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Lake-Lehman board candidate cites poor college attendance

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

There were few fireworks when five of the six candidates running for school director in the Lake-Lehman School District in the May 16 primary attended a "meet the candidates" night Tuesday evening. The event was sponsored by the Lehman-Jackson Parent-Teacher Association.

Mildred Sue Dobash, lone candidate of Region I, Kenneth A. Williams, only candidate from Region II, and Joseph 'Red' Jones, Martin D. McMahon Jr., and Eleanor Miller, three of the four candidates from Region III were

present. Chairman Charity Marlatt read a letter from candidate Edward F. Mark expressing his regret that he was unable to attend due to a previous commitment.

Moderator Dr. Bradford L. Kinney of Wilkes College posed a variety of questions and kept the program running smoothly and made certain that each candidate paid attention to the timer, Colleen Lankwarden, when answering questions.

About the only area of disagreement was over the degree of involvement the board should have with the schools' operation.

Jones, Williams, Dobash and McMahon agreed that it was im-

portant that board members set policy, enforce the policy, and budget monies for the policies approved. They believe other problems should be left in the hands of the administration, who comes to the board only when a major problem or concern arises. Mrs. Miller, however, said she believed that the board should play the role of evaluator, since if one of four students are dropping out of school it should be the board's role to evaluate.

Although the other candidates approved of the guidance and health programs in the district, Miller said she did not believe that

See CANDIDATE, pg 11



Wait, wait, and wait some more

Waiting was the order of the day for hundreds of fishermen last Saturday morning. For Mike, Greg and Will Woronko of Harveys Lake, the action didn't start until 8:00 a.m. (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Sunrise Estates builder ordered to stop violations

By RONALD BARTIZEK
Post Staff

As a result of a suit filed by the Kingston Township Board of Supervisors, the owners of the Sunrise Estates subdivision on Carverton Road have been ordered to stop work on parts of the project until the township reviews and approves revised plans. The action came Monday, after a hearing at the Luzerne County Courthouse before Judge Patrick Toole.

Under the terms of the order, the owners, Alfred Tamanini, Jr. and Dolores Tamanini, are forbidden from drawing any water from Phase I of the development to serve Phase II, must remove a drainage pipe that was installed in a different location than that approved by the township, and agree to provide revised plans to the township for their review during regularly scheduled meetings in May.

In return, Kingston Township has agreed to review revisions and modifications to the plans at those May meetings, if they are supplied in time for that review.

In their suit, which was filed last Thursday, the supervisors charged that the developers had knowingly violated township ordinances and had deviated from the approved plans for the subdivision. The filing said, in part: "From approximately July 13, 1988 to date, the Defendants have willfully violated the provisions of the Ordinance and the approved final subdivision plat and the approved final land development plans of 'Sunrise Estates, Phase II'..."

See SUNRISE, pg 3



VIOLATIONS TO STOP - A new home was under construction Monday in Phase II of Sunrise Estates, off Carverton Road in Trucksville. The developer has been ordered to stop work on portions of the project that are in violation of Kingston Township ordinances. (Photo by Ron Bartizek)

Kingston Township meeting

Crane's Landing developer gets go-ahead for Phase IV

By RONALD BARTIZEK
Post Staff

Concerns about real estate developers' performance dominated discussions at the regular monthly meeting of the Kingston Township Board of Supervisors' held April 12.

Harry Salavantis, developer of the Crane's Landing subdivision, and Gerry Fisher, a professional land surveyor who spoke in his behalf, protested the board's intention to table action on the township planning commission's recommendation to approve the preliminary subdivision plan for Phase IV of the project, pending further review by the township's manager and engineer.

Township officials are worried that a cul-de-sac on the plan will be too long if a proposed through road is not completed

Township supervisor Edward Price began the discussion by stating that as planned, the new phase would contain a cul-de-sac of more than 600 feet in length, which is not allowed under zoning codes. Price said that he also was concerned that a proper detention pond to contain storm water runoff be constructed. The developer argued that Price was misinterpreting the plan, and that the road in question was linked to what

would become a through street upon the completion of Phase V of the subdivision, thus shortening the length of the cul-de-sac.

But Price and township manager Jeffrey Box questioned whether that would happen. "Suppose Harry never goes to Phase V?" Price asked. Box said in that event, the township would be left with a 1,500 foot long cul-de-sac if the through road was not completed.

See CRANE'S, pg 5

Last copies of History of Dallas available

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

How many residents know the history of Dallas? How many know when Dallas Borough came into existence and that Dallas Township had prior history in other townships, in other counties and even in other states?

There is not very much historical information available about the now Back Mountain, and very few living persons who can give you insight.

There were the "First Forty" Connecticut Bedford Township, and there were early lot owners-Hoyts, Spencers, Roberts, McCoys, Trucks, Honeywell, Shaffer, Hunt,

Lewis and more. Perhaps some of your ancestors were among these early residents.

Pioneers, settlements, early living, development, and periods of history.

Dallas history naturally divides into an early period of approximation.

See HISTORY, pg 14

Rapidly disappearing wetlands provide beauty, protection from flood and drought

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Until recent years, most people gave little thought to wetlands, unless it was to refer to a wet area as a nuisance, a 'marsh or swamp' which attracted mosquitoes or other pesky insects. Buying such areas and draining them for development or agricultural use became common practice, until gradually, more than 120 million acres of the United States original 215 or more million acres of vegetated or non-vegetated wetlands (swamps, bogs, marshes, flatbeds, as they were commonly called) were destroyed.

The gradual decrease in these areas where thousands of plants grew, more than 250 species of birds thrived, and deer, beaver, raccoon, mink and other animals lived, alerted people to the critical part wetlands played in their lives.

These concerned citizens helped bring about federal, state and municipal legislation aimed at protecting the remaining wetlands. Unfortunately, despite wider recognition of the

importance of wetlands, currently more than 350,000 acres of wetlands are destroyed each year through dredging and draining, filling and damming and alteration of hydrology for development or agriculture.

Concerned citizens will need to turn more attention to the governmental legislation on the federal, state and municipal levels in an effort to preserve or restore the alarmingly low percentage of wetlands still available in our country.

The Federal government has the power to regulate wetlands through the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendment of 1972 (the 'Clean Water Act'). The regulations of this act were amended in 1975 and 1977 and Section 404 requires that a permit be issued before any materials may be discharged into wetlands and that section is the source of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers power to issue the "404 permits." This statutory authority has been tested and upheld by the courts. The Corps' Baltimore office holds responsibility for policing wetlands in the Back

Mountain.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania gets its power to regulate wetlands from the Pennsylvania Constitution and from the Pennsylvania Dam Safety and Encroachments Act which regulates all construction in 'bodies of water'. The bodies of water definition includes wetlands, and the approval of the Department of Environmental Resources is required for any project pertaining to wetlands. DER adopted a Wetlands Protection Action Plan, dated Sept. 19, 1988 which is intended to guide the wetlands protection efforts of the state. Their legislation is similar to that of the Army Corps of Engineers but goes into more detail as to filling, draining or excavation.

Legislation of wetlands by local government is optional and is derived from Home Rule charters, local government enabling codes or from the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code. Local officials who wish to become involved in protecting wetlands may do so by amending the existing zoning,

building and subdivision codes to comply with the state and federal regulations or by withholding permits or approval until proof is provided. Alternatively, the permit or approval may be granted with conditions that federal or state permits be presented.

These forms of legislation are critical to the water systems, especially in our local area and the wetlands need their protection.

Wetlands recharge groundwater supplies by trapping water and slowly releasing it to underground aquifers. Saturated hydric soils of wetlands are able to trap pollutants and organic wastes, allowing them to break down and decompose into less harmful elements. Damage to streams from pollution is reduced because excess erosion sediments are trapped in the wetlands.

In many cases wetlands contain flood waters and slowly release the excess water, preventing flooding and damage to nearby land or communities.

See WETLANDS, pg 2

Proposed budget for Lake-Lehman includes capital fund

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Dr. Charles Borchetta, superintendent of schools, reported at last week's Lake-Lehman school board meeting that the proposed budget for the 1989-1990 year presented to them was the culmination of many months of deliberation and analysis of all school district programs. He said that the budget reflects a new concept, that the directors establish a

capital reserve account for facility modification, addition, renovation or new school construction.

Borchetta explained that the administration believes that it is important to begin financial planning for short and long-range capital projects. He also commended staff and administrators for an outstanding job in preparing requests.

Certificates of achievement for participation in in-service pro-

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Coming up:

HARVEYS LAKE ZONING BOARD - Tues., April 25, 7 PM, Harveys Lake Municipal Bldg.
LEHMAN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY - Mon., April 24, 8 PM, Lehman Township Municipal Bldg.
HAM AND EGG BREAKFAST - Sun., April 23, 9 AM-1PM, Dallas Senior High School. Benefit for Luzerne County Ass'n. for Retarded Citizens, sponsored by Back Mountain Police Ass'n.