Sunday, July 31, 2011

THE DALLAS POST

By SARAH HITE shite@mydallaspost.com For a complete schedule of Homecoming events, please turn to page 10.

Kids and community are at the heart of the 2011 Harveys Lake Homecoming, and this committee member. summer's weekend-long event will ensure the two notions will tee sponsored an Easter egg remain part of the borough's hunt for borough children, and agenda throughout fall, winter it was decided that homecomand spring, too.

which will be held August 5-7, munity together all year long. will be used to promote more community-minded events dur- end, a suggestion box will be ing other times of the year. Pre- available for attendees to subviously, the homecoming funds mit their ideas for different were saved for beautification events throughout the year. projects.

used for beautification projects to do ice skating at the beach at Harveys Lake, but we were during winter, another Easter limited with what we could do egg hunt, Halloween parties that everyone could enjoy," said (and) something at Christmas Amy Williams, a homecoming for adults like a dance."

Earlier this year, the commiting funds should be used for Monies raised from the event, similar events to keep the com-During homecoming week-

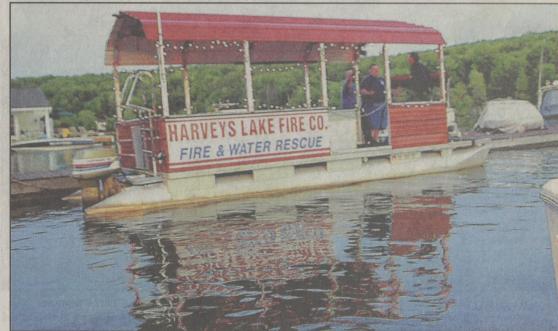
"Originally, the money was own," said Williams. "We'd like younger kids."

Borough council member Rich Williams III said the lake has changed a lot since he was a kid in the 70s, but this event has spurred memories from long ago.

"As a kid, I used to fish from Sandy Beach all the way to Hanson's Amusement Park," he said. "I used to go from dock to dock, and, as long as you cleaned up your mess, no one had a problem with it. Now "We have some ideas of our there's nothing here for the

Williams said since his uncle, Mayor Clarence Hogan, took the reigns for the event, it re-

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CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK FILE PHOTO/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

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The Harveys Lake Boat Regatta is just one of the many events scheduled to be held during the 2011 Harveys Lake Homecoming.

LAKE TOWNSHIP

Decision is made to seek tax restitution

By EILEEN GODIN **Dallas Post Correspondent**

A unanimous decision to seek restitution for missing paid taxes from 2006 to 2009 led supervisors to file a claim with former tax collector Donna Kocher's bonding com- and proof of bonding. pany.

Earlier this year, supervisors requested an audit of taxes paid into the township during Kocher's terms. Attorney Mark McNealis said the audit East Sorber Mountain bridge, revealed \$5,636.03 of paid taxes were unaccounted for.

file a claim against Kocher's small paving projects to 385 bonding company, Ohio Casu- feet of Lamoreaux Road, 100 alty Insurance Company. A feet of Whitesell Road and bond is insurance required of 585 feet of Loyalville Road. all tax collectors to protect The company's bid was municipalities if property tax \$9,800.

Kocher held the position as tax collector for Lake Township from 2003 to 2009. She fell under scrutiny in 2010 when Luzerne County Controller Walter Griffith subpoenaed her twice for her 2009 tax books

Then Pickarski Construction will move over to the he said.

• B & J Paving, of Shaver-He advised supervisors to town, received the bid for

payments are lost or stolen. Another bid of \$39,756 was

KT officer writes about chemical suicide

Sgt. Michael Moravec publishes article in Criminal Intelligence Center bulletin.

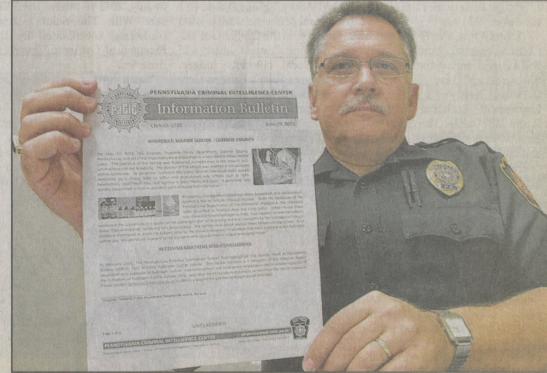
By SARAH HITE shite@mydallaspost.com

Kingston Township police responded to a vehicular accident near Shadetree and Woodbine roads around 8 p.m. May 27, but what they found was atypical of a "normal" crash.

A mustard-colored liquid had splashed all over the front passenger's seat and window of the vehicle. When the door was opened, a strong sulfur odor permeated the area, and emergency response crews had to wear hazmat suits to further assist the investigation.

The incident is the subject of research on hydrogen sulfide suicide conducted by Sergeant Michael Moravec recently published as a brief in the Pennsylvania Criminal Intelligence Center bulletin.

commit suicide by mixing household chemicals to produce hydrogen sulfide, a hazardous gas that affects the central nerv- ship Police Chief James Balav- warn responders of the danger- still be detected in the police deous system and can cause asphyxiation. mixed lime sulfur and muriatic acid in a cooler, lost consciousness due to the resulting chem- close to home. ical reaction and crashed into a tree at the site.



Kingston Twp. Sgt. Michael Moravec has authored an article about hydrogen sulfide suicide that appears in a state police periodical.

Moravec believes the victim, a such as burning of the throat the method can be found online, er the residual gas had affected Shavertown man, attempted to and nostrils, shortness of and those who decide to take staff and patients.

tax collector for Lake Town- Sweet Valley. ship from 2003 to 2009. She fell under scrutiny in 2010 motion to continue carrying when Luzerne County Con- Blue Cross/Blue Shield for troller Walter Griffith subpoe- medical insurance. Piatt naed her twice for her 2009 stated this year there was a tax books and proof of bond- significant increase of \$300 ing.

In other news ...

bridges damaged in the flood of 2006 will be repaired by the township's liability and workend of August. Chairman Lon- ers compensation insurance nie Piatt said Pickarski Con- through DGK, Factoryville, struction Company, hired by saw an increase too. Secretary the county, will wrap up its Charlene Price said the cost of work on North Mountain liability insurance, which cov-Road Bridge in two weeks.

upper road wing walls," Piatt \$6,304 to \$6,498. Workers said. "This was a pre-cast box compensation insurance was bridge."

Kocher held the position as received by Pikes Creek, of

• Supervisors approved a per month and added that supervisors will research other Two county-owned companies for next year.

• It was reported that the ers all municipal equipment "They have to finish up the and buildings, increased from \$4,263 and went up to \$4,482.

BLOOMERS PRESENT CHECK TO ASTA



The Back Mountain Bloomers Garden Club recently donated \$15,000 to the Anthracite Scenic Trails Association (ASTA). The Bloomers raised the money during the recent Tour of Back Mountain Gardens held July 2. The funding will be used by ASTA to underwrite a portion of the annual operation and maintenance costs of the Back Mountain Trail. From left, are Julie McMonagle, of Shavertown, executive director, ASTA; Lisa Lindquist, of West Wyoming, garden tour chair; and Jean Kolojejchick, of Kingston Twp., sponsorships chair.

Moravec said the gas is highly ed by it," he said. dangerous not only to those who well.

He said, while police are paid and trained to deal with these situations, Moravec wants to ensure volunteers are well aware of of incidents, as well.

"Once we opened the doors, you could not get away from it," said Moravec of the smell. "Guys began to experience symptoms

duction and heart palpitations." Moravec and Kingston Town- usually in an enclosed area, that the rotten-egg-like smell can age felt the incident would be a ous gas. good submission for the crimi-Investigators said the victim nal intelligence center to let other police departments around the state know this is happening

> "We decided to do this because so many people are affect-

County. He said he had been were in the vehicle. trained to respond to chemically-induced suicides, but this incident "didn't fit the mold."

the consequences of these types popular in Japan in 2008, and risburg, where he died two days ic acid and lime sulfur to comsince then there have been thou- later. sands of deaths across the globe caused by the lethal mixing of household chemicals.

breath, increased mucus pro- their lives often post signs near where the death takes place,

In the case of the Shavertown man, there was no warning. Mo- of what police officers are going ravec said, in addition to several ambulance crews who respon- age person wouldn't even think ded to the scene, state police lab of," said Balavage. "If you are a technicians and the state De- civilian and are the first one partment of Environmental Pro- there, be very, very careful of the tection were also part of the in- scene.' Moravec said this incident vestigation. He said it took intentionally mix the chemical was the fourth experienced in hours to pinpoint the gas and Kingston Township, said he's concoction, but to bystanders as the state and the first in Luzerne speculate why the chemicals glad he got the chance to share

> Wilkes-Barre General Hospital emergency room and then flown Chemical suicide became to the Pinnacle Hospital in Har- that someone could mix muriat-

> Hospital emergency room had think you've seen it all. There's to be shut down on the evening always something new to deal Moravec said information on of the crash to determine wheth- with."

Two months after all items from the scene were removed. partment's evidence room.

CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

"This is just another example to be subjected to that the aver-

Moravec, in his 27th year with information with police officers The victim was taken to the all over the state through his published work.

"If somebody told me in 1985 mit suicide, I'd say they were The Wilkes-Barre General crazy," he said. "In 27 years, you

New books added to shelves at BMT library

2011:

EXPRESS

"Portrait of a Spy" by Daniel Silva, "Quinn" by Iris Johansen, "Gideon's Sword" by Douglas Preston & Lincoln Child, "The Brave" by Nicholas Evans, "State of Wonder" by Ann Patchett, "Split Second" by Catherine Coulter, "Happy Birthday" by Danielle Steel, "Burnt Mountain" by Anne Rivers Siddons, "Justice" by Karen Robards

FICTION

"Portrait of a Spy" by Daniel Silva, "Quinn" by Iris Johansen, "The Things We Cherished" by Pam Jenoff, "Then Came You" by Jennifer Weiner, "A Good Hard Look" by Ann Napolitan, "Split Second" by Catherine Coulter, "Happy Birthday" by

Dallas, for the month of July Hodgkinson, "Best Staged Steve Hamilton Plans" by Claire Cook, "A Visit from the Goon Squad" by Jen-Meg Mitchell Moore, "Maine: A Novel" by J. Courtney Sullivan, "If You Were Here" by Jen by Caroline Kennedy Lancaster, "Kindred Spirits" by

The following new books Danielle Steel, "Burnt Moun- Sarah Strohmeyer, "Tabloid have been added to the shelves tain" by Anne Rivers Siddons, City" by Pete Hamill, "The at the Back Mountain Memo- "Justice" by Karen Robards, "22 Peach Keeper" by Sarah Addirial Library, 96 Huntsville Rd., Britannia Road" by Amanda son Allen, "Misery Bay" by

NONFICTION

"William and Catherine: nifer Egan, "The Arrivals" by Their Romance & Wedding in Photographs" by David Elliot Cohen, "She Walks in Beauty" **BIOGRAPHY**

"The Triple Agent" by Joby Warrick, "Talk Show" by Dick Cavett

BOOKS ON CD

"Buried Secrets" by Joseph Finder, "Now You See Her" by James Patterson, "On China" by Henry Kissinger

YOUNG ADULT

"What Happened to Goodbye" by Sarah Dessen, "Uglies" by Scott Westerfeld

Frontier Communications introduces program

Frontier Communications up computer or wireless net- tier's local technicians comhas rolled out RescueTech, a works, protect home comput- plete a training program that new suite of technical support ers from viruses, data loss or ensures their proficiency with services offered through Fron- software troubles, provide so- PC and Mac platforms, softtier Secure.

RescueTech offers residential the set-up and security of Face- working, computer set-up and customers in-home assistance book, Twitter and Linked In installation, virus diagnostics, for home computer and net- accounts and install new soft- file back-up and storage soluworking needs. Frontier-Certi- ware. fied local technicians will set

Before being certified, Fron- ty of consultative services.

cial media tutorials, including ware applications, wireless nettions, email set-up and a varie-