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35 Cents

State Attorney General sues HL contractor

By SCOTT A. DAVIS
Post Staff

A Harveys Lake man will face criminal charges and a civil suit in connection with a home improvement scam he allegedly operated through his contracting business.

The defendant, identified as Warren Avery, RD#3, Harveys Lake, will face criminal charges filed by Lackawanna County detectives last week. Avery is charged with theft by deception in connection with his alleged failure to complete contracts for home improvements.

Avery is also being sued for over \$35,000 by state Attorney General Ernie Preate, Jr., who alleges the home improvement contractor accepted payment but failed to provide acceptable service to 14 customers.

The state's Bureau of Consumer Protection, with an office located in Scranton, filed the civil action last week in Luzerne County Common Pleas Court. The action identifies the defendant as Warren Avery, RD#3, Harveys Lake.

In the complaint, the former Lackawanna County District Attorney alleges Avery took "substantial deposits from customers for work... that he failed to complete or never started." The work allegedly involved home improvement projects for roofing and siding.

Preate's suit asks for \$35,763 in restitution for the 14 customers. The suit also asks the court to order Avery to pay fines for violating Unfair Trade Practice and Consumer Protection Laws.

The 14 customers were from Lackawanna, Luzerne, and Wayne counties and Warwick, N.Y.

Storm causes widespread damage in area

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

The severe thunderstorm that blew through the Back Mountain area last Monday night with winds anywhere from 35 to 60 miles an hour from 7 p.m. until about 10 p.m., left behind it considerable damage.

Parts of Dallas, Shavertown and Jackson Township were without power, some for two or three hours, others until mid-afternoon on Tuesday.

Evidence of considerable damage was in plain sight as late as Friday around Harveys Lake or in the vicinity of Huntsville Dam. Trees and large branches were down in wooded areas along Route 415 towards the lake and trees, large and small, were uprooted along the shores of the dam.

In the Sweet Valley area, wires were downed and in one section some of the wires burned.

Despite uprooted trees, downed power lines, and minor damage to windows or porches, there were no reports of serious injury.

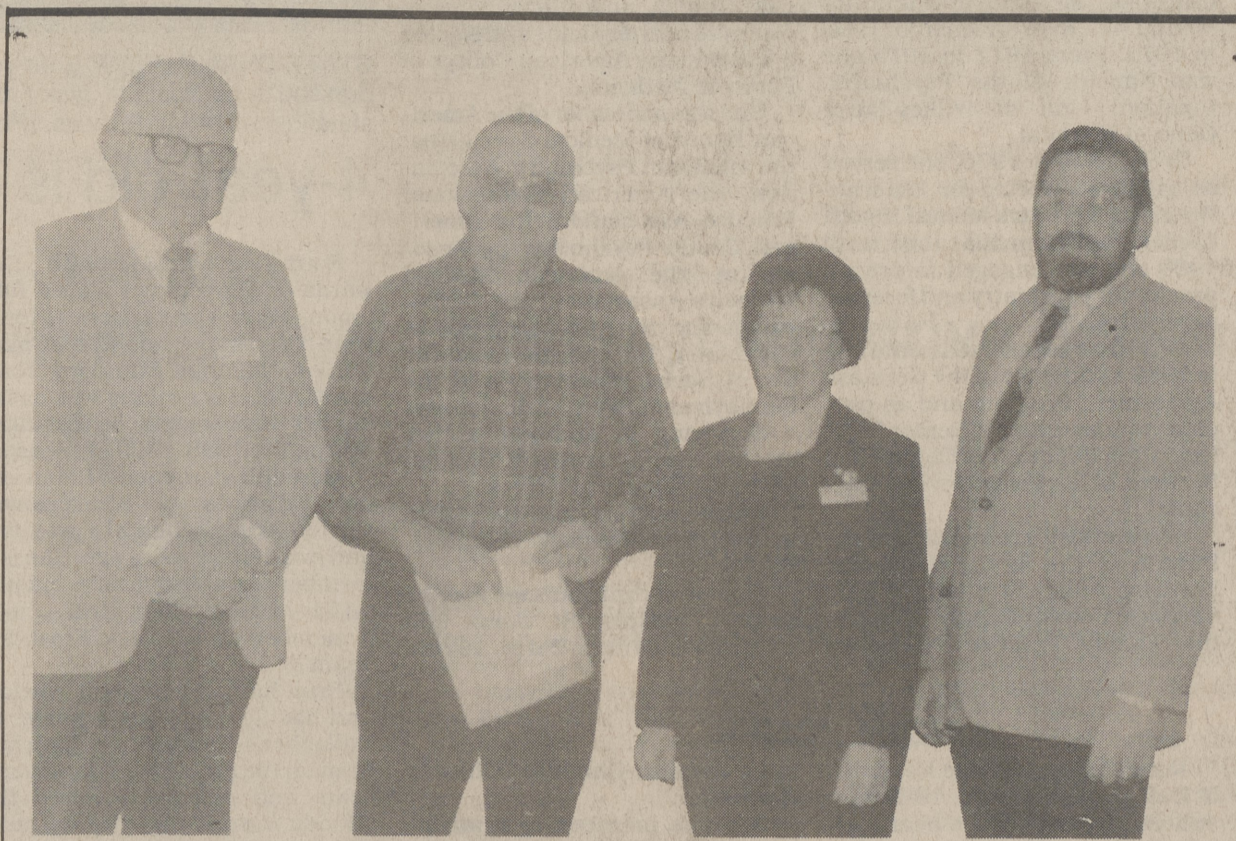
The storm which seemed to reach its height about 8 p.m., let up in about an hour and the temperature began to drop during the night.

Dallas advised to boil water

Dallas Water Company has issued a boil advisory for all Dallas residents until further notice.

A main break on Westminster Drive, Sunday, Nov. 26, left some residents in the area without water and under DER regulations a boil advisory is mandatory according to a water company spokesman.

Water sampling and testing will be done regularly and when DER decides the samples are good the advisory will be lifted.



Gemberling is 10 gallon blood donor

The American Red Cross Blood Drive held at Gate of Heaven Church last Friday was a success with more than 104 donors at 2 p.m. Red Cross Bloodmobile officials were pleased with the turnout and reported that the quota of 180 units was met before the end of the day. Above, Charles A. Gemberling of Shavertown is honored by the blood center officials for having given blood since 1952. Gemberling is a 10 gallon donor. From left are Charles J. Hensley, assistant director, Blood Services; Gemberling, Dina Pribula, head nurse, Red Cross Blood Center; and Jeff Townsend, Co-chairman, Back Mountain Blood Council. (Photo by C.M. Denmon)

Dallas Borough tax rates hold steady

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Dallas Borough Council members approved the proposed 1990 budget of \$419,922 with no increase in the tax rate of 14 mills at the regular council meeting Tuesday, November 21. Final adoption of the budget will be voted on at the December meeting of the council.

Members also approved the appointment of Dallas Police Chief Jack Fowler, Road work Daniel Parsons, Don Cooper and Timothy Carroll, council members and Robert Richardson, to the pension

board for the 1990 year.

Milton Lutsey was officially appointed as borough manager, replacing former manager Katherine Strosnider who resigned following a budget meeting. Lutsey, a retired business education teacher, also serves as secretary to the Dallas School District's board of directors. He was named acting manager of the borough Nov. 10, following Strosnider's resignation. The councilmen approved his appointment for a six-month probationary period at a \$5,000 salary. After satisfactory completion

of the probationary period Lutsey will receive \$6,000 annually. The new manager is a borough resident residing at 14 Split Rail Lane.

Nancy Nelen, wife of Edward Nelen, developer of Deer Meadows, was appointed as clerk for the borough at an hourly rate of \$5. A resident of Shavertown, she will work from 8 to 11 a.m. five days weekly. Mrs. Nelen also works part time at the Dallas Senior High School and serves as sophomore class advisor. She plans to continue in her position with the district.



LEHMAN GENERAL STORE - It seems like only yesterday that Cook's Store in Lehman Center looked this way. Shown on the porch are, left to right, Ed Miller, Edward Elston, Benjamin Nulton and William Neely.

Cook's Store continues 120 year tradition

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

In the center of Lehman just off Route 118 stands Cook's Store, one of the most typical general country stores remaining in the area. More than 120 years old, the store looks much as it did when

first built, except that a large porch which ran across the front was removed not too many years ago.

The store was first owned by a man by the name of Whiteman, who built the store and the big white house which stands behind it on Market Street. Whiteman later decided he wanted a store in Kunkle

so he switched stores with a William Neely.

For years upstairs over the store was a large room with a stage which was used as a community playhouse. Downstairs, men of the local area gathered on the porch or

See COOK'S, pg 2

Area pizza shops thrive in midst of competition

By SCOTT A. DAVIS
Post Staff

The Back Mountain offers a large variety of dining choices for the hungry. But nothing seems to be more prominent in the region than the flavor of pizza.

In fact, just by driving down Memorial Highway one can stop at any of seven pizza places: Bernie's Pizza, Mimmo's Pizza, Pizza Perfect, Pizza Hut, Treat Pizza and Ice Cream, Joe's Grotto, and the new Pepperoni Brothers. And as of this week, pizza lovers can stop at the Country Club Shopping Center along the Tunkhannock Highway for Little Caesar's Pizza.

With two new pizza outlets joining the ranks of the other six, some people may expect a type of "Pizza War" to break out in the battle for customers. But the owners and operators of the local restaurants say that's not the case.

"The Back Mountain can accommodate all the pizza businesses. This is a big area," said

"It all depends on making good food. If you do not make good food, you won't make it."

Pete Ricchia
Mimmo's Pizza

Pizza Hut Manager Dorothy Belsky when asked if she was concerned about the effect the new pizza places will have on business.

Pizza Hut is part of an international franchise and is located along Memorial Highway in Dallas. Belsky said the most popular pizza Pizza Hut serves in Dallas is... what else... pan pizza.

As for the new pizza stores' effect on business, Belsky admits Pizza Hut may lose some business for a short time. "I am sure the new pizza places will hurt us for a while.

See PIZZA, pg 3

Survey shows Harveys Lake a fishing hotspot

By SCOTT A. DAVIS
Post Staff

Harveys Lake may become the fishing hotspot for northeast anglers with a tremendous increase in the number, type, and size of fish in the lake.

At least that is what the Pennsylvania Fish Commission is saying after placing five experimental gill nets into the lake in late October and catching more fish in one evening than was netted in five days last year, according to the commission.

In the October catch were 61 walleye measuring 14 to 22 inches, eight brown trout measuring 23 to 27 inches, one brook trout measuring 13 inches, two large mouth bass measuring 9 to 12 inches, two smallmouth bass measuring 14 to 20 inches, and four chain pickerel measuring 16 to 22 inches.

Bob Moase, the Pennsylvania Fish Commission's area fisheries manager, said he was especially excited over the number of walleye found in the nets. He said the number of walleye found indicates fingerling stockings performed at the lake in 1985 were successful.

The netting survey also gave the fish commission the first docu-

A netting survey caught 61 walleye and various other fish

mentation of the success of a landlocked salmon program, which began at Harveys Lake in 1981.

"Fish stories circulating in the area surrounding brown trout are indeed true; eight brownies exceeding 23 inches is enough to excite any trout fisherman," said Moase.

Dennis Ransom, 27, was fishing with his father David, 54, on Saturday at the lake. David had one walleye on a stringer in the water. "It is a great year for fishing," said Dennis pointing to his father's catch. "We have only been here for a few minutes." David added.

Both Ransoms said they were surprised to catch a walleye at the lake. Their walleye measured 21 inches.

Earl Josuweit, 56, was out fishing at the lake on Sunday. "I got a 26-inch brownie this year. Biggest ever and I have been coming here a long time."

Liquor code violations listed

The following establishments were cited for violations of the state's liquor code. The citations were filed on October for violations which occurred in previous months. Violators face possible fines and/or suspension of license as determined by the Administrative Law Judges.

Catherine M. Hozempa, t/a Hozey-K Town Tavern, 34 Main Street, Dallas - Sales to a minor.

Eleanor Jones, t/a Lake Silk-

worth Hotel, Lake Silkworth Road, RD2, Lehman Twp., Hunlock Creek - Permitted a minor to frequent; sales to a minor.

Citizens with complaints about liquor law violations can call the State Police Liquor Control Enforcement HOTLINE in Harrisburg at 1-800-932-0602 or contact their local State Police station which will forward the information to the proper district enforcement office.

Inside The Post

Calendar.....16	Police Report..... 2
Classified.14-15	Religious Services.....8
Editorials.....4	School.....12
Obituaries.....2	Sports.....13

Coming up:

BACK MOUNTAIN CITIZENS' COUNCIL - Meeting on '911' emergency system. Wed., Nov. 29, 7:30 PM, Science Center, Penn State campus
DALLAS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS - Tues., Dec. 5, 8 PM, Dallas Twp. Bldg., Rte. 309
FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION - Mon., Dec. 4, 6:30 PM
FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS - Mon., Dec. 4, 8 PM
JACKSON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS - Mon., Dec. 4, 7:30 PM, Jackson Twp. Fire Hall
KINGSTON TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD - Mon., Dec. 4, 8 PM, Kingston Twp. Municipal Bldg.