



# THE DALLAS POST

United We Stand  
Vol. 113 No. 47

50 Cents

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS



**SPORTS**  
Black Knights are state champs! Pg 11.



**SCHOOL**  
Veterans honored at Wycallis. Pg 13.



**COMMUNITY**  
Ecumenical Thanksgiving service planned. Pg 7.

## Preliminary 'big box' store plan presented in Dallas

By ERIN YOUNGMAN  
Post Staff

**DALLAS TWP.** - Could a Wal-Mart be heading our way? At the Dallas Township Planning Commission meeting last week, J. Naparło along with an engineer from C.E.I. Engineers, presented a preliminary sketch plan for a "big box user" at the intersection of Routes 415 and 118.

Speaking by phone from his Williams-

burg, Virginia home last week, Naparło said he has "a preliminary agreement with a corporation," but would not disclose which one. The plans that were submitted to the commission outline a 155,530 square foot "box user" that according to Naparło could be any large retail business such as Wal-Mart, Target, K-Mart, or Kohl's. In addition, the plans outline five other parcels that, for preliminary purposes have been designated for shops, restaurants and bank

**Traffic is big concern. Pg 10.**

use. Naparło's property is north of a wetland area on 415. To build on the property, the land will have to be leveled and filled in at its southern end.

The plans show two points of entry and exit on Route 415. One entrance and exit with a traffic signal directly across from the residential community Lake Way Manor. Another right turn

only entrance and exit is planned further north.

Len Kozick, township zoning officer, said no action by the planning commission is needed at this time. The plans were presented to the commission as part of routine requirements by the state Department of Transportation (PennDOT) for the property owner to secure an occupancy permit.

Naparło, who used to live in the area, said he purchased the entire 48-acre

property in 1998 from the Yalicks. He applied to have the zoning changed on the property approximately a year ago. All four parcels were changed at that time to B-4 commercial zoning.

The property on the preliminary sketch plan is divided into six parcels. The largest 21-acre parcel is planned to be the large retail store and the other five are tentatively planned to house a

See BIG BOX, pg 10



POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

The Dallas High School Student Council incorporated a food collection into its dance Saturday night. Packing in some of the donations, from left: Carrie Thimot, student council treasurer; Jen Arthur, president; Gabbie Huh, dropping in a donation.

## Drive under way to collect food for holidays, winter

By M.B. GILLIGAN  
Post Correspondent

For many of us, Thanksgiving brings thoughts of wonderful family meals, overflowing with vast assortments of foods. We are the fortunate ones.

Close to 120 of our Back Mountain neighbors know that their Thanksgiving dinner, along with nearly all of their other meals, depends on the generosity of others. The Back Mountain Food Pantry provides those clients with a week's worth of meals 50 weeks out of the year.

"We have some people who consistently give," explained Louise Hazeltine, a volun-

teer with Truckville United Methodist Church. "The postal workers' spring drive provides about 10,000 pounds of food and the Boy Scouts of Dallas (Troop 281) always do a spring food drive. That helps get us through the summer months. Then we have some groups who spread it out throughout the year, like Boy Scout Troop 155 of Truckville, who said they'll do a drive in January when the holiday giving is over."

The Thanksgiving food drive helps to replenish the shelves that are nearly depleted because many groups and organizations are not active during the summer. "We hope to get enough donations now to get

us through the winter," said Hazeltine.

Several Back Mountain schools and organizations are currently participating in the Thanksgiving food drive.

"The Cub Scouts of Troop 281 in Dallas brought in 50 boxes of food last night," said Walter Meade, Truckville, this year's chairman for the Thanksgiving baskets. He has been a volunteer with the Food Pantry since it started over 15 years ago.

"We have seven men who put up the orders every Friday and the clients come in to pick them up," he said.

College Misericordia, Gate of Heaven Ele-

See FOOD DRIVE, pg 14

## Board questions, then pays construction bills

By ELIZABETH ANDERSON  
Post Correspondent

**LEHMAN TWP.** - The Lake-Lehman School Board seemed to be keeping a close eye on the district's ever-increasing construction costs at Tuesday night's meeting, with several board members asking probing questions about expenditures. However, the board approved all payments and disbursements, including nearly \$115,000 in change orders for the senior high school project.

"Do we need to be doing all these change orders?" asked board member Angelo DeCesaris of Douglas Trumbower, the district's architect, saying he was concerned with the amount of money the district was spending. Trumbower outlined a few of the larger change orders included in the \$88,686 going to the general contractor, S. G. Mastriani, Inc., including \$16,000 for lockers with built-in locks not requested in the original specifications. Another \$22,000 went to upgrading balcony railings for the new gym to the new building

*"We do nitpick a lot but I personally appreciate what Doug does over there."*

Charles Boytin  
School board president

codes that will be implemented statewide next year. The upgraded railings will also be much safer, said Trumbower.

Board member Charles Balavage questioned the oversight of the change orders, saying, "We do not have anybody there on the job looking at these. We have Mr. Trumbower's representative and I do not think that is a good way to do this."

Balavage also questioned the \$39,000 already spent for drawings and specifications on a proposed prefabricated maintenance building.

"This is a pre-engineered building that we're supposed to

See LEHMAN, pg 9

## Early deadlines, delivery for Thanksgiving week

Due to the holiday, The Dallas Post will be published one day early Thanksgiving week. The issue dated November 28, 2002 will be available at stores on Wednesday, November 27, and will be delivered to local mail subscribers with that day's mail.

The deadline for submission of articles for that issue will be Friday, November 22 at 4 p.m.

Display advertising for the issue should be ordered by 5 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 21. Classified advertising will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 25.

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## College program provides hope, opportunity to moms

By ERIN YOUNGMAN  
Post Staff

**DALLAS** - The Women and Children program idea started percolating in 1998. Four years later the program is in its third year at College Misericordia, providing room, board, and numerous other supports to six educationally qualified single women with children.

"Our concern is when a woman is very interested in trying to go to college, how do we assist that?" said Sister Jean Messaros RSM, Dean of Students at College Misericordia. "Without her having to worry about having an apartment, working to pay for the apartment and provide for her children."

Messaros said studies indicating that women make up the greatest number of single, head of household families in Luzerne and Lackawanna counties spurred her and others at the college to pursue the establishment of the program.

"Several of us had been talking one day, saying wouldn't it be wonderful if we could do



POST PHOTO/ERIN YOUNGMAN

Margi Feist, left, and Marisue Sack, Program Coordinator, look over some of the material.

something specific for women with children who are trying to go to school?" said Messaros.

Messaros said the idea was a natural progression from the mission of the Sisters of Mercy who founded the college in 1924. According to Messaros, when Catherine McAuley found-

ed the Sisters of Mercy in 1830s Ireland, the congregation's primary work was with the poor women and children of Dublin. That tradition continues today.

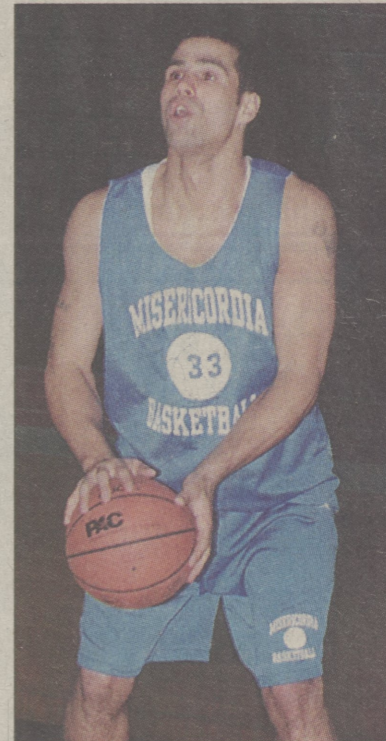
In 1998, the Sisters of Mercy gave Rosary Hall, the former dorm and home economics building, on the corner of Center

Hill Road and Church Street, to the program as well as \$10,000 to renovate the home into the women's residence. The college provides the families room and board valued at approximately \$7,000 annually and gives the children free meal cards to eat on campus. The program also includes short presentations for the women on topics such as parenting. All other costs are incurred by the women in the form of financial aid, loans and jobs.

"The women, their background, their histories for whatever reason, have placed them in these circumstances. We feel a mission to break that cycle," said Messaros.

Ellie Miller, director of the program, said one of the greatest things about the program is that the children learn to feel at home on a college campus. She said the most recent graduate's daughter became so comfortable with the college environment that she felt unimpaired in president McDowell's office. "And the kids talk about going to college," said Miller.

See MOMS, pg 3



## Season looks bright for Cougars

Led by pre-season All-American Willie Chandler, the College Misericordia men hope to make some noise in Division III.

Preview on page 11.

The Dallas Post

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