

BEES

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After the students visited each of the stations, they were given a triangular piece of beeswax and a wick. Each student then made a beeswax candle to take home with the admonition that only his or her parents were allowed to light it.

By the way, hornets are just large wasps that live in colonies. They eat bugs and can sting several times without dying. Bees eat nectar from flowers, make nests out of wax and die after a single sting. Also, honey kills bacteria on contact and can be substituted for sugar in many recipes. For more information about bees, beekeeping and honey making, visit www.cliffsunflower.com



Parent Colleen Kustrin, left, and kindergarten teacher Betsy Balonis helped students to spot the queen bee in the hive.



Students, from left, Steven Gusp, Jerica Mutzabaugh and Maranda Moosic were mesmerized by the working beehive



Students, from left, Tony DeCesaris, Kyle James, Katelynn Harrison and Devin Lindley, tried their hand at wearing a beekeeper's gloves.

PHOTOS FOR THE POST/M.B. GILLIGAN

Grants will help update 40-year-old ordinances

By CAMILLE FIOTI
Post Correspondent

DALLAS TWP. — The township ordinances will finally be getting a long-desired overhaul, thanks to a \$120,000 state grant through the Luzerne County Office of Community Development. Engineer Thomas Doughton said at the Jan. 18 meeting that the township is eligible for the grant, which ranges from \$100,000 to \$125,000 every two years, and is designed to benefit low- to moderate-income families.

The ordinances were written in 1965 and haven't been revised since then, Doughton said. The supervisors allocated \$40,000 for rewriting the zoning, planning, subdivision, land development and noise ordinances. Preparing a long-range Township Comprehensive Plan, which is determined how land is used, is also part of the project. He said a citizens advisory board would probably be created to assist the township.

The funds will also be used to control flooding in the area

of Route 309, the Kunkle/Aldersen road intersection, and near the Kunkle fire station. "The fire department had two feet of water with (the storm caused by) Hurricane Ivan," Doughton said. Another \$80,000 will be used for that project, which will include dredging Leonard's Creek, a tributary of Bowman's Creek, and placing approximately 300 feet of Gabian baskets (narrow, wire baskets filled with stone), along the sides of the creek.

In other business: • Marlene Burkhart of Ondish Hills complained that noise from Pulverman Enterprises seemed to get worse the previous weekend. "I walked all around my house, and we have a big lot, and no matter where I went, you could hear that sound," she said. "It was so loud, there was no escaping it."

Vice President Frank Wagner said Randy Mark, owner of Pulverman, has been cooperative and is making progress with the sound reduction project.

Retiring cheerleading coach honored

By ANDREW CLYDE
For The Post

LEHMAN TWP. — Tears and applause erupted at the Jan. 18 Lake-Lehman School Board meeting when cheerleading coach Sandy Dobrowolski accepted a plaque for achievement.

Dobrowolski, the cheerleading coach for the past 14 years,

is retiring to "be a grandmother," she said at a small ceremony during the meeting.

A former Lehman cheerleader, Christie Snyder presented the award to Dobrowolski amid a standing ovation.

"She really put herself out there," said Snyder, Class of 1997. "She went way beyond cheerleading."

LIBRARIAN

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chairman, and the library's board of directors extended the children's room to almost triple its former size. The "children's wing," completed in 1998, measures 28 by 78 feet.

Access to the area is through a beautiful arch graced by fanciful wood carvings produced by local artisan Marshall Rumbaugh. "I once mentioned to Kerry Freeman (a former library board president) I thought an archway through the wall would be an easy way to add on to the children's room, and that's exactly what they did," says Rudolph.

In addition to providing space for story hours and activities that no longer interfere with other patrons, the bright new space has made a noticeable difference in kids' behavior. "The children were immediately quieter, more respectful, cheerful," says Rudolph.

Much of the credit for the room's organization, book selection, and atmosphere has belonged to Rudolph, wherever the children's area has been located. Many patrons and community residents have remarked about her abilities and personal traits.

"She's amazing and has the finest taste in good children's literature. She's a walking card catalogue, who is very computer savvy, and knows where every book is," says Jean Grube, a story hour volunteer in the children's room the past three years.

"She is very receptive. A perfect lady, with an extra touch of kindness, and well-liked by the

New children's librarian steps up

Janet Bauman, Dallas, is the new full-time children's librarian at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. She has been a part-time children's assistant at the library for the past five years and has a degree in literature from Wilkes University. "I have learned a lot from Marilyn, especially about ordering books for the library and working with reluctant readers. Marilyn looked carefully at who illustrated the books, and whether the would book be read and useful to the community. But I'm especially rewarded when a reluctant reader comes back and says 'I liked that (book). Are there any more?' I'm confident because of Marilyn's example that I can work for this community."

children," says Barbara Kohler, director of Little People Day School, which shares the building with the library. "She'd let the children choose their own stories and the kids would say they saw Mrs. Rudolph in the grocery store."

Rudolph's influence has crossed the generations.

"For persons of any age, Marilyn has always been a warm and welcoming figure and a single line of continuity throughout the history of the library. She can make order from chaos, has a calming influence on people and is a friend of the kids. She's ladylike, yet her appearance belies her sense of humor," says Shawn Murphy, a library patron whose children and now grandchildren enjoy the story hours and children's room.

The original children's library, where Rudolph became librarian succeeding Mrs. Florence Crump and Nancy Kozemchak, was in the Kilmer-Parrish house next to the Ryman house on Main Street. Rudolph recalls

being anxious, yet happy, to start out there.

The old building offered surprises beyond children's pranks. "One day some sort of animal swooped down from one stack to another. It didn't look like a bird. I saw it was a flying squirrel and managed to get it outside. The next day it was back and probably came back in through the chimney. We then took him to Rickett's Glen. He never came back and I don't know if he ate the books or read them," says Rudolph with a laugh. "Raccoons nested in that house too, but had a sadder ending."

The former Marilyn Coughlin, Rudolph graduated from the Wilkes-Barre Institute for Women in Kingston (The building that is now Wyoming Seminary Lower School) and then Connecticut College for Women. She is the granddaughter of James M. Coughlin for whom Coughlin High School is named.

With a degree in social work Rudolph didn't feel qualified to work as a children's librarian when hired by Mrs. Martin Davern, yet she has seen the role of the librarian expand to involve more community service and outreach, or "social work," than ever.

A new program called "The Family Place - a parent-child workshop" will start in May and involve infants, two months to 1-year-old, and their parents. The library will provide an hour-long educational play environment for the infants while the parents interact with each other and invited professionals.

And about the wizard. For many years, each Halloween Rudolph would dress up like the scarecrow in the Wizard of Oz. "But scarecrows are stiff and don't talk to anyone," says Rudolph. One year many of the children were frightened and cried when they saw the scarecrow.

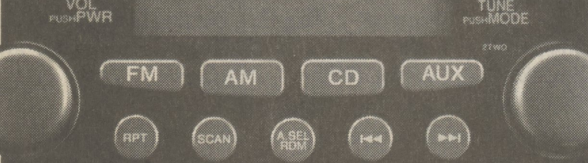
"Millie Zarambo (another library employee), hand made a wizard's costume and I asked to borrow it," says Rudolph. The rest is history, because since then Rudolph has dressed to become the library's Wizard each Halloween.

The library plans a community retirement party for Marilyn Rudolph on Wednesday, Jan. 26, from 5 to 8 p.m. The library will be open and the community is invited to drop by and celebrate her career.



Looking very wizardly, Marilyn Rudolph posed with Janet Bauman, her replacement as children's librarian. The wizard costume was made by Millie Zarambo, a library employee.

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