

Michael Calkins earns Eagle Scout

Michael Calkins, son of Peter and Heather Calkins, of Dallas, recently advanced to become the 117th Eagle Scout of Troop 281 in Dallas. The rank of Eagle is the highest rank a Scout can earn.

Calkins' Scouting career began as a Tiger Cub in Anchorage, Alaska. He advanced through the ranks of Cub Scouting in Pack 281 and subsequently as a Boy Scout in Troop 281, both sponsored by Dallas United Methodist Church.

Calkins has held the offices of Quartermaster, Patrol Leader and currently serves as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 281. His leadership training includes Great Expectations and Great Medicine. He is also a brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow.

He attended the National Scout Jamboree in 2005 at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia and the 2007 World Jamboree in England, the birthplace of Scouting. While there, he took part in the 100th anniversary of Scouting celebration. He was a crewmember on a Philmont trek in 2006 and later in 2008 when he served as crew chief. He also hiked the Chilkoot Trail in Alaska and Mount Marcy in New York with Troop 281.

On the trail to Eagle, Calkins earned 36 merit badges. For his service project, he provided leadership to construct a lighted cross with landscaping at Kunkle United Methodist Church, where he is a member.

A junior at Dallas Senior High School, Calkins plans to study engineering upon graduation.

A celebration of Calkins' achievement was held in November 2008 at a special Eagle Scout Court of Honor at Irem Temple Country Club.



Calkins

Library Friends planning annual luncheon

Susan Campbell Bertoletti, a Newbery Honor Book Author, will be the featured speaker at the Back Mountain Memorial Library Author Luncheon.

The Friends of the Back Mountain Memorial Library will host their 21st Annual Luncheon with a Special Author at 11 a.m. on Thursday, April 23, at the Appletree Terrace, Newberry Estate, Dallas.

Bertoletti is the author of picture books, novels and nonfiction for children, including the ALA Robert F. Sibert medal winning "Black Potatoes, the Story of the Great Irish Famine 1845-1850" and "Dear America: A Coal Miner's Bride."

Bertoletti grew up and still resides in Northeastern Pennsylvania. From her earliest days, she loved reading and drawing which led her to study literature and creative writing. While interning as a journalist at a local newspaper,

she enjoyed research and writing assignments. Later, she became an eighth-grade teacher and encouraged her students to write poems, stories and essays.

The author became a published writer in 1989 and has won numerous awards for her writing. She still loves teaching and inspiring her students and has combined both careers by teaching graduate classes and leading writing workshops.

The event begins with a time for hospitality at 11 a.m. with lunch served at 11:45 a.m. The cost is \$25 with all proceeds from the luncheon and the sale of the author's books going to benefit the library. Tables of eight are encouraged and may be reserved.

Checks should be made payable to the Back Mountain Memorial Library and received at the library at 96 Huntsville Rd., Dallas by April 12.



The Friends of the Back Mountain Memorial Library will host their 21st Annual Luncheon with a Special Author on April 23 at the Appletree Terrace, Newberry Estate, Dallas. Members of the Friends who met recently to plan the event are, from left, first row, Jill Kryston, Vivian Bednarz, President Kay Simons, luncheon co-chair Jane Kishbaugh, Iris Levy. Second row, VI Gommer, Jane Jones, Shawn Murphy, Ann Russin, Joanne Runner, Terry Gilbertson, Beth Rosenthal, Claudia Stevens, Claudette Banks, Sandy Richardson and Neela Patel. Absent at the time of the photo were Sandy Peoples, publicity chairperson and photographer; and Susan Berdis, luncheon chairperson.

Canfield notes 80th year, cited by Dallas borough

At a recent Dallas Lions Club meeting, Joe Canfield celebrated his 80th birthday and was presented with a key to Dallas Borough along with a proclamation from Dallas Mayor Timothy Carroll.

Canfield was honored for his 35 years of community service with the Dallas Lions Club of which he has served as president and secretary. Presently, he holds the following po-

sitions in the club: historian (11 years), treasurer (eight years), newsletter editor (five years), and blue & gold team scorekeeper (three years).

In addition to his Lions Club activities, Canfield volunteers with the Verizon Telecom Pioneers talking book repair group, American Red Cross blood drives, the Dallas Knights of Columbus and Gate of Heaven Church.



Joe Canfield, above center, was recently presented with a key to Dallas Borough along with a proclamation from Dallas Mayor Timothy Carroll on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Shown with Canfield are Carroll, left, and Joe Dwinchick, president, Dallas Lions Club, of which Canfield is a member.

CHINA

Continued from Page 1

get to see the cities of Beijing, Shanghai and Xian. He also recommends that tourists stop at a smaller area outside of the three cities such as one of the towns among the Himalayan foothills along the border of Tibet.

"I think the reason that people have not come to China in the past is there is this perception that China is very far away; geographically, far but also psychologically far from the U.S.," Levinson said. "I would suggest to people that it's not as psychologically far as they think it is. Life in Beijing and other cities in China is comparable, if not better, than cities in the U.S."

Jim Merryman, Ph.D., a professor of anthropology at Wilkes University, is directing a tour designed by Levinson. The two-week tour through China and Tibet will be held this summer and is open to the public. Tourists will first visit Beijing, and then move on to Tibet via the Sky Train, the highest train in the world that travels at above 16,000 feet. They will also have the option to spend one day in the Himalayan foothills.

"Hopefully, in the future we'll expand," Levinson said of his agency. "The ultimate goal is to eventually move back to the U.S., possibly even northeastern Pennsylvania, and set up a travel agency that specializes in tours to China. I think for now the best way to reach that goal is to be in China."

WINDOWS

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beautiful stained glass windows have provided enjoyment for many traveling up Main Street," Plashinski said. "The windows are now in danger of falling apart from the many years of expansion and contraction."

Designed and built by Eugene Baut, of Baut Studio in Kingston, the windows are original staples of the church which opened in Sept. of 1950. Jesus Christ is featured in the center window and the other windows include religious symbolism.

"The Chancel Windows depict the very center of the Church itself," says a history file on the church. "It is Christ's invitation to 'Come Unto Me'....The window on the Gospel side of the Chancel is a reminder that we come under the demand of the Law of God cleansed and purified by His presence....The window on the Epistle side of the Chancel is the reminder that as Christ offered Himself for us, so we offer ourselves, souls and bodies to Him."

Parishioners and friends of the church received a letter asking they give within recommended levels of support. Those who donate within the levels will be recog-

nized on a plaque to be displayed in the church.

Businesses that donate \$100 or more will receive a banner ad on the church's Web site, along with box ads in the weekly service bulletins and newsletters for one year.

If sufficient funds are raised, the windows will be temporarily removed and the clear storm windows will be left in place. The stained glass windows will be repaired and restored to their original condition by Kasmark & Marshall in Luzerne. They will then be reinstalled in the Chancel.

The project is expected to take place during the summer and should last only a few weeks.

In an approximate three-minute video created by the "Restore the Glory" committee, several church members, young and old, discuss the windows and what they mean to them. Goeringer addressed parishioners about the campaign and presented the video in church on March 1. The video is also posted on the church's Web site.

"To me, the biggest thing is if you sit in our church on a Sunday morning, you can almost always see the sun shining behind Jesus," said Martin, a lifelong member of the church and serves as the parish administrator. "It helps us center into prayer and is a reflection of church and why we are there."



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