

## Play

(continued from page 1)

Deirdre McLaughlin will also be joining the cast.

Of the three, Taroli is the newcomer. Jesus Christ Superstar will be his first show. "I've followed my daughter around as she's auditioned," he explained. "I admire what she does and I'm gaining an appreciation of how hard it is." Taroli's daughter, Alison, is a member of the Northeast Junior Players. He adds, "I just hope I live long enough to see her on Broadway because that's where she's headed."

Taroli will be playing an apostle, a member of the chorus, and a member of the mob in the production. "I've always liked *Jesus Christ Superstar*," he said. "I think it's the best rock opera next to *Tommy*. I just really wanted to be involved because I like the music." Taroli says that his dream part would be any part in *Tommy*.

Deirdre McLaughlin was bit by the acting bug at a young age. "My grandmother has been taking me to shows since I was four or five," she said. "The moment I saw someone on stage, I thought, 'That's what I want to do.'" McLaughlin performed in her first show in kindergarten.

She was recently part of a Scranton cast of *Tony and Tina's Wedding* and starred as Princess Jasmine in *Aladdin* at the Kirby Center. But she's careful to note she has no favorite parts. "I just become so enthralled with every character I play," she says. In this production, McLaughlin will play a soul girl and will also be a chorus member. McLaughlin is not the only talent in her family. Her seven-year-old sister Brianna is also involved in acting.

McLaughlin says she is happy with the quality of local theater. "I think it's very good," she says. "You wouldn't expect it because it's such a small area. But people really appreciate the arts."

Taroli agrees. "Local productions are surprisingly good," he said. "They don't have all the bells and whistles of Broadway, but the

*"Local productions are surprisingly good."*

**Garry Taroli**  
Jesus Christ Superstar  
cast member

acting is excellent."

Stylinski isn't as upbeat. "The quality of local theater is fairly uneven. Some of the difficulties arise when egos get in the way and start ruining a production." But he adds, "There are more and more theater groups springing up between Wilkes-Barre and Scranton. There are people trying to put projects together."

Stylinski, who has been with the Music Box Theater for 3 and 1/2 years, is no newcomer to acting. At age 18, he became involved with community theater in Connecticut. Stylinski's interest in music and theater eventually led him to drop out of an engineering program.

Stylinski, who will be sharing the part of priest, apostle and chorus member with John Krokos, said, "I used to sing all the time. Walking down the street, I would sing. People thought I was mentally retarded." But all of Stylinski's singing has paid off. Some of his acting credits include *Man of La Mancha*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Pippin*, *Evita*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*. He has also performed in summer theater in Cape Cod.

Taroli encourages people to attend the production. "I think they will enjoy it whether they come because it is the Easter season or because of the Andrew Lloyd Webber music," he said.

The show will be performed April 18-20, 24-25, and 26-27 and May 1-4 and 8-10 at the Music Box Theater in Swoyersville. Evening performance curtain time is 8 p.m. and Sunday matinee curtain time is 3:15 p.m. The box office phone number is 283-2195 or 1-800-698-PLAY.



### UM Truckville to hold barbecue May 2 & 3

The Trustees of the Truckville United Methodist Church have scheduled their spring Barbecue for May 2 and 3 at the Educational Facilities on Church Road. (Please follow detour signs to reach the location.) The meal will be served from 5-7 p.m. with takeout orders available at 4:30 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance from one of the Trustees or by calling the Church Office 696-3897. Adult tickets are \$6, children \$3. Pictured are men who will be preparing the chicken: from left, Richard Harrison, Lee Baker, Edward Johnson, Trustee; Edward Bessmer, Chairman of the BBQ; Wayne Long, Robert Johnson, Raymond Metzgar Jr., Chairman of the Board of Trustees.



**At the dedication**, from left; Red Jones, County Commissioner; Lee Piatt, Chairman of the Board of Volunteers of America; Alan Garner, President/CEO of Volunteers of America; Charles McCormick, Chairman of the Board of Catholic Social Services; Ned Delaney, Executive Director of Catholic Social Services; and Joe DeVizia, member, Board of Directors of Volunteers of America.

### Local volunteers dedicate transitional living program

Volunteers of America and Catholic Social Services recently dedicated a new Transitional Living Program designed to work with runaway and homeless youth in Luzerne County. The program is the result of a collaborative effort of the two agencies. The program is open to runaway and homeless youth,

ages 16 to 21, who are wanting to learn the skills needed to live on their own and become productive members of the community. The youth will be helped to finish their schooling, taught skills necessary for employment, independent living skills such as cooking, house cleaning, money management and community service.

### Geranium sale benefits victim center

The Victims Resource Center's 12th Annual Geranium Sale is going on now. Celebrate Spring by ordering these beautiful geraniums or purchase a plant just in time for Mother's Day or Memorial Day. Choose from red or pink. Available May 8. Only \$2.00 each. Deadline for orders is April 25. Delivery is available on orders of 50 plants or more. Contact the VRC at 717-823-0765, Wilkes-Barre.

### Kingston Twp.

(continued from page 1)

There will be a public hearing on May 14 at 8 p.m. regarding a request by Michael and Jane Lowery of Shavertown to rezone property at 24 East Center St. from a two family residential to a neighborhood commercial.

Also, Joanie Keating and Michael Kravitsky IV wrote letters commending the Kingston Twp. police force for their positive and active role in the community.

Spring Road Inspection will take place on May 3.

Finally, Kingston Twp. officer James Ibbotson was honored with a citation from the Senate of Pennsylvania for his courage in saving the Miller Family of Truckville from their burning house in the early hours on Feb. 8.

The next board of supervisors meeting will be held on May 14 at 8 p.m.

### Police Assoc. to hold annual breakfast

The Back Mountain Police Association will be conducting their 14th Annual Ham 'n Egg Breakfast on Sun., April 27. This year's breakfast will be held at the Dallas Area High School and will be served between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. All proceeds of the breakfast are donated to the A.R.C. (The Association for Retarded Citizens). Cost for this all-you-can-eat breakfast is \$5 for each adult and \$2.50 for children, ages 3-12. Children under 3 can eat for free. Tickets will be available at the door or can be obtained in advance by calling Breakfast Chairman, Sergeant Daniel Hunsinger at 288-4576 ext. 433. Donations are welcome.

### 'Belshazzar's Feast' at St. Paul's April 19

"Belshazzar's Feast," a dinner murder mystery based on Daniel 4:17-30, will be served at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, on April 19. The dinner, served at sunset and prepared by Phil and Ardeth Dale, will have a taste of the Mid-East and the setting will be one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon.

Guests will take the roles of the king's ministers, soldiers, the queen, the king's son, his fiancé, the king's mistresses and Daniel. The pastor, Robert Bohm, will play King Belshazzar, whose murder by poison the guests will solve.

### Civil War group to meet April 16

The Wyoming Valley Civil War Round Table will hold its monthly meeting, Wed., April 16 at 7 p.m. in the Dallas High School Library. Election of officers and formation of Committees will be held. The business meeting will be followed with a video on Stonewall Jackson, with discussion by members. Anyone with an interest in the Civil War is invited to attend. For more information, call 675-3803.

## School building project includes 2 gyms, offices

The Dallas School Board voted 6-3 to incorporate new administrative offices into the construction of the new K-5 elementary school, and to add a new gymnasium to and refurbish the existing Dallas Elementary School. The entire building program is projected to cost \$8.4 million.

Board members Maureen Banks, Reese Finn and Thom Russ voted against the recommendation, while John Litz, James Richardson, John Landon, Ernest Ashbridge, John George and Joseph Kunec voted for it. Banks said she voted no because there were no tangible cost figures presented.

Paul Degillio, of Quad 3, Inc., estimated the administration structure would cost \$750,000, including furnishings. Degillio said a new gym at Dallas Elementary will cost approximately \$500,000. The board did not specify what type of gymnasium. The current gym will become a

cafeteria.

Degillio also presented the board with the project floor plan for the new 22 classroom elementary school. The school will be divided into three sections: north, central and south. The central section will hold the main classrooms. Degillio explained this design would segregate the students from the noisy gym and cafeteria. The PIAA gymnasium, including a regulation size basketball court, adds approximately \$800,000 to the construction cost.

The main entrance will be on the north side of the building, along with the administrative offices, library, gym and nurse.

The south section will house the cafeteria, art, music, kindergarten and special education rooms.

Degillio told the board the design leaves room for common areas and expansion.

by Kylie Shafferkoetter

### Dallas board

(continued from page 1)

Elementary. Her new position will begin next school year with an annual salary of \$52,890. McCarthy has been with the district since 1995. She previously worked at St. Marys Elementary in Scranton.



**KATHLEEN MCCARTHY**

Ruth Tetschner, the Westmoreland principal who is retiring, was paid \$62,647 this year. Dallas Elementary principal Sam Barbose receives a salary of \$60,593.

Lauretta Galm, who has children in the high school, voiced her concerns about drugs in the schools. Galm said she had spoken with students who say drugs are a problem in the school. "I understand you're not responsible (for the problem), but you can help," she told the board.

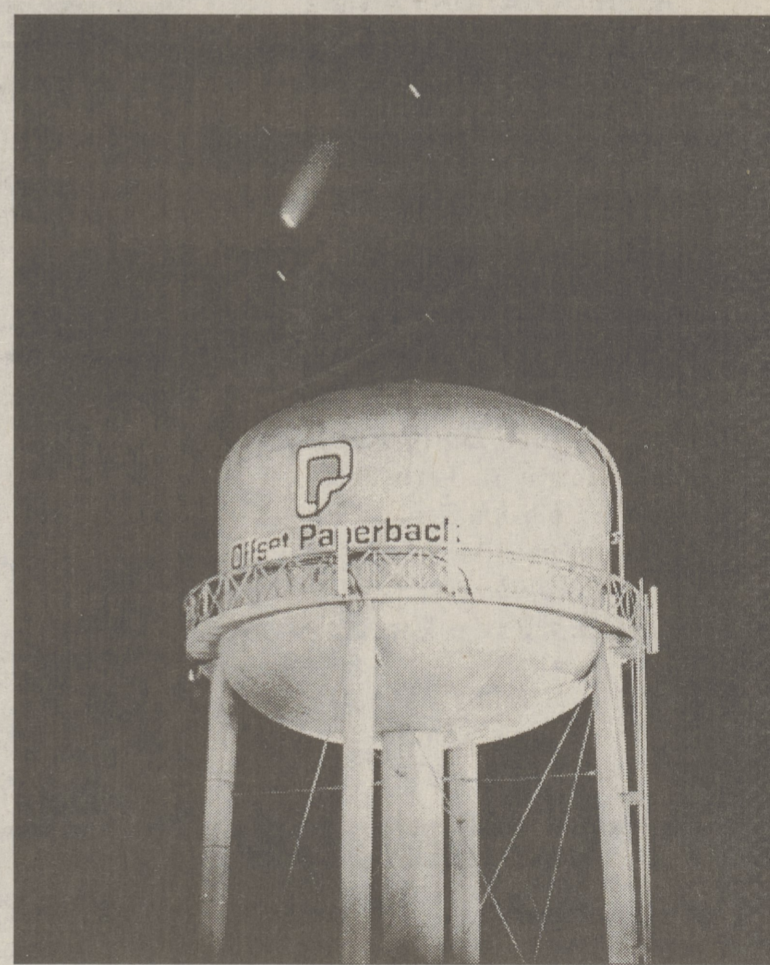
*"There is nothing we can do without working within the realm of the law."*

**Maureen Banks**  
Dallas school director

Galm expressed her frustration with the school for not letting trained police dogs "sniff" out the drugs in student's lockers or the students themselves before they enter the building. Ernest Ashbridge, board president, told her the dogs were against the law because it was considered a violation of the student's civil liberties.

Banks said the board shared her frustration. "There is nothing we can do without working within the realm of the law. We need more parents to look at their kids. We can only do what we can within the law and the law says we'd be violating civil rights (if we used the dogs)," explained Banks.

## Would you like a copy of this photo?



### Keep it as a reminder of this once-in-2000-years event

Taken April 10, 1997, this photograph shows comet Hale-Bopp over the water tower at Offset Paperback in Dallas. It is from a 20-second time exposure shot from the parking area behind the office of The Dallas Post.

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# Guide to the Back Mountain

PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 21  
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