

6 WIDES



The Back Mountain's

Newspaper Since 1889

The Dallas Post

50 cents

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

Vol. 111 No. 20

Dallas, Pennsylvania

May 17, 2000 thru May 23, 2000

'Grad2000' provides safe party environment

Organizers pleased with support for "lock-in" party

By BILL GOODMAN
Post Staff

DALLAS - It's inevitable. Just after graduation, some Dallas high school students will get locked up for the night. This time, parents won't be worried. Instead of cold cells, the students will dance and play Twister. One lucky student will win a car.

The Parent-Teacher-Student Organization, in conjunction with the Dallas School District, will hold the first annual graduation lock-in starting at 11 p.m. on June 9 at the high school.

"Statistically, graduation night is one of the biggest drinking nights of the year," said PTSO publicity director Sheri Riley.

Many of the parents involved have children who are graduating in June. When Riley moved to the area from New York state, she was surprised that area schools didn't have a graduation night lock-in program. "The ones in New York have been going on for 20 years," she said.

The program at Dallas is unique because it has the complete cooperation of the administration. "The administration has been incredibly supportive. They couldn't have been better to us. We're impressed," said Riley. "It's a tribute to the community that this is taking off so fast," said PTSO president Sharon Bartolini.

See GRAD 2000, pg 5

Seeking family tree, finding local history

Genealogy Society can help people trace their roots

By BILL GOODMAN
Post Staff

SWEET VALLEY - Area residents looking to explore the branches on their family tree have a whole society to help them out.

"Genealogy is one of the two leading hobbies in the United States. Older people want to leave something for their descendants," says Dean Sawyer, a member of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Genealogical Society. "When (Alex) Hailey wrote Roots, that's when things happened," he says.

"You start with yourself and go back," says Dean. "What you're doing is building a story of your family." Obituaries are a good source of information. Primary sources of information include census records, cemetery records, obituaries, family bibles, deeds and wills. "Look at what you have at home," says Dean Sawyer's wife, Margery, also a society member. But be careful, he says, information is often not reliable. "Everything you have you have to verify. If you can't take it to court, you can't rely on it."

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Genealogical Society started in 1992, and incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1994. The society publishes a quarterly newsletter and offers seminars on how to get started in genealogy. The society has given seminars in middle schools and senior citizen centers alike. "I wish more young people would get involved," says Margery Sawyer. The society even gave a seminar at the state penitentiary in Dallas.

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POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Clownin' around

The Premiere Band of Dallas and Wycallis elementary schools presented a spring concert, last week, in conjunction with the fourth and fifth grade chorus, which performed "Clowns." The performances took place in the middle school auditorium. Above from left, Matthew Glicini, Eric Long and Megan Hiscox played their parts in a chorus performance. More photos on page 8.



POST FILE PHOTO

Marshall Rumbaugh posed with the woodcarving that surrounds the entrance to the children's wing at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. The work is a fanciful interpretation of the story of Sleeping Beauty.

Woodcarver's work provides lasting beauty

By BILL GOODMAN
Post Staff

DALLAS - Local artist Marshall Rumbaugh will present woodcarvings made over 25 years at the Tudor Gallery in Clarks Summit. The exhibit will run from May 18-30.

Rumbaugh studied for 10 years with local artist Hope Horn. "I learned about art from Hope," Rumbaugh says. He also studied at Wilkes University and in Europe. Overseas, he learned advanced techniques in woodcutting. "Woodcutting is a very traditional art form," said Rumbaugh, who has

always put a strong value on tradition.

"He's a great guy," says long time friend John Gager. He and Rumbaugh earned their Eagle Scout badges together. The two were exchange students to New Zealand in 1966. Gager says that Rumbaugh liked to paint soldiers, and he also liked Native American folklore.

Herb Simon, a friend of Rumbaugh's and a former sculpture teacher at Wilkes University, believes Rumbaugh has been influenced by American folk art of the 19th

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Lake-Lehman holds line on school taxes

Vote to table fails by a single vote

By BILL GOODMAN
Post Staff

LEHMAN - The Lake-Lehman School Board passed a tentative budget for the 2000-2001 school year despite heated debate and the walkout of a board member.

The proposed budget spends \$17.6 million, an increase of less than 2 percent over the present year. Local property tax rates would remain the same as they have been since 1998, 221 mills in Luzerne County and 42 mills in Wyoming County. The millages differ significantly because Wyoming County reassessed property recently, while Luzerne County properties haven't been reassessed in nearly 40 years.

The budget passed 5-3, but the dissenting voices were strong. Among them, board member Angelo DeCesaris made a motion to table the budget vote, but that

See L-L BUDGET, pg 8

Plans for new middle school moving forward, pg 2

L-L superintendent tenders resignation

LEHMAN - This time he means it. At Monday night's Lake-Lehman School Board meeting, Dr. William Price announced his retirement effective June 30, and the board voted unanimously to accept his resignation.

Price, who has been superintendent since 1995, said he had accomplished everything he intended to when he took the helm of his alma mater. His three children also graduated from Lake-Lehman. Price took over the job when Nancy Davis left to take a position at Wilkes University.

Faced with an unruly crowd at a board meeting in February, 1998, Price abruptly announced he would resign. Some board

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