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'Upscale' homes ok'ed in Lehman

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

LEHMAN TOWNSHIP - The zoning hearing board unanimously approved two requests to build a total of four homes at a meeting August 7.

Paul Freeman, representing Heavy Media, Inc., of Nanticoke, asked for permission to build three homes on a 32-acre parcel on the Huntsville-Idetown Road approximately 600 feet north of Old Route 115. The land is zoned conservation (C-1).

The three homes will be occupied by the corporation's principals - Ken Pollock, Sr., Ken Pollock, Jr., and Connie Rado, Freeman said.

"These will be upscale homes of more than 4,000 square feet each," Freeman said. "Each will be on its own 10-acre parcel and will have a well and on-site septic system. The sewage enforcement officer has already approved the site for

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POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

THRILL RIDE

Kelly Corbett, left, and Ashley Simchick enjoyed a bouncy ride on the teeter-totter at the Dallas rec park. The park hosts a summer program for kids of all ages.

Deaths point to increased heroin use

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

BACK MOUNTAIN - When Kingston Township police arrived on the scene of a reported drug overdose August 8, they were "hoping desperately the call wouldn't be what the dispatcher had said."

"Unfortunately, as soon as we entered the room where the victim sat, a syringe still in his hand, our worst fears were realized - another possible death by drug overdose," said chief Jim Balavage.

Police found the body of Douglas VanKeuren, Jr., 34, and what Balavage called evidence of suspected substances in a waste can nearby. Among his belongings

"We recognized that heroin use is increasing in the community."

Dr. Gil Griffiths
Dallas assistant superintendent

they found prescription drugs, suspected marijuana and unopened packets of suspected heroin. An empty spoon which police believe was used with the syringe lay in the bathroom sink. Deputy Luzerne County coro-

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Expired certificates lead to tighter school policy

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

DALLAS - Depending on the outcome of an appeal, three Dallas school district professional employees may have to pay a total of \$5,000 in fines because their certificates have expired.

Other than saying they are former teachers who are now in supervisory or administrative positions, superintendent Gerald Wycallis refused to identify them. "It's a personnel matter," he said.

The state Auditor General's office found the expired certificates

during a routine audit of the district. If the district loses the appeal the teachers will pay the fines, Wycallis said.

"This is the first time that this situation has ever occurred," said board president Ernest Ashbridge.

Because of the certification situation the board approved the first reading of a new policy stating that if the state finds a problem with a professional employee's certificate and fines the district, the district will pay the fine, while the employee in question may be

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Fire company seeks to sell land along Rt. 415

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

LEHMAN TOWNSHIP - The Jonathan R. Davis Fire Company has asked the zoning board to rezone four acres of land on Route 415 in Idetown from residential (R-1) to commercial (C-1) so it can be sold. The board will hold a hearing on the request Aug. 19 at 8 p.m. after the regular supervisors' meeting.

According to fire company treasurer

Shirley Wentzel, the four-acre parcel is located across the highway from the fire company. Several tractor-trailers are presently stored there. The surrounding land parcels are all commercial, she said.

"We plan to sell two acres and keep the rest," she said. "Money from the sale will help us buy new furniture and insulated doors for the fire hall and a heating plant for the garage bays where we keep the fire engines."

Two Harveys Lake business people whom she declined to identify are interested in the land. Their purchase is contingent on the successful rezoning of the parcel.

"We would like to see some improvements along this section of the highway, maybe something like a store or small restaurant," Wentzel said. "It would be very nice."

The hearing is slated for Monday, August 19, at 8 p.m. in the municipal building.

Woodworker turns his talent to unique statue

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

FERNBROOK - At first glance, St. Ann's Monastery and the Back Mountain might not appear to have much in common.

Fernbrook woodworker Keith Jones, owner of Siberian Special-

ties, recently retrofitted a statue of the mother of the Virgin Mary and grandmother of Jesus for the Scranton monastery, which many hope will someday be named a basilica.

Jones usually builds custom laminated countertops, computer stations and shelving, and designs decorative wood trim at his shop upstairs from Competition Plus on Main Road.

A friend whom he trained was installing some counters at St. Ann's and called him when he learned the statue needed some work.

Jones believes it was hand-carved in Italy from linden wood and may be one of the church's original ornamentations.

"It originally hung on the church's wall," he said. "They wanted to move it to an alcove to stand alone, which meant I had to remove the existing base, build an oak pedestal with decorative moulding for it and anchor it to the floor. The hardest part was getting it to stand straight."

Well, maybe that wasn't as hard as getting the 350 lb. statue into his shop. It took four strong men to unload it from his truck and lug it upstairs.

"It was fun," said Jones, who estimates he took 15 hours and about \$500 to do the job and clean accumulated candle soot from the wood.

"I never did this type of a job

See STATUE, pg 8



Charles Billings and Dirk Heiser tested the balance of the statue that was refurbished in Dallas.



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

SAIL ON

Joan Williams, a founding member of the Harveys Lake Yacht Club, and Jane Harter sailed The Madam II in last weekend's Invitational race. More photos on page 11.

Couple sees need for adult day care center in Back Mountain

By ANN POEPPERLING
Post Correspondent

HARVEY'S LAKE - Jeff and Tracy Snyder, Harvey's Lake, feel the Back Mountain is missing something very important which they can provide - adult day care (ADC).

ADC, according to Snyder, is a treatment program for adults who are unable to function independently, yet is an alternative to confinement in an institution. ADC improves the quality of life of

individuals with a functional impairment and provides respite for caregivers and clients.

Jeff Snyder poses these questions he feels are relevant to many area residents: "Do you have an adult loved one who needs supervision while you work? Do you need to work but can't because you need to take care of your adult loved one during the day? Would you feel better if your adult loved one had a place to go and

See DAY CARE, pg 12

■ British accent

Corey Pajka is back from three weeks in the British Isles. Pg 3.

■ #3peat Hosey's won the rec basketball title for a third straight year. Pg 9.

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