

# People



## Planning events

Shown here are members of the GFWC Luzerne County Federation of Women's Clubs who will participate in the Third Annual Federation Day on Saturday, March 17 at Boscov's Department Store, Wilkes-Barre. From left, first row, Sheila Bonawitz, Dallas Area Women's Club; Dr. Jayne Pruitt, executive director, Hospice St. John; Carol Llewelyn, Harveys Lake Women's Service Club. Second row, Betty Doran, co-chairman, Federation Day; Betty Miller, Wyoming Women's Club; Sandra Timko, chairman, Federation Day; and Irene Kennedy, Boscov's Department Store.

## To film water events

# Harveys Lake resident goes to L.A. Olympics

By JANE C. BOLGER  
Staff Correspondent

If you've been watching the Pro Bowlers Tournament on TV or plan to watch the Summer Olympics, then you'll be proud to know Joe Balkan is a Back Mountain resident. Twenty-six year old Joe, who lives at Pole 296, Harveys Lake, is primarily responsible for all the fast camera work for these and countless other major sports events like the World Series, N.F.L. games and the Fiesta Bowl.

Balkan who says, "I've never lived further than 25 miles from Wilkes-Barre," is a graduate of Pittston Area High School and Penn State-Scranton Campus where he majored in Electrical Engineering. From there, traveling coast to coast as the working Vice President and General Manager of North East Productions' "Super Shooters", an affiliate of Channel 16, was a series of giant steps for Joe Balkan.

Balkan's career started in 1975 when as a high school student he landed a part-time job with WVIA-TV, Channel 44 often acting as a "go-between" to WNEP-TV as tapes were transferred.

"They got to know my face," he said. And when Channel 16 expanded to live instant cameras in

1978, they needed an electronic technician and Joe got the job.

For the next two years he did "the live news engineering and remotes on location," but then he "got bored" and "wanted to get into TV on a larger scale." The eventual result was the now four-year-old company which lists Tom Shelburne as President and John Glawe as Sales Manager.

"The Super Shooters" do weekly and daily national TV shows for all three major channels as well as HBO and ESPN, the cable sports network. They have their equipment housed in a \$2 1/4 million trailer especially designed with such features as seven cameras worth \$120,000, three machines for instant replays and slow motion, an audio-intercom service and a self-contained telephone system.

The technically-perfect truck is just one of the reasons Joe Balkan will be at the Summer Olympics in L.A. this year, another is just plain hard work - Balkan estimates he "puts in 80 hours a week" on the job. A typical day was last Friday when Joe called this reporter from the sound truck on location in Cleveland, prior to starting preparations for filming the Pro-Bowlers Tour.

"I'll get to sleep at 7 (p.m.) then get up and work from midnight straight through - 19 1/2 or 20 hours

straight," he said.

Under a contractual agreement with ABC, Joe will be filming the canoeing and rowing Olympic competitions at Lake Casidas, California.

He explained, "The cameras will be on boats or on platforms in the water along the 2500 meter course - 13 cameras will be placed in strategic locations and four others will be on each of two boats."

Joe estimates he spends "about 270 days a year on the road." In between, however, he can sometimes be found running his 19-foot speed boat around Harveys Lake. More often he spends his recreational time watching TV as he has a giant satellite dish, capable of receiving 120 channels, mounted on the roof of his boat house.

# Clubs plan Federation Day

The GFWC Luzerne County Federation of Women's Clubs will sponsor its Third Annual Federation Day on Saturday, March 17, at Boscov's Department Store, Wilkes-Barre.

Federation Day is a fund-raising effort to benefit a community agency. Hospice Saint John, a non-denominational home care program for the terminally ill and their families, is the agency selected to receive this year's funds.

The funds received from Federation Day will be used to furnish and equip a six to eight in-patient unit. The unit can be used as an alternative to hospitalization.

Various clubs have planned special activities throughout Boscov's for Federation Day.

Kiddee City will amuse the younger set with games, clowns, magicians, face painting and jugglers. Special appearances will be made by Care Bears, Darth Vader and Yoda.

Booths featuring pierogies, hot dogs and sauerkraut, whimpies, funnel cakes and other items will be found in three locations throughout the store.

A Merchandise and Celebrity Auction will be held on the fourth floor with all of the items on the auction block being donated by local businessmen and noted celebrities.

Some lucky person will win an all-expense paid trip to London or Nassau for two or a trip for four to Disney World-Epcot. Tickets are available at Boscov's or from any federated women's club member.

Hospice volunteers will be selling Welsh cookies made by their members and also will have cookbooks available.

Local radio and television personalities and notable political figures will make appearances throughout the day.

Members of the following clubs are taking part in the day's activities: Avoca, Bear Creek, Dallas Area, Dallas Juniors, Duryea, Greater Pittston, West Pittston, West Side, West Side Evening, West Side Juniors and Wyoming.

Sandra Timko is Federation Day chairman, assisted by Betty Doran. Bernardine Borinski, GFWC president, honorary chairman.

## Lake-Lehman Band Sponsors Flower Sale

- Mums: Two types - Daisy - white and pink Regular - yellow, white and lavender \$5.50
- Tulips: four or more blooms - pink, red and candy stripe \$5.00
- Lillies: medium height, four or more blooms \$5.50
- Hyacinths: 3 blooms per pot - pink, purple, and white \$5.00
- Hydrangea: medium height - multi bloom - pink and blue \$6.00

Orders taken by any band member or call Marlene Konopke 298-2056 until March 20. Delivery date for flowers is Wednesday, April 18 (3:30 - 6:30 p.m.) from the high school cafeteria.

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## St. Patty's Dance set

Plans have been finalized for the St. Patrick's Day Dance to be held Saturday, March 17, at the Harveys Lake Pub. Sponsored by the Harveys Lake Protective Association, the dance will continue from 8 to midnight with music provided by "Response." The dance is open to the public and admission will be \$3.00.

Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Borough Building, Javer's Store, Taft's Market, and Drury's Deli, or at the door on the evening of the dance. Shown in the photo are committee members. From left, Marian DeBalko, Pat Giordano and JoAnna Feddock, chairman.



## Delaney baby is christened

Kathryn Ann Delaney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. "P.J." Delaney, Box 199-A, Harveys Lake, was christened March 3 by Rev. George Jeffrey in Our Lady of Victory Church, Harveys Lake. Godparents are Maureen Dillon,

sister of Mrs. Delaney and Ned Delaney, brother of Mr. Delaney.

Kathryn Ann was born January 20 in Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston. Her mother is the former Catherine Dillon of Plymouth.

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