

An honor for 'Coach Nark.'

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THE POST

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

A CROWN FOR MARY



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Maria Khoudary, a student at Gate of Heaven School, Dallas, honors this statue of the Blessed Mother at a crowning ceremony May 11. The school holds its May Crowning each year. Maria was the May Queen and Michael Oleginski was the crown bearer. Their names were drawn, one each, from the school's second grade classes.

One of 50 best in Pa. business

Jane Durkin will be honored May 23 in Harrisburg.

By M.B. GILLIGAN
Post Correspondent

DALLAS — Dr. Jane E. Durkin of Shavertown will be honored as one of Pennsylvania's 50 Best Women in Business at a ceremony on May 23 at the Whitaker Center in Harrisburg.

While flattered by the recognition, Durkin is quick to share credit for her accomplishments.

"I've learned the importance of the team and having key people in every spot," she said. "Surrounding yourself with the right team is so much a part of the formula for success."

The awards recognize the impact that women business owners and business leaders have in creating jobs and building communities in Pennsylvania.

"I was quite surprised and I do feel honored," Durkin said,

noting that her "devoted" husband, David Brodhead, submitted her name to the committee. "You have to be devoted to complete that application."

Durkin is co-owner and president of Dallas Family Practice. She and two partners set up the independent practice after the Wyoming Valley Health Care System terminated all physician contracts in 2000.

"My partners and I felt that it was important to continue on in Dallas. I felt connected to my patients and the community," Durkin said. Her partners are Richard Oley, D.O., and Irvin Jacobs, M.D., the founder of the original Dallas Family Practice 41 years ago. Jacobs sold the practice to WVHCS in the 1980's.

"The most remarkable thing was that we were able to do it without interrupting patient care at all," Durkin said. They closed one office on December 31, 2000 and opened the new office at 16 Church Street in Dallas on January 2, 2001.



FOR THE POST/M.B. GILLIGAN

Dr. Jane E. Durkin, a partner in Dallas Family Practice, has been named one of the state's 50 Best Women in Business.

The top 50 award winners were selected by an independent panel of judges based on several criteria including dedication to business growth and

advocacy for women in business.

"We have about 15 employ-

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DALLAS TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENT

'Big box' store not in the plan

Developer unveils concept that includes shops and housing on former farmland.

By RONALD BARTIZEK
Post Staff

DALLAS TWP. — The frantic pace of development in the township will be maintained if the projects reviewed by the Planning Commission at its May 10 meeting come to fruition.

A "concept" for the 47-acre former Yalick farm near the intersection of Route 415 and 118 shows a mixed-use development of townhouses, shops and offices. That is a far cry from the "big box" store that developer J. Naparolo predicted two years ago, a plan that spawned visions of traffic jams and going-out-of-business signs.

Full-color drawing of the concept.

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Naparolo's company, C&N Dining, bought the land in 1998 for \$1.5 million. Since then, he said he's invested hundreds of thousands more in studies and surveys, while obtaining most of the permits required to build a Wal-mart or similar store.

But he said last week that was never his real intention. "You always put your worst-case scenario down" when seeking approvals, Naparolo said. That is especially true for a highway occupancy permit. Proposing a major retail development meant he had to conduct a traffic study, and ultimately buy a vacant gas station at the center of Dallas

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Young men cited for help building hockey rink

By CAMILLE FIOTI
Post Correspondent

JACKSON TWP. — Edward Hon and Patrick Deets, Back Mountain Youth Hockey volunteers, and parents of BMYH players were recognized for their exemplary community service at the May 2 board of supervisors meeting. Hon and Deets volunteered their time and effort to build a new ice hockey rink at the township recreation field this winter.

"They were instrumental, not only in putting the rink up, but acquiring the rink for us," Supervisor Al Fox said. "We helped, but they told us how to do it. They knew what to do."

A large group of volunteers, including the hockey players, their parents, and township employees helped build the rink. "Without the work of these two gentlemen, we probably wouldn't have had the success that we did this year," Fox added.

Crime Watch chairman Edward Chesnovitch expressed disappointment in the low turnout at the last crime watch meeting on April 28. At that meeting, Luzerne County Sheriff Barry Stankus, accompanied by a search dog, presented a new program to help find missing persons. "If you have a person in a building, rather than sending a whole S.W.A.T. team in there, they have the dog go in with a handler for backup," Chesnovitch said.

Another part of the program teaches kids what to do if they get lost. A fanny pack is handed out to children in

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TOBY CREEK PROTECTION

Creek advocates to gather

BACK MOUNTAIN — A group of people hoping to form an organization to improve and protect Toby Creek will hold their second meeting this week.

They will gather Wednesday, May 18, at 7 p.m., at Pizza Perfect in Trucksville. Those arriving by 6:30 can take a short walk alongside the creek, with views of a historic stone-arch tunnel and an old mill foundation.

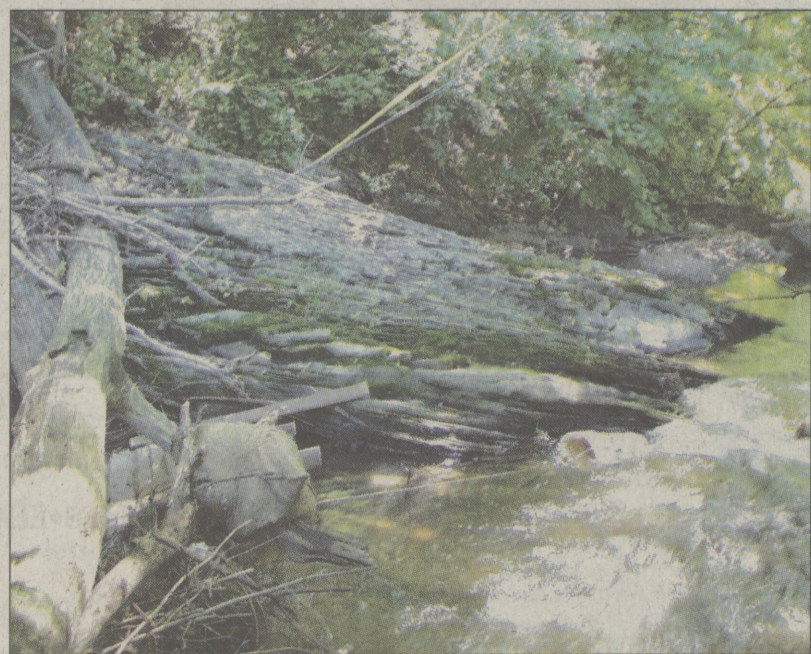
"The creek runs alongside a major artery, the Cross Valley Expressway, and we can't help notice it after a heavy rain, but

most of the time we forget about it even though we drive over it all the time," said Gail Smallwood, a Dallas resident who is active with the group.

At the first meeting, held in March, Josh Longmore, watershed specialist for the Luzerne Conservation District, described how a watershed association can attract people from all walks of life.

"The commonality among group members is that they are interested in the natural

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Both the promise and problems of Toby Creek are evident in this photo, taken in the streambed across Route 309 from Sheetz. Distinctive shale outcroppings are marred by fallen branches and trash that have accumulated in the water's path.

POST FILE PHOTO

Election Day Café at Trucksville United Methodist Church

On Tuesday May 17, Pennsylvania's Primary Election Day, the members of Trucksville United Methodist Church will be offering light refreshments at their Election Day Café.

There will be coffee and donuts and

a light lunch menu of sandwiches, hot dogs and wimpies beginning at 7a.m.

A special feature will be Lunch-to-Go, a choice of sandwich, chips, pickle, a sweet treat and a beverage, all freshly made and ready for takeout.

Indoor and outdoor seating will be available for those wishing to eat on-site. The café will remain open until 2 p.m. All proceeds will benefit Trucksville United Methodist Church's Building Campaign.

The church is located at 40 Knob Hill Road, Trucksville and is a newly designated polling place for Kingston Township.

Everyone is welcome whether coming to vote or not.