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Siren arrives earlier

By JUDIE MATHERS
Staff Writer

Neighbors of the State Correctional Institution at Dallas received good news earlier this week when Mrs. Pat Rusiloski, chairperson for the Citizen's Committee of that institution, was notified that the completion day for a new siren has been moved ahead by almost two years! The new completion date for the warning siren at the prison has been set for August 31, 1985.

At a meeting with Superintendent Joseph Ryan and area legislators on March 1, 1985, the Citizen's Committee had voiced strong opposition when it was announced the new siren was included in a 1.5 million dollar project scheduled to be completed by May 1, 1987.

"We need that new siren sooner!" Mrs. Rusiloski had exclaimed during that meeting. "We can't hear the one we have now!"

Dominic Fatheryar, another member of the Citizen's Committee had urged, "The siren is the most important thing to us! Can't we get that sooner and wait for the other things included in the project?"

Apparently, the citizens' concerns did not fall on deaf ears. On March 5, Superintendent Ryan wrote a letter to Senator Frank O'Connell requesting his (O'Connell's) assistance in expediting the siren installation as a priority and emergency segment of the total project.

"The siren is considered to be a vital part of the SCI-Dallas warning system should an inmate escape from custody," Ryan explained.

The following day, Jeffes notified Superintendent Ryan that the Bureau shared the concern regarding the need for installation of the new warning siren and announced that action was underway to expedite that installation.

Mrs. Rusiloski called The Dallas Post this past Monday and announced, "We did it! We're getting our siren!" She had just received a copy of the following schedule:

Sketch Submission — April 16, 1985
Pre-Final/Final Submission — May 31, 1985
Advertise Project — June 12, 1985
Receive Bids — July 3, 1985
Award Contract — July 17, 1985
Construction Completion — August 31, 1985

Dad still thinks Army best bet

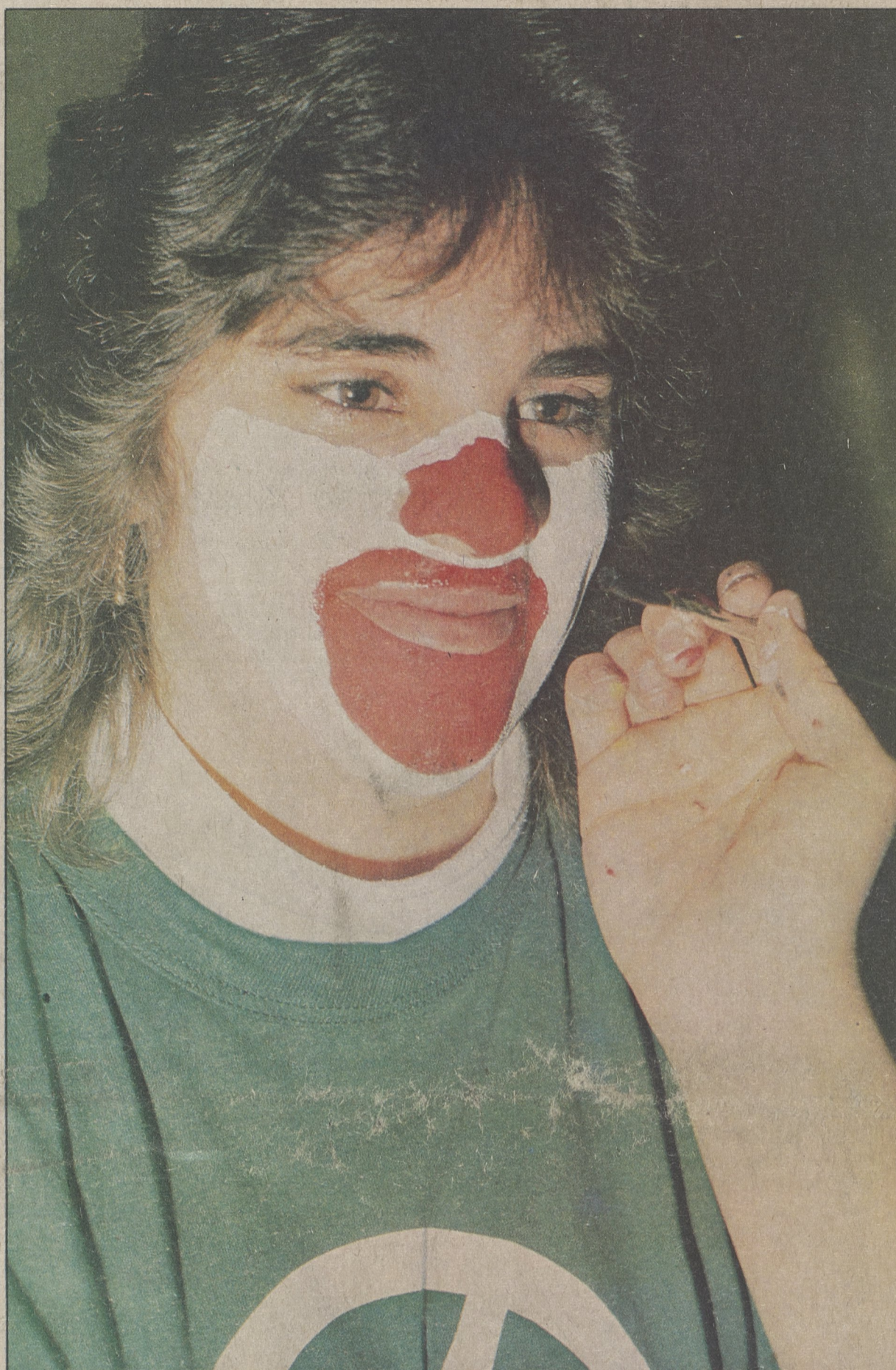
Area pays final tribute to Pfc. Richard Zimmerman

BY JUDIE MATHERS
Staff Writer

Army friends and family members paid special tribute to Pfc. Richard Zimmerman last Wednesday as he was laid to rest in full military fashion.

One of 12 young men killed during training at Fort Bragg, N.C., Zimmerman's remains, accompanied by a personal friend, SP4 Matt Evans of Shavertown, were flown home the previous Sunday.

"The Army handled everything," recalls the slain soldier's dad, Herb Zimmerman. "Down to the last detail. His mother and I told them what we wanted and they made



All 'made up'

Kelly Norris is all "made up" in this photo as she participates in a practice session for Easter Sunday Sunrise Services. Kelly is a member of the youth group of the Trucksville United Methodist Church which is practicing clown ministry for sunrise services. Doing the painting on Kelly's face, but not visible in the photo, is Amy Mazur, another youth group member.

Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Council says no to letter writing idea

By PAMELA AARON
Staff Correspondent

At the monthly meeting of the Dallas Borough Council, Council members decided not to support a request by the Luzerne County Transportation Authority to protest budget cuts by writing letters to government officials.

Current trend throughout the Wyoming Valley seems to be in support of such letter writing, in hopes of persuading the Reagan administration to uphold Federal Revenue Sharing. Other boroughs and townships have passed resolutions in favor of writing these letters.

Wilkes-Barre Township passed such a resolution last month and wrote directly to the Dallas Council requesting that they re-think their position on the matter. Leo Kuciewicz, secretary to the Wilkes-Barre Township board had said, "We strongly believe most communities of our area will suffer as a result of these cutbacks, which will create an extreme hardship to individual residents, therefore we choose to exercise this means (letter writing) of speaking on our behalf and recommend that other boroughs and townships do the same."

The effect of lessened revenue due to revenue sharing cutbacks can be understood when one realizes that \$18,000 of the \$300,000 of the borough's budget consists of Revenue Sharing funds.

Says Council Chairman Harold Brobst, "Let's face it, Revenue Sharing has been 'found money,'

though I believe we can handle the cuts."

"I think the position of the board may have been misunderstood," claims council member Gary Ide who had been the most outspoken on the council as far as not supporting the transportation authority. "We are not singling out one group and denying them, rather, this is a policy the board has adopted as far as protesting the federal budget cuts," said Ide. "rather than cry out with every threatened cut, we're trying to do our share," he said. When asked if council was supporting the Reagan cuts, both Ide and Brobst said yes.

The issue began when the Luzerne County Transportation Authority wrote letters to all councils on its bussing routes in the Luzerne County area in an attempt to secure support from these councils by way of letters to congressmen and senators, protesting the 1986 budget cuts. "\$1.1 million is supplied to us federally," claims Harold Edwards, executive director of the authority. "Imagine what could happen if most or all of it is done away with. Mass transit may make up 3 percent of the Federal budget but, it makes up 5 percent of Reagan's 30 billion dollar cuts," he said.

"I frankly cannot understand the borough's reluctance to support us," Edwards said. "It's not as if we're asking them for money," he continued. "We service 18,600 people per month on our Dallas routes and these people will undoubtedly suffer." Green maintained that realistic options were few; either cutting down on bus routes or doubling

(See LETTER, page 6)

Supervisors change zoning regulations

The Dallas Township Board of Supervisors okayed an ordinance Tuesday to change the zoning regulations of an 8-acre parcel of land adjacent to the Meadows Complex on Church Street in Dallas.

The matter had been discussed at the February supervisors' meeting when Ecumenical Enterprises asked that the current zoning of the property, S-1 (suburban), be changed to R-3 (residential), where one and two family dwellings could be built.

The land, owned by the Sisters of Mercy, was to be the site of 40 new townhouse apartments, but the board ruled last month that zoning regulations would permit only 30

units to be built on the land.

Thomas Brennan, counsel to the Sisters of Mercy, said, "The Sisters of Mercy would be happy to sell two more acres of land to E.E.I., so that they could complete their 40 unit plan."

E.E.I.'s choice was either to reduce their 40 apartments to 30 or to buy additional land. Ray Condo, director of E.E.I. said that he felt the cost of construction on the extra two acres may be prohibitive, as it would exceed funding from the Federal Farmers Home Administration. The final bid figures, says Condo, will determine whether or not the project has to be cancelled.

— PAMELA AARON

This week's a free one

If you were surprised to receive a copy of this week's Dallas Post in your mailbox, don't be alarmed! It's absolutely free - our gift to you.

Periodically, residents of certain areas of the Back Mountain receive a complimentary copy of The Dallas Post. This is our way of introducing our newspaper to your households in hopes you will like to read us every week.

This week, residents in the RD 3 mailing area will receive our newspaper. Thus, those people residing in the RD 3 area who are current subscribers of The Dallas Post will receive two copies of this week's paper.

You will not be charged for today's newspaper, however, should you decide you would like to become a regular subscriber of The Dallas Post, call Jean Brutko, our circulation manager, at 675-5211. Subscription rates are \$12 per year, however, if you complete the coupon on the blue insert you received in the complimentary copy of the paper, you will be charged the discount subscription rate of \$10 per year.

Let 'Aunt Patty' help

Got a problem? Need advice? Let "Aunt Patty" help you!

"Dear Aunt Patty," a column designed to answer your questions, lend advice and make suggestions will appear soon in The Dallas Post.

Readers are encouraged to send their letters to "Dear Aunt Patty," c/o The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas, Pa., 18612.

"Dear Aunt Patty" is strictly a localized column and is not nationally syndicated. Letters to "Dear Aunt Patty" will be answered by a Back Mountain resident who is trained in the area of counseling. Get your



letter to "Aunt Patty" out today and watch The Dallas Post for your answer.

sure that was the way it was done. SFC Roy Evans, a local man, (no relation to Matt) arranged everything personally. He was one of the two men who came to our homes to notify us of Rick's death, and he carried on from there."

"It was a very nice funeral," says Pat, Rick's mom. "It was personal and warm, but formal and beautifully done. Twelve guys from Ft. Bragg who were friends of Rick's drove here to be pallbearers and guards, and make up the firing squad for the 21 gun salute. A bugle player from the Lake-Lehman band played taps."

"We wanted it that way because the band is so outstanding and Rich had gone to Lake-Lehman," Mrs. Zimmerman continued. "We did not allow the news media at the funeral. We wanted that to be private and it was. Rich's roommate and close friend came from North Carolina to hand me Rich's class ring and beret. Because his dad and I are divorced, the Army had two flags - one for each of us, and gave each of us bullets from the (21-gun) salute. Personal flower arrangements were sent to us from his company and we're both still receiving letters of condolence from various Army officials."

"A representative from Paul Kanjorski's office called us," noted Mr. Zimmerman, "and asked if there was anything the Congressman could do to help with arrangements. Although there was nothing, we really appreciated the gesture." According to the family, an investigation is now underway to determine the cause of the accident that took the life of Rich Zimmerman and 11 other passengers and crew members of the Black Hawk helicopter on March 13. The investigation is being conducted by an eight man team from the Army Safety Center at Fort Rucker, Ala.

The helicopter, in which Zimmerman was a passenger, crashed shortly after it had been flying in formation with two other Black Hawks at 100 mph, 75 feet above the ground. To the Zimmermans' knowledge, this is at least the 34th fatality caused by the Black Hawk since 1979.

"Just this past February 22," says Mr. Zimmerman, "four men were killed and four injured in another Black Hawk crash." The family says they would like to know

(See SOLDIER, page 6)



Army buddies

Ritchie Zimmerman, above right, is shown here with one of his buddies from Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Zimmerman, a graduate of Lake-Lehman High School, was one of 12 men killed recently during training at Fort Bragg.

Officer Ralph is a daddy

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph "Rusty" Seltzer, of Kingston, became the proud parents of a baby boy, Ryan Russell, on March 19 in Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston.

Mr. Seltzer, a part-time police officer in Kingston Township, was run down by a juvenile driver several weeks ago and had spent a considerable amount of time as a patient at Nesbitt Hospital.

Although suffering no broken bones, Seltzer was treated for multiple lacerations and contusions and underwent nearly five hours of skin-grafting surgery.

Still undergoing physical therapy, Seltzer is now able to walk with the aid of but a single cane and was reportedly "pacing the halls" just as he promised he would during his wife's delivery.

Mrs. Seltzer, the former Carol Kuzma of Swoyersville, is employed as a Licensed Practical Nurse at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital.

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