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Garbage pickup snags decline

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

After representatives of Wayne-Pike Sanitation met March 10 with the Dallas Area Municipal Authority (DAMA) and its three member communities to discuss garbage collection complaints, a new twist appeared.

Sixty customers had made private arrangements for special pickup service with the former solid waste contractor, Danella Environmental Technologies, which no one else knew about.

"When we took on the routes in January, DAMA gave us a list of about 35 customers who, due to illness or age, had requested driveway or porch pickups," said Wayne-Pike president Louis Diaz.

"We later found out that the list contained about 100 names - 65 additional customers who had paid Danella an additional \$12 per month for special pickup service. We never knew that they existed."

Neither did the municipalities nor DAMA, according to general manager Tom Bagley.

"We only knew about the special arrangements made for free for 35 handicapped and elderly customers," he said.

Bagley said that most of the complaints had come in during the snowy winter weather and had decreased as the weather has improved.

"About 99 percent of the complaints were weather-related. The snowstorms often meant that we couldn't run our routes normally," Diaz said. "We had to follow the plows. The snow and ice, especially on the hills, are very dangerous for our trucks."

He added that people accustomed to putting their garbage

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POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

SMALL CHANGE REALLY ADDS UP - Counting the first collection of the Friends of the Back Mountain Memorial Library's ongoing "Pennies for Periodicals" campaign are business manager Nancy Kozemchak and Friends of the Library Lisa Bjelich, Susan Demidovich, Joanne Runner and Shirley Forney.

23,905 'Pennies for Periodicals'

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Small change can add up quickly, especially when the community helps out.

In a unique ongoing project, the Friends of the Back Mountain Memorial Library collected "Pennies for Periodicals," a special effort during February to help finance the library's magazine subscriptions.

Visitors were encouraged to drop pennies and other change into a large hand-blown bottle lent by Beth Rosenthal.

Despite the weather, the first collection netted \$239.05, as officially counted March 11 at Mellon Bank in Wilkes-Barre.

That's a lot of change. When

five women met that day to empty the bottle, they all had to pitch in to tilt it upside down.

"It was great. The children were very proud to come in and drop their change - sometimes entire rolls of pennies - into the bottle," said Shirley Forney.

A handful of dollar bills and a \$20 bill also found their way to the bottle, according to library business manager Nancy Kozemchak.

"You should have seen all of us walking to the bank with our heavy canvas bags of coins," Forney joked. "What a sight!"

The library had chosen February to begin the campaign because of the connection between Abraham Lincoln's birthday and his likeness on the penny, Forney

and Kozemchak said.

The Friends also piqued visitors' interest in the collection by sponsoring a contest to see who could come the closest to guessing the correct amount of change in the bottle.

Dallas resident Will Aldrow guessed the closest - \$238 - while Rosenthal came in second with an estimate of \$237.47. Hunlock Creek resident Craig Kasper estimated the third closest amount of \$250.

The library spends approximately \$3,000 on subscriptions to 150 magazines for children, teens and adults, according to librarian Martha Wheeler.

The jar will remain in the library as an ongoing Friends of the Library project, Forney said.

Dallas may extend school day 30 min.

The Dallas School Board has approved the latest revision to the school calendar, barring any more inclement weather. Graduation is still scheduled for June 17, Superintendent Gerald Wycallis said.

The last day of school is presently planned for June 28, with the students having Good Friday (April 1) and Memorial Day off.

"We can prove to the Department of Education that we made use of every available day for classes," Wycallis said. "We plan to use Good Friday as a teacher in-service day, we'll end up with 179 student days and won't be penalized by the state."

The calendar could change after next week, when the State Senate and General Assembly consider legislation to allow districts to lengthen school days to make up the legal yearly requirement of 990 total hours for elementary students and 900 hours for secondary students, Wycallis said.

Dallas can accomplish this by starting the school day 15 minutes early and ending 15 minutes later without any busing problems until the end of May.

Attorney asks pay for potential lost property value

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Bruce Phillips, an attorney who lives near Dallas school lands that may be developed into playing fields, wants the school board to compensate him and other homeowners in the neighborhood if adding the fields lowers their property values.

Phillips challenged the school board at its March 14 work session. Citing possible Dallas Township zoning ordinance violations and potential depreciation of property values, he said that he is "disturbed over the magnitude of the plans which have been completed."

"How did this progress so far without our being notified?" he asked. "We have requested information on when it was discussed and have never received it."

Handing him a packet of papers, district solicitor Ben R. Jones, III, said that the ball fields had been discussed 17 times since January 17, 1990 at publicly advertised committee-of-the-whole and property committee meetings.

"There are no concrete plans yet for the fields," said board vice-president Dr. Richard Coslett.

"My impression was that this was already settled and that the

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Teen's mother keeps up protest against teacher

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Shavertown resident Laura Cibula, who says that a Dallas High School teacher beat up her son, had her say before the school board at its March 14 meeting.

Referring to school board president Ellen Nagy as "Carol Nagy," Mrs. Cibula said that she had asked Nagy to have business teacher John Bancala suspended until after his hearing before District Magistrate James Tupper.

"You want to put cameras on the buses to watch the kids. You need them in the classrooms for the teachers," she said. "My son has an attention deficit problem. Does this mean that he has to be beaten up? There's no reason for this. Abuse only breeds more

abuse. I thought our society was beyond this."

Mrs. Cibula spoke out three more times during the visitors' comment portion of the meeting, interrupting vice-president Dr. Richard Coslett several times with demands for "answers about my son" as he attempted to move into business matters.

"You are out of order. We will take this matter under advisement," Coslett said.

The school board voted to table action on two proposals for feasibility studies of the possible development of new ball fields until interested members of the community can meet with the property committee March 21 at 7 p.m. at the administration build-

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Bar noise hearing postponed

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Harveys Lake amphitheater concert promoter Thom Greco had his day in court March 9 on a noise violation charge against the Tijuana Bar, but never was able to tell his side of the story.

Administrative law judge Robert F. Skwaryk refused to hear Greco's testimony because his attorney, Michael Toole, hadn't filed the proper court documents on time.

When Skwaryk asked Toole why he hadn't filed a prehearing memorandum detailing exhibits, witnesses and expected testimony by December 20, 1993, as required, Toole replied that

Greco had retained him March 3 to represent him at the Tijuana Bar hearing and for a second hearing connected with another of Greco's business dealings, scheduled at 3 p.m. the same day.

He said that he had turned in the prehearing memorandum March 9, the date of the hearing. A prehearing memorandum lists the witnesses, exhibits and testimony which the attorneys plan to present, according to Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement attorney Donald Gardner, who was present at the hearing.

"The purpose of the prehearing memorandum is to help me determine the amount of time needed for the hearing," Skwaryk said. "We have been here since 2:30 hearing the commonwealth's testimony. It's now 3 p.m. and I have

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LT. JAMES WALSH



CAPT. JOSEPH WALSH

Twin careers for Jim, Joe Walsh

By JACK HILSHER
Post Correspondent

If anyone asks Dallas residents Paul and Mary Ann Walsh which side they would root for at an Army-Navy game they would get a noncommittal answer. The reason: their twin sons, Jim and Joe, one an Army captain and the other a Navy lieutenant.

Rivalry might exist on the playing field but not in the Walsh home on Westminster Drive. Besides there are plenty of other family members to consider...Eileen, 24, a beautician at Malcolm's in the Country Club Shopping Center; Kathleen, 29, who manages Haband in the Wyoming Valley Mall; Paul, Jr., 30, with Offset Printing; and Mary Ann, 31, a teacher at Lehman.

However, this is about the Walsh twins, "twenty-something" and similar but different. Jim is a Navy lawyer and Joe is an Army Ranger, careers which could have been predicted long ago. Joe's mother, Mary Ann Walsh, remembers Joe's fascination with model soldiers. She says, "He would spend hours playing with them and he even took his collection with him to school! Joe was also my 'house handyman' and I missed that almost as much as I missed him when he left."

Joe enrolled in the Army Reserves even before going to Edinboro University, where he joined their ROTC program simply because he liked the idea of becoming an officer. After graduation he entered active duty and was assigned to Ranger

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Health & Fitness

Three special pages of articles and advertising. Pgs. 11-13.

Final 4 picks

Dave Konopki motors along the road to the Final Four. Read his picks of page 9.

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