SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Vol. 106 No. 52

Dallas, Pennsylvania

Dec. 28, 1995 thru Jan. 2, 1996

# For some, holiday means another day at work

By GRACE R. DOVE Post Staff

BACK MOUNTAIN - While their neighbors open Christmas presents or relax in front of the television watching the New Year's Day Tournament of Roses Parade, police, merchants and those in the medical profession see the holidays as simply another work

Some, like Tina Cook, a registered nursing assistant at The Meadows Nursing Center, volun-

teer to work both Christmas and New Year's to give colleagues with small children time at home with

"If my parents were here, I'd be here anyway," said Cook, whose children are 15 and 16 years old. "You have to care - and the patients give it back in whatever way they can. They hug you or smile at you. Even on my days off I think

It isn't the money which motivates workers to pull shifts on holidays, said director of nursing

"Whenever we need help on holidays or days off, the slots are filled without any problems."

> Diane Malonis Director of nursing, The Meadows

services Diane Malonis. It's their dedication to their work.

"Whenever we need help on holidays or days off, the slots are filled without any problems," she

Working holidays are just part of the job, said Maryann Fosco, RN, who has been a nurse for 27

"I feel bad for those who have to be here," said Cindy Delescavage,

elderly people."

"You want to take them home with you," said Karen Eaton, RNA. "A lot of these people don't have anyone else. I think it's nice we can share time with them during the holidays."

Her friends have told her to find another job, but she doesn't want to, she said. "I sat around long enough. It's time to give back what I have received."

Her daughter, Tabitha, 14,

volunteers at The Meadows all year round, working in the laundry, with the patients - wherever she's needed.

"I like it," she said, smiling. "It's fun. The people are really cool."

The other nurses and RNA's agreed with Tina and Karen, who said they often think about their patients on their days off and stop in to check on them when they're not working.

See HOLIDAYS, pg 14

#### Cop's quick action saves youth from frozen creek

By GRACE R. DOVE Post Staff

TRUCKSVILLE - If it weren't for Kingston Township police officer Wade Curtis, Kenny Cummings's tumble into Toby's Creek might have had a less fortunate outcome.

After Cummings, 18, and his foster mother, Sylvia Wesley, had an argument, Cummings left the house and began walking down Route 309. Wesley reported the incident to sergeant Mike Moravec, who sent Curtis to try to talk with

Curtis spotted Cummings walking south on Route 309 near the rock cuts, where the boy jumped over the guard rail and tried to run off down the creek bed. He fell up to his chest into a deep pool in the icy, swirling water instead.

After unsuccessfully trying to pull Cummings out of the water with a large stick, Curtis waded into the creek and dragged him

"If the water had been any deeper or if Kenny had slipped, he would have gone under the ice

See COPS ACTION, pg 14

#### SOUND OF THE SEASON



POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

Adult choir members at Gate of Heaven provided special music for the December 21 Advent service. From left, back row: Eydie Piatt, Debbie Field, Mary Lou Stahovec, Marcia Matthews, Joe

DeCesaris; middle row: Paul Menapace, Sun Hee Koo, Terry Connery, Sheila Appel, Anna Appel; front row: Marcia Nelson, Susie Tomchak. More photos on page 3.

# Region's oldest veteran dies at 99

Thomas G. Reese was 99

By GRACE R. DOVE Post Staff

DALLAS - The Back Mountain lost its oldest veteran and a wellknown businessman with the death of Thomas G. Reese, 99, December 22.

Reese served in France in World War I and was one of the earliest members of The Daddow-Isaacs American Legion Post 672.

"His service in the war was a bit ironic," said his son, Dallas tax collector Thomas E. Reese. "His mother had called him at work and said. 'Come home and vote for Mr. (Woodrow) Wilson. He'll keep you out of war.' So Dad hopped a train, went home and voted for Mr. Wilson. Later he was drafted to serve in World War I."

The son of John and Catherine Reese, he joined his father in business in the Reese Building on

See VETERAN, pg 14

## Runaway tanker takes • out traffic signal pole

By GRACE R. DOVE Post Staff

DALLAS TOWNSHIP - The driver of a small tanker carrying kerosene escaped injury after his truck hit another vehicle, crossed a busy intersection, knocked over a new traffic signal and landed upright in a creek Friday morning shortly before 9 a.m.

The driver, Lehman Township resident John Dawe, 45, told police he didn't know how the accident happened because he had blacked out

Police said Dawe's truck, a 1985 International tanker, was traveling east on Route 118 when it struck the side of a 1989 Ford F-150 pickup truck operated by Charles D. Nafus, 34, of Plymouth, which had turned onto Route 118 east from the parking lot of the Pen-Mart store at the Route 415 intersection.

The tanker continued through the intersection, knocking over a traffic signal, became airborne and landed upright in the creek bed. No kerosene was spilled, police

The traffic signal was recently installed and is owned by

See TANKER, pg. 14



This tanker truck, owned and operated by Lehman Township resident William Dawe, 45, landed upright in the creek between the Game Commission offices and Turkey Hill at the intersection of Routes 118 and 415 Friday morning after striking another

### 18-year-olds can apply to be HL police officers

By GRACE R. DOVE Post Staff

HARVEYS LAKE - Now that the minimum age for police service has been lowered from 20 to 18, younger police officers will have a chance to work at Harveys

The council unanimously approved the age change at their regular December 19 meeting.

"Most of our police applicants

are between 18 and 20 years old," said mayor Rick Boice, who is responsible for the police department. "The Pennsylvania State Police Academy and many municipal departments will take 18year-olds. I hope the lowered age will help us select officers."

The borough presently employs two full-time officers, one of whom is the chief, and four part-time

See 18-YEAR-OLDS, pg 2

### No reason given for township solicitor's resignation

By GRACE R. DOVE Post Staff

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP - The township found itself closing the year without any legal counsel when the supervisors unanimously accepted the resignation of solicitor John Aciukiewicz.

Planning commission solicitor Joseph Vullo had resigned at the end of November. The supervisors refused to give any reasons for the attorneys' resignations.

Both attorneys were involved in the ouster of Frank Hilstolsky and chairman Ed Dorrance from the planning commission in late September. Aciukiewicz had conducted the hearing to remove Hilstolsky, which Vullo testified

Dorrance had resigned the day before the hearing from the planning commission at the supervisors' request "for the good of the township.'

Getting rid of Dorrance and Hilstolsky cost the township about \$2,000 more than the total amount budgeted last year for legal fees, according to supervisor William Miller. The township's 1995 budget provided for \$2,500 apiece for Aciukiewicz and Vullo.

The supervisors also unanimously approved the 1996 budget for \$318,682, with an eight-mill property tax. Chairman Robert Redmond, secretary Sandra Race and several members of the audience said the property tax has been eight mills for as long as they can remember.

Income is expected to increase by 42 percent from last year's \$176,597, almost entirely due to an anticipated \$80,000 federal

The earned income tax will increase \$8,000, or approximately 10 percent, to \$90,000, while real estate taxes will increase by \$1,000, or three percent, to \$31,000.

Zoning and subdivision fees will increase 52 percent or \$3,550 to \$10,350, due to a new schedule which doubles zoning hearing board fees and income from the sale of copies of the zoning ordi-

nance and map. Zoning permits will increase by 172 percent or \$7,600 to an anticipated \$12,000.

Township employees will enjoy pay raises, except for Race, whose \$12,000 salary will remain the same, and the supervisors, who will still receive \$125 per meeting.

Zoning officer Art Owen's salary has doubled from \$3,000 to \$6,000 because it is being calculated differently. Last year Owen received \$3,000 plus a percentage of all zoning fees collected, while this year he will earn a flat

annual salary. The road foreman will earn \$10 per hour, while equipment operators will earn \$8 per hour and laborers will earn \$6 per hour.

#### Students write about school in their own words. Pg 6.

Budgets passed by many Back Mountain towns. Pg 2.

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