

# FLOODING

Continued from Page 1

this time and money and that's all you came up with is this? To take down an old bridge that is not even broken."

Adamshick said flooding has never damaged the restaurant.

"We apologize, but you have to understand the years of frustration behind us here," a visibly agitated Jeffrey Box, Chairman of the Kingston Township Supervisors, told Warren.

Box said a letter sent from Senator Charles Lemmond's office in February 2000 to the municipalities noted that \$5 million was available in the 1988 state budget for Toby's Creek flood control. Box asked where that money was.

Paul Ebright, from the state Department of General Services, which contracted the study for DEP, answered that the 1988 legislative Act 113 was "only a promise to pay money" and that the money will be made available when a viable and approved project is presented. Unfortunately, the study could find few that DEP would

be interested in. Ebright suggested that other agencies could get money for stream cleanup and other projects.

He also said that without a representative from DEP at the meeting the towns were "left hanging." The next step would be to contact DEP, and the townships agreed to arrange a meeting with DEP and to send a letter to the Sen. Lemmond and Rep. Phyllis Mundy regarding the legislated funds.

The study used a cost/benefit ratio to determine viability and presented a "Catch 22" scenario in which costs rise dramatically when a project involves a state road, which makes the project infeasible. But projects in areas removed from state roadways often are not considered relevant.

Regardless, any project to clear the stream of debris, rechannel, dredge or build a levee it would only pass on a stronger and higher water level to the next town below, Warren reminded the audience.

# Condition of stream banks can be a big factor

County agency tries to get property owners to reduce sediment runoff to creeks.

By RONALD BARTIZEK  
Post Staff

SHAVERTOWN — The condition of stream banks can have a large influence on the flow of water. When sediment washes into a creek, it can raise the level of the bed, in effect reducing the volume of water that will cause a flood.

An example is visible to northbound motorists on Route 309 stopped at the Center Street intersection in Shavertown. The parking lot for two new businesses was created by leveling a patch of dirt on the stream bank. Nearly a year ago, Dave Moss, a resource conservationist with the Luzerne Conservation District, visited the property owner, Will Bullock, in an attempt to persuade him to handle the work properly.

"We were trying to do things in a gentlemanly way," Moss said. And the approach, while slow, has paid off. "He finally has done something," Moss said. The proper handling of the bank, Moss said, would be to lay down a membrane, which should be completely covered by rock heavy enough not to be washed into the creek.

The membrane has been in place for several weeks, held down by rocks placed along the top. Moss said he recently talked to Bullock, and got a commitment to finish the work within 30 days. "He certainly is willing to take care of that," Moss said, as well as planting grass where it will prevent erosion.

Bullock said high water last September, and the onset of cold weather prevented him from addressing the bank last year. He confirmed that the rock will be in place this month, and last week a load was delivered to the site.

Moss said his agency has "not much" ability to impose penalties if work is not done properly, unless the work allows sediment — considered pollution — to run into the water. Then the Fish and Boat Commission can apply immediate fines. He said some sediment had washed off Bullock's property and into the creek during rain storms.

"Pollution itself is a misdemeanor criminal offense," said Jim Stout, a Waterways Conservation Officer, subject to fines from \$250 to \$5,000.

Stout said it would be helpful if municipalities knew more about the rules regarding work around waterways, and communicated them to developers. Bullock said at the time he gained a permit for work on his property, he was given no special instructions about protecting the creek.

Bill Eck, who was appointed Kingston Township Zoning Officer a few weeks after Bullock gained his building permit, said he has attended a class on building near waterways, and now makes applicants aware of the requirements. "It's all part of the permit process," he said.

In cases where there is no pollution, "after we write it up three or four times DEP might get involved," Moss said. But the regional DEP office has only one person who deals with violations in eight counties, so it's not easy to get their attention.

# College building online database of historic photos

Ever wonder what Dallas looked like before its main road became a multi-lane highway? Want to know what your church looked like 100 years ago? Harrison Wick can not only tell you about it, he can also show you. As College Misericordia's archivist and liaison to the Back Mountain Historical Association, Wick has had the chance to organize Back Mountain photos into a searchable online database.

The database, which can be accessed at [www.backmountain.org](http://www.backmountain.org), currently features 57 photos, but Wick says, "We want to have 3,000 pictures, as many as the database can hold." The archive relies on "donations" from the community to build the database. After the photos are scanned into the system, they are returned to their owners, so community members don't actually have to give up their pictures to see them published on the web.

"We encourage the community to donate photos of what they think is important—

## SEE MORE

Visit [www.backmountain.org](http://www.backmountain.org) to view the photos already scanned, and to find out how to contribute to the database.

dwellings, schools, the amusement park, steamboats on the lake, the drive-in theater that was in Dallas, the theater on Lake Street," Wick says. The earliest photo in the database is from 1900, but Wick notes, "We'd love to have photos from the 1800s." The website also features pictures as recent as 1960.

Wick is excited about the possibilities for the database. "We're trying to encourage people to learn more about the history of the Back Mountain," he says. "This is a resource available to anybody to use. It's an excellent opportunity for historical restoration. I'd like to see it help the public." The public is welcome to print and use photos from the website.

If you have a photo you'd like to see included in the archive, Wick will be available at the next Back Mountain Historical Association meeting



Among the images in the photo database is this one, date about 1940. It shows Dave Deater, left, and Pete Hoover standing in front of Deater's store at the Alderson end of Harveys Lake. The photo was contributed by James Borton.

on April 28 at College Misericordia. Interested community members can bring photos for scanning, obtain information forms, or just learn about the program. Photos can also be taken to the

Bevevino Library at College Misericordia or mailed to Harrison Wick, College Misericordia Library, 301 Lake Street, Dallas.

— Jennifer Judge Yonkoski

# CHURCHES

Continued from Page 1

entation will take a chronological approach, starting with some of the Methodist churches in the area.

"The Methodists were the predominant ones for so long, so there were a plethora of Methodist churches," Killian says. The many churches close together grew out of a need. A few-mile trip in a horse drawn buggy would take much longer than what we're used to in modern vehicles. "To go from Huntsville to Dallas would be a journey," he says.

Killian will also discuss St. Paul's Lutheran Church, St. Therese's Church, Trinity Presbyterian and Prince of Peace Episcopal. He has been gathering information since the fall, spending three or four hours just driving around taking pictures. He sorted through

## IF YOU GO

**Religion Comes to the Back Mountain: Churches of Our Area** will be the topic at the April 28 meeting of the Back Mountain Historical Association. The meeting will be held at College Misericordia, beginning at 7 p.m. You do not need to be a member to attend. Call 674-3341 for more information or to RSVP.

church records and photographs and spoke to ministers in the area.

"I looked at whatever records I could find," Killian says. "I picked up a lot of information I couldn't put in the program." Killian is particularly fond of the history revealed in stained glass windows.

"Our church windows read like a who's who of the Back Mountain — Roushey, Holcomb, Shaver," he says, speaking of Shavertown United Methodist Church. "I see that every Sunday. You learn a lot of history in the area if you can

connect to names."

Killian's interest in churches grew out of other research. He started with the Civil War, which led him to some interesting discoveries about Back Mountain cemeteries. For example, he learned that a veteran of Napoleon's army is buried in Beaumont Cemetery and that the Huntsville Cemetery was started when a teenage boy was struck by lightning in a field. He was buried where he died and the cemetery grew from there. "Moving on to churches was the next logical step," he says.

This is the seventh lecture in the series presented by the Back Mountain Historical Association and College Misericordia. Past presentations covered the architecture of the area, Frances Slocum, Harveys Lake, cemeteries and the Harveys Lake trolley. Killian feels groups like the local organization are vital to preserving an area's history. "County historical societies can't preserve everything," he says. "History is disappearing and it has to be preserved."

The Historical Association meets twice a year, once in April and again in October. All meetings are open to the public. For more information or to RSVP for "Religion Comes to the Back Mountain: Churches of Our Area," call Marion Rogers at 674-3341.

# TEACHER

Continued from Page 1

toured the White House and had their photos taken with President Bush. Landon was the only math teacher from Pennsylvania who was cited, and is one of only 95 teachers nationwide to win the award.

"This is some pat on the back," she said.

She said Dallas Assistant Superintendent Michael Speziale nominated her for the award last school year.

The annual presidential awards program identifies one outstanding kindergarten through sixth-grade math and science teacher in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.

The award includes a

\$10,000 gift for Landon from the National Science Foundation, the independent federal agency that administers the awards program.

Landon graduated from Bloomsburg University and has taught in the Dallas School

District for 11 years. She teaches second-grade math and said the children are enthusiastic about learning.

"Making math fun is key. And so is understanding that kids aren't going to get every skill easily. I try to set up an

environment where kids feel comfortable and can answer questions openly," she said.

Landon plans to reward her current second-graders and last year's class with an ice cream party when she returns.

**PIKES CREEK PARK**  
Rt. #118 (6 miles west of Dallas)  
477-3188  
**NOW OPEN**  
7 days a week 7am-8pm  
NEW MENU • FULL RESTAURANT  
Breakfast All Day • Go-Carts 1-8pm Sat & Sun  
Mini Golf Open All Day • Full Arcade • Private Party Room  
(take outs Available)

Life changes. Your insurance should keep up. That's our stand.  
Call me today for a complimentary financial and insurance review.  
**(570) 696-0380**  
**Edward Donahue**  
406 N MEMORIAL HWY  
DALLAS  
a010182@allstate.com  
**Allstate**  
You're in good hands.  
Subject to availability and qualifications. Insurance offered only with select companies: Allstate Insurance Company, Allstate Indemnity Company, Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company, and Allstate Life Insurance Company. Northbrook, Illinois. ©2004 Allstate Insurance Company.

**STYLING**  
**WELCOMES...**  
**Karen Simons**  
formerly from  
**Hot Reflections**  
605 Main Road • Dallas, PA  
**675-4991**  
Our goal is to make you look and feel your best. Our highly trained staff offers skilled hands, receptive ears and experienced eyes.

**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. 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. You may send items to the address above, or drop them off at the Uni-Mart in Dallas near the intersection of Routes 309 and 415. E-mail is the best and most timely method for submissions. Send items (digital photos, too) to: [thepost@leader.net](mailto:thepost@leader.net). Deadline is noon, Wednesday prior to publication.  
**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.  
**Letters:** The Post prints letters of local interest. Send letters to: Editor, The Post, 15 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre PA 18711. All letters must be signed and include a phone number at which we can reach the author.

**THE POST**  
TIMES•LEADER Community Newspaper Group  
15 N. MAIN ST., WILKES-BARRE PA 18711 • 570-675-5211  
[thepost@leader.net](mailto:thepost@leader.net)

**WANT A PHOTO?**  
We can provide color prints of photos taken by our staff. Only 8x10 is available, at \$25 for the first print and \$15 each thereafter. Prepayment required. Call, mail in, or stop by to order.

**CIRCULATION**  
Orders for subscriptions received by Friday at noon will begin the following week. Please inform us of damage or delay, call 829-5000.  
**The Post (ISSN - 1551-1650)**  
Published weekly by Cypress Media, LLC. \$26 per year, in Luzerne and Wyoming counties (PA). Call 829-7141 for rates to other areas. Periodicals postage paid at Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-9998  
**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to The Post, 15 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre PA 18711  
©COPYRIGHT 2005: Entire contents copyrighted. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced by any means without the express written consent of the publisher.

**ADVERTISING**  
Display Advertising Deadline: Mondays at 5 p.m.  
Call (570) 970-7101  
We have a variety of rates and programs to suit your advertising needs. The Post satisfies most co-op ad programs. Creative services at no charge. Combination rates with The Abington Journal, Clarks Summit, and the Sunday Dispatch, Pittston available.