, treasurer and also membership in the absence of Ethel Baltrushes; Kay Hudak, Sunshine reported Marion Biggs has recently returned home after being a hospital patient. Thirty five members were in attendance.

President Katyl reported on Civic Action news and also announced that Arlene Oldershaw will be a guest speaker for the groups' May 19 meeting.

High bowlers for the week were Ray Yuknavage and Louise Capozzi.

Observing birthdays were Marge Challenger, Sophie Kapral, Ann Galluccio, Nick Pericci and Joseph Leo. Centerpiece was won by Sophie Kapral, and the 50/50 drawing by James Feerick.

Refreshments were served by Florence Stella, Florence Dennis and Sophie Kapral. Since the May 19 meeting will be a covered dish luncheon, starting at noon, no bakers will be listed. Members are reminded to bring their own place setting.

Members planning to attend "Hello Hollywood" at Mount Laurel will leave St. Therese's parking lot at 10 a.m.

The club will have a table at the Meadows annual flea market, June 18. Members are asked to donate any items suitable for this sale.

Bloomin' Good Time

The Back Mountain Bloomers Garden Club presented its second flower show last weekend at Montage. Below, Jay Borton and Lora Freifeld admire the work of Nancy Grabensteter of Hill The Florist. At right, Beth Rosenthal gets a closeup look at Susan Dauksis's display.



Jackson Twp. will fix wetland damage

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

The Jackson Township road crew accidentally encroached on a nearby wetland area during repair and maintenance work on Cigarski Road, according to Mark Carmon of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (DER).

"Some of these wetland areas aren't obvious," Carmon said. "We call them forested wetlands - actually spongy, mossy areas typical of the Back Mountain."

Carmon said that DER investigators had found several wetlands violations while inspecting the scene with road foreman Rich Manta and the township engineer May 11.

The road crew had been trying to keep water drainage away from the roadway in compliance with Pennsylvania Department of Transportation regulations, according to supervisor Walter Glogowski.

"That part of Cigarski Road floods during heavy rains," he said. "The drainage ditch is too close to the road in one section. We're trying to protect the public's safety and also the road itself."

Carmon said the wetland damage was done in error. "As they dug up some of the material, they were throwing it on the side of the road," he said. "Unfortunately, they weren't careful where they put it."

Carmon said about a half-mile of roadside was effected, as well as about 400 feet of a creek. Cigarski Road has been closed for several weeks while the road crew cleared brush from the township right-of-way, Manta said.

He said that he didn't know the width of Cigarski Road's right-of-way offhand.

Carmon said the township won't be cited or fined as long as they restore the damaged areas. DER will send the township a Voluntary Restoration Letter, which spells out in detail what the township must do.

Glogowski said that the township would comply with DER's regulations and would try to open Cigarski Road as soon as possible.

Carmon said the Luzerne County Conservation District also was involved, because there is a lack of sedimentation controls along the road. That issue must be dealt with separately, he said.



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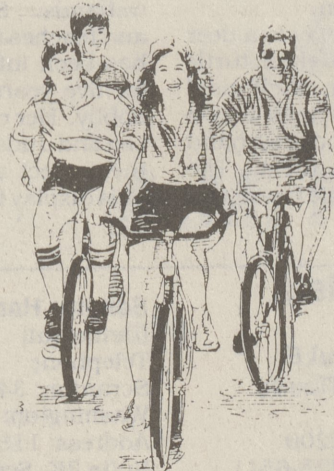
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