

# Crime Watch Program gets a start in Jackson Township

By ELIZABETH ANDERSON  
Post Correspondent

**JACKSON TWP.** - "How many neighbors know each other anymore?" asked Charles Baloh, Community Services Officer of the Luzerne County District Attorney's office. Baloh spoke to Jackson Township residents Thursday, Oct. 18, on the numerous benefits of establishing a local Crime Watch Program.

"You remember the days when if you were to get in trouble, your parents would know before you got home? Because neighbors knew each other then," Baloh said. "They shared information. They were the best network we ever had." Crime Watch is all about knowing your neighbors and sharing information, he said.

Crime Watch also is about removing opportunity. Baloh spelled out the three key ingredients of a crime to Jackson Township residents: ability, desire and opportunity. The potential victim cannot control the ability and desire of a criminal to commit a crime, Baloh explained, but the opportunity to commit a crime can be controlled. "If we can remove the opportunity ingredient of a crime, you will never become a victim," he said.

Baloh became interested in Crime Watch almost three years ago when he noticed a suspi-

cious car sitting in front of a neighbor's house. Suspecting illegal drug dealing, he joined his neighborhood's Crime Watch group and with their help, local and federal law enforcement officials shut down three drug houses in the neighborhood in less than two years. Today, he works for the district attorney's office helping other communities form their own Crime Watch groups.

People are often reluctant to call the police to report suspicious cars or people, as Baloh did, because they think it's not an emergency or they are afraid of retaliation. "With Crime Watch, we give you a pin number and that's all the information relayed to a police officer. Your name and address will never be on the radio. Only the police department would have that information," Baloh said. "That's something we started because we realized when we did this, we started getting more and more people making phone calls and less afraid to pick up the phone."

*"If we can remove the opportunity ingredient of a crime, you will never become a victim."*

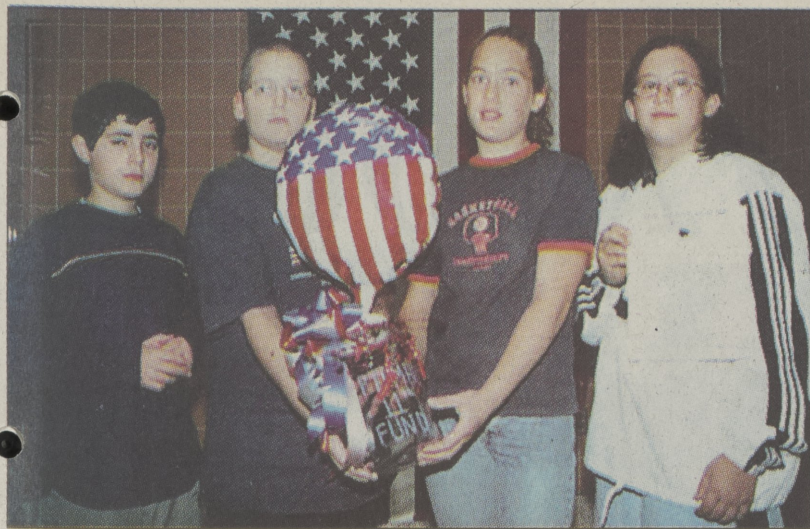
**Charles Baloh**  
Community Services Officer  
Luzerne County District Attorney

Watch. We'll teach you. We'll educate you about what to look for and how to report suspicious activity. We'll bring incarcerated prisoners in for special meetings to tell you how they did it."

Residents were advised by Baloh to choose a coordinator from within the group "to be the moving momentum and driving force" behind the local Crime Watch. "This isn't about the supervisors or the police department. This is about you," Baloh said. "We want to see this done by the citizens for the citizens."

"This is your Crime Watch," agreed John Wilkes, Jr., Jackson Township supervisor. Commenting further on the coordinator position, he said, "I see many, many qualified people here." Anyone interested in becoming the coordinator of the new Crime Watch group can contact Chief Leedock at the Jackson Township Police Department.

Leedock will serve as interim Crime Prevention Officer. John Link and Ed Chesnovitch will serve as co-coordinators of the group. The regular meeting time for the Crime Watch will be the fourth Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the Jackson Township Municipal Building. Due to the Thanksgiving holiday the next meeting of the Jackson Township Crime Watch will be held on Nov. 29, at 7 p.m.



## DMS raised \$1,200 for 11 fund

The Dallas Middle School Student Council, under the direction of Ms. Norine Amesbury, conducted a fund-raising drive to benefit the September 11th Fund. The fund provides relief to victims and their families of the September 11 terrorist attacks. The students raised \$1,200 to be donated to the fund.

Some of the students who collected major donations. Ilya Volodarskiy, Jonathan Kopcho, Lindsey McCabe and Jennifer Jones.

## College Misericordia fall open house Saturday

College Misericordia invites high school students and their parents to the second fall open house at its Dallas campus, Saturday, Nov. 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The College offers students an opportunity to spend a fun and informative day touring the facilities, meeting Misericordia students and faculty, and talking with admissions counselors and staff.

The open house schedule includes registration and refreshments, campus tours; a faculty session, lunch; meetings with representatives of student services, athletics and student government and a session on financial aid.

For more information, please contact the College Misericordia Admissions Office at 675-4449, toll free at 866-262-6363, or by e-mail at [admiss@misericordia.edu](mailto:admiss@misericordia.edu)

## Murphy tutors calculus at Syracuse

Paul Murphy of Dallas, a senior majoring in bioengineering at Syracuse University, was named an Academic Excellence Workshop Facilitator for the L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science for the 2001-02 academic year.

The Academic Excellence Workshop (AEW) provides a unique approach to calculus instruction by supplementing classroom teaching through a highly interactive, small-group session. The AEW Facilitators excelled in calculus previously and work with six to eight students who volunteer for two hours of tutoring each week.

## Dallas Post Thanksgiving deadlines

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, The Dallas Post will be published Wednesday, Nov. 21, so that local subscribers may have their copies for the holiday. This will require that display ad deadlines be moved back to Thursday, Nov. 15 at 5 p.m. for that issue only. Classified advertising will be accepted until 5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 19. News items for the Nov. 21 issue should arrive at the office by Friday, Nov. 16 at noon.

The office of The Dallas Post will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 22 and 23. It will re-open Monday, Nov. 26 at 8:30 a.m.

## Jackson

(continued from page 1)

mission. After the township hires a planner, a survey will be taken of Jackson Township residents for community input for the comprehensive plan. "We want citizens' input on how they would like to see this township develop," he said. "Not 10 years from now, but what they'd like it to look like in 40 to 50 years."

The three proposals will be forwarded to the Planning Commission's next meeting on Monday, Nov. 19, for recommendations and voted on at the December board of supervisors meeting.

An unsigned, slanderous letter against township officials and employees caused a stir among Jackson Township residents. During public comments, Fred Murray waved a photocopied letter in the air and asked his fellow residents at the meeting,

*"We want citizens' input on how they would like to see this township develop. Not 10 years from now, but what they'd like it to look like in 40 to 50 years."*

**Charles Repotski**  
Chairman, planning commission

"Did anyone else get this?"

"We all did," the entire room responded. Jackson Township residents were vocal in their criticism regarding the unsigned letters delivered via the mail which bashed Jackson Township's supervisors Fox and Wilkes, the police department, and all township officials and employees.

"We know who Joe Stalin was, and Adolph Hitler, and Bin Laden, but when you get a letter like this and they don't have the

intestinal fortitude, that means 'guts', to sign the thing, you have to throw it in the trash," Murray said.

Fellow resident Ed Chesnovitch flashed a different letter. "I agree totally with Mr. Murray. This is another one of those peo-

ple with no intestinal fortitude. Well, good luck, they didn't sway my vote," Chesnovitch said. He went on to praise the township and the supervisors for the "fantastic" job they are doing.

In other business:  
• John Donahue's resignation from the township, due to personal reasons, was regretfully accepted and John Sweeny, an alternate member of the recreational board, was made a permanent member of the board.

• The advertising of the 2002 budget was authorized and Wilkes noted, "There was no tax increase."

## Serving the Back Mountain THE JEWELRY DOCTOR

Located in the center of Dallas at 26 Lake St.

Specializing in Repairing Jewelry On Site

Authorized Black Hills Gold Dealer. Buying and Selling Gold and Diamonds Watch Bands & Batteries.

\* Gift Certificates Available\*



\* Layaway for Christmas\*

**Kodak Advantix**  
CASA ZOOM CAMERA

**Gift box**

Come complete with camera, film, batteries & much more!

**Kodak C650 Zoom**  
2xZoom Lens  
3 Rolls Film  
Battery Bag  
Film Storage Case  
Reg. \$125<sup>99</sup>

**SAVE \$98<sup>88</sup>**

**\*FREE LAYAWAY\***

**Dallas Photo Shop • 675-8800**  
447 Memorial Hwy., Dallas, PA

© Eastman Kodak Company, 2001. Kodak and Advantix are trademarks of Eastman Kodak Company. Printed in U.S.A.

**SPAS SPAS SPAS**

**DON'T LET COLD WEATHER STOP YOU FROM ENJOYING THE WATER**

It's Always warm in a New Spa

Stop in today and see our complete line of spas, chemicals & supplies

**Nature's Creations Pools & Spas**

Rt. 6, Tunkhannock (Near Tyler Hospital)

Winter Hours: Thurs & Fri. 9-5 Sat 9-1 **836-7604**

MasterCard VISA

## Just Say, CHARGE IT!



The Post now accepts Visa & Mastercard for all your subscriptions, classified ads, and display ads. For maximum convenience, call our office at 675-5211 with your account and we will set you up immediately.

**The Dallas Post**  
**675-5211**

**We finance dreams**

For over 90 years First National Community Bank has been one of the region's leading home loan lenders. You can count on our experience. Trust in our stability. And count on the most competitive rates found anywhere. At FNCB our commitment to community is never ending, after all ... community is our middle name.

Call our Mortgage Professionals:  
In Lackawanna County: 496-6002  
In Luzerne County: 603-1062

**FNCB**  
COMMUNITY IS OUR MIDDLE NAME  
1-877-TRY-FNCB / [www.fncb.com](http://www.fncb.com)

Member FDIC