

## Flood damage

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wouldn't be able to render impartial decisions on zoning applications from Ann Marie McAvoy, who is involved in litigation with Hilstolsky's brothers.

Hilstolsky said he wants to return to the planning commission because he is concerned about the township.

"I want to be sure development goes by the rules," he said. "I want to protect our water and environment and encourage growth that goes by the ordinance."

Clark, an architect, said her decision to serve on the planning commission is "a long story."

"I grew up in a military family and never really had a home," she said. "We moved around every few years. It's very important to me to now own land and a home and be a part of my community. When I went back to the towns where I had once lived, I was shocked to see the rapid development, the strip malls and housing developments which had cropped up over the past few years. No area is protected from this kind of growth."

Admitting she doesn't have all the answers to proper planned development, Clark said she is trying to learn as much as possible about what people's options for development are.

"We should be as educated as possible about our choices in developing our community," she said. "This township is beautiful. I love the people here and plan to stay here until I die."

The planning commission will hold a public hearing March 4 at 6 p.m. at the fire hall to discuss

*"I'm looking at a pile of bills. We'll probably find more damage when we actually start digging."*

Jay Wilkes  
Jackson roadmaster

changes to the zoning ordinance, adopted December 4, 1995. Major changes involve changing the minimum lot sizes from two to three acres in the agricultural zones, from three to four acres in the conservation zone and from 1.5 to two acres in residential zones.

In other business the supervisors voted unanimously to borrow \$40,000 from PNC bank to buy a new dump truck and to buy 10 lighted road barrier signs for \$561.50.

"We'll need them for a long time until we get all the road repairs done," Miller noted.

Municipal Road had the worst damage, estimated at \$63,250, while Cummings and the eastern and western sections of Lockville Road came in second, at \$29,837 and \$27,968 respectively. All figures include materials, labor and engineering fees.

"On one stretch of Municipal Road the ice is 18 inches thick - and water is running from the ground over it," said road foreman Art Owen. "It just keeps getting thicker. I never heard of wa-

ter running without freezing when it's this cold."

Many ditches and the shoulders of Lockville Road, which was widened last year and due for resurfacing this summer, were washed out.

"It took three weeks to upgrade Lockville Road and one day to undo all our work," Owen said.

Lewis Road is closed because it has major problems. The road was torn up where the creek crosses it, he added.

On Lewis and Coon roads where water made its way underneath the pavement, then froze, the surface heaved.

While the federal government will reimburse 75 percent of the costs for repairs, the state hasn't committed itself for the other 25 percent - which is still much more than most municipalities can afford.

"I just hope the state comes through," said Franklin Township supervisor Bill Miller.

FEMA will reimburse approved municipalities, utilities and schools 75 percent of the costs for:

- Removal of debris to eliminate any immediate threats to life, public health and safety or the threat of damage to improved property.

- Emergency measures to save lives and to protect property, public health and safety.

- Permanent restoration of damaged facilities to their pre-disaster condition and upgrading them to meet current codes and standards if necessary.

## Isaacs

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The site, located at 163 S. Memorial Highway, formerly the Howard "Duke" Isaacs auto dealership, is owned by the Isaacs, and is being designed by Flack Wallack, Inc. of Dallas.

The site plan presented by Lynn Wallack calls for three buildings:

- Building "A" - a 12,000 square foot two-story professional/office building located at the northern point of the site (near the location of the former new car showroom).

- Building "B" - a 15,000 to 16,000 square foot one-story commercial/retail building in the middle of the property.

- Building "C" - an 8,000 to 9,000 square foot one-story commercial/retail building on the southern end of the property (near the former location of Isaacs' body shop and used vehicles area).

Buildings "B" and "C", although one-story structures, will be built rather high to be compatible with the two-story building, according to Wallack.

Building "A" will house The Grange National Bank, which recently negotiated a lease to oc-

cupy 3,500 square feet of the building. An early summer construction start is planned, with completion scheduled for late 1996 or early 1997.

Building "B" will be the eventual new home for Wireless One Network which is currently occupying the former GMC truck facility.

Building "C" has not been leased yet and could be either a single or multiple-use building, according to Wallack, adding that they are geared toward "upscale commercial/retail tenants."

A timetable for completion is "premature at this point" said Wallack, adding that the project needs "tenants' input to determine aesthetics and design." However, he said the exterior design of the buildings will be controlled as much as possible by Wallack.

Parking shouldn't be a problem, according to Wallack, who said they have more than the necessary amount. Traffic will be routed through two entrances, one at the southern end, and one at

the northern end, where an exit and traffic light is proposed as well.

Signs are planned for either side of the main entrance/exit and on the buildings themselves, says Wallack, adding that he "doesn't think he'll need variances for signs at this point, as they will be designed to meet existing codes."

At the meeting, the zoning board approved a variance for building "A" to move the front yard setback from 30 feet to 15 feet and the rear yard setback from 30 feet to 14 feet. A variance for building "C" to move the rear yard setback from 30 feet to 25 feet was also approved by the board, consisting of William Bachman and Justin Bergman. A third member, Walter Roberts, was absent.

Although zoning officer Ben Gorey says he did not receive any complaints from adjacent property owners since the hearing was advertised, the decision can be appealed withing 30 days to Luzerne County Court.

## Free tax help for seniors through RSVP

The Bureau for the Aging will provide volunteers from the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) to give assistance with federal and state income tax, the PA Rent/Property Rebate and PACE.

In order to reduce waiting time at the senior centers, taxpayers will be taken by appointment only. There is no charge for this service.

Please bring with you: all 1099's, Social Security 1099, W-2's, Tax or Rent Receipts, copy of last year's taxes and rebate, any other income you received in 1994. It is impossible to complete the forms with information missing.

Please call the senior center nearest your home for an appointment..

Dallas Center, 675-2179, Tuesday, February 5.

Taxpayers will be served on a first come basis.

## Poets'/writers' group seeks members

The Society of Poets and Writers of the Northeast (S.P.A.W.N.) is looking for new members. The group meets on the second Sunday of the month.

A newly formed poet and writers group is welcoming new members. Anyone interested in joining, or additional information, may call 639-2320 and ask for Steve.

## Medicine

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Marina became fascinated with the sciences about 18 months ago and is studying human physiology at Dallas High School. Her human physiology teacher, Abby Campbell, nominated her to the forum.

"She's an excellent student," said Campbell. "She has all the qualities that would allow her to succeed."

She's also an Honor Roll student, having earned Honors With Distinction with a 3.85 average for the first time this marking period, and is one of the top two female students in her class. Her classes this year include advanced courses in discrete math (a preparation for college freshman math, involving high-level algebra), advanced communications and, of course, her beloved human physiology.

When she isn't immersing herself in the sciences, Marina plays soccer, tutors elementary students, has been a cheerleader for the past four years, a member of the junior class steering committee and the school's art club. She also babysits and works part time at a local restaurant.

Marina's second love is art. She has taken art lessons at Sue Hand's Imagery for the past nine years and has won numerous awards for her work. She recently displayed a beautiful pen and ink drawing of one of the four columns of Wilkes-Barre's Market Street Bridge at an exhibit at Senator Charles Lemmond's office.

Two days a week Marina tutors first-graders at the Dallas Elementary School for a half-hour after school.

"They really look up to us, and are thrilled that we care about them," she said. "They're so cute. It's nice."

As one of her class's top female students, Marina attended the

*"Marina is a real go-getter and works very hard for what she wants."*

Marlene Knappman  
Marina's mom

Rotary Leadership Camp last summer. She has also volunteered with the Valley Santa, an organization which provides holiday presents for needy area families.

"With her schoolwork and all her activities, I don't know how she fits everything into the day," Marlene Knappman said. "Marina is a real go-getter and works very hard for what she wants."

Marina believes attending the forum will be a valuable experience which will contribute important knowledge and educational skills.

The daughter of Richard and Marlene Knappman, Marina has

*"I love to dissect - to take an animal apart and see how its different systems work."*

Marina Knappman  
Dallas High School junior

a brother, Randy, 13, and a sister, Erika, 15, who wants to become an attorney. The family is very proud of Marina's accomplishments, Marlene said.

Donations to help Marina Knappman attend the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine in Boston may be sent to 212 Holly St., Trucksville PA 19808.

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