

Sports



Berks-Mont Photo by John Bauman

The start of a new season - Boyertown's Midget Football League Blue Team charges onto the field in their season opener at Boyertown High School's Memorial Stadium. The Blue squad lost the game 19-7 to Marsh Creek.

Boyertown Midget football opens season



Photo by John Bauman

Midget League Blue team cheerleaders perform at halftime before a home crowd during last Sunday's game between the Blue Team and Marsh Creek.



Photo by John Bauman

Brett Berghardt takes a handoff from quarterback Steven Santangelo to pick up eight yards.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving seeks okay on plaque

By Diane Van Dyke
Berks-Mont Writer

To lose a child at the hands of a careless drunk driver is heart-breaking - the child may be gone but never forgotten by loved ones.

The Berks County chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) wants to create a memorial for victims and their families.

Local residents Gloria and William Blatt, who lost their 12-year old daughter Nadine to a drunk driver, think there is no better place for a memorial than in front of the Colebrookdale Township building.

"We need something at this end of the county," said William Blatt to the Colebrookdale Township Board of Commissioners recently.

The municipal property is located along busy Route 73 and is a visible site.

Blatt proposed mounting a 12 by 18-inch bronze plaque on an existing large rock in front of the building.

"In the event that bronze would not last well, I would also propose a memorial stone to replace the rock," he said.

Decorative stones would be placed around the base of the memorial for low maintenance of the site and a small tree would also be dedicated, said Blatt.

The plaque or stone would include the inscription: "If tears could build a stairway and memories a lane, I'd walk right up to heaven and bring you home again."

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The Colebrookdale commissioners unanimously consented to the proposal.

"I think it sounds great," said President Robert Bechtel.

The Blatts' daughter was also the niece of Shirley E. Neubauer, who is employed as the secretary for the Colebrookdale District Police Department and works at the township building.

The type of memorial and site needs final approval by the Berks County MADD chapter. All costs, including any maintenance, will be borne by MADD, said Blatt, who serves as the vice president of the Berks chapter.

The Blatts lost their daughter

four and a half years ago in an automobile accident on Route 10 in Chester County.

At the time of her death, they requested donations in lieu of flowers be sent to the band department of Brandywine Middle School. Nadine played the trumpet in the school band.

"She was in the band and we thought they could use the money to purchase an instrument," said William Blatt.

When donations continued to be received, the Brandywine School District suggested establishing a scholarship fund. The Blatts agreed so long as the first recipient would be from Nadine's graduating class in 2002.

"We hope to give a \$1,000 scholarship the first year and then continue the scholarship fund so that the money can be awarded every other year," said William Blatt.

Recently a hair Cut-a-Thon was held at Joseph's Styling Salon, Gilbertsville, to raise money for the scholarship fund. "Over \$400 was raised," said Gloria Blatt.

The Blatts hope to have the memorial erected at the township building in October.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK
By: Mark A. Fluharty, CIC



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William Congreve

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