

Pub

(continued from page 1)

in early 1975 and reports are that TLC's deal to purchase the pub fell through.

Dorothy Chaney's name appears on the tax rolls as the person to whom property taxes are sent and is responsible for payment. Richard Chaney is listed on papers filed as the person who paid the sales tax. But the Equity in Action papers that were served were for James B. Post, Jr. and Ron Post, trading as TLC Enterprises, despite the fact that Ron Post has denied being a partner or owner in the corporation.

Post, whose name appeared on the transfer of the liquor license from the Hearstone to Pizza Hut, was at the hearing on Monday. However, he said he was there as a mortgage owner. Post's lawyer, Robert Scovell, was scheduled to be the attorney on the case but did not appear in court.

When asked after the hearing if he would file an appeal, Post said he needed to look into the situation. "I don't know if I can file an appeal as a mortgage holder," he said. "I don't have the deed," he added.

Asked who had the deed, Post said, "TLC," and when asked who

that was he replied, "I don't know."

During the hearing, officials of the borough testified that the Pub is in poor condition and is a safety hazard. Council president Timothy Carrol was the first to take the stand. He said that he has received a number of complaints about the building and added, "...with children hanging around it something could happen."

Councilman Donald Shaffer was also called to the stand. He referred to the building as a "rat's nest" and "an awful thing to look at." The former fire chief also said that it is a fire trap. "The power there is off but if it did catch fire there could be a tragedy," he said.

Dallas Borough Police Chief Jack Fowler testified that there are signs of people being in the building. He produced photos that showed clothing, human excrement and other items on the inside of the building.

Fowler also said that the inside is in very poor shape and if children were to wander in the area and "...fall in some of the holes we may never find them."

Dallas Fire Chief Ted Wright testified that the building is a fire hazard. "It is so bad that I have a

standing order that no one is to enter the building in the event of a fire because of its condition," said Wright.

He also said that nearby buildings and their residents could face a disaster if the pub were to catch fire. He said that it would not be hard for other buildings to catch fire because of their close proximity to the pub.

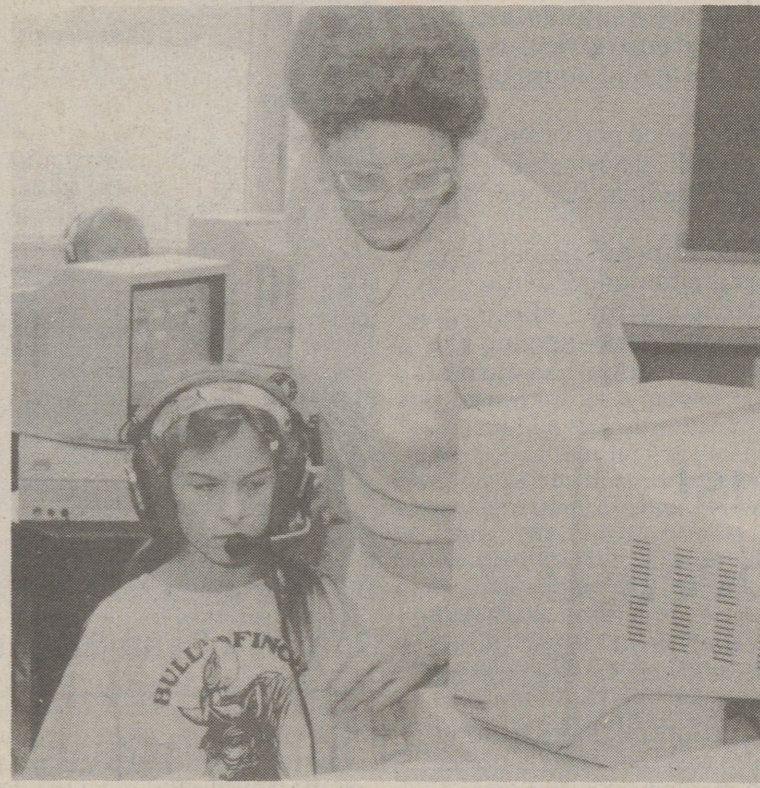
Borough Manager Milton Lutsey was also called and said that the borough has received numerous complaints about the building.

During the hearing, Fine told the judge, "We have a real problem here and we are trying to avert a tragedy."

The approved order forbids TLC from maintaining the structure as a nuisance, and orders its demolition. The order also says that the borough could demolish the building and assess the cost to the owner.

It is unclear what action will occur next. "We have done all we can for now," Fine said. He added that the owners will now have 30 days in which to appeal the decision.

Dallas youngsters take a byte



Computer campers

More than 110 students of the Dallas School District took part in a computer camp last week. During the camp students were introduced to various aspects of computers and computer programs. Some of the students are shown working above while at left, Nicole Kundrat is instructed on the computer by Alice Krispin. More on the computer camp on page 13. (Post Photo/Rich Johnson)

Councilman fault's solicitor's work

By CHARLOT M. DENMON Staff Writer

A heated discussion over the performance of Dallas Borough's solicitor punctuated the monthly meeting of the borough council August 21.

Solicitor John S. Fine, Jr. said that a special hearing on action to be taken on Hearstone Pub would held in Luzerne County Court Monday, August 27, at 10 a.m. (See separate story) Fine also told members of the audience that anyone was welcome to attend the hearing.

In answer to the questions posed by council member Don Cooper, Fine said that the cause for the delay in the case against Hearstone was discussions with the Post family about rehabilitation of the building and that reports were made to council about the reason for the delay.

Cooper said that he had looked up all of the minutes from the date the Hearstone became the subject of discussion and he found Fine's reports were inconsistent with the minutes.

At that point, the solicitor refused to make any specific statements due to the hearing coming up on August 27. He also said that council members were aware of everything he was doing about the Hearstone.

In the minutes in Cooper's possession which are recorded in the council office and available to the public, it shows no report given in December but in January, 1989, Fine reported that an attempt was being made to iron out a buy and sell problem and suggested that council take action for condemna-

tion of the building. Council approved that such action be taken. On February 21, Fine reported that the action was filed for a continuance date to condemn or abate the building as a nuisance.

At the April 18, 1989 meeting, Fine reported that the Hearstone action had been filed and he was waiting for a court date. In May, 1989, Fine reported the case was still on the docket for court and should be up around mid-June. Following that report, no report was given until August 15, at which time the solicitor reported that he had met with Post and there was a question on the title of ownership.

In September, 1989, the solicitor said the title problem was resolved and the lawsuit could go on. There were no reports on the action from that time until March 20, 1990 when the solicitor reported that the complaint against Hearstone had been served and defendants had 20 days to respond. There were no further reports until July 17 when Fine reported that the Hearstone was scheduled for court in September.

Councilman Don Shaffer defended Fine's performance, "I'm standing behind Jack as our solicitor, he's done more work for us since he's been with us than all the others did before him." Two others before Fine were Sen. Charles Lemmond and Atty. John Morris.

Council president Tim Carroll supported the solicitor. "I feel the same way Shaffer does," he said. "I'll stand by Jack since we are so close to going to court."

Shaffer also told the audience that the target of the borough's action was a difficult person to

reach. "You're not taking on just anybody," he said. "You're taking on Jim Post."

In other business, borough manager Milt Lutsey reported that he had received a letter from PennDOT officials saying that they had completed sound readings in the area of the rumble strips and results showed that the noise levels are higher than normal for the area.

The officials said that PennDOT will fill in the strips partially after the borough has a wig-wag light installed.

Until PennDOT is in receipt of documents that the light has been installed the rumble strips will remain in place as is, the letter stated. Lutsey said he had received a price of \$2500 which would include the light, survey drawings and installation.

The council approved the project 4-0 with councilmen Harold Brobst and Jerry Machell absent and Russell Eyet having resigned.

Carroll reported that Eyet had submitted his letter of resignation because he was too busy with a new business, and thus unable to give the attention necessary to borough business.

Council members wasted no time in appointing a replacement, as Carroll mentioned that he had discussed the opening with former borough manager Bob Brown, who said he would be amenable to serving the unexpired term. Brown was immediately appointed to fill Eyet's position by a 4-0 vote.

Kingston Twp. police give blood for youngster

Kingston Township Officer Robert Weiss and Dallas Township Officer Robert Jolley traveled to Children's Hospital in Philadelphia, Sunday, August 26, to donate blood for 16-month old

Danielle Ide, who was scheduled to undergo open heart surgery Monday, and direct blood transfusion was necessary.

Both men had the blood type necessary for the youngster,

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ide and granddaughter of Maggie and Jim Davis of Dallas.

Kingston Township Chief Paul Sabol worked Weiss's shift so he could make the trip.

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