

Fun tax

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Lehman School Board. Kern voted against the tentative budget along with Dr. John Pre-sper.

"So many things are unsettled now," said Kern, adding that he doesn't trust the 12 mill increase figure because there are too many unknowns in the budget such as what the state subsidies for the 1992-93 school year will be.

Kern said that he initially supported the amusement tax, but has mixed feelings about it now that he's heard the negative response of so many business owners.

Though he voted for the tentative budget, school board member Jeffrey Fritzen said that he's not really comfortable with the proposed tax.

"I don't really like the amusement tax. The problem is in general I don't like taxing business for social programs. I think it puts the burden in the wrong place," said Fritzen, who worries that taxes on business drive commerce away from an area.

"The motivation, obviously, is it's a tough year budget-wise and we're trying to keep property taxes down," said Fritzen. "At this stage we passed a tentative budget. It doesn't mean it's a done deal."

While Greco has said that the amphitheater will remain open even if the tax is imposed, he claims concerts will be fewer, and lean toward hard rock music.

Dave Hanson, an experienced concert goer, says that hard rock drawing a younger crowd will cause more problems than the older crowds attracted to the performers such as Crosby Stills and Nash and Dolly Parton now scheduled to play at the amphitheater.

"Anybody under 25 years old, you're going to have a lot more trouble than over 35 years old," said Hanson.

"Greco hasn't been given a chance to make any money before the district hit him with a tax," said Shirley Hanson, who owns the amusement park where the amphitheater is located.

Ruth Eaton, co-owner of Dameron's Restaurant, and secretary of the Harveys Lake Business Association, said that the Business Association will meet to discuss the tax.

"We're opposed to it of course," said Eaton. "We spoke to Thom and we are behind him to oppose it."

"They should leave that amphitheater alone. Leave the borough handle it," said Nick DiVeronica, owner of DiVeronica's Store. "If they do that, next thing it will be a business tax."

"I'm against an amusement tax for the simple reason that it's private enterprise and they're already paying taxes," said Frank DeAngelis, co-owner of the Marina Cafe. "It adds up so much and so fast that your profits are forever diminished. Especially at a rate of 10%. As an individual, not even as a businessman, 10% of anything is a lot of money."

Scissors

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removing pins from the side door hinges. About \$40 was taken from the register at Mary Taylor's, police said.

Dallas Borough Ptl. James Martin is investigating the burglary.

An employee of the shop later said a pair of her scissors also were stolen.

On May 27, the R&B Beauty Salon, also on Route 415 was found burglarized.

Someone had pried open the

"I'm certainly not happy with it," said John Spencer, owner of the Lehman Golf Course, which also would be affected by the tax.

Though the school board included the amusement tax in the tentative budget to keep property taxes down, the Lake-Lehman Taxpayers Association opposes the tax.

"I'm definitely against it. It's as if they're not taking it out of one pocket, they're taking it out of another. The efforts of Mr. Greco with the amphitheater is a plus for the community," said Pat Gold, president of the Association. "I know why they're doing it, they're trying to keep the millage down, but what we need to do is cut back the spending. If we get this 12 mills increase, it represents a 56 mill increase over the last three years."

"If these people pull out you've lost a family based entertainment facility," said Gold. "If that goes under, you don't have the revenues either."

Instead of an amusement tax, Gold suggests that the Lake-Lehman School District raise money by charging tuition for the children of teachers who live outside the district, but attend Lake-Lehman, and levy a 1% non-residency tax on teachers and administrators who live outside the district.

Though by state law Harveys Lake Borough is entitled to split the amusement tax with the school district, the agreement the borough signed with Greco would prevent that this year, according to council president Richard Boice.

"I don't like the idea. I think they should have waited to see how the thing went," said Boice. "Isn't the idea to bring business to the area?"

"You don't see our borough raising taxes," said Harveys Lake councilman Edward Kelly. "We haven't raised taxes in seven years."

If it takes the boroughs and townships to go to this meetings, that's what we should do."

Kelly said that he planned to get as many people as possible to attend Lake-Lehman's meeting June 11 at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

"My big thing right now is I feel our teachers are overpaid and our administrators as well. There's got to be a stopping point to these raises we're giving these teachers," said Kelly. "An 8.9% increase, how many businesses do you know are giving 8.9% increases?"

"You begin with cutting the unnecessary things. But we're not doing that. We're cutting class time," said Gold, referring to a proposed change to a two-tier busing plan which would change the Lehman school day from eight 47-minute periods, to seven. Originally projected to save \$250,000, the plan is now projected to only save \$112,250.

"And we're taxing a community entertainment facility before it's had a chance to get its feet on the ground," said Gold. "Maybe they should have gone with a 13 mill increase; at least they would have been honest."

south side door to the shop between 7 p.m. on May 26, and 7:20 a.m. on May 27, using a heavy object such as a tire iron or a heavy screwdriver. Once inside, three envelopes containing \$495 were removed from a desk drawer, police said, but nothing else was disturbed.

Investigating officer is Ptl. James Drury.

State police have assisted in the investigations.

Back Mountain Baseball dance is June 26

Back Mountain Baseball will sponsor a dance featuring the "Poets", Friday, June 26, at the Irem Temple Pavilion, 8:30-12:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15, available from any coach or call 477-3440.

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Physically fit

Lake-Noxen students who received the President's Physical Fitness Award at an assembly Friday, June 5, included, back row from left, gym teacher Dwight Barbacci, Mike Ely, Kim Halowich, Mia Policare, Brian Smigielski and Micah Hendershott; front row from left Sam Saylor, Chad Sorber, Justin Harris and James Weber. Eric Sickler was absent from the photo. (Post photo/Grace R. Dove)



CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT — Pictured are members of the Huntsville Christian Church Children's Department holding a sign promoting VBS. Top, from left, Jennifer Flannigan, Darrell Evans, Rebecca Hadzor, Billy Evans; bottom, from left, Kristin Evans, Bobby Hadzor, Philip Miller, Tommy Hadzor, Jessica Turak, Rachel Turak, Kendra Balmer.

Huntsville Christian Church sets Bible School for June 22 to 25

Huntsville Christian Church announces that its Vacation Bible School will be held June 22 through June 26 from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. The program this year is "Adventures on Son Mountain," a program combining an outdoor theme with the study of Proverbs. Classes will be held for children 4

years old to students who have completed the 6th grade. Anyone will be welcomed. Co-directing Vacation Bible School this year are Pam Rusnak, Greg Malia and Helen Turak. For more information call Huntsville Christian Church 675-0611.

Open house June 14 for Dorothy Cooper's 80th birthday

Dorothy Cooper, Chase Road, Jackson Township celebrates 80 years young on June 12.

Open House will be held at the Jackson Township fire hall on June 14, from 2 to 5 p.m.

All family, friends and neighbors are invited to join us and make the day a special occasion. No gifts please.

Dorothy has lived in Jackson Township all her life. She has four children; 11 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

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Garbage liens

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the DAMA bill, and second, the bill is an average bill for the 30 month contract DAMA has with Danella.

"Their price is lower for the first 18 months and a little higher for the second 12 months," said Bagley.

Bagley said that reports of 1,700 delinquent customers owing DAMA \$138,813 in garbage fees were exaggerated because the story used

a financial report which lists both money owed to DAMA, and overpayments, instead of a report of delinquent accounts.

Started in July of 1991, DAMA's garbage hauling plan has been controversial, mainly because it restricts residents of the three towns from using any other trash hauler.

Judge

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during the summer of 1991, to the point of discussing a class action lawsuit against DAMA on behalf of residents who are no longer allowed to choose their own garbage hauler.

Cappellini said that he learned his son had been involved in protesting DAMA's trash hauling plan late in the week of June 1, and gave the suit to the court administrator so another judge could be assigned to it.

Thomas Bagley, executive director of DAMA received notice June 9 that president judge Patrick Toole Jr. has been assigned to the case.

Even though Toole will decide if the lawsuit goes to trial, it may not be necessary to replay the oral arguments, said Cappellini.

Cappellini said that all of the lawyers involved in the case agreed that it could be decided on the briefs submitted to the court if the

judge agrees.

"Everybody agreed to the submission of briefs," said Cappellini. "They had no objection to deciding it on briefs."

Arguing against the suit, Attorney Benjamin Jones III said at the April 30 hearing that the suit jumps to the conclusion that the garbage plan was a malicious attempt to hurt the small haulers' business, without providing any supporting evidence.

Jones argues that the state Legislature has given municipalities the power to make exclusive contracts.

The lawsuit has five counts, each asking for compensatory damages in excess of \$20,000. Suits which ask for less than \$20,000 are not eligible to go to trial, but go through arbitration instead. If the suit makes it to a jury, the jury will decide any actual damages.

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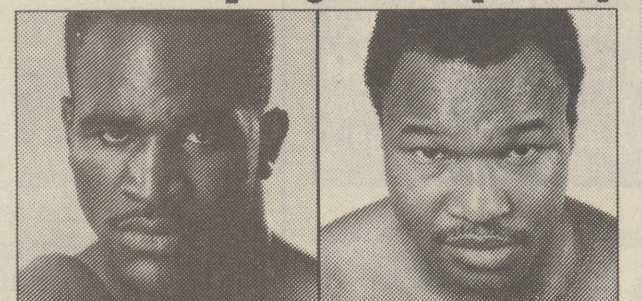
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