

Farmland

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mum building height of 40 feet or three stories, a maximum lot coverage by a building of 33 percent, front setbacks of 30 feet for the B-4 area or 40 feet for the B-3 area and rear setbacks of 15 feet for the B-4 area and 30 feet for the B-3 area. There is no minimum lot size in the ordinance.

The land has access to municipal sewer, water and gas and averages between 3,793 and 6,886 cars per day passing the site, according to information supplied by Jackson-Cross.

The land was listed in 1994 with the Trainman Co. of Philadelphia, which attempted to sell it at an auction that October. At that time, a bid of \$75,000 for the 3 1/4 acre parcel containing the former Yalick's Market was rejected. That part of the property was sold recently for \$250,000. No one bid on the 46-acre parcel.

Prime commercial land is available in Wyoming Valley starting at \$85,000 per acre near the site of the proposed Luzerne County arena, according to Jim Hilsher of Mericle Realty. Along Routes 115 and 415 it starts at \$100,000 per acre, he said.



FINAL CHECK

Father Peter Crynes spoke with Carla Reino before her First Holy Communion May 5. St. Therese's Church in Shavertown saw

three classes receive First Holy Communion Sunday. Carla was in the first group, at 9 a.m.

POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Phone co.

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next year. "We're adding people all the time," Thorpe said. "We can use the room."

Thorpe said the new jobs will include customer service representatives, technical support, programmers and managers.

The Commonwealth building is designed to accommodate about 250 people; ALLTEL has 240 there now. Fritz said about 180 will move to the present PNC Bank building on Wilkes-Barre's Public Square, and be joined by employees who presently work from a separate facility in the city. He expected the move to begin in November.

Commonwealth employs a total of about 600 people, with 400 of them in the Back Mountain.

Fritz, who has lived in Dallas since coming here from San Francisco, admitted that he'll miss the five-minute commute to the office. "We're very, very excited about living in Dallas," he said. About 50 of the 180 employees moving live in the Back Mountain.

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Shop classes

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to rival the vo-tech schools. We want to eliminate some courses which are no longer relative such as Leather I and II, and black and white photography."

Price later pointed out, "Our students have the option to go to vo-tech for trade courses and still be Lake-Lehman students. Transportation is reimbursable by the state."

Another audience member, Sandy Ramage, voiced her apprehensions about the possibility of losing the business education department. "I was a graduate of the business department here at Lake-Lehman and was very successful, being offered a job with only a high school diploma. Miss Wilk trained all of us very well. Now, how will these students get jobs?"

Price emphasized that although the business education department may be eliminated, not all the business classes would be cut, but rather, realigned into other departments. "We will offer keyboarding classes on the elementary levels, as well as computer appreciation. Accounting I and II would be reassigned to the math department." He also said that the few students currently enrolled in the business education program would be offered some classes at other schools if necessary.

During the remainder of the meeting, the board examined the working budget, which business

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Dave Hopper
Industrial Arts teacher

manager Ray Bowersox broke down into four functions: regular instructional programs, special education programs, vocational programs, and other instructional programs.

The regular instructional programs saw a \$500,000 increase, according to Bowersox, "largely because of nearly \$300,000 worth of early retirement incentive and unused sick leave pay for teachers retiring in 1996, which was not provided for in last year's budget."

Under special education programs, there will be an increase of \$135,000 to \$140,000, primarily because of physical support for the multi-handicapped. According to Bowersox, "there will be an increase of kindergarten age children moving into the district's special education classes this fall." Currently these children are involved in an early intervention program not under the district.

Vocational education programs will see an immediate decrease of about \$17,000 from 335,000 to \$318,000 if the proposed indus-

trial arts teacher is eliminated. According to Bowersox, "Overall, we will see a drop of about \$120,000 over the next year with a business education teacher retiring and another on sabbatical possibly retiring or being reassigned."

Other instructional programs will decrease by about \$73,000 largely because of the proposed elimination of the drivers' education program. According to Bowersox, that teacher would go back to the classroom to replace another teacher. The Chapter 1 reading program will also be reduced, primarily because it is receiving less federal funding.

With the proposed cuts in effect, the tentative instructional programs budget is still looking at a 4.2 percent increase from \$9,916,000 to \$10,337,000 for 1996-97. According to Bowersox, the original projected increase in the district's millage of 30 mills will now be 27 or 28 mills.

During a phone interview, 10-year Lake-Lehman high school industrial arts teacher Dave Hopper said although he hasn't been told anything officially by the administration yet, he feels "it's inevitable at this stage that his job will be eliminated." He continued, "I don't have a problem with cuts, but I think there are other ways to reduce the budget in our district besides layoffs." Although the administration wants to realign departments with

a concentration primarily on academics, Hopper feels Lake-Lehman should offer the students more than just a "prep school" environment. "Academics are fine, but college is not an option or a desire for all students."

Hopper pointed out that even students in the academic program benefit from tech ed courses. "Students planning to go in the medical field might take an elective like electronics to learn how the machinery they'll be using works. Engineering students may take metal working class to learn how metals will react under different stresses."

Hopper also said that he feels his students won't necessarily be able to receive the same education from vo-tech schools. "The vo-tech schools don't have all the same classes we offer, and they don't approach them with the same general philosophy we have. There's also a loss of class time due to traveling, as well as the cost of transportation and tuition."

"Roughly 130 kids were projected for my classes next semester. I don't want to lose the ability to reach them."

"I pay taxes, and I feel shop class is a very important part of school."

Ron Martin
Lake-Lehman graduate

Truckville UM Women to meet May 14

The United Methodist Women of the Truckville United Methodist Church will meet at 7 p.m. May 14.

Members of the Susanna Children and Family Fellowship will present a program, "The Parable of the Garage Sale".

The organization will sponsor a Flea Market on the Lawn August 3, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Spaces may be reserved by calling the church office at 696-3897 or Evelyn Roberts, 675-7107, or Babara Glowach, 696-1093.

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