



After the open house, principals in Haines & Kibblehouse left the quarry in their helicopter.

POST PHOTOS/ELIZABETH ANDERSON

Quarry

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through the barbed wire fence when blasts would spook them, a partial cause of his father finally quitting the beef cattle business. Rande laments the loss of a lifestyle, to himself and his yet unborn children, which has been his family's for at least three generations.

When Patricia Paraschak mentioned the severity of the blast that day to Haines during the tour of the asphalt plant, he said, "Probably you are feeling an air blast. You're not feeling a vibration on the ground," explaining that the heavy, humid atmosphere held the blast in. H & K, Inc. encourages residents to call the plant and be put on a list to be forewarned about blasts.

Many of the residents say they have learned to live with many of the problems that come from being a neighbor of an asphalt plant, but there are some things they cannot ignore. For Lori and Larry Steele it is the sound of banging on the truck beds when they are unloaded in the early morning hours, waking them from their sleep.

Several residents reported cracked foundations, broken or loose windows and crooked pictures. "It's hard to tell if the blasting is responsible for these things," said John Klemunes of Crossin Road, and most agreed it would be hard to prove.

Klemunes' questions focused primarily on how the quarry might affect the water quality of his well. The rumored purchase of watershed land by Pikes Creek Asphalt has many residents concerned as well. Jack



Deb and Dr. Alan Petroski, very vocal residents, flanking H & K, Inc. tour guide, Dave Moyer, as he answers their questions.

"They are placating us, that's my opinion."

Deb Petroski
Coslett Lane

Hanish, president of the Lake Silkworth Protective Association and chairman of the watershed committee, said he never got a real answer on the depth of the

water table at the plant and was disturbed by information he was given at the open house that the company could blast below the water table.

But overall, Lehman Township residents and company employees felt the open house was a success. Lines of communication had been opened at least. "It was a good first step," said Hanish. He stressed residents must stay vigilant. Haines told residents he felt encouraged by the turnout and announced the open house would be a yearly event.

Little League

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ning, and this happens." Snyder said burglars took about \$600 in fundraising money that was left in a drop box last July 4, and have taken about \$100 each of the other three times, with the most recent bur-

glary taking place again July 4. Snyder said the method of entry has been the same each time, and a security system installed at the stand was not activated during the burglaries.

"We had a lot of vendors com-

ing in and out and the security system was not activated," Snyder said. "It's just a shame that we need to have a security system at all."

Snyder didn't know how much damage has occurred, since in-

surance on the stand is covering the repairs.

Anyone with information on the burglaries is asked to call the Dallas Township Police Department 675-5252 or Snyder at 675-0939.

Rec park

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last 50 acres)," said Sutton. "It is just a matter of scheduling right now, and the project is definitely a go."

Sutton said the association has the funding for the purchase, and has just recently contacted a fundraising consultant to perform a feasibility study to see how much funding the group could expect for use in developing the land.

"Just now we have begun the early stages of our capital campaign," Sutton said. "We hope to have something back from (the fundraising consultant) in early October. That will decide what our budget will be."

Sutton did not have a firm timeline as to when ground breaking for the facility would take place, but said it could start in early fall or spring.

Groundbreaking was originally scheduled to take place this spring, but has been delayed along with the land purchase.

Sutton believes Back Mountain Youth Soccer would use the soccer fields in the fall, and said

"We're alive and well, and get more excited about it all the time."

Dave Sutton

President

Back Mountain Recreation Ass'n

the association hopes to have paths and walking trails installed by the fall.

The plan for the project calls for five Little League baseball and softball fields, a Back Mountain Youth Soccer complex with playing and practice fields, a picnic and wetland conservation area, hiking trails, an outdoor ice skating/hockey rink and an indoor recreation facility. The total cost of the project has been estimated at \$14 million.

"We're alive and well, and get more excited about it all the time," said Sutton. "This thing is going to happen."

Construction

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Once again, school directors

raised the issue of withdrawing from the Northeast Pennsylvania Health Trust, when board member Angelo DeCesaris questioned a letter sent by the business office to the health trust. However, the board did not discuss investigating any health care options or alternatives. The trust requires a one-year notice from school districts to withdraw from the health consortium with the deadline for the notice being June 30. Business manager Kathleen Williams said the letter did not propose an action but was "a consideration sent on the advice of several people to get our notice in," but was a moot point as it arrived after the June 30 deadline.

Although the issue has been talked about for over a year, with the exception of Roger Howell, of Howell Benefit Services, the board has made no inquiries into other health care options. However, Superintendent Roberts said West Side area superintendents had met and begun investigating other

options.

Mahon and DeCesaris voted no to paying this month's bill of Campbell, Durrant and Beatty, P.C., the firm representing the administration in the teachers' contract negotiations. Neither board member gave a reason for their negative vote.

The board approved a 4 percent salary increase for three of the district's non-union secretarial/clerical employees; Brenda Allabaugh, Barbara Baigis and Jacqueline Moran.

Dave MacLaughlin-Smith was appointed K-12 curriculum director at a salary of \$75,000.

The school board is holding a special meeting to vote on the hiring of a band director and music teacher and to further address the concerns of parents of elementary students affected by changing school starting times and transfers from one elementary school to another. The meeting will be Thursday, July 25 at 5:15 p.m. in the music room of Lehman-Jackson Elementary School.

Crime Watch meeting

The Jackson Township Citizens Crime Watch will meet Thursday, July 25 at 7 p.m. at the Jackson Township Municipal Building. The guest speaker will be District Justice James Tupper.

Noxen church Vacation Bible School Aug. 4-9

Beginning Sunday, August 4 and running through Thursday, August 8, Noxen Bible Baptist Church will be having Vacation Bible School (VBS) for ages 4 through high school. VBS will start each evening at 6:30 p.m. and end at 8:45 p.m. The closing program will be from 7-8 p.m. Friday, August 9.

Everyone is invited. The theme this year is Exploring Our Awesome God based on Psalm 147:4, 5.

Local poetry society looking for members

Anyone interested in forming a poetry group in the Back Mountain, should contact Steve at 639-2320 or e-mail BkMtnPoetry@hotmail.com.

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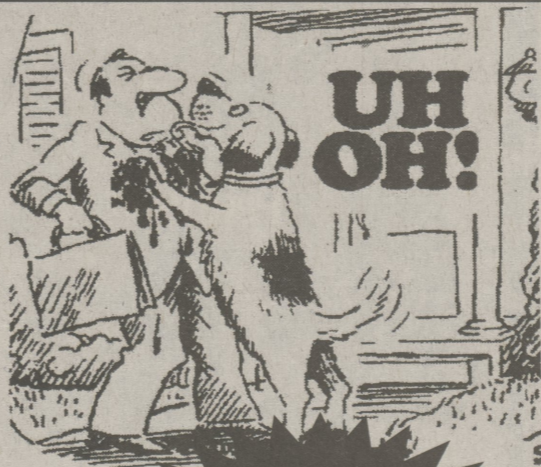


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