

EDITORIALS

Small businesses like J&J Deli are heart of community commerce

With the 21st century looming, is there a place for small family businesses in America? Or must we look to a future in which the Wal-Marts and CVS's of the world use their huge buying power and ability to absorb short-term losses to overwhelm locally owned enterprises? The Back Mountain offers some evidence that all is not lost for family-run firms, at least in some lines of work.

J&J Deli is one example of how well a family business can perform, although it operates in a completely different fashion from large corporations. Instead of economies of scale, J&J uses plenty of old-fashioned elbow grease, as brother and sister pitch in to help their mother run a very successful restaurant and catering business. What they can't match in designer interiors they make up for with service made sincere because their livelihood depends on return customers. Unlike the manager of a chain, whose chief loyalty is to a boss in some faraway city, Jan, John, Jim and Janice Wertman must answer to you and me each week.

The same is true of Fino's Pharmacy, Pizza Perfect and dozens of other local shops, stores and offices, including the one where this is being written. These are businesses that offer work opportunities to hundreds of people, trade with other local enterprises, and support local institutions with donations of cash, time and services. Some large businesses do so as well, of course, but many can't be bothered to help with the Back Mountain's problems. To them we're just a place to get some cash from as long as the good times last.

Our economy — whether here in the Back Mountain or nationwide — needs businesses of all sizes and types, from the largest to the smallest. But don't judge a store or office only by the size of its sign or the name you see advertised on Monday Night Football. Look instead for the value it provides to you as a customer, and to your community as a vital link in an endless chain, where what goes around, comes around to help or hurt you in the long run.



A killdeer peeks out from cover in Lehman. Photo by Charlotte Bartizek.



60 Years Ago - Sept. 10, 1937

DALLAS POST OBTAINS NEW PRINTING PRESS

This issue of The Dallas Post will be the last to come from the old Babcock press, which has served so well and so long. As soon as the faithful old press ended this week's run, the workmen began dismantling it breaking up its concrete base and making way for a fast modern, 10 and one half ton Miehle that will arrive here today from Philadelphia.

Burglary insurance in Dallas Township's school property was doubled at a meeting of the school board Tuesday evening. The school district is protected now to the amount of \$3,000. Tuition for grade school pupils from out-of-town was fixed at \$25 a student per year and for high school students, \$50 per year.

50 Years Ago - Sept. 12, 1947 FIFTY NEW HOMES GO UP IN KINGSTON TOWNSHIP

More than 50 new homes are under construction or have just been completed in Kingston Township. The largest single development is that of Douglas Kulp in the Steele plot opposite Checkerboard Inn on Carverton Road. There 15 houses are in various stages of completion.

The Frank H. Hemelright annual memorial award for community service in the Back Mountain area during 1947 will be presented next Wednesday evening at a joint meeting of Dallas Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs at Irem Temple Country Club attended by representatives of Dallas Woman's Club, Harveys Lake Women's Service Club and other community organizations. With the award will go a \$50 War Bond and a plaque.

Egan Oil Co. of Pittston has purchased Kitchen's Mountain View Inn at Bowman's Creek. The Inn, one of the most popular on the Dallas Tunkhannock Highway has been operated for the past six years by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Kitchen.

40 Years Ago - Sept. 13, 1957 FORMER SCIENCE TEACHER NOW ON BOARD

Walter H. R. Mohr, a former science teacher at Westmoreland High School was elected Tuesday evening to fill the vacancy on the Dallas Borough School Board caused by the death of Harry Ohlman. Named by the Board at a special meeting Tuesday evening, Mr. Mohr will serve until 1961.

Four young doctors, three of them brothers are opening offices this week in Lehman. They are Dr. Benjamin H. Groblewski; Dr. John D. Groblewski; Dr. Edward A. Groblewski and Dr. Edmund W. McGrath. They will have their headquarters in the office established many years ago by the late Dr. H.A. Brown.

30 Years Ago - Sept. 17, 1967 RED TAPE SLOWS TRAFFIC LIGHT INSTALLATION

With school already begun Dallas Township Supervisors are concerned that they have not yet received permission from Harrisburg to erect blinking lights slowing traffic to 15 m.p.h. on treacherous 309 a thoroughfare many children must cross. Board members had planned to erect lights at Cen-

ter Hill Road intersection, Dallas Outdoor Theatre and the lower entrance to New Goss Manor.

Purchase of Harveys Lake Light Co. by United Gas Improvement Co. sees Back Mountain customers continuing to get the same electric service that has been theirs for decades generated at a central plant which supplies power for the entire Greater Wyoming Valley area.

Mr. and Mrs. William N. Sorber, Outlet, Harveys Lake, celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary, Sept. 4. They have a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Milbrodt, Lehman and a son Robert who is deceased.

20 Years Ago - Sept. 8, 1977 3 ESCAPE CHASE PRISON

The recent escape of three inmates from the State Correctional Institution in Jackson Township, was made possible because of heavy fog which prevented officials from having a clear view of the area according to prison officials. Lt. Charles Lavan of the Institution reported that there was a complete shift of guards on duty both within the institution and at guard posts. Two of the men were captured within hours after they escaped while the third man was captured several days later.

Publisher's notebook

Ron Bartizek



The Dallas Post has restricted its coverage to local news for all of its 108 years, but I'm about to change that. We're going National! Maybe World! This is a decision that wasn't made lightly, but was forged over many cups of cappuccino and slices of biscotti, while watching television coverage of the Clintons' vacation on Martha's Vineyard. I want to take a three-week "working" vacation covering them, too! Enough of this schlepping around at Little League games and school board meetings. We're ready for the big time! At least I am; we can't afford to send anyone else. Why, I read there were nearly 50 reporters on the Vineyard during the Clintons' visit there, and that doesn't count the photographers, producers, directors and other assorted and sundry backup staff. And what were they there for? To ask what Chelsea ate for breakfast, whether Hillary cooked it, and how much the President cheated on the golf course. If even that information isn't available, I can resort to what the big media's been doing for two weeks — reporting on itself and how it whiles away the hours waiting for real news to break. I can do that, and then can send the answers straight back to The Dallas Post where you eager readers have been hungering for every tidbit, I'm sure. Just think of the other possibilities: I could visit Europe and report on the condition of the water at Venice, or from Tahiti I could get the native people's opinion on satellite television. I'm not sure this coverage would do anything for our circulation, but it sure would be fun, and the expenses can be written off, heh-heh.

More seriously, I think this kind of useless coverage illustrates how bloated the news industry has become, particularly national broadcast and cable news. You've got to wonder how long advertisers will be willing to pay the price for such mindless - and obvious - waste.

Letters, columns and editorials

The Dallas Post attempts to publish opinions on a variety of topics in many forms. Editorials, which are the opinion of the management of The Post, appear on the editorial page and are written by the editor unless otherwise indicated. Any artwork represents the opinion of the cartoonist, and columns are the opinion of the author.

Letters to the editor are welcome and will be published, subject to the following guidelines:

- Letters should not exceed 500 words.
- No writer may have more than one letter published during a 30-day period, except as a reply to another letter.
- Letters must be signed and include the writer's home town and a telephone number for verification.
- Names will be withheld only if there exists a clear threat to the writer.
- The Post retains the right to accept or reject any letter, and to edit letters for grammar and spelling, as well as to eliminate any libel, slander or objectionable wording.

In addition to letters, we welcome longer pieces that may run as columns. The author or subject's relevance to the Back Mountain will be the prime consideration when selecting material for publication.

Library news



Nancy Kozemchak

"QUIET!" This is the normal operative word for libraries. However, the Back Mountain Memorial Library has been anything but quiet since the middle of July, following the 51st library auction. We had bulldozers, a digger with a 24' reach, the amount needed for the length of the excavation, and a number of different buckets.

Children's Wing construction on track

During the excavation, we encountered artifacts of past construction including 5 concrete tanks and an ancient cesspool, all of which required over-excavation beyond expectations, and required 220 tons of concrete to be placed in order to stabilize the area under footings. The footers were put in for the foundation walls and the new walls were poured.

A very large truck with a 72' boom was brought in to lift the steel beams into place. The steel deck has been placed and the detail work is being done, for electrical and communication connections. The sub-floor duct work is beginning. Meanwhile, back in the basement of the existing build-

ing, new sprinkler pipes are being installed, electrical service is being extended toward the new addition, heating piping is being attached from the manifold of the existing boiler to the new addition.

The drilling and sawing create noises of their own, however, last week there was a 4 foot diameter masonry saw being used to cut through a 16" concrete wall in the north wall of the existing basement, and that was the worst sound of all. Most new and long awaited improvements do create havoc but the final result should be worth it! The new children's wing should be under roof by December, according to plan.

New books at the library:

"Road Rage" by Ruth Rendell is a novel that pits Chief Inspector Wexford against a quite personal foe: the environmental terrorists who kidnap and threaten the lives of five hostages, including his wife.

"Deja Dead" by Kathy Reichs is a crime novel with wide-spread excitement. Dr. Brennan spends her days in the autopsy suite, the courtroom and the crime lab with cops and at exhumation sites. Days often turn into harrowing nights. "Fatal Terrain" by Dale Brown asks the question, "What will it take for the U.S. Air Force to enter the 21st century?" It's about to find out, but at a deadly price. In Asia, all hell is breaking out. The US has one card to play.

Back Mountain Library adds new material to collection

The Back Mountain Memorial Library, 96 Huntsville Road, Dallas announces the addition of the following books to their collection.

- FICTION**
 "Chasing Cezanne" by Peter Mayle
 "Deception On His Mind" by Elizabeth George
 "Secrecy" by Belva Plain
 "Almost No Memory" by Lydia Davis
 "Mason & Dixon" by Thomas Pynchon
 "A Firing Offense" by David Ignatius
 "Princess Charming" by Jane Heller
 "The Tenth Justice" by Brad Meltzer
 "Fat Tuesday" by Sandra Brown
 "The Maze" by Catherine Coulter
 "The Obsession" by Catherine Cookson
 "Power of a Woman" by Barbara Taylor Bradford
 "Bradenburg" by Glenn Meade
 "Vendetta Lucky's Revenge" by Jackie Collins
 "A Place to Call Home" by Paul Lindsay
 "Savage Wilderness" by Harold Coyle
 "Reliquary" by Douglas J. Preston
 "London" by Edward Rutherfurd
 "Special Delivery" by Danielle Steel
 "Play For a Kingdom" by Thomas

- Dyja
 "Errands" by Judith Guest
 "Red Sky at Night" by Jim Hall
 "Inventing Memory" by Erica Jong
 "Sacred" by Dennis Lehane
 "Further Lane" by James Brady
NON-FICTION
 "Conversations With God Book 2" by Neale Donald Walsch
 "Dr. Bob Amot's Revolutionary Weight Control Program" by Robert Burns Amot
 "The Dibert Future" by Scott Adams
 "Into Thin Air" by John Krakauer
 "The 3-Day Energy Fast" by Pamela Serure
 "Mars and Venus On a Date" by John Gray, Ph.D.
 "Billions and Billions" by Carl Sagan
 "Mothers and Daughters" by Carol Saline
 "The Pregnancy Book" by William Sears, M.D.
 "Novels and Other Stories" by Nathanael West
 "Rosabeth Moss Kantor on The Frontiers of Management"
 "The Gift of Fear" by Gavin DeBecker
AUDIO TAPE
 "The Final Odyssey" by Arthur C. Clarke

- "Tick Tock" by Dean Koontz
 "The Rapture of Canann" by Sheri Reynolds
 "Plum Island" by Nelson DeMille
 "A Map of the World" by Jane Hamilton
 "Another View" by Rosamunde Pilcher
 "The Day Before Midnight" by Stephen Hunter
 "The Angel Maker" by Ridley Pearson
 "Mercy" by David Lindsey
 "See Them Die" by Ed McBain
 "How to Raise Happy Confident Kids"
 "Songs in Ordinary Time" by Mary McGarry Morris
 "A Time to Kill" by John Grisham
 "Power of a Woman" by Barbara Taylor Bradford
 "Accents on Artists" by Barbara and Peter Toohil
 "Dragon Tears" by Dean Koontz
 "Fat Tuesday" by Sandra Brown
 "Quivers A Life" by Robin Quivers
 "Special Delivery" by Danielle Steel
VIDEO CASSETTE
 "The Century That Made America Great 3 Vols."
 "India"

- LARGE PRINT**
 "Lovesick" by Angeles Mastretta
 "Dying Well" by Ira Byock
 "Beyond Recognition" by Ridley Pearson
 "Chromosome 8" by Robin Cook
 "From Potter's Field" by Patricia Cornwell
 "Exclusive" by Sandra Brown
 "All Around The Town" by Mary Higgins Clark
SCIENCE FICTION
 "Slant" by Greg Bear
 "Freedom's Choice" by Anne McCaffrey
 "The Dazzle of Day" by Molly Gloss
MYSTERY
 "Never Street" by Loren D. Estleman
 "Deception On His Mind" by Elizabeth George
 "Seeing A Large Cat" by Elizabeth Peters
REFERENCE
 "Right to Privacy"
 "The Hospital Phone Book 1997 Edition"
 Finally,
BIOGRAPHY
 "Whistled Like a Bird" by Sally Putnam Chapman

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