

Woman found not guilty of man slaughter

GATEHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

TOWANDA, PA. | A woman was found not guilty Wednesday of involuntary manslaughter in connection with her mother's death last summer in Sayre.

She was, however, convicted in Bradford County Court on two lesser charges.

Josephine Parkhurst Boice was found guilty of aggravated assault and simple assault. She was accused of shoving her elderly mother, Rose Parkhurst, who fell and later died at Robert Packer Hospital.

Parkhurst Boice testified that she accidentally bumped into her elderly mother, who was frail and had health problems.

The incident occurred Aug. 22, 2007. At the time, the family lived together on East Packer Avenue in Sayre.

IN BRIEF

Estate planning seminar offered

BATH | There will be an estate planning seminar from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday and April 9 at the Dormann Library, 101 W. Morris St. The Wednesday session will cover estate planning and feature Patrick Roth, CPA. The April 9 session will cover asset protection. The program is free. Registration is requested by calling Cornell Cooperative Extension at 607-664-2300.

Ginalski to speak at Taxpayers Assoc.

CORNING | Corning-Painted Post School District Superintendent Mike Ginalski will be the guest speaker at 7 p.m. today at the Corning Area United Taxpayers Association monthly meeting. He will discuss the proposed 2008-09 district budget.

Guthrie sponsors educational event

CORNING | Guthrie's cardiovascular center is sponsoring an educational event from 5-9 p.m. today at the Corning Museum of Glass. The event, entitled Women and Heart Disease, will offer exhibits, guest speakers and a variety of screenings, such as blood pressure and body fat.

Reserve Park

Station Tuesday

ELMIRA | The Chemung County buildings and grounds department will begin accepting reservations for Park Station from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday. Reservations will be taken by telephone only on Monday and Tuesday. After that date, walk-in reservations will also be taken. Anyone wishing to make a reservation can call the building and grounds department at 737-2843 or visit 217 Madison Ave. Visa and Mastercard are accepted for reservations.

Staff reports

TODAY'S MEETINGS

Industrial Development Agency

12 p.m.
Steuben
7234 Route 54, Bath

School Board

6 p.m.
Odessa-Montour
Hanlon Conference Room

Planning Board

7 p.m.
Avoca Village
Village Hall
Hornby
Town Hall

Zoning Board

6 p.m.
Bath Village
Municipal Building

TURTLE ISLAND STRING QUARTET



JASON COX | THE LEADER

The Turtle Island String Quartet, fresh off winning a Grammy Award, performs at the Corning Museum of Glass Wednesday evening as part of Elmira's Clemens Center for the Performing Arts "Great Artists Series." Turtle Island, based in the San Francisco area, is a string quartet whose current members include violinists David Balakrishnan and Mads Tolling, viola player Jeremy Kittel, and cellist Mark Summer.

Massa blasts Kuhl for using taxpayers' money on mailings

BY BOB RECOTTA
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CORNING | Congressional candidate Eric Massa Wednesday blasted members of Congress, including U.S. Rep. John R. "Randy" Kuhl Jr. for spending taxpayer money on unnecessary mailings.

Massa cited an editorial in Canandaigua's *Daily Messenger Post* which chided Kuhl for putting out a mailing informing district residents about the federal rebate checks.

The Internal Revenue Service sent the same information out in its own mailing shortly before Kuhl's.

"This is out of control Washington spending," Massa said. "This is exactly what has got us in trouble in Washington - this irresponsible, out-of-control spending. This is hundreds of thousands of dollars of unnecessary junk mail mailings being sent by the office representing the 29th Congressional District."

In a press release on his Web site, Kuhl, R-Hammondsport, defended the practice.

"The purpose of the mailer was to inform my constituents about the details of the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008," Kuhl said.



MASSA

February with questions about the tax rebate which is designed to stimulate the ailing economy. The calls were received before the IRS mailing went out, Kuhl said.

Figures provided by Massa that he said were from the House Governmental Office showed Kuhl spent \$40,000 in the first two quarters of 2007 on mass mailings.

Kuhl spent almost \$130,000 in the first two quarters of 2006, the year Kuhl ran for reelection against Massa.

Massa said the mailer on tax rebates is only the latest in a string of mailings Kuhl has put out over the past several months. Massa said Kuhl also sent out mailings on reducing dependence on foreign oil, the concerns of Monroe County residents and on children's health coverage.

"Of course Mr. Kuhl voted four times against the State Children's Health Insurance

Program (SCHIP)," Massa said. Massa's criticism wasn't reserved for Kuhl alone. He admitted members of Congress on both sides of the aisle engaged in similar practices.

"I'm not excusing anyone from this," Massa said.

Massa acknowledged that, if elected, he wouldn't be able to change the system which allows Congress to spend millions of dollars on mailings.

"I'm not going to change the whole culture in Washington," Massa said. "We have a representative government and there are 434 other members of Congress. I can only say what I mean and mean what I say and try to lead by example and treat my neighbors' tax dollars as if it were my own kitchen budget. That's what we've lost in Washington."

Hornell City Schools Voters pass capital plan

THE LEADER STAFF

HORNELL | Hornell city school district voters have approved a \$52.7 million capital plan that will tighten security, improve education and upgrade the condition of district buildings.

The capital plan was overwhelmingly approved, 763-334, Tuesday by district voters. It received support from nearly 70 percent of voters, exceeding the 60 percent voter approval needed to pass because the district is over its constitutional debt limit.

The project will include building a centralized technology control center at the high school and the installation of internal and external security cameras and universal wireless access in district buildings.

Work at Bryant and North Hornell Elementary, the Intermediate School, the high school and the district offices will include heating, ventilation and maintenance improvements.

A second proposal costing \$8.35 million to build a new bus garage on Park Drive failed to meet the needed 60 percent voter approval. District residents voted, 564-484, on the issue.

"We're extremely pleased with the outcome," said school board President David Weyand. "It's bitter-sweet because we would have liked both to pass. But, I'm a big fan of the voters have the right to vote on it and we accept the results of that vote."

Superintendent George Kiley was pleased the major building improvement project passed, but disappointed Proposition 2 failed.

Kiley was also critical of the 60-percent threshold, which he called burdensome for small city school districts.

"It's unfair. I think it's prejudicial to small cities," Kiley said. "If the same vote happens in Arkport or Alfred-Almond or Bath, it passes."

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