

Students adopt California school

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Students at the Lake-Lehman middle school have begun an earth-shaking service project. They have adopted 1,100 students in grades six through eight at Northridge Middle School, located at the epicenter of the disastrous January 17 earthquake in California.

While considering various service projects for the two classes, eighth-grade advisor Mrs. Molly Malpass had contacted the American Red Cross to find out which schools in the earthquake area needed help.

"They put us in touch with Northridge, which had lost its entire library," she said.

Through fundraisers sponsored by the seventh and eighth grades and the Teacher-Parent-Teen group, the students plan to raise as much money as possible to send to Northridge to replace its library.

Discussing the service project recently, several class officers speculated on how their new-found friends must feel after the earthquake.

"They must feel scared," said Nicole Newell. "Maybe they feel left out because they don't have the things that everyone else does."

Megan Scott said that school must be very different for the Northridge kids now. They might not know everyone there anymore," she said.

"I'd be sad, kind of scared," said Debra Brayfield. "Nothing would be the same. You'd lose contact with your friends."



PLANNING COMMITTEE - Lake-Lehman Middle Level class officers and advisors planning a relief effort for the Northridge Middle School, heavily damaged in the January earthquake, are, front row: Gillian Nallon, Kari Amyx and Megan Scott; second row: Mrs. Drena Gorgone, Mike Casey, Debra Brayfield, Nicole Newell and Mrs. Molly Malpass. Absent from photo: Mark Chopyak and Joe Mas-calis.

POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

Also concerned with losing friends, Gillian Nallo said, "They probably are losing memories of places where important things have happened, things that they have done with their friends."

"They don't have any lockers there," said Kari Amyx. "I can't imagine class without them - no place to store things, tape up pictures and keep personal mementos."

Mrs. Malpass said that after the earthquake, about 300 of the school's 1,100 students were absent.

They have gradually returned - except for about 40 who seem to have disappeared. Maybe their families lost everything and just moved on, she said.

"We think that some students

may be scared to leave home because something might happen while they're at school," Malpass said. "Or they might be afraid to go to school in case they're trapped in the building during an aftershock."

The school's auditorium has been red-tagged (closed because it's unsafe due to earthquake damage.)

After the earthquake, several families had to camp out on the school's front lawn because their apartment house across the street had been destroyed, said seventh-grade advisor Mrs. Drena Gorgone.

The students' fund-raiser is the sale of copies of a database of

compatible students for possible pen friends, Mrs. Malpass said. Students have been matched according to their interests.

Both classes also plan to co-sponsor a dance April 8, with all proceeds going to the Northridge fund.

The TPT is soliciting contributions of \$5 or more from parents and interested friends until April 15, with the goal being to send a check to Northridge by April 30.

A book plate sticker will be placed in every book in the Northridge Middle School library purchased with money from Lake-Lehman, thanking the school's new-found friends in the Back Mountain for their generosity

Hearing set on prison water use

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Members of the public will have their chance to speak about a proposed increase in water pumped from wells at Chase prison when the Susquehanna River Basin Commission holds a public hearing on the matter.

Before making a final decision on an application by the Department of Corrections to pump 370,000 gallons of water per day from two wells at the State Correctional Institution at Dallas (SCID), the commission will hold a public hearing at the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus Center for Technology April 20 at 7 p.m.

The Susquehanna River Basin Commission regulates all water use within the area drained by both branches of the Susquehanna River and its tributaries and must approve any increases in water usage.

SCID wants to increase the water that it pumps from two of its four wells from 320,000 gallons per day to 370,000 - a 13.5 per-

cent increase. In 1992 the Department of Corrections spent \$663,000 to build a pipeline from the Ceasetown Reservoir to SCID. Area legislators and municipal officials have been at odds with SCID whether the pipeline is to be used to supply the prison's water needs or if it is simply a backup system to be used in case of severe drought.

The commission invites anyone interested in commenting on the proposed water withdrawal to speak or submit their opinions in writing at the hearing. All written and oral statements will be made part of the official hearing record.

The commission urges those wishing to testify to notify them in advance; however anyone who wants to testify may do so, whether or not they have given prior notice.

For further information, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission may be reached at 717-238-0423, or at 1721 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102-2391.

Friends give surprise 90th birthday party for Mrs. Rood

A surprise 90th Birthday Party was held by the Alpha Rho Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society to honor Arline B. Rood, a former first grade teacher in the Dallas School District, March 19 at Pickett's Charge.

Since Arline was a founder of the Alpha Rho Chapter and its second president, minutes were read from her very first meeting, and some interesting anecdotes were given by members who had taught with her.

For a gift, the Alpha Rho Chapter members donated Children's books in her honor to the Back Mountain Memorial Library. The room which holds the Children's Library is the same room in which Arline once taught.

Books were also donated in honor of Eva T. McGuire and Louise D. Colwell, who turned 90

years old recently, and were founders and past presidents of Alpha Rho.

Mrs. Colwell was principal and fourth grade teacher at the Dallas Grade School - the present library.

Mrs. McGuire taught second grade at the Trucksville Grade School now a senior citizens apartment complex.

Mrs. Colwell resides at Wesley Village and Mrs. McGuire lives with her daughter, Claire Parker, in Sciota, PA. Eva made a special trip to join in the surprise celebration for Arline.

Balloons, a banner, flowers and a decorated cake all added to the festivities - but the 'message' on the napkins said it all - "Aged To Perfection" - a fine tribute to a distinguished, dedicated teacher and fine lady.

Wells

continued from page 1)

chemical spill," he said. "We haven't found the other gasoline components in our studies."

Treating the contamination as a chemical spill made it eligible for a federal Superfund grant to clean up the contamination and supply the affected families with drinking water, Carmon said.

Benzene, a cancer-causing component of gasoline, had first been discovered in the well of a private home on Market Street in August, 1991.

Less than a month later it turned up in the well servicing Bryant's Mobile Home Park on Route 118.

MTBE, an octane-boosting gasoline additive less dangerous than benzene, was found in the water at the Lake-Lehman Middle Level building and the Maple Hill nursing home in September, 1991.

After testing between 20 and 30 wells around Lehman Center, the Department of Environmental Resources found that 15

wells were contaminated with MTBE and two with benzene.

DER officials believe the gasoline came from the Lehman Sunoco station, where owner George Maculloch had found a hole in an underground storage tank in October, 1990, and had immediately replaced it.

Ground water studies done at that time had shown no gasoline contamination.

When the first two wells, one at a private residence and the second at Bryant's Mobile Home Park, were found to be contaminated, Maculloch paid for new wells to be drilled at each site.

Because the 600-foot deep well at the trailer park didn't supply enough water to meet the residents' needs, a second was drilled, but was found to be contaminated with gasoline.

Maculloch also paid for bottled water and special water filters for all of the affected homes and the school.

"He has given us great cooperation and has spent large

amounts of his own money to make sure that the affected families have drinking water," Carmon said. "He's run out of

money." The federal grant will pay for the rest of the cleanup, Carmon said.

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King's College flea market March 27

Marketable items are now being collected for the 20th Annual King's College Alumni Flea Market, which will be held in the Scandlon Center for Physical Education on the corner of North Main and Jackson streets Sunday, March 27 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The event will include a bake sale and a refreshment stand. Donations of baked goods will also be accepted.

For more information or to donate goods, contact King's Alumni Office at 826-5879. Arrangements can be made to have donated items picked up.

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