Resident raises concerns of student ‘furries’

By Cheryl A. Clarke

BLOomsburg — Another week, and another scandal for NorthPenn-Man sfield High School with the Southern Tioga School District school board and administration.

Katherine Womack of Bloomsburg told the board she had concerns about theTioga County Honor Guard. "The first one is the furrsies. They created one and then identified as cats and dogs, potentially having litter boxes in the bathroom. I am concerned about this, what has been done or what is going to hap pen? The second one is there was a potential in cident at the NHS where a student was choking another student and a teacher was in the room and there was nothing done to try to stop the incident and the student bloused out from the choking," Womack said. Superintendent Sam Rotela said he would let her know by phone "to share what can share about the Tioga County Honor Guard. This is a nation wide culture," he said, providing a link to a website www.whataboutfurries.com, adding "no student has requested any recognition as a furry, and there are no litter boxes in the bathrooms."

Budget

In other business, the board approved its 2023- 24 $757 million budget unanimously, but Chief Financial Officer Er way voted no to the 19% tax increase for both counties in the district, Tioga and Lycoming.

The increase adds $75 to a Lycom ing County property tax and adds $75 to a Lycom ing County property tax and adds $25 to a Lycom ing County property tax and added $25 to a Lycom ing County property tax and added $25 to a Lycom ing County property tax. Riley said, "I voted no to the 19%."

DAR honors WWII veteran

By Donna LaSchonder

The Wellsboro chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution honored World War II veteran Dr. Robert Bair at their meeting and picnic on June 11 at Woodland Park.

"Let’s invite Dr. Bair,” said DAR Regent Grace Niemczyk. "Dr. Bair entered the American 39th Infantry division as a first lieutenant in 1942 and left as a major in 1945. He was present at D-Day in Normandy, France on June 6, 1944. He is a retired surgeon and a longstanding supporter of countless community activities and organizations. “We wanted to honor Dr. Bair not only for his military service, but for everything he’s done for the community,” said Bair.

DAR adopts 2023-24 budget

By Cheryl A. Clarke

WELLSBORO — The Wellsboro Area School District voted in favor of a 2023-24 budget that will increase property taxes.

At the June 14 meeting, the board voted 7-0 to adopt the budget that balances rev enues at $28,134,108. Voting for the budget were Chris her Doughtie, Dr. Robert Bair, John Hoover and Tracy Douthit, and Steve Lackey Jr., with Steve Strieker abstaining. Doughtie opposed.

The budget has a pro jected surplus of $131,920, said Rob Koger, interim administrator. However, he would not vote for the budget without determining where any surplus from this year and last is earmarked, such as high school roof, greenhouse school, roof small improvements and school improvements. District officials were unable to provide a solid figure because of the retirements of key personnel, former business manager. Freeman and business manager Laura Frye.

said while Doughtie would like to have traditionally supported a small tax increase every year, it does not support one for similar reasons as Hoover and due to cur rent economic challeng es. However other board members said any of the four projects identified earlier would be appro priate uses for any bud get surplus if there is one. "It’s not often you have a clear crystal ball about what lies before us, but here we do,” said Bair.

Going with the budget vote and split into the same lines was the approval of taxes for the coming year. The real es tate tax increase will be 0.5%, going from $5 to $5.25, and the mil rate will increase by 0.5%, going from 16.95 mills to 17.4466 mills for Tioga County. Wellsboro Borough and Charleston, Deltona, Dunmore, Middlebury and Shippen townships.

In other business, the board voted to hire Heather Brown as the business manager/baord secretary.

See WADSO on page 179.