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To honor their memory

Dallas High School band's Erick Sinclair plays "Taps" during Monday's Memorial Day ceremony at the Honor Roll. Story, more photos on back page. (Post photo/Grace R. Dove)

Federal funds '99% sure' for traffic lights

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

According to State Representative Phyllis Mundy, federal funding for traffic signals on Routes 309 and 415 may soon be on its way.

Because criteria for the state to fund traffic signals have been loosened, Mundy is very optimistic that the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) will pick up the tab for traffic signals at Route 415 and Center Hill Road at Pickett's Charge and three Route 309 intersections: Hillside Road, Franklin Street, and Main Street by Offset Paperback.

"The funding will come from federal money distributed through the state," Mundy said. "We are 99% sure that a portion of the \$2.5 million allocated for road improvement on Route 309 will be used for

Three intersections on Route 309 and one on Route 415 may be eligible for traffic light funding.

traffic signals."

State Senator Charles B. Lemmond said that he is "very pleased" with the information, according to Lisa Baker, a spokesman for the senator's office.

"Senator Lemmond is anxious to receive written confirmation from Transportation Secretary Howard Yarusalim. Then he'll be more comfortable," Ms. Baker said.

When funding sources for a traffic light at Route 309 and Main

See TRAFFIC LIGHTS, pg 14

Traffic on 309 up only 2.2%, says PennDOT

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

Has traffic gotten heavier on Route 309 since the last segment of the Cross Valley Expressway opened last winter?

Yes, says the Department of Transportation, but not much.

A traffic count taken near the rock cut in Kingston Township on September 19, 1991 before the final leg of the Cross Valley Expressway opened, showed that the average daily traffic total on Route 309 was 36,505 vehicles, according to Ron Bonacci, traffic engineer for PennDOT.

A traffic count taken in the same

location on April 14, 1992, showed an average daily traffic total of 37,318 vehicles, a 2.2% increase.

Truck traffic, counting everything bigger than a dump truck, increased from 1,372 trucks to 1,694.

The traffic counts do not represent literally how many cars traveled the road on that day, but are numbers that are adjusted so they are not skewed by factors such as the day of the week or season of the year.

According to Bonacci, the adjusted figures give a truer picture of how much traffic is on the road

See PENNDOT, pg 14

Perot supporters seek Back Mountain signers

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

Jack Loughney II has met George Bush, and thinks he's a "hell of a decent guy."

The retired U.S. Secret Service Agent has never met Ross Perot, but Loughney is working to gather petitions to get Perot on the ballot for president in November's election.

"I know George Bush. I guarded him when he was vice president,"

said Loughney, who worked as a Secret Service agent from 1970 to 1985. "He is a very personable and honorable man, but he does not represent me. He's a very decent man, but he's not a very effective leader."

"I've been interested in Ross Perot since the late 60's," said Loughney. "Ross Perot is a can-do kind of person and the Secret Service is a can-do kind of operation."

In the next several weeks, Loughney, coordinator for the petition drive for Perot in the Back Mountain, and about 35 other volunteers will be getting signatures so Perot's name can find its way in the voting machine.

"I see him as a man of action and see the big problem with the country as stagnation," said Loughney. "I think the time has come when we have to look outside the regular political channels."

According to Norm Gavlick, Luzerne County chairman for the Perot petition drive, 37,216 signatures are needed to get Perot on the presidential ballot in Pennsylvania, but they're shooting for 200,000 signatures, with a goal of 10,000 from Luzerne County.

"The important thing is the accuracy of the petition," said Gavlick. "The people in Harrisburg will be looking at the petition with a fine-tooth comb. Obviously they

don't want a Ross Perot on the ballot."

And why not.

In a recession economy, the last person you might expect to capture the public support is a billionaire. Instead of resentment at Perot's wealth, supporters say that he can't be bribed or bought.

"It's very hard to buy a multi-millionaire. It's even harder to buy

See PEROT, pg 14

Czech visitor says change coming slowly

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

Free refills of coffee and all-you-can-eat salad bars with fresh lettuce. Things Americans take for granted at restaurants.

But to Milan Madar of Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, those two things come to mind first when describing the difference between his country and ours.

In Czechoslovakia, you don't get refills or all-you-can-eat of any-

thing at restaurants.

"Here the hotels, and restaurants, everything is spotless clean," said Milan, through his interpreter and cousin, Joseph Kunec of Dallas.

More than two decades ago, in 1965, Kunec visited Milan in Czechoslovakia when he was 19 and just getting ready to enter the Soviet Army.

Now he's returning the favor.

See CZECH CITIZEN, pg 3

Library board will meet to discuss controversial firing

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

The firing of Charlotte Oley from the Back Mountain Memorial Library in April has sparked both outrage and concern.

Outrage that Oley was fired in April after 15 years of service.

Concern for Oley and for the library, which is dependent upon volunteers and public goodwill.

The president of the library board, Dr. Durelle Scott, would not discuss the matter Monday evening, May 25. He said that the

library board will meet this week and release a statement on its side of the story.

Head librarian Susan Frey has been reported as saying Oley was fired because her work was slipping, but later refused to make any comment.

Oley was diagnosed as having a brain tumor April 20. She received a letter in the mail from the library three days later notifying her that she had been let go.

See LIBRARY, pg 14

Scouts clean up cemeteries

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Memorial Day weekend, traditionally the time to replace cemetery decorations and spruce up the area around the family burial plot, was different this year at the Trucksville and Cedar Crest cemeteries.

Nearly 40 American flags were removed from graves in both cemeteries and desecrated, according to Nancy McDonald of the Cedar Crest Cemetery board and Margaret Goodwin of the Trucksville Cemetery Association. Several bronze markers on the graves of veterans from all wars also were bent.

"This is just a shame!" Mrs. Goodwin said. "Trucksville Cemetery dates from before 1848, when my father's grandfather, Jacob Rice, donated a section of land from his farm for the cemetery and the Trucksville United Methodist Church. Some area veterans of the Civil War are buried there."

The cemeteries, located be-
See CLEAN UP, pg 14



REPAIRING THE DAMAGE - Boy Scout Jonathan Bradbury sets a new flag in a veteran's marker during Saturday's cleanup of the damage at Trucksville and Cedar Crest cemeteries. (Post photo/Grace R. Dove)