

Illness

(continued from page 1)

Hontz, had passed away right before the transplant," Mrs. Shaw said. "When Gary was well enough to be up and around his hospital room, he'd often take a cross and small flashlight and go into the closet by himself to talk to Grandpa in heaven."

Blood tests indicate that he is now free of leukemia, although doctors have told the family that they must wait three years before declaring the plucky boy completely cured.

Gary says that now he feels good and enjoys playing outside, going fishing and playing basketball. A third-grader at Northwest Area, he is doing well in school, recently scoring several "90's" and "100's" on his spelling tests.

He's also a Nintendo whiz. "My favorite game is Double Dragon," he said. "And I can get to the eighth world in Super Mario 3 - it's easy."

The family now faces another nightmare: Gary's cousin, Charles Lee, 23, of Dallas, was recently diagnosed with the same type of adult leukemia, detected during routine blood work two days before Lee was to have had eye surgery.

Mrs. Shaw said that Lee has been a patient at Hahnemann Hospital in Philadelphia for the past three weeks. Bone marrow tests show that his chemotherapy was successful, but he faces a long road to recovery. Mrs. Shaw said.

Another Back Mountain child battling the often devastating aftermath of cancer, Wendy Reese of Dallas, will also have a birthday shortly; she'll turn four March 12. But, unlike Gary, little Wendy won't be well enough to celebrate it.

Just before her third birthday in January, 1992, Wendy was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Her mother, Jennifer Reese, said that although the doctors tried their best with surgery, radiation and chemotherapy, Wendy has severe brain damage.

She is resting at home now, with nurses and the staff of Hospice St. John helping the family to keep her as comfortable as possible, Mrs. Reese said.

Catastrophic illness and its aftermath have changed the lives of the Turchin family, whose son, Eddie, underwent surgery and intense radiation treatments to

remove a malignant tumor on his pituitary gland 10 years ago, when he was eight.

Although the treatments were successful, Eddie has had to take many medications to counteract the complications that they caused.

In June, 1992, after Eddie had become an Eagle Scout and graduated from Lake-Lehman High School, doctors found an aneurism, a sort of balloon, in a major blood vessel, during a routine followup examination.

Doctors told the family that the aneurism was probably a result of the radiation treatments.

After surgery in early October, 1992, Eddie suffered two strokes, four bouts of pneumonia and other serious complications, which kept him at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania until December 29, when he was transferred to John Heinz Institute in Wilkes-Barre for rehabilitation.

"Eddie's progress has been slow because he has been so weak from all of his health problems," said his mother, Bonnie Turchin. "He recognizes people and is very aware of what's happening around him, although he still can't speak yet."

With the help of the staff at John Heinz, Bonnie and her husband, Ed, Sr., are learning how to help Eddie with physical therapy and to care for him at home. His mind is good, but he must learn basic motor skills, like getting out of bed, assembling puzzles and writing, all over again, Mrs. Turchin said.

Eddie loves to receive mail; his address is Room 200, John Heinz Institute, 150 Mundy St., Wilkes-Barre PA 19702.

Support from family, friends and neighbors has helped the Shaws, the Reeses and the Turchins through many rough times. Both Gary Shaw and Eddie Turchin received record numbers of cards while hospitalized, their families said.

Parents and friends of Wendy Reese's fellow students at the Trucksville Nursery School have helped to raise funds for the family, including quilt raffles.

Friends of the Turchin family have raised more than \$18,000 to help defray the costs of travel, food, lodging and other expenses not covered by health insurance.



Lake Silkworth Lions dinner

he Lake Silkworth Area Lions hosted the Harveys Lake Lions recently at a dinner meeting held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church hall. Anne Holmes, Instructor of Health Education at Penn State, Wilkes-Barre campus was the guest speaker. Anne loves to laugh and to share the information she has discovered related to how laughing is good for your health.

From left, Nostic "Doug" Dougiallo, Lake Silkworth Area Lions President; Tony Stefanowicz, Program Co-chairman; Anne Holmes; Thomas Baer, Harveys Lake Lions President; Glen Bynon, Harveys Lake Lions Secretary.

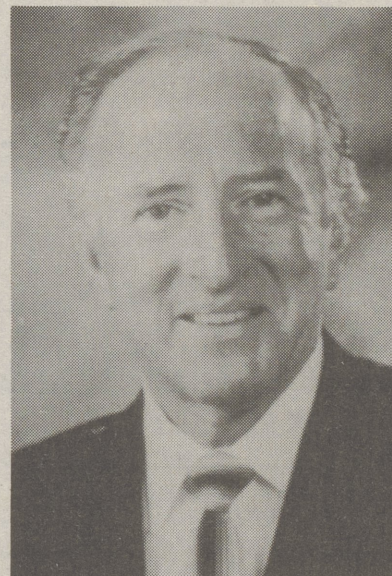
Thomas VanArsdale to chair L.C.C.C. fundraising dinner

Thomas H. Van Arsedale, of Shavertown, president and chief executive officer of Franklin First Financial Corporation, a parent company of Franklin First Savings Bank in Wilkes-Barre, has been named chairman of the Luzerne County Community College Foundation Corporate Dinner.

The dinner will be held on Thursday, April 1, at 5:30 p.m., at Cus Genetti's, Wilkes-Barre. Guest speaker will be Harvey Mackay, author of "Swim With the Sharks Without Being Eaten Alive, Beware of The Naked Man Who Offers You His Shirt" and "Shark Proof".

Van Arsedale holds an A.A. degree in business from Raritan Valley Community College, and a degree in Banking from Thomas A. Edison State College. He also graduated with honors from the Graduate School of Savings Banking.

Van Arsedale is active in many community organizations including the Savings and Community Bankers of America, the Pennsylvania Association of Community Bankers, the Center for Financial Studies, the Luzerne County Pennsylvania Economy League, the



THOMAS H. VAN ARSDALE

Committee for Economic Growth, the United Way, and the Kirby Center. He also serves as a faculty member of the National School of Banking. For dinner reservations, call the LCCC Foundation Office at 829-7360.

**Jackson Twp. cops to get extra training
New police cruiser ordered**

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Jackson Township's police officers will be going back to school soon.

The township supervisors approved extra training through the Luzerne County District Attorney's Office for the township's six officers at their regular meeting Monday, March 1.

The training, which District Attorney Peter Paul Olszewski has requested be mandatory for every police department, is intended to standardize countywide police procedure and make police more effective in dealing with protection from abuse orders, domestic violence and abuse cases, according to police chief Don Jones.

The supervisors approved sending assistant police chief Jerry Leedock and part-time officer Joseph Kasper to a day-long police training course at Penn State's main campus, which will cost the township \$40 per day per officer and the cost of gas for the cruiser which they will use for transportation.

The supervisors also approved the purchase of a 1993 Chevrolet Caprice police cruiser for \$15,346, fully outfitted with a special police equipment option package, through a state purchasing contract.

Zoning officer John Krupa warned residents and building contractors that they must post building permits on all buildings which are being repaired or renovated.

Larry Shewack, a representative of Cable-TV of Hazleton, supplier of cable television to the township, appeared to answer residents' questions about the company's billing practices.

Customers who pay their cable bill 12 months in advance no longer get the thirteenth month free, Shewack said. This practice has been discontinued by many other cable companies.

In response to customers' complaints about the \$2 service charge for late monthly payments, Shewack said that it was instituted as a deterrent to customers who are habitually past due; in

some cases it can be waived if the customer usually pays on time every month.

Solicitor Blythe Evans reported that the township's police officers had petitioned the Labor Relations Board to help them select a collective bargaining agent. "Basically, the supervisors aren't challenging this request; we just want to know who will represent the police in contract negotiations," explained supervisor Walter Glogowski.

The supervisors appointed Timothy Burnick to the full-time road crew, at a wage of \$8.22 per hour, with paid vacation and medical insurance. Burnick formerly worked part-time with the road crew.

Evans reported that LAW Environmental, Inc., which has been contracted to do mapping for a study for a low-level radioactive waste disposal site by Chem-Nuclear Systems, hasn't been able to locate four of the 53 properties in the township's 2,100-acre Agricultural Security Area.

Chem-Nuclear Systems has ruled out Agricultural Security Areas for possible sites for low-level radioactive waste disposal sites because they are protected as valuable working farms by the commonwealth.

"When we set up the Agricultural Security Area, we used the tax assessor's maps. LAW Environmental wants the page numbers from the county deed books where these farms are recorded, which don't always correspond to the tax maps," Evans said.

The supervisors asked secretary Henry Zbiek to contact the property owners and ask them for the deed book references, so that the area can be properly mapped.

Two of the four farms, 225 acres of Hillside Farms and the 265-acre Manzoni family farm, are among the original dozen farms included in the Agricultural Security Area when it was established in 1985.

The supervisors announced that they will hold public hearings on the revised zoning ordinance at 6 p.m. on Monday, May 3.

Police seek hit-and-run vehicle

Dallas Township police are looking for witnesses to an incident Sunday morning, February 21, at 10:15 a.m., in the parking lot of the Countryside Inn at Demunds Corners, Dallas Township, in which a man was struck by a white van or utility truck with a cable television logo on its side.

Police request that anyone who saw the incident call Patrolman Doug Higgins at 675-5251.

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