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## Sr. Center honors its most senior

By KASIA McDONOUGH  
Post Staff

**DALLAS** - The International Year of Older Persons is in full swing and the Dallas Senior Center has reason to celebrate.

Sarah Smith Day was held March 11 to honor the Center's oldest member. Mrs. Smith, formerly of Village Road, now resides at the Mountinside Manor in Dallas. This is her 18th year as a member of the Senior Center.

Sarah has three children, Mary Ellsworth, James and William Smith who reside in the area. She also has 12 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and 14 great-great-grandchildren.

William visits his mother each day if the weather permits. "She loves dominoes but doesn't like to lose; she will smack you if you win" said William who bore evidence of his recent victory on the back of his hand.

Sarah also enjoys bingo and has no trouble keeping up with the rush of numbers as they're called. She won twice this day and quickly pocketed her reward. "You can't fool her about money" said Jean Levi, Director of the Senior Center.

Mrs. Smith's health is as good as her mind. Her family can't recall a day she spent in bed because of illness. Sarah attributes her stamina to fresh air and hard work. "I grew up on a farm and that's been good for me," she said.

On March 31 the Senior Center will honor its oldest gentleman Bill



Hughes, 93. He was the Jackson Township tax collector for 16 years and was a member of the Board of Elections for 12 years.

His son, William Hughes is a science teacher at Dallas and his daughter, Mrs. Robert Sherwood, is the former music director at the high school. Mr. Hughes has nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He has been a member of the Senior Center for 13 years. His favorite activity is shuffleboard which he plays

**Sarah Smith, 96, and Bill Hughes, 93, are the oldest members of the Dallas Senior Center.**

*"She loves dominoes but doesn't like to lose; she will smack you if you win"*

William Smith  
Sara Smith's son

competitively as a member of the Center's shuffleboard team.

Friends of Mr. Hughes said that chasing girls has kept him young but "take your vitamins" was the advice Bill was dispensing to those interested in living a long and healthy life.

The Dallas Senior Center, located at 22 Rice Street, is sponsored by the Luzerne-Wyoming County Bureau of the Aging. It is open Monday through Friday 9 am-2 pm. For more information contact Jean Levi at 675-2170.

## Dog's owner grateful for two who care

By KASIA McDONOUGH  
Post Staff

**TRUCKSVILLE** - Instead of eating lunch on two recent days, two employees of the Trucksville Dog and Cat Hospital gave up their lunch hour to search for a missing pet.

Shane, a nine-year-old black lab, wandered from her home several weeks ago. "She could push open the front door to get out," said Joan Bates, the dog's owner.

"Shane wasn't happy in the house or the car, but she was at ease outdoors," recalls Bates.

When Shane was diagnosed with cancer last summer, Joan Bates struggled with the inevitable dilemma. "I thought about putting her to sleep but she could still eat and didn't seem to be suffering," Bates said.

Despite her deteriorating health, Shane continued to run, tail wagging, through a sprinkler in the back yard. "She was happy jumping around with my other dogs," said Joan Bates. Seeing the joy in Shane's eyes, Joan knew she made the right decision.

Until recently, Shane did not show signs of her serious illness. However, Joan began to notice subtle changes in Shane's behavior. "I was worried because she seemed disoriented sometimes," she said.

When Shane disappeared from the yard Joan suspected that she had run off and become confused. "My son and I searched the neighborhood but we couldn't find her," said Bates.

Joan called her veterinarian to tell him Shane had disappeared. "I thought maybe someone would find her and call the animal hospital," she said.

Several days later, an employee at the Trucksville Dog and Cat Hospital received a call that a neighbor saw a dog matching Shane's description lying near a creek. "The woman who saw the dog said that it was wearing a red collar and we knew Shane had a red collar," said Donna Rish.

"We called Mrs. Bates to tell her the news but she said she couldn't retrieve Shane from the creek because there is a

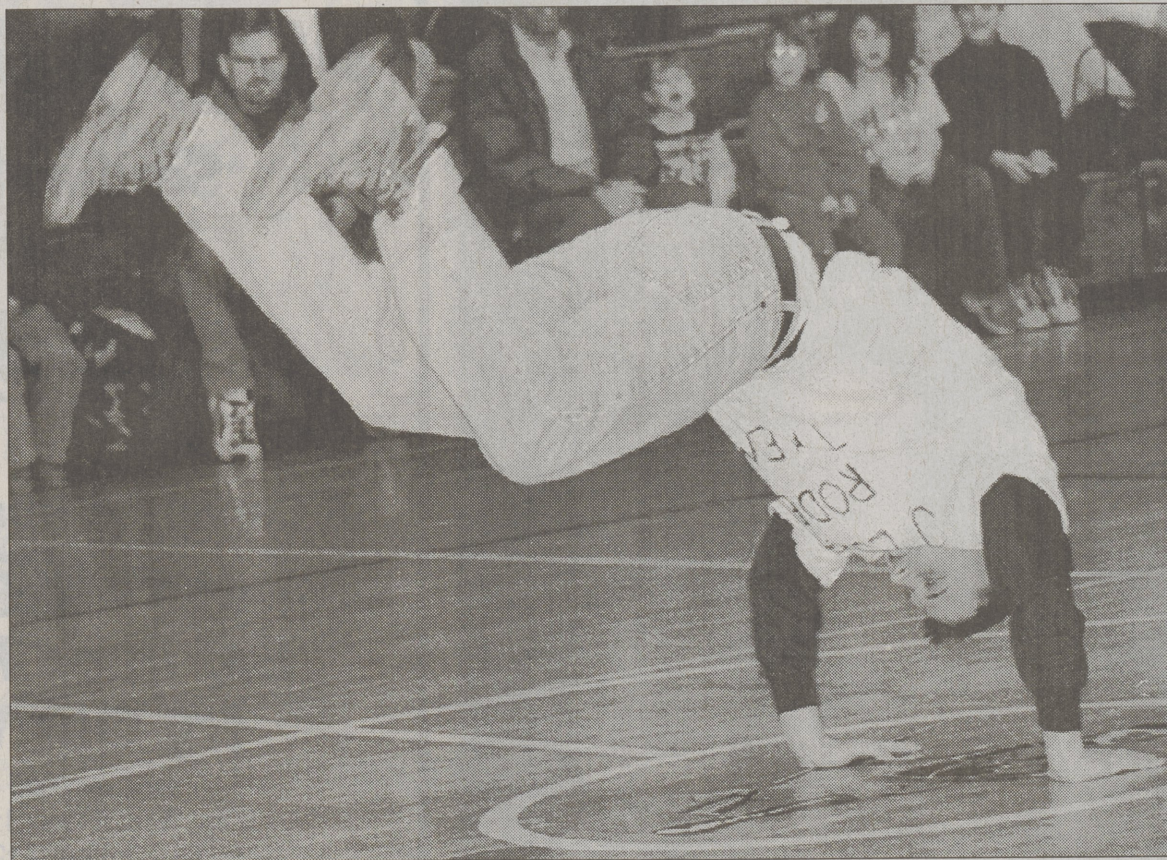
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## Donkeyball protest fizzles, may have drawn bigger crowd



**Dallas Twp. police officer Fred Rosencrans, above, looked over a leaflet passed out by teenagers protesting the donkey basketball game held at Dallas High School last week. At right, Russ Eyet kicked up his heels prior to the event, which is a fundraiser for the Student Council.**

POST PHOTOS/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK



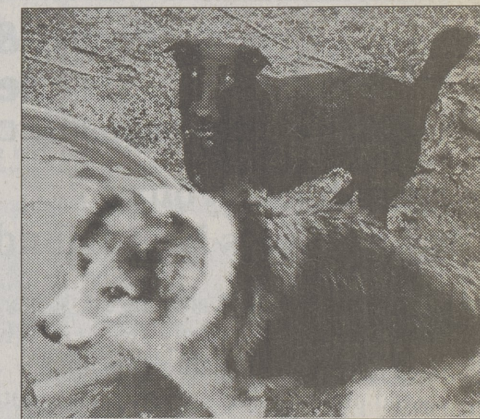
By RONALD BARTIZEK  
Post Staff

**DALLAS** - They came, they passed out leaflets, but they didn't conquer many people.

Emily Mallick, the Dallas High School junior who led a protest against a donkey basketball game at the school, was disappointed with the support she received for her effort. She and four others showed up on a bitterly cold night last Thursday, but most of the people who were entering the school walked by without notice. Others made remarks as they walked by, like the man who said, "You must have better things to do."

Mallick expected more support on her side of the yellow police lines that marked the area the protesters were confined to. "A lot of people chickened out," she said, explaining that 30 schoolmates had said they might participate. She was undeterred by the biting wind. "I'll stay out until I feel

See DONKEYBALL, pg 8



**Shane, background, frolicked with Puppy in the backyard pool last summer at Joan Bates's house. Shane, who loved the water, wandered away from home a couple of weeks ago. Her body was found near a creek by two employees of Trucksville Dog and Cat Hospital who searched for her on their lunch hours.**

## Students want project to do more than earn grade

By PETER GAGLIARDI  
Post Correspondent

**DALLAS** - Sarah Nichol and Candi Smith are making a difference by collecting old eyeglasses and sending them overseas.

The students are fulfilling their required Dallas High School Completion Project by supporting a charity known as Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH). The students are enthusiastic about the project. Sarah said it's not "just a graduation project. We wanted to do something to make a difference, to help other people."

They decided on the project as freshmen, discussed it with their advisor, Mr. Issac, as sophomores, and are doing the actual work in

*"We wanted to do something to make a difference, to help other people."*

Sarah Nichol  
Dallas junior

their junior years.

The students developed a logical plan which they are about to implement. They are going to put up flyers in doctors' offices, restaurants, supermarkets, and "anywhere people will let us." The flyers will direct people to put their old glasses in bins located at Dallas Senior High School and at

See PROJECT, pg 8



**Candi Smith, left, and Sarah Nichol** are collecting used eyeglasses as their completion project at Dallas High School. Each student is required to do a project prior to graduation. For more about the requirement, turn to page 8.

### 'bye old school

Hundreds turn out for last carnival at Westmoreland. Pg 3.

### Youth bball roundup

Check out who won in boys and girls tournament action. Pg 9.

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