

Open house at new BMT therapy facility Oct. 24

Wyoming Valley Health Care System, Inc., and its Nesbitt Memorial Hospital and Wilkes-Barre General Hospital campuses invite community residents to an open house at its new Specialized Therapy and Rehabilitation (STAR) site, located at the Dallas Shopping Center, Route 309, Dallas.

Residents can visit the region's newest and most unique outpatient rehabilitation facility on Sunday, Oct. 24 from 1 to 5 p.m. During the open house, the professional staff of STAR will demonstrate the use of state-of-the-art equipment, which features the region's only AquaCiser, an underwater treadmill which has proven highly effective for rehabilitation and therapy. Staff also will conduct tours and answer inquiries relative to the rehabilitative and preventive services available through STAR.

Included in the various prize drawings for gifts and STAR t-

shirts will be a TREK 18-speed bike, compliments of Sickler's Bike Shop, Wilkes-Barre. Refreshments will be served, and complimentary information about the services available through the STAR program will be offered.

The new STAR site is an extension of the outpatient rehabilitative services currently offered in the occupational and physical therapy departments of the Nesbitt Memorial Hospital and Wilkes-Barre General Hospital campuses of Wyoming Valley Health Care System.

STAR's personalized programs are developed to rehabilitate, strengthen and condition the whole person. The STAR approach utilizes everything from nutritional counseling to personalized training with sophisticated equipment and advanced techniques.

For information about either STAR or the public open house, call Health Services at 283-4567.



POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

DECLARED UNFIT - Kingston Township officials have declared this home on Center Street in Shavertown unfit for human habitation.

Woman removed from Kingston Township home

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

An elderly Kingston Township woman has until October 22 to clean up her home on East Center Street or the township will either do it for her or have it demolished.

The supervisors voted at their October 13 meeting to take legal action against the woman for violations of the building and property maintenance codes.

"The people from Meals on Wheels had contacted us because she hadn't answered her door to pick up her meals for several days," said police chief James Balavage, noting that the condition of the home had deteriorated since the last time that he had been inside, approximately 2-1/2 years ago.

Township manager Jeff Box said that police found her semi-conscious amid a large accumulation of garbage inside the house.

She was transported to the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, where she is listed in fair condition, according to a hospital spokesman.

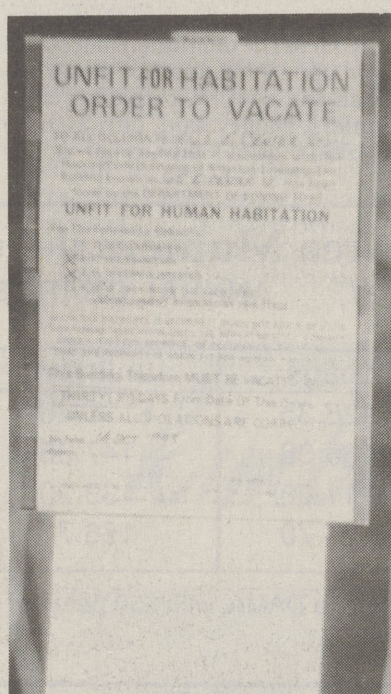
"We found rotten food, human waste, bugs and garbage all over the place inside," Box said, describing his inspection of the home. "I've never seen anything like this."

The small house stands out in the neighborhood of neat older homes, with a front porch was full of discarded items, including old furniture and a lamp.

A battered green older model four-door compact car with an expired license plate sat on the front lawn near the remnants of a driveway.

A long time ago someone had apparently tried to paint the home and given up. Its weathered first-floor wood siding was two different shades of dirty white. It was clear where the unknown painter had stopped.

Two yellow placards, one on the front door and the other on the front lawn, announced that the township had declared the home unfit for human habitation due to infestation by vermin and no working sanitary facilities.



Neighbors say the woman has several other properties and believe she could easily afford to live in better conditions. But she wasn't all that friendly and seemed to want only to be left alone.

People knew that she had problems, but she refused their offers of help.

Lois Voorhees, who lived next door to the house between 1966 and 1980, said that the woman had moved into the house after her husband died.

"(She) is a very different lady," Mrs. Voorhees said. "She was nice but didn't want to accept help."

"We could help her, but only up to a point," said Dan Fabricatore, another neighbor. "(She) is very independent. I shoveled her snow in the winter and another neighbor cut her grass during the summer. Other than allowing her to use our phone, that was it."

Neighbors don't know if the woman has any close relatives, other than a niece on her late husband's side.

"My heart breaks for her," Fabricatore said. "I'd really like to see her get some type of professional care."

Boating

(continued from page 1)

in not seeing any of our customers get killed."

The Association had previously asked the Fish and Boat Commission to pass a resolution similar to the one proposed. The commission looked into the possibility of maintaining a 25-35 mile per hour speed limit on the lake. Giordano was against that kind of action, saying the speed limit would be "impossible to enforce".

While the passing of the pending rule changes seem to be an obvious need to maintain safety, Giordano expects the regulations to be met with strong resistance.

"There are a lot of people out there who like to drive their boats as fast as possible at night," said Giordano. "They think it's cool. It's dangerous, that's what it is. The other argument is that there are some people who believe that if you give them (proposed rule changes) an inch, they'll take a mile. They think passing these regulations will open the door for other regulations."

As a businessman, Giordano has gone the extra mile in ensur-

"There are a lot of people out there who like to drive their boats as fast as possible at night. They think it's cool."

Guy Giordano
Sunset Marine

ing his customer's safety.

Although state law does not require him to do so, Giordano has each salesman fill out a safety checklist when delivering a new boat. The checklist includes taking the customer on the water, showing them danger spots and advising them of Coast Guard regulations.

"It's ludicrous to sell someone a boat, deliver it to them and not show them how to use it properly," said Giordano. "I believe a person should be able to buy a boat whenever they want to, but not without some kind of training or learner's permit. If you don't do that, you're jeopardizing the safety of your customers."

Leaf pickup schedules

Back Mountain communities have announced schedules for picking up bagged leaves.

Kingston Township: Bagged leaves left at curbside will be picked up between Oct. 26 and Nov. 6, between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Do not sweep leaves into gutters or roadways. Permits are required to burn leaves.

Dallas Borough: Leaves left in bags at the curb will be picked up as crews see them. Do not sweep leaves into gutters or roadways.

Dallas Township: Bagged leaf pickup will be Nov. 15-19. Bagged leaves may be brought to the rear of the township building any time.

Other Back Mountain communities have no leaf pickup services.

Municipal notes

Kingston Township

At their regular meeting October 13, the Kingston Township supervisors voted to:

- Approve the first reading of the amendment to the sign ordinance in order to regulate the size, configuration, lighting and location of any signs placed in business areas.

"This is an effort to prevent any road from becoming a neon and plastic strip like certain roads in Wilkes-Barre," said township manager Jeff Box.

- Authorize Box and solicitor Ben Jones to take legal action against Arlene Rineman of 65 East Center St. for violating the building and property maintenance codes. Her home has been posted with a sign declaring it unfit for human habitation.

- Appoint the Berkheimer Agency to collect local earned income taxes from 1994 until 1997.

- Appoint Nancy Slivinski, Trucksville, as a part-time clerk in the municipal office for 3-1/2 hours a day at \$5 per hour.

- Reject a request by the developers of Rose Hill Village to develop a portion of Aldrin Heights Road because it changes a previously approved subdivision plan.

- Approve the installation of a 10' by 12' shed at the township garage for the Kingston Township Raiders junior football team for storage.

Lake-Lehman School Board

At its regular meeting October 12, the Lake-Lehman School Board voted to:

- Pay maintenance staff member Arthur Rhone a stipend of \$1,000 for his assistance between the death of supervisor of buildings and grounds Karl Search and the appointment of his successor, Stanley Mazur.

Casting the lone dissenting vote, Kenneth Williams said that the board did not know that Rhone was doing extra work until the October 5 Committee-of-the-Whole meeting. "We had no information that this was going on. We should have known before, not after the fact," he said.

- Approve \$971,859.87 in bus contracts.

- Appoint substitute cafeteria worker Traci Visneski, three-hour cafeteria workers Terry L. Joyce and Linda O'Dell, at a rate of \$4.25 per hour, elementary substitute teachers Christine Harvey and Donna Brown and volunteer junior high soccer coach Gary McDade.

- Accept the resignation of custodian Barbara Jacoby.

Lehman Township

At their regular October 18 meeting, the supervisors voted to:

- Promote police sergeant Howard Kocher to chief, due to the pending retirement of chief William Goodwin, who will stay on until his retirement as part-time assistant chief to train Kocher.

- Appoint part-time patrolman Severn Newberry as full-time patrolman to replace William Purcell, who has retired due to illness.

- Appoint Chris Maransky as part-time patrolman.

- Notify the Huntsville Golf Course that the road over their newly installed golf cart tunnel has subsided and needs repaving.

- Direct secretary Jon Rogers to write to the Luzerne County Communications Center, requesting that any correspondence regarding the proposed county-wide 911 system be directed to the Back Mountain Communications Center.

Roadmaster Doug Ide updated the supervisors on the status of the new cruiser, which will be in service this weekend, and the plow trucks. The township purchased a new dump truck with a plow and ash spreader and plans to purchase a plow to replace the one destroyed in the March blizzard.

Ide is also looking into modifying the 1979 GMC plow truck to fit another spreader and is checking the price and availability of tire chains for all road department equipment.

by Grace R. Dove

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