

ROSS TOWNSHIP

Supervisors seek help from state reps about proposed bill

By EILEEN GODIN
Dallas Post Correspondent

Crunching numbers over a proposed state Bill 1500 caused supervisors to seek support from local state representatives.

Proposed Bill 1500, currently sitting on desks of the State House of Representatives, if approved, would implement a fee over three years, based on population, for state police coverage.

Secretary Terry Davis' calculations show the proposed bill's impact could exceed the township's income. The first year would cost

the township \$52 per resident, totaling \$142,584. The second year the fee rises to \$104 per resident, resulting in a charge of \$285,168. During the third year, the fee increases to \$156 per resident, charging the township \$427,752.

Using the projected 2009 income of \$413,000, a debit of \$427,752 would clearly put the township in the red.

After submitting a written appeal to State Representative Karen Boback, supervisors received a call from her, telling supervisors she strongly opposes the bill

NEXT MEETING

The next Ross Township supervisors meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 1, at the municipal building.

and voted against it.

In March, supervisors discussed the reason why the township does not have a full-time police force. Chairman Stanford Davis said the cost of having a full-time police force is more than just payroll, explaining that items like pensions, equipment, insurance, cars, fuel and benefits add up to a costly expense.

In other news, supervisors

noted their concern about protecting their roads from damage caused by heavy trucks passing through since nearby counties have begun drilling for Marcellus Shale gas.

The option: bonding the township's roads for weight limits. When a road is bonded and a weight limit is posted, it protects the township from paying for road repairs caused by heavy

trucks. Any company whose truck damages a township road will be required to pay for repairs.

Supervisors have taken the first steps to bond their roads for weight limits and Davis reported that Municipal Solutions of Linden, PA, has been contacted help with the process.

Representatives from Municipal Solutions visited the township and analyzed the soil under the roadways to determine their weight-bearing capabilities. Supervisors will meet with Municipal Solutions for a review before moving forward.

Supervisors also received an update on three bridges destroyed after the flood of 2006. The county-owned bridges, two on Mahoney Road and one on Old State Road, are still closed and waiting for funding from FEMA.

Davis said the county filed for an appeal and is still waiting for an answer. He said FEMA's process is to replace a bridge with a similar structure. According to Davis, one of the bridges on Mahoney Road was an old stone bridge and probably did not meet current requirements.

PAINTERS

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2004 when she had just finished the third-grade. The returning artist called her most recent auction painting "Auction Alamo" because she featured pies from Rice's Lemonade and Funnel Cakes, a vendor at the auction.

"I think it was a little different (this time) because spending more time at Sue's allowed me to learn more about perspectives," Hillard said. "I thought that it was overall a fun experience and I think it was a great experience to have the opportunity to paint a second time with Sue at the auction. Seeing Sue's painting and seeing Chelsea Martin's painting made it a whole lot better and getting ideas from both of them made it a great experience."

Hillard says her painting was bought for \$425 by her grandfather, John Bergevin, of Dallas. Hillard is the daughter of Keith and Larisa Hillard.

"I thought that it would take a lot of work just because of the limited amount of time, but it took a lot more work than I thought it would," Hillard said.

Hand also did her annual auction painting and says she got more detail and realism into it than ever before because the event was extended one day due to rain on Saturday. Hand learned that Ernie Ashbridge was celebrating his 50th year as

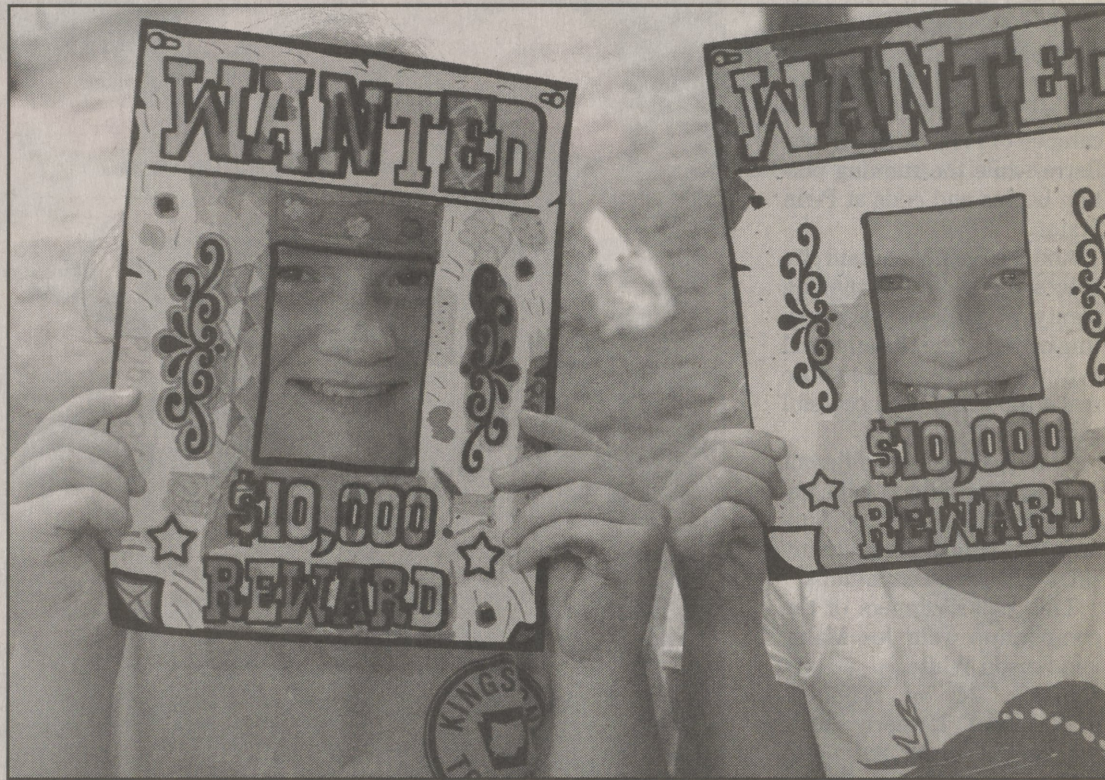


SUBMITTED PHOTO

Chelsea Martin, 15, of Dallas, paints the 63rd Annual Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction on-site at the event. Martin was one of Sue Hand's two student helpers who painted the auction by her side. Martin titled her work, "Auction Friends" because she featured many of her friends and family who were at the auction.

a volunteer at the auction this year, so included him five times, one for each decade, into her annual auction painting called "Auction Action."

A group of people at the auction donated money totaling \$5,400 and purchased the painting to give to Ashbridge for his service.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Tabitha Grabowski, left, and Kathleen Brown try on some posters they crafted at the Kingston Twp. Rec summer program.

REC

Continued from Page 1

speakers, music and arts and crafts. Children are bused to the pool at Frances Slocum State Park on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

Many field trips are also scheduled during the summer. This summer, campers are visiting Lake Jean at Ricketts Glen State Park, bowling at Back Mountain Bowl, The Lands at Hillside Farms, the Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour, Chuck E. Cheese, the Houdini Museum, movies at Cinemark, Philadelphia Duck Tour and the Philadelphia Zoo, Penn's Cave, Camel Beach, ice skating at the Ice Box, Callie's Candy Kitchen and Pretzel Factory, Dorney Park, roller skating at Skateaway and Wild West City in Netcong, N.J.

Approximately 150 children are enrolled in the summer recreation program this year. About 50 to 60 children attend the program on swimming days and as many as 70 go on field trips.

Erica Sebastian, recreation program supervisor, estimates it costs about \$2,000 for one child to attend every activity. But parents have the option to send their children on all, a few, or none of the field trips.

"It's a really good price," Sebastian said of the program's fee. "That's why I think a lot of people utilize it. And we get group rates on all of our field trips. This program allows kids to do other things. It gives people the option to do vacations when they want or Girl Scout camp or soccer camp without losing money."

Six-year-old Allen Peters, 8-year-old Nathan Deener and 9-



Joey Blaine, center, and Victoria Vespico, right, concentrate on a game of hangman while Jack Costello grins for the camera at the Kingston Twp. rec program.

year-old Vincent Vespico enjoyed a game of Connect Four on August 5, but the boys say swimming is their favorite part of the program.

"We buy candy sometimes," Peters said of his trips to the snack bar at the pool.

While at Chuck E. Cheese earlier this summer, the children encountered a child having a small, private birthday party. The Chuck E. Cheese mouse mascot came out to sing to the child and about 80 children from the recreation program joined in and helped him celebrate.

"All of them were singing for

him and clapping for him," Sebastian said of the birthday child.

Twenty-year-old Matt Duffy, of Shavertown, attended the recreation program from age 6 through the sixth-grade during the 1990s. Now, he works as a counselor at the camp.

"It's a really good job and I really liked it when I came here as a kid," Duffy said. "I remember all the counselors had an affect on my life."

Although this summer's recreation program is nearing an end and it is too late to register, the program is expected to return again next year.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Run for the Fallen race planned

The annual "Run for the Fallen," a 5K race, will be held on Thursday, Aug. 13, at Penn State Wilkes-Barre. The race is being coordinated by members of the Dallas High School senior class as their senior completion project.

Registration begins at 5 p.m. with the race set to start at 6:30 p.m. Registration cost is \$12 for individuals or \$50 for a team of five participants.

For more information, call 417-5000.

Lake-Lehman sports physicals scheduled

Physicals for any Lake-Lehman junior high boy playing a fall sport will be held at 9 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 10, at the Lake-Lehman Junior-Senior High School.

Physicals for junior high girls will be held at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 13, which will be the final day for all physicals.

There will not be a make-up exam day this year. All student physicals must be completed before Monday, Aug. 17. Students will not be permitted to

practice on August 17 until a physical is received by the district.

DHS Gridiron Club plans Media Night

The Dallas Gridiron Club will hold its annual Media and Meet the Team Night for the Dallas High School football team on Wednesday, Aug. 19, at Dallas Mountaineer Stadium.

For more information, contact Sue Van Horn, event coordinator, at suevh@epix.net.

Basketball camp planned

Rock Solid Elite Basketball Camp will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. August 5-7 for boys and girls in grades 8 through 12. The camp will focus on making players more fundamentally sound with position specific drills for each player.

The staff consist of former college and professional players along with high school coaches. Cost is \$65 per player.

For more information, call The Rock Rec Center at 696-2769 or long onto www.RockSolidBasketball.com.

Mayor Richard Boice around in their convertible and threw candy to spectators.

"I was amazed so many people came out," Judy Brokenshire said. "It was so neat and the people really, really seemed to get into it, too. That's what really bothers me is that it was a time to come together and that part is gone. I think the festival could continue. It doesn't have to be on a grand scale."

HARVEYS

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house for the event.

Judy Brokenshire, of Harveys Lake, was one of the organizers of the original Harveys Lake Homecoming in the 1980s. Brokenshire said the event was held in 1983 and 1984 by community members and was taken over by the fire department in 1985 before it disintegrated. Brokenshire believes the cost of insuring the event was the main hardship in continuing it.

The homecoming was revived in 2005 as a way for residents to socialize and share memories of the lake. Proceeds from the weekend-long event held every August by Harveys Lake Borough benefited the Harveys Lake Beautification Project.

In 2006, Brokenshire and her husband, John, participated in the firemen's parade as part of the homecoming festivities. The couple drove

PUZZLE ANSWERS

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

H	A	U	L	S	O	P	S
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Puzzles, Page 2

Super Crossword

Answers

B	O	A	T	A	L	I	A	R	T	P	E	R	W	O	R	M
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J	C	U	S	E	P	T	E	T	M	I	R	N	A	A	C	P
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Four roles available for 'Snow White' production

Four roles are still open for youth actors between the ages of 7 and 12 in NE Theatre Company's production of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs."

Actors in the production will

rehearse two or three times a week until August 28 with the play set to be performed at Penn State/Wilkes-Barre on Saturday, Aug. 30.

Anyone interested roles is asked to call 466-1222.

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