

Partnership will submit applications for grants

Group authorizes NEPA Alliance to apply for DEP grants at August 16 meeting.

By **REBECCA BRIA**
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The Back Mountain Community Partnership authorized NEPA Alliance to submit applications for a Department of Environmental Protection grant at its August 16 meeting at Misericordia University.

The partnership is an inter-municipal group comprised of Dallas, Franklin, Jackson, Kingston and Lehman townships and Dallas Borough. Members met

publicly for the first time in June.

The grant applications are both for a DEP Energy Conservation Grant through the Pennsylvania Conservation Works Recovery Grant Program. One application will be for solar panels and the other will be for building envelope projects.

Partnership members decided to submit separate applications for the funding because they may have gone over the \$500,000 maximum limit if they put forward only one application. The partnership will not be required to match any of the funding.

Joseph Chacke, of NEPA Alli-

ance, says \$22.2 million of state money is available through the grant project. According to Chacke, about 60 percent of that money must be spent in small municipalities, so Chacke feels there is a good chance the partnership may receive some of it.

EIT representatives

The partnership also discussed appointing the same people as the earned income tax (EIT) representative and the EIT alternate representative in each municipality. Pennsylvania Act 32 amended the Local Tax Enabling Act to require the collection of earned income tax on a countywide basis.

Chacke says such a move would be beneficial because each municipality's vote will be on a weighted scale based 50 percent on population and 50 percent on EIT revenue.

Partnership members will vote on a resolution next month to decide whether or not to appoint Mark VanEtten, of Misericordia University, as the EIT representative and Karen Rose, tax collector for Kingston Township, as the EIT alternate representative. If approved, each municipality who chooses to participate will be required to pass a resolution at its own municipal meeting to appoint VanEtten and Rose.

Street signs

In other news, John "Jay" Wilkes asked each municipality to submit a list of what type of street signs they need replaced and how many of each type they need. Wilkes is leading a partnership project to replace street signs in partnership communities. According to Wilkes, the project will likely have to be done in steps over a two to three-year period.

Partnership identity

The partnership also approved a mission statement and a logo. The logo is a picture of a mountainous terrain to represent the Back Mountain area.

sent the Back Mountain area.

Guest speaker

Dave Madeira of the Back Mountain Business Association was the guest speaker at the meeting. Madeira said the group has come up with four committees to examine the beauty, infrastructure, recruitment of new businesses and representation of the Back Mountain area.

Madiera said the group would like to include a list of local government contacts on its Web site. Partnership chairman Al Fox asked the municipalities to compile a list of their contacts by the time Madeira returns to the September meeting.

Honoring the life of George McCutcheon

The life of George McCutcheon was celebrated on July 19 at Irem Temple Country Club during an event coordinated by his daughter, Georgia McCutcheon Zwartjes.

McCutcheon passed away on June 1, 2008 at the age of 92 at his retirement community in San Antonio, Texas, where his wife, Dorothea, still resides.

A former resident of the Back Mountain, McCutcheon was very well known throughout the area for his community service through the Back Mountain Kiwanis Club.

He was associated with Luzerne County Community College from its inception in 1967 through his retirement in 1983.

During the initial stages of LCCC's development, McCutcheon established the Admissions, Athletic, Recruiting and Placement, Continuing Education and Counseling department as well as the Alumni Association. He went on to serve as Director of Student activities and as ad-

visor to the Student Government Association which later established a scholarship in his name.

As Director of Student Activities, he was very active with the college's Circle K Club. In 1972, he led the club's volunteer efforts in Hurricane Agnes Flood recovery work for which the club received two awards at the national convention.

In 1974, he received the Circle of Service Award, the top honor given for outstanding community service through Circle K. The Pennsylvania Circle K established the George McCutcheon Award, presented annually to a Kiwanis advisor for outstanding service to Circle K clubs.

At the time of his retirement from LCCC in 1983, McCutcheon was serving as Director of Student Services. He always maintained a connection with the college and, in 1995, was inducted into the LCCC Wall of Honor for his outstanding contributions to the college.



Georgia McCutcheon Zwartjes talks to Jean and Tex Wilson at a memorial service for her father, George McCutcheon.

CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST



LEFT: George McCutcheon, shown here in this photo with his wife, Dorothea, currently a resident of Texas. McCutcheon, who died this last year at the age of 92, was active and popular in the Back Mountain community. RIGHT: Georgia McCutcheon Zwartjes listens during a memorial service for her father George McCutcheon.



CIVIC BRIEFS

Hand paintings on display

The Forty Fort branch of the Citizens Bank, located at the corner of Welles Street and Wyoming Avenue, is exhibiting paintings and river scenes by Sue Hand of Dallas through the month of July.

'South Pacific' comes to Music Box

The Music Box Players present Rodgers and Hammerstein's "South Pacific" today, July 26, 30, 31, August 1 and 2 at the Music Box Dinner Playhouse, 196 Hughes St., Swoyersville, PA. Curtain time is 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 3 p.m. on Sunday. A buffet dinner is served 90 minutes before curtain. Call 283-2195 for tickets.

Alzheimer' group meets on August 6

The Dallas Alzheimer's Support Group will meet at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 6,

in the board room of the Meadows Nursing Center, 55 W. Center Hill Rd., Dallas.

The speaker will be Bob LeRoy, president and CEO of the Pennsylvania State Alzheimer's Association.

Craft sale planned

The 21st Annual Craft Sale and Flea Market will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 8, at the Dallas Chapter Eastern Star Hall, Foster Street and Woodlawn Avenue, Dallas.

Vendors spaces are available for \$10 each and inside tables are \$15 each with the table provided.

Eastern Star members will serve lunch and the group's famous Welsh cookies will be available.

For information, call Dianne Corby at 675-4893 or Irene Transue at 675-1367.

Grange plans flea market for August 8

Mountain Grange No. 567 will hold a flea market from

8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 8, at the Grange Hall, 1632 W. Eighth St., Wyoming.

Back-to-school specials and fall items will be featured. There will be a light eat-in or take-out menu with whimpies, hot dogs with sauerkraut, homemade soup, ice cream, desserts and more.

Admission is free. There will be a raffle featuring a hand-crocheted afghan, a wooden rocker and a turtle-shaped pot.

Spaces are available for interested vendors inside the hall at \$10 and outside at \$7. Call 287-7851 to reserve a table.

Children's workshop slated at Music Box

A summer theater workshop for children 8 to 12 years old will end with a performance of "Alice in Wonderland" August 14 and 15 at the Music Box Dinner Playhouse, 196 Hughes St., Swoyersville.

For information and enrollment, call 283-2195.

HINKLE FAMILY ENTERTAINS AT THE MEADOWS



The Hinkle Family, a faith-based ministry through song and service, recently visited residents of The Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Dallas. Members of the Hinkle Family are, from left, seated, Paul Jr., Paul, Lydia and "Pop." Standing, Sarah, James and Amy.