

# Engraved bricks aid library, honor donors

By CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK  
Post Staff

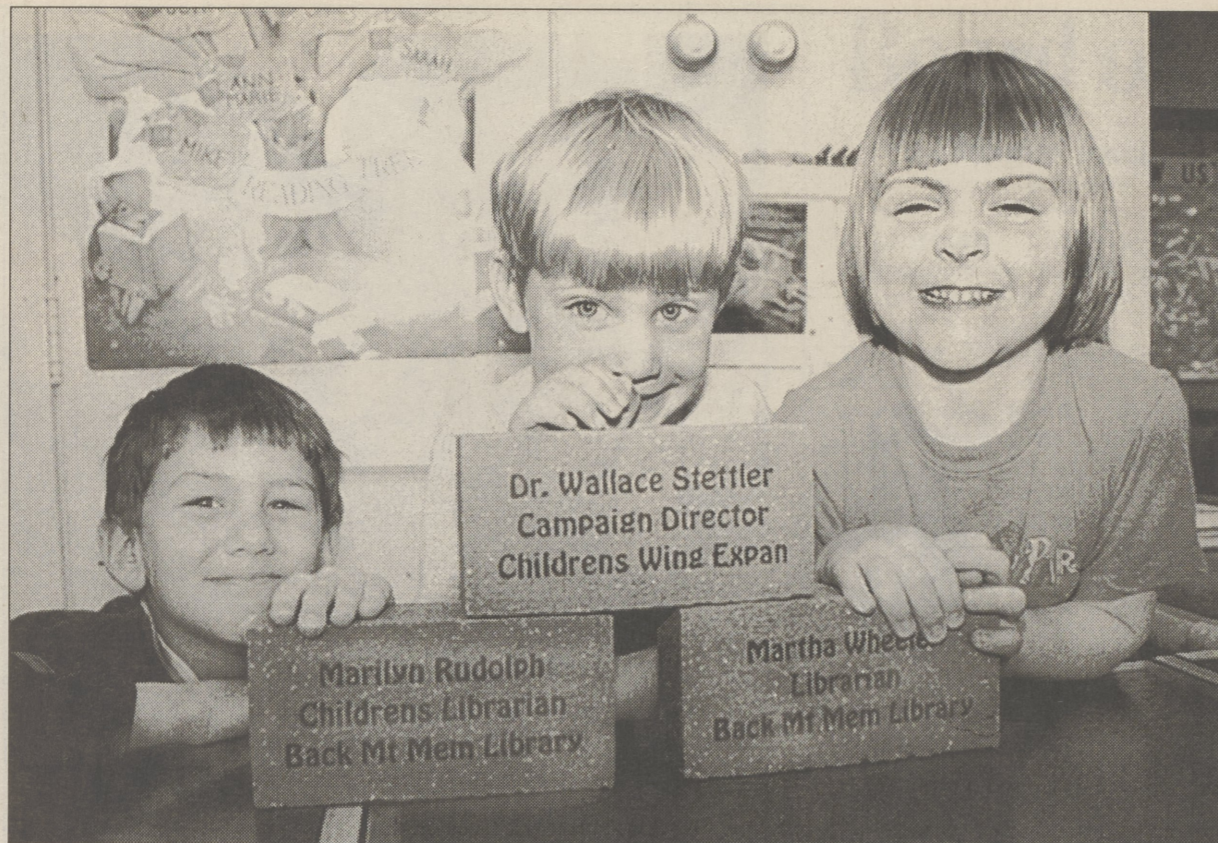
**BACK MOUNTAIN** - With construction on the new children's wing at the Back Mountain Memorial Library set to begin in July, there's one opportunity left to support the project, and carve your name in stone, so to speak.

Continuing a project that began in the schools early in the spring, the library is taking reservations for personalized bricks. Selling for \$100 each, the bricks will have supporters' names engraved in one surface, and will be used in a walkway or memorial wall — or both. The children's wing project gains \$85 from each brick sold and the purchasers get to see their names alongside dozens of other library patrons.

The stories that follow are taken from leads provided by Kathleen Savage, a fund raiser for the library project. The stories are recounted as examples of children and their families who have given of their time, money, and effort on behalf of the library. There are many more, who have bought a brick, which will forever memorialize them or others when the new wing of the children's library is completed.

**Katelyn Rose Buckman's story**  
According to Denise Celestino, Katie's mother, "she reads a lot." About 25 hours a week, she estimates.

"She spends a lot of time at the library and has read many of the books there," Celestino said. So when Katie Buckman, a fifth grader at Lehman-Jackson Elementary School, first heard about the Read-A-Thon program, a program encouraging children to read books and collect monetary pledges for the number of hours read, she knew exactly what she was going to do. "She came home and said, 'I want to do this,'" said her mother. She went into the neighborhood and collected more than the required \$100 for her brick. "And I guess because it's still pretty fresh in her mind," says Denise Celestino, she had engraved on the brick, "In memory of my Nana Rose, love Katelyn." Katelyn's great-grandmother



Aaron Butler, Ryan Naugle and Stephanie Ashley, from left, show off samples of the engraved bricks that will be used in a walkway or wall of the new children's wing at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. The bricks are on sale at \$100 each. Contact the library for information.

Rose, who died in 1995, is the first close and dear relative that Katelyn Buckman has lost.

**The Aciekiewicz family story**

Margaret Aciekiewicz is a grandmother who is in tune with her grandchildren, says Beth Aciekiewicz, mother to three boys, Zachary, Joshua, and Aaron. "She will always look, see, and ask once a week where the children are going and want to know what is important to her grandchildren," says Beth. "And reading is very important to the boys." All three boys participated in the Back Mountain Memorial Library's story times as they were growing up and continue to visit the library regularly. So it seemed natural to Margaret Aciekiewicz to buy one brick for each of her three grandsons, engraved, "In loving memory of John J. Aciekiewicz (their grandfather) Zachary Aciekiewicz ... Joshua Aciekiewicz ... and Aaron Aciekiewicz."

**Jamie DeAngelo's story**

"This was something she really wanted to do," explains Andrea DeAngelo, Jamie's mother.

"We are avid readers and besides taking out books at the library we enjoy the books on tape," she said. "We take the tapes on long car trips and enjoy listening to how a story like Sherlock Holmes is supposed to be read." These tapes also help Jamie's sister Marla, who has dyslexia. "Jamie just went out and did it, she went to neighbors, her grandmother" says Andrea. Eleven-year-old Jamie DeAngelo's brick at the Back Mountain Memorial Library Children's wing will read, "the DeAngelos, John and Andrea, Marla, Kerry and Jamie"

*"It was sort of comical. I got read to almost every night."*

Barbara Ruda  
Mother of three

**Matthew Ide's story**

"No he hasn't decided what he wants engraved on his brick yet," says Virginia Ide, Matthew Ide's mother. "It's sitting right here now." But Matthew Ide, a 12-year-old student at Lake-Noxen Elementary School, came home "very impressed," and was further inspired by his 6th grade teacher Dave Smith to read over 1,500 minutes for the library's Read-A-Thon. "Dave Smith pledged \$50 right off the bat, and Matthew being the kind of kid he is, a high achiever, asked if we would help make up the difference. He also went to his aunts and grandmother for pledges, she said. "He was very faithful to his reading. He had to keep a very detailed log; he would read from 7:15 to 7:30 in the morning and then some more in the afternoon when he came home from school. This was part of the agreement with his teacher," says Virginia.

**Ruda family story**

Kristen, Amy, and Ryan Ruda worked together to collect the \$100 which will purchase their family's brick. "It was sort of comical," says Barbara Ruda the children's mother. "I got read to almost every night. Of course we always encouraged them, and they have benefited from the Back Mountain Memorial Library since they were kids." They not only solicited donations but did yard work, weeding, and whatever chores they could think of to earn the money

for their brick. "They have tried to come up with a saying for their brick; but, you know, with three kids they can't all agree on anything yet," Barbara Ruda said. "But they are very excited and can't wait to see their own brick at the library."

**Other stories**

Two classes at Gate of Heaven School have had bricks purchased in their names. They are Mrs. Mary Kozick's kindergarten class and Mrs. Lyons's class. The Dallas Elementary School faculty have purchased their own brick, as has Miss Kathleen Reiss, a fifth grade teacher at Dallas Elementary. Mr Tom Bower, a representative from the company that is supplying the bricks to the Back Mountain Memorial Library says "They are better than a thank you note, they are sometimes cryptic, sometimes humorous, or serendipitous. They are an opportunity for neighborhood America to come together in fraternity."

Mrs. Rachowski's homeroom class at the Dallas Middle School bought a class brick that reads "Mrs. Rachowski's Homeroom — we did survive."

Any or all of the above stories could be your story. Persons interested in purchasing a memorial brick that will be placed in a walkway or wall at the new children's wing of the Back Mountain Memorial Library are encouraged to call the library at 675-1182 for details.

*"She came home and said, 'I want to do this'."*

Denise Celestino

Katelyn Rose Buckman's mother

# Generous vet, concerned pet owners revive rabies clinic

By KYLIE SHAFERKOEETTER  
Post Staff

**DALLAS TWP.** - Due to more than a dozen frantic calls to the SPCA and the charitable spirit of Dr. Inayat Kathio, the annual rabies clinic sponsored by the Dallas Kiwanis Club will be held June 1 at the Dallas municipal building from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The low-cost rabies shot program that has been a fixture in the Back Mountain for seven years was originally scheduled for April 27, but was cancelled when Dr. Brock Phillips, who has traditionally been the veterinarian who administered the shots, politely bowed out. At the time, Cliff Parker, event organizer, figured the event would not happen this year.

But, that's when Ed Gross, president of the SPCA, called with the good news. Gross said after an article announcing the cancellation was published in the April 16 issue of The Dallas Post, he received calls from many members of the public and SPCA board members. Gross discussed the situation with Kathio, who volunteers daily at the SPCA shelter. "Kathio said he'd be happy to do the clinic," said Gross, who believes the clinic is "an important and necessary function that protects both the pets and the community at large from a dangerous virus."

"We're overwhelmed at the response we had from strangers," said Parker, of Kathio and Gross. "The township officials were very good with assigning another date for us," he added.

The average cost of a rabies shot ranges from \$20 to \$25, said

**RABIES CLINIC**

Sun., June 1 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Dallas Twp. building, Rt. 309  
\$5 per vaccination  
Sponsored by  
Dallas Kiwanis Club

*"We're overwhelmed at the response we had from strangers."*

Cliff Parker  
Dallas Kiwanis

Gross. The clinic is asking only \$5 to vaccinate each dog or cat.

For Kathio, volunteering is second nature. After graduating from veterinarian school in 1978, he has traveled on his own expense to countries as far flung as Mexico and Pakistan to donate medicine and his knowledge to local veterinarians. He currently works at the Pittston Animal Hospital.

"My part of the money earned will go to the SPCA. I will donate my time, vaccinations and syringes," said Kathio. "I will not keep a penny." He said he donates to many veterinarian schools to improve the quality of veterinarians world wide. "I want to change current thinking about animals. They must be treated humanely."

Kathio agrees the low cost clinics are important for the pets and the public and his delighted to take part.

"We feel it's a good service for the Back Mountain," said Parker, summing up the general sentiment.

# League of Women Voters to hold 53rd annual meeting

The League of Women Voters of the Wilkes-Barre Area will hold its 53rd annual meeting on Thursday, June 5 at 6 p.m. at the East Mountain Inn. Members and interested non-members are invited to attend the dinner with advanced reservations.

Officers and members of the Board of Directors will be elected at the annual meeting. In addition to a recommended slate of officers, nominations will be taken from the floor.

Agenda items also requiring action by current League members include approval of program items and the budget for 1997-98. Current members will also be

given an opportunity to give instructions to the new Board for the upcoming year.

Short speeches will be given by Cheryl Giberson, local League President for 1996-97; Mary Beth Vender, chair of the annual meeting committee; Joseph Giovannini, nominee for President for 1997-98 and Jane Elmes-Crahall, League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Board member for 1997-99.

Cost of the dinner is \$20 per person. Any one wishing to attend the annual meeting and dinner should call 287-7181 or the League machine at 675-3429 no later than May 29.

# Registration time for bible school

It's time for the Trinity Presbyterian Church of Dallas Vacation Bible School. This year's theme will be Stories Jesus Told. It will be a week of faithful learning and fun with Bible study, music, recreation, crafts and snacks. VBS will be held at the Presbyterian Church June 16 through June 20 from a.m. until noon. All children, preschool (age 4) through grade 6 are invited to attend. There is a \$4 registration fee with a maximum of \$8 per family. Registration forms and registration fee may be left in the church office. Registration is requested by May 20. More information may be obtained from the church, 675-3131. Join us for a wonderful exciting week.

# Fritsch participates in Exercise Tandem Thrust

Navy Lt. j.g. James E. Fritsch, whose wife, Christine, is the daughter of Thomas and Carol Yezilski of 390 Ransom, Road, Dallas, recently participated in Exercise Tandem Thrust off the coast of Australia while assigned to the guided missile cruiser USS Mobile Bay, homeported in Yokosuka, Japan.

Fritsch was one of more than 28,000 U.S. and Australian Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen and Marines participating in the combined military exercise between Australia and the United States.

Scheduled routinely at 18-month intervals, the exercise is designed to train the military staffs

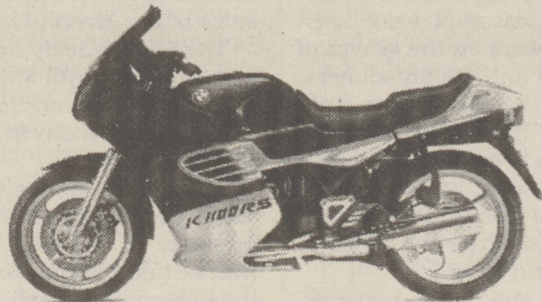
of both countries in the planning and execution of contingency operations in a combined effort. Specifically, the exercise includes carrier battle group and amphibious ready group operations, amphibious landings, live gun-fire exercises and parachute landings.

The computer-based AEGIS weapons system is the

heart of the ship's war-fighting capability. It centers around a powerful radar that enables the crew to detect, track and fire on more than 100 targets at a time. Guided missile cruisers, like Fritsch's ship are designed to protect the battle group against all threats from above, on or below the sea.

The 1987 graduate of Parsippany, NJ joined the Navy in May 1993. Fritsch is a 1993 graduate of U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD with a BS degree.

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