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THE POST

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SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Food pantry serves a growing need

Donations flow in for the holidays, but a larger client list adds demand.

By M.B. GILLIGAN
Post Correspondent

TRUCKSVILLE — The Back Mountain Food Pantry is poised to hand out 156 Thanksgiving dinner food baskets, but the needs don't stop there. "During the holidays everybody is in

the spirit of giving and we turn over a lot of food. There is a great surge now, but then it dies down," said Louise Hazeltine, volunteer coordinator for the Food Pantry located at Trucksville United Methodist Church.

"Actually this food pantry is a 52-week-a-year operation." Her concerns are based on years of experience. Annual food drives by local schools and organizations will ensure an adequate food supply

through the end of the year. Typically, however, the pantry's shelves are almost empty during January and February.

"The Scouts hold a big drive in March and that usually takes us through to the Postal Workers' drive in the spring," said Hazeltine. "June, July and August are another time for concern."

Donations help meet growing needs — 10 new families signed up for assis-

tance in October alone. That brings the total number of client families to 161, compared to 125 at this time last year.

"It reflects the economy," said Hazeltine. "With the cost of heating fuel, and the price of medicine for our older clients, it's a compounding of everything."

Another local organization has expressed an ongoing need for food
See FOOD, pg 2



POST PHOTO/RON BARTIZEK

Mindy and Brent Schuler, at right, posed with their children and Harveys Lake Deputy Fire Chief David Davis, who resuscitated their youngest son, Austin, after a boating accident in June. The children are, from left, Austin, Sara and Cole.

Heartfelt thanks and awards for rescuers

By RONALD BARTIZEK
Post Staff

HARVEYS LAKE — In a heartwarming break from routine, Mindy Schuler opened the November 16 meeting of the Borough Council with earnest thanks to all the people who helped rescue her son after a boating accident in June.

"I'm sorry I don't know all your names," she said, addressing neighbors and firefighters who had been summoned to the meeting room. In all, 14 people who participated in the rescue were presented with awards from the State Senate, and the Harveys Lake Fire and Ambulance Department received a Governor's Award.

Schuler recounted the harrowing details from the day before Father's Day. The family of five — Mindy, Brent and their children Cole, Sara and Austin — were on the lake teaching Cole how to water ski. When a rope broke, they went back to their dock, not far from the fire station. That location proved to be fortunate.

See RESCUERS, pg 3



Grange goodies

Betsy Kundrat helped in the kitchen preparing tasty treats for visitors to the Mountain Grange 567 flea market, held Nov. 13. The small organization manages to put on a flea market about once a month along with other events, at its building on Eighth Street in Carveton. More photos appear on page 3.

FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

NOW ON THE WEB



Toby's Creek: Our hidden resource

The complete text of The Post's comprehensive look at Toby's Creek is now available at www.timesleader.com Look for the link, then read each of the 11 stories and two editorials that tell the story of our historic, beautiful but nearly forgotten gem. The articles range from the creek's geological history to examples of similar waterways that are being preserved in other parts of the nation.

Public hearing Monday on plan to dredge at lake

HARVEYS LAKE — A public hearing Monday night will give opponents and supporters the opportunity to comment on a plan to dredge a channel behind the Marina Pointe townhouses.

The hearing has been scheduled by the Department of Environmental Protection, which will make the final decision on the project.

The plan calls for creating a 60-foot-wide channel — about twice what it is now — with a uniform depth of 8 feet. The channel would be about 300 feet long.

Armand Mascioli, a partner in the townhouse development, has said up to 30 new boat slips would be built behind the buildings once dredging is completed.

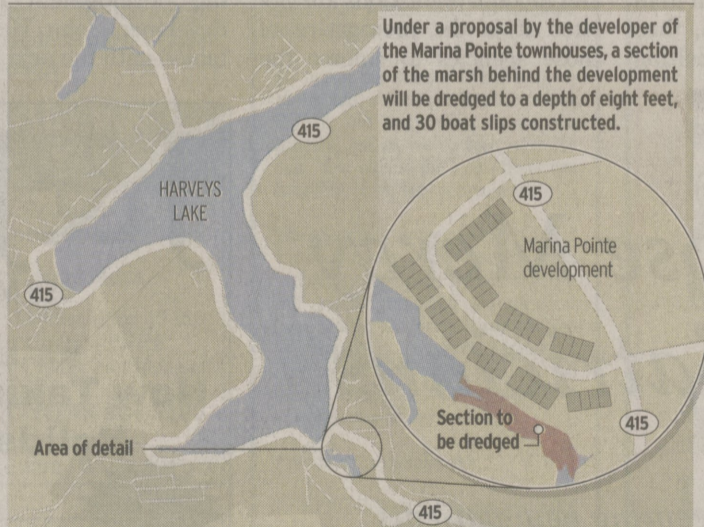
"Even though it is past the formal public comment period," the hearing was scheduled after Harveys Lake Borough and several individuals submitted concerns about the project, said DEP spokesperson Mark Carmon.

The hearing is only to accept comments, which will likely be videotaped. "This is not a dialogue," Carmon said. Statements also should be provided in writing so they can be reviewed by the DEP staff before a decision is made on whether or not to give the project the go-ahead.

While other agencies are involved in the approval process, "This is pretty much our permit at this point," Carmon said.

Mike Daley, a member of the Environmental Advisory Council, plans to speak at the hearing, but

A look at the plan



Under a proposal by the developer of the Marina Pointe townhouses, a section of the marsh behind the development will be dredged to a depth of eight feet, and 30 boat slips constructed.

TIMES LEADER GRAPHIC/PAUL BOWERS

Public hearing

on proposed dredging at Harveys Lake Monday, Nov. 22, 7 p.m. Offices of the General Municipal Authority, Route 415.

not as a representative of the council, which has not taken an official position. He said all three of the council's independent experts oppose the project.

Opponents believe deepening the channel will destroy an area that is important to wildlife, and will make it easier for new sediment to get into the lake.

Russell James, a consultant to the developers, contends that increasing the water depth will allow sediment to settle below the current, where it will stay put

and not be washed into the main part of the lake.

James said the fact that a hearing will be held indicates a high degree of interest. He plans to attend and comment in support of the plan.

The work must gain approval from DEP and the Fish & Boat Commission. "We're on record and we continue to work on the project," said Ron Tibbott, a fisheries biologist for the commission. He said since his agency deals directly with DEP, no representative would attend the hearing.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers appears to lack jurisdiction, since there will be no fill put into the water.

\$2.6 million loan approved for water system upgrades

Staff report

KINGSTON TWP. — A \$2.6 million low-interest PENNVEST loan has been approved to help improve water service to more than 800 households in the township.

The loan, approved Nov. 17 by the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority, will fund construction to alleviate problems with water delivery systems installed as long as 40 years ago.

Aqua Pennsylvania wants to interconnect these small water systems: Bramblewood, Midway Manor, Harris Hill, Cedar Lane, Sunrise Estates, Windsor Farms, Maplecrest and Meadowcrest.

The company would also replace several lines and construct a water tank to provide adequate pressure.

"This project is very welcome news for this area of the township," said township Supervisor Jeff Box. "I know this not only as a supervisor but also as a resident."

In August, residents of the Midway Manor area met with the company to discuss what they called poor service.

The 20-year loan will allow the company to update the water system while protecting customers from increasing service costs.

The funding will provide for the installation of a 215,000-gallon water storage tank and allow Aqua Pennsylvania to develop new wells and replace 10,000 feet of water mains.

Once an actual plan is submitted, public hearings will be held at which customers and property owners can comment.

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