## Basement

(continued from page 1)

of frustration.

"When I called the Dallas Area Municipal Authority (DAMA), they said people had probably illegally tied their sump pumps or rain gutters into the sewer line," he

When he wanted to place his cleanup trash out on the curb for collection, he approached borough manager Milt Lutsey, who told him to get a dumpster and the borough would try to help him. The dumpster cost him \$260.

Davis also asked councilman Ted Wright for help, but was told he had waited too long. Borough solicitor Ted Krohn suggested he

"DAMA's insurance company told me DAMA has governmental immunity because it was rainwater," Davis said. DAMA's insurer is Titan Indemnity.

In desperation, he has now contacted an attorney to try and sue DAMA to recover some of his ex-

"The FEMA team hasn't come here yet," said borough manager Milt Lutsey. "When they do, we'll ask them if they can help Davis. Because so few homes in the borough were affected, we didn't set up a curbside pickup like the municipalities in the valley did. Our solicitor has said we're not responsible for this type of dam-

No storm sewers are tied to DAMA's sewer lines, according to DAMA general manager Tom

The authority originally checked homes for floor drains before they were allowed to tie "Within 15 minutes I had two feet of sewage in my basement."

> Jim Davis Davenport Street

into the sewer line, but it would be difficult to recheck them all now.

"You can't just walk into someone's house today," he said. Sewage moves through DAMA's line by gravity, rather than under pressure from pumps, Bagley said.

The pipes, which run under-

ground, are never completely full. "On our end, the problem with the sewers was the general flooding," Bagley added. "Basically we had too much flow - it's the first time it has happened. It could have come from illegal floor drains or infiltration from ground water into our system through leaks or

an extraordinary day." If too much water has accumulated in the soil around a sewer pipe, as happened during the January storm, it can force its way into the system through small holes or weak places in joints, he explained. However the sewage won't leak out because it's not under pressure. Liquids always move from areas of high pressure to areas of low pressure.

"There was nothing we could find that we could have done to prevent this from happening," Bagley said.



POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

Alley oop!

Dallas Middle School student Becky Price practiced leaving a bus through the rear emergency exit at last week's bus evacuation drill conducted by drivers Robert Brown and Angelo Concert.

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## Spanish

(continued from page 1)

"They love knowing their names in Spanish," Marie said. "They're different from English."

"It's a good contribution to the community and the school," Allison added.

When the students came for an early afternoon class at the end of recess, their young first grade students scampered over to greet them. Gary Wojciechowski showed Brian and Melanie a favorite toy, a Mighty Max robot.

While the young teachers set up a display of colors to teach the children, several talked about their

"It's fun," said Elyse Benoit. "You learn things. I like saying gato for cat - I have a cat named Cinder. And dog is parrel."

Matt Pall likes learning the colors. "Red is roja and blue is azul," he said enthusiastically.

"I like all the words," said Chelsea Leskowski. "They sound different."

Teacher Rita Fox is impressed with how well the lessons have progressed.

"The high school students have been great with them," she said. "The little ones love it - it's something different for them. Some of the words they learn will stay with them forever.'

"It's great to know they wait for us to come each week."

**Amanda Shission** High school student, Spanish tutor to younger students next door were learning the parts of the body from Tanya, who first drew a head (cabeza) on the board. Then she added eyes (ojos) and a nose (nariz), which the children drew and labeled in their notebooks, repeating the words after

Tanya had started the class by showing the children how to make

The second graders in the room a chalco (vest) from a paper bag. Her young students proudly wore their creations, decorated with colorful patterns, for the rest of the lesson.

> Kyla Higgins recited the names of the colors and added, "It's fun having people come into our class."

Amy Reakes, whose vest sported a row of bright peace signs, recited her favorite words. "Thankyou is gracias," she said. "Good night is buenos noches."

Michael Gianfriddo said he likes learning Spanish because "you can make friends who speak Spanish."

Teacher Jane James said she would like to see the Spanish lessons continue next year. "It has stimulated my students," she said. "They are very eager to learn and thoroughly enjoy it.'



POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

Elyse Benoit, a first grader at the Lehman-Jackson school, copied a Spanish word into her notebook during a recent lesson. Students in kindergarten through third grade and one sixth grade class are learning the basics of the language from eight high school students.

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