

# The Dallas Post

## EDITORIALS

### Celebrate 2 bulwarks of the community

Two Back Mountain institutions are celebrating this week. On the surface they couldn't seem more different: Mountain Grange #567 in Carverton will be noting Grange Week with a craft show April 29. Meanwhile, the Trucksville Nursery School is winding up its first quarter century of service to Back Mountain parents and children. What, you might wonder, do a 128-year-old fraternal farm organization and a pre-school have in common? Not much if you judge by the age, occupation or address of the participants. But beneath the surface it's another story.

Anyone who didn't grow up in farm country is unlikely to have much idea of what the Grange is. Some people think it's a secret society with weird handshakes and hidden rituals. Others assume it's a religious organization - after all, many Grange halls look like old churches. Country folk know better because in years past the Grange was the center of social life in many rural communities, as well as a sort of union hall for farmers trying to prosper by working the land. Meetings were about new plowing techniques or the latest hybrid corn seed. Sometimes there were dances, or lemonade socials after the first cutting of hay was in the barn. And, of course, there were the suppers, when it seemed the whole town sat down in true "family" style at long tables in the basement to devour fresh-picked sweet corn, baked chicken, crisp green beans and summer squash, followed by home-baked pie. It was noisy, fun, inexpensive and the ultimate community event.

In contrast, the nursery school is a recent innovation, at least on the scale practiced in Trucksville. As it became more difficult for young (and not-so-young) families to make ends meet, and as more women sought fulfillment outside the traditional housewife role, it became clear to some that "pre-schools" would become an important component in modern life. There were a couple of approaches available. One was to see the schools purely as profit-making enterprises, collecting a hefty fee from desperate parents while providing a minimum of service. Others, such as Trucksville, saw things differently. The organizers recognized that pre-school could be much more than a place for children to while away the hours; it could truly be a learning and growing experience unlike any a child could get at home. And so it has been for 25 years. Along the way, people who might otherwise never have known one another have become friends through their children's activities in pre-school.

Since Americans discovered the value of early childhood education, most inferior nursery schools have gone by the wayside, as parents proved willing to support higher quality. That's certainly true in the Back Mountain where we are blessed with an abundance of caring, responsible operators, among whom Trucksville has been a leader and innovator.

So you see, these two seemingly unrelated institutions have at least one thing in common; they serve to strengthen the ties that bind families into a community with common goals and values. That's worth celebrating.

### We must take control of water before it's too late

Yet another Back Mountain neighborhood is struggling to free itself from the tentacles of an inferior water company. This time, residents of the Cedar Lane subdivision have asked for relief from a Kingston Township ordinance that requires them to connect to the development's water lines even though they say the service is substandard.

There are good reasons to have such a rule, primarily that an unlimited - and unknown - number of wells tied into the same aquifer might draw down the water supply. In this case, however, the single source seems to offer no advantages, as home owners say they experience frequent low or nonexistent water pressure.

The water system's operator has applied to the Public Utility Commission for rates that would average an exorbitant \$850 yearly. He says a larger storage tank will be installed, after he gets the rate. That hardly seems proper, and it would make sense that unless the township is prepared to force water companies to provide good service at reasonable rates, the requirement to connect should be waived.

In the long run, all Back Mountain communities must face the inevitable; if we don't soon take control of our water supplies we will be held hostage to them, and by those who own them. The time has come to seriously investigate establishing a regional water authority.

### Do you agree? Disagree?

Editorials are the opinion of the management of The Dallas Post. We welcome your opinion on contemporary issues in the form of letters to the editor. If you don't write, the community may never hear a contrasting point of view. Send letters to: The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612. Please include your name, address and a daytime phone number so that we may verify authenticity. We do not publish anonymous letters, but will consider withholding the name in exceptional circumstances. We reserve the right to edit for length and grammar.



The view's nice, but it might be a bit chilly. Photo by Charlotte Bartizek.

### Letters

#### Consider arena's benefits before voting

Editor:  
After living all our adult lives in New York State, we became tired of high taxes, indifference, and a crumbling infrastructure, without obvious benefits to individual citizens.

So our family moved to this beautiful valley with caring, family oriented people and a more conservative, yet enriching lifestyle.

Next month we will be given the opportunity to invest in the future of our new "home." A "YES" vote on the proposed Arena will give all of us the same opportunity to step into the 21st century and provide

ourselves and future generations with a facility that will allow more family-oriented activities on a broader base.

The Wyoming Valley will be able to play host to numerous events that heretofore could not be accommodated in our area. If you look at the possibilities, there is potential for all of us—from children to our bountiful and active senior population.

One does not have to be a whiz at math to realize that the tax "burden" opponents describe can, at the most, amount to pennies a day for each of us! Neither can the most intelligent of us imagine that

a circus, ice show, professional hockey team or concert will bring "less desirable" people to our area. Certainly the location of the proposed Arena will cause no traffic problem in our municipal areas.

Why are we voting YES—because in good conscience, for the good and welfare of my new home, we see no alternative! Those who think only of their generation and their immediate needs, and not the future of society, are truly the narrow-minded and selfish among us!

Herbert M. Weinman  
Suzy P. Weinman  
Dallas

#### Local Trout Unlimited chapter to reorganize

Editor:  
Pennsylvania Trout, the state council of Trout Unlimited, is pleased to announce the reorganization meeting of the Endless Mountains Chapter to be held at the Triton Hose House, Warren Street, Tunkhannock, on Sunday May 7, beginning at 2 p.m.

All current and former mem-

bers of the Endless Mountains Chapter should make every effort to attend to this most important meeting. Anyone interested in the preservation, restoration, and enhancement of cold water fisheries and their watersheds is invited to attend, including students of all grades. As always, Trout Unlimited meetings are opened

free to the public.

If you cannot attend this meeting but are interested in the activities of Trout Unlimited and would like to learn more please feel free to call John Bergevin in Dallas at 675-0789.

John P. Bergevin  
Dallas

### Library news

#### Donations for auction now being accepted

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library auction committee is accepting odds and ends for the Women of Kiwanis booth and the book booth is welcoming all kinds of books in good condition. The book committee is asking for cookbooks and children's books, especially as these are good sellers. The auction committee will meet on Thursday, April 27, at 6:30 at the library and invites community members who are interested in working on the details of the auction to join the various committees. Peggy Harvey is general chair of the 49th annual auction to be held July 6, 7, 8 and 9 on the auction grounds.

The Friends of the Library sponsored Luncheon to be held April 27 at the Appletree Terrace at Newberry Estate featuring Sue Hand in a guest appearance has been sold out and will probably be overflowing the day of the luncheon. The 'Gladioli' painting which

has been on display in the library will be chanced off at the luncheon. Also, two other Sue Hand paintings will be available for sale at the luncheon, with the purchase of chance tickets. Sue will create a watercolor during her program at the luncheon and she did one for the Times Leader for the publicity; these will both be chanced off. This is the 7th annual luncheon sponsored by the Friends and it sounds like it will be a festive occasion.

New books at the library: "Wonder Boys" by Michael Chabon introduces James Leer, a troubled young 'wonder boy' whose obsession with Hollywood suicides leads him to commit a pair of startling crimes. Thereby his destiny becomes entangled with that of his writing teacher, Grady Tripp, a former prodigy whose penchant for self-destruction is exceeded only by the 2600 pages of his unfinished magnum opus. A Leviathan novel.

"The Late Child" by Larry McMurtry is a tender, comic and haunting story that makes it an unforgettable book; which includes a rich cast of characters; a sense of people adrift in a landscape too large for comfort; a determination for life, love and happiness, whatever the odds; and a keen awareness, rare in modern fiction, of the unique relationship between mother and child. The story—from grief to hope—is a warm and enriching experience.

"Silent Treatment" by Michael Palmer is a harrowing suspense novel which reveals how the power to heal can become a license to kill...Dr. Corbett goes to the hospital for what he hopes will be a quiet evening of reconciliation. His wife is scheduled for surgery the next day and her ability to share her feelings has been more closed and distant than ever. When he reaches her room, it is too late; shockingly, without warning, Evie is dead.

### Only yesterday

#### 60 Years Ago - May 3, 1935 COLLECTION OF USED TIRES IS A SUCCESS

Wyoming Valley Chapter, American Red Cross will seek to increase its membership to 13,000 a in a Roll Call to begin May 13, the first direct appeal from the local chapter in 13 years.

More than 2,000 used tires collected by contestants during the Trade Expansion Campaign conducted by local merchants were sold yesterday to M. Fiegler, Hillside Tire Co., Trucksville. Fiegler will salvage all of the used tires with unbroken casings and in good condition and will have them retreaded at his Pittston plant. The remainder which cannot be retreaded will be sold for junk.

You could get - Chuck pot roast, 19¢ lb.; rolled shoulder lamb, 21¢ lb.; tomatoes, 2 lbs., 19¢; Red Circle Coffee, 19¢ lb.; raisin bread, 8¢ loaf; Puffed Rice, 2 pkgs., 19¢.

#### 50 Years Ago - Apr. 27, 1945 FIRST AREA G.I. GETS VETS' HOME LOAN

Wilford Moore, convalescent Marine veteran of the Guadalcanal campaign, is the first returning Dallas G.I. to purchase a home under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act. It took a little time to make the loan at First National Bank, Dallas "but it went through swell after we got the forms filled out" is the way Wilford put it.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kunkle, Dallas, received a letter from their son dated January 24 from a German prison camp. This is the first information concerning their son who was reported missing in action in Germany on December 5.

Hundreds of Scouts and Cubs of the Wyoming Valley Council are working hard toward receiving the General Eisenhower Medal in the Waste Paper Campaign which closes April 30. Plans are being worked out to have awards presented in connection with the Army Show which will be held in Wilkes-Barre May 29.

#### 40 Years Ago - Apr. 29, 1955 AREA POLIO VACCINE CLINICS SCHEDULED

Arthur Major, 8th grade student at Lehman-Jackson-Ross, escaped serious injury Wednesday morning when he fed his left wrist into the band-saw during a shop period. Lester Squier, supervising principal, took him immediately to Nesbitt Hospital, where seven stitches were required to close the wound.

With only \$4,800 remaining to be paid off on its \$15,000 fire truck delivered last October, Shavertown Fire Co. is hoping to completely wipe off the debt from the contents of the coin saving cards which it will start picking up next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

Local schools are already administering the Salk vaccine to first and second graders. Make up clinics are planned by all schools, the date to be announced for the benefit of the children approved for vaccination who miss the shots because of measles or chicken pox.

#### 30 Years Ago - Apr. 29, 1965 GARBAGE PROBLEMS STILL UP IN THE AIR

The rubbish-hauling situation in the Back Mountain remains up in the air as local haulers continue with their tentative arrangement to dump at regular rates at the West Side Landfill, Kingston and Back Mountain municipal officials await a meeting with an executive of the Landfill to investigate possibility of tying in with it permanently. Another possibility, starting a Back Mountain Landfill project here, also remains up in the air with one prospective site now out of the picture having been leased to someone else.

The new Dallas post office is 23.2 percent complete as of Tuesday according to Postmaster Buckley. Work is progressing smoothly and is slightly ahead of schedule. September 3 is the target date for occupation.

You could get - Frying chickens, 26¢ lb.; smoked pork chops, 79¢ lb.; Florida oranges, 2 doz. 69¢; Cut-Rite wax paper, 2 rolls, 45¢.

#### 20 Years Ago - May 1, 1975 AREA CAR SALES UP DESPITE RECESSION

The Women's Auxiliary to the Luzerne County Medical Society will sponsor a "Spring Kitchen Tour" May 7. Proceeds will benefit health career scholarships. The tour of homes opened to the public are in Forty Fort, Kingston and Wilkes-Barre.

## The Dallas Post

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Ronald A. Bartizek  
PUBLISHER

Charlotte E. Bartizek  
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

Peggy Young  
ADVERTISING ACCT. EXEC

Grace R. Dove  
REPORTER

Paul Rismiller  
PRODUCTION MANAGER

Olga Kostrobala  
CLASSIFIED/TYPESSETTING

Jill Urbanas  
OFFICE MANAGER

