



POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

Van and car collide

According to Dallas Township police, a 1986 Ford sedan operated by Lillian Williams, 82, of Kingston Township and a 1986 Dodge Ram van operated by James R. Brace, 29, of Swoyersville were involved in an accident on Lower Demunds Road at the Wyoming Road intersection October 11 shortly before 4 p.m. Williams told police she had stopped at the stop sign on Wyoming Road and was driving across Lower Demunds Road. Brace told police he was graveling south on Lower Demunds Road. Police said the vehicles collided in the intersection, where the Brace vehicle stopped. The Williams vehicle continued another 109 feet south on Lower Demunds Road, then travelled another 154 feet on the side of the road, coming to rest with its driver's side door wedged behind a tree on the road's southbound side. Patrolman Jeff Dennis investigated the accident.

POLICE LOG

DALLAS BOROUGH

Restaurant owner, illegal alien nabbed in heist

Police and federal officials are investigating the theft of two bags of cement from the construction site at Monroe Muffler on Route 309 and the involvement of an illegal alien.

Police said Vittorio Recchia, 35, owner of Mimmo's Pizza, and an employee, Fortunato Prieto Tepale, 23, of Mexico, were observed taking two bags of cement from the construction site October 12 shortly after 10:30 p.m.

Arresting officer Russell Devens later found the bags of cement in Recchia's truck parked in the Back Mountain Shopping Center. Recchia first told police he had permission to take the cement, which he intended to use to repair his driveway, but later admitted taking it without permission.

Tepale told police he is a Mexican citizen and is in the country illegally, according to the report.

Police have advised the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service of the incident.

Man steals, wrecks car

Patrolman Russell Devens is investigating the theft of a 1994 BMW 740 owned by Richard Angelicola of Dallas from the

parking lot of Pickett's Charge Restaurant. The car is valued at \$60,000.

Police said Mark Orwyn Culver, 26, of Tunkhannock, allegedly stole the car, then destroyed it in a one-vehicle accident, in which the car rolled over several times, on Route 292 in Wyoming County.

Culver was charged with driving while under the influence, receiving stolen property and theft by unlawful taking.

DALLAS TOWNSHIP

Bicyclist collides with camper

Police are investigating an accident between a bicycle and a van towing a pop-up camper on Route 415 October 12 shortly after 3:30 p.m.

Police said the cyclist, Ryan Donnelly, 19, of Dallas Township, and the 1992 Dodge Caravan and camper, operated by Jeffrey French, 30, of Utica, NY, were both traveling south on the highway near the new Agway store. French told police as passed the bicycle, he heard Donnelly's bicycle strike the side of the camper. A witness told police Donnelly was attempting to cross the highway behind the van.

Police haven't interviewed Donnelly, who is listed in guarded condition in the critical intensive

care unit at the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Patrolman Jeff Dennis is investigating the accident.

KINGSTON TOWNSHIP

DUI charged in 1-car accident

According to Kingston Township police, a 1988 Jeep Cherokee operated by Deborah Doughton, 31, of Noxen, was involved in a one-car accident on Dug Road, Bunker Hill, October 9 shortly after 7 p.m.

Police said Doughton was driving north on Dug Road when she failed to negotiate a right-hand curve and hit a tree approximately 150 feet north of the intersection with Atherholt Drive.

Doughton was taken by the Guthrie helicopter to the Robert Packer Hospital in Sayre, where she is listed in fair condition, according to a hospital spokesperson.

Police cited her for driving while under the influence, carrying an open container of beer in her car, careless driving and driving without car insurance. Her blood alcohol level was .153, police said.

The accident was investigated by Sergeant Michael Moravec and patrolman Robert Parrish.

DISTRICT COURT BRIEFS

Assault charges sent to county court

Dallas resident Lawrence Lee Moretti waived his right to a preliminary hearing October 11 before District Justice James Tupper on charges of assault, reckless driving, driving while intoxicated and driving with a suspended license. The charges will be sent to Luzerne County criminal court.

Related charges of reckless endangerment, making terroristic threats, harassment, criminal trespass, disorderly conduct and criminal mischief were dismissed.

According to court records, the charges resulted from an incident October 3, in which Moretti re-

fused to allow his son to return to Moretti's ex-wife, Kathy Moretti.

Moretti screamed obscenities at relatives of Mrs. Moretti's sister, threatened them, refused to leave their property, jumped up and down on their car, damaged the outside front of their house and ran into a pole with his car.

Represented by attorney Michael Hudacek, Moretti is free on \$10,000 bail.

Patrolman Scott Davis, assisted by patrolman Scott Baker, Lake Township police chief John Maslowski and Lehman Township patrolman Chris Maransky, investigated the incident.

FORGERY CHARGES SENT TO COUNTY

Alfred Murillo of Hazleton waived his right to a preliminary hearing on multiple counts of conspiracy to commit forgery, conspiracy to commit theft by deception and receiving stolen property October 12 before District Justice James Tupper.

The charges resulted from an incident in which Murillo and Stephanie Marie Siegel attempted to cash two checks for \$250 each and a third check for \$283 at two area grocery stores. The checks had been reported stolen from a resident of Wappingers Falls, NY. Police found 15 more stolen checks in Murillo's car.

Represented by attorney Glenn Brown, Murillo is lodged in the Luzerne County Prison in default of \$25,000 bail.

Patrolman James Drury, assisted by police chief Jack Fowler, patrolman Russ Devens Dallas Township patrolman Elliott Ide and Kingston Township sergeant Michael Moravec, investigated the case.

SHOPPING CTR. OWNER FACES CIVIL FINES

Shavertown Shopping Center owner Allan Reishtein of Wilkes-Barre was found guilty of violating the Kingston Township property maintenance code October 11 by District Justice James Tupper and has been ordered to pay a total of \$8,885 in fines and costs.

He was found not guilty of failing to place covers on three outside electrical junction boxes on light standards and accumulation of rubbish at the rear of the shopping center.

According to court records, zoning officer Ben Gorey noted loose, peeling paint on the exterior walls of the shopping center, stagnant water accumulated in potholes in the pavement and cracked, broken and potholed pavement in the parking and loading area.

Reishtein had been notified by certified letter of the violations, which Gorey had asked him to remedy.

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3 S.C.I.D. INMATES CAUGHT WITH DRUGS

Michael Hughes and Michael Charleston, inmates at the State Correctional Institution at Dallas (SCID), waived their right to preliminary hearings October 12 before District Justice James Tupper on charges of possession of controlled substances.

A third inmate, Christopher Jones, pled guilty to possession of marijuana, according to court records.

Corrections officers found seven hand-rolled marijuana cigarettes and eight small packets containing a small amount of heroin during a pat-down search of the defendant. Hughes identified the substances and told them he was holding them for a friend as a favor.

Corrections officers found seven latex glove fingertips in Charleston's pants pocket during a pat-down search of the defendant after he left B-Block's day room.

Charleston said he found the fingertips in a board game box in the day room and that he doesn't use drugs.

Corrections officers found 17 hand-rolled marijuana cigarettes wrapped in white paper in Jones's pants pocket while he was in the hearing examiner's room.

Jones said he didn't know what was in the package and he didn't put it into his pocket.

The charges against Charleston and Hughes will be sent to Luzerne County criminal court.

SAFECRACKER WAIVES RIGHT TO HEARING

Michael Trinajstic of North Plainfield, NJ, waived his right to a preliminary hearing on charges of burglary and theft by unlawful taking October 12 before District Justice James Tupper. The charges will be sent to Luzerne County criminal court.

Two related felony charges of criminal trespass were dismissed,

according to court records.

The charges resulted from an incident in which Trinajstic used a propane torch stolen from a business in Kingston to cut into the safe at the AAA Travel Agency in Dallas, removing \$44,068 in cash, tickets and traveler's checks.

He is lodged in the Luzerne County Prison in default of \$15,000 bail.

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NEWS

Coverage area: The Dallas Post covers the "Back Mountain" area of Luzerne County, including Dallas, Kingston, Lehman and Jackson townships, Dallas Borough, Harveys Lake and the Dallas and Lake-Lehman school districts. We try to get to as many events as possible, but staff and space limitations make it impossible to cover everything. If you have news about your family, town or organization, please send it to us and we'll try to get it in. Photographs are welcome; we prefer black and white, but color will usually work.

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