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# THE DALLAS POST

Vol. 100 No. 2 "A Centennial Edition"

Dallas, PA Wednesday, January 18, 1989

25 Cents

## K-T police get 2-tier raises

Newer members of the Kingston Township police force will be making 13.5% more money at the end of 1989 than they were at the start under terms of arbitration awards completed last week. Longer-term members of the department will receive much smaller raises as the new salary schedule attempts to close the gap for new officers faster than under prior plans.

The increases will occur in two steps. Officers earning \$14,100 annually in 1988 will receive a \$900 increase that is

retroactive to January 1, 1989; a second raise of \$1000 takes effect June 1, so the salary at the end of 1989 will be \$16,000.

The contract is for three years. The increments in the second and third years will be more modest - \$640 on January 1, 1990 and \$830 on January 1, 1991.

Longer term department members will receive much smaller raises, on a percentage basis. Chief Paul Sabol gets 4 per cent each year of the contract, Sargeant James Balavage and

officer Walter Davis each receive 3 per cent.

Other changes in the pact include an increase in the clothing allowance of \$25.00 each year; one additional personal day in 1989 and 1990, bringing the total to three; and increased sick leave, from 9 to 10 days yearly. Also, sick days may now be accumulated up to a total of 30 days, with the Township having to buy back any accumulated days over 30. The officers will also receive vision and dental insurance coverage, but must pay 50 per

cent of the latter's cost.

In another change that incoming officers had requested, the probationary period has been lowered from one year to six months, and new officers are given a year after that to take up residence in the Township.

Township manager Jeffrey Box said Friday that he could not yet put a price tag on the new agreement and that some administrative details have yet to be ironed out. But he said, "There is no appeal procedure," at this point and the arbitrator's decision is final.

## Citizens' group wants action on prison water

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Writer

Time is the key factor in keeping the 1,960 inmates at the State Correctional Institution at Dallas (SCID) supplied with a sufficient supply of quality water. This is the chief worry and concern of the members of the Jackson Township Citizens Advisory Committee, committee chairperson Pat Rusloski told prison officials and area legislators.

The water problem was discussed Friday at a meeting with State Representatives Scott Di-etteri, George Hasay and Stanley Jarolin, representative Tom Reese for Sen. Charles Lemmond, SCID superintendent Joseph Ryan and committee members.

According to Jarolin, it will take anywhere from two to three years for the Department of General Services (DGS) to complete work studies and award construction contracts to connect a water system between the state institution and Ceasetown Reservoir, owned by PG&W.

Rusloski told Jarolin there is no way the institution could wait

*"The Back Mountain is not aware of the amount of water being drawn daily at this institution."*

Pat Rusloski  
Citizens' Advisory Committee

that long. "With one well dry, there are more people in this institution drawing off two wells than in the entire surrounding area. The Back Mountain is not aware of the amount of water being drawn daily at the institution," Rusloski said.

Jarolin said the officials have emphasized in Harrisburg how critical the need for a water system is for the institution. "There is no doubt in my mind that this prison system has an impact on the water supply in the Back Mountain," he said.

The legislators at the meeting and Senator Lemmond will not relax their pressure on DGS to get the project going, according to Sen. Hasay, who was in charge of the

See PRISON, pg 3

## 254 lots ok'd in Kingston Township in two years

### But only 20 units actually constructed

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Writer

If all the housing units approved in Kingston Township during the past two years are built, the Township would see a building boom of unprecedented proportions. However, so far less than 10 per cent of the approved sites have been developed.

According to plans filed with the Township, there were eight major developments approved during 1987 and 1988. While they contain a total of 254 lots, only 20 houses have been built or are under construction at this time.

The subdivisions are Sunrise Phase II, Woodridge II, Crane's Landing, Cedar Lane Phase I and Phase II, Maple Crest, and Woodside Phase I and Phase II.

Jeffrey Box, Kingston Township manager, explained that approval of a developer's plan does not necessarily mean that the number of homes stipulated are built or ever will be built.

For example, almost two years have passed since the Cedar Lane and Summerfield plans were filed and approved, but no permits have been issued for Summerfield and only five permits issued for Cedar Lane.

The final plan for Sunrise Phase II was approved for 23 homes, but to date only three permits have been issued for actual construction.

Woodridge II, bordering Jackson Township, was approved for 60 lots. The developers are now selling lots, but only one permit for a house has been issued.

Crane's Landing, between Carverton Road and Crane Road, was approved for 44 homes; only six building permits have been issued. Summerfield, at 8th Street and Carverton Road, was approved for 14 lots of between one and a half and three and a half acres. No permits have been issued for building.

Cedar Lane Phase I and Cedar Lane Phase II were approved for 27 lots and 15 lots respectively, but only five houses are being or have been constructed there. All utilities have been installed in this development, however.

Maple Crest was approved for 37 lots, but nothing has yet been done in that development.

Woodside Phase I was approved for four lots and four permits were issued for houses that were subsequently constructed. Woodside Phase II was approved for 30

See GROWTH, pg 3

## Arrest near in B'King heist

Kingston Township Police Chief Paul Sabol announced late Tuesday that an arrest was pending in the recent robbery at Burger King in Shavertown. Sabol said a warrant was issued for a suspect who was expected to be taken into custody late Tuesday night or Wednesday.

The suspect is thought to be one of two males, who entered the Burger King Restaurant on Route 309, Monday, January 9, at approximately 10:30 p.m., and at

gun point ordered an employee to empty the money from the cash register and put it in a bag. The man fled from the restaurant while the second man went into the kitchen area and at gun point ordered the employees to get down on the floor. He left by the back door and both men fled the area in a late model Ford.

Chief Sabol said that Sgt. James Balavage and Officer Michael Moravec were the investigating officers in the case.

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### Coming up:

BACK MOUNTAIN WATER COMMISSION - Thursday, January 19, 8:00 p.m. Kingston Township Municipal Building.  
HARVEYS LAKE ZONING BOARD - Tuesday, January 24, 7:00 p.m. Harveys Lake Municipal Building.



## A tale of two thermometers

It's a common tale but true. There are no absolute answers when it comes to measuring things. For example, consider the difference in temperature readings between the thermometer on the Merchants Bank building in Shavertown with the one on the Franklin First Federal Savings building directly across the street on Rt. 309. Whew...! It could be as much as seven degrees warmer on the north side of Rt. 309, or seven

degrees colder on the south side. So what's the story?

"People do ask" says George Maculloch, branch manager at the Merchants Bank office. "I tell them its just the warmer side of the street." Continues George, "It's probably because all the nicest and prettiest girls are here." Speaking more seriously he says, "We've had it (the thermometer) checked out by the sign company and it seems to be OK." But George

thinks the difference occurs because the thermometer on Merchants Bank is nestled next to the sign nearer to the ground than the one on the Franklin First Federal building, which he thinks must be on top of their building. Sandy Mott, branch manager at the Franklin First Federal Bank across the street isn't sure.

"I don't really know why there's a difference," says Sandy. "The thermometer has just recently been

recalibrated by the American Sign and Indicator Company and we think it's right on target. Whatever the reasons are, when it gets really hot or cold people do comment."

And so the saga goes on and on, a few degrees here, seven degrees there, who can explain the difference? Regardless, if you don't like the weather on either side of Rt. 309 you can, as in the words of Mark Twain, wait awhile and it's sure to change.

## L-L board will consider attendance policy complaints

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Writer

It may be effective, but the new attendance policy at Lake-Lehman High School isn't popular with everyone. Lake-Lehman School Board members were presented with a petition signed by approximately 350 students and parents protesting the policy at the January 10 board meeting.

But the policy was vigorously defended by Superintendent Dr. Charles Borchetta. He said in his opinion the policy was working well, since from September through December, 1988 absenteeism dropped from 7,028 for those four months in 1987 to 3,998 for the four months in 1988.

"That figure represents an increase of attendance of 43 percent or a decrease in absenteeism of 57 percent," Borchetta said. "The high school administration and staff support the new policy which is working much better than we had anticipated."

High school student Joann Tregaskis presented the petition to board president Mark Elgaway, who said it would be reviewed by the entire board.

"It will be discussed before a committee of the whole meeting and their input requested," Elgaway said, "and will be on the February board meeting agenda."

*"The high school administration and staff support the new policy, which is working much better than we had anticipated."*

Dr. Charles Borchetta  
Lake-Lehman Superintendent

Elgaway asked for a representative from the group presenting the petition whom he could contact.

Mrs. Glenn Bogardus and Mrs. Betty Newell volunteered as contact persons.

Mrs. Bogardus said her complaint was that the policy implied that a parent couldn't determine whether or not a child was sick, but that the district could send a child home because of illness. She questioned why the district could not accept a parent's excuse as a legal one. She told Elgaway she believed those present deserved an explanation of the policy.

Elgaway outlined the specifics of the policy, then asked Superintendent Dr. Charles Borchetta to comment. Borchetta explained that the policy had been explained to the high school students in a general assembly at the beginning of the school year and afterwards,

a copy was distributed to each student to take home to their parents or guardians.

Borchetta emphasized the due process of a three step procedure concerning students absences and pointed out that if a parent can prove that a child had a valid reason for being absent, some of the unauthorized absences could be dismissed. A warning procedure offers several opportunities for parents and students to explain their situation, he said.

The policy, which pertains to ninth through 12 grades, permits 16 unauthorized absences in a school year, eight for each semester. If a student has a 17th unauthorized absence in a full year or a ninth absence in a one-semester course, he or she would receive a withdrawal for the course, Borchetta explained.

In another matter, John Phillips of Chase asked the board why Lake-

Lehman and Northwest were the only two schools in the area which had school on January 2. He said he understood that of 666 students, 222 were absent. Phillips questioned whether there was much work done that day.

"I believe the directors are not in command of the situation," Phillips said. "They shouldn't receive pats on the backs, they are lax. Last Easter I pointed my finger at Borchetta thinking attendance was his fault but I apologize to him tonight. I believe it is the directors' fault."

Borchetta explained that the school calendar was developed in January and February of the previous year and was coordinated with other districts at that time.

"We, not the board, thought the calendar for the school year was well synchronized. At the time the policy to have school January 2,

See POLICY, pg 2

## Citizens' Council to set committees

All interested Back Mountain citizens are urged to attend the meeting of Back Mountain Citizens Council, Wednesday, Jan. 18, 7 p.m. at Penn State Wilkes-Barre science center.

Emphasis will be on setting the agenda for the future of the Back Mountain, according to Nancy

Eckert, council president.

Participants will be invited to join committees designated as: Water, Community Education and Social Concerns, Solid Waste, Planning and Zoning, Transportation, Open Space and Recreation, Communications and Municipal Services which include fire, police, and ambulance.