



POST PHOTO/JENNIFER JUDGE

Margo Vigorito's gallery will exhibit her own work for now, but the next show will provide other Back Mountain artists with a place to place their work on public view.

Gallery

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people portraits. For Vigorito, the reward in pursuing art is the "continual discovery." Moving to the Back Mountain has affected her choice of subjects, though. "I did paint a couple of snow scenes, which was fun," she said.

Vigorito has had little formal training, but she adds, "It hasn't stopped me from doing what I want." She studied painting at Monash University in Australia for three months, then went on to study pottery for six months before stopping. "I was too much of a free spirit," she said. "This is a God-given gift that I've just developed."

The gallery, which is adjacent to Drury's Restaurant, was previously a vacant warehouse. "I designed it and my husband built it," she said. The front open space of the gallery leads into another bright, open space where Vigorito works and holds classes. Vigorito has been giving art lessons out of her home for the past four years. She currently has 15 students

that range in age from child to adult.

Teaching is another one of Vigorito's loves. "The best part is showing these guys how to see it and how to do it. They leave here and move on to bigger and better things." Vigorito, a firm believer in not acknowledging limitations, said, "Kids don't know what they can't do. You don't tell them, 'You can't do that.' You show them how. It's a journey of discovery." Vigorito has been subsisting as an artist for almost 30 years and wants to show others that it can be done.

Vigorito's enthusiasm has earned the respect of her students. "She taught me a whole new way of doing things and it's just so much easier," said Kimberly Thomas, who has studied with Vigorito. "She knows how to bring out people's talent." Kevin Hays, a senior at Dallas High School, also enjoys working with Vigorito. Hays has been working on his college portfolio, a portfolio which recently got him accepted

to Syracuse University's art program.

The public response to the gallery has been favorable. "People have been wandering in saying, 'My God, a gallery at Harveys Lake,'" she said. "What better way to occupy your children for a few hours?"

Vigorito feels Harveys Lake is the perfect place for a gallery. "I think it is a terrific venue for it, especially in the summertime." In an effort to make the gallery a more inviting place, Vigorito has set up an area for sitting. A raised platform tucked away in the front corner of the gallery houses a couch, a chair, and a coffee table piled with art magazines and books. "I want it to be a place where people can sit and talk about art or whatever," she explained.

The gallery will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesdays and Fridays 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays 11 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Baseball

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At the March school board meeting, John Litz, board president, explained that the district would have to take precedence over community sports teams when using fields on district property.

If the district uses the upper field, a surrounding fence might need to be torn down and the field changed to accommodate the school's needs.

Adjoining property owners behind the high school have appealed Dallas Township's decision to allow the new fields' construction. Atty. Bruce Phillips, who lives near the district's property, is representing himself and his neighbors.

The property owners believe the township's decision to accept the district's field plans was improper. In their appeal, they outline three main issues. They question whether fields are allowed on land zoned Agricultural; they are concerned about parking, and believe the setback between their backyards and the fields is too short.

Jack Snyder, BMT Baseball president, said he understands what the school must do, but doesn't understand why there is an appeal. "The district owns the property and should be able to do what they want with it," he said.

Currently BMT Baseball does not have a lease for this year's season. The district has held off signing because of the lawsuit. With only five weeks until the season begins, Snyder said it's too late for the league to make arrangements for other fields. But, there is hope for this year.

"If the district can hold off using the field until July 1, we can

"If the district can hold off using the field until July 1, we can still play."

Jack Snyder
BMT Baseball president

still play," he said.

Back Mountain Soccer officials said they have made other provisions for their players. "We've been working for the last three months to make other arrangements for our players," said Peter Hoffman, BMT Soccer president.

The soccer league will lose use of fields that will be replaced by the new Wycallis elementary school, on which construction is slated to begin next month.

He said BMT Soccer has been securing fields outside the Back Mountain ever since the district

informed them about the lawsuit.

Hoffman had no comment about the lawsuit, but said the property owners disputed soccer fields being built in the same area five years ago. The soccer league wanted to put up lights to have night games and the neighbors resisted the plan, he said.

He said the season is set to start March 28 and that BMT Soccer is warning parents about the possibility they would have to restrict the number of players allowed. "Hopefully we won't have to do that," said Hoffman.

Snyder said the property owners are selfish. "They just have their own interest at heart," he said. "I feel the district is right in this matter and will do what I can to support them."

Lake-Lehman

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the his most significant contributions were for the district.

Price said he helped create an environment in which students can succeed. Nelligan responded, "That's it?"

Chip Sorber, social studies teacher and baseball coach, brought the crowd to their feet when he described Lake-Lehman as a small, rural district that triumphed both academically and athletically and can now compete with anyone.

He criticized the board for not trusting his decision for an assistant baseball coach. The board voted against his first choice. "I don't think you care about the 64 students I have in baseball or in many other areas in the school," he told the board.

"In the past 40 years I have seen a good ship built. It's not a

Titanic, but a good ship. I'm proud to be a part of Lake-Lehman. Our ship might be going down, but I'm willing to take a stand. Who will stand with me?" he asked. Many people in the audience stood to show support.

In other business, the board voted 6-3 vote to hold teacher negotiations in public. Also, the board approved the district's membership in the PA Education Joint Purchasing Council.

Donald Spencer Jr. was appointed as baseball coach for the junior high team at a salary of \$2,018. Michael Adamshik was appointed volunteer assistant coach, with Kopcha abstaining from the vote because he is her grandson.

The next meeting will be held April 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lehman-Jackson Elementary library.



POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

Donna Chamberlain spoke about taxpayer concerns at last week's Lake-Lehman school board meeting.

New Sat. night program at church

Fellowship Evangelical Free Church of Dallas, would like to announce the beginning of a Saturday evening service called "Saturday Night Alive!" These services meet each week from 5:30 to 6:30. These services will be casual: people do not have to dress up to attend. They will be contemporary, incorporating upbeat music and drama. They will be convenient, as the church is centrally located in Dallas, near the Dallas schools, with plenty of parking and seating. These services will examine what the Bible has to say about our daily lives, including the joys and struggles. Anyone is welcome to come. Childcare will be provided. For more information, call the church at 675-6426.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

The following property transfers were recorded at the Luzerne County Courthouse for the week of February 27 - March 5:

Frank H. Oliver, et ux to Bernard J. Popsen, et ux, 284 Machell St., Dallas Borough, \$134,900.

Victor M. Cruz, Jr., to Duane Atkinson, et al, Franklin Twp.,

\$75,000.

Atlee L. Kauffman, per att. infact to Helen M. Goble, et al, 40,41 Highland Ave., Kingston Twp., \$65,000.

Ronald Cross, et ux, to John H. Brocius, et ux, Lot 7 Grassy Pond Sub., Ross Twp., \$134,925.

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Moran's seek zone change in Lake Twp.

Jack and Maureen Moran, 950 Timbergrove Road, Shavertown, requests the rezoning of a portion of property at the Northwest corner of PA Rt. 118 and PA Rt. 29 intersection, Lake Township, from Agricultural District and a Single Family Residence District to a Highway Business District, to have a consistent zoning classification on the entire property.

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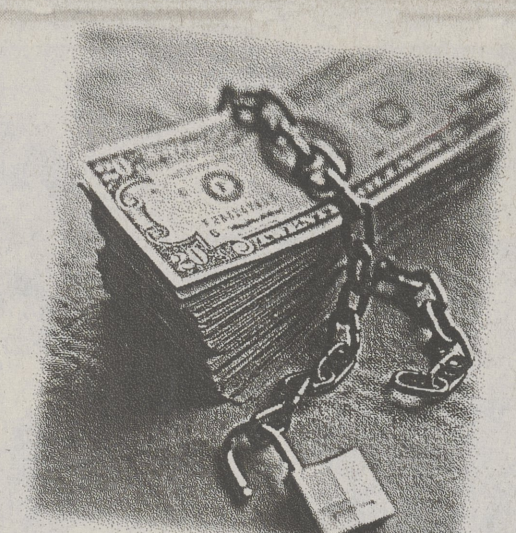
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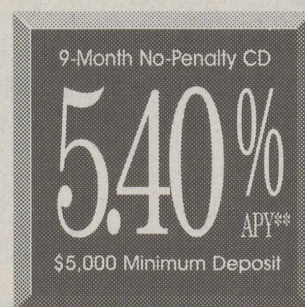
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