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Zoning rules, regs vary widely in Back Mountain

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

BACK MOUNTAIN - Before the mid-1960's, most area municipalities didn't have zoning ordinances.

Lot sizes were determined by the availability of water and room for septic units. Lots with access to public water and sewers were smaller, while larger lots were

necessary for homes requiring wells and septic units.

In the past three decades, local zoning ordinances have developed to the point that they now strictly regulate everything from setbacks from boundary lines to the maximum allowable height for buildings.

Six Back Mountain municipalities - Dallas and Harveys Lake boroughs and Lehman, Jackson,

How does your town stack up? Chart of zoning areas, pg 8

Kingston and Franklin townships - have rewritten their zoning ordinances since 1992, partially to bring them into compliance with state codes and partially to correct existing deficiencies such as

spot zoning.

Still, all zones are not created equal. The minimum lot size in a single-family residential zone, for example, varies from 6,000 square feet at Harveys Lake to 1.5 acres

(approx. 60,000 square feet) in Franklin Township.

Differences in zoning reflect each town's character. While compact Dallas Borough has the smallest minimum lot sizes, rural Franklin Township has the largest.

The objectives of Lehman Township's zoning law include the preservation of watersheds, conservation areas and prime agri-

cultural and farmland, prevention of blight or overcrowding and the preservation of the visual rural character of the township's roadways and adjacent woodlands, waterways and farmlands. The ordinance also strictly regulates excessive cutting of trees, removal of historic stone walls and the proliferation of signs along

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L-L board appoints stand-in for ill Bowersox

By ANN POEPPERLING
Post Correspondent

LEHMAN TWP. The Lake-Lehman School Board voted unanimously to appoint Kathleen Williams as acting business manager at a special meeting Feb. 22.

Board president Ed Kern said the action was necessary because business manager Ray Bowersox is recuperating from open heart surgery. "We want him to take his time and get well," Kern said of Bowersox, who has been a source of steady management through several superintendents' tenures.

The board also voted unanimously to authorize the business office to prepare a "line item" computerized budget for the 1997-98 school year. "It's a more detailed budget than we're currently using, which is an object budget," Williams said after the meeting.

According to the meeting agenda, the business office is also adopting standard operating procedures for internal delivery of supplies and equipment, attendance tracking, and purchases without requisitions.

The board held a brief executive session prior to the general meeting, which solicitor Peter Savage said related to the Williams appointment.

WARMING UP



Jordan Koslosky, Shavertown, at left in top photo, challenged David Cybuck, Dallas in a warmup for last Saturday's chess session held at St. Therese's church annex in Shavertown. In photo at right, Rick Kurilla, Dallas, took a shot at Koslosky, too. All of them will play March 8-9 at the PA State Scholastic Tournament in Bloomsburg. Warmups are offered by the Wilkes-Barre Chess Club.

POST PHOTOS: CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK



Lake seeks low-cost fix for algae woes

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

HARVEYS LAKE - As Phase II of the state and federally-funded study of Harveys Lake is gearing up, officials have learned that no money is available to solve some of the lake's problems.

The study was begun in 1993 and performed by Coastal Environmental Services of Princeton, NJ, which presented its findings in a public hearing at the September, 1994, borough council meeting.

Coastal Environmental representative Fred S. Lubnow, PhD, met February 22 with the borough's Environmental Advisory Council (EVAC) to discuss actions which the borough can take with the limited funding available.

"The main issue is pollution from phosphates in lawn fertilizers, home septic units and road de-icers," Lubnow said. "A grassroots community public education campaign could go a long way in informing people why using fertilizers and detergents which don't contain phosphates will improve the health of the lake."

The algae which have occasionally plagued swimmers using the lake are probably the result of a well-intended attempt to control weeds growing in the lake in the mid-1950's.

At that time it was a common practice to introduce alewives, a non-game fish resembling overgrown minnows, into lakes to eat the aquatic plants. The alewives, however, developed instead a taste

See LAKE, pg 2

Boro will brighten its outlook with banners

By ANN POEPPERLING
Post Correspondent

DALLAS BOROUGH - Borough council passed a motion Feb. 20 to spend \$742 on decorative banners to dress up the "downtown" Dallas area. Jay Pope, chairperson of the future planning committee, said the money would be spent to purchase 13 banners and brackets which will be placed on poles throughout the community.

"\$742 is a big expenditure for us," Pope said, "but I thank council for their support. This will give the borough a new look."

Although the exact design of the banners has not been selected, Pope said they will be "bright, cheery, and appropriate for the nine months of the year not covered by Christmas decorations. We hope to build upon this if it's successful and get more or possibly a second set to interchange." The lone dissenting vote was

cast by Ted Wright, who commented, "It's not an appropriate expense at this time," listing other projects which deserve priority, such as repairs on Reservoir Road, a new borough truck and a new road department employee.

Martha Weber, who chairs the road department committee, made a motion to advertise the opening of a full-time road crew position. The motion, which adds a third man to the crew, passed unanimously. The move is necessary, Weber said, "Due to the influx of services we perform for the borough." She added that "a salary is not being posted, as pay will depend on experience and qualifications."

William Roberts, chairman of the traffic management committee, reported that he was informed at a recent meeting with PennDOT officials that traffic lights at Pickett's Charge, Orloski's and

See BOROUGHS, pg 3

Shirley Forney finds adventure in Antarctic

By ANN POEPPERLING
Post Correspondent

SHAVERTOWN - Shirley Forney's spectacular two-week cruise "down-under" to Antarctica was a bit "topsy-turvy" itself. Traveling with her sister Vera Albert, a retired school teacher from Mount Joy, Lancaster County, the two endured a turbulent eight-hour storm at sea, not an unusual occurrence in the waters between the coasts of South America and Antarctica.

Taking advantage of an Elderhostel program, the two women flew out of Kennedy Airport, Jan. 13 to Miami and from there to Buenos Aires, Argentina before reaching Ushuaia, from where they were to embark.

While in Ushuaia, the "southernmost" city in South America, Shirley had a day and a half to enjoy the sights of Tierra Del Fuego, the southernmost province of Argentina. A catamaran trip offered her the opportunity to see fur seals and the cormorant bird, resembling the penguin.

"I sent myself a post card from Ushuaia, with a picture of our hotel in front of a glacier - but I haven't received it yet," she said.

From there, Shirley embarked on the first phase of the cruise, a two-day, 600 mile jaunt to the south Shetland Islands (considered "Sub-Antarctica"), the stepping stones to the Antarctic Pen-



Cute, but smelly, would be a good description of the penguins Shirley Forney saw during her trip to Antarctica.

insula.

The voyagers set sail on the Akademik Ioffe, chartered by Marine Expeditions from Toronto, Canada. The 383 foot ship, formerly a Russian scientific research vessel, was equipped with a 43 member Russian crew and a staff

of eight, many of them veterans of the days when the ship was used to spy on U.S. activities at sea.

The other 79 passengers were made up of mostly individuals 55 and over, the required age to partake in Elderhostel activities. Elderhostel is a non-profit educa-

"These are not people going to see the Eiffel Tower."
Shirley Forney
Jackson Township

tional organization based in Boston offering inexpensive, short-term academic programs hosted by educational institutions around the world.

"Some of the travelers," Shirley explained, "were known as 'birders,' those who were true ornithologists. Others were there just for the sheer thrill of touching foot on the seventh continent, as they had been to all the others. And many were singles, men and women whose spouses had refused to make the rigorous trip."

As Shirley remarked, "these are not people going to see the Eiffel Tower."

As the Akademik Ioffe set out from the tip of South America, it wasn't long before Shirley and the others tested their seaworthiness. Sailing through the Beagle Channel to the Drake Passage, they were confronted with dark gray menacing clouds and a raging eight-hour storm with pounding 22 foot waves.

However, said Shirley, "I was

See ADVENTURE, pg. 3

■ **Recycling** an old DAMA tanker into a fire truck makes sense in Dallas. Pg 2.

■ **On to the Big 10** Lake-Lehman field hockey standout Jonelle Elgaway will attend Ohio State. Pg 9.

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