

STATE PRISON AT RETREAT OPENS - This photo gives a good idea of the size of the newlyrenovated state facility at Retreat.

## Area gets another state lock-up

BY BONNIE DOMBROSKI Staff Writer

State and local officials were on hand for the dedication of the new State Correctional Institute (SCI) at Retreat on Wednesday, January 6. 1988. The facility, which is located off U.S. Route 11 between Shickshinny and West Nanticoke, is the third of four new correctional institutions to be completed under a \$300 million statewide prison expansion and renovation pro-

Among the dignitaries present were Congressman Paul Kanjorski, Senator Charles Lemmond, Representative Stanley Jarolin, State Corrections Commissioner David S. Owens, Jr. and Acting Secretary of the Department of General Services (DGS) David L. Jannetta. Jannetta has been nominated to succeed James Brown who has been made Governor Robert Casey's Executive Secretary. Jannetta has served as Mayor of Altoona, is a Captin in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard, and has earned Masters Degrees in Public Administration and Operations Manage-

Dennis R. Erhard was named Superintendent of SCI Retreat on January 13, 1987 after holding positions at SCI Camp Hill and Huntingdon. Erhard has a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling and is a member of the Pennsylvania Prison Wardens Association and the American Correctional Association.

Erhard introduced some of the staff including Busine ager Barbara O'Day, Deputy Superintendent for Treatment Paul Crisler, Deputy Supt. for Operations Harry E. Wilson II,



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and Personnel Officer John R. I omeroy. He thanked the staff for pitching in and doing work other than what they ha been hired for in preparation for the opening of the facility. Erhard praised the renovation project as a way to help alleviate the present overcrowded situation in the state correctional system.

Owens described SCI Retreat as an extremely welcome addition since the prison population has almost doubled over the last decade. The prisons are 35 percent over capacity and the 480 new cells will provide some relief. However, he stressed that additional cells are not the final solution since the Department of Corrections expects to remain overcrowded. Owen feels these individuals must be taught how to live a crime-free life through education and vocatraining. Owens expressed his confidence in Erhard and his management team. Owens closed his remarks by saying, "We solicit your support. We are here to serve

Some 258 positions, including 166 corrections officers and 92 auxiliary personnel, were authorized to staff Retreat. The institution's estimated \$11.9 million annual operating budget includes approximately \$7.7 million for salaries and benefits for staff, most of whom were recruited for the immediate

Formerly known as Retreat State Hospital, the facility was constructed around the turn of the century. It functioned as a hospital for the mentally ill until

it was closed by the Department of Public Welfare in 1980. The renovation project involved demolishing some existing buildings, refurbishing others, and constructing new cell blocks and two security fences.

The new facility includes four 112-cell housing blocks, a 20-cell restricted housing unit for inmates who must be separated from the main inmate population for disciplinary or administrative reasons, and a 12-bed unit for short-term mental health care for a total of 480 cells. A fifth 112-cell block. which would increase the institution's capacity to 592, was designed but awaits legislative approval for funding.

The institution has areas for inmate and staff dining, an infirmary, education and vocational training classrooms, a multi-purpose area to be used as a chapel, and maintenance and trades shops. SCI Retreat occupies a 264 acre site, 25 acres of which are enclosed within two new 14-foot perimeter fences. Inmates housed here will be classified by the Department of Corrections as minimum-to medium-security risks.

The mission of SCI Retreat is to help achieve the overall goal of the Department of Corrections which is to protect society through the secure and humane confinement of offenders lawfully committed to the department. While carrying out this mandate, they will also offer assistance through staff and programs to provide offenders the opportunity to successfully effect change in their lives.

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### Dallas board hires firm

BY CHARLOT M. DENMON

CEDA, a home-based Camp Hill firm, was hired by the Dallas School District to come up with a solution for the over-crowding in the district's elementary

Members of the school board voted to hire the consulting firm after seeing a sample of work done by the company in the Mifflinburg High School which was submitted by CEDA president Dr. George Sauers.

CEDA will submit a number of proposed solutions to the overcrowding of classes in the Dallas District's elementary schools to the board within a possible six week period.

The crowded conditions in the

ject for complaints to the directors from parents in the district at the board meetings for a period of several months.

The directors voted to hire an outside firm after a task force they appointed in August to submit solutions to the overcrowding were unable to agree on a solution to the problem.

Lynn Flemming, chairwoman of the task force, explained that the group recommended that the school board hire someone outside the district to evaluate the conditions. The group appointed by the board was comprised of parents, administrators of the school and school directors

The board voted to hire the Camp Hill firm at a cost of not more than \$5,800.

## Kingston Twp. board appoints Carol Loberg

BY CHARLOT M.DENMON Staff Writer

At their recent reorganization meeting, Kingston Township supervisors appointed Carol Loberg as administrative assist-

Benjamin R. Jones, III, was appointed township solicitor, and Christopher L. Borton, township engineer for 1988. Police Chief Paul M. Sabol was reappointed chief for 1988 and Robert Chamberlain was reappointed road superintendent.

Other appointments by the supervisors included Ralph Anthony, Jr., zoning-health officer; Harry Owens, custodian; Janice Castellani, tax collector; Jerome Cohen, solicitor for the planning commission and zoning hearing board.

The supervisors designated Merchants Bank, North, Shavertown, as the depository of the Kingston Township funds, set the township treasurer's bond at \$50,000 subject to review by the township auditors, and appointed H.A. Berkheimer Associates as Earned Income Tax Collector at a two percent commission rate for 1988.

Appointed to three year terms were LaRoy Ziegler, Police Pension Board of Trustees: Thomas H. Jenkins, Police Civil Service Commission; Edward Carey, Robert Tippett, Planning Commission; Carl Goeringer, Jr., Recreation Commission; Justin Bergman, Zoning Hearing Board. All of these appointments were effective Jan. 4,

# Ski resorts offer Pepsi

Every Wednesday night beginning January 6, the Big Two Resorts' Big Boulder Ski Area will host the Pepsi Cola High School Cup Racing Series.

In this series, high school students in the area will compete in modified slalom and giant slalom races to earn points for their schools.

Schools may enter as many racers as they would like. It will not be necessary to enter the same racers every week.

The cost is minimal, just \$2.00 per entrant, and a free racing clinic will be held for all interested skiers before each race.

Big Boulder and Pepsi Cola hold this racing series to expose high school students to the sport of skiing and the thrill of competition, as well as to promote school spirit.

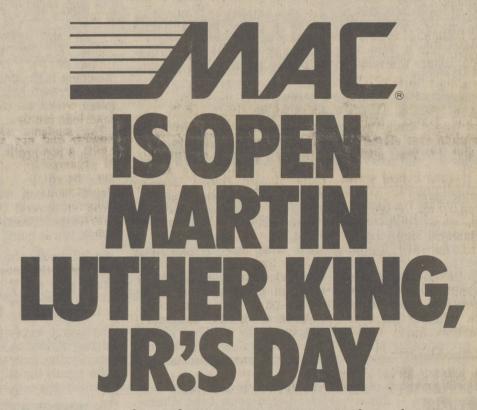
In order to encourage non-skiing students to join the fun, there will be a DJ from 6 p.m. spinning records inthe Chalet each race night.

Weekly awards will be given to the fastest individuals and high school teams. Points are then added to determine overall winners, and trophies will be awarded to the schools that have accumulated the most points at the end of the series.

This program has been successful for the past five years. and we hope it will continue to grow in the upcoming seasons.

Big Boulder would like to extend complimentary lift tickets and rentals to the families and friends of anyone entering this event for the media.

Big Boulder Ski Area and Pepsi Cola are looking forward to a successful winter of high school racing, and we hope for your support in promoting this program.



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