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BRIGHTON BINDERY
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Story

COMMUNITY

Summer rec programs begin soon

Page 3.



New officers for Women's Club

Page 6.

KINGSTON TWP.

31 homes planned on former farm

Page 3.

SCHOOL



Lake-Lehman students honored

Page 9.

Wyoming Seminary graduates

Page 9.

SPORTS

Bass season starts Sat.

Sports page.

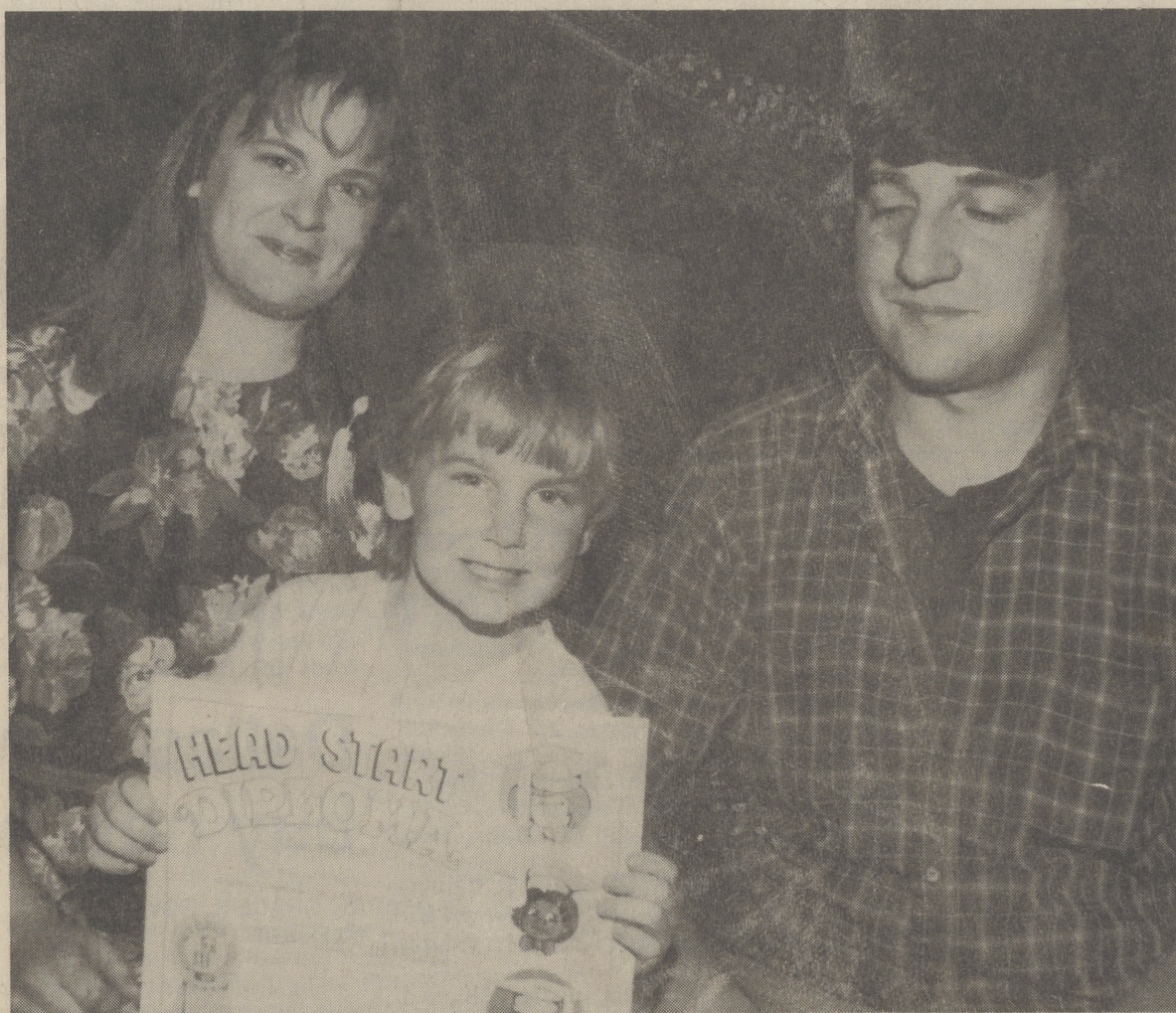
Little League results

Sports page.

INDEX

- Calendar.....12
- Classified.....14-15
- Editorials.....4
- Obituaries.....13
- Police report.....2
- Property transfers..2
- School.....9
- Sports.....11

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"NOW I'M A BIG KID!" - Head Start graduate Lenny Karasek shows off his diploma to proud parents Terri and Lenny Karasek, Sr. (Post photo/Grace R. Dove)

Head Start graduates first class

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Hugs, giggles and grins filled the Lake-Noxen school's all-purpose room Thursday, June 4, as fifteen Back Mountain children graduated from Head Start's first class there at a special ceremony and reception.

"This was a very special group of moms and kids," commented supervisor Cheryl Tsikalis. "I'll really miss them."

Class activities during the year included a Christmas visit to the Lakeside Nursing Home, a trip to Hillside Dairy to see the cows fed and milked and learn how ice cream is made, a trip to Frances Slocum State Park, a spring visit to Lakeside to do crafts with the patients and an end-of-the-year picnic at Moon Lake Park.

"Those two trips to Lakeside Nursing Home were great!" Tsikalis said. "It was hard to tell who had more fun, the kids or the patients."

At the graduation ceremony, after the class sang "Good Morning to You," "Five Little Sparrows," "This is My Garden" and "Down in the Meadow" — complete with hand movements — each child received a diploma and a handmade stuff bag of small gifts.

Big enough to be used for summer fun, each bag contained a folder and pencil for kindergarten in the fall and a washcloth and bath towel printed with cartoon characters. Mrs. Edith Wiltzie designed and sewed the bags, adding an outside pouch personalized with each child's initials.

Head Start graduate Mandy Wiltzie removed her pint-size graduation cap and dug into her cake and punch, taking time between bites to describe her favorite Head Start activities. "Painting, Coloring, Learning a song about a man named Joe who works in a button factory," she

See HEAD START, pg 16

DAMA will slap liens on slow payers

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

Residents of Dallas Township, Dallas Borough, and Kingston Township who don't plan on paying their garbage bills will soon see liens filed against their homes.

One-fifth of the residents of the three towns haven't paid at least one of their quarterly garbage bills in the past year, according to Tom Bagley, executive director of the Dallas Area Municipal Authority (DAMA), which administers the solid waste collection in the three towns. 988 customers have not paid their \$33.75 quarterly bill for at least one quarter in the past year, leaving DAMA with \$126,720 in money owed.

"Historically, our sewer overdue bills are about 5%," said Bagley.

"Everybody that was overdue has been sent a notice as of Friday June 5."

The letter warns late-paying customers that if they don't pay the bill, which was due May 11, by the end of June, the delinquency will be reported to the credit bureau, a lien will be filed against their property, the list of delinquent accounts will be made public record and reported to the municipality, and finally, garbage collection will be stopped. Bagley said that DAMA has been able to pay the trash hauler, Danella Environmental Technologies, its \$47,100 a month for two reasons.

First, a 5% delinquency rate was expected, and factored into

See GARBAGE LIENS, pg 10

Judge steps down from DAMA suit

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

Though Judge Gifford Cappellini presided over the oral arguments in the lawsuit filed against the Dallas Area Municipal Authority (DAMA) on April 30, he won't decide whether or not the lawsuit will go to a jury trial.

"After I started working on it, it came to my attention that my son had been prominently displayed in the case," said Judge Cappellini. "Nobody called it to my attention. I wish somebody had brought it to my attention."

The suit, filed in September of 1991 by Searles Sanitation, C&K Sanitation and Dave's Sanitation,

names Dallas Borough, Dallas Township, and Kingston Township as defendants. Dave's Sanitation withdrew in December of 1991. The suit alleges that the contract the three municipalities and DAMA made with one hauler, Danella Environmental Technologies, is unconstitutional because it interferes with their right to make and keep contracts, effectively taking property from them, in the form of business, without the due process of law.

Cappellini's son, Gifford Cappellini Jr., was involved in protesting DAMA's garbage hauling plan

See JUDGE, pg 10

Tax on fun finds few friends

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

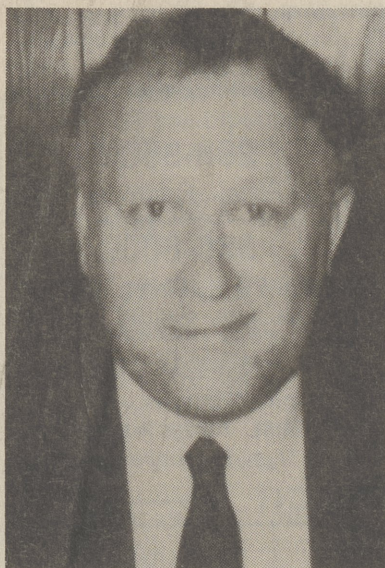
When Thom Greco calls the Lake-Lehman school district's proposed 10% amusement tax "crazy," he's certainly not alone.

Harveys Lake councilmen, business owners, and even the Lake-Lehman Taxpayers Association are opposed to the proposed new levy.

"It's a ripoff," says Jim Drury, owners of Drury's Restaurant. "They didn't even think about an amusement tax until these people opened up."

Greco, the concert promoter who built the amphitheater at the former Hanson's amusement park this spring, worked with the borough council to avoid a high amusement tax, offering to pay the borough a 2% tax to cover the cost of added police on concert nights. Instead, for the first year, he agreed to reimburse council directly for the cost of extra police, which was just under \$1,000 for the first show on Labor Day Monday.

"I think it's ridiculous," said Harveys Lake councilman David Abod. "I live right here and I see an improvement to the neighborhood. I'm sure a couple of people see



EDWIN KERN III

dollar signs when they see Greco's project and they would like to have a piece of that. But what's going to happen if everybody takes a piece of it. Here they're trying to save two mills when last year what was the increase, 25 mills? If they weren't worried about 25 mills last year, why are they worried about two mills this year?"

"I think it sounds like somebody

is trying to take advantage of the facility," said Mike Hill of Mountaintop, who was visiting the lake on Sunday. "I can see the need for taxes, but I think they're gouging him a little bit."

The school board included the 10% amusement tax in its tentative budget which was passed May 27. The district is counting on the tax to raise about \$65,000, or the equivalent of 2.25 mills of revenue.

While the 2% tax that Greco offered to pay the borough for police expenses would generate about \$1,600 a concert if all 4,000 of the amphitheater's seats sold out at \$20 each, the Lake-Lehman tax would bring in \$8,000 for the same show.

Though the tax would apply to a wide variety of amusements such as golf course green fees and any amusement requiring an admission charge, the opening of the amphitheater was one of the motivating factors to levy the 10% tax.

"I'm not sure if it was the main thing, but it had quite a bit to do with it," said Edwin Kern III, of Loyalville, who represents the Harveys Lake area on the Lake-

See FUN TAX, pg 10

Tele-Media may offer lower cost package

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

Protests from Back Mountain communities of the Tele-Media Cable Company's increase in rates for basic service this past April may prompt the company to offer a package of fewer channels at lower cost, according to the manager of the company.

Beginning April 1, Tele-Media's charge for basic cable television went from \$16.50 to \$18.50 a month, the fourth straight annual increase.

The Kingston Township supervisors blasted the increase, while Dallas Borough investigated whether they could not cable service out to bid and Ha...s Lake

Borough looked into starting their own company.

According to Donald Zagorski, general manager of Tele-Media, the company may offer a basic tier of 12 channels at a cost of around \$3 less than standard service.

If the basic service is offered, it won't be until July, but this is what it would include: Channel 2 WYOU CBS; 3 QVC Home Shopping; 4 WBRE NBC; 5 WOLF; 6 WNEP ABC; 7 Catholic Television; 8 WVIA Public Television; 9 Local Access Channel; 10 C-Span; 11 WPIX; 12, TSC The Sports Channel; 13 TLC The Learning Channel.

"The decision is being made at the corporate office," said Zagorski.

In order to make it possible for the company to offer a basic tier of cable service if it chooses, the channels had to be rearranged.

"We definitely want to apologize for the confusion we've caused," said Zagorski.

The reorganization of the channels will also allow the company to offer a package deal including Showtime and the Movie Channel to subscribers which should become available in the week of June 22, said Zagorski.

The local access channel will still be available for area schools to air their productions.

In 1987 the charge was \$9.50 for 12 channels.



CLOSED FOR A DAY — Beverly Steltz had to close her beauty salon for a day June 3 after someone had broken into the shop.

Beauty salon burglars go for the scissors first

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

The Nexxus light hanging in the window was still lit when Beverly Steltz arrived at her beauty salon at 8 a.m. June 3 to open. But the double pane front window had been smashed out.

Though shards of glass covered the floor inside of the shop, "Bev's Belles & Beaus Beauty Salon," all that was taken were two pairs of scissors and a \$1 dollar bill which had been left on a counter.

The cash register, the shelves of shampoo and other hair care products, the blow dryers, all were untouched.

Steltz said that professional scissors can cost several hundred dollars each, but the scissors taken were only worth about \$30 each.

Dallas Township police determined that someone had tried to pry the rear door open before smashing the front window, and had exited through the back door.

Dallas Township P.I. John Appel investigated the burglary, which was one of three recent break-ins at Back Mountain beauty salons.

Further north on Route 415, someone had smashed out a window in Mary Taylor's Hair and Skin Care between 5 p.m. June 2 and 9 a.m. June 3.

According to Dallas Borough police, someone had pulled out telephone lines from service, possibly thinking that the building had an alarm. Before smashing the glass, police said that someone had tried to enter the shop by

See SCISSORS, pg 10

Correction

Jones did not vote against Lake-Lehman District budget

Due to a reporter's error, in a story in the June 3 issue of The Dallas Post, Lake-Lehman school board member Joseph "Red" Jones was incorrectly listed as having voted against the school district's tentative budget. Mr. Jones voted for the tentative budget; the two dissenting votes were cast by Dr. John Presper and Edwin Kern.