



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/FOR THE DALLAS POST

A second bench was installed on the Back Mountain Trail by Boy Scout Troop 232 during the summer as part of Brian Ghezzi's Eagle Scout project. This bench, which sits near the old foundation of Trucks Mill closer to Route 309, is dedicated to the contributions of the Maslow family. From left, seated, are Marilyn O'Boyle, executive director of the Maslow Foundation; Melanie Maslow-Lumia; Tyler Wojciechowski and Brian Ghezzi, of Boy Scout Troop 232. Standing, are Jim Hawk, a member of the Back Mountain Trail Council; Mark Albrecht, president of the Back Mountain Trail Council; Lucas Lansberry, Boy Scout; and Dan Ghezzi, scoutmaster.

## BENCHES

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bench near the bridge where his son was found as a way to remember him; however, that plan never cemented and he chose the trail instead.

Achuff is having trouble walking so it is difficult for him to use the trail but the Westmoreland High School graduate thinks it is an asset to the Back Mountain.

"It's a place for people to get together and walk through what I consider is a real nice area," Achuff said.

Achuff is also pleased that a Boy Scout spent his time put-

ting up the benches.

"I think that's very good," Achuff said. "He did a real nice job."

The second bench was donated by the Anthracite Scenic Trails Association in honor of the Maslow family in appreciation of its financial support of the trail.

Marilyn O'Boyle, executive director of the Maslow Foundation, says Richard and Marilyn Maslow, formerly of Dallas, made significant financial contributions to the Anthracite Scenic Trails Association when it was started. The couple's son, Doug, of Dallas, also made a donation along with other members of the family. Eventually the Maslow Family Foundation began donating to the associ-

ation.

Melanie Maslow Lumia, of Dallas, was present at the bench dedication ceremony, as was O'Boyle.

"I like the fact that our bench can be seen from the highway because I think that now people can sit and take a break while they're walking and it opens up a whole possibility of people who can use the trail," Maslow Lumia said.

Others at the ceremony include Ghezzi and his parents; Boy Scout Tyler Wojciechowski and his mom, Laurie; Boy Scout Lucas Lansberry and his mom, Mary; Jim Hawk, of the Back Mountain Trail Council; and Albrecht, president of the Back Mountain Trail Council.

Ghezzi estimates that he put

in about 32 hours toward the project which includes planning and carrying out the project. He says volunteers who helped him with the project completed about 86 hours.

Ghezzi is working toward becoming an Eagle Scout, still needing to earn a physical fitness merit badge and undergo an Eagle Scout board review.

"It was not how I expected it to be because it ended up being better," Ghezzi said. "Both Mr. Richard Achuff and (Melanie) Maslow were very happy and enthusiastic about their benches. They were happy because of the quality of the benches, the location of the benches, the hard work and care put into the benches and the cause for having the bench."



Misericordia students shown here during the 2008 Homecoming Parade are, from left, Homecoming Parade 9-27-08 Steve Beecher, Josh Chaudoin, Lottie Johnson, Kris Pfirman, back: Amber Konek.

## MU students prepare to note homecoming

Students, parents and staff of Misericordia University will celebrate Homecoming weekend beginning Thursday, Oct. 1 until Sunday, Oct. 4. This year, festivities are planned to the theme of "Cirque du MU" and include a dance party, parade and athletic events.

Insalaco Hall will host its first homecoming celebration event at 9 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 1 with the Tightrope Tango Dance Party. The dance is a non-formal event with music provided by a DJ.

The Greatest Show at MU begins at 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 2, in Lemmond Theater. The event features the annual campus talent show with performances by Misericordia students, as well as the announcement and crowning of 2009's homecoming king and queen.

Misericordia students will gather at the Dallas Shopping Center at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, for the "Ringmaster's Rally" before traveling Routes 309 and 415 to the north gate of the MU campus. Residents and children are encouraged to line the parade route to catch candy and surprises from students. Immediately following

the parade, "Carnival on Campus" will be held on the lawn of the Banks Student Life Center from noon to 4 p.m.

Other Homecoming events include several sporting events from the women's field hockey and tennis teams to the men and women's soccer teams, as well as an alumni lacrosse game at the Anderson Athletic Fields.

In recognition of Misericordia alumni, the Seventh Annual Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony begins at 5 p.m. in the Anderson Sports and Health Center. The ceremony is to be followed by a reception at 6 p.m. in the Catherine Evans McGowan Room of the Mary Kintz Bevevino Library. The reception includes an open bar and hors d'oeuvres.

Tickets for this reception are \$25 per guest and are only available by advanced sale. Those interested can reserve their tickets through the alumni office by calling 866-262-6363 (option 3 then 4).

Wrapping up Saturday evening for Misericordia students is the "Circus of Cash," also known as Casino night, in the dining hall beginning at 8 p.m.

## DIABETES

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born in the year 2000 will develop diabetes.

Joan Rakowski has served as the adviser of Dallas Middle School's Student Council for 10 years, but she has been a member of the American Diabetes Association for 30 years. Rakowski is adamant in the fight against diabetes because it killed her husband, Michael, and her mother, Helen Levandowski. The disease also runs on both sides of her family.

"That was the reason I took it on because I really believed in

it," Rakowski said. "When I became adviser, I just went along with the walk because I think it is a great idea."

Rakowski and the student council distributed sign-up envelopes to every student at Dallas Middle School. Students who attend the school and participate are eligible to win iTunes gift cards and tickets to dances at the school.

Dallas Middle School faculty members are having a dress down day on October 2 to raise money for the walk. The high school and elementary schools are also showing support with walkers and event volunteers.

Community members and businesses have also been helping with sponsorship and dona-

tions of food and water.

About 600 people are expected to attend the walk and the goal is to raise \$100,000.

"It's really been such a touching event," Rakowski said. "Everyone gets together and donates their time and energy because diabetes is so important. I really think that diabetes is such an important issue and they really have to come up with a cure and more things for these people because they have no idea how hard their life is on a daily basis."

Duffy asks that parents not participating in the walk drop off their children or carpool because of parking concerns due to the high school construction project.



The Dallas Middle School Student Council will host the American Diabetes Association's Walk at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3. Members of the Dallas Middle School Student Council are, from left, Matthew Barrett, assistant principal; Joan Rakowski, student council adviser; Frank Hullahen, Bryan Morgan, A.J. Nardone, Rocky Rutkowski, Bethany Dennis, Caroline Sheehan, Katy Comitz, Amber Habib and Thomas Duffy, principal.

## SEWER

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conditional use for planned residential developments in a C-3 zone. A C-3 zone is an area zoned for entertainment purposes.

Secretary Susan Sutton said the area in question is the old Hanson's Amusement Park. She said the ordinance allowed

for townhouse development to be built in this area but when the zoning manual was updated earlier this year, the ordinance was unintentionally left out.

Councilman Edward Kelly announced the fire company will hold its annual Haunted House, named "Brokenharts Asylum" this year. The house will be open from 7 p.m. to midnight on Friday and Saturday nights and from 7 to 10 p.m. on Sundays throughout October

at the Luzerne County Fair Grounds.

Admission fee is \$10 per person but groups of more than 10 people will qualify for special rates. Anyone interested in attending the Haunted House is asked to call 760-8027 or visit [www.screamindemonshaunts.com](http://www.screamindemonshaunts.com) for more information.

The next Harveys Lake Borough council meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 20, at the municipal building.

## PILGER

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ferent players carried the ball.

### D TEAM

#### Dallas 26 Swoyersville 6

The Dallas Jr. Mounts continued their winning ways last Sunday with a dominant game from both sides of the ball, taking a 26-6 victory over Swoyersville.

Jacob Brennan, John Cantando and Josh Peters opened

holes all along the offensive line. Freddie Lombardo, Xander Shaner, Jack Gallis and Jacob Esposito all appreciated the great blocking as each scored touchdowns.

The defense was just as stellar. Led by Christian Sebastianelli, Kurtis Ryniec, Alex Hajkowski and Ryan Maloney, the defense shut down the Sailors all day. It even chipped in three fumble recoveries and a goal line stand to stop Swoyersville on four straight plays from the 3-yard line.

#### Kingston Township 28 West Pittston 24

The Kingston Township

Raiders beat the West Pittston Rams, 28-24.

The KT defense came up with some big plays. Matt Maransky had a sack and several key tackles while Troy Turinski recovered a fumble. Dylan Schuster, Nicholas Lias-Lewis and Blake Perrego held tough on the line. Michael Starbuck's interception ended the Rams' final drive.

Offensively, three different Raiders added points to the board. Maransky, Devon Butwin and Starbuck each scored behind strong blocking by Scott McCloughlin, Joshua Balara, Tyler Meyer and Cole Vonderheid.

## LOCALS

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### Taser grant

Chacke said he did research on applying for funding for tasers and did not immediately find such a grant. He said there is a U.S. Dept. of Justice program called Weed & Seed but that the Back Mountain would not qualify because the funding is geared toward low-income towns with high violent crime rates.

Chacke said the BMCP could apply for a community revitalization grant when the state budget is restored but recommended the partnership apply for gaming funding.

The BMCP tabled the taser grant for future voting.

### Gaming funding

The mention of gaming funding prompted the BMCP to form a committee to recommend to legislatures possible changes in the distribution of gaming funding. The committee will consist of Iwanowski, Reino and Michael Prokopchak.

"I feel the way it's set up is there are a lot of communities in Luzerne County that receive no funds whatsoever," Fox said. "We shouldn't be forgotten."

Kingston Township officials confirmed The Lands at Hillside Farms received \$655,000 in gaming money through the township. Dallas Borough representatives said Misericordia University received \$750,000 in gaming funds through the borough.

Reino believes now is the time for the BMCP to provide its input before new legislation is possibly written to include table gaming funding.

### Energy grants

Chacke reported that 470 applications were submitted for Department of Environmental Protection Energy Conservation Grant funding. Chacke said 100 were thrown out and 370 are remaining, including those from the BMCP. Kingston and Jackson townships and Dallas Borough applied for money for solar panels while Kingston and Lehman townships and Dallas Borough applied for funding for energy efficiency upgrades.

In August, Chacke said the municipalities applied for about \$750,000 total. Approximately

\$22.2 million of state funding is available through the grant.

Chacke says the BMCP should know by the end of October if it is to receive any money.

### House Bill 1500 opposition

At the request of Prokopchak, the BMCP agreed to send a letter of opposition against Pennsylvania House Bill 1500 to legislatures. The bill calls for charging a large annual fee to municipalities who rely on the Pennsylvania State Police for their police force. Franklin Township, which has no police force, would eventually have to pay an annual fee of \$156 per person.

Prokopchak, of Franklin Township, says the fee may bankrupt the township which has a \$307,000 annual budget.

### Budget

Malak and Chacke have been working together to compose an 18-month to two-year \$35,000 budget for the BMCP. Chacke provided partnership members with a copy of the budget at the September 17 meeting.

Chacke says the budget will primarily be used to apply for a Shared Municipal Services Plan Grant through the state.