

LETTERS

Asking for 'fresh start' with new school

Editor: There are too many questions and too few answers on the issue of a new elementary school for Dallas.

Please, let's start over. Could we have well advertised public meetings that answer the questions: Do we need a new school? Can the old school be fixed? How much state funding is expected with each plan? What educa-

tional/financial gains or losses do we face building adjoining schools? Have we evaluated every possible building site? What kind of tax hike is expected and for how long? Is it possible to save precious open land?

Ask a friend or neighbor if they know the answers. What you find is confusion among many and hostility between each group supporting its own interests. It's time

to clear the confusion and dispel the hostility that has risen. Meeting our children's educational needs is important and how we meet those needs is everyone's concern. The Board's indecision is a signal to our community that we need to take an active role, even taking responsibility for making the final vote ours.

Geri Gitlin
Dallas

Game Commision reports 'propaganda'

Editor: The Game Commission keeps reporting "record kills" for buck. Come on Hunters, speak up! I think we are all sick of hearing this "license selling propaganda".

I have made a point of talking to as many hunters as possible on this subject, and I keep getting the same answer, "very few deer, and low kills". The Pa. State Game Commission can't report low kills because it would effect license sales and revenue. Pa. Game Commission officer Joe Wenzel was quoted as saying residents attested to large number of deer in Luzerne Co., and two other officers, Chris Heil and Carbon Co. officer Fred Merluzzi said they

see deer everywhere. Is this how they are basing their information? I think they all need to spend more time in the woods! Saying that the deer population is as large as ever is just propaganda. First realize the problem, and admit the truth - there are very few deer, and hunters should be sick and tired of the Commission's methods of dealing with the problem.

If the Commission has nothing to hide, they should let an independent group examine the kill reports. Even after the meeting in Tunkhannock held by the Commission, when angry hunters tried to express their concerns about poor management, large numbers

of bonus tags and doe licenses were still sold, which of course shows that their only interest is money. Maybe one of the television stations should conduct a phone poll asking hunters, if they think there are large numbers of deer, based on their time spent in the woods, and compare that with the Commission's findings.

Communication must get started somewhere, or the young hunters will most definitely lose interest, because of no small game and no deer to hunt. And then they will need another license increase to cover the loss of license sales to young hunters.

William Miller
Dallas

S.P.C.A. thanks Dallas Middle students

Editor: On behalf of the S.P.C.A. of Luzerne County I wish to express our heartfelt thanks to Ms. Noreen Amesbury and the Dallas Middle School Student Council for the recent donation of food and supplies they collected during their annual food drive for the animals sheltered in our facility on Fox-

Hill Rd., Plains Twp. An entire van full of food was picked up at the school on January 16. It is very commendable of all those who participated in the collection. They are truly an outstanding group dedicated to helping those in need.

It is refreshing to know that our youth are attentive to the needs

and plight of homeless animals and are receiving the guidance from their peers which is helping develop our future leaders. The S.P.C.A. is constantly in need of such generosity.

Edward Gross
Director of Development
SPCA of Luzerne Co.

As I was saying



Jack Hilsher

MORE ODDS 'N ENDS...The illustrious Times-Misleader strikes again: a recent CLASSIFIED lists a "terrier-beagle mix, free to a good home, great w/ kids." And then they do it again: "spade female!"

Wish I had kept track of how many times they have messed up "spayed" over the years, because there would be a stack by now. Still, spaded beagles never quite come up to their masterpiece - "Roth Iron Fence."

I would give you the dictionary definition for "Palindrome" but mine doesn't show it. I can try anyway: "Something reading backwards same as forwards." Short example, that late statesman named "U Nu." Two new examples: "A Man, a Plan, A Canal - Panama!" and its come-

Odds n' ends in the world

back: "No, it's a banana bastion." (Whoever dreams these up must surely have a lot of time on his/her hands, and very little else to do.)

intention of using them for postage.

Before the civil trial of O.J. Simpson ends, here is a summary made at the end of his criminal trial: Conclusion was reached one year and three days after his jury selection. They heard from 11 defense attorneys and nine prosecutors. Fifty eight witnesses were called by the state and 53 by the defense. Prosecutors introduced 723 pieces of evidence; defense 392 items.

More than 16,000 objections were made, of which 9000 were overruled. Jurors were sequestered for 266 days and nights, and were paid \$1330 each. The state spent \$3.6 million on food, shelter and security. Jury deliberations were expected to last days. They actually took less than three hours.

The single most profitable stamp was supposed to be the one commemorating Elvis Presley. Postal officials estimate the agency made \$36 million from people who bought the Elvis stamps with no

A recent audit shows the agency will earn \$1.56 billion in fiscal 1996, a second year in a row of \$1 billion-plus and should mean no increase in the price of a 32¢ letter "at least through 1997." (A few months ago that was the year 2000.)

You've seen those cutesy shop names for ladies hair salons, like Shear Madness, Curl Harbor, Clip Joint, and A Head of our Time. Well here are more, just as cute: a Chinese food carryout call themselves, Wok Around the Clock. A costume rental is named Disguise the Limit and a store selling old books is Yellow Pages.

There is also, and finally, a coffee store calling itself Sufficient Grounds.

And that, is enough of that.

LCCC honors Franklin First

The Luzerne County Community College Foundation recently honored Franklin First Savings Bank for ongoing support of the college's annual fundraising dinner which benefits the Foundation's Fund for Excellence. The fund supports student scholarships, campus improvement, equipment acquisitions, and staff development. Thomas van Arsdale has served as a volunteer for the Foundation in the past and chaired the 1993 corporate dinner. He currently serves as vice president of the LCCC foundation board. Shown from left, David Hiscox, Esq., Dallas, outgoing foundation board president and Thomas van Arsdale, Shavertown, president and CEO, Franklin First Savings Bank and vice president, LCCC foundation board.



LIBRARY NEWS



By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library is featuring a collection of pictures in a large frame on the wall in the reference room. The title of this collage is "The Original Library - A Great Beginning": "To be a living memorial to the Back Mountain men and women who have served in all wars to preserve the American ideal".

The first picture is dated 1945 and shows the original library building on Main Street. And, thus the Back Mountain Library was founded. The library's charter was adopted and a board elected, on Feb. 15, 1945. Mrs. Ruth LeGrand, who first suggested the idea of a regional library was one of the directors. During the

Library's beginnings told in display of photographs

first week of February 19, the Dallas Woman's Club set up a fund drive, which quickly netted \$10,600. The sum was enough to purchase and renovate the Ryman home located on Main Street. The vacant home was purchased from the Ryman family for \$4,500.

The library held its first meeting in its partially finished rooms on June 14, 1945. On June 1, 1945, Miriam Lathrop became the library's first librarian. She remained until her retirement in 1961. At the end of the first year, the library had over 30,000 volumes and 800 borrowers.

The second picture is of the reference area with a view of the front desk. The third picture is of the first library board in 1948. The library housed 6,000 books in 1945; 2,000 borrowed from the state library. At the end of the first day, 125 books had been checked out. Herbert Hill, a Shav-

ertown florist, took out the first book. The fourth picture is of a flock of children, which flooded the library on the first day, after their dismissal from school.

The fifth picture is of the first librarians Florence Crump, children's librarian; Miriam Lathrop, first librarian and Mary Dale, librarian from 1964 to 1966. Mrs. Crump was the founder of the book booth at the annual auction and remained active until 1990.

The sixth picture shows the reading room which housed the non-fiction and dictionaries and encyclopedias. The dedication of the first library on Sunday, October 14, 1945 was celebrated with a parade from Dr. F. Budd Schooley's home on Lake Street to the library. The entire town turned out for the celebration. The library celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1995 all over again.

Parent advisory committee will meet

The Dallas Middle School will hold an organizational meeting for a Parent Advisory Committee. Any parent/guardian of Dallas Middle School students interested in participating are invited to attend the first meeting on Jan. 30, at 7 p.m., in the middle-school auditorium.

Pictured from left, Mrs. Nadine Young, Mrs. Mary Gilligan, parents; Mrs. Raelene Olszewski, guidance counselor; and Anthony Martinelli, principal.



Builder's Home Show in Back Mountain

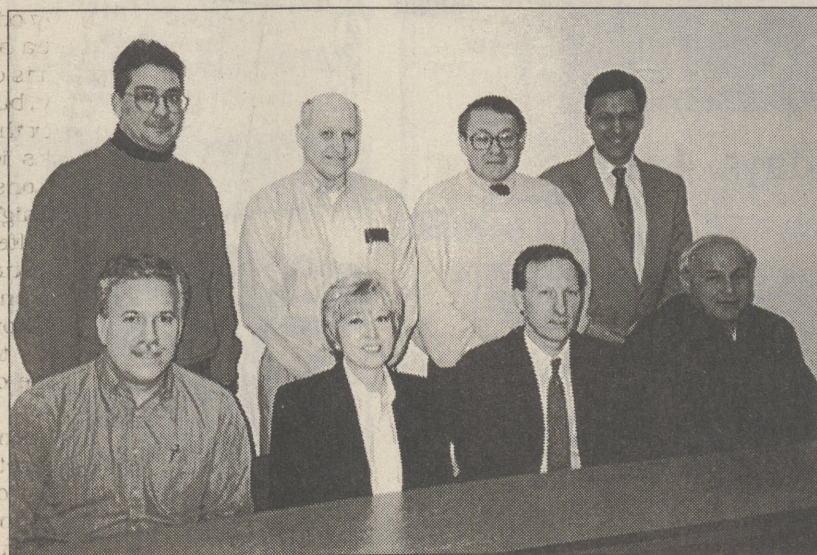
The 1997 Builder's Home Show will move to a new time and location for their annual spring "Home Show".

The Builder's show has outgrown the facility at the Wilkes-Barre Ice-A-Rama and will relocate the 1997 show to the larger Luzerne County Fairgrounds, Route 118, Lehman.

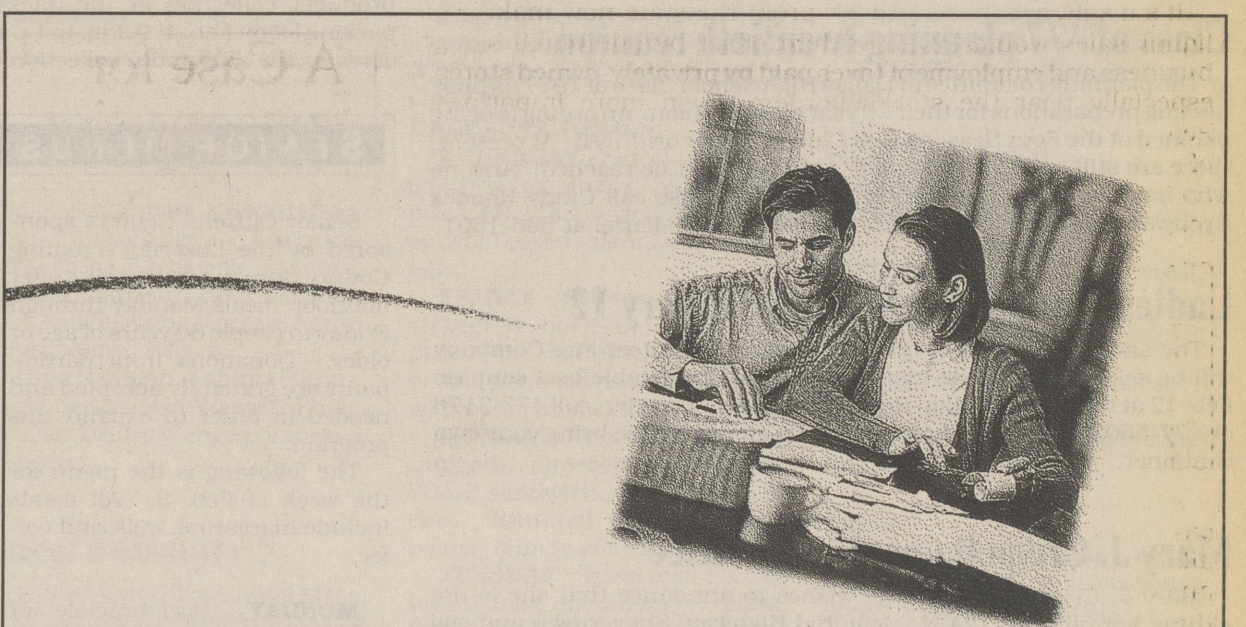
The dates of the show will now be more springtime May 9, 10 and 11, and with May 11 being Mother's Day, there will be special attractions on that day.

The show will feature everything for and around the home and is sponsored exclusively by the Building Industry Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Inquiries about booth space can be made to the BIA, Kingstow 287-3331.



Home Show Committee members are, from left, Joe Fumanti, Toni Rogan, Peter Restaino, Dennis Brislin. Second row, Randy Rushton, Tony Garbush, Bill Bachman and Tom Bubul. Absent from photo, George Mario, Paul Ochman, Sue Napkora, Matt Hodorowski, Don Flaim and Don Casterline.



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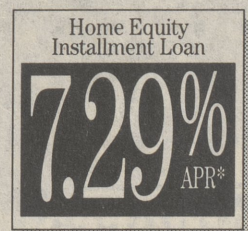
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