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CARNIVAL TIME--Discussing plans at the Frisbee Toss Table during the Dallas High School sophomores Spring Carnival, Saturday, are Wendy Hinkle, Cheryl Todd, Robin Bestwick, Judy Loke and Wendy Baird. (Photo by Mark Moran)

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## Subdivision's sewers overflow

### Does Powderhorn's developer 'have the power' to turn off the power?

Dr. Craig Aicher, Dallas Borough councilman, may have summed up the major business brought before council last week by stating "Seems to me you shouldn't have to specify you get a sewer when you purchase a house."

Last Tuesday's council meeting attracted many concerned residents of the Hickory Street section of Powderhorn Estates, who looked to the town elders to solve a serious health problem existing there since March 6. Councilmen were forced by state bureaucracy to refer the matter back to the Department of Environmental Resources (DER). But only after the DER had passed it to borough council via James Chester and his associates.

Council and its president, Harold Brobst, were officially able to offer small comfort to the citizens who have been without power to the main pump of their sewage system since March 6. Developer David Jones allegedly "pulled the plug", turning off power to the pump, which resulted in liquid human waste spilling out of the holding tank and onto private lawns in the fashionable suburban development.

The angry contingent want the power restored before the problem intensifies. Group spokesman, Paul Flemm, said he has been living in the Back Mountain for 13 years and likes the area in general, but with this problem in his neighborhood he "feels out in the woods all alone" and "it's the sorriest move I ever made."

Leonard Kozick, the enforcement officer, arrived at the session, he explained he and Magistrate Leonard Harvey discussed the situation and concluded that to arrest Jones would serve no useful purpose. Kozick continued that Jones could shut off the private sanitary system completely and leave the residents with no disposal system.

It was also claimed by residents that James Chester of the regional DER said if the sanitary system was not installed correctly, it is the borough's responsibility to correct it. DER indicated that it feels this is the case with the Jones facility.

Councilman Craig Aicher thought this charge was "DER dodging the issue." It was also noted by council that Chester's main focus is water and air quality control, not sewage problems.

Kozick furnished information explaining the system was built correctly and according to DER specifications but reported Jones does not intend to complete the sand mound system. Jones refused to discuss the situation with the residents, they said.

There is nothing in the neighbors' deeds stipulating Jones had to provide sewers, but there was a "verbal agreement" that he would do so. Also, the borough has no ordinances regulating sewer systems.

Therefore, the essence of the problem is "who is the policing body?", according to newly installed solicitor, Atty. John Morris III, who will look into the problem and determine who has the responsibility to have this remedied.

No "stop-gap" measures will be taken. Councilman Bill Berti, annoyed with the circumstances, urged council to settle the problem for "once and for all" as many persons are and will be affected. He wants the council to ask the DER why Jones has the "power to turn off the power."

As of Tuesday morning, March 25, the power had not been restored, but the pump was in the process of being made functional soon, according to a Powderhorn resident served by the Jones system.

In a related matter, Hickory Street in Powderhorn Estates will be adopted as a borough road

although borough engineer Leo Corbett admitted "it is not really great, but we'll accept it."

In the many other points of business brought before the board, \$880 received from Dallas Cablevision "for franchise fees" will be returned as the borough granted no franchise. Councilman Jerry Machell will ask the payment be applied to customers as a rebate.

Special police received a 30 cent an hour raise retroactive to January from \$4.30 to \$4.60 hourly. It was explained this is in line with "the president's seven percent guideline on wages." President Carter has hiked the voluntary guideline to over nine percent annually.

Dr. Aicher asked that a "Watch Children" sign discarded in the woods be replaced on Huntsville Road. Recreation commission head Ken Young needs playground aides for the Burndale Park and is advertising.

Also, Paul Jobson and Ann Davies have expressed an interest in serving on the recreation commission. Young will look into the possibility or feasibility of erecting swings at the Bicentennial Mini-Park following a request from a father. Now, there are no funds for swings.

Bob Besecker reported he will seek to reduce the fire company's heating bill by blocking off windows and making the structure generally more airtight.

The sum of \$2,312.50 was paid to the Dallas Township Communication Center as the borough's first quarter share. The borough's fair share to the county record and retrieval center of \$335.72 annually was also paid. Fee for this service is based on population.

Among the building permits was one from Commonwealth Telephone for a \$30,000 addition. While there is "no money now" for children's swings at the mini-

park, the borough has the promise of a quarter of a million dollars, \$250,000, for sidewalks and curbs. Bids for the work were opened and read at the meeting.

The bids ran well over the amount of the grant from the Community Development neighborhood revitalization program. Engineer Leo Corbett will modify the plans within the scope of the grant, explained Dr. Aicher.

Bids were submitted in three parts, subtotal, concrete curbing, and lastly, granite curbing.

American Asphalt, \$260,878.25; \$32,782; \$86,163.50. Addy Asphalt, \$244,976; \$43,192.50; \$66,450. Wyoming Sand and Stone was the apparent high bidder all around at \$275,887.50; \$61,134; and \$97,460. Addy Asphalt is a low bidder in any combination of the project's facets.

Solicitor Morris was formally introduced and praised his predecessor, Judge Charles Lemmond, Jr., announcing "He is a tough act to follow."

Council members were presented with the elected officials full

financial disclosure forms which must be filed annually while in office.

Police Chief Ed Lyons will look into unlicensed and uninspected vehicles parked on Maplewood Avenue.

Chester Engineers should complete the master plan by April. Following completion a public hearing will be held to receive citizen input as to zoning changes, according to Councilwoman Nancy Eckert.

## Homemakers School returns here May 1

An informative and entertaining presentation of tasty, original and easy-to-prepare recipes will be featured, Thursday, May 1, 7:30 p.m., at Merrick Hall, College Misericordia, during the third annual Back Mountain Homemaker's School.

Sponsored again this year by The Dallas Post and a number of area businesses, the Homemaker's School will feature valuable grocery coupons, exhibits and an entirely new set of recipe demonstrations. There also will be a new Homemaker School cookbook given free to all who attend.

The doors to the exhibits will open at 6:30 p.m. The Homemaker's School presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at Merrick Hall. Parking will be available.

There will be no admission charge and all seats will be available on a first-come, first-

served basis.

Janet Whipple, professional home economist from Homemaker Schools Inc., will present the food preparation portion of the program again this year. A resident of Selinsgrove, Ms Whipple is a graduate from Albright College with a major in foods and nutrition. Prior to her position with the Homemaker Schools Inc. Ms Whipple was employed by American Home Foods.

Ms. Whipple does presentations for Homemaker Schools Inc. in 11 states along the eastern seaboard including Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland.

Homemaker Schools Inc. has conducted these homemaker-oriented programs for more than 30 years and operates throughout the United States.

Participating national sponsors are Blue Bonnet, Fleischmann's Yeast, Fruit Fresh, Nabisco, Sunbeam Appliances, and pork, beef, chicken, turkey and egg wholesalers.

Nearly 1,000 homemakers attended each of the two previous homemaker schools sponsored by The Dallas Post.

This year's program has been planned to move at a faster pace and will provide completely new information for interested homemakers.

Door prizes will be awarded including items prepared during the event. Everyone who attends will receive product samples, free coupons, a cookbook and other information.

Now is the time to plan to attend the greatest event of the year for Back Mountain Homemakers, May 1, 7:30 p.m., Merrick Hall, College Misericordia. It's all free.