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School board vote puts building on main campus

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

DALLAS - At 10:30 p.m., after most of the audience had left, the Dallas School Board voted on an item that did not appear on the agenda for the March 17 meeting; to put the replacement for Westmoreland Elementary School on the district's main campus.

The 5-4 vote will place the K-5 building on a site behind the middle school, displacing one baseball field. The board also voted to name the new school after

the late Gerald Wycallis, who served the district as superintendent for 12 years.

The surprise motion was offered by John George. He and board members Joseph Kunec, Ernest Ashbridge, Tom Landon and James Richardson voted for the site, while Reese Finn, Maureen Banks, Thom Russ and John Litz voted against it.

The estimated cost of the school is \$7.4 million, which includes moving the field, but not building a new administration wing or state-certified gymnasium, both of which have been under consider-

"I think the board is going to live to regret this decision."

Ellen Smith
Westmoreland PTO president

ation.

Ellen Smith, PTO president for Westmoreland, has continually voiced her belief that school should not be on the main campus, in order to maintain a

smaller community atmosphere and prevent a chaotic environment. "I think the board is going to live to regret this decision," said a distraught Smith, who has been attending board meetings on the matter for more than a year.

Jack Snyder, president of Back Mountain Baseball, Inc., who started attending meetings in December when the fate of the baseball fields at Church St. and Irem Rd. was threatened, said he felt relieved. "I really didn't come for a victory, I just came to prevent a loss. I don't consider this a victory. The fields are not

ours yet," he said upon hearing the vote.

Ann Marie Stajewski of Dallas Twp. was pleased with the new site. "It is a positive thing for the community. For the last several months two elementary schools have been pitted against each other. I think this will bring us all back together. I also think it's a great new name for the school," she said.

The board had been discussing a site on the 100-acre main campus since December, but could not agree which of four

See SCHOOL, pg 8

Squeezing profits from lemonade, kids give to library

By CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK
Post Staff

DALLAS - "This is easy work" quips nine year old Hillary Adams. All you have to do is put some ice in a glass and pour it."

Hillary Adams, along with her sisters, Whitney, age 10, and Mariel, age 6, sold \$60 worth of lemonade this last summer in front of their house, but they didn't keep the money for themselves. "Mom said maybe we should give the money to a charity so at first we looked in the phone book. Then we saw all the people going to the auction," said Whitney. Continued Hillary, "We thought they could buy more and more books

See LIBRARY, pg 8



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Whitney, Griffin, Hillary and Mariel Adams show how their lemonade is mixed at home. The children donated \$60 they made selling lemonade to the Children's Wing at the Back Mountain Memorial Library.

Principal speaks up for middle school

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

DALLAS - In light of overcrowding at the high school and a potential move of ninth graders into the middle school, Anthony Martinelli, Dallas Middle principal, gave a presentation in an effort aimed at preserving the "Middle School Concept" at the March 17 Dallas School Board meeting.

Martinelli, presented research showing the national trend is moving away from junior high schools and promoting middle schools, which contain sixth through eighth grade. The research stated that middle schools provide a more appropriate setting for 11 to 14 year olds, both emotionally and physically.

Martinelli told the board the middle school environment nur-

"It would set the district back 15 years if you dismantled this program."

Anthony Martinelli
Middle School principal

tures the students, especially the sixth graders who are making their first big transition. "The sixth graders are in homerooms and only have two or three different teachers," explained Martinelli. It's a secure environment for them, he said. He also said the school provides appropriate social experiences for 11 to 14 year olds, such as dances, self-esteem and anti-drug programs.

See MIDDLE SCHOOL, pg 8

Supervisors turn down zone change for office building

By MICHAEL TWICHELL
Post Correspondent

LEHMAN - The Lehman Township supervisors voted down an application to re-zone land located within the township at their March 17 meeting.

Kenneth Kreller, owner of Contractors Group Inc., requested the township change an 8.5 acre lot located on Old Rte. 115 and Market St, which he is currently trying to purchase from an A-1 agricultural district to a B-1 neighborhood business district. Kreller hopes to construct a garage, which the A-1 regulations allow, and also an office building, which is not permitted under the present regulations.

Residents owning property near the site expressed concern that any commercial construction on the property would have a negative effect on neighboring prop-

erty values, create traffic problems on Old Rte. 115, and pose a potential hazard to nearby water sources and wild life. Representatives from Penn State's Lehman Campus, also near the site in question, voiced fears that yard lights used on the complex would interfere with use of the campus observatory.

In other business, the supervisors approved zoning officer Charles E. Bartlett's monthly report, which included the issuing of two permits, one a building permit to Darryl and Doreen Hoskins for an enclosed in ground swimming pool, and a temporary permit for the Winter's End footrace, held March 16 at Penn State Lehman.

Also included in the report was a Civil Complaint filed by the township against Barbara Niedziecki of Hunlock Creek, for violations of animal nuisance regulations.

PUC will meet at Penn State on National Utilities

The Public Utility Commission has scheduled meetings with customers of National Utilities, Inc.'s Oak Hill water system in Luzerne County to discuss available options for the future of the systems. The informal sessions, open to all customers, will be held March 20 from 6 to 8 p.m. in Room T-14 of the Bell Atlantic Center for Technology at Penn State's Wilkes-Barre Campus.

According to many Oak Hill residents, National Utilities, Inc. has been causing them problems for 12 years. Such hassles as frequent outages and low pressure, frequent boil-water advisories and water with unpleasant taste, odor and appearance, excessive lead levels, sediment and high chlorine content have been reported by

residents.

On Nov. 8 the water company was fined \$2,000 as a result of an formal complaint filed by Joseph Pagoda of Oak Hill in April 1995.

On Nov. 21 Judge Debra Paist denied National Utilities, Inc. request for a 49 percent rate increase. Paist said the company "has provided inadequate quality and quantity of service." National Utilities, Inc. appealed the decision, and the appeal is still pending.

The meeting, to be conducted by the PUC's Prosecutory Staff, was scheduled in connection with the staff's complaint against NUI for alleged violations of water service statutes and regulations. NUI representatives are scheduled to be in attendance.

Contested races for Supervisor, Council and School Board

FRANKLIN TWP. SUPERVISOR
(1 seat)
* Robert B. Redmond (R)
Frank J. Hilstolsky (R)
Jay W. Futch (D)

HARVEYS LAKE COUNCIL
(3 seats)
* George P. Andrews Jr. (R)
Sandra Serhan (R)
Wayne K. Smith (R)
* Francis J. Kopko (D)
Joseph Miscavage (D)
Keith Harry (D)
* Ed Kelly (D)

DALLAS BOROUGH COUNCIL
(3 seats)
Charles P. Kane (R)
* Martha A. Weber (R)
* Patricia L. Peiffer
(Incumbent Don Cooper is not running for re-election)

From petitions filed with the Luzerne County Election Bureau.

DALLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT
(4 seats)
Karen Z. Kyle (R & D)
Anthony R. Barbose (R & D)
Jamie Kozemko (R & D)
Frank Natitus (R & D)
Stephenn L. Wengen, Sr. (R & D)
Theodore W. Wright (R & D)
* Maureen Banks (R & D)
Brian Redmond (R & D)

LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL BOARD
Region 1 (1 seat)
Ronald J. Payne II (R & D)
David D. Crisman (R & D)
Region 2 (1 seat)
Moderno "Butch" Fossi (R & D)
* Samuel F. Rhodes (R & D)
Region 3 (2 seats)
Robert Allardyce (R & D)
* David R. Kaufman (R & D)
* Gary Miller (R & D)
* Incumbents

Music is important part of Katie Martin's life

By MICHAEL TWICHELL
Post Correspondent

LEHMAN - Music means a great deal to Lake-Lehman band member Katie Martin. The senior flautist recently attended the All Eastern Music Festival, held in Baltimore, Maryland February 27 through March 2. "It was a wonderful experience," she says, "and it gave me an insight for music's place in life."

Martin's participation in the festival is the result of her performance at last year's Pennsylvania

Music Educator's Association state music festival, where she took first chair flute in the state orchestra. She was then nominated for and eventually accepted into All Easterns.

Martin, 18, joined the band program at Lehman 7 1/2 years ago. She comes from a musical family, and first discovered her passion for music when an uncle, "introduced me to the beauty of music," she says. "Anything you're feeling can be expressed

See MUSIC, pg 8



Katie Martin led the Lake-Lehman band at the Atlantic Coast Championships, held at Lackawanna County Stadium last November.

On the beat

Ruth Peters is making her way as the only female police officer in the Back Mountain. Pg 2.

Champions all

DYB girls, Gate of Heaven win title games. Pg 9.

INDEX

14 Pages	2 Sections
Calendar.....	14
Classified.....	12-13
Crossword.....	14
Editorials.....	4
Obituaries.....	12
School.....	7, 11
Sports.....	9-10

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