

EDITORIALS

Planners correct to recommend tower rejection

The Kingston Township Planning Commission, which deserves credit for simply staying awake through a series of meetings about a proposed wireless communications tower, earns more praise for recommending that the township's supervisors reject the application of Nextel Communications for permission to put up the tower in a residential zone. Now it is up to the supervisors to decide whether or not to accept that recommendation.

While there seems little doubt that on principle the tower should be rejected, practical considerations might intervene. Nextel and other large concerns have deep pockets with which to appeal decisions they don't like, as they did with a prior application in the township. It can be expensive for municipalities to defend their position in litigation that could last for years. In this case, it's just as likely residents opposed to the tower will appeal a decision in Nextel's favor, which perhaps removes the threat of subsequent legal action as a factor.

We urge the Kingston Township supervisors to require that Nextel conform to the township's ordinances, just as any other business or individual would be expected to do. Through intent or error, the company's application for the tower did not meet minimum standards for accuracy, and its plan falls outside the bounds of the township's zoning ordinance.

Publisher's notebook



Ron Bartizek

A lot has changed in our region in recent years, and one of the most striking differences between then and now was brought home while searching for a place to grab dinner after a ski outing at Montage. I and three fellow sliders aged 11 to 14 were famished after a day on the slopes, so we began to look for a restaurant not long after heading off the mountain just after 5 p.m. We stopped at one "family dining" spot after another, only to find the parking lots jammed and people standing ten deep waiting for tables. And this was all before 6 p.m.! Our quest ended in Dallas, where we found a table, but a quick call home revealed that dinner was waiting there. Boy, was I glad I made that call!

Anyway, this got me to thinking about how our eating habits have changed, at least in terms of where we stuff our faces. When we came to northeastern PA, not so many years ago, Mark II, Franklin's and Elby's competed with a smattering of fast food spots. They co-existed with the established fine dining places, many of which still serve up fancy meals worth a trip out. A few years later, it was as if a flashing red arrow suddenly pointed at this area, at least in the offices of restaurant chains, and a wave of similar dining rooms flooded in, most with memorabilia nailed to the walls and menus that shared so many cute listings you might think they were cribbed from a food preparation test at LCCC.

But how can this be? We're told people are leaving the area, and incomes here are dozen than the national average, yet it seems if they build a dozen new restaurants, we will come to spend our hard-earned cash on mediocre but generous portions of ribs, steaks, pasta, deep-fried onions and other assorted mid-priced servings. I'll admit to enjoy eating out as much as the next guy, but there must be a limit.

How we can afford all this may be a mystery, but the explosion in restaurants here and across the country provides a clue to another puzzle — the cause of the expanding American waistline. Is it a coincidence that the more we eat out, the more we must fight the battle of the bulge? I don't think so, especially after dragging myself to the car following a full meal at any of these tempting spots.

About letters, columns and editorials

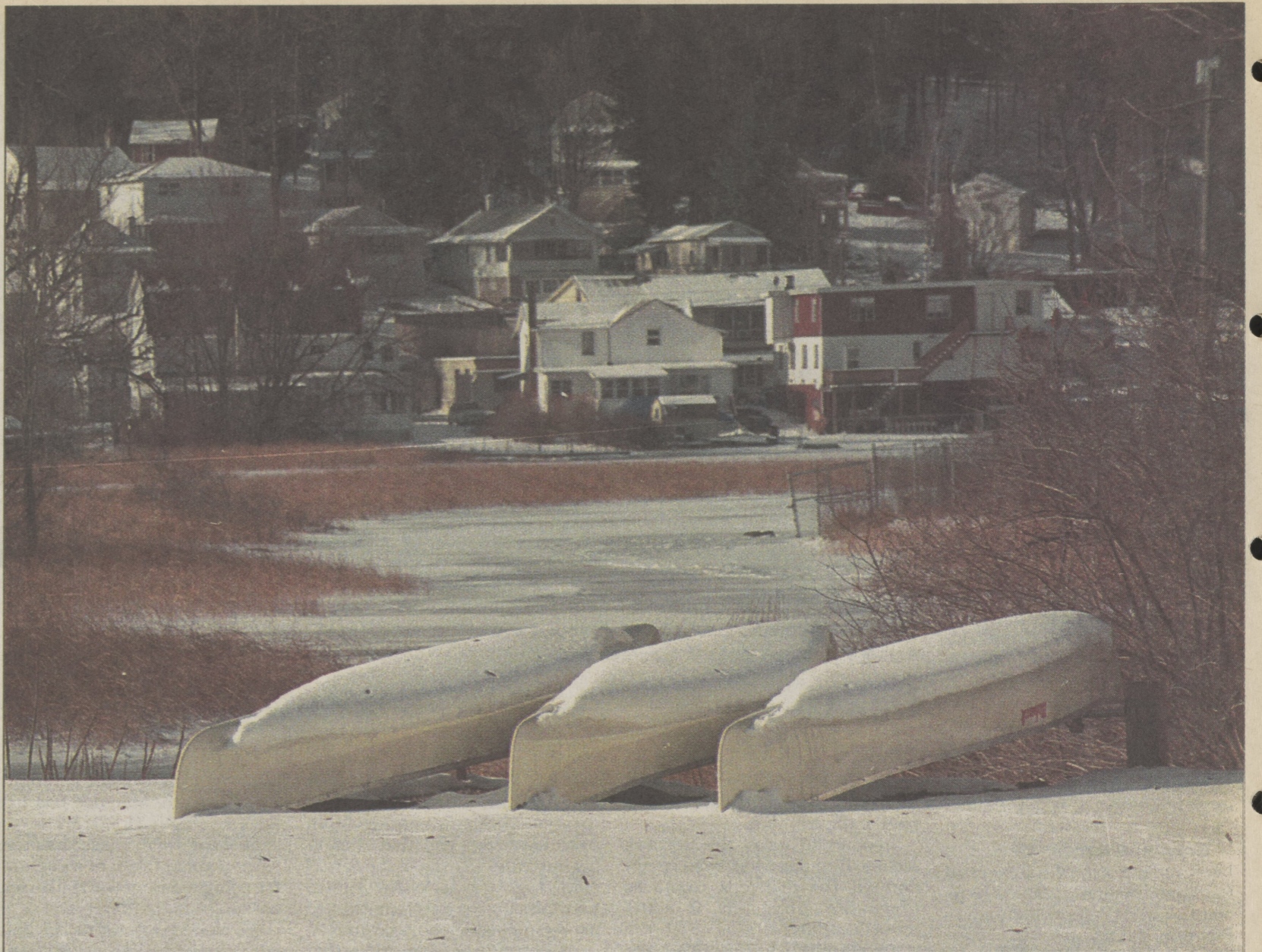
The Dallas Post attempts to publish opinions on a variety of topics in many forms.

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 artist, 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 on a single subject 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.



Winter hibernation at Harveys Lake. Photo by Charlotte Bartizek.

ONLY YESTERDAY

**70 Years Ago - Jan. 16, 1931
ICE SHIPMENTS INCREASE LOCAL FREIGHT TRAFFIC**

Ice harvest at the Stull Dams at Mountain Springs is now at its height, the ice being about 12 inches thick. The work of cutting and storing the ice is furnishing employment to a large number of men, who have gone from this region to the dams for the remainder of the season. Most of the ice now being cut is being loaded into cars and shipped out immediately as the cold weather is ideal for the transportation of ice to city ice houses. The increase of freight traffic on the Bowman's Creek branch of the Lehigh Valley has necessitated the addition of another freight train to the branch line and ice shipments are also being made on Sunday.

The following article of the death of Macy S. Hoover, a former resident of Dallas, who died in Twin Falls, Idaho, on December 5, was written specially for The Dallas Post by the Editor of the Twin Falls Daily News. Mr. Hoover was a former pupil of Prof. Frank Morris, of Dallas. Macy S. Hoover, 55, founder and owner of the Gregg Business College, Twin Falls, and for many years an outstanding figure in the field of commercial education in Western States, died at the county general hospital here at 10 o'clock on the night of December 5, within three hours after he was suddenly stricken and collapsed on the walk on Sixth Avenue near the high school building. More than 3,000 students have graduated from his school since it was established here 12

years ago. He was born near Dallas, Pennsylvania, and attended the schools there.

**60 Years Ago - Jan. 16, 1941
INFLUENZA RAVAGES LEHMAN, IDETOWN**

Physicians through the Back Mountain area worked long hours this week particularly in the Lehman, Idetown and Meeker regions where influenza and gripe struck scores of homes. Dallas, Kingston Township and Centermoreland were apparently little affected with schools reporting no more than usual number of absentees, but in Lehman shools more than 25% of the students and four teachers were out because of illness either from gripe or influenza. There were also four cases of chicken pox and one of scarlet fever. H. Austin Snyder, supervising principal asked Dr. W. F. Davidson, County Medical Director, to make a check of the schools and help to combat the epidemic.

Pellets from Christmas air rifles have broken windows and automobile windshields of so many citizens that Chief Walter Covert has issued a warning against shooting such guns within the Borough limits. Chief Covert calls attention to a Borough ordinance which restricts the use of Flobort guns and provides a penalty.

**50 Years Ago - Jan. 19, 1951
FFA MEMBERS WIN PRIZES**

Frank Rozinski and Abe Slater were awarded State Keys for their individual efforts in safety at the state FFA Association convention. Lake Township High School, under the sponsorship of the Commercial Club, issued its first official newspaper, produced by mimeograph in red and green ink, with appropriate ceremony in the chapel exercises just before Christmas. A contest for selection of a name for the publication is now in progress. The newspaper is the first major

project of the school, other than the yearbook, and is supervised by a joint faculty committee consisting of Mrs. Carrie Rood, David Davis and Miss Bettie Sullivan, teacher of English and Commercial subjects.

Mrs. LeVan Beisel counted 40 ducks on White Lake in Lehman.

**40 Years Ago - Jan. 19, 1961
LIBRARY GAINS 1,500 BORROWERS DURING THE YEAR**

Fifteen hundred persons became new borrowers at Back Mountain Memorial Library during 1960. Miriam Lathrop, librarian, told Directors of the Association at their January meeting Tuesday night in the Library Annex. She also commented on the increasing use of library facilities by students home on vacation and having term papers to write.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Gordon Mathers, Knob Hill, have deeded all of the land on the east side of Carverton Road used by Trucks-ville Fire Company to the Fire Company. Atty. James L. Brown and John T. Jeter contributed their services toward running the lines searching the title and preparing the deed.

Eleven College Misericordia students will do practice teaching this term in Dallas Schools. Among them is Marilyn Carr, who has been teaching French I to ninth grade students.

**30 Years Ago - Jan. 21, 1971
HIGH SCHOOL BEGINS CONSUMER EDUCATION**

A pilot program in consumer education recommended in November by the President's Committee on Consumer Interest will be introduced at Lake-Lehman High School. The innovative program, to be funded by a \$9,337 grant provided by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, was approved at the regular monthly

meeting of the Lake Lehman School Board. Anthony Marchakitus, assistant supervising principal and program coordinator at Lake Lehman, recommended that an 80-day "splash" program be initiated in grades one through nine, with a three teacher team providing instruction for small groups of children.

The Dallas Hardware Store, closed for over a year since the illness of former owner James Hutchinson, will re-open under new management. Located on Main Street, the hardware store has been incorporated under the name of Dallas Hardware Inc., and is owned by Harry C. Roat, a resident of Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Roat is affiliated with Roat Supply Co., Kingston. The building which houses Dallas Hardware has been part of the Dallas landscape for years. Prior to Mr. Hutchinson's buying it 11 years ago, the store housed Ray Daring's Market.

**20 Years Ago - Jan. 22, 1981
PG&W CO. MAY TAP LAKE**

There is a possibility that Harveys Lake will have to be used as a source of drinking water if current drought conditions do not ease. According to Gerald Taylor, vice-president for operations and engineering at the Pennsylvania Gas and Water Co. in Wilkes Barre, his firm will have to consider asking for permission to draw water from Harveys Lake if the drought holds and water rationing is instituted but does not ease the water shortage sufficiently.

Dallas School District tax collectors had their income cut while members of the Dallas Service Personnel Association have inked out a 2-year contract with the board. Members of the Dallas School Service Personnel Association, a bargaining unit representing maintenance, custodians, most secretaries, housekeepers, and one groundskeeper have hammered out a new 2-year contract.

LEGISLATORS DIRECTORY

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State Representative Phyllis Mundy

(Democrat) 283-9622 or 655-3375 Suite 113, 400 Third Avenue, Kingston PA 18704 Mundy's district encompasses: Dallas Borough, Dallas Township except for the north voting district, and Kingston Township.
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