

Letters To The Editor

Road Needs A 911 Name

Dear Editor,
In the interest of public safety, the legal road or Cito entrance/exit into the rear of the Penn's Village has no name for emergency reporting to 911 if you call for help or have an accident as the road does not exist!

Someone in the boro or county should find and post on a street sign saying exactly what the name is and also start to care for this dangerous road or alley with extreme ice and pothole infested throughback that does not even seem to meet legal width for proper passage!

Women and small children are forced to do a "Don't Hit Me Dance" as they try to walk in and out of there to go to the remaining stores as well as trying not to be hit by sliding cars on the underkept lot that the boro should take over and maintain to protect the public at large as the current owner/s appear confused as what to do, how to maintain and to properly name the rear road!

Here is a suggested official name: "Risky Way Road!"
Glenn Morris
McConnellsburg

Please Recycle Properly

To The Editor:
The use of the four recycling drop boxes in the county has really grown in recent months. I think it is great that residents see the economic, social and environmental value of recycling. To those folks who are recycling the appropriate material and saving valuable natural resources, I heartily shake your hand.

Unfortunately, in any population, there always seem to be people who either don't care, don't pay attention or find it a burden to do things the proper way. O that note ...

The recycling bins are not trash dumpsters. Trash does not belong in the recycling bins. Also, plastic bags are not accepted in this recycling program. If you have items in plastic bags (of any sort), empty out the contents and reuse your bag. If you see someone putting a garbage bag of material in a recycling bin, ask them to empty the contents (if they're recyclables) of the bag and take the bag home.

Recycling the proper plastic seems to be a challenge for people. The only plastic that is accepted in this recycling program is containers in the shape of a jug/bottle. In other words, the neck is narrower than the body. If your plastic material does not fit this description, it is not recyclable in our program. So, no plastic bags, no plastic wrap, no yogurt, cottage cheese, or butter tubs (wrong shape), no "clam shell" containers, no Tupperware or similar container, no styrofoam, no platters, no packaging, no shower curtains, etc. Again, the neck must be narrower than the body, otherwise leave it out.

This drop-off recycling program cannot accept scrap metal. The only metal that is acceptable needs to be in the form of a can. Please take scrap metal to a scrap yard.

On to the recycling. One day I pulled a feed sack full of broken safety glass out of a recycling bin. That bin had a sign on it that read "glass bottles only" no light bulbs, no window glass, no drinking glasses, etc. Please, recycle glass food and beverage containers only.

Most people are pretty good with paper and cardboard recycling, except for sometimes forgetting to break down and flatten boxes. Also, please remove and discard the styrofoam, peanuts, bubble wrap, etc., that might be in your box. I would like to remind people that used facial tissues, coffee paper plates and used coffee filters are not acceptable. One last note, this is a voluntary program, there are no local employees, no one gets paid to clean up after you. I understand the bins are not always wide open and full of space. I think that's a good thing, it shows that people are recycling. Drop-off boxes are not switched out until they are completely full; it's not economically sound to do otherwise. So, if the bin is getting full, carefully rearrange things, make some space, do not leave your bags of recyclables laying on the ground around the bin.

The recycling industry is facing the same difficult economic times as everyone else. If the material we send to the recycling facility is not "clean," if it contains nonrecyclable material, then it will no longer be economically viable for them to accept our material and our program will end. That, folks, is the bottom line. Our program shrunk once before because of contamination issues, let's not lose it again.

So, recycle away, but for everyone's sake, do it properly.
Greg Reineke
Fulton Co.
Conservation District

Burglaries

From Page One

\$150 and was loaded into a truck and taken to Slates Salvage.

- Everhart and Hoover Construction of 389 North Clear Ridge Road, Hustontown, reported to state police two pole-mounted transformers were stolen from its property between March 3 and March 5, 2008. In actuality, the aluminum was removed from the transformers, which were then tossed onto the back of the company's trucks. The transformers were valued at \$750 total.

- Hustontown-based electrician Dennis Hess reported that between March 27 and March 31, burglars pried open a door to his storage garage located next to his residence at 1646 North Hess Road and stole 18 rolls of electrical wiring. The wiring was valued at \$1,365. The wire was allegedly rolled out of a van inside the garage and onto the roadway where it was loaded into a truck.

- In early April 2008, a 12-foot aluminum flat-bottom boat with two swivel seats was stolen from next to a pond on the Gary Hawkins property located near the intersection of Pump Station and North Hess roads. It was taken to Slates Salvage where \$40 was given for the item.

- Rensburg's Salvage Yard just off R&D Lane in Todd Township was the site of the next incident that happened sometime April 25 or 26. A total of 36 catalytic converters estimated at \$2,700 were removed from an unlocked van that was located in the salvage yard. The converters were sold and the money was split.

- In mid-August, a door between the main garage doors at Hometown Garage of 477 North Clear Ridge Road was pried open. Approximately \$1,200 was stolen from a cash register placed inside a file cabinet.

- McQuait is also allegedly linked to a burglary that occurred only two weeks later at the Cole Road residence of his father, Max McQuait Jr., in Taylor Township. On August 29, 2008, McQuait reportedly crawled into the home through a window and stole \$351 from a cash box kept in his father's bedroom. The money was spent on items such as food and gas.

- A coin machine was stolen from Get It Wet Car Wash along Great Cove Road in Dublin Township between October 2 and October 4. The machine, state police indicated, was hidden in a discarded area along Cherry Lane until the price of aluminum and scrap metal rose.

- Owners of the Twist and Shake reported that sometime October 21 or October 22 their business located at 7557 Waterfall Road, Hustontown, was burglarized. An affidavit of probable cause shows \$172 in cash was stolen from three separate locations within the building after a basement door and a first-floor rear door were pried open.

- Betty Shotts, Christopher

"Bucky" Shott's grandmother, was the victim of a burglary and theft on October 30 at her Taylor Township home at 2820 North Hess Road. McQuait had visited the residence previously with Christopher Shotts, who is also charged in the spree of on-going thefts and burglaries.

- McQuait allegedly returned to Everhart and Hoover Construction on November 5 or 6 and removed a Stihl gas-powered drill, a Stihl 021 chain saw with a 16-inch bar and approximately 50 feet of copper wire from an unlocked utility truck, a complaint and affidavit said.

- Between 9 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. on November 8, various coins valued at \$600 were stolen from the Lee Tice home located at 1006 North Clear Ridge Road in Dublin Township. The Tice family was reportedly at the Hustontown Firehall when the money was stolen.

- Christopher Lipko, who resides at 879 North Madden Road in Taylor Township, was initially unable to determine how burglars entered his home until he discovered the screen to his laundry room window was removed and lying on the ground. A further search of his residence revealed a total of \$1,270 in miscellaneous change and cash that was carried from the scene in a duffel bag belonging to Lipko was missing.

- One week later, Jill Cline of 3660 North Hess Road reported to state police burglars forced open a basement window and then proceeded to remove \$690.

- The front window pane was taken off the South Madden Road home of Donald Brown sometime December 1 or 2, an affidavit of probable cause filed against McQuait states. A total of \$1,300 was stolen from a lockbox inside Brown's bedroom closet. A getaway vehicle used in the break-in was parked at the nearby Winegardner Schoolhouse.

- The same day, Phyllis McClure reported to state police investigators burglars attempted to break into her 6038 Waterfall Road home by prying open a stainless steel door. Entry was not made to the home, which suffered \$25 in damage to door trim.

- On December 7 or 8, Kee-Ta-Quay Construction of Hustontown fell prey to a burglary that resulted in almost \$5,000 in coins, prescription medications and cigarettes being stolen.

- Randy King of 645 Timber Edge Road obtained a license plate number that was traced back to McQuait after he spotted a strange Chevrolet Blazer parked not far from his residence on December 17. King also found footprints in the snow that led to his front door and determined his lock box had been rummaged through.

- Charges against McQuait and Joshua Weaver have also been filed through the Orbisonia office of Magisterial District Judge Mary Jamison, stated Trooper Lupey. The duo allegedly stole a salt spreader belonging to Springfield Township in southern Huntingdon County.

McQuait, who is represented by court-appointed attorney Dwight Harvey, has admitted his involvement in many of the burglaries. He has, however, denied his involvement in several cases. His involvement in those episodes has been confirmed through interviews and confessions made by the remaining five Hustontown men believed to be involved in the cases.

Brian Cutchall

Twenty-one-year-old Brian Cutchall has been charged by Trooper Lupey in connection with four of the incidents occurring in northern Fulton County within the last year as well as the two thefts at Town Hill Salvage. Among those Cutchall is linked to is the March break-in at Hess's Electric Storage Garage where 1 1/2 dozen rolls of electrical wire were stolen. Cutchall allegedly dropped McQuait off and returned approximately 30 minutes later and helped load the copper wire into the back of a truck, an affidavit said. The wire was reportedly "burned off" at a home belonging to a relative of McQuait's.

Cutchall, state police added, was also on hand when Gary Hawkins' flat-bottom aluminum boat was stolen. He allegedly drove McQuait's truck while the boat was dragged to a nearby intersection and loaded.

Cutchall is also accused of taking part in the burglary at the home of Jill Cline as well as the more recent burglary at Donald Brown's. Cutchall denied his involvement in the episode at Brown's, telling state police "nice the Brown family were 'nice friends and went to his pap's church.'" Cutchall also said that if he needed money Brown would simply loan it to him, an affidavit of probable cause stated.

He was arraigned before District Judge Horne Tuesday morning and was released after posting \$150,000, or \$25,000 per case.

Jonathan Kauffman

Kauffman, 23, has also been linked by police investigators to four of the more recent incidents in northern Fulton County, including the Twist and Shake, Jill Cline home, Phyllis McClure residence and Kee-Ta-Quay Construction. He was also one of two individuals charged in burglarizing the Mile Level Sub & Pizza Shop in Bedford. Charges in Bedford County were filed through the office of Magisterial District Judge Kathy Calhoun.

Kauffman, an affidavit noted, was pegged by three of the remaining five men for his involvement with McQuait in "robbing" the Twist and Shake during a time frame of only 20 minutes. Kauffman, state police were told, was also involved with the burglary at the Jill Cline residence where \$690 in cash was stolen. Kauffman allegedly drove McQuait's truck while the crime was committed.

In an interview with one of six men, state police also learned Kauffman and McQuait reportedly drove to the home of Phyllis McClure, but Kauffman was

unsuccessful gaining entry to the house.

Furthermore, McQuait allegedly admitted to police investigators he and Kauffman went into Kee-Ta-Quay through an open back door and stole money that was spent on gas and food.

Kauffman was also arraigned before Judge Horne on Tuesday and remanded to the Franklin County Prison in lieu of \$125,000 bail.

Christopher Shotts

Twenty-six-year-old Christopher "Bucky" Shotts was charged this week through the office of Magisterial District Judge Horne with four incidents that were investigated at the Stofflet farm, a field along Iron Bridge Road, Everhart and Hoover Construction, and at Dennis Hess's storage garage. In speaking with police, the affidavit said, Shotts reportedly told investigators he helped McQuait remove "two loads of junk" from Stofflet's property. At the conclusion of the interview, Shotts stated, he "couldn't believe they are squealing. They were all supposed to be friends."

Shotts, an affidavit further stated, acknowledged stealing an aluminum boat belonging to his neighbor, William Ray Voegel Jr., with assistance from McQuait. The boat supposedly had been covered with leaves and had a hole in it.

Shotts was also fingered by one of the alleged burglars for tearing apart the transformers at Everhart and Hoover and loading stolen wire along the roadway adjacent to Hess's to Hess's garage.

He was arraigned and remanded to the Franklin County Prison in lieu of \$100,000 bail.

Joshua Weaver

In addition to his alleged involvement at Breeze Auto Sales, 20-year-old Joshua Weaver is also reportedly connected with the theft of a salt spreader in Huntingdon County and the theft of catalytic converters at Rensburg Salvage Yard. Weaver allegedly aided McQuait in taking 36 catalytic converters that had been stored inside an unlocked van. Weaver's truck was utilized in hauling them, and the duo split the money from their sale.

Samuel Ranck

Twenty-five-year-old Samuel Ranck has been tabbed for his alleged participation with Jonathan Kauffman during a break-in at the Mile Level Sub & Pizza Shop in Bedford County. Ranck was also charged locally through the office of Magisterial District Judge Horne for a burglary at the North Madden Road residence of Christopher Lipko that occurred on November 21 between 6:20 a.m. and 3:20 a.m.

In an interview with state police investigators, an affidavit said, Ranck stated he and McQuait drove to the Lipko's home in McQuait's Chevrolet Blazer that was pulled into a nearby wooded area. McQuait, Ranck told police, returned to the vehicle 30 minutes later with a duffel bag containing money.

Fire

From Page One

Eighteen fire companies, including McConnellsburg, responded to the call, resulting in 22 tankers and three tower trucks aiding in extinguishing the flames throughout the morning.

Flames and smoke were emanating from the northeastern corner and windows of the inn, Gordon said, when he arrived.

"I was inside the inn for about 15 minutes before the firefighters arrived," stated Gordon, who entered the historic building via a rear window he shattered with a shovel.

Meanwhile, a stepladder was brought in in hopes of accessing the second-floor but too much smoke hindered the group's efforts. Firefighters worked down by-side diligently knocking down the flames repeatedly, Gordon said.

With a small time frame allotted to them, Gordon stated, he along with Chambersburg fire marshal Jeffrey Sarver and Mercersburg, Montgomery, Peters and Warren Township (MMP&W) Fire Chief Dusty Stoner managed to enter the three-story building that had fallen in to the first floor.

"It was still burning at 11 a.m. when we went in and found Kayla's body," related Gordon. "They (the firefighters) had just knocked the flames back a second time when we were able to get her out."

"Everything that was above Kayla went crashing down to the first floor," said Gordon, who added the girl's body was practically lying out in the open aside from some ceiling beams that

covered the area. After the trio exited with the toddler, the flames erupted a third time and were smothered after firefighters surrounded the inn.

Gordon noted each tanker on the scene brought approximately 2,000 gallons of water. The tankers, however, ran out of water and were forced to pump water out of the nearby Conococheague.

The fire, fire marshal Sarver stated, was likely caused by a propane heater attached to the wall in Fox's room. The heating unit was fueled by an outside propane line.

Rouzer

From Page One

"Midge" Tressler of Mercersburg. Tressler had been charged with hindering apprehension and was also later allegedly involved in the murder-for-hire.

Tressler, 47, also made a court appearance last Friday. She pled guilty to one first-degree misdemeanor count of hindering apprehension of a fugitive in return for the dismissal of criminal solicitation charges.

Tressler was granted time served and was ordered to complete five years probation.

Rouzer, who was temporarily being housed at the Franklin County Prison, was scheduled to be transported to Camp Hill state correctional institution Tuesday.

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HOW TO WRITE AN OBITUARY FOR YOUR TEENAGER.

YOU sit and watch your child sleep. The hospital intercom serves as a constant reminder of where you are. You rock in the blanket around his feet. He hasn't moved since you last tucked it in, but it gives you something to do. It's been two days since your child's friends carried him into the emergency room. The doctor says it's a losing battle. You're not ready for that.

* IT IS APPROPRIATE to include the child's nickname if well-known.

It's been 16 hours since your child was pronounced dead. The relatives you phoned didn't know about inhalants. It seems so one did. You haven't slept in two days, but somehow you keep going. Because you have a funeral to arrange. And people to console. And someone from the obituary section is on the phone. They need to know about the child you just lost.

* FAMILIES WILL often prefer to have the funeral home handle the obituary.

Could this be your child? We hope not. For more information about sniffing, please visit drugfree.org. There are signs to look for. You just need to know what they are. ☹

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FRSB
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mate cost for the trip will include \$200 for transportation.

Building and grounds

Ned Cromer was given authorization to host an elementary basketball tournament for league play and to cap the season. The request came as a result of Forbes Road falling into the rotational schedule for tours.

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