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Girl Scouts take home four silvers

Four local Girl Scouts are honored with the prestigious Silver Award

By HEATHER B. JONES
Post Staff

SHAVERTOWN - Girl Scouts promise to serve their country and to help people at all times. Four members of Cadette Troop 665 have turned those words into actions.

Katie Blanchard, Christine Muscavage, Stephanie Miller and Megan Riley have each earned the highest award a Cadette Girl Scout achieve. Each cadette had to complete four requirements which build skills, explore careers, gain leadership, and make a commitment to self-improvement before they could do a final service project to earn the award.

"I've wanted to be a writer since I was 10 years old," said Katie, a sophomore at Dallas High School. "I wanted to put my talents to use." So for Katie's Silver Award project, she created a program called the "Young Writers Workshop" and for about six weeks met with Miss Carolyn Cooper's fourth grade class at Dallas Elementary School.

Katie said when she first told the students she was there to help them with basic writing and composition, the class wasn't too excited. "At first, they didn't think they'd have any-

See GIRL SCOUTS, page 3



POST PHOTO/JIM PHILLIPS

Diana Glicini lights the candles for the awards ceremony for the Girl Scouts at the Shavertown United Methodist Church. For more photos, see the Community Photo Album on page 6.

Collecting cans for kids with cancer

Raising funds to help build 'A Home of Their Own'

BY SANDY PEOPLES
Post Correspondent

DALLAS - Jared Kukosky, a first grader at Gate of Heaven School in Dallas is collecting aluminum cans to help build a "Home of Their Own" at Hershey Medical Center.

It will be a house where parents and children can stay together in a sterile environment while the children are recovering from bone marrow transplants to fight childhood cancer.

The cans will be collected by Jared and his dad, Tom, on Sat., April 7 at 10 a.m. at the Gate of Heaven School parking lot on Machell Avenue in Dallas. They will also accept checks

payable to the "Libby Schomas Fund."

This project is a memorial to Libby who died of cancer at the tender age of only 16 months. Her parents, Blake and Mona Schomas, have initiated this project as an outlet for their grief.

Little Libby had a profound affect on everyone who met her, and they appreciate all the help they are getting from friends and people they don't even know.

Tom Kukosky met Libby's father, Blake, at work in 1994. There was much joy when Libby was born, but that joy soon

See FUNDRAISER, page 8

What: Fund-raiser in honor of Li'l Libby Schomas
When: Sat., April 7, 10 a.m.
Where: Gate of Heaven School

Breathing new life into Dallas Rotary Club

Rotarian Karen Martin says the club is looking for a good men and women

By HEATHER B. JONES
Post Staff

DALLAS - Two years ago the last thing Karen Martin wanted was to be a Rotarian.

The Rotary was not her idea of a good time, but with some arm twisting she became Dallas Rotary Club's third female member. (Rotarians run in her husband's family with her father-in-law, Spencer Martin, a 41 year member and her husband, Eric

Martin previously a Dallas and Wilkes-Barre Rotarian).

In the face of an aging membership Karen said, "Essentially, all the old Rotarians were told 'it's your responsibility to replace yourself.'" That was when she was recruited. "The membership has dwindled," she said, "and I think the challenge now is to see Dallas Rotary grow back to a strong membership and have a very strong presence in the Back Mountain."

As it was pointed out to Karen, owner of Spectrum Graphics in Luzerne, "when you're in business, it's good to put back into the community." So that was another reason Karen and her husband Eric became the first husband and wife team to join the Dallas Rotary.

See ROTARY, page 8

A sprinkle of 'arsenic,' a touch of 'old lace'

And the stage is set for DHS production April 6 & 7

By SANDY PEOPLES
Post Correspondent

DALLAS - On April 6 and 7, the stage in the auditorium at Dallas High School will be converted into the Victorian living room of the old Brewster home in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Abby and Martha Brewster, played by Rebekah Burke and Kristen Vodzak, occupy the home with their nephew, Teddy, who is played by Michael Miller.

The story is about two charming and innocent ladies who populate their cellar with the remains of socially and religiously "acceptable" roomers, and the antics of their nephew, Teddy, who thinks he is Teddy Roosevelt.

The director, Mr. Harry McKeown, is very proud of the cast and crew consisting of three seniors, nine juniors and two sophomores. "This is the hardest show we have done so far," he said. "The biggest challenge is for our teens to assume the stance of their senior citizen characters, and to understand the characters as they say their lines. They have come a long way since the beginning of rehearsals. They have worked very hard and everyone is having a good time."

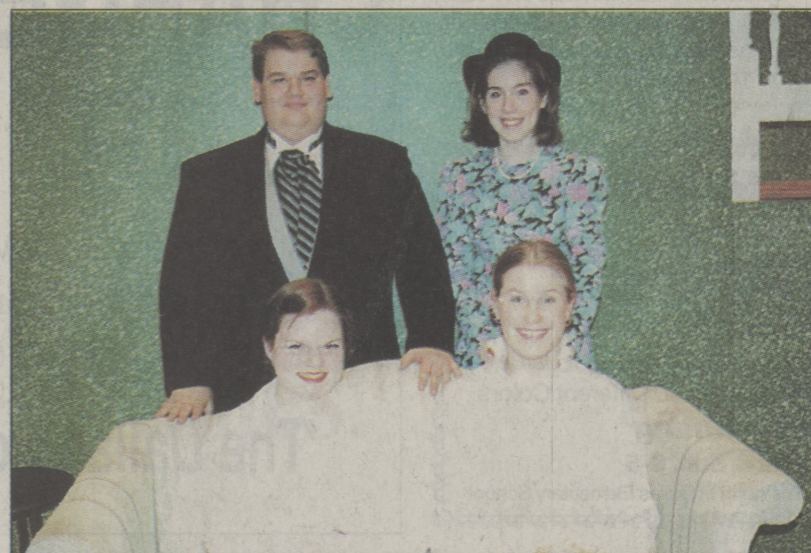
Several cast members were asked what the play means to them and how they feel about being a part of it. "I love every minute of it," said Rebekah Burke.

"I love working with all of the other people," Meredith Nagy said. "We get to be with all of our friends, and we look out for one another."

Kristen Vodzak said, "I love to be on stage. It's my nature. I've enjoy it since I was a very small child."

An animated Michael Miller said, "I am having so

See ARSENIC, OLD LACE, page 8



POST PHOTO/SANDY PEOPLES

From left, seated; Rebekah Burke and Kristen Vodzak. Standing; Michael Miller and Meredith Nagy.

Giving is 'the right thing to do'

Back Mt. blood donors say they enjoy helping others

By HEATHER B. JONES
Post Staff

DALLAS - As Erin Heffron drove past the Meadows Nursing facility last Wednesday afternoon, she saw a sign that alerted her to an American Red Cross Blood Drive.

She was on her way to work at

the Baseball Academy in Kingston and decided she had time to spare to make a difference by donating blood. "It's the right thing to do and it helps other people," she said. Heffron has donated a few times in the past, but doesn't consider herself a regular donor like Joan Luksa - who donates about three times a year.

As a regular donor, Luksa said it was the card she received in the mail from the American Red Cross that had brought her out to give blood. "The first time I gave, I was 17 and in college," Luksa said. She's been giving

blood ever since.

Diane Piekanski and Merlyn Fletcher, pheresis recruiters for the American Red Cross, were on hand looking for very special donors. "Pheresis donations are when your donating just your platelets. They are then used for cancer, leukemia and aplastic anemia patients," Piekanski said.

Cancer patients, who are about 99 percent of pheresis platelets recipients, are given the platelets after chemotherapy as a body supplement. "Cancer pa-

See DONORS, page 3



POST PHOTO/HEATHER B. JONES

As Pheresis recruiters, Merlyn Fletcher and Diane Piekanski perform a very important job in finding platelet donors for the American Red Cross's Pheresis Donation Program.

INDEX

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| 16 Pages, 2 Sections | |
| Calendar..... | 16 |
| Classified..... | 12 |
| Crossword..... | 16 |
| Editorials..... | 4 |
| Obituaries..... | 2 |
| School..... | 7 |
| Sports..... | 9 |

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