

The Dallas Post

35¢

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Vol. 104 No. 35

Dallas, PA

Wednesday, September 1, 1993

Dallas students will return to high-tech teaching aids

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

When Dallas school district students return to classes Wednesday, September 8, they'll find some high-tech changes, everything from additional computerized study materials to camcorders on the buses.

The long bus ride to school may not be as much fun this year for some students because camcorder hookups have been installed in five buses to help curtail discipline problems. A camcorder will be in one of the five buses every day, but the students and

the drivers won't know which lucky bus has it - until the students' hijinks are caught on videotape.

All school libraries, except for the Westmoreland Elementary School, have been completely computerized, although the "old-fashioned" Dewey Decimal system card catalogues are still there.

Each classroom in the Westmoreland and Dallas Elementary schools will now have its own computer, networked into the building's computer lab.

First begun in 1989, the computer lab for grades Kindergarten through eight has expanded into a system which keeps detailed records of each stu-

dent's work and careful documentation of the child's strengths and areas needing extra work.

"Computerized lessons supplement the teachers' classroom material, giving the students extra practice in math, reading and writing skills," said district computer coordinator Jack Wega.

As well as providing access to research materials, computer lab time also teaches the students more about the basic operation of a computer and word processing, Wega said.

Middle school students will work this year with new computer programs in science, designed to

complement the school's new science textbooks, according to principal Anthony Martinelli.

The eighth grade English classes also have new computerized lessons, Martinelli said.

He expects incoming sixth-graders to face many adjustments such as changing classes in a larger building, different class schedules and an expanded curriculum, which includes graphic arts, home economics and shop.

Sixth-grade homeroom teachers will take their students on a tour of the building the first day, Martinelli said.

Ethics breach charged

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Accused of violating the conflict of interests section of the commonwealth's Ethics Code, Franklin Township supervisor Andrew Prebola waived his right to a preliminary hearing before District Magistrate Earl Gregory Tuesday, August 24.

Prebola's case has been bound over to the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas, Gregory said.

Prebola is accused of persuading his fellow supervisors, Robert Redmond and Timothy Dymond, at a private meeting to hire Prebola's son, Jack, to build a shed to store road materials, instead of seeking price quotations for the construction, as is required by state law.

For projects which cost between \$4,000 and \$10,000, second class townships must solicit three price quotes, which may be in writing or telephoned in, according to Bob Evans, municipal consultant for the Pennsylvania Department of State.

The supervisors had decided to build the storage shed after the

See ETHICS BREACH, pg 14

Insalaco's markets being sold

The Insalaco supermarket chain, including its store in Dallas, is being sold to a New York company for \$41 million.

The Penn Traffic Company announced August 30, that it has reached a definitive agreement to acquire the operating assets of the local chain.

Insalaco currently operates 12 supermarkets in northeastern Pennsylvania, including one in the Country Club Plaza in Dallas, with annual sales estimated at \$155 million. Two new stores now under construction will be included in the deal.

The total purchase price for the 12 stores (excluding inventories) is \$41 million plus the assumption of \$4 million in debt. Penn Traffic will also purchase Insalaco's inventory, which is estimated at approximately \$8 million.

Insalaco's will be responsible for all other liabilities of the company including accounts payable, accrued expenses, past employee obligations and bank debt.

Claude Incaudo, President and CEO of Penn Traffic, stated "The Insalaco Markets will continue to operate under their well recognized 'Insalaco's' trade name and the Insalaco family has agreed to continue their role in the company. The stores will be serviced by our existing distribution facilities in DuBois, Pennsylvania and will become part of our Riverside division."

"We are pleased that our company and employees will be join-

See INSALACO'S, pg 14



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Pretty face

Melissa Owen, age 6, of Harding, had her face painted at Sunday's Arts at Hayfield festival. As usual, perfect weather brought a good crowd to the annual event.

Amphitheater noise committee folds

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Ten days after it was formed, the committee that was supposed to resolve problems with noise and disruption caused by the Harveys Lake amphitheater appears to have folded.

Three days after the Harveys Lake borough council appointed a committee to deal with problems connected with the Bud Light Amphitheatre and other associated businesses operating at the former Hanson's amusement park, the committee held an unadvertised meeting Friday, August 20 to discuss its strategy.

Now Councilman Rick Boice says that the committee has been disbanded.

Appointed committee members present at the August 20 meeting were councilmen Boice, Martin Noon and Ed Kelly and residents Ruth Eaton, Margaret Kopko, Marion Attanasio, Sandra Perez and Julie Savage.

"There was no talk of disbanding," Mrs. Attanasio said. "I told them that I was quitting the committee because I felt that it

was nothing more than a political ploy by the borough council."

Attanasio said that at the August 20th meeting, the committee had set another meeting for August 25.

"I wasn't aware that the committee had been disbanded," Ms. Perez said.

Perez, Kopko and Savage met August 25 with councilmen Noon, Kelly and Boice because the women felt that the borough's noise ordinance had not been enforced the weekend of August 21-22 and during the August 24th concert.

"I was disgusted because we had worked with them to find ways of dealing with the noise and parking problems and once again, the noise ordinance wasn't enforced. I thought that the meetings were a waste of time," Perez said.

Perez said that although another meeting had been discussed for August 25th, no definite date had been set.

Boice said he was under the impression that the committee had been disbanded.

"They (Perez and Savage) said

that they didn't want to be on the committee. If we could meet regularly, it would be wonderful, but evidently they're not interested," he said.

The borough will have to continue to deal with amphitheatre and noise complaints as they are reported to the police, as it has in the past, Boice said.

The fact that the committee meetings were not advertised at least 48 hours in advance is a violation of the Pennsylvania Open Meetings ("Sunshine") Law, according to David Morgan, legal counsel for the Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers' Association.

"All public agencies and their appointed committees must advertise their meetings," Morgan said. "If a quorum of the committee meets, then the meeting must be advertised at least 48 hours in advance."

"The entire purpose of advertising meetings for public access is to keep the public informed of governmental activities. When the cat's away, the mice play - and the Harveys Lake taxpayers are the cats," he continued

Lehman Township fire labeled arson

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

A fire which heavily damaged a home on Jackson Road in Lehman Township early Sunday morning, August 29, has been ruled arson by the Pennsylvania State Police fire marshal.

According to Lehman Township Fire Chief Harold Coolbaugh, the 4 a.m. fire was concentrated in the living room area of the home, located next to the St. Stephen's cemetery and owned by the Diocese of Scranton.

Although the house is still standing, the living room and walls sustained extensive damage. Other portions of the home were damaged by heat and smoke, Coolbaugh said.

"The fire marshal was out there Monday and found an accelerant. I'm reporting it as arson," he said.

The arsonist had apparently entered the home through the unlocked front door, climbing the inside front starway and pouring the accelerant down the stairs,

out the front door and across the front porch before lighting it, according to Trooper Andrew Petros of the fire marshal's office.

Kevin and Vicki Brown, who had been renting the home, were away, preparing to move out of the state, Coolbaugh said.

Petros said that there weren't any witnesses to the fire.

Although the fire occurred in an empty home during the early morning hours and involved the use of an accelerant, Petros said that he didn't see any immediate connections with similar fires which plagued Dallas and Franklin townships during the early summer.

"This fire was too far away from the others to be related," he said.

The Lehman Township police will continue the investigation, Petros said.

Twenty Lehman Township firefighters were assisted at the scene by twelve firefighters from Jackson Township. No injuries were reported, Coolbaugh said.

Girl Scouts bring the Achey Breaky to town

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

The Tush Push, Electric Slide and Achey Breaky have finally arrived in the Back Mountain.

They aren't bands - they're three of the latest popular Country-Western dances.

Starting Saturday, September 4 and continuing the first and third Saturdays of each month, Country-Western dancing will be held at the Westmoreland Elementary School gym from 7 until 11 p.m., sponsored by the parents of members of Cadette-Senior Girl Scout Troop 622.

Featuring DJ Rich Austin and dance instructor Bonnie Kochanowski, the biweekly dances will include dance lessons available from 7 until 8 p.m., at no extra charge.

The \$5 per person or \$8 per couple donation will help to raise money for the girls' trip to Europe, planned for 1995.

In addition to dancing, affordable non-alcoholic refreshments will also be available.

"People in the area need an affordable place to go out on weekends, especially if they're looking for an alternative to the bar scene," said troop advisor Jamie Kozemko. "You don't even need a partner to do these dances - many people dance in lines or do their own thing in small groups. It's great for either singles or married people."

Casual or Western attire and comfortable shoes are the order of the day, Kozemko said. Country-Western dancing has been described as good exercise and something which anyone can learn at any age.

"Country-Western dances provide alternatives to the weekend bar scene, alcohol and spending a small fortune just to have a nice

See ACHEY BREAKY, pg 14

■ Versatile musician will open cultural series at Penn State, page 10

■ Lake-Lehman superintendent lays plans for next 4 years, page 3.

INDEX

14 Pages 1 Section Calendar.....10
Classified.....11-13
Crossword.....11
Editorials.....4
Obituaries.....11
Property transfers...2
Sports.....9

CALL 675-5211 FOR HOME DELIVERY, NEWS OR ADVERTISING

The Dallas Post

MAILING LABEL- Please enclose this label with any address changes, and mail to The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612-0366