

Lake officials want to install fire hydrants

By RICH JOHNSON
Staff Writer

After being rejected by the state for six years, officials at Harveys Lake are taking it upon themselves to have fire hydrants installed in the borough.

Officials of the borough and the Daniel C. Roberts Fire Company have been meeting to determine how to raise funds to help install at least four hydrants by the end of the year.

Councilman Joseph Sgarlat said last week that the borough has tried since 1985 to get state funding to help defray the cost of installing the hydrants. But he said the borough was told by the state that it was not eligible for grants and its applications were rejected.

Sgarlat, who handles grants for the council, said that the borough has quit hoping for state support and decided to take action on its own. "The way I saw it was if we applied for a grant again we would have been rejected so I thought we could get together with the fire company to see if it were possible to install them ourselves," he said.

Sgarlat met with officials of the fire company to see what could be done about the matter.

"We are looking into having the borough pay for some of the costs and going to the public for some more," said Sgarlat.

Fire Chief Chris DeLeur said that he hopes an agreement can be reached with the borough so that hydrants can be installed this year.

"We have been meeting with the borough and if we get a couple of hydrants installed we can show

the public how necessary they are," said DeLeur.

If installed the hydrants will be the dry-hydrant type, in which a six-inch pipe is put in below water level and the water is then drafted to the top of the pipe where the hydrant will be placed.

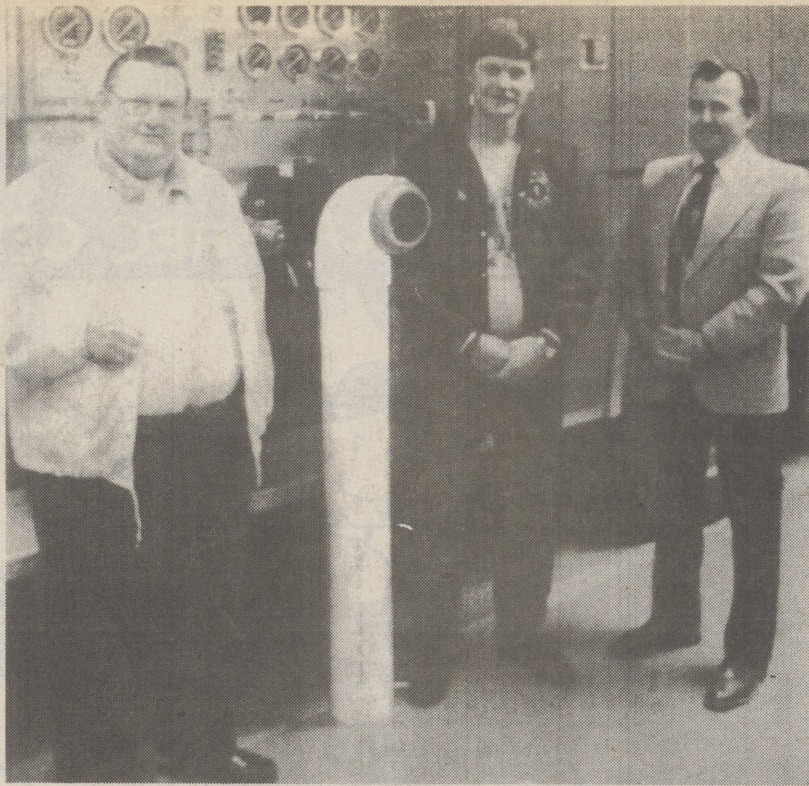
DeLeur said that the installation of hydrants will benefit everyone in the community. "Having hydrants will make it easier and quicker for us to get water if there is a need," he said.

DeLeur stated that right now if there is a fire the company has to find a place to get down to the lake and pump the water. "It is not always easy to find a spot to take the trucks to the lake and if it is winter we often have to cut through the ice," he said. "We won't have these problems if we install the hydrants."

The biggest problem seen right now is the installation cost. The hydrants were purchased years ago when officials believed that state funds would help pay for the installation. "That never occurred," said Sgarlat. "So now we have hydrants sitting around rusting and we haven't been able to install them."

According to the applications for state funds, it will cost the borough more than \$2,900 to install each hydrant. That includes the encasements, pipe fittings and screens needed for the hydrants.

Sgarlat has suggested fundraising programs to raise money for the project. "We have talked about a number of ways to possibly raise



FIRED UP ABOUT HYDRANTS - Members of the Harveys Lake Fire Company and borough council are working to have dry fire hydrants installed around the lake. Shown from left standing next to one of the hydrants are Bill Davis, assistant fire chief; Chris DeLeur, fire chief; and Joseph Sgarlat, borough councilman. (Post Photo/Rich Johnson)

money," he said. "We have discussed a firemen's fair with other companies and the money raised will be divided equally among all those who take part."

Officials are also hoping the public will get involved with the program. "If they see how necessary the hydrants are maybe some neighborhoods will come together to help pay for a hydrant," said Sgarlat.

Although no money has been guaranteed, officials are very hopeful to have four hydrants installed by the end of the year. DeLeur

listed the areas of the lake being considered for the first hydrants. "We are looking at Warden Place, Sandy Beach, Lakeview Terrace and the Sunset Area," he said.

The officials are continuing to look for the best way to have the hydrants installed by the end of the year. "We have to keep looking," said Sgarlat. "This is an important program and it is obvious the state doesn't want to get involved, so we are going to do what we can," he said.

Republicans mount challenge for Lake borough council

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Four Harveys Lake Republicans—Jeffrey Austin, William Wagner, Georgine Petroskas and John Morris—have announced their candidacy for seats on the Harveys Lake Borough Council and filed petitions Monday, March 11. The four candidates will be running for the four seats whose terms expire this year. The Republicans will challenge for positions on the only Democratic-controlled council in the Back Mountain.

Jeffrey Austin is a lifelong resident of Harveys Lake. A graduate of Lake-Lehman High School and Lafayette College, he is a sales representative for the John Hancock Financial Services. Georgine Petroskas, also a lifetime resident of Harveys Lake is a graduate of Lake-Lehman High School and College Misericordia with a degree in education.

William Wagner, a native of Dallas, has resided in Harveys Lake for the last eight years. A graduate of Dallas High School and King's College he is a faculty member in the Dallas School District. John Morris, a long time resident of the Back Mountain is a graduate of Wyoming Seminary and King's College and is an accountant for Bevaco.

Also, four candidates have announced their candidacy for the Lake-Lehman School Board. They are Francis Kopko of Harveys Lake, a teacher in the Dallas School District; Ed Kern of Harveys Lake; Elizabeth Sichler of Harveys Lake and Richard Kovach of Noxen Township. They are all cross-filing on the Democrat ticket.

Spock will seek second term as constable

Harveys Lake police officer Ronald Spock has announced his candidacy for re-election as constable in the borough.

Spock, who also serves as assistant police chief, is seeking a second term as constable.

In announcing his candidacy, Spock stated he has experience in dealing with legal matters associated with the position.

"I have been a police officer for six years and have served five years as the constable," said Spock.

Spock also said that he is educated in the civil areas of the position.

"I have taken a para-legal course for civil law and have attended numerous schools and seminars



RONALD SPOCK

for criminal and civil law," he said. Spock lives in the borough with his wife, Isla, and daughter Ronni.

Cable TV

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County Conservation District to forfeit the payment of collected fees in the township.

Currently the conservation district and the township have a memorandum of understanding in which the conservation district returns one-fourth of all fees collected for erosion control projects within the municipality.

In denying the motion the board

noted that it did not want to get into a situation where there was no other direction. "If we agree to this now we can't go back next year and ask for the money back," said Ide. "I don't see how we can do this."

The conservation district said the request was made because of cutbacks being made to government agencies.

Special music night set for March 17 at Dallas Baptist

Music night at the Dallas Baptist Church, Sunday, March 17, 7 p.m. will be presented by Dorrie Taylor and group. This is a silent rendition. An interpretation of a musical score. Dorrie is well trained

in sign language and music.

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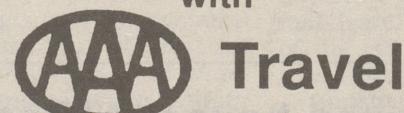
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