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25 Cents

Case closed

Tuck shooting was accidental

By JOHN HOINSKI
Staff Writer

Investigating authorities announced last Wednesday that the January shooting death of a 19-year-old Dallas Township youth has been ruled accidental and that no criminal charges will be filed in the matter.

Luzerne County Coroner Dr. George E. Hudock, after reviewing the case, which included scientific and toxicological tests, with District Attorney Bernard Podcasy and his staff, Dallas Township Police Chief Carl Miers and members of the Coroners department, ruled that the death of Henry C. Tuck IV, was accidental.

Tuck, of Box 65A, Country Club Road, Dallas Township, died January 24 as a result of a wound to the back produced from a Savage over-under 20-gauge shotgun.

"The toxicological findings were negative as to the presence of drugs and/or alcohol in the body," Podcasy said, reading from a prepared statement at a press conference held at the Luzerne County Courthouse.

"A ballistics report submitted by the Laboratory Division of the Pennsylvania State Police on the weapon involved in this matter indicated that the condition of the weapon was such that it could discharge by dropping the weapon while in a cocked position or striking the hammer while in a rebound (down) position," Podcasy read.

The District Attorney added that the report, in conjunction with investigations conducted by the Dallas Township Police Department and the district attorney's office, was the basis for Hudock's determination and that no criminal charges will be filed. The case has been closed.

According to the final report, Tuck and his 15-year-old brother, Andrew, had been in the bedroom of the family home where they both resided shortly before 10 a.m. on the day of the January 24.

Andrew was lying on the bed when Henry walked over and placed a guitar down on the floor next to the gun, which was situated on the butt end against a chair. Henry began walking out of the room when the younger Tuck noticed the gun started to slip and tried to grab it before it hit the floor. He could not grab the gun and it discharged as it was going down, striking the elder Tuck in the back.

Authorities said the bullet struck Henry's back at a 45-degree upward angle.

According to police, Andrew borrowed the gun from a friend the day before to go hunting.

Tuck was a 1985 graduate of Dallas Area High School and had been a drummer in a local rock band, "Ragged Edge." He had also worked at the Mercy Center on the campus of College Misericordia.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Easter greetings

The Easter Bunny greeted over 50 children of members of the Newcomers Club of Wyoming Valley during the club's annual Easter Egg Hunt held on the grounds of the Meadows Nursing Center, Dallas. Following the hunt, the Easter Bunny, the children and their parents visited with residents at the center. Janice Swepston was chairman of the event with Susan Corby serving as co-chairman and Roz Geary enacting the part of the Easter Bunny. Shown here, from left, are Kerri Jean Stephens, age 3; and Tamara Mussman, age 4, with the Easter Bunny.

Dallas home entered

One person has been arrested and two other juveniles have been petitioned for court in connection with the robbery of a Dallas home last week.

Dallas Borough police say that Herbert Pinero, 20, of Wilkes-Barre, has been arrested and will be charged with the burglary of the home of Thomas and Linda McCormack, 231 Main Street, Dallas. Pinero has been remanded to the Luzerne County Prison in lieu of \$5,000 bail.

The preliminary hearing is scheduled for March 27 in front of Magistrate Earl Gregory, Kingston Township, where Pinero will be formally charged.

Two other individuals, both juveniles of 15 and 16 years of age, are also being held. One is being held at the Wilkes-Barre Juvenile Detention Center, while the other has been placed by a youth agency.

Police say the two will be prosecuted in accordance with the time set by juvenile authorities.

Borough police, who had been working night and day in conjunction with the Pennsylvania State Police, Wyoming, Wilkes-Barre and Wilkes-Barre Township police, have recovered two rifles, two shotguns, two pistols, a fur coat and assorted jewelry.

According to Dallas Borough Police Chief Ed Lyons, the break-in allegedly occurred last Tuesday between 8 and 9 a.m. Upon investigation, officials discovered that two rifles, two shotguns and three pistols, along with several bottles of whiskey, assorted jewelry and a camera had been taken.

A 1974 red Volkswagen was also taken at approximately the same time. The vehicle was later recovered early last Tuesday morning at the intersection of Interstate 81 and Blackman Street, Wilkes-Barre Township.

Police said at the time it was possible the vehicle may have been taken by the same person or persons who robbed the house.

— JOHN HOINSKI

Cable is coming

Tele-Media will begin service plans

By JOHN HOINSKI
Staff Writer

The Dallas Borough Council was officially informed at its monthly meeting last Wednesday that Tele-Media Company Cable Television Systems will be taking over Cable Management Associates and would like to begin plans for cable service in the Back Mountain area soon.

Frank Vicente, vice-president and general manager of Tele-Media, told council members that the company has a signed agreement with CMA to purchase the company, with the deal to be officially closed on March 31.

Century Communications, which originally planned to hook up cable lines throughout designated areas of the Dallas area, pulled out of the deal two weeks ago without offering any official explanation to Back Mountain officials.

In fact, members of the borough council still weren't fully aware of the status of the Century deal until Vicente informed them at the meeting.

Council members said they are interested in working out a plan as soon as possible, but that old matters would have to be cleared and new ordinances would have to be drawn up.

Attorney John Fine, solicitor for the borough, said approximately

\$200 of taxpayers' money had already been invested into the Century plan and that they would like to be reimbursed before they make another move. Vicente said he would personally see to it they would be compensated either by Tele-Media or by CMA, but that it would be taken care of one way or another.

Since council holds its meetings on the third Tuesday of every month, initial action probably will not take place publicly until the next session.

Vicente said Tele-Media would like to begin construction on April 1, with four miles of cable being installed in the region in each of the first three years. He also stated that expansion would probably be contingent upon how many customers in a particular area express interest in the service.

It was indicated by some council members that residents in certain areas of the Back Mountain, such as those who live on Machell Avenue, have expressed interest but that the areas are not populated enough. Vicente assured council that territory would also be taken care of.

"We are very interested in this area," Vicente said. We talked to CMA before and said that if the deal with Century fell through we would be interested in negotiating a deal."

Council takes action against owners

By KATHY SUDA
Staff Correspondent

A decision to take legal action against the owners of a dilapidated Old Lake Road home was made at last Tuesday's regular monthly meeting of the Harveys Lake Borough Council.

According to a report given by a

member of the zoning board, the Williams' family has replied to the 30-day notice given last month concerning the collapsing condition of their home. The Williams responded to the notice in the form of a letter, but the council decided to take legal steps to rectify the situation. The Williams' family home is leaning on an adjacent home owned by the Arnone family.

In other matters, the Harveys

Lake Environmental Committee reported that tests taken near Warden Place have showed large variations in pollutant concentrations from test to test. Council President Richard Boice said the problem could be from many different contributing factors but they suspect that raw sewage coming from out-house type receptacles may be the root of the problem.

Boice also read a letter from the Bureau of Conservation and Recreation stating that the borough's request for a grant was denied.

Council will reapply in the summer.

Councilman Arnold West, head of recreation and growth, announced a spring clean-up for the lake. Local Cub and Boy Scouts along with the 4-H Club will be helping in the project. The event is sponsored by the Harveys Lake Bass Masters and will be held on April 5 beginning at 8 a.m. Anyone wishing to help in the cleanup is asked to meet at Drury's.

West also announced that the Bass Masters will sponsor their annual fish tournament on the first day of trout season, April 12.

Scout's honor!

Eddie Turchin beats the odds

By JOHN HOINSKI
Staff Writer

Eddie Turchin Jr. is a happy-go-lucky 12-year-old who has the uncanny ability to put a smile on the face of everyone with whom he comes in contact.

That may not seem unusual to most, but if anyone was afflicted with the condition Eddie suffers, he or she probably wouldn't consider themselves either happy or lucky and certainly wouldn't have much to smile about.

In 1982, doctors discovered that Eddie had a tumor a bit larger than the size of a walnut on his pituitary gland. After four years of treatment, the tumor has shrunk to one half its original size and Eddie has not incurred any further problems since.

Such an experience would have understandably left anyone in a frazzled emotional state, which is just how the crisis left everyone involved from family to friends — everyone except Eddie, that is, who proved to be a tower of strength and who never had any doubts from the beginning that he would recover.

"I remember he was laying on a bed just before they were going to take him into surgery," Mr. Turchin said. "And he says to me, 'Dad, don't worry about your chainsaw.' I couldn't believe it.

He was going in for brain surgery and he's telling me not to worry about a broken chainsaw."

"But that's the type of kid he is," Mr. Turchin said. "He is so peaceful and quiet and everyone who meets him comments on that. Later, after everything settled down, he told me he was never worried because he just knew everything was going to be all right."

Eddie's problem started in September of 1982 when he began vomiting in the mornings and became very tired after school.

"We didn't know what was wrong," Mrs. Turchin explained. "Eddie always loved school, so we thought maybe it was because he was moved to a different class away from his buddies. We had a visit with his teacher, but she said there was no problem and that she hadn't noticed anything unusual."

One week after their visit with his teacher, the Turchins were told the students had their eyes checked in school and that Eddie's sight tested very poor. (It was later learned that the tumor had been pressing against the optic nerve, causing his poor visibility.)

After an ophthalmologist spent an hour and a half with Eddie, it was believed that the problem

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No injuries reported

No injuries were reported as a result of a two-car accident that took place late Saturday morning along Route 309 and Carverton Road in Kingston Township.

William H. Dixon, Jr., RD 3, Box 239-9 Brace Rd, Dallas, reported he

was stopped at the red light at Carverton Rd. and Route 309 when his vehicle was struck from behind by Christine Sobek, RD 6, Box 46, Main Rd. Fernbrook, Dallas.

According to reports, Sobek said she was looking over at her baby in the seat next to her and was unaware that the Dixon car had stopped. No one was hurt and both cars sustained only minor damage.

A two-car accident on Dorchester Drive in Dallas Township Thursday morning left two vehicles with minor damage.

Dallas Township police reports indicate that Sue Yon Oh, 512 Country Club Apts., Dallas, stopped for a stop sign on Dorchester Drive then proceeded into Grandview Ave.

She reported that she did not see Leonard Carl Medura Jr., 21 Wellington Dr., Shavertown, traveling east on Grandview Drive and both vehicles collided.

Department offers 24-hour service

The Lake Township Police Department now offers 24-hour services to its residents. Effective February 24, 1986, the police department is now staff with one full-time officer and three part-time officers.

Police Chief in Lake Township is John Judge Jr., while the police officers are Sergeant Stanley Duda, Patrolman Howard Kocher and Patrolman William Hagenbaugh.

The Lake Township Police Department may be reached by calling the following telephone numbers: Emergency numbers are 477-5557 or 675-5259 while the township building general information number is 639-2828.

Township building will be closed

The Kingston Township Municipal Building Business Office will be closed on Friday, March 28, due to the Easter Holiday.

The office will be open on Monday, March 31, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

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Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Brave Scout

Eddie Turchin, shown here in his Boy Scout uniform, is bound and determined to become an Eagle Scout. Attaining that goal has not been easy for Eddie, however, as he has had to overcome severe difficulties in the process.