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'Scheduling is the problem'

Dallas Junior High Christmas concert cancelled

By JOHN HOINSKI
Staff Writer

Due to a lack of practice time, the Dallas Junior High School will not present its annual formal Christmas Program this year.

The announcement of the cancellation was made by Florence Sherwood, junior and senior high music teacher, at Parents Night held a few weeks ago.

Sherwood, along with the school's other music teachers Steve Saive and Reese Pelton, agreed there was not enough time to stage a concert and that an informal program will be held instead. That program will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 17, at a time yet to be determined, and will only be open to the families, relatives and friends of the students.

"We want to at least have something for the kids and parents," Sherwood said. "But there is a big difference between putting on a concert and an informal program."

It is the first time the concert has been canceled for such reasons and the three music teach-

ers say it's because of cramped conditions at the school and flawed scheduling.

"It doesn't sound as bad as it is until you come up here and see for yourself," Pelton said. "We have taught in hallways and some other places. But I would say scheduling is the main problem."

Says Saive, "Sometimes they scheduled the three of us for the same rooms at the same time."

He also says he has had to cancel his class about four times while Sherwood says some of her classes had to be dismissed early so students could put chairs away they had been using or because of poor teaching conditions.

Sherwood had been conducting classes in a dimly lit cold area behind the stage, but says conditions have improved somewhat when she informed school superintendent Gerald Wycallis about the problem. Two radiators have since been turned on, but poor lighting still exists.

"Everybody is trying to work together to straighten things out and they are working on correcting the problems," Sherwood added.

"There are a lot of problems that should have been addressed ahead of time before the sixth grade was brought up here," Saive noted. "They did open up a room for us to use now. But, hopefully, by next year things

will be better. At least if they gave us another room."

Ever since the closing of the Dallas Township Elementary school last year, parents and teachers have voiced their concern over what they say is an

overcrowding problem in the Dallas school district.

In 1983, both the Trucksville and the Dallas Elementary schools were closed because of declining enrollments and better utilization of space with the

districts other schools. Last Year the Dallas School Board also voted to close the Dallas Township elementary school because of poor and unsafe conditions that existed at that facility.

Potzer pushes for COG

Seen as a way of bringing communities closer together and as an economical move, Kingston Township manager Fred Potzer says he would eventually like to see a Council of Governments formed in the Back Mountain.

The concept would be to form one separate governing body, consisting of one member from each of the Back Mountain governments, for the purpose of providing services and purchasing materials and other goods in volume. This would, in essence, help reduce costs of materials for which individual communities would normally have to pay more. Those communities would also retain their respective governing bodies under the Council of Governments idea.

"I haven't been approached by anybody yet on it, but I think it would be a good idea," Potzer said. "Especially now with federal revenue sharing funds being cut. It would be a good way to cut down on expenses. And, if nothing else, it would be a way of getting leaders from the Back Mountain together to discuss our problems."

"But the first step would be to expand Joint-Purchasing (road materials and other items)," Potzer explained. "Then, if they wanted to expand it to code enforcement services (zoning, planning, etc.) that could also be done."

Potzer said Dallas Borough, Dallas Township and Kingston Township have already jointly purchased road materials over the past few years with Franklin Township participating last year. Lake Township has already expressed interest in joining the group next year. But Potzer would like to see the idea of joint purchasing expand even further.

"It could be like a forum for our leaders back here, and it could be as simple as a Joint Purchasing group or as something more elaborate."

Greg Williams, Municipal Consultant for the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs, says that organization has guided such groups in the

(See COG, page 10)



Dallas Post/Jane Renn

Madrigal dancer

Mary C. Rovinski of Mountaintop, a student at College Misericordia, performs a dance during the college's Madrigal Dinner. The annual event, which attracted over 600 people this year, was performed in Merrick Hall on the Back Mountain campus. Sister Mary Carmel McCarigle is the coordinator of the Madrigal Dinner. Ms. Rovinski, a dorm student at College Misericordia, is employed as a waitress at Yester-Days Restaurant in Trucksville.

Teleteaching links local teacher, Utah students

By JOHN HOINSKI
Staff Writer

Kathy Gregory, a Junior High teacher in the Lake-Lehman School District, received national recognition in 1984 when her Earth and Space Science course was ranked as one of the top eight programs in the nation.

Now, through a unique nationwide teleteaching project in which classes are taught by telephone, students from Utah and Loyalsock will have a chance to benefit from her course.

"It's going to be a real challenge," Gregory said. "You won't be able to see those students so it's going to seem kind of awkward. But, I have

attended classes that help teachers prepare for this type of teaching. In fact, I just attended a meeting in Danville where we hooked up with Utah and spoke to the people who started the program."

The project, entitled the Pennsylvania Teleteaching Project (formerly the Utah-Mansfield Project), basically allows a teacher to present learning material to other students in other schools anywhere in the nation by using a direct telephone line linked from the location being taught to those classrooms.

Using a computer as a chalkboard, Gregory will be able to send her material to children in Heber City, Utah and to students in Loyalsock, who will also have one 25-inch computer

in the front of the classroom, where Gregory's material will reappear. Another device will also allow the Lake-Lehman teacher to send black and white pictures to those classrooms.

"It's not teaching by television," Gregory explained. "The students will hear my voice. It is actually team-teaching. There will be an instructor in those classes who will act as my eyes and ears. They will be observing the students to see if they are getting the material. This way they can stop me and ask me to go back over something."

"The objective of the program is to fulfill a need," she continued. "(It is designed) to provide students with a course that their particular school doesn't have and for schools that do not have the facilities or teachers to pro-

vide." Gregory, who will be teaching astrology and geology when the project begins in January, will be simultaneously teaching six students in her own class along with three in Utah and one or two in Loyalsock.

In the spring, Gregory will then fly to Heber City for probably two school days where she will meet those students she had been teaching and present a teleteaching course from Utah to Lehman.

The project has been successful in Utah where it started a few years ago and expanded to Pennsylvania last year when Dr. Dennis Wydra from Mansfield became interested in it. Wydra then examined the cur-

(See LINKS, page 10)

News you need

Legislative office remains open

Representative elect Scott Dieterick announced the legislative district office in Forty Fort that serves residents of the 120th Legislative District will continue to operate at its current location, 1265 Wyoming Ave., Forty Fort, telephone 717-288-3990.

Dieterick said office hours will remain 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and also Saturday by appointment.

The 120th Legislative District includes Kingston Twp., Dallas Borough, Dallas Twp., Exeter Borough, West Pittston, Lehman Twp., Exeter Twp., Kingston Borough, Forty Fort Borough, Wyoming Borough and Franklin Twp.

Lehman school directors set meeting date

At its annual reorganization meeting, the Board of School Directors of the Lake-Lehman School District set the date, time and place of regular monthly meetings of the Board of purpose of taking official action (voting) at 8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at a location to be announced at the conclusion of the preceding month's meeting.

A committee-of-the-whole meeting of the Board shall precede the regular monthly meeting on this same evening at 7 p.m. and in the same building in which the regular monthly meeting is to be held.

They also set the date, time and place for regular monthly committee-of-the-whole meetings of the Board for purpose of issuing and receiving reports and deliberations in preparation for the taking of official action (voting), at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the Board Room of the Lehman-Jackson Elementary School.

Lake Township tax deadline announced

Ruth Orloski, Lake Township, Tax Collector advises taxpayers that the last day to pay all 1986 C-I-M, School and Per Capita Taxes is December 13, 1986.

After that date all unpaid Property taxes will be sent to Luzerne County Court House for collection, where additional penalties will be added.

Unpaid Per Capita Taxes will be sent to Delinquent Tax Collectors where additional penalties will also be added.

Chamber of Commerce gets new offices

Louis F. Goeringer, Chairman of the Board of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce, announced that the new location of the Chamber of Commerce offices will be on the sixth floor of the Northeastern Bank Building, on Public Square.

Located at 92 South Franklin Street since 1961, the Chamber will be combining offices and staff support with the Committee for Economic Growth (CEG) and the Greater Wilkes-Barre Industrial Fund, Inc. The new address will be Suite 600 - 69 Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-2505 and the telephone number remains the same 823-2101.

Inside The Post

Births	10
Calendar	20
Classified	18,19
Editorial	8
Features	11
Obituaries	14
Sports	17