

# THE POST

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

## Dallas senior's artwork earns Best of Show at 25th annual Rossetti Art Contest

# Touhey receives top prize

By GENELLE HOBAN  
Post Correspondent

DALLAS TWP. – Twenty-five years ago Louise Rossetti lost her 26-year-old daughter. Suzanne Maria Rossetti, who lived in Arizona and worked at a burn treatment skin bank, was kidnapped, raped and murdered by two assailants.

"She was a wonderful young lady who had no bad habits," Louise Rossetti said. "She didn't drink or smoke. She did a lot of nice things for other people that no one ever knew about except for the recipients."

After local artist Sue Hand of Sue Hand's Imagery in Dallas read an article in Time Magazine about the murder, she felt moved by the story.

Coincidentally, a short time later Hand's husband, Joe, was paired up with a running partner who was new to the area, and ironically was a friend of the Rossetti family. Hand decided to write to the family.

And the Suzanne Maria Rossetti Juried Art Show was born.

The contest has grown from approximately 100 entries with several dozen winning entries on display, to almost 1,000 submissions with several hundred on display. The contest is open to students in grades 7-12 from the Dallas, Lake-Lehman, Tunkhannock and Northwest Area school districts.

This year, thousands of dollars in community-sponsored awards were given to area students who excelled in artistic mediums, including pastel, charcoal, photography, fibers and graphics.

Dallas High School senior Kate Touhey won the Best of Show Award.

"I've been entering ever since I



Dallas senior Kate Touhey won the Best in Show award.

was in seventh grade," said the 17-year-old. "To get Best in Show you have to enter three pieces and they look at your collection and decide. I was astonished when I got it. It was definitely a pleasant surprise."

Wyoming Seminary senior Lauren Hardisky won the Peter Rossetti Memorial Award for the second-best overall entry.

The opening reception of the Rossetti Art Show was held last weekend in the MacDonald Art Gallery at College Misericordia. The exhibit will run until April 1.

"The art show is wonderful," Rossetti said. "They treat us like royalty. It is something I look forward to every year. God may have taken Suzanne away from me, but he gave me a wonderful family in Pennsylvania."

Suzanne's sister, Donna Rossetti Bailey's award winning pastel artwork is also on display at the King's College's Widmann Gallery through March 30.



Lake-Lehman freshman Kelsey Amy did the watercolor 'Gas Station.'



FOR THE POST/JONATHAN J. JUKA

'The Gates' was created by artist Kate Touhey.

Kate Touhey's creation 'Bruton Parish Church' was part of the Rossetti Art Show.

### SPORTS



Former Bishop O'Reilly standout Tim Crossin closes out his freshman year at Towson University by being named to Colonial Athletic Conference all-star team.

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### HUGO SELENSKI TRIAL

# High-profile trial features two local lawyers

## Dallas grad leads defense

By DAVE KONOPKI  
Post Editor

DALLAS TWP. – If Demetrius Fannick had heeded the advice of his high school guidance counselor, he'd be preparing financial statements, auditing books, and crunching numbers.

Instead, Fannick is the lead defense attorney in one of the most high-profile murder cases in recent Luzerne County history.

The 50-year-old Dallas Township resident is defending double-murder suspect Hugo Selenski, whose trial has been going on for more than a week at the Luzerne County Courthouse. The case has gained local, state and national attention.

Better known as "Tim," Fannick was a standout basketball player and a senior at Dallas High School when he told his guidance counselor of his desire to become a



TIMES LEADER STAFF PHOTO/AIMEE DILGER

Dallas High School graduate Demetrius Fannick is the lead defense attorney for Hugo Selenski.



TIMES LEADER STAFF PHOTO/AIMEE DILGER

Shavertown resident Jim McMonagle is the lead prosecutor in the case against Hugo Selenski.

## Local umpire is prosecutor

By DAVE KONOPKI  
Post Editor

SHAVERTOWN – Jim McMonagle grew up watching the "Eddie Capra Mysteries," a television show about a Los Angeles lawyer who uses his skill to solve puzzling murders.

Now, McMonagle is part of a highly-emotional, real-life courtroom drama.

The 38-year-old Luzerne County Assistant District Attorney is the lead prosecutor in the double-murder trial of Hugo Selenski. The Dallas High School graduate is accused of killing two people on his Kingston Township property.

"I loved watching Eddie Capra Mysteries," said McMonagle, a Johnstown native who lives in Jackson Township with his wife Julie and their children Courtney, 9, Sean, 7, and Eryn, 4. "It was amazing how he solved the crimes. That's when I knew I wanted to be a lawyer."

For the past decade, hundreds of Back Mountain residents have gotten to know

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