#### CIVIC BRIEFS

# Social group may form

Kingston Township residents 55 years of age and older interested in forming a social group may express that interest by signing up from 1 to 3 p.m. Juesday, Sept. 9, in the lower evel of the Kingston Township Municipal Building, 180 E. Center St., Shavertown.

### **School Night for** Scouting planned

Cub Scout Pack 281 of Dallas will hold School Night for Scouting from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 10, in the cafeteria of the Dallas Elementary School.

All boys are in grades one through five are eligible to join. For more information, call Nancy at 675-3133.

### Civil War Round Table meets on September 1

The Wyoming Valley Civil Var Round Table will begin its 12th year at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 11, in the lower level of the Daddow-Isaacs American Legion Route 415, Dallas.

Dr. Brian Carso will present his program, "Treason, Amnesty and the Language of Betrayal During the Civil War."

#### Flea market scheduled

A flea market will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Satay, Sept. 13, at the Mountain range #567, West Eighth Street, Carverton. Lunch and snacks will be available for purchase from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, call Dolores Tamanini at 287-7851.

#### **HL** Legion plans dance

Harveys Lake American Legion will hold a dance from 8 p.m. to midnight on Saturday, Sept. 13, at the Legion Post.

The country band, "Hillbilly D'Lux" will provide music for dancing and will feature country music with a little bit of rock and roll.

Tickets are \$5 and will be available at the door. Door prizes, a 50/50 drawing and snacks will all be part of the evening's festivities with proceeds benefiting the Legion's elevator fund.

Doors open at 7 p.m. and the public is welcome. For more information, call 639-2240.

## music Box to perform **'Sweeney Todd'**

The Music Box Players present "Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber of Fleet Street," a musical thriller by Stephen Sondheim, September 12 to 14, 18 to 21, and 25 to 28, at the Music Box Dinner Playhouse, 196 Hughes St., Swoyersville.

Dinner and show and show only tickets are now on sale. Thursdays through Saturdays, curtain is 8 p.m. and on Sundays, curtain is at 3 p.m. A buffet dinner is served 90 minutes before curtain.

Call 283-2195 for reservations. There will be a special showonly price for students.

#### Dallas Harvest Festival

## returns on Sept. 14

The Sixth Annual Dallas Harvest Festival will be held from 1 to 6 p.m on Sunday, Sept.14, on a portion of Main Street, Dallas, between the Route 415 intersection and Huntsville Road.

Dallas Days Weekend will get underway on Friday, Sept. 12, with the annual Dallas Days Dance, featuring the return of "Just Us" and "Abilene" from 7 to midnight at the Shadowbrook Pavilion in Tunkhannock. Ticket prices are \$25 each and include light refreshments, beer and

Tickets will be sold in advance only andmay be purchased at Ochman's Coins and Jewelry in Dallas and the Dallas Borough Municipal Offices, 25 Main St., Dallas.

For more information, call the Dallas Harvest Festival Hotline at 675-1950.

#### Art exhibit planned

A one-day art exhibit at Sue Hand's Imagery, 35 Main St., Dallas, will coincide with the Dallas Harvest Festival from 1 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 14.

Gallery owner Sue Hand will display her paintings featuring local college and private school campuses.

#### Irem Ladies plan craft show for September 21

More than 50 vendors are expected to participate in the Arts, Crafts & Collectibles Show which will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 21, at the Irem Country Club Pavilion,

In addition to crafts, there will be a light lunch available, baked goods and super door prizes. There is ample parking and the pavilion is handicapped

The event is sponsored by the Irem Ladies with Laura Warman as chairlady.

#### **Zen Meditation** program scheduled

An Introduction to Zen Meditation will be held from 7:30 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 23, at Mercy Center on the campus of Misericordia University. The program includes a description of the Zen method of meditation, a brief practice session and time for questions.

A free will offering will be taken. Pre registration required. Call Sr. Barbara Craig at 675-

### Vendors sought for fall craft show at Oblates

The Auxiliary at Geisinger Wyoming Valley is hosting its second annual fall craft and gift show from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 4, St. Joseph's Oblates, Highway 315 in Pitt-

Anyone interested in being a vendor for this event should call Judy Carter at 819-5745 or 655-8860 for more information.

#### Flu shots available

Flu shots will be provided by CareWorks Convenient Healthcare from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 14, at Mr. Z's, 495 Memorial Hwy., Route 415, Dallas. Cost is \$25 per person.

# Calling senior citizens who want to have fun

By REBECCA BRIA rbria@timesleader.com

Is there a need for a senior citizens group in Kingston Town-

That's what members of the township's recreation commission would like to find out. All residents ages 55 and up who are interested in forming a senior group are asked to sign up from 1 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 9, in the lower level of the municipal building on East Center Street in Shavertown.

ber George Elias says the idea for tial members would like to par- out and about town. The coma senior group came about during a discussion of what activities should be provided for the gether such as bus trips, oldies community at one of the community at one of the community at one of the com-

mission's meetings. "The need perhaps exists, maybe it doesn't exist, but we want to determine if there is an interest in forming some type of a social group for the 55-plus," Elias said.

Through sign ups, the com-

Recreation commission mem- group, but what activities poten- that day and many older folks are ticipate in. Elias feels such a group could enjoy activities tocards.

The recreation commission will provide some of the money needed for activities held by the group. Funding for the recreation commission comes from the township's tax revenue.

Sign-ups are being held on a mission wants to find out not on- Tuesday because several grocery ly if there is an interest in such a stores hold a senior discount ple he expects to sign up.

mission is hoping they will stop by the municipal building to sign up for the senior group. As of right now, the group is open only to township residents. But if the sign-up session results in a low turnout, the commission may consider opening the group to other communities in the Back Mountain.

"I really, truly don't know," Elias said of the number of peo-

# **ENJOY**

Continued from Page 1

one in either of their families has Down syndrome which is not hereditary and affects about one in 800 children.

Many children with Down syndrome suffer from heart problems. Although prenatal tests showed her heart was normal, Meghan was born with an arterial ventricular canal heart defect and endured major heart surgery as an infant.

That was when Margie learned her baby loved music. Playing soothing music while her new daughter was in a neonatal intensive care unit, Margie noticed that not only did the music calm Meghan, it calmed the other babies as well.

Doctors weren't sure if Meghan would ever walk and one professional recommendation was to place her in St. Joseph's Center in Scranton, a residential facility for persons with developmental disabilities. That was especially ironic for the Donahues because Margie's grandfather, Dr. James O'Boyle, was an obstetrician and gynecologist who helped take care of the children at St. Joseph's Center years be-

But the Donahues felt Meghan, their third child, would thrive at home and should not be institutionalized. And, although it took her longer than many children, Meghan began walk-

ing at age two-and-a-half.
"That was a huge hurdle for us," Margie said.

grade at Good Shepherd Acade- parents they often pair him with



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Eleven-year-old Meghan Donahue, of Dallas, who has Down syndrome, will participate in the Fourth **Annual Buddy Walk** at Kirby Park on September 13.

my in Kingston where she is a student in a regular classroom and receives learning support. She is also tutored outside of school for extra help, which enables her to progress through her academic years at school.

"You want to mainstream her, but unless you give her help in every subject, she'll fall behind," Tom said of his daughter.

The Donahues have accepted just about all of the assistance and resources offered to them which, they say, is why Meghan has succeeded. The couple has also participated in several local syndrome support

Meghan is close to her siblings, Cara, 20; Chris 18; and Ben, 9. Cara is a sophomore music therapy major at Elizabethtown College and will likely work with people with Down syndrome. Chris is a senior at Scranton Preparatory School Now, Meghan is in the fourth- and Ben's teachers have told his

he has the patience and understanding to help them.

Meghan also likes to socialize with her 65 first cousins. "She fits in with them and can

do everything they do," Margie said. "She basically does everything all the other children do." Tom and Margie have often

observed people staring at Meghan and, although they are not bothered by that as much as they used to be, they would still prefer people ask questions instead of staring.

"It toughens you a little as a parent," Margie said of having a special-needs child. "You kind of learn to toughen up a little bit because people will stare."

Meghan is friendly to just about everyone and is great at remembering names, often inquiring about how people are doing. Tom loves to come home and have his daughter ask how his day was and both he and Margie admit that having Meghan in row," Margie said.

children lagging behind because their lives has caused them to stop and enjoy life. The Donahue family will take

part in the Luzerne County Down Syndrome Network's Buddy Walk at Kirby Park at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 13. The walk is one of the National Down Syndrome Society's Buddy Walks, a one-mile walk founded in 1995 to celebrate Down Syndrome Awareness Month in October and promote acceptance and inclusion of people with the condition. Money raised from the local walk goes to help those afflicted by Down syndrome in the area.

After her first day of school, Meghan was excited about going to the Ranch Wagon for hot dogs, one of her favorite foods. And, although she was a bit worn out from a full day of academics, a piano Jesson and time on her swing, she was still cheer-

"She'll ask about you tomor-

Continued from Page 1

ry said of the emotions she felt during the run. "It was like Mike's funeral all over again. 'Taps' was played, but this time we were there and able to support families of other soldiers.

but I definitely feel like he was there across the country."

Erin Kavanaugh, Cleary's fiancée, was also a member of the team and the entire Cleary family was at the closing ceremony in Arlington. The family includes Michael Cleary's parents, Jack and Marianne Cleary; sisters, Shannon Cleary,

band, Fred; and brother, Patrick. Jack, Marianne and Patrick Cleary also participated in the Run for the Fallen on August 15 and 16 in Charlottes-

Run for the Fallen. Although mind."

That pit will always be there, Erin Flanagan and her son, Kelthey doubt the event can be repeated exactly as it was this ly Tangemann and her husyear, they're hoping something can grow out of it.

> "My thanks goes out to the people of the Back Mountain and Northeast Pennsylvania," Shannon Cleary said. "The sup-Bellona and Shannon Cleary port we had two and a half have talked about the future of years ago will always stay in my

Continued from Page 1

Fair, graduation lock-in programs, Wyoming Valley Children's Association, Back Mountain youth sports leagues, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Players are sought for the golf tournament. Although the format remains a captain and three crew members, individuals are invited and will be teamed up with others in a group. The entry a hole, call tournament chairfee is \$100 and players must sign up by September 8. A seafood

and steak dinner will take place after the tournament, followed by an awards ceremony and raf-

"We've always had a wonderful dinner and about four or five years ago, we started preparing the food ourselves," Freeman said. Sponsors, at \$100 each, are

also desired and will be accepted until September 12. Each advertiser will have a sign displayed near a green or tee. To sign up to play or sponsor

person Kevin Smith at 696-

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