

Jackson ambulance ass'n invites new members

Jackson Township Ambulance Association has elected its 1992 officers: Stern Smith, president; Tim Bernick, vice president; John Wilkes, Jr., secretary; Carl Aston, treasurer; Carl Schmitt, crew chief and John Wilkes, Jr., first assistant crew chief.

New members are always welcome; ambulance association meetings are the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m., at the ambulance garage behind the fire hall. Volunteers and new members are needed to work in all capacities and at all functions of the ambulance association.

Interested prospective members may contact secretary John Wilkes, Jr., at 696-1964.

Departments

(continued from page 1)

supervisors decided they couldn't meet the demands of the officers, and withdrew from the department.

If the Back Mountain had the first consolidated department to fall apart, it wasn't the last.

Though most consolidations have been successful, several departments failed in the 1970s, according to Dormer Orndorf, police consultant for the state's Department of Community Af-

fairs.

The Jersey Shore Regional Department operated for four years funded by a federal grant, but when the grant dried up, so did the department. In Dauphin County, a consolidation of township and small borough's police departments fell through when it was found that the borough would have to pay more than originally expected.

If a consolidated department

were ever formed in the Back Mountain again, "you've got to have one chief," said Dallas Borough police chief John Fowler.

Fowler said that he's not interested in the job. "I have no right to be in the same category with them," he said of Sabol and Miers. "They taught me an awful lot. I have respect for both of them. I could work very well with either."

"It will have to be run by a board," said chief Sabol, who expects to retire in a year, and "it has to have at least three departments. If they want to do it effectively, it should be everybody in the Back Mountain Communications Center."

Miers expands on the idea, suggesting that logically, a police district should cover the same territory as a magisterial district.

Police report

DALLAS TOWNSHIP

VCR'S REMOVED FROM HOME

Dallas Township police are investigating a burglary Tuesday, January 7 at the home of Geraldine Wall, Ransom Road, Dallas Township. Police said that someone entered the home through the unlocked front door and removed two VCR's. Jewelry in the master bedroom was also disturbed, according to the report. Dallas Township Patrolman Doug Higgins, assisted by the Research and Identification Unit of the Pennsylvania State Police at Wyoming, are investigating the incident.

GUNS, ELECTRONICS REMOVED FROM HOME

Dallas Township police are investigating a burglary Monday, January 6, at the home of James Thomas Petro, Jr., of RR 1 Dallas. Police said that someone forced open the kitchen door and removed

a Sony CD player, a Sony VCR, a .50 caliber CVA black powder long rifle equipped with peep sights and a Mossberg .22 caliber rifle with a 4x Bushnell scope with see-through mounts from the home. Police estimate the value of the items at \$800. Dallas Township Patrolman Doug Higgins and Elliot Ide, assisted by the Research and Identification Unit of the Pennsylvania State Police at Wyoming, are investigating the incident.

GENERATOR TAKEN FROM DALLAS WATER

Dallas Township police are investigating the theft of a generator Monday, January 6, from the Dallas Water Company. Police said that someone entered a pole building alongside the water company's office and removed a Homelite generator valued at \$900. Police noted that no signs of force were used to gain entry to the building. Dallas Township Patrolman Doug Higgins is investigating the incident.

Property transfers

Property transfers recorded at the Luzerne County Court House from December 26, 1991 to January 6, 1992.

Prices are extrapolated from transfer taxes paid. Many transfers, such as those between family members are exempt from tax, so no amounts are shown.

Jack B. Kitchen Jr. to Jack B. Kitchen Jr., RR 39 Cotton Ave. Hudson, property High School St., Harveys Lake.

Estate Helen Wisniewski, James Wisniewski, Extr. to Christine Shiber, RR 1, Box 493, Dallas, property L12, 13, 14, 15, Applewood Manor, Dallas Twp.

Gary John Crawford to Vernon J. Heath, RR 4, Twp. Rte. 708, Dallas, property 4.75 ac. Lehman Twp., \$102,000.

Jack J. Fadden Jr. to Anthony f. Burcko, 74 Cook St., Hudson Gardens, Plains, property P/OL95, Warden Place, Lake Twp., \$500.

James R. Yarnal to Reba A. Yarnal, Box 437A, Shrine Acres, Crestview Dr., RD 5, Dallas, property 1.02 ac., Crest View Drive, Dallas Twp.

Vincent Giarratano to Transamerica Financial C.D.C., One Norwegian Plaza, Pottsville, property Hood Ave., Harveys Lake.

Louise Weber to Leland J. Sorbers, 143 S. Grove St., Harveys Lake, property Harveys Lake.

Mary E. Weber, Leland J. Sorbers, 143 S. Grove St., Harveys Lake, property Harveys Lake.

Olen Weber to Leland J. Sorbers, 143 S. Grove St., Harveys Lake, property Harveys Lake.

Floyd Weber to Leland J. Sorbers, 143 S. Grove St., Harveys Lake, property Harveys Lake.

Youngsville Partnership II to Lo-Meadows Inc. 1140 Route 315, Wilkes-Barre, property 6.97 ac., Dallas Twp., \$20,912.

Youngsville Partnership II to Lo-Meadows Inc., 1140 Route 315, Wilkes-Barre, property Ring Rd. 1.80 ac., Dallas twp., \$5,400.

Youngsville Partnership II to Hi-Pines Inc., 1140 Rte. 315, Wilkes-Barre, property 1.19 ac. Ring Rd., Dallas Twp., \$3,570.

Youngsville Partnership II to Hi-Pines Inc., 1140 Rte. 315, Wilkes-Barre, property 6.20 ac., Ring Rd., Dallas Boro., \$7,500.

Youngsville Partnership II to Lo-Meadows Inc. 1140 Rte. 315, Wilkes-Barre, property Loop Rd., 3.991 ac., Dallas Twp. \$2,400.

Youngsville Partnership II to Hi-Pines Inc. 1140, Rte. 315, Wilkes-Barre, property 7.19 ac. Cluster 9 Pines, Dallas Boro., \$21,570.

Youngsville Partnership II to Pond Parcel Inc. 11450 Rte. 315, Wilkes-Barre, property Cluster 12 "Offgice & Maintenance" 3.09 ac., Dallas Twp. \$50,000.

Joseph a. Conaway to Lewis W. Wetzel, 210 Bicentennial Bldg., Wilkes-Barre, property LR 40060 Lehman Twp.

Lewis W. Wetzel to Joseph Conaway, 30 Sheldon St., Wilkes-Barre, property 2 parcels, Harveys Lake.

Marguerite Madeleine Rice to Wm. G. Rice, 52 Dorchester Dr., Dallas, property Kinwood Dr., Dallas Twp., \$22,000.

Marguerite Madeleine Rice to Wm. G. Rice, 52 Dorchester Dr., Dallas, property Kingwood Dr., Orchard View Terrace, Dallas Twp., \$22,000.

Marguerite Madeleine Rice to Rita R. Gillham, 10966 Millbank Row, Columbia, Md., property Claridge Dr., Dallas Twp., \$22,000.

Marguerite Madeleine Rice to Rita r. Gillham, 10966 Millbank Row, Columbia, Md., property Westminster Dr., Dallas Twp., \$22,000.

Marguerite Madeleine Rice to Diane B. Traver, 66 Pinecrest Ave., Dallas, property Westminster Dr., Dallas Twp., \$22,000.

Marguerite Madeleine Rice to Diane B. Traver, 66 Pinecrest Ave., Dallas property Kingwood Dr., Dallas Twp., \$22,000.

Marguerite Madeleine Rice to Linda L. Kozick, 40 dorchester Dr., Dallas, property Westminster Dr., Dallas Twp., \$22,000.

Police

(continued from page 1)

municipalities involved in consolidated police departments saved an average of 24% when compared with similar municipalities served by their own departments.

"There's no question that they save money," said Orndorf, who was a police officer himself for 14 years. "We also see a better use of personnel."

One of the last things that Orndorf accomplished before leaving his position as Lock Haven's police chief in 1972 was to get a contract agreement for Lock Haven to provide police protection to nearby Flemington, the first such agreement in that part of the state.

"A lot of municipalities determine their police needs as just to have someone on all of the time, and the workload may not require that," said Orndorf. "The beauty of a regional department is you buy as much service as you need. It's not like you'll be paying for something you don't need."

Costs savings can come from purchasing supplies, uniforms, and weapons in greater quantity, and needing fewer vehicles. "Another issue is liability insurance," said Kingston Township manager Jeffrey Box. "Better trained, better organized, means better liability insurance rates."

There are currently 14 consolidated police departments in Pennsylvania. To make consolidated police more attractive the DCA has a grant program to help defray the start-up costs of combining police departments.

The grants will provide six departments with up to \$49,000 the first year, \$33,000 the second, and \$17,000 the third year. Some of the money must be used to provide for a computerized record keeping system, and to pay the salary of the police chief.

Twenty-three groups throughout the state are investigating regionalized police, including officials from the Clarks Summit area in Lackawanna County.

After twenty months of work on the project, Clarks Summit councilman Edward Bush has said that there will be a consolidated police department in 1992. The department was supposed to include Clarks Summit, Clarks Green, and South Abington Township, but South Abington police officers have resisted the consolidation, leaving their participation in doubt.

"The reason being is there are a lot of unanswered questions, including their bargaining rights," said Bush, adding that the supervisors are trying to answer those questions.

"The biggest obstacle we have is the men have to get along," said Bush. "They can't have any animosity between departments."

Back Mountain police chiefs favor consolidation

Dallas Borough police chief John Fowler doesn't think the Back Mountain would have the same problems forming a consolidated police force as the Clarks Summit area is having with South Abington Township.

"I don't think you'd find many police officers against it if it's done properly. In the Back Mountain now, all the police departments work together anyway. If you call for a backup, all of the officers are there backing you up," said Fowler. "I think it's a fantastic idea; it's something we need."

Kingston Township police chief Paul Sabol and Dallas Township chief Carl Miers also favor consolidation, though they're not as optimistic about having it implemented anytime soon.

"I think it's going to come to be, but I don't know if the time is right yet," said Sabol. "We have the right kind of area for it. The geographic setting is good. I personally don't think it's a bad idea."

Miers says the idea is feasible, but for it to work, "small town politics has to be out of it. It's difficult because municipalities don't want to lose, 'their identities.' Personally, I think I'll be long gone before you see it."

"You have the makings of a regional police department because you already having working agreements now," said Miers. "We all use the same dispatching service."

Some of the advantages of a consolidated department pointed out by the three police chiefs include:

- Increased patrols when they are most needed.
- Increased communication between departments.
- Allowing the department to form specialized units such as criminal investigations, or juvenile units.
- Allowing officers to get additional training more easily because

scheduling could be more flexible with more officers to work with.

"I just went through that with a man in training," said Miers. "I cut it down to the bare bones."

In Pennsylvania, yearly police training isn't an option - it's required. This year, each officer in the state is required to take four courses, amounting to two eight-hour days of classes.

The municipalities which could benefit the most from a consolidated police department are those with part-time, or on-call officers. "You have to realize with an on-call department, it takes them a while to respond," said Fowler, and "backups would be much quicker because officers would work each other's areas."

Mixed Reactions from supervisors

"I think all of the small municipalities will be forced into it before too long," said Lehman Township supervisor David Sutton.

Sutton added that the supervisors have discussed consolidated police among themselves, but haven't taken any action on the idea.

"We work very closely with Jackson Township now," said Sutton. "It becomes very expensive, and it's not like any of the departments pay their guys any great salaries."

Dallas Township supervisor Frank Wagner said that he's all for "saving a buck."

"I'm all for it," said Wagner. "I think it would work. The Comm Center speaks for itself. There's one thing that's regional."

Fellow Dallas Township supervisor Phillip Walter isn't so sure that a regional force would save money for residents in the Back Mountain.

"I'll listen to anything. It would certainly improve the quality for the smaller townships. Whether it

would be better for the larger townships, I think they'd be picking up the cost for the smaller townships," said Walter.

Kingston Township supervisor Herbert Hill expects that the Back Mountain will eventually have a consolidated police department, but adds that he feels it's "a long way off. It's not going to happen in the next couple of years."

Donald Gavigan, a Kingston Township supervisor who works as a Dallas Borough police officer, feels that consolidation now would hurt police service.

"I feel that Kingston Township at it's furthest points would be neglected and Dallas Township at it's furthest points would be neglected," said Gavigan. "We really have a good department. All three departments, they work together, the backup is terrific. As one unit, you're not going to have the men to do that."

Chief Miers disagrees.

"They have to decide if they want a first-class police department or something that looks like a police department," said Miers. "Because of short-handed police departments, you have backups. To make a complete full-time department, you need all the people in existing departments and then some."

Miers estimates that it would take three years of planning to create a consolidated department in the Back Mountain and "do it right."

Cooper would like to see that planning begin.

"The smart thing to do is form a committee and start work on it," said Cooper. "I'd like to have a commitment from three municipalities, four would be desirable, to start looking into it. There's no design here. The goal is to generate enough interest to establish a group to investigate how to become a regionalized department."

THE DALLAS POST

309-415 Plaza, Dallas, PA 18612
675-5211

PROBLEM WITH A STORY?

It is the policy of the Dallas Post to correct all errors of fact and to clarify any misunderstanding created by articles. Questions should be directed to the News Desk at 675-5211.

HAVE A NEWS TIP?

Monday through Friday 8:30 to 5:00 p.m.

CALL THE EDITORS:

The Dallas Post welcomes news tips, letters to the editor, feature ideas, and comments on the accuracy, fairness or adequacy of news coverage.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DEPT.

Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00. Classified Deadline - Mon. 5 p.m.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

35¢ on newstands every Wednesday. By Mail: in Luzerne and Wyoming Counties, PA \$16 per year; Elsewhere in PA, NY, and NJ, \$18 per year; All other states, \$20 per year. Published every Wednesday by Bartsen Media, Inc., P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612. Entered at the post office in Dallas, PA as second class matter. (USPS 147-720)
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612

TO SUBSCRIBE

Enjoy the convenience of home delivery each week and save up to 30% off the newstand price! To order your subscription, just fill out and return the form below:

Please enter my subscription to The Dallas Post:

In Luzerne and Wyoming Counties _____ 1 Year (\$16.00)

Other PA, NY and NJ areas _____ 1 Year (\$18.00)

All Other States _____ 1 Year (\$20.00)

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Return completed form with payment to:

The Dallas Post
P.O. Box 366
Dallas, PA 18612

Do you need ...

X-rays Lab tests EKG's



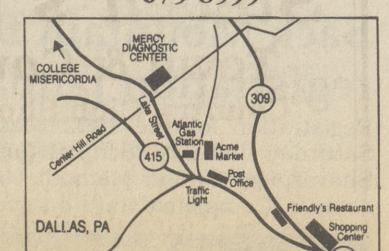
Mercury Diagnostic Center

199 Lake St. • Dallas, PA 18612

When your physician orders diagnostic tests, you don't have to travel into town to have them done. You can have x-rays taken or blood drawn at a location close to home. The Mercury Diagnostic Center in Dallas is staffed with trained professionals to take care of all your diagnostic needs, without having to leave the Back Mountain area.

HOURS:

Monday - Friday
7:30AM-11AM and 1:00PM-5PM
675-8599



January Sale Days

TARA

MEN'S CLOTHING

30% OFF

All in stock merchandise

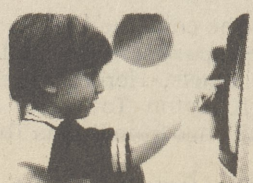
325 North River St. • Tuft Tex Complex
Plains, PA 18705
823-3458

No custom made clothing & special orders included.

THE FUTURE IS OURS®

FUTUREKIDS®

the world's leading computer school for young children, would like to invite you to schedule a free computer class for your child.



- Ages 3-12
- Lots and Lots of Fun
- Computer Literacy Guaranteed
- Promotes Math & Reading Skills
- Only 3 or 4 Children in a Class

Call today. There's no obligation. Just thee promise that your child will have a wonderful time.

FUTUREKIDS®
Children's Computer Classes
Locations throughout the USA and Japan

Coming Soon!