

IN THE SERVICE

Marine Pvt. Matthew L. Chihego, son of Bernard E. and Carol A. Chihego of Dallas, recently completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC.

Chihego successfully completed 12 weeks of training designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally. Chihego and fellow recruits began their training at 5 a.m., by running three miles and performing calisthenics. In addition to the physical conditioning program,

Chihego spent numerous hours in classroom and field assignments which included learning first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat and assorted weapons training. They performed close order drill and operated as a small infantry unit during field training.

He is a 1998 graduate of Lake-Lehman High School.

Army Spec. John J. Kasmark has graduated from basic military

training at Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Mo. During the training, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history and traditions. Kasmark is the son of Veronica A. and Joseph A. Kasmark of Dallas. He graduated in 1991 from Bishop O'Reilly High School, and received a bachelor's degree in 1995 from King's College.

HL sewer

(continued from page 1)

amount of money when you're operating 14 pumps," said Mann. "At every meeting the board has two piles of bills and we say 'These here need attention and those will have to wait.'" The prime checks that have to go out are the ones dealing with the pumping stations and our FHA loan."

The FHA note, began in the amount of \$4,045,008 at an interest rate of 5 percent. It is payable in semi-annual installments of \$133,931, but FHA allowed the authority to skip a payment in 1988, which was then added to the end of the payment schedule. This debt represents a large portion of HLGMA's expenditures. "That is our mortgage we have to pay it on time, said Mann. "If we are even two days late we are fined \$5,000 for every day it is past due."

Other long-term debts incurred by the HLGMA include a promissory note in the amount of \$175,000 payable to Summit Bank in quarterly installments. HLGMA borrowed the funds in 1997 to finance upgrades to the borough's sewer system. "Our pumps are over 20 years old and we have a lot of them," said Mann. "If something happens to one of them we're in real trouble be-

cause we have to go out and borrow money to fix or replace what's broken."

HLGMA budgeted \$50,000 for repairs and maintenance in 1999. "The system was installed in 1977," said Boice. "The pumps have been really good. I'd say in the roughly 25 years they've been in the ground we've replaced about 10 out of the 14. Of course, we repair whatever we can but sometimes you just have to go ahead and put in a new unit."

A lawsuit filed by the Dallas Area Municipal Authority (DAMA) further complicates the financial picture for HLGMA officials. DAMA claims HLGMA failed to make payments in accordance with a service agreement between the two municipal authorities. A letter from Tom Bagley, executive direc-

tor of DAMA, threatens to terminate sewage service effective January 1, 2000 if payments totalling more than \$400,000 are not received.

Harveys Lake officials dispute the claim by the DAMA, saying contracts between the agencies were rendered void when DAMA ceased operation of its waste water treatment facilities. "I think the contract should be renegotiated," said Boice. "We should be paying a pass-through fee to DAMA for the service they provide, we should not have to pay for sewage treatment because they aren't doing that anymore."

The service agreement, which was signed March 15, 1973 and is due to expire December 31, 1999, requires HLMGA to share in the cost of general maintenance and operation expenses incurred by DAMA. An audit of DAMA's finances for the year ending 1998 indicates HLGMA owes \$159,220, including \$10,737 for 1998. "I can't say anything about the case we filed against DAMA or the one they filed against us," said Boice. "But what I want to make clear, is that they think we owe them money and we think DAMA owes us money. They're saying we owe them four (hundred thousand dollars) but we're saying they owe us six, or eight, or ten (hundred thousand dollars)."

It is not clear who made the decision to stop payment to DAMA, and there is no record of a resolution by the board about the disputed claims. "I don't remember voting on that," said Mann. "I think, to the best of my recollection, it was something we did on the advice of counsel."

This year's working budget does not include DAMA payments other than sewage treatment fees, totalling \$142,786 in 1999, paid to Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority (WVSA). "We regularly pay sewage treatment fees which DAMA passes on to WVSA but we have been late at times, let's be fair," said Mann.

Maintenance, operation and capital costs, which DAMA claims HLGMA is obligated to share have not been paid since 1993. "We pay all our bills, except those in litigation," said Boice, who added he is not regularly involved in HLGMA financial matters. "The money management is all left up to the board - I have enough to do keep-

are so high here but we're in the ball park," said Boice. "Just the other day I opened the yellow pages and started calling around to other municipal authorities to find out what they're charging. I found out our bills here are not that high. For example, Newton Township, which has 4 pumping stations charges \$330, Shickshinny, which has two stations charges \$240, and in Stroudsburg it's \$606."

Boice said the HLGMA supervisors work hard to ensure residents are getting the most for their money. "I think it's a very good board; all along they have been trying to keep from raising sewage fees for the residents," he said. "In any community you look around for people to sit on a board like this and you try to get successful, educated people and that's exactly what we have done. There are three successful business people, a CPA and an educator on the board. We don't have stupid people making these decisions."

"At every meeting the board has two piles of bills and we say 'These here need attention and those will have to wait.'"

Bill Mann
Authority board member

OBITUARIES

LORAIN SCHRAY

Lorraine "Millie" (Schoonover) Schray, 74, of Creamery Road in Centermoreland, died Nov. 13, 1999, at Manor Care Nursing Home, Kingston.

Born in Kingston, she was the daughter of the late George and Edith Winters Schoonover.

She was a graduate of Dallas Township High School and a life resident of Centermoreland.

Before retiring, she was employed as a seamstress in various dress factories throughout the area.

She was a member of the Centermoreland United Methodist Church, where she was active in the parish groups.

She was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II.

Surviving are her daughter, Laurie Schray, Eden Prairie, MN; brother, Robert Schoonover, Dallas; George Schoonover, Centermoreland; Joseph Schoonover, York; sisters, Doris Kresge, Tonawanda, NY; Gloria Rought, Centermoreland and two grandchildren.

Interment, Marsh Cemetery, Centermoreland.

Memorial donations may be made to the Centermoreland United Methodist Church.

BENJAMIN ROOD

Benjamin Jackson Rood, 73, of Silver City, NC, and a former Sweet Valley native, died Nov. 10, at The Laurels of Chatham, Pittsboro, NC.

He was a graduate of Penn State and was President of Shiloh Enterprises, Inc., past Secretary of Mount Vernon Lodge #143 Masonic Temple, past President of the Chatham County Shrine Club and was of the Baptist faith.

Surviving are his wife, Shirley H. Rood, Silver City; son, Richard F. Rood, Silver City; son, Benjamin J. Rood, Jr., Charlotte, NC; brother, Joel Rood, Knoxville, TN; and two granddaughters.

Interment, Chatham Memorial Park, Silver City, NC.

Memorial donations may be made to Hospice of UNC, Medical Foundation of NC, 880 Airport Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

THOMAS GERRITY

Thomas F. Gerrity, 52, of Centermoreland, formerly of Plains Township, died Nov. 10, 1999, at Penn State Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center in Plains Township.

Born in Plains Township, he was the son of the late Francis and Veronica (Barticzewicz) Gerrity. He was a 1965 graduate of Plains Memorial High School.

He was a U.S. Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War.

He was employed as a technician by Proctor and Gamble Paper Products in Mehoopany for 30 years.

He was a member of Blessed Sacrament Church in Centermoreland.

Surviving are his wife, the former Julie Szczucki; son, Michael, at home; daughter, Theresa, Rossville, GA and two nieces.

Interment, St. Mary's Cemetery, Hanover Township.

Memorial donations may be made to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 524 E. Main St., Plains Township, 18705.

JOHN CORNER

John Joseph Corner, 71, of Sarasota, FL, died Nov. 11, 1999 at his home.

He was born Aug. 29, 1928, in Wilkes-Barre and was raised in Dallas.

He graduated from Dallas High School and graduated with honors from King's College, Wilkes-Barre.

He was a longtime employee of General Electric in its financial and contracts management area.

He was a U.S. Air Force veteran.

He was a member of the Knights of Columbus and the RELFUN Society, General Electric's Management Association.

Surviving are his wife, Marian L.; stepson, Victor Bodewald, Philadelphia; sister, Marion T. Corner, Dallas.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Martha's Catholic Church, P.O. Box 1706, Sarasota, FL, 34230.

JOHN BLANDFORD

John N. Blandford, 68, of Wyoming Avenue in Dallas, died Nov. 8, 1999, at Mercy Hospital in Wilkes-Barre.

Born in Kingston, he was the son of Helen Shain Blandford, of Kingston, and the late John J. Blandford. He was a graduate of Kingston High School and had resided in Dallas for the past 13 years.

Before retiring, he was employed in management by the Woolworth Co. in Philadelphia, by Bowman's Department Store of Harrisburg and Sunbury, and later by Danks Department Store in Lewistown. For the past 18 years, he was a sales representative for the Ivystone Group of Philadelphia.

He had been involved in many community organizations. He served as a deacon in the Lutheran Church in Lewistown and most recently was a member of the Trucksville United Methodist Church.

He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War.

Surviving, in addition to his mother, are his wife, the former Deborah Hackenberg; sons, John N., Jr., Stamford, CT; and Jason at home; a daughter, Jenny Loht, Lewistown; sister, Pat Kennedy, Leesport; and five grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to Boy Scouts Troop 281, c/o Dallas United Methodist Church, 4 Parsonage St., Dallas, 18612; or the Trucksville United Methodist Church Memorial Fund, 40 Knob Hill, Trucksville, 18708.

Arrangements are by the Richard H. Disque Funeral Home, 672 Memorial Highway, Dallas.

The Dallas Post publishes obituaries of Back Mountain residents and close relatives free of charge.

You're invited to join the Diabetes Dialogue: Living Smarter, Feeling Better

Diabetes affects more than 17 million Americans and almost 20,000 residents of Luzerne County. Left untreated, diabetes can lead to heart disease, blindness, kidney failure and amputations. However, with proper treatment, diabetes is manageable.

The Diabetes Center of Wyoming Valley Health Care System, in conjunction with the American Diabetes Association and the VHA satellite network, is sponsoring a free presentation designed to educate individuals with diabetes, their families and the community about the management and treatment of diabetes. The evening will also include a free foot and vision screening and an informative video presentation.

Thursday, November 18

5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Thomas P. Saxton Medical Pavilion
468 Northampton Street, Edwardsville

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM AND

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Foot Screening
Vision Screening
Video Presentation

6:30 PM

"Diabetes Overview"

Michael Adler, M.D., Endocrinologist

7:00 PM

"Guilt Free Eating"

Joy Armillay, Ed.D., R.D.

Individuals are asked to pre-register by calling the Diabetes Center at 552-8691.

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