



POST PHOTOS/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK



AUCTION AIDES

As they have in years past, the Dallas Rotary is lending plenty of hands for the Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction. Aside from managing the food booth, with help from other service groups, Rotary members spruce up the grounds and provide financial support.

In left photo, Richard Santella prepared for some painting. Joe Stager handed a \$500 contribution to library director Martha Wheeler in lower photo. They were joined by Jack McCain, center, and Al Landis.

Auction

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that booth, including two Tiffany items.

New goods are contributed by businesses from throughout the area. A sampler of items already committed includes a stuffed animal from Back Mountain Veterinary Hospital; six months of free pizza from Domino's; two gift baskets from Valentine's; a fabric covered jewelry box from 3 Sisters; a wedding basket from Bridal

Trinkets; a sports bag from Soccer Mania, and a pewter license plate from from State Rep. Phyllis Mundy.

A headline item will be an \$1,800 value garden bay window, contributed by Bittner and Sons. There also are numerous gift certificates, from Pizza Perfect, Pillow Talk, Styling Studio, Town & Country Cleaners, Orloski's and many others.

How to donate to the library auction

Solicitors are now making the rounds of area businesses. Anyone who hasn't been contacted may simply drop off their donation at the library at 96 Huntsville Rd. in Dallas, or call 675-1182 or 675-5211 to make a pledge. Arrangements can be made to pick items up at the donor's place of business or home. If you don't have a suitable item, cash donated can be used to purchase merchandise to be sold over the block in the donor's name.

Two booths at the auction will accept donations as well. The Odds 'n' Ends booth sells used but useful household items, and the Nearly New booth handles used items that may fetch a higher price. Items for both can be dropped off at the library.

Kingston Twp.

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Also approved were an agreement with Mr. and Mrs. Anzalone of Timber Grove Road, who must move a decorative wall accidentally built on the township's right-of-way, and the Creekside at Trucksville minor subdivision on Carverton Road near Staub Road. Owner Spencer Martin said the 19 acres will be divided into two parcels of two acres and a third parcel of 15 acres so it can be sold. He said he hasn't planned on de-

veloping the land.

The supervisors opened three bids for replacing guard rails along township roads, from Safe Guard Construction of Mountaintop, at \$49,631 using new rails and \$31,719 with used rails; Collinson Inc. of Exton, at \$67,051 using new rails and \$50,844 with used rails, and Morgan Rail of Temple, at \$40,091 using new rails and \$33,903 with used rails. The bids were tabled for further study.

Spruce up

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transform eyesores into things of beauty."

Sandy Beach is comprised of the 10 roads between West Point Ave. and Maywood Ave., a quiet area of snug cottages on tree-lined dirt lanes within walking distance of the Lake-Noxen Elementary School.

Many homes are surrounded by a wall of green trees. Birds and wildlife are regular guests, frequently stopping by for a snack. Dodson's family has lived in this neighborhood for four generations.

The NIT team formed last August, when a group of concerned neighbors approached codes enforcement officer Paul Grimes about several vacant, boarded-up homes and properties containing possible health and safety hazards.

Inspired by the newly formed NIT team in Wilkes-Barre, the group has continued its struggle by bringing its concerns before the council and the public.

Earlier this year a property on School Street was condemned and the water turned off. It had no running water or toilet facilities for two months, yet a family and its many pets still lived there. Three junk-filled cars, one supported by a jack, were parked on the lot, where neighbors have seen many rats running around.

A few other homes are clearly abandoned, with boarded-up windows and doors and yards choked by tall grass and weeds. The occasional vacant wooded lot has become home to old furniture and other castoffs.

Neighbors John Durr, Barbara Kocher, Sandra Steinhauer Liz Sichler, Kathy Moretti and John Zaleskis complained to the council at its May 21 meeting about the School Street lot and a property between Oak By Wood and Rood Ave., whose owner has accumulated about 30 large piles of big rocks and has allowed the lawn to grow several feet high. He has also installed "a green, scummy pond"

with no fence around it on the property. Sichler said.

"A child could accidentally wander onto the property, fall into the pond, get stuck in the mud and drown," Dodson said. "The home next door has three little ones and other nearby homes also have children. Parents can't be after their children all the time - kids occasionally sneak away. We simply want to avert a tragedy here."

"We're very frustrated," Dodson told the council at its June 18 meeting. "We have a long list of problems in the area."

Charles Doloff, owner of the property on Oak By Wood, told the council he plans to move the rocks to build stone walls and terraces and to fill in a drainage gully on his property.

"The pond only collects runoff water," he said. "People who throw stones shouldn't live in glass houses. Some of the people who are complaining about my rocks have asked me to give them a few."

A reporter visiting Oak By Wood on Monday noted three ramshackle, vacant cottages, each with a large hole in the roof, the cab of a small truck parked in the tall weeds and pieces of wood shipping pallets leaning against one of the large rock piles by the pond.

Keeping a property clean is the owner's responsibility, not the borough's and taxpayers', NIT member say. Two of the team's goals are to apply for cleanup grants through the borough and to help property owners find support services if necessary.

Team members say they want to work closely with borough officials, but are prepared to take them to court. But they still hope for the officials' cooperation before it comes to that.

"I hope we can have continued improvement," Dodson said. "It may come bit by bit, but enough small gains will benefit everyone. There's lots of work ahead. I have deep roots here and really love it."

Dallas

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the event held at the Crestwood High School grounds," he explained.

"We'd like to do the same thing here. The community would gain, too. A lot of revenue can be generated for non-profit groups just by tailing on to the fireworks display, for example with a soda or food stand," Orloski said.

Borough manager Milton Lutsey said the only concern was liability. However, Orloski said the fireworks company carries an insurance policy which protects municipalities against personal injury and property damage.

Council agreed to give Orloski its support, arranging to reimburse him for cleanup costs for the event.

"This community has been good to us and we want to give back to them."

Ed Orloski
Orloski's Quik Mart's

Council member Ted Wright later said "It's one more thing to enhance our already outstanding recreation program. It has the potential to grow into a really big thing. It's family oriented, and eventually could turn into a whole day of events."

There were also sparks flying from residents of Mill St., who had complaints regarding the neigh-

boring Wendy's restaurant. Rita Ancas, 45 Mill St., expressed concerns about Wendy's using Mill St. as an exit, which she first brought to the March 1996 borough council meeting.

But by the end of the week, her complaints were rectified when permanent curbing was installed on the Mill St. side of the restaurant's parking lot. Steve Kepic, manager of the restaurant, said installation of curbing was part of the original site plan, but had to be delayed until final paving was completed a few weeks ago.

In new business, council vice-president William Roberts pre-

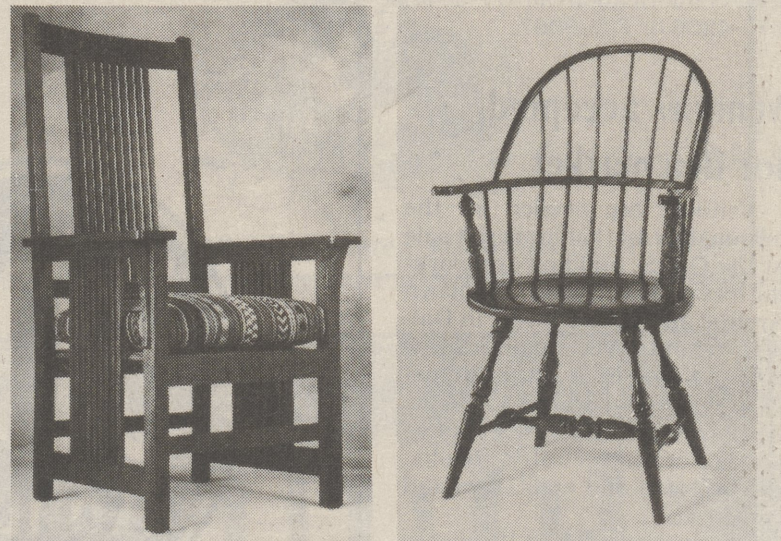
sented a problem arising from the installation of a traffic light at the intersection of Route 309 and Main St., Dallas. Curbing installed along the highway now prohibits customers from entering the barber shop operated by Carl Gladly, which has been in business nearly 40 years, according to Roberts.

"He's in the process of trying to get permanent access from PennDOT, which owns the right-of-way from Main St."

Roberts penned a letter to PENNDOT supporting Gladly's proposal to purchase a 30 ft. right-of-way access from Main St. and council agreed to give their support to the plan.

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