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Students decorate area windows 20

SERVING THE BACK MOUNTAIN



FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY

# THE DALLAS POST

Vol. 101 No. 50

Dallas, PA Wednesday, December 19, 1990

35 Cents



## Eternity in glass

The Christmas story is pictured in windows at Prince of Peace Episcopal Church in Dallas

(Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

## Kingston Township rezoning tabled

By RICH JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

The Kingston Township Supervisors will take another month to review the facts and testimony for a request to rezone approximately 35 acres of land along Harris Hill Road.

The board heard testimony last week during a public hearing on a proposal, submitted by John Moreck, to have a parcel of land

rezoned from A-1 (agricultural) to B-1 (commercial). Moreck, who owns the J.A. Moreck Construction Company, wants to use a barn located on the property as an office, shop and as a place to store equipment from his business. The barn is located near the Echo Valley Trailer Court and the Valley Tennis and Swim Club.

During the hearing, Moreck's attorney, Chris Decker, told the supervisors that the rezoning of

the land would benefit the community. "You must ask yourselves if the barn is helping the community right now," said Decker. "The answer is 'no.' If you rezone the land, then the barn will be fixed up and will be a benefit."

The barn, which is dilapidated, is not currently being used. Decker said that the current condition of the barn is a hazard to the area

See REZONING, pg 14

## Back Mountain families keep old world Christmas traditions

By CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Writer

For many Back Mountain families, the traditions of Christmas are many and varied depending on the ethnic background of family members. Over the years some families have added new ideas and activities they have shared at some time with others. For others, the holiday ritual will follow much the same pattern as it has for centuries.

One of these individuals is Mrs. Norman (Mary) Darling of Dallas, who with her husband and sons and their families celebrate Christmas in the Polish tradition.

On Christmas Eve, straw is placed on the table under each plate and money is also placed under the plate from Baby Jesus. The diners can't look for the money until their plate is clean. Dinner is not eaten until after the first star appears in the sky.

The Darlings first break the Oplatki (Blessed Christmas wafer), then begin their Christmas Eve dinner with pierogi; fish, usually herring and whiting; wild mushrooms with potatoes; sauerkraut and cabbage; barley; prunes; honey, babalki (bread) mixed with honey and milk; soup; homemade bread and nutroll. There is always an odd number of dishes as representatives of the disciples and Christ, and an extra place setting and empty chair for the unexpected visitor.

After they have finished eating, the children look for the money under their plates. The children and other members of the family open their gifts Christmas day.

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Bove and their family, who came to the United States from Italy and now reside in Dallas, will follow their usual customs and will join their relatives in Ohio for Christmas Eve. They will all be together and have dinner of

fish with white sauce, eel, pastry with salted fish, Bakala, Panetone, pasta with clam sauce, broccoli, chi-chi beans, mushrooms and fruit.

Following dinner, each child may open one gift, the others wait to be opened Christmas Day.

With both of these families, Midnight Mass on Christmas Day is an important church service.

Mrs. Robert Scruitsky (Midge) of Chase also celebrates an ethnic Christmas for her husband and family although now some of her family live too far away to get home. Her one son is in North Dakota and he and his wife will be unable to join them this year.

Because she observes a combined Russian-Slovak Christmas, they have a midnight dinner of Babalki (tiny breads), cabbage, at least two kinds of fish or seafood with tomato sauce, nut and pop-

See CHRISTMAS, pg 5

## 'American Dream' turns sour for young family in Lehman

By RICH JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

A young couple gets married, buys a home, starts a family and lives happily ever after...it's the American dream. But for a young Lehman Township couple the dream is quickly turning into a nightmare as a water runoff problem has them upset and looking for help.

Dwayne and Ann Poepperling bought their first home at Town and Country Manor in August. Since that time the couple has been literally swamped with problems. Ever since the house was built a water runoff problem has occurred on their property and neighboring lots.

In an effort to stop the drainage problem the Poepperlings and others have gone to the township and the builder for help. So far, no one has responded.

The drainage problem occurs when water is stopped at a catch basin across the road from the Poepperling's home. Before the house was built, the water would flow from the catch basin and disperse on the lot. However, when the house was built the water had to be redirected. Now it runs around the house and settles on the Poepperling's property and also on the property of their next door neighbors, Phil and Nancy Stark.

Both couples have approached Lehman Township seeking a solution to this problem, but township officials say it is up to the builder to fix it. The builder has said that he did what the township told him



POOR DRAINAGE - This drainage ditch cuts through a driveway in Town & Country Manor in Lehman. Property owners are asking the township to correct runoff problems. (Photo contributed)

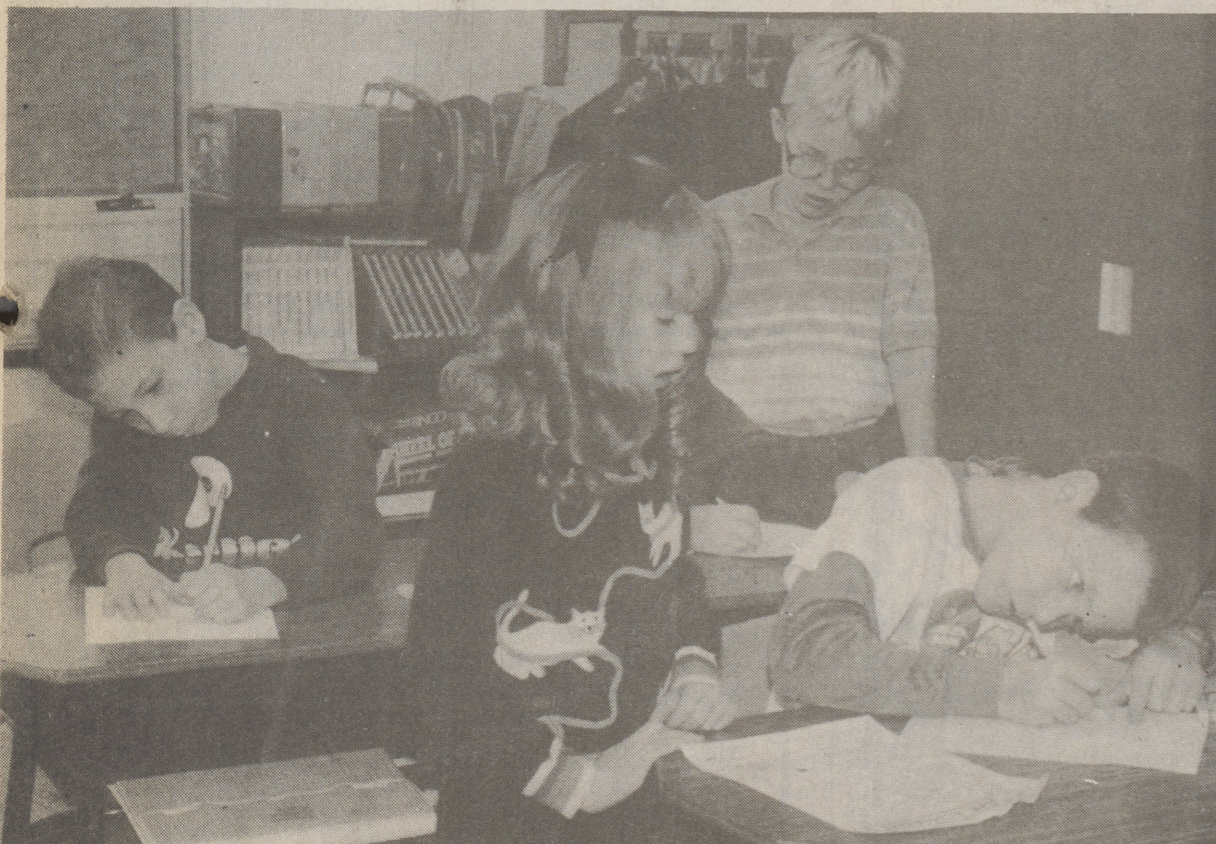
to do.

All of this has the Poepperlings frustrated. "We've gone through all the right channels and it has gotten us nowhere," said Dwayne Poepperling. "When we moved here we were all excited about a new home. We didn't know anything about these problems and now I have lost all faith in buying any more homes."

The couple said that they purchased the house through a Realtor and were not aware of the controversy surrounding the re-routing of water, which had been going on for nearly a year.

According to township records, in July of 1989, the builder of the property, Thomas Zimmerman,

See FAMILY, pg 5



## Making a list

First graders in Mrs. Roeder's class at Dallas Elementary School recently wrote letters to Santa with a little help from their third grade friends. The letters appear on pages 10 and 11. (Post Photo/Charlot M. Denmon)

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**RED CROSS BLOOD**  
Mon., Dec. 24, 10 a.m.-  
3 p.m., Trinity  
Presbyterian Church,  
Dallas. See page 13 for  
directions.

## Community Events

**Annual Christmas Party** - for the children of Trucksville. Sat., Dec. 22, Noon-2 p.m., Trucksville Fire Hall.

**'A Christmas Carol'** - Play by the New Life Drama Troupe, Thurs., Fri., Dec. 20-21, 8 p.m., Dallas Junior High School auditorium. Tickets, \$2.00.

## Harveys Lake receives \$54,000 recycling grant

Harveys Lake has received a \$54,000 grant from the state Department of Environmental Resources (DER) to be used for the borough's recycling project.

The check was presented to borough officials last week by State Representative George Hasay. The money from the grant will go towards setting up a curbside recycling project in the borough.

Currently, Harveys Lake residents enjoy a weekly recycling program. David Abod, the borough's recycling chairman, said that the program is increasing in volume every week and thinks that area residents are pleased with the opportunity to recycle.

"We have started accepting materials that are co-mingled," said Abod. "This means that people no longer have to separate all their recyclables so it is a lot easier for them to take part."

Abod said that there are only three items that must be separated in the current recycling program. "Newspapers, magazines and cardboard all have to be separated

and dry for us to accept them," said Abod. "Everything else we can accept mixed together."

The other materials being accepted by the borough include: glass bottles, bimetal cans, plastic jugs and aluminum containers.

Now that the borough has received the recycling grant, Abod expects the new curbside recycling program to be in effect by spring. He said the money will be used for a recycling vehicle and trailer, and also the purchase of containers and for education of the project.

"We want to thank everyone who has helped us get this grant," said Abod. "Representative Hasay has supported us all along and was a big help for us."

Hasay said that the borough should be proud of what it has accomplished so far with recycling. "The council has shown sincere interest in recycling and I am very happy to see that DER felt that the borough deserved to have the grant."