

## Gate of Heaven School nominated for Catholic Schools of Tomorrow award

Gate of Heaven School, Dallas, has been nominated for the national publication, Today's Catholic Teacher, eighth annual Catholic Schools for Tomorrow Award. The award honors Catholic schools that have led the way by implementing exemplary, innovative programs to improve the teaching and learning of their students, faculty, and staff.

Awards are offered in five categories for innovations in;

promoting Catholic identity, curriculum and instruction, technology integration, staff development, and total community involvement. Twelve award winners will be selected by a panel of judges from the Institute for Pastoral Initiatives at the University of Dayton, chaired by Sr. Angela Ann Zukowski, MSHS, and announced in March 2005. All Catholic schools in the United States and Canada are eligible for the 2005 award.

## PSU campus clubs supports troops

Two campus clubs at Penn State Wilkes-Barre collaborated on a project to raise money for Operation Gratitude, a non-government, nonprofit corporation, that sends care packages to service members overseas.

Members of the Lion Ambassadors and Students for Justice collected donations on campus and also donated funds from their club treasuries. Donations were collected up until Veteran's Day when a total of \$750 was sent to Operation Gratitude in California. Financial aid coordinator Kathy Pesta organized the effort at the campus.

"We wanted to help Operation Gratitude reach their goal of sending 25,000 packages between Veteran's Day weekend and the end of December to help make the holidays a little brighter for our troops," said Pesta.



Bringing in their filled UNICEF boxes were, Jeremy Taylor (in car), and from left, Rebecca Wright, Jacob Luke Hummel, Mikayla Weston, Samantha Rosencrans, Karen Marchakitus,

## Ross kids raise \$404 for UNICEF

Students from Ross Elementary School, Sweet Valley recently collected money for UNICEF. UNICEF is a non-profit organization which helps children around the world. It provides immunizations, clean water, and other necessities to children in countries where these amenities are not available. The students in kindergarten through sixth grades were given UNICEF boxes to collect money on Halloween night. As a math activity the first grade classes sorted and counted the money that was collected. The students raised \$404.



## Maskalis displays handmade quilt

Michelle Maskalis, a senior at Lake-Lehman Jr./Sr. Senior High School, is shown displaying one of the handmade quilts that she made for Project D.J. Project D.J. is a group of church and community volunteers in Northeast Pennsylvania which create quilts and blankets for children in need of comfort, security, or just some TLC. The group meets twice a week at Trucksville United Methodist Church. They have made more than 400 quilts. The quilts are donated to ill children in hospitals, children who are traumatized by a fire, loss of a loved one, and they will also do special requests for anyone who asks. Michelle has made three quilts already for her senior project and she plans to make many more.



Meredith Davies, Brianna Cyprich and Courtney Pruden will perform in "Season of Love."

## Joan Harris Dancers to present 'Season of Love'

The sights and sounds of the holiday season will be depicted in dance, as the Joan Harris Dancers present their annual winter celebration, "Season of Love." More than 150 students from the Joan Harris Centre's Back Mountain Campus will pool their talents with their partners from the Kingston studios to produce three fast-paced shows this weekend.

Traditional dances, inspirational lyrical pieces, narrative story telling and old-fashioned song and dance routines will be staged to a plethora of seasonal classics.

The shows mark the conclusion of one eight-week session of classes at the performing arts school. In the past seven weeks, students from the Dallas studio have performed liturgical dances at a regional

Thanksgiving service. In the coming weeks nearly 100 dancers from the school will be appearing in two productions of "The Great Russian Nutcracker" at the F. M. Kirby Center.

"Season of Love" scheduled for Friday Dec. 3 and Saturday Dec. 4 at the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center, South River Street in Wilkes-Barre.

Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door and are available at the Joan Harris Centre's two campuses, in the Twin Stacks Complex in Dallas and the West Side Mall, Edwardsville. The productions are scheduled for Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. with two shows on Saturday beginning at 1 and 5 p.m. For more information, call 674-3699 or 287-7977.



## Dallas EI October standout students

Here are the student standouts for the month of October.

Above photo, from left, first row: Sadie Trudgen, Luke Matusiac, Olivia Thomas, Allie Bruch, Jessica Kus, Elizabeth Grosse, Alexa Dosiak, Danica Schimmel, Tylar Miller, Matt Harrison. Second row: Tyler Tuck, Katie Metcalf, Mike Podskoch, Nick Usevicz, James Carey, Justin Brojakowski, Decklan Cerza, Jenna Davis, Sara Hudak, Third row: Dakota Stritzinger, Shane Dunn, Paul Narcum, Paul Brace, Austin Sickler, Lindsay Jayne, Talia Simon. At right, A.M. Kindergarten and students who were absent from top photo. From left, first row: Ryan Cohen, Andrew Zeyher. Second row: Julia Zochowski, Brielle Brace, Kellie Meehan.



## Oktoberfest at Dallas Middle School

The Munich Oktoberfest is the largest public festival in the world. The huge Oktoberfest grounds have carousels, roller coasters and all the spectacular fun of a fair for the enjoyment of visitors of all ages. So, Haben Sie Spass mit Oktoberfest! (Have fun with Oktoberfest!) And that is exactly what Dallas Middle School students did. The school's German Club had a huge celebration. Many members brought in German desserts to enjoy. The dessert makers were Elena Habersky, Kori McGee, Krissy Miller, and Erin Belles.

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