

Misericordia honors staff members

College Misericordia recently honored staff and faculty members during its 16th annual Employee Service Awards Dinner. Mary Beth O'Konski and Joan Dente received the first annual Staff Awards for service. Service Award recipients are: Dr. Pat McCann, RSM, 10 years; Mary Louise Komorek, 20 years; Carl Konecke, 25 years; Tom O'Neill, 25 years; Kit Foley, 10 years; Ann Sevenski, 10 years; Ralph Marsh, 15 years; Sr. Annette Diebold, RSM, 15 years; Carol Marchena-Hozempa, 10 years; and Dr. John Kachurick, 10 years. Absent from photo: Dr. Ann Elizabeth McLaughlin, RSM, 20 years; Charlotte Slocum, 15 years; and Rose Hometchko, 10 years.



Driver charged in October fatal accident on Rt. 415

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

DALLAS TOWNSHIP - Larksville resident Patrick James Brown, III, 26, was arrested November 15 and charged with involuntary manslaughter, driving while intoxicated and homicide by vehicle in connection with the October 11 accident which claimed the life of Melissa Pollick, 22, of Plains.

He was also cited for driving in a no passing zone, driving in the wrong lane, driving at an unsafe speed, careless driving and reckless driving, police said.

He was arraigned before District Justice Martin Kane and is lodged in the Luzerne County Prison in default of \$100,000 bail.

A second driver in the accident, Joseph Pilcavage, 26, of Shavertown, has been charged with driving with a suspended license and driving at an unsafe speed.

According to court records, Brown, Pilcavage, Pollick, Shavertown resident Robert Shotwell, 25, and Dallas resident Jessica Fritsky, 22, had been at The Grotto Restaurant at Harveys Lake the night of the accident.

As Brown, driving a 1984 Chevrolet Blazer owned by Janet Cox of Dallas, and Pilcavage, driving a 1986 Chevrolet Nova owned by

Back Mountain Vette in Dallas, were traveling south on Route 415, Brown attempted to pass Pilcavage in the highway's center turning lane.

He lost control of the Blazer, which struck the front of the Nova, then hit the wooden side wall of a block garage owned by Leslie Hoover alongside the highway.

As the Blazer climbed over the debris, Pollick was thrown from the side window into the building's rafters.

The Blazer came to rest against a Chevrolet Malibu parked at the rear of the building.

After the impact, the Nova slid along the highway's guard rails, flipped onto its roof and skidded into a utility pole and the roof post of the garage, coming to rest in the southbound lane.

Brown was driving at approximately 96 miles per hour, according to Pennsylvania State Police accident reconstructionist Trooper Weiss. Pollick was pronounced dead at the scene. According to an autopsy performed by Luzerne County coroner Dr. George Hudock, she died of multiple traumatic injuries.

Brown's preliminary hearing before District Justice James Tupper is scheduled for December 21 at 10 a.m.

No one bids on old cruiser

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

LEHMAN TOWNSHIP - The old police cruiser is so beaten up the supervisors can't even give it away. Although it was advertised for sale for "best offer," nobody sent in a bid.

"The red light on top works - sort of," said David Sutton. "It turns on, but won't go around and blink."

No one seemed to know what to do with it.

In more serious business, the supervisors accepted with regret the retirement of assistant police chief William Goodwin effective January 1. Goodwin, once the chief, stepped down to assistant chief last year to help Howard Köcher, who was appointed chief in his place.

"It was certainly an experience (in my first cruiser) watching the

roads go by through the floorboards," Goodwin wrote in his letter of resignation. He blamed "Father Time" for his retirement and asked the supervisors to continue to support the police department as well as they had supported him.

A request by Dan Cornell to rezone six acres of pasture on Route 118 from agriculture to business was unanimously denied.

"Based on what we're trying to do in this township, I suggest we deny it," said Ray Iwanowski. "It's a clear case of spot zoning, which we're trying to avoid."

Cornell has 30 days to appeal the decision. His attorney, Erik Dingle, said he didn't know what Cornell planned to do.

The supervisors also awarded a bid for road salt to Akzo-Nobel of Clarks Summit for \$35.95 per ton delivered.



POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

New business opens

Dream Weaver's, a family-operated gift shop featuring unique handcrafted, one-of-a-kind items, will hold its grand opening Thanksgiving weekend. It is located in Lake Township on Route 29 and Tulip Road, a mile south of Route 415. Hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Showing off some of the unique gift items are owner Randi Smith and Commander Cody the Traveling Cat. Randi and her parents, Marilyn and Bud Dale, make the items for sale.

Borough's budget holds 20-mill tax rate

DALLAS - The 20-mill property tax rate won't increase this year, according to the \$619,739 preliminary budget.

With estimated beginning fund balances of \$49,206 in monies from the general and motor tax funds, the borough anticipates revenues of \$570,533 next year.

Real estate taxes will generate an estimated \$152,000, while the per capita tax will bring in \$12,600. The earned income tax, expected to bring in \$256,000, makes up the lion's share of the budget.

Planned expenditures include \$112,086 for general government, \$197,655 for the police department's wages, materials and equipment, \$71,104 for public safety expenses and \$137,482 for public works - wages, equipment, anti-skid materials and road maintenance/resurfacing.

The borough last raised its property tax in 1993, when it went from 16 to 20 mills.

The Post has more local news

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Did you know

That College Misericordia's certification programs in child welfare, gerontology, and addictions counseling allow service professionals to become certified in new areas or expand their knowledge in their fields. You can achieve certification whether or not you have a degree or are presently working toward one. There are no prerequisites for the courses.

These certification programs can be taken in Misericordia's traditional evening or weekend college formats especially designed for today's adult learner.

For more information, call or write:

Office of Admissions
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