two years, they've been delayed. "We've robbed Peter to pay Paul," said Frey. "I don't know how much longer we can do this."

The Back Mountain Library's funding is made tighter by the fact that the 1991 auction was not as successful as hoped, said Frey. The auction provides a quarter of its \$180,000 operating budget.

While attorney Bruce Rosenthal, president of the Back Mountain Library Board said the board is considering closing a day to protest the cuts in funding, the Back Mountain Library isn't alone in its budget woes. More than 400 libraries across the state are in the same boat.

Myre Scovell, president of the Luzerne County Library System Board, said a special meeting has been called for February 6 at 2 nically only frozen, Costello says p.m. at the Osterhout Library to its unlikely that the libraries will

discuss what action to take about the cuts. The Luzerne County Library System includes 10 libraries, among them the Back Mountain Library.

According to Joan Costello, administrator of the Luzerne County Library System, many libraries have had to borrow money to meet current expenses while they wait for promised state funding. Those libraries include the Osterhout, where Costello is also head librarian.

The cuts in funding include governor Robert Casey's freeze on a \$1.5 million increase in regular library funding approved by the state legislature, dropping the funding from \$24.3 million to \$22.8 million. Though the money is tech-

ever see it.

The governor also cut the \$5 million allocated to the Access Pennsylvania program to \$3 million, a 40% decrease, said Costello. The Access Pennsylvania program reimburses libraries for visitors from outside their area.

For the 10 libraries which are part of the Luzerne County System, including the Back Mountain

Library, that means a decrease from \$355,375 to \$348,858. Another \$300,000 cut in funding across the state will further reduce that amount.

And says Costello, no date has been received on when the reduced funding will come.

"We've been told maybe in a few weeks," said Costello. "How can you run any institution with that kind of information?'

Homeless

(continued from page 1)

"Our clients work hard to restore and to maintain their personal dignity as human beings. I want to permanently bust the stereotype of the homeless person as a dirty, bug-infested, alcoholic, chronically unemployed, system abusing vagrant!" Kabacinski said.

Formed six years ago, VISION, Inc., (Volunteers in Service in Our Neighborhoods) a nonprofit, nonsectarian organization set up a system of shelters in the basements of several downtown churches, each church serving as a shelter for a week at a time. Today 31 churches throughout the northern part of Luzerne County operate on a rotating basis as homeless shelters.

Back Mountain shelter sites include Our Lady of Victory, Trucksville United Methodist, Shavertown United Methodist and St. Paul's Lutheran churches and College Misericordia.

Many of VISION's clients are employed or are in the process of obtaining employment, but they simply cannot afford housing. Area wages are low and rents are high, Kabacinski says. Every year brings his staff increased demand for shelter and other services, and he doesn't see an improvement in the situation for at least another six

VISION works with clients to as giving them a friendly, warm place to go during the day.

"One of the most painful aspects of a homeless person's life is time," Kabacinski said. "Waiting in line for everything, having too little activity and being totally dependent on others for even the most basic needs is devastating."

Manned by VISION staff and volunteers, all shelters have the same rules for all clients: Each client must take a shower every day and keep his or her clothing clean. Shelter doors are locked for security between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. All clients must be in bed by 11 p.m. Women sleep in an area separate from the men. Since clients may leave their few personal belongings at the shelters, everyone follows the honor sys-

Kabacinski said that the YMCA allows VISION's clients to use its shower facilities; a washer and dryer are available at VISION's offices, with staff transporting laundry between the office and shelters.

Shelter staff members have noticed that their clients treat one another like family. "I've often had clients tell me that they are concerned about a friend who is having a problem or a bad day, " said staff member Bernadette Byrd. "They take care of each other."

"Six years ago I would have been laughed out of the Back Mountain for suggesting that we would soon need homeless shelters out here."

> Vince Kabacinsk Executive Director, VISION, Inc., an agency that provides shelter for the homeless

member, Byrd contributes a special gift; her ability to relate to female clients. "Sometimes women feel embarrassed discussing their problems with a man," she explained.

Clients find their way to the shelter in a variety of ways. Some can walk or hitchhike. Others meet VISION's van at the drop-in center in Wilkes-Barre each afternoon. And local police have been extremely helpful in bringing clients to the shelters, Kabacinski says.

During the night while the shelter is open, the VISION van makes its rounds, visiting areas such as shopping centers, parks and beneath bridges, checking any place that the staff knows homeless people frequent.

VISION also operates a drop-in center in Wilkes-Barre, which provides a clinic, medicine, job counseling and referrals to other agencies. It also provides transportation to appointments and staff members often accompany clients if necessary. A hot lunch is available from the St. Vincent dePaul Soup Kitchen.

VISION's ten staff members have had no special training other than common sense and compassion, Kabacinski says. Bernadette Byrd, Mike Brown, Frank Mishizen and Nate Wynn, on duty January 22. described their jobs' challenges of establishing rapport with clients, the prudent use of tough love and

VISION's only female staff the unique combination of street smarts and concern for one's brothers and sisters necessary in their work

"Each of our staff offers something special, from Bernadette's moxie to Nate's sense of humor,'

Kabacinski added. In 1990 VISION's shelters averaged 12-15 clients per night; in 1991 they sheltered an average of 40-50 clients nightly, according to the program's annual report. VI SION served a total of 947 clients in 1991, up 23% from 1989.

Kabacinski's dream for VISION is to establish a permanent shelter with centralized facilities for eating, sleeping, showers, lockers, offices and a clinic. He feels that a permanent shelter would be an asset to any community.

Kabacinski said that VISION has been recognized both nationally and internationally as being one of the best shelter programs, because of the scope and quality of its services. VISION is also being considered for one of President Bush's "Points of Light" awards.

"The problem of the homeless involves all of us," Kabacinski concluded. "Only four of approximately 15 Back Mountain churches have offered to help out. It would be a great help if some of the others could pool resources and donate food, personnel or more space. We must remember that we all are our brothers' keepers."

Obituaries

DOLORES BROMACK Dolores A. Bromack, 63, of West Shawnee Avenue, Plymouth, died Jan. 22, 1992 at home.

Born in Plymouth, she was the daughter of the late Edward and Cecelia Kasmark Kronick.

Surviving are her husband, John: daughter, Mrs. James Gialanella, Orange; Mrs. Anthony Bannick, Wilkes-Barre; Janis Bromack, Larksville; son, John Jr. of Shavertown; 12 grandchildren;

Interment, St. Mary's Nativity Church parish cemetery, Plymouth Township.

SATHERINE CONNORS

Catherine C. Connors, formerly of Pittston, died Jan. 22, 1992, at Clarks Summit State Hospital, Clarks Summit.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, she was the daughter of the late James and Mary McHugh Connors.

She was preceded in death by sisters, Mrs. Helen Roat and Mrs. Regina Brown; brothers, Gerald, Vincent and Edward.

Surviving are a sister, Alice Consenza, Harveys Lake, several

Interment, St. John's Cemetery, Pittston.

BLORIA DAVIES

Gloria Davies, 69, of Briarcrest Road, Idetown, died Jan. 20, 1992 at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, King-

Born in Parsons, she was the daughter of the late John and Charlotte Evans Clemow, and was a graduate of Coughlin High School. She had resided in Lakewood, Ohio for many years before moving to Idetown in 1977.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William E. Davies, in

Surviving are a son, William E, khode Island; daughters, Marschel A. Davies, Debra D. Davies and Tonia E. Davies, all of Ohio; sister, Jennie Chase, Parsons.

Park, Carverton.

VERA DOUGHERTY

Vera Dougherty, 83, of Hamilton Avenue, Kingston, died Jan. 22. 1992 at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston. Born in Kingston, she was the

daughter of the late Michael and Mary Ellen Canvay Brennan. She was preceded in death by

her husband, Joseph, Jan. 11, Surviving are a son, James W.,

Dallas; granddaughter, Mrs. Terry Shumbris, with whom she resided; three great-grandchildren; nieces nd nephews.

Interment, St. Ignatius Parish Cemetery, Pringle.

DOROTHEE JAIKES-BURKE

Dorothee Jaikes-Burke, 68, of Wilkes-Barre, a former resident of Shavertown, died Jan. 26, 1992, at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, King-

Born in Plymouth, she was the daughter of the late August and Sophie Grigger Jaikes.

She was preceded in death by brothers, William and John; sisters, Sophie Chamberlain, Mrs. Lea Osmond and Mrs. Martha Marcos.

Surviving are daughters, Mrs. Sandra Porasky, Shavertown; Mrs. John Bogarowski, Hanover Township; sister, Mrs. Joseph Dugan, Nanticoke; brother, Robert, Larksville; four grandchildren.

Interment, Oak Lawn Cemetery, Hanover Township.

MARY ANN THOMPSON

Mary Ann Thompson, 50, of Park Avenue (Fieldcrest), Shavertown, died Jan. 27, 1992, at home after

an illness. Funeral arrangements are pending from Harold C. Snowdon Funeral Home, 140 N. Main St., Shavertown.

BARNEY MAHALSKY

Barney Mahalsky of Columbia St., Duryea, died Jan. 27, 1992, at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center, Plains Township.

Born in Poland, he was the son of the late Anthony and Pauline Kapchinski Mahalsky

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Anna Tomashunas.

Surviving are sons, Walter and Barney, both of Hughestown; daughters, Mrs. Florence Balchune and Mrs. Margaret Lasota, both of Duryea; Mrs. Viola Shaw, Dallas; Mrs. Carol Ciaston, Old Forge; 12 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; brother, Adam Sadowski, Scranton; sisters, Mrs. Wanda Grenmier, Albany, NY; Mis Anna Sadowski, Brooklyn, NY.

Interment, St. Mary's Polish National Catholic Church parish venience of the family. cemetery.

ARLENE MONTEDONICO

Arlene H. Montedonico, formerly of Wilkes-Barre, died Jan. 22, 1992 in Leader East Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Kingston.

Born in Plains Township, she was the daughter of the late Samuel and Jennie Adams Hooper.

Surviving are a son, Joseph, New Orleans, La.; two grandchildren; brothers, George, Dallas; Walter, Orman Beach, Fla.; sister, Mrs. Louise Russell, San Jose,

Interment, Oak Lawn Cemetery, Hanover Township.

CHARLES **PRUTZMAN**

Charles M. Prutzman, 73, of Holiday Drive, Kingston and former resident of Trucksville, died General Hospital.

Born in Ralston, he was the son of the late William and Gavnell Kanally Prutzman.

He was a member of Trucksville Interment, Memorial Shrine United Methodist Church and American Legion Post 672, Dallas. He was preceded in death by brothers Thomas and William.

Surviving are his wife, the former Mildred Rydzewski; daughters, Mrs. Florence Lamoreaux, Kingston: Mrs. Mark Scott, Centermoreland; sons, Ronald Prutzman, Norfolk, NY; Richard Prutzman, Kingston; Jeff Prutzman, Keyport, Wash.; sisters, Mrs. Sarah Baylis, Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. Hazel Campenella, Berlin, Conn.; Mrs. Geraldine Penley, Big Stone Gap, Va.; Grace Ricker, Dushore; brother, Henry, Wilkes-Barre; nine grandchildren.

Interment, Chapel Lawn Memorial Park, Dallas.

JOSEPH SABOL

Joseph J. Sabol of River Street, Forty Fort, died Jan. 25, 1992 at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, he was the son of the late John and Barbara Polachek Sabol.

He and his wife the former Margaret Yurko, celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary on June

25, 1991. He was preceded in death by a brother, Albert; sister, Mrs. Helen

Surviving in addition to his wife, are a son, Joseph J. Jr. at home; daughter, Mrs. Jack DeCinti, Dallas; brothers, John, Philadelphia;

George, Wilkes-Barre. Interment, Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Cemetery, Dallas.

MARY K. TENCH

Mary K. Tench, 93, formerly of West Pittston, died Jan. 23, 1992 at Leader West Nursing Center, Kingston.

Born in Pittston, she was the daughter of the late Michael and Bridget Kelley.

She is survived by son, Paul, Dallas; nieces and nephews. Interment, Mountain View

Cemetery, Harding.

PAUL SCHALM JR. Paul Schalm Jr., 81, of Dallas,

and Boca Raton, Fla., died Jan. 22, 1992 at Boca Raton Community Hospital.

Born in New York City, he was months. the son of the late Paul and Johanna Schalm. He moved to the obtain medical care, counseling, Wyoming Valley in 1936, where he suitable jobs and housing, as well lived for most of his life. He founded and was president of Automatic Service Company, retiring in 1977. An avid golfer, he was a member of Kingston Lodge 395 Caldwell Consistory, Irem Temple, Irem Temple Country Club and Boca Del Mar Country Club.

Surviving are his wife, Frieda; sons, Paul III and Robert; daughter, Carole Schalm Ertley; nine grandchildren; one great-grand-

Funeral service was at the con-

DANETTE SCHEITRUMPF

Danette Shaw Traver Scheitrumpf, 22, of Noxen, died Jan. 26, 1992, at home.

Born Dec. 8, 1969, in Kingston, she was the daughter of Corey and Connie Shaw Traver. She lived in Noxen for most of her life. She was a graduate of West Side Tech and member of Noxen United Method-

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Michelle, in 1989; brother, Harold.

Surviving, in addition to her parents, are her husband, Henry; son, Eddie Daniel, at home; sisters, Connie Traver, Hunlock Creek; Sandy Harris, Dallas; brother, David, Hunlock Creek.

Funeral services will be 11 a.m. Jan. 21, 1992, at Wilkes-Barre Wednesday from Nulton Funeral Home, Route 309, Beaumont, with Rev. Michael Willis, pastor of Noxen United Methodist Church, officiat-

> Interment, Maple Grove Cemetery, Pikes Creek.

GEORGE SHOTWELL

George H. Shotwell, 90, of Lower Demunds Road, Dallas Township, died Jan. 20, 1992 at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, following an

Born Oct. 21, 1901, in Duryea, he was a son of the late Loren and Christina Niemeyer Shotwell and was a resident of the Back Mountain area for the past 70 years. He was a miner and was employed for many years by the German Green Coal Co. He was also active in the construction industry.

Preceding him in death was a brother, Leo.

Surviving are a daughter, Lydia Woodruff, Rochester, NY; two granddaughters, one great-granddaughter.

Interment, Fern Knoll Burial Park, Dallas.

WILLIAM **THORNBURG**

William J. Thornburg, 63, of Box 209, Edgemont, S.D., formerly of Harveys Lake and Evans Falls. died Jan. 1, 1992, in Hot Springs Veterans Medical Center, S.D.

Born in Hockerville, Okla., he was the son of the late Oliver and Frances Leahy Thornburg. He served for four years with the Air Force and eight years with the National Guard in Rapid City, S.D. He was employed for most of his life as a construction superintendent and was formerly employed by American Asphalt, Shavertown.

Surviving are his wife, the former Dorothy Jean Meyer; daughters, Mrs. Brenda Wolyniec, Plains Township; Mrs. Diana Moyer, St. Mary's, W.V.; seven grandchildren; five sisters and three brothers.

Interment, Black Hills National Cemetery, Sturgis, S.D.

Agency could use volunteers, donations

As a non-profit organization with an increasing demand for its services, VISION, Inc. has many needs. Executive director Vince Kabacinski has suggested the best ways that concerned citizens can help out.

1. Volunteers are always needed for a variety of duties. The assistance of church or youth groups and Scout troops is always wel-

Because of its non-profit status, VISION often receives substantial discounts not available to the general public on purchases. Therefore cash donations are always welcomed, as they will be used to purchase supplies and to help defray the organization's many expenses.

For further information, contact VISION's office at 825-7235.



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