

STUDENTS AID GUATEMALAN YOUNGSTERS



Sister Donna Korba of Marywood University recently visited fourth graders at Wyoming Seminary Lower School to thank them for writing books in Spanish and English to help students in Guatemala learn English. The books were sent by air mail to 600 female students at the Centro Educativo Anunciata in Chichicastenango, Guatemala, a school run by the Dominican Sisters of the Anunciation and the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, affiliated with Marywood University in Scranton. Thanks to contacts made at the Scranton Fiesta 2006, the Wyoming Seminary class was able to participate in an exchange program between donors in the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre area and the Guatemalan school. During the month of December, the Sem fourth graders worked alone and in groups to prepare original books with basic topics such as colors, zoo animals, food, numbers and the months of the year. Using a Powerpoint presentation, Sister Donna Korba told the fourth graders about Guatemala, her work as a music and English teacher there, and the role that education plays in improving the lives of Guatemalan children. Spanish teacher Beatriz Glick hopes that the project launches a cultural exchange between the two schools that will in turn foster understanding between the two countries and their cultures. Above, Sister Donna Korba of Marywood University mingles with fourth graders at the Lower School, following her visit with students to thank them for their donation of original books to a school in Chichicastenango, Guatemala. Shown holding bracelets given to them by Sister Donna Korba, are, from left, first row, Adam Rinehouse, Shavertown; Nicholas Krawczeniuk, Scranton; Courtney McCarthy, Dallas; Rebecca Barnes, Scranton; Sara Zaman, Shavertown; Elizabeth Roswiz, Shavertown. Back row, Patrick Corcoran, Nanticoke; Matthew Edkins, Hunlock Creek; Patrick Lehman, Hanover Township; Sister Donna Korba; Jacob Idec, Tunkhannock; Lia Sminkey, Kingston; Madison Nardone, Shavertown; Ashlyn Smith, Mountain Top; and Corinne Conyngham, Shavertown.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

Spring Fling event at Evans Falls school

The Evans Falls Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization will hold its "Spring Fling" from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 21 on the school grounds in Evans Falls.

The daylong event for parents and children promises to be a fun filled event, with games, prizes, music, rides, moon walk, petting zoo, face and nail painting, dunk tank (dunk your favorite teacher), silent auction, gigantic bake sale, and cow pie bingo.

Food and refreshments will be available for purchase at a nominal fee, along with snow cones, cotton candy, and popcorn.

The public is invited. Silent basket-style auctions will offer treasures for everyone, including donated items from friends of Evans Falls PTO, and members of the business community.

Event organizers are contacting local businesses and community members for donations of auction items.

Funds raised at the event go toward funding PTO-sponsored programs at Evans Falls Elementary.

The event marks the fourth time Spring Fling has been held at the school. In case of inclement weather all activities will move indoors.

To make a donation or arrange for item pick-up including food and soda, or for more information, call Karen Phillips at 298-2614 or Michelle Ray at 881-7055.

Families sought for exchange students

ASSE International Student Exchange Programs (ASSE) is seeking local host families for boys and girls from a variety of countries around the world.

These students are 15 to 18 years of age, and are coming to this area for the upcoming high school year or semester.

These personable and academically select exchange students have good English, are bright, curious and anxious to learn about the USA by living as part of your family, attending high school and sharing their own culture and language with you.

The exchange students arrive from their home country shortly before school begins and return at the end of the school year or semester.

Each ASSE student is fully insured, brings his or her own personal spending money and expects to bear his or her share of household responsibilities, as well as being included in normal family activities and lifestyles.

The students are well screened and qualified by ASSE.

Families may select the youngster of their choice from extensive student applications, family photos and biographical essays.

To become a host family or find out more about ASSE and its programs, please call Sue 1-732-251-1517 or 1-800-677-2773. Or visit the website at www.asse.com. Families are encouraged to begin the selection process immediately.

Friedman Observatory open Monday nights

The Friedman Observatory at the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus in Lehman Township offers opportunities to view the night sky through a computerized 16-inch Meade telescope.

The observatory is open to the public starting one hour after sunset on clear Mondays.

If Monday is not clear, the observatory will be open Tuesday at the same time.

John Rovnak, acting director of the observatory, and her assistants will be on hand to answer questions.

Rovnak is an amateur astronomer, retired aerospace engineer, and Penn State graduate.

Small groups are welcome on public nights.

Larger groups, such as Girl and Boy Scout troops, are invited to call for a private session.

The observatory opened in 1990 and the computerized Meade Schmidt-Cassegrain reflecting telescope is the only one of its kind in the region.

The rural setting provides a perfect opportunity for stargazing away from city lights.

For more information regarding viewing opportunities, contact Thomas Winter at 675-9278 or tw2@psu.edu; and Rovnak at 925-2561 or jer32@psu.edu.

Information is also available on college's Web site at www.wb.psu.edu. Go to the quick links for the Friedman Observatory.

BACK MOUNTAIN

Dining Guide

Pizza Perfect

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