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Zoning changes could affect PG&W land, 1/3 of Lehman

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

LEHMAN TOWNSHIP - Proposed changes to the zoning ordinance could affect future plans for land around the Huntsville and Ceasetown reservoirs owned by Pennsylvania Enterprises, the owners of Pennsylvania Gas and Water.

Changes would prohibit any development or use of land, in-

cluding on-site septic systems, within 150 feet from the water's edge of any stream flowing into a reservoir.

All land within 100 feet of the water's edge and trees larger than six feet in diameter would be left undisturbed.

No development or use would be allowed within 50 feet of the edge of any other body of water, including streams, ponds, lakes and wetlands.

The planned changes won't affect present zoning regulations, which severely limit development and use of land near reservoirs, which is zoned C-1 (conservation). One-family houses are allowed in the C-1 zone only if the zoning board has approved them first, according to zoning officer Barbara Simms. Land zoned C-1 may be subdivided and sold, as long as its proposed use and plan comply with all regulations.

PG&W owns the Ceasetown (Chenery) Reservoir at Pikes, Creek, a new filtration plant and approximately 4,853 square acres - about a third of the township - around it and the Huntsville reservoir. The value of the land, 45 different parcels, for tax purposes is \$53,950, according to tax records.

The company also owns three parcels of land totalling more than 30 acres, valued at \$23,420,

around the Huntsville Reservoir in Dallas Borough and a filtration plant on Huntsville Creek in Kingstown Township, according to tax records.

"We expect to finalize the sale of the water companies by the end of the year," said PG&W spokesperson Juneann Greco. "It's a lengthy process. There are no plans at this time to sell the remaining land around the reservoirs."

PG&W announced its intention to sell between 7,000 and 8,000 acres of watershed land in its local water division to Pennsylvania American Water, a large, publicly-owned water company headquartered in Hershey, in May.

Ownership of the company's remaining 46,000 acres of watershed land in the area will be transferred to PG&W's gas division, which Pennsylvania Enterprises plans to keep, Greco said.



In love with Willie

Amy Lloyd frolicked with Willie, a three-month-old foal, at Wellspring Farm in Dallas. The colt's mom, Janie looked on. Willie likes to play with a large rubber ball that he rolls around the paddock. More photos of horses and their human caretakers on page 3.

POST PHOTOS/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK



Accused killer to face trial

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

DALLAS TOWNSHIP - Charges of homicide, aggravated assault and criminal attempt against Frederick Kirkendall, Jr., were bound over to Luzerne County Criminal Court after a preliminary hearing August 1 before District Magistrate James Tupper.

Kirkendall is accused of killing his grandfather, Charles Corey Besteder, and wounding his father, Frederick Kirkendall, Sr., with a .16-gauge shotgun June 11 at Besteder's home on Route 309 near the Kunkle-Alderson Road.

Kirkendall was visiting his family on an eight-hour pass from Clarks Summit State Hospital the day of the shooting.

Fred Kirkendall, Sr., is permanently paralyzed from the waist down and is a patient at the John Heinz Institute of Rehabilitation in Scranton, according to Dallas Township police chief Carl Miers. Kunkle fire chief Jack Dodson,

the first to arrive at the scene of the shooting, testified that he saw Kirkendall walking up the driveway from the house.

"All I knew was that there had been a shooting," Dodson said. "I saw Freddie and asked him what happened. He said, 'I just shot my father and my grandfather. The demons told me to do it.' I got out of the truck and tried to talk to him, but he told me he had to get out of there because his uncle would kill him when he found out what had happened."

Dodson said he ran down the driveway and found Besteder, his head slumped back, sitting in a chair on the front porch.

"I touched his neck, but I couldn't find a pulse," Dodson said. "There was lots of blood on the left side of his chest and his left arm. His wife said she thought he was dead."

Dodson said he found Fred Kirkendall, Sr., lying on his back in the side yard.

"I took his hand and asked if he

See TRIAL pg 10

New zoning regs target cottages, conservation

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

LEHMAN TOWNSHIP - Changes in the zoning ordinance dealing with nonconforming uses of land, adopted at a special supervisors' meeting July 31, have already begun a ripple effect among township residents.

The changes, which prohibit any type of expansion of nonconforming uses and expansion of buildings on nonconforming lots, directly affect Jackson Road resident Dan Major and anyone planning to enlarge summer cottages at Lake Silkworth.

Major, owner of Dan's Lawn and Garden Equipment, has operated his lawn mower repair business without a nonconforming use permit for the past year. He would like to apply for a temporary use permit, which is good for a year and could be renewed twice more with the supervisors'

approval, but has been stymied by the way in which his land has been zoned.

According to a building permit which Major obtained in 1983, his land is zoned agricultural. He recently learned his land covers two zones, residential in front and agricultural in the rear. He says the dividing line is 100 feet back from the road, while the Luzerne County planning commission, who makes the final decision in such matters, says it's 200 feet back.

No copies of the township's old zoning ordinance, adopted a week or two before the municipal building burned down, are available to verify the location of the line. They didn't survive the fire.

"Nobody knows where the line is," Major said. "I was given the wrong information, that it was 100 feet from the road. The front

See ZONING, pg 10

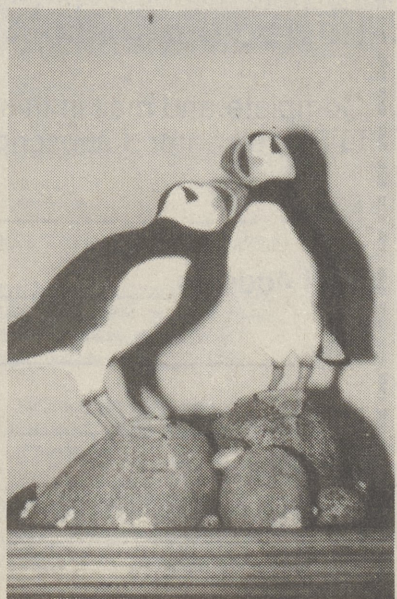
Carving's a labor of love for Rick Yanalunas

By JACK HILSHER
Post Correspondent

If someone called Lehman Avenue's Richard Yanalunas looney, they would not be completely wrong, but not in the accepted slang sense of the term.

For Rick - he gets that more than Richard - has the recent distinction of having his wood carving of a loon win second place in a world-wide competition. And as for the loon - a rather large diving bird - it has the distinction of giving rise to that expression "looney," all because of its wild and crazy cry.

It's sort of a shame, because loons don't even look slightly daffy. In fact, they are strikingly handsome, and a good choice to carve...Rick's prize-winning effigy is over a foot tall, displaying a dark regal head raised over a body of mottled black and white pattern.



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Carving of puffins won first place at a show in New Jersey. A loon won second place at a prestigious event in Maryland.

In the spring dozens of loons can be found at our Huntsville Dam. They fish well, diving deep, Rick says. "They are seen in our area in both spring and fall, I think their numbers are growing. Some may even be about to stay here year-round, which I'd like to see. They make great subjects to carve."

His loon carving earning a second place ribbon meant it had to be just about perfect, for competition is intense and world-wide. Over 1,000 carvers from seven countries participated in the annual event sponsored by the Ward Foundation of Maryland, which celebrated its 25th anniversary this year.

Carvers are divided into five groups: Youth, novice, intermediate, open and world. Only the world group shared in cash awards of \$93,000. Rick's class was the intermediate and he intends to tackle the world group next.

His interest in carving may stem in part from a grandfather who worked in wood. Rick, 46, is the owner/operator of Bucky's Auto Body Shop in Trucksville. He is married to the former Eleanor Jones of Shavertown who partly shares his hobby since hers is bird-watching. Their living room features close-at-hand high-powered binoculars and a 35-mm camera with telephoto lens, the necessary tools for both hobbies. Rick has made bird patterns from pictures the two have taken.

The couple has two children: Amy, 22, an environmental scientist, and Stacey, 20, an artist at Old Dominion in Virginia. Stacey has won many awards with her watercolors and pencil drawings. Their living room is brightened by samples.

Yanalunas has always been able to relax with wood working of

See CARVING, pg 10

Education pages appear on pages 8-9. See what's in store this fall.

He's a champ. Josh Butler is tuning up for a national weightlifting meet. Page 11.

INDEX

18 Pages	2 Sections
Calendar.....	18
Classified.....	16-17
Crossword.....	18
Editorials.....	4
Obituaries.....	16
School.....	15
Sports.....	11-14

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