

Dallas

(continued from page 1)

On average the district hires five to 10 teachers a year, Griffiths said, mostly to replace those who have retired. He said numbers this year are right in line with that average.

Griffiths said the combined cost to the district for the four contracts, including insurance will be \$146,340.

Two more special needs teachers who were inadvertently left out of Monday night's meeting will be appointed in a special meeting on Monday July 21, said Griffiths.

The four teachers hired Monday and their salaries were: Linda Emmert, Wycallis Elementary/fourth grade \$35,320; Heather Pitcavage, Dallas Elementary/fifth grade \$29,930; Nancy Shaw, Dallas Middle School/sixth grade \$31,086;

Kim Perez, Wycallis Elementary/third grade \$29,930.

Griffiths presented Ernest Ashbridge Jr., Board President, a trophy for his participation in the North Eastern Pennsylvania School District Health Trust. "For his years of service and his input ... for his tireless effort in regards to health care," Griffiths said.

Also at the meeting:
• Four water safety instructors were hired for the natatorium at the rate of \$10 an hour including Annie Savage, Jennifer Arthur, Megan Riley and Pamela Speziale, Assistant Superintendent Michael Speziale's daughter.

• Tom Connors was appointed as the district's Athletic Trainer at a rate of \$4,000 per season.



Baby boom among DEL teachers

Five babies were born within a few weeks to teachers at Dallas Elementary School. Shown from bottom to top: Gi-ana Eike, to Jodi Eike, third grade teacher; Braiden Jerome, to Betsy Eichenlaub, guidance counselor; Gwen Martin, to Marla Martin, learning support teacher; Daniel Flynn, to Victoria Flynn, Kindergarten teacher; David Cooper, to Caitlyn Cooper, reading specialist.

Budget

(continued from page 1)

ing to the district. He recommended the board call an immediate special session to discuss those issues, at that time.

The board did vote unanimously against the \$98,850 maintenance building, possibly freeing up that money for the renovations. In case there is enough money, the board also voted to authorize Douglas Trumbower, district architect, to pursue a mandate waiver for those rooms, which would allow him to begin sooner.

Director Lois Kopcha was the lone vote against hiring Athletic Director Richard Gorgone, at a teacher's salary. Superintendent Robert O. Roberts told the board Gorgone would spend part of his day dealing with athletics and the remaining part on attendance duties. Kopcha questioned why the board would pay a teacher's salary to someone doing clerical work. Solicitor Charles Coslett said this was acceptable from a legal standpoint, however that did not change Kopcha's feelings.

"This is a waste of taxpayers money," she commented.

During Roberts' report, he commented on an editorial about Lake-Lehman's hiring practices, particularly this year, with two new hires. Roberts pointed out that those two new teachers were interviewed last year, and then hired as substi-

tutes. "They worked for 180 days, under the scrutiny of the administration," said Roberts. He said that as long as he has been superintendent the school's hiring practices have been above board, and "this editorial cast a shadow that should not be there."

Kopcha brought up an article published recently, covering local teachers' salaries. The article reported that Lake-Lehman was at the bottom of the salary chart in the area. She said the average was almost \$8,000 greater than Lake-Lehman's salaries.

Boytin, who was board president during the latest contract negotiation, said that he took Kopcha's comments as "a direct challenge." He felt that a comparison between Lake-Lehman and some other local districts was completely unfair because Lake-Lehman has "no business taxes to fund the school district."

Balavage, who filled in for Michelle Coombs as "acting-president" cut into the argument, saying that "this could easily last all night."

The next regular Committee-of-the-Whole meeting will be held Tuesday, August 12 at 7 p.m. in the Music room of the Lehman-Jackson Elementary School.

Roundabout vote postponed

DALLAS — Residents will have to wait a while longer to find out whether the Dallas downtown will be home to the first roundabout in northeastern Pennsylvania. Council took voting on the measure off the agenda for Wednesday night's meeting.

Joe Moskovitz said Wednesday that council would not vote on the issue at the regularly scheduled meeting as had been announced last month.

Chuck Mattei, PennDOT District Engineer, said the decision to hold off on the vote until a later date will not jeopardize the ability to put the traffic pattern on PennDOT's 12-year plan being updated this summer.

Seaweed must be removed before triathlon

By ERIN YOUNGMAN Post Staff

HARVEYS LAKE — Improvements to water quality are needed before the Wilkes-Barre Triathlon can use the lake for its annual event, said the race director at Tuesday's borough council meeting.

Joanne Gensel, Race Director for the Wilkes-Barre Triathlon, told the Harveys Lake Borough Council her organization will pay to have bacteria laden seaweed removed from the area prior to the August race.

"We think it's a really necessary thing to do for that area because the seaweed is just so high," she said adding that the seaweed fosters bacteria growth.

Gensel said the privately con-

tracted company Ecosolutions of Scranton started testing the water in May and will continue until the week of the race.

"In the past I had to cancel the swimming, back in 1998, so since that time we've started testing the water," she said.

Gensel said a private company hired at the triathlon's expense will harvest the seaweed the week before the triathlon.

Also at the meeting, a group of about 10 residents complained to council about a neighbor running a makeshift kennel out of his home.

Bill Connor, who owns a home at 32 Maple Street in the borough, said unrelenting odors and noise coming from a home in his neighborhood have him and his neighbors looking

for possible solutions.

He said calls had been made to the police department but that the issue "to date had not elevated to your (council's) attention."

Connor recounted evidence of the sale of numerous dogs out of the residence and questioned whether the residents of the home had a business license. He said at least 10 dogs live at the residence.

"Is there a noise ordinance, an odor ordinance?" he asked council.

Milton Lutsey, the zoning officer, said he would look into the situation as well as notify the borough's animal control officer.

Betty Jane West, President of Council, said this was the first

council had heard of the situation.

In other news:

• A letter from DEP said effective immediately any new land developments proposing a connection to or extension of the public sewer will have to be approved through DEP.

• A letter from the Luzerne County Planning Commission said the final plan for the Marina Commons project had been approved. In a separate letter, the Department of Environmental Protection approved the discharge of storm water from the Marina Commons construction site.

Cancer Society needs volunteers

The Wyoming Valley Unit of the American Cancer Society needs volunteer drivers for its Road to Recovery program.

Road to Recovery is a program of volunteers who drive patients to treatment centers and home again. Your American Cancer Society needs more volunteers to ensure that all patients have transportation when they need it. Volunteers drive the American Cancer Society van to transport patients in the Wyoming Valley. Road to Recovery volunteers can drive as little as once a month or as often as a few times per week. Pa-

tients are grateful for this service, as many of them could not otherwise get their treatments.

For more information call Gina Severcool at 1-888-227-5445.

Ag Security properties approved

By TARA BENNINGER Post Correspondent

JACKSON TWP. — The Jackson Township Supervisors passed the Agricultural Security Act after minimal discussion at their July meeting. Supervisor Andrew Kasko and Doctor Paul Niezgoda organized that committee and prepared the documents.

Each of the supervisors took time to review the properties through out the past few months. They agreed that all but one property met all requirements, including zoning requirements. The supervisors passed the act, excluding one property. The owner of that property can reapply after comply with the zoning laws of the township.

Solicitor Jeffrey Malak requested a revised copy of that list, to file in the County Court-house.

Chairman Jay Wilkes announced the sale of the two police vehicles. Thanks to the Internet bids were received from as far away as Chicago and Florida.

The web is an amazing thing, and the township is progressing into the 21st century, quickly," Wilkes commented.

The bidders were all companies that dealt with used police vehicles. The high bidders were Bay Ridge and Cooks Cool Cars. With a bid of \$655, Bay Ridge purchased the 1993 Chevrolet Caprice. The 2000 Chevrolet Impala was sold to Cooks Cool Cars in Wilkes-Barre for \$4,589. Both compa-

nies have 10 days to pay for and collect the vehicles.

In other business, Benjamin Barsh told the board that he has had three close calls recently, with reckless drivers. "Don't ask me to tell you the make, model or even color of those cars," he reported. Supervisor Wilkes said that the township was doing what they could prevent dangerous speeders, including speed traps.

"Drivers flicker their head lights to warn other drivers, and it makes it hard to make an impact," Barsh commented after the meeting. Wilkes insisted that the township would continue to do what they can.

Due to scheduling conflicts, August's meeting has been changed to Wednesday August 13.

ARNIE'S
Home Maintenance
Improvements & Repairs
and
Custom Wood Crafting
Lawn Furniture • Shaker Furniture • Ornaments
(570) 654-6820

Showtimes effective Friday 7/18/03

Disney's **PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN**
Daily 7:00 • Fri/Sat 9:45
Sat/Sun 4:00 • Sat/Sun/Wed 1:00

ONE WEEK ONLY
THE ITALIAN JOB
Daily 7:15
Fri/Sat 9:30
Sat/Sun 4:15
Sat/Sun/Wed 1:15

STARTS JULY 25
SEABISCUIT FREAKY FRIDAY

COMING SOON
THE Dietrich
THEATER
Tunkhannock
"MORE THAN THE MOVIES"
836-1022 www.dietrichtheater.com

Q: Where do you find the most Back Mountain news each week?
A: Only in The Dallas Post

MARTZ TOURS

'Fish and Ships', anyone?
Lots of beach and lots of fun?
WILDWOOD & ATLANTIC CITY!
SEPT. 7-11 AN ATLANTIC CITY CASINO WITH BONUS PACKAGE, BANJO CRUISE, CAPE MAY, SMITHVILLE, RENAULT WINERY

1-DAY TRIPS

- WILLIAMSPORT July 23 Riverboat
- COOPERSTOWN INDUCTION July 27
- BRONX ZOO July 28
- PA DUTCH COUNTRY August 2
- WEST POINT Aug. 5, Sept. 25
- LONGWOOD GARDENS/QVC Aug. 8
- GETTYSBURG August 9 Lunch
- 1000 ISLANDS Aug. 9 Luncheon Cruise
- VALLEY FORGE AND HISTORIC NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE August 16
- BALTIMORE HARBOR August 16
- ELLIS ISLAND August 16
- PHILADELPHIA ZOO August 23
- SIGHT 'N SOUND Sept. 13 "Daniel"
- THREE LITTLE BAKERS DINNER THEATRE Oct. 16 "Italian Week"

MULTI-DAY TOURS

- CAPE COD WHALER August 6-9
- GATLINBURG & PIGEON FORGE Aug. 25-29 Dollywood, Great Smokies
- OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND Sept. 7-12
- CAPE COD ISLAND-HOPPING Sept. 8-12 Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard
- VERMONT Sept. 12-14 Mt. Snow lodge, Lake Cruise, Hildene, Entertainment
- LONG ISLAND RANCH Sept. 14-15 Deep Hollow Ranch, Resort Accommodations
- LAKE GEORGE BALLOON FESTIVAL Sept. 19-21 Lake Cruise, Saratoga Springs
- BILOXI, NEW ORLEANS AND ATLANTA Sept. 20-27 Casino Evening, Shrimp Boat Cruise, 14 Meals, CNN Center
- NIAGARA FALLS & ERIE CANAL Sept. 26-28 Boat Rides, Tours in Canada

BROADWAY

- "42nd ST." August 16
- "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" August 16
- "MAMMA MIA" Sept. 27
- "NINE" October 11
- "HAIRSPRAY" October 18

SPORTS

- CARDS AT PHILS Aug. 17
- U.S. TENNIS OPEN: Aug. 27
- EAGLES, GIANTS & JETS HOME FOOTBALL GAMES

'PARK YOUR FAMILY'
Hershey Park, Knoebel's Grove, Sesame Place, Camelback Waterpark, and Great Adventure! Call for dates.

MARTZ TOURS
821-3855 — www.martztrailways.com — 800-432-8069

Cool...
Cooler...
Coolest
Summer Checking Giveaway!

Open a new checking account from **June 23** through **August 30** and receive a **FREE Cooler Bag**. Banking with Pennstar is the coolest! Call or visit one of our **40 offices** conveniently located near you for all of the details!

1.866.4STAR.PA
www.pennstarbank.com

Look To The Star
Pennstar
BANK

*While supplies last. Offer expires 8/30/03. Offer available for new Pennstar Bank accounts only.
MEMBER FDIC * Pennstar Bank is a division of NBT Bank, N.A.