

OBITUARIES

AIRHART - Mary A., 47, of Seldar Lane, Dallas, died Sunday, September 25, 2011, at the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

She was born in Wilkes-Barre, was educated in Wilkes-Barre Area schools and was formerly employed as a home health aide.

She was a leader for Cub Scout Pack No. 456.

Surviving are sons, Michael and Donald; daughter, Michelle; brothers, Joseph and Thomas; sisters, Carol Mitchell, Nancy Kempa and Georgette Eaton; and fiancé, George Swan.

APANOVICH - Helen Patalak, 88, of Dallas and formerly of Hudson, died Wednesday, September 28, 2011, at Hospice Care of VNA, St. Luke's Villa, Wilkes-Barre.

She was born in Wilkes-Barre on March 12, 1923, and was a graduate of Coughlin High School.

She and her late husband, Peter Patalak, operated a grocery store for 22 years in Hudson. She was a charter member of Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Church, the choir, a Sunday school teacher and trustee.

Surviving are her husband, Alex; son, Peter Patalak Jr.; daughter, Patricia Patalak; stepchildren, Sherry, George, Hope, Michael, Heidi, Dan, Val and Colleen; three grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and sisters, Anna Wilk and Eva So-wyrd.

Memorial donations to Holy Trinity R.O. Church.

BEDNARZ - Helen T., 91, of Dallas and formerly of North Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, died Thursday, September 29, 2011, at the Mercy Center, Dallas, where she had been a resident since March.

She was born on December 23, 1919. She grew up in Wilkes-Barre Township and graduated from Wilkes-Barre Township High School in 1938.

She was employed by Fern-baugh Silk Mill in Wilkes-Barre and later by the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital in the medical records department as a medical record coder until her retirement in 1985.

Surviving are her son, Atty. John A., of Shavertown; two grandsons; a great-granddaughter; nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations to the Osterhout Free Library in Wilkes-Barre or the Luzerne County Bar Association Charitable Foundation Inc.

COOK - H. Harrison, 79, of Dallas, died Tuesday, September 27, 2011, in the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

He was born February 20, 1932, was a graduate of Kingston Township High School, class of 1950, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Economics from Wilkes College, graduating in 1954.

He was employed as a sales representative for National Gypsum Co., retiring in 1996. He was a member of the George M. Dallas Masonic Lodge, Bloomsburg Consistory and Irem Temple. He was an active member of Shavertown United Methodist Church.

Surviving are his wife, the former Lois Wood; son, Gregg Harrison, Weston, Fla.; daughter, Bonnie Louise Snedeker, Wyoming; four grandchildren.

Memorial donations to Shavertown United Methodist Church, 163 N. Pioneer Ave., Shavertown, PA 18708; or Luzerne County Special Olympics, PO Box 1832, Shavertown, PA 18708.

FARRIS - Ruth Ann, 70, of Goering Avenue, Shavertown, died Wednesday, September 28, 2011, at the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital from complications of ALS, Lou Gehrig's disease.

She was born in Wilkes-Barre on May 3, 1941, and was a member of the graduating class of Hanover High School, class of 1959. She was employed by the Worldwide Travel Department of AAA Travel. More recently, she worked at Mr. Z's Supermarket, Dallas.

She was a member of Gate of Heaven Church, Dallas, where

she served as Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist. She also served as past president of the Altar and Rosary Society in 1991. She volunteered her time at the St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen in Wilkes-Barre.

Surviving are her husband of 44 years, Thomas Farris, at home; daughters, Michele Kelly, West Chester; and Maria Walp, Jackson Township; son, Michael, Flourtown; five grandchildren; brother, Thomas Breznay, DuBois; sisters, Mary Jo Brody, Dallas; and Kathy Laumeier, Harveys Lake; nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations to Gate of Heaven Church, 40 Machell Ave., Dallas, PA 18612; or to St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen, 39 E. Jackson St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702.

FRITZGES - Harold F., 88, of Shavertown, died Friday, September 30, 2011, at the Lakeside Nursing Center, Dallas.

He was born in Wilkes-Barre on March 7, 1923, and was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, attaining the rank of staff sergeant. He was employed by Dallas Dairy and Newell Fuel Service, Trucksville, until retirement.

Surviving are his wife, the former Beverly Smith Fritzges; sons, James and Barry; sister, Marion Haydt; nieces and nephews.

HOEGEN - Maureen Therese McGovern, 71, of Kingston Township, died on Monday afternoon, September 26, 2011 after a length illness.

She was born October 5, 1939, in Carbondale, was a 1957 graduate of St. Rose High School in Carbondale and earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Georgetown University in 1961.

In her early career, she served as a public health nurse in Washington, D.C., and also worked as a clinical nursing instructor at St. Joseph's Hospital in South Bend, Ind., and at College Misericordia in Dallas. For many years, she was active in the Pro-Life Movement in Northeastern Pennsylvania and also served on the Bishop's Commission on Ecumenism and Human Affairs in the Diocese of Scranton.

Surviving are her husband, Peter J. Hoegen, with whom she celebrated 50 years of marriage on June 17, 2011; her children, Frank, Kingston; Rose Curtin, Richmond, Va.; Katie Arensmeyer, Kingston; Joe, Carlisle; and Dan, Kingston Township; 13 grandchildren; two great-grandsons.

Memorial donations to Medical Oncology Associates Prescription Assistance Fund, 382 Pierce St., Kingston, PA 18704; or to St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen, Catholic Social Services, 33 E. Northampton St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

LYNN - Lorraine M., 86, of Harveys Lake, died Wednesday, September 28, 2011, in the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

She was born in New York City on November 6, 1924, was a registered nurse and graduated from Bellevue School of Nursing in Manhattan, N.Y. She had the highest nursing board scores in the history of the New York State Regents Exam.

Decades later, she graduated with honors from Ramapo College of New Jersey, located in Mahwah, N.J., with a degree in psychology.

At age 51, she won a series of challenge matches to play No. 1 on the Ramapo college tennis team. She resided for 36 years in Hillsdale, N.J., and in 2009 relocated to Harveys Lake to live with her eldest son.

Surviving are her sons, Kevin, Harveys Lake; and Keith, of Deltona, Fla.; daughter, Kathleen, Manhattan, N.Y.; two grandsons.

NAGLE - Maureen L., 56, died on Tuesday, September 27, 2011.

She was born December 18, 1954, in Kingston and attended Dallas High School. She was formerly employed by Wyoming Valley Health Care System for the past 39 years in the Finance Department.

She was an active member of the S.P.C.A.

Surviving are her sons, Bruce Kugler, Plains Township; five grandchildren; sisters, Patricia Nagle Lorah and Karen Nagle Gardzalla; brothers, Bruce W. and George R.; nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations to the American Cancer Society, 190 Welles St., Ste. 118, Forty Fort, PA 18704; or to the S.P.C.A. of Luzerne County, 524 E. Main St., Fox Hill Road, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705.

PIATT - Joseph Howard Sr., 88, recently of Masonic Village, Dallas, and formerly of Asheville, N.C., and Oakmont, died Wednesday, September 21, 2011, at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Hospital, Wilkes-Barre, after a series of illnesses.

He was born January 7, 1923, graduated from Washington High School in 1940 and served in the U.S. Army Air Corps from January 1941 through May 1943.

He then attended Waynesburg College, from where he received a bachelor's degree in chemistry in June 1946. After a year of graduate study at the University of Pittsburgh, he worked as a research chemist for Gulf Oil Corporation from July 1947 through his retirement in April of 1985.

He was an elder and church treasurer at the Riverside Presbyterian Church in Oakmont. In retirement, he volunteered regularly at the Harmarville Rehabilitation Center in Harmarville and later at Toms Rehabilitation Center in Asheville, N.C.

He was a member of the York Rite Masonry Pittsburgh Lodge, the Society of Automotive Engineers, the American Chemical Society and the Sons of the American Revolution.

Surviving are his wife of 64 years, Pauline C. Piatt, of Dallas; his sons, Dr. Joseph H. Jr., of Merion Station; and Atty. Lee S., of Dallas; brothers, Warren, of Washington; and John, of Butler; nine grandchildren;

Memorial donations to Waynesburg University, Waynesburg.

RIHAN - Joan Ancin, R.N., of Dallas, died Saturday, September 24, 2011, at Mercy Center Personal Care Home in Dallas, under the care of Hospice of the Sacred Heart.

She was born in Kingston and was a graduate of Kingston High School and Nesbitt School of Nursing in 1950. After graduation, she moved to Irvington, N.J., where she worked in veterans hospitals in Newark and Morristown, N.J., before moving back to the Wyoming Valley with her husband.

She also worked at Nesbitt Hospital as an operating room nurse. She was a faithful parishioner of Blessed Sacrament Chapel at Mercy Center in Dallas and a founding member of the Pennsylvania Quilters.

Surviving are her brothers, Edward Ancin, of Blauvelt, N.Y.; and Michael Ancin, of Conshohocken; nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations to Hospice of the Sacred Heart, 600 Baltimore Dr., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702.

RIKER - Leland Robert, 80, of Tunkhannock, died Saturday, September 24, 2011, in Tyler Memorial Hospital in Tunkhannock.

He was born in Scranton on June 13, 1931, was a graduate of Hartford High School, class of 1949, and was an U.S. Army veteran of the Korean Conflict, serving with the Signal Corps.

He was employed by Union Carbide in Niagara Falls, N.Y., then retired from Sire Power in Tunkhannock after 34 years of service. He was a member of the Eaton Baptist Church.

Surviving are his wife of 56 years, Marjorie Steele Riker; sons, Leland G., Tunkhannock; David, Federal Way, Wash.; daughter, Patti Lou, Afton, Va.; three grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; brother, Raymond, Montrose; sister, Jean Carter, Dimock.

Memorial donations to the Eaton Baptist Church, 820 Hunter Hwy., Tunkhannock, PA 18657.

TRAYER - Russell H. Sr., 80, of

Noxen, died Friday, September 30, 2011, at the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

He was born December 19, 1930, in Noxen, and was employed by Procter & Gamble Paper Products, Mehoopany, for 23 years, retiring in 1989.

He was a member of the Noxen Bible Baptist Church.

Surviving are his wife, the former Eleanore (Jean) Gummo; his children, Patricia Riftenberg, of Meshoppen; Russell Jr., of Dallas; Samuel, of Tunkhannock; Edith Wiltsie, of Beaumont; Eleanore Decker, of Aspers; Nancy Foster, of Altmar, N.Y.; and Anthony, of Noxen; 18 grandchildren and 31 great-grandchildren; sisters, Alice, of Plymouth; and Betty, of Beaumont.

WARD - Henry H., of Dallas, died Tuesday, September 27, 2011, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

He was born in Sioux City, Iowa, on September 3, 1924, was a graduate of Upper Darby High School and earned a bachelor's degree from Wilkes College.

He served with the 11th and 503rd Airborne troops for four years in the Pacific Theater during World War II. His group was the first to land in Japan. He received the Good Conduct Medal, two Bronze Stars, a Meritorious Unit Award, a Presidential Unit Award and multiple other honors.

He was employed for many years as a sales manager and as a teacher in Pennsylvania vocational/technical schools. He was a builder and contractor. He was employed by Bridon America, Hazelton Brick Corporation and Glen-Gery Brick Corporation.

An avid pilot, he was a founding member of the Wyoming Valley Pilot's Club and was a member of the Quiet Birdmen, Harrisburg Hangar.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre, the Harveys Lake Yacht Club, VFW Post 83, the American Legion of Dallas, Masonic Lodge 60 of Wilkes-Barre, Irem Temple, and AAONMS.

Surviving are his daughter, Elaine Ward; one granddaughter; a sister, Elizabeth Kitchen, of Portland, Ore.

Memorial donations to The SPCA of Luzerne County, 524 E. Main St., Fox Hill Road, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

WILDONER - Milton "Mick," 57, of Main Road, Hunlock Creek, died on Friday, September 23, 2011, at his home.

He was born November 4, 1953, in Corning, N.Y., and was employed by Ken Pollock Trucking Company for 30 years. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Surviving are his wife, the former Mary Shields; daughters, Robyn, Hunlock Creek; Rachael Mott, Stillwater; son, Mick, at home; seven grandchildren; brothers, Jodi, Glen Lyon; Lynn, Nanticoke; Charles, Glen Lyon; sister, Leona Price, Bloomsburg.

WILSON - John Sherwood Jr., 75, of Dallas, died Tuesday, September 27, 2011, in the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

He was born November 4, 1935, in Wilkes-Barre, was a graduate of Wyoming Seminary Preparatory School and the Pennsylvania Military College, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration.

He served as a captain in the 109th Field Artillery of the Pennsylvania National Guard.

He later followed in his father's footsteps by running his family's business, Wilkes-Barre Iron and Wire Works Inc. He ended his professional career as a self-employed stock broker.

He was a member of the George M. Dallas Masonic Lodge and Irem Temple. He was a long-time member of Shavertown United Methodist Church.

Surviving are his sons, John S. III, Dallas; Tyler S., Shavertown; his daughter; Kendra W. Muenster, Newport, Rhode Island; cousins.

Memorial donations to the Shavertown United Methodist Church, 163 N. Pioneer Ave., Shavertown, PA 18708.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Dental technician Angie Yorina examines, cleans, screens for disease and gives fluoride treatments to Robert Wagner at a free dental clinic sponsored by the Back Mountain Harvest Assembly Church in Trucksville.

Trucksville's Hope Center now offers dental care

The Hope Center, a free medical clinic run through the Back Mountain Harvest Assembly Church in Trucksville, now offers free dental care for those without insurance or who cannot afford it.

Angie Yorina, a local dental practitioner, will offer teeth cleanings, fluoride treatments, full exams and other dental needs.

Director Ron Hillard said the program was almost a bust earlier this year. He said only a dental practitioner or dentist could do the work and estimated there are only about 300 dental practitioners in the state.

Getting the right equipment was another hassle.

"We called the Luzerne and Lackawanna County Dental Societies and they said we couldn't get equipment anywhere," said Hillard.

A few days later, after more than a little praying, opportunity knocked on the Hope Center's door. Upon retiring, Richard Levy, a dentist based in Kingston, decided to donate his office full of equipment to the center.

"You can't make this stuff up," said Hillard.

This is the second leg of the center's "See the Light" program. Last year, the center began to offer free eye exams and glasses for those in need. Hillard said the program's goal is to help all uninsured children in the area receive proper medical care.

"If they can see, if their teeth are clean and if they can hear, they've got a shot," said Hillard.

Hillard hopes the third and final aspect of the project, an audiology practice, will be available by next summer.

- Sarah Hite



Planning for a Fall Fair at the Meadows Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Dallas are, from left, first row, Betty Sorchik and Marilyn Gregorski, volunteer Directors. Second row, Jennifer Kozek, Walgreen's store manager; Roseann Bauer, Marie Belasco, Fran Dierolf, volunteers; and Cristina Tarbox, Meadows administrator.

Meadows Fall Fair slated

A Fall Craft Fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 19, at the Meadows Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, 4 E. Center Hill Rd., Dallas.

Admission is free and all proceeds will benefit the 130 residents at the center.

The fair will include a flu shot clinic hosted by Walgreen's and various vendors with holi-

day crafts, gift items, cosmetics and jewelry. Volunteers are sponsoring a bake sale and a Christmas treasure table.

Festive raffle baskets are on display waiting for lucky winners and lunch will be available for purchase.

For additional information, call the volunteer dept. 675-8600 x195 or by e-mail at mncvdept@yahoo.com.

Pageant applications available

Dallas will again be home to the second annual Miss Luzerne County Teen Pageant on Saturday, Nov. 26. This pageant is the official teen pageant with the 90-year Miss America Scholarship Pageant tradition.

A new Miss Wilkes-Barre/Scranton and Miss Northeastern Pennsylvania will be crowned at this pageant.

Applications for young women ages 13-17 or 18-24 are now available and can be accessed by logging onto www.NEPAPageant.com.

Each teen competes in interview, talent, evening gown and fitness. Miss PA Teen, the sister program to Miss America, then competes at the national finals in Orlando in August 2012.

Miss Luzerne County will earn a minimum \$250+ cash scholarship and at least another \$500+ in prizes.

Pennsylvania misses between the ages of 18 and 24 may compete for one of these titles: Miss Wilkes-Barre Scranton and Miss Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Misses in this local Miss America Scholarship Pageant will compete in interview, talent, swimsuit and evening gown. Both title winners will compete at the 2012 state finals.

Miss Wilkes-Barre/Scranton 2012 and Miss Northeastern PA will both win a minimum \$250 cash college scholarship and another \$500+ in prizes.

The Woodlands Inn and Resort will host the Friday, Nov. 25 arrivals, press conference, rehearsals and official judges' interviews.

Applications should be sent to Suite 204, 62 Dallas Shopping Center, Dallas, PA. 18612.