

LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Superintendent tells of governor's visit to district

By SUSAN DENNEY  
Dallas Post Correspondent

At the Feb. 11 Lake-Lehman School Board meeting, Superintendent James McGovern told residents about a recent visit to the district by Governor Tom Corbett. McGovern said the governor's office had set up strict parameters for the visit, including lists of those who could participate in a meeting with him and that the district was not allowed to publicize the visit.

McGovern said the governor visited Lehman-Jackson Elementary School where he met with students and members of the district administration.

"This little school district has the ear of the governor," he said.

A resident questioned if the governor had been told of the increasing tax burden placed on property owners. District taxes will rise in a preliminary budget passed by the board.

Board Treasurer Andrew Salko said, "We had a very frank discussion with him."

**"This little school district has the ear of the governor."**

James McGovern  
Lake-Lehman School District superintendent

The school board voted for a preliminary budget of \$28,203,822 for 2013-2014. The non-binding budget calls for a 3.98 per cent raise in millage rates. The proposed millage rate on assessed value in Luzerne

County would become 9.6393 mills. The millage rate for those properties which lie in Wyoming County would become 56.2054.

With the new tax rate, a property owner whose home is worth \$200,000 in Luzerne County

would pay an additional \$73.86 for the year. A property with an assessed value of \$25,000 in Wyoming County would require an additional \$68.64 for the year. A mill is a \$1 tax on each \$1,000 of assessed property value.

Tom Melone, the district's financial manager, pointed out that the state's contribution to the district would be increased by about \$226,000. But he also pointed out that, even with those contributions and the tax increase, the district would still not have a balanced budget.

Melone projects revenues for the district will be \$26,717,643, indicating that \$1,887,166 would need to be taken from the district's current fund balance to cover 2013-2014 expenses.

When residents questioned the rising taxes, board members explained that retirement costs and health costs are driving the increases, adding that retirement costs are state-mandated but unfunded.

Resident Edward Marchakitus

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# Rollmans married 50 years

Frank and Marlene Rollman, of Dallas, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this month. They were married on Feb. 23, 1963 in Saint Ignatius Church, Kingston, by Rev. Eugene Devitt.

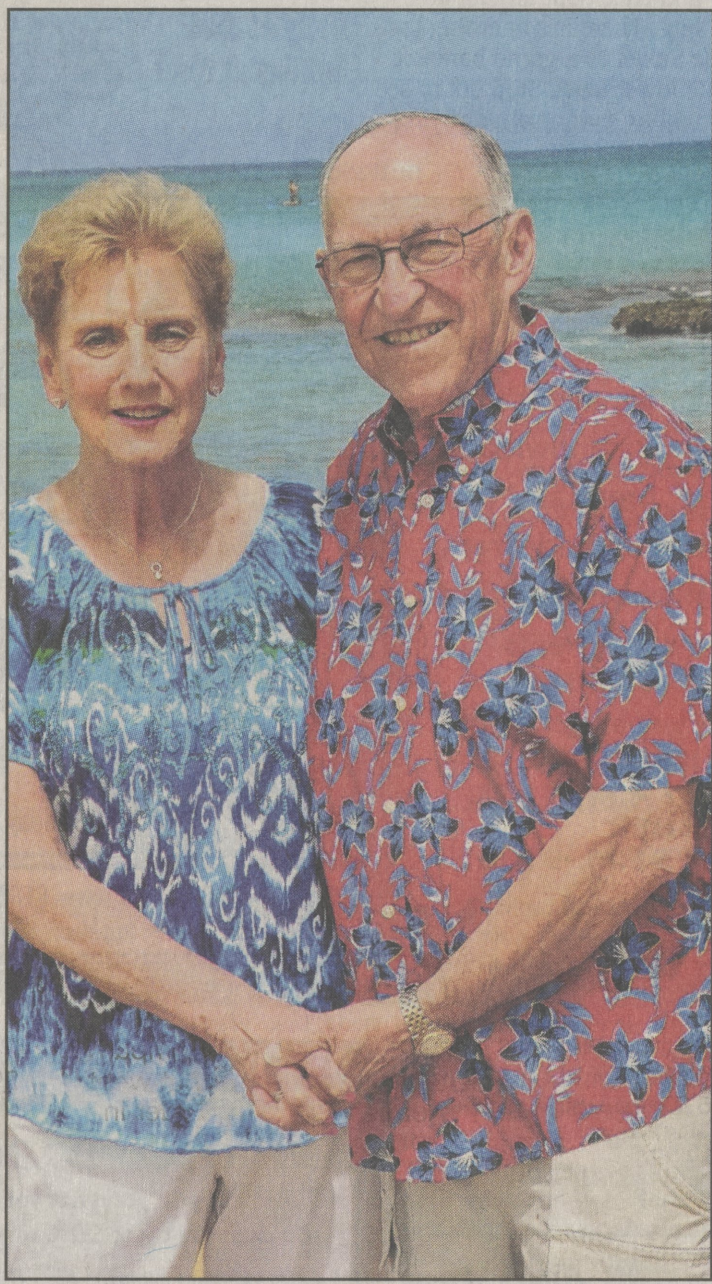
Mrs. Rollman is the daughter of the late Harold and Gertrude Peth. She is a graduate of Lu-erne High School and, prior to her retirement, was employed as a secretary/receptionist for Dr. George Nahas.

Mr. Rollman is the son of the late Christian and Elizabeth Rollman. He is a graduate of Meyers High School and Wilkes College, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. He proudly served his country in the United States Navy. Prior to his retirement, he was employed for 40 years at Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Their attendants were Margaret (Peggie) Monforte Grula, matron of honor; and Frank Cartrignano, best man.

The couple has three children, Richard and his wife, Karen, Seattle, Washington; Jerry and his wife, Debbie, Harrisburg; and Kim, Exeter. They also have three grandchildren, Nicholas, Seattle, Washington; and Zachary and Jacob, Harrisburg.

The entire family celebrated the milestone anniversary with a trip to Maui, Hawaii in July. The happy couple are avid Penn State fans and enjoy travelling and visiting their grandchildren.



MR. AND MRS. FRANK ROLLMAN

DALLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT

# District looks into improving safety and security policies

By GERI GIBBONS  
Dallas Post Correspondent

Dallas School District Superintendent Frank Galicki said at the Feb. 4 school board meeting that a recent meeting of the school's Parent Advisory Council served as a review of its safety and security policies.

Galicki reported the council is gathering information in regard to possibly garnering state and federal funding for additional surveillance equipment.

"We haven't completely assessed the situation yet," Galicki said, "but we are looking into utilizing additional technological tools, such as iPads, to monitor school grounds and keep our students as safe as possible."

Galicki said the district is also looking into a more intricate system of identifying those entering the building and utilizing a facial recognition system.

He emphasized the district's confidence in the Dallas Township Police Department and its familiarity with school grounds and procedures.

"Should a problem occur, I am sure police response would be excellent and immediate," he said.

Board president Richard Cos-

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Frank Galicki  
Dallas School District superintendent

lett also emphasized the commitment of the district to assure the highest level of student safety.

In another matter, resident Thomas Dombroski questioned the board about needed repairs to the Dallas Elementary School roof and the existence of possible warranties on the roof.

Several members of the board told Dombroski that no warranties exist.

"No imminent danger exists in regard to this repair," said board member Maureen Matiska. "And the board is still in the process of reviewing various approaches to the structure itself, which is need of maintenance and repair."

Matiska was referring to continuing board discussions regarding closing the Dallas Elementary School and incorporating its students into the Wycallis Elementary School building.

Liz Martin requested several

items of memorabilia be retrieved upon demolition of the Dallas Township Building should that occur.

District solicitor Benjamin Jones said he would look into the legalities of this matter and report back to the board.

"We cannot simply give district property away," Jones said. "There might be an issue."

Martin hopes she is able to recover items from the school, believing they might otherwise simply be destroyed.

Board member Karen Kyle, the board's representative to the West-Side Career & Technical Center's Joint Operating Committee, reported that a recent tour of that facility by members of the committee provided an opportunity to get a better understanding of its programs.

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KINGSTON TOWNSHIP

# Supervisors listen to public comments about Comcast

By GERI GIBBONS  
Dallas Post Correspondent

Kingston Township Board of Supervisors held a special public meeting on Feb. 13, inviting public input into an assessment of services provided by Comcast, its present cable and internet provider.

Resident Bob Gruner, of Shavertown, said his bill has increased dramatically since 2009 when he originally moved to the area. He also complained about the quality of cable services offered, saying he often receives an error message directing him to call Comcast.

"I don't understand why I have to spend time on the phone just to maintain my basic services," said Gruner. "I just expect consistent high-quality service."

The township has retained an Law Group to negotiate the Comcast contract negotiations.

"Negotiations should include both price and quality of service," said supervisor James Reino, indicating further research and discussion would be conducted on the matter.

During its regular meeting, the board discussed the South Main Street bridge project. In order to complete the project as presently designed, it would be necessary for Dallas Area Municipal Authority (DAMA) to move an adjacent pipe at signif-

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Bob Gruner  
Shavertown

icant cost.

Township Manager Kathleen Sebastian said the county was considering limiting Main Street to one lane, thus reducing the cost of the project.

In another matter, board chairman Jeffrey Box voiced concerns regarding Luzerne County's recent change in tax billing procedures and its effect on the township.

He said the board would assess the cost of various options available for township real estate tax billing and discuss the matter at its next meeting.

The board also presented its

holiday house awards, with Mike Dzanko receiving the first-place award and Ed and Amy Kwak receiving second place.

"We would also like to thank the recreation board's Rich Wyda, Mary Wargo and Stacy Murray for their hard work on this annual holiday project," said Reino.

Reino also lauded township residents who consistently contributed to the Back Mountain Food Pantry.

Richard Harrison reported the pantry consistently provides over 150 meals to area residents on holidays.

## Lenten church services scheduled

Back Mountain churches will hold their annual Ecumenical Soup and Scripture during the five Mondays of Lent. Services will begin at 6 p.m. following by soup at 6:45 p.m. Closing prayers will be held at 8 p.m.

The schedule is as follows: Monday, Feb. 18 - St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Dallas

Monday, Feb. 25 - Lehman-Idetown United Methodist Church, Lehman

Monday, March 4 - Maple Grove United Methodist Church, Pikes Creek

Monday, March 11 - Huntsville United Methodist Church, Huntsville  
Monday, March 18 - Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Lake Silkworth

# Harrington is Paul Harris Fellow

The Paul Harris Fellow Award, the most prestigious award of Rotary International, has been presented by the Wyoming Rotary to John Harrington, of Dallas, a 5-year club member. The award consists of a pin and medallion given in appreciation of tangible and significant assistance for the furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations between people of the World." The Wyoming Rotary Club, in making the award, donated \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation. The money is used to fund international and district projects. From left, are Harrington and Mark Sobeck, Rotary club member and presenter.



# Kindergarten registration planned March 19-22 in Dallas schools

Frank Galicki, superintendent of the Dallas School District, announces that kindergarten registration for the 2013-2014 school year will be held Tuesday, March 19 through Friday, March 22 in the Commons Area of the Dallas High School.

Morning hours will be from 8:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday. Afternoon hours will be from noon to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday. Friday hours will be 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Parents are asked not to arrive prior to 8:15 a.m. for the morning registrations due to traffic congestion and not after 2:30 p.m. for

the afternoon registrations due to student dismissal.

A child must be 5 years of age on or before Sept. 1, 2013 to make him or her eligible for kindergarten. A birth certificate, passport or baptismal certificate for the child will be accepted as proof of age.

A parent/guardian photo is required when registering a student. Parents must also provide two proofs of parent/guardian residency. Acceptable proofs of residency are:

- Current utility bill, including landline telephone, electric, water, gas, cable, etc. (wireless telephone bills cannot be accepted)

- Current rental/mortgage contract or receipt, including deed of sale for property

- Current paycheck/check stub, work ID badge, if address is included

- Current driver license/ID issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

- Current Pennsylvania motor vehicle registration or title

- Current Internal Revenue Service tax reporting W-2 form within the last 12 months

- Receipt for personal property or real estate taxes paid within the past year

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