



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Serving it up for the church

The Trustees of the Truckville United Methodist Church held their annual spring barbecue May 7 and 8. They were kept busy over the two day event, cooking and serving nearly 800 chicken dinners. In top photo, Karen Williams, Lori Monk, and Dawn Kaplanski prepared the takeout orders. Middle left, Mrs. Baird, a teacher at Truckville Nursery School, serves up some peach-colored applesauce for dinner guests. Middle right, Tracey Crispell serves Helen Soska some chicken. Above, Twila Kaplanski gets her chicken from Sharon Lamoreaux.

Dog license sales

Luzerne County Treasurer Michael L. Morale has announced that 2004 dog licenses are now available at the following locations:

- Dallas Twp. — Hoof-in-Paw-n-Jeans, 675-4800.
- Kunkle — Pet Care Associates, 675-1621.

Licenses also will be sold at the Treasurer's Office in the Luzerne County Courthouse. To obtain licenses by mail, send your name, address, telephone number, date of birth (if 65 or

older), the dog's name, color, breed and gender. The mailing address is: Luzerne County Treasurer, Courthouse, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711. Return postage is not necessary. The regular rates are \$8 for males and females; \$6 for neutered males or spayed females. The rates for senior citizens with disabilities are \$6 for males and females; \$4 for neutered males or spayed females. If you are applying for a license that requires the dog owner be a senior citizen (at 65 at the time of purchase), or a person with the disability, you must provide proof of age or disability to the county treasurer or agent.

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Field

(continued from page 1)

Many of the travel days are structured to take advantage of every moment. Todd Buckley, now a freshman at King's College, went on the field trips for three years while at Dallas. He remembers enthusiastically that the days were jam-packed. "We were up earlier in the morning than we would be if we were at school — probably at 6 a.m. — and we didn't finish working and traveling until 8:30 at night. Then we'd hit the pool for an hour. We were busy," he said.

The "classroom on wheels" presents no academic problem to Buda. Packets of information and materials are required reading prior to a destination with quizzes and reports are given after each visit. With four or five teachers and the school nurse in attendance, the students have ample access to adult guidance in social studies, math, health or English.

Recently, the trip coincided with the administration of the AP English tests, so the teachers were given the test materials and the exams were taken by students while they were traveling.

Buda notes that all participating students have signed a contract with their other subject teachers noting what materials they'll be missing and what they might need to cover while there are traveling, along with the teachers' general approvals.

The students are expected to bring back items and artifacts from the trip and stories to share with those not attending. If you are returning without such stories to the classroom, the trip was unsuccessful, not academically thoughtful or responsible, says the small booklet bulletin, called "Milestones" printed for the trip. There are extra credit assignments for all subject areas.

This year the chartered bus group stopped at Hyannis, Provincetown, Plimouth Plantation, Nantucket Island and Mystic Aquarium. It is a good "bonding experience," says Buda.

"Me, John Gilligan, Mike Yurchak, and Danny Picillo really enjoyed the area and what we saw, and now talk about going back up there to visit again for a week together," says Buckley. But alumni find it hard to take a trip like this with friends after they graduate.

The trip spawns new thinking and ideas. This year three students have chosen the Salem witch trials as their senior project presentations. Katie Dale, who was the first freshman allowed on the trip three years ago, says, "Some things you can't learn through a textbook, you need to see it yourself, and then you remember it."

The destinations may appear to be right out of a tour book, but some are more intriguing. One year the group visited Kurt Vonnegut's home on Cape Cod and this year they stopped at the Mystic Pizza shop in Connecticut. Some stops are optional and recreational, such as bike tours around Nantucket for returning travelers. Trip destinations are planned by the students at lunch sessions held in Buda's class office throughout the year.

Dale was student planner for the Mystic Pizza stop. "I wanted to experience a small fishing industry town, and I know everybody will think it's because of Julia Roberts, and the drama is important, but you don't really know, like, the Pilgrims until you see them at Plimouth Plantation. They talked differently and they cooked their fresh salads in milk. You can't get all this from a textbook."

While the field trips are focused on academics,

"Believe me, I am not a travel tour director. Many days we are too busy to stop for lunch."

Eleanor Buda
Field studies leader

traveling lends itself to learn the social graces and the students are expected to enjoy and appreciate the great dining opportunities. "We visit some really fine restaurants," says Buda, noting the students are great learners in this arena.

"We try to sample all the clam chowders and pick the best one, I like the one at the Jailhouse Restaurant, in Orleans (Massachusetts). It's not too salty, creamy, and has lots of herbs," says Dale.

Though students, teaching staff, and the Dallas community are enriched by the field studies program, its future is in doubt with Eleanor Buda's upcoming retirement. "The field studies program will stand on its own merits, it's not my program, as some people think," Buda firmly states.

Frank Galicki, Dallas Senior High School Principal, suggests the program will continue based on the expertise and interest of the remaining teaching staff.

Buda remembers with joy the people and experiences the field studies program have given her and is reminded, like any good English teacher, of this quote from Sir Isaac Newton: "I do not know what I may appear to the world; but to myself I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the seashore, and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble, or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay undiscovered before me."



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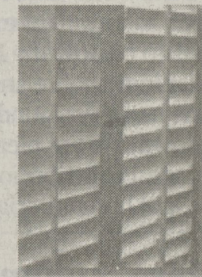
Nicki Pionkowski, Katie Dale, Heather Harvester, Eleanor Buda, Jill Pionkowski, Katie Gilligan, and Jim Dixon (bus driver) pause before leaving on field trip excursion to New England May 4.

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