BUSINESS IN THE BACK MOUNTAIN



Architect's rendering by BBIX, Wilkes-Barre and Boston.

New look, facility at the Renaissance Center

The new building at the organization, Renaissance Center in Shavertown is taking on shape. Dr. Francis J. Collini is creating a new start-of-the-art, state approved surgery center, which will rival any hospital in the area. A 3,200 square foot expansion will contain complete operating rooms and recovery suites. Dr. Collini, who is a board certified plastic surgeon, will be able to perform all outpatient and cosmetic surgeries at the office.

For the past 15 years Dr. Collini has performed a wide variety of cosmetic and reconstructive surgery. He also donates his expertise to a charitable

"Hands Healing Hearts," which brings medical services and training to disadvantaged citizens of the Third World.

The new Surgery Center for Plastic Surgery at The Renaissance Center, which also already includes a full service salon, skin care clinic and day spa named Age of Innocence, is expected to be completed in June. Dr. Collini and The Renaissance Center and Age of Innocence are located at 113 N. Memorial Hwy., Shavertown. The web address is www.collini.com, or call 674-6525.

Shops open side-by-side in Shavertown

Joanna Siegel of Dallas, and Sarah Roberts of Kingston, recently returned to the region to open their stores, buka and BATHOLOGIE, located at 120 North Main Street, Shavertown.

Named for a childhood nickname, Joanna's buka is a contemporary clothing boutique that offers a variety of unique lines, including well-fitting denim, tees, handcrafted jewelry, accessories and a sampling of Putamayo's world music. As an addition to the store, Joanna also designs her own jewelry line which mainly consists of semi-precious stones and sterling silver.

Sarah's BATHOLOGIE offers a selection of bath and body products ranging from soaps, scrubs and lotions, to bath salts, body butter and fragrances, as well as specialty items such as pregnancy and baby care products. Gift giving is made easy with pre-made baskets, or you can create your own. Sarah also makes her own line of handmade soap sold by the slice.

Joanna and Sarah were friends in and most recently in New York.

Harveys Lake resident Kim Pepe has opened an office at 550 Memorial Highway, Dallas, providing first and second mortgages, home equity loans, lines of credit and other financial instruments. Pepe is licensed by the Pa. Department of Banking. The office has programs for those with varying levels of credit history.

During March, the firm is offering a free financial analysis. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 1-866-366-2574.

Michael Slacktish, a licensed realtor, announces Century 21 Signature Properties, formerly Century 21 Jean Innamorati Real Estate.

Located at 230 Ferguson Ave. in Shavertown, Century 21 Signature Properties will offer full-service real estate assistance in residential, com-



Roberts of Kingston, recently opened buka and BATHOLOGIE.

high school. After college, Joanna spent time in Florida working in the field of jewelry merchandising along with some product design for a screen printing and embroidery company. Sarah worked for several years in the accounting field in Washington, DC

mercial and investment properties in Luzerne County and the surrounding areas.

Slacktish brings

mortgage banking

expertise to the

business, and is a

member of PA

Association of

Mortgage Brokers

and the Wilkes-

financing

nine years of Barre Association

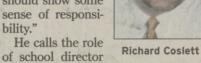
Jean Innamorati established the real estate firm in 1987 with a staff of 15 realtors. She will continue her professional relationship with Century 21 Signature Properties as a certified appraiser.

The new office can be reached at www.C21signature.com.

Continued from Page 1

been a sticking point in many districts. "I have a co-pay," said McLaughlin-

Smith, who at one time was vice president of the union. He thinks teachers should step up and share the growing "They expense. should show some sense of responsibility."



involves day-to-day operation of the schools. "That's what we pay administrators for." And he thinks board members

a "big picture" job, and not one that

should not be champions of particular job applicants. "I am not coming on this board to get a job for anybody.' Over in the Dallas district, Coslett will be seeking a return to the board,

where he served from 1991 to 1995.

He was president in 1994-95. Coslett said he did not run for reelection at that time to remove pressure from his older daughter, who was then at Dallas Middle School. She is now a freshman at St. Joseph's University, and Coslett says his younger daughter, 10, supports his candidacy

"Dad, that's great," she said when he there is no plan for the district.

Challenges to ballot listings

Both Dave McLaughlin-Smith and Rick Coslett cross-filed on the Democratic and Republican party primary ballots. Charles Crane, a competing candidate, challenged McLaughlin-Smith's appearance on the Republican side, alleging that he collected nominating signatures himself rather than having someone in the Republican Party collect them, as required by state election law. The challenge was upheld by Luzerne County Judge Joseph Augello, and McLaughlin-Smith will not appear on the Republican ballot. His position on the Democratic ballot is not in ques-

A challenge by Dallas School Board incumbent David Usavage against fellow board member Maureen Matiska was overruled. Usavage claimed that because Matiska's nominating petitions did not state the length of the term she was seeking, they were invalid. Four 4-year terms and one 2-year term are open in the Dallas School District. Matiska will be listed as seeking one of the 4-year terms.

expressed interest in running again.

Coslett twice threw his name into the ring when vacancies appeared due to resignations, but was not chosen either time. He thinks this election gives him better odds at a seat.

"Instead of having eight people vote on me, I'd ask the whole Back Mountain to vote."

He is bothered by the tone of recent board meetings as reported in newspapers. "We have to learn how to work together," which he said past boards were able to do. "We had a very collegial atmosphere" even though there were differences of opinion.

Coslett is also concerned that the current administrative setup, with the three top jobs being held on a temporary basis, creates a perception that

"It's like having an aircraft carrier ut without the admiral," he said. With ads major renovation project looming forsil the high school, "I would like to give my input, as a person who lives here, employs 15 people and whose children have gone to the schools."

Another important issue on the hori-WE zon is a state proposal promising to share future slot-machine gambling revenues with districts, in return for holding tax increases to the inflation rate or less.

"This Act 72 just doesn't make sense to me," Coslett said, since there is no way to accurately predict how much money gambling will provide. He thinks local school boards should pool their resources and ask the state to clarify the legislation before forcing a commitment.

PRE-EASTER FROI



Kids and their parents took advantage of a sunny Saturday last weekend, turning out for the Easter egg hunt at Burndale Park in Dallas. More than 50 children took part, getting their cue to begin picking up eggs from the Easter bunny, in the person of Dan Neff, from College Misericordia's Education Club.



At first, Haily Long, Harveys Lake, wanted no part of the face painting at the Dallas Borough Easter egg

After a little coaxing, and sitting on Judy Simon's lap, Haily decides it might be OK after seeing Burgundee

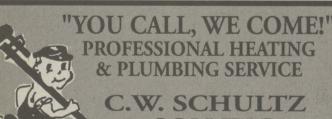


Davy Janoski, Dallas, holds on tight to the egg he picked up at the egg hunt.



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZER

Allyssa Podskoch, Dallas, has a hard time convincing her mother Lynette that she and "Fluffy" only want to eat the cookie.



& SON INC. 822-8158

Service Experts Since 1921



LEARN TO DANCE!

◆ You Can Learn to Swing Dance, Waltz, Cha Cha, Rumba or even Salsa! ◆ Meet New People, Make New Friends!

Your First Lesson Is FREE!

et's Dance! 602-8899 135 S. Main St., Pittston

◆ Singles & Couples Always Welcome!

♦ Wedding & Bridal Party Lessons. ◆ Package Discounts!

CALL TODAY! 570-602-8899



50% OFF Triple-Pane R-10 Glass

(Sale ends March 29)

SPRING INTO ENERGY SAVINGS SALE! more energy efficient than most standard new windows

Roofing & Siding Specialists Too! Call 824-7220 For Free Estimates

NEWS

Coverage Area: The Post covers the "Back Mountain" area of Luzerne County, including the Dallas and Lake-Lehman school districts, and southern Wyoming County. We try to get to as many events as possible, but staff and space limitations make it impossible to cover everything. If you have news about your family, town or organization, please send it to us and we'll try to get it in. Photographs are welcome. You may send items to the address above, or drop them off at the Uni-Mart in Dallas near the intersection of Routes 309 and 415.

E-mail is the best and most timely method for submissions. Send items (digital photos, too) to: thepost@leader.net Deadline is noon, Wednesday prior to publication. Corrections, clarifications: The Post will correct errors of fact or clarify

any misunderstandings created by a story. Call 675-5211. Have a story idea? Please call, we'd like to hear about it Letters: The Post prints letters of local interest. Send letters to: Editor, The Post, 15 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre PA 18711. All letters must be signed and include a phone number at which we can reach the author.



15 N. MAIN ST., WILKES-BARRE PA 18711 • 570-675-5211 thepost@leader.net

ADVERTISING

Display Advertising Deadline: Mondays at 5 p.m.. Call (570) 970-7101

We have a variety of rates and programs to suit your advertising needs. The Post satisfies most co-op ad programs. Creative services at no charge. Combination rates with The Abington Journal, Clarks Summit, and the Sunday Dispatch, Pittston available.

WANT A PHOTO?

We can provide color prints of photos taken by our staff. Only 8x10 is available, at \$25 for the first print and \$15 each thereafter. Prepayment required. Call, mail in, or stop by to order.

CIRCULATION

Orders for subscriptions received by Friday at noon will begin the following week. Please inform us of damage or delay, call 829-5000.

The Post (ISSN - 1551-1650)

Published weekly by Cypress Media, LLC. \$26 per year, in Luzerne and Wyoming counties (PA). Call 829-7141 for rates to other areas. Periodicals postage paid at Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-9998 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Post, 15 N. Main St., Wilkes-

©COPYRIGHT 2005: Entire contents copyrighted. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced by any means without the express written consent of the publisher.