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Fill dumped near, in lake

By RONALD BARTIZEK
Post Staff

HARVEYS LAKE - Waste material has been dumped at the shoreline of Harveys Lake near the Outlet, in a apparent attempt to increase the land area.

Jim DeGeorge, Harveys Lake Borough Zoning Officer, said he was told about the dumping by a neighbor to property owned by Josephine Moretti, at pole 279. DeGeorge photographed piles of waste asphalt, dirt and concrete material June 4, and wrote Moretti to say it was improperly placed, giving her seven days to remove it. He said Larry Moretti, Josephine's son, responded by visiting him at the borough building. "He said he would take care of it in a couple of days," DeGeorge said.

DeGeorge said he received another call from a neighbor Thursday, June 17, and was told the material had been pushed into the lake and covered over at 10:30 p.m. the previous night.

DeGeorge, Richard Haas, the chairman of the borough's zoning board and a reporter went to view the site Friday, June 18 at around noon. The debris was gone, and the area was covered by freshly cut wood chips. A small pile of new material that looked like asphalt was still in place at the lakeshore, hidden from view by a tree.

"It looks like they extended the shoreline out," DeGeorge said after viewing the site. Haas said it looked as if "a triaxle full of ripped up stuff" had been dumped, then covered with chips.

Jim Stout, Waterways Conservation Officer, happened to drive by at the time, and he stopped to take a look. He said he also had been told someone had pushed the pile of material into the lake the night of June 16.

DeGeorge was disturbed that calls to the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) had not resulted in an inspection of the site. He said he had called the Wilkes-Barre office of DEP shortly after learning of the dumping, but no one had been out to look over the debris. He called again June 18, and felt the response was tepid. "Now I'll have to send a citation to the magistrate. It would have been nice to have a report from DEP to go with it," he said.

Mark Carmon, community relations coordinator for DEP, said the waste is not in itself a problem, as long as it is only old or new asphalt or concrete, clean soil and

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Joyce Tinner, head coach of the West All Star team in Monday's Dallas Kiwanis Senior All Star game, cheered on her team during the contest, which was held at the Back Mountain Little League field. The West team jumped ahead and never trailed on the way to an 8-5 victory. During the regular season, Tinner serves as head coach of the Dallas High School softball team. Story, more photos on sports page.

POST PHOTO/JIM PHILLIPS

Again, some want to bid out solicitor's position

By KASIA McDONOUGH
Post Staff

LAKE-LEHMAN - Amid suggestions of vote trading, the Lake-Lehman School Board approved a motion to seek proposals for a new solicitor for the second consecutive year.

Peter Savage, the district's long-time legal advisor, was informed of the decision at the school board's June meeting.

Last year, the school district opened the solicitor's position to new applicants after several board members expressed concern about the salary. "They found out very quickly just how much the district was getting for its buck," said Karen Whipple. "I was opposed to the motion to seek proposals last year but I understood it; to go through the same thing all over again is just ridiculous."

The latest motion was the topic of a heated debate in which Whipple questioned the motives of her fellow school board members. "I talked to 'Butch' Rossi over the Memorial Day weekend and he assured me this matter was not going to be brought before the board this year," she said. "The next thing I know, Peter (Savage) is being hung out to dry. I definitely think some vote trading went on here."

The appointment of Rob Wilson as head coach of the girls' basketball team added to the controversy, because a review committee of the board had recommended another candidate. "The administrative recommendation was that Michael Sharok be appointed head coach; the vote was three to one but somehow Wilson ends up being nominated," said Whipple. The lone dissenting vote was cast by school board member Ed Kern.

As a general rule, Lake-Lehman school

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Scouts, parishioners plant living memorial

By RONALD BARTIZEK
Post Staff

DALLAS - Bruce Davies Jr., who devoted 70 of his 83 years to the Boy Scouts, has been honored with a living memorial by Cub Scout Pack 281, Dallas United Methodist Church, and members of the congregation.

Davies was affiliated with Troop 281 of the Boy Scouts for 50 years, and served as Scoutmaster for eight years, during which 18 boys became Eagle Scouts. After he died May 17, the pack wanted to honor his memory.

"Because of all the time and energy, and how much of his life he gave to Scouts, we thought something living would be best," said Paula Glicini, a pack leader.

After talking over ideas Scouts and church officials settled on planting a bonsai cherry tree in an open area at the front of the church. The tree matches an older one that grows near the steps leading to the front door.

Kurt Fetterman, who owns a landscaping business and who went through the troop to become an Eagle Scout, volunteered to plant the tree. "His big concern was who would water it," said Don Dickson, who volunteered for the duty. He comes by each night to see that the tree, which stands about 10-feet tall, is in good shape.

Rev. William D. Lewis, pastor, said the tree was an appropriate memorial because Davies loved the out of doors so much. He quoted from Joyce Kilmer's poem, *Trees*, in a short talk to the group that gathered to dedicate the tree. A plaque noting the significance of the tree will be added later.

Davies' widow, Irene, attended the ceremony. "I guess all I can say is thank you all," she said.



POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

The living memorial to Bruce Davies Jr., with those who came to dedicate it. From left, seated; Michael Glicini, Steven Luksa, Matthew Glicini. Standing; Paul Luksa, David Glicini, Kate Dickson, Irene Davies, Ed Luksa, Joan Luksa, Paula Glicini, Robert Glicini, Paul Kutish, Nancy McDonald. Members of Dallas United Methodist Church are in the background.

No tax increase in new Lake-Lehman budget

By KASIA McDONOUGH
Post Staff

LAKE-LEHMAN - For the second consecutive year, tax millage rates will not increase in the communities that support the Lake-Lehman School District.

The general fund budget for the 1999-2000 school year was approved at a special meeting held June 21, by a vote of 6 to 1, with the dissenting vote cast by Robert Allardyce. It includes \$17,371,680 in revenue and an equivalent amount in expenditures.

Revenues for the approaching fiscal period will be drawn from three sources. The federal government will contribute \$302,319 to the district in the form of grants. That figure is equivalent to 2 percent of the total revenue.

Pennsylvania will provide 45 percent of the total for the 1999-2000 school year. The state will pay \$7,822,301 to Lake-Lehman in the form of a basic instructional subsidy, special education and transportation funds.

Local sources will account for \$9,247,060 or 53 percent of the district's revenue. These figures are based on a rate of 221 mills on the assessed valuation of real estate in Harveys Lake Borough and the Townships of Jackson, Lake, Lehman, and Ross in Luzerne County. The property tax rate in Noxen Township, in Wyoming County, will remain at 42 mills.

Contractual disbursements, which include payroll costs and health insurance coverage, account for a bulk of the district's expenditures. "The budgeted salaries and benefits total \$9,007,640 which is approximately a 4.18 percent increase over last year," said Kathleen Williams, Business Manager.

The overall expenses include \$1,513,818 allotted for transportation of the district's students. Maintenance and operation costs total \$1,310,005 and debt services account for \$999,705 of next year's expenditures.

Next year's budget also includes a reserve in the amount of \$31,690 which will be available to cover the cost of unforeseen expenses.

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