

Thanksgiving

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children, who were thrilled. They told us they don't have it very often."

A woman with a low-paying job trying to support a laid-off husband and four kids, a family who may lose their home to foreclosure after the father lost his job, a father of three who lost his job because he lost too much time from work taking his sick wife and child to many medical appointments, families with parents or children diagnosed with cancer or other debilitating health conditions, parents who can't find jobs no matter how hard they try...the list of heartbreak goes on.

"We look for families who are in desperate need," Drobish said.

Last year a woman who thanked the ALLTEL employees for their generosity wrote, "I have been through a very desperate year, when the edge of hell was closer than I ever thought it would be. I had lost everything and had no hope of ever climbing out of the pit of lost dreams."

Her greatest loss was not being able to provide for her three children, split up and living with relatives.

ALLTEL's gift of food was one of the miracles she experienced - along with finding a home for herself and her children, landing a full-time job and meeting caring

neighbors who helped her set up housekeeping.

"I thank God every day for...people like you, who really care," she concluded.

Another woman wrote, "This kind of gift can only come from the heart. Words cannot explain the burden and worry you have lifted off my mind. I was starting to lose hope...God bless you."

Others help, too

The Back Mountain Food Bank will supply Thanksgiving baskets to 16 area families referred by their pastors or through the Commission on Economic Opportunity.

Using all donated staple food items, the food bank supplies a week's worth of emergency food to two to five families per week.

"As soon as the heating season starts, we see our requests for help increase," said Cathy Barlow, secretary of the Trucksville United Methodist Church, which coordinates the food bank. "Heat is an additional bill which many families have trouble paying."

The Back Mountain Food Bank couldn't exist without area churches, schools, Scout troops, service organizations and concerned friends in the community, who contribute staple foods and cash donations.

"People need emergency food not only during the holidays, but all year," Barlow said.

Another Back Mountain Thanksgiving event is the 23rd annual Naylor-Lemmond Community Thanksgiving Dinner, held to commemorate the lives of three area residents, Benjamin E. Naylor and Ruth and Charles D. Lemmond, Sr.

Free and open to anyone who makes a reservation, it is served at noon at the First United Methodist Church on North Franklin Street in Wilkes-Barre by John and Shawn Murphy (Naylor's granddaughter) and Barbara and Charles D. Lemmond, Jr., of Dallas.

The traditional dinner of turkey and all the trimmings is served family-style at tables set with tablecloths, china place settings and flower centerpieces. After dinner the centerpieces are chanced off.

Friends of both families donate baked desserts, while churches, businesses and the CEO help out with the food.

Free transportation is provided by Bill Davis of the Luzerne County Transportation Unit.

The Murphys, Lemmonds, children and friends cook and serve the dinner to their guests before sitting down to enjoy their own celebration.

Where to find help

During the approaching holiday season, expenses for heating and special meals can devastate a family's household budget.

Several area agencies can help.
• The St. Vincent dePaul Kitchen on Jackson St., Wilkes-Barre (near King's College) will serve Thanksgiving dinner between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and will deliver meals to the homebound. It also serves a hot midday meal daily.

According to director Ann Marie McCawley, the kitchen accepts donations of food and cash all year round.

"We have plenty of volunteers to serve Thanksgiving dinner, but we still need pumpkin pies," she said.

To donate pies, cash or food items or to have dinner delivered to a homebound person, call McCawley at 829-7796.

• The Back Mountain Food Bank provides emergency food for a week for families or individuals who have been referred by their pastor or the Commission on Economic Opportunity.

It is coordinated by the Trucksville United Methodist Church. Supplied completely by donations, the food bank serves between two and five families a week.

• The Commission on Economic Opportunity (CEO) coordinates the distribution of surplus food and operates the holiday "Feed a Friend" project, a food bank and a community canning program.

It formerly also coordinated LIHEAP, a federally funded heating assistance program whose fate will be decided when the federal government passes its budget.

Call 826-0510 for more information.

• The Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Bureau for the Aging, Meals on Wheels and Kosher Meals on Wheels deliver cooked or frozen meals to families in certain areas.

Call the bureau for the Aging at 822-1158, Meals on Wheels at 825-8543 or Jewish Family Services at 823-5137 for more information.

• The Luzerne County Assistance Office coordinates food stamps, a nutritional program for expectant mothers and children under five years old (WIC) and the crisis heating assistance program for families who have suddenly run out of furnace fuel or have experienced a sudden furnace breakdown which they can't pay for. The average heating crisis grant has been \$250.

For more information on these programs call 826-2298.

Budget keeps special tax

LEHMAN TOWNSHIP - The supervisors have passed the first reading of the 1996 budget, which totals \$535,944.

The 14-mill property tax and two-mill road equipment tax remain the same.

An estimated \$400,200 in revenues includes \$91,000 in the property tax, \$9,500 in the per capita tax and \$167,000 in the earned income tax. Revenues from these three taxes has changed very little since last year.

The two-mill road machinery tax will generate an estimated \$27,000 this year, added to its \$13,000 income last year when it was first enacted. The supervisors noted the tax saves the township a large amount of money in interest which it would have to pay if it had to take out loans for road equipment instead of buying it outright from the tax income.

Expenditures will also remain flat, with \$69,500 spent in police officers' salaries and uniforms, \$8,600 for their vehicle operating expenses and repairs and general government expenses of \$45,660.

Anticipated liquid fuel tax expenditures include \$35,744 for road repairs, \$70,000 for paving work and \$20,000 for snow removal.

The supervisors plan to approve the final budget at their regular December 18 meeting.



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Members of Boy Scout Troop 281 collected food to stock the Back Mountain Food Bank. From left, Chris Riley, Dave Neiman, Eric Kowalek, Alan Horridge and John Cyprich showed off some of the bounty.

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Introducing Expanded Services at the Back Mountain Medical Center.

If you live in the Back Mountain, your family's access to quality health care just improved. Because now, you'll find more physicians, more quality health care and diagnostic services than anywhere else in the Back Mountain area... at one convenient location.

From the highly respected physicians of Dallas Family Practice and Wyoming Valley Health Care System's comprehensive outpatient diagnostic center, to the new addition of some of the region's leading OB-GYN and INFERTILITY SPECIALISTS and SURGEONS; you'll find that we've expanded the services of the Back Mountain Medical Center to provide for many of your family's health care needs. And, all at one convenient location.

OB-GYN/Infertility Services

Beginning Monday, December 11, 1995, comprehensive obstetrical, gynecological and infertility services will be offered - by appointment, at the Back Mountain Medical Center.

Days of Service:

Mondays	12:30 PM to 4:30 PM	J. Michael Tedesco, D.O.
Tuesdays	8:00 AM to Noon	Mark S. Polin, M.D.
	12:30 PM to 4:30 PM	John W. Frye, M.D.
Wednesdays	8:00 AM to Noon	Michael M. Ferraro, M.D.
Thursdays	12:30 PM to 4:30 PM	Theresa M. Baseski, D.O.

To schedule an appointment at the new location or for more information, please call:

Associated OB/GYN Specialists 288-4566 Dr. J. Michael Tedesco Dr. Mark S. Polin	OB/GYN Associates 288-6616 Dr. Theresa M. Baseski Dr. Michael M. Ferraro Dr. John W. Frye
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Surgical Services

Beginning Thursday, December 14, 1995, Peter F. Casterline, M.D., Surgical Specialists of Wyoming Valley, will provide surgical services at the Back Mountain Medical Center.

Thursday	10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Peter F. Casterline, M.D.
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To schedule an appointment at the new location or for more information, please call:

Surgical Specialists
821-1100
Dr. Peter F. Casterline



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More new programs and expanded services coming in December!

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Q: Where do you find the most Back Mountain news each week?
A: Only in The Dallas Post

FREE WEATHERIZATION FOR YOUR HOME!

The Weatherization Program administered through UGI Electric Service can be for you! Qualifying income-eligible residential customers who own a home or rent will receive all recommended services free of charge.

To qualify you must be a UGI residential electric service customer (min. 1 year), have past due bills and have electrical usage at or above the average allowed under this program.

It only takes a minute to apply - Fill out the information below and mail to: UGI Electric Service, Weatherization Dept., 247 Wyoming Ave., Kingston, PA 18704-9985. UGI will have a representative contact you.



1995 INCOME GUIDELINES	
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	HOUSEHOLD INCOME
1	\$11,205
2	\$15,045
3	\$18,885
4	\$22,725
5	\$26,565
6	\$30,405
7	\$34,245
8	\$38,085
EACH ADDL	+\$3,840



Yes, I want FREE WEATHERIZATION!
Please have your representative contact me.

To qualify you must be a UGI residential electric service customer (min. 1 year), have past due bills and have electrical usage at or above the average allowed under this program.

Name _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home phone _____ Other phone _____
Best time to call _____ Customer # _____

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OLD MAN WINTER!**