

# The Dallas Post

50 Cents

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

Vol. 109 No. 38

Dallas, Pennsylvania

September 23 thru September 29, 1998

## Pair will be inducted into Wyoming Sem Hall of Fame

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**BACK MOUNTAIN** - In the early 1960's, A. Anthony Anzalone and Sandra Laidler were at the top of their game. Both were leading star athletes at Wyoming Seminary. Today they credit their alma mater for providing a solid foundation on which to build a successful future.

These two are looking back to their high school days because both have been elected into the Wyoming Seminary Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony will be held on Fri., Sept. 25 at the Huntsville Golf Club in Lehman. Members of The Varsity Club elect the hall of famers from nominations. There have been 174 elected since the hall's inception in 1974.

"I'm extremely honored. I'm so proud of being inducted. It's almost like icing on the cake at this point in my life," said Anzalone, of Dallas, from the office of his family medical practice in Jackson Township.

His joy is contagious as he discusses what Sem has meant throughout his life. "Sem is a very diverse school. It is one of the best academically. I felt it was a real challenge both academically and athletically," explained Anzalone, whose son, Tony, is now a junior at the school.

Anzalone graduated from Sem in 1964 after a stellar sports career. He was a four-year varsity football player and served as captain of the 1963-1964 team. He was also a varsity wrestler for two years and ran the 100-yard dash and 440 relay all four years.

He went on to play Lacrosse for Penn State University. Anzalone received his degree in medicine at the University of Rome. He believes there is a strong connection between sports and academic achievement.



SANDRA LAIDLER-VALENTI

See HALL OF FAME, pg 8



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

## Crawl space

Tyler Evans made his way out of a playground fixture during the annual picnic for students, parents and faculty Monday at Trinity Presbyterian pre-school. Brett Wanek looked on thoughtfully, perhaps contemplating his own escape. More photos on page 5.

## Grants could aid rec park

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**BACK MOUNTAIN** - Although not every local municipality is aware of it, funds for recreation and conservation projects are available through the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).

There is \$11 million of the Keystone Recreation Park and Conservation Fun available statewide and about \$1.2 million available to the 15 county region to which Luzerne County belongs. Deadline for applications is October 30 at 5 p.m.

Many Back Mountain municipalities are putting their support behind the newly formed Back Mountain Recreation Adhoc Committee (BMRAC). The committee, which is headed by Gil Griffiths, Dallas School District superintendent, is planning to apply for a DCNR grant.

"We have to go through the application process. I think the process will help us tap into other resources at the state level and help us get other grants," said Griffiths.

He said seven of 10 local municipalities have written letters of support for the project, but would not elaborate.

BMRAC has created a three-phase plan. The first phase would be to have a physical structure built. This would house a PIAA gymnasium, swimming pool and include parking. Phase 2 would involve building athletic fields and phase 3, establishing green areas.

Griffiths estimates the physical structure will cost around \$4 million. "That is a baseline figure. It could go up or down," he said. A PIAA gym costs \$650,000, while a swimming pool is around \$1.5 million, he said.

There are two main areas of assistance with the Keystone Grant Programs. One is Acquisition and Development and the other is Planning, Implementation and Technical Assistance.

The three grant programs under each is Community, Rails-to-Trails and Rivers Conservation. Only municipalities are eligible for community grants, while

See REC PARK, pg 8

## Nat'l catalog features Ibbotson as 'real life hero'

Kingston Township patrolman James Ibbotson is taking his new found stardom in stride. Although, he was recently recognized in a national publication for heroic efforts in saving a Trucksville family from their burning home, he's still a modest guy.

Ibbotson was honored by the Kingston Township Board of Supervisors and the community after he ran into a burning house just across the street from the former police station in February of 1997. He helped get the family out and no one was injured.

The story found its way to the Gall's Catalog via Ibbotson's wife. "I signed a release form right after the fire and it didn't appear so I didn't think it would run since there must be many entries. Then when it came out it really surprised me," he said.

Dallas Township officers saw the story first and told him about it. "I had calls from where I used to work in Throop. Officers from other states called me," he said.

Chief James Balavage said the recognition by Gall's is well deserved. "To have him recognized by Gall's is a testament not only to him and his character and courage, it also reflects well on the whole department."

Fall 1998 **GALL'S** VOL. 5, NO. 7

## IN THE LINE OF DUTY

TRUE LIFE EXPERIENCES FROM OUR CUSTOMERS IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Welcome to the Fall '98 edition of **IN THE LINE OF DUTY**. Your fellow public safety professionals have sent us some new and interesting anecdotes that we know you'll enjoy. In your line of work, humorous and touching experiences happen daily, and Gall's would like to thank you for sharing them with us. However, we know that there are a lot more experiences that need to be told. Send us your stories either by regular mail or e-mail! If you're mailing your story, just type or print it clearly on an 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper. Or if your story has been previously published, attach a copy of the clipping. Then simply mail it to us at the address shown at the bottom of page IV. Please include your address and a daytime phone number in case we need to contact you. Or, feel free to e-mail us with this information at [stories@galls.com](mailto:stories@galls.com).

*Thanks for writing, and keep up the good work!*

### A Real-Life Hero - In The Line of Fire

Early February 8, 1997, Officer James Ibbotson was on duty at the station when he was alerted to an residential fire by a passerby. Upon arriving at the two-story residence, Ibbotson initially thought he could put out the blaze himself. He brought a fire extinguisher from his car, but abandoned the idea when he saw how the fire had engulfed the front of the house, that's when he knew he had to alert the residents.

Ibbotson was operating on instinct as he ran inside he burning home. When he found the sleeping family upstairs, he quickly realized the gravity of the situation. As he led the residents down the stairs, he could no longer see the first floor through the blinding smoke, which had enveloped the whole house. "Time was running out," Ibbotson said, "because the fire was moving too fast." Seconds later, Ibbotson and the family emerged from the house safely.

The family, along with a teenage friend (and the family's dog and two cats), escaped serious harm, thanks to Ibbotson's quick thinking and heroic effort. Ibbotson was treated for smoke inhalation. As local firefighters worked for three hours to extinguish the blaze, it was clear that the family owed their lives to him.

Ibbotson was later recognized by state and local authorities for his heroism. But his comments afterward said it all: "This is what the job is all about, helping people. Becoming a police officer has been my life-long ambition and I am glad I was there to do my job!"

Officer Ibbotson was officially recognized by the Pennsylvania state senate for his heroism.

**Officer James J. Ibbotson**  
Kingston Township  
Police Department  
Kingston Township, Pennsylvania  
Source: Mrs. Lauren L. Zwickler  
Dallas Post and Sunbury News

## Police dept. secure, for now, says council

By MEIRA ZUCKER  
Post Correspondent

**HARVEYS LAKE** - Blunting widespread rumors to the contrary, Harveys Lake Borough Council members said last Tuesday that there are no immediate plans to change the status of the police department.

Council member Francis Kopko admitted to talking with other communities about police coverage, but announcement of any changes is premature.

"We're in negotiations," said Council President Martin Noon. "There haven't been any changes made or proposed."

Donald Marx, Sr., President of the Harveys Lake Protective Association, addressed the council and reported that he had heard rumors that the council had plans to eliminate all or part of local police coverage. "The Association would take strong exception to any plan designed to reduce police coverage," Marx wrote to the council.

Noon commented that there is no plan now to change anything. "It is a needed department," said Mayor Richard Boice. "Everything is better every year."

Jim Hall added that he hoped there were no "feelers out" reconsidering police coverage. Ron DeBalco, a past president of the Harveys Lake Protective Association, which hired the first Harveys Lake police officer in 1920, mentioned that he "heard this story outside of the borough."

Harveys Lake currently employs two full-time and five part-time police officers.

After a contentious discussion, the Council

See POLICE, pg 8

### INDEX

14 Pages, 2 Sections
Calendar.....14
Classified.....12-13
Crossword.....14
Editorials.....4
Obituaries.....12
School.....11
Sports.....9-10

CALL 675-5211  
FOR HOME DELIVERY,  
NEWS OR ADVERTISING  
E-mail: [dalpost@aol.com](mailto:dalpost@aol.com)

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