

Boback sponsors ID theft seminar

State Rep. Karen Boback will conduct Senior Identity Theft Seminars in the Back Mountain area.

The first will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 17, at the Meadows in Dallas. The Wyoming County Senior Center will host a seminar at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, July 18. Another seminar will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 24, at the Benton Senior Center and one will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, July 25, at the Shickshinny High Rise.

Each seminar will feature a formal presentation by Joyce O'Brien of the State Attorney General's office with special guests, including local and state police, the Luzerne County District Attorney's office and even a county detective.

Identity theft is a big problem, especially where seniors are concerned. They're often seen as "easy prey," victims of everything from being tricked into bank account withdrawals, bogus "prize money" promises and a whole host of other scams. Sadly, statistics show that it's more often than not a family member who simply takes advantage of a loved one and their life savings.



Preparing for Senior ID Theft Seminars are, from left, Dallas Township Police Chief Robert Jolley, Meadows Nursing Center Administrator Cristina Tarbox, State Representative Karen Boback, Meadows Activities Director Betty Sorchick and Legislative Aide Carol Sweeney.

Ackerman on United Nations tour

Irina Ackerman, daughter of Bill and Gina Ackerman, of Dallas, departed on July 3 from Harrisburg on the 59th annual two-week United Nations Pilgrimage Tour.

Since the tour's inception in 1949, over 42,000 students have participated in the program sponsored by the National Odd Fellows and Rebekahs organizations.

Of 46 students from the state of Pennsylvania who will attend the program this year, Ackerman is one of two students from Luzerne County selected. She will meet up with students from all over the nation as she participated in the program.

The historic and educational trip continues with tours of the Gettysburg battlefields, Washington D.C., Philadelphia, Boston, Salem, towns in Vermont as well as three cities in Canada. Mid-trip, Ackerman will spend three days at the United Nations in New York City in tours and meetings and attending official UN briefings on children's human rights, child



Irina Ackerman is participating in a United Nations Pilgrimage Tour.

trafficking and children in armed combat. With UN officials, she will visit Ground Zero, Liberty Island, Ellis Island, take part in speeches and contests on current UN issues and attend a performance of the new Tony winner, "In The Heights."

Ackerman, 17, will enter her junior year at Dallas High School and will also represent her high school in the Junior Leadership Wilkes-Barre program. She is the recipient of the 2004 Triple A Award where, as a student at Major Performing Arts Center (MPAC), her peers voted her the most Improved and Accomplished Young Student that year.

She has apprenticed with se-

nior instructors at MPAC for five years and, this past year, completed her first full teaching assignment with a Creative Movement/Beginner Dance class of 3 and 4-year-olds. She is an advanced dancer in all of tap, jazz and lyrical dance and is approaching advanced levels in classical ballet and pointe. She performs with a team of advanced dancers who have now earned two national talent titles.

Ackerman has completed the first of three levels of Christian Leadership Training at Camp Orchard Hill, is an active member of the Fellowship Evangelical Free Church Teen Youth Group, successfully completed the State Police Camp Cadet and will volunteer at Volunteers of America this summer, as well as work the month of August at International Sports and Training Camp in Stroudsburg. She has participated in missions trips in Brooklyn and in Russia.

Born in Russia, Ackerman arrived in America at the age of 9 in 2000 with no education and knowing no English.

She will serve as a reading intern in the Dallas Elementary School next spring under two of her strongest education mentors, Sharon Hartshorne, reading specialist, and Tom Traver, principal.

She hopes to pursue a career in education.

Thomas is not new to Music Box

Emily Thomas of Shavertown is one of three Back Mountain residents who will appear in "The Music Man" at the Music Box Dinner Playhouse in Swyersville, opening Friday, July 18.

Part of a theatrical family, Emily's first appearance on stage was as an infant carried by her mother, Cindy, in a production of "A Christmas Carol" at the Music Box. Her father, Lee, and her brother, Craig, also appeared in the show. Since then, Emily has appeared in several shows at the Music Box and at Lake-Lehman High School where she recently graduated.

In her senior year she played the title role of "Mame" in the school's annual musical and had also appeared in "The Music Man," "Oliver" and "South Pacific." Last summer, she had the distinction of attending the Governor's School of the Arts at Mercyhurst College in



Emily Thomas, above right, of Shavertown, plays the role of Zaneeta, the mayor's eldest daughter, in "The Music Man" opening Friday, July 18, at the Music Box Dinner Playhouse in Swyersville.

Erie.

Thomas plays the principal role of Zaneeta, the mayor's eldest daughter, in "The Music Man."

Also appearing in "The Music Man" is 15-year-old Katherine Moran of Trucksville. A sophomore at Dallas Area High School, she appeared in a Music Box Revue in January and attended the first Music Box Young Adult Theatre Workshop. She sings and dances

as one of the "River City Youth."

Chavon Croman, a resident of Country Pine Estates in Dallas, plays one of the "Pick-A-Little-Ladies" in "The Music Man." Croman attended Lake-Lehman High School where she was active in the chorus and cheerleading and appeared in the school's musical, "The Music Man." She is a graduate of Mansfield College.

HISTORIC HOMES PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS



Award winners for the Historic Homes of Tunkhannock Photo Contest are, from left, Jessie Kecker, exhibit coordinator; Linda Rose, photo contest winner; Bonnie D'Ulisse, photo contest winner; Karen Cole, photo contest winner; Suzanne Wilkinson, photo contest winner; and Margie Young, Wyoming County Cultural Center/Dietrich Theater Program Director. The photos will be on exhibit at the Wyoming County Cultural Center/Dietrich Theater in Tunkhannock through July.

HARPIST ENTERTAINS AT MEADOWS NURSING CENTER



As a treat for residents, The Meadows Nursing Center Auxiliary, Dallas, sponsored social entertainment by harpist Sarah Smith. Visitors enjoyed Smith's talents, playing hymns, ballads and singing many songs from over the decades. From left, are Lorraine Allen, Emma Herman, Sarah Smith, harpist; and Rita Jordan.

LEGION AWARDS FOUR SCHOLARSHIPS



Daddow-Isaacs Dallas American Legion Post 672 recently awarded \$1,000 scholarships to four Back Mountain students who will further their education at a two-year college. The scholarship monies were raised through the sponsorship of the annual Post 672 Golf Tournament. This tournament is in its 18th year and has provided over \$70,000 in scholarships. From left, first row, are Donovan White, John Frederick and Jason Darling. Second row, Richard Tyira, Adjutant; Joe Kelley, Jim Baloga, Finance Officer and Golf Chairman; Clarence J. Michael, Post Commander. Absent at the time of the photo was scholarship recipient Michael Supzecinski.

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