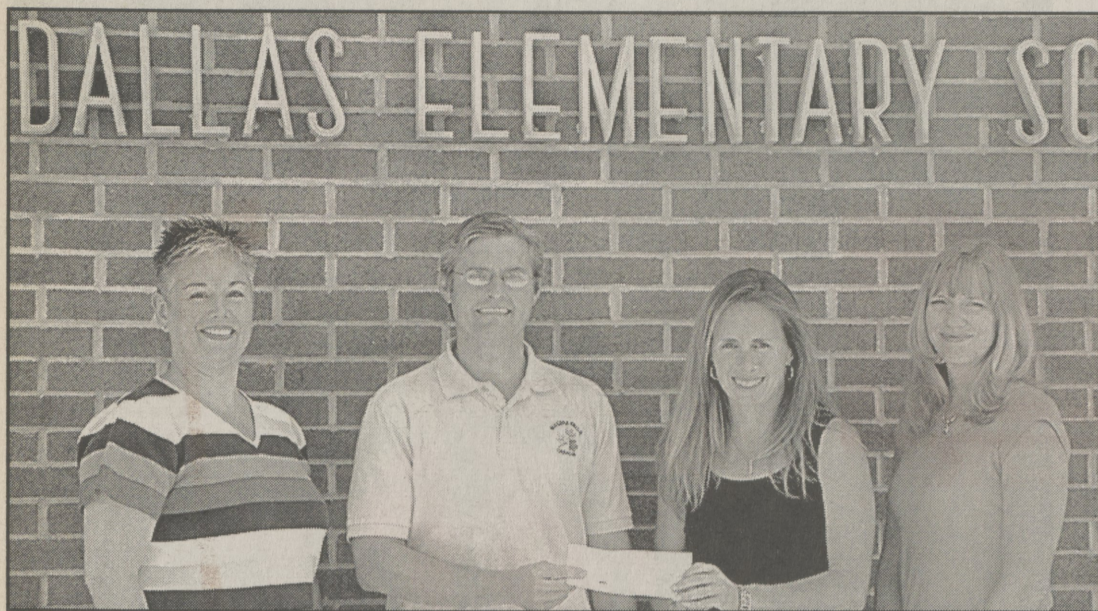


PTO DONATES TO HIMMLER PROJECT



Dallas Elementary School PTO officers recently presented a \$50 check to the Back Mountain Arts Association (BMAA), in honor of the promotion of former Principal Paul Reinert to the district's Assistant Superintendent position. Dr. Reinert is also a member of the BMAA Board of Directors and, therefore, accepted the donation on behalf of the organization. The BMAA is presently involved with the proposed re-construction of the Himmler Theater on Lake Street in Dallas. Shown at the check presentation are, from left, PTO President Kathy Chupka, Dr. Reinert; PTO Vice President Amy Rome and Ex Officio Deanna Habib.

MU comes to life Monday

Misericordia's annual Convocation ceremony is steeped in rich tradition in order to properly welcome the incoming freshman class and officially start the beginning of the new academic year.

This year's Convocation ceremony heralds the arrival of the largest freshman class in the institution's storied history and the official unveiling of Misericordia University - two important milestones at the four-year, liberal arts institution.

"Opening convocation is one of Misericordia's finest traditions," said Michael MacDowell, president of Misericordia University. "It is particularly meaningful this year as we welcome the first freshman class ever to be admitted to Misericordia as a new university."

"We will be admitting the largest freshman class in the history of Misericordia. Some who are entering will be progressing toward doctoral degrees in physical therapy. This is, therefore, a very meaningful day in the history of this 83-year-old institution and one that will long be remembered as the beginning of a new era for the county's oldest college and now its newest university," the president added.

The 370 freshmen, representing eight states, participated in the historical announcement that Misericordia has achieved university status. MU reflects the natural evolution from an all-girls school founded in 1924 to a co-educational institution that now offers master's and doctorate degrees in three colleges. Today, the institution enjoys record enrollment for both undergraduate and graduate students and academic programs that address the needs of students and the ever-changing job market.

Misericordia applied to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 2006 to become a university so it could better meet the challenges of the future and reflect the



alities of the institution today. The institution features 30 majors in the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Professional Studies and Social Sciences, and College of Health Sciences.

Misericordia will celebrate university status throughout the year with special programs and cultural events. The celebration begins Monday, Aug. 27 for students and the greater community when the institution sponsors a family-style cookout on its 120-acre campus featuring food, music, entertainment and a large fireworks display. The fun and festivities begin at 12:30 p.m. with an opening liturgy by Rev. Daniel Toomey, college chaplain, and concludes at 8:45 p.m. with fireworks. For a complete schedule of events, please log on to www.misericordia.edu. There is a nominal fee for lunch and dinner for campus guests.

Convocation's keynote speaker Paul C. Woelkers graduated from Misericordia in 1981 with an associate's degree in radiology and new-found confidence. The successful businessman said that combination enabled him to capitalize on his high quality education and ambitious vision for the growing industry. Mr. Woelkers' first foray into the mobile medical imaging business began at the former Nesbitt Memorial Hospital in Kingston, his first employ-

The formal Convocation ceremony marks the official beginning of the freshman year. The ceremony features a procession lead by the local Ceol Mor Pipe and Drum Band, and faculty and staff, dressed in full academic attire, to welcome incoming students.

Classes begin Monday, Aug. 27 following opening Mass.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

"Stuff the Bus" at Misericordia

The College Misericordia community will collect school supplies for area school children on Monday, Aug. 27, as part of its daylong Fun & Festivities university celebration on campus.

A Misericordia van will be conveniently parked on the campus service road behind Mercy Hall and adjacent to the Mary Kintz Bevevino Library for the "Stuff the Bus" benefit. It will be staffed by students, staff and faculty who will collect backpacks and assorted school supplies that will be donated to children who attend the after-school tutoring center, Kids Café in Wilkes-Barre, the outreach program, Mercy Services in Wilkes-Barre, and the Catherine McAuley House, transitional shelters for women and children in Plymouth and Scranton.

For more information about the "Stuff the Bus" benefit, please contact Campus Ministry at 674-6495 or public relations at 674-6372.

Auditions set for 'Messiah'

The Misericordia University Choral Society will hold auditions August 28 to September 18 for a December performance of Handel's "Messiah."

The Misericordia University Choral Society is made up of students and faculty of the university and members of the community of all ages. The choral society welcomes new singers with music-reading ability and a dedication to singing great choral music.

Auditions are available for openings in all parts of the production. Rehearsals are 7 to 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday in the Banks Student Life Center's Kennedy Lounge. New singers can register for an audition by coming to any of the first four rehearsals beginning August 28.

For more information about the performance or choral society, please call the director, John Curtis, at 674-6739 or write to jcurtis@misericordia.edu.

Open House set at Lake-Lehman

The Lake-Lehman Junior/Senior High School will host an Open House August 28 - 30.

This yearly event allows seventh, eighth, and ninth grade students to try lockers, locate rooms and become familiar with the layout of the school.

Information pertinent to the Open House will be mailed home shortly before. Students must bring this information on the day they choose to visit the school.

Students and parents are welcome to attend according to the following schedule:

Tuesday, August 28 - 9 to 11 a.m.

Wednesday, August 29 - 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 30 - 1 to 3 p.m.

Misericordia ranked by News & World Report

College Misericordia is once again listed in the U.S. News & World Report America's Best College rankings for Best Universities, Master's North, a category that includes colleges in the northern United States that offer master's degrees.

Misericordia's graduation rate, a key factor in the rankings, equals or exceeds that of other colleges with overall higher rankings. Other Misericordia numbers used to calculate the ranking that match or exceed other highly ranked colleges include the percent of students to faculty ratio, and the percentage of alumni who donate.

College Misericordia ranks 67th out of the 133 schools listed in the Best Universities, Master's North, classification, just a point behind a 10-way tie for 57th.

College Misericordia also holds for 2007 a "Best Northeastern College" designation by the Princeton Review, a student-survey based measure of quality colleges.

Princeton Review recognizes college

College Misericordia is one of 222 select colleges and universities in the northeast that The Princeton Review recommends to college applicants in the new 2008 edition of its book, "Best Northeastern Colleges."

The Princeton Review describes College Misericordia as having a small student body that translates to a "personal" educational experience in which "teachers are always available for students" and "are always willing to help you out in and out of the classroom." The survey describes the school as "small," but with "very high-level" academics and features "very good health major programs." It also says Misericordia "has a great reputation in the field of education," has "the best communications department in the area" and the small campus environment means that students tend to know each other "not just by face but by name, and they all seem to get along with each other."

The Princeton Review surveyed 62,000 students at the 222 colleges, or 275 per campus, in the latest edition. The book includes schools in the District of Columbia and 11 states: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Lehman Class of 1967 plans reunion

The Lake-Lehman Class of 1967 will hold its 40th anniversary class reunion on Sunday, Sept. 2, at the Appletree Terrace, Newberry Estates, Dallas.

The committee is asking for help in locating the following classmates: Sharon Pudim Grant, Robert Vandermark, Linda McCarty Jacoby, Arthur Lamoreaux, Irving Lee King, Breck Miller and Susan Jones.

Anyone with information on these classmates is asked to contact the committee at LLHSCCLASSOF1967@YAHOO.COM.

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 - USA Today
Hairspray
 Saturday, March 29, 2008 • 8:00 PM
 "If life were everything it should be, it would be more like HAIRSPRAY. It's irresistible"
 - The New York Times
Ring of Fire
 Thursday, April 24, 2008 • 7:30 PM
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 - The Buffalo News
 "Ring of Fire is HOT!"
 - Variety
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Jesus Christ Superstar
 Tuesday, May 13, 2008 • 7:30 PM
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 - Bangor Daily News
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SICKO • August 29 • Rated PG-13; 117 Minutes
 Taking aim at the state of America's healthcare, Michael Moore's Sicko focuses on a group of ordinary Americans telling compelling stories how their lives have been dramatically affected by the nation's medical care system. The film provides an historical background detailing how the U.S. reached its current healthcare status, along with on-camera interviews with individuals and their families describing their grief and financial trauma due to their healthcare coverage experiences. The film also delves into the issue of universal healthcare, how it is working in other countries, and what that could mean for Americans.
La Vie en Rose • September 5 • Rated R; 140 Minutes
 Already enjoying Oscar buzz for one of the great performances of the year, actress Marion Cotillard shines as Edith Piaf in this biographical film. Cotillard plays Piaf as uniquely talented and tortured, a strong-willed woman whose rough childhood and impoverished years forged a fiery soul in the frailest and most abused of bodies. The story of the legendary French chanteuse is told in a non-chronological order that brilliantly juggles her triumphs and struggles making each part of her life vividly, explosively real and leaving the audience bleary-eyed. With Gérard Depardieu as the nightclub owner who discovered Piaf. (French with English subtitles)
Away from Her • September 12 • Rated PG-13, 110 Minutes
 This beautiful and unconventional drama, capturing the heartbreak of Alzheimer's, focuses on Fiona played by Julie Christie, who is in the early stages of the disease. Based on the celebrated short story, "The Bear Came Over the Mountain," the film portrays a couple coming to grips with memory loss. In the midst of their golden years, Fiona's short term memory begins to lapse, while her long-term memory very clearly recalls her husband's past infidelities. Life together becomes difficult as her disease becomes consuming, thus leading Fiona to a residential care facility. Soon her husband becomes a stranger and now he must face the painful fact that the woman he never wanted to be away from has moved far away from him. With Olympia Dukakis.
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