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



SPORTS
Dallas, Lehman to meet in district soccer playoffs. Pg 9.



COMMUNITY
Flack family honored for philanthropic work. Pg 7.



SCHOOL
Gate of Heaven students enjoy "Sock Hop." Pg 3.

Malak loses appeal over junk cars, scrap tires

By HEATHER B. JONES
Post Staff

JACKSON TWP. - Seventeen months after Raymond Malak Sr. received notice he violated zoning ordinances in Jackson Township, the township can now take action against him.

The problems began to develop a few years ago at 2162 Chase Road in Jackson Township, said Jeffrey Malak, township solicitor. Raymond Malak started storing junk vehicles and tires on his 36 acres of agriculturally zoned land. Neighbors complained about the number of vehicles and tires on the property. Raymond Malak received notification of the number of zoning ordinances he violated.

Raymond Malak filed a land use appeal to the township zoning board in July, 2000 and lost. Then he filed an appeal to the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas. In an October 23 ruling by Judge Peter Paul Olszewski, Raymond Malak lost that appeal also.

"This was a big win for Jackson Township," Jeffrey Malak said. Land use appeals usually don't take this long, Jeffrey Malak said, but for some reason nothing was done with this case from September, 2000 until May, 2001.

The major problem on Raymond Malak's property is the number of junk vehicle and old tires, Jeffrey Malak said. In the last three years neighbors have noticed that the number of cars on the property has gone from 10 to over 100.

According to the township ordinances, property owners are allowed only one unlicensed vehicle. Jeffrey Malak said a strong piece of evidence in the case came from when the zoning board toured the Chase Road property, and zoning board members stopped counting the junk vehicle after 100.

See JUNK, pg 8

From teacher to grandmther to author

By HEATHER B. JONES
Post Staff

DALLAS - When Rosalie Snow Albert's 3-year-old grandson asked her to tell him a story she never imagined that story would be her first children's book.

After retiring from Gate of Heaven School last year, Albert, better known as Madame Albert, decided the time was right to become an author. She wrote the children's book "Whitey Woolly Lamb," invested part of an inheritance she received after her mother passed away, and became a published author.

The idea for "Whitey Woolly Lamb" came to Albert years ago. She was visiting her grandson, Patrick Albert, in Louisiana when he looked at her one morning and said, "Grandmother, tell me a story."

After a few moments, Rosalie started reciting the words which would later make up the pages of her book. For the next three days of her visit with Patrick, he would request to hear the story of Whitey, Dirty and Mud-cakes Woolly Lamb. "I never knew the story until we went there," Albert said.

One day when she finished telling

See AUTHOR, pg 8



POST PHOTO/JIM PHILLIPS

Nowhere to hide

Dallas tacklers surrounded Lake-Lehman running back Brian Cornia during Saturday's Old Shoe game. Ryan Gryskewicz (8) wrapped up Cornia's legs as Duane Short (4), Rich Frantz (43) and Ryan Bolton closed in. More photos on pages 9 and 10.

Neighbors plan cleanup for elderly resident

By HEATHER B. JONES
Post Staff

DALLAS BOROUGH - When most people look at the deteriorating house on Rice Street they see an eye soar, but for one group in Dallas Borough, they see an opportunity.

The Rice Street property at a glance is a pit. It is hard to believe anyone calls this structure a home. But for an 85-year-old man, it is the only home he has ever known. Merle Thomas was born and raised in this house, and over the past few years it fell into disrepair.

For a group of neighbors, council members and the mayor, they understand what this house represents to an old man. In a massive cleanup effort of Thomas's house at 9 a.m. on Sunday, November 4, neighbor and friends will demonstrate what living in Dallas Borough is really about.

"Basically, we want to make it a community project," said Timothy Carroll, mayor.

When the condition of Thomas's house was brought to the attention of the borough, shocked council members knew something needed to be done

about the situation. At a recent council meeting, John Oliver, council member, said, "We can condemn it and let it sit there and rot or we can do what we're doing."

"It's our first intention to help the man keep his home," Oliver said.

Volunteers, 16-years-old and older, will cleanup the outside of Thomas's property. There are leaves, down trees and debris to be cleaned up. Also a section of the structure will be torn down. Due to the nature of the work, volun-

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Food bank seeks help in restocking shelves

By SANDY PEOPLES
Post Correspondent

TRUCKSVILLE - "When you're making a list and checking it twice, we hope that you'll remember to add the less fortunate in our area to your holiday notes," said Pastor Chuck Naugle, manager of the Back Mountain Food Bank. "We need your help to provide food for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners for more than 120 households this year. We have added 38 more families since last year. Many of these families have small children. Others are seniors who have to make difficult decisions every day about the cost of medicine, food and fuel."

Even though, for the most part, the Back Mountain is an affluent community, there are times when people can be one paycheck away from disaster. They may have lost their job, or become ill, or both. Many families depend on the food bank for longer



POST PHOTO/SANDY PEOPLES

Pastor Chuck Naugle, food bank manager, and Barbara DeBellis, food bank coordinator, pose with food collected for the Back Mountain Food Bank.

periods of time than they thought they would have to. They have fallen on hard times, and not just in the short run. Others have

found themselves in a new category called the working poor. They work every day, but just can't make ends meet.

See FOOD BANK, pg 8

Dallas High seeks vets who missed opportunity to graduate

Dallas High School is making plans for a special Veteran's Day Program to be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, November 9 at the school. Frank Galicki, principal, is currently looking for any local veterans of World War II, the Korean War or the Vietnam War who were unable to graduate from high school due to their service in the armed forces.

According to a representative of the Department of Veterans Affairs, a law enacted in June 2001, allows school boards to grant a high school diploma to honorably discharged WWII veterans, both living and dead. Any such qualified veteran or family member of a qualified veteran is asked to contact Galicki at Dallas High School as soon as possible. Those who qualify will receive a high school diploma at the Veteran's Day program.

Keith Martin, senior news anchor for WBRE-TV 28, is scheduled to be the guest speaker at the program. Martin, who served in the Army for two and one-half years, including a tour of combat in Vietnam and Cambodia, is a Colonel in the PA Army National Guard. He is the commander of the 55th Armored Brigade.

The program will feature a flag-folding ceremony by members of the Marine Corps. In addition, a member of the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross is scheduled to be a hand to receive a check representing a relief donation from the student body for the September 11 tragedy.

Students will also participate through special readings and patriotic songs. "There will be a little bit of everything and a lot of red, white and blue," said Dallas history teacher Maryann Storz, who is helping to coordinate the events.

by M.B. Gilligan

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