



THE DALLAS POST

Vol. 114 No. 1

50 Cents

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



SPORTS

Showdown looms in girls basketball. Pg 9.



SCHOOL

Dallas elementary science goes "hands-on." Pg 3.



COMMUNITY

St. Therese's youth help others. Pg 5.

State seeks to lower pollution in lake

By ERIN YOUNGMAN
Post Staff

HARVEYS LAKE — If the level of phosphorus entering Harveys Lake stays the same in the future as it is now, the lake's water quality could be compromised. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has planned a public meeting on January 14 to discuss the issue and possible solutions.

"Phosphorus is the biggest problem our studies have identified over the years," said Mark Carmon of DEP. "We want to try to find ways to reduce or keep stable those levels."

According to Carmon, an excess of phosphorus creates a nutrient rich environment that threatens to cause a multitude of water quality problems from fish kills to severe algae blooms.

"We're not raising a red flag at this point," said Carmon. "We're educating the public and looking for solutions and suggestions from the public."

DEP recently established a total maximum daily load of phosphorus (TMDL) going into the lake by utilizing data from past studies. He said if the that level is exceeded, the lake does not have the natural capability to absorb or assimilate it, causing a buildup that compromises water quality standards.

Carmon said the current amount of phosphorus entering the lake is 1600 pounds per year. DEP wants to lower that by 9 percent to just under 1500 pounds per year.

"We're not trying to hit anybody over the head with this," Carmon said. "We're trying to look at what is contributing to existing phosphorus levels in the lake and develop strategies to reduce it by 9 percent."

At the upcoming meeting, Carmon said representatives from DEP will ask for suggestions from the public on how to reduce the amount of phosphorus

See LAKE, pg 7



POST PHOTO/ERIN YOUNGMAN

Only an empty shell was left of the home at 2 Rhodes Terrace, Harveys Lake, after a roaring fire destroyed it Monday.

Lake home is total loss in roaring fire

By LAUREN ROTH
Special to The Dallas Post

HARVEYS LAKE — A fire Tuesday afternoon at 2 Rhodes Terrace destroyed "everything" and burned so hot it melted a neighbor's siding at least 75 feet away, said Fire Chief Bill Davis.

"We couldn't find a couch or a chair.

It was all burned," Davis said. The fire ignited at the front of the first floor while the homeowner was at work. Davis declined to provide details because the cause has not been conclusively determined, but said no foul play or negligence is suspected.

By the time emergency crews were notified at 2:59 p.m., the two-floor

home was fully engulfed, with flames bursting out every window.

The homeowner, a Mr. Titus, will stay with neighbors and friends, Davis said.

"There's nothing left. It's a shell," the chief said. "There's just walls and a front porch standing."

See FIRE, pg 8

ENCON closing, 97 jobs to be lost

By ERIN YOUNGMAN
Post Staff

DALLAS TWP. — Energy Converters, Inc. (ENCON) in Dallas, which employs 97 people, will close in March.

ENCON was acquired in early 1998 by Watlow Electric Manufacturing Company, of St. Louis, Missouri. A press release announcing the closing said the decision is part of its operational planning to "realign and restructure its tubular heater product line." At the time of the purchase, ENCON had 230 employees.

John Ray, General Manager of Encon, said the company that manufactures tubular heating elements has been

See ENCON, pg 7

Local stores fared well in holiday sales

By ERIN YOUNGMAN
Post Staff

Personal attention, unique items and friendly service kept Back Mountain retailers seeing green over the holidays. Area store owners report they were spared the holiday season selling slump that hit much of the country.

While retailers nationwide report disappointing sales, local retailers say that despite a late start to the shopping season, earnings were strong and better

See STORES, pg 8

Dallas fetes long-time dentist to schools

By ERIN YOUNGMAN
Post Staff

DALLAS TWP. — On Monday, the Dallas school board and superintendent Gil Griffiths honored Dr. Anthony Kutz DDS, for nearly 40 years of service as the Dallas district's dentist.

During the presentation Ernest Ashbridge Jr., school board president, thanked Dr. Kutz for his years of service. Surrounded by district nurses Bonnie Kalish, Laura O'Malley, Linda Burd and his wife, Pauline, Dr. Kutz was presented with a clock inscribed with a note of recognition and thanks.

"On behalf of the board, in recognition of the 30 plus years that you've been with the children of Dallas school district we wanted to present you with this clock," said Ashbridge.

Dr. Kutz thanked Dr. Griffiths, the administration and many he worked with along the way.

"He did an absolutely wonderful job with the kids," said O'Malley who worked with Kutz for more than 10 years.

O'Malley said when she start-



POST PHOTO/ERIN YOUNGMAN

Dr. Anthony Kutz right, accepted a clock given to him by Ernest Ashbridge Jr., president of the Dallas School Board, in recognition of Kutz's more than 30 years of service.

ed working at Dallas, the district ran a dental clinic. "Any cavities, or dental work he would just do at no cost," said O'Malley. "There was a big gap filled with that service."

Burd, Kalish and O'Malley all

remarked about Kutz's sense of humor. They said his humor was just one of the ways he put nervous patients at ease.

"He was always very good to the children. He would sing to them — do a variety of things to

put them at ease. He took his time," said Burd.

After 38 years, Dr. Kutz retired as the Dallas district dentist at the end of the 2001-2002 school year. He still is in private practice.

Supervisors tighten personnel policies

By CARRIE MATHENY
Post Correspondent

JACKSON TWP. — At their first meeting of the new year, the board of supervisors passed three resolutions they hope will make their township work more efficiently.

The first resolution was to draft employee evaluation forms. Resolution 2 was to develop a misconduct form. This form will be used by all of the township's departments before entering the formal grievance process. The township hopes the misconduct form will take care of problems before they get that far.

The third resolution established a department expenditure book. At the beginning of each month the secretary will give each department its monthly budget and it is the department's responsibility to make sure the money goes where it is needed. The expenditure book will also help the township keep track of its budget on a day-to-day basis.

"The department expenditure

See JACKSON, pg 8

INDEX

14 Pages, 2 Sections
Calendar.....14
Classified.....12-13
Crossword.....10
Editorials.....6
Obituaries.....2
School.....11
Sports.....9-10

CALL 675-5211
FOR HOME DELIVERY,
NEWS OR ADVERTISING
E-mail: dallaspost@leader.net

The Dallas Post
Please enclose this label with any address changes,
and mail to The Dallas Post P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612-0366