

Threatening phone calls preceded fatal fire

By MARY CONNELLY

WEST BLOOMFIELD—A series of "strange calls" preceded the township house fire in which Kathy Stewart was killed, according to Mrs. Stewart's husband.

Dagmar Stewart, 41, said his wife received approximately three nuisance telephone calls in the week before she reported a threatening call to township police.

Kathy Stewart, 22, died in a house fire at 2194 Sunnycrest which was reported to the township fire department at 11:55 p.m. Jan. 25.

Mrs. Stewart reported a threatening phone call to police Jan. 18 in which she said a female caller asked "Would you like a fire?"

Stewart said other nuisance calls were made to the couple's listed number before the threat.

THE CALLS were to my wife," Stewart said. "They were antagonistic, just things to hassle." Stewart described the incidents as "strange calls."

"I was never home when these calls came in," he said.

Stewart teaches in the music department at Our Lady of Mercy High School in Farmington Hills. He said he works from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. at a Riverview night club. He was working the night the fire erupted which killed his wife.

Cause of the house fire has not been determined, according to township police. It is believed the blaze broke out in the home's master bedroom.

Four year old Paul Stewart was rescued by firemen from a back bedroom. Mrs. Stewart was found partially-clothed in the bathtub in the bathroom. An Oakland County Medical Examiner's report has tentatively fixed the cause of death as smoke inhalation. Further tests are being conducted.

STEWART SAID his wife called him at work the night she received the threatening phone call. He said he called to have the home's unlisted number changed the day after the threat.

Stewart said he knew the caller and has been "hassled" by the person "on and off for six years."

"She (Mrs. Stewart) knew who it was and I knew who it was," he said.

"What I'm basically saying is that I have suspicions. I have given them to police. It's up to them. All I can say is I was hassled by this party."

West Bloomfield township police are investigating the case. Tests are being conducted by the State Police Crime Laboratory in Warren. Sgt. Wayne Allen of the township detective bureau said additional comments on the case are not being made until test results are available.

THE STEWART home was also struck by fire Dec. 10, 1973, according to police reports.

Allen said careless smoking was cited as the cause of the blaze in which no one was injured.

"The fires were basically similar," Stewart said. "I attribute both fires to this person."

Stewart said his wife was home alone when last year's fire broke out in the master bedroom. She escaped with her son and called the fire department, he said.

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Family planning?

TWO SISTERS had expected to have their babies five weeks apart, but instead they converged on St. Mary Hospital in Livonia Wednesday, Jan. 15, and the baby girls were born less than three hours apart. Mrs. Vicki Hoskins (left) of Novi, waited three extra weeks for Jennifer Lynn, while Mrs. Linda Gayo Jackson of Farmington was surprised by the two-weeks-early arrival of April Dawn. (Staff photo by Art Emanuel)

Exclusive club helps Israel

By MARILYN BETMAN

The Prime Minister's Club of the Israel Bond Organization, one of the most exclusive groups in the world working in behalf of the State of Israel's economic development, has successfully completed its first year.

The club was initiated in January 1974 by Prime Minister Golda Meir to spearhead the Israeli Bond campaign and establishing leadership throughout the world.

The club has 1,600 members in the United States and Canada, who are leaders in professional, business and

communal life for their communities. Representatives of the club report to the Prime Minister of Israel twice a year on their progress.

David Holtzman, of Holtzman and Silverman Construction Co. in Southfield, is the first president of the Prime Minister's Club for Michigan. On Jan. 20, he will host a farewell dinner at his home for local members of the club in honor of those who will be participating in the Prime Minister's Jerusalem Conference on Jan. 25.

"THE PRIME Minister's Club is the only club of its kind," said David

Holtzman, "because the Prime Minister sponsors a personal invitation to members through State of Israel Bonds."

"Because Israel's increasing inflation is far beyond any other country in the free world, the Israeli people have accepted unprecedented austerity measures," he said. "Immigration from Russia, dependency on imports, and a ratio of defense expenditures that no other country in the world must carry, make us all responsible in the struggle for Israel's very existence."

Other local officers in the club are Norman Allen of Southfield, chairman of cash collections; Louis Berry of Southfield, honorary president; and David Pollack of Southfield, general chairman of Israel Bonds.

Moshe Kol, Israel's minister of tourism, will be the featured guest speaker at the embarkation dinner.

Kol was one of the signers of Israel's Declaration of Independence, has served in the Knesset and was head of the Youth Aliyah program for 18 years.

BY SPECIAL authorization of Prime Minister Yitshak Rabin, an historical scroll signed by Simcha Dinitz, Israeli Ambassador to the United States, will be presented to every member.

The scroll certifies that they have been duly designated as formal members of the Prime Minister's Club by virtue of leadership activities in behalf of Israel through State of Israel Bonds.

"The sword and shield atop the scroll reflects the official symbol of defense and strength which have helped the people of Israel to survive obstacles in war and peace," Holtzman said.

Resident receives \$80,000 grant

ROCHESTER—A student volunteer in Oakland University's Year for ACTION (UYA) program has won an \$80,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Social Services.

The student, 23-year-old Joseph Therrien of Southfield, plans to use the grant to set up and maintain a substance abuse, treatment and prevention program at the North Oakland County YMCA in Pontiac. His program is designed to deal with alcohol and drug abuse among youngsters from low-income families in Pontiac.

Therrien describes the program as

"non directive." He explains counselors won't preach or lecture clients. Instead, they will encourage clients to actively participate in charting ways to help solve their problems.

Therrien INDICATES he hopes to extend the program into the community through projects such as field trips and city cleanups.

Therrien's program will begin Feb. 3. There will be no minimum requirement for treatment and parental signatures won't be required before minors may draw treatment.

Therrien will be graduated from OU in May with a master of arts degree in guidance and counseling. He entered the UYA program last May, doing research work at the Pontiac YMCA.

New programs for campers

Applications for the 1975 summer camping season at Camp Tamarack are now available from the Fresh Air Society, 18100 Meyers Road, Detroit, 48225 or by phoning 341-5686.

Camp Tamarack offers 11 major campaign programs this summer at the Camp's two main sites, Brighton and Ortonville. Programs offered for boys and girls, 7 through 16, include a Hebrew-speaking program and a program of arts specialties. A number of out-of-camp trips and pioneer-style camping programs are available to older campers. Trips to different parts of the United States are offered again to Teen Campers.

In 1974 the Society provided experiences to over 1800 campers from the Detroit Metropolitan area.

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Volunteer advisers aid career education

SOUTHFIELD—Career education in Southfield schools has been getting a helping hand lately from a citizen's advisory group.

Called the Southfield Schools Career-Vocational-Technical Education Citizens' Advisory Council, the group has been established to advise the school system in career education.

The group is comprised of leaders from Southfield's business and industry. They play a variety of roles in advising the schools on course content and facilities for vocational and career education in grades K-12.

The committee meets monthly at different locations. The last meeting was Jan. 8 at the Metropolitan Detroit Plumbing Industry Training center.

Among those on the council are: Edward Knight, Industrial Communications; Mrs. Minnie Martin, who is involved in distributive education; Reginald Morris, Apprentice School of Detroit; Richard Rein, Jimmie Organization; Mrs. Florence Kiss, Michigan National Bank; and Clifford Simola, Bendix Research.

Also on the council are: Dr. Sally Spedding, principal at Northbrook Elementary School; John Butler, MCL Restaurant; Albert Cohen, who is knowledgeable in the area of construction and manufacturing; Dean Bill Rose, OCC's Auburn Hills Campus; and Mrs. Gloria Kennedy, Southfield Youth Employment.

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