



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Dallas Elementary School students raise their hands to pledge against gun violence.

# Students say no to guns

Students at the Dallas Elementary School were involved in a project entitled "The Student Pledge Against Gun Violence."

State Rep. Karen Boback, 117th District, Dallas Township Police Chief Bob Jolley, Dallas Township Sgt. Doug Higgins, Dallas Elementary School Guidance Counselor Betsy Jerome and parent Maureen Oremus all spoke about violence and how it escalates much more when a gun is brought into the picture.

The Fifth Grade Character Council led the students in a pledge that stated they would never touch a gun, they would never use a gun to settle a dispute and would use their influence to keep their friends from using guns, also.

Later in the day, students had the opportunity to sign their names to these pledges which were then tallied and reported to a firm in Minnesota, who states "that from 1996 to the present, more than 10 million young people have signed on to this project."



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Robert Jolley, Dallas Twp. Police Chief; State Rep. Karen Boback, 117th District; Maureen Oremus, Coordinator; and Dallas Twp. Sgt. Doug Higgins.

All students were also treated to an appearance by "Eddie the Eagle," the gun safety mascot, after viewing his movie and receiving safety tips.

Betsy Jerome was able to pro-

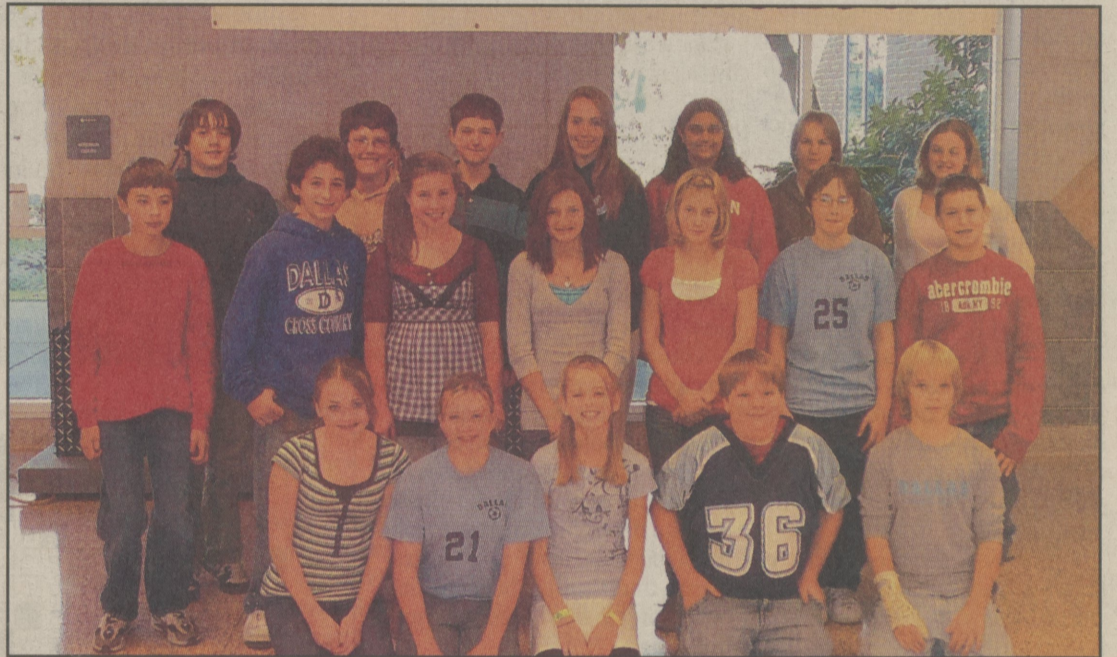
ject." cure pamphlets from the NRA for each student to take home to their parents. These gave many tips on not just parent responsibility, but toy guns vs. real guns, and where to obtain gun safety training.

## ROTARY CLUB OF DALLAS HELPS FOOD PANTRY



The Rotary Club of Dallas recently held a Fun Night and Raffle to benefit the Back Mountain Food Pantry just in time for the holidays. More than 600 pounds of food was brought in and more than \$500 was raised with donations from the club's charity account and from their 45 members and friends in attendance. George Bacon, club treasurer, presented a check to the club's past president and food pantry board member, Sandy Peoples, who asked the club to help meet the needs of the families they serve. Raffle prizes were donated by: Really Cooking Cafe and Supper Club, Snips n' Tips Salon & Day Spa/Gift Shop, The Castle Inn, Back Mountain Community News, Trane, Pierce Drug Store, Ruckno Construction Co., Hilbert's Tractor Store, Mark II, Weis Market, Friendly's, McCarthy Tire and several Rotary families.

## DMS STUDENTS AWARDED CERTIFICATES OF EXCELLENCE



Mrs. Stauffer, a seventh and eighth grade English teacher at the Dallas Middle School, announced the September and October recipients of the Certificate of Excellence for her classes. In order for students to be selected to receive a certificate, they had to show improvement in test scores, in writing, in assignment completion and in overall class participation. In addition, students needed to display "Random Acts of Kindness" towards peers, teachers, and the general middle school population. Certificates are awarded weekly. Recipients for the months of September and October are, from, left, first row, Alyssa Belskis, Jessica Hiscox, Merissa Konnick, Nick Evans and Brian Goode. Second row, Michael Podskoch, Blake Donovan, Katie Metcalf, Briana Konecke, Elizabeth Hoover, Danielle, Spencer and Casey McAndrew. Third row, James Duffy, Jonathan Strausser, Andrew Santora, Sara Flaherty, Gates Palissery, Christopher Lafratte and Michaela Coolbaugh. Absent at the time of the photo was Nate Kish.

## Sem Middle School Scholarship Exam

Current fourth through seventh-graders not already enrolled at Wyoming Seminary Lower School are encouraged to register for Sem's Middle-School Merit Scholarship Exam to be held Saturday, Feb. 2, at the school's Forty Fort campus.

All students planning to take the merit scholarship exam should complete a visit to the Lower School, shadowing a class day with a current Lower School student, no later than Monday, Feb. 18, to qualify for an award.

Exam registration will be at 8:15 a.m. and the exam will be given at 8:30 a.m., ending at 11 a.m. Parents are invited to stay for a presentation, including financial aid information, tour and refreshments.

For more information about the Wyoming Seminary Middle School Merit Scholarship Exam, or to register for the exam, call the Admission Office at 718-6610.

### SEAN'S SKI TIPS



Q. My feet always get cold, what can I do?

A. Make sure your boots fit properly, wear the right socks, and wear a hat. Good blood circulation keeps your feet warm, boots that pinch and wet socks almost guarantee cold feet. Heated boots are available for people with poor circulation in their feet.

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