

HARVEYS LAKE BOROUGH

Residents concerned about possible demise of boat launch

By EILEEN GODIN
Dallas Post Correspondent

The future of one of the last Harveys Lake public boat launches was a heated topic at Tuesday night's borough council meeting when residents sought council's support in saving a public access boat launch from being closed by Villas at Waterwood owner Ken Williams.

Williams, new owner of the former Hanson's Amusement Park, plans to build a community center for residents of the proposed Villas at Waterwood townhouse development at the site of a public boat launch.

Residents filled the meeting room, citing safety concerns, debating over whether Williams or the state actually owned the land and hoping council could help.

Borough Attorney Charles McCormick has researched the title for the 20 foot wide by 70 foot long parcel of land back to the late 1800s and has found nothing regarding ownership.

Resident Sandra Serhan told council she has a map dated 1903

that shows Bowman's Creek Road, now called Noxen Road, leading to the water. Resident Dora A. Abod was armed with a map provided to her by the Fish Commission, showing the access road is owned by the commission.

Mayor Clarence Hogan asked Williams if he would consider leaving the parcel open for public use but Williams does not want to do that because of insurance concerns.

Residents asked McCormick about condemnation of the property. Condemnation, McCormick explained, means the borough would pay a determined market value of the land through eminent domain.

Resident Dick Burnett has lived in the borough for 62 years and the boat launch at the end of Noxen Road has always been there.

"It was originally used for ice harvesting and fire trucks to fill up," Burnett said. "Then it was used for boats in trouble."

Council maintains it cannot assist residents after learning that

no official right-of-way was documented in previous titles.

In other news, after coming under fire for switching the borough's insurance carrier in January, Chairman Francis Kopko said the borough will see a savings of \$12,814 with Thomas Insurance Group Inc., of Philadelphia.

Council approved a bid for replacing a leaky roof, a door and two door locking systems to Homeworkz Construction of Sweet Valley for \$5,375. Other bids were received from Linsinbiger Construction of Harveys Lake for \$6,740 and from RUS Enterprise of Harveys Lake for \$5,740.

GOH Annual Carnival set for Saturday

Gate of Heaven School is hosting its second annual carnival from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 27, in the school cafeteria. The school is located at 40 Machel Ave., Dallas.

This free event for young school age children will offer fun for the family, including a visit from Tux, a magician at 11 a.m., a coloring contest, face painting and carnival games. Free pizza, hot dogs, drinks and snacks will be served.

The event, sponsored by the Gate of Heaven Marketing Committee, is intended to give families from the Back Mountain interested in Gate of Heaven School an opportunity to visit the school.

For more information, contact Mary Lynn at 430-4043 or mlpizz@epix.net.



Theresa Khoudary, left, and Anna Brennan visit with the Gate of Heaven Gator at the 2009 Gate of Heaven Carnival.

BACK MOUNTAIN Dining Guide



The Lakeside Skillet located at Pole 279 Harveys Lake is one of the Valley's most popular eateries. It has a polished casual atmosphere, excellent food and reasonable prices. There is something for everyone at the Skillet even the most discriminating pallet. Open Daily 7AM-9PM. Daily breakfast offers specials, frittatas, pancakes, oatmeal and much more. Lunch offers great salads, burgers, wraps and homemade soups. The Dinner offerings include: steaks, seafood and pasta. Enjoy beer, wine and cocktails with your meal.

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