

## CHURCH BRIEFS

**Christmas concert planned at church**

A Christmas Concert featured "Overflow," the Diamond Valley worship team, will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. today, Dec. 9, at the First Welsh Presbyterian Church, 398 Main St., Edwardsville.

Desserts and coffee will be served following the concert. A free will offering will be accepted.

**Women's Day of Reflection slated**

Father James J. Paisley, pastor, and the Altar and Rosary Society of St. Therese's Church will host Sister Therese of the Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth for a "Day of Reflection for Women" at 3 p.m. today, Dec. 9, at the church. Her topic will be "the Vocation of Women in the Church." Benediction and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will also be offered.

**St. Luke Christmas schedule announced**

St. Luke Reformation Lutheran Church, Noxen, announces the following Christmas

schedule: Sunday, Dec. 16, 10:30 a.m., Church/Sunday School Christmas Program; Sunday Dec. 23, Fourth Sunday of Advent, Holy Communion, 11 a.m.; Monday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve Candlelight Holy Communion Service, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 30, First Sunday after Christmas, Service of Lessons and Carols, 11 a.m.

**Quilting held every Thursday**

Quilting is held from 1 to 4 p.m. every Thursday at the Cross Creek Community Church Youth House, 370 Carverton Rd., Trucksville.

Anyone wishing to attend is asked to call Gladys at 639-5554.

**Grief Support Group meets every month**

A Grief Support Group led by Rev. Peggy Sue Pfeffer of Hospice St. John is held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Route 118, Dallas at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month.

There is no charge, but reservations are requested and can be made by calling 675-3859.

**Altar & Rosary Society held its 49th annual Birthday Tea**

The Altar and Rosary Society of St. Therese's Church in Shavertown held its 49th annual Birthday Tea recently in Father Sammons Hall.

There were refreshments, door prizes, 50/50 chances and a Chinese auction, birthday gifts and chances for a prize-winning quilt made by Millie Yanchik, Jean Carey, Ruth Youngblood, Peg Fischer, Mona Dymond and Patti Gallagher.

Entertainment was provided by "Sweet Charity."

Committee members for the event were Betsy Balonis, chairperson; Sharon Schultz, co-chairperson; The Rev. James J. Paisley, pastor and moderator, honorary chairperson; Mary Petty and Carolyn Swatko, 50/50 and quilt tickets; Dell Luke, programs and publicity; Marilyn Pitcavage and Alice Solinsky, kitchen; Alice Hudak, table tickets; Norma Pluskie and Maureen Isaac, Chinese auction; and Marie Cigarski, presentation of birthday gifts.

Tea table hosts and hostesses were Lisa and Bernie Luksic, birthday; Linda Valenta and daughters, January; Debbie Price and Barbara Halliday, February; Ruth, Joy and Mary Ann Youngblood, March; Millie Yan-

chik and Jean Carey, April; Betsy Balonis and daughters, May; Alice, Bridget and Lindsey Knapp, June; Mona Dymond and Beverly Harostock, July; Father Jim, his mom and sisters, August.

Also, Ann and Jane Domnick, September; Kathy Chupka and Marie Spagnuolo, October; Sharon Schultz and Maureen Isaac, November; Diane Molitoris, December; Bernie Mihal and Dell Luke, spring; Charlene Cook and Red Hats, summer; Fran and Mary Ann Ochman, fall; Carole Paxton, winter; Dorothy Cebrick and Bruni Saxon, punch table.

# Planting for good reasons

The Pennsylvania Environmental Council, in partnership with the Lands at Hillside Farms, held a streamside tree planting project at the Lands at Hillside Farm in Trucksville recently.

The tree planting is an implementation project of the Wyoming Valley Rivers Conservation Plan that was prepared by PEC in 2006 and was made possible by funding provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

The tree planting project was conducted along the banks of the Huntsville Creek as it flows through the Lands at Hillside Farms to reduce stream bank erosion, improve water quality and to improve wildlife habitat.

L&A Wholesalers donated four sugar maple trees to the project while the Rogers Nursery donated two October Glory Red Maples, three Flowering Cherry, two Japanese Tree Lilac, two Northern Red Oak and one Autumn Blaze Red Maple.

Newell's Fuel Service donated food for the volunteers planting the trees and Pennsylvania American Water donated water for the volunteers.

Volunteers included staff from the Lands at Hillside Farms, the staff of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, Girl Scout Troop 33855 from the Lake-Lehman School District, one Misericordia University volunteer and several Luzerne County Community Service volunteers.



Courtney McMonagle, left, and Alyssa Talcka find tree planting to be hard work during a project at the Lands at Hillside in Shavertown.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST



Putting finishing touches on a tree planting project at the Lands at Hillside are, from left, Theresa James, Lindsay Williams, Kelly Cesari, Courtney McMonagle and Christina Kemzura. The project was organized and financed by the PA Environmental Council.

Chris Tweedy, an employee at the Lands at Hillside Farms, provides both technical assistance and manpower for the tree planting.

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