



The Dallas Post

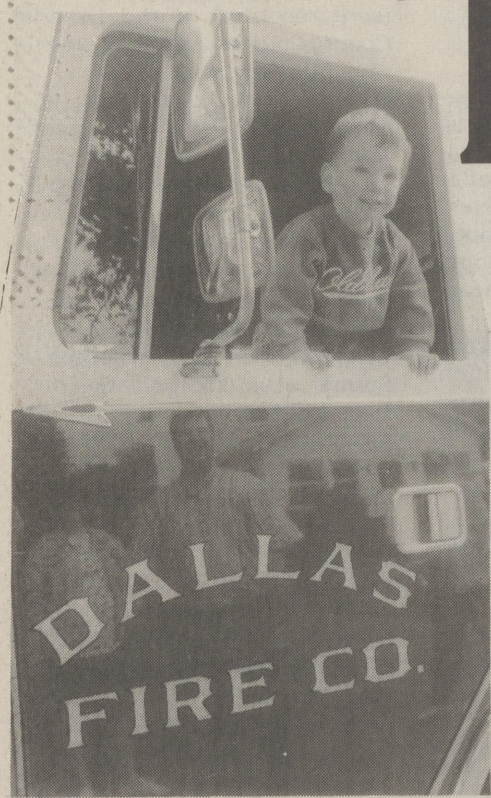
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SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

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POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

David Westfield, grandson of Alice Westfield, enjoyed the fire engine.

Neighbors throw a party .. for themselves

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

DALLAS - They came, they saw, they partied.

More than 90 people turned out Sept. 14 for an all-day block party - complete with a parade and a pig roast - coordinated by the residents of Claude Street, a quiet neighborhood of cozy homes between Church and Center Hill roads.

"It sort of evolved, and the kids did most of the work," said Alice Westfield, who teamed up with her husband, Rev.

Henry Westfield, to donate the porcine delicacy whose mouth-watering aroma wafted through several back yards all day. Others families brought lasagna, pasta salad, snacks, deviled eggs, desserts, soda and a sinfully delicious concoction of pistachio pudding, marshmallows and other yummys called "Watergate salad."

A large refreshment tent, games, tables and chairs and a bulletin board were set up in Gregg and Mary Ellen Cusma's back yard, the center of most of the activities. Salads were kept cool in an

"It has brought the entire neighborhood together."

Terry Kozlowski
Claude St.

improvised cold table, an ice-filled child's wading pool. Gregg filled the box of his Dodge pickup truck parked in front of the house with balloons.

Notes on the bulletin board thanked the Dallas Fire and Ambulance Com-

pany, municipal officials and police chiefs Jack Fowler (Dallas Borough) and Carl Miers (Dallas Township) - Claude Street is located in both municipalities - and left a special place for autographs.

Several homes sported "The Claude Street Kids Welcome You" on colorful banners tied to front porch railings.

"It has brought the entire neighborhood together," said Bob and Terry Kozlowski, who have lived on Claude

See PARTY, pg 8

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

DALLAS - The community will be asked to help the Back Mountain Memorial Library realize a dream September 20 at 5 p.m., when the board of directors kicks off a capital funds campaign, "Building our Children's Future," to raise enough money to build a new children's wing.

Cramped quarters and more than 200 young visitors each day have forced the library to close the children's room to borrowers during Story Hour and other activities, which must now limit enrollments due to the large amount of space taken up by the 12,000-volume children's collection.

Designed to triple the present children's area, the addition will also be more user-friendly, with lots of well-lit space for activities, a quiet place to curl up with a good book and new kid-sized shelves replacing the present floor-to-ceiling stacks.

New computer stations will give the children access to reference materials containing the most current information.

A portion of the funds raised will be used to update the children's classical selections and favorite series which the kids have "loved and read to shreds," according to children's librarian Marilyn Rudolph, who for more than 25 years has nurtured area youngsters' interest in reading.

See LIBRARY, pg 5



POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

Holly Pajka, 7 1/2, and her mother, Bonnie, of Shavertown stopped by the Back Mountain Memorial Library recently to choose a book to take home and read together. Holly likes the "Mr." series (Mr. Nosey, Mr. Skinny, etc.) and the Little Miss Sunshine books.

'Wrong judgement' by bus driver after crash

14 Westmoreland School Elementary children complain of pain after car strikes back of bus

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

KINGSTON TOWNSHIP - Only minor injuries were reported in an accident in which a car struck the rear end of a school bus taking 56 children to the Westmoreland Elementary School September 10 around 9 a.m.

Police said a 1988 Oldsmobile 88 operated by Linda Ann Myslinski, 34, Shavertown, was traveling east on Lehigh Street when it struck the rear end of a Dallas school bus, owned by Emanuel Bus Lines and operated by Leonard William Bellas, 69, traveling in the same direction.

"The driver tried to stop in time, but went under the back of the

"Only one little girl fell to the floor. The others reported bumps or bruises to the school nurse."

Susan Farr
Dallas transportation supervisor

bus," said police chief James Balavage. "The bus driver told us he had stopped because a car ahead of him stopped to make a left turn onto Stang Street."

Bellas asked Myslinski if she was all right, then told her he had

See BUS DRIVER, pg 3

Rundown home's owner ignoring court order

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

KINGSTON TOWNSHIP - Solicitor Ben R. Jones, III, reported that a court order names Collette Heck, owner of a mobile home on Rice Ave. which neighbors call an eyesore, in contempt of court for her failure to comply with a court order instructing her to clean up the premises.

"She lives out of our jurisdiction and can literally thumb her nose at the township," Jones said. "I may be able to pressure her through the Pennsylvania Bar Association to comply with the order."

Heck is an attorney who allegedly lives in Florida. Her property, which contains high weeds, assorted junk and a mobile home set up on rickety pillars, has been the subject of controversy since at least 1989, when 95 percent of

"She lives out of our jurisdiction and can literally thumb her nose at the township."

Benjamin Jones III
Kingston Twp. solicitor

the street's residents signed a petition asking the township to force Heck to clean the place up.

After a complicated dance through the Luzerne County court system, during which Heck attempted to transfer ownership of the property to her father, the late William Heck, Judge Hugh Mundy in 1994 signed a court order directing her to bring the property into full compliance with township codes within six months. She

See HOUSE, pg. 8

Bike club draws supervisors' ire for paint on roadways

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

LEHMAN TOWNSHIP - The Wyoming Valley Bicycle Club broke its promise and the supervisors aren't amused.

When the club asked the supervisors for permission to run the August 24 Grotto 100 bicycle race through the township, the supervisors told them they weren't allowed to paint any arrows or other signs on township roads.

Years of bicycle races have left arrows of many colors, which can look very confusing, on the roads.

"I, for one, will not be in favor of them running another event in this township again after they sat here and agreed to our terms, then did whatever they wanted," said roadmaster Doug Ide.

"They said they would use state-approved paint which wears off in three days," added chairman David Sutton. "I have never heard of such a paint - and it hasn't

worn off yet."

The supervisors told zoning officer Charles Bartlett to send the club a letter instructing members to remove the paint within five days or place their permit for next year's race in jeopardy.

The zoning office issued four building permits, spent \$148.45 in expenses and collected \$836 in fees during August, Bartlett reported. Permits for two new homes were issued to Heavy Media of Nanticoke for a 4,500 square-foot

home on the Huntsville-Idetown Road and to Michael and Gwen Harleman of Hunlock Creek for a 2,000 square-foot home. Daniel Lamoreaux received a permit for the addition of modular housing units to an existing home, while Kermit, Anna and Kathryn Gregory received a permit to demolish several outbuildings damaged by severe winter weather and to install a 15' x 30' above-ground swimming pool with a deck.

Called 'Newcomers,' this group welcomes all

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

BACK MOUNTAIN - They call themselves newcomers, but some have lived in the area their whole lives.

The Newcomers' Club recently celebrated its 40th anniversary as a club formed to help new residents become acquainted with one another and the area. Although most members live in the Back Mountain, any resident of the Wyoming Valley is welcome to join.

President Sharon Weaver grew up in West Pittston and moved to the Back Mountain about six years ago.

"Most of our membership comes from word of mouth," she said.

"Friends bring their friends to meetings. I joined through my friend, Ellen Myers. It's a great way for women new to the area to meet friends - we have many family-centered activities. We have had a rash of pregnancies lately and at least one blizzard baby, who's due any minute."

The club meets the first Tuesday evening of every month and plans special programs ranging from dinner meetings with guest speakers to "how-to" clinics for each meeting. During the month many get together for morning coffees at members homes. Househusbands are also welcome.

"Some women simply enjoy getting out with the girls once a

See NEWCOMERS, pg 5



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Sharon Weaver, president of the Wyoming Valley Newcomers' Club, welcomed Colleen Volpetti, Kingston Twp., center, and Lisbeth Nilsson, Shavertown, at the club's monthly meeting.

■ Move over Deion
Dallas junior Natalie Temperine plays two sports in the same season. Pg 9.

■ The old ways
Revolutionary re-enactors practice the crafts of colonial settlers. Pg 3.

INDEX

14 Pages 2 Sections
Calendar.....14
Classified.....12-13
Crossword.....14
Editorials.....4
Obituaries.....12
School.....11
Sports.....9-10

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