



Teens have different summer work plans.

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THE POST

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

LAKE-LEHMAN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Msgr. John Bendik, Pittston, took a photo of himself and his niece Kaitlyn Bendik at the Lake-Lehman High School graduation.

Using the past as an anchor for the future

Editor's Note: Each year, The Post asks the Back Mountain high schools to select a junior to write a graduation article. Coverage of Dallas High School will appear in next week's issue, since graduation took place too late for this week.

By SARAH DECESARIS
For The Post

LEHMAN TWP. — The evening of June 8 seemed unbearably hot. The audience prayed for a cloud to cover the sun and cast a shadow on the burning metal bleachers at Edward Edwards Stadium.

Soon however, attention shifted to the parade of black and gold caps and gowns proceeding to the outdoor stage. Clear skies had encouraged a sea of proud spectators who waved and commented on the procession of seniors. As the march went on, the

Lake-Lehman band played the traditional "Pomp and Circumstance" processional.

Class President Shannon Lazo was the first student to address her classmates. She reflected sadly on old memories, but encouraged the possibility for new ones. "Where have the past 13 years gone? ... When every adult relentlessly asked you about what you wanted to be when you were older, and in our small world of truth and dare and line leaders, we always had all the time in the world to decide.

"And although each of us, from this day forth, will take different paths in our quest for happiness in life, we must attempt to enjoy every step of the way."

Shannon Prescott, Student Council President, followed in the

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Richard Schofield did a graduation dance as after accepting his diploma.

Twin brothers going separate ways in defense of U.S.

By M.B. GILLIGAN
Post Correspondent

LEHMAN TWP. — Although they share the goal of service to their country, twins Brian and Paul Rigez will be pursuing higher education hundreds of miles apart. The young men, sons of Daniel Rigez of Harveys Lake, were presented certificates of appointment to their chosen service

academies at the recent Moving Up Day held at Lake-Lehman High School.

Paul Rigez will report to the United States Coast Guard Academy on June 22 where he will begin his training with a sailing course in Europe. His brother Brian was one of the successful candidates vying for a spot in the United States Naval Academy's class of 2009

"I wanted to fly for the Marines," said Brian, who has taken flying and glider lessons. "I looked at the top schools in the country and then at the top engineering schools and that's where the Naval Academy is." He plans to major in mechanical engineering at the four-year school located in Annapolis, Maryland.

Captain Jeffrey Sunday, a Blue and Gold Admissions Officer with the

Naval Academy, was on hand to present Brian's certificate. "With the global war on terrorism, we are seeing a trend where a lot of applicants want to go Marines," said Captain Sunday. Of the nearly 14,000 applicants this year, 1,200 received appointments to the academy.

Generally, about 1,000 Midshipmen

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BACK MOUNTAIN RELAY FOR LIFE

Two dozen teams, donors net \$128,000

By CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK
Post Correspondent

DALLAS TWP. — As the strains of Destiny Child's inspiring song, "I'm a Survivor" streamed from loudspeakers, purple and white balloons bobbed in a freshening breeze, and the sun came out to set a cheerful stage for the nearly two dozen cancer survivors who walked their "survivors" lap around the College Misericordia's sports field on June 4.

Caregivers, friends, family and supporters blew bubbles and cheered. It seemed so very heroic; but, as with so many heroes, grim determination and hope are what really keeps these people going.

Cynthia Eckman, a vivacious 40-something Dallas redhead seems out

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FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Marilyn Walko, Dallas, is a living testimony to the message on her "Relay for Life" medal that designates her a cancer survivor.

Prison security improvements please supers

By CAMILLE FIOTI
Post Correspondent

JACKSON TWP. — Recent security improvements made to the State Correctional Institution at Dallas draw approval from Police Chief Jerry Leedock and the supervisors attended a meeting at the prison last month.

They toured the facility and observed the upgrades. "They are taking measures to increase protection for township residents," said Vice Chairman Al Fox. "We found out who is and who is not allowed to be out of the facility," he said referring to the

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'Back Mountain Idol' contestants sought

The Harveys Lake Homecoming Weekend Committee is seeking contestants for its first annual "Back Mountain Idol" singing competition, to be held on Sunday, August 14 at Sandy Beach, Harveys Lake.

Each contestant must be between the ages of 18 and 25 and a resident of the Dallas or Lake-Lehman school district area. Finalists must be available to perform at various Harveys

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