

LAKE TOWNSHIP

# Reduction in earned income tax cause for concern

By Eileen Godin  
Dallas Post Correspondent

Township supervisors were updated on 70 percent reduction of earned income tax revenue and other default issues by Don Wilkinson/Centax, during last week's meeting.

Township secretary and treasurer Carlene Price said the township only received \$14,935 of revenue from the earned income tax distributed by Don Wilkinson/Centax.

"This is a 70 percent reduction from last year," Price said. "Centax has only given us about 30 percent of what we are owed."

The problem is not limited to Lake Township. Price, a voting

delegate with the Luzerne County Tax Collection Committee (TCC), said many other municipalities are in the same predicament. As of July, Centax is holding \$5.8 million, which has not been distributed. It is being held in a clearing house, Price said.

"They are not equipped to handle this," Price said of Centax.

Plus, Price said, Centax has not cashed the township's checks for payments on their employees, issued for the first two quarters of the fiscal year.

The Luzerne County Tax Collection Committee gave 90 days to rectify these issues. This time period ended on Aug. 14. Centax is currently in default.

Price said the township has

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Carlene Price  
Lake Township secretary/treasurer

been advised to notify its bonding company "in case any costs are incurred due to their negligence for lost earned income tax."

"Fortunately, we have been able to stay in the black," Price said.

Also, Price said residents of various municipalities reported they have not received refunds from Centax after filing their taxes.

Price advised any township residents who may also be affected to call Centax's solicitor by using Centax's main number, 1800-4centax.

Don Wilkinson/Centax, of Bridgeville, near Pittsburgh, was hired by the county to handle tax collection, reconciliation and disbursement.

The TCC will meet Aug. 22 and an agenda item is going to be the Centax contract and

whether it should be voided due to their default.

*In other matters ...*

The official Lake Township website is functional. Residents can visit [www.laketwp.com](http://www.laketwp.com) for a listing of upcoming events, recycling schedules, approved minutes from prior meetings and announcements.

A new health insurance package from Lupas Insurance was accepted in the amount of \$4,612, with an effective date of Aug. 10 and a workers' compensation package in the amount of \$4,490. Price said this will save the township about \$30,000 per year.

Four bids were received for work to a section of Sorber Mountain Road. The bids were

from Pikes Creek, \$70,242.50; Penny Supply, \$113,670; Popple Construction, \$52,276; and B&J Paving, \$74,163. Supervisors awarded the contract to Popple Construction.

BP Wind Energy was approved to do repairs to Sober Mountain Road which the company used in the development of the windmill project in Noxen.

Fall clean up is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 8.

Supervisors approved a motion to open a debit card account for the purposes of making deposits with First National Bank.

The next supervisors meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Sept. 12 in the municipal building.

## BROWNIES PLANT TREES



Members of Brownie Troop 32647 recently planted trees at the Dallas Elementary School to celebrate Earth Day and the Girl Scouts' 'Go Green!' initiative. From left, first row, are Morgan Williams, Jenna Stanski, Sidney Banks. Second row, Cara Pocono, Alyssa Pritchard, Hannah Blazure, Jessica Allen, Jordan Banks and Chloe Zondlo.

## DALLAS ROTARY CLUB INSTALLS OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS



The Dallas Rotary Club officers and board members for the 2012-2013 service year were recently installed at a dinner meeting at the Appletree Terrace, Newberry Estate, Dallas. From left, seated, are Board Member Ann Marie Konek, President Todd Buckley, Past President Ken Chapple, District Governor Art Peoples. Standing, Treasurer George Bacon, Board Member Kris Reitz, Assistant Governor and Board Member Jerry Reisch, Secretary Randy Loyd, Board Member Ron Fitch, Historian Paul Rodda. Absent at the time of the photo was Board Member Joe Stager.

## NATIONAL DANCE WEEK CELEBRATED



National Dance Week was celebrated from April 22-29 by the David Blight School of Dance in Wilkes-Barre. Dancers who participated in the celebration include Jillian Perrone, of White Haven, in front. From left, second row, Brennen Johnson, Ashley; Taryn Chopyak, Dallas; Adrianna Shaffer, Ashley; Morgan Smith, Berwick; Angel Seville, Wilkes Barre; Alyssa Rivera, Plains; Steven Smith, Berwick. Third row, Destiny Seville, Wilkes Barre; Jacquelyn Miles, Plains; Sofia Holodick, Nanticoke; Rachel Kollar, Bear Creek; Mimi McDonald; Mountain Top; Alexis Selli, Nanticoke; Molly Savage, Kingston; Kourtney Kukowski, Parsons; Sarah Bingham, Hunlock Creek.

## FOOD PANTRY BOARD HOLDS MEETING



The Board of Directors of the Back Mountain Food Pantry recently held its annual meeting to review donations and client needs. The food pantry serves more than 285 households in the Back Mountain, representing more than 760 people. This year the pantry provided 180 Easter dinner baskets for registered families. More than 30 volunteers staff the food pantry with 40-50 man-hours being dedicated each week. From left, seated, are Rev. Charles Grube, vice president; Joe Hardisky, past president; Ginger McCabe, secretary; Vesta Fountain, Carolyn Straka. Standing, Sandy Peoples, publicity chairman; Bill Long, Rev. Roger E. Griffith, president; Bob McGuire, Harry O'Neill, treasurer; Carol Eyet, food pantry manager; Deb Shilansky, assistant treasurer. Absent at the time of the photo were Lena Baur, Tom Evans, Bob Mattson and Chris Czekalaski.

## BROWNIES PLACE FLAGS AT GRAVE SITES



Members of Brownie Troop #32647 helped place at the grave sites of military veterans in the Dennison Cemetery in Swoyersville in preparation of Memorial Day. From left, are Morgan Williams, Jenna Stanski, Alyssa Pritchard, Chloe Zondlo and Madison Carlsson.

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