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# THE DALLAS POST

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## Dallas Twp. landowner charges 'obstruction of justice'

By RICH JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

Dissatisfied with the performance of the local criminal justice system, a Dallas family has asked county officials for advice about filing an obstruction of justice suit against a Dallas Township police officer.

Joan Byron and her husband Tom, who own 257 acres of land on 42nd Street in Dallas Township, have notified the Luzerne County District Attorney's office and a county judge that they are not satisfied with the performance of

officer Wayman Miers, the police chief and two area magistrates and have asked for action on a case involving hunters trespassing on their property.

The controversy surrounds an incident that occurred on November 28 of last year when Byron noticed two hunters on her property, which is posted against hunting.

In a letter to Luzerne County District Attorney Corrae Stevens, dated Dec. 11, 1990, Byron says that after hearing two gunshots, she approached the hunters who were approximately 50 yards from

*"Now we have no one to turn to when this happens again. We cannot go to the Dallas police, the magistrates or the Game Commission."*

Joan Byron

In a letter to Luzerne County Judge Patrick Toole

her house. She said one hunter told her they had shot a deer and his companion was tracking it.

Byron said that the first hunter was cooperative and allowed her to take his picture.

Byron then contacted the Dal-

las Township police and asked that an officer be sent to the area. That afternoon, patrolman Miers responded to the Byron residence to investigate the incident. When he arrived the two hunters were longer in the area.

Byron says she told the officer about the incident and the two drove to properties that about the Byrons' land in hopes of finding the hunters, but they did not.

Byron said she gave the officer the name of one of the hunters, James Faulks. The other hunter was later identified as Dave Hendershott. According to Byron, Miers responded by saying that he knew Faulks and that the two were friends.

That statement is disputed by the police department. During an interview February 4, Police Chief Carl Miers (whose brother is Way-

man Miers, the investigating officer) said that the officer did not know Faulks but that is about the extent of their relationship. "She is giving the impression that these two are good friends, but they have never socialized together," said the chief.

In the letter to Stevens, Byron said that she asked Miers to pursue the issue and was contacted by the officer later in the evening and was told that he talked to Faulks and the hunter admitted to being on the property.

Byron believed that the officer

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## Balash knows POW's pain

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Writer

Michael Balash of Franklin Township has a closer understanding of what it's like to be a prisoner of war than most Americans. While the Vietnam War Veteran was never taken prisoner he has become close to many former POW's of the Vietnam conflict since becoming involved with the Veterans of Vietnam War.

"I have talked with many of the prisoners of war," Balash said. "Most of them are veterans of Korea or Vietnam but also some are from World War II. Their stories are much the same."

Balash says no amount of training can prepare a soldier for the shock of being a prisoner. "When first captured they go into shock; they become frightened because they don't know what the future holds until they become acclimated as a POW. They have had training as to what they should do and how to react but it is different because in training they walk away but when it becomes reality it is different," explained Balash.

"Two of the POW's I know were in the Hanoi Hilton, one for seven years, one for six years. In the beginning when they were tortured, they hated the tormentors but as time went on they began to feel sorry for them and they said then the torture subsided. They kept their thoughts on their country and their families and turned to God and prayed," he said.

Balash said one of the POW's was so badly tortured in Vietnam that he couldn't take it any longer so he asked God to let him die. The next day he said the torture stopped and the enemy brought medica-

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TALKING ABOUT WAR - Kristen Insalaco, a fourth grade student at Gate of Heaven School in Dallas, was one of the children eager to ask a question during an assembly on the Persian Gulf war last week. (Post Photo/Ron Bartizek)

## Kids express their feelings about the war

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Writer

After making Valentine cards that were sent to soldiers serving with Operation Desert Storm, one of the kindergarten classes at Little People Day Care School in Dallas and their teacher Miss Lorraine Pribula held a discussion revealing some of their concerns about the war.

Tommy Dougal, who has an uncle in Saudi Arabia expressed his thoughts about the conflict.

"Saddam Hussein is too powerful so he has to be stopped, but it's not pleasant that he is there. He got married just before he went over there and now his wife is sad. My dad was in another war and he almost got killed," Tommy said.

Michelle Pribula said that over there children have to take their gas masks to school because Saddam Hussein fires missiles at them. "I saw on television where people were taping their windows. The United States tries not to hit the houses where people live. I hope our people get home soon because some are going to get killed."

Loni Piekanski, who had a yellow bow in her hand, expressed the feelings of many people young and old. "The war is sad and that Saddam Hussein is mean and killed many people in Iraq and Kuwait. He uses gases that make people die. I wish all of the people could come home now and I would tell them I love them and glad you got home safe so your parents can be with you."

See KIDS, pg 5

## Sunset Beach sale may be decided in court

By RICH JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

It appears that a Luzerne County Judge will decide whether the proposed sale of Sunset Beach at Harveys Lake will be allowed to go through now that two groups battling over the controversial sale have not reached an agreement on the issue.

The beach, currently owned by the Harveys Lake Beach Association, has been closed for the past two years because it does not meet requirements from the state Department of Environmental Resources and there is no liability insurance on the property.

In July of last year the Beach Association voted to sell the beach to Joe Paglianite, owner of Grotto Pizza, located across from the beach.

At a special meeting held by the association, 27 members voted to sell the beach to Paglianite for \$13,422, which is the price the association paid for the property.

Since that time, however, 14 dissident members have filed a suit to have the sale stopped and the decision of the association

*The association voted to sell the beach to Joe Paglianite for \$13,422*

rescinded.

These 14 members claim that the association's resolution to make the sale was beyond the board's authority and that the sale price was far below fair market value.

The suit also claims that due notice of the meeting to discuss the sale was not provided the HLBA membership and that the Articles of Incorporation for the HLBA do not provide for the sale of the property.

No date has been set for the suit to be settled in court, however, representatives of both sides have met in hopes of coming to an agreement over the issue. So far no agreement has been reached.

Joseph Burke, the attorney for the dissident members, said last week that he and some of his clients

See BEACH, pg 9

## Lemmond, Mundy will help with Route 309

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Writer

State Senator Charles Lemmond said recently that the state Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is not ignoring problems on Route 309. And both Lemmond and State Representative Phyllis Mundy volunteered to help local officials gain an audience with PennDOT to discuss problems with the highway.

"PennDOT officials are aware that there are problems with Route 309 due to the increased traffic on the highway. They also are aware that the traffic will be even heavier when the Cross Valley is completed. I will attend a hearing April 4 in the Poconos to get an overview on the traffic with the completion of the Cross Valley," Lemmond said.

Lemmond also invited local officials to join in finding a solution to dangerous conditions on the highway.

"If the boroughs and the townships are interested in meeting with PennDOT to discuss possible solutions I would be happy to set up a meeting with the municipalities and the state to try to come up with a coordinated effort," said Sen. Lemmond.

Lemmond confirmed that while the state has final say on placement of traffic lights and other controls, it does not contribute funds for their purchase.

"Pennsylvania never did pay for traffic lights on the highways. At least never that I remember," said Senator Charles Lemmond said recently. "When a light is requested by a municipality, PennDOT will do a survey if requested to determine whether a certain intersection or turnout merits a light. Then it is up to the borough or township whose area the intersection is in to

See 309, pg 9

## Cancer Society to begin daffodil sales campaign

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Writer

The flowers won't be distributed in the Back Mountain for six weeks, but the Daffodil Days sale of the American Cancer Society has begun and local volunteers are starting their huge undertaking. More than 2,000 bunches of daffodils were sold in the Back Mountain last year.

The daffodil is recognized by the Cancer Society as not only the first flower of spring but also the symbol of hope - hope that cancer can be cured in our lifetime.

The goal of the American Cancer Society and the Back Moun-

tain volunteers is to place "Daffodils in every window - Hope in every Home." For only \$4.00 individuals will receive 10 daffodils. Orders of five or more bunches will be delivered to any single location. The purchases are tax deductible.

Order taking for the yellow daffodils will begin this week and the forms will be available from volunteers Sam Roberts Hair Fashions, Shavertown; Blue Ribbon Dog and Cat Coiffures, Shavertown; local schools and churches; Commonwealth Telephone Company; College Misericordia; Dallas Senior

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### Community Events

**Donkey Basketball**  
Fri., Feb. 8, 7:30 PM, Lake-Lehman High School gym. Tickets \$3.00 at the door or from senior class members.  
**HAM SUPPER** - Sat., Feb. 9, 4 PM, Jackson United Methodist Church, Smith Pond Road. Adults \$5.50, children \$4.00.  
**PANCAKE SUPPER** - Tues., Feb. 12, 5 PM, Noxen United Methodist Church. Adults \$4.00, children \$2.00.  
**NEW MUSIC** - Feb. 12, 8 PM, Walsh Auditorium, College Misericordia. Rob Kruse and Ensemble. Free.

## Local vets predict coalition victory

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Writer

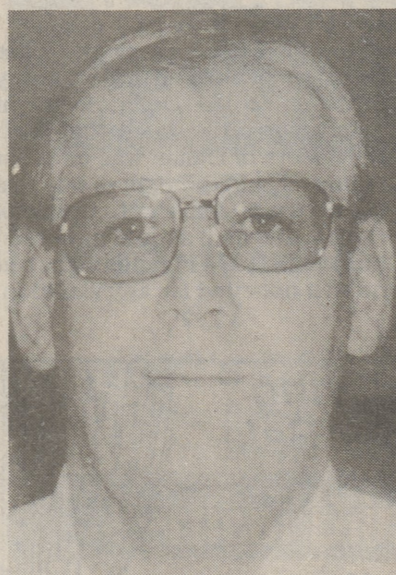
The war in the Mideast is a common topic at the Daddow-Isaacs American Legion Post in Dallas, and the members there are convinced the United States and its allies will prevail.

"Most of our members support servicemen and women over there," said the Post Commander David Hontz. "I was a Vietnam Veteran and I don't want to see another Vietnam. I don't believe we will have another Vietnam conflict. This war is different in many ways. It's uncalled for but our men and women are over there so now they have to do the job and get it over with so our children can live in peace."

Harold Brunges who is also a Vietnam veteran said this is an entirely different war.

"It's a high-tech war. They have everything planned in advance and they are in the right place at the right time. Their strategy is different and they proceed cautiously in everything they do. This won't be another Vietnam," Brunges said.

"This is a whole new ball game,"



JERRY MACHELL

a veteran of Korea. "This is an electronic war just like the Nintendo games and the science fiction only this time it's for real. We have good leaders and the best of equipment and men over there. We will win in the end," declared Glasser.

Stanley Tomchak of Dallas was a Vietnam veteran in the 82nd

See VETS, pg 5