

The first-place poems in the Friends of the Back Mountain Library Poetry contest

1st Place - Adult

Grace

Driving home
my eyes take pleasure
in the curve of a dark hill
against the dusky light of sky
as if at this moment
and at this place
earth and sky
have made perfect peace with each other.

The undulating ridge
so tenderly lifts itself
to the sweet airiness of sky
while that breathless twilight
rests just barely against
the sure and somber mass of the hill.

Within that slow, sweeping arc
between dark below, light above,
shimmering possibility dwells.
I know that now,
even if not
on all the other evenings
when I have been driving
this way home.

© 2004 Elizabeth Bodien

1st Place 9-12 Grade

An apology

someone next to me
grass prickling our backs
as the sultry stickiness
of a summer's day
melts into the intangible liquid sky
of a summer's night.

Do you wish me to
Pretend it is you I want
And not the concept?

© 2004 Skye Nickalls
Lake Lehman H.S.

1st Place 4-8 Grade

Things I Wish I Could Remember

I wish I could remember when I first rode my bike or tied my shoes.
I wish I could remember my first bee sting or my first visit to the doctors.
I wonder did I cry?
Did I panic?
Or maybe I didn't mind.
I wish I could remember the first book I read by myself.
I wonder was it hard?
Was my family proud of me?
I wish I could remember who my first friend was.
I wonder was she any fun?
I really wish I could remember what I had for dinner on Friday.
I wonder did I like it?

© 2004 Erica Luzetski
Dallas Elementary

Poetry

(continued from page 1)

month.
"These readings are comfortable and low pressure and they've grown over the years. We have kids, teenagers, waitresses, landscapers, and even a federal judge," said Lumia. "Now, I hope these kids will come out and just perpetuate it. There's a little poet in all of us."

There must be as this first contest attracted 310 entries and students from 16 area schools. Judges were Mike Dzanko and Amy Lynch-Binieck, both from College Misericordia, and Bernie Kovacs from Wilkes University.

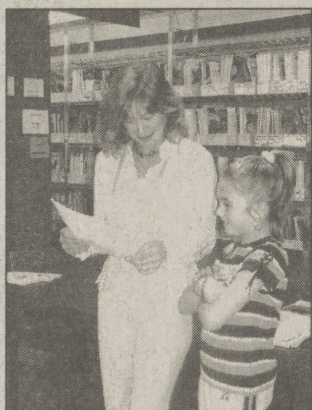
"We really want to thank our underwriters," said Jill Kryston. "Without them we couldn't have done it." Prizes were provided by Age of Innocence, Arts at Hayfield, Jack Burke with Penn Millers Insurance Company and Wachovia Bank.

All winning poems can be read on line through the Friends of the Back Mountain Memorial Library link on the library web page at www.backmountainlibrary.org.

Winners for the Adult Division were: first place, Elizabeth Bodien, Kempton, PA; second place, Michele Broton, Wilkes-Barre; third place, Jin Lee, Saylorsburg.

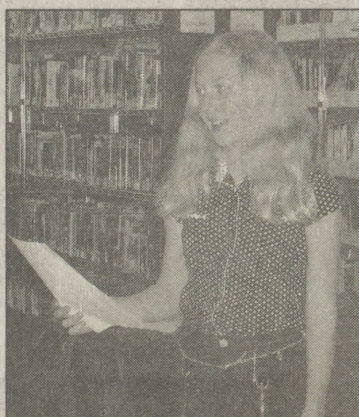
Grades 9-12 Division winners were: first place, Skye Nickalls, Lake Lehman High School; second place, Christopher Taylor, Bishop Hoban High School; third place, Shannon Prescott, Lake Lehman High School.

Grades 4-8 winners, all from Dallas Elementary School, were: first place, Erica Luzetski; second place, Demetra Szatkowski; third place, Carl Baxter.



FOR THE POST/M.B. GILLIGAN

Guest speaker Melanie Maslow Lumia read the winning poem in the Grades 4-8 division for shy, young poet, Erica Luzetski.



Demetra Szatkowski read her poem, "My Dog Bit My Sister," which won second place in the Grades 4-8 division.



Poetry contest winners and officials are pictured. In first row, from left are: Demetra Szatkowski, Erica Luzetski, and Carl Baxter. In rear are: Martha Butler, library director, Vi Gommer, co chair, Michele Broton, Christopher Taylor, Skye Nickalls, Shannon Prescott, Jill Kryston, co chair, and Melanie Maslow Lumia, featured editor.



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARRY

At Dallas Borough, an anonymous girlfriend joined John Cybulski, Nick Harris and Frank Kus as they took a break from helping residents discard unwanted items and assorted refuse.

Cleanups draw big crowds

By RONALD BARTIZEK
Post Staff

BACK MOUNTAIN — The annual spring cleanup got off to a rousing start last Monday. Dallas Borough Manager Joe Moskovitz said unwanted items dropped off by borough residents filled seven or eight containers that day alone, far more than in previous years.

"We're not concerned about the volume," Moskovitz said, since the cleanup provides for proper disposal of items that might otherwise end up along roadsides.

Dallas Township Supervisor Frank Wagner feels the same way. "Our main thing is to get it off the roads," he said while

overseeing the collection area behind the municipal building.

Wagner also feels the cleanup saves the township time and money that would otherwise be used sending the road crew to pick up discarded items off roadsides or dragging them out of the woods. "This is a lot easier," he said.

The township budgeted \$11,725 for the rental of 25 containers to hold this year's trash. By Tuesday afternoon nine containers were full. "Monday and Saturday are the big days," Wagner said.

Don Fritzges, road superintendent in Kingston Township, said the volume of junk was about normal, despite the enactment of charges per car,

trailer or truckload. He said there had been very few complaints about the fees; \$5 for cars, \$10 for vans and \$25 for trucks or trailers.

Fritzges said township employees are free to take items, and he was planning to take home some children's outdoor play furniture, clean it up and let his children sell it.

"It helps keep (the junk) out of the landfill," he said.

Wagner was concerned that, in order to avoid the fees, some people had come to the Dallas Township cleanup with discards from Kingston Township. He said he knew one man was doing just that, but he had a Dallas address. "So, what could I do?"

Dallas Borough tax office open Tuesday for rebate

The Dallas Borough Real Estate tax rebate period will run through May 11. Dallas Borough Tax Collector Mark VanEtten will have office hours at the Dallas Borough Building, 25 Main St., Dallas, that day from 6 to 8:30 p.m. To mail bills, send to: Mark W. VanEtten, Jr. Dallas Borough Tax Collector PO Box 447 Dallas, PA 18612 To contact the tax collector, call 675-1878 or e-mail DallasBorough-Tax@aol.com

Members sought for appeals board

KINGSTON TWP. — The Board of Supervisors is seeking applications to serve as members of the newly created Uniform Construction Code (UCC) Appeals Board. Board members will be responsible for hearing and ruling on appeals, and requests for variances and time extensions. Qualified applicants must possess training and experience in building, design, construction, engineering, or a related field in accordance with state regulations. Residency is not a requirement of this position, but township residents are encouraged to apply. Elected municipal officials and code administrators are not eligible to serve as members. Individuals interested in this position should send a letter of interest to the Kingston Township Board of Supervisors, 180 East Center St., Shavertown, PA 18708, Attn: UCC Appeals Board.

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OAR RARE ARK
SLAT ISSUE SCIENCE
LAURIEMETCALF OAT ELL
ARNOLD WILKIE HRH WEB
MATTED RASPY OTE TOE

Puzzles appear on page 8

Rational Numbers

3	2	1		5	8	4
6	0		2	4	6	9
7	3		7	6	0	1
6		2	5	4		3
2	0	3			3	0

King Crossword Answers

WADI	OUR	BAKE
OVENWARE	ORAL	
KEEP	ATIT	OARS
UGH	RAMBLE	
ABATE	DOSE	
PLUS	GOFORIT	
BAT	SERIF	DAS
HOPTOIT	SORE	
HADA	RELAX	
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POUT	STEPONIT	
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NEWS

Coverage Area: The Post covers the "Back Mountain" area of Luzerne County, including the Dallas and Lake-Lehman school districts, and southern Wyoming County. We try to get to as many events as possible, but staff and space limitations make it impossible to cover everything. If you have news about your family, town or organization, please send it to us and we'll try to get it in. Photographs are welcome. You may send items to the address above, or drop them off at the Uni-Mart in Dallas near the intersection of Routes 309 and 415. E-mail is the best and most timely method for submissions. Send items (digital photos, too) to: thepost@leader.net. Deadline is noon, Wednesday prior to publication.

Corrections, clarifications: The Post will correct errors of fact or clarify any misunderstandings created by a story. Call 675-5211.

Have a story idea? Please call, we'd like to hear about it.

Letters: The Post prints letters of local interest. Send letters to: Editor, The Post, 15 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre PA 18711. All letters must be signed and include a phone number at which we can reach the author.

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