

# Road

(continued from page 1)

fare leading anywhere except to the Ceasetown Dam, only recently opened to public fishing.

A neighbor, who did not want to be identified, said for the years he's lived there, the road has been used primarily for "parking," partying and as a dumping grounds for refuse. It has earned a reputation as the kind of road that four-wheel drive vehicles and tow trucks get stuck in.

"It's a one-lane, two-rut road," joked Dave Sutton, chairman of the Lehman Township Board of Supervisors. "We've been looking to vacate it for years."

Sutton and Doug Ide, Lehman roadmaster, said the township doesn't have enough money to maintain the road and with all of the adjoining Theta land up for sale, a house could be built there and the township would be required to take care of Cassie Green.

Based on the last two years, Lehman could not afford the additional costs, said Sutton. Earlier this year it was forced to cease providing full-time police coverage, while last year it didn't have enough cash flow to make annual road repairs, outside of patching.

Ide said because of the uniqueness of Cassie Green Road's location, he checked into the possibility of deeding over the land to one of two non-profit organizations, the Anthracite Scenic Trails Association or Back Mountain Recreation Inc. He said neither jumped on the idea.

"I thought that possibly we could have made a walking trail out of it," Ide said. But the

*"It's a one-lane, two-rut road."*

**Dave Sutton**  
Chairman  
Lehman Township Supervisors

township doesn't have the resources to do that.

And he added, "both (non-profits) indicated it was not on their list of things to do."

But Brian Grove, executive director of Back Mountain Rec, said his organization is interested in obtaining the road. He said November 3 that he was still waiting to hear from the group's attorneys about whether his organization could legally use the road for a trail. He said he had no idea the township was going to advertise to vacate it this month.

"It's a beautiful road," said Grove, who said he has already been told by his attorneys that the road can legally be deeded to his organization.

He said he believes the acquisition of the road would not mean much additional expense for Back Mountain Rec.

"We'd want to upgrade sections, but as a walking trail, it would be easy to maintain," he said.

Grove said the lawyers are discussing whether Back Mountain Rec would be able to limit vehicular traffic on the road, and if so, to what degree, and how that would work with its function as a walking trail.

"It's not a straightforward matter," he said.

Grove said he would check with the township about the status of the advertisement.

# 4 students put in juvenile detention

By **BONNIE ADAMS**  
For The Post

**WILKES-BARRE** — The four Lake-Lehman football players accused of injuring sophomore Adam Harris during a hazing incident apologized to him November 3 before being sent to the juvenile detention center.

"He thanked the kids for their apologies. I was proud of him," said Candy Harris, Adam's mother.

She said the four boys sounded genuine and remorseful. "I was glad to hear it," she said. Harris said her 15-year-old son

is still angry about what happened to him.

Harris said the juvenile proceeding was brief but emotional. She had not realized that the teens would be immediately taken to juvenile detention to await further placement.

Assistant District Attorney Anthony Ross said that during a closed hearing, Judge Mark Ciavarella found the teens delinquent of simple assault and harassment.

"We're satisfied with the result and it is our official position that no school violence will be tolerated," Ross said.

Sources have identified seniors Chad Derhammer, Josh Cragle, Brandon Wren and junior Ryan Arcangeli as the students involved in the Sept. 24 incident. Harris, 15, was taped to a wheeled chair that tipped over when it was shoved toward the gym. He suffered a broken jaw.

Ross said the county Juvenile Probation Department will develop a placement plan for each teen and will submit that plan for the judge's review. Ciavarella will decide the next step for each of them. Ross said there is no exact time frame for when

that decision will take place. County detective Larry Fabian and Lehman Township officer Damian Hoover conducted the investigation.

Each of the four teens had been suspended from school for 10 days. The School District finalized its punishment last month.

At least three of the teens were expelled through the second marking period in January and must attend counseling, perform community service and participate in no extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year.

# Dallas district business manager steps down

By **MARK GUYDISH**  
For The Post

**DALLAS TWP.** — The Dallas School Board agreed to advertise for a new business manager. On Oct. 17 Albert Melone gave a written 90-day notice he is resigning. He said it was because a board member was pushing to replace him before his contract expires in June.

At the November 3 meeting, Frank Natitus denied allegations that he was that board member. Voicing support for Melone, Natitus said he had only expressed concern that Melone might leave before the contract expires and wanted to be prepared for that possibility. Melone wasn't at the meeting.

The board also agreed to seek an independent audit of the middle school project. At last month's meeting, a discrepancy was found between the records of Melone and architect Paul Digillio.

Superintendent Gilbert Griffiths said he had met with Digillio and Melone, and found two problems: Some board members apparently thought \$160,000 spent to tile hallway walls was part of the original plan when it was not. Another \$170,000 spent in arranging a \$7.4 million bond was not reported to the state as part of the complicated "PlanCon" protocol districts follow to get state reimbursement.

The bond reporting would have been Digillio's responsibility, Griffiths said. He added that up to \$80,000 remained in a \$723,000 contingency fund to cover such problems, and additional savings should cover more. He predicted any overrun will be well below the \$250,000 some suggested.

But board members were not satisfied with the explanation, and called for the independent audit of the roughly \$16 million renovations.



# Dream houses help Meadows to provide new shower chairs

LeeAnn Emerick, Director of Nursing at the Meadows Nursing Center Dallas, recently thanked the "Dream Houses in Miniature Club" and the Meadows Nursing Center Auxiliary for their joint effort to provide new shower chairs for residents at the center. These chairs add to the comfort and safety of residents.

Shown from left: Lois Hughes and Louise Montigney, Dream Houses in Miniature Club; Bernie Hill, Auxilian; and LeeAnn Emerick.

# Events planned at Grace Community

Grace Community Church located on Memorial Highway, Dallas, has several upcoming events:

Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner is scheduled for November 15 and the Ladies Fellowship meeting is scheduled for November 17.

In addition, the ladies Bible study groups are beginning: The first group meets on Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

The second group meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. For more information call 675-3723.

# Free legal services for soldiers

As National Guard and Reserve units are called up to serve the Armed Forces of the United States, the Military Affairs Committee of the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association/Luzerne County Bar is available to provide legal services where needed.

The pro bono service includes the preparation of wills for soldiers, sailors and airmen. The service is also available to assist these individuals and their families with problems related to their recall to active duty, and legal affairs which may require their attention during their physical absence from home.

The committee is also available to assist lawyers in the management of their legal cases during their call to active duty.

For information call the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association at 822-6712.

# Public, youth swimming at Dallas Middle School pool

The Dallas School District is offering a variety of public and school age aquatic programs for fall and winter 2003 - 2004.

Evening Public Swim is offered on Wednesdays and Fridays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 5 p.m. The pool is open to the public for lap and recreational swimming. No one under 18 will be admitted without a parent or guardian. Proof of residence and a \$2 daily fee apply.

The Mini Mountaineers, an Age Group Swim Team, part of

the Northeast

Pennsylvania Age Group Swim League (NEPAGSL), will run from October 20 through March 1. No competitive swimming experience is required, however, members need to be able to support themselves in the water.

Practices will be held Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays from 6:15 to 8:15 p.m. Swim meets will be on Saturdays and on Sundays.

The Mini Mounts age-group swim team is a NEPAGSL

team competitive swimming league for swimmers 6 to 14 years of age. There are dual meets between all the teams during the regular season and a championship meet at the end of February.

Volunteers will be needed to help run meets and start a booster organization.

There will be informational meetings and registration for all interested parents on Thursday, October 2 and Tuesday, October 7 at 7 p.m. in the Mid-

dle School Natatorium (pool). Those interested who cannot make the meeting should contact Matt Stretanski.

Registration fee is \$200 per swimmer (\$175 for additional siblings) Membership fees include team bathing suit, team swim cap, team t-shirt, insurance and league membership.

For more information contact Matthew Stretanski at mstretanski@dallassd.com or 675-5201.

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**NEWS**

**Coverage Area:** The Post covers the "Back Mountain" area of Luzerne County, including Dallas, Kingston, Lehman and Jackson townships, Dallas Borough, Harveys Lake and the Dallas and Lake-Lehman school districts. We try to get to as many events as possible, but staff and space limitations make it impossible to cover everything. If you have news about your family, town or organization, please send it to us and we'll try to get it in. Photographs are welcome.

**Corrections, clarifications:** The Post will correct errors of fact or clarify any misunderstandings created by a story. Call 675-5211.

**Have a story idea?** Please call, we'd like to hear about it.

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