

BACK MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

# Group wants to make equipment accessible to all

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The Back Mountain Community Partnership met on Oct. 18 to discuss emergency trailers that are being purchased. The partnership purchased equipment with previous grant money for the emergency response crews and is now looking to make accessibility to this equipment quick and easy, so emergency crews can be on scene as fast as possible.

The partnership is planning the purchase of two trailers,

which will be fully loaded with equipment needed by the crews. The trailers will be titled to Lehman Township, but the partnership will be responsible for additional costs the township may incur because of the trailers.

President James Reino reported the requests for Phase Two of this project must be prepared before Dec. 31.

Mark Van Etten, a representative from the Luzerne County Tax Collection Committee, reported that contracts with Berkheimer have not been signed yet, but collection is not delayed

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and that Berkheimer has started processing second-quarter returns. Several municipal representatives confirmed they are receiving funds. He also reported that Berkheimer has sent address verification forms to all residents.

Van Etten also updated the

partnership on the status of the 2011-2012 Local Share Account Grant, reporting the project is moving forward. The partnership has already received a preliminary rendition of the building and is working on bid preparation.

The partnership committee

discussed the purchase of a JAMAR Radar Data Recorder and agreed that it would apply for a general grant to cover the cost of it and other potential public safety equipment they may need. Without the grant, each municipality would need to pay approximately \$940.

In other business, the partnership:

- Discussed looking into the possibility of natural gas vehicles with a projection of at least one year.

- Reported that Dallas Borough is looking into purchasing a 4x4 police vehicle.

- Discussed the possibility of equipping police cars with digital video equipment. Jackson Township representatives said that Brite Computers, which recently installed mobile data terminals in cars for several of the municipalities, makes a digital video system that ties directly into the data terminals. The committee decided to investigate this system.

The next Back Mountain Community Partnership meeting will be held at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 15 in Room 218 of Insalaco Hall on the campus of Misericordia University.

## Results are in for new Dallas Foundation sign

The Dallas Foundation announces the results of its contest to determine the location of a Dallas School District sign.

There were 2,134 votes cast and 62.5% of the people voted to replace the existing sign at the intersection of Route 309 and Hildebrandt/Upper Demunds Road. The new sign is expected to arrive in January 2013.

The foundation chose the sign as one of its projects because its members wanted to do something that would benefit the entire community. The sign is a means of communicating information about academic, athletic and extracurricular events as well as other important announcements to students, faculty, families and the community at large.

In addition to the sign project, the foundation is currently working on funding various educational projects.

Donations to the Dallas Foundation are tax deductible and can be mailed to the Dallas Foundation, 1000 Wyoming Ave., Forty Fort, PA 18704 or made on the foundation's website at [www.ourdallasfoundation.org](http://www.ourdallasfoundation.org).

Donations can be for general purposes or can be designated as to how the donor would like the donation to be used (e.g. education, sign, etc.).



BILL TARUTIS PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

People pack the Wilkes-Barre Township Fire Hall for the Blue Chip Farms Animal Refuge Benefit Dance.

## Dallas Twp. announces public visioning sessions

Dallas Township residents are invited to participate in a series of public visioning sessions, beginning at 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 29 in the township conference room.

As the next step in a process begun in 2008, Dallas Township officials will work to complete the township's Comprehensive Plan over the course of the next several months.

A committee was formed to plot out the future of the township. Committee members are Dallas Township Supervisor Liz Martin, Planning Commission Chairman Jack Dodson, Planning Commission members Bob Besecker

and Charlie Kishbaugh and Dallas Township Engineer Representative Tom Dough-ton.

Planning Consultant Jack Varaly will facilitate the process.

At the Oct. 29 meeting, four ad hoc committees will be formed to address topics of importance to the future of Dallas Township - Zoning/Land Development, Housing, Oil & Gas and Open Space.

Residents interested in serving on these committees should plan to attend and/or call Supervisor Liz Martin at 674-2008 or email [lmartin@dallastownship.com](mailto:lmartin@dallastownship.com).



Linda Antosh, left, of Exeter, Kristin Fino, of Dallas, and Roseann Nardone, of Wapwallopen, look at photos of a rescue dog.



Volunteer Lynda Warner, of White Haven, looks over displays at the Blue Chip Farms Animal Refuge Benefit Dance.

## Dancing for the animals at Blue Chip Farms Rescue

The Fourth Annual Blue Chip Farm Animal Refuge Benefit Dance was held Oct. 20 at the Wilkes-Barre Township Fire Hall. There was food, snacks, refreshments, music by The Sperazza Band, a Chinese Auction, 50/50 drawing, door prizes and basket raffles. All money raised will be donated to the Blue Chip Farm Animal Refuge.



Donna Domant, of Kingston, greets the Penn State Nittany Lion in the dining room of the Irem Clubhouse Restaurant.



The Penn State Nittany Lion poses with Irem Clubhouse Restaurant Chef Ian Bliss, of Dallas, as he prepares an omelet.

BILL TARUTIS PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

## Verve Vertu artists display work at rehabilitation center

Two Back Mountain artists have had their work chosen for Display during the Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital's Annual Art Ability Exhibit. Each year, the hospital holds a juried exhibition and sale of works created by artists with disabilities.

Billy Sukus, had his piece entitled "26 Fe Iron" chosen and Pat Cleary's "Beadweaver" will be display.

Both artists attend the Verve Vertu Art Studio, Deutsch Institute for individuals with disabilities. They are two of six students from Verve Vertu whose work was chosen for display in the Bryn Mawr show.

Cleary, who has recently discovered his artistic talents, combines his love of collecting shoelaces with his abilities to create pieces like "Beadweaver." He has been working on interesting landscape pieces using shoelaces since his completion on the piece for the art exhibit.

Sukus has been an artist with Verve Vertu for three years. He works with many mediums, including acrylic paints and block printing. His work often features geometric shapes.

Their work will be on display from Nov. 4 through Jan. 20, 2013 at the Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital in Malvern.

## Having brunch with the Penn State Nittany Lion

The infamous and very well-liked Penn State Nittany Lion was in town on Oct. 21 and joined Back Mountain residents for brunch at the Irem Clubhouse Restaurant. Brunch with the Nittany Lion was presented by the Penn State University/Wilkes-Barre Campus Ambassadors.

## Market vouchers are available

The Area Agency on Aging of Luzerne/Wyoming Counties reminds recipients of the 2012 Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program vouchers that they have until Nov. 30 to redeem the vouchers.

These vouchers can only be

used to purchase locally-grown fresh fruits and vegetables at farmers' market stands that are participants of the Dept. of Agriculture's SFMNP.

For further information, contact Rhonda Adams at 822-1158, ext. 3337.