

The economic viewpoint



Howard Grossman

Planners often cite urban sprawl as one of the major impediments to proper planning and development of communities, and regions. Urban sprawl is most noticeable in the large metropolitan areas of the country, but most people do not associate metropolitan areas with Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and Hazleton. It truly is a designated Metropolitan Statistical Area and is ranked accordingly by the Office of Management and Budget and US Bureau of Census.

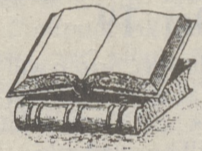
The region is one of the larger metropolitan areas, not one of the smaller metros, but most people would perhaps label the size of the region as being medium metro.

In the context of suburban life, Northeastern Pennsylvania does not have the typical suburbs found in many metropolitan areas. The region is basically an agglomeration of small communities and towns which have many of the same assets and liabilities shared by small towns across the nation. Suburbia is perhaps best identified as being the Dallas area and Mountaintop area of Luzerne County and the Abingtons of Lackawanna County.

Suburban sprawl relates to issues which cross boundary lines and are characterized by inappropriate location of the use of land, poor zoning, poor use of sub-division regulations, absence of large scale planning, and an inordinate expenditure of funds to support community facilities and services or infrastructure needs.

School districts often cross boundary lines and deal with one of the most important functions government provides - the education of children. It is more likely that the appropriate view of how to deal with problems which cross boundary lines is that which a school district faces. Housing,

LIBRARY NEWS



By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The display case at the Back Mountain Memorial Library is showing a collection of Cherish Bears borrowed from Ellie Ashton of Dallas.

These are delicate bears in various poses doing different things and have become very popular. Ellie started collecting these in 1991; they have been on the market about five years.

She spotted these first when she was visiting in Nashville. Four months later, she saw them in Pittsburgh, and she bought her first two bears, Nathan and Nellie.

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Plan ahead to control urban sprawl, protect land

taxes, and a variety of other functions, issues, or services fall under the umbrella of urban sprawl.

Many research projects have been undertaken on the impact of urban sprawl in the major metros of the nation. It is important for Northeastern Pennsylvania's future to understand the nature of these studies and to attempt to apply them to the situation which exists and which may exist in the future throughout the region. Therefore, steps should be undertaken in the near future to enable organizations such as county planning commissions, the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania (EDCNP), and others, to become more involved with issues which clearly cross municipal boundary lines.

Here are some steps which could be undertaken to guide development in the region and help prevent urban sprawl:

- Each municipality in Northeastern Pennsylvania, with special attention to the Pocono Mountain local governments, should prepare an updated comprehensive plan, amend its zoning ordinance or establish new zoning controls to enhance and protect the ability of local government to control and manage the use of land.

- County planning commissions should be encouraged to continue to provide assistance to local governments in their respective jurisdictions and to establish or promote model control ordinances which can be utilized by local governments to manage the use of land and to update their comprehensive plans.

- Federal and state projects in Northeastern Pennsylvania have significant impact on local planning and zoning actions and decisions. These major projects should be fully integrated into a regional, county and local planning process and steps taken to achieve close collaboration with all interested parties. EDCNP should help convene this group.

- Each local government in Northeastern Pennsylvania,

should be requested to pass a resolution supporting, in principle, the desirability of participation in a regional and county planning program.

- Each local government in Northeastern Pennsylvania, should consider the use of new impact fee legislation in the state and be encouraged to promote cooperative programs with adjoining municipalities where highway infrastructure impacts more than one municipality.

- Local governments in Northeastern Pennsylvania should be encouraged to carry out joint municipal sewage planning, especially on a watershed basis, in order to improve the region's quality of life.

- Each area of Northeastern Pennsylvania where stormwater management is a substantial problem should undertake, with appropriate financial assistance, stormwater management plans.

- An environment diversity inventory should be prepared for each of the seven counties of Northeastern Pennsylvania and the information provided to local and county planning commissions and the public and private sectors of the region to avoid problems associated with development proposals which are held up due to the need to conduct appropriate environmental reviews for assessments.

- A special presentation should be requested with appropriate state administration and legislative officials to demonstrate the particular and unique interests and needs with Northeastern Pennsylvania for support and assistance in relation to the land development trends found within the region.

- The Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania (EDCNP) Water Management Task Force Report published in 1988 should be further publicized and the recommendations found in the report further disseminated with a request that appropriate agencies help to implement the recommendations.

Cherish Bears on display

She now owns about 50 Cherish Bears. She keeps them in a hutch at her home.

Included in the library display are: Christopher beside a toy box with toys; Patrice and music box, plays Jesus loves me; three Christmas bears, Gloria represents past, Garland is present, and Gabriel is the ghost to come; Cherish the King, a family which plays O Little Town of Bethlehem; four Halloween bears, Taylor, Gary, Stacie and Connie; two tea sets with bears; a sled on snow with three bears; two tiny bears on a wooden bench celebrating an engagement party; a Laplander collection Sonja with bunnies, Eric on a polar bear; and Ingrid with a goose from 1994; a Town Hall sign with Mayor Wilson TBeary, town taddler, Cubby, and Hilary, Hug-A-Bear; Bonnie in an Easter bear with a pacifier; and baby Bobby has a toy to play

with. Ellie now buys the new special editions and members only, limited collection. She also receives them for gifts. There are 23 bears on display. They will be at the library until October 23.

The children's room has received a new collection of the Spot books, Spot sleeps over; goes to the circus; goes to the beach; first Easter; first Walk; Birthday Party; Goes To School; Baby Sister; Goes To The Farm; Walk In The Woods and Where's Spot? The children's room has also received new copies of Bill Peets books, Hugh Harold; Eli; Chester, the Worldly Pig; Cyrus the Unsinkable Sea Serpent; Hugh Harold; Encore for Eleanor; Hubert's Hair-Raising Adventure; Smokey; Randy's Dandy Lions; The Wump World; Big Bad Bruce; The Pinkish, Purplish, Bluish Egg; Cowardly Clyde.

Kosloski reports for duty at Jacksonville

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Anthony F. Kosloski, son of Nancy J. and Anthony F. Kosloski Jr., of RR 1, Harveys Lake, recently reported for duty at Naval Air Station Cecil Field, Jacksonville, FL.

The 1981 graduate of West Side Vocational Technical High School of Pringle, joined the Navy in April, 1984.

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LETTERS

Cadette Girl Scout troop seeks members

To all girls in grades 7-9:
 Are you looking for a good time based on moral values and contemporary issues?
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Girl Scout troop from the Lake-Lehman Middle Level Building.
 The troop meets once a month on the last Wednesday of the month, from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m.
 For more information, contact

the Penn's Woods Girl Scout Council at 829-2631 and ask for Ellie Rodda.
 Ellie Kandler Rodda
 Penn's Woods Girl Scout Council

Appreciates coverage of neighborhood party

Editor,
 Your generous gift of time and energy meant so much to so many. Thank you for volunteering your time and for all of your support. The Claude Street party was a success and the article and pictures in The Dallas Post added to

that success.
 Our children ran up and down the street on Sept. 18, with copies of The Dallas Post in their hands yelling to everyone, "Wow, look at this; we made the front page of The Dallas Post. Now we will never forget this party!"

On behalf of the residents of Claude Street, especially the children, I would like to say once again, thank you for all you've done and for making it all possible.

E. A. Moore
 Dallas

ONLY YESTERDAY

60 Years Ago: Oct. 9, 1936 HUNTSVILLE CHURCH OBSERVES ANNIVERSARY

As it has each year for nearly two decades, Huntsville Christian Church celebrated another anniversary this week, but this year there was no Peter Culp to recall how his mother carried him to dedication services on Oct. 15, 1843. For years he had been the oldest living person who could recall the early days of this section's first church.

Senator Andrew J. Sordoni of Kingston and Harveys Lake, who can doff his senatorial dignity in a hurry when fire bells ring, has been selected again as honorary chief of the Daniel C. Roberts Fire Company of Harveys Lake. Other officers named were president, Otis Allen and vice-president, Ira C. Stevenson.

50 Years Ago: Oct. 11, 1946 BMT LIBRARY IS ONE YEAR OLD

John B. Kennedy, superintendent of Kingston Borough schools, will speak tonight at the Back Mountain Memorial Library as directors and friends meet to observe the first anniversary of the library's opening. The library now has 10,000 volumes and serves all schools in the Back Mountain. A very pretty wedding was sol-

emized in Luzerne Methodist Church Saturday afternoon, Oct. 5, at 2 p.m. when Miss Martha Mae Hadsel became the bride of Thomas E. Reese. Attendants were Miss Shirley M. Reese and Lewis J. Reese, sister and brother of the bridegroom.

In order to speed up transportation to pupils living in Kunkle and East Dallas, Dallas Township will shortly add another schoolbus to its transportation system. School buses now make nine daily trips, several so long that many students do not arrive home until a late hour.

40 Years Ago: Oct. 5, 1956 COPS CRACK DOWN ON DRUNK DRIVERS

Although the official opening is not until Saturday night, Back Mountain bowlers enthusiastically welcomed the informal opening of Crown Imperial Bowling alleys on three nights this week. Crowds were so great that the vast parking lot was filled to capacity and the restaurant and soda fountain were unable to handle the thronging customers.

Police commissioner Arthur Smith said yesterday that he is completely behind the police effort to take drunken drivers off the highways and that Kingston Township police have always done a good job along this line. A week ago Saturday night during the police blockade, officer Herbert Updyke got three D.U.I.'s at Hillside.

30 Years Ago: Oct. 6, 1966 KLEPPINGER EARNS EAGLE SCOUT AWARD

A Dallas High School freshman will be honored on Sunday with

the highest award in Scouting. Gary Kleppinger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Kleppinger, 48 Evergreen St., shavertown, will receive his Eagle Scout award at a breakfast at the Shavertown United Methodist Church, of which he is a member.

There was the usual rash of wrong numbers as customers of the Commonwealth Telephone Co. consult the old book, ignoring the new one. It use to be, they would reach Gate of Heaven instead of the fire company, which might add up to the same connection, give or take those few vital seconds.

Now playing at the Luzerne Theater: "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf," starring Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton.

20 Years Ago: Oct. 7, 1976 POLICE CONSOLIDATION UNDER CONSIDERATION

A proposal to consolidate operations of Dallas Borough and Dallas Township police departments is in the "rumor" stage this week following the sudden resignation of Dallas Borough police chief Ray Titus. Official comment on the subject was hard to come by, but a number of borough residents have suggested the time is right for a mutually advantageous consolidation despite the lack of endeavor from some local politicians.

Howard "Duke" Isaacs died suddenly Oct. 2 in the Queen of the Valley Hospital in Napa, CA, where he had been attending meetings as a representative of the Valley Automobile Club. He was a resident of Dallas for nearly 50 years and established the Howard "Duke" Isaacs Chrysler-Plymouth dealership in Trucksville.

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