

Tour highlights features of new school

By KASIA McDONOUGH
Post Staff

DALLAS - A few construction snags remain but this fall 465 students will have a new home as the Gerald Wycallis Elementary School is near completion.

The ultra-modern facility features spacious corridors and lobby areas at each entrance which are decorated with cheerful images printed in the cement walls. "These pictures were created from art work the students contributed," explained Frank Natitus, a school board member who toured the building July 18 to check on its progress. "They are really a nice touch."

Primary colors can be found throughout the school in a color scheme that was selected because of its appeal to young children. An abundance of windows and high vaulted ceilings add to the bright atmosphere and allow natural light to permeate the school's interior.

The spacious classrooms are carpeted and contain several unique features designed to meet the needs of students. Rooms for special instruction including the gifted program and a special resource center for academically challenged children will enable educators to work closely with small groups.

Students in kindergarten, first and second grades will have access to "co-joined" restrooms, meaning a single restroom placed between two adjacent classrooms. The practicality of the additional

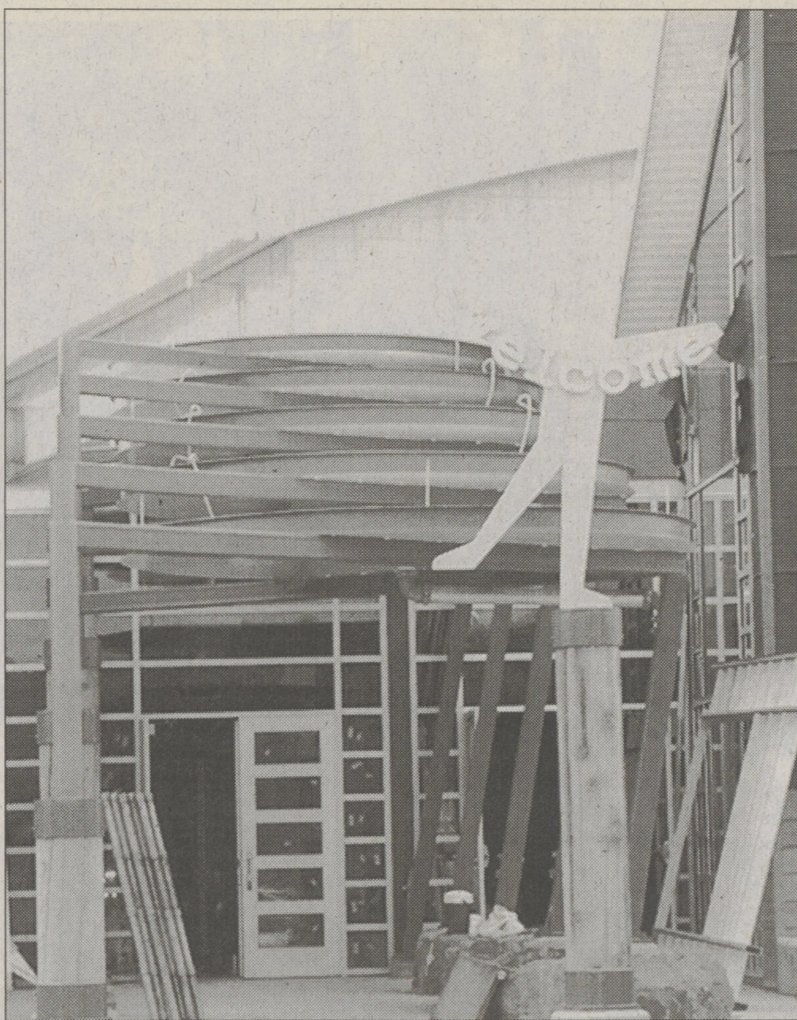
"The height of each desk can be easily adjusted according to the student's size."

Dr. Gilbert Griffiths
Superintendent of Schools

facilities was questioned by Karen Kyle, school board member, who is concerned the extra restrooms, which are large enough to allow handicapped access, take up space which could be used more productively. "The teachers I have talked to would prefer to have more closet space," she said. "I mean, are the teachers supposed to send one student at a time to the restroom?"

An architect for Quad Three Group who worked on the project explained that the restrooms are popular additions at many elementary facilities. "Co-joined restrooms are a part of a trend in schools today and whether or not your teachers wanted them, they were included in the design," said Dominick Sovers. "I guess the thinking is that little kids will have to use them more frequently and this will make bathroom breaks easier."

Older students will appreciate free-standing desks and separate chairs which the administration feels will be more convenient than old fashioned molded units. "The height of each desk can be easily adjusted according to the



A cheerful "Welcome" sign decorates the main entrance to the new Wycallis Elementary School

POST PHOTOS/KASIA McDONOUGH

student's size," said Dr. Gilbert Griffiths, Superintendent of Schools. "We also do a lot of cooperative learning in the district so the ability to group the desks for these activities is a plus."

Movable chalk boards and tack boards have been installed in each classroom to allow teachers additional flexibility. Tack boards also line corridor walls in order to provide display space for work completed by the students. "That is a great idea," said Maureen Banks. "The halls of Dallas Elementary always look so nice with the kids' projects on display."

The walls of the library wing are built from timber resembling Lincoln logs. One of the school's vaulted ceilings covers a cozy room which will be used for story telling.

Another feature of the school's modern design allows students, parents and teachers increased access to the principal and guidance counselors. The offices, which are centrally located, contain a wooden bench in the reception area and log desks. A private conference area is available for parent-teacher meetings.

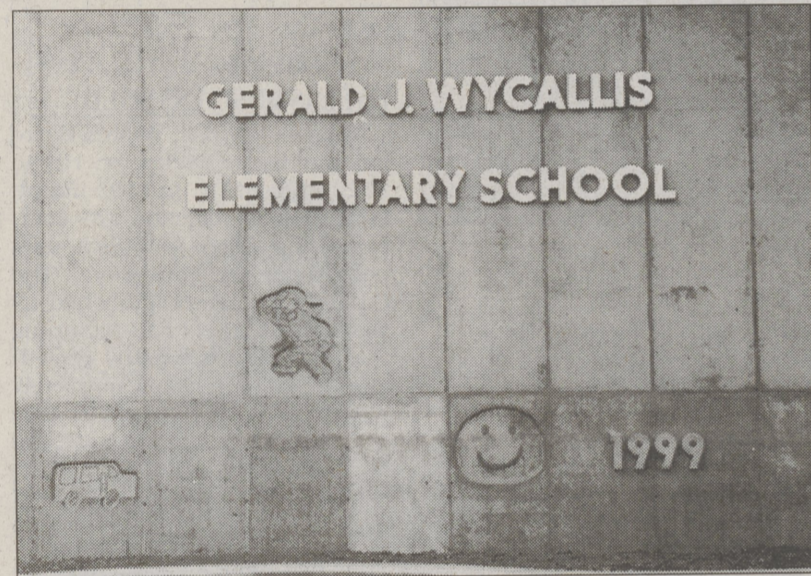
In an effort to increase security, employees will monitor visitors from the school office as access will be limited to those who

have been buzzed into the building. This system will be used at all entrances including the doors which lead to the district's administration wing.

The school board members who joined the tour were relieved to see the building is very close to being ready. The contractor is awaiting shipment of cedar siding panels to replace several which were damaged upon receipt and tile for the locker rooms, but most of the essential work has been finished. "I was afraid it was going to be less complete," said Maureen Banks.

The district plans to invite students and their parents to visit Wycallis at the end of August. "The teachers will begin working to set up their classrooms on August 9 and then we will bring the students in to meet with them and tour the school," said Dr. Griffiths. "A dedication ceremony is planned for August 29."

The consensus among those involved with this project is that students, teachers and parents will be pleased with the new facilities. "This is a great school to be a kid in," said Dan Lipsett, a manager with Quandt, the project construction management firm. "The students are really going to like it."



Designs taken from children's drawings are found in the lobby areas of the new Wycallis Elementary School.

Cease family reunion July 31

The Cease family reunion will be held Saturday, July 31 at the Susquehanna Riverlands, Rt. 11, Berwick. A picnic basket lunch will begin at noon followed by a 1 p.m. meeting. Games and activities will continue throughout the afternoon.

Lehman Twp. tax notice

Lake-Lehman School District real estate and per capita taxes for 1999 were mailed July 12. All bills have been mailed to the property owner and/or resident at their last known address. All residents 18 years of age and older are liable for the school district per capita tax. Anyone not receiving a tax bill, recently moved, or who has recently sold property should notify the Lehman Twp. tax collector, Peggy Moyer. Responsibility to receive the tax bill rests with the property owner or resident.

Property owners having an escrow account should promptly forward only the real estate tax bill to the bank or mortgage company for payment.

Payments must be received or postmarked on or before Sept. 9 to receive the 2 percent rebate. Face value will be from Sept. 10-Nov. 8, and penalty value from Nov. 9-Dec. 8, 1999. Anyone mailing in their tax payment should enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Office hours are noted at the top of each tax bill.



Dallas Lions club elects new officers

The Dallas Lions Club has elected new officers for the 1999-2000 year and held an installation dinner at the Castle Inn in Dallas. Elected as president was Dr. Jay Tanner. Vice-presidents are David Fitch, Joseph Canfield, and Jack Williams. Pat Burke was elected Treasurer; Thomas Bagley, Secretary; Frank Michael, Tail Twister, and Carlton Chase, Lion Tamer.

Pictured above on the left is newly-elected President Tanner accepting the gavel from immediate past-president, Dr. David Spring.

Color Guard will practice July 26

The first practice for the Dallas Color Guard will be held on July 26 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the high school. Anyone interested in joining should attend. If there are any questions or you cannot make the practice, call Heather at 451-1781.

OPEN 7 DAYS

★ Apparel for Active Women ★

★ Dance ★ Skating
★ Gymnastics ★ Ballroom
★ Exercise ★ Tennis

Broadway Dreams

United Penn Plaza KINGSTON • 283-1122

• A STORE FOR PEOPLE WHO LOVE TO PERFORM •

Christmas in July at Just Between Friends

641 Memorial Hwy., Dallas • (570) 675-0821

July 25 from 10-2

Christmas Decorations • Trees • Wreaths • Much More!

Christmas Cookies! Door Prizes! Refreshments!

Summer Candle SALE!

Mon.-Thur. 11-6, Fri. & Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-4

Triathlon seeks host homes

The Wilkes-Barre Triathlon is looking for families to host some of the elite triathletes participating in this year's race. The 18th Wilkes-Barre Triathlon is August 8 and this year is playing host to the ITU North American Championships. Triathletes from all over North America will converge on the Back Mountain during race week.

Officials are expecting 50-60 world class athletes this year, many of them requiring housing. The typical home stay involves

hosting one or two athletes for two or three nights while they are here training and competing in the race. The triathlon was notified by the Canadian National Team that between 10 and 15 members would be participating, and there is also the possibility of a 5-member contingent from Lithuania joining the race.

Anyone interested in participating in the Wilkes-Barre Triathlon Home Stay program is asked to call Michael Last at 288-6801.

Drought emergency declared

Gov. Tom Ridge has declared a drought emergency in 55 Pennsylvania counties, including all of the northeastern part of the state. Ridge took the action Tuesday, July 20.

In declaring the emergency, Ridge said that water levels in mid-July are what usually can be expected in September or October, and that ground water levels are unlikely to recharge until leaves have fallen in the fall.

The Governor's proclamation allows local communities to implement mandatory water-

conservation measures. Water companies may also institute rationing plans. Mandatory restrictions may include no serving of water in restaurants unless requested by customers; closing water fountains, artificial waterfalls and pools, and residential and business rationing.

Mandatory restrictions put in place by the drought emergency are aimed at non-essential water use, such as watering lawns, topping off swimming pools and washing cars except with a bucket.

PG Energy warns against trespassing, swimming

The recent heat waves already have resulted in trespassing at reservoirs owned by PG Energy in Luzerne and Lackawanna counties and the lure of cool water will increase as summer progresses and more high temperatures arrive.

The utility company has issued a public warning to those who would trespass on PG Energy land and reservoirs.

Bill Phillips, PG Energy's Assistant Director of Support Services, said PG Energy's Security Department has increased its reservoir patrols for the summer. He said all local police departments are familiar with the company's property and PG Energy's desire to prosecute trespassers to the fullest extent of the law.

"Each year summer heat is accompanied by an increase in trespassing and swimming on our land and at our reservoirs. These activities are dangerous and illegal," Mr. Phillips said.

PG Energy owns more than 40,000 acres of land in North-eastern Pennsylvania, primarily in Lackawanna and Luzerne coun-

ties. Numerous reservoirs are located on that land and PG Energy allows shoreline fishing at several of those bodies of water. For additional information about the fishing areas, access the web site at www.pnt.com or call the Company at 570-829-8756.

Excepting fishing in the designated areas, Mr. Phillips said all other activities on PG Energy property constitute trespassing.

Anyone aware of trespassing on PG Energy property is asked to contact the local police department or PG Energy at 1-800-432-8017.

Scheduled for Dental Implants?



Call Charles J. Musto, D.M.D. at 283-3611 to set up an appointment

Oscar ROTH Jeweler

659 N. Memorial Hwy.,
Dallas • 675-2623

Sorry for any inconvenience but we'll be closed at 5:00 p.m. on Friday and all day on Saturday.

CD IT SHOULDN'T BE THIS HARD TO CASH YOUR CD

WITH AN EASY ACCESS, NO-PENALTY CD FROM FNCB IT ISN'T

5.00% Annual Percentage Yield
7 MONTH CD

With First National Community Bank's 7 month CD you get a great rate plus access to your money with no penalty for early withdrawal*. It's the perfect savings vehicle for people who want a high rate of return and the flexibility to withdraw their money if they need it sooner. Stop by any Luzerne County office to open your Easy Access CD today.

First National Community Bank
COMMUNITY IS OUR MIDDLE NAME
1-877-TRY-FNCB / www.fnccb.com

WILKES-BARRE • KINGSTON • EXETER • PITTSBURGH PLAZA • DUNMORE • SCRANTON • DICKSON CITY • FASHION MALL

*Annual Percentage Yields are accurate as of date of publication and may change without notice. \$5,000 minimum deposit required to open an account and earn fixed Annual Percentage Yield. Single interest is paid in maturity. No penalty for early withdrawal. If funds remain on deposit for at least 7 days. Fees may reduce earnings on account. Limited to individuals only. Offer limited to Luzerne County offices only. No partial withdrawals. Available for use funds only. New funds on this offer currently on deposit at FNCB. Member FDIC