

L-L PLAY

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Disease and, in his memory, Cardillo designated the proceeds of the show to benefit the Alzheimer's Association.

"It was unbelievable how fast the change came," Cardillo's mother, Melanie, said, remembering the progression of the disease. "In 10 months he was completely gone, mentally and physically."

Petresky had led an extremely active life before dying at 90, Melanie Cardillo said.

"He was president of the historical society in Hazleton and he was in charge of restoration of the historic Brinard Church in the Conyngham area. He was on the staff of the Hazleton Standard-Speaker, back when it was the Standard-Sentinel.

"When he was 16 he left home to join the circus - he worked setting things up and taking them down - and, during World War II he served in the South Pacific with the Air Force.

"He organized class reunions for McAdoo High School and he was a beautiful tenor. We think Bryan gets his voice from him."

Bryan Cardillo enjoys singing, but the play he wrote isn't a musical. Rather, it's a murder-mystery set aboard a cruise ship peopled with characters you just might recognize from the movies.

Emily Thomas played Trinity from "The Matrix," Rick James played "Indiana Jones,"

DALLAS AMERICAN LEGION OBSERVES VETERANS DAY



The Dallas American Legion Daddow-Isaacs Post 672 recently observed Veterans Day with a special ceremony on the grounds of the Post Home on Route 415. Walter Galka opened the meeting with a prayer and a moment of silence to honor all veterans. God Bless America was sung by all of those in attendance. Remarks were given by Post Commander Clarence J. Michael, past commander and Sons of the American Legion representative John Emil Sr., Jennifer Bowanko of the Ladies Auxiliary, and Marion Kunigonis from the Veterans Administration Hospital. A check was presented to the Ross family of Trucksville, who recently suffered from a fire at their home. Iraq War veteran Chris Ross expressed his thanks to the Legion, as well as the rest of the community. Participating in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Dallas American Legion, from left, are Kunigonis, Bowanko, Emil and Michael.

Joey Johnson played Batman's sidekick, "Robin," Mariah Raspen played "Lara Croft, Tomb Raider," Evelyn Brislin played Dorothy from "The Wizard of Oz" and Nalbone played Darth Vader from "Star Wars."

Rounding out the cast were Leighann Kern as First Mate

Stephanie, Abbatantuano as Deck Hand Lisa and Cardillo himself as a "Star Wars" stormtrooper who accompanied Vader everywhere.

While Cardillo had the most compelling reason to want to help the Alzheimer's Association, the rest of the cast said they fully support the cause.

"I think it's a great thing he's doing," Thomas said.

"Me, too," Abbatantuano chimed in.

Every donation will help fight the debilitating disease, Melanie Cardillo said, and she's confident a cure will be developed. "They're working on it all the time."

Legion contests under way

Dallas American Legion Post 672 is holding its annual essay contest for high school students.

The contest is held in conjunction with the 72nd annual contest sponsored by the Pennsylvania American Legion.

The contest is open to all high school students who reside in the Back Mountain.

This year's topic is "How Can We Support Our Troops?"

There are monetary awards at the local and district levels. Scholarship awards are presented to the three finalists in the final round of the state contest.

The first place winner will receive a \$3,500 scholarship, a plaque, and a trip to the American Legion convention in July 2007 to read the winning essay to the assembled delegates.

The second place winner will receive a \$3,000 scholarship and a plaque, while the third place winner will receive a \$2,500 scholarship and a plaque.

Interested students may contact their school office or call Dallas American Legion commander Clarence J. Michael at 675-0488. All entries must be received by Jan. 7.

The American Legion is also sponsoring a high school orator-

ical contest. The theme for year's contest is "We The People." The contest will consist of an 8-10-minute, memorized oration on some phase of the United States Constitution and a 3-5-minute extempore oration on one of four topics assigned by the national headquarters.

The first place winner will receive a \$7,500 scholarship, plaque, and a paid trip to the Pennsylvania American Legion State Convention to present the winning oration. The winner will also represent Pennsylvania in national and regional contests and receive an additional \$1,500 scholarship from the national organization.

The second place winner will receive a \$5,000 scholarship and a plaque, while the third place winner receives a \$4,000 scholarship and a plaque.

Application forms may be obtained at high school offices or by calling Michael at 675-0488.

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