

## HL council

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"Everybody was caught off guard by this whole thing between the municipal authority and DAMA and they are justifiably upset."

"Again, I haven't studied this in great detail, it seems they (HLGMA) may be right about their claim that DAMA owes us some money because the pumps can only handle a certain volume and we're being charged for more but on the other hand why haven't we paid anything for six or seven years?" asked Hanson. "I think this could go either way, but the biggest problem to me was that the residents had no idea there was a dispute and they should have been told right up front."

Eaton said poor communication is just a symptom of an even larger problem. "Our sewers are in serious disrepair," she said. "Every time there is a heavy rain-fall the runoff goes into the sewer system causing manhole covers to pop off and forcing the pumps to work that much harder. I feel the council has to take a more active leadership role in prioritizing projects to improve the borough."

In addition to upgrading the borough sewer system, Eaton said many of the town's roads need resurfacing. "I'm a registered nurse and I work at a small nursing home in the borough. The road to work is so bad, we can't get a private ambulance to transport our patients," she said. "That's a problem that could cost a life someday."

Protecting Harveys Lake residents and their properties from criminal activity is another important issue facing the new council members. "People aren't aware of the amount of crime that takes place in the borough," said Eaton. Many people, especially the elderly who have lived at the Lake for decades, keep their doors unlocked. I understand that no one wants to create a sense of panic but at the same time a false sense of security is not good either."

Increasing police presence is one method of deterring crime. "My concern is, and I've said this for a long time, that I don't think our police officers patrol the borough the way they should," said Eaton.

The performance of police officers should be evaluated with an eye toward strengthening the community said Hanson. "There has been some controversy regarding our police chief who I've heard doesn't live in the borough," he said. "I don't think that should be an issue as long as he's out there on time doing his job when he's supposed to be."

Similar criteria will be used in all borough offices. "I didn't run to fire anyone or to completely clean house," said Hanson. "There is a

*"The main reason I ran was because I wanted to be appointed a sewer authority liaison."*

**Dan Hanson**  
New council member

rumor going around the Lake that the new council members want to get rid of all the borough employees, which just isn't the case. That in my first year as a councilman I will make mistakes, but no one is going to be demanding my resignation."

As a gesture of his willingness to work with the borough's employees, Hanson, who is donating his salary to the Harveys Lake Little League and Fire Department, said he will not support an effort to fire someone during the early stages of his term. "I will not vote to terminate anyone during my first year in office; I think it's going to take time to see who is doing their job and if we find out there are people who should be doing something more or something different there are ways to accomplish that."

Achieving other goals, like expanding services and upgrading borough infrastructure, requires an influx of new capital. "I have a call into Representative Hasay because I want to talk with him about the state helping towns like ours finance the maintenance of sewer systems," said Hanson. "If the state set aside say \$20 million, that money might help 35 or 40 communities and the people living in those towns would have more money to spend."

Pursuing grant money that is already available at the state and federal levels is another way to ensure the borough remains competitive. "There are grants out there we can get in regard to roads, sewers, water quality and things like that," said Eaton. "The council is going to work heavily on researching these grant opportunities which may have been overlooked in the past."

Both new council members are confident fresh ideas and new energy will re-invigorate borough government and help bridge the rift which threatens the community where they live and work. "The borough is a business - it's about money coming in and money going out," said Hanson. "But I think we should also have a little fun. If as a councilman I'm driving around the lake and I see one of my neighbors needs help lifting a rock into a wheelbarrow, I'm going to get out and help. It's serious work but it should fun."

## Hungry

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from about 200 items the first year to 271 last year. Then T.J. and his father, Tom Dougherty, thought there might be a way to improve the harvest. "We never had a goal before," said Tom. So, this year's flyer had an added line, with a goal of exceeding 400 items. And they made it.

Nearly everyone who is solicited leaves something out, with rare exceptions. "A couple of people said they didn't get the letter," said T.J., with just a hint of disappointment.

T.J. gets a kick out of his neighbors' generosity. "It makes me feel good," he says. In addition to the food, two people gave \$10 gift certificates to a supermarket.

All Lake-Lehman students are asked to participate in the food drive, and most bring in a bag of cans. "I just bring in more than anyone," T.J. says.

Picking up the food in Tom's van takes about two hours. And while T.J. may only be around to do the job one more year, "I've got two younger ones who helped," says Tom, so the Sutton Hills food collection should continue for several years.



POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

T.J. Dougherty collected 403 food items and two gift certificates that will be donated to the Feed-A-Friend program at Lake-Lehman High School.

## Misericordia Choral Society to present Christmas concert

College Misericordia's Choral Society will present its annual Christmas Concert titled "The Light of the World" on Tuesday, December 7 at 8 p.m. in Walsh Auditorium. The concert is under the direction of Dr. John Curtis and accompanied by Betty Porzuczek, both associate professors of Fine Arts at Misericordia. "The Light of the World" concert features soloists Judy Ann Curtis, Frank Spencer and Christopher Gallo. The program will include selections from Haydn,

Mendelssohn, and Thompson as well as the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah and an audience Christmas carol sing-along.

The Misericordia Choral society is composed of students, staff and faculty of the College, as well as members of the community. The concert is free and open to the public.

Donations of non-perishable food items for the Back Mountain Food Bank will be accepted at the door. For more information, call 674-6739.

## Lehman Twp. taxes due December 8

Lehman Township property owners and residents are reminded that Dec. 8, is the deadline for payment of the 1999 county/municipal and school property, and school per capita, and township street light taxes. They are all currently payable at the penalty value listed on the tax bills. If mailing taxes, enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope for a paid receipt.

Office hours are by appointment by calling 675-2246. All unpaid property taxes will be returned to the Luzerne County Tax Claim Bureau for delinquent collection. Township and school per capita taxes will be returned to the Calvin McHose Agency and H.A. Berkheimer Associates respectively for delinquent collection.

## Public invited to Sunday Morning Birding

Sunday Morning Birding in Kirby Park will be sponsored by the Greater Wyoming Valley Audubon Society on Sunday, Nov. 28. Jim Shoemaker will lead the outing in search of both woodland and river birds. Meet at 8 a.m. on the north side of Market Street near the dike in Kingston. This opportunity to learn to identify native birds is repeated the fourth Sunday of each month. Free and open to the public.

## BIRTHS

**NESBITT GREY**, Harold and Donna, Dallas, a son, Nov. 9.  
**BANKS**, Brian and Molly, Dallas, a daughter, Nov. 10.

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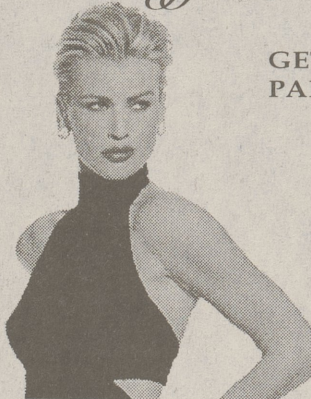
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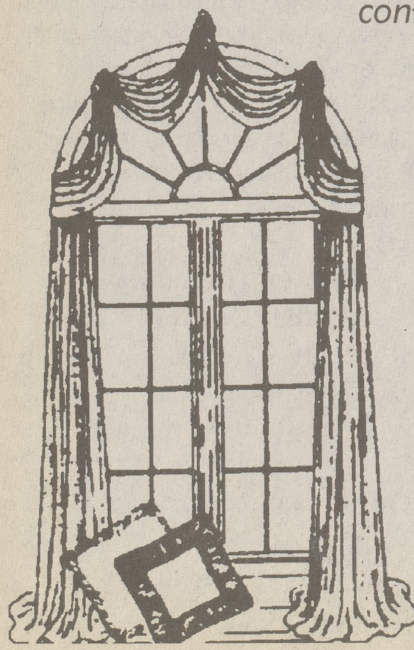
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