

# Owner claims damage to property

By ERIN YOUNGMAN  
Post Staff

**HARVEYS LAKE** — After years of working to get their roads paved, residents of Hemlock Gardens should be thrilled the development is scheduled for paving by the end of the year. However, one resident told council, Tuesday night, work the borough is doing to prepare the roads has caused

severe damage to his property.

Dave Krupa told council that since the borough started to work on the road in front of his home, his property has been flooded regularly. As a result he said he is facing costly repairs.

"In 11 years, I never had a problem, until the borough built a drainage ditch and basin in front of my property. Now my basement floods, my front and back yards become lakes, (mud) filled my pool on numer-

ous occasions."

Krupa said to prevent some of the water from entering his property he has dug ditches in his front and back yards. He asked council when the problem could be corrected and who is liable.

Ray Radomsky, a borough engineer, had recently visited the area. He responded to Krupa's questions.

"Basically what I saw were a series of roads that are immea-

surably better than they were private roads," Radomsky explained.

Radomsky said the road work being done there is a "work in progress" and that the work should be done before the end of the construction season.

"I think the road department is doing a great job considering what they had to work with," Radomsky added.

Krupa responded: "I understand you're saying it's helping,

but it doesn't help me. With my property damage what am I supposed to do, just wait?"

Krupa also said the catch basins installed in front of his home in the spring were already falling apart. He said he was concerned about how much worse they would get over the winter.

Council President Betty Jane West and Solicitor Charles McCormick asked Radomsky to visit the site to see if there is

anything that could be done to safeguard Krupa's home during construction.

McCormick also instructed the borough secretary to check with the borough's insurance carrier to see if there was coverage for this type of situation. (McCormick added that checking with the carrier was not an admission of guilt on the part of the borough.)

## Dallas Twp. residents fund study

By Camille Fiotti  
Post Correspondent

**DALLAS TWP.** - The Dallas Township Board of Supervisors voted Monday night to participate in a community assessment study conducted by Growing Greener: Conservation by Design.

"Some residents of the Back Mountain are sufficiently concerned about preventing the blight of urban sprawl and the work of 'hit and run' developments," said Attorney Bernard Walter, who is representing Growing Greener.

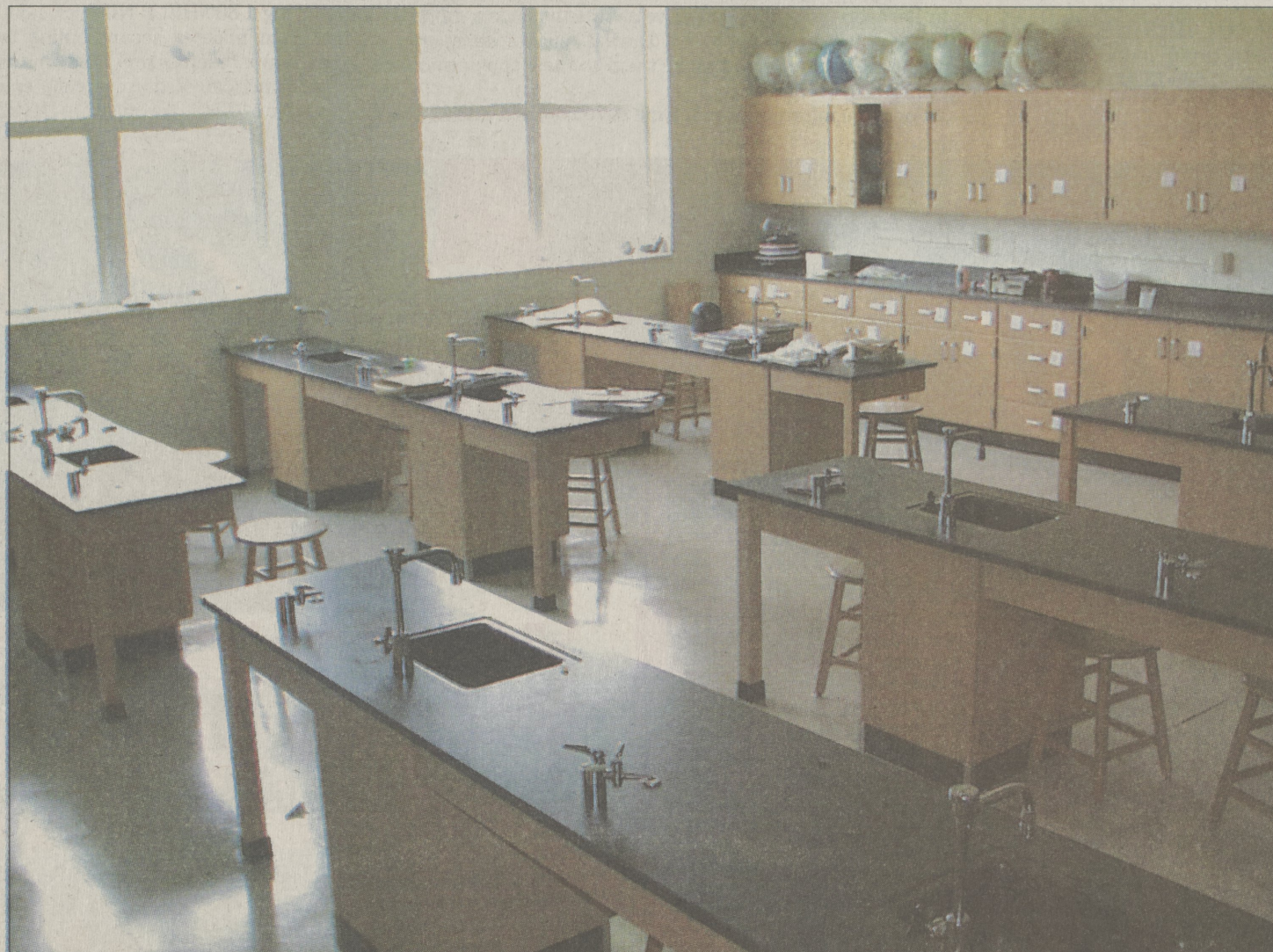
Walter and other Back Mountain residents have contributed money to fund a study of the township planning and zoning ordinances.

"It will give elected and appointed officials some handles to control development in responsible ways," said Walter. "It will balance the need for reasonable returns on investments with ecological concerns."

The assessment will entail a thorough review of the local Comprehensive Plan, Open Space Plan, subdivision and zoning codes. The township will receive a written report outlining specific changes to the various sections of the code that would be necessary to incorporate Growing Greener development standards.

In other news, Frank Wagner, Dallas Twp. vice chairman, said that the current open burning ordinance is in the process of being revised. The new ordinance, as required by the Department of Environmental Protection will prohibit open burning of refuse, recyclable matter, leaf or yard waste, and construction or demolition waste.

The exceptions to the ban are: campfires, bonfires at pep rallies, grilling of food, and all "grubbing" or burning off of brush in all agricultural areas of two acres or more.



A new science lab will serve students well in the new Lake-Lehman Middle School set to open next week.

PHOTO BY ERIN YOUNGMAN

## School

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providing the standard school lunch fare, a new restaurant style a la cart section featuring a salad bar, subs, wraps and more has been added.

All of the classrooms in the high school were renovated. New floors, ceilings, and dry erase boards were added, something Roberts said hasn't been done since the school was built in the 1960s.

The old industrial arts "shop" room is now the seventh and eighth grade industrial technology lab. The curriculum is a "shift away from the saw, hammer and nail" type of shop class to a more computer and software oriented plan, said Roberts.

"We are extremely proud of this. An expenditure of this magnitude is nothing to sneeze at," Roberts said. "I compliment the school board to the highest level. There was opposition as there is to anything like this, but the board had the foresight to say the kids here need this, the community needs it, it will take care of Lake-Lehman for a long time."

# Fowler takes another leave of absence

By RON LIEBACK  
For The Dallas Post

**DALLAS** — For the second time this year, the Dallas Police Department is without a chief for an extended period of time.

Chief John Fowler, 59, has been on sick leave since July 28 after he injured his shoulder in an accident, said Joe Moskovitz, the borough manager. Moskovitz said the accident occurred while Fowler was on vacation the week of July 21.

Fowler did not return messages for details on the accident. It is unclear where the accident occurred.

The crash is the latest wrin-

kle in ongoing tensions between the chief and some on council. During the past year, the chief has missed about five months of work because of a dispute about a previous medical leave. And, he has filed a grievance against the borough, complaining about shift changes.

Some on council say their stances in both cases were based on resident safety and cost.

"It's unfortunate," Moskovitz said, "and very difficult to resolve this matter."

According to Times Leader archives, Fowler was to take a two-week medical leave for stress and hypertension last

November, but borough officials did not agree on what conditions must be satisfied before the chief was cleared to return.

At the time, Mayor Tim Carroll said: "Do we want a guy who's under stress walking around with a gun at his side? We want to make sure the chief is fit for duty."

The dispute kept the chief off-duty from November to March, Moskovitz said, adding that the chief continued to receive full pay when off. The manager also said the borough paid several thousand dollars to part-timers to cover missed shifts.

John Oliver, vice president of council, said the borough has

five full-time and six part-time officers. Carroll said the 17-year chief's salary was \$48,600 last year.

Council President Kathy Kupstas was careful not to criticize the chief for his time off, but said "some of his actions cause dissension" within the force.

Last year, Fowler filed a grievance against the borough complaining about shift-scheduling changes. Under a policy instituted last year, the borough requires Fowler to cover open night-shifts when other officers are on vacation. That legal battle has cost the borough about \$30,000 in legal fees.

Councilman Dennis Garvey

has a much different take on the situation. "The mayor's position is harassment and intimidation to get rid of the chief."

Regarding Fowler's grievance about switching shifts, Garvey said the chief of police belongs on day shift and needs to meet with people during that time.

"What gives these guys the right to switch his (Fowler's) shift," said Garvey. "It's stupid."

Garvey said the budget for the borough is \$700,000 a year and 5 percent of it was already spent because of legal fees. "It's a situation where Dallas Borough taxpayers pay the price."

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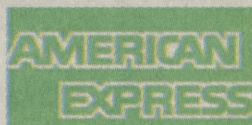
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