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## Prison neighbors protest reliance on wells

By GRACE R. DOVE  
Post Staff

The residents don't want it. The planning commission doesn't want it.

Even the hydrogeologist hired to study the effect of the wells at the State Correctional Institution at Dallas (SCID) says that relying completely on the wells for the prison's water supply isn't a good idea.

Only the Department of Corrections and SCID officials seem to favor having the prison rely on wells for its water supply

and use its new \$663,000 water line to the Ceasetown Reservoir only as a backup.

The Department of Corrections recently applied to the Susquehanna River Basin Commission to increase its well water usage by 13.5 percent, from 320,000 gallons per day to 370,000.

Jackson Township residents had an opportunity April 20 at a public hearing to give their opinions of the department's request.

"The prison doesn't need more water," said Jackson Township board of supervisors chairman Walter Glogowski. "Why risk using - and possibly losing - wells

*"Within a five-mile radius of the prison you have more than 2,600 heavy users - Penn State, Lake-Lehman High School, the Lehman-Jackson Elementary School and the new Lehman golf course. This area is prime real estate for growth."*

Walter Glogowski  
Jackson Township supervisor

when they already spent \$663,000 on the water line to Ceasetown Reservoir?"

Glogowski said that the prison's water

system loses about 40,000 gallons of water daily through leaks.

"Within a five-mile radius of the prison

you have more than 2,600 heavy users - Penn State, Lake-Lehman High School, the Lehman-Jackson Elementary School and the new Lehman golf course," he said.

"This area is prime real estate for growth." Impact of the prison's wells on nearby homes was also on the mind of Joan Conrad, a state-certified general real estate appraiser, who appraises homes for banks, mortgages, refinancing, purchasers and private individuals.

Potential problems with residential water wells could affect the local property

See WELLS, pg 5

## Cottage owners cry foul

By GRACE R. DOVE  
Post Staff

As Lehman Township officials try to deal with a Lake Silkworth home which neighbors call an eyesore and a health hazard, the homes' occupants, Michael and Carol Rayes, say that they have been the targets of a personal vendetta.

Rayes' cottage on Cease Terrace first came to the township supervisors' attention in April, 1993, when Patricia Dorrance and her daughter, Linda, complained about the accumulation of used furniture and appliances in Rayes' yard.

The cottage had no electricity, septic system or running water at the time. A Job Johnny stood in the back yard.

The Dorrances told the supervisors at their April 18, 1994, meeting that the situation had worsened during the past year.

Rayes says that he repairs television sets for a living and has a difficult time finding work.

"I'm having a hard enough time getting by," he said April 23. "People want to buy a nice color TV from me and pay only \$10. My only transportation is this." He pointed to a one-seater Suzuki motor scooter standing in the yard.

"I'm doing everything possible to cover up our property," he said. "I can't understand why we are being hassled - and it's by only one neighbor."

His wife, Carol, said that they have been made the targets of a vendetta because "we don't live under their conditions and rules."

Many people once lived on Cease Terrace without any utilities, she said.

The couple said that they're tired of hearing a neighbor yell.

See COTTAGE, pg 8

## 150 years ...and counting

The Trucksville United Methodist Church celebrated "Heritage Sunday" April 24, with a special worship service commemorating the church's 150th year.

The "Little White Church on the Hill" is actually occupying its second building along Church Road in Trucksville. The original church building, constructed in 1844, was remodeled in 1907, but was destroyed by fire in 1910. The present building was built in 1911, largely through the generosity of the Conyngham family.

The congregation has planned a series of events to celebrate the anniversary year, from last week's service to the actual sesquicentennial in October.

Rev. Wesley Crompton, whose grandfather, Rev. John S. Crompton preached the dedicatory sermon on January 26, 1911, preached this past Sunday. Rev. Crompton attended Sunday School at the church from 1931 to 1936, when his father, Dr. J. Rolland Crompton, was pastor. More photos on page 8.

POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTZEK



## Beavers being evicted

By GRACE R. DOVE  
Post Staff

Flooding caused by two beaver dams on Harveys Creek at the outlet of Harveys Lake could have been prevented two years ago, according to State Representative George Hasay.

The dams, one of which is six feet high, have caused the water to back up across Outlet Drive and into neighbors' yards and basements.

Hasay blames the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) for the flooding, which he says has developed into an emergency.

If DER had approved permits for the borough to clear away the beaver dams and lodges and dredge the creek two years ago, the creek wouldn't have flooded this year, Hasay said.

DER's deputy secretary Pat Solano denied the permits because the beaver dams had created an artificial wetland," Hasay said. "The beavers have now become an emergency situation, with water continually backing up into people's yards and ruining a recently paved borough road."

Solano said that at the time that the first applications were made, the beaver dams probably weren't as large as they are now and the damage not as extensive.

In considering any application of this type, public safety is considered before it is either approved or denied by a committee made up of DER, the Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the federal Environmental Protection Agency and the Pennsylvania Fish Commission, he said.

Public safety is the reason that Harveys Lake's latest application has been approved, Solano said. "There probably always was a

See BEAVERS, pg 12

## Third graders charmed by a gorilla named Koko

By GRACE R. DOVE  
Post Staff

After watching a video and reading about a gorilla trained to communicate with scientists in sign language, Mrs. Cathy Flick's third-grade reading class at Dallas Elementary School decided to join Koko the gorilla's fan club.

The class began to collect leftover change from lunch and snack money, which Mrs. Flick matched, and sent monthly donations to the Gorilla Foundation in California, devoted to raising funds for a natural preserve for the endangered gorillas in Hawaii.

In return, the foundation sent the class reports on Koko, photos of gorillas, sign language instructions, official Koko Fan Club cards, posters, and magazines about its work with gorillas.

Recently the class received a special surprise, *The Education of Koko* by Francine Patterson and Eugene Linden, which they donated to the school library.

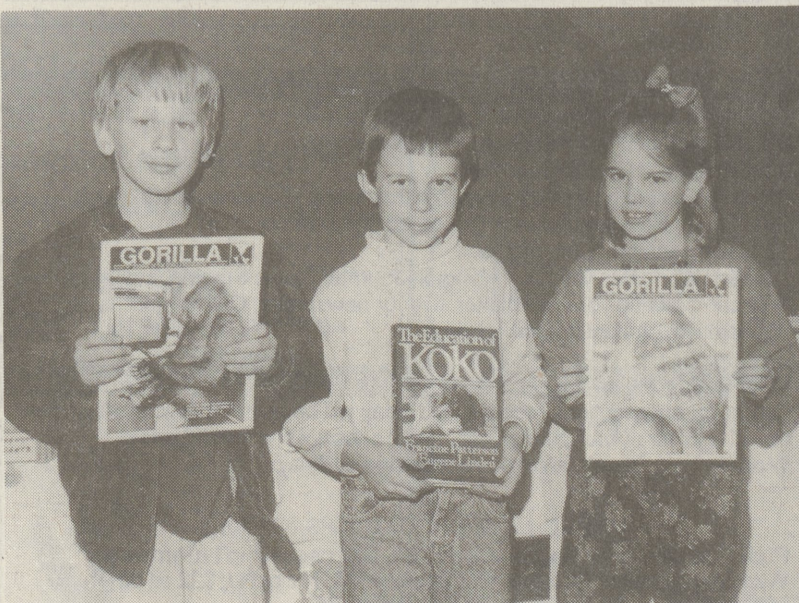
David Glicini, Adam Morgan

and Annie Savage spoke for the class when they presented the book to librarian Louise Roberts on Earth Day, April 22.

"I started collecting money for Koko," said David, who is very interested in endangered species. "Every month, I put at least \$1.75 in our bank for Koko. I feel proud of myself for helping Koko. I have also adopted a manatee. I like helping endangered species."

"Our class has been collecting money for Koko," Annie said. "We put in our extra money and things like that. At the end of each month, we count the money, then Mrs. Flick doubles it. I feel happy that I'm helping Koko because she is an endangered species. I will feel glad when other kids read about Koko, too."

"Koko the gorilla is a very nice, tame animal and we've really enjoyed reading her books," Adam said. "Since the first time we read one chapter in her story, we've been donating money for her. Then Dr. Patterson sent us this book. We hope you enjoy it too."



POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

FROM KOKO WITH LOVE - Adam Morgan, David Glicini and Annie Savage show off the book on Koko the gorilla which they recently donated to the school library after their class joined Koko's fan club.

### Little League

officially opened the 1994 season Saturday. Photos and game reports on page 9.

### Tax reform

will be the topic at a community forum sponsored by the Back Mountain Citizens' Council and *The Dallas Post*. Page 3.

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