

## TV station

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commitment from Chase Manhattan Bank for \$5 million.

Pappas Telecasting of America is a limited partnership, headquartered in Visalia, California. It was formed July 11, 1996 in Sacramento, with Harry J. Pappas as general partner and a limited partner. He holds 92.7 percent of the shares, and 99 percent of the voting stock. Other partners are Pappas Telecasting, a 4 percent general partner and 3.3 percent limited partner; Leon G. Abercrombie, a 2 percent limited partner; and Dennis Davis, a 2

percent limited partner. Pappas and his wife, Stella, have interests in television and radio properties in seven states.

The full text of the application was sent by Pappas Telecasting's attorneys to the "Black Mountain Memorial Library," where it is on file for public view.

A call placed to the California office of Pappas Telecasting of America was not returned. The person who answered the phone said only Harry J. Pappas could speak about the new station.

## Firefighter

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work." "All I can say is he's innocent until proven guilty in a court of law," said assistant fire chief Howard Smith. Fire chief Ron Witkowski declined to comment.

According to investigating officer Tpr. Andrew Petros of the Pennsylvania State Police fire marshal's office, next-door neighbor Richard W. Phillips told police he noticed a truck with its motor running parked in front of the vacant home. Phillips told police he was getting ready to go fishing at about 2:30 a.m.

Phillips identified the man he saw running from the home and getting into the truck as Strazdus, whom he has known for "a number of years" and saw clearly when the truck's interior light came on, the police report said.

The man sped away in the truck, a black GMC with a red light on its roof, ran the stop sign at the end of Village Road and headed down Eighth Street. Phillips followed the truck in his car.

Phillips told police he had driven about 3/4 mile down Eighth Street when he had to slow down and drive partially off the roadway to avoid being struck by an oncoming vehicle, which he identified as the black pickup truck with the red light on its roof which he had seen several minutes earlier.

He turned his car around to go home, but saw a glow in the sky from a fire at the Emanuel Bus Company garage, approximately 1/4 mile north of his home, and drove there to check it out before going home.

Police found the remnants of a road flare inserted into the wooden

doorjamb of a wood basement door, which they say caused the fire. The suspect had gained access to the wooden door through an outside metal Bilco door. Damage was confined to charring of the frame and door jam. The house, which is owned by G. E. Capital Mortgage of San Bernardino, CA, was also filled with smoke from the flare.

A subsequent police check of the fire truck's flare box showed that it contained the same type of flares as the one used in the fire in the vacant home. This type of flare is also used by the state police, Petros reported.

The fire was the second of three that night, which the fire marshal has ruled arson. The first fire, at a home owned by Pittston residents Frank and Luzille Fronczek on Green Castle Road in Centermoreland, was discovered at approximately 3:25 a.m. and was followed by the fire in the vacant home. A third fire was discovered at 3:35 a.m. at the rear of the Emanuel Bus Lines on Village Road, 1/4 mile from Richard Phillips's home. Six school buses owned by the bus company, which provides transportation to the Dallas School District, were heavily damaged.

"I read all the charges against Joe in the newspaper, but I don't understand it at all," Bartholomew said. "If he's their man - well, it only takes one bad apple."

Strazdus's preliminary hearing is scheduled for August 28 at 9:30 a.m. before District Justice James Tupper.



## ARTSY TYPES

William Fulton, Dallas, at left with his prize at Arts at Hayfield Sunday. Lisa Owens, Hunlock Creek, right, showed off her painted metalware. Jamie Rummage, center of top right photo, of Lehman, and Thomas and Janis Rosser, showed off the hats and pillows grandma had for sale. Top left, Alexandra Nakkache, Dallas, with a colorful tie-dyed t-shirt

POST PHOTOS: CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

## Skateboards

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vately owned, according to police chief Jack Fowler.

"These things are a real hazard," he said. "They come out of nowhere. Kids have been riding on sidewalks and down the middle of roads, jumping up over curbing and ruining plants and shrubs on private property. The wheels also chip the edges of the curbs. One nearly hit a man in the Dallas Shopping Center. The kids don't have much control over them - skateboards can't stop on a dime. Luckily nobody has been hurt yet."

Skateboarders are also using private parking lots after business hours, moving concrete stops to make ramps and not putting them back in place, he added. When people drive into the lots, they hit the stops and damage their cars. Shopping center own-

*"These things are a real hazard. They come out of nowhere."*

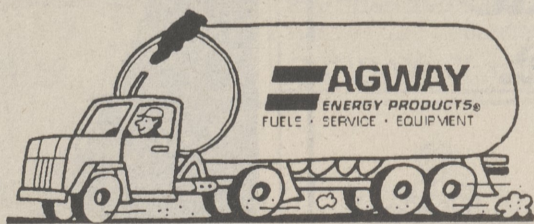
**Jack Fowler**  
Dallas Boro police chief

ers have put up signs to discourage the skateboarders, to no avail. "We have seen parents from out of town dropping their kids off in Dallas during the evening to go skateboarding," Fowler continued. "The borough has several large paved areas, which are probably the main attraction."

Residents also say they have seen youngsters whom they don't recognize skateboarding through their neighborhoods during the evening.

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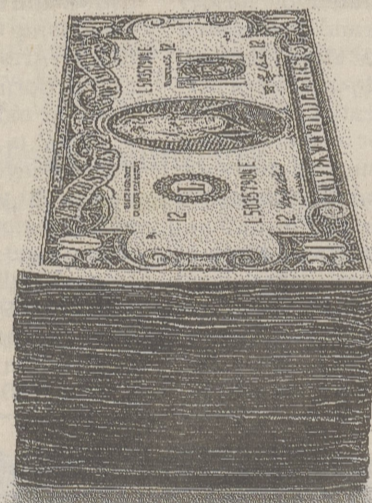
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