

Burn ban

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elderly couldn't afford to hire others to remove yard waste. "You can't ask a teenager to haul branches for ten dollars," she read.

She also said she conducted some research and found that, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, 91 percent of air pollution is from cars. Since car exhaust is odorless, "people don't think it's bad," she said.

Shaver stated a need for the township to provide pickup services and suggested setting up specific dates for burning, such as Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from dawn to dusk as an alternative until curbside service is available. "We should have the right to burn," she said.

Nancy Williams said the board should allow burning of identity-sensitive items such as canceled checks and credit card applications and statements. Although she has a paper shredder, Williams said that some people don't own one.

Several residents expressed their dislike over the smoke created by fires left to smolder. Ronald Barnoski mentioned that two of his neighbors have trouble breathing when the air quality declines and he found that two-thirds of his neighbors are for the ban. "The laws should reflect the majority," he said.

But Tom Evans noted that more garbage would go to landfills if residents can't burn it. "There are lots of valid reasons to burn," Evans said. "You shouldn't ban it just because of a few inconsiderate people."

Concerns over agricultural areas, known A-1 zones, prompted Bob Martin, who runs a tree removal business, to create his own petition asking to protect the right to burn in such areas. He explained that he recycles as much as possible but some can't be recycled.

Exeter Township Supervisor Robert Soska said the burning ban could affect those with large properties, adding the economic burden of removing large amounts of yard waste. He said that a footage provision, such as requiring burning areas to be at least 300 feet from buildings, would disallow burning in more populated areas without affecting agricultural properties.

John Salinsky, who has a contained burning area on his 26-acre property, agreed about taking the proximity between houses into consideration. But he pointed out that people may find ways to circumvent any burning bans. "You're going to have people building campfires every night," Salinsky said.

But not having the ban could create unnecessary costs to taxpayers, said Jim Reino. As well as expenses stemming from the police and fire departments responding to problems with

burning, "taxpayers could foot the bill from health cases," he said. He also mentioned that national studies exist showing the dangers from smoke and from contaminants that don't completely burn away. He said that perhaps as a compromise, the township could allow burning to occur one day per quarter or set up curbside collection of yard waste.

Resident Mary Lofing asked if the issue could be put on the ballot in November. Township Manager Eddie O'Neill said that if residents don't like the supervisors' final decision, they could call a recall and then have a vote, but Supervisor Neil Allen said a referendum would be the same as passing the buck.

Another usually benign element was also on the minds of many township residents. Stormwater runoff has been flooding homes and yards at Meadowcrest Drive and Highland and Terrace avenues in Trucksville.

Jack Haines said that the water problem has "increased 10-fold in volume and magnitude" in the 20 years he has lived in the area. He presented digital photos to the supervisors, showing the muddy deluge flowing down his driveway. He said that during the past winter, he could not use his driveway because water from runoff froze.

Solicitor Ben Jones asked Kornak if the roads in the development had yet been taken over by the township. Kornak said they hadn't.

"It's not a matter of being precluded (from being able to run buses on the road). We can certainly run on open undedicated roads, but the issue is one of road maintenance."

Doris Jeffrey said that she had 100 feet of 18-inch pipe installed on her Terrace Avenue property but garbage from Highland Avenue keeps clogging the pipe. During Monday's heavy rainstorm, a tire blocked the pipe, causing excessive water flow to wash away the topsoil in her yard, she said.

A resident of Meadowcrest Drive claimed that when she called the township to complain about an overflowing drainage ditch near her property, she was told that it was a state problem. But when she tried to contact the state, she was met with busy signals.

O'Neill said the township can contact PennDOT on residents' behalf but pointed out that unknown to some homeowners, swales are sometimes written into deeds. At Sabol's suggestion, the board and the residents agreed to meet at 9 a.m. on Sunday, August 17, to view problem areas.



POST PHOTO/IRON BARTIZEK

A parent has question the safety of having schoolchildren walk up Ondish Road to a bus stop at the intersection with Roosevelt Street.

Bus stop

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families and 18 children live in the new development, and 10 more families moved in over the summer, the transportation department told him that buses will not enter the area.

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"It's not a matter of being precluded (from being able to run buses on the road). We can certainly run on open undedicated roads, but the issue is one of road maintenance."

Jones said if there were inclement weather, for instance, and the road had not been cleared, then it would be uncertain what the bus driver should do.

Jones suggested that Kornak go to the next Dallas Township Board of Supervisors meeting and "nudge along the process" of having the roads turned over to the township, possibly before the start of school.

Kornak requested that another safer bus stop be added.

"We'll have our contractor take a look at it and then get back to you," said board mem-

ber Tom Russ.

In other news, the board voted unanimously that a resolution be adopted for a settlement agreement between The Dallas School District and an unspecified special needs student and family.

The board appointed three temporary professional employee, long-term substitutes. Rachel Havrilla as 4th grade teacher in Dallas Elementary School, Crystal King as 4th grade teacher at Wycallis Elementary and James Casey for learning support at Wycallis Elementary.

Correction

Credits that appeared in last week's issue on two photos entered in the Back Mountain Memorial Library Photo Contest were incorrect. The correct information, with the photos, appears here. The Post regrets the error.



Honorable mention, by Gary Crompton



Honorable mention, by Doreen Rhoads

Back Mountain Food Pantry needs donations to restock shelves

Many months have gone by since the Boy Scouts and postal workers had food drives to collect non-perishable food items to restock the shelves at the Back Mountain Food Pantry.

A recent inventory revealed that the following items are in short supply: canned peaches, pears, pineapple, applesauce, carrots, beans, lima beans, spinach, kidney beans, tomatoes, stews, and

pork and beans. Other items needed are: canned hams, corned beef, Spam, peanut butter, jelly, dry potato mixes and breakfast cereals.

Individuals, churches and organizations are encouraged to call the Trucksville United Methodist Church at 696-3897 to arrange to deliver any donations they are able to collect.

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