

Solinsky

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an office on Memorial Highway. Allied was founded in 1958 by Waverly's Jack and Joan Newman, is non-profit, and, considering their operating expenses of over \$72 million last year, amazingly is funded by individual, corporate and foundation contributions.

Last year an Allied Vice President, Tom Pugh, went to Warsaw on a consulting visit sponsored by the Agency for International Development. He saw the great need for help there in his field, and upon returning asked Allied employees to raise funds for the Litewska Children's Hospital. They did, raising, \$4,000 and a visit here by Warsaw nurses led to an invitation for a return visit, which Allied decided to sponsor themselves.

In September a group went over with Solinsky: Maria Hallberg, director of nursing, John Heinz; Evelyn Shedlock, clinical nurse manager; and Rose Manbachi, clinical nurse specialist at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital in Kingston.

Solinsky says of the trip, "It would take a book to even hit the high spots. They are wonderful people, but they need equipment. What they have usually needs repair and there are no parts to be had. Their expertise is good, their attitude is wonderful - very supportive and caring - but they still need help."

Manbachi, who has a master's degree in pediatrics, adds, "It seems impossible that their children get such excellent care, but they do, and in spite of all the obstacles. Moving patients from one floor to another for instance is impossible. Their elevators don't work. That is one of their goals,

raising money to improve in-hospital transportation."

"Another startling feature," Rose adds, "is something you see in this country in only the very largest hospitals...they have an 'art therapist' on each floor. Crafts and drawing materials are taken right to the bedside. They get children involved so they tend to forget their pain and troubles for awhile. It works! Actually, recovery is surer, and faster."

When Solinsky is asked about going back she says, "You bet! It was great to think you helped. They were all so friendly and nice to us...and frankly, the food was excellent. But no, I didn't pick up any extra pounds because we walked everywhere."

All the group agreed that this was not just a "visiting fireman" type of expedition. Teaching textbooks were left, and Solinsky was able to stress her specialty, infection control. She says, "In the U.S. we wear protective clothing and gloves to stop spreading infection. They had no simple and common preventative measures in use, mostly because they didn't have the money to buy the necessary supplies."

Maria Hallberg said, "Their almost complete lack of facilities reminded me of what little we had when we were in training, in complete contrast to this country. We are so obsessed with technology that when you drape all that equipment over a patient's bed you have a hard time finding the patient!"

Solinsky says however, "There is hope. They have the will and the dedication. They might have to do it room by room but eventually they'll manage. And it was a thrill to help."



POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

Ann Poepperling buckles her son, Cody, 2, into his car safety seat.

Children

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WHALE



Lutinski suggested that interested residents contact their local fire chiefs for more information.

It's the first such program in northern Luzerne County, Lutinski said. W.H.A.L.E. was organized by a woman from Virginia and operates in 38 states and four foreign countries.

State law requires children under age four to be secured in a

restraint system, a specially designed seat which attaches to the car's seat belt.

Babies up to one year old must ride in a semi-reclined position facing the rear of the car, while toddlers should ride facing the front. Toddler seats hold children weighing up to 40 lb., while booster seats are designed for children weighing 40 to 60 lbs.

Pvt. Mikolaichik graduates from basics

Marine Pvt. Mark F. Mikoiaichik, son of Patricia E. Mikolaichik of Lower Demunds Road, Dallas recently completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Mikolaichik successfully completed 11 weeks of training designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

He is a 1995 graduate of West Side Area Vocational Technical High School, Pringle.

Pvt. Kapral enters Army Reserves basics

Army Reserve Pvt. JaimeLynn Kapral has entered basic training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the eight weeks of training, she will study the Army mission, drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, first aid, Army history and traditions, and special training in human relations.

Kapral is the daughter of Bruce J. and Maureen Kapral of Hemlock St., Dallas.

School board

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involved in several activities - he feels board members have a responsibility to the voters in the region: "The voters in Pat Gold's region decided they wanted a taxpayer association candidate to sit on the board for the next two years; therefore the candidate should reflect and represent those ideals.

Although nominee Moderno Rossi received four "yes" votes and three "no" votes, with Thomas Williams abstaining, that was not enough to win the seat. Solicitor Peter Savage said, at the meeting that a majority of the eight member board, or five votes, was needed to elect a candidate, and that he would research the issue in more depth to verify his interpretation of the law.

Board president Kern feels the word "majority" is key to the issue. "The number four seems like a majority," he says referring to Rossi's 4-3 vote. "Out of the seven people voting (due to Williams' abstention) four is a majority vote.

However, in a telephone conversation last week, Savage affirmed his initial ruling: "In my opinion, my initial interpretation is correct - you need a majority of the seated members to be elected."

Savage continued, "The school board has the power to appoint someone within 30 days. If the vacancy is not filled, then the Court of Common Pleas of Luzerne

County, upon petition of 10 or more resident taxpayers, shall fill the position by appointment of a suitable person from the district."

There is no timetable for the court to make its decision, according to Savage. In the meantime, the school board can still vote and carry out business at its meetings, even with only eight members. "Certain issues require six votes, others require five votes, or four votes to be settled, no matter how many members are seated on the board," says Savage.

However, Kern hopes the issue will be settled by the end of January. He does not think there will be a re-vote on the same two candidates at the January 9 school board meeting. "If someone on the board came to me and wanted a re-vote, possibly because they changed their mind, I would do it. But I'm not going to waste my time," he says.

Savage agrees. "If one of the membes requests that it be put on the agenda, there may be a re-vote, but the board is not required to vote again. However, they have 30 days to act; if another candidate is nominated, they may vote on that individual."

Kern predicts, "the only way it will be resolved is in court. We're just waiting for the 30 days to be up so we can get on with it."

Ashley Davenport earns top talent competition award

Ashley Davenport, daughter of Jennifer and Reid Davenport, recently participated in the Eastern Performing Arts Talent Competition in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

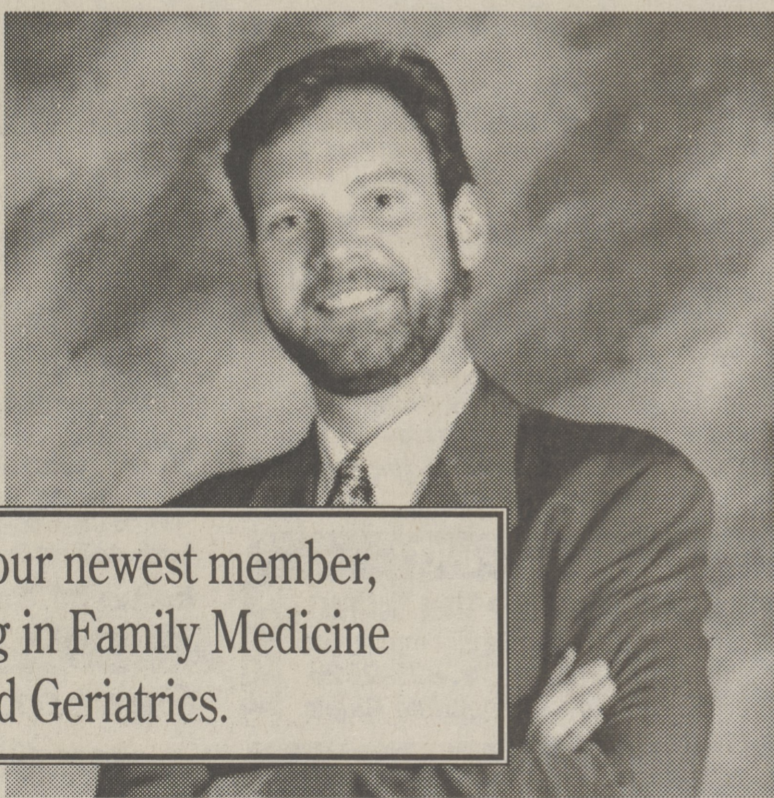
She took first place in the photogenic division. Ashley is a member of the award-winning line, "Sensation" which took first place in tap, line novelty and pantomime and second place in jazz.

Ashley and her dance partners Nadine Ginocchetti and Eileen Kerpovich, placed third in their jazz trio.

Ashley is in eighth grade at the Dallas Middle School. She dances under the direction of Bob Oberst and Kris Hanify at the Back Mountain Dance Studio.



ASHLEY DAVENPORT



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Dallas Family Practice is pleased to welcome its newest member, Kurt D. Maas, M.D., to its practice of family medicine.

Dr. Maas is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Gannon University, Erie, PA and received his medical degree from Hahnemann University, Philadelphia, PA. He served his family practice residency at St. Vincent Health Center, Erie, PA.

With ten years practice experience, Dr. Maas is a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians and is board-certified in family medicine and geriatrics.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Maas, please call Dallas Family Practice at 675-2111.

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