

SCHOOL BRIEFS

Seminary graduates receive awards

Wyoming Seminary graduates Kaytlin Kopen of Shavertown and Megan Messersmith of Dallas, received the Jennie Hess Wandell Scholarship Award during the school's 163rd Commencement.

The award is given in recognition of the students' academic achievements and school leadership.

Kopen, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Dan Kopen, has been named to the Dean's List with High Honors and Cum Laude, the national honor society for college preparatory schools. She also received the President's Educational Excellence Award. Prior to Commencement she received the PIAA Scholar-Athlete Award and the Charles L. March Opinator Award.

She was named a National Merit Commended Scholar and was named to the Governor's School for Global Entrepreneurship in 2006. She has been active on the student newspaper the Opinator, serving as a writer, photographer, editor and editor-in-chief.

She also participated in the Community Service Group, Peer Writing Lab and Knights of the Round. A four-year member and letter-winner on the girls tennis team, she served as captain her senior year and received the Sem Gold Award in tennis.

Messersmith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Messersmith, also has been named to the Dean's List with High Honors and to Cum Laude.

She is a 2007 National Merit Scholarship winner and received the President's Educational Excellence Award. She also received a Times Leader Best and Brightest Award in 2007. Prior to Commencement she received the Second Mile Award, the Brown University Book Award, the Frederick Rudolph Prize for Historical Writing and the Teresa Jordan and Frank J. Mehm II Scholarship Award.

She played the handbells in the Handbell Choir and the clarinet in the Sem orchestra and pit band and has been named to district and regional orchestra. She also was active in the executive board of the Community Service Group Executive Board, Model UN, Spanish club, the Sem Dance Company, student board of appeals and peer writing lab.

She also served in student government as her class representative in her sophomore year.

Lyons inducted into honor society

Mary Ellen Lyons, of Dallas, was one of 53 Luzerne County Community College students inducted to Alpha Sigma Lambda, the national honor society of adult learners, during a ceremony at the college's Atherton Gymnasium.

Alpha Sigma Lambda honors dedicated adult students who accomplish academic excellence

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LETHA SCHNECK

Taught elementary school at Lake-Lehman

Letha M. Schenck, 92, of Noxen, died Sunday, June 24, 2007, at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Born in Idetown, she resided in Noxen for most of her life.

She graduated from Monroe Township High School and Bloomsburg State College.

She taught primary grades at Beaumont for five years and kindergarten for the Lake-Lehman School District for nine years, retiring in 1971.

Surviving are her sons, Lawrence F. Schenck, Cumming, Ga., W. Keith Schenck, at home; and Marshall I. Schenck, of Noxen; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sister, Ruth Newberry, of Noxen.

Memorial donations to the Noxen United Methodist Church, RR 1 Box 196A, Noxen, PA 18636; or Schenck Memorial Library, c/o James Lane, RR 1 Box 108E, Noxen, PA 18636.

TRAINING

Continued from Page 1

and Barry says the acquired structure burn will help prepare the firefighters for bigger homes.

On July 10 and 13, participating firefighters will be at the house to establish water supply and to review hose management and ladder skills. Three instructors are required to be present for the on-site training sessions. At some point, the house will also be cleaned and loaded with pallets contributed by Offset Paperback.

July 14 is the date the firefighters will actually set the house on fire. The house will be lit repeatedly throughout the day to practice different types of conditions and techniques. A minimum of 24 students and seven instructors are needed for the burn to take place. Every square inch will be used and the training is not over until only the home's foundation is left, says Barry. "Anything that can go wrong will go wrong in this building," Barry told the class. "Everybody has to have their head on straight and follow procedures," he later said.

Before the burn, health statistics, including blood pressure and heart rate are taken on each firefighter to make sure they can physically endure the dangerous conditions. A health review is also taken after the burn to ensure the firefighters were not affected. Barry lectured to his students to physically prepare for the burn ahead of time.

"What are you eating, what are you drinking, what kinds of physical activity are you doing?" Barry asked the class.

Trucksville Fire Chief Bill

Eck says the house that will be burned used to belong to a dairy farmer named Ralph Sands. In 1986, a barn of Sands' burned down and he lost some of his prized cattle. The barn was one of about 27 barns set ablaze by an arsonist in the area. The string of arsons remains unsolved, says Eck, who has been the fire chief in Trucksville since

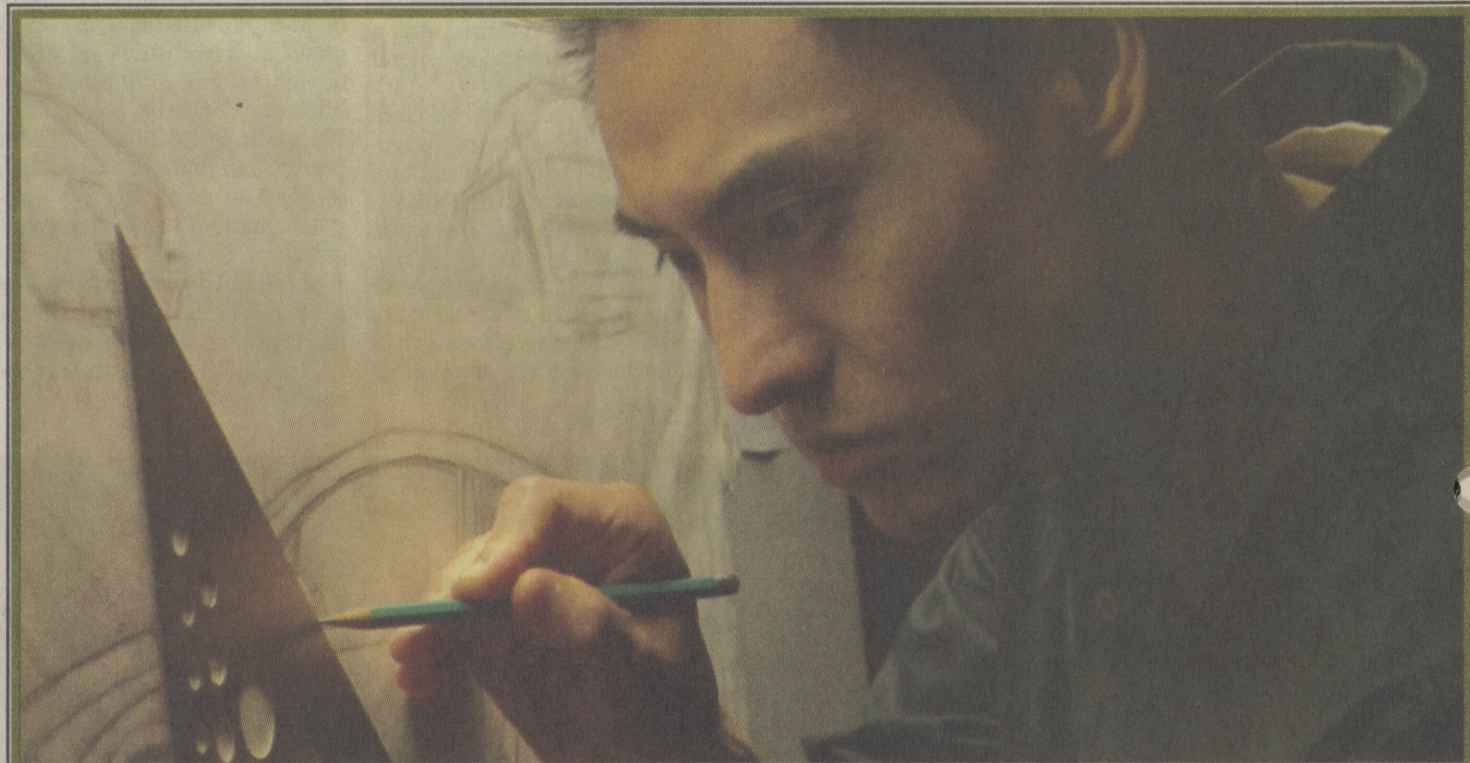
1979.

Sands' home has remained vacant since his death in 1998 at the age of 83. John Sobeck, owner and operator of First General Services of Northeastern Pennsylvania, recently purchased land that included the home. First General Services is a full service construction company that provides emergency fire and

water restoration to homes and businesses. Sobeck donated the home on behalf of the business to local fire departments to use as a training resource. He will also be picking up any expenses associated with the burn and will provide food and beverages to the firefighters.

"This is an opportunity to give back to the community and, spe-

cifically, to the fire department we cooperate with on an almost daily basis and to improving the safety of our nearby residents," said Sobeck. "All too often we at First General witness the tragic aftermath of residential fires. It should be priority number one that we all work to improve public safety measures in our local communities."



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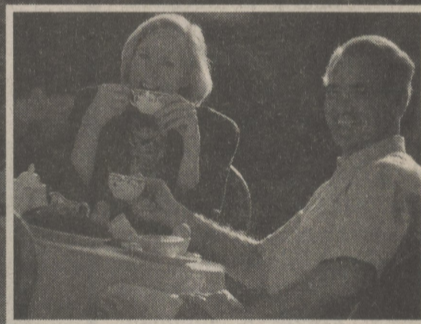
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Masonic Village

OPEN HOUSE JULY 11 & 26

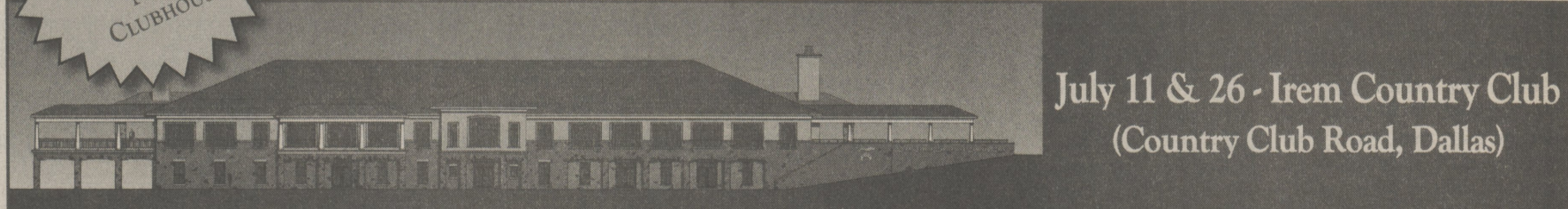
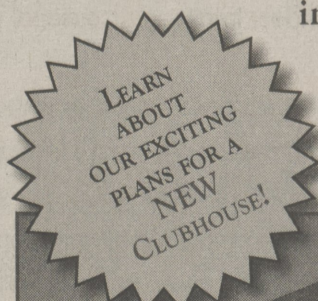


The community is invited to join us for an upcoming Open House with complimentary luncheon and a tour of our **NEW, fully furnished model cottage!** Located at 25 Masonic Drive, Dallas, PA 18612

Presentation starts at 10 a.m., followed by lunch and tours.



Now is the time for you to make the move to quality, affordable and carefree living at the Masonic Village at Dallas. Several units are finished and available for you to tour. Our community is growing, as 45 retirement living apartments and 38 cottages are well under way. Learn about our plans for a brand new Clubhouse in order to offer you numerous amenities. The sooner you act, the more flexibility you'll have in selecting your accommodation of choice, site location of your new home and a move-in time frame which best suits you. You'll have preferred access to a full continuum of care at quality local healthcare providers or at any of our Masonic Village communities. Don't miss your chance to experience this unique active adult retirement community!



July 11 & 26 - Irem Country Club
(Country Club Road, Dallas)

For more information or to make a reservation, please call the Administrative Office:

Visit us online at www.pagrandleodge.org/villages/dallas/index.html

(866) 851-4243



Directions: Take I-81 and merge onto 309 North via exit 170B toward Wilkes-Barre. After approximately 11 miles, turn left and an immediate right onto Irem Road. Turn left onto Country Club Road and first left onto Wedgewood Way. Turn left onto Masonic Drive. Model home is the last cottage on the right side closest to the golf course.