

Halloween

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family. What about parental rights?"

Leahigh believes other activities, which routinely run past dark, pose the same problems as trick-or-treating on Halloween night. "I have been at soccer games and school activities that don't end until 10 o'clock so don't feed me a line about kids being sleepy in school," she said. "If someone is worried about trick-or-treating at night they should take their children out at 5 p.m."

Colleen Leahigh, who plans to dress as a scary witch this year, hopes her mother's efforts will cause Township supervisors to reconsider their decision. "I like it much better at night," she said. "There is this one house on our street that has a mist machine and it's so spooky to go there but I think it's fun."

Young children seem to think Halloween would be less frightful and therefore less fun if it were held while the sun was shining. "My favorite thing about Halloween is getting candy and being outside when it's dark," said Caitlin Metz, who is 5 years old. "It wouldn't be fun in the day."

Older children, who are used to trick-or-treating on Halloween night, aren't eager to change either. "That's crazy, it's like tradition to go at night," said Matt Adler, a 12-year-old who attends Dallas Middle School.

Howling winds and horror stories lose their effect in the light of day according to Chris Taylor, a 10-year-old Gate of Heaven student. "It's just not the same," he said. "It's a lot spookier at night. Plus I like to make scary noises to frighten other kids and if it was during the day they would see me."

While many are upset the prospect of trick-or-treating sometime other than the traditional Halloween night, most said they would go along with an alternative. "I wouldn't stop trick-or-treating that's for sure," said Christina Brown who is 11 years old.



POST PHOTOS/KASIA McDONOUGH
Matt Adler, 12, left, and Jeff Edwards, 13, are not pleased that some towns want to make Halloween trick-or-treat time a Saturday afternoon. The boys attend Dallas Middle School.

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Chris Taylor
Age 10



Maureen Leahigh is planning a petition drive against a plan to have trick-or-treating on Saturday afternoon. She's shown at home with Brandon and Colleen, ready to read a spooky favorite tale.

Rec center

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would like to purchase for the center. "We're very lucky because both owners have been extremely patient," said Sutton. The land, a total of about 80 acres, is near Lehman center, and when fully developed could house playing fields for baseball and soccer, walking and bike paths and indoor facilities, possibly including a swimming pool.

This good fortune has also created complications. "I think our biggest mistake was finding those properties so early. The area fits our needs so nicely and its a central location for everyone in the Back Mountain but maybe we shouldn't have shown our cards so soon. I think we all got excited about getting things done and the delay has been difficult."

As the timetable has changed, the plans for a recreational facility have become more definitive. "Originally, we thought we'd run a

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Dave Sutton
President, Back Mountain Recreation Board

huge fundraiser to get enough money for every phase of this project from land purchases through construction," said Sutton. "Now we're looking to raise the \$1 million we need to buy the property and pay engineering fees. That is all we need to get this thing off the ground."

State and federal funds are available for construction but the land has to be acquired prior to present a program about frivolous lawsuits and their effects on society at the October meeting of the Back Mountain Business and Professional Association.

Members will also discuss plans for the Halloween Parade and Party

grant applications being submitted. "That money is definitely out there but we're taking it one step at a time," said Sutton, who is also a Lehman Twp. supervisor.

Most important, Sutton said support for the project continues to grow. "Everybody I have talked to says they absolutely love the idea," he said. "We need it and we're ready for it."

The success of the Anderson Sports Complex is an indication that the Back Mountain would welcome a public recreational complex. "Just look at Misericordia, they opened that up to the community and its always packed. The Back Mountain Recreation Center would provide people with a chance to participate in unorganized sports. We'd have a place to go for a family swim or a pick-up basketball game and we wouldn't have to drive into town to do those things."

that will take place Sunday, Oct. 24. The meeting will take place Thursday, Oct. 14 in the Banks Student Center (formerly Merrick Hall) at College Misericordia.

The meeting begins at 11:45 a.m.

Frivolous lawsuits will be meeting topic

Dr. Anthony Liuzzo, Professor of Business and Economics at Wilkes University, will speak will

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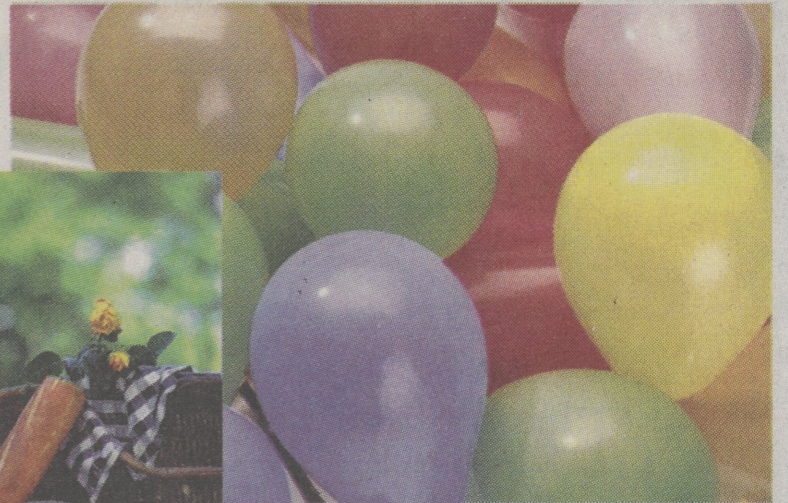
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