

## Night shift

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accident that occurs at night, Higgins said. "Sober drivers usually are not out late at night," he said.

Higgins and his partner can get silly while logging 150 miles a night patrolling the area. "It helps to have someone with you on patrol. It makes it easier," said Higgins, who has been a policeman for seven years. "We get goofy and joke around. Some other guys play hide and seek around the station."

Working night patrol, Higgins knows several other night workers, including Goldie Mingus of Dallas. Mingus, 49, is cashier for Orloski's in Dallas from 10:30 p.m. to 8 a.m. five days a week. She has been working the graveyard shift for more than a year and hopes to switch to daytime hours.

"I want to have a normal life again," she said with a laugh. The clock strikes 12:30 a.m. as she hands the bathroom key to two college-age girls. "Don't steal it," she jokes as gives the huge square key chain to one of the girls.

"I'm a night person to an extent, but when I get off here I can't sleep well," said Mingus, who wakes up every couple of hours without getting a full day's sleep.

Despite her lack of sleep, Mingus is energetic and all smiles. "There is so much to keep me busy. I have a duty roster to do, I can clean and straighten," she said.

Mingus said she is surprised how many people are out in the middle of the night. "There are lots of weird people out," she said.

But, she generally gets a good group of patrons. "I have really good customers and the police have been really protective of us. The way they protect us I'm not worried (about anything happening)," said Mingus.

She has called the police four times on unruly people. "The police had no problem with coming and solving the problem immediately. I don't put up with a lot."

Mingus also has her regulars to chat with throughout the night.

*"I'm a night person to an extent, but when I get off here I can't sleep well."*

**Goldie Mingus**  
Works at Orloski's

"Quite a few come every single night," she said, mentioning Off-set employees.

The busiest nights tend to be Sunday, Monday and Thursday, she says.

When the girls return from the restroom, Mingus is reminded the Misericordia and Penn State students who frequent the late night spot for snacks.

"They are nice kids. I get to know them and they will come in and say 'bye' when they leave to go home. Or they come in and say 'hi' when they get back in town. I have a nice time with the kids," said Mingus. "But, they sure don't like to be carded for cigarettes."

Speaking of cigarettes, Bill Iveson, 18, seems to know what everyone who is up after 1 a.m. smokes. "See the guy with the white car. He always gets Marlboro Menthols and his wife gets a Camel hardpack," he says as the man approaches the tiny glass cubicle packed with tobacco and candy bars. Iveson hands him the cigarettes almost before a single word is spoken.

Iveson works from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. every night at the Hess station on Rt. 309. The Luzerne resident has been at the job for three months and enjoys being awake while most other people are snoring up a storm.

"I have always worked the night shift. I'm really a night person. I stay up all night even if I don't work," he said. Iveson sleeps until around 3:30 in the afternoon.

At 1:15 a.m. he identifies another regular customer by name. The two chat for a minute, the man pays and Iveson sits back in his chair.



POST PHOTOS/KYLIE SHAFFERKOEETTER

**Bill Iveson's workday** starts at 11 p.m. He says night work requires a "certain kind of person."

*"Yeah, you definitely have to be a certain kind of person to work at night."*

**Bill Iveson**  
Works overnight at Hess

coming in soon, around 2:20 a.m."

His busy hours are 2:30 a.m., when the bars let out; 3:30 a.m., when Offset is on break and 5:30 a.m., when people start going to work.

Iveson has some stories to tell. "Two nights ago a car was going down the highway backwards. The police pulled him over," he said. "I

see a lot of weird things. One time a guy driving a huge rig pulled in. He had a 12 pack of beer on his seat and was slamming beers. He almost hit the building," he said.

As Iveson told this story, a man staggered to the window to pay for his gas.

"Yeah, you definitely have to be a certain kind of person to work at night," he said, with a smile.

"You get to know everyone at night. I have regulars who come for Pepsis and drunks who come out at 2 a.m. for smokes," he said. "It's interesting."

Iveson also has gotten to know many police officers in the area. "The night cops stop in and talk to you," he said. "I also get to know the truckers. One guy should be

## Dallas Twp.

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we told him to get out of there." Swan did not remove the trailer, which resulted in Tupper's decision last year. Now the case is headed toward Commonwealth Court.

In other business, the board of supervisors decided to enter into an agreement with PennDOT. Under the new Agility Project, set up by PennDOT as a workshare program between the state and municipalities, the state will paint lines on the roads if the township cuts brush along roadsides.

"They will paint two white and double yellow lines for us," said Frank Wagner, supervisor. "Sounds like a good deal to me," said Glen Howell, supervisor.

The supervisors also authorized PennDOT to perform a traffic study at Center Hill Rd. and Rt. 309. The study will determine whether a pre-emption traffic signal button for the new fire station will be feasible. The button would turn the traffic signal green for the fire trucks and ambulances in emergency situations.

*"It should've been zoned B-3 business to begin with."*

**Len Kozick**  
Zoning officer

George Kebles, who lives on Goldsmith Rd. asked the board to erect a speed limit sign on the road. "Just something to slow them down a little bit," said Kebles. "People come fast off Demunds and don't slow down when they hit the dirt road." Wagner said he would get a "Children at Play" sign out to slow drivers.

The township will be holding its leaf pickup Nov. 17-22. Residents are to have their bags of leaves out by the curb and away from their garbage. Leaves may be left behind the township municipal building on Rt. 309 any time.

The first November board of supervisors meeting will be held Nov. 3 at 7:30 p.m.

## BMT Harvest Assembly starts kids program

Back Mountain Harvest Assembly Church has begun a new program for children ages 18 months to 12 years, the Missionettes and Royal Rangers. Deb Burke is the program coordinator. All local children are invited to attend the program which is held on Sunday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the church which is located at 340 Carverton Rd. in Trucksville.

Burke said the program is designed to provide group interaction while teaching life skills, personal responsibility and biblical values. Everything from cooking to camping, servanthood to leadership and Abraham to Zechariah will be taught in fun, creative ways, she said. All activities are designed to build a child's self-esteem and to strengthen families.

For more information on the Royal Rangers and Missionettes program, call 696-1128 or 675-0152

## Ghost stories to be told Oct. 17 at park

On Friday Oct. 17 from 7 - 8 p.m. Frances Slocum State Park hosts the "Voices of the Valley" as they present their popular ghost stories program. Follow the signs from the park entrance. Bring your own seating. One dollar donation to benefit the Osterhout Free Library.

## Dallas Auxiliary to sponsor party

The Dallas American Auxiliary will sponsor a Halloween party for the children of the Back Mountain area. Jean Levi, President of the Auxiliary announces the party will be held for children up to the age of 12 years.

The party will be on Sat., Oct. 25, at the Dallas American Legion Post 672 starting at 2 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Prizes will be given for costumes in all different categories.

Daddow-Isaac American Legion Post 672 is located in Dallas at Route 415 and Center Hill Road, directly across from The Meadows Nursing facilities. Anyone wishing further information may contact the Legion at 675-6245 or any member of the Auxiliary.

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