

A 'good Scout' for 70 years

Bruce Davies Jr. honored for his contributions to youth group

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

DALLAS - Tying your first square knot, learning how to build a campfire and negotiating your way out of the woods with a compass are some skills many adults learned when they were scouts. Someone who possesses these talents must pass them on to new generations, and one of the most experienced teachers has been honored for years of dedication to youth.

Bruce S. Davies Jr. has been teaching Boy Scouts those skills and others for 70 years. Recently Troop 281, sponsored by the Dallas United Methodist Church, and others came together to celebrate and honor him for a lifetime of service to the scouts.

The church created the Bruce S. Davies Jr. Endowment Fund in his honor. The fund is set up to promote and support the scouting program within the church.

Davies gives a simple reason for his extensive involvement with scouting over the years. "I like kids," he says. And he likes what scouting does for kids. "It's a great program that aims kids in the right direction. Scouting gives them what they need behind them," said Davies, who graduated from Penn State with a degree in mechanical engineering.

"It gets a boy thinking. He learns to be tolerant because he is in a troop with mixed religion and color and they all get along," he said.

The son of a mining engineer and a school teacher, a 12-year-old Davies joined Pack 123 at Forty Fort Presbyterian Church in 1928. He spent many summers canoeing and camping at Camp Acahela while a boy and then later as a scoutmaster.

Scouting has never dulled in the eyes of Davies. Despite a full schedule as a mechanical engineer, a husband and a father, he has always made time for scouts. "I always attended meetings even if they were in Avoca or Nanticoke," he said. Even after serving as captain in the Corp of Engineers for the army during World War II, Davies returned to the Boy Scouts. He brought back skills he learned as a result of 27 months in the jungles of Burma.

In 1948, after marrying his wife, Irene, Davies became a member of the Dallas United Methodist Church and became involved with both the Boy Scouts and Cub



Standing before his wall of honors. Bruce Davies Jr. has been involved in scouting for 70 years.

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Pack of 281. He was scoutmaster for eight years with 18 boys making Eagle Scouts during that time.

Currently Davies is an Eagle Board member. "Being an Eagle shows the board that he has done

a lot of work. As an Eagle gets higher in rank, he helps those lower in rank. It's an honor in scouting," said Davies, whose two grandsons are on track to become Eagle Scouts. His son also par-

ticipated in the Boy Scouts.

Davies said the Boy Scouts organization is pretty much the same as when he started, with the exception of new badges correlating to new technologies. "Some merit badges have been dropped and others added since there are new developments in machinery, tools and electronics," he said.

Davies, along with his wife, is an avid bird watcher and Audubon Society member. He is also on the local Audubon chapter's board. His back room has a full wall of windows with many bird feeders outside to ensure a good view of his feathered friends.

On the opposite side of the room, the wall is covered with scouting and military awards. Some of the awards and plaques include the Distinguished Commissioners Award, a certificate of congratulations from Senator Charles Lemmond, Outstanding Service award from the Eagle Scout Board of Review and the Silver Beaver Award, the highest honorary award an adult can receive.

Troop 281 presented Davies with a large bronze trophy thanking him for his years of service and continued support.

Davies, whose new habit is mastering his computer, is currently an institutional representative of Troop and Pack 281. "I learned an awful lot in scouting," he said.

And many kids learned an awful lot from him.

Town will measure park setbacks

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

LEHMAN TWP. - The dispute between Janet Packeria and Dan Cornell concerning the Pikes Creek Park on Rt. 118 continues. At a Lehman Township planning commission hearing Jan. 8, representatives from both parties debated whether Cornell is meeting the setback requirement.

Mike McNealis, attorney for Packeria, argued the setback is not a correct distance and is not being met, but cannot be sure because he cannot get on the property to measure. He asked the board to allow the setback to be measured.

Charles Bartlett, zoning officer, said Packeria questions if the setback on the building should be 100 ft. instead of the 50 ft. that Bartlett approved.

William Higgs, Cornell's attorney, argued that the issues should be decided in the county court, where an appeal is now pending. "Let the court make its determination," he told the board.

McNealis contended a decision could be made easily by measuring the setback and briefing the commission on the findings.

The matter was continued until Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. In the meantime, the setbacks will be verified by the township's engineer, Douglas Trumbower.

Legion to hold pig roast February 7

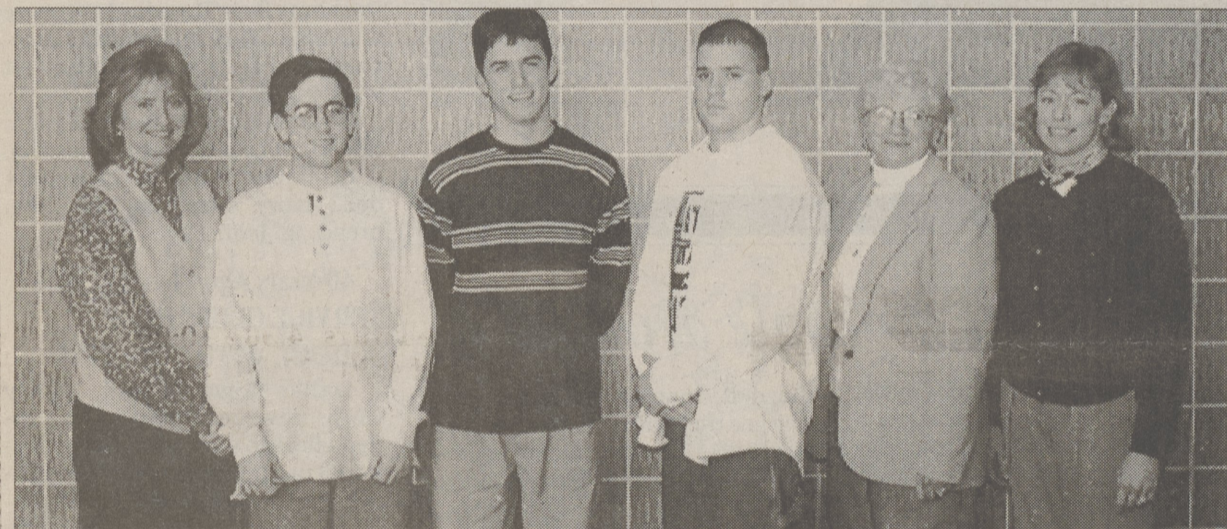
The next American Legion Post #672 function will be the 38th annual Pig Roast, on Feb. 7 at the Legion Home, N. Memorial Highway, Dallas. Serving will be from 5 to 8 p.m. with takeouts during the same hours. Dancing from 9-11 p.m. Tickets are \$6, now available at the Post Home and from the following: Jack Good 675-3075; Tom Reese 675-5929, Ed Buckley 675-1877, Bob Johnston 675-2638, Al Ciccarelli, 675-1948, Orville Ide 639-5287 or Chester Kunigonis 675-5997.

L-L Taxpayers Assoc. to meet February 5

The regular monthly meeting of the Lake-Lehman School District Taxpayers Association will be held Thurs., Feb. 5, in the Lehman Township Municipal Building located on "Old Route 115", and will start at 7:30 p.m. All taxpayers are urged to attend.

Civil War group to meet January 22

The January meeting of the Wyoming Valley Civil War Roundtable will take place on Thurs., Jan. 22 at 7 p.m. at the Daddow-Isaacs American Legion, Dallas. Speaker will be Michael Riley who will present a program on General John Reynolds of Lancaster. General Reynolds's career was cut short by a minnie ball in the back of the head while commanding troops on July 1, 1863 at Gettysburg.



Students of the month

January's Student of the Month Awards were handed out last week. Each winner received a \$50 savings bond from the Dallas Area Federated Women's Club. Winners are, Kevin O'Malia, 18, Creative Student Award. He is the son of John and Susan O'Malia of Shavertown. He is involved with chorus and chess, and plays the piano and organ. He is an honor student; Jeffrey Levinson, 15, Student Citizen Award. He is the son of Howard and Susan Levinson of Dallas. He is involved in the drama club, student council and junior leadership. He plays guitar and is an honor roll student; Anthony DelGuidice, 18, Student Spirit Award. His foster mother is Janet Shaskas of Dallas. He is involved with the cultures club, gym club, football and track; Anthony Luizza, 17, Student Achiever Award. He is the son of Anthony and Sharon Luizza of Wyoming. An honor student, he is involved in the art club, newspaper, gifted program and math competitions at Wilkes Univ.

From left, Robyn Jones, guidance; O' Malia, Levinson, DelGuidice, Shirley Forney, president of Dallas Federated Women's Club; and Jill Kryston, PTSA.

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