

911

(continued from page 1)

doesn't require a voter referendum to set up a county-wide 911 system, according to Luzerne County solicitor Richard Goldberg. Residents wanting to protest involvement with 911 by refusing to pay the \$1.25 surcharge on their telephone bill would eventually face some type of collection enforcement.

"The specifics must be worked out yet, but delinquent collection could conceivably end up with the district magistrate," Goldberg said.

Act 78 defines a 911 emergency system as any system in which a person can pick up a

telephone, dial 911 and get an emergency services dispatcher 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The act allows for municipal, county-wide and regional 911 systems.

If the Back Mountain joins Luzerne County, the county will reimburse it only for emergency calls, which Luzerne County emergency services director Kevin O'Brien has estimated at approximately \$14,000.

Based on 12,953 Back Mountain telephone numbers and a \$1.25 per month fee for each, the Back Mountain would generate \$194,295 for the Luzerne County

system.

"Many people still want to use the Back Mountain Communications Center," said Dallas township police chief Carl Miers. "It's a fantastic improvement over the old days, when officers used CB radios and ran around with pockets full of dimes so that they could call in for their messages every 30 minutes."

Although local municipal officials haven't decided whether to try to maintain a regional 911 system or join the county, they all agree on one issue: get everything in writing from the county first.

3 acres

(continued from page 1)

There are relatively few sales of this type in the area, she said.

The three-acre parcel, divided into two sections zoned commercial and residential, is near gas mains and the public sewer but has no public water, Clemens said.

For many years it was the site of a well-known market stand where the Yalick family sold the produce which they raised on their farm.

Because no one offered an opening bid for the 46-acre parcel fronting on Routes 415 and 118, Clemens withdrew it from the sale.

Its fate will be decided by the Yalick family, he said.

The 46 acres, zoned business and agricultural, includes approximately 12 acres of wetlands, which potential developers would have to deal with, according to surveyor Tom Dilley of Dallas Township.

"Everyone within 50 miles knows of this land," Clemens said. "It fronts on two well-traveled highways and is an ideal location."

Conyngham refused to comment on possible future plans for the 3-acre site because the sale didn't have final approval yet.

The sale, held at the East Mountain Inn in Wilkes-Barre and attended by about a dozen people, was over in less than an hour.

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POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

Some cool cats

Fourth-graders Jamie Sickler, Shannon Rother, Camille Valvano, Lindsay Jenkins, Perry Coolgaugh, Krista Carpenter and Ryan Kellagher strut their stuff with their class's banner, "Jones' Jaguars," in the banner competition at Dallas Elementary School's walk-a-thon September 30 to raise money for PTO special projects.

Brides

(continued from page 1)

ment with our office to make full restitution to all of her victims," said deputy attorney general J. P. McGowan of the Bureau of Consumer Protection in Scranton. "We know of 21 women who are victims in this case. If she signs and lives up to the agreement, she won't face a jail sentence."

Represented by Attorney Gifford Cappellini, Jr., Slater has applied for the ARD program for first-time offenders, which would require her to perform 25 hours of community service and make full restitution totaling approximately \$5,000 to her victims, McGowan said.

Before Slater is accepted into the ARD program, she will have to pass a background check, according to assistant Lackawanna County district attorney Amy Shwed.

"If she isn't admitted to ARD, she will have to plead guilty again or go to trial," Shwed said.

If she goes to trial, Slater faces a fine of up to \$10,000 and a jail sentence of up to five years for one theft by deception charge and

\$5,000 fines and jail sentences of up to two years each for the other remaining charges, Shwed said.

The six charges are misdemeanors, she said.

The sales tax charge is a summary offense punished by a fine to be determined by a judge, Shwed said.

McGowan had said after Slater's arraignment that his office would seek a temporary injunction to keep Slater from operating a bridal business at least until her civil and criminal cases had been settled.

His office was also considering obtaining a permanent injunction against her, he said.

"We haven't addressed the permanent injunction yet," he said September 29. "She should pay everyone back first. Slater could end up back in business once this is resolved, but we don't want any further violations to occur."

Slater had filed for bankruptcy after the civil cases had been filed, but Judge Thomas had dismissed the bankruptcy action, McGowan said.

While trading as Tammy's Bridal and Veil Works in Shavertown, Slater allegedly took deposits and payments for gowns which were either never received or were in substandard condition.

Lisa Higgins, Diane Higgins, Angela Estes Allabaugh, Susanne Stash O'Donnell and Pamela Pascoe sued her on these charges before District Magistrate Earl Gregory last year.

Allabaugh, Pascoe and O'Donnell never received their bridal gowns. O'Donnell also said that her bridesmaids' gowns were the wrong style and color.

Lisa Higgins and her sister-in-law, Diane Higgins, have filed a civil case, scheduled for mid-November, in Luzerne County court, because Lisa Higgins said that she had problems with her bridal gown and Diane Higgins said that her bridesmaid's gown didn't meet the manufacturer's quality standards.

Slater relocated her shop to Wyoming for several months before opening in Scranton.

KT punt, pass, kick Oct. 15

Pass, Punt and Kick competition will be held October 15 at 11 a.m. at the Kingston Township Recreation Field, East Center Street, Shavertown.

Trophy prizes will be awarded in the 7-9 year old division, 10-11 year old division and 12-13 year old division. Registration will be same day as event. For further information, contact 696-3034.

Lake Twp. recycling Oct. 8

The voluntary recycling drop-off center for Lake Township will be accepting recyclables October 8 from 10-12 noon at the township building. The following items may be dropped off: aluminum and bi-metal cans, clear, brown and green glass, plastic #1 and #2 only.

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