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Park's setback violation is upheld by zoning board

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

LEHMAN - Despite a decision by the Lehman Township Zoning Board, the owner of Pikes Creek Park still doesn't know where he and the park stand.

At a special meeting March 26, the board voted in favor of Dan Cornell, park owner, on three of the four issues considered.

The board voted against Cornell and in favor of Janet Bacceria, a neighboring

property owner, on the issue of setbacks. The zoning board stated that the setbacks should be 50 ft. on the front and rear yards. There is only a 26 ft. setback between Cornell Rd. and the corner of the Pikes Creek Park main building.

The ruling raises two questions: what will be the penalty for the violation, and will Cornell appeal. The zoning board does not set penalties for violations, but simply sends its verdict to the board of supervisors. Cornell's attorney said an appeal is a possibility.

In earlier hearings disputes arose about the zoning ordinance's display of the side yard requirements. A chart in the ordinance shows that a side yard in an agricultural zone should be 25 ft., but there is a small footnote indicated next to the words "side yard." At the bottom of the page the footnote states the setback for a corner lot should be the same as the 50 ft. front yard setback. Pikes Creek Park is on a corner lot.

Douglas F. Trumbower, township engineer, measured the front and side yards

of the property in January. Both parties accepted the measurements as accurate.

Bill Higgs, Cornell's attorney, argued that the footnote was in the wrong place and ambiguous. The zoning board disagreed.

The board voted in favor of Cornell on the other three issues brought up by Mark McNealis, Becceria's attorney, during board hearings. These were screening, the validity of the ordinance and if a



Pikes Creek Park may face penalties for building too close to Cornell Rd. See PARK, pg 8



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

SINGIN' UP A STORM

Students in Mrs. Maryanne Gelsos's third grade class at Westmoreland Elementary School sang during a program last

week. From left, Danny Kuligowski, Stephanie Gonczol, and Katie Gilligan. More photos, story on page 7.

Good food, fun and friends at Dallas Senior Center

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

DALLAS - People who patronize the Senior Citizens Center in Dallas want other seniors to know there is a place for them in the community. With daily low-cost meals, shuffleboard tournaments and card games to offer, many older citizens are finding camaraderie, a good meal and a whole lot of fun.

On a recent Friday afternoon there was an unusually small group sitting around a table at the center, preparing for the next hand of hearts. The majority of the center's regulars had just left for a nine day trip to Branson, Missouri.

The Dallas senior center is located at 22 Rice St. in Dallas and

is open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. every day with lunch at noon. It is sponsored by the Bureau for the Aging.

Howard Ehret of Lehman, Marge Mottern of Sweet Valley and Marie Weir of Dallas were the first ones (besides the happy crew on their way to Branson) in the center.

These three and others get together every day to play hearts until the center closes at 2 p.m. Ehret said there's usually a crowd at the card table.

These three all live alone and say they have found a friendly place full of people with whom they can laugh, talk and share their time.

"We're a very close knit center, that's why I like it," said Ehret, 79.

See SR. CENTER, pg 8



POST PHOTO/KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER

The Pinochle Club at their regular Tuesday game at the Senior Citizens Center in Dallas. From left, Sally Pomrinke, Dallas; Marie Weir, Dallas; MaryAnn Chorey, Dallas; Ruth Rogers, Lehman; Marie Shaver, Dallas, and Phyllis Shillabeer, Shavertown.

Work on intersection may begin in late summer

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

BACK MOUNTAIN - Plans to improve the main intersection in Dallas are complete and construction could begin by late summer. Representatives of PennDOT met with Dallas Borough officials March 19 to show them the final plan for the busy five-way intersection.

The plan includes widening Rt. 415 in front of the Dallas Post Office to install a right turn lane on to Church St. A concrete divider will be built to protect the post office from vehicles. The side

entrance to the post office will be closed and Foster St., which runs parallel to Rt. 415 behind the post office, will be utilized for the main entrance.

There was some question as to whether or not Dallas Borough owned Foster St., but borough officials told PennDOT the deed was in their hands.

Main St. will be widened to make room for an additional right-turn lane onto southbound Rt. 415. Two spaces currently used by police in front of the Dallas Borough Municipal Building and

See INTERSECTION, pg 2

L-L scientists earn trip to state competition

By JENNIFER KLAIPS
Post Correspondent

LEHMAN - What do bottle rockets, bugs, and eggs have in common? For several Lake-Lehman students, these objects were some of the highlights of the annual Science Olympiad competition. They also meant fun, learning, and victory for the team.

On March 11, 15 juniors and seniors from the Lake-Lehman gifted class participated in the Pennsylvania Science Olympiad regional competition. The daylong event was held at the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus.

High school teams from 33 area schools competed. Each team was allowed 15 students, seven seniors maximum. The competition consisted of 21 events measuring knowledge and application through tests, labs, and student-built projects in biology, chemistry, and physics. Individual medals were awarded in each event. Team members' placement in the individual events earned points for their team, and the top seven teams advanced to

"It's exciting the be part of the first team from Lake-Lehman to go to States."

Joanne White
Team member

state competition.

Lake-Lehman achieved one first and two third-place finishes, which combined to earn a seventh place standing for the team. As a result, the students will travel to Juniata on April 24 for state competition. This year's team is the first in four years of competition to advance to States. They will face the same number of competing high schools and have the opportunity to advance to a national level.

A first-place medal was earned through the efforts of Jeff Kernag and Ryan Mahle in the event "Don't Bug Me," an entomology test. Two third-place medals were awarded

See L-L SCIENCE, pg 3

Cell phone tower wins over residents' protests

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

KINGSTON TWP. - To the immense disappointment of many people present, the Kingston Township Board of Supervisors voted to allow Cellular One to build a 150-ft. "monopole" at 11 Carverton Rd. during a special meeting held March 25.

The board approved the conditional use application of Cellular One for the tower. The Planning Commission recommended against this action during their last meeting.

The board handed down specific regulations to Cellular One, including: no artificial lights unless required by the FCC; Cellular

One must annually submit written verification that there are no changes of use; if the antenna is not used for nine or more months, Cellular One will have to remove it, and the company must remove the tower if they ever discontinue its use.

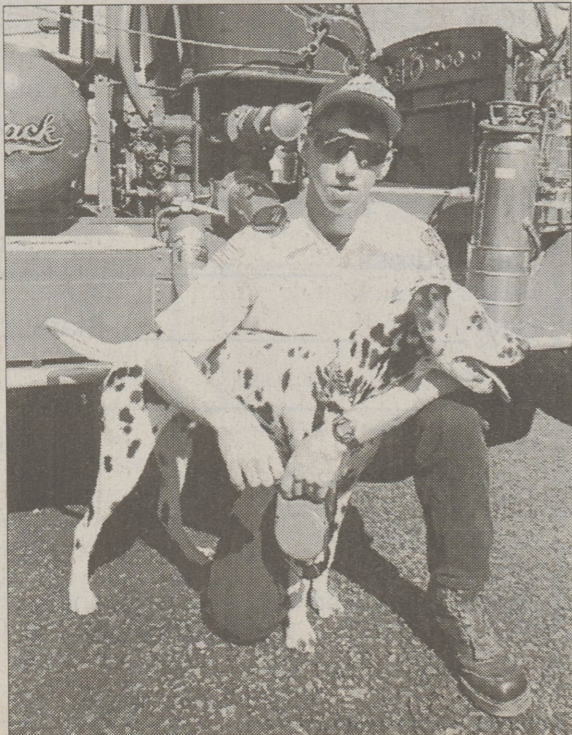
The township's acting attorney said the supervisors were hardly left with a choice under the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

An attorney for eight families opposed to the tower said the zoning ordinance clearly forbids putting such a structure in a residential zone. Atty. Mark McNealis and his clients plan to appeal the

See TOWER, pg 8

FIRE MAN ... AND DOG

Jason McDade, a firefighter from Lehman, brought his dog, Resq, to dedication ceremonies for the new Dallas fire station Sunday. More photos on page 8.



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

■ Dickens at DHS

Students - and parents - will perform Dickens' *Nicholas Nickleby* this weekend. Pg 3.

■ Stop ahead

New stop signs installed to curb speeding on Pioneer Ave. Pg 3.

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