

"My Document"

(A poem by Rebecca Hoffman, 12, a 7th grade student at Dallas Middle School.)

The bell tolls, can't you hear it?
They take a seat, for they heard it.

Shouts of complaints fill the room
Jefferson felt,
"My document is doomed,

"A document of hope and peace.
Pure poetry, is what I see.
A paper with offensive words
They see."

A warm tear trickles down his cheek.
He then whispered a prayer
"What kind of nation will we be?"

Wendy's

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bring them more into compliance with the borough's zoning ordinance.

Neighbors Edward Ancas and Joe Stec testified at both meetings that Mill Street is too narrow to handle more traffic, which would detract from their neighborhood and endanger children and pets.

The zoning hearing board unanimously approved variances for the drive-in window and Claudia's revised sign plan at the June 21 meeting, but told Claudia he wouldn't be allowed to build an exit from the parking lot onto Mill Street.

The building signs will total 68.5 square feet, while the ordinance allows eight square feet.

Claudia received a 60.5 square-foot variance for them. Free-standing signs, including turning signs, a menu board and a large sign mounted on pylons, total 302.33 square feet, while the ordinance allows a total of 60 square feet. Claudia received a 242.33 square-foot variance for the free-standing signs.

The present plan also calls for a combination entrance/exit on Route 415, which the zoning hearing board didn't object to.

"The site is impossible for us to develop without an exit onto Mill Street," Claudia said during the meeting. He said he will consult his company's engineers to see if they can redesign the site plan without the Mill Street exit.



Food 'n fun

The first Gate of Heaven Church bazaar was blessed with fine weather last weekend, and drew large crowds. Above, Father Dave Cappellini, who organized the event, was a dunkee on Sunday. At right, the Szulborski family was ready to sample the menu. From left, Bob, Kia, Kasia, Kira and mom, Dr. Debbie Serfass.



Photos by Charlotte Bartizek

Lake-Lehman

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also contained millage increases.

"It's true that this budget contains a zero-mill increase, but we need a capital reserve fund of three mills for repairs and improvements to out buildings," she said. "Otherwise, we'll have to raise taxes later to pay for them. I oppose crisis management, so in order to prevent a crisis, I'm voting no."

"We must recognize that taxpayer money is not a bottomless pit," Gold said. "I'm not opposed to budgetary reserves for students and for facilities."

Presper described the budget as "only postponing the agony" of tax increases which he foresees will be necessary to pay for repairs or improvements to the district's buildings. The budget does nothing for educational programs, he added.

The \$16,241,047 budget will hold the line on the 190-mill property tax for Luzerne County residents and the 90-mill property tax for residents of Noxen Township in Wyoming County.

The board also voted to award a bid for a modular unit to be set up at the Middle Level Building to Schiavi Leasing of Camp Hill on a 60-month lease of

\$964 per month, delivery and installation of \$9,950 and teardown/removal of \$2,750.

Gold and Allen Moss voted against the motion.

"The Middle Level Building has been kicked around for a year," Gold said. "This is an example of crisis management - we must handle it in the most cost-effective way possible while still meeting the needs of the students. I suggest we build up a reserve fund to pay for things like this."

Moss objected because he thought local contractors could have built an addition more cheaply than the cost of the modular unit.

"There are so many codes and regulations to follow that the cost of building an addition would become prohibitive," Sichler said.

In other business, the board awarded bids for school insurance and physical education, industrial arts and music materials, supplies and equipment, approved a list of substitute teachers and acknowledged a list of summer basketball, softball and field hockey program volunteers.

School Taxes

Lake-Lehman School District — 1987 to 1995

School Year	Total Budget	Dollar Increase	% Increase	Millage	Millage Increase	Dollars Per Mill
1987-88	\$9,071,291	939,093	11.5	123	5	24,132
1988-89	\$9,782,827	711,536	7.8	128	5	25,465
1989-90	\$10,882,474	1,099,647	11.2	133	5	26,898
1990-91	\$11,342,180	459,707	4.2	151	18	27,664
1991-92	\$13,043,724	1,701,544	15.0	176	25	28,881
1992-93	\$14,228,780	1,213,856	8.5	185	9	29,960
1993-94	\$14,915,760	686,980	5.4	185	0	29,855
1994-95	\$15,458,278	542,518	3.5	190	5	29,370
1995-96	\$16,241,047	782,769	5	190	0	31,000

Millage figures are for Luzerne County only, and do not reflect Wyoming County residents, whose property tax assessment rate is different.

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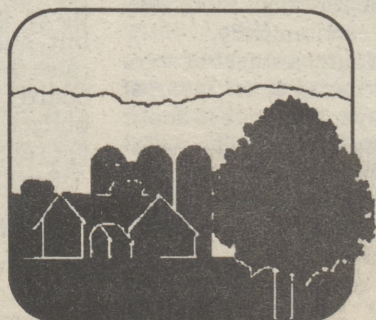
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