

Guest column

Police try to prevent - not punish- underage drinkers

By Paul Sabol

The Kingston Township Police Department recently raided a beer party that was held at a residence in the township. Officers from the Kingston Township, Dallas Borough and Dallas Township police departments went to the home and found at least 38 underage youths.

When police knocked on the door, youths were discarding their beer cups; some attempted to flee the property, causing damage to the home; still others, it was later determined, hid in the house until everyone left the area.

The action prevented any of the young people from getting drunk, because the party was raided about 45 minutes after it got under way. The idea was to stop it and prevent any of the youths from the possibility of being injured, either during the raid, or if leaving while under the influence and being involved in an accident.

After the police took young people who had been unable to phone their parents from the party to come get them to the police department, they were cited for possession of intoxicating beverages, in that a tapped 1/2 keg of beer was in the kitchen of this home.

It should be stated here that the people who own the home where the party was held were out of town, and the only person home at the time was the 17-year-old son. The parents gave

their son orders that nobody was to be at the house while they were gone.

So, a couple of the youths decided to have a party. No. Two parties. One on Monday evening, and the other on the following evening. The organizers brought the beer to the house on Monday. The kids came. The party started. The neighbors put up with it. But, when one neighbor saw a second keg of beer being delivered to the house the next day, that was more than enough. The person called the Kingston Township Police and informed them that on Monday night, young people were running around outside, making noise, urinating, etc. The neighbor said that they did not want any trouble in the neighborhood, so they just put up with the noise the first night.

On Tuesday, however, the kids came again, parking illegally on the street, blocking private driveways and parking on private property.

There, then is the party scenario. The problem the police had, and will have to deal with next, is the parents. These are the ones who say, "Just because my kid was at a beer party, that doesn't mean they were drinking, going to drink, or intended to drink alcohol."

The long and the short of it is that the parents of these youths think their child is incapable of doing anything wrong if it involves the family reputation. And some of the parents really do not

understand what the police are attempting to do here.

It is not the desire of the police to punish. What they want to do is prevent. Prevent a child from going to a beer party and possibly being attacked by a drunken youth who may not like the clothes they are wearing.

Prevent a child from going to a beer party and drinking too much, then having an accident, possibly so serious that for the rest of their days the parents of the child would be second-guessing themselves as to whether their raising of their child contributed to the eventual gut wrenching sorrow they would endure.

The parents are also the ones who are going to be inconvenienced because their child will lose his or her driving privilege for three months, should the children be found guilty of the offense. So, it is conceivable that, to the parents, it is more acceptable to have the child driving than not being able to drive and be carted around by mom or dad.

Then, finally, is the police side of the story. The cops are tired of hearing about young people, because of alcohol or drugs, Satan, or whatever else, being killed, or killing.

They are tired of hearing from parents that their children go to these beer parties only to be with their friends because there is nowhere else for them to go around here.

Parents, if you want your kids to have the opportunity to have

some place to go in order to be with their friends, have them join any of a number of good organizations where they can be together for clean fun and activities. And if you can, you and your children should get together, and get involved in projects to get the types of recreation these kids need in your own communities.

The cops are also tired of having to wake parents from their beds at night and tell them their child won't be coming home because they just splattered themselves all over the highway, or they are in custody because somebody was shot.

And finally, the cops are tired of hearing that they are acting like it is Russia, where nobody has any rights. Just remember, if these kinds of irresponsible statements are repeated long enough, we may eventually get what we deserve.

The rights we all have and hold dear are there because we all exercise them with prudence and responsibility. If we take advantage of him unduly, they become less important, and easier to diminish in importance.

The police, most of the time, are in a no win situation in terms of public relations. When the police deal with the public, someone will go away mad. Just remember, the police would always rather hear and accept criticism for doing their job than for not doing their job.

Paul Sabol is Chief of Police in Kingston Township

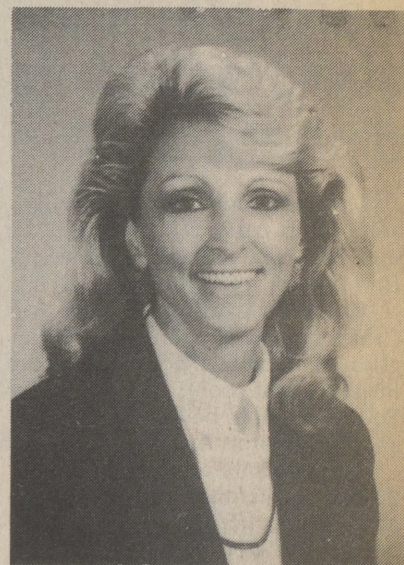
Dianna Capone receives promotion at Merchants Bank

In a recent announcement by Harold J. Rose, Jr., Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, the following local woman was promoted by Merchants Bank.

Dianne Capone was promoted to Marketing Officer. She began her career at the bank in 1981, previously serving as Central File Clerk and Marketing Assistant. In her present position she has the responsibility of developing and administering sales training for Customer Service Representatives. In addition, she is a certified facilitator of customer relations training for all bank personnel, and manages the Banks' 55 and Better program.

Mrs. Capone is a graduate of Old Forge High School. She attended Lackawanna Junior College and has completed the Kaset Customer Relations Program. In addition she attended several seminars related to customer service.

Mrs. Capone has served as a campaign volunteer for the United Way of Wyoming Valley and Wilkes



Dianna Capone

College.

The daughter of Mayor and Mrs. Amil Bertocki of Old Forge, Mrs. Capone resides in Shavertown with her husband, Tom and their daughters, Michelle and Cindy.

Report from Harrisburg

Here is a summary of important events that occurred on Capitol Hill last week from: Rep. Scott DiTterick, 120th Legislative District.

**ANIMAL CRUELTY AD-DRESSED** - When the House returns to session in September, Rep. Jerry L. Nailor (R-Cumberland) said this week he intends to introduce legislation prohibiting the awarding of live animals as prizes in Pennsylvania. Nailor's bill would ban the use of animals as prizes in drawings, lotteries, sweepstakes and other games. Excluded from the ban would be fish and domestic animals given away in programs sponsored or sanctioned by the Agriculture Department. Nailor said the measure was prompted when he learned that 200 young rabbits were abandoned along a Lycoming County highway by a carnival worker traveling with a show entering New York state. New York has laws prohibiting the use

of live animals for prizes. "Society must make a serious effort to prevent cruelty and mistreatment of animals. This (legislation), to my way of thinking, presents absolutely no inconvenience to the public," said Nailor.

**ABORTION ISSUE LOOMS LARGE** - Supporters of the pro-life movement in Pennsylvania and their pro-choice opponents are both drafting legislation to be considered by the Legislature this fall. The issue moved to the front burner this summer when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states have increased rights in the regulation or deregulation of abortion. Led by Rep. Stephen F. Freind (R-Delaware), the pro-life movement intends to introduce legislation which would increase state regulations and limit state funding for abortions in Pennsylvania. Pro-choice supporters plan to draft legislation to repeal abortion laws currently in effect.

**The Dallas Post**  
 P. O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612, welcomes wedding and engagement announcements and photographs.  
 For more information, call 675-5211.

PSU profs seek new clean energy source

Two researchers at Penn State Wilkes-Barre are involved in the national priority scientific search for a clean source of energy.

The Penn State Wilkes-Barre Campus faculty members and Back Mountain residents, Thomas G. Winter Ph.D. and Steven G. Alston Ph.D., Professor and Assistant Professor of Physics, respectively, have received a three-year \$189,000 Department of Energy grant in physics.

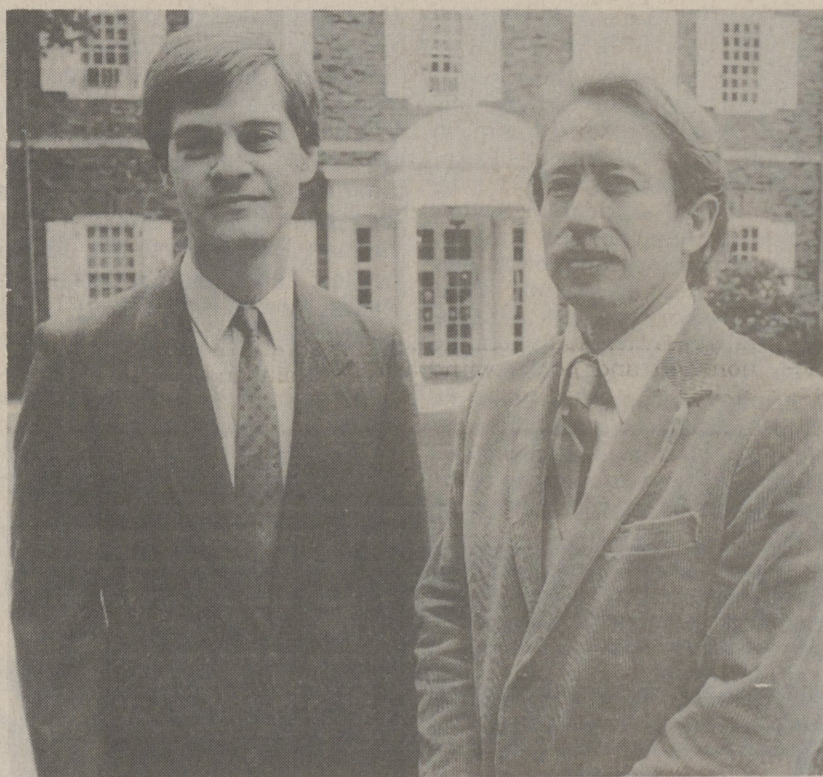
The grant originated from the DOE's Division of Chemical Sciences of the Energy Research Office of Basic Energy Sciences to further the development of its Fusion Energy Project. The two physicists have already begun work on the project, which should not be confused with recent controversial cold-fusion work being undertaken elsewhere.

Dr. James H. Ryan, Campus Executive Officer at Penn State Wilkes-Barre, said "We are proud to have major research being conducted by our campus faculty, and we're especially pleased that these men are also teaching freshmen and sophomores. Where else could undergraduates have classroom exposure to such experienced research faculty?"

The work the pair is pursuing represents a continuation of a project found earlier by the DOE and a renewal of a three year \$89,000 grant to Dr. Winter.

Drs. Alston and Winter both are members of the American Physical Society. Both have published in "Physics Review A" and "Journal of Physics B."

Their findings will be presented at yearly conferences held at different sites around the world such as the 16th International Conference on the Physics of Electronic and Atomic Collisions just held in New York City.



CLEAN ENERGY- Penn State Wilkes-Barre faculty, from left, Dr. Steven G. Alston and Dr. Thomas G. Winter, recipients of a Department of Energy grant in Physics.

A daughter born to Jordans Aug. 9

A daughter, Rachel Elizabeth, was born to Paul and Robyn Jordan on August 9 at the Harrisburg General Hospital. Paul Jordan was educated in the Dallas schools and now resides with Robyn in Hershey.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weaver of Hershey and Dr. and Mrs. L.E. Jordan of Trucksville.

**Fall Fashion Special**  
 Sign & Return This Ad for  
 20% Off New Fall Merchandise

Mary Ellen's at The Herff House

(Sale Items Not Included) Good 'til Sept. 9

Summer Hours: Tues., Wed., Fri. 10-5:00; Thurs. 10-8; Sat. 10-4; Closed Sun. & Mon.

104 E. Overbrook Rd. Shavertown, PA 717-675-4821

Mary Ellen Mooney

Master Card Visa Layaway

**DARING'S**  
 MEMORIAL HIGHWAY, DALLAS

**MRS. D'S DELI SPECIALS**

Ham Loaf.....	lb.	\$3.99
Baked Crab.....	lb.	\$1.79
Oklahoma Beans.....	lb.	\$1.59
Chicken Pies.....	lb.	\$1.50
Rice Pudding.....	lb.	\$1.39
Macaroni Salad.....	lb.	\$1.29
Deep Fried Chicken Wings....	lb.	\$1.99

Not Responsible For Typographical Errors  
 We Reserve The Right To Limit Quantities

OPEN EVERY DAY 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

MAC Accepted Here For All Purchases

675-0696

**PRE LABOR DAY SAVINGS**

**50% OFF NEW AAA MEMBERSHIP**

This limited offer is good UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1, 1989.  
 Coupon MUST be presented with payment.  
 Not good with any other offer or coupon

	Regular	50% Savings
NEW MASTER	\$27.00	\$13.50
NEW ASSOCIATE	\$15.00	\$ 7.50*

\* Good only when purchased with a NEW MASTER MEMBERSHIP

**SAVE AS MUCH AS \$21.00**

PERSONAL AAA MEMBER SERVICES Including: Emergency Road Service; Automobile Routings, Maps, Tour Books, Triptiks; License and Title Service; FEE FREE AAA/American Express Travelers Cheques; AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

**VALLEY AUTOMOBILE CLUB**

100 Hazle St. Wilkes-Barre 824-2444	460 Central Rd. Bloomsburg 784-3380	309/415 Plaza Dallas 675-8282	Rte. 11 Danville 275-1142
---	---	-------------------------------------	---------------------------------

TOLL FREE: 1-800-222-2410

SAVE 50% SAVE 50%

WITH THIS COUPON SAVE 50% ON A NEW MASTER AND/OR NEW ASSOCIATE \* MEMBERSHIP IN THE VALLEY AUTOMOBILE CLUB.

\*MUST BE PURCHASED WITH NEW MASTER EXPIRES 9/1/89

**Cook's PHARMACY**

- Computerized Prescription Service
- Russell Stover Candies
- Greeting Cards
- PA Lottery Ticket
- Newspapers
- Magazines

Memorial Highway, Shavertown  
 675-1191