

Congratulations to Abington Senior High School and Principal Dr.

Robert M. Burt for receiving the 1998-99 Safe and Drug-Free School Award conferred by the United States Department of Education. Abington was one of only four high schools in the country to receive this prestigious award which recognizes the combination of its curriculum, programs, and resources to intervene in and prevent violence and drug abuse. Traveling to Salt Lake City, Utah, to receive this recognition for the high school, Dr. Burt noted, "As I accepted this award, I was thinking of the many members of Abington's community who share in our school's pride and made contributions to help make this recognition possible." Earning this award makes Abington Senior High School unique in the nation as a triple winner, having earned national Blue Ribbon status and Service Learning Model School recognition as well.

Mark Your Calendar for the annual 24-Hour Relay Challenge from Saturday, May 20, 10:00 a.m. to Sunday, May 21, 10:00 a.m. at Memorial Field. For information about team sign-ups, contact Jack Murphy, Community Policing Division, 215-885-4450 ext. 621.

Who is B.I.L.Y.?

B.I.L.Y. is an acronym for Because I Love You, a support group for parents in crisis or in conflict with their child's behavior. Sponsored by Abington Memorial Hospital and run by parents who have experienced or are currently going through difficult times with their young children or teens, this group meets every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Abington Memorial Health Center, 2500 Maryland Ave., Willow Grove.

Held in classroom 1 of the Pennwood Building, B.I.L.Y. first meets as a large group, then breaks into small groups so that parents with children of similar ages and challenges come together. Problems discussed include issues of homework and cutting school, verbal and physical abuse, drug addiction, and run-away situations. The group's goal is to give parents hope and encourage them to react in new ways in order to affect change in their child's behavior.

B.I.L.Y. is an international, non-profit organization begun in 1982 by a California father to help parents who are raising challenging children. There are no fees, but donations help fund honorariums for monthly speakers. For more information, contact either Elaine at 215-576-5216 or Cindy at 215-675-1593.

The Abington Community Taskforce (ACT) is a coalition of parents and Abington-based educational, religious, social service, recreational, civic, and law enforcement agencies. Its mission is to create a responsible, caring, and safe community. ACT welcomes comments, suggestions, and ideas for future events. For more information, contact Sergeant Michael Webb, Community Policing, Abington Police Department: 215-885-4450 extension 620 or Shelly Erwine, Abington School District: 215-881-2570. ACT would like to express appreciation to Abington Memorial Hospital for its assistance in printing this publication.

Editor: Rosemary Peters Hinkle