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



SPORTS

Legion team wins big over W-B. Pg 11.



SCHOOL

Lake-Lehman students star at math. Pg 13.



COMMUNITY

Library Auction season kicks off. Pg 10.

Roundabout gets preliminary OK

By ERIN YOUNGMAN
Post Staff

DALLAS — After going over preliminary PennDOT sketches of roundabouts worked into Dallas Borough's downtown, council members told PennDOT District Engineer Chuck Mattei Monday they were ready to move ahead with adding the item to PennDOT's 12-year plan.

Council will vote on the action at the July meeting. If the motion passes, the developer of a possible "big box" store in Dallas Township will be able to move ahead.

Council's decision would mean that developer J. Naparolo of Virginia would have

a solution to the increased traffic expected to arise from his development. Mattei said as a result, PennDOT would be able to grant Naparolo the Highway Occupancy Permit he needs to start construction on the store, which is projected to cover 155,000 square feet.

Naparolo has not been able to move forward with his project because the borough disagreed with his engineer's recommendations to make Lake Street one-way out of the town center.

As part of the permitting process, the developer is responsible for returning traffic levels of service to what they were prior to the development going in. But Lake

Street one-way was viewed unfavorably by many in the community.

Stan Davies, who lives along Route 118 in Lehman near the proposed store, asked how long the area would have to endure the increased traffic before the roundabout would be completed.

Mattei responded that the roundabout would be on a three-year time line. Naparolo said he expects his project to be complete in about two years. According to studies performed earlier in the year by Pennoni Engineers, working for Naparolo, the difference in completion times could mean a year of Level F service (on A-F

See ROUNDABOUT, pg 2

Harveys Lake warned on sewers by DEP

By ERIN YOUNGMAN
Post Staff

HARVEYS LAKE — The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has found Harveys Lake Borough to be in violation of another aspect of the Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law.

Last month DEP said that illegal sewer discharges had been found making their way into the lake, putting the borough in violation of Clean Streams Law. DEP has found

that in addition, the Harveys Lake Municipal Authority has failed to submit required annual reports to the Wyoming Valley Sewer Authority (WVSA) for the years 2001 and 2002.

According to a letter dated June 10 from Kate Crowley, Program Manager of DEP's Water Management Program, the determination puts the Authority in violation of section 94.12(b) of Municipal Waste-load Management Regulations.

See SEWERS, pg 3

Local man said to aid murder probe

Staff Reports

KINGSTON TWP. — A Shavertown man has been identified as one of the informants helping police investigate the murder of Michael Kerkowski and Tammy Fassett, whose bodies were found buried behind a Mount Olivet Road home.

Hugo Selenski, who grew up in Dallas and lived at the home with his girlfriend, Christina Strom, remains in prison on charges of robbing Kerkowski's father. Remains of three other bodies have also been found on the property, and authorities have suggested many others may be found.

On Tuesday, police used dogs to search the property for signs of more remains, and on

Wednesday they converged on a section of the Back Mountain Trail with the dogs.

Also Wednesday, police used a dog to help search a home at 837 Miller Street in Luzerne, where Strom and Selenski previously lived.

Police were led to the Kingston Township property after Paul Weakley told a law enforcement official on June 3 he knew where Kerkowski's body was located. Weakley made the admission before going to a court hearing on a felony burglary charge.

Sources have confirmed a second informant, Patrick Russin, 33, of Shavertown, is a friend of Paul Weakley. He was recently charged with a

See PROBE, pg 2

Surprise! L-L budget \$1 million out of balance

By TARA BENNINGER
Post Correspondent

LEHMAN TWP. — There was noticeable strain at the June 17 meeting of the Lake-Lehman School Board, as board members continued discussing the 2003-04 budget. To the board's surprise, reversing earlier reports of a surplus, Business Manager Kathleen Williams presented the board with a deficit budget.

Revenue is projected to be about \$19.5 million, while expenditures are expected to be about \$20.6 million.

Williams reported that a majority of the increase between

this proposal and last week's was a result of three new personnel, which she said was not made clear until this week.

Two new staff members are needed as security and maintenance for the new track and gym. "The current janitorial staff is already exhausted," Williams said. "It is unreasonable to expect our current staff to work weekends, every week."

Williams said it's important to protect the very costly investment that has been made.

Superintendent Robert Roberts echoed Williams in

See BUDGET, pg 10



POST PHOTOS/JIM PHILLIPS

Laughing all the way to graduation

Nate Carsman shared a hearty laugh with Lake-Lehman classmates as Angelo Georgetti, President of the Class of 2003, related stories of high school experiences. Story and more photos on pages 4-5.

Police get night vision goggles

DALLAS TWP. — Police Chief Robert Jolley told township supervisors Tuesday night that the department has received night vision equipment.

The night vision goggles give an advantage to the police when looking for criminal activity or in the event that a person or child is missing, said Jolley.

"Your flashlight can only go so far," Jolley said, during the supervisors' monthly meeting.

The goggles cost \$17,000 and were paid for by the Electronic Proving Counter Drug Office Grant. This is a federal grant program through which police departments can purchase specialized equipment that is often the same as the military uses, Jolley said.

The township plans to apply for this grant again in 2004.

The grant program also pro-

See POLICE, pg 2



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Louise Mattes held a poppy blossom for the photographer in one of the gardens that will be on the Tour of Back Mountain Gardens June 28.

Gardeners to offer sneak peek, and trail is the beneficiary

By CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK
Post Correspondent

The Back Mountain Bloomers Garden Club held its annual flower show in the Kingston Armory for eight years. "The flower show was very extravagant, a lot of work went into it, there was so much detail," said Gayle Perietti, secretary of the club. The 45-member group arranged and coordinated the show and prepared their own exhibits as well. Then came 9/11.

"The Armory just wasn't available anymore, so after brainstorming together one day we decided to do something new and exciting," Perietti said last weekend. The group will hold its first Tour of Back Mountain Gardens, including homes, Saturday, June 28, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., rain or shine.

The tour features seven Back mountain area gardens and their respective houses.

"The house idea was really incidental to the garden tour," said Rose Ann Nardone. "We are really looking

See GARDENS, pg 10

Hanson's developer backs off for now

By ERIN YOUNGMAN
Post Staff

HARVEYS LAKE — The developer planning to turn the former Hanson's Amusement Park into an upscale villa community has decided to postpone his project.

Ken Williams, of Columbia Maryland, said Wednesday that on the advice of Charles McCormick, Harveys Lake Borough Solicitor, he will forgo presenting his final plans to borough council until a problem with overflowing sewers is corrected.

A sales office and models had been scheduled to open next fall.

Speaking last week before his decision to hold off on the plans, Williams shared his vision for the property that he said was to incorporate the history of the area with care-free lake living.

"What I had in mind at Harveys Lake was really and truly a beautification project."

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