

Replacing deceased director, she'll break tie on \$35.7M project

BY KIMM R. MONTONE
STAFF WRITER

MOSCOW — Jean Pedley will cast the tie-breaking vote at Wednesday night's North Pocono School Board meeting, her first as a board member.

"I intend to vote how Joseph Bochicchio would have voted and in effect, this is his spot I'm taking," Mrs. Pedley said.

The 53-year-old Jefferson Township resident was appointed by the Lackawanna County Court of Common

Pleas to fill the vacancy of Mr. Bochicchio — a school director who died July 24 — until an election in November.

Mr. Bochicchio favored a \$35.7 million school-construction project, as does Mrs. Pedley.

Roaring Brook Township resident James Patterson, who opposes the project, had also sought the position.

The appointment of Mrs. Pedley comes on the heels of a four-four split among board

members, with half of them supporting the project to build a new high school in Covington Township, and with the other half opposing it.

"I think it's a win for the district," said board President Mary Bogart, who supported Mrs. Pedley's bid.

Wednesday's meeting will include consideration of several agenda items related to the high school project, including paying bills and submitting financial paperwork to the state Department of Education for reimbursements.

On Aug. 8, the board deadlocked on agenda items related to the high school.

Also, school directors failed to reach a consensus on appointing a member prior to the Aug. 23 deadline. On Friday, the court addressed the board's vacancy.

Some opponents of the high school project said they were disappointed that the court didn't appoint Mr. Patterson.

"I was surprised by the verdict," said Director Angela Cobb. "I hope Jean Pedley is concerned about the voters and learns the facts before she votes."

Efforts to reach Mr. Patterson for comment were unsuccessful Sunday.

Mrs. Pedley seems intent on

moving the high school forward. It was, she said, part of her 2005 School Board campaign, when she was Mr. Bochicchio's runningmate. Furthermore, Mrs. Pedley said she intends to seek a full term, and vie for a seat in the general election on Nov. 6. "I'm really just getting my feet wet with this and I think the next few months are important to getting this project moving," she said. "It's going to be a different kind of couple of months."

Contact the writer:
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DEVELOPER HOPES SKY PARK TAKES OFF

Residences for fly-ins key to 155-acre site

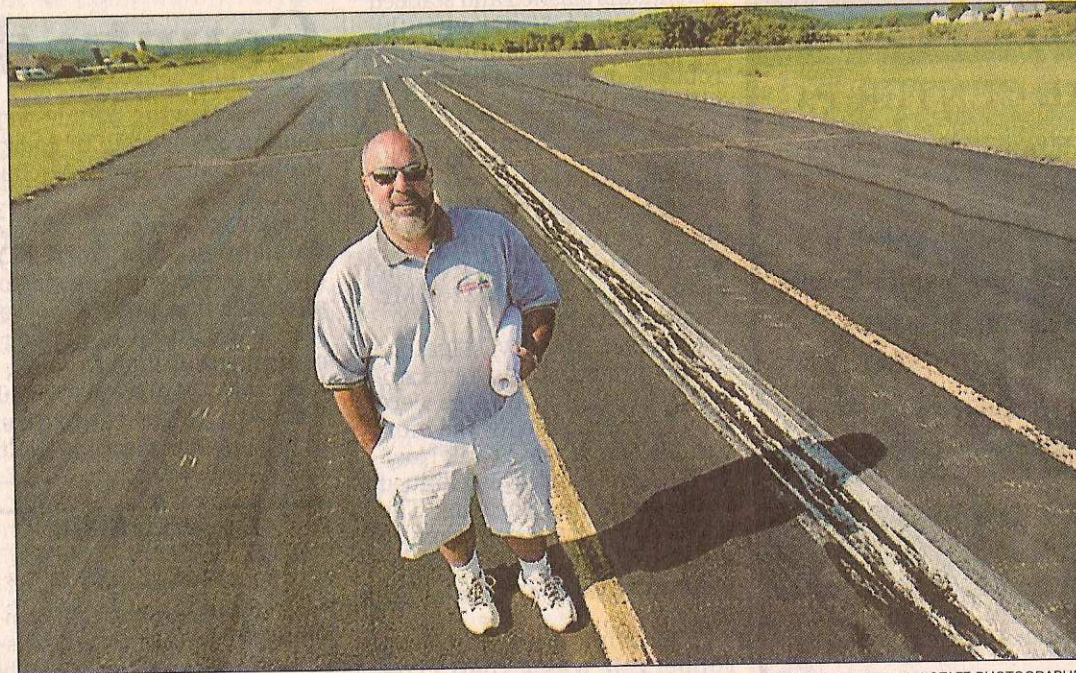
BY JOSH MROZINSKI
STAFF WRITER

When Karen Lucey was about to prepare a meal one day, she discovered that the chicken she intended to cook wasn't thawed.

So she jumped in her Cessna 172 XP and flew in six minutes from Seamans Airport to Skyhaven Airport, which is located next to Mr. Z's Food Mart in Eaton Township.

That convenience is what Mrs. Lucey enjoys while living at the airport, which will soon be at the heart of an air park — a residential community built to provide residents airport access, and known as Skyline Estates.

As the wife of the late Bob Seamans, who was owner of the airport, she is looking forward to the air park so that



MICHAEL J. MULLEN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bill Dobitsch holds project plans for his Skyline Estates subdivision that will include fly-in residences on its 155 acres at Seamans Airport in Nicholson Township.

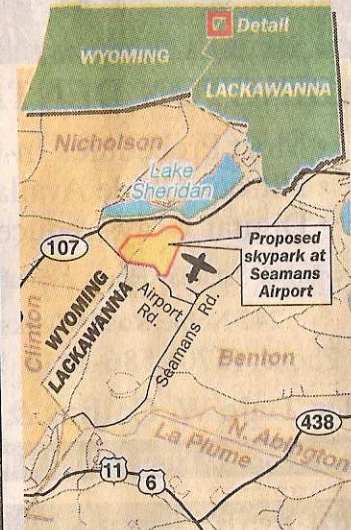
she can share her passion for flying with a community.

"My husband would have

loved this," she said.

Skyline Estates will have 47 lots that cross into Nicholson

Township, Wyoming County, and Benton Township, Lackawanna County.



KEVIN O'NEILL / STAFF ARTIST

Thirty-one of the lots will have potential access to the runway, where residents could taxi a plane to their home.

The remaining 16 lots wouldn't be connected to the runway.

Fifty-five acres of the 155-

Please see **SKY**, Page A7

allegedly gave information about a vehicle jumped the Pennsylvania Coast Extension

at Dumore said Mrs. 50, was attacked a sharp right highway onto state 1.1 at about 2:25 car jumped a light pole base. ating a sharp approaching the toll ck the concrete rive. He did not sh, but paid the the turnpike, po-ver, police said vehicle from the the car to jump ly afterwards. ation continues, re pending, police

—STAFF REPORTS

Arre fire accidental

RE — A fire that vacant South Sherouse Sunday was by firefighters said. ricia and Tom d the fire at 365 t. from their front led for firefighters

ore pretty quickly, ontrol," Mr. Jones

sustained exten- age in the first-floor and kitchen, said Chief Tom Makar, nd water damage the house.

quite a bit of it does seem to be fire Captain Alan

was under contract wner Andrea of Luzerne, had rking on the plumb- soldering pipes in it and caused them Capt. Klapat said.

— ELIZABETH SKRAPITS

several small
as he worked to
NA molecules.
got to do any-
in school, said
who will be
I like the hands-

name someone once gave him.
Sean Lukacs, 18, another recent
high school graduate, named
one of his phages Phopaux.
"The hands-on experience
really doesn't compare to sit-
ting in a classroom learning

gram.
Seventeen science teachers
from as far away as Hawaii
spent some time in the Pitts-
burgh lab recently so they can
teach the Phagehunting pro-
gram in their classrooms.

that "the Mediterranean people
began to emerge from igno-
rance when they learnt to culti-
vate olives and grapes."
Traces of white wine were
found in the tomb of the Egyp-
tian king Tutankhamun, who
reigned from 1333 to 1324 B.C.

SKY: Fly-in residences key to park site

FROM PAGE A3

acre development will be open
space with access to an open
trail.

In July, the Benton Township
and Wyoming County planning
commissions gave final approv-
al to the plans, and developer
William Dobitsch Jr. intends to
begin selling lots by the end of
this month.

"Anybody who is going to
buy a lot will have to sign up
with the homeowner associa-
tion," Mr. Dobitsch said. "It
should be a real nice
community."

He added that the air park
will likely attract a variety of
people, including those who
enjoy flying and those who sim-
ply enjoy airplanes.

Aircraft will have right of
way on the airpark's roads,
which will be marked with sig-
nage, Mr. Dobitsch, who started
to pilot planes in 1994, said.

Seamans Airport is an
uncontrolled field, which
means that pilots have an
enhanced need to communi-
cate with each other about
what they are doing.

For 15 years, Mr. Dobitsch
lived in Ringwood, N.J., and
worked for Morgan Stanley in
Manhattan.

Partly because of a lengthy
commute to work, Mr. Dobitsch
began to consider other career
paths.

In 1999 he discovered Sea-
mans, and in 2001 he bought
the airport in partnership with
co-workers Ralph DiMeo and
Guru Prasad.

"It was a beautiful property,
well laid out," Mr. Dobitsch
said. "And I guess I saw at that
point a potential for an air
park."

Mr. DiMeo said that he was
also struck by the beauty of the
rolling hills that surrounded
the airport.

"Once we took a look, we
loved the place," he said.

Four people have reserved a
lot at the air park, including
Kelly and Lochland Jeffries,
who are both airline pilots and
now live in an air park in New
Hampshire.

The couple wants to move to
Skyline Estates so that they
can be closer to work.

Mr. Jeffries flies out of New-
ark Liberty International Air-
port, which is a two and-a-half
hour drive, or a 40-minute
flight, from Seamans Airport.

Mrs. Jeffries, who flies out of
Boston, noted that air parks
have a real sense of communi-
ty and that airpark residents
share a common interest in
flying.

"I've always loved flying, and
my husband and I fly big air-
planes so as a hobby (we) fly
little airplanes," Mrs. Jeffries
said. "We absolutely love our

air park because we are so
close to our airplane."

Air parks allow people to
store their planes without pay-
ing thousands of dollars each
year for hangar space, accord-
ing to Dave Sclair, publisher of
the Living with Your Plane
Web site.

He noted that airparks,
which are becoming more com-
mon throughout the country,
also provide people a sense of
security about their aircraft,
which has become more impor-
tant since the Sept. 11, 2001, ter-
rorist attacks.

According to Living with
Your Plane, Pennsylvania has
five air parks, including Sky-
line Estates and Cherry Ridge
Airpark in Honesdale.

The publication's online
database lists 590 air parks in
the United States and parts of
Canada.

In Northeastern Pennsylva-
nia, Scranton resident Tim
Morgan is deciding what lot to
buy at Skyline Estates.

He would like to live closer to
Seamans, where he already
stores his airplane.

"We're looking to move to
the outskirts," Mr. Morgan
said. "There is no better place
to live than an air park. You
can pull your plane up into
your driveway."

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A2 THE TIMES-TRIBUNE

A6 THE TIMES-TRIBUNE