

- ★ Read about local and state political candidacies Pp. 10-13
- ★ Sr. Citizens compete in Olympics. . . . P.15
- ★ Special Home & Garden Section. . P. 17-22

★ Free Want Ads See P. 26

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VOL. 88 NO. 15

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1978

DALLAS, PA.

L-L board proposes 12 mill tax hike

In a move which deflected much of what promised to be an angry debate over a proposed 12 mill tax increase, the Lake-Lehman School Board adopted a tentative 1978-79 budget of \$4,252,591 on Tuesday night.

Angelo DeCesaris, finance committee chairman, passed out to some 60 persons in the audience copies of the budget along with blank sheets of paper. He then in-

vised taxpayers of the school district to submit in writing questions about the 1978-79 budget.

Following a brief explanation of the proposed budget, DeCesaris moved that the 'working budget' be adopted and then called for a special board meeting on May 30 to consider the taxpayers' questions and adopt a final budget.

The board voted to adopt the

tentative budget by a vote of five to three, with directors Peg Anderson, Paul Crockett, Arnold Garinger, Gilbert Tough, and DeCesaris voting yes, and directors Alan Keiper, Ed Mark, and Kenneth Williams abstaining. Director Donald Jones was not present.

According to DeCesaris, the board is faced with adopting a budget without assurance that the state, which is still attempting to hammer out its own budget, will provide subsidies promised to local school districts.

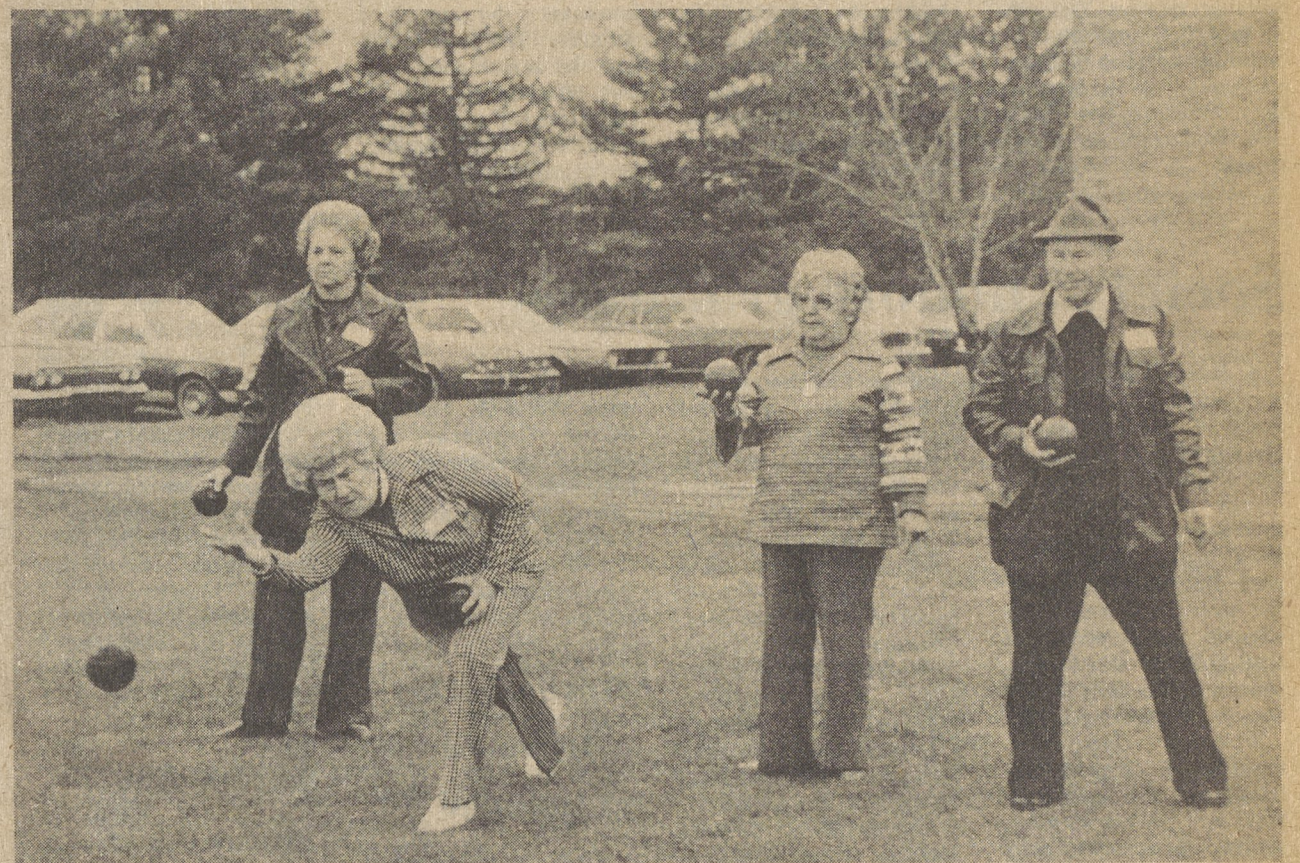
This situation, coupled with increasing property evaluations by the State Tax Board and decreasing property assessments, has forced the school board into an untenable position, DeCesaris stated.

Prior to adoption of the budget, John W. West, a retired resident of the district, brought up the subject of reports that the millage increase would total 18 mills.

"When are you folks going to draw the line?" he demanded. "How are people like me, on fixed incomes, going to survive?"

His remarks were met with murmurs of agreement from the audience, but DeCesaris' explanation of the situation in which the school district finds itself and his invitation to submit questions to the board helped assure orderly adoption of the tentative budget.

(Continued on P. 5)



BOCCE BALL-Bocce ball was one of the most popular games during the Senior Citizens Olympics on Saturday as the men and women formed teams of four to

compete against one another. This woman aimed just right as she rolled the ball in closest to score for her team. Olympic Results on P. 15. Photo by Charlot Demmon.

Lehman rejects sewage plan

A sewage facilities plan, the first in a three step program to determine the sewage needs of Lehman Township as recommended by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, was rejected by Lehman Township supervisors at Monday night's meeting.

Following the recommendation by DER, the supervisors met with Henry Haley of Roy Weston Company and learned that the first step would take approximately one year's time and \$200,000 to complete the project. Following the initiation of this plan,

the township would be obligated to design the sewage system and complete the construction. The general idea of the plan was to install a system similar to that in Harveys Lake Borough where the township might be able to hook-up with DAMA. Supervisor Alan Major stated that it was the general consensus of the Lehman Township zoning board and the supervisors that the township should not participate in this program.

Erdman charged in 2 local cases

Harveys Lake resident and Penn State student David Allen Erdman has been scheduled to stand trial in Luzerne County Court on a total of seven charges of burglary, aggravated assault, simple assault, reckless endangerment, and false imprisonment in connection with in-

idents allegedly taking place last summer in Lehman and Dallas townships.

Erdman has already been scheduled for trial in Centre County on more than 30 charges in connection with incidents allegedly occurring in the State College area during the year.

The 21-year-old student, currently in the Luzerne County Prison, will reportedly be returned to Centre County for trial with a detainer that will permit him to be returned to Luzerne County afterward.

Erdman was taken into custody

(Continued on P. 3)

'Straw' poll shows 120th voter apathy to May 16 race

A "straw poll" conducted by the Dallas Post the end of last week indicated considerable voter apathy regarding the race for the Republican nomination for the state representative seat in the 120th Legislative District May 16.

Nearly half (49 percent) of the residents polled did not know who the seven candidates were battling for the nomination. Some of the people recognized the names of more than one candidate but they were in the minority.

Tom Reese and James Post, both Dallas residents, were named more often than the other five but only by a mere 14 and 16 percent, respectively.

Robert Taylor of Falls was mentioned by 11.5 percent of the persons called and 9.5 percent recognized the name of Franklin Coslett of Kingston. Forty Fort Mayor James McCulloch's name was familiar to only seven percent.

An interesting sidelight is that 72 percent of the calls were made to residents on the West Side in the communities of Kingston Borough, Forty Fort, and Kingston Township. Calls were distributed on the basis of municipal voters, so Kingston borough would be called more frequently than Dallas.

Less than five percent refused to answer the questions posed by the

Post caller. No respondents had heard that either Col. William Dierolf, or Andrew Kotch, Forty Fort were in the race. No respondents mentioned Joseph Carmody, Jr. the unopposed Democrat nominee.

No one called wanted to be quoted with the exception of Mrs. James Gallagher of Kingston who prefers Tom Reese. "He can replace Frank O'Connell if anyone can," she remarked.

A resident of Dallas said that she knew Jim McCulloch and said that he is a fine young man. She said she looks for honesty and said that we need it throughout the government.

A retired Dallas resident did not

know who was running but said that she will vote because "that's what we're supposed to do."

A Shavertown resident did not know who the candidates were but said that her husband would know and that she will vote. She wants someone with a good reputation.

A Forty Fort man did not know names of any but said that it didn't matter because he will not vote in the primaries. A second Forty Fort resident knew Robert Taylor and looks to see what a candidate can do for the people before voting.

One Kingston resident did not know who was running but will look in the papers for the people who are running while a second Kingston resident indicated that he is a friend of Frank Coslett's.

A third resident of Kingston Borough did not know the names of the candidates but wants one who can be trusted. However, he does not believe we will ever get one whom he can trust.

A Shavertown man said that he did not know the names but votes on the candidate's records. "You can't go on rhetoric," he said, and believes that there should be a place to say "no" on the ballot.

According to him, small groups have manipulated candidates and when a public question is on the ballot, it is often worded ambiguously which confuses the voter because sometimes a no vote means yes and a yes vote means no.

An Exeter man said that he did not know who was running but that he would vote in the primaries. A woman living in Exeter knew James Post was a candidate but said that she did not prefer him.

She wants economy in government, wants to lead a tax revolution. She wants to see "the give-a-way dropped" and less people on the state payroll. Her husband is in business for himself.

Two Kingston residents refused to answer questions and hung up on the questioner.

Several residents from Forty Fort knew the names of some of the

candidates. One knew McCulloch and remarked that she was looking for honesty and responsiveness in a candidate. Another was familiar with Taylor and Coslett as did another resident of that borough. A fourth resident was familiar with McCulloch, Taylor, Coslett and Reese and wants a man like O'Connell.

Two Forty Fort residents did not know the names of the candidates and one does not vote because he is disillusioned.

Among the residents of Kingston Borough, four said that they did not know the names of any of the candidates. One Kingston woman knew Reese and said she will vote for him in the primaries. She said that she believed too many women are not informed and follow their husband.

"A man in this valley has two votes," she said, "his and his wife's."

One resident was familiar with Coslett and Post, wants someone who has been in public office and will vote, but did not say for whom. Another resident who plans to vote knew Taylor and Post.

In Wyoming, a resident did not know the candidates names but will vote in the primaries. Another is looking for a candidate who has integrity and honesty, someone who will work for the people, not himself. A third is elderly, does not know candidate's names but hopes to vote in the primaries. One woman living in Wyoming did not know any of the candidates but will vote as her husband does. She didn't say what that would be.

In the Back Mountain, a Dallas resident had read the names but the only one she knew was Jim McCulloch because he was a friend. One woman knew the names of Post and Reese but was annoyed when called because she thought the caller was doing it for "Jim Post". A third Dallas resident knew the names of Reese, Taylor and Post. Another knew Reese and thinks he is a nice honest person.

Another group of Back Mountain residents were polled but none of them were familiar with the candidates and none indicated that they were

interested in knowing who they were. At the conclusion of the poll, it was just about even between Post and Reese with Taylor about three and a half to four and a half percent behind them. Then came Coslett with 9.5 percent followed by McCulloch with only seven percent. Dierolf and Kotch were not mentioned by any of the taxpayers.

The poll represented a non-scientific random sampling drawn from telephone listing of residents in 120th district municipalities. The Dallas Post makes no claim regarding the reliability of any statistical projection but does defend the accuracy and integrity of the limited information developed in the survey.

If any one of the candidates wants to take a large step ahead in this final week prior to the primary, it appears that he better do something to make himself heard-not just in the Back Mountain area but throughout the entire 120th District. May 16 is coming.

Dallas Twp. gives \$1000 to library

Dallas Township Tax Collector Leonard Kozick reported to the Board of Supervisors at their meeting last Tuesday night that he had received a total of \$220,682.84 in taxes as of April 30. This was 83 per cent of the County, Institutional and Municipal taxes and 80 percent of the Per Capita tax for this year.

The board voted to donate \$1,000 to the Back Mountain Memorial Library from present funds and to add to this amount if there were funds available at the end of the year.

Solicitor Frank Townend noted that he had written to the attorney for the Van Horn Estate announcing that the township is interested in purchasing a

(Continued on P. 4)

Drug Survey...Part III

Who is responsible?

(Editor's Note: This is Part III of a summary of the survey conducted of high school age students residing in the Dallas and Lake-Lehman school districts by the Back Mountain Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse. Parts I and II indicated considerable levels of marijuana and alcohol use by the students, their attitudes towards drugs and the accessibility to marijuana and alcohol. The prior summary sections ran in the April 27 and May 3 issues of The Dallas Post.)

Parental drinking received considerable emphasis as an apparent influence on teenage drinking while parental drug use was not considered much of an influence on teen drug use, according to the opinions expressed in the recent survey of local high school students by the Back Mountain Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

More than 60 per cent of the surveyed high school age students residing in the Dallas and Lake-Lehman school districts agreed that 'a parent's drinking affects a child's drinking.'

Only about 25 per cent agreed that parental drug use affects use of drugs by their children.

The students were then asked to rank in order nine groups who might be considered responsible for trying to stop drug use among students. Parents received the highest average ranking, followed by police and courts with 'state laws' in third place.

Mid-range in the responsibility ranking were doctors and other medical practitioners, school authorities, social and mental health workers, federal authorities and students with clergy ranked last on the responsibility list.

Survey Consultant Dr. Keith Kilty of the Graduate School of Social Work at Marywood College noted in his report that the ranking showed that students considered themselves among the groups least responsible for their own behaviour. Only the clergy ranked lower in their estimation.

The survey also sought to address the problem of why students used drugs. Nearly 90 percent agreed with the reason 'Helps a person feel good, relax, get high.' Thrills and the excitement of taking risks was comparable in the survey emphasis with a similar proportion of the respondents agreeing with that reason.

About three fourths agreed with the reason 'Gives a person something to do, relieves boredom.' Slightly less than 50 per cent agreed with a statement that drug use 'Helps a person make friends easier' and another statement that drug use 'Challenges the values of society and protests authority.'

Less than 20 per cent strongly agreed with a statement that 'students use drugs or alcohol because there are not enough recreational facilities available and another 25 per cent 'agreed.'

The survey also gave students an opportunity to support the claim that various pressures on students led to drug and alcohol use.

About half of the students surveyed felt 'considerable' or 'very great' pressure from parents for good grades. Teacher pressures for good grades was minimal, about 20 per cent giving it some emphasis. Students desire for college was listed as a source of pressure in more than 45 per cent of the replies.

The students were also asked to explain why people do not use drugs. Sizeable majorities of nearly 80 per

(Continued on P. 5)