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Harveys Lake's water is cleaner this year

By KASIA McDONOUGH
Post Staff

HARVEYS LAKE - Go jump in the lake! Sure, the water may be cold at first but, if you don't mind goosebumps, this summer should be a trouble free swimming season at historic Harveys Lake.

Officials of the Harveys Lake Environmental Advisory Committee are cautiously optimistic that the problems which interfered with sporting events and recreation last summer will not spoil the fun this year. "Overall, we can speculate, that in all probability fecal coliform levels will be lower this year," said John Levitsky who is a member of the Committee. High levels of fecal coliform bacteria caused the

"We have seen a dramatic decrease in the number of birds that wintered here this year."

John Levitsky
Harveys Lake Environmental Advisory Committee

swim portion of last year's Wilkes-Barre triathlon to be canceled. "The problem was limited to a small area of the lake where people were feeding the water fowl on a regular basis," said Levitsky.

The anticipated improvement is a result of an ordinance which prohibits feeding water fowl at the

lake. Feeding water fowl discourages migration since the birds do not have to fly south in search of food as they would do instinctively. "We have seen a dramatic decrease in the number of birds that wintered here this year," said Levitsky. "We used to have 350 mallards at the lake every winter, while this year the number was between 70 and 100 birds."

A comparison can be made between the water fowl and bears in the wild that become abnormally aggressive once introduced to "human food." "Direct import of processed foods does not allow the recycling which would occur in nature if the birds



Matt Ide and Chris Suder, members of Boy Scout Troop 693, Harveys Lake, dug an auger into the soil as part of a soil-testing project at Harveys Lake.
POST PHOTO/KASIA McDONOUGH

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POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Honoring the sacrifice

The Daddow-Isaacs Post 672 of the American Legion held its Memorial Day parade and ceremonies Monday. The largest crowd in years turned out for the annual event. Above, Martha Reese, left,

and Michael Crisci observed a moment of silence in honor of those who gave their lives to preserve American freedom and prosperity. More photos on page 8.

Trinity kids march to help a friend

A Mini March for Cystic Fibrosis Foundations were held recently by students of Trinity Learning Center.

The march benefitted the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in honor of Andrew Matcho, son of Donna and David Matcho of Dallas, Andrew's brother, David is a student in Mrs. Guyette's Play Group Class at Trinity Learning Center.

Mini marches are geared to pre-schoolers in

an effort to start them learning about community service and having fun doing it.

The Mini March was coordinated by Mrs. Nancy Guyette and Mrs. Joan Rovinsky.

The march was an overwhelming success. More than \$1,100 was raised by the students by collecting donations from sponsors for their participation in the walk, personal donations and by purchasing raffle tick-

ets to win prizes. The prizes, donated by Joe Nardone's Gallery of Sound, included children's videos, compact discs and cassette tapes. Trinity Learning Center Staff Members donated Beanie Babies and the grand prize of a Children's Basket of Summer Fun.

About 35 children participated in the fundraiser with 29 actually taking part in the Mini March. The children were joined by Trinity Learning Staff Members, moms, dads, sisters and brothers.

After the walk each child was treated to a snack, balloons and prize bags.

Cystic Fibrosis representative Cynthia Phillips was also in attendance.

Thanks to the generous support from the students of Trinity Learning Center and the funds they raised, researchers will be able to keep making advances in finding a cure for this dread disease.



POST PHOTOS/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

A shy Andrew Matcho, in chair, was the guest of honor at the mini-march held at Trinity Learning Center. Donnie Stephens was pushing, and Brett Wanek, left, and David Matcho, Andrew's brother, got into the picture.



Sharon Mayernick handed out balloons to Ryan Hogan, left, Travis Debona nad Donnie Stephens.

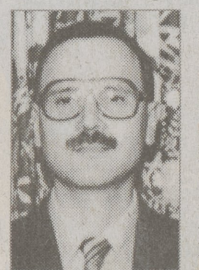
Suit alleges Lehman school directors defamed negotiator

By KASIA McDONOUGH
Post Staff

LAKE-LEHMAN - Lake-Lehman School Board directors remain targets of a lawsuit filed in Luzerne County Court alleging defamation of character, false light and invasion of privacy.

The charges stem from a letter sent to district taxpayers on July 15, 1998 as a purported update on the status of negotiations between the school district and the Lake-Lehman Education Association. The correspondence was not printed on official letterhead and was unsigned. The letter's closing paragraph states, "This report was submitted with the assistance of the district's Chief Negotiator on behalf of the Board of Directors and the administration of the Lake-Lehman School District."

Bruce Campbell, the district's chief negotiator during the collective bargaining process, accepted responsibility for the letter at a school board meeting in which the new agreement was announced, but he is not named as a defendant in the lawsuit. "Mr. Campbell did say he authorized the letter and that it came from his office," said Moderno Rossi, school board president. "That statement is a matter of public record."



MODERNO ROSSI

Court papers reveal the lawsuit has been filed on behalf of Walter Glogowski, PSEA Chief

See SUIT, pg 8

Lawmakers eye expansion of tax/rent rebate plan

By KASIA McDONOUGH
Post Staff

BACK MOUNTAIN - The state Senate is considering new legislation to expand the popular property tax and rent rebate program.

This year's \$19 billion state budget includes \$96.8 million to fund the program, which benefits senior citizens, widows or widowers over the age of 50, and disabled persons who rent or own their homes. Qualified individuals may receive payments up to \$500 to offset property taxes or rental payments. "Historically, this has been a very popular program which we are looking to make available to an even larger percentage of our neighbors," said Rep. George Hasay, 117th Legislative District, which includes Harveys Lake, Jackson Township

and part of Dallas Township.

Hasay has been working closely with several members of the legislature to pass House Bill 773. "This bill would eliminate half of a person's Social Security payments and 50 percent of federal railroad benefits from income calculations used to determine eligibility for the program," he said. The legislation was passed by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives on May 3 and was forwarded to the Senate Committee on Aging and Youth.

Currently, the program is restricted to those who earn less than \$15,000 annually. Wages, Social Security benefits, and interest earned on investments are considered when determining eligibility. Under the proposed legis-

See REBATES, pg 8

Edwards dies

Edward Edwards, beloved Lake-Lehman teacher and sports coach, died May 27. Pg 2.

Handle w/care

If you find a wild animal, it's usually best to leave it alone. Sports.

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