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THE DALLAS POST

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Lehman district faces 17% tax hike

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
 Staff Writer

Property taxes in the Lake-Lehman School District will increase by 16.6 percent if the district's tentative budget is passed in June. The present budget contained a 10.5 percent hike following several years of increases below 5 percent.

Lake-Lehman School Board members adopted a tentative budget for 1991-92 of \$13,741,136, including an increase of 25 mills on properties in Harveys Lake Borough and the Townships of Jackson, Lake, Lehman and Ross in Luzerne County. The new tax rate will be 176 mills. The rate will be 76 mills on the assessed valuation of real estate in Noxen Township in Wyoming County.

There were no objections or questions from the less than 15 taxpayers at the meeting May 28.

Board member John Presper said that although he would have to vote in favor of the budget he did so reluctantly.

"The board is charged with the responsibility of providing education for our youth and must follow the president's recommendations. We are issued the mandates but we are not getting the funding, only increased expenses. The only alternative the board has is to increase taxes to provide the necessary programs," Presper said.

"This is a bare bones budget even with the 25 mills increase, which is the second highest in

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Best of show



Andrea Brinola took top honors in the Dallas High School Art Awards competition. Students exhibited works in a variety of media at the annual show held at the school. Add'l photo on page 3. (Post Photo/Charlotte Bartizek)

'Raise taxes' say teachers

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
 Staff Writer

A standing room only crowd made up mostly of teachers urged the Dallas School Board June 3 to raise taxes 22 mills, five more than called for in the tentative budget. Approximately 200 teachers and parents attended the school board meeting, of whom an estimated 75 percent were faculty members.

When board chairman John Litz opened the meeting for questions and comments, Andrea Molski, a resident of Dallas told the board

DALLAS SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Mon., June 10, 8:00 PM
 Administration Bldg.,
 Church St., Dallas

she had a petition to present with 361 signatures requesting that 1991-92 taxes be increased by 22 mills instead of by 15 mills.

"In answer to your recommendations to increase taxes to 22 mills I need to remind you people

here that you have a petition with 361 names but we have a responsibility to several thousand taxpayers and we have to take them into consideration," said Litz. "A lot of them are on fixed incomes and not all of them are entitled to rebates. Many of them are people with children who are on fixed incomes and can't afford an increase in taxes."

"Where are those people tonight?" audience members asked. "Why aren't they here pleading their

See TAXES, pg 3

On par? Lehman land owners being approached about sale

By RICH JOHNSON
 Staff Writer

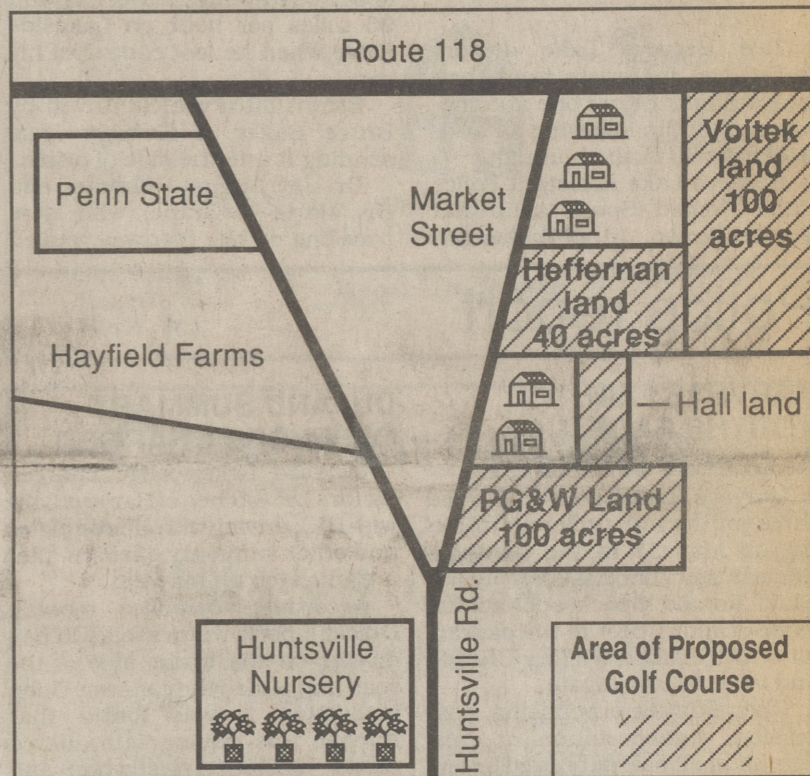
Several owners of property in Lehman Township acknowledge that they have been approached about selling their land, but none will confirm that the potential buyer intends to build a golf course once the necessary acreage is acquired.

Some property owners say they have been approached by representatives of Richard Maslow, chief executive officer of InterMetro Industries Corp., about selling their land. A reliable source with knowledge of the activity says that a private golf course will be built on the land. And area golfers say they have heard that a well-known golf course designer has already been contracted to lay out the links.

None of the owners would disclose details of the negotiations.

"I've seen representatives of someone," said Thomas F. Heffernan who owns property off of Market Street.

See GOLF, pg 3



Plenty of comments at packed public hearing

By RICH JOHNSON
 Staff Writer

Emotions ran high at a May 29 hearing held to discuss a request to rezone the former Hansons Amusement Park at Harveys Lake. If rezoned from commercial to multi-family residential, the land could hold up to 190 townhouses, though preliminary discussions have mentioned that about 170 units would be built.

More than 100 residents turned out to voice their opinions on the request and the impact of the townhouse project if it were approved.

Most of the residents who spoke at the two hour long special public

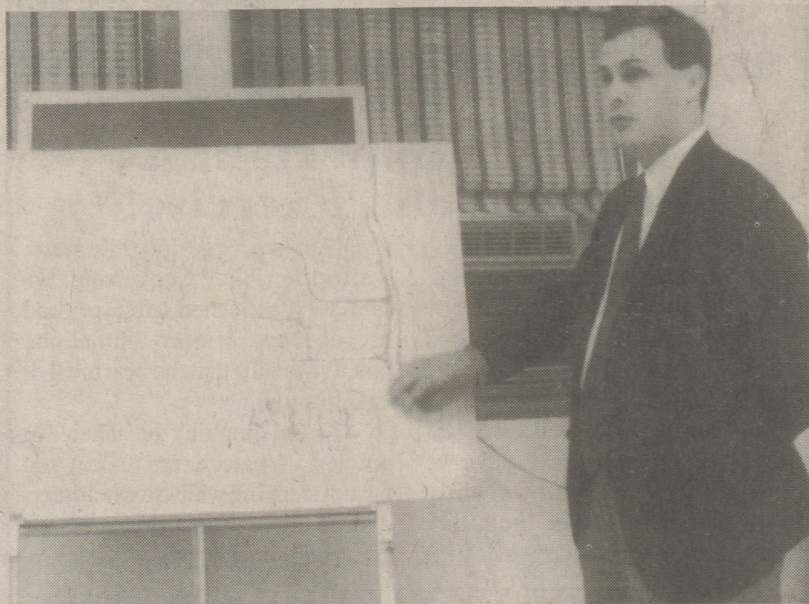
meeting voiced opposition to the proposal which would rezone 27 acres of land from C-3 (commercial) to R-3 (multi-family residential).

The common concern from the public was the lack of detailed information about the rezoning and the plan to build townhouses on the property.

The proposal submitted by Shirley Hanson asks that the land be rezoned so that up to 166 townhouses can be built. So far no firm plans have been submitted for the development.

Hanson said that she wanted the land rezoned before she went

See HEARING, pg 8



HYPOTHETICAL PROPOSAL - Architect Michael Thomas shows a possible use of the Hanson's Amusement Park if the land was rezoned to residential. The Harveys Lake Borough Council will hear more comments on the proposed rezoning at a meeting June 24. (Post Photo/Rich Johnson)

No clear answers on Hansons rezoning

By RICH JOHNSON
 Staff Writer

The May 29 public hearing about rezoning the former Hansons Amusement Park at Harveys Lake drew mixed reactions a few days later.

Most public officials say the concerns expressed by the crowd of more than 100 residents were legitimate but are unsure of what comes next.

Councilman Richard Boice said the future of the project won't be decided until the council votes on the issue. "The meeting was informative," said Boice. "But it is all going to come down to when the impact studies will be done."

Shirley Hanson has asked the

borough to rezone 27 acres of land from commercial to residential so that townhouses can be built. But many residents feel that constructing the townhouses could put too much pressure on water and sewage systems, roads and schools.

The residents are asking that impact studies be done before the land is rezoned but Hanson feels the borough should rezone the property before the studies are completed.

"I think if the Hanson's are serious they shouldn't have any problem with the studies because a lot of them are being done already," said Boice.

See HANSONS, pg 8



AUCTION ITEMS - Members of the Couples Club of Idetown United Methodist Church look over some of the items donated for the 27th annual Auction to be held June 8 at the Luzerne County Fairgrounds. Above, behind the table displaying some of the new goods are from left, Henry Bergstrasser, Charlotte Calkins, Dorothy Bergstrasser, Jennie Sweitzer and Willis Ide. (Post Photo/C.M. Denmon)

37th annual Couple Club auction on tap Saturday

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
 Staff Writer

It's auction time again for the Couples Club of the Idetown United Methodist Church.

The club's members will hold their 37th Annual Auction Saturday, June 8, at the Luzerne County Fairgrounds on Route 118, starting at 11 a.m. and continuing until all items are sold.

The members have solicited area businesses and restaurants for new goods and donations for the auction.

Among the items to go over the block are new bicycles, stained glass lamps, stained glass windows, new furniture, baby furniture, flowers, plants, a 4x4 power wheel, new can openers, ice crushers, and many other new and almost

new items.

There will also be a knick-knack stand, book booth, baked goods table, and a refreshment stand.

The auction will be under cover and will be held rain or shine.

Persons who have any saleable items they wish to donate to the auction are requested to call Henry Bergstrasser at 675-1214, who will arrange to have the items picked up. All donations will be accepted.

All proceeds of the auction are used by the Couples Club for general property improvements of the church. Idetown United Methodist Church celebrated its 125th anniversary in 1990. Rev. Thom Morris is pastor of the church. Richard Ide is president of the Couples Club.

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Community Events

- CARNIVAL AND CRAFT FAIR** - Sat., June 8, 11 AM-7 PM, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Shavertown. Games, refreshments, face painting, crafts and Hillside Farms Ice Cream.
- RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE** - Fri., Sat., June 7-8, 10 AM-3 PM, Alderson United Methodist Church, Harveys Lake.

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