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Enjoying the Seder

The Rosing family of Dallas and their guests are seated at the dinner table to begin the Seder meal of Passover. Clockwise around the table are Marci Rosing, Zoe Bachman, Mrs.

Thomas Rosing, Thomas Rosing, Geoff Stephenson, Dave Fiorini, Marjorie Meyers. Also present at the meal, but absent from the photo, was Mark Rosing.

Dallas Post/Charlot M. Denmon

Reporter shares feast

Jews remember exodus with Seder

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

The Festival of Passover for persons of the Jewish religion began last Friday, April 5, at sundown, with the traditional Seder, or Passover feast, commemorating the exodus of the Jewish people from Egypt where they had been enslaved for 200 years by the Pharaohs.

While most people have some knowledge of the Passover, not all are aware of the reason for its observance by members of the Jewish faith. It was this writer's privilege to be the guest of the Thomas S. Rosing family at their Seder last Friday night. There also were four other guests, friends of the Rosings' son and daughter, Mark and Marci.

The dinner, which follows a ritual of prayers, songs, and blessings, also includes symbolic foods such as matzah, bitter herbs, horseradish, salt water, charoses, a lamb bone and an egg, and may be held either the first or second night of the eight-day festival.

Prior to the beginning of the Seder, the entire day is spent in preparation, purging the home of leavening, preparing special foods, getting out special dishes and linens, as well as candlesticks and candles.

When we sat down for dinner, on cushioned chairs (for reclining, other nights, diners sit up straight), Mrs. Rosing explained that the Rosing family members are Reformed Jews and, although their ritual was not as strict as the Orthodox Jews, it was basically the same.

The table was set with special linens, china, candlesticks and candles. There were nine dinner guests, however, the table was set for 10 with the extra place setting being for the Soviet Jews and others elsewhere unable to join in the Seder because they do not enjoy religious freedom. A goblet of kosher wine was at each place.

On the table in front of Mrs. Rosing was a Seder tray with special compartments which held the food items symbolic of the Jews years of hardship in Egypt during the time of the Pharaohs, 3,500 years ago. There also were four silver cups of wine.

Mark and Marci were elected by their parents to read from the books of Haggadah which were distributed and shared by those at the dinner table. The two leaders took turns reading the "leader" passages while the rest of us read the "responses." Mark and Marci read in English and some Hebrew. Before beginning the Seder, Mrs. Rosing asked her daughter, Marci, to light the candles which are lighted always by the mother or daughter. The first blessing was said over the lighting of the candles.

The first cup of wine was for the Sanctification with passages read by Mark. There were four pieces of Matzah, the fourth piece for the Soviet Jews. One of the three remaining pieces of Matzah was broken in half and a piece wrapped and hidden away for the next year.

Marci, youngest member of the family, asked, "Why is this night so different from other nights? On other nights we eat leavened bread, on other nights we eat all herbs,

on other nights we sit erect, tonight we recline?"

The answers came from the responses by the rest through the readings from the Haggadah.

The Matzah on the tray is symbolic of the haste in which the Jewish people had to leave Egypt. They did not have time to let their bread rise in the oven so they ate it without. The Matzah was passed from person to person and we each broke a piece of it to eat. The bitter herbs, parsley on the tray, is symbolic of the bitter years spent in slavery as is the horseradish (muir) which was passed to each of us. Each took some horseradish and spread it on a piece of Matzah to eat it.

A dish containing celery sticks was passed. We each took a piece and dipped it in the dishes of salt water placed around the table. Salt water is symbolic of the tears shed by the Jewish people during the years of hardship endured by them in Egypt. The dipping of celery in the water symbolizes the Jewish people going into the sea and walking through to the other shore out of Egypt.

Charoses, a mixture of ground apples, nuts, cinnamon and wine, is symbolic of the mortar the Pharaoh ordered the Jewish people to make. A dish of charoses was passed around the table, so we each took some of it and spread it on a piece of Matzah.

The second cup of wine is symbolic of the deliverance of the people from Egypt. The cup of wine was passed and each of us put 10

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Man pulls knife

Woman cut near Dallas Boro Building

By JUDIE MATHERS
Staff Writer

Susan Betts, 24, of William Street in Pittston, suffered severe injury to her right hand when she was the victim of an apparent stabbing attempt. The incident reportedly occurred on Thursday, April 4, at 2:30 a.m. in the vicinity of the Dallas Borough Building.

According to Borough Police Chief Ed Lyons, Officer Jack Fowler, the policeman on duty at the time, observed the victim in front of the borough building. Ms. Betts' right hand, which had been wrapped in cloth, was bleeding profusely, according to Chief Lyons' report.

Upon investigation, Lyons reported, Fowler was told by Ms.

Betts that a male companion with whom she was involved pulled a knife on her and threatened to stab her. A struggle ensued which resulted in severe cuts to the victim's right hand, reportedly nearly severing two fingers.

The man, a Back Mountain resident whose identity police would not release at press time, was reported to have left the scene.

Ms. Betts was taken by Dallas Ambulance to Nesbitt Memorial Hospital where she remained until Saturday. Hospital officials were requested by the victim not to release any information about the occurrence and subsequent injuries. Ms. Betts was unavailable for comment.

Patrolman Fowler was assisted in the investigation by Dallas Township Police Officer Elliot Ide.

Dallas directors appoint several

By PAMELA AARON
Staff Correspondent

It was an evening of appointments, most of which were voted upon swiftly and favorably, save one or two.

The voting on a recommendation by superintendent Gerald Wycallis to appoint Robert Mitkus as assistant in charge of junior high track yielded two no votes, one abstention and more than a little confusion for many at the Dallas School Board's monthly meeting Monday night. Joseph O'Donnell and Albert Pisaneschi voted no and John George abstained.

Wycallis' page of the agenda first recommended a motion to accept Robert Mitkus' resignation as assistant track coach with regrets; further down the page it recommended hiring Mitkus for assistant track coach in charge. Albert Pisaneschi claimed he voted no because the issue appeared confusing. He said he arrived late to the work session directly before the meeting and was uncertain about the appointment.

When asked, Joseph O'Donnell said he voted no, "because I feel the position could have been better advertised; there may have been more applicants for the position." O'Donnell questioned Wycallis as to how and when the advertising for the position was published. Wycallis answered that it had been printed "in several papers."

Mitkus himself cleared up the confusion by explaining the differences between the two titles of "assistant junior high track coach" and "assistant in charge" of junior high track.

"All assistant coaches (and there are several) are known as 'assistants', whereas the 'assistant in charge' is the first assistant to the head coach," he said. "I resigned my position as assistant coach, which I've held for two years, in order to apply for the 'assistant in charge position.'" said Mitkus. Apparently enough board members knew the difference in terminology as the vote passed.

Pisaneschi and O'Donnell each registered another no vote on the paying of the bills by the board.

In other business, Gene Smith of Centermoreland was appointed assistant junior high baseball coach; reappointed as head tennis coach for the senior high school was Tom Kilduff of 91 Perrin Ave. in Shavertown; Andrea Molski of 75 Highland Blvd. in Dallas and Joyce Drummin of 124 Pinecrest Ave., in Dallas, were both appointed to the Citizens' Advisory Committee.

Ted Jackson of 41 Belford St. in Shavertown was appointed as the Dallas School District's weightlifting coach at a salary of \$650.00. Other senior high appointments were Candyce Fike as assistant field hockey coach; Paul Brown as first assistant football coach; and

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Lehman Twp. will get new police cruiser

Lehman Township will be getting a new police cruiser within 90 to 120 days as the result of a unanimous decision by the supervisors at their regular monthly meeting Monday night.

The new cruiser, which will be purchased under a state agreement from Warnick-Ryan Dodge of New Jersey, will cost the township \$11,135.00. It will replace the oldest of the two cruisers the township is currently using.

According to Doug Ide, while the old cruiser is still in decent running condition, with 125,000 miles on it, it can't be considered reliable. When the new cruiser arrives, the old one will be maintained as a spare.

In other business, the supervisors attended to two zoning change requests.

Property of Jack McManus located in Lehman Center along Route 118 was rezoned from R-1 to B-2 (Community Business District) as it had originally been. A request from John Hebda of Luzerne to change the zoning of Muriel Lare property along Route 118 from B-2 to residential was denied. The supervisors agreed that the property should remain open for commercial development. Alan Major reported that Hebda had intended to purchase the property to construct a

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Stocking up

Joe Tomaselli, left, of Dallas, has his fishing reel filled with 4 pound test line by Bob Maharty, right, proprietor of Back Mountain Sporting Goods. Joe was preparing for Saturday's opening of trout season.

Dallas Post/Judie Mathers

Look out, fish — here they come!

By JUDIE MATHERS
Staff Writer

Excitement, anticipation and, in the eyes of some, pure pandemonium are expected to reach an all-time high this weekend as area sportsmen gather to celebrate one of the rites of Spring in Pennsylvania — the opening of trout season. According to predictions, people of all ages, sizes and walks of life will stand shoulder to shoulder around the shoreline of Harveys Lake, waiting for 8 a.m. Saturday when the season officially begins.

"It's really something to see," says Ray Jones, a local enthusiast who works at Bob's Bait and Tackle Shop at the lake. "In some places, guys are packed two or three deep trying to get their line in, and the one in front may even get forced into the water. On occasion, respect for one's fellow man is forgotten and tempers flare, but generally everybody has a good time."

This week, anglers and local businessmen alike are busy gearing up.

"We've sold several hundred licenses so far," says Jones, "and, literally miles of line. Saturday morning, we'll open at 5 a.m. and if

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