

Community Rescues Lost Old Man: A Wanderer And A Sleepless Town

Scout Drive Brings Search To Happy End

To Henry Metzger, 80, a strong consciousness of past duties prevailing over realization of time nearly proved his undoing.

Employed for 18 years as caretaker of St. Nicholas Cemetery prior to retirement, he suffered a stroke in 1958 which robbed him of present day's memories, and restored those of the past.

He worried about the cemeteries nearby, and periodically returned to see if all was in order. Every funeral passing by drew him to the site of the interment, while on other occasions he could be found weeding the graves or removing debris of withered flowers.

He had not left his home on Pioneer Avenue, Shavertown, for many weeks of late, but Friday afternoon's warm sun coaxed him outdoors, and he paid a visit to his neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Albert.

At 2:30 he left, remarking he would first look over a fresh grave nearby in Evergreen Cemetery before returning home. Mr. Albert watched him for some minutes, and later walked to the spot where he was last seen. Uneasy, he visited the Metzger home to see if his guest had returned.

Learning that he had left the nearby home some time earlier, Mrs. Metzger was disturbed that he had not reached home and sent grandson Fred Senchak around 4 p.m. to search the cemetery lanes.

At 5 p.m. Chief Herbert Updyke was notified by the worried wife. An hour later relatives were trying to discover his whereabouts.

Alarm Turned In

At 11 p.m. Squire F. W. Anderson, a neighbor was notified of her anxiety and called Updyke to see what had been done. Angered at the lack of action by police and fearing the old man might be injured, he next called Fire Chief Arnold Yeast who sounded the siren, while his wife contacted Scoutmasters John Butler and Malcolm Kitchen.

In less than ten minutes, forty volunteer firemen were on the scene with truck, walkie talkie, ambulance and spotlights. Butler and Kitchen also arrived simultaneously with older members of their troops. A call to Wyoming Barracks for bloodhounds revealed the dogs were kept at Hershey, but information was had that one was available at Jackson Institution.

Within another few moments, Major Charles Sieber had arrived with his young bloodhound. Neighbors, eight firemen from Trucksville, teenage lads, Updyke and Assistant Chief Coslett joined the rescue party, fanning out in a massive search across the rough terrain, and up over the hill into the woodlands.

Major Sieber's dog was unable to detect a good trail due to extreme dryness of the ground and the crossing of many feet that evening.

On William Street, Mrs. Willard Crane informed searchers that Metzger had stopped at her home for a drink of water, and had rested on her porch at 5 p.m.

Encouraged that they were in the right vicinity, the searching party recombed the area including St. Nicholas Cemetery. The loud-speaker called "Mr. Metzger, Mr. Metzger" time and again but there was no response. Chief Updyke wanted to comb the Davis Street area, and some went with him, but the majority of the party concentrated again and again in Shavertown. At 3:30 a.m., the search was called off until the next morning.

Metzger Sons Search

At dawn the sons and sons in law of the victim searched. At 8 that morning, 50 scouts from Troop 232 and explorers under Scoutmaster John Butler and assistant leader Jim McCoog; 25 scouts from Troop 231 accompanied by William Thomas and Ben Kleppinger; and 15 scouts from Troop 155, Trucksville, met to begin another search.

Both cemeteries and the surrounding woodland were once again covered in daylight and a long trek over rough trails to Huntsville Dam undertaken by the scouts and their leaders.

Jim McCoog addressed the scouts over a loud speaker, seriously urging them that a man's life was in balance, that Mr. Metzger needed food and medication since he was also a diabetic.

By noon, John Butler decided to take over the direction of the entire scout company since police suggestion had brought forth no clues. Steve Silic, honor scout, thought of an explorer map at his home, and with a better idea of the vicinity in mind, Butler, McCoog and Silic planned their strategy.

While Updyke again urged Davis Street be searched, Butler lined up the boys to cover the woods between Overbrook Avenue and St.

(Continued on Page 8 A)

Blood Donation Nets 112 Pints

Blood Donor Day Friday at Shavertown YMCA building, netted 112 pints for the Blood Bank. Mrs. Edward Gilroy states that 134 donors presented themselves. Very seldom are all donors accepted, as some of those who are eager to contribute to the Blood Bank show slight colds or other minor ailments which render them ineligible. No one is ever accepted for donation whose health would be jeopardized by parting with a pint.

Special mention is due Mary Lou Swingle, who, with her daughter Kathie, baby-sat for mothers who could not donate unless somebody minded the youngsters at the center; and to Mrs. William Kreidler, who motor-corsed her way around the community, picking up and delivering donors.

Manning the registration table were Mrs. Alfred Root, Kay Wright, Theresa Clark, Mrs. Clint Myers, Pearl Gilroy, Melanie Hellersperk, and Mrs. Thomas Graham.

Mrs. Robert Mellman was official typist, bringing her own electric typewriter.

Registered nurses were Audrey Nelson, Jennie Hill, Evelyn Eck, Mrs. John Blase Mrs. Al Blase, Mrs. Irvn Schobert, Mrs. Milton Evans, and Mrs. Arthur Marth.

Canteen: Mrs. Walter Davis, Mrs. George Seeland, Mrs. Reva Cawley, Mrs. Tom Reese, Mrs. David Evans.

Dr. George J. Brilmyer, Kingston, was in charge.

Dairy Bar Operators Escape Wild Wheels

Mel Mosier and Bill DiBuo, in separate cars, narrowly missed getting smacked by a wild double-wheel from a truck yesterday morning as they drove through Court-dale toward Dallas.

Coming north on the highway between the Sunset diner and O'Malia's, Mel in front in his Lincoln and Bill in his Chevy, they were amazed to see the left rear wheels leave the axle, pass the southbound truck at about 40 miles per hour and head right for them.

Both men swerved their cars to the right, inches away from the exposed creek-bed at the side of the road. Bill said: "I was ready to jam on the brakes and duck down." He estimated that the set of wheels weighed about 200 pounds.

No one was behind them, so the projectile had room to careen off the road, and the truck driver pulled to a halt.

Valley View Drive Accepted By Board

Valley View Drive in Carverton with five homes occupied was taken over Wednesday evening by Kingston Township Supervisors, Ziegler and Smith approving and Hauck voting in the negative.

Hauck's disapproval was forthcoming since Valley View Drive is a comparatively new development and there are many residents of older streets who have petitioned for the same action with none resulting.

Residents of Valley View accepted an offer in June to have their road paved if half the cost were assumed by the taxpayers of that area. They can be expected to hold Chairman Ziegler to his promise.

Complaint of Carverton residents concerning poor road condition will be studied.

Rev. Yost Is Legion's Man Of The Year



Rev. Robert Yost, dynamic pastor of Shavertown Methodist Church, is honored by American Legionnaires at the combination Installation and Americanism ceremonies of Daddow-Isaacs Post 672 Friday night as "Man of the Year."

This was the sixth annual award by the Legion for community service.

Seated left to right: Richard

Staub, outgoing commander, Ed Buckley, program chairman, George Cave, new commander, Leonard Dougherty, Curtis Bynon, and Tom Reese.

Standing: Warren Cease, Gus Shuleski, Rev. Robert Yost, William O'Brien, Representative Fred Shupnik District commander Mitchell Czoch, and Roland Spencer. Photo by Chnkinas

Legion Installs Officers, Gives Citizen Award

Commander Cave Succeeds Staub, Yost Is Honored

Daddow Isaacs Post, American Legion, staged its annual Americanism Night Friday evening at the Legion Home on Memorial Highway, combining installation of officers with awarding of the Community Service plaque to Rev. Robert DeWitt Yost.

Commander George Cave assumed the chair vacated by retiring Commander Richard Staub, who had served as interim head following the death of former Commander James Davenport.

Installed also by Mitchell Czoch, Commander of the Twelfth District, assisted by the Luzerne installation team, were these officers: vice-commander Leonard Dougherty; junior vice-commander Curtis Bynon; adjutant, Thomas Reese; sergeant-at-arms, Thomas Kane and Roland Spencer; historian, Gus Shuleski; chaplain Richard Staub; treasurer, Ed Buckley.

Award to Rev. Yost, pastor of Shavertown Church, was made by outgoing Commander Staub, who made the presentation on grounds of outstanding service to the community.

Gifts of books, selected by former Commander Buckley, were made to Back Mountain Memorial Library, Dallas school district, Gate of Heaven School, and College Misericordia.

Representative Fred Shupnik spoke on the importance of Project 70 in the coming elections, and asked for a favorable reply to the referendum which will appear on the ballot.

Florence Davenport, president of the Legion Auxiliary, was in charge of refreshments.

Rev. Yost, taken completely by surprise by the unexpected award, responded to Commander Staub's words of praise.

A brief rundown of his background shows him serving as chaplain during World War II on USS Aircraft Carrier Hollandia in the Pacific; serving for four years as pastor at the Methodist Church in Plains before coming to Shavertown as pastor fourteen years ago, and plunging headlong into community affairs.

Four years ago he won the Citizen of the Year award offered by Back Mountain Protective Association. For eight years he headed the local YMCA board, of which he is still a member. Among other important posts, he is a trustee of the YWCA in Wilkes-Barre, is a member of the Tuberculosis Association directorate, and of the Allocation Committee for the United Fund.

The American Legion has been giving an annual community Service Award since 1958, when the late Howard Risley was honored. In 1959, Henry Peterson won the award; in 1960, the late Mrs. Lewis LeGrand; in 1961, retiring librarian Miriam Lathrop. Last year, two men were tapped, Robert Parry and John Butler.

Orange Airman Dies In Crash

Was On Lend-Lease To South America

A young man from Orange lost his life in a plane crash in Bolivia Thursday, when a military plane in which he had installed loud-speaker equipment for psychological warfare, was lost. The pilot escaped with slight injury, but a student is in critical condition and expected to die.

The body of Airman Charles Anthony Volack Jr., 20, was flown back to the United States. Funeral arrangements await his arrival.

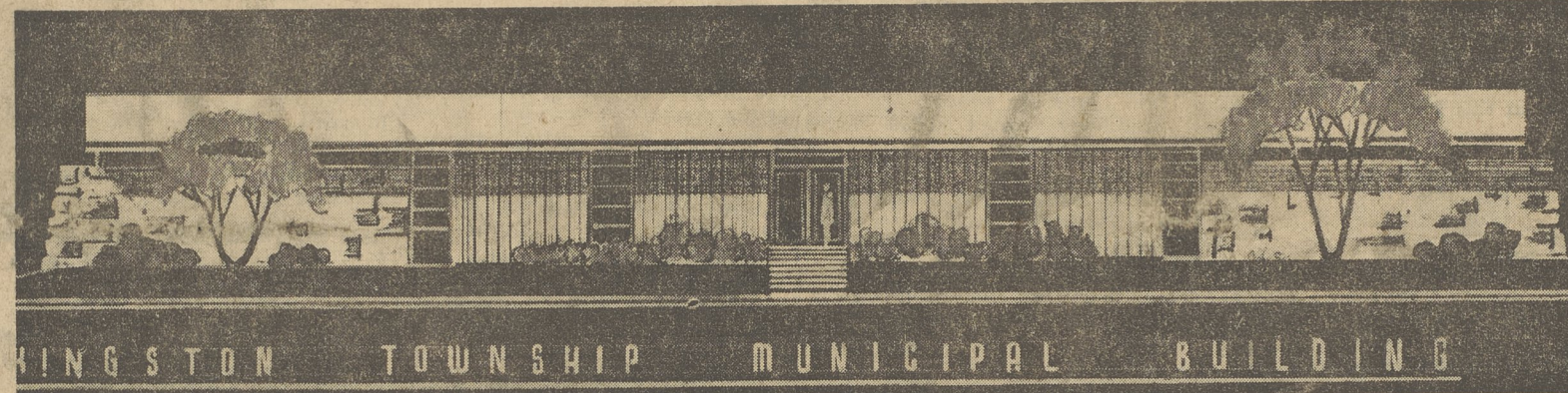
Volack, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Volack, was on detached duty, on loan to the Bolivian government from T.A.C., a branch of S. A. C. Young Volack trained for psychological warfare at Hurlburt Field, an adjunct of Elgin AFB in Florida. He was trained in Communist Interrogation, and defenses against breaking under the strain of questioning. His background also included Biloxi and Loring AFB.

A 1961 graduate of West Side Central Catholic High School, he had attended Gate of Heaven from the fifth grade, had studied at Dallas Township High School and Staunton Military Academy before going to Central Catholic. His basic training was at Lackland AFB, Texas.

A brother Walter is a sophomore at Dallas High School; sisters Cathy and Christine at Central Catholic; a little brother Gerald, 6, at Gate of Heaven.

Roger Whitesell, R.D. #1, Sweet Valley, an 11th grade student at Lake-Lehman High School won Charlie Gosart's Football Contest last week.

Plans Revealed For New Kingston Township Bldg.



This is the new Kingston Township municipal building which will soon be erected on the site of the fire hall on Carverton Road. The structure will be 120 feet by 34 feet, of stained wood siding and stone construction with a pitched roof of asphalt shingles.

Interior walls will feature vinyl siding and resilient tile will provide the floor covering with suspended acoustical ceilings in all rooms but the fire house.

Facilities will consist of a meeting room with accommodations for 150 at banquet tables or 250 attending meetings, a supervisors room, kitchen, lavatories, fire hall, housing three fire trucks and the cruiser, rooms for police chief and administrative police head.

The basement will be used as a Civil Defense Control Center with storage for equipment ample.

The new building will be under construction by the end of November and will be completed in six to twelve months. Old fire hall will remain standing until new quarters are completed. Shacks adjoining will be torn down to make room for the new building.

Building will be shared jointly by officials and Trucksville Fire Company, moneys received from sale of the old township meeting hall, funds from the Accelerated Public Works Project and \$7,000 to be paid by the fire company. Land now owned by the fire company will be deeded over to the township.

Sabin Oral Vaccine Type II, October 27

Polio oral vaccine for Type II will be given on Sunday, October 27, at the same stations which operated for administration of Type I September 15.

Residents are reminded that if they missed getting Type I immunization, they still need Types II and III, and that for full protection they should get Type I from their family doctor. It is not a case where one shot is stacked on another. Immunization is for three different kinds of Polio.

There are residents of Luzerne County who now are victims of Polio, who would not have been stricken if they had been immunized in time.

Oral vaccine is dropped on a lump of sugar, taken by mouth. No needle, no delay. Residents are again asked to pay 25 cents for the vaccine, but nobody will be refused.

Announce District Chairmen And Solicitors For Fund Drive

Division Chairman Mrs. Frederick J. Eck, and area chairmen Mrs. Paul Priebe and Mrs. L. E. Jordan, announce District chairmen for the Wyoming Valley United Fund Drive.

For Jackson: Mrs. Jonathan Valentine and Mrs. Sidney Fielding.

Lehman: Mrs. Myron Baker, Mrs. Harry Edwards Sr., Mrs. Myron Leet.

Shavertown: left side, Mrs. George Jacobs; right, Mrs. Robert Bayer.

Trucksville: left, Mrs. W. Bradbury; right, Mesdames John Kenyon, R. Montgomery, John Bourke, Norman Schoell, and Conrad Martin.

Carverton: Mrs. George Kroemlein.

Dallas Borough: Mrs. Lewis Reese.

Dallas Township: Mrs. Frank Townend.

East Dallas: Mrs. James Bessecker Jr.

West Dallas: Mrs. Henry Moyer.

Fernbrook: Mrs. Ralph Lewis.

New Goss Manor: Mrs. William Wright.

Old Goss Manor: Mrs. William H. Young.

Huntsville: Mrs. Loren Crispell.

Kunkle: Mrs. Allison Thomas.

Harveys Lake: Mrs. Harvey Kitchen.

Franklin Township: Mrs. Nora Dymond.

Solicitors for Meadowcrest include Mesdames Harold Fritzes, Calvin Crane, Leonard Cichowicz, John J. Carey, Joseph Brady, Albert Marchetti, Robert Kleiner, Loren Fiske, Jonathan Weir.

For Brown and Midway Manors:

Mrs. John T. Luke, Mrs. Louise Fink, Mrs. June Wagner.

Trucksville, right side: Mesdames Fred Dingle, Edward Richards, George Pierce, Edward Bessmer, Merton E. Jones, Ernest Norrie, Lee Philo, J. Beline, W. Phillips, Earl Gregory, Carl Loucks.

Trucksville, left side: Mesdames C. S. Hemenway, J. Reynolds III, Merle Pope, Frank Rosavoge, Walter Darrow, George Kapral, Justus Letts, Margaret Mieczkowski, Miss Thelma Adams.

Shavertown, right side: Mesdames Elwood Dungey, Leroy Elliott, Sheldon MacAvoy, Nelson McDonald, George Williams, Ted Woolbert.

Shavertown, left side: Mesdames M. J. Borthwick, Malcolm Kitchen, Obed Hontz, Budd Hirlman, Wilson Honeywell, James Rutledge, Robert Jewell.

Lehman: Mesdames Leroy Brown, Tom Brown, Joseph Lopez, Howard Whitesell, Harry Edwards Sr., Myron Lett.

(Continued on Page 7 A)

Volunteers, Dogs, Police, An Airplane, Find Lost Man



Kingston Township volunteers comb the woods night and day for a lost old man, and miraculously find him at the end of the second day.

Dallas Post camera registered some of the hundreds of faces in the search, which captured the good-will and heroic effort of an entire community. (See complete story, column 1).

At left, Assistant chief of police Jesse Coslett checks the site

of a new grave a little after midnight, Saturday morning. Henry Metzger, formerly caretaker of a cemetery, had an affinity for the many graveyards on Pioneer Avenue, and was last seen nearby.

Shavertown Fire Company with truck and walkie-talkies covered the top of Mt. Airy area, sending search lines of both Kingston Township companies down the hill. (center right)

At center left, John Butler, scoutmaster of Troop 232, leads a

party of boys across a field below Bulford's Swamp, where it was feared the old man might have fallen.

Squire Fred Anderson and Hank Hill, members of the rescue party who plunged into the undergrowth with the caterpillar-tread "Weasel" to pull out Mr. Metzger, show the scene. Note the thicket is better than head-high.