

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

The following property transfers were recorded recently at the Luzerne County Courthouse.

- Davis, Rose A. estate to Orf, Thomas et ux, Lot 46+, Gross Manor, Dallas, \$126,000
Dexter, Edward et ux to Planter, Mark A., Lot 16B Highland Blvd., Dallas, \$206,185
Post, Robert Sr. trustee, to Mitchell, Cynthia Post, Lots 2, 3 Post Plot, Dallas, \$305,000
Empfield, Jeffrey et ux to Weaver, Gary et ux, Lot 18 Haddonfield Hills, Dallas, \$159,000
Coolbaugh, Russell et ux to Lewis, David et ux, Lot 2, Dallas, \$89,000
Lombardo, Joseph et ux to Halbing, John E. III, 86 acres, Dallas, \$325,000
Sharpe Development Corporation to Heritage Hills Estates, Lots 27-32 Bluff Pointe, Dallas, \$72,000
Marina Commons at Harveys Lake to Mattucci, James Jr., Lot 31 Marina Pointe, Harveys Lake, \$198,435
Richards, John et ux to Aguanon, Salvatore et ux, Lots 23,25,27, Harveys Lake, \$89,500
Harding, Joseph Jr. et ux to Meier, Bernhard et ux, Lot 35,36 Northview, Harveys Lake, \$155,000
Marina Commons at Harveys Lake to Mattucci, Flick J., Lot 22 Marina Pointe, Harveys Lake, \$204,509
Montigney, Martin et ux to Agnew, Gwen, Old Lehman Rd., Lehman, \$91,000
Lacey, Mark et ux to Onzik, Mary Jean, Lot 2, Lehman, \$5,500
Niezgoda, Beulah to Niezgoda, John et ux, 1.22 acres, Lehman, \$135,000
Shaver, Alan et ux to Curcio, Robert et ux, 107 Harris Hill Rd., Shavertown, \$95,000
Gavlick, Kelli to Mackesy, Blake et ux, 217 Blueberry Hill Rd., Shavertown, \$245,000
Honeychurch, Richard J. to Hixon, Richard et ux, Lot 25 Sleepy Hollow, Shavertown, \$256,400
Puchalsky, William et to Reese, Edward M., 397 Greenpond Dr, Shavertown, \$126,000
Hann, Barbara et al to Hizynski, Richard, 184 Ferguson Ave., Shavertown, \$73,000
Friedman, Robert et ux to Goodwin, Curtis et ux, 9.71 acres, Lot Shavertown, \$82,500
Farrell, James F. estate to CLR Holdings, LLC, see deed, Shavertown, \$115,000
Halbing, John et ux to Liss, Arthur et ux, Lot 24 Windsor Farms, Shavertown, \$550,000
Goynne, Eric et ux to Zawatski, Edward J., Lot 2, Sweet Valley, \$125,000
Dibuo, Frank et ux to Petherick, Michael et ux, 9.86 acres, Sweet Valley, \$140,000



POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

Robert Sarley stood outside the bay doors of the Trucksville Volunteer Fire Company. One of the concerns about the present station is the difficulty of getting in and out through heavy traffic at the intersection of Carverton Road and Route 309.

Fire company

(continued from page 1)

present building's longevity and availability. Built in 1964 as the township office, it is showing ominous signs of age, including widening cracks in the cinder block wall that faces Toby's Creek.

The township supervisors have discussed several needed repairs, but have been hamstrung from making them by a budget crunch. And it's possible that in the long run, they could decide to sell the building rather than continue maintaining it.

"Either way, we have to try to shore that building up," said Chris Yankovich, who is both president of the supervisors and treasurer of the fire company. "We want to protect our financial interest in the building."

While they worry about the future, fire company personnel

"It would be nice to be on top of the hill."

Robert Sarley, President of Trucksville Vol. Fire Co.

are not complaining about the township's treatment. "It's not like they don't take care of us," said member Lawrence Long, pointing out a \$12,000 annual township contribution to the department.

Sarley is hoping to find at least two acres, with easy access to Carverton Road. "But if somebody had a larger parcel, that would be better yet," he said, since that would allow for future relocation of the station.

"It would be nice to be on top of the hill," Sarley said, since

much of the company's coverage area is residential neighborhoods that now require a long climb up Carverton.

Ideally, the land would be a donation, and the donor would qualify for a tax deduction, since the company is set up as a 501-C-3 nonprofit. A local banker has pledged to do whatever he can to secure a loan for a purchase or construction of a hall.

Trucksville Fire shares coverage of Kingston Township with Shavertown Volunteer Fire and Ambulance, with a dividing line on Route 309 just below the former Rave's Garden Center. All the developments off Carverton Road are in the Trucksville area, giving the company hundreds of homes to cover. The two departments cooperate on structures fire anywhere in the township.

Free legal services offered for Reservists

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 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 call 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 822-6712.

History

(continued from page 1)

las was then in the bottom of a two-story building where CVS now is that also housed the electric company.

Jim Oliver had the first used car lot, where the borough building stands, and Dr. Henry Laing had a house where Citizens Bank is. The pharmacy, owned by Gus Kuehn, was then on the eastern side of Main Street. Thomas remembers when the building was moved. "Schiber, the house mover, came in to move the building across the street, and I couldn't believe that they could move a building like that, but he said he had moved buildings that were seven or eight stories high. He could move anything. He said '64 bangs an inch and the building would be across the street.' He moved the whole pharmacy and Kuehn said the small iodine bottles never moved a bit." The business now is Fino's Pharmacy.

Thomas says not many homes were built in Dallas until the streetcars came through. Until then, most of the homes

were built in Chase or at the Huntsville dam. The people would walk to Trucksville and then to Luzerne. He also says that his grandfather helped build Huntsville dam and felt it would never break because it took nine or 10 horses to move one of the stones into place. George Lamoreaux owned much of the land around the dam, as did the Edwards family. His grandfather also told him of the "Molly McGuire," who he thought were "pretty bad actors." They came one night and pulled his grandfather out of his horse and buggy. "They thought he was someone else, they would have killed him," he says.

According to "old time gossip," large white pine trees were timbered in Dallas and at Harveys Lake. They were floated down the Susquehanna, shipped to England, and used as ship masts. Thomas himself remembers a huge pine stump on his strip of land that has since rotted out. "That pine tree must have been 200 feet

high to have a five-foot-wide stump."

He points to the hand hewn 60-foot white pine rafters in his barn, also as evidence that ancient forests once covered the area.

"These rafters are from the Warden Farm barn. It stood where the Payne Printery building is. There's no sawmill in the country today could cut beams this big," he offers. The produce shack was built in 1987 from remnants of the Warden barn.

With all the development, Thomas has seen a decline in animal life. "There used to be bob-white and pheasant, but no more," and even the ground-hogs left for higher ground after the last flood.

Thomas at one time brought produce from the Thomas C. Thomas produce company in Wilkes-Barre and is good friends with George Thomas, but there is no family relationship. He prefers to buy produce from local farms.

"The tomatoes grown in

Sweet Valley are the best in the world. I've had produce people tell me this," he says.

But the best story, according to Thomas, is from 1940 when someone told him about something called a "produce stand."

"I had never heard of such a thing, so me and the Waters brothers put out two crates and a half-inch board with produce. We sold it all," says Thomas.

And he's been selling it ever since.

Dallas has four open positions left to fill

448 applications for 22 open jobs

Staff report

DALLAS TWP. — Eighteen down, four to go. That's the standings for open positions in the Dallas School District, after nine were filled at a June 29 special meeting.

Among the new hires were two teachers and a technology coordinator with ties to former district administrators or the current school board president.

The board also passed a 15-mill tax hike. The vote was 6-1, with one absent and one abstention for the \$23.69 million spending plan. The total millage stands at 213, an increase of 7.6 percent.

Board member Frank Natitus voted against the budget and Dennis Gochoel was absent. Newly appointed board member Daniel Nulton abstained.

The list of teachers presented for hiring included Karen Gibson, a former student teacher for board President David Usavage. She was hired as a fifth-grade teacher at Wycallis Elementary at a salary of \$30,678. She spent 16 weeks in Usavage's first-grade classroom in the Wyoming Valley West School District.

After the meeting, Usavage called Gibson "an outstanding teacher" and defended her hiring, stating, "If anybody thinks that 16 weeks in the classroom doesn't serve the board and the district better than a 15-minute interview, I'd like to talk to them."

Board members Maureen Matiska and James Richardson voted against hiring Gibson. Nulton abstained.

Two children of former district administrators also were hired.

Samuel Barbose, son of retired principal Sam Barbose, was hired to teach sixth grade at the Dallas Middle School at a salary of \$35,274. Kyle Wega, son of retired technology coordinator Jack Wega, was given a four-year contract as director of technology at a base salary of \$45,000.

Neither appointment was opposed; Nulton abstained from all hiring votes.

Susan Williams, secretary to Assistant Superintendent Michael Speziale, said the district received 448 applications for 22 full-time positions. That included expressions of continuing interest from prior applicants.

All persons interested in being hired must notify the district of their interest within a 10-day window from the date an opening is posted and advertised.

Williams said four positions remain to be filled: two high school special education teachers; a combination ESL and gifted elementary position, and a developmental first grade teacher.

Audience members criticized Nulton's recent appointment to the board. Several parents questioned why the board held the appointment at the end of the June 14 meeting.

Pam Oliveira told Usavage the action made the public in the audience at the time feel that the matter was not going to be acted on at the meeting and some people left.

Usavage said the vote was moved "to where it should be placed, at the end of the meeting," and added that "there was no malicious intent."

Parents also questioned Usavage and the board about the distribution of the duties of the assistant superintendent, who is on sabbatical, and the replacement of the assistant middle school principal. Usavage said that neither issue has been decided yet, but parents said they were worried that the board would not act in the best interest of the students.

Calling it a matter of trust, Kathleen Savage, mother of two children at the high school, told the board, "I honestly feel you are not considering the children and that's why I don't trust you."

Before the board voted on the hiring of teachers, Matiska made a motion to allow district administrators to have an equal vote with board members on the hiring of teachers. The motion was defeated with only Matiska and Richardson voting in favor of it and Nulton abstaining.

Matiska said she made the motion because the administration does not get any say in who is hired as teachers.

When Usavage asked her why she didn't express her concerns in the executive session for personnel matters before the meeting, she replied, "It does me no good to bring it up in back."

Also hired at Tuesday's meeting were: Anthony Prushinski, sixth grade Dallas Middle School, \$35,537 a year; Kelly Whalen, reading specialist Dallas Middle School, \$34,328; Brenda Skoronski, fifth grade Dallas Elementary, \$35,274; Courtney Stolarski, long term substitute teacher Wycallis Elementary and MaryKate Madden, long term substitute English teacher Dallas Middle School, each at \$30,678; and Tina Marianacci, school psychologist, \$39,438.

Send your news to The Post by e-mail

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Digital photos welcome, too!

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

SOL REPEL COTT LISBON
UNO AMELIA PEA ERMINE
MYWIFEWILL ALLOSaurus
OXEN SATIN SKIS DST
CAL GOAT NEER
BUY ANYTHING MARKED DOWN
OLE DRAIN TRE DAILY
ANN RECESSED BARI LILL
TASTE ENS ELEE TIO
SWAP COTS LOSS EEN
BEE LAST WEEKSHE ERR
TOR ALEC SLUE ATWT
OWN RASA LST IOWAN
ALA CHER RESTLESS HUE
SENTA AGA LOTTE ATA
TRIED TO BUY AN ESCALATOR
DEEM TERI GYM
LAP NIGH ENOLA ISLE
ELEMENTARY JOEY BISHOP
ALKALI LIE ANGERS JDI
FIELDS LEW ASSAM VIC

Puzzles appear on page 8

King Crossword Answers

ASP SHED ZIP
ROE MARE ECHO
MULBERRY NEIL
LEAK AISLE
ELMER HART
DUET MULCHING
ALL MAMAS NAY
MULLIGAN STIR
AKIN BERLE
SPADE SAME
LARD MULTIPLY
ELITE EPIC III
DEAR WITH DEN

NEWS Coverage Area: The Post covers the "Back Mountain" area of Luzerne County, including the Dallas and Lake-Lehman school districts, and southern Wyoming County. We try to get to as many events as possible, but staff and space limitations make it impossible to cover everything.

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