

LOCAL CONNECTION

The double-murder trial of Hugo Selenski has gained local, state and national attention. Many of the people involved in the case - including the defendant, lead defense attorney and lead prosecutor - are residents or natives of the Back Mountain.

Here's just a sampling of people with local connections who are involved in the case:

Hugo Selenski. The Dallas High School graduate and Kingstons Township resident is charged with two counts of criminal homicide in the shotgun slayings of Frank James and Adeiye Keiler in May 2003. He could face the death penalty if convicted.

Patrick Russin. The Dallas High School graduate has pleaded guilty to two counts of third-degree murder, robbery, abuse of a corpse and one count of criminal conspiracy to commit robbery. Russin, who says he was with Selenski when the killings took place, is a key prosecution witness.

Demetrius "Tim" Fannick. The 1973 Dallas High School graduate is the lead defense attorney for Selenski. Fannick was a standout basketball player for the Mountaineers and briefly played Division II college basketball at Bloomsburg University. He lives in Dallas Township with his wife Mary Ann and their daughter Maggie.

John Pike. The Dallas resident is one of Hugo Selenski's defense attorneys and has assisted Fannick throughout the case.

Jim McMonagle. The Assistant District Attorney is the lead prosecutor in the case. McMonagle, a native of Johnstown, has worked in the DA's office since 1993. The longtime Back Mountain Baseball, Inc. umpire lives in Jackson Township with his wife Julie and their children, Courtney, Sean and Eryn.

Chris O'Donnell. The Assistant District Attorney is part of the prosecution team. O'Donnell is a Dallas resident.

Richard Krawetz. The Dallas resident is a lieutenant with the Pennsylvania State Police. Krawetz helped serve the first search warrant to look for bodies on Selenski's property and took custody of the homicide suspect after he escaped from the Luzerne County Correctional Facility.

Ron Selenski. Brother of Hugo Selenski who was charged in June 2004 with supplying the shotgun used in the killing. Selenski lives in Dallas Township.

Christina Strom. Strom is a former girlfriend of Hugo Selenski. She owned the Kingstons Township home where the remains of at least five bodies were found.

Carey Bartoo. The Kingstons Township resident is a former girlfriend of Hugo Selenski. In 2005 she pleaded guilty to a federal firearms charge in connection with a Back Mountain burglary, along with several others including Russin.

FANNICK

Continued from Page 1

lawyer. The guidance counselor had other ideas.

"He really discouraged me," said Fannick, who graduated from Dallas in 1973. "He told me that I'd never be a lawyer and that I'd be better off becoming an accountant."

At first, Fannick took the advice.

He attended Bloomsburg University, where he majored in accounting and played basketball for the NCAA Division II Huskies. But after one year at the school, Fannick came to two realizations: he'd never play in the NBA; and it was time to pursue his lifelong dream.

"I wanted to be a criminal defense lawyer," said the son of Tony and Joan Fannick of Shavertown. "I don't remember ever wanting to be anything else. I'm one of the fortunate people who knew what I wanted to do early in life. I felt that going to Wilkes (College) would give me a better chance at getting into law school."

Fannick thought about playing basketball at Wilkes before deciding against it.

"It was an important decision, a tough decision," he said. "I was a jock in high school. I loved playing basketball. It was a big part of my life. But I knew I wasn't going to be a pro basketball player. I decided to devote all of my time to study."

At Wilkes College, Fannick developed a relationship with area attorney Charles Petrillo, who taught one of the law classes. Petrillo had also been the director of a legal clinic at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash., and he helped Fannick get into the university's law school.

In the past decade, Gonzaga has become nationally-known for the success of its men's basketball program.

"I used to have to explain to everyone where Gonzaga was," said Fannick. "Now, people know."

Fannick says he never considered anything but working as a defense lawyer.

"Maybe it's the excitement or the competitiveness," he said. "I've always been a competitive person and there certainly are challenges. I couldn't see myself sitting in an office doing corporate work."

Fannick has fond memories of his basketball-playing days at Dallas - even the times when he was

the target of opposing players and fans.

"I remember walking into the Plains gym and seeing signs on the wall that read 'Don't panic Fannick,'" he said. "They were fun times. They were some of the best times in my life."

At Dallas, Fannick played for head coach Bob Cicon for three years on the varsity level and a year for freshmen coaches Ron Rybak and John Bauer.

"I had some great coaches," said Fannick, whose brother Tony is a highly-successful basketball coach at Milton High School. "They taught you more than just basketball. They taught you about life."

Fannick and his wife Mary Ann have a 10-year-old daughter Maggie, who is a fourth grade student at Wycallis Elementary School. Fannick also has a 22-year-old daughter, Sarah, who is a senior at Christopher Newport University in Virginia.

Despite the long hours working on the high-profile murder case, Fannick makes time to spend with his family - helping Maggie with her homework and sitting down to dinner. But after Maggie goes to bed around 9 p.m., Fannick locks himself in the "Hugo Room."

"It's my oldest daughter's bedroom," he said. "It's called the Hugo Room around our house. There's wall-to-wall paperwork. I'm there until the wee hours of the morning. My family has been great. There's no way I could do this without them."

The Fannicks are hoping to spend a lot more time together after the trial concludes, including a trip to DisneyWorld in early April. That's after the father gets some much-needed rest.

"It will take a few days to decompress," he said. "I'll also take some time to get caught up with everything. But first, I'll probably sleep for a day or two."

MCMONAGLE

Continued from Page 1

McMonagle as a soft-spoken, community-minded Little League umpire. But more recently, tens of thousands of Luzerne County residents - and perhaps thousands more from across the state and the nation - have gotten to know him in a much more important role.

"I knew it was going to be a lot of work with a lot of long hours," said McMonagle, who took over as the case's lead prosecutor in November 2004. "And it has been."

Lately, the graduate of Juniata College and the Dickinson School of Law hasn't had a lot of time for much else. An avid sports fan, McMonagle recently watched the second half of the Duke vs. North Carolina men's basketball game on a late Saturday night. It was the first game he's seen all season.

He also doesn't have the time to follow the high-profile case in the newspaper. Instead, his brothers and parents have been following the trial on the Inter-

"I knew it was going to be a lot of work with a lot of long hours. And it has been."

Jim McMonagle
Lead prosecutor

net and saving articles.

"Once this is all over, maybe I'll sit down and read the articles," he said.

McMonagle grew up in Johnstown and attended Bishop McCourt High School. The son of James and Eileen McMonagle played varsity football as a running back and defensive back. His father was a police officer for two decades.

"People always said my father will arrest them and I'll make sure they go to jail," said McMonagle.

Jim and Julie McMonagle moved to the Back Mountain in 1993, when Jim was offered a job with the Luzerne County DA's office.

The family quickly became active in the community.

Jim volunteered his time as a Little League umpire, while Julie has been active with the Back Mountain Recreation Complex,

the Susquehanna Warrior Trail Council and the Anthracite Scenic Trails Association. She is the director of the Northeast Regional Office of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council.

"We enjoy it here," said Jim McMonagle. "It's a lot like Johnstown, a city in a valley surrounded by suburbs. I like my work. I try to make the community safer for my family and my neighbors to grow up in."

McMonagle says he's looking forward to the end of the trial - and the upcoming baseball season.

"It's going to be nice to spend a Saturday with my kids, or doing some umpiring, without having to worry about going to work," he said. "But right now, I can't see the forest for the trees."

Dave Konopki is editor of The Post. You can e-mail him at dkonopki@leader.net.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

S	C	A	B	P	E	T	C	O	M	A	
L	O	C	I	O	R	E	A	P	E	S	
A	L	E	C	P	A	S	A	D	E	N	A
B	A	D	E	G	T	U	R	N	U	P	
			P	A	R	A	F	E	D		
P	A	S	S	I	O	N	S	O	A	R	
A	R	T	T	U	N	I	S	O	W	L	
Y	E	A	H	P	A	S	T	A	R	E	S
			G	O	A	S	T	A	R		
O	V	E	R	D	O	E	B	B	I	N	G
P	A	S	S	O	V	E	R	A	R	I	L
A	L	E	E	A	W	L	N	I	L	E	
L	E	T	S	L	E	Y	E	S	S	E	

Rational Numbers

answers

1	8		6	4		
1	6	1		1	1	6
	4	2	2		7	2
8	2		3	2	2	
6	0	1		5	8	3
		5	2		4	3

M	A	S	T	I	P	E	C	A	C	D	O	S	R	A	S	T	A			
E	L	I	A	N	E	G	A	T	E	T	I	K	E	U	N	P	I	N		
W	O	R	K	I	N	G	I	R	L	G	A	N	W	E	T	A	L	K		
S	T	E	E	D	N	I	M	E	Y	E	R	I	D	A						
I	S	L	E	T	U	R	I	S	C	A	L	E	N	E						
M	O	W	N	A	R	A	M	Y	N	A	A	P	E	X						
A	C	H	V	I	C	S	E	R	A	S	A	I	G	O	N					
T	H	E	B	L	A	C	K	H	E	A	R	T	S		L	O	L	A		
T	E	R	R	A	F	O	D	A	S	I	L	B	E	R	I	T				
R	E	A	R	E	D	U	G	H	D	E	A	L	P	O	E					
D	Y	N	A	S	T	A	N	O	N	E	O	F	O	S						
A	P	O	N	O	S	H	M	M	E	S	L	E	E	T	S					
R	E	L	A	X	H	O	P	A	N	A	T	S	L	E	E	P				
E	L	A	L		P	L	A	V	I	T	A	S	I	T	L	A	I	S		
A	F	F	I	R	H	S	A	W	O	S	L	O	S	B	R	A				
S	U	E	Z	N	A	S	A	K	A	T	W	E	I	R						
R	A	T	T	L	E	S	R	E	V	S	W	A	M	I						
H	O	I	B	A	C	T	E	R	I	A		A	G	G	I	E				
A	U	S	T	R	A	L	I	A		V	A	L	E	N	E	E	W	I	N	G
I	G	L	O	O	F	T	E	T	U	D	E	S		A	N	T	A			
R	E	E	V	E		T	I	A		D	E	M	O	T	E					

Puzzles, Page 2

THE PRICE IS RIGHT!

2002 MERCURY SABLE GS - V-6, Front Wheel Drive, "We Sold It New", White **Only \$ 9,995**

2002 MERCURY COUGAR - V-6, Auto, Moon Roof, 1 Owner, "We Sold It New", Blue **Only \$10,995**

2001 FORD TAURUS SES - V-6, Auto, Very Clean, "Priced to Sell", Silver **Only \$ 6,995**

2000 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS LS - Full Size Luxury, V-8, "We Sold It New", Silver **Only \$ 9,995**

2000 LINCOLN TOWN CAR CARTIER - "Check It Out", Ivory **Only \$ 9,995**

2000 FORD TAURUS SES - V-6, 4 Door, "We Sold It & Serviced It", Silver **Only \$ 5,995**

1998 MERCURY MYSTIQUE GS - 4 Cyl., Auto, Only 69,000 Miles, Red **Only \$ 5,995**

CHECK OUT OUR COMPLETE INVENTORY ONLINE AT WWW.GATEWAYFORDMERCURY.COM

GATEWAY FORD-MERCURY

945-3460 • 836-3135 • Route 6, Tunkhannock

Web Site: www.gatewayfordmercury.com Email: gtwford@epix.net

HAVING TROUBLE WITH YOUR HEATING SYSTEM?

Hot Water (Hydronic), Steam Boiler or Warm Air Furnaces, Oil, Gas & Propane Models
Financing Available
Choose The Right Professionals

C.W. SCHULTZ & SON INC.
822-8158
Service Experts Since 1921

WET BASEMENT?

NORTHEAST PA
B-DRY® SYSTEM
Independent Licensees of B-Dry® System, Inc.
WWW.DRYBASEMENT.NET
SCRANTON 344-2379

The B-DRY® SYSTEM has been proven to be SO UNIQUE & SO EFFECTIVE, at eliminating basement water leakage, that it was awarded a 1986 United States Government Patent!
FREE ESTIMATE.

Green Dog Pottery
Studio Sale and Lessons

Handmade fine Stoneware Pottery, created right on Main Street in Dallas. Unique designs with a natural flair.

Hours
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9am - 2:30 pm
Thursday 10am - 2:30 pm
Wednesday night 5:30pm - 8:00pm
Saturday 9am - 3:00 pm

Call for our Summer Clay Camp schedule for June and July.

68 Main Street, Dallas • 674-2911

The Dallas Post Call 1-800-273-7130 For Local Pros

Deadline: Monday At Noon

LOCAL PROS

APPLIANCES
REFRIGERATION PARTS
Refrigerators • Freezers • Air Conditioners
All Makes • Cold Controls • Fan Motors
Relays • Defrost Timers • Door Gaskets
Bring in model # and old part.
APPLIANCE PARTS & SUPPLY
936 Market Street, Kingston
Daily 8:30-5:00 Sat. 'Til Noon

GLASS
We Do It All!
Auto • Commercial • Residential
596 Carey Ave., Wilkes-Barre
822-8133

SNOW REMOVAL
• mowing • pruning • snow removal
Miller's Lakeside Mowing & Snow Removal
Jason E. Miller RR 2, Box 1-C
639-1070 Harveys Lake, PA 18618

AUTO BODY REPAIR
GIADOSH ENTERPRISES
Complete Auto Body Repairs
1644 Murray St., Forty Fort
Complete Collision On All Makes & Models
Established 1975
FREE ESTIMATES
287-4895

HANDY MAN
Gutters - Clean, Repair, Chimney - Repair, Chimney protectors Installed.
Eave and Sliding Repair
NO JOB TOO SMALL or TOO HIGH
Free Estimate 287-3262

UPHOLSTERY
MAZURS REUPHOLSTERY
Sofas • Kitchen Sets • Chairs
Boat Seats, Etc.
Free Estimates & Delivery
"We're Here To Serve You"
RD #4 Dallas • 639-1721

LANDSCAPING
R. HERITAGE LANDSCAPING & MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST
"Quality is a matter of choice"
Full Service Landscaping, Maintenance,
10% OFF of 1st day of service
Now Scheduling Spring Projects
FULL ESTIMATES 570-477-3999

To Advertise Here Call Terry Quinn 1-800-273-7130