

Hemlock Gardens

(continued from page 1)

legal descriptions compared to recorded plot plan. No lots extend into the streets of Hemlock Gardens Development.

Terry Jones, Harveys Lake tax collector, said his records indicate Ruckno pays taxes on three parcels located within the borough but he could not conclusively determine whether or not Ruckno Construction Company owns Hemlock Gardens Road. "The Rucknos own three pieces of land," said Jones. "One is 1.05 acres at Hemlock Gardens, another is 3.71 acres and I think that's in Hemlock Gardens as well. The third is 13.45 acres over by Sunset. Judging from that it's really impossible for me to say they own the road."

Shala Marszalek, who has lived at Hemlock Gardens for 26 years, is frustrated by the ongoing discussion of ownership. "I think Ruckno and the council should get together and get us grants or whatever they have to do," she said. "I don't care what it takes; this has gone on for too long and it's time the Borough and Ruckno stop fighting us and start helping us."

"My husband and I bought our home here 26 years ago; he had a business in Hometown and we used this house as a get-away for many years," said Marszalek. "Two years ago, we added onto the house and put in a driveway that allows us to drive from the main road to the house without using Hemlock Gardens Road. Before we did that, I'd have to park on Second Street and walk up to my house. When my children were young and I had

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Shala Marszalek
Hemlock Gardens home owner

to carry baskets and groceries up the hill it was very hard."

Another Hemlock Gardens resident who has school age children worries they may be injured walking along the icy road during the winter months. "I live way on top of the hill so I have the worst of the worst," said Amber Lombardo. "I have two kids who have to walk down the hill every day to catch their school bus and I can't tell you how many times they have fallen. It's just awful."

Hanson said the borough council is sympathetic to the residents concerns but they're not in a position to alleviate their grievances. "I own an antique shop and I've delivered furniture up there so I know how bad that road is; if I lived up there, I'd move," said Hanson. "Unfortunately, there isn't anything the borough can do since we don't have a quarter of a million dollars to fix it up."

John Gill, an attorney representing Ruckno Development, did not return phone calls requesting information for this story.



DHS players to present Mame

Dallas High School students are rehearsing for the musical comedy Mame, to be presented April 6-8 at 8 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and senior citizens. They will be available at the door. Shown above, from left, Abby Ahmad as Vera Charles, left; Ashleigh Ide as Gooch, right; and Norah Krakosky as Mame.

Shelley's

(continued from page 1)

track. Shelley's has cancelled the purchase of seven new trucks that had been ordered, and the manufacturer has postponed the last two payments on trucks delivered last year. "They said 'no problem, we understand perfectly,'" Shelley said.

And the fuel crisis isn't over yet. Shelley said she had been told prices will go up again soon, probably to about \$1.80 per gallon. "We've cut incidentals big-time," she said, to offset the extra fuel expense.

When it appeared the firm might have to close, Shelley wrote to several state and national government officials. She received responses to all her pleas, but no

"As for right now, we're paying our bills and keeping afloat."

Beverly Shelley
Arthur Shelley Inc.

solutions. "They all said it's out of their hands," she said. "All they're talking about is heating oil." She noted that a recent shipment to her office was priced at \$1.179 per gallon, far below the levels of a few weeks ago.

"As for right now, we're paying our bills and keeping afloat," she said gamely.

KT residents reminded to curb pets

The residents of Kingston Township are reminded that the Township Animal Nuisance Ordinance requires that any person having possession, custody or control of any dog or other animal which defecates in any area shall be required to remove said nuisance or be subject to a fine. Additional information may be obtained from the zoning officer at 696-3809.

Ross

(continued from page 1)

The delay is not a major setback and should not cause problems with class schedules said Trumbower. "There weren't any snags as far as paperwork is concerned," he said. "This is just a time-consuming process and it's taking a little longer than we had originally predicted. I don't expect it to be a problem since construction will get started during the summer break."

McLaughlin-Smith, Principal. "I think it still has to be decided whether we're doing the remodeling first and then the construction in the fall or the other way around. Once we know the schedule we'll have a better idea of what has to be done to get ready."

Estimates are the renovation and expansion will cost the district \$3 million. Reimbursements from the State Department of Education will cover approximately 20 percent of that total while a bond issue will fund the balance.

"Once we know the schedule we'll have a better idea of what has to be done to get ready."

David McLaughlin-Smith
Ross Principal

Expansion plans include the addition of six classrooms, a special education room, an art room, and a computer room. Renovations within the existing school structure include new lighting systems, a new ventilation system, replacement doors and windows and removal of asbestos floor tiles.

The larger space will allow fifth and sixth graders to return to Ross Elementary. The children, who are currently bused to Lake-Noxen Elementary School, will add to the overall population at Ross bringing the total to approximately 136 students.

Staff members will likely spend part of the summer shuffling equipment and materials in preparation for the changes necessitated by the construction. "We haven't started moving things around at this point," said Dave

Girl Scouts planning wildlife program

A special community program for all girl scouts ages 8-13 will be held Saturday, May 6, at Frances Slocum Park from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Topics will include trees, birds, poisonous plants and animals, and insects. The girls will rotate through 4 stations of hands-on environmentally oriented activities which will partially fulfill requirements for nature related badges and awards.

Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Phone registration will be taken during the weeks of April 2 - April 21. To register call 696-9105 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Shavertown Auxiliary plans family fun night

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Shavertown Volunteer Fire Company will sponsor "Family Fun Night" at Friendly's Restaurant in Dallas on Tuesday, March 28, from 5 to 8 p.m.



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Nesbitt

(continued from page 1)

Nesbitt Memorial Hospital was founded in 1912 by noted philanthropist Abram Nesbitt and was originally called the West Side Hospital. Since July, 1996, most acute emergency patients have been sent to General for treatment, Roberts said. These patients include heart attack and automobile accident victims, and others with serious injuries. Anyone with life-threatening injuries is taken to trauma units at Community Medical Center, Seranton, or Geisinger Medical Center, Danville. Nesbitt Hospital has been handling lesser emergencies such as bumps, bruises, sprains, flu sufferers and patients for pediatric and obstetrical emergencies.

"I don't foresee any problems with the closing of Nesbitt's emergency room," said Chief Frank Lutinski of Harvey's Lake Fire Department. "We take almost all of our patients to General now unless they specifically request Nesbitt or they are a pediatric patient. Also, with the Cross Valley Expressway it probably takes the same amount of time or less to get to General," he said.

State Representative Phyllis Mundy began a fact-finding mission when she first heard about the proposed changes. "I don't want people feeling concerned and worried without knowing all of the facts."

On March 7, Rep. Mundy wrote to Patricia Finan CEO of WVHCS to set up a meeting to discuss this issue. "I met with Patricia Finan last week and as of then there were no definite plans to close the ER at Nesbitt," said Mundy.

"The real problem is the cut in reimbursements from the federal government to the hospitals. We, in the Northeast Delegation, have been writing letters and expressing our concerns about it. It is just unfair for Philadelphia area hospitals to receive higher reimbursements that we get," said Mundy. Because of reduced government payments, hospitals are forced to consider other ways to cut their costs.

"From what I've been told, most ambulance calls are already be-

"It may not be economically feasible to have two complete trauma units within a few miles of each other."

Rep. Phyllis Mundy
120th District

ing sent to General. It may not be economically feasible to have two complete trauma units within a few miles of each other," added Rep. Mundy. "Rest assured though that I am very concerned with this issue."

The emergency room at Wilkes-Barre General will be doubled in size by October, said Roberts. "We're changing the area that held a weekend 'Fast Track' for minor injuries. The new ER will have a larger suite available full time for those less serious injuries," said Roberts.

"We are very sensitive to the concerns of the residents and the elected officials in the Back Mountain about these issues and we'll communicate in a very timely fashion," Roberts said.

Lehman Township supervisor Dave Sutton said he hasn't heard any complaints from residents or ambulance personnel. "There will probably be some impact and concern from residents because they won't have that second option open to them, but I haven't heard any complaints," he said. "I think that there will be a definite impact on the citizens of the Back Mountain and the West Side," said Kingston Township Supervisor Shirley Moyer, who is a candidate for Mundy's state representative seat. "I know a lot of people go to Nesbitt's emergency room. It sounds encouraging that they are considering maintaining at least the Urgent Care center there. I did write to Patricia Finan to discuss this problem and I'm still waiting to hear from her. I would like to be sure that the needs of the citizens are taken care of."

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