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35 Cents

Rec center planned for Back Mountain

By RICH JOHNSON
Staff Writer

A \$5 million project which will bring health and fitness together has been unveiled for the Back Mountain.

At a press conference Monday, representatives of the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital and the Wilkes-Barre YMCA announced plans to put a facility in the Back Mountain which would house a recreational facility and a family practice unit.

Plans for the first-of-its-kind facility have been in the making for approximately four months, ac-

\$5 million complex will have swimming pool, medical offices

According to Norman Ledwin, president and CEO of Wilkes-Barre Health Care, the parent organization of the hospital.

Ledwin said that he got together with Bernie Hargadon, executive director of the YMCA to discuss this idea. "I don't think there is a concept like this in the country," said Ledwin. "We will construct a major recreational facility in the

Back Mountain, we intend to have, with the YMCA, a major medical model for recreation and wellness," he added.

The preliminary plans for the facility call for a 50,000-square-foot building which will house an Olympic size swimming pool, racquet and handball courts and other recreational areas. The idea of having the pool was one of the

"triggers" for the facility, according to Hargadon.

"We are targeting for family type programming," he said. "The aquatic facility is a key issue, we can develop a number of programs for its use."

Ledwin said that there will also be a variety of services offered. "The facility, from a medical standpoint, will house a major family practice entity with up to six physicians as well as ancillary personnel," said Ledwin. He added that the primary services will be outpa-

See REC CENTER, pg 2

Local reaction to plan very positive

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
and
RICH JOHNSON
Staff Writers

Public reaction is overwhelmingly positive for the new proposal to bring a recreation and wellness center to the Back Mountain.

The idea of a swimming pool

and more ball fields for area youths has caught the eye of many civic leaders.

Alan Landis, who has a long association with the Dallas Fair and youth activities in the Back Mountain, thinks the proposal is a good idea. Landis said that he personally feels the facility

See REACTION, pg 2

Rumble strips still cause furor

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

The rumbling over the rumble strips on Route 309 is on the increase among Dallas residents, as much over the strips themselves as over the perceived inaction of Dallas Borough officials.

Meanwhile, Tom Ochal, assistant traffic engineer for PennDOT, then contacted last Friday, said the PennDOT supervisor Bonacci had issued an order just that morning to the Luzerne County Maintenance to fill in the two upper rumble strips and see if that would reduce the problem.

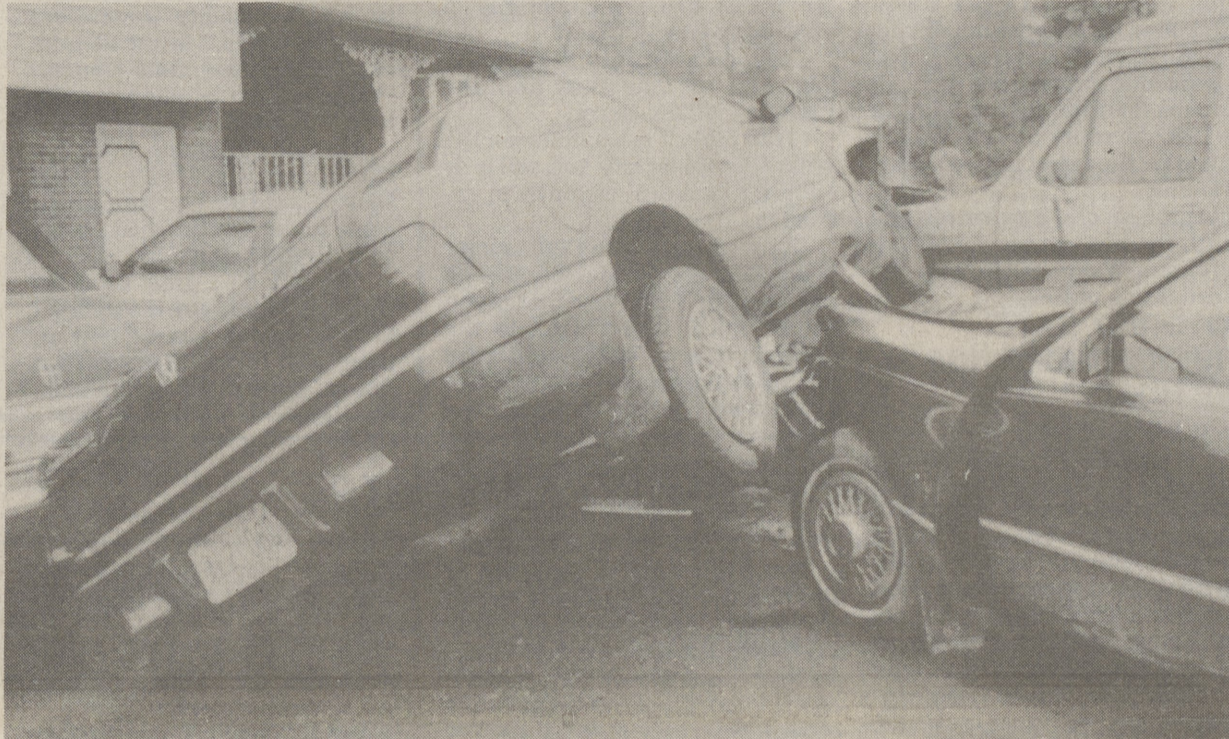
"If that doesn't work, we will possibly pursue filling in a third one. If that can be done without an adverse effect fine, if not we will have to pursue an alternative such as a warning sign or a wigwag light. No one envisioned that the noise and vibration would extend as far as it has," Ochal said.

Ochal said that PennDOT had not informed the council of its intentions but that he planned to do so that day (Friday).

Council president Timothy Carroll did not return several phone calls by a reporter.

Residents and business owners attended last Tuesday's council meeting to ask if it had taken any action to get rid of the five sets of rumble strips on Route 309 near the intersection with Route 415 and above. The strips were installed in January as a measure to slow down vehicles and trucks on

See RUMBLE, pg 3



A regular occurrence

This 1989 Chrysler damaged three other cars parked in John and Kathy Gialanella's driveway in Harveys Lake Saturday morning. According to police, the driver, Evelyn Walsh, lost control of the car while rounding a curve before striking the Gialanella's cars. Police say that Walsh was charged with driving under the influence in connection to the mishap. The Gialanella's say that this is the third accident in as many years in front of their home.

Townhouses get preliminary OK

By RICH JOHNSON
Staff Writer

A company planning to build townhouses in Lehman Township cleared a major hurdle Monday night as preliminary approval for a subdivision was given by the township's planning commission and zoning hearing board.

The subdivision plans, which call for building 48 townhouses along the border of Lehman and Dallas Townships and Harveys

Lake Borough, were first submitted three months ago to the Lehman planning commission. However, many aspects of the plans had been questioned by various governing bodies which reviewed them.

During the last three months, engineers of Quad 3 Group Inc., Wilkes-Barre, modified the plans to meet most of the requirements for approval by the township.

On Monday night, representatives of Quad 3, Home World, and the public attended meetings of

the Lehman Zoning Hearing Board and the planning commission to voice opinion on the proposal.

The plans were discussed first during a special hearing of the zoning hearing board. The hearing was held to decide whether or not a variance would be given to Home World for the subdivision.

A township ordinance requires each dwelling unit in a subdivision to have a minimum area of 4,000

See TOWNHOUSES, pg 5

Harveys Lake to hold recycling day April 28

By RICH JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The third annual recycling and cleanup day in Harveys Lake will take place this weekend and borough officials are hoping for a lot of cooperation from the community.

David Abod, borough councilman and member of the Environmental Advisory Committee (EVAC), is hoping to see a large turnout for the event. "This is something for the whole family," said Abod.

During the day, volunteers will be cleaning up garbage and debris along Lake Drive. Also, the bor-

ough will be collecting glass for recycling.

Abod said that anyone who has glass to be recycled can bring it to the borough building Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. He says that this recycling is the start of the summer season of cleanup at the lake. According to Abod, the borough will be holding monthly recycling projects.

Abod says that recycling is a positive step for the community and that it can be cost effective if enough people get involved. "We

See RECYCLING, pg 3



COLLECTORS COLLECTION - Some of the items to be displayed at the Collectors Show May 5, at Trinity Presbyterian Church are displayed above with from left, Judy Taylor, June MacCloskey and Grace Martin. (Photo by C.M. Denmon)

Collectors show planned for May 5

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

The Back Mountain Collectors Group and the Women of the Trinity Presbyterian Church are planning a Collectors Show, Saturday, May 5, 1 to 5 p.m., at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Country Club Road, Dallas.

Miniature furnished rooms, hand-carved birds by Peter Peltz, Cape Cod artist; paper weights,

cut glass crystal heirlooms, cookie cutters, (more than 1,000 varieties); soft sculpture dolls and their clothes and furniture; owls; antique figurines, quilts, bells, baskets, trains, regular dolls, Oriental china, wood carvings and many more will be displayed.

Collectors are all local residents including Elizabeth Taylor, Catherine Bolinski, June MacCloskey, Blanche Thompson, C.Wesley

Boyle, Helen Bubeck, Frances Linskill, Grace Martin, Doris W. Kitchen, Judy Taylor, Barbara Koehl, Leona Hunter and Lottie Karweta.

Tickets are \$1.50 and are available from members of the collectors group, Women of Trinity or at the door.

Proceeds are for the benefit of the local mission service projects of the group.

Complete Candidate Interviews In Next Week's Dallas Post

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

With the May Primary only three weeks away, the five Republican and one Democrat candidates for the 120th District State Representative office are working hard to garner votes.

"The pace is stepping up," said Nancy Eckert, finance chairperson for Anne Vernon, "but we expect it these last three weeks. Everything has been going well. There has been a lot of enthusiasm among our people and we are encouraged by the interest shown by the voters in the various communities."

Eckert, speaking for Vernon, said the candidate and her committee members have been doing a lot of door-to-door solicitation and have had good response from the people.

Vernon has also been doing mailings and plans to do some radio and television spots during the next few weeks.

"We have been running a grass roots campaign and the reception we have had in all areas has been very gratifying," Eckert concluded. Clarence Michael, Dallas School Board, said he is pleased with the results of the debates he has engaged in to date.

"I got a very good feeling from the breakfast at Irem Saturday. The audience appeared to be very receptive about the issues I brought forth. My goal is to get to the larger groups," Michael said.

He said he and his committee have been going door-to-door, making phone calls and putting

up some signs.

"The pace is beginning to quicken and I'm finding that the people seem to like integrity. There is a lot of inter-network. I'm also stepping up now on the issues and one of the key issues will be the forum May 6 at Penn State."

Michael said he has appeared at various clubs in Wyoming and Kingston and would like to get more information to some of these organizations in other parts of the district.

"I have been doing a lot of work on the West Side," he concluded.

Andrew Kotch, who also resides in the Back Mountain, said he uses his house as his campaign headquarters.

His campaign chairman is his father, Andrew Kotch, Sr.

"I have been meeting a lot of the voters personally and going door-to-door has been a daily practice since my petitions were filed. My friends on the campaign committee have been doing a lot of campaigning. I have some other projects in mind but "Does Macy's tell Gimbel's what they're doing?"

Kotch said he is very encouraged from what he has seen and heard out on the road from the populous.

"They are very receptive about the race and have not narrowed it down to any one or two."

Kotch said because of his news background he has dealt with so many people, he has had broad appeal and feels he relates to the people better.

"The pace of the campaign is beginning to quicken during the past few weeks and you can begin to feel the competitiveness," Kotch said.

"My campaign has been going well," said Candidate Jim Phillips. "I operate out of my home and have been using direct mail, signs and will use the radio. I have been to different functions all over the place."

Phillips said he will have a fundraiser, April 26, at Irem, and a Rally at the VFW in Kingston, May 9, and will be doing door-to-door

See CAMPAIGN, pg 3

Trial of Joneses on selling alcohol to minors begins

By RICH JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The owners of a Lake Silkworth bar are in court this week on charges of providing alcohol to minors.

David "Jigger" Jones and his wife, Eleanor, were scheduled to appear in Luzerne County Court Tuesday. Jones was charged with furnishing alcohol to minors and also a count of corrupting minors.

The charges were filed in connection with an incident which

occurred last June when 18-year-old Richard Hillman was shot and killed.

Jones' wife also faces charges of providing alcohol to minors. The trial is expected to last only a few days.

Later next month the couple will also face charges from the state Liquor Control Board. Those charges are in connection to the same case in which the couple allegedly sold beer and a bottle of whiskey to minors.

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Coming up:

KINGSTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION - Tues., May 1, 8 PM, Kingston Township Municipal Bldg.