

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Democratic challenger is the smart choice

Editor:

I'm writing to comment on Congressman John Murtha's campaign appearance in Clarks Summit for Chris Carney, who will face disgraced incumbent Don Sherwood this November. It's obvious that Don Sherwood has been an embarrassment to all of us, but his irresponsible behavior isn't the only reason not to vote for him in November.

Murtha's announcement that Mr. Carney will be awarded a spot on the House Appropriations Committee is not something that should be taken lightly. For one thing, it dramatically weakens the argument Don Sherwood will surely be making - that he is able to "bring home the bacon" for the 10th District.

Well, if Mr. Carney wins in November, he will certainly be able to "bring home the bacon," as well. What's more, Carney won't have (an alleged) domestic abuse scandal holding him back from acquiring important funding for our area.

Something else to keep in mind is the likelihood that Democrats will win back control of the House of Representatives in 2006. If this happens and Don Sherwood wins re-election, our district would surely suffer from a decrease in federal appropriations. On the other hand, if Chris Carney is elected and Democrats take back Congress, we can expect Carney to be able to bring a lot back to our area - thanks in large part to his close relationship with one of the most powerful figures in Washington, Congressman Murtha. Sherwood's (alleged) abuse scandal aside, Carney's the smart choice in this matchup.

Molly Kerrigan
Dallas



Peer past the petals, pink and ripe and beckoning a bather to cool off in a secluded pond. In the lily's depths, is the final sunset of summer looming?

FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

- On Aug. 18, 1590, John White, the governor of the Roanoke Island colony in present-day North Carolina, returns from a supply trip to England to find no trace of the 100 or so colonists he left behind. The only clue to their mysterious disappearance was the word "Croatoan" carved into the palisade that had been built around the settlement.
 - On Aug. 14, 1893, the world's first automobile license plates were issued in Paris, France. However, plates were not issued in the United States for a few more years. The city of Boston was the first to require its motorists to hold a license and register their vehicle.
 - On Aug. 16, 1923, though its late founder wasn't always the best friend of labor, Carnegie Steel established the eight-hour day for its workers.
 - On Aug. 19, 1934, the first All-American Soap Box Derby is held in Dayton, Ohio. To this day, kids from the United States and several foreign countries arrive each year with their home-built racers. Boys and girls, ages 9 through 16, are allowed to compete.
 - On Aug. 15, 1945, World War II gasoline rationing in America ends. Rationing was just one of the special measures taken in the U.S. during wartime. Civilian auto production virtually ceased after the attack on Pearl Harbor, as the U.S. automotive industry turned to war production.
 - On Aug. 20, 1962, the first Ford Thunderbird is produced, a 1963 model. The Thunderbird was promoted as a "personal" car rather than a sports car, so it never had to compete against imports. Its name was eventually shortened to "T-Bird," as mentioned in the famous Beach Boys song, "I Get Around."
 - On Aug. 17, 1978, the Double Eagle II completes the first trans-Atlantic balloon flight when it lands in a barley field near Paris, 137 hours after lifting off from Presque Isle, Maine. The helium-filled balloon flew 3,233 miles in the six-day odyssey.
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STRANGE BUT TRUE

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- Worldwide, herbivores kill more people than carnivores.
 - According to a recent Reuters report, paleontologists in Australia have found fossilized remains of some surprising creatures in the state of Queensland. One specimen, a fanged killer kangaroo, lived between 10 million and 20 million years ago. Needless to say, it didn't much resemble its modern relatives: For one thing, it had wolf-like fangs. Also, the killer kangaroo didn't hop; its long, powerful forearms indicate to researchers that it galloped when pursuing its prey.
 - You can check out every list of the most popular baby names ever compiled, but you're not going to find many of the names chosen by today's celebrities for their children. Actor Jason Lee's son is named Pilot Inspector, Nicholas Cage named his son Kal-el, and actress Shannyn Sossamon chose the name Audio Science for her baby.
 - In some states, it is punishable by fine or imprisonment to attempt to commit this crime, but not to commit this crime: suicide.
 - Even if you've never read it, chances are you're familiar with the iconic American work "Walden: Or Life in the Woods," by Henry David Thoreau. The book, which chronicles how the author built a small cabin near Walden Pond in Massachusetts and lived there for two years, two months and two days in an experiment in withdrawing from society, has become immensely popular. It's required reading for many high-school students today, and it's been translated into nearly every modern language on the planet. You may not realize, however, that when it was first published it was considered an abysmal failure, selling only 256 copies in its first year in print.
- Thought for the Day: "A book, if necessary, should be a hammer [or] a hand grenade, which you detonate under a stagnant way of looking at the world." - Wole Soyinka

Program to help kindergarten students

Have fun preparing your 4-year-old for kindergarten in 2007 with a special "Kindergarten, Here I Come!" yearlong calendar filled with monthly activities to do with your child. Pick one up at the Kindergarten Readiness Program at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 22 in the Children's Room of the Back Mountain Memorial Library.

Luci Callahan, a kindergarten teacher in the Dallas School District, will explain the benefits of the calendar and inform parents and caregivers about the requirements for kindergarten registration.

The calendars run from September 2006 to August 2007. Every month contains four weeks of activities that use simple materials or ideas that you can do at home with your child. Each one

of the activities focuses on a readiness skill for your child's entry into kindergarten.

The activities are linked to the Pennsylvania Early Learning Standards that include approaches to learning, creative arts, language arts, logical mathematics, personal social, physical health, science and social studies. These activities will give your child the foundation for positive and happy future school activities.

Call the library at 675-1182 to register for the program. You may attend with or without your preschooler. Refreshments will be served.

Summer story times will end the week of Aug. 14. Registration for fall story times will be accepted after 9:30 a.m. Wednesday,

Sept. 6. Fall story times will begin the first week of October. Janet Bauman, children's librarian, has a need for persons interested in conducting an evening 3-5-year-old story time and a toddler story time at 11 a.m. Tuesdays. Call the library if you are interested.

The Slightly Read Bookshop is having a summer sale. All fiction books are 50 percent off and nonfiction and paperbacks are all at special prices, too. Come out to the Farmer's Market from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays for some good eats and come down to the Bookshop from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for some good reads.

All participants of the Young Adult Book Discussion Group are asked to read "Under the Per-

simmon Tree" by Suzanne Fisher Staples for discussion at 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 14. Staples, who resides in Nicholson covered Afghanistan and Pakistan as a news reporter. She is the author of many acclaimed books for young readers including Shiva's Fire, Dangerous Skies and the Newbery Award winning Shabanu: Daughter of the Wind.

Teens participating in "Relax and Read" are reminded they have until Aug. 15 to read and submit reviews for the program for a chance to win the \$50 Target gift certificate.

The Back Mountain Memorial Library news column is written by volunteers at the library. It appears every other week.

70 Years Ago
Aug. 7, 1936

DOLL NAMED TEACHER AT DALLAS TOWNSHIP

Ronald Doll, former principal of Dallas Borough schools, was unanimously elected teacher of English in Dallas Township schools for the coming year at a meeting of Dallas Township school board on Monday night.

Flowing at a rate of 20 gallons a minute, 10 gallons a minute better than officials had expected, the Shepherd well on Machell Avenue was put to service by Dallas-Shavertown Water

Company on Saturday night. With the additional supply of water from this source, officials expect to overcome any water shortage at other wells brought on by prolonged dry weather.

At least two communities, Dallas Borough and Kingston Township will vote on local option at the November election if plans adopted by various units of the W.C.T.U. are carried through to conclusion. At the meeting of Dallas Borough Council, a petition bearing 87 signatures was presented asking that the issue be placed on the ballot for the coming election.

60 Years Ago
Aug. 9, 1946

BOROUGH COUNCIL DISCUSSES TRAFFIC LIGHTS

A discussion of the borough's traffic lights occupied much of the attention of Dallas Borough Council at its meeting at the Back Mountain Memorial Library on Tuesday night. While councilmen admitted the lights are not perfect in every respect,

they expressed confidence that any defects can be remedied as soon as they are given a fair test. They heard reports from police that the lights are keeping traffic moving smoothly and there have been no traffic jams during peak periods of travel.

While Beaumont was going down to defeat in a nip and tuck 5-4 battle with St. Michael's, the Dallas Legionnaires playing last Sunday on the home field before the largest crowd of the season, lashed out against Noxen winning a brilliant 12-1 victory to go in first place in the Bi-County League.

50 Years Ago
Aug. 10, 1956

LOCAL RESIDENTS TRAINING AT POW UNIT

Four Back Mountain area residents are undergoing 15 days of active duty training at this base as members of the 209th Prisoner of War Camp Headquarters Company. The four residents are: Lt. Col. Carl B. Olsen, Terrace Avenue, Trucksville; Major John J. Mulhern, 22 Joseph Street, Dallas; Major Jack H. Magee, Terrace Drive, Shavertown; and Lt. Thomas J. Moran, Pioneer Avenue, Shavertown.

Demolition of the double-planked nine-room house formerly occupied by the McGarry family on the Gate of Heaven property, started on Monday and is going forward with a rush to make addition to the school. John Parrish, Carverton, who has the contract for razing the building, postponed another job which was not so pressing to accommodate Father Kane and the Somerville Construction Company.

40 Years Ago
Aug. 11, 1966

RARE TORNADO HITS DALLAS AREA
A rare twister whistled

through the Heights section of Dallas on Monday at 12:15 p.m., dipping into the yard of Joseph Kretchmer, 65 Park Street, and wrecking children's play site. An eight-foot metal pool fastened with numerous metal ribs was twisted into a shapeless mass and thrown against the back entrance way. Its plastic top was carried away by the capricious wind which descended from the hills, veered through an orchard next to the Andrew Roan family and singled out the pool.

As it whirled away over the housetops, it ripped the roofing paper from the garage of Mr. Kretchmer, who was in the process of adding to his home.

A freak accident on Saturday afternoon at 3:30 on Sorber Mountain injured Donald Hoover, 38, co-owner of Hoover and Milbrodt Excavating Company. Hoover, with several employees, was clearing a road to a hunting lodge to be erected by David Ertley, "Duke" Isaacs and James Oliver. As the bulldozer felled timber, trees caught the load. Hoover disengaged the clutch in preparation of backing up. A large dead tree fell on the back of his head, fracturing a vertebra in his neck.

30 YEARS AGO
AUG. 12, 1976

SHAVERTOWN ELEMENTARY SOLD FOR \$102,100

A lone bid of \$102,100 for the Shavertown Elementary School was received by the Dallas School District at the Board Meeting Tuesday Night. The bid was submitted to the secretary's office Tuesday by William J. Powell, Hickory Hills, Dallas, on his personal stationery, accompanied by a certified check in the amount of five percent of the total bid, \$5,105. Powell is the brother-in-law of Edmund Davis, an official of Burger King, but the firm was not mentioned in

the bid.

Carol and Stanley Doknovich Brown Manor, claim their home has been virtually demolished by drainage changes resulting from the Carverton Road Project. For the past 19 months employees of Wyoming Sand and Stone Company, contractor of the Carverton Road Project, allegedly cut off drain sluice in front of their ranch home, water has been coming into their basement. The Doknovichs claim their home, including the recreation room and laundry room has sustained upwards of \$40,000 in damages and that they have no way of knowing the dollar damage to the brick covering and structural supports.

20 Years Ago
Aug. 13, 1986

SOURCES SAY BEARDE BACK AS AD

Following a week's vacation of board meetings, Lake-Lehman School Board was scheduled to hold its August meeting last night at the Lehman-Noxen Elementary School. Despite the refusal of administration and members of the school board to comment on the reappointment of Rodger Bearde to the position of Athletic Director, it was learned from outside sources that Bearde's reappointment was on the agenda and it was anticipated that he would be named to the position of by a narrow majority.

Dallas High School has a new band director, Steven Saive, who has already been wholeheartedly accepted by the band members and the majority of the band sponsors, despite many having to change their vacation plans. Saive, a native of Altoona, is a recent graduate of Indiana University of PA and although this is his first position as high school band director, he assumed the position prepared to pick up where former director, David Benn, left off.

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