

Village

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Today and Tomorrow" visioning process want a comprehensive combination downtown revitalization/redevelopment project that would result in a "quaint" downtown Dallas village. The village idea seeks to recapture the "grandeur of previous decades" when Dallas was a vacation destination for people who lived and worked in Wilkes-Barre. At that time there was a hotel near where the boarded up Sunoco station now sits, movie theaters and a thriving downtown business district.

At a September 4 meeting to identify funding sources, technical assistance for planning and general advice on how to proceed, Moskowitz, Gary Baker and Cindy Campbell from the state Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED); Angela Callie from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development; Larry Newman; Consultant from Urban Workshop; Tim Carroll, Mayor of Dallas and other members of the community active in the visioning process, held a meeting with Bill Fontana, the Executive Director of Downtown Pennsylvania.

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Joe Moskowitz
Dallas Borough Manager

"My first reaction is (for you) to make a plan and get other municipalities to buy into it," said Fontana about the borough's next step.

Fontana asked whether or not the Back Mountain as a whole recognizes Dallas as the heart of the Back Mountain. "There is commercial growth in the townships, which can hurt downtown Dallas," Fontana said.

Participants explained that historically, amenities existed in Dallas; people from all over the Back Mountain came into Dallas when they needed something, including students from Penn State Wilkes-Barre in Lehman and College of Misericordia.

According to Campbell, for Dallas to tap into DCED funding for its revitalization, it would be helpful for the contiguous municipalities to indicate within their land use development master plans that their residents still go to Dallas for their services.

"I don't want to speak for the other municipalities but I can almost guarantee they're (other municipalities) not interested in commercial growth," said Baker, of DCED.

Moskowitz said that four out of the 10 municipalities were already involved in creating a comprehensive master plan that includes land use issues: Kingston Township, Dallas Township, Harveys Lake, and Dallas Borough. He also said that at this time those four municipalities have not talked about this issue. He said later in an interview that he believes improving Dallas would make the other municipalities more attractive, and add to the quality of life everywhere in the Back Mountain.

"We don't want to compete with what exists now, there is room to create something that is not now in the area," said Moskowitz.



POST PHOTO/ERIN YOUNGMAN

Workmen from Pikes Creek Site Contractors laid asphalt along Highland Avenue last week. Dallas Borough is in the midst of its largest-ever paving project.

Borough paving roads at record pace

DALLAS — The largest road paving project ever to take place in Dallas Borough started after the holiday weekend. Because of a build up of funds, the borough had over a \$100,000 to put toward road work.

The project will end up costing the borough around \$62,000 to repave portions of 10 streets. The streets were chosen based on how heavily they are traveled and the shape they were in.

Borough Manager Joe Moskowitz explained that the borough's fall paving projects

typically run 25-30 percent the size of this year's project. About \$52,000 annually is provided for Borough road projects by the Pennsylvania Liquid Fuels Program. Before the borough received its most recent allotment of money, it had \$60,000 banked from previous years.

Under Liquid Fuels Program regulations, the money can be used in any aspect of road maintenance including road crew wages and salaries.

"At this point in time the borough is in a strong financial situation. Some of our neighbors

have to use liquid fuel funds to pay salaries of road crews, thankfully we're in a financial situation where we don't have to do that," said Moskowitz.

Pikes Creek Site Contractors, Sweet Valley, who won the bid back in July, was scheduled to complete the project by September 10. The streets paved include: West Center Hill Rd., Machell Ave., Old Well Lane, Charles St., Highland Ave., Split Rail Lane, Susquehanna Ave., Spring St., Village Green, Franklin St.

Harveys Lake dumping program through October

Harveys Lake Borough's yearly dumping program will continue on the last Saturday of each month through October from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, at the Borough Garage, off West Point Avenue.

Permits are required to use the facility and may be purchased at the Borough Office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Valid driver's licenses are required to obtain a permit. There is a fee of \$10 per month to dump. There is an additional charge of \$10 per "white appliance" and \$2 for each tire, off the rim.

The Borough will accept all items except chemical and hazardous waste materials. If anyone has any questions, call 639-2113 Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Noxen UMC rummage sale Sept. 14

A church Rummage Sale will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, September 14 at the Noxen United Methodist Church, Rt. 29, Noxen.

There will be refreshments and a bake sale.

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Dallas

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ager Len Gallo said the pool is currently running slightly ahead of that schedule and should not have a problem being completed on or before Oct. 4. Griffiths said after the pool's completion it will still be approximately two weeks before the children will be able to use the facility.

Board President Ernest Ashbridge said after the meeting that he felt the project got back on track as a direct result of the board withholding payment.

"Before there were two-four guys working on the pool, and after (withholding payment) 10-12," he said.

The late completion of the library has also meant additional charges for the district. To preserve the books' condition, the district secured climate controlled storage. Additional costs incurred are for the space and transportation of the books. Griffiths said the extra charges will be billed to the contractor.

The board received a bid for two new school signs. J.M. Stuart of Sarasota Florida bid \$32,000 for a double sided, electronic message sign that would be placed on Route 309. A

"At this point, with exception to the pool and auditorium seating, we're relieved."

Gil Griffiths
Superintendent of Schools

smaller sign for the intersection of Conyngham and Hildebrandt roads came in at \$4,000. The board will vote on the signs at the October meeting.

In other business, the board approved the hiring of one long-term substitute teacher, Linda Mazula, Social Studies, at a rate of \$29,172, pro-rated.

Michael Weyman, middle school Mathematics/Computer teacher was approved to be appointed as the Chairperson of the Instructional Technology Department.

Two aides were hired: Joyce Bellas, Special Needs Aide at \$5.40 an hour and Fred Weaver, Special Needs Aide at \$7 an hour.

Two local men charged with robbing Exeter doughnut shop

EXETER — Two men were arrested on charges they burglarized the Donut Connection on Wyoming Avenue early Monday morning, police said.

George Nichols, 22, of Harveys Lake, was arrested Monday on a parole violation and charged with aggravated assault, burglary, trespassing, reckless endangerment, theft and eluding police. Nichols was arraigned before District Justice Paul Roberts of Kingston before being taken to the

Luzerne County Correctional Facility on Monday for lack of \$25,000 bail.

Richard Cibula, 23, of Trucksville, was arrested Tuesday and charged with burglary and reckless endangerment. He was arraigned before District Justice Fred Pierantoni of Pittston and lodged at the county correctional facility for lack of \$50,000 bail.

Both men's preliminary hearing are scheduled for 2 p.m. Sept. 18, police said.

Back Mountain Trail meeting Sept. 17

The Back Mountain Trail Council will meet Tuesday, Sept. 17 at 7 p.m. in the Kingston Township Municipal Building, E. Center St., Shavertown. The Adopt-A-Trail program for the first two miles of trail will be discussed.

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