

The Dallas Post

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Inside Story



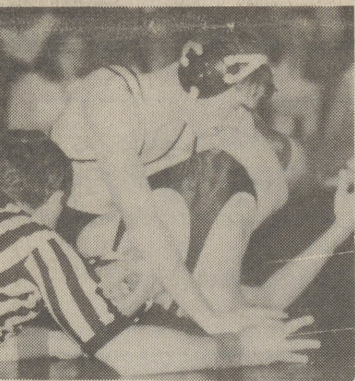
Second generation

Charles Wasserott V is Eagle in same troop as his father. Page 3.

SPORTS

Back Mtn. Baseball registration

this Saturday. Sports page.



Knights reign

as kings of local wrestling. Sports page.

COMMUNITY

Gift of art

honors Dallas Mayor Paul LaBar. Page 2.



Yedesko triplets

celebrate first birthday Page 3.

Red Cross Blood drive

Wed., Feb. 3, 9 a.m to 2 p.m., Dallas High School. Call 823-7164 for appointments.

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Teachers back principal

Middle School staff signs petition in his favor

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

In reponse to charges by a Dallas Township family that their 13-year-old son was struck by Dallas Middle School principal Anthony Martinelli, 42 middle school teachers and staff recently signed a letter in support of Martinelli.

The letter, signed by 40 middle school teachers and two secretaries, states that they believe that Martinelli's character has been brought into question. The teachers

describe him as "someone who puts the students' best interests as his number one priority."

"I feel that Mr. Martinelli is a good principal," said middle school guidance counselor John Wolensky, the letter's author. "No teachers were coerced into signing the letter."

Wolensky said that he had left the letter on a table for any interested teachers to sign after a faculty meeting; he returned an hour later to find the 41 signatures under his name.

Howard and Debbie Jones have filed harassment charges against Martinelli with District Magistrate Earl Gregory.

A spokesman for the magistrate's office said that Martinelli will have ten days from the day that he receives the complaint form to either request a hearing or plead guilty and pay a fine of up to \$300 without a hearing.

According to Howard and Debbie Jones, on Friday, January 8, their

See TEACHERS, pg 2



STILL IN LOVE - Chief Sabol and his wife, Ferne, share a hug before the guests arrived at a reception in honor of his retirement at St. Paul's Lutheran Church January 24. (Post Photo/Grace R. Dove)

Chief Sabol turns in his badge

By DAVE KONOPKI
Post Correspondent

Paul Sabol has never taken himself too seriously. He's never been one to overstate his role as a police officer.

But when he first set foot in a cruiser back in 1963, Sabol, like many young police officers, had a single ambition.

He wanted to change the world. Since that day the world has seen many changes. The threat of communism has gone the way of the tie-dye shirts and leisure suits.

The Berlin Wall has fallen and men have set foot on the moon.

No, Paul Sabol didn't play a role in those things. But in the lives of people living in Kingston Township, Paul Sabol did change the world. At least their part of it.

This Friday, Sabol will don a police uniform for the final time as an active officer. He'll work an abbreviated day, probably until noon. Then quietly, without much fanfare, he will step out the door for the final time.

After 30 years of service to the people of Kingston Township, the

popular police chief is retiring.

"It will be a sad day," according to Sabol, who resides in the township with his wife Fern, a retired nurse. "I've thought about it a lot. It's not going to be easy to walk out. There will be some sad moments, believe me."

But the last three decades have hardly been an unhappy one for Sabol. During that time he has become a virtual "Who's Who Among Public Servants".

See SABOL, pg 6

Fair warned before fines imposed

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Although the Luzerne County Fair has been fined by the Department of Environmental Resources for sediment discharges into a nearby stream, fair board members claim that they didn't know that they needed a sediment control plan when they began earthmoving operations at the fairgrounds.

According to Mark Carmon of the Department of Environmental Resources district office, Dallas Fall

Fair, Inc., operators of the Luzerne County Fair, were assessed a \$12,750 fine by DER's Bureau of Land and Water Conservation for failure to correct sediment discharges into a nearby stream.

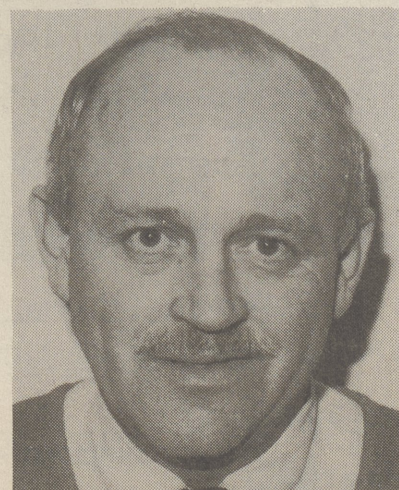
Eleven inspections between May, 1991, and July, 1992, by the Luzerne County Soil Conservation District and DER's Office of Land and Water Conservation staff noted that excavations on the hill behind the Back Mountain Medical Center to create more parking space and grading of a roadway at the livestock entrance were done

without adequate soil erosion control measures, Carmon said.

"We don't understand this," said grounds chairman Ray Hillman. "We thought that it was all over between us and DER after we spent \$65,000 correcting the wetlands problem."

"This fine has nothing to do with the wetlands case or the laying of macadam for a walkway in the amusements area, although published reports indicated this," Carmon said. "It deals strictly with

See FAIR, pg 2



Boice announces he will run for Harveys Lake mayor

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Councilman Richard Boice announced at the Harveys Lake Borough Council's regular meeting Tuesday, January 19, that he intends to run for the office of mayor on the Democratic ticket, after the borough's present mayor, Joseph Boyle, declined to run for another four-year term.

"Mayor Boyle worked hard and did the best job possible," Boice said.

"I feel that since I'm in the borough building every day, I'll be more available to work with the police."

Boice said that the mayor's main job is supervising the police department, which he wants to do more hands-on work with.

He believes that serving as mayor will not be a conflict of interest with his present position of executive director of the Harveys Lake Municipal Authority, where he has worked for the past seven years. "These two offices are separate governmental entities," he said.

Boice currently earns \$19,900 per year with the municipal authority and \$600 per year as a councilman. The mayor's salary is also \$600, Boice said.

Dallas teacher salary negotiations re-open

Its salary negotiation time again for the Dallas teachers. In a contract approved March 11, 1992, the district's 142 teachers accepted a five percent average pay raise for each of the first two years of a three-year contract. The third year's salaries, for the 1993-94 school year, were left open to be negotiated in early 1993.

Dallas Education Association president William Wagner confirmed that negotiations had just started, but he would not offer any comment until they progressed further.

The contract was retroactive to September, 1991, when the teachers had returned to school and worked under the old contract until a new one could be approved.

Under the present contract, the average teacher's salary for the 1992-93 school year is \$42,607, up from \$40,578 for 1991-92.

by Grace R. Dove

Meningitis case is small risk to spread

Lake-Lehman student came down with disease last week

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

According to epidemiologist Bernard Healey of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, a case of bacterial meningitis has been confirmed in Lake-Lehman School District.

Bacterial meningitis is an infection and swelling of the central nervous system which attacks the membranes and fluid around the brain and spinal cord, according to the *Mayo Clinic Family Health Book*.

Healey said that symptoms of bacterial meningitis include very sudden high fever, intense headache, nausea, vomiting, a stiff neck and occasionally a rash on the body.

Healey and other health experts said the risk of the disease spreading was small.

Once a person has been exposed, the disease will develop within four days, Healey said.

"Only other members of the patient's household and anyone who has had extremely close contact for a long time with the patient are at risk," said Dr. Robert Brown, infectious disease specialist at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Sitting next to an infected person in a classroom or on a school bus doesn't usually place people at risk of contracting the disease, Brown said. Many people have been exposed to bacterial meningitis

germs, but don't know it, and have become immune to it, Brown said.

People who believe that they may have been exposed should contact their family physician immediately, Brown said.

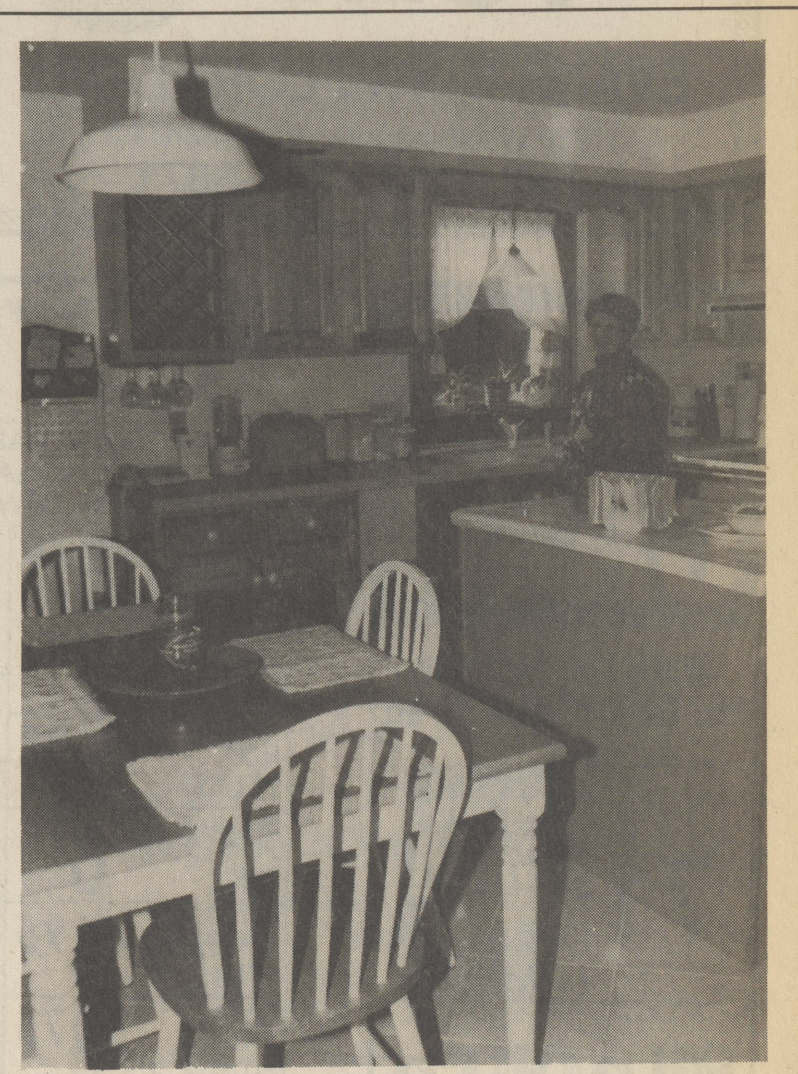
The strain of bacterial meningitis, which Brown believes to be involved, which was diagnosed through laboratory analysis of fluids from a spinal tap, is treated with heavy intravenous doses of penicillin for at least two weeks, followed by oral antibiotics.

Lake-Lehman superintendent Mrs. Nancy Davis said that the student's family doctor told her late Friday night, January 22, that the student, who was Life-Flighted to the University of Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia, had been definitely diagnosed with the illness that day.

"The doctor told me that anyone who had had any close contact with the child had been notified and advised to seek treatment," Mrs. Davis said. "We'll continue to monitor the situation very closely."

According to the *Mayo Clinic Family Health Book*, bacterial meningitis often results from another infection, in the ears, sinuses or even an abscessed tooth.

Left untreated, bacterial meningitis can cause permanent neurological damage, such as deafness, blindness or mental retardation. It can be fatal in extreme cases.



Award-winning house

Ruth Burak is shown in the kitchen of the renovated farmhouse in Kingston Township that won the Home beautification award presented by the Back Mountain Citizens' Council. Story, more photos on page 14. (Post photo/Charlotte Bartizek)