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POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

A "dogsled" team was on the home stretch at last week's mini-Iditarod, held at Lake-Noxen School. Coordinated by Mr. Holdredge, the third grade class simulated the annual iditarod dogsled race across Alaska. Nine students were assigned to each team. Before setting up the race, class

members contacted Iditarod headquarters in Alaska. The race was held around the school, with names of Alaskan towns posted along the way. From left, Kayla Teetsel, "musher," Josh Roberts, Chris Steinhauer, Brian Shurmanek, Brittany Rice. More photos, story on page 5.

Taxpayers rebuffed on tax reform study

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

LEHMAN - The Lake-Lehman Taxpayers' Association thinks the school board should be jumping at the chance to find out all they can on tax reform, i.e. Act 50, commonly known as The Homestead Act. For them that means organizing a citizens' committee to gather information on the legislation that proposes to shift the tax load from property to income.

During last week's regular school board meeting, a slim majority voted down the call for a committee with some members citing they did not see a reason for one and others fearful of a referendum in November.

Regardless, the taxpayers say there isn't any harm in trying to educate the community about this legislation that seems to remain a mystery for most people. The association said it will most likely exercise its right to petition in two years to force the formation of an advisor's committee.

"People have been looking for tax relief for 20 years. The Homestead Act is something to look at. It's like (the school board) doesn't want to know anything. They're prolonging it when it could be put on the ballot in November," said

"It's too complicated. Most people don't really know what it's about."

Moderno "Butch" Rossi
School board president

Ed Chesnovitch, a taxpayer association member.

Donna Chamberlain, also a taxpayer association member, described the board's vote as frustrating. "They dismissed it out of hand," she said. "Those who voted against it are being dictatorial. They don't like it so they won't do it. I think it's important for the public to know about tax reform."

The school board president, Moderno "Butch" Rossi, asks what regular people can figure out about the Homestead Act anyway. "It's too complicated. Most people don't really know what it's about," explained Rossi when asked why he voted the committee down.

"We didn't feel it would be beneficial at this time. None of the other districts have brought it up," he said. Rossi also said since the county assessor cannot certify and verify Farmstead exemp-

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Internet use slow to take off at library

Children below age 16 must be accompanied by an adult to sign on

By MEIRA ZUCKER
Post Correspondent

DALLAS - The Back Mountain Memorial Library is now providing free internet access for library patrons, but so far few people have made use of this convenience. Despite some parents' fear that unrestricted students would soon be hunting down salacious sites on the web, in fact only three to four computer users sign the log book each day, making scant use of the free access provided by the state. And anyone below the age of 16 must be accompanied by a

parent or guardian while surfing the 'net.

Epix of Dallas provides the library with free internet access as a public service. The computers themselves were donated to the Commonwealth's libraries by Bell Atlantic. Back Mountain Memorial Library was one of 188 public libraries receiving free computers for internet access.

Before accessing the internet at the Back Mountain Memorial Library, patrons are required to read and sign a user agreement and permission form. The form requires patrons to limit internet use to research, (rather than chat rooms, e-mail, or commercial purposes) and to abide by rules of internet etiquette (no destructive or offensive behavior).

A disclaimer also cautions surfers that controversial material can

be found online, and that it is the responsibility of the user to monitor what web sites they view. In addition, another warning is included to remind patrons that internet sites often include inaccurate and incomplete information.

Children under 18 years old must have a parent or legal guardian sign the form, and children under 16 years old must have that parent or legal guardian beside them as they surf the 'net. Patrons sign in and out in a log book, and are limited to 30 minutes of use at a time.

The library staff researched the policies of other libraries throughout the country when developing their own internet policy. "This is a conglomeration of many librar-

See INTERNET, pg 8



POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

Colleen Henninger sat at one of the new computers in the children's room at the Back Mountain Memorial Library, with mom Julianne close by. They are from Pikes Creek.

Teens' dance earns \$892

LEHMAN - Jason Lyons, Matt Morris and Joel Whipple's Valentine's Day Dance raised \$892 for the Alternative Learning Center, surpassing their goal of \$600. The three Lake-Lehman seniors planned the dance for their required senior project. It was held for seventh through ninth graders February 12.

So long, old school

Westmoreland "family" plans goodbye carnival. Pg. 3.

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Concerned senior spurs school recycling program

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

LEHMAN - Most of us have to get sick of something before we will do anything to change it. Correction: Most of us complain about something we are so sick of, but usually never do anything about it. Enter one of the exceptions, Ben Wolfe.

As the Lake-Lehman senior was eating his lunch one day, the cafeteria garbage cans overflowing with both recyclable and unrecyclable waste headed for the dump got to be too much for him. Almost overnight Wolfe launched the high school's first student-organized recycling program in conjunction with the Key Club.

"(The trash) has always bothered me, but for some reason that day it sparked something. I knew I had to do something before I left here. I regret that I didn't start this as a freshman," said Wolfe, from the KnightLife newspaper room, where he is the managing editor of the school paper.

The paper, it turns out, helped inspire the naturally motivated student in his cause. Wolfe put a trial recycling box for white paper only in the

"This is a start. I really hope the underclassmen get involved and carry it on with the teachers."

Ben Wolfe
Lake-Lehman senior

newspaper room and was shocked by how much paper was collected in just a few days. The trash cans in that room were virtually empty.

Also, Wolfe wrote an editorial expressing his concern with the current lack of recycling and asked fellow students to share their opinions. Most were supportive of a program. Seventy percent said Lake-Lehman should recycle more and 88 percent feel it is an important activity.

The KnightLife newspaper entered the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Environmental Journalism Awards contest in hopes of winning a \$2,000

See RECYCLING, pg 8



Bridge damaged, repaired

DALLAS - You may have noticed the construction on the historical Dallas Borough stone bridge on Center Hill Rd. between Pickett's Charge and the Meadows. On Nov. 27 Michael John Scavone, 33, of Harveys Lake rammed his mother's 1987 Ford Taurus into the right side of the bridge after turning onto Center Hill Rd. from Rt. 415. The crash caused \$15,000 worth of damage to the bridge, said Milt Lutsey, borough manager. Jack Barbose masonry is rebuilding the stone wall and Scavone's insurance is footing the bill. Scavone pled guilty to four traffic violations. He was fined \$832 for the accident. At right, as work began. Above, Jack Barbose walked across the nearly finished project.



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