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## Children's area is a 'dream come true'

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**DALLAS** - "This is awesome," one girl exclaims as she walks through the new doorway to the Children's Wing at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. That sentiment sums up the general feeling of kids and adults alike.

With more room for books, a separate area for story hour and computers, the new wing provides Back Mountain children with a spacious place they can call their own.

Marilyn Rudolph, children's librarian, is excited about all the opportunities the addition provides. "It's a more adequate study area. The atmosphere is more conducive to the enjoyment of looking at books and reading in this library," she said.

The room was dedicated to Rudolph, who has been with the library for 29 years, beginning when it was in its original building on Main Street.

"This is one of the most thrilling things that has happened in my career with the Back Mountain library. I hoped and wished for this for many years," Rudolph said. "Many families with little children have moved here. They deserve and should have a library room that's conducive to reading."

The wing, with its peach walls, large book shelves and small tables and chairs is a far cry from the former, cramped children's room.

Kaitlyn Birch, 10, of Dallas appreciates the change. "It's easier to find stuff and there are more books," she said. Her father, Larry, agrees. "It's nice and it's easy for the kids to look around. My kids read 60 to 100 books a year, they read every day. It's good they have the kind of place where everything is on their level. It encourages kids to use the library," he said.

Not only are books easier to find, computer programs will be too. With five new terminals complete with programs for pre-school through sixth grade, the library is staying up with technology in education.

See CHILDREN'S WING, pg 8

## Principal asks board for 4 teachers

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER  
Post Staff

**LEHMAN** - Lehman-Jackson Elementary School principal Robert Kunkle asked the school board to hire four new teachers at last week's budget meeting.

"I'm not totally happy with the amount of staff (I had last year). We're presently running first grade classes with 30 to 31 students in them. I don't feel we should be doing this. To rectify the situation, we need to add more staff," he said. "I feel if we have these positions filled we will be back to where we should be."

Principals representing each school discussed their projected preliminary budgets with the school board at a special meeting April 15.

Kathy Williams, business manager, said she cannot determine exact figures until the federal and state governments pass their own budgets — which they have until June 30 to do. She anticipates the entire budget should be ready sometime in May.

The tentative budget covering

See TEACHERS, pg 10



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Marilyn Rudolph, children's librarian, admires details in the wood carving that surrounds the entrance to the new children's wing. The wing was dedicated to Rudolph at formal dedication ceremonies

Tuesday. Dallas sculptor Marshall Rumbaugh created the colorful carving that surrounds an entranceway designed by Shavertown architect Paul Rodda.

## Project required commitment, cooperation

### Fundraisers went over the top

By JENNIFER JUDGE  
Post Correspondent

**DALLAS** - When Dr. Wallace Stettler was approached to head the fundraising campaign for the children's wing of the Back Mountain Memorial Library, he was told the committee would be lucky if they could raise \$500. By the time the campaign ended in December 1997, they had raised \$676,000 and received an additional \$200,000 in grant money from the state. The group's original goal was \$500,000.

"We asked people and people responded," Stettler said in a recent interview. "I'm very proud of

*"\$300,000 seemed like an enormous task. I was dumbfounded. Wallace Stettler was not."*

Debbie Kirkwood  
Library bookkeeper and assistant to the fundraising campaign

the community. There were very few people who said no. I'm very pleased for the children, for the future."

The benefits of the fundraising

See FUNDRAISING, pg 8

### Helping hands along the way

By MEIRA ZUCKER  
Post Correspondent

"The commitment to the community made the difference."

So says Back Mountain Memorial Library board member Joe Stager when recounting the construction of the Children's Wing of the Back Mountain Library.

Stager, the 1997 Auction Chairman, was selected to represent the library board when dealing with the businesses and contractors working on the project. He attributes the final results to community support for the addition. "Everyone takes a sincere interest in the library," comments Stager.

All of the businesses involved in the project, adds Stager, from the architect to the engineering firm to the builders, were locally-owned companies dedicated to making the addition a success. The architect, Paul Rodda, is from Shavertown; the engineer, Spencer Martin, is from Trucksville; and the contractor, Senate Construction, is in Dallas.

Ground was broken for the addition on the last day of the library auction in July, 1997. "Our goal was to get it closed in by the time the weather got bad," says Stager, "and for the most part we

See CONSTRUCTION, pg 8

## Title gambit scorned

By RONALD BARTIZEK  
Post Staff

**DALLAS** - Homeowners in the Deer Meadow subdivision in Dallas Borough are unlikely to lose anything as a result of the surprise court action filed by Wilkes-Barre attorney Raymond Hassey. But it could cause them unwanted hassles, if not money.

"To the extent owners have title insurance, they shouldn't have to worry about it," said Atty. Garry Taroli, of Haddonfield Hills, D a l l a s Township.

Taroli is a real estate law specialist with the Wilkes-Barre firm of Rosen Jenkins & Greenwald, with 20 years experience. He also has been a title agent for 12 years and currently serves as agent for two title companies.

Hassey's filing claims ownership rights to the land, based on an improper transaction in 1988. He and Patrick J. Pribula, Exeter, say in the filing that they acquired the "quitclaim" deed for a half interest in the property (that had been owned by H. David Jones, who now lives in Florida. Hassey and Pribula paid \$300 for what they say are Jones's remaining rights to the land, and formed a corporation named Deer Meadow Development Corp., which is the plaintiff.

The claim is based on two transactions that took place more than 10 years ago. On March 15, 1988, H. David Jones sold his interest in the land to "H. David Jones Inc., agent for H. David Jones as grantee." Then, on March 21, 1988, H. David Jones Inc. sold the corporation's interest to Raymond J. Peeler for \$50,000, giving him full ownership in the plot, than known as Powderhorn II. It is thought the Jones transfers were made because at the time the corporate tax rate was lower than the individual tax rate.

See DEER MEADOW, pg 3



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

## Mardi Gras, delayed

French class students at Gate of Heaven School finally celebrated Mardi Gras Friday. The annual event was postponed by a snow day that closed schools on the real "Fat Tuesday." Besides dressing up in masks, the class enjoyed some Cajun style food, music and dancing. Shown, from left, foreground, Tim Oliveri, Adrienne Sebrick. Background, Meghan Reino, Sharleen Casey, Becky Finch.

## Craftsman forges own 'American Dream'

**CENTERMORELAND** - The traditional "American Dream" is said to consist of the house, the car, the kids. What isn't mentioned is the desire to finance our dream lives doing something we love. We want to be the boss and spend our time doing something we think is impor-

tant and can get excited about, right?

Joseph Sedeski is a success story of that amended dream. He's been making a living doing what he loves for the past 25 years.

Story, photo, on page 3

### Horsin' around

Horse lovers gather to enjoy their favorite animals, work for more access to riding. Pg 5.

### Rising up

Dallas boys' volleyball program is highly competitive this season. Pg 9.

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