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Mystery Valentines please Dallas businesses

By CHARLOT M. DENMON Staff Writer

Business people all around Dallas were surprised but pleased Thursday morning when they came to their work places and found large paper Valentines attached to their doors.

The valentines bore the inscription, "Thanks for Serving Dallas. You are Loved!"

Uppermost in all business people's minds was the question, "Who placed the Valentines on our

doors?" Sometime during the late hours of the night and the wee hours of the morning during a snowstorm which caused slippery road conditions, someone brought a ray of sunshine to the businesses of the Dallas area.

From Country Traditions near the Hess gas station on both sides of Route 309 as far north as Payne Printery, the store and shop owners were greeted by large white or red Valentines.

About 100 of the welcome hearts adorned doors throughout Dallas

and most business people spent the day trying to figure out who carried out such a heartwarming

"I don't know who did it but it was certainly a wonderful gesture," said Fran Ochman of Dallas. "It certainly was just the right touch to make you glad you're a part of Dallas. I wish I could thank the person or persons personally."

'We had a red heart enclosed in a plastic bag on our door," said Jan Wertman of J&J Deli, "While some

had white ones. I think the hearts out in the open were placed in bags to save them from getting wet. Whoever did it, it was a great idea.'

From place to place, persons expressed their surprise but also their appreciation for such a "thoughtful gesture".

Dallas Borough Chief of Police Jack Fowler avoided a direct answer when questioned about who the "culprits" might be, though it seemed logical that he would know. "I'm sworn to secrecy," he said.

Candidates line up for local offices

Machell, Shaffer ay they'll bow out this time

By CHARLOT M. DENMON Staff Writer

While most elected local government and school district representatives will seek re-election this year, a few have decided to take a eak from public service.

In Dallas Borough, where four seats expire at the end of this year, a least two incumbents said they not intend to seek re-election. he four are Jerry Machell, Donald Shaffer, Robert Brown, who was appointed to fill the seat left vacant en Russell Evet resigned, and Harold Brobst. Machell and Shaffer said last week they would not seek another term.

"There comes a time to hang it up," said Machell. "After so many years you get stale." Shaffer said he is looking forward to doing more hunting and fishing. "After a while the stress gets to you. I plan to main active in the fire company out I want more time for myself," he said. Brown and Brobst were on vacation in Florida and reports that they would run this year could not be confirmed.

In Dallas Township where there are only three supervisors. Phil Walter, who has been a supervisor for 26 years, will seek another six

Kingston Township

In Kingston Township some familiar names will once again be on the ballot. Supervisors Herbert



EVERYWHERE A SIGN - New signs are springing up alongside Route 309 and other highways in the area. They're a sign of economic growth, but may overwhelm the region's scenic vistas. (Post Photo/Ron Bartizek)

Signs sprouting up along sides of Back Mountain highways

BY CHARLOT M. DENMON Staff Writer

The beauty of a drive on Back Mountain highways fades daily as an ever increasing number of business signs diminish the views along Route 309. Signs of all sizes and colors dot the landscape, in some spots so many of them a passersby may be unable to count them, let alone read the messages.

The latest batch of signs and billboards appears along the high-See CANDIDATES, pg 5 way in front of Meineke Muffler in

pete with multiple ones for atten-

Tom Agnetti, manager of Back Mountain Meineke said in addition to their business signs, a real estate sign and the two multiple billboards located on the property are theirs.

"The real estate sign will be coming down soon and as far as I know, the owner, Tony Pizzo, does not intend to have more signs put

up," Agnetti said. Businesses must obtain permits

Dallas, where single signs com- for signs, first by applying to PennDOT since Route 309 is a state highway. If the applicant conforms to the state regulations (which differ according whether the road is state and interstate), PennDOT usually approves the application pending approval by the local municipality which has the last word.

"I'm not 100 percent certain what is a sign and what is a billboard," said Leonard Kozick, zoning officer

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Explosions from fire shake Lehman Twp.

By RICH JOHNSON Staff Writer

Explosions from a fire at a trucking business rocked a Lehman Township neighborhood Tuesday afternoon.

The fire was reported at approximately 12:30 p.m. at the Colarusso Excavating and Trucking Company on Jackson Road in the township.

Officials did not know the cause of the blaze but said that gasses and chemicals used by the trucking company exploded during the

Neighbors say that as many as seven explosions were heard before fire crews responded to the scene.

"I didn't know what to think when I heard the explosions," said Margaret Bakker, who lives a couple of houses from the barn that housed the trucks. "At first I thought that it may have been bombs going off or someone was blasting around the area.

The blasts were so powerful that windows and some items in neighboring homes shook.

Janet Stokes said she thought

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SPECIAL COOKIE SALE DATES

February 23, Junior Troop 610 (NH 245) will have a Cookie Booth at Insalaco's in Dallas from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

February 23 and 24, Junior Troop 677 will have a Cookie Booth at Hillside Farms Dairy Store, Trucksville.

March 2, Junior Troop 630 will have a Cookie Booth at the West Side Mall, Edwardsville from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

March 9 Junior Troop will have a Cookie Booth at the West Side Mall from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 16 Brownie Troop 684

will have a Cookie Booth at the West Side Mall all day. March 9 Brownie Troop 882

will have a Cookie Booth at Insalaco's Center, in West Pittston from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 9 Cadette Troop 706 and Senior Troop 705 will have a Cookie Booth at the IGA in Tunkhannock.

Girl Scout cookie sales need boost

The recession and war anxiety have hit the Girl Scouts. Initial orders for Girl Scout Cookies have come in and the Council sale is down 10,008 boxes from last year's initial order and 53, 156 below the target goal for the year. The Girl Scout saleswomen have gone out and done their best. Individual girls and troops have gone over their personal goals...but overall, across Penn's Woods Council, it is obvious that conditions the girls cannot control will affect the total

Cookie sales were down last year, for the first time in a number of years. In discussions with other Councils and with representatives of the bakers, it was found that

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RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE - Mon., Feb. 25, 1-6 PM, Meadows Nursing Center, 55 W Center St., Dallas. Appts: 823-

Community **Events**

PANCAKE SUPPER - Sat., Feb 23, starting at 4 p.m., East Dallas United Methodist Church. BENEFIT JAMBOREE - Sun., Feb. 24, for fire victimes Bob Baldoni, Emma Campbell Hanna and Donald Covert. 2 p.m. 'til ?, Idetown Fire Hall. Tickets \$6.00, at DiVeronica's Store, Drury's Deli, Javers Store and at the

Lake-Lehman opts for 'Channel One'

By CHARLOT M. DENMON

Students in the Lake-Lehman School District will be watching television, including commercials, when a new program is introduced at the junior and senior high

Lake-Lehman board members approved a three-year contract with Whittle Communications for the cost to the district at the regular meeting February 12.

The directors entered into the contract after viewing the 12 minute program of daily news and

High school students will have to watch a 12 minute show each day, including two minutes of commercials

program, Channel One, with no includes two minutes of commercials. The network offers a comprehensive program and equipment designed to provide teachers and students with tools and information that can be placed at the information for the junior and junior and senior high school at no

"The channel has only the average commercials seen on television networks and in the contract with the school there is a clause that states no tobacco, alcohol or commercials in similar areas," explained director Liz Sichler. "The equipment includes a satellite dish, two video cassette recorders, internal wiring of the entire system and senior high school. The program color television sets. The programs are to be used 90 percent of the time they are televised by 90 percent of the students. We can cancel the contract at any time if desired but when the contract is

See CHANNEL, pg 2





Barnoski, Gramley are on duty in Saudi Arabia

By CHARLOT M. DENMON Staff Writer

Marty Barnoski of Dallas is one soldier who is looking forward to returning home after the war in the Persian Gulf is over.

"In his letter we received recently, Marty said he misses home and can't wait until he gets back," said Debbie Barnoski, Marty's sister, a senior at Dallas High

A 1988 graduate of Dallas High School, Marty enlisted in the U.S. Army in August of 1988 and was sent to the Mideast January 3 of this year. He is the only son of Martin and Roseann Barnoski of

Marty, now a Specialist in communications in the 147th Mainte-

See SAUDI, pg 3

Bus driver defends herself from complaints twice because the road was icy bus, but if the bus sinks down in

By CHARLOT M. DENMON Staff Writer

Lake-Lehman school bus driver Glenda Gutowski has answered critics who say she has not brought her bus onto Bear Swamp Road in Ross Township too many times

Gutowski said last week there were four times this year that she did not go down Bear Swamp Road,

and not taken care of and the Thursday and Friday before last week's school board meeting because of mud. "In the afternoon when it was icy I went down because the road was in better condition," she said.

"I have been driving a bus for seven years and I have children of my own and I am concerned about the safety of the children on the

the mud there is nothing can be done. I have a lot of children on the bus to drop off after Bear Swamp Road. Gutowski also defended herself against claims that she had mis-

treated some of her young passengers. "It isn't true that I grabbed a child by the jacket and pants See BUS, pg 5