

New, expanded stores in shopping center

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

The changes to the Dallas Shopping Center are more than skin deep, as Back Mountain shoppers soon will have some new stores to stop in.

Mrs. G's Cookies opened in the new part of the center on November 22, while Heavenly Bodies, a tanning salon, and the Worthington Chocolate Shoppe will both be moving to the new center.

Other stores, Joe Nardone's Gallery of Sound, EM Video, and Peking Chef restaurant are moving to new stores in the center with more than twice the space.

"This will be cookie central," says Robin Granahan, a.k.a. Mrs. G. "We bake at each store, but we mix the dough here."

"We've been at this eight years. There are only three Mrs. G's cookies in the world," said Bill Granahan.

Robin Granahan jokes about how many people think that Mrs. G's is a chain, and don't believe that she is really Mrs. G. "It's definitely a hands-on business as you can see. I may be Mrs. G, but I sweep the floors."

Besides providing dough for the Wyoming Valley and West Side Mall stores, the Dallas Mrs. G's will be where the cookies are baked for mail order customers from around the country.

"This is great because it's only five minutes from home," says Robin Granahan. "We can go home and let the dog out."

The dog, a golden retriever, is named Chip.

"It seems like the Back Mountain is the growing place," says Miki Shergalis, co-owner of the Worthington Chocolate Shoppe with her father Joe Senstemacher. "The store owners that we talked to, they were there for a while and it seems like a good mix of stores."

Because her husband had to

move for his job, Shergalis is moving her chocolate shoppe in Worthington, Ohio, to Dallas.

While Worthington is the name of the town where the old shop is located, Shergalis said they're planning on keeping the name because it sounds good.

"We specialize in gourmet candy and homemade fudge," says Shergalis. "We hope to open no later than February 1, but we would like to be open by mid-January."

The Worthington Chocolate Shoppe will also feature 150 types of hard candy, 100 kinds of old fashioned candy, 50 different kinds of gourmet jelly beans, and lots of nuts, both chocolate covered and plain.

For GeorgeAnne Calabrese, Dallas was the natural choice for a second Heavenly Bodies, the first of which is located in Pittston.

"I think the Dallas area is up and coming and the traffic flow is fantastic," said Calabrese. "We hope to be open before Christmas. If not it will be by January 1."

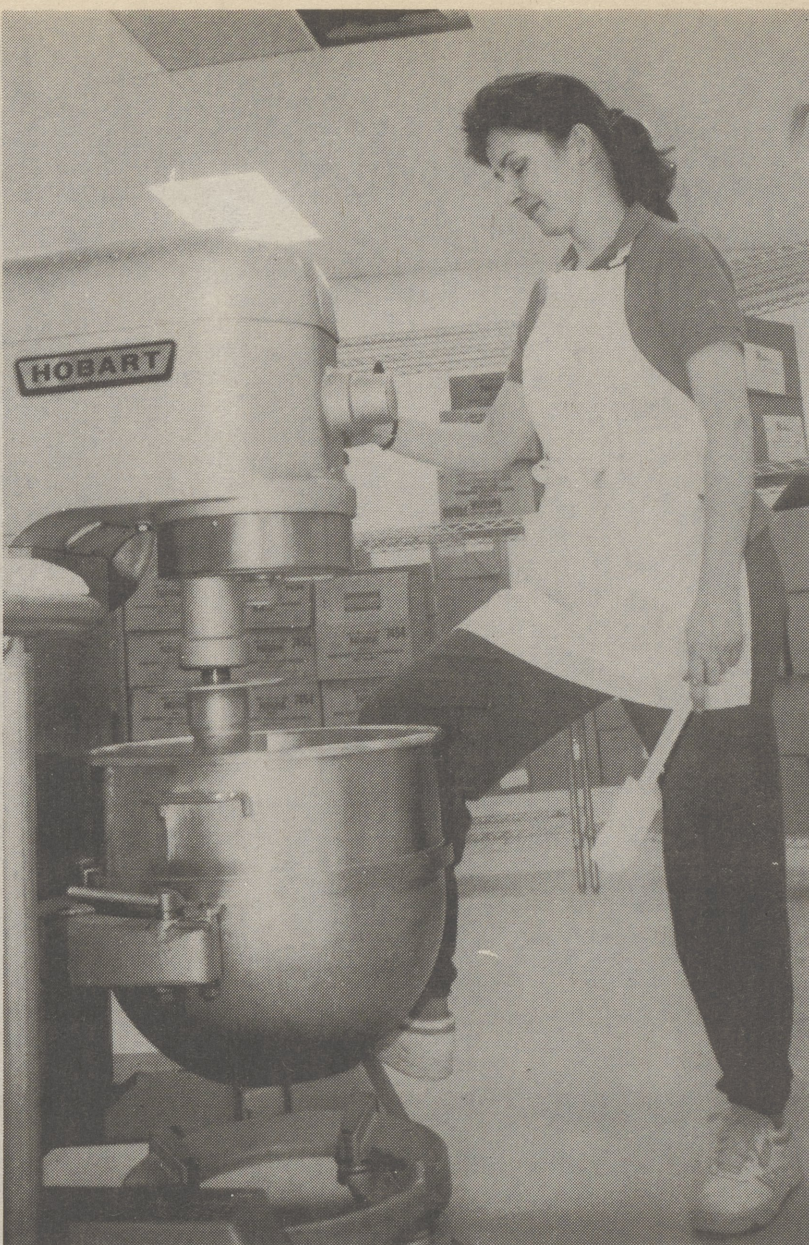
Besides tanning booths, Heavenly Bodies will feature European body wraps, which Calabrese describes as a "facial for your body. You soften it up, tighten it up and you lose a couple of inches."

Jewelry and accessories will be also be sold at the store.

Calabrese stresses the advantages of tanning booths over beds because they give a more even tan in less time, and because only the customers feet touch a common surface.

"We did it for our customers because there was no room to shop at all," says Tom Free, store manager of the Dallas Gallery of Sound of their move.

The new store, more than twice as big, will allow the Gallery of Sound to carry classical music, which it couldn't before because there wasn't enough room. The store will also have accessories



THE REAL MRS. G. - Robin Granahan, the real Mrs. G. whose recipes are used to make Mrs. G's Cookies, mixes some dough at the new Mrs. G's Cookies in the Dallas Shopping Center. Mrs. G's is one of several shops which are moving into the Dallas Shopping Center, or expanding their size. (Post Photo/Eric Foster)

such as headphones.

"We'll be able to stock more tapes, different tapes," says Diane Sharkness, manager of EM Video,

which is moving to a store two to three times bigger than the old

one.

Peking Chef's new restaurant, set to open in early December, will feature a private party dining room, and a unique open wok where customers can watch as their food is prepared.

Giving thanks

Native American harvest festival predated Pilgrims

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Thanksgiving usually makes us think of turkey, chestnut stuffing, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes with maple syrup, corn bread and pumpkin pie, followed by an afternoon of football games on TV. Occasionally the kids might mention the story that they learned in school of the Pilgrim Fathers and Squanto, the friendly Indian whose people taught the first colonists how to grow corn, peas, beans and squash and to harvest the bounty of the forest.

But very few people understand the importance of the harvest season to the Native Americans who lived here before the arrival of the white settlers. In this part of Pennsylvania lived my ancestors,

the Lenape ("Real People"), known to the settlers as the Delaware.

For the Lenape, the Rustling Leaves Moon (October) marked the end of the growing season. Crops including peas, corn, beans, squash, pumpkins, potatoes and tomatoes had been harvested and stored for the winter. Nuts, berries and medicinal herbs had been gathered from the forest. Meat from wild game (deer, rabbit, squirrel, wild turkey and different kinds of fish) had been preserved for storage.

The Lenape set aside twelve days for fasting and prayer during this time to thank Creator for the harvest and to ask that Mother Earth be rejuvenated, so that in the springtime she would once again produce new life. This was a time of physical and spiritual cleans-

ing. If someone was sick, the sweat lodge and other ceremonies for healing would also be performed.

At the end of the twelve days' fast the people would have eaten something very light but high in protein—certainly not the massive carbo-loading feast of today!

When the first settlers arrived from Europe they were not prepared to face their adopted land's long, cold winters. They did not know how to grow the crops or harvest the wild plants that would carry them through the winter. Only the food given them by their Native American friends kept them from starving. Among native peoples, it is customary to share food and whatever else is necessary for survival with those in need. And that my people did, for we pitied the newcomers to this land.

It's a nice story that we learn in school; white man and Indian sitting down together for a massive picnic to give thanks for the harvest. But Thanksgiving as it is observed today is simply an Americanization of an old European custom, quite unrelated to Native American tradition.

The official date of the fourth Thursday in November was set for Thanksgiving by presidential proclamation from 1863 until 1941, when Congress made Thanksgiving a legal federal holiday. But before the first European footprint was made on this land, Thanksgiving was observed in October, in quite a different manner. Interestingly, in Canada, the holiday is taken on the second Monday in October.

Write-in candidate claims voting irregularities

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

David Hontz, the write-in candidate for Dallas Township supervisor, is crying foul over what he claims are irregularities at Dallas Township's South polling district.

Both Hontz, and Beverly Smith, a poll watcher for Hontz, have written letters to Thomas Pizano, director of the Bureau of Voter Registration claiming that his name was taped over lever 21A on two voting machines, which is where a Democratic candidate for supervisor's name would have been if there had been one.

According to Mary Ellen Sacco, deputy director of voter registration, 134 votes were registered under lever 21A.

"We're going to look into the machines," said Sacco. Hontz had 157 write-in votes for supervisor, while incumbent Phil Walter had 1,101 to win another six-year term.

Hontz and Smith also claim that Hontz's name was taped over lever 21B, which would have given Walter more votes. When the Judge of Election was informed of the names on the machines, Smith writes "she only preceded to put a piece of clear tape over the 21A ballot on both machines."

Sacco, however, wonders why the Bureau of Voter Registration wasn't notified on election day.

"It wasn't that busy," said Sacco, who added that there was a bank of ten phones for people to call.

Local water company asks continued care

Customers of the Dallas, Shavertown, Harveys Lake, and Noxen water companies are being asked to continue to conserve water.

"Our wells are dropping. We lost a couple of feet in each of our wells over what we would normally have this year," said Michael Coyle, manager of the water companies.

The state's drought emergency for the area is still in effect, Coyle points out, and bans non-essential uses of water such as washing cars.

While reservoirs in the area have been low throughout the summer and fall, Coyle said that the water company noticed a change in the well levels only in the last two or three weeks.

The Dallas Water Company supplies approximately 1,800 customers; Shavertown, about 980 customers; Harveys Lake, about

50 customers; and Noxen, about 98 customers.

Even with the recent rainfall, the area has received about five inches less rain so far this year than is normal.

"It takes awhile for rain to seep into the ground to resupply wells," said Coyle. "Just continue to ban non-essential usage. Conserving now can eliminate the need for rationing later."

Coyle said that the company monitors the water level in its wells daily, and would take additional conservation steps before the level became critically low.

First, he would ask for additional voluntary conservation measures, said Coyle. Then, the company would ask for mandatory conservation measures, and the last step would be water rationing.

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