

# Concern continues over school closing

By JOHN HOINSKI  
Staff Writer

With the Dallas Township Elementary School on the brink of being closed for good, concerned parents continued to voice their opposition at the School Board's public work shop Monday night.

For the past few weeks, PTO groups and interested citizens have been meeting with school leaders, examining the pros and cons of the concept. And, with the probability that the shutdown will take place, there has been a growing concern over the dilemma.

The main point of contention centers around the Board's proposal of housing sixth and ninth grade students in the same building. Parents say they are not happy with that idea and that they would like the members to come up with an alternative solution.

"I have a daughter in fifth grade at the Dallas Intermediate school," stated Yorath Evans, a law teacher at Wyoming Valley West. "And I believe that mixing sixth and ninth grade students is out of line. Sixth grade students are not mature enough, no matter how minimal the contact between the two groups may be, to handle the situation. The possible emotional and physical problems that some students may incur is a responsibility that the board has to take."

Added another disgruntled parent, "We are expecting sixth graders to be mature beyond their years. That's what you are asking of them. No other school district puts sixth and ninth graders in the same building. But Dallas area wants to. We are regressing up here."

Under the new plan, kindergarten through fifth grade students would be housed at the Westmoreland

and Dallas Intermediate schools. Sixth graders would be placed with seventh, eighth and ninth grade classes at the Junior High with students from grades 10 through 12 being taught at the Senior High School.

The Board's long-range solution, supposedly two years down the road, is to eventually move the ninth grade students from the Junior High to the Senior High with the sixth, seventh and eighth grades forming a Middle School.

"If we're going to move the students to the senior high in two years, why not just make the necessary repairs on the elementary school until that time. That way we could avoid the whole problem," Director Ernest Ashbridge said.

Superintendent Gerald Wycallis said exact figures were not known, but that investigations into the feasibility and practicality of the newly-proposed idea would involve a minimum amount of contact between

sixth and ninth grade students.

"I talked to some teachers," Director Al Pisaneschi said, "and they say the only way to keep them isolated is to hire the national guard."

Those members in opposition said they did not totally disagree with the concept, but they would like to see it come about at a later date.

"I'm not against the closing," said Director John George. "But I think we should do it in 87-88 when we can form the middle school. We're putting the cart before the horse. It's a good move, but not right now." Preliminary studies have already been done on the Junior High, Westmoreland and Intermediate schools, concerning the cost for revamping those schools to accommodate the current plan.

In recent years, Dallas Area's enrollment has dwindled from 3,700 students to 2,500 with two schools, the Trucksville and Dallas Elementary buildings having been closed in the past three years.

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# DALLAS POST

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## Wish for Cable TV soon to be reality

By JOHN HOINSKI  
Staff Writer

People residing in the outlying areas of Kingston Township longing for cable television will be getting their wish within a year.

Century Communications, an affiliate of Sentry Insurance, a multi-million dollar mutual company of Stevens Point, Wisconsin, will be receiving a 10-year contract running through 1999 to hook up the township. The company will initially pick up the remaining three years of a 15-year agreement that was originally signed in 1974 between the township and Dallas Cablevision.

Jerry Toma, manager of Dallas Cablevision Inc. who will be retained by Century, has been surveying various sites to determine the probable cost of the service.

Depending on where individuals reside, hook-up fees can range anywhere from \$125 to \$350. The actual cost, however, will not only depend on a particular area but on the number of people who would like the service.

"Naturally, the more people who want the cable in a particular place, the cheaper the hook-up fee will be," township supervisor Fred Potzer said. "But some areas are going to be more expensive, regardless. For example, on Memorial Highway a main trunk and feeder line must be put in so that may cost between \$300 and \$350. But not all areas require the two."

Although these figures are not exact, here are some of the approximate hook-up fees that customers can expect to pay: Carverton Heights, \$215; Cliffside Heights,

\$125; Sutton Road, \$186; Green Road, \$200 and Birch Grove, \$315-350.

No fee will be in excess of \$350 and Century says people can pay the one-time charge over a 12-month period.

Once an area has been surveyed for cable TV service and a minimum number of subscribers has been obtained, the company will accept a down payment for installation. Once payment is received, the customer can expect to receive reception within 60 days. Following the initial installation fee, the service will cost \$7.50 a month for 12 channels.

For an additional \$5, subscribers can obtain channels 12 through 22, including Sportschannel, MTV, Nickelodeon, the Walt Disney Channel and the Nashville Country Music station. Those channels can be picked up through use of a converter box. Also, another package deal can be obtained for another \$9.95 that will offer Prism, HBO and Showtime.

Potzer says the next step will be to work out terms and conditions of the agreement, involving the servicing, repair and improvements that can be made.

Carverton Heights will probably be the first section to receive cable when the project begins with all other hook-ups to be completed within the year.

The board expects to finalize the agreement sometime in March.

Century Corporation operates 28 cable television systems in 17 states, servicing over 320,000 subscribers. Walter Kinash, the Eastern Regional operations manager based in Lykens, Pa., will be responsible for supervision of the Dallas system.

## Kanjorski announces bid for re-election

Stressing his record of accomplishments and availability during his first term in office, U. S. Rep. Paul E. Kanjorski, D-Naticoke, on Monday announced his candidacy for re-election to the United States Congress.

Kanjorski, who will be seeking his second consecutive two-year stint, made the announcement during the first of a four-stop tour, including Hazleton, Berwick and Shamokin.

Standing before a small group of supporters at the construction site of the First Eastern Bank building on Public Square, Kanjorski spoke of his past accomplishments.

"I place my record of leadership, responsiveness, effectiveness, accessibility and honesty before my fellow citizens in the 11th District," the 48-year old incumbent said. "And I feel confident that upon evaluation of that record, I will be returned to Washington to continue my work in what will be the 100th Congress of our great nation."

So far no one has stepped forward to challenge Kanjorski in the May primary with less than a week left to file. Should he run opposed, he is expected however, to encounter a tough battle in the general election from Republican candidate, Marc L. Holtzman who is also expected to run without opposition.

"This will be a campaign by the Kanjorski family and friends and that's a big family," Kanjorski stated. "But I see a good issue-oriented campaign."

Pointing to his involvement with several problems Northeastern Pennsylvania has experienced, including the Butler Mine Tunnel spill and the gardiasis crisis, Kanjorski also cited his efforts with various projects in Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Carbon and Sullivan counties.

"My toll free line and special phone-in nights, coupled with more than 60 town meetings, have given the people of the 11th District



U.S. REP. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

unparalleled access to their congressman," he noted.

"In short, I've been there whether it's been creating new jobs, saving old ones, gaining federal aid, or cutting through bureaucratic red tape. I've been there while meeting with constituents solving their case-work, and bringing congressional committees right here to Northeastern Pennsylvania."

Specifically, Kanjorski touched on the industrial development of the region and the use of cogeneration, a process in which the carbon in culm is burned to produce steam energy.

He said he is now working on two such projects and predicted 40 to 60 such plants would be operating in the district within the next 20 years.

"I feel we have made great inroads into the industrial development of this area," Kanjorski said.

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### Campaign status

Nancy Kozemchak, left, assistant librarian, and Marilyn Rudolph, children's librarian, show the status of the capital campaign of the Back Mountain Memorial Library. The goal of \$450,000 has not yet been attained with \$328,000 collected thus far in the campaign.

Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

## Library campaign short of goal

By JOHN HOINSKI  
Staff Writer

The Back Mountain Memorial Library Capitol Campaign Committee members, in its effort to raise money to help pay costs for renovation projects on the library building, say they have totaled \$334,268.80 in money and pledges to date.

The campaign, now in its 17th month, is hoping to amass \$450,000 before the projects scheduled ending sometime in late March.

But, according to Homer Moyer, co-chairman of the committee along with Nancy Eckert, that goal may be in jeopardy.

"We have one or two more possible big pledges that may allow us to reach our goal," said Moyer. "But right now it is not realistic."

So far the monies accumulated have come from individuals and businesses numbering 630 pledges, a figure that Moyer says represents only a fraction of the people living in the Back Mountain.

"We are thinking of running ads in the two Back Mountain newspapers to inform people of the drive," he explained. "There are about 30,000 residents back here and we have received contributions from only about one-tenth."

The Committee would like to mention several points that individuals and businesses should be aware of when considering making donations.

First, it is a one time three-year campaign and cash pledges may be paid over that period of time. Secondly, all contributors of \$1,000 or more will have their names inscribed on a plaque which will be kept on display in the library. And third, memorial gifts in memory of a friend or relative will be gladly accepted and properly identified.

In addition to the campaign, the committee will conduct other drives to establish funds.

The 40th Annual Library Auction, which raised \$35,000 last year, will once again be held in July. Also the Ham 'n Yeggs Club, a group that collected \$35,000 last year, will again be accepting \$25.00 cash donations. The Friends of the Library Club will also receive cash payments from those who would like to support the drive.

The Board is confident the community will support the campaign and has already arranged a loan with Wilkes-Barre banks to do the repairs, most of which has been done.

Still, other projects must be completed, including the Community Room that will be used for library activities as well as a meeting place for various groups in the Back Mountain area.

With the help of the Long Range Planning Committee that was formed in 1981 by the Library's Board of Directors, the structure formerly known as the Dallas Borough Elementary School was purchased for the modest sum of \$30,000 from the School District.

The Building Committee, yet another group formed by the Board, then hired the architectural firm of Eyermer, Csala and Hapemen to plan the improvements. In July of 1984, Wyoming Building Corporation received the bid and was awarded a contract in September of that year for \$272,000.

Some of the building modifications include: the addition of a new and modern entrance, the addition of insulation to the reading room ceiling, replacement of hand-fired coal boilers with a high efficiency gas unit and replacement of the old windows with a double-glazed window and insulated panel system.

For the past year, the Library has also been the home of the Little People Day Care Center. Along with providing care for the children, income from the center also helps defray operating costs of the building.

The Back Mountain Memorial Library was founded in 1945.

## Officials approve agreement

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Correspondent

Jackson Township supervisors approved Township Solicitor Blythe Evans' recommendation to accept the agreement with Woodridge Estate developers concerning the project's drainage system at the March meeting, Monday night.

Township Planning Commission representative John Filip reported he reviewed the drainage system previously approved by the commission and found the current system working as requested by the township and that the developers have complied with the previous stipulations of the supervisors.

Solicitor Evans explained that the Woodridge Associates developers had stipulated in the agreement that since the lot owners would not be responsible for the drainage project, they (the developers) would.

In response to Board Chairman Walter Zinecavage's concern that there could be possible sewage overflow with expansion of the development and the township would be responsible for maintenance of the system if Woodridge should go out of business, Evans assured him that the developer was expanding and there was no cause to believe the Woodridge Associates would fold.

Evans explained the developer was presently expanding in an area

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## Shooting case probe continuing

No new developments have surfaced in the case of a 19-year old Dallas Township youth who was shot to death in his home in late January.

Police say they are still awaiting test results performed by Luzerne County Coroner Dr. George E. Hudock before they can take any further action in an attempt to solve the murder of Henry C. Tuck, IV.

"We have the ballistics report but we still have to wait for the coroners report before we can decide which way to go on this case," Dallas Township Police Chief Carl Myers said.

Tuck was allegedly shot to death on January 24 by his 15-year old brother, Andrew, who was the only other person in the family's Country Club Road house.

According to the boys' father, Henry Tuck Jr., Andrew said he accidentally shot his brother with a 20-gauge shotgun he borrowed from a friend.

Hudock, who ruled that Tuck died of a close range shotgun blast to the left side of the back, is currently performing several tests that will help decide the manner of death. Police say they will not release the details of the ballistics report until Hudock reports his findings.

— JOHN HOINSKI

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