

Speeding car shoves another into house

The driver of a 1988 Chevrolet Beretta which struck another car from the rear and pushed it into a house Sept. 13 has been cited for speeding.

Richard Lorah, 16, of Trucksville told police he was traveling at "about 55 or 60 mph" on Hildebrandt Road and was unable to stop when he came down a hill near the intersection with Sedlar's Road and saw a 1986 Chevrolet Citation operated by Anna Miller, 79, turning into her own driveway.

His car struck the Miller car, pushed it into the driveway and against the side porch of Miller's home and came to a stop in Miller's front yard, about 47 feet from the point of impact.

Lorah's car laid down 269.4 feet of skid marks on the roadway, police said. A witness told police he saw Lorah's tires smoking as he hit the brakes. The car is registered to Arlene G. Lorah of Kingston.

Mrs. Miller was taken to Wilkes-Barre General Hospital by the Dallas Ambulance.



POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

Dallas rescue personnel removed Anna Miller, 79, from her car after it was struck in the rear by a vehicle operated by Richard Lorah and pushed into Miller's driveway and side porch. The accident occurred Sept. 13 around 4:30 p.m. on Hildebrandt Road.

Former police scientist faces evidence tampering charges

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

WYOMING - Harveys Lake resident Frank Michael Butcofski, 30, was arrested and charged September 12 with tampering with evidence in connection with his former job with the State Police laboratory, where he worked for five years as a civilian forensic scientist.

He was charged with one count each of making false reports to law enforcement authorities, tampering with or fabricating physical evidence, tampering with public records and obstructing administration of law.

The first two charges are third-degree misdemeanors, punishable by a fine of up to \$2,500 and up to one year in prison, while the last two charges are second-degree misdemeanors, punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000 and up to two years in prison.

According to public information officer Trooper Joseph Lakkis, Butcofski was fired from his position November 11, 1995, after "several serious discrepancies" were found in his work. Lakkis refused further comment, saying, "More will come out at the hearing."

The state police have investigated about 800 cases which Butcofski may have been involved in, and have found he worked on seven, according to district attorney Peter Paul Olszewski.

"At this point we have no information to indicate this case has affected our office," he said. "We are proceeding on a case by case basis."

Butcofski was arraigned before District Justice Fred Pierontoni and released on \$10,000 bail. His preliminary hearing is scheduled for Sept. 18 at 3 p.m. before District Justice Carmen J. Maffei.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

The following property deeds were recorded at the Luzerne County Courthouse for the week of Aug. 30 - Sept. 5:

- Luzerne County Housing Auth. to Nancy Hohn, 2 Terrace St., Dallas Twp., \$78,500.
- Anthony M. Lizza, et ux, to Craig D. Rome, et ux, 2,267 ac Lot 5A, Franklin Twp., \$190,000.
- Albert Gultus, II per sheriff to Bank of N.Y. trustee, 48 Burnum Plot, Harveys Lake Bor., \$2,904.
- Carol Kawasaki, vir al, to Joseph Solinski, et ux, 9.55 ac. Jackson Twp., \$27,500.
- Anthony J. Garbush, et ux, to William V. Sharkoski, et ux, 42 Meadowcrest Manor, Jackson Twp., \$24,500.
- Flamar Realty, Inc. to Gerald R. Fisher, et al, 15.135 Creekside, Kingston Twp., \$70,000.
- Maple Crest II Dev. Co., to C & G Homes, Ivy Dr., 0.55 ac., Kingston Twp., \$38,333.
- Maple Crest II Dev. Co., to C & G Homes, Lot 10, 0.52 ac., Kingston Twp., \$38,333.
- Maple Crest II Dev. Co., to C & G Homes, Ivy Dr., 0.53 ac., Kingston Twp., \$38,333.
- Woodridge Associates to Steven J. Kurzweil, M.D., et al, 2,9807 ac., Lantern Hill, Kingston Twp., \$92,500.
- Gerald R. Fisher, to Mark A. Kolojchick, et ux, 69, 69A Meadowcrest, Kingston Twp., \$23,000.
- Donald A. Williams, et ux, to Timothy E. Walters, et ux, 35 Tripp St., Lot 45, Lake Twp., \$90,850.
- Margaret V. Huck, vir al, to Timothy E. Walters, et ux, 2.70 ac./3.77 ac., Lake Twp., \$190,000.
- Real Time Development Inc., to Stephen J. Horan, et al, 14 Pleasant Meadows, Ross Twp., \$53,000.
- Donmark Enterprises to Michael S. Serafin, et ux, 9, 10 Trailing Pine Acres, Ross Twp., \$20,000.

DISTRICT COURT BRIEFS

Dallas man charged twice for using altered license plate

Dallas resident Brian Bailey, 38, waived his right to preliminary hearings on charges of driving an unregistered vehicle and improper use of automotive documents in two separate incidents Sept. 12 before District Justice James Tupper. A companion, Tia Dudyk, 40, of the same address was also charged in one of the incidents.

Related summary offenses of driving without a valid insurance card and driving with a suspended or revoked driver's license against Bailey were suspended, according to court records.

Bailey and Dudyk were arrested July 5 by Dallas Borough patrolman James Drury after police saw Bailey driving a car with an expired license plate with a sticker removed to show the plate's original temporary sticker. He was charged in the first incident with using an altered plate, driving without a valid license, driving an

unregistered vehicle and improper use of documents.

Dudyk was charged in the same incident with altering a license plate after she told police that she had never received a validation sticker for the plate, which had been issued to a different car.

Bailey was arrested again Aug. 3 by Dallas Borough patrolman James Martin, who noticed the car had an expired license plate. Bailey told police, "I just want to tell you everything on this car is as illegal as you can think."

During a records check, police found the license plate had been issued to another car, its validation sticker had been altered and Bailey's driver's license was suspended. Police charged him with improper use of documents, using a license plate on the wrong vehicle and driving an unregistered car.

Both Bailey and Dudyk were represented by public defender Jonathan Blum.

PLEADS GUILTY TO HARRASSMENT

Harveys Lake resident Thomas P. Tomulaitis, 40, pled guilty to two counts of harrassment at a preliminary hearing Sept. 9. Related charges of simple assault (two counts), disorderly conduct (three counts) and resisting arrest were dismissed, according to court records.

He was arrested May 17 by Lehman Twp. police chief Howard Kocher and charged with two counts of disorderly conduct and resisting arrest after running his car into an embankment on the

Troxell Switch Road, jumping into the front seat of the Dallas Borough police cruiser, kicking patrolman James Drury in the legs and thrashing around.

Tomulaitis then jumped out of the cruiser and began to run away from Drury, who subdued and handcuffed him with the help of three other officers.

Tomulaitis resisted treatment from paramedics and ambulance personnel, continued to struggle after being placed into the cruiser and kicked its left rear window from its track before police subdued him with pepper spray.

Tomulaitis also was arrested May 23 by Harveys Lake officer Jeff Butler and charged with two counts each of simple assault and harrassment and one count of disorderly conduct after Jack Kugler told police Tomulaitis grabbed him by the throat and hit him with his closed fist.

Lehman Twp. chief Howard Kocher, Dallas Twp. patrolman Brian Feeney, Leedock and state police trooper James Pugh assisted in the arrest.

D.U.I. CASES SENT TO COUNTY COURT

Two defendants charged with D.U.I. waived their rights to preliminary hearings before District Justice James Tupper.

After failing field sobriety tests, both refused to take blood alcohol tests, which results in automatic loss of one's driver's license for a year under state law.

West Pittston resident John J. Hudock, 31, was arrested Aug. 11 by state police trooper G. T. Vogue after police observed him following the marked state police cruiser at a distance of 15 to 20 feet, then after legally passing it, driving erratically.

Hudock was also cited for following too closely, not staying in the marked traffic lane and driving at night with defective headlights.

He was represented by attorney Larry Brand.

Franklin Twp. resident Robert A. Barna, 24, was arrested May 26 by Kingston Twp. officer Franklin Buckler after police clocked his car exceeding the

posted speed limit by 36 mph and driving erratically on Rte. 309.

Barna was also cited for driving 71 mph in a zone posted for 35 mph.

He was represented by attorney Al Flora.

NOXEN MAN CHARGED WITH HARRASSMENT BY PHONE

A misdemeanor charge of harrassment by communications against Noxen resident William G. Harrison, Jr., 39, was sent to Luzerne County criminal court after a preliminary hearing Sept. 12.

He was arrested July 15 by Lake Twp. police chief John Masloski after an investigation by Commonwealth Telephone traced six calls made between 1:07 a.m. and 1:34 on that date to his telephone.

Harrison told police he didn't make the calls and his phone is located outside in an unlocked shed.

He waived his right to legal counsel.

SWOYERSVILLE MAN FINED

Swoyersville resident John Boehm, 35, pled guilty to defiant trespass and disorderly conduct and paid a fine of \$300 plus \$82 costs after a preliminary hearing Sept. 12. Related charges of resisting arrest, public drunkenness and three additional citations for disorderly conduct were dismissed.

He was arrested July 4 by Kingston Twp. officer Martin Maransky after refusing to leave a Meadowcrest residence and strug-

gling with three police officers investigating the disturbance.

Dallas Twp. patrolman Brian Feeney and Dallas Borough police chief Jack Fowler assisted in the arrest.

CHARGES DISMISSED

Charges of simple assault and harrassment against Trucksville resident Patricia Senese, 44, in connection with an incident involving her son, Joseph, were dismissed Sept. 12.

Correction

Ashley Neiman, of Franklin Township, was incorrectly identified as Holly Neiman in a photo caption in last week's issue.

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