

# International fare at Lake-Lehman

**LEHMAN** - After grazing over the cuisine of nine nations, visitors to the International Dinner program at Lake-Lehman High School were treated to skits of Christmas traditions from each nation, all thanks to students in the Humanities II class.

The class, which is taught by the team of Rich Gorgone and Jean Lipski, combines the history and literature of nations. This year's class of 46 sophomores picked groups of about five each at the start of the school year, and began the task of learning about their chosen nation, its customs and its food. They conduct research on their own, outside of regular class time, in preparation for the festivities.

Asked why she chose to portray France, sophomore Janel Janiczek said, "One of the members of my group's family came from France, and even though we knew a little about it, we were eager to learn more."

In addition to preparing a seven or eight course buffet meal plus beverages, students decorate their table, make costumes and construct a flag of their nation. The meal is served in the cafeteria, which is darkened except for candles and lights illuminating each food station.

"This is the first time we see it," Gorgone said. "Nothing's rehearsed."

Fortunately, there's help where needed. Home economics teachers help plan and select items, trying to come up with a tasty,

nutritious menu that can be prepared by the students.

"It's a little frightening, but it turns out great," said Lipski, looking relieved that the evening was going smoothly.

By Michele Lawler and Ron Bartzek



**Serving up International flavor** at Lake-Lehman. In photo above, Andrea Steele dished out some Swedish cuisine to Matthew Sikora. Matt Hinton filled a customer's plate, his mother, Dollie, at the Mexico station, top left photo. The chefs Francaise, from left, Laura Mitchell, Janel Janiczek, Steven Moyer, Katie Britt, Michael Niezgod, lower left photo.

POST PHOTOS/RON BARTZEK

## Students give kids some Christmas cheer

Christmas; the lights, the tree, and most important for children—the presents. But for some Back Mountain families, gifts under the tree are a rarity. Instead of letting these families dream about the perfect Christmas, Lake-Lehman High School students made sure they had one. The Lake-Lehman student council held its annual "Children's Christmas Party" Dec. 22 in the high school auditorium.

Students representing different groups and clubs within the school chose needy children. They then received a list of items the children needed (like clothing), and another of items the children wanted (like toys). They asked members of their group to give money (\$2-\$3 each), and then set out to purchase gifts. The presents were wrapped and set inside a large decorated box, ready to be opened by an eager child.

Presents weren't the only things given out. Students also volunteered in the cafeteria and, under the supervision of a cafeteria staff member, cooked the children and their families a Christmas dinner. With big smiles, and hearts and tummies full, the children left with the Christmas spirit burning bright inside.

By Michele Lawler

## BMT nurses honored by Meadows

Back Mountain residents were among Meadows Nursing Center staff members honored for five, 10 and 15 years of dedicated service to residents at the Center. Service pins and savings bonds were awarded to all honorees at a special dinner held at Irem Temple.

They were, Joan Krispin, Trucksville; 10 years; Sharon Shaver, Dallas, five years; Cindy Delescavage, Shavertown, five years; and Jan Congdon, Dallas 15 years.

## History

(Continued from page 1)

Also, they will go whale watching in Nantucket and see the U.S.S. Massachusetts up close, among other exciting things.

Most students raise the \$400 cost of the trip themselves through fundraisers, such as candy sales and flower sales. Whatever each student earns from the sales goes directly into an account for that student. The district does not pay a cent toward the trip, except for the cost of substitute teachers.

Eleanor Buda, who has been an advisor for the trip since its inception, says the field trip is much more than four days away from Dallas. Prior to the May trip, students meet with Mrs. Buda, an English teacher, once a week throughout the entire year to prepare for the project each student must complete upon their return.

Their projects can concentrate on any area of study, such as, English, science, math and social studies. Jen Noon, a senior who attended the field trip last year and is going again this year, did an art project using a postcard. She painted a sunset at Provincetown and described the historic town to her other classmates. One student completed a calculus project based on sails from the Mayflower II.

*"I'd rather learn about a plantation than go on a vacation somewhere."*

Kate Weiss  
Dallas senior

One of their first assignments is to write a letter requesting information from places they will visit and use the brochures to generate a curriculum for the trip.

In order to help students get a greater perspective on the historical sites, a math and physics teacher will also make the trip. Georgia Jenkins will guide students whose projects are mathematical and Len Matysczak, a physics teacher, will help students interested in science-related projects. Each evening, students break up into different groups with a teacher to discuss what they have learned and their projects. Many students will be required to make a presentation about their experience.

Laura O'Malley, a school nurse, will also be on the trip.

Mrs. Buda monitors students' academic and disciplinary standing throughout the year, paying especially close attention as the fourth quarter begins. Students must make arrangements to make up work missed in other classes.

If these academic requirements are not met, students are not allowed to travel.

Students are up by 6 a.m. and generally asleep by midnight. They have intense, long days, but, they love it.

Tara Holly, who went on the trip last year and plans to go again, said she learned a lot. "It's a lot of fun and definitely worth the money," Kerry Neiman, a senior, said, "It is so much better to see (the sites) in real life and see how things once worked."

Angela Augustinski believes if you can go, you should go. "It's not like a vacation. We have to do worksheets at museums and bring back something (to share with students who did not go)," said the senior, who is also making her second trip to the sites.

Mrs. Buda believes the field trip rejuvenates the students and reminds them how much fun learning can be. "I think through the rigors of academia they forget to have fun," she said.

"It's a real joy taking the kids to

see things they have never seen before. It's fun to watch them. That's what keeps me going."

Mrs. Buda even sees ex-students who still ask about the trip and mention that it was a definite highlight of their years at Dallas.

Last year the trip was cut to three days due to the intensified schedule at the high school, but it is now back to four days.

Frank Natitus, a Dallas School District board member, is a strong proponent of the field trip. His two boys went and his daughter is next.

"It's a terrific academic field trip. It's impressive. I didn't realize how much they did and how organized it was. The teachers to do a good job preparing them," said Natitus. "Properly planned field trips are essential for a well-rounded education."

Kate Weiss, a senior who did not go as a junior, is looking forward to the experience. "When am I ever going to get a chance to go whale watching again?," she asked. "I'd rather learn about a plantation than go on a vacation somewhere. You can never stop learning about the past or literature," she said.

Mrs. Buda couldn't agree more.

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