



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Trucksville Pharmacy on Carverton Road, a Back Mountain landmark and family-run business for over 50 years, has closed.

PHARMACY

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took part in the family business when possible.

Without the customers, however, the pharmacy wouldn't have lasted this long.

"The customers made Trucksville Pharmacy," Billek said. "Without my customers, it's just a building now because I'm not there with the day-to-day interaction and that's the part I miss the most."

On a recent Sunday evening, Billek, who never plays the lottery, scratched off lottery tickets she received for Christmas. When one of the tickets was a winner, she called a customer who was an

avid lottery player at the pharmacy. Billek knew she wouldn't see the woman at the pharmacy, so she phoned her to let her know and to talk.

During another instance, Billek noticed a regular customer had not refilled her medicine as usual so she called the woman's house to make sure everything was alright only to find out she was in the hospital.

Billek has even gone as far as to make weekly visits to an elderly woman's house to do a medication planner for her. When she noticed the woman, who had Alzheimer's, was forgetting to take pills, Billek called the woman's doctor to let him know.

Billek wants her customers to know she is still a pharmacist and is always available to answer questions about drugs

or just to chat.

For now, she plans to focus on her new position as experiential coordinator of pharmacy at Wilkes University.

She stresses her part-time job at Wilkes is not the reason for the pharmacy's closing and says her old position as adjunct instructor of pharmacy took up the same amount of time. Billek will also keep her hand in retail and work as a fill-in pharmacist when asked.

The future status of the Trucksville Pharmacy building and lot is up in the air. Billek is not sure what will happen and says, for now, she and her family are still adjusting to the closure.

Rebecca Bria, a staff writer for the Dallas Post, may be reached at 970-7436.

Four Dallas High School Band members earn the right to compete at Regionals



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These four Dallas Senior High School band members have a lot to toot their horns about having won a place in the state's regional competition. From left, seated, are David Balmer and Cara Ison. Standing, Anthony Roppa and Bethie Martindale.

On to Band Regionals

Four members of the Dallas High School Band will participate in the Region 4 State Band Festival Feb. 20-23 at Mountainview High School in Susquehanna County.

Two of those students will also compete in District Chorus Feb. 6-9 at Mid-Valley High School while one of those students will participate in the District 9 Jazz Band Festival.

As a result of their accomplishments at the District 9 Band Festival in Montrose, senior clarinet player Anthony Roppa, junior clarinet player Elizabeth "Bethie" Martindale and sophomore trombone players David Balmer and Cara Ol-

son will represent Dallas High School in the regional band competition.

Balmer and Martindale will represent the Mountaineers at this week's district chorus competition.

Balmer is a bass singer while Martindale is a piano accompanist.

Balmer, along with fellow student Micah Cameron, will also compete in the District 9 Jazz Band festival Feb. 15 and 16 at Tunkhannock High School.

According to Todd Hunter, who has served as director of the Dallas High School Band for 20 years, the Mountaineers

place someone in the regional band competition "almost every year."

Hunter explained that auditions for district band and orchestra competition begin in the fall with the musicians' accomplishments at that level determining whether or not they advance to regional competition.

Martindale is the daughter of Karis and Larry Martindale of Shavertown, Roppa is the son of Phillip and Jeanette Roppa of Dallas, Balmer is the son of Ken Balmer of Pittston and Cheri Balmer of Dallas and Olson is the daughter of Laura and Jeff Olson of Dallas.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

Kindergarten Program slated at Lake-Lehman

The Lake-Lehman School District has scheduled the second presentation of the Kindergarten Readiness Program for children planning to enter kindergarten next fall.

The program will feature Math Readiness and an explanation of kindergarten registration.

Faculty from each building will conduct the presentation. The schedule is: Ross Elementary at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 5; Lake-Noxen Elementary at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 6; Lehman-Jackson Elementary at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 7.

Register for the second installment of the program by calling Ross Elementary at 477-5050 or 256-7897, Lake-Noxen Elementary at 639-1129 and Lehman-Jackson Elementary at 675-2165.

This program is only for children who will be 5 before Sept. 1, 2008 and who are planning to enter kindergarten for the 2008-2009 school year.

Band, Chorus sponsor spaghetti dinner

The Dallas Middle School Jazz Band and Select Chorus will hold a spaghetti dinner from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 5, in the Dallas Middle School cafeteria.

Takeouts will be available at 4:30 p.m.

Ticket prices are \$7 for adults, \$4 for children between the ages of 3 and 11 and free for children under the age of 3.

Tickets can be purchased from Sharon Ellis at 696-3094 or Lisa Stull at 674-7740.

Tickets will also be available at the door.

Wyoming Seminary plans visitation day

The Wyoming Seminary Upper School in Kingston and Lower School in Forty Fort are offering area elementary, middle and high school students and their families an opportunity to visit the schools on Monday, Feb. 18.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m.

Visiting students will attend classes, tour campus and have lunch in the school cafeteria. Tours of the Upper and Lower Schools for parents also will be offered.

For more information or to sign up for the day's events or a tour, call the Lower School Admission Office at 718-6610 and the Upper School at 270-

2160 or visit www.wyomingseminary.org.

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