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# The Dallas Post

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## Michael again on on quest for courthouse post

By SANDY PEOPLES  
Post Correspondent

DALLAS - "I Like Mike." No doubt you have seen these bright red, white and blue signs planted around Luzerne County. They are sprouting up all over the place. What do they mean, and who's Mike?

"Mike" is Clarence J. Michael and he's running on the Republican ticket for the Luzerne County Controller's office. "The controller is elected by the people," said Michael. "He or she over-

sees the financial aspects of the entire county. With me in that seat, the people who elected me will have a voice of logic and an attitude of vigilance."

Michael is the son of a coal miner and a dress factory worker. "I will bring the values I was taught as a boy to the controller's position," he said. "You pay your bills on time, and you do all of your dealings with people with honesty and integrity."

His primary goal in the controller position will be that of a watchdog for any further tax increases. "We should be running the county on a lean and mean

*"It's a new century.  
We need to get our  
house in order."*

Clarence J. Michael  
Rep. candidate for county controller

basis," he said. "I will be instrumental in broader based competitive bidding and a strong voice on the salary board. I will review positions and hire only when necessary, and ensure that all open positions are advertised more ac-

tively and openly. I will also look over all of the bills carefully so that we never have another event like the recent 10 years of mismanagement at Valley Crest."

Michael steps back and describes his vision for the future. "It's a new century. We need to get our house in order," he said. "If we plan to attract good companies and good jobs to our area, we need a master plan that will create an aura of professionalism. We need to have an open door policy when busi-

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POST PHOTO/HEATHER B. JONES

Nick Stredny, Jr. and Stephanie Reisch played it up all night in the roles of Will Gruber and Countess Hinnor Outte during Dallas Rotary's 74th Charter Night festivities.

## Students will take History Day projects to states

By M.B. GILLIGAN  
Post Correspondent

DALLAS - Nine students from Dallas High School qualified at the regional level of the Pennsylvania State History Day Competition to represent the Northeast District at the state level. The competition was held Saturday at the Hazleton Campus of Penn State University. Students choose to compete as individuals or in a group in one of four divisions: exhibit, documentary, historical paper or performance. First place winners for group exhibit, Amanda Donahue and Jamie Coleman, have participated in History Day for three years. Ellen Kim and Raegan Guelich won second place in the same division. This will be their third trip to the state competition. Dallas students took the top three spots for individual exhibits. Freshman James Welch won first place. This will be a second trip to state competition for second place winner, Peter Van Loon. Another freshman, Kim Reisch, took third place. Senior Jessica Fields, a four-time participant, will return to the state level for a second time with her first place historical paper entitled John Locke: A New Frontier in Political Thought. Each year the national competition has one theme for all competitors. This year's theme is historical frontiers. Senior John Bednarz will present his first place winning documentary, William Henry Jackson: Frontier Exposure, to the Dallas School Board at their regular meeting on May 7. "I wanted them to see the quality of the work the students do," said Maryann Storz, Dallas history teacher and club moderator. "We are one of the few clubs in the country. That has afforded us the opportunity to have a different format that has been very successful for us. Most schools do History Day as part of a class or outside of

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POST PHOTO/JIM PHILLIPS

## Colorful pastor

Larry Michael Rush, pastor of the Centermoreland United Methodist Church, fulfilled his promise to the church youth confirmation class Sunday. Pastor Rush agreed to dye his hair blue and orange if the class raised \$1,500 during a 30-hour fast to be donated to combat world hunger and poverty. They did, and he did.

In photo from left, foreground: Megan Vodzak and Aubrey Kupstas. Standing: Justin Hackling, Frank Anderson, Pastor Rush, Eric Bartos, Josh Ross.

## 'Mama & Papa' trade rat race for ice cream

By SANDY PEOPLES  
Post Correspondent

DALLAS - What's in a name? Barb and Jim DeBellis have named their restaurant, Mama & Papa's Ice Cream Parlor & Deli, and the venture is a far cry from their former lives.

"We've given our shop a family name because that's what we're all about,"

said Jim DeBellis, owner and manager of the ice cream store at the Country Club Shopping Center, Rt. 309, Dallas. "We've created a bright, cheerful and friendly place where folks can bring their kids to spend some quality time and enjoy delicious treats."

Jim and Barb DeBellis opened Mama & Papa's Ice Cream Parlor & Deli in the spring of 1999. They have grown into a

soup and sandwich menu, in addition to ice cream treats, and serve lunch and dinner daily. "We are living the American Dream," said Barb DeBellis. "We both walked out of lucrative corporate jobs in the Philadelphia area, also known as the rat race, to pursue being entrepreneurs. Jim was a commodities

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POST PHOTO/SANDY PEOPLES

Grace Linskill Martin looked admiringly at the candles on her 90th birthday cake. It was presented by Jamie Stott, general manager of food service at the Meadows.

## Grace Martin, 30-year Harveys Lake teacher, celebrates 90th birthday

By SANDY PEOPLES  
Post Correspondent

DALLAS - Friends and family gathered last March 21 to help Grace Linskill Martin celebrate her 90th birthday. Hundreds more of her former students likely were there in spirit.

Mrs. Martin was born in Plymouth, and is the daughter of the late David L. and Fannie L. Linskill. She is the youngest of seven children and the only one still living from her generation. She and her five sisters and one brother grew up on a farm on Strawberry Ridge near Benton. She received her teaching certificate from Bloomsburg State Teachers College, and later returned to

*"She was a prolific  
quilter in her day."*

Frederick Martin  
Son of Grace Linskill Martin

earn her master's degree.

She lived in the Oak Hill section of Dallas for 43 years, and taught third grade for 30 years at Harveys Lake in the Lake Township School District. Prior to teaching, she worked for many years at the old Percy Brown's Restaurant in Wilkes-Barre. She is a member of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Dallas and

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## Rotarians set out to solve a 'murder'

By HEATHER B. JONES  
Post Staff

DALLAS - The year was 1943, it was a cold and dreary night at Ilbredde Manor. A police car sat in front of the manor with its lights flashing. Something was wrong at the great estate of wealthy businessman Iman Ilbredde.

That was the scene for the Dallas Rotary's 74th Charter Dinner held at Newberry Estates' Appletree Terrace, Dallas. To the surprise of many Rotarians, this year's dinner was a murder mystery entitled "Murder at Ilbredde Manor, or How Red is Your Herring?"

"Charter night celebrates the anniversary of when we received our charter, March 19, 1927," said Karen Martin, the Rotarian who organized the event. "Usually, it is a very dignified and formal event. This year I wanted to break the mold."

By enlisting the help of fellow Rotarians like Melissa Saxon, playing undertaker Morticia M. Balmer and Phil Hoover in the role of big game hunter Hunter Avlines, the stage was set. During the cocktail hour, unsuspecting Rotarians and their guests mingled with the cast of characters and found that an unfortunate accident had taken place involving Iman Ilbredde. Guests also had a chance to inspect the crime

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