

Committee gearing up for the 2013 Dallas Harvest Festival

The Dallas Harvest Festival Steering Committee is immersed in planning for the 2013 event, which will take place from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15 on Main Street in Dallas Borough.

This year, the 11th year of the festival, will be known as the "Year of the Volunteer," recognizing Back Mountain organizations and those who run them - those who give generously of their time and talents to make our region a better place to live, work and play.

A few special activities have been planned to identify with this year's special moniker, including a new contest, "Charity Starts Here: 1,000 Reasons to Give."

Soon, brightly-decorated ballot jars will be placed at a number of local businesses, including Ochman's Coins & Jewelry (next to Wayne's World) on Route 415 in Dallas, N-Mart in Trucksville and Fuel-On in Dallas. The event sponsor is Frontier Communications.

Five area charities - Blue Chip Farms Animal Refuge, Back Mountain Trail, Michael J. Cleary Scholarship Fund, Dallas High School Mini-Thon and Back Mountain Memorial Library - have been chosen as contestants (similar to Kiss the Pig) and will vie for the public vote - \$1 per vote by ballot. The contest will continue



Members of the 2013 Dallas Harvest Festival Steering Committee are, from left, seated, Barb Roberts, Liz Martin, Rich Fufaro (Chairman), Tracey Carr. Standing, Bill Peiffer, Donna Davies, Karen Fiorello, Robert Opel, Nancy Silvi, Darcy Brodmerkel and Carol Wall.

through Saturday, Sept. 14 but there will also be an opportunity to vote at the festival booth on Main Street during the event.

Sometime after 4 p.m., on Sept. 15 the winning charity will be announced and will win not only the money that was collected in their name but an additional \$1,000 top prize. Even the remaining charities will win - they will also receive the ballot money collected in their names.

In addition, Friends Feeding Friends food drives will soon take place across the Back Mountain, one within the Dallas School District; and another in local supermarkets. Both will benefit the Back Mountain Food Pantry.

Prior to festival day, judging will take place for this year's Flower Display Contest. Local businesses are invited to dress up their businesses with fall flowers, foliage and finery, while keeping it natural. Interested businesses should register by calling the Dallas Borough office at 675-1389. The event sponsor is Embellish, Main Street, Dallas.

For our performance-friendly fans, this year's Best of Open Mic (BOOM) will take place at 6 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 13 (5:30 p.m. for sign-ups) at the Masonic Lodge, 60 Main St., Dallas, featuring some of the best local talent out there. If you, a family member or friend have an inclination

to perform, enter our contest for a chance to win one of three monetary prizes - first prize, \$100; second prize, \$75; and third prize, \$50. All winners will have the opportunity to perform on the festival main stage on Sunday, Sept. 15.

Local talent, including area dance school students and a special music act or two, will entertain on the main stage. Children will love the Kid's Corner, located behind the Farmer's Market, a petting zoo and fire truck rides.

Visitors can look forward to the festival's expansive Farmer's Market, featuring the season's harvest, including produce, baked goods and a host of specialty items.



Planning the Dallas Harvest Festival's Best of Open Mic (BOOM) are, from left, Bill Shaffer, Lodge 531; InterMountain Medical Group representatives Krishnakant A. Patel, MD, Alan L. Boonin, MD and Mark W. Puffenberger, MD; and Dallas Harvest Festival Chairman Rich Fufaro.

Best of Open Mic set for Sept. 13

The Dallas Harvest Festival's Best of Open Mic (BOOM) will take place on Friday, Sept. 13, beginning with sign-ups at 5:30 p.m., in the lower level of the George M. Dallas Masonic Lodge 531, 60 Main St., Dallas. Light refreshments will be available.

The annual talent showcase will feature local

musical and verbal/prose performances and all ages are invited to participate.

A panel of judges will determine the top three acts and cash prizes will be awarded: first place, \$100; second place, \$75; third place, \$50. In addition, the three winners will also be invited to perform on-stage during the Dallas Harvest Festival which

will be held from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15.

The event is free and participants can compete for the prize money and chance to perform at the Festival, or may choose to perform at the Best of Open Mic event on Friday evening only.

Event sponsor is InterMountain Medical Group, Shavertown office.

New DHF contest benefits local charities

The Dallas Harvest Festival Steering Committee recently announced its special interactive contest, "Charity Starts Here: 1,000 Reasons to Give." The contest is up and running in the Back Mountain. The only thing missing is your vote.

Five area charities will compete, in former Kiss the Pig style, for the public vote - a mere \$1 per vote, accompanied by a circled choice ballot. The best part about it is that ALL monies collected will be donated to the respective charities but the charity with the MOST votes by Sunday, Sept. 15 will win an additional \$1,000 donation, contributed by Corporate Sponsor Frontier Communications and the Dallas Harvest Festival.

Five deserving Back Mountain-based charities are up for the challenge and will be more than happy to win your votes and your dollars. They are Blue Chip Farms Animal Refuge, Back Mountain Rails to Trails, Michael J. Cleary Scholarship Fund, Dallas High School Mini-Thon and the Back Mountain Memorial Library.

Bright orange ballot jars and ballots have been placed at a half dozen Back Mountain offices and businesses: Frontier Communications office, Route 309, Dallas; Ochman's Coins & Jewelry (next to Wayne's World), on Route 415, Dallas; N-Mart, Route 309, Trucksville; Dallas

Citgo (former Fuel-On), Route 309, Dallas; Dallas Borough office, 25 Main St.; and Dallas Township office, 2919 SR 309 Highway (just above Thomas' Family Market, Country Club Shopping Center).

"Charity Starts Here: 1,000 Reasons to Give" will continue through Saturday, Sept. 14 but, there will be ample opportunity to vote during the 11th annual Dallas Harvest Festival on Sunday, Sept. 15 at the fes-

tival booth located across from the Dallas Borough office. Though all participants will be winners, the charity with the most votes will be announced at 4 p.m. as the recipient of the \$1,000 top prize.

Zoning

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"We'll get it in the schedule," he said.

Supervisors discussed the recent PennDOT decision to reduce weight limits on older Pennsylvania bridges.

Township engineer Tom Doughton said that two bridges owned by the township are new and would pass any inspection. But he said two older bridges on Bulford Road and Edinger Road would probably have weight limits put on them and that it will be up to the township to provide weight limit signs.

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