

Tax collectors

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percent and Daubert's income by 53 percent, Jones said.

The tax collectors have countered that residents call them every day - even Saturdays and holidays - at all hours to verify the amount of tax they have paid or for photocopies of tax bills. Realtors, banks and title search companies know the tax collector is often the only person in the community with the correct property tax information.

They don't receive health insurance, paid sick days, retirement, vacations or other benefits.

Reese and Daubert said they bought computers at their own expense to help keep track of the many records they must keep.

"We're required by law to make and announce any changes in the tax collectors' pay schedule once every four years, during the year they're elected," Jones said. "We complied with the law and announced the pay scale by February 15, 1993. The tax collectors knew about it before they submit-

ted their nominating petitions to the bureau of elections. There is no evidence of an arbitrary decision."

Kingston Township tax collector Janice Castellani isn't involved in the lawsuit because the home rule community pays her a flat salary to collect all school, county and municipal taxes.

The case, heard in December by Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas Judge Corrae Stevens, comprises more than 400 pages of testimony, which attorneys for both sides must reduce to lists of findings of fact, conclusions of law and their recommendations for judgement by June 30. Either side may appeal Stevens's decision to Commonwealth Court.

"Tax collectors in the Hollidaysburg School District in Snyder County filed a similar lawsuit after the district cut their pay from \$4.65 per tax bill to \$1.15 per bill and an additional \$1,000 per year for office expenses," Jones said. "The judge decided in favor of the district."

Artist

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A self-portrait done in acrylic shows Leigh Pawling in a mirror.

are," she says.

But Leigh Pawling is looking for her own artistic voice. Is it a louder voice? Although she sees a resurgence in realism since the 80's when people became dismayed with having bought so much abstractism, she describes her style as a blend of realism and abstraction. She points to a series of studies (oils on watercolor paper) of ceramic coffee cups and some larger sized versions that are her favorites for now.

She prepared some fruit and vegetable still lifes for possible publication in Gourmet or Bon Appetit magazine, and is setting up a show at Berwick Hospital, but not before her annual trip to the Cayman Islands. There, on Seven Mile Beach just south of the turtle

farm, she'll spend a month replenishing some hand-picked galleries with watercolors in the style of Sue Hand her former teacher, forever benefactor and friend.

Leigh Pawling chooses to be photographed with her easel, a gift from Joe and Sue Hand, amid the Back Mountain fields she has called home for all her 26 years. Yet one is struck by her self-portrait, a dark, mesmerizing acrylic of a young woman with determination wearing oversized sneakers that bespeak attitude, two paint cans highlighted in the foreground.

Definitely a person with a loud artistic voice, Leigh Pawling says, "I think I'll just let it happen and I'll know if it is right."

Art magazine picks only four

Leigh Pawling was picked as one of four "Emerging Artists" by American Artist magazine. A profile about her appeared in "Art Masters," an annual special supplement included with the June issue. Lynn Moss, assistant editor, said the magazine received hundreds of entries for the special honor, and a panel of judges from the magazine and the art world selected the winners.

Leigh was first interviewed by the magazine around Christmas, at which time she did not know she was under consideration. But when she was called back for a second session in February, she found out she had a chance at the coveted designation.

"I'm happy," she said of the honor. "Pleasantly surprised." A graduate of Dallas High School, Leigh is the daughter of Shep and Corinne Pawling of Franklin Township.

American Artist, published monthly with a circulation of about 150,000, serves the community of practicing fine artists throughout the nation.

Zoning

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citizen and not in his official capacity as a township supervisor. The McAvoy's are the owners and developers of the Chadsford Estates I and II, which overlaps into Kingston Township.

Other complainants are Barry Reese, who owns five acres, and Alan and Carol Reese, who own 6 1/2 acres, all zoned A-1. The Reese family also owns Quality Metal Products, Inc., situated on 10 acres zoned industrial (I-1), and an additional 60 acres of land zoned conservation (C-1) and 85 acres zoned A-1 and C-1 from the estate of Elmer Reese.

After the meeting Redmond said he became involved in the appeal because "the amendment is a violation of my constitutional rights."

Nancy Brace, co-owner of a farm designated by the state as being at least a century old, said her husband, Larry, was one of the township's original zoning hearing board members.

"We don't think the three acre minimum lot size is right," she said. "The way things are going, the next generation won't be able to afford to build. Only the wealthy will. Two acres are more than adequate to protect the water table. Nobody has done any tests or studies to prove we need larger lots."

She said she and her husband aren't planning on developing their land, but they don't think it's right for "the ones who own only a small amount of land to be able to tell us what to do with ours. They're only thinking of themselves, not anyone else."

"It's kind of immoral for them to ask us to do this," she said. "Nobody who wants the three-acre lots owns a large amount of land."

Courses

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The summer will literally start with a bang on July 4, when Ed Orloski of Orloski's Quick Marts donates a \$7,000 community fireworks display, coordinated by Dallas Borough councilman Ted Wright, on the grounds behind the middle school. The board authorized Wycallis to approve the fireworks when he receives the proper insurance and safety information.

The board unanimously passed resolutions commending Samantha Lloyd, who won the grand prize in the Northeastern Pennsylvania Writing Council's poetry contest, and Samantha O'Brien, who earned an honorable mention in the third grade division of the Pennsylvania Citizens for Better Libraries' statewide essay contest for her essay on how important the library is to her entire family.

At the regular meeting, the board unanimously approved a contract with Luzerne County Community College to provide space for summer school and to pay the college \$4 per student. The college will supply the teachers, while the summer students' parents will pay \$50 per course credit.

Board members also unanimously approved a list of 169 seniors for graduation, a list of non-instructional employees for the next school year, the retirement of business teacher Beverly Berger and a list of bids for supplies.

"The way things are going, the next generation won't be able to afford to build."

Nancy Brace
Concerned land owner

Attorney Kim Borland presided over the three-hour hearing, held before the zoning board, which is comprised of chairman Ray Turner, vice-chairman Harry Campbell and John Candeloro.

Township solicitor Susan Mazza asked Campbell to voluntarily exclude himself from the hearing, questioning his ability to make an unbiased decision. Three witnesses said Campbell allegedly made comments against the amendment, which showed he had already made up his mind that it wasn't valid, at the March 4 supervisors' meeting.

Campbell admitted he had signed a petition supporting the three-acre minimum lot size before changing his mind.

Borland said he was unsure whether or not the zoning board could legally recuse one of its own members from the hearing and allowed Campbell to remain.

Mazza and McNealis said they didn't have any contact before the hearing to discuss certain items which they could agree to, which could help the hearing move faster. Because McNealis didn't have copies of certain township documents which are available to the public, the attorneys agreed to have former township secretary Sandra Race obtain copies of them for him before the next hearing is scheduled.

With the rest of the board voting for it, Reese Finn cast the lone vote against awarding Danella Environmental Technologies a \$16,848 garbage and recycling contract despite J.P. Mascaro submitting a lower bid of \$15,949. Wycallis said Mascaro had dumped a bin of papers in the parking lot and was adding the recyclables into the regular garbage loads.

The board also awarded a \$21,800 bid for labor on a paving project to Evans Asphalt, with the district buying the paving materials elsewhere at state prices, expected to cost between \$26,000 and \$28,000. The parking lots at the high school and middle school and wheelchair access ramps are scheduled for paving. Maureen Banks abstained from voting on the paving job because her husband is in the paving business.

The board will meet June 20 at 7 p.m. to approve the budget and hear a report from Quad Three Group on the costs of roof repairs at the Dallas Elementary School. At a committee-of-the-whole meeting July 1 the board will hear a report from Quad Three on the projected costs of either renovating the Westmoreland School or demolishing it and building another building on the same site.

Board members cautioned the public that it has not made any final decisions yet on the old school's fate, but is still considering its options.

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