

From the Senate side



By CHARLES D. LEMMOND
Special to The Dallas Post

In recent years, there has been a concentrated effort on the part of the Legislature to get tough on crime. From passing legislation mandating minimum prison sentences for certain crimes to bolstering state assistance offered to victims of crimes and their families, Pennsylvania's General Assembly has been reevaluating the methods in which to deter crime in the Commonwealth. The General Assembly has established a minimum prison sentence of five years for a crime committed with a handgun, it has enacted one of the toughest drunk driving bills in the nation and we currently are focusing on legislation dealing with crimes involving children.

Recently, the Senate took another step in this crackdown on crime by unanimously passing a bill dealing with criminal offenses related to the use, possession and sale of illegal drugs. The bill received overwhelming support and I am optimistic that the state House of Representatives will act favorably on the legislation in the near future.

Specifically, the bill adds three offenses to the state's Controlled Substance, Drug, Device, and Cosmetic Act. It takes using the telephone to set up a drug deal a crime, makes conspiracy to organize and sell drugs a crime and makes any ongoing operation to sell drugs a serious offense punishable by as much as life in prison.

The bill also toughens penalties and sets mandatory sentences for convictions involving large amounts of drugs. For example, anyone convicted of possessing 50 to 100 pounds of marijuana would face a mandatory minimum sentence of one year in jail and a \$5,000 fine. Possession of between 100 and 500 pounds would mean at least two years in jail and a \$10,000 fine and more than 500 pounds would mean a three-year minimum jail term and a \$25,000 fine.

Other drugs and the amounts are also specifically dealt with in terms of minimum prison sentences and fines.

By establishing these guidelines for judges, it is important to note that we are only mandating mini-

mum punishments for the crime and not a maximum. In other words, judges are free to impose penalties stiffer than those dictated by the Seante bill if they so choose.

As with most legislation, however, the bill itself is not the answer to controlling illegal drug use within Pennsylvania. Truly effective control of such activity takes the collective effort of all of us. We must continue to educate people as to the dangers of drugs as well as the punishments related to drug possession, sale and use. As the message becomes clearer, we will be in a better position to wipe out illegal drug use in the Commonwealth.

(Senator Charles Lemmond Jr. is a Republican Senator from Dallas. His column appears periodically in The Dallas Post.)

Two announce candidacy

Michelle Boice and Daniel F. Blaine announce that they are candidates for Luzerne County Committee persons from Harveys Lake. Boice is running for reelection while this is the first time Blaine will run for the committeeman post.

In addition to being the present committeewoman, Mrs. Boice is also the Chairperson of the Harveys Lake Democratic Organization. She has been active in Democratic politics for many years as well as serving a term on council. She is employed by the Hartman Insurance Company as an agent.

Blaine is presently serving as Democratic Luzerne County Jury Commissioner. He has been active in politics many years having been elected to the former Wilkes-Barre Government Charter Study Commission, and Harveys Lake Borough Council. Blaine was the first elected Democratic President of Borough Council.

Blaine and Boice are running as a team and hope to continue to build and improve upon the Democratic party at Harveys Lake.

Misericordia drive amounts to \$269,750

College Misericordia's "Funds for a Better Future" campaign volunteers met recently at the Sheraton-Crossgates in Wilkes-Barre and chairman Murray Ufberg announced that \$269,750 has been raised to date. The amount represents 83 percent of the \$325,000 goal.

Ufberg commended the five community vice chairpersons, their captains and solicitors, and alumni volunteers for their efforts thus far to raise funds for scholarships, grants and other financial aid programs at College Misericordia.

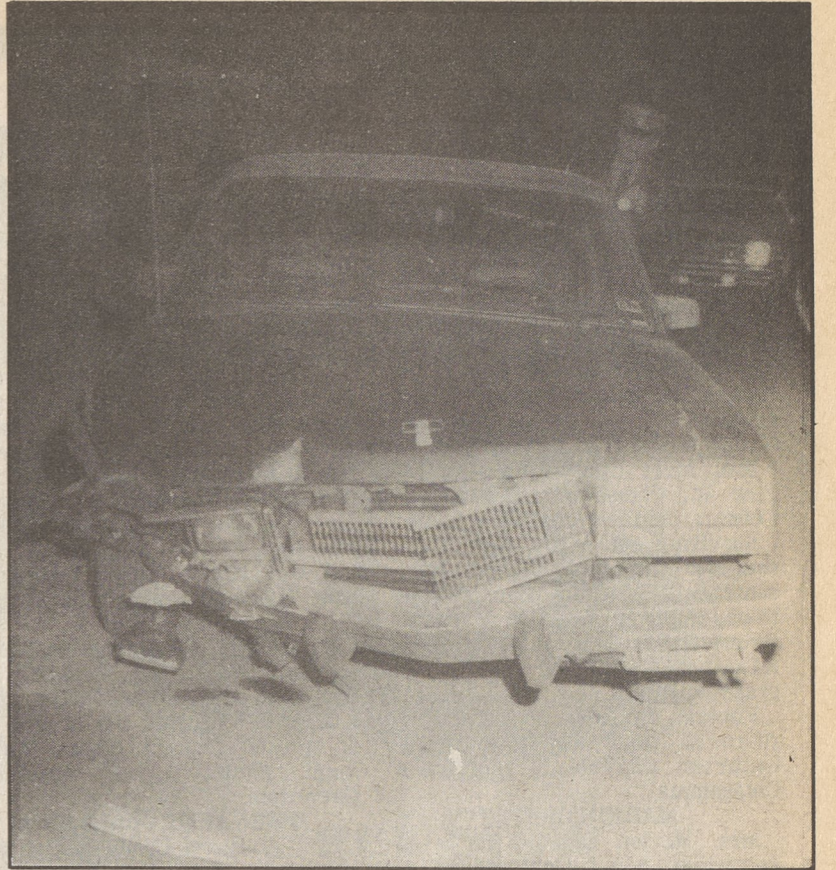
The vice chairpersons are Theresa Brennan; Scott Burnside, vice president of revenue and sales of Commonwealth Telephone Co.; Rusty Flack, president of Diamond Consolidated Industries, Inc.; Joe Killeen, vice president of United

Penn Bank; and Robert Patton, senior vice president, Merchants Bank North.

In the alumni giving phase of the campaign, chaired by Mary Beth Garey Brady, \$85,620 has been raised through direct mail solicitation and the alumni phonathon. To date, 92 percent of the \$93,000 goal for the college's 7300 alumni has been achieved.

Chris Gaudenzi, a junior business administration major from Cherry Hill, NJ, was the featured speaker for the report meeting. Gaudenzi talked about the importance of work-study opportunities and her role as student government vice president.

Final results of the campaign will be announced at a victory celebration on March 5, 6 p.m., at The Woodlands in Plains Township.



Dallas Post/Fay Brody

Children help 'Save the Lady!'

In 1886, the children of the United States and France donated their pennies for the construction of the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty.

In 1986 the children of the Dallas Township kindergarten can proudly say, "I helped Save the Lady!" So say the badges of more than 100 kindergarten students at the school.

This project was created by Mrs. Doris McCain, one of the kindergarten teachers. The project began with a dual purpose; to raise money for the restoration of the Statue of Liberty and to enable the five and six year olds to feel pride in participating in a national effort.

Mrs. McCain proposed that the children do chores at home to earn their own money for the restoration. With the help of Mrs. Lucille Callahan and Mrs. Sharon Lyons, also kindergarten teachers, the project came to life.

The chores the students did were decided upon beforehand by the students and then printed into job coupons. The coupons were then purchased by the parents for 25 cents each. Each coupon became a promise by the child to help set the table, feed the pets, pick up toys, etc.

There was also an added bonus! Oscar Mayer agreed to donate 25 cents for every dollar sent into the Statue of Liberty Restoration Fund, provided the money was sent in by January 31, 1986.

We are pleased and proud to announce that the children have collectively earned \$240.00. They made the January 31st deadline. Therefore, their grand total earned to help "Save the Lady" is \$300.00!

Congratulations to all the beautiful, hard-working kindergarten children. We are proud of you. A special thanks also to their parents for their cooperation.



REP. STANLEY JAROLIN

Two injured

Two persons were slightly injured when this vehicle was involved in a two-car accident early Monday morning in Kingston Township. Patrick Moran, 12 S. Main St., Trucksville, the driver of this 1980 Mercury Zephyr, received a cut to the chin while his passenger, Kathleen Nook, 124 Pioneer Ave., sustained a slight injury to her back. According to police reports, Moran was traveling North on Rt. 309 when he swerved from the roadway and slammed into the car of John J. Phillips of Mountaintop that was parked approximately six feet off the road facing south. Phillips said Moran attempted to flee after hitting his vehicle, but Phillips said he thwarted the attempt by removing his keys from the ignition.

Jarolin seeks re-election

State Rep. Stanley J. Jarolin has announced that he will be a candidate for a third term as Representative in the 119th Legislative District in Luzerne County.

Jarolin, a resident of Nanticoke, was first elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1982. Since taking office, he has been present at every legislative voting session and has compiled a 100 percent attendance record.

In 1985 he chaired a special House sub-committee to investigate alcohol abuse among teenagers and conducted a number of public hearings throughout Pennsylvania to take testimony from witnesses in the public and private sector to determine the extent of teenage alcohol abuse. Findings of the investigation have resulted in Jarolin-sponsored legislation that would provide for mandatory educational programs on drugs and alcohol in the state's school system.

He was recently appointed to head a special Select Committee to investigate teenage suicide. After an intensive in-depth study of the problem, Jarolin will submit a report of the findings of the committee to members of the House.

In addition to the Liquor Control Committee, Jarolin also serves on the Conservation, Local Government and Professional Licensure committees. As a member of the Conservation Committee, he played a key role in that panel's investigation of the state Department of Environmental Resources. He has been a staunch supporter of legislation to protect the environment and recently co-sponsored House Bill 367, a measure that proposes the establishment of a superfund within the Commonwealth to deal with the cleanup of toxic waste sites. The bill also would give host municipalities more authority in the approval of siting and operation of disposal sites.

Read The Classifieds

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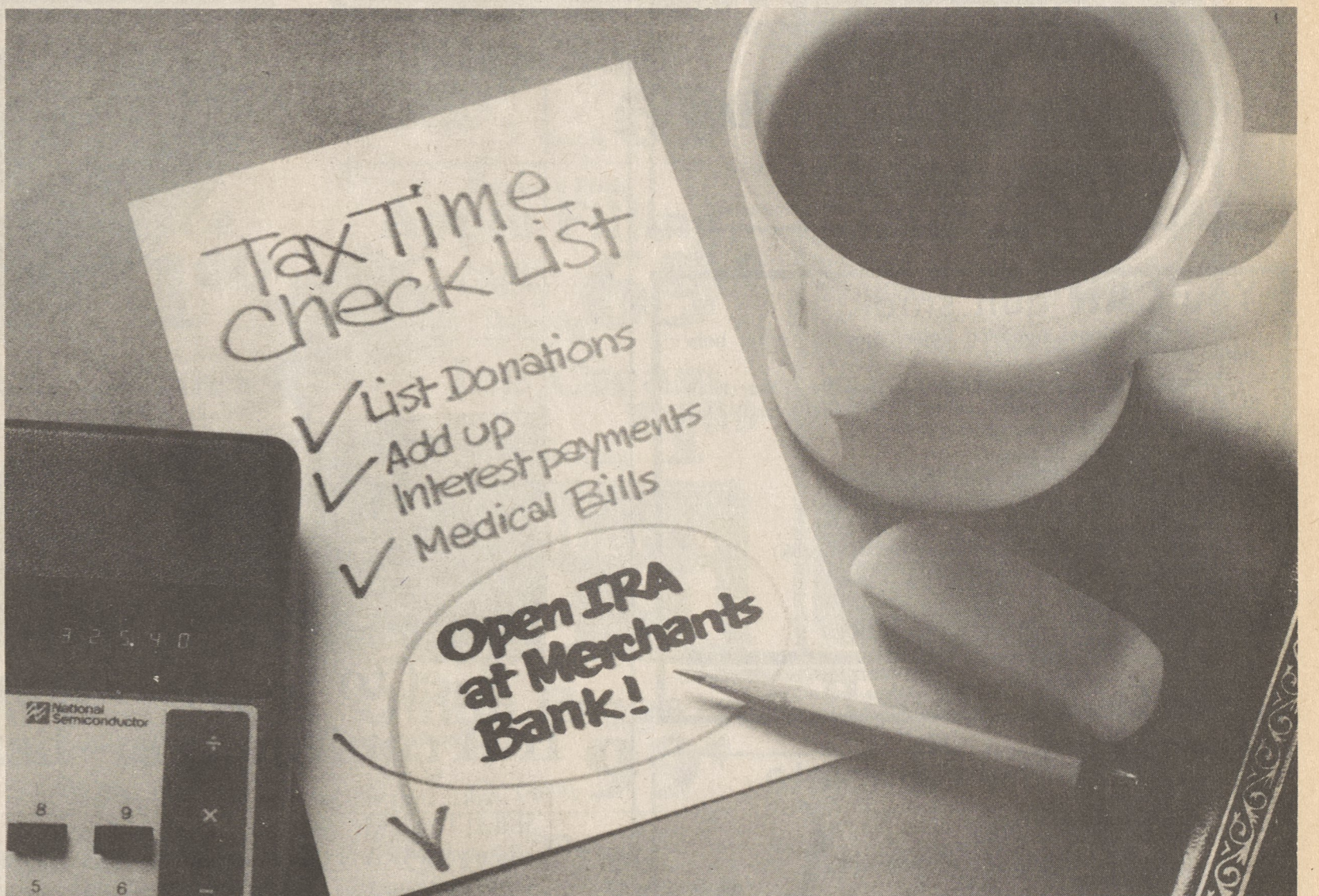
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