



THE DALLAS POST

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35 Cents

Residents guess at rec center location

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

As enthused as school officials appeared to be about the announcement of the planned YMCA/Wilkes-Barre General Hospital \$5 million recreational facility, citizens of the Back Mountain are even more excited. The most popular topic last week seemed to be guessing the location of the new complex.

"We are absolutely delighted to hear plans of a new recreation-medical facility in the Back Mountain," said Phyllis Belk, director of University Relations at Penn State Wilkes-Barre. "Penn State Wilkes-Barre will have a new multi-purpose building and gymnasium by next year on our campus. It is now under construction but does not include a swimming pool.

"Our campus has Rosemary Ratzin, exercise-physical education director with expertise including nutrition. She is already offering classes for the community as well as students and staff and we see the new facility as an opportunity for a cooperative program. Professor Ratzin will be pleased to work with the staff there as will our other staff members in health education and physical education."

John Ginochetti thinks "It's fantastic! It's about time we had a facility such as that for the people. It would be more convenient. Our children enjoy swimming so we belong to the YMCA and the CYC.

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Lehman may face 10% tax hike

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Property owners in the Lake-Lehman School District could face a tax hike of more than 10 percent under the terms of the district's proposed 1990-91 budget. The plan was released at a meeting last week.

The new budget would mean a 14-mill increase in the assessed property tax in Luzerne County and a three mill increase in Wyoming County. The present tax in Luzerne County is 133 mills and in Wyoming County it is 58 mills, due to property assessment being higher in Wyoming County.

The owner of property assessed at \$10,000 in Luzerne County under the proposed budget would be taxed \$1470 and the owner of property under the present millage now pays \$1330.

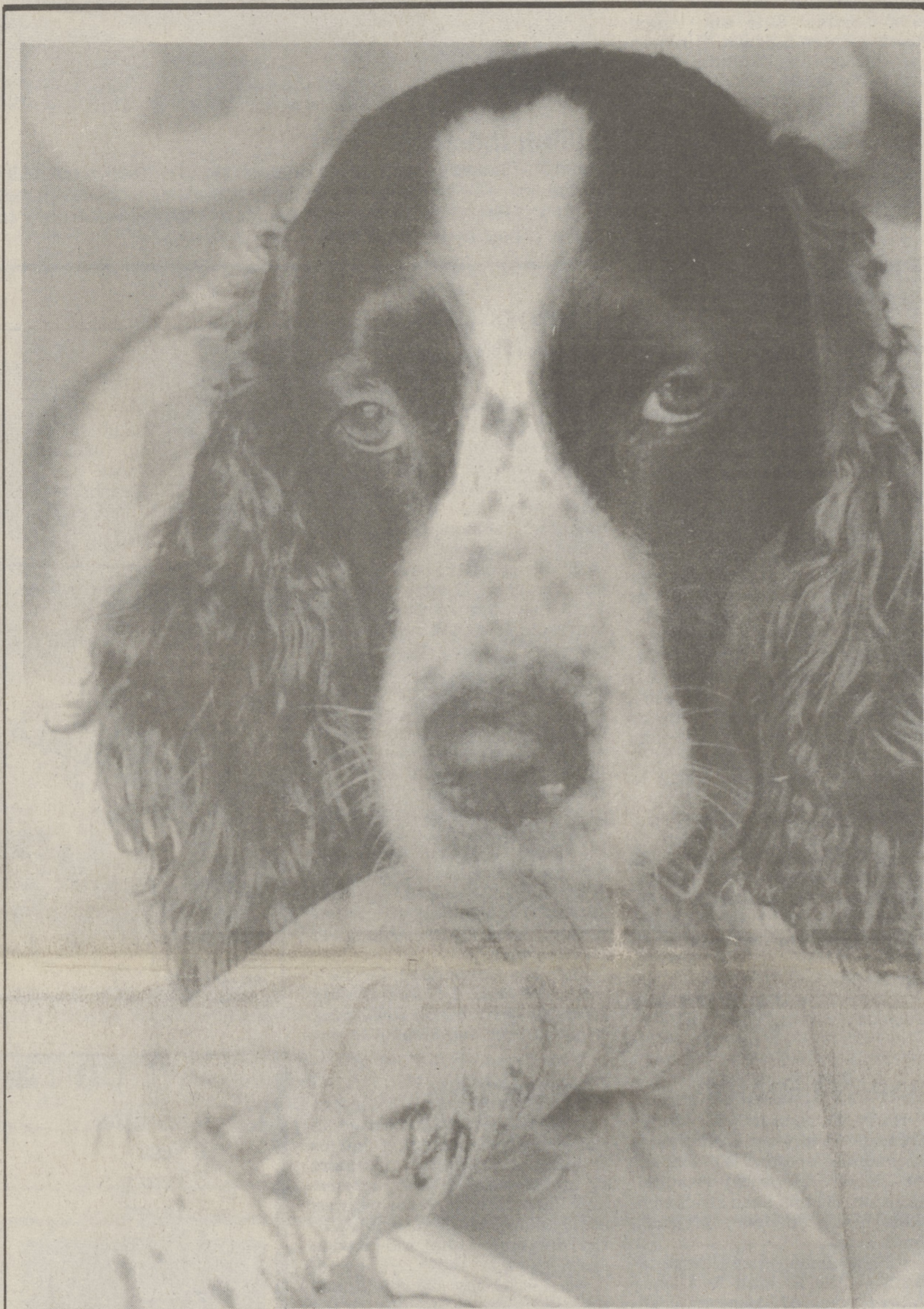
The owner of property in Wyoming County assessed at \$10,000 under the proposed budget would pay tax of \$610 and that owner under the present 58 millage pays \$580.

Dr. Charles Borchetta, district superintendent, indicated to the board that cuts in personnel would be included in the 1990-91 budget as well as cuts in equipment and teachers materials in order to balance the proposed budget.

According to Borchetta, increased expenditures in the 1990-1991 budget including a \$504,269 in pay increases for district personnel, a lower increase in state funding and anticipated smaller increase in property assessment help make necessary the increased tax.

Borchetta also said that because it is an election year, he doubts that state taxes would be raised to provide additional money for education.

When the budget session ended, the board went into executive session to discuss the proposed budget and the items indicated by Borchetta.



Dallas figure injured; recovering well

Back Mountain residents will probably recognize this long-eared spaniel. But what has happened to its leg? "Freckles," pet and resident greeter at Jim Eason's Dallas Center Hardware store, is sporting a cast. Eason is contrite as he explains that he dropped a section of wall pegboard on his pet's foot. Fortunately, the next customer to enter the store was area veterinarian John Shaskas, who rendered emergency first aid. Since then, Eason has secured the pegboard, Freckles has lost some weight and received lots of attention, and all will soon be well again at what some younger members of the community call "the Freckles store." (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Jones convicted on three counts

By RICH JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The owner of the Lake Silkworth Hotel was convicted last week on criminal charges of providing alcohol to minors.

David "Jigger" Jones, 65, was found guilty on three of four charges after he allegedly sold alcohol to two juveniles last summer.

During the two-day trial, testimony was heard from four Lake-Lehman High School students who said that they obtained beer and alcohol from the Lake Silkworth Hotel.

Two of the students, Thomas Duffy and Edward Kelly, Jr., testified that in the early morning hours of June 11 they went to the hotel and bought beer and later went back and bought a bottle of Jim Beam bourbon.

The other students, Donna Compton and Erin Keefer, testified that they asked the boys to buy the alcohol for them but they did not go into the establishment.

Jones took the stand on his own behalf. He testified that the alcohol could have come from his business, but that he did not sell the alcohol to the youths. He inferred that the boys may have stolen the alcohol from a back room area in the bar.

During the closing arguments, defense attorney Joseph Albert played upon this inference.

He blasted the testimony of Duffy and Kelly, saying that the youths all testified against the couple

because of an agreement with the police. "The children had no choice but to testify," said Albert. "The kids are the only ones in this trial who admitted doing anything wrong and they are the ones not

arrested." Albert said the defense was taking its case one step further than it was required to. He said

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Judgement restores Hillman's faith in system

By RICH JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Following the conviction of a Lake Silkworth bar owner, Ray Hillman has more faith in the justice system.

Hillman, whose son was shot and killed last summer, says that the last nine months have been tough on him and his family, but he is happy to see that "some justice is served."

Hillman and his family attended the two-day trial of David "Jigger" Jones last week in Luzerne County Court. Jones was charged with providing alcohol to two juveniles the same night that 18-year-old Richard Hillman was shot.

Authorities would not confirm that the two cases are connected but Assistant District Attorney Jim Phillips said that the investigation against Jones came about "while police

were investigating another case." Phillips said he could not comment on what the other case was.

For the Hillman family, the past nine months have been long. "It's been nine months since it happened and we are still waiting to see some justice," said Ray Hillman.

He added that convictions like those against Jones are needed to help keep another tragic incident from happening. "Graduation time is coming up on us and we don't want to see anything else happen," he said. "Parents should know where their kids are and who they are with."

Hillman said that his family wants to get everything over with and try to continue with their lives. "We just want this behind us; it's just been horrible," he said.

Jackson planners reject half-acre lots

By RICH JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The Jackson Township Planning Commission has turned down a planning consultant's recommendation to change some of the zoning in the township to allow building on one-half acre lots.

This decision came at a special meeting of the commission Monday night at which approximately 35 people showed up, many to voice their opposition to the plan.

The commission heard the proposal from Marlene Pawlowski, who has done planning work for the township for many years.

Pawlowski told the commission that she drew up the proposal at the request of the township's supervisors. That board had asked her to look at the possibility of changing the lot sizes in the zoning ordinances to take advantage of the new sewer system that has been put in the township.

The change in the zoning would

be from a minimum of one acre lots to one-half acre lots at undeveloped areas along Chase, Cigarski and Hillside Roads in the township.

The planner said that the proposal to reduce the lot size was very feasible for the township. "There is a lot of accessible land that can now be served by the sewer," said Pawlowski. "You would make the most benefit from the sewer," she added.

However, planning commission member Ed Chesnovitch questioned if other factors were considered when making this proposal.

Chesnovitch asked if water problems in the township, the road situation, and sewer capacity were considered when the proposal was made.

Pawlowski said she did not consider these factors. "The area can easily support more houses; I think you probably have the water

See JACKSON, pg 3

Candidates' signs sprout like dandelions in area

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Just as dandelions sprout up overnight, political candidates signs seem to have been doing the same during the past week.

On nearly every road in the Back Mountain there are signs heralding the candidates running for State Representative in the 120th District.

Volunteers must have been busy as their favorite candidate's signs can be found everywhere.

Driving out the Luzerne-Dallas Highway, Phillips, Dietterick, Michael and Kotch signs are bunched together with Phillips sign extending above the others.

Anne Vernon's signs dot the side of the road as far out as Truckville. Clarence Michael has some signs with his photo imprinted, as does Andrew Kotch.

Scott Dietterick's signs are placed strategically in various spots along Carverton Road, towards Wyoming. His signs can also be seen traveling on Main Street from Route 309 to Dallas.

A few of Michael's signs are also placed along the same route.

Route 118 toward Lehman might well be called "Vernon Highway" for her signs are placed at regular intervals on either side of the highway. Only a few of the others are seen in that area.

Huntsville Road has only a scattering of the candidates' signs, but perhaps more will appear within the next few days.

It's a toss-up between who has the most signs in New Goss Manor - Dietterick or Phillips - probably

close to a draw.

There is no problem determining who is supporting whom in that area. A third candidate, Clarence Michael, also has signs in that section of Dallas indicating the support of some of the resi-

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Candidate forum Sunday

Area residents are invited to attend a candidates forum this Sunday at 6:30 p.m. All five Republican contenders for the nomination for State Representative from the 120th District will be present at the event, which will be held in the Science Lecture Hall on the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus in Lehman.

Candidates will make opening and closing statements, and answer questions from the public. Residents may present questions by using the form found elsewhere in this issue of The Post, or by filling out a form prior to the forum.

The forum is sponsored by The Dallas Post and the Back Mountain Citizens' Council. Will Conyngham, vice president of the council, will be moderator.

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Coming up:

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE - Wed., May 9, 11AM-5PM, Shavertown United Methodist Church, Pioneer Ave. Appts., call 823-7161

CANDIDATE'S FORUM - For the 5 Republican candidates for the nomination to run for State Representative from the 120th District. Sun., May 6, 6:30 PM, Science Lecture Hall, Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus, Lehman.

BACK MOUNTAIN WATER COMMISSION - Thurs., May 3, 8 PM, Kingston Twp. Municipal Bldg.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION - Mon., May 7, 6:30 PM

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS - Mon., May 7, 8 PM

JACKSON TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS - Mon., May 7, 7:30 PM, Jackson Fire Hall

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

KINGSTON TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD - Mon., May 7, 8 PM, Kingston Twp. Municipal Bldg.

LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL BOARD - Tues., May 8, 8 PM, Ross Elementary School