continued from page 1)

we were making quite a large impact," said Balavage. "Unfortunately, in December 2002, the funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development ended and since then the amount of activity we've had to deal with, as it relates to other offenses, has increased."

The three suspects, John Gas, Ebony Smith and Jeffrey Stevens, were arrested, Sunday, for fitting descriptions of individuals who attempted to rob the Turkey Hill on Rutter Avenue in Kingston. Witness accounts also placed a gold Jeep Grand Cherokee, belonging to Carey Bartoo, an occupant of 16 Meadowcrest, at the crime scene. Bartoo and another 16 Meadowcrest occupant, Gregory Pockevich, were also arrested.

Balavage said 16 Meadowcrest, where three of the five arrests were made, has gained a utation especially since Janry when the additional policing ended.

Balavage said while searching for the gun used in the attempted robbery, officers discovered "fruits of other crimes," on which he would not elaborate.

He also said for months residents have complained about suspicious activities consistent with drug activity and that police have been out to the residence numerous times in the past for noise disturbances, vandalism and other offenses. Until now, citations had been issued,

but no arrests had been made. Asked whether calls to the house increased when the community policing program ended in December, Balavage responded, "Oh God yeah."

Rose Yarmel of the Luzerne County Housing Authority said the program, which was cut completely by the Bush administration in 2001, has further im-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

A policeman guarded the front of 16 Meadowcrest Sunday, where suspects in an attempted robbery in Kingston were holed up. After an hour-long standoff, police arrested three suspects inside.

plications than just within the boundaries of the development.

for the residents and the municipalities," she said.

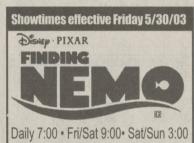
She said the program's guidelines stipulated the money be significant changes in the develused "to help combat drug problems in and around public housing and (be used for) related is-

provide additional police protection to contiguous neighborhoods possibly affected by crime at the development.

"We realize that public housing exists in a community..that "I think it was very beneficial problems could be leaking out to other areas," she said.

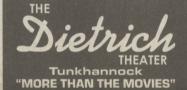
Balavage said the grant money allowed the department to make opment. "We were generally able to reduce the problems there," he said. Over the five-year period, the department helped to Consequently, money went to evict as many as 15 tenants failing to abide by the law and or the development's regulations. He said officers were also able to make inroads with some of the

kids. "We had a good working relationship with the communi-



Sat/Sun/Wed 1:00 • Sat/Sun/Fri 5:00

Daily 6:45 • Fri/Sat 9:05 Sat/Sun/Wed 1:15 · Sat/Sun 4:00



Kingston Township had been receiving the money annually since 1997. Yarmel said the last block of money arrived at the state level in 2001. She said because the money is spent over a two-year period, it lasted until the end of 2002.

Yarmel has been following the grant situation at the federal level. "One of the people in Congress did submit some legisla-

tion to reinstate it," she said. But, she said, "I don't know that there's been any serious look by the administration to reinstate it.'



POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

A police officer escorted one of the suspects at 16 Meadowcrest from the home Sunday night.

Survivors Celebration!

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Pppeal

(continued from page 1)

tennis courts and a 30-bed assisted living facility. George Huntzinger, owner of a neighboring property on West 42nd Street, Dallas, is appealing the action, citing that the change in zoning constitutes spot zoning, illegal in the state of Pennsylva-

Protests have been voiced by other residents concerning the change. Chairman Dave Sutton

JCC Day Camp Offers summer programs for kids

The Jewish Community Center of Wyoming Valley Day Camp will open for boys and girls, ages 2-15 on Monday, June 16. The program will run through Friday, August 8.

Open House for campers and parents to meet with staff will be held on Thursday, June 12 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the campsite in

The JCC Camp is a member of the United Way of Wyoming Valley and offers programs in swimming, tennis, archery, arts & crafts, nature, music, dance, drama, computers, cooking, ropes course, biking, canoeing, kayaking, golf, hockey, basketball, volleyball, newcomb, t-ball, gymnastics, cheerleading, multimedia plus day and overnight

For information call 824-4646.

Early dismissals at Lake-Lehman

Schools in the Lake-Lehman School District will dismiss early on the following

Friday, June 13: 12 noon dismissal at the high school, middle level, Lehman-Jackson Elementary and Lake-Noxen Elementary.

12:45 dismissal at Ross Elementary.

Monday, June 16: 10 a.m. dismissal at the high school, middle level, Lehman-Jackson Elementary and Lake-Noxen Elementary.

10:45 dismissal at Ross Elementary.

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said not long after the rezoning, applies or not, it becomes now a neighbor found a 1929 deed someone has to do a real thorfor the property restricting the ough title search," said Sutton. type of development that could

be built there.

The Lehman Township Zoning Hearing Board will hold a public "Back in 1929 someone put a meeting June 3 at 7 p.m. to hear restriction on it. Whether it still the Huntzinger appeal.

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