

'Give love for Christmas'

Musicians donate album to charity

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Jerry Hludzik had a dream he wanted to fulfill for years - a dream of being able to feed and shelter the hungry and homeless of Northeastern Pennsylvania and, at the same time, bringing together the area as one.

That dream is on its way to becoming reality as Hludzik and his partner, Bill Kelly of Dallas, watch a newly-recorded album make money for soup kitchens in both the Wilkes-Barre and Scranton areas as well as for the Woman's Resource Center.

Kelly, who has lived in Dallas for three years, has been a musician for 22 years and, for the past four or five years, has been a record producer for Holland Sound Studio, Scranton.

When many of the top bands of the Wilkes-Barre Scranton area did recordings from the Holland Studio, the talent of these bands initiated an idea in the minds of Kelly and Hludzik. They thought they would do an album for Christmas, an album with each of the bands contributing one of their songs and which would be on the market in time for the Christmas season.

With Kelly's support and the cooperation of the Holland Sound Studio, Hludzik went ahead with his idea of helping the hungry and the homeless. He wrote the words and music for the album's title song called "Give Love for Christmas."

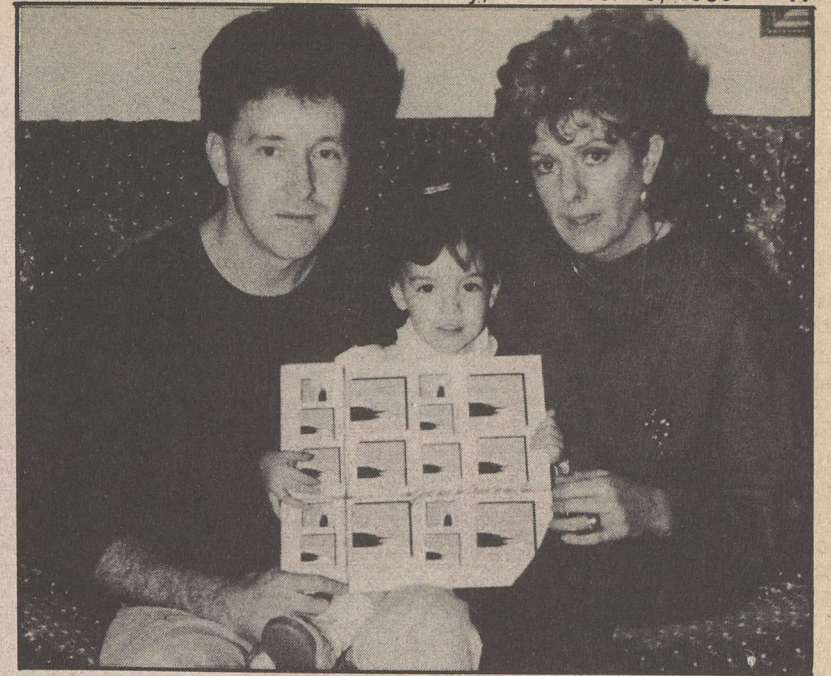
The partners, members of the group 'Dakota,' convinced nine other top bands in the area to contribute their time and talent, with the casting of each group costing approximately \$2,000.

Rick Manwiller became the technical wizard behind the sound and the bands who contributed to "Give Love for Christmas" include Dakota, Synch, TNT, The Remain, Quest, John Nasser & Don't Walk, Asylum Blue, Mark Wanko, Rudy & Living Dolls and Bobby Ross.

A modest individual, Kelly takes little credit for the project, emphasizing the fact that Hludzik refused to give up on his dream and kept at it until he got everyone's cooperation. Dakota may have been the guiding force behind getting the project together, but Hludzik, according to Kelly, was the force pushing the force.

The first band Kelly was involved in was known as "The Buoys" whose song "Timothy" was a national hit with a platinum record.

(See ALBUM, page 18)



Giving love

Two-year-old Amber Kelly shows her mother, Susan, the cover of the new Christmas album, "Give Love for Christmas" while her dad, Bill Kelly, is full of pride.

Dallas Post/Charlot M. Denmon

THE DALLAS POST FEATURES

After 37 years, music has gotten in his blood

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

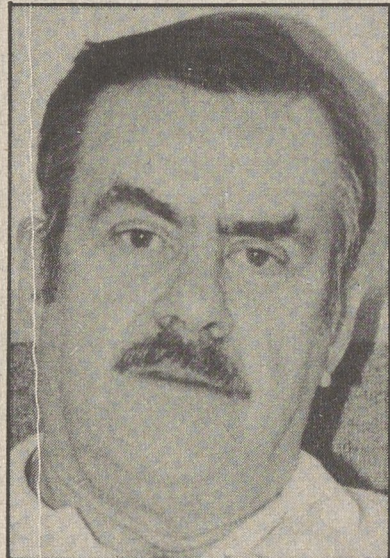
As Reese Pelton concludes his 37th year in music education, you can certainly say music is in his bones. Spending 18 of those years as a member of the Dallas School District faculty, Pelton is now director of the sixth grade music program and is a general music instructor.

Until two years ago when there was a change in the school, Pelton was also junior high school band director and, until last year, had charge of the entire junior high school music program.

Not only does Pelton make a living in the music business, most of his extracurricular activities are in music, also. He was president of the former Luzerne County Instrument Teachers Organization and directed the Wyoming Valley Brass Choir which was comprised of students from various schools. He organized and is currently directing the Wyoming Valley Band, a union band of professionals. The band, which takes the place of the former Stegmaier Band, features several of Pelton's former music students.

Pelton has published numerous musical arrangements with Shawnee Publications and has played in dance bands and the

cocktail piano. He presently plays piano at the Hilton at Lackawanna Station in Scranton.



REESE PELTON

His public playing dates back to Fogarty's, which later became known as the Continental Inn on the Dallas Highway, and in several places in the Poconos. He made his final appearance at the Mill Race Country Club in Benton last Saturday.

The former owner of the Back Mountain Music Store, Pelton has also been active in Kiwanis since 1968 and is currently serving as secretary of the Dallas

(See MUSIC, page 12)



Dallas Post/Jane Renn

Sprucing up

Martin Barnoski, a junior at Dallas High School, paints a window at the Northeastern Bank Building in Dallas Township for the Christmas season. The Dallas art students worked an entire day last week, painting windows also at the First Eastern Bank Building at the Meadows Nursing Center.

Requests bring couple out of short retirement

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Barbara and Rick Kowalski were enjoying their homes, their two sons and their jobs, but thousands of requests from friends have helped them decide to come out of retirement and emerge as the "Golden Sound."

Formerly known as "The Country Sweethearts," the Kowalskis, of East Dallas, play music for all ages, including country, country rock, music of the 50s, polkas, standards and the favorite "oldies."

Since December 5 when they came out of retirement - a retirement that lasted all of two years - Barb and Rick play as a duo, Barb on keyboard and Rick

on guitar. With a synthesizer on her keyboard, Barb can play the sounds of drums, organ, bass, piano, guitar as well as others which allows the pair to give the effect of having an entire band behind them.

Prior to their retirement, before Barb went to work as a beautician and Rick was employed at Tobyhanna Army Depot, the Kowalskis were part of a four-piece group that played throughout the Wyoming Valley area for 14 years. For seven of those years, they performed at Emma's on the Trail in Harding and at the Farmer's Inn in Chase.

Successing to them many requests they received, the Kowalskis now play at Lippi's

(See REQUESTS, page 12)

She's not too busy to make luscious meals

Liz Sichler is the mother of three children but she is never too busy to take an active interest in her children's school, church or other community affairs.

She has been a Sunday School teacher for 12 years and is a lector of her church. Liz is also an active member of the Lake-Noxen PTA and has chaired many committees during the past six years. She was a vice president of PTA from 1984 to 1986 and has been president of Lake-Noxen PTA from May, 1986 to the present. She is also a member of the Lake-Lehman Field Hockey Parents Club and is a Republican committeeman for Harveys Lake Borough.

Her husband, Edmund, is very supportive of Liz's activities which makes it possible to become so involved. Liz is also employed by Uniforce Temporary Services, Wilkes-Barre, as an account executive.

In the past, Liz has been active in Harveys Lake Women's Service Club, Penn's Wood Girl Scout Council and the United Way Volunteers for Back Mountain Outreach Program.

Despite her work and her volunteer activities, Liz enjoys preparing meals for her family and likes to experiment with various ethnic recipes, including Oriental, Mexican and Italian.

The recipes Liz shares with Post readers this week are favorites of hers and her family. They are economical but easy to prepare and delicious. Whether it be the Stuffed Shells, Chuck Roast (with a unique and tangy flavor), Pecan Balls or Gumdrops Cookies, homemakers will find it difficult to select a favorite, just as the Sichler children, Karen, Judy and Edmund, Jr., do.

PECAN BALLS

2 c. flour
1 c. margarine
2 c. pecans
4 T. granulated sugar
¼ t. salt
2 t. vanilla

Confectioner's sugar
Pre-heat oven to 375 degrees. Combine all ingredients, mix by hand. Refrigerate for 30 minutes, then roll into 1½ inch balls and place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 15 to 20 minutes, until set but not brown. Let stand one minute, roll while warm in confectioner's sugar.

GUMDROP COOKIES

1 c. shortening
1 c. brown sugar
1 c. white sugar
2 eggs
2 c. flour
1 t. baking soda
1 t. baking powder
½ t. salt

(See MEALS, page 12)

Drama Troupe plans first full-length play

The New Life Drama Troupe, although six years old, will be presenting a full-length Christmas pageant for the first time this year.

Consisting of approximately 30 members of the New Life Community Church congregation, the New Life Drama Troupe members range in age from three to 72.

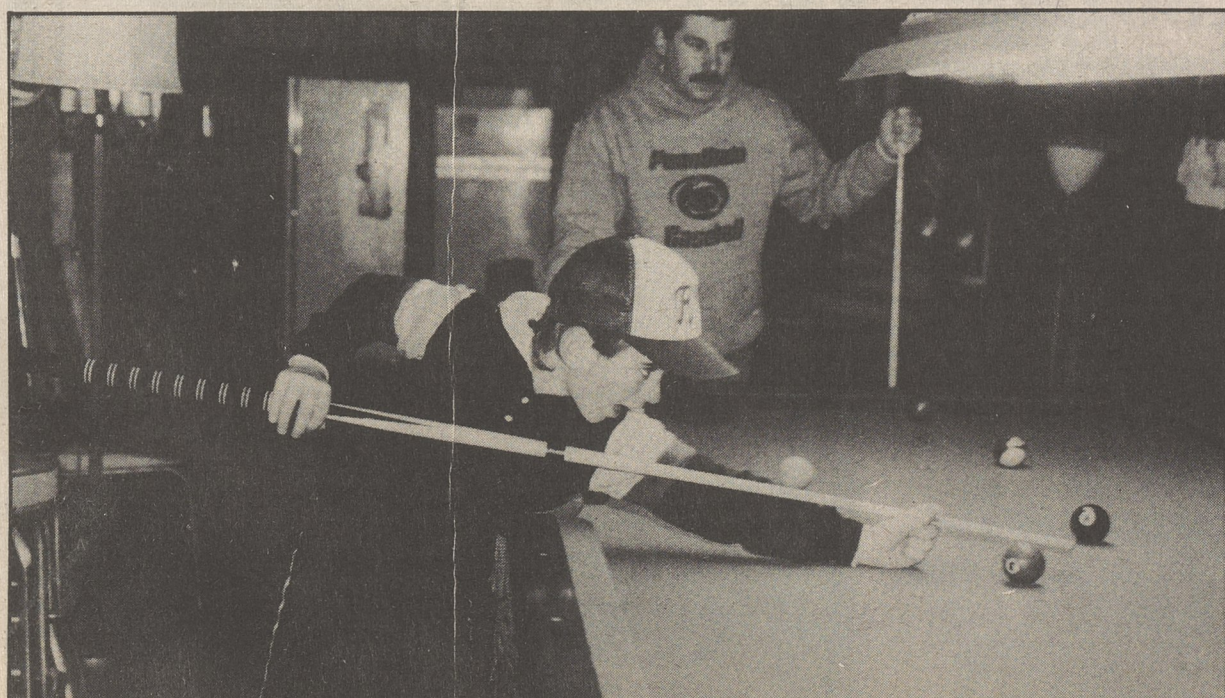
This year, the members will present "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" on Sunday, December 21, at 8 p.m. at the Dallas Junior High School. This hilarious story concerns the efforts of a woman and her husband who attempt to present the annual church Christmas Pageant, despite having to cast

the Herdman kids, who are probably the meanest, nastiest, most inventively awful children in the history of the world.

Under the direction of Lucille Madeira, the group is working diligently to perfect the program which will be presented in this area only once this year. Mrs. Madeira is the wife of Rev. Dennis Madeira of the New Life Community Church "Glory Barn" of Orange.

The drama troupe came into existence six years ago when a much smaller group was formed under the direction of Mrs. Madeira. During the first years, the troupe presented

(See DRAMA, page 12)



Dallas Post/Charlot M. Denmon

Pool-playing 'brothers'

Earl Monk plays pool with his Little Brother Jared Cooney last weekend when the temperatures outside began to drop.

Satisfaction from Big Brother program is 'indescribable'

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Sixty-five junior and senior students at Dallas High School signed up for the Big Brother/Big Sister program after WNEP-TV's Nolan Johannes encouraged them to do so at a recent high school assembly.

Johannes, with Tanya Olaviany of the Big Brother Organization, visited the school to ask the older students for a commitment of responsibility. They were asked to give just three of four hours a week to a young boy or girl in need of companionship - in need of an older brother or sister.

What these 65 Dallas High

School students will learn is something Earl Monk of the Back Mountain has been experiencing for some time.

Monk learned about the Big Brother program in 1978 when he was "loaned" to the United Way as an executive with the Commonwealth Telephone Co.

After completing applications and going through countless interviews and meetings with members of the Wyoming Valley Organization, Monk was matched with Jared Cooney, a fifth grade student in the Dallas School District who had been on the waiting list for a Big Brother for six months before meeting Monk.

Jared and Earl have a lot in

common since they are both Penn State football fans and, this fall, they attended a Penn State game. Jared likes to play football, soccer and baseball and his favorite professional football team is the Washington Redskins.

Since Earl is a Dallas graduate and Jared is a Dallas student, the two went to two Dallas football games this year and, at one of the games, Jared had the opportunity of working in the press box.

According to Johannes, himself a Big Brother, "There are many separated or divorced parents in the area with young