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competitive event."

The petite trainer and her husband, Bill, operate a horse riding, training and boarding facility in allas. "Operate" might not be eright word - the Osborns conider their business a labor of

"We're like a family here," Heidi said of her students and stable hands.

The couple spends, on average, 14 hours a day, 6 ½ days a week at the stable, and when they're not around, they miss the 27 horses

"We went away ... to see my mother and father in Connecticut," said Bill. "We were gone for, maybe 24 hours, and we couldn't wait to get back."

Days at the stable start by feeding the horses and, after their appetites are appeased, the galloping giants are "turned out," or exercised. The horses get out in the fresh air to roam and play at least three or four hours each day. Heidi and Bill clean stalls and keep up with feedings in between teaching lessons for riders of all

"Now that school's in, I teach until seven or eight at night," said Heidi. Although the Osborns have a few part-time hired helpers at the stable, they do much of the work themselves.

"There are no sick days in my world," she said.

Osborn instructs students of ages and abilities, from her us together," said Heidi. oungest student, who's 3 years old, to her eldest, who's 24.

"As long as you have a will to speak. want to do it, there (are) no requirements," she said. "Anybody can ride."

Osborn started showing fold but her love of horses developed long before that. The Callicoon, N.Y. native's parents bought a pony when she was just 5 years old.

"We woke up one morning and t had a baby," she said, laughing.

Her father had his own business and his employees would amuse the little girl by leading her and the pony around her yard for hours every day. It didn't take long for her to fall in love with the horses. She's been riding ever

"It's just such a passion," she said. "I can't even explain it."

The Osborns now own three horses: a 5-year-old Welsh Cross pony named Miley (yes, after Disney star Miley Cyrus, and no, the Osborns didn't name her), a 9-year-old black bay thoroughbred gelding named Sammie (Heidi's "dream horse") and a 13year-old chestnut appendix quarer horse called Stormy, who netimes goes by the name of rand Stride (yes, the inspiration for the name of their business).

Several locals graduate from Penn State U.

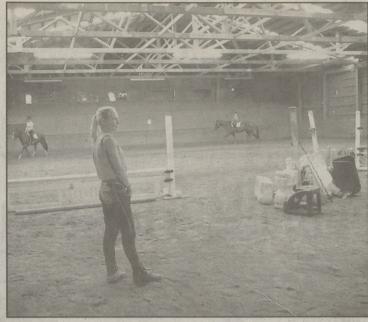
Several Back Mountain residents recently received degrees from Penn State University. They are:

Michael E. Clemente, Dallas, Bachelor of Science in Accounting, University Park campus; Robert J. Hivish, Trucksville, Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science, University Park campus.

Also, Andrew K. Kempinski, Dallas, Aengt, 2-year Electrical Engineering Technology, Wilkes-Barre campus; Richard E. Ketchner, Shavertown, Associates Degree, 2year Physical Therapist Assistant, Hazleton campus.

Also, Mark J. McCabe, Hunock Creek, Bachelor of Scice in Information Sciences and Technology, World Campus; Alyson G. Midwinter Trucksville, Associates Degree with High Distinction, 2year Physical Therapy assist-

ant, Hazleton campus. Also, Brett A. Sprau, Dallas, Bachelor of Science in Business, Wilkes-Barre campus; and Deborah J. Stern, Shavertown, Ph. D. in Workforce Education And Development, University Park cam-



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Heidi Osborn, of Shavertown, oversees a riding stable on Machell Avenue in Dallas where dressage and showmanship are taught.

strides," said Heidi.

in life, as well.

Heidi and Bill met at a horse show - he transported horses to gether, wanted something like and from shows and she was a The horses weren't ready in time realize how badly we wanted it at one show in 1988 and the two until we had it." got to talking. They became great friends even though she was from Heidi added. New York and he hailed from Connecticut. Ten years later they the end, though. were married and now have a 10year-old son named Corey.

Bill also credits Heidi with get- more proud of their students. ting him back in the saddle, so to

this one comes along," he said of

He says he showed horses all horses when she was just 7 years over the country when he was the practice, but remained in the ing about their students. industry due to his penchant for

> When the Osborns realized they had the chance to rent and with them," added Bill.

"We had a horse named Grand operate a stable in Dallas, Bill Stride and my business at the started riding again and the two time ... had made such grand haven't looked back. They have been at the facility on Machell Her emotions for the equines Avenue for only 3 ½ years but to are apparent in her work and her them, it's what they've been love for horses led her to find love working toward during the span of their careers.

"We both, separately and tothis for our entire lives," Bill of participant in the competition. the couple's business. "We didn't

"We make a lot of sacrifices,"

Those sacrifices are worth it in

According to Morris, Heidi's reputation as a trainer of cham-"The horses basically brought pions is unmatched in the area and the Osborns couldn't be

"They're really dedicated kids," said Bill. "They're here "I wasn't even riding and then five, six, seven days a week. They practice; they ask questions. They're constantly striving to improve themselves."

Heidi and Bill can even finish younger and eventually got out of each other's sentences when talk-

"Every time they walk into the ring," Heidi started.

"It's a piece of us walking in



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Members of the Dallas Harvest Festival Steering Committee are, from left, seated, Gina Major Ackerman, Barbara Roberts, co-chairs Liz Martin and Mike McDavid, Karen Fiorello, Rich Fufaro. Standing, Bill Peiffer, Nancy Silvi, Owen Faut, Carol Wall, Carol Carroll, Bob Opel, Connie Scott and John Cybulski.

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tography at 5 Dug Rd. in Trucksville during regular business hours.

Photos can be no larger than 11 by 17 inches and entries must be matted and framed prior to submission. Entrants must be a current Back Mountain resident and a non-professional photographer and they can submit up to three photos for the contest. Photographers will be asked to sign a release form upon submission. All photos can be picked up the week after the festival.

Dunk tank

The best photos might be snapped at the festival - but bring a waterproof camera. Elizabeth Martin, festival coordinator, has announced that there will be a dunk tank at this year's Main Street celebration to raise first expansion in eight years. money for the festival and Dallas Fire & Ambulance.

the annual dance at the fest.

Dunkees will be "pretty big names" in the Dallas communi- will give patrons extra leg room calling 675-1950.

las School District superintend-

"He's a really good sport," people are being open to suggestion (to be dunked)."

The fire company will use the money raised to restore Old Mac, an old-time fire truck that has been a favorite of children who attend the festival.

chairman for vendors at the festival, is frazzled but excited about the new offerings this

booths as a result of the expansion of the festival. The upper Hardware on Main Street has through Mill Street.

vest Festival are proud of the click on "Sidewalk Sale" on the

figure out how to expand with- day sale. The dunk tank will replace out becoming dangerous," said

ty, including Frank Galicki, Dal- while still maintaining the personality of the event. This is something Fufaro wants to preserve, as other festivals in the ar-Martin said of Galicki. "More ea will occur during the month of September and the Dallas Harvest Festival stands apart from the rest.

A new pub and eatery, Dallas Tap and Grill on Main Street, will provide its newly-paved driveway to the event which will al-More entertainment, vendors so allow for more vendors. The Rich Fufaro, sub-committee tap and grill will be open during the festival.

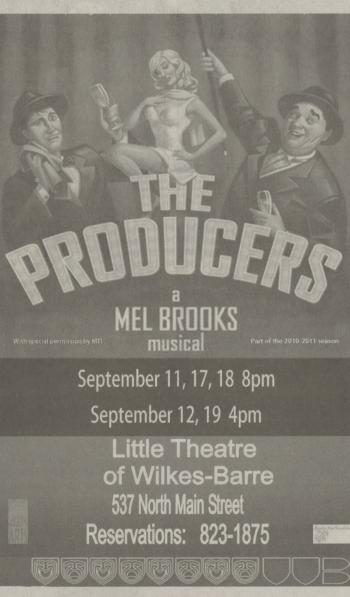
"Previously, we've had to grow from within," said Martin. ear. "We're very happy we're able to move higher on Main Street."

Sale site

Fufaro wants businesses to parking lot of Dallas Center know about a new promotional tool on the Dallas Harvest Fesbeen donated for six vendors tival website (www.dallasharand an entertainment area. Con-vestfestival.com). Businesses stables will direct foot traffic can add information about special offers at the Sidewalk Sale Organizers of the Dallas Har- during Dallas Days. Patrons can site and view what businesses "We've always been trying to are offering during the three-

More information about the Dallas Harvest Festival can be The new spot on Main Street found on the fest's website or by







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