

LEHMAN TOWNSHIP

Township roads are deplorable

By CAMILLE FIOTI
For the Dallas Post

There is no way to maintain township roads without a tax increase, supervisors said Monday.

"I'm ashamed of the roads in the township," Roadmaster Doug Ide said. "They're crumbling. We're doing everything we can to try to save what we have."

The cost to pave a one-mile stretch of road is \$150,000, Ide said, adding that there are 36 miles of paved roads in the township. Every four years, municipalities can apply for a Community Development Grant to help fund road paving in low to moderate-income areas.

The township received \$100,000 from the grant program to fund this year's paving project in the Lake Silkworth area. The streets to be paved include Summit, Cedar, Willow, Jones, Eleanor and Thorny Apple streets.

To determine which areas of the township fall within the low to moderate-income range so as to plan for Community Development projects, a map is used, Ide said. If the township wishes to use grant monies to pave streets that aren't included on the map, then door-to-door income surveys must be taken, he added. To qualify for the grant, at least 51% of the residents in the area must fall within the low to moderate-income guidelines.

"I've tried everything possible. I've even counted the prisoners (at the State Correctional Institution at Dallas). They're all low income."

Doug Ide
Roadmaster, Jackson Township

"There's a lot of strings attached," Ide said of the grant requirements. "I've tried everything possible. I've even counted the prisoners (at the State Correctional Institution at Dallas)," he said. "They're all low income."

Oak Drive is one example of a road that should qualify for the Community Development Grant because every resident on that street is retired, Ide said. But because the road is connected to other streets in more affluent neighborhoods, the road doesn't qualify.

"I could not pave it because I had to count the residents on the upper streets," Ide said of Oak Drive.

In response to a resident's question as to whether the township has a long-term plan for road paving, board president Dave Sutton said that, because of money, it does not.

"The only way that we can improve roads in this township is to increase taxes," Sutton said. "Otherwise, they're just going to fall apart and we'll have to resort to dirt roads."

Ide agreed, adding that the road department requires an

operating budget of \$150,000 to \$200,000 per year.

"That's the kind of budget this township needs per year to have decent roads," he said.

At the meeting, paving bid proposals for the Lake Silkworth project were opened. The proposals ranged in price from \$137,407 to \$168,748.00. The board tabled awarding a bid for further review.

In other business, the board announced:

- A zoning hearing will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 25, at the municipal building. The hearing is in response to an application from Mark and Marianna Oplinger seeking a "permitted use" variance.

- The Oplingers want to construct an 896 square foot residential garage for personal use on a single residential lot located on Cook Street, Hunlock Creek. The lot is currently owned by Flap Jack Properties, LLC 25 Lakeside Dr., Hunlock Creek.

- The Back Mountain Community Partnership meets at 3 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Misericordia University.

Arts at Hayfield returns Aug. 30

More than 100 artisans, musicians and crafters will converge on the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus in Lehman for the Annual Arts at Hayfield Summer Festival from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 30.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, the daylong event will feature blues music by Teddy Young and the Aces, the folk sounds of Just Us, Traditional Irish Step and Native American Dance, juggling by Robert Smith and magic by Pat Ward.

The day's events will also include tours of historical Hayfield House, views through the Meade Telescope in the Friedman Observatory and demonstrations including lute making, woodcarving, pottery, bookbinding and quilting.

Barnes and Noble will host Children's Story Time in the Fran Brown Memorial Gazebo and the Back Mountain Youth Theater Company, under the direction of Gina Major Ackerman, will perform "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs."

A requested \$2 donation for adults supports an annual achievement award to an arts-oriented Penn State Wilkes-Barre student, donations to public performances offered by the F.M. Kirby Center, Misericordia University, the Fine Arts Musical Program at the Shavertown United Methodist Church and to Great Books at Penn State Wilkes-Barre as well as occasional support for arts-oriented projects at local libraries and programs at Penn State Wilkes-



Frank Little Bear, a First Nation Native American lecturer, performing artist and musician, performs a traditional Native American dance at the 2008 Arts at Hayfield Summer Festival. Little Bear is one of many performers scheduled for this year's 25th Anniversary Arts at Hayfield Summer Festival.

Barre.

In conjunction with the Summer Festival, the Second Annual Pump and Five Kilometer Run Contest will be held at the campus beginning at 9 a.m. when participants will begin with the bench press portion of the competition. Depending on the amount of successful bench

presses a contestant completes, time will be deducted from their running time. Awards will be given to the overall top two male and female finishers with additional prizes available for the top male and female runner.

For more information, contact Summer Festival Chair Janis Winter at 675-9232.

SO GOOD
GETYOURSELFAGOODLAWYER.COM

SG SELINGO GUAGLIARDO 287.2400

AUTO ACCIDENTS | MEDICAL MALPRACTICE | SLIP AND FALL | INSURANCE COVERAGE DISPUTES
CERTIFIED CIVIL TRIAL ADVOCATES BY NATIONAL BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCACY,
A PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME COURT ACCREDITED AGENCY

Going Back To School?
Will your teeth be an A+?
See what Dr. Nataupsky can do for you.

Dr. Gary Nataupsky
Riverside Commons, 575 Pierce Street, Suite 201
Kingston • 331-8100 • www.dr-gmn.com
We accept CareCredit

MAJOR PERFORMING ARTS
School of Dance-Voice-Theatre Arts
- Since 1988 -

New Season begins Sept. 1st, 2009

TAP • JAZZ • MODERN • VOICE
BALLET • POINTE • HIP HOP • THEATRE
2 YOUTH THEATRE COMPANIES On Site

National Titles, 2006 and 2008
Multiple Regional Awards Annually Since 1990

- Professional Theatrical Staged Productions
- Community Involved
- Professional Staff
- Apprentice Program
- Family Values Prevalent
- NO REGISTRATION FEE IN SEPTEMBER
- NEW STUDENTS ALWAYS WELCOME

Beginners to Advanced Levels
3 Years - Young Adults

696-4755
Photos by Andy or email: ginamajor@aol.com

2009 MPAC Competition Teams:
Fame - Fantasticks - Dance Fever - Center Stage - Broadway Babies

BE PART OF SOMETHING MAJOR!

Win A Round Of Golf For 4

STONE HEDGE
4 Hollow Corners
Tunkhannock, PA
(570) 836-5108

Enter for your chance to win a foursome weekday golf package at Stone Hedge from The Times Leader. Golf package includes greens fees and carts.
Winner will be announced in the Friday Aug. 28 edition of The Times Leader.

THE TIMES LEADER

A new course featured each week.

The Times Leader Reader Golf Contest

To enter return completed entry form by August 27, 2009 to:
The Times Leader, Reader Golf Contest, 15 N. Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____
E-mail Address: _____

Do you subscribe to The Times Leader? Yes No
Would you like to subscribe? Yes No

Ranked **4th** in the country and **1st** in Pennsylvania for readership gain.
- Audit Bureau of Circulations.

THE TIMES LEADER
timesleader.com
Subscribe today. 829-5000.

No purchase necessary. Prizes have no cash value and are nontransferable. Winner agrees to have their name and photo used for publicity. Copies may be examined at our 15 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre office. The winner will be determined through random drawing from all entries received by August 27, 2009. This newspaper cannot answer or respond to telephone calls or letters regarding the contest. Sponsors' employees and their immediate families are not eligible to enter.