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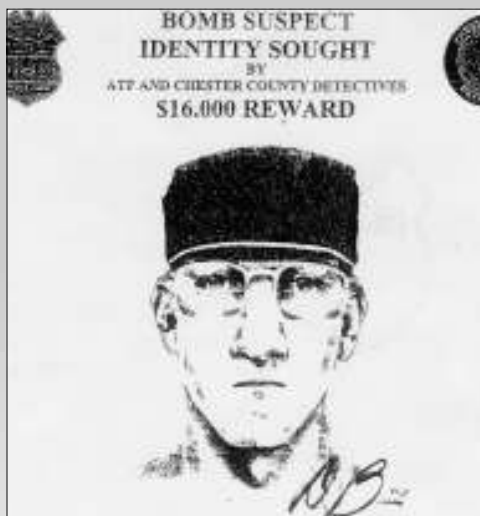
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Police sketch of the bomber

WHO IS THE SUBURBAN BOMBER?

TIMELINE

A record of incidents until the supposed disappearance of the bomber.

See Page A2

BOMBINGS INVESTIGATION CONTINUES

By JENNIFER MILLER
Staff Writer

EAST PIKELAND — Kirby Bloomquist was sitting at a red light waiting to make a turn at Rapps Dam Road when he heard the explosion. The noise he heard was a pipe bomb detonating inside a car in the parking lot of the Ames Department Store on Schuylkill Road on June 8, 2000. Bloomquist was East Pikeland's police chief at the time. "I actually heard this thing ex-

plode, then I got the radio call that it was serious," said Bloomquist recently. He is now retired from the force. When he arrived at the scene, which was only 30 seconds away, he saw flaming car parts on the roof of the store. Multiple cars were on

◆ See BOMBINGS,
Page A2



A Schuylkill police squad car sits in the Ames parking lot where a pipe bomb was found in winter 2000. This device was one of dozens of related incidents in the Phoenixville area.

Buildings and stores change, memories of bombings linger

By JENNIFER MILLER
Staff Writer

EAST PIKELAND — The stores in this township have changed over the last seven years, but the memories of parking lot bombings remain among local shoppers, workers and police. Between 2000 and 2001, several bombs detonated in the Phoenixville area, including in a parking lot at the Shoppes of Valley Forge on Schuylkill Road, where an Ames department store once stood.

◆ See CHANGE, Page A2



A Montgomery County Sheriff's Department Bomb Squad member carries a bag containing three pipe bombs in 2000.



Staff photo by Larry McDewitt
A crowd listens to speakers Saturday at Kerr Park in Downingtown during the Struble Trail rally.

Hundreds attend trail rally

Concerned residents gather
to protest blockade of path

By CHRISTINE BRANDT
Special to the Daily Local News

DOWNINGTOWN — A Kerr Park rally for the Struble Trail drew several hundred protesters upset with a blockade at the trail's northern segment. The northern portion of the trail has been closed for any recreational pursuits after the purchase of the 44-acre Shryock Papermill property by John and Linda Shelton in 2005. While no definitive plans have been laid, a number of hypothetical fates for the property have been discussed, such as turning the site into a pub, a hotel, a restaurant or possibly senior-housing. "If the Sheltons were really smart, they would build their houses and promote them as having access as a selling point."

— JORDYN THOMPSON,
Exton resident

The idea of any development of this property seems a costly prospect to a number of the reported 250,000 trail visitors who look to the trail for their outdoor endeavors. Sharon O'Shaughnessy organized Friends of the Struble Trail in early August after learning of potential development plans for the former Shryock property. She wanted to gauge how important the trail was to Chester County residents. In two days she had 400 petitions signed.

◆ See STRUBLE, Page A4

Resident serves time for parking tickets

\$3,200 in fees left unpaid result in a single-day stint in Chester County prison

By BRIAN FANELLI
Staff Writer

WEST CHESTER — A violator found out the hard way about the cost of allowing parking tickets to pile up. Oliver Bartine, a Church Street resident and Delaware County Community College student, received 39 parking tickets, totaling \$3,200 in fees, when he lived on West Gay Street.

He said most of the fines and tickets occurred because of street cleaning hours and young people plucking the tickets off of his car. He admitted, however, that the tickets were his fault.

"The bulk of the tickets stem from my mistakes," Bartine said. "The only gripes I have is the manner in which I was treated."

He said he tried to set up a payment plan with the court of Magisterial Dis-

"The bulk of the tickets stem from my mistakes. The only gripes I have is the manner in which I was treated."

— OLIVER BARTINE,
Church Street resident and Delaware
Community College student

trict Judge Mark Bruno, but could no longer make frequent payments because he had two herniated discs in his back and was out of work. "I said I wouldn't be able to do the payment plan, but it didn't matter (to the courts)," Bartine said. On Monday, a constable showed up at his girlfriend's house seeking his arrest, and when Bartine confronted

court officials later in the day, he was arrested because he did not have \$3,200, he said. He said he spent about a day in Chester County Prison. By the time court fees were paid, the fines totaled about \$4,200, he said. His mother, Laurie Bartine, was astonish-

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Joann Mauger has been saving animals through the Large Animals Protection Society for 22 years.



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MONDAY

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