

The Dallas Post

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SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

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Inside Story

Primary '93 coverage in this week's issue: **Judge and officer of election** positions are the folks who assure an accurate vote count. Page 2.

Voters' Guide for the primary election appears on pages 16 and 17.

'Town meeting' sponsored by the Back Mountain Citizens' Council explored regional cooperation. Among the topics, water quality, recreation and tax reform. Page 3.

Lake-Lehman superintendent Nancy Davis earns her doctorate degree. Page 2.

Pack 281 holds Blue and Gold dinner. Page 11.

New books added to collection at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. Page 8.

Trucksville Fire Co. installs 1993 officers. Page 8.



Comedy and ghosts in Wyoming Seminary play, *Lo and Behold*, to be presented May 14-15. Page 10.

Honor roll for Dallas High School, page 10, and Lake-Lehman Junior High School, page 6.

Jeff Kunkle slugged two homers as Dallas beat Coughlin 11-6 in baseball. Page 13.

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Dallas budget has no tax increases

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

The Dallas school board accepted a tentative \$15,752,095 spending plan with no millage increase for the 1993-94 school year at its regular meeting Monday, May 10.

Business manager Charlotte Williams said that steady growth in the district averaging seven to eight percent over the past several years helped the district hold the line on its 158-mill property

tax for three consecutive years.

Income from real estate taxes will rise by \$202,812 from last year, from \$6,704,601 to \$6,906,613, while the earned income tax will jump by \$165,000, from \$1,135,000 to \$1,300,000, according to figures supplied by Ms. Williams to the board.

Other significant local funding increases were found in delinquent tax collections, netting the district \$50,000 for an anticipated income of \$300,000. Ms. Williams attributed this to more homes

being sold due to lower mortgage rates, allowing back taxes to be collected in lump sums. The estimated tax collection rate in Dallas school district is 94 percent, Ms. Williams said.

State funding will increase by \$317,276, to \$5,815,145, with an increase of \$170,261 more in the basic instructional subsidy than had been planned for. This funding, previously frozen by the state, was recently released by Governor Casey.

The district anticipates a pos-

sible reduction in \$265,000 in the special education subsidy, which had been budgeted under Governor Casey's proposal but not yet released by the legislature.

Increases in funding will be offset by a 9.07 percent increase in health and dental insurance premiums for all staff members and teachers' salary increases of \$363,767, bringing total teacher salaries to \$5,456,795. Tuition for special private schools for developmentally-disabled students, estimated to cost an addi-

tional \$75,000, or total of \$100,000 for next year, has increased because the state no longer contributes anything towards this expenditure. Previously the district was only responsible for 20 percent of the cost, not the entire tuition.

School director Thomas Landon disagreed with the proposed increase of \$1,500 in the library's budget for periodicals. "I would rather see this money put into

See DALLAS BUDGET, pg 12

Little bloomers



POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

GETTING READY - Lake-Noxen third-graders Dwayne Kalinay, Rachael Ayers, Sarah Klug, Jamie Hoover and Arron Visneski inspect their entries in the junior horticulturist division of the Back Mountain Bloomers Garden Club's first

standard flower show, slated for May 13-16. All 66 third grade students at the school grew lettuce, radishes, coleus and begonias under the direction of science teacher Mrs. Bonnie Turchin for the show.

Garden club cultivates first flower show

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Flower power will hit the area May 13-16 as the Back Mountain Bloomers Garden Club hosts Northeastern Pennsylvania's first standard flower show, "In Concert With Nature."

Organized as a fundraiser for the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic, the flower show will feature juried exhibits in three divisions open to amateur gardeners only, landscaped displays, floral and garden markets, lectures and

educational exhibits. The show will be held at the Montage Mountain ski area.

According to club president Nancy Carey, the show will also present awards to students in grades 1-6 junior horticulturist division and grades 9-12, in design and special conservation and ecology exhibits divisions.

Formally organized in January, 1989, the Back Mountain Bloomers is a member of District III of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania and the National Council of State

Garden Clubs.

Like a well-tended garden, the Back Mountain Bloomers started small and grew quickly to 26 members.

"We originally formed to learn more about perennials and herb gardens," said flower show chairman Lora Marcolina-Freifeld. "Our first project was planting bulbs at the Penn State-Lehman campus arboretum."

As the organization developed, its projects became more ambitious: planting the garden around the Back Mountain

Memorial Library, replanting the herb garden of the Swetland Homestead in Forty Fort and reconstructing the historic Victorian garden at the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society's library in Wilkes-Barre, which earned the club three awards for restoration of historical gardens at the State Federation of Garden Clubs' convention April 19, Mrs. Freifeld said.

Restoration of the Victorian garden included excavation of

See FLOWER SHOW, pg 12

District Justice race attracts two with law background

Miers ready for next step in judicial system

By DAVE KONOPKI
Post Correspondent

Ever since he was a little boy delivering newspapers, Carl Miers felt a need to serve his community.

Now, after 24 years with the Dallas Township Police Department, including 19 years serving as the chief of police, Miers wants to take his community service one step further.

The 47-year old Davenport Street resident has announced his candidacy for District Justice. He has cross-filed and will run on both the Democratic and Republican tickets. He is running for the six-year, \$45,000 office against Jim Tupper, a former police officer and current business owner.

Miers is a 1963 graduate of Dallas High School and is a graduate of Northeast Training Center State Police School. He also earned college credits at Penn State and Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Miers is also a 26-year veteran of the Pennsylvania National



CARL MIERS

Guard, retiring at the rank of First Sergeant.

"I've enjoyed police work," said Miers, who graduated from the Minor Judiciary School at Wilson College in 1989. "I've dealt with the magisterial court system for many years and I know it well. I was going to run in the last (1988) election but I decided not to run when I heard that (incumbent and retiring District Justice) Earl Gregory was going to run again. I made up my mind I was going to run this time no matter what."

Miers, who was elected Con-

See MIERS, pg 12

Job's tough, says current occupant

By DAVE KONOPKI
Post Correspondent

Unless you've been on the receiving end of a traffic citation, been involved in a small civil suit or have had a brush with the law, you probably have limited knowledge of the responsibilities and functions of a District Magistrate.

And with two candidates, Dallas Township police chief Carl Miers and business owner and former police officer Jim Tupper, vying for the vacant six-year post which pays an annual salary of \$45,000, a better understanding of the position may be needed.

Who better to explain the job than the man who has held the position for the past 20 years: Earl Gregory.

Gregory has held the job in District 11-3-09 since 1973 and is retiring as soon as a successor is elected. The district is the largest of the 18 districts in Luzerne County, serving more than 30,000 people in eight municipalities: Dallas Township, Dallas Borough, Franklin Township, Kingston

See TOUGH JOB, pg 12

Tupper plans to combine law, business experience

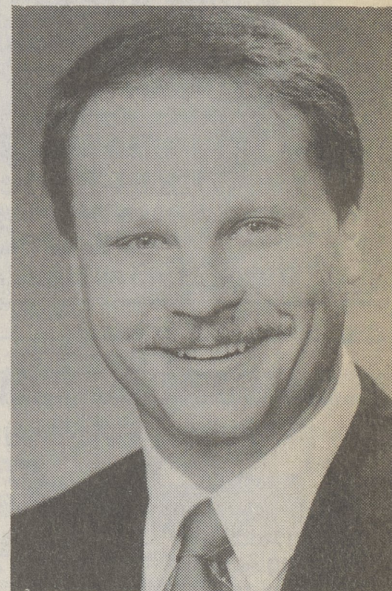
By DAVE KONOPKI
Post Correspondent

After serving 13 years as a police officer before operating his own business for the past six years, Jim Tupper began to miss the world of law enforcement.

Now he wants to put the experience of both professions to work.

The 41-year-old former Dallas Borough police officer is seeking the office of District Justice. The position carries a six-year term and an annual salary of \$45,000. Tupper has cross-filed and will be running on both the Republican and Democratic tickets. He is opposed by Dallas Township police chief Carl Miers.

The Trucksville resident is the current owner-operator of Tup's Beverage, Dallas. He is a graduate of Dallas High School, Luzerne County Community College and holds a bachelor of science degree in sociology from East Stroudsburg University. He resides with his wife, Jill and son, Brian.



JAMES TUPPER

"The biggest thing was that I missed the law enforcement aspect of things," said Tupper, of his reason for his candidacy. "I felt like I could contribute to the quality of life in the community. I've always been active in community service. When I heard (current magistrate) Earl Gregory was retiring, I decided to run."

Tupper is planning to make a few changes to the position, including more availability.

"I would like to establish night time hours at least once a week,"

See TUPPER, pg 12