

Sewers

(continued from page 1)

He said although he had hoped to find one large source responsible for the leakage, "That hasn't been the case." Instead, "it's a lot of little stuff that's time-consuming."

Over 300 inspections of homes conducted by the authority have yielded 10 incorrect sump pump connections and two homes with rain spouts tied into the lines. Small cracks located in sewer lines near manholes have been identified through nightly inspections, also conducted by the authority. Those repairs still have to be made, said Boice.

"It's coming along, but it's slow and expensive," he said.

"It's not over with from a long shot," said Niskey about the ongoing work. "But it's a step in the right direction."

Niskey credited Bill Mann, Chairman of the Municipal Authority Board, and Boice for working diligently on the problem.

Niskey said Mann has been working five hours a day "coordinating the effort to get it resolved. I know he is committed. (And) the mayor (Boice) is very committed."

To get home and manhole inspections done, Boice has been working swing shift and weekends. There are still 1,000 homes left to inspect.

"But, when we're done. I think we'll have one of the better systems in the Back Mountain," Boice said.



Jeffrey Metz, vice president of operations, TGI Friday's; Jessie Hardy, president and CEO, Make-A-Wish and Art Owens, director of program services, Make-A-Wish

Make-A-Wish Foundation presents Golden Wishbone to T.G.I. Friday's vice president

Jeffrey Metz, vice president of operations for T.G.I. Friday's Restaurants, was recently awarded The Golden Wishbone by the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

This award is the foundation's highest honor and represents Metz and TGI Friday's commitment and dedication above and beyond that of others to the organization's mission and the children it serves.

Make-A-Wish Foundation of Northeastern Pennsylvania grants wishes of children ages 2 to 18 with life-threatening illnesses to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Metz has served on the

foundation's board of directors for the past four years.

Since 1998, TGI Friday's has donated over \$100,000 to the organization. In addition Friday's sponsors an hour of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Northeastern Pennsylvania telethon every year. Last year's sponsorship included the "Family Interview Area" as well as providing food for the telethon volunteers.

Friday's also offers meeting rooms for Make-A-Wish Foundation of Northeastern Pennsylvania as well as lodging and food for Wish Families from around the country who come to Northeast PA for wish fulfillment.

Coombs plans run as write-in candidate

By KALEN CHURCHER
For The Dallas Post

Distressed by what she says is a lack of participation by some School Board candidates, the Lake-Lehman School Board president — knocked off the ballot in May — has put herself back in the running with a write-in campaign.

In Region One, where two seats are up for grabs, four votes kept Michelle Coombs from clinching the Republican nomination in the May primary. Mark Kornoski caught the Democratic bid and Jeffrey Pauley took a Republican slot. Incumbent Lois Kopcha won spots on the Democratic and Republican tickets by cross-filing.

Coombs said people encouraged her to start a write-in campaign when they learned she lost the primary. The deciding factor

was when she realized candidates who had moved on to November's election were not attending School Board meetings.

"If you don't attend the meetings, you can't understand (the issues)," Coombs said. "You just can't jump into things and try to proceed. I need to be part of the solution."

Kornoski, of Harveys Lake, said he has missed only two or three School Board meetings in the past year.

"I even go to the work sessions, so I'm pretty up on what's going on with the School District," Kornoski said.

He too, has noticed the lack of School Board candidates attending meetings.

Pauley admits it has been a busy summer, but he maintains he is kept informed through other Board members, newspapers, and by studying other school dis-

tricts. He anticipates attending more Lake-Lehman meetings this fall.

"I think over the past seven years, I have attended more meetings than Michelle Coombs," Pauley said.

Coombs, who is seeking her second term, is hopeful she will be re-elected through her write-in effort.

"I look back at (the primary) and reflect," she said. "I probably should have done more campaigning. I thought I didn't need to do the campaigning because people knew who I was."

Also vying for seats are: in Region Two, Harold Cornell Jr., Chuck Boytin and James Welby (two open seats); and in Region Three, Joe Kapitula and Robert Peron (one open seat).

This article appeared in original form in the Times Leader.

Labor practice charge may block contract

By KALEN CHURCHER
For The Dallas Post

An unfair-labor practice charge against the Lake-Lehman School District may block contract negotiations with the union representing support personnel.

Charles Coslett, Lake-Lehman's solicitor and chief negotiator, said he will not continue bargaining until the charge is settled with the state Labor Relations Board.

If that is the case, the union will file another complaint, said John Holland, chief negotiator for the School District's support staff.

Holland said he is filing the first complaint because the School District is engaging in "conditional bargaining." The condition is that all past practices must be removed from the

contract before further negotiations occur, he said.

The Educational Support Association represents 70 School District employees including aides, maintenance workers and cafeteria personnel. The association's contract expired on June 30, though negotiations have taken place much longer.

Eliminating past practices is the only concession the School District has asked for thus far, Coslett said. The elimination provides an opportunity to start with a fresh slate. Hired by the School District last year, Coslett said he wants to avoid indiscriminately agreeing to past practices allowed by past administrators or solicitors.

"I don't know what mine fields are lurking out there, but I refuse to walk through them knowingly," he said.

Though Holland maintains no bargaining of the issues — hours, wages or other benefits — has taken place, Coslett tells a different story. He says the two sides are "not that far apart on wages" and are not "hung up" on health insurance costs.

"I have no idea what their proposal is," Holland said. "They've been asked on numerous times to articulate their position and they have failed to do so."

Coslett suspects Holland might be stalling negotiations because he has spread himself too thin with Pennsylvania State Education Association work. Holland has accepted a promotion within PSEA and, among other duties, is negotiating a Crestwood teachers contract.

This article appeared in original form in the Times Leader.

It's All in the Game! event to benefit Northeast Regional Cancer Institute

The 2nd Annual "It's All in the Game!," an evening of fun and games to benefit the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, is set for Thursday, November 13 from 6-9 p.m. at the Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel, Scranton.

The event will feature a festive atmosphere with spirited competition, including games such as Pictionary, Family Feud, and, new this year, Celebrity. The evening will also include cocktails, food

stations, music, and an awards ceremony at the end of the night.

Last year's event, the first of its kind, was a success, and this year promises to deliver even more fun and energy. Attendees can put together their own team of four players, join a team that night, or just enjoy the evening as a spectator.

The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute is a nonprofit, community-based agency

working to ease the burden of cancer in Northeast Pennsylvania. Focusing on research, education, support and survivorship programs, the Cancer Institute directs all programming and invests all of its resources here in Northeast Pennsylvania.

The event is \$30 per person. Corporate sponsorships are invited. For more information, or to register call the Cancer Institute at 941-7984.

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