

Cellular One

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already signed a contract with Cellular One that will allow them to build the tower, but in order to begin construction, they must have subdivision and land development approval and approval from the zoning officer. The company had asked the board for two waivers from requirements, both of which were unanimously denied by the planning commission.

This means Cellular One will have to draw up new plans that show all boundary lines and all adjacent structures and utilities, including water mains and sewer. "This is a land development plan and doesn't meet subdivision plan requirements," McCall told the Cellular One representatives. McCall also suggested the company reach an agreement with the township about who is responsible for maintaining the access road to the tower.

Naughton explained the cellular servicer's request for the waivers. "It was a minor land disturbance," she said. "We are dealing with a tiny tract of land. We just asked to be reviewed under less stringent requirements because it is a minor disturbance."

Cellular One feels the tower is necessary to improve cellular phone service in the Back Mountain, but both Cellular One and the township have drawn criticism from Dallas Township residents. Julie McLaughlin is one of the residents who showed up at the meeting to voice dissatisfaction. "There's hundreds of chil-

dren who live here and go to school here," McLaughlin said after the meeting. "I think the biggest risks are health concerns that haven't even been discussed. Some things you can't put a price on."

Township resident and adjacent property owner Roger Landry has retained Attorney Mark McNealis to fight the tower. McNealis also took issue with the plan presented by Cellular One. "If you're going to take a parcel and cut it in half, you have to show where it's going to be cut and what's going to be left," he said.

Rusnock believes the company will be more prepared when the commission meets June 10 to present a revised plan. "We will submit a revised plan that will address all the subdivision requirements," Naughton said.

Attorney Frank Townend, council for the township, spoke to the commission in defense of the supervisors' decision to sign the contract. "We believe the tower is a good idea," Townend said. "We don't think there's anything wrong with the way it looks. We think it's a step that will take us into the 20th century and possibly the 21st."

McCall reminded those gathered the purpose of the planning board. "The only issue before this commission is whether this plan meets subdivision requirements. The safety issue and the height issue are issues for the zoning officer and the zoning board."



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Risley barn opens again

The Northeast Junior Players recently held a fund raising sale at the old Risley barn on Lehman Ave. The barn, now owned by Gina Major Ackerman, director of NE Jr. Players, was the site of the Back Mountain Library Auction for nearly 40 years. Shown above, from left; Austin Williams, Courtney Dombroski, Ann Marie Eddy, Alison Taroli and Andrea Steele, who helped out with the sale.

School

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The school will be built to house the newest in cabling technology. Jack Wega, Distance Learning Lab, recommended that the board use fiber-optic cables to carry the school into the future. "If you wire it right, you'll use fiber," said Wega. "They will last you before foreseeable future."

Lehman explained the typical materials used for the interior of elementary schools. She recommended soil resistant carpeting, vinyl composition floors, humidity resistant and acoustical ceilings as viable options. Degillio said terrazzo is a high quality floor that is good for high-traffic areas.

Lehman presented the board with sample exterior textures and

colors. Degillio said the building should easily last more than 80 years.

Charlotte Williams, business manager, said preliminary calculations show the state will reimburse 15 cents on every dollar, which adds up to approximately \$1.3 million of the \$8.6 million project cost. The state determines its reimbursement rate based on the districts market value and economic ratio.

On June 30 at 7 p.m., the board will hold its Act 34 public hearing. At the hearing, the cost of everything from floor tile to paint color will be determined.

The board will meet May 22 to discuss the 1997-1998 tentative budget.

Offset

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order to be close to the New York publishers market and kept the Valley Paperback name. After two years of operation, Saul and his cousin Abraham Simkin bought back Valley Paperback from VTR. Six years later, OPM was finally exclusively offset printing.

Many employees, who were treated to a picnic-style barbecue lunch, were in high spirits and happy to celebrate the company's anniversary. "It's great," said Robert VanGorder of Dallas, who is a 27 year veteran of the company. "I never thought they'd be here in 25 years."

He is one of 300 employees who has worked at OPM for more than 15 years. VanGorder said his hard work has paid off, especially in regard to his children. "I raised five kids and put two through college. That has to say something," he said. Each employee received a four ounce silver commemorative coin.

VanGorder started under Valley Paperback and has seen everything change over the years. "The entire industry has changed drastically," he said.

OPM's ability to change with the technological times is exactly why Mark Schweiker, Lieutenant Governor thinks

"It's great. I never thought they'd be here in 25 years."

Robert VanGorder
27-year employee, Dallas

OPM has succeeded for a quarter century. "You succeed and set yourselves apart because you are spirited and forge forward in technology," he told a room full of approximately 70 people. "There are two kinds of businesses; the quick and the dead."

Schweiker stressed the important role of OPM's 660 employees. "We must applaud the employees for cranking away in the workplace," he said. "They are the most important asset." He presented OPM with a citation from the governor's office.

Phyllis Mundy, state representative and Gary Baker, who represented State Senator Charles Lemmond, presented citations from the state House and Senate.

Attorney Joe Terrana, who represented U.S. Congressman Paul Kanjorski, presented OPM with a United States flag that had flown over the U.S. capitol.

Also, Michael J. Gallagher, president and CEO, read a congratulatory letter from Dr. Gunter Thielens of Bertelsmann, OPM's parent company in Germany.

Kingston Twp. supervisors table cellular tower request

KINGSTON TWP. - At its regular meeting May 14, the Board of Supervisors postponed discussion on a 150-foot cellular pole the Pennsylvania Cellular Telephone Corp. requested to place in the township.

The company wants permission to build the "mono-pole" behind the present municipal building in order to aid in cellular communications in the Back Mountain.

The board decided to schedule a public hearing with township residents and representatives from the cellular company present to discuss the proposed project.

In other business, Ben Jones,

township solicitor, said he was presented a petition from 24 residents of the Westmoreland Hills development opposing the rezoning of land from conservation to residential. Gerald Fisher, owner of the property, plans to build two single-family residences on the land. Residents want the land to remain a conservation zone due to its slope and because it runs along a creek.

Michael and Jane Lowery withdrew their initial request to change their property at 24 E. Center St. from residential to commercial in order to build a beauty salon. Several nearby residents opposed the rezoning.

Nearly-New shop begins sale May 31

The Nearly-New Kids Shop, operated as a public service by the United Methodist Women of the Trucksville United Methodist Church will hold a Half-Price Sale. The sale will begin on May 31 and continue on June 7 and June 14. All merchandise will be sold for half the already low prices. Offered for sale are used children's clothing (in good condition) from infant through size 16.

The Nearly-New Kids Shop will be closed on the Memorial Holiday weekend, May 24. It will reopen on May 31 for the sale.

The shop will be closed after June 14 for the remainder of June and all of July. It will reopen August 16, with a stock of fall merchandise.

The Nearly-New Kids Shop is located in the Memorial Room, lower level of the Trucksville United Methodist Church, Church Road. Due to construction on proceeds from all sales are used for the many mission projects of the United Methodist women, local, national and global.

Audubon Society trip

Greater Wyoming Valley Audubon Society will sponsor a field trip to identify spring wildflowers at Bear Hollow Road near Harveys Lake, May 24. This is an easy walk, to be led by Bob Wasilewski, 824-3668. Meet at Grotto Pizza, Harveys lake at 10 a.m. Free and open to the public.



Art league donates painting

The Wyoming Valley Art League recently donated its annual W.V.A.L. Purchase Award from their Spring Exhibition to the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association, Luzerne County Courthouse, Wilkes-Barre. The painting "Pear" by Leigh Pawling, Dallas, is mixed medium. It was purchased by the Art League and donated to hang in the Assoc. Legal Library. Shown in the photo from left, Atty Joseph Persico, President; Wilkes-Barre Law Library Assoc., Atty. Keith Hunter, Wyoming Valley Art League and artist Leigh Pawling.

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