

Bail reduced!

Man accused of shooting cops released on \$50,000

By JOHN HOINSKI
Staff Writer

The man accused of shooting two Dallas police officers earlier this month was released on bail Friday following a scheduled preliminary hearing before District Justice Earl Gregory of Shavertown.

Donald R. Kelly, 38, of Noxen, waived his hearing of the June 7 shooting incident in which he allegedly wounded Dallas Township officer Wayman Miers and patrolman James Tupper of Dallas Borough at the township's municipal building. The case will now be forwarded to Luzerne County Court, possibly by early next Fall. Kelly is being

charged with criminal attempt to commit murder, aggravated assault, terroristic threats and reckless endangering another person.

Up until Friday, Kelly had been incarcerated at the Luzerne County Prison in lieu of \$200,000 bail. But that figure was reduced to \$50,000 at the request of Kelly's lawyer, Charles Gelso.

Assistant District Attorney Charles Coslett did not object to the reduction figure, but did ask that the defendant meet certain stipulations. According to the agreement, Kelly must not carry any firearms, abstain from the use of alcohol and must stay away from taverns.

Kelly's release, however, has come under scrutiny because of

past alcohol related incidents for which he has been cited.

On the night of the June 7 mishap, Kelly allegedly entered the Dallas Township Municipal Building brandishing a .357 revolver and shouting obscenities before wounding the two officers. At one point, he reportedly said, "I went there (to the police station) and told them I wanted that—Carl Miers (Dallas Township police chief)." Kelly said that Miers and officer Elliot Ide "ruined my life."

On March 11, 1985, both Miers and Ide were involved in the arrest of Kelly who was cited for driving under the influence of alcohol. Prior to that incident, approximately 16 years ago in another alcohol related



DONALD R. KELLY

matter, Kelly and Miers got into a scuffle in which several people, including Kelly, had to be placed under arrest.

Officer Tupper said he was not really surprised at the reduction and said that the action is common procedure.

"A person is presumed innocent until proven guilty. So it's really the law that his lawyer would try and get the bail reduced," he said. "As far as how I feel about him being released, whether he will drink again or not is anybody's guess."

Tupper, who is recuperating at home, says he doesn't know when he will be back on the job but that the recovery from the injury itself, a bullet wound to the right thigh

which also struck his left ankle, will be six to eight weeks.

"I'm getting there," the 34-year-old Tupper said. "Tomorrow, I'll be getting the stitches removed from my ankle. But I have a chipped bone in my foot and that might be a problem."

Miers, the 35-year old Dallas Township officer who was shot in the left calf, did not wish to comment on Kelly's release, but said that his own progress has been coming along slow.

"I'll be back as soon as I can," he stated. "But, right now, I can't put any pressure on the leg. Last Wednesday, I saw the doctor and he wasn't pleased with the leg. I still can't walk on it."

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Seniors get new center temporarily

By JOHN HOINSKI
Staff Writer

Elderly citizens who frequent the Dallas Center on the campus of College Misericordia (Mercy Center) have found a new home — at least temporarily.

Beginning on June 30, the senior citizens will be moved to the Huntsville Christian Church for approximately two months until a permanent building can be found. The new site, which will be opened from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, will provide practically all the same services the seniors now enjoy.

The announcement came last week from the office of the Luzerne-Wyoming Counties Bureau of the Aging in a statement indicating that the location will act as an interim facility until Sept. 1. If a permanent site has not been found by then, however, contingency plans will go into effect.

"That center will not be closed," assured Pat Werner of the Bureau of the Aging. "We are looking into one possibility right now for a permanent building, but we can't say where it is right now. Renovations would have to be made and there is still the money problem, too."

Because of government cutbacks due to the Gramm-Rudman bill,

monies allocated for senior citizens operations and facilities have been slashed. In addition to having hours at the center shortened from 7½ to four hours, an assistant director was also dismissed three weeks ago. In Wilkes-Barre, at the facility located near public square, evening group hours have been eliminated as well as Saturday and Sunday brunch.

The Dallas Center was notified last winter that its lease would not be renewed and that the building would be utilized for retired nuns. For 12 years, the center, which averages approximately 31 to 33 people per day, has served as a recreational and social environment for the elderly.

"The people really enjoy coming here," said Jane Hady, director of the Dallas Center. "They come here and play shuffleboard, pool, cards, games, they get a nutritious meal. They sing, dance, go on trips. They have a ball. And it provides companionship for them."

Hady says citizens have enjoyed the program over the years and that they will have the same benefits at the new location.

Rev. Clifford Jones and the Church Board of the Huntsville Christian Church have authorized their building to be utilized as a temporary center until a permanent site can be found.



Dallas Post/Donna Sulliff

Class of 1936

Shown here are members of the Lehman High School Class of 1936 who attended the 50th anniversary reunion of the class held recently at the Lehman United Methodist Church. From left, first row, Jane Smith Swelgin, Ruth Ide Johnson, Florence

Park LaBar, Jean Elston Evans, Vera Whitesell Tough, Nancy Lamoreaux, Fern Howell Rogers, Esther Barnes Johnson. Second row, Peter Skopic, Lawrence Fritz, James Whitesell, Ralph Miers, Allen Kittle, Lester Fisk, Fred Ide.

Lehman High Class of 1936 holds reunion

The class of 1936 of Lehman High School held its 50th reunion in the Lehman Church, June 21, 1986.

A social hour preceded the delicious dinner served by the young people of the church, during which many friendships were renewed. Many were visiting with friends they hadn't seen since graduation. The tables were beautiful, decorated in green and white, the class colors, with a small school house as the favors. Vera Tough had

charge of the program and Ralph Miers was Master of Ceremonies.

The class members reminisced as many told of things that happened during the school years and each member told where they lived now and what they had done since graduation as compared with the prophecy which was made on Class Night 50 years ago. The original prophecy was read by Vera Tough and the group enjoyed singing their class song and Alma Mater.

Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Miers, Mr. and Mrs. Caddy LaBar, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Swelgin, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Tough, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. James Whitesell, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Kittle, Mr. and Mrs. George Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Fisk, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ide, Laurence Fritz, Jean Evans, Nancy Lamoreaux, Esther Johnson, Peter Skopic, and guests, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Squier, Delilah Kistler.

Lehman's 'trim' budget passes

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

Lake-Lehman School District's Board of Directors adopted a budget of \$8,162,679 for the year 1986-87, raising property taxes five mills. The increase increases real estate millage to 118 mills in Harveys Lake Borough, Jackson, Lake, Lehman and Ross Townships in Luzerne County and to 133 mills in Noxen Township in Wyoming County.

A tentative budget approved by the directors in May called for an increase of 11 mills but Board President Allen Keiper said the board members worked many hours to trim the budget to the present five mills increase. A mill is a \$1 tax on every \$1,000 of assessed property valuation. The owner of a property assessed at \$5,000 in Luzerne County will pay \$500 in school property tax in 1986-87 and in Wyoming County will pay \$665 for the coming school year.

William Samuels, resident of Lake Silkworth, addressed the Board saying he doubted that the five mill increase would allow the board to operate without going in the red during the next school year.

Keiper said the board realized it was a very tight budget and that the directors would have to operate on a month-to-month basis.

"There will be no 'free for all' this year. It will take dedication on

the part of everyone. I do not intend that the district will end up in the hole in 1986-87," said Keiper.

Business Manager Raymond Bowersox addressed the board and the taxpayers in attendance. He told them that expenditures each year must be covered by re-occurring income and there comes a time the district must bite the bullet.

He stated the budget has been trimmed to the point that one over-

whelming expenditure, one major crisis could bring serious financial consequences to the district. In the 16 years he has been with the district, Bowersox said he has never seen such a budget of six tenths of one percent, or an overall 5.7 percent increase. He said the maintenance and operation budget of the general budget was the hardest hit with a serious reduction in maintenance staff.

The business manager continued that academic classes are not the only educational process and that those who do not realize that do not know what education is.

"This board must begin to develop more re-occurring income resources. It will be an unpleasant year for the board, administration, staff, students and community," said Bowersox.

In answer to a query by Ed Mark as to why Bowersox did not warn them at the beginning of the year, the business manager replied that he has warned them every year. There are only so many buses that can be sold, only so much money in the general reserve fund, he stated.

(See LEHMAN, page 2)



Best of friends

Helping Mrs. Marguerite Bogart celebrate her 89th birthday is her pet cat and one of her best friends, "Snowball."

Dallas Post/Charlot M. Denmon

Notes 89th birthday

Mrs. Marguerite B. Bogart, West 42nd Street, Dallas, celebrated her 89th birthday Monday, June 23, at a family dinner held at the home of son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Grey, Dallas.

A native of Dallas, Mrs. Bogart is the former Marguerite Rolison. She and her husband, the late Russell Bogart, resided in Forty Fort for several years before they moved to their home on 42nd Street where Mrs. Bogart still resides.

Mrs. Bogart attended Wilkes-Barre and Dallas Schools and, following the death of her husband, she attended the Hoyt School of Practical Nursing, graduating in

August, 1956. She is a charter member and the oldest living member of Luzerne Assembly of God Church.

She did private duty nursing and also worked in the former Home for Friendless Women in Wilkes-Barre.

Mrs. Bogart's children are Francis E. Bogart, Apopka, Fla., Ret. Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Air Force; John K. Bogart, Dallas; daughters, Mrs. John (Beverly) Hartman, Schnecksville; and Mrs. Harold (Marguerite) Grey, Dallas; 15 grandchildren; several great grandchildren, and a great-great granddaughter, Carrie Martin.

A coyote — in Dallas?

Motorists traveling through the roads of the Back Mountain are subject to come across all sorts of animals along their way — raccoons, fox, bears, deer, coyotes, turkeys....wait a minute? Back up a little. Coyotes?

Aren't they supposed to be out lurking somewhere in a prairie field, or standing on top of a mountain howling in front of the backdrop of a moonlit night?

Maybe so. But last week the Dallas office of the Pennsylvania Game Commission received two separate calls from motorists who spotted what they believed was a coyote.

"The first call we got was on Sunday," said Game Protector Ed Gdosky. "A lady called up, but she thought maybe it could have been a fox that she saw. The Dallas Township police went out looking too, but they didn't find anything. Then she called again on Wednesday saying that she saw it hobbling and that it might be injured. Plus somebody else also called in about it."

On Wednesday officials finally found the animal injured under a tree by the Goodleigh Farms on Upper Demunds Road. The cub was apparently hit by a car and had to be shot.

Gdosky, who has served for 27 years with the Game Commission, says coyotes aren't usually dangerous and that one was also reportedly seen last year. He added that the animal is not protected and is legal to hunt except for two weeks during deer season.

— JOHN HOINSKI

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