

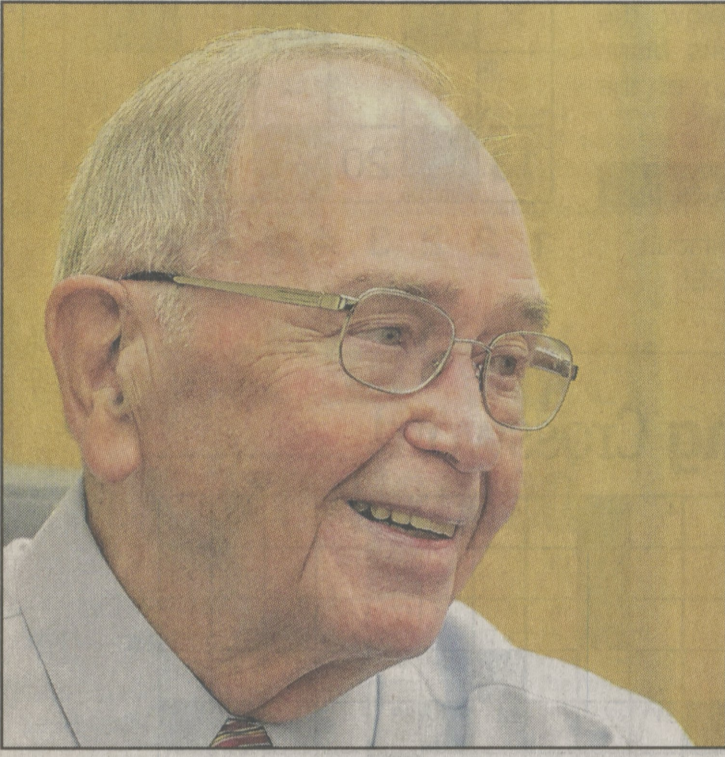
The DALLAS POST

50¢

WILKES-BARRE, PA.

www.mydallaspost.com

AN EDITION OF THE TIMES LEADER



PETE G. WILCOX/TIMES LEADER FILE PHOTO

Former Senator Charles Lemmond passed away on May 30 at the age of 83.

Our area has lost 'a gracious man'

By SARAH HITE
shite@mydallaspost.com

Officials, community leaders, former constituents and friends are mourning the loss of a long-time contributor to the Back Mountain, whether it was through his duties as a state senator, a judge, an attorney or a friend.

Former state Sen. Charles Lemmond died Wednesday, May 30. He was 83 years old. Lemmond is survived by his wife, Barbara; sons, Charles, John and David; daughter, Judith; brother, George; and four grandchildren.

He was a state senator from 1986 until 2006 when his protégé, state Sen. Lisa Baker, took office. Baker was a neighbor of Lemmond's since she was 4

years old, and served as his chief of staff from 1985 to 1995 until leaving the position to serve under Gov. Tom Ridge.

"Charlie Lemmond was a positive force in my life in so many ways - friend, mentor, advisor, role model. As a former judge, prosecutor and legislator, he had incredible respect for the power and purpose of law, properly crafted and wisely applied," Baker wrote in a statement release shortly after Lemmond's death.

"His 21 years as a well-respected state Senator were marked by his standard of integrity, his pursuit of justice, and his desire to do what was right for the people and the communities he serve," Baker continued. "He wanted to never disappoint those who trusted him and had confidence in his ability. He was willing to

"He never appeared or acted as if he was any different than the constituents he served, and that's the sign of a true statesman."

Michael McDowell
Misericordia University president

bridge party lines and political philosophies."

Born in Hazleton on January 17, 1929, Lemmond grew up in Forty Fort and, after graduating from high school, completed a stint in the U.S. Army.

He attended Harvard, majoring in government, and earned his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania's School of Law.

During his early years as a lawyer, he practiced for the Silverblatt and Townend law firm

and served as solicitor for a number of municipal bodies, including the Lake-Lehman School District, Dallas Borough and Exeter Township.

Lemmond served as First District Attorney in Luzerne County, and in 1980, was appointed by Gov. Dick Thornburgh to serve as a judge of the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas where he was the Orphans' Court Judge.

See GRACIOUS, Page 13

Learning about science outside

By SARAH HITE
shite@mydallaspost.com

"I found a dead fish!" the boy yelled out to his friends across the marsh.

Usually such an exclamation would not elicit smiles and glee from those near a decaying animal, but for fifth-graders from Dallas Elementary, it was like finding pure gold.

The group took its science class outdoors on May 31, traveling to Frances Slocum State Park to learn more about wetlands and the kinds of things that live there.

Fifth-grade science teachers Maria Hosey and Brenda Burkhardt led the troops of net-toting mini scientists to the marshy area near the lake across from the park's campground site.

A marsh is an area near bodies of water less than two feet deep and is home to many different organisms. It also helps to prevent flooding of nearby areas by slowly releasing water into waterways during heavy rainfall. Marshes filter sediment and pollutants, improving water quality.

Students clad in rubber boots carefully squished through the muddy marsh, scooping their nets in search of anything that wiggles.

"They go in the marsh to survey the organisms like fish and frogs," said Hosey.

Burkhardt added the annual spring trip helps students connect with what they are learning



BILL TARUTIS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Dallas Elementary School fifth-grader Stephen Postupak searches a marsh for aquatic animal life at Frances Slocum State Park.

in class.

"This unit is about watersheds and how they work," she said. "We relate it to wetlands to show the kids what's in our environment, which is mostly forest wetlands."

Burkhardt said the swampy students get a chance to see "the bigger picture" by going out into the field, collecting specimens and examining them to see how healthy the water is in this area.

"They'll know why they need to pick up litter and trash by seeing these things," she said. "In another project, we make a map of the school property and look at the watershed and the pollution that's there. When it's a rainy day, we can see where the water flows

See SCIENCE, Page 12

Fireworks reminder issued

Dallas Borough residents are reminded of the borough ordinance prohibiting the storage, selling, keeping for sale or discharging of any kind of fireworks, firecrackers, torpedoes, caps, guns, pistols, revolvers, canes, cannons or other substances, things or appliances designed or intended for noisemaking or for pyrotechnic display within the

limits of the Borough of Dallas, except under the issuance of a special permit from Dallas Borough for public exhibitions of fireworks under the direct supervision of experts.

The Dallas Borough Police Department will patrol and strictly enforce this ordinance. Any person, firm or corporation convicted of violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to fines and penalties.

Any questions pertaining to the enforcement of borough regulations should be referred to the Dallas Borough administrative offices at 675-1389 or the borough police department at 675-0161.



Eight-year-old Wycallis Elementary student Madison Carlsson, of Trucksville, reaches for a flip-flop decorated Vienna Finger cookie during a break at field day for visually-impaired children at Dallas Elementary School.

Having fun at their own pace

Dallas School District visually-impaired students enjoy first-ever field day.

By SARAH HITE
shite@mydallaspost.com

Visually-impaired students in the Dallas School District got a chance to mingle with children from Scranton and have fun at their inaugural field day on the Dallas campus on June 1.

Vision teacher Bridget Gavin said the class usually participates in field day at the Luzerne Intermediate Unit No. 18 campus in Kingston, but this year she decided to see if the students could stay on their home turf for the event.

Gavin also coordinated with a friend from the Scranton School District to have visually-impaired students from that district attend the event.

"Students range from mi-

nor visual problems to totally blind," she said. "It's exciting - I learn more from them than they learn from me."

The group of about 15 students completed hands-on projects during the day, including making "sponge balls" to use in a swimming pool, tasting flip-flop decorated cookies, playing games like volleyball and jump rope and having fun with bubbles and sidewalk chalk.

"The kids follow typical safety guidelines," said Gavin. "We move a bit slower than the other kids because some of them also have physical disabilities, but overall it's just like any other field day."

Gavin said the field day was also a celebration of sorts - the students had just finished a fundraiser the day before called "Shades of Fun" in which students and faculty members paid \$1 to wear sunglasses. Money raised was donated to the Pennsylvania Association for the



Eight-year-old Dallas Elementary student Kyle Kintz, of Dallas, puts the finishing touches on his 'Sponge Bob Square Arms' during a field day for visually-impaired children at Dallas Elementary School.

Blind.

"We raised more than \$500," said Gavin.

Liz Sheeder, 9, of Trucksville, hung out with her pal, Christian Martin, 9, of Dallas Township, on the Dallas Elementary jungle gym before taking on more activities.

"I like playing games like volleyball," said Sheeder. "It was boys versus girls. No one won."

Martin likes less structured activities during field day. "I just like running around with my friends," he said.

Gavin said it's important to have days like this when the students can let loose and be themselves.

"They're singled out a lot of the time, and they have to do extra work because everything is harder for them," she said. "They have to use other tools, like large print, Braille, or a magnifier just to keep up. It's nice for them to just have a break once in a while."

Gavin said the event was possible due to the support from the district and aides at Dallas Elementary School.



6 09815 20079 9