

## Dedication

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a long time to come."

Kind words and shared memories were abundant as the community paused to note Wycallis's contributions. "I was so proud of my husband, I always have been, but to see how he was respected by so many people in the district was something special," said Judith Wycallis.

The Wycallis family joined a crowd of visitors for a tour of the school following an official ribbon-cutting ceremony. "I was definitely impressed with the state-of-the-art school. I think it has a homey feel and the architecture is a nice mix of modern and traditional styles," said Judith Wycallis.

So far, this original combination is getting rave reviews. "It's a little bit Disney and a little bit learning," said Michael Shaughnessy, who joined his sister, Judith Wycallis, in celebrating the school's dedication. "I think the kids are going to love it."

Those students who were visiting the school this weekend joined the chorus of complimentary reviews. "I like it and my favorite thing is the gym because you get to run around and stuff," said Joey Michael, a six-year-old who will be attending Wycallis this fall.

Building a school in which learning was enjoyable was part of the architects' plans from the beginning and it seems they have accomplished their goal. "I think my dad would have had a lot of fun here," said Matt Wycallis.



A ribbon-cutting ceremony officially opened the Wycallis Elementary School, above. From left, Sen. Charles Lemmond, Karen Kyle, Anthony Barbose, Fank Natitus, J.J. Wycallis, Judith Wycallis, Matt Wycallis, Ernest Ashbridge, John Litz, John George, Nobel "Bud" Quandel and Maureen Banks. At far right, Judith Wycallis was flanked by her sons, J.J., left, and Matt as they awaited the ceremony. Ashley Zearfoss, 8, checked out a book in the library, right. Below, the Grube children took a break during the tour. From left; Hillary, Hannah, Colin and Clara. Joey Michael, 6, tested the water fountain, bottom photo.



## Wyoming County Fair to feature top performance acts

National country recording star, Kevin Sharp, Crystal Marie and local favorites, The Poets headline this year's grandstand entertainment at the Kiwanis/Wyoming County Fair, Sept. 1-6.

Kevin Sharp and Crystal Marie appear on the main stage at the fair, Sunday, Sept. 5 with shows at 4 and 7 p.m. Sharp has hit singles on the country music playlists and tours nationally throughout the year. Crystal Marie, the 13-year-old country singing sensation, is from Altoona. Perennial local favorites,

Stanky and the Coalminers help open the first day of fair with two performances at 7:30 and 8:30 on the main stage on Wednesday, Sept. 1. The Poets will present the fair's big Labor Day salute to the 50's on Monday, Sept. 6, with one show only at 4 p.m. The Poets are renowned for their flashback shows to an era of 57 Chevies, black leather jackets and all the nostalgia of Happy Days.

Other musical acts scheduled to perform are Nashville Kats, The Rhinestone Hillbilly, Tunkhanock and Elk Lake High School

## Building

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Sims. "But kids today are growing up with the knowledge that recycling works and utilizing natural materials benefits everyone."

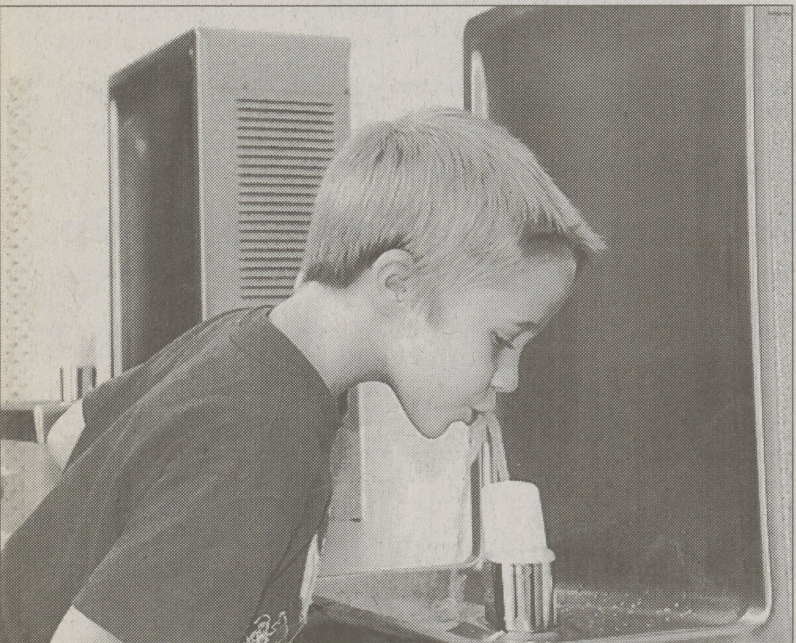
In keeping with the theme of green architecture, cedar siding adorns the exterior of Wycallis and Lincoln logs line the corridors of the main entrance. "We felt pretty strongly that the school could become a teaching tool in itself," said Sims. "So often in our buildings, ceilings are put up to hide the duct work and poured concrete walls are buried from view. At Wycallis, the students will have the opportunity to consider how a building is made."

Another distinct feature of this project is the school's ability to accommodate a wide range of activities. "The gym and play area behind the school are inviting spaces which we think create a feeling of a community centered facility," said Sims. "It is really going to be an enjoyable place to learn."

by Kasia McDonough



Joel Sims, of Quad Three Group, which designed Wycallis Elementary, talked about how the building was designed with children and the environment in mind.



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### The Dallas Post (ISSN - 1090-1094)

Published weekly by Bartsen Media, Inc. \$18 per year in Luzerne and Wyoming counties (PA); \$20 elsewhere in PA, NY or NJ; \$22 all other states. Periodicals postage paid at Dallas PA.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612.

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