

LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Teachers hired, coaches appointed, super gets raise

Susan Denney
Dallas Post Correspondent

At its July 15th meeting, the Lake-Lehman School District Board of Education hired the following junior-senior high teachers for the 2013-14 school year: Elena Pellegrini starts at a salary of \$47,014 Master's level, step 3. Her initial assignment will be at the Junior-Senior High School. William Evans will also be at the Junior-Senior High School with a salary of \$47,311 Master's +12, step 1. Dianne Figura will teach Junior/Senior High School reading and English. Her salary will be \$45,831, Master's level, step

1. Erica Slocum, Laura DePrimo and Amanda Dudish were hired as new elementary school teachers. Slocum will be an elementary support teacher with a salary of \$43,048, Bachelor's level, step 2. DePrimo begins with a salary of \$46,423, Master's level, step 2. She is assigned as an elementary teacher as is Amanda Dudish whose salary will be \$42,457, Bachelor's Step 1. The district is posting a job position for a music teacher and the board also directed Human Resources to advertise for a full-time custodian and a part-time food service worker. Amber Costello spoke to the board because she was not

hired, speaking about her service to the district over the past four years which has included five long-term substitute positions. She said she had made it to the final round of hiring for the past three years but was not chosen again this year. Costello said, "We teach our kids that if you are dedicated and if you give your all, you will persevere and you will make it." She wanted to know why her name "had been swept underneath the rug." Board member Walter Glogowski suggested that Costello have a meeting with Lake-Lehman Superintendent James McGovern to discuss the district's hiring practices and McGovern agreed to do that.

McGovern was voted a 3.5 percent raise at the meeting, raising his salary to \$116,763. Board members Bo Kreller and James Welby were absent but board members present voted unanimously in favor of the raise. The board appointed the following coaches for the 2013-2014 school year: Brian Noler, varsity boys' soccer; Matt Nonnenberg, junior high co-ed soccer; Paul Callahan, varsity girls' soccer; John Mokychick, golf assistant; and Kirsten Raymond, girls' volleyball. Football coaches will be Rich Colorusso, Thomas Bell and Gary Grandenetti for varsity and

Mark Pachamovitch for junior high football. Cheerleading coaches will be Deanna Dragon, varsity; and Crystal Savage, junior high. Field hockey coaches will be Adrienne Dieffbacher for varsity and Janine Kasarda for junior high. The cross country coach will be Justin Mazer. Parent Sharon Barto expressed frustration to the board that her seventh-grade daughter was sent home from school with an injured finger. Barto was upset that she had not been called about the injury and that her daughter had been sent home on the bus by the school nurse. "The only thing I was

looking for was a phone call," Barto said. The day of the injury, Barto went to the junior/senior high school to speak to Principal Doug Klopp. Barto told the board, "To me, he was very offensive." Barto had wanted to speak with the superintendent about the incident but felt that she had been ignored by Klopp. Both McGovern and his secretary replied to Barto's concerns, saying that they had both been on vacation. Barto and McGovern scheduled a meeting for July 20. The board's next meeting will take place at 7 p.m. on Aug 19 at the junior/senior high school.



Preparing to present "Les Miserables" at the Music Box Playhouse are, from left, first row, Amanda Reese, Michael Radzwilla and Victoria Bost. Second row, Matt Wegener, Bill Lipski and Katie Finkelstein.

'Le Mis' biggest musical ever at Music Box Dinner Playhouse

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The epic musical "Le Miserables" opens at the Music Box Dinner Playhouse today with a cast of over 30 people and will be the largest production the Music Box Players have done in the group's 32-year history. "We're putting a huge sprawling novel on stage," said Michael Gallagher, technical director and unofficial general manager of the playhouse. "And it's all music. There might be two spoken lines in the entire production." Gallagher, who has been associated with the Music Box since its inception, explained that "a great deal happens" during the performance. "There's a lot of plot," he said. "And many sub-plots. It's chalk-full of plots." Victor Hugo, who also wrote the "Hunchback of Notre Dame," wrote "Le Mis" which follows the lives and interactions of several characters, focusing on the struggles of ex-convict Jean Val Jean and his experience of redemption. "It's the kind of novel that was written in the 19th century," Gallagher said, explaining the book is over 700 pages long. "And we're condensing it all into a three-hour musical."

A huge amount of period costumes need to be borrowed, rented and made and lots of scenery and a ton of props are needed to make "Le Mis" a reality. "It's a big undertaking," Gallagher said. "It's basically a modern opera." Because "Le Mis" has been such a money-maker on both Broadway and on national tour, the rights to it just recently became available to community theater. "They held onto it as long as they could," Gallagher explained. Back Mountain resident Amanda Reese will play the role of Fantine, performed by Anne Hathaway in the recently-released movie. Fantine is a young orphan in Paris who becomes pregnant by a rich student. After he abandons her, she is forced to look after their child, Cosette, on her own. Reese has been involved with Music Box for years, starring in "Nonsense," "The Wedding Singer," "The Great American Trailer Park Musical" and "Evita," which featured one of her very first performances with the local theater. Other Back Mountain residents appearing in "Le Mis" include Darren Moore, who is new to community theater and will play several roles as a member of the chorus in his first show at the Music Box; Angelina Hoidra and her father Matt

Hoidra, who are both members of the chorus. "Les Miserables" will continue at the Music Box Dinner Playhouse, 196 Hughes St., Swoyersville, July 25 to 28 and Aug. 1 to 4 with a special, sit-down gala event on July 27 honoring Mike Costanza for his instrumental contributions to the community and The Music Box Players. The show is directed by Debbie Zehner with musical direction by Kim Crofchick and the cast members include Seth Brandreth, Bill Lipski, Amanda Reese, Victoria Bost, Michael Radzwilla, Katie Finkelstein, Jimmy Williams, Sarah Pelligrini, Abigail Schultz, Abigail Barhight, David Getz, Ben Steltz, George Steltz, Jon Vojtko, Ben Dugas, Christian Lynch, Tommy Walkowiak, Billy Romanowski, Ryan Engle, Matt Hoidra, Darren Moore, Blaine McKeown, Matt Wagener, Michael Gallagher, Anita Owen, Alexandra Liguori, Angelina Hoidra, Paige Allen, Ericka Law, Cate McDonald and Dana Feigenblatt. On Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, the buffet begins at 6:30 p.m. and the performance begins at 8 p.m. On Sundays, the buffet begins at 1:30 p.m. and the performance begins at 3 p.m.. Tickets are \$34 for dinner and the show and \$16

IF YOU GO ...

"Les Miserables" at the Music Box Dinner Playhouse, 196 Hughes St., Swoyersville, today, July 21; July 25 to 28 and Aug. 1 to 4 with a special, sit-down gala event on July 27 honoring Mike Costanza for his instrumental contributions to the community and The Music Box Players. On Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, the buffet begins at 6:30 p.m. and the performance begins at 8 p.m. On Sundays, the buffet begins at 1:30 p.m. and the performance begins at 3 p.m.. Tickets are \$34 for dinner and the show and \$16 for show only. Tickets for Saturday, July 27's sit-down gala are \$50 and include a served dinner with choice of prime rib or baked flounder stuffed with crabmeat. For information and reservations, call 283-2195.

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HARVEYS LAKE BOROUGH

Homecoming Weekend set for Aug. 2-4

Susan Bettinger
Dallas Post Correspondent

Harveys Lake Borough Council has announced the Harveys Lake Homecoming Weekend begins on Friday, Aug. 2 with the Homecoming Dance from 7 to 11 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person. For more information, contact Pat at 762-2832 or Mike at 650-1844.

The following events will be held on Saturday, Aug. 3: Kids Day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Second Annual Cancer Walk-A-Thon 9 mile Walk/Run at 9 a.m. with registration at 8 a.m., car and truck show from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with registration from 10 a.m. to noon, Wave Runner Card Run for ages 12 to 18 starts at noon, Anything Floats Race Event at 2 p.m. with sign in and inspection from noon to 1:30 p.m. and the Boat Regatta line up at the Harveys Lake Beach Club at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday's events include craft show and vendors from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with set up from 8 to 9:30 a.m., kayak race from 9 to 10 a.m., jetski freestyle competition at 11 a.m., Veterans Relay Benefit Motorcycle Run at 11:30 a.m. with registration from 10 to 11:30 a.m., chicken bar-b-que from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., fireman's parade at 2 p.m., Little Miss and Mr. Harveys Lake (ages 4 to 6) at 12:30 p.m. and a Wing Eating Contest at 3:30 pm (it is necessary to pre-register and five names will be drawn for the contest).

Closing ceremonies will be conducted at 5 p.m. by Chairman Mayor Clarence Hogan.

There will also be a Homecoming Bass Challenge on Sunday, Aug. 18. The 2013 Homecoming Committee members are Mayor Clarence Hogan, Marsha Hogan, Pat Adamschick, Maureen Devine, April Higgins, Lori Kuczewicz, Fran Kopko, Margaret Kopko, Carrie McDonald, John McDonald, Heather Radel, Mike Rush, Dave Sebolka, Karen Sebolka and Charlotte Williams.

The Harveys Lake Fire Company's dance will be held on July 27 at the Irem Country Club. Tickets are \$25. For more information, call 639-1919.

In other matters, Mayor Hogan announced during his police report presentation that the department has issued six warning citations to cyclists traveling on Lakeside Drive who failed to obey traffic laws. There is a growing problem with motorcycles and bicycles not abiding by the rules of the road.

Hogan added there are copies of the bike laws available at the borough's municipal building or citizens can contact the police chief for information on driving cycles in a lawful manner. Hogan further added that there is an increasing problem with golf carts and ATVs on the roadways as well, which the police department will investigate.

Councilwoman Michelle Boice responded to a citizen's question regarding the status of the LSA grant for renovating the borough's police station. Boice explained that she spoke with a representative in Harrisburg who informed her the re-scheduled meeting (concerning the grant) will take place within the next two weeks.

The borough is still waiting for DEP approval for the Floating Wetland Islands project. The application calls for the installation of five floating wetland islands in various locations on the lake.

The next council meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Aug. 20.

DALLAS TOWNSHIP

Township supervisors, EMA directors discuss gas incident

Camille Fiotti
Dallas Post Correspondent

Wyoming County and Dallas Township EMA directors Gene Dziak and Alan Pugh, respectively, addressed concerns Tuesday about an incident at a PVR Partners LP natural gas dehydration station in Monroe Township last month during the Dallas Township supervisors meeting on July 16. The facility, located on state Route 309 across from the Beaumont Inn, is

part of a natural gas pipeline running through Wyoming and Susquehanna counties and connects to the Transco interstate pipeline in Dallas Township. The incident, which involved the release of condensation vapor from on-site tanks, was due to a valve malfunction, said Dziak. Several residents said they were worried about the possible health effects of the vapor, which contained brine solution and methane. Dziak assured the residents that,

because methane rises, the incident did not pose a risk. Township Supervisor Frank Wagner and Kunkle Fire Chief Jack Dodson said there needs to be better communication between PVR and the community, especially in possible emergency situations. Dziak said communication between PVR and Wyoming County has greatly improved since the first incident in November, but added the company needs to improve its community outreach efforts.

"To me, it's about the health, safety and well-being not only of Wyoming County, but of Dallas Township," he said. "That's why I'm here." In other business, Supervisor Liz Martin said Ann Hutchinson of the Natural Lands Trust office in Media will visit the township next month to speak about the Growing Greener initiative and how it might be applied to future development in the township. More information about the presentation will be announced in the near future.