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The Dallas Post

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

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50¢

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Angel
Happy, White
Flying, Helping, Ringing
Joyful, Happy, Hopeful, Cheerful
Sender

Mary Kuniskas

Complaint dismissed on technicality

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

DALLAS — A complaint against Franklin Township secretary Sandra Race, accused by John Bump of violating the state's Sunshine Law, was dismissed at a preliminary hearing December 7.

Tupper dismissed the complaint, which alleges Race violated the Sunshine Law by not posting the notice of the supervisors' October 9 meeting at the township building, because he said Bump filed it against the wrong person. Bump was represented by attorney Brad Kurlan- cheek.

"It should have been filed against the elected government, the board of supervisors, naming each supervisor individually," Tupper said. "Mrs. Race is an employee of the township, not an elected official."

Sunshine Law violations are considered summary offenses punishable by a fine of no more than \$100, Tupper said.

Race was represented by township solicitor John Acikewicz. Supervisors Tim Dymond, chairman Robert Redmond and Martin Murray, elected in November to replace Dymond, attended the

See COMPLAINT, pg 16

Brightening the season 5th graders pen holiday poems

Dallas Elementary School fifth-grade teacher Mrs. Mary Nulton also is a teacher/consultant with the Northeastern Pennsylvania Writing Project. In writing class, students apply the English skills learned during regular instruction.

Following are informal cinquains written by Mrs. Nulton's

writing class. An informal cinquain consists of five lines about one topic. Each line must follow a certain pattern:

Line 1 - One word which names the object.

Line 2 - Two words which describe that object.

Line 3 - Three words which express action.

Line 4 - A four-word phrase which

expresses feeling.
Line 5 - A word renaming the object.

All poems are printed with the exact spelling and punctuation that appeared on the children's work. We have included some of the children's artwork that accompanied the poems.

POEMS BEGIN ON PAGE 8



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Santa Claus comes to town

Joshua Shaver of Dallas visited with a special friend Sunday at the Shavertown fire hall. He and dozens of other children came out to see Santa in Shavertown, Trucksville and Dallas. More photos on page 3.

Mae Rome puts her craft on paper

By ANN POEPERLING
Post Correspondent

Mae Rome of 33 Pear Tree Lane, Dallas, is bringing in the holidays the "write" way. Mae, who has always loved reading the written word, has turned this joy into a creative hobby through the art of calligraphy.

The word "calligraphy," of Greek origin, means "beautiful writing." Several times a year, Mae joins fellow calligraphers to share ideas and information at the Calligraphers' Guild of Northeastern Pennsylvania meetings held at Marywood College in Scranton.

Mae's study of calligraphy began in 1981 when she took her first lettering class at King's Col-

lege. The teacher, Eleanor Kraemer, was one of the founding members of the guild.

Since then, Mae's interest has flourished - and so has her craft. She has reserved an entire room of the house as her studio - what once used to be her husband's den. "I just started with one corner," she says, pointing to her light desk, "and ended up with the whole room," she says, laughing and sweeping her hand past shelves lined with pens, brushes, inks and books.

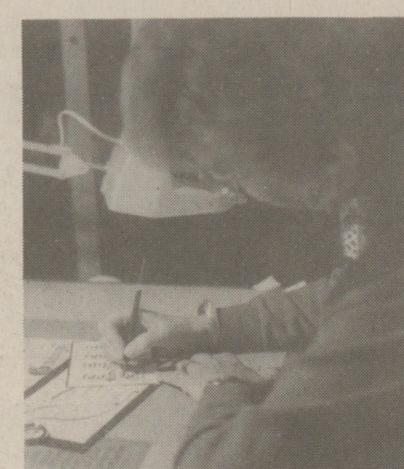
In between guild meetings, members are encouraged to "do their own thing." Mae's most timely project is designing her own Christmas cards to send to family and friends. She has been

designing her family's holiday greeting cards for 13 years, since 1982.

This year's product is done in a distinguishing "blackletter" script with a split pen, printed in raised green lettering on a white background with gold trim. The white envelope coordinates with green lettering and gold accents. Although Mae has cards produced from a printer after she designs the prototype, she still addresses each envelope by hand in a matching script.

Mae's array of holiday cards is quite impressive, looking like a collection from a Hallmark studio. But how to develop a new

See CALLIGRAPHER, pg 12



POST PHOTO/ANN POEPERLING
Mae Rome of Dallas practices the craft of calligraphy in her home studio. She makes the family Christmas card each year, along with other items.

On election eve, a surprise event decides outcome

By Rudolph 'Red' Nose

(This is the last of a four-part children's story, *The Dallas Post's Christmas present to our young readers*.)

Snark was strolling through the North Pole the day before election, his spirits soaring with the prospect of his new job. In a way, he knew he would miss the workshop. It was his job to program the action computer games and he always enjoyed trying them out and seeing how well he could outwit his own programs. But, he told himself, times change and he had to change with them.

As he strolled past Lake North

Pole, he heard a faint cry from the center. Straining his eyes, Snark saw one of the elves had fallen through the ice and was hanging on to the edge of the ice for dear life, his legs turning numb with the cold.

Snark ran toward the elf. Soon he was close enough to see it was Blithe! "Hold on, Blithe!" he called. "I'm coming to save you!"

Snark dashed closer and closer to Blithe, but with every step he heard louder and louder cracks from the ice. Finally, Snark was afraid to go any farther. But Blithe was still 25 feet away!

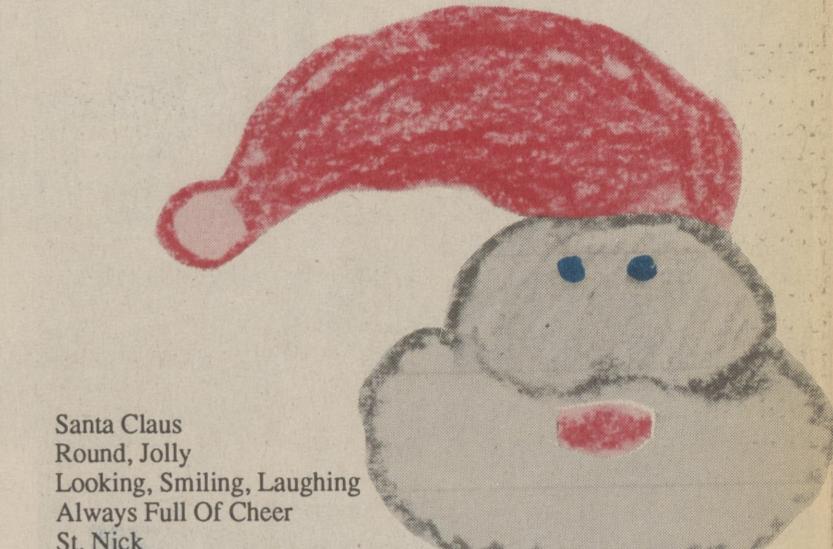
Snark turned, intending to run for help. But he gasped when he

saw that his running across the ice had broken it loose. There was a huge gulf of freezing water between Snark and the shore.

Meanwhile, Blithe was still hanging on to the ice, trying desperately to keep his blue hair above the water. You see, if an elf's hair gets wet, he begins to melt from the top down. It's the greatest fear of any elf.

Snark turned this way and that, but he couldn't see any way to get to the shore or to save Blithe. Desperate, he turned to his greatest strength - his mouth.

See ELECTION, pg. 16



Santa Claus
Round, Jolly
Looking, Smiling, Laughing
Always Full Of Cheer
St. Nick

Adam Morgan

Fire chiefs lay out chopper landings

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

BACK MOUNTAIN — The chiefs of all fire companies dispatched through the Back Mountain Communications Center recently completed a project which could literally mean life or death for accident victims who must be taken by helicopter to a hospital.

Fire and ambulance companies have traditionally set up landing zones in open fields, school yards, roadways or any available open space where a medical helicopter can safely touch down.

Telling pilots how to find the landing zone was a challenge and involved many radio transmissions. For example, pilots heading for the Franklin Township fire hall were told, "We're about 10 miles northwest of Wilkes-Barre. Look for a small lake surrounded by pine trees. To the west of it you'll see four red flares set up in a square."

The pilot would then stay in radio contact with the landing zone commander until he actually saw where he was to land.

Thanks to a survey of all possible area landing zones, rescue crews now need only give pilots

the zone's number and a ground command frequency.

The survey has located all landing zones according to Global Positioning System (GPS) satellites and assigned specific radio frequencies for the choppers to use. The GPS equipment in the chopper does the rest of the work, plotting the most direct course to the accident and reducing the time needed to find the landing zone and the patient.

"Using the exact GPS coordinates locates the landing zone faster and is much safer for both the chopper crew and the patient," said head dispatcher Bill Alaimo, who did much of the footwork with dispatcher Bill Harding.

"This turned out to be a bigger project than we originally anticipated," Harding said. "It's been an opportunity to meet some of the people I have had the privilege of speaking with on the radio and gained a new perspective on the fire and ambulance companies' coverage areas and the problems they face on a daily basis."

Copies of the landing zones' coordinates and radio frequencies will be distributed to all area fire and ambulance companies and police.

Budget raises funding to fire, ambulance co's

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

KINGSTON TOWNSHIP — The supervisors unanimously approved the final 1996 budget of \$1,824,269 with no property tax at their regular December 13 meeting.

The 5-mill property tax was abolished in 1993.

According to figures supplied by manager Jeff Box, the township expects to start and end the

year with \$440,118 in the general fund. Anticipated revenues of \$1,384,151 will increase 10 percent, or \$132,473 over last year.

The major producer of revenues is the earned income tax, expected to generate \$1,100,000 this year, which has increased by 10 percent from last year.

Because the township doesn't have a property tax, income of \$1,800 from delinquent tax pay-

See BUDGET, pg 12

Late paper next week

So that our employees may enjoy the Christmas holiday, The Dallas Post will be published on Thursday next week. Merry Christmas.

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