



# The Dallas Post

50 Cents

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Vol. 111 No. 34

Dallas, Pennsylvania

August 23 thru August 29, 2000

## Threatened lawsuit could stymie completion of fieldhouse

By **BILL GOODMAN**  
Post Staff

**DALLAS** - Threatened legal action by a neighbor of the Dallas school district could sideline plans to have the new fieldhouse completed in the near future.

Attorney Bruce Phillips, who owns land on Westminster Drive adjacent to school property, recently sent a letter

to the Dallas School district saying telephone poles used to re-route a power line away from the site of the new field house must be removed.

Phillips stated the school district did not have the proper building permits to put the poles in that area. Also, Phillips said, the poles are not listed in the original plan set out by a previous court order negotiated by the district and its neighbors. "This matter was

*"They can do all the construction they want. I want the poles out."*

**Bruce Phillips**  
Westminster Drive

concluded two years ago," Phillips said. The school district made a number of accommodations for the

neighbors, said Phillips.

If the school district does not remove the poles within 10 days of Friday, Phillips says he will file a petition of contempt, and will also sue in federal court for monetary damages. He believes the district does not have a soil erosion plan or roadway plan for the area either. "I was astonished they'd do it without contacting any of the other parties," he said. "It's fundamental that

you can't build without a permit." "They can do all the construction they want. I want the poles out," he said.

The plans laid out by the school district included putting up solid fences and arborvitaes. The plan, said Phillips, listed the particulars for the development of the land bordering

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## Borough to seek grant for Hemlock Gardens

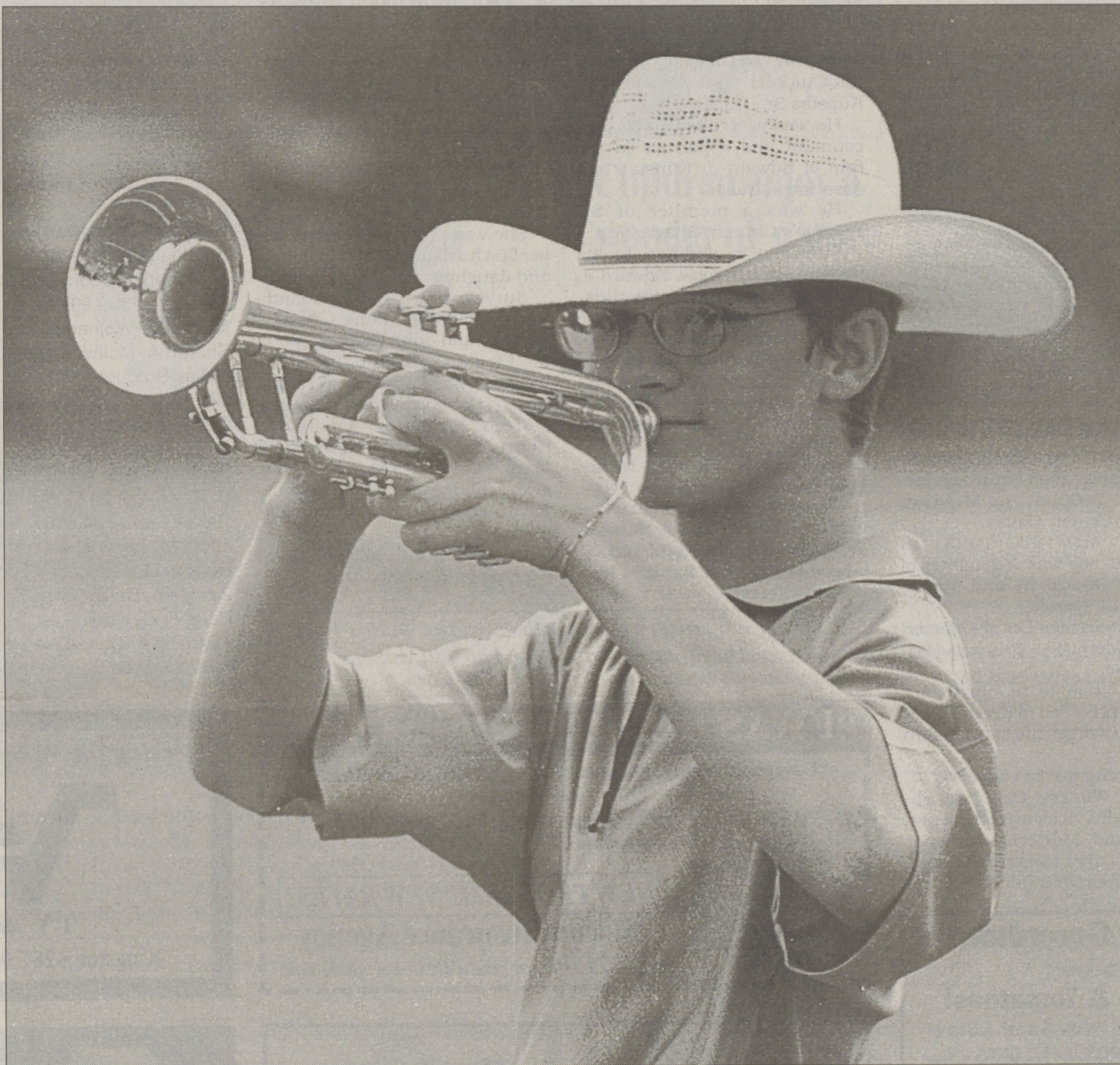
By **ELAINE SLABINSKI**  
Post Correspondent

**HARVEYS LAKE** - The borough has submitted an application for a Growing Greener Grant aimed at funding a feasibility study to correct the sewage/drainage problems in the Hemlock Gardens Development. Although Council President George Andrews could not verify the exact dollar amount requested, he said that it would be in the range of \$100,000 to \$200,000. Millie Monk, who lives in the development, added that she has solicited a "backup letter" from State Sen. Charles Lemmond to add support to the application.

Council is making a concerted effort to become aware of other available grant sources. Councilman Daniel Hanson requested further information on three grant programs to see if they apply to the borough. Councilman Francis Kopko is a member of the Back Mountain Recreation Commission which focuses on recreation oriented grant opportunities. In response to a request for two representatives from each community, Councilwoman Ruth Eaton was also appointed to serve. Additional support is coming from Millie Monk, liaison to council, who plans to attend a statewide conference to learn more about specific kinds of grant programs, eligibility criteria and application procedures.

Andrews announced his intention to form a committee to expedite the study of the Harveys Lake community as a National Historic District. He recently received information that "There may be as much as \$80,000 available for houses of

See HARVEYS LAKE, pg 8



POST PHOTO/JIM PHILLIPS

## Tuning up

Stephen Patla tooted his horn during practice for the Lake-Lehman High School Marching Band. Just like fall sports squads, bands and color guards begin practice well before the first day of school, in preparation for a busy show season. More photos on page 5.

## Parents, staff work to maintain 'family' feeling

By **BILL GOODMAN**  
Post Staff

**DALLAS** - The transition between Westmoreland school and the new Wycallis building has gone smoothly, said both school administrators and representatives of the Parent Teacher Organization.

"Things have gone well," said Mary Barbara Gilligan, former president of the Wycallis PTO. She served as PTO president during the last year of Westmoreland and the first year at Wycallis.

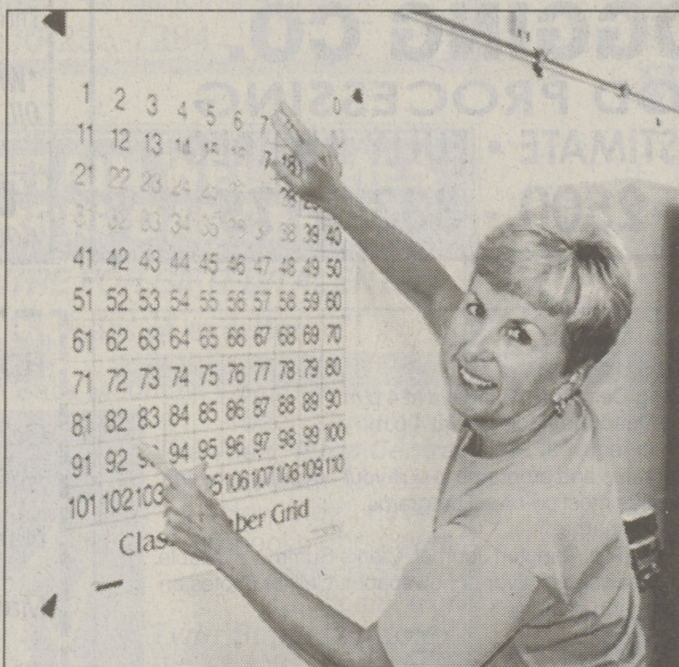
"The students love this building. They were thrilled," said Kathleen McCarthy, principal of Westmoreland and now Wycallis.

McCarthy said the transition to Wycallis was like moving into a new house, and the first few months were literally spent unpacking. Some adjustments needed to be made, such as to the fire drill routes and the course of the Halloween parade had to be rethought. Students, however, have settled in quickly.

*"It's exciting to be in a building where everything is new. It encourages you to be new, to make everything as good as possible."*

**Kathleen McCarthy**  
Principal, Wycallis Elementary

"It's exciting to be in a building where everything is new. It encourages you to be new, to make everything as good as possible," McCarthy said. Some activities were enhanced or made easier by the new facilities. For example, the students were cramped for space to display their work for Project Day



JOURNAL PHOTO/BILL GOODMAN

**Marsha Paczewski**, second grade teacher at Wycallis Elementary, hung a grid designed to help students visualize number placement.

at Westmoreland. This year, more space allowed the students to show their projects without interfering with other activities. The new playgrounds also made Play Day a pleasure this year, McCarthy said.

"We sometimes had to work around a building that had

See WYCALLIS, pg 5

## Lake Silkworth water good, but could be better

By **BILL GOODMAN**  
Post Staff

**LEHMAN TWP.** - Jack Hanish, of the Lake Silkworth Protective Association, thanked the supervisors for installing protective wings for a damaged outlet at the Lake.

Hanish also updated the supervisors on the status of the lake and what steps he felt could be taken to make it better. "All the runoff and drainage running into the lake is a big problem," said Hanish. "A lot of sediment is getting into the lake. The catch basins are inadequate." Hanish said he has found 15 places where four foot basins would be adequate. Hanish said the basins and related parts would cost \$1,500 apiece. He hoped to get grants to help pay for the new basins.

Hanish also reported the quality of the water in Lake Silkworth has been good lately. Hanish said he takes part in a voluntary program that monitors lake water.

In other business, David Fitch resigned his position as a part-time police officer. In his letter, Fitch stated he had found full time employment. "He was a good officer," said David Sutton, chairman of the supervisors.

## Water reports fail to satisfy

*Good enough to pass doesn't always mean it tastes good*

By **BILL GOODMAN**  
Post Staff

**BACK MOUNTAIN** - Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR) mailed by local water companies list safe levels of contaminants, but don't provide enough information, say some people who have read them.

The CCR and the standards listed inside were created by revisions to the Safe Drinking Water Act, which has been in effect for 25 years. In 1996, the provisions were made to inform customers about the quality of their drinking water. The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for creating and enforcing regulations, and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) collects and organizes information from water suppliers.

"Pennsylvania is one of the most active states for monitoring and regulating their water supplies," said Mark Carmon, community affairs representative for the DEP. He said Pennsylvania once had almost no water quality monitoring program until the giardia outbreaks in the 1980s.

Consumers may be disappointed by the dates of the tests listed on the CCR. Most tests don't need to be taken every year unless a violation has been found or water treatment is needed, said Patti Kay Wisniewski, PA program manager at the EPA. For example, many of the contaminants listed as inorganic com-

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