

Essay, oratorical entries are due

Dallas American Legion Post 672 is holding its annual essay contest for high school students.

The contest is held in conjunction with the 72nd annual contest sponsored by the Pennsylvania American Legion.

The contest is open to all high school students who reside in the Back Mountain.

This year's topic is "How Can We Support Our Troops?"

There are monetary awards at the local and district levels. Scholarship awards are presented to the three finalists in the final round of the state contest.

The first place winner will receive a \$3,500 scholarship, a plaque, and a trip to the American Legion convention in July 2007 to read the winning essay to the assembled delegates.

The second place winner will receive a \$3,000 scholarship and a plaque, while the third place winner will receive a \$2,500 scholarship and a plaque.

Interested students may contact their school office or call Dallas American Legion commander Clarence J. Michael at 675-0488. All entries must be received by Jan. 7.

The American Legion is also sponsoring a high school oratorical contest.

The theme for year's contest is "We The People." The contest will consist of an 8-10-minute, memorized oration on some phase of the United States Constitution and a 3-5-minute extempore oration on one of four topics assigned by the national headquarters.

The first place winner will receive a \$7,500 scholarship, plaque, and a paid trip to the Pennsylvania American Legion State Convention to present the winning oration.

The winner will also represent Pennsylvania in national and regional contests and receive an additional \$1,500 scholarship from the national organization.

The second place winner will receive a \$5,000 scholarship and a plaque, while the third place winner receives a \$4,000 scholarship and a plaque.

Application forms may be obtained at high school offices or by calling Michael at 675-0488.

DALLAS GUIDANCE OFFICE OFFERING PRACTICE SAT



The Dallas High School will offer a practice Scholastic Aptitude Test at 8 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 1 at the high school. The cost is \$25 and checks should be made payable to Dallas High School. The registration deadline is Tuesday, Dec. 5. For a registration form, call the high school at 675-5201 or write to: Dallas High School Guidance Office, Practice SAT, P.O. Box 2000, Dallas, Pa. 18612. Dallas High School guidance counselors planning for the test, from left, are Robyn Jones, Jack Wolensky and Diane Sherman.

HOLIDAY HIGH TEA TO BE HELD DEC. 10



The fourth annual Holiday High Tea will be held from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10 at the Frederick Stegmaier Mansion in Wilkes-Barre. The event benefits College Misericordia's Women with Children Program, which was established in 2000 to provide support to women with children by helping them realize their full potential through higher education. The program was designed to provide support, services, housing and financial aid for academically qualified single mothers of any age who are determined to complete their undergraduate degree. The program has grown steadily, but due to limited facilities and funding, enrollment is capped at only six adults. There are 25 women on the waiting list. Tickets are \$125 per person and may be ordered by calling program director Vicki Austin at 674-6728 or e-mailing vaustin@misericordia.edu. High tea planning committee members are Vicki Austin, Carolyn Bell, Brenda McGinley, Sherry Hutzinger, Jean Messaros, Elly Miller, Mary Louise Faber, Kim Koehl and Shawn Murphy. Children enrolled in the Women with Children Program at College Misericordia, from left, first row are Jacob Mullen, Matthew Poole, Elizabeth Poole and Olivia Harris. Second row: Alyssa Burcker.

CHURCH BRIEFS

Christmas ornaments available at TUMC

The Church School and Campaign 2000 committee of the Trucksville United Methodist Church are joining to sell Christmas tree ornaments. The shatterproof ornaments are available in red or purple for \$3 each. Brass stands are also available for \$1.

Orders may be placed with Lynn Magnotta (696-6088) or Brenda Williams (696-0146), or by calling the church office at 696-3897.

Loyalville UMC plans turkey, ham dinner

The Loyalville United Methodist Church will hold a roast turkey and baked ham dinner from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9 at the church on Loyalville Road. The church is located one-half mile off Route 29 south and 4 miles west of Dallas from Route 118. There will also be a bake sale.

Takeouts will be available and orders should be called in advance. Dinners are \$8 for adults and \$3.50 for children under age 12. For takeout orders or more information, call 477-3521. Be sure to leave your name and the number of dinners requested.

Grief support group meeting at St. Paul's

A grief support group, sponsored by Hospice St. John and led by the Rev. Peggy Sue Pfeffer, will be held from 7-8:30 p.m. Nov. 28 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Route 118 in Dallas Township. Anyone who has experienced grief - including families who did not receive hospice services - is encouraged to attend the meeting.

This is an informal gathering, allowing participation at individual comfort levels and participants are welcome to bring a friend. There is no admission charge, but registration is requested by calling the church office at 675-3859.

UM Women meeting Nov. 28

The United Methodist Women at the Lehman-Idetown United Methodist Church will hold its regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 28. The Advent/Christmas pro-

gram "Let There Be Peace on Earth" will be presented by Linda VanGorder. The UMW will hold the annual Christmas party at the Red Rooster on Tuesday, Dec. 5. Reservations may be given to Kristi Snyder or Jayne Haelele.

River of Life begins nightly meetings

Pastors Stephen and Mary Ann Kotch of River Of Life @ Kingdom Power Ministries in Shavertown will hold special meetings at 7:30 p.m. each Tuesday through Sunday at the church, located at 219 North Memorial Highway. The Sunday meetings will be held at 6 p.m.

The meetings will vary each evening to include teaching on spiritual gifts, prophecy, healing, dreams and visions interpretation, spiritual counsel and worship. The public is invited.

Men's breakfast held each Tuesday

The Shavertown United Methodist Church recently began holding a weekly ecumenical men's breakfast. The group meets at 8 a.m. each Tuesday at Pickett's Charge restaurant on Route 415 in Dallas. The Dutch treat breakfast is followed by fellowship and a short devotion period. The breakfast, fellowship and devotion period last no longer than one hour.

Men from all Back Mountain churches are encouraged to attend. For more information, call Bob Deeble at 696-2148.

Awana Club meets at Grace Community

The Awana Club of Grace Community Church meets from 6-7:45 p.m. each Wednesday at the church, located across from Chapel Lawn Cemetery on Memorial Highway. The club holds its meetings through April.

The Bible-based club is open to boys and girls in kindergarten through sixth grade. Awana is one of the largest nondenominational children and youth ministries in the world. Awana clubs are active in more than 110 countries, reaching more than one million young people each week.

For more information, call the church office at 675-3723.



FOR THE DALLAS POST/CHARLOTTE BARTZEK

The three pigs - Amy Vodzak, Samantha Culver and Hannah Grube - attracted a lot of attention.

DHS PLAY

Continued from Page 1

teacher at the high school. "The kids loved it and they got a great response from the public. We had more than 500 people attend the three shows. The parents and faculty raved about it."

Preparations for the play began back in September, with the selection of a play, tryouts, set construction and more than eight weeks of rehearsing five days a week, said McKeown, who was assisted by Audrey Ide.

"It's a lot of hard work and it's nerve-wracking up to the week before the play," he said. "Then, everything seems to come together.

When you're casting for a play, you take a look at the characters and try to match them up with the right student. Can they sing? Can they react well with each other? It's a judgment call. The kids did a great job and we got a lot of help from a lot of people."

This year McKeown re-started the drama club, which had been inactive for about the last nine years. More than 50 students learn about all aspects of the theater.

"Right now, we're just feeling our way through things," said McKeown who is the vice president of the Music Box Playhouse in Swyersville. "I'm trying to give (the students) an awareness of the theater, especially community theater. I try to teach them what it's all about."

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