

Obituaries

VERNA SHEEHAN

Verna M. Sheehan, 78, of Huntsville Road, Dallas, died Sept. 8, 1988 at home.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John F., in 1970.

Surviving are sons, John F., Jr. and Lynn A., of Dallas; four grandchildren.

Interment was in Mount Greenwood Cemetery, Trucksville.

Memorial contributions if desired, may be made to the Prince of Peace Church, P.O. Box 71, Dallas, 18612.

School

(continued from page 1)

burg to be very careful in selection of an architect, to be certain the architect was reliable.

Ashbridge stated that he still believed that they should ask other architects for estimates.

"I can't see two bathrooms at a cost of \$70,000, you could build a house for that amount of money," Ashbridge said.

Director Tex Wilson suggested that the board hold a property meeting to discuss the improvements. "Let's get more information and come up with some specific guidelines and priorities for the architect," Wilson said.

The directors agreed to meet Tuesday, September 15, 7:15 p.m., in the board room at which time they will discuss the improvements by priority. Wycallis said he would list these as first, Dallas Elementary, second Westmoreland Elementary and third senior high school.

The board approved electrical testing at the senior high school at a cost of \$4,800. At the present time, if the power goes off the maintenance department has a problem getting the power back in service.

Grotto

(continued from page 1)

Lake because less people from outside would visit the area, she said.

Neva Cook who worked as a cashier/hostess at the Grotto for four years agreed, "Grotto was one of the most successful businesses at the Lake, he had standing room only every weekend."

"Joe employed a lot of local kids, and the business also brought a lot of people from outside of the Lake who would also go to other businesses here. Activity at the Lake

ANDREW SEBOLKA

Former Dallas resident Andrew Sebolka died in his home on Sept. 5, 1988 in Royal Oak, Michigan.

Surviving are his wife, the former Anna Breza; children, Geraldine, Hurley, Andrew, Monica Perkins, Andrea Dawson, Mary Helen McLean, Julie McQuillan; 23 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Interment was in St. Stephens Cemetery, Lehman.

Testing of the electrical systems can determine the problems which can then be corrected.

In other business Wycallis was directed to transfer seven students from Westmoreland Elementary School to Dallas Elementary to balance class sizes. Wycallis and elementary principal Sam Barbose had originally asked for volunteers to transfer but only three families agreed to transfer their children.

Todd Hunter of Beach Haven was appointed as instrumental music and senior high marching band director to replace Steven Saive, who resigned in July. Mary Clemm of Dallas was appointed as part-time audio-visual technician for 25 hours a week during the weeks that school is in session.

The board also approved an agreement between the district and Wyoming Valley Alcohol and Drug Services Inc. to provide a prevention-education specialist to work with the elementary and secondary students on addiction problems. The program was in effect last school year and proved to be very successful, according to the administration.

usually slows down after Labor Day, but Joe's Grotto is famous for its pizza and had people up here year round," said Lake resident Wayne Shannon.

Resident George Gwilliam, a Harveys Lake council member, said "Grotto's Pizza is synonymous with Harveys Lake. I think everyone that lives at the Lake is hoping he will rebuild and get going again as soon as possible."

Police report

DALLAS TOWNSHIP

Dallas Township police were called to the Dallas Senior High School, September 12, by a representative of the Servomation Corporation, where it was reported one of their food vans was vandalized.

Patrolman Doug Lamoreaux investigated and discovered the side view mirrors of the van had been ripped off.

While on patrol September 11, Dallas Township officer Jeremy Torr investigated a forced entry at the Ranch Wagon, Route 309, Fernbrook. Torr's investigation revealed nothing had been taken.

At the same time, a burglary occurred at Treat Drive-In located in the same area of Route 415.

Investigating officer Torr discovered that food items valued at \$50 were taken from the place of business.

On September 11, James Hunter of RD 5, Dallas, reported that he parked his car in front of a Fernbrook tavern and left the motor running while he ran inside.

When Hunter came from the tavern he discovered his car was gone. The car was discovered later near College Misericordia.

John Appel was the investigating officer.

Patrolman Wayman Miers was called to the scene of an accident September 10 at the intersection of Routes 118 and 415, Dallas Township.

It was reported that Jane Kubacki of Shavertown, driving a 1984 Dodge Omni was struck broadside by a 1987 Honda Accord driven by Brian Zimmerman of 322 Owens St., Swoyersville.

A witness, Danny Smith sitting in the center lane of Route 415 waiting

to turn left onto Route 118, said the driver of the Dodge Omni started out from the eastbound lane of Rte. 118 and attempted to cross Rte. 415 when the Honda driven by Zimmerman traveling north on Rte. 415 struck the Omni broadside.

He also stated that the Omni was traveling from Rte. 118 across Rte. 415 and apparently Kubacki did not see the Zimmerman car traveling north and was struck broadside.

Zimmerman said he was traveling north on Rte. 415 and a long line of traffic was waiting to turn west on Rte. 118 from the center lane. He continued to travel north on Rte. 415 when Kubacki drove across Rte. 415 in front of the line of traffic turning left. Zimmerman said the vehicle came so suddenly he was unable to stop.

He struck the Omni broadside and pushed it approximately 10 feet sideways coming to rest facing east on the berm of the northbound lane of Rte. 415. The Honda turned in a clockwise direction and stopped facing in an easterly direction on the northbound and east berm of Rte. 415.

Drivers Kubacki and Zimmerman, and passengers Amy Allardyce in the Omni and passenger Debra Dickson in the Honda were removed by Kunkle and Dallas ambulances to Nesbitt Memorial Hospital where they were treated and released.

DALLAS BOROUGH

Andrew Duda, owner of Bay Head Ducks, on September 11 reported to Dallas Borough police department that someone entered his car and removed a bag containing \$400.

Duda reported that while his Mercedes Benz was parked behind the tent where he was selling crafts at the Luzerne County Fair, someone entered the car and removed a zippered bag with American Bank scribbled on it which contained the \$400 in varied denominations.

Officer James J. Martin is investigating a suspect.

KernBrothers Beverage Distributors of Dallas Shopping Center was burglarized twice within three days. Ray Kern Jr., manager, reported that on August 30, a person or persons entered a rear window and took beer, cigarettes, beer tap and instant Lottery tickets.

Two days later, September 1, Kern reported that someone entered through the same rear window and took merchandise valued at \$393.66.

He stated he arrived at work about 7:00 a.m. and discovered the office ransacked and the rear window broken and tied open. The door to the inside cooler was partially open but no entry was made since the inside chain held.

Kern said the business closed August 31, and when he reopened it was discovered that \$15 in change was taken from the register, so cartons of cigarettes and six cases of beverage. Person or persons entering evidently used the meter pipe on the rear of the building to climb to the window and it appeared that they wore gloves.

Susan Postlethwaite, 90 Main Street, Dallas, reported September 4 that someone entered her apartment, apparently through the front door since there were no signs of forced entry.

Postlethwaite told investigating officer James J. Martin that \$242 in cash and jewelry items totalling more than \$2,000 were missing, among them a tri-colored solid gold bracelet, two pairs of 14k gold earrings, gold rings and other gold items.

FOUND AT FAIR

Dallas Borough Police Chief Jack Fowler reported that three sets of car keys, a wallet and a small child's purse filled with toys were found on the grounds of the Luzerne County Fall Fair.

Fowler said owners may claim them at the police station, Main Street, Dallas.

Arson

(continued from page 1)

Balchune testified that her son claimed to have over 100 books on arson.

Balchune testified that he returned to the scene August 16 with Kingston Township Police Officers to further investigate the fire. He testified he had asked Kingston Township Police Officer William Balavage to go to Tibus' house and see if he wanted to help the investigators dig around the rubble.

Tibus said he was too tired to help, but stayed with the officers and began to ask questions and offer theories about the arsonist, Balchune testified.

Tibus described patterns he believed were used by the arsonist, including setting a fire every two weeks, and setting fire to barns located close to the road which provided an easy escape route.

Balchune said that Tibus wasn't considered a suspect until August 22; the day of his arrest and arraignment on charges of arson. That morning police went to ENCON, the manufacturing plant where Tibus worked, to ask for his help in the investigation. Tibus accompanied the officers to the State Police Barracks to look at some computer printouts connected with the case, and to see if he recognized any cars or persons seen at the fires, Balchune testified.

At this point in the testimony Luzerne County Public Defender Jonathan Blum, who is representing Tibus, questioned Balchune on the validity of consulting with a special-ed, high school graduate on the cause of the fire.

"Why value his opinion on where the fire started?" Blum said.

Balchune said that Tibus was not formally considered a suspect until he refused to submit to a lie detector test. Between 11:50 and 3:00 on August 22 Tibus admitted to setting the fire which destroyed his neighbor Robert Steiner's barn, and gave statements regarding his involvement in other Back Mountain arson fires. The confessions were turned over to State Police Fire Marshall Nicholas Gushka for further investigation.

After the hearing Public Defender Blum, who pleaded not guilty on behalf of his client, said he had expected Tibus' confessions to seal the Commonwealth's case, but would explore whether or not the confessions were voluntarily and knowingly given.

"I don't believe it's been established yet that my client set any of the fires. He is susceptible to pressure and confusion, and as a volunteer fire fighter didn't even like to go near fires," said Blum.

Luzerne County District Attorney Correale Stevens prosecuted the case along with assistant District Attorney Richard Hughes. Attorney Stevens said there is an ongoing investigation into the rash of over 20 arson barn fires which have occurred in the Back Mountain area in the past year and a half.

Property transfers

Property transfers recorded at the Luzerne County House from September 1 through September 7, 1988. Prices are extrapolated from transfer taxes paid. Many transactions are exempt from tax, so amounts are not shown.

Marjorie E. Williams to Kathie and Richard H. Post, RD 2, Shickshinny, property 1.15 acres Lake Twp.

United Penn Bank to L. Joyce and Ronald D. Tremayne, 1 Wedgeway Way, Dallas, property Wedgewood Way, Dallas Twp., \$20,000.

Home Living Inc. to Lillian A. Sacco, Valley View Dr., Dallas, property Hillside Ave., Lehman Twp., \$195,000.

Nancy J. Pollick to Thomas J. Considine, 142 Cedar Ave., Shavertown, property Rte. 40050, 2.204 acres, Dallas Twp., \$19,000.

Paul Raymond Fear, Jr. to Ruth J. and Michael E. Petrow, 23 Forrest Dr., Applewood Ave., Dallas, property L 23, 25, 27, \$120,000.

Merchants Bank North to Joanne and Hugh J.

Murphy, 12 North Hill Rd., Colonia, N.J., property 3,571.80 sq. ft. Nobel Ave., Harveys Lake, \$26,600.

Roger L. Diffendarfer to Nancy and Larry Eisenberger, 1 Sunnybrook Lane, Dallas, property Lot 1, Sunnybrook Lane, Dallas Twp., \$222,500.

Diane C. and Joseph J. Noon, Jr. to Marion E. Noon, RD 6, Box 56B, Dallas, property 1,739.84 sq. ft., Shaver St., Dallas Twp.

Marion E. Noon to Diane C. and Joseph J. Noon, Jr., RD 6, Box 56, Dallas, property 1,785.82 sq. ft., Dallas Twp.

Per Trustee, Maple Grove United Methodist Church to Trustees of Maple Grove United Methodist Church, RD 3, Box 102, Hunlock Creek, property L.R. 40067, 1.95 acres, Lake Twp.

Richard T. Wayne to Robert Savage, 80 Pierce St., Swoyersville, property 2 parcels Inman Ave., Kingston Twp., \$2,500.

George H. Dressler to Theresa and John L. Schenck, RD 2, Box 152B, Wapwallopen, property Spruce St., Lake Twp., \$1,300.

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25c on newsstands every Wednesday; carrier delivery, 25c per week. By mail: in Pennsylvania, \$12 per year; out of state, \$14 per year. Published every Wednesday by Bartsen Media, Inc., P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612. Entered at the post office in Dallas, PA 18612 as second class matter.

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