



# THE DALLAS POST

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**SPORTS**

Kubis Tournament continues at BMT baseball field. Pg 9.



**SCHOOL**

Dallas honors retiring teachers. Pg 11.



**COMMUNITY**

First Holy Communions at St. Therese's. Pg 4.

## Quarry tour leaves questions unanswered

Not all residents comfortable - blasts and dust still remain

By ELIZABETH ANDERSON  
Post Correspondent

**LEHMAN TWP.** — It isn't easy being a neighbor of a quarry or asphalt plant — dust, noise and truck traffic are daily annoyances; and then there is the blasting and the more complex environmental issues.

But John Haines, founder and president of Haines and Kibblehouse, Inc. (H & K), the mother company of Pikes Creek Asphalt and Crushed Stone, said he, his managers, his employees — his entire company — want it to be different. "We want to be a good neighbor," Haines said.

"We don't want this to be some place that's off limits," Haines told about 40 Lehman Township residents who attended an open house at the asphalt plant and quarry. "We want you to know a lot about the place."

After a heated public hearing for a mining permit transfer, required by the Department of Environmental Protection, held at the Lehman Township municipal building in May, the company felt a friendly get-together, complete with food, refreshments and a tour of the operation might be in order. Haines and several top executives of the company, including Haines's partner, Jack Kibblehouse, flew in by helicopter to mingle with township residents and show their sincerity in becoming an integrated part of the community.

The show of goodwill made a difference to some, but others are being more cautious with their trust.

"They are placating us, that's my opinion," said Deb Petroski, of Coslett



John Haines, president and founder of Haines and Kibblehouse, Inc., explained operations at Pikes Creek Asphalt and Crushed Stone to Lehman residents on the walking tour.

Lane. She, like many others, is waiting to see if Pikes Creek Asphalt, aka H & K, will back-up their words and promises. "I made a point before I left the open house to go back to John Ross (of H & K, Inc.) and say, 'I will hear back from you, won't I?'" Petroski said.

When Deb and her husband, Dr. Alan Petroski, bought their 29 acres on Coslett Road in 1998, they knew there was a quarry but believed there existed a good buffer of land between their property and the quarry. They had no idea the quarry butted up against their property.

Additionally, because of outdated county and township maps, they be-

*"We want you to know a lot about the place."*

John Haines  
President  
Haines and Kibblehouse

lieved the land was zoned agricultural, as did the previous owners, the realtor and even long-time township residents. A check with the township told them it had been rezoned mining in 1991. Patricia Paraschak, of Trojan Road, has checked with the township herself and was surprised to find the same. Township officials are in the

process of updating the maps now.

Those who live north of the newest section of the quarry, particularly those who live on Coslett Lane, Trojan and Crossin roads, said the July 17 blast was much louder than normal.

"Yesterday was the worst blast I ever heard," said Paraschak. She said the blast was so strong, it reminded her of a small earthquake and even her animals were spooked. Paraschak has asked for a seismograph reading of the blast, something H & K encouraged all residents to do if they have questions on the strength of a blast.

Her son, Randee, said he remembers his father's cows, years ago, busting

See QUARRY, pg 8

## Rec complex planners prepare for fund raising

Closing on land was delayed, but expected to be finalized very soon

By TIMOTHY J. RAUB  
Post Staff

**LEHMAN TWP.** — The Back Mountain Recreation Center will be a reality. But when it will become available for use is still a question.

Back Mountain Recreation Association president Dave Sutton said 84 acres of the total 134 acres has been purchased, but holdups with scheduling have delayed the association's purchase of the final 50 acres.

"We own the property, but we are a week or two away from closing (on the

See REC COMPLEX, pg 8

## Break-ins plague Little League concession stand

By TIMOTHY J. RAUB  
Post Staff

**DALLAS TWP.** — The Back Mountain Baseball Association concession stand is fast becoming a favorite target of thieves.

Association president Jack Snyder said the concession stand has been broken in to four times over the last year with a total of approximately \$900 taken, and an unknown amount of damage left in the aftermath.

"It's a shame," said Snyder. "We have all kinds of volunteers trying to raise money to keep the organization run-

See LITTLE LEAGUE, pg 8

## School, fields construction on pace, weather permitting

By ELIZABETH ANDERSON  
Post Correspondent

**LEHMAN TWP.** — School Board President Charles Boytin said last week he would like to dispel any rumors that the football or field hockey season will be canceled. "This board is committed to keeping all activities ongoing without any disruption or as little disruption as possible," said Boytin. "I know for the football players it has got to be a little disheartening to see that field right now. It looks a mess and hopefully by the time we play our first football game, it will be ready to go."

Douglas Trumbower, architect on the high school renovation/construction project, reported the fields and school are on schedule and will be ready by September 3 barring any bad weather or unseen circumstances.

Board member James Mahon said he arrived at Community Medical Center in Scranton on July 17 to check on the condition of the Lake-Lehman students involved in an automobile accident on Route 118 in Lehman Township to find Superintendent Robert O. Roberts already present. "Not to my surprise, when I got there, there was an individual who was already there, talking to the parents, talking to the kids who were there and looking after the

*"It looks a mess and hopefully by the time we play our first football game, it will be ready to go."*

Charles Boytin  
School board president

individuals who were hurt," said Mahon. "Mr. Roberts, thank you very much. We appreciate it."

The four students involved in that accident were Matthew Feehnan, the driver, Ashley Basar, Leslie Rosenbaum and Josh Marth.

The new high school principal, Michael Gokay, attended his first public school board meeting in July. The new principal displayed a sense of humor when asked by Roberts if he would like to say a few words. "I always have something to say," replied Gokay. "But I rarely have the last word." He said he was much impressed with the student athletes present at the meeting who made entreaties to the board to settle the teachers' contract negotiations and added, "I'm very much looking forward to being Lake-Lehman High School principal."

See CONSTRUCTION, pg 8



POST PHOTO/TIMOTHY J. RAUB

**Number crunchers.** Students prompted their classmates with number signs in the German class. From left: Erik Westfield, 9, Shavertown; Taylor Culver, 9, Dallas; Symone Vaughn, 9, Trucksville.

## Camp makes learning a new language easy

By TIMOTHY J. RAUB  
Post Staff

**DALLAS TWP.** — Candyce Fike has been dreaming for 20 years of the day when she could teach a foreign language to young children.

Fike can finally wake up, because her dream has come true.

A French teacher at Dallas School for 21 years now, Fike, other faculty members in the

district's foreign language department and about 10 high school students have come together to teach French, Spanish and German to about 150 area children.

"This is a dream of mine 20 years in the making," said Fike. "We have been working on this since April, and I'm surprised to see all of the children that

scheduled for the camp show up."

The group of teachers and students are teaching simple vocabulary and phrases to area children going into second, third, fourth and fifth grades, for about an hour each day for four days.

The results have been impressive.

Fike said camp participants  
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