

The DALLAS POST

50¢

Serving the communities of the Dallas and Lake-Lehman School Districts

www.mydallaspost.com



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Portraying the women of the March family in the classic production of "Little Women" to be presented at the Lake-Lehman High School are, from left, Mikayla Orrson, Johnna Hudak, Kiri Koziol, Leah Conklin and Tyler Pearson.

L-L students present a classic play

By REBECCA BRIA
rbria@timesleader.com

To Leah Conklin, the most difficult part of preparing for her school musical is pretending to be a tomboy.

Conklin, a senior at Lake-Lehman Junior/Senior High School, will play Jo March in the school's upcoming production of "Little Women, the Broadway musical." "For me, it's hard because Jo is a tomboy and I'm the biggest girly-girl," Conklin said.

The students of Lake-Lehman Junior/Senior High School will perform "Little Women" at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 17, and Saturday, April 18, and at 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 19. A student fine arts exhibit will be held in conjunction with the show.

Based on Louisa May Alcott's classic novel, the musical tells the story of sisters Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy March as they grow up during the United States Civil War.

Tyler Pearson, a sophomore, and Mikayla Orrson, a freshman, will both play Amy March. Orrson will play Amy when she is a younger child in the first half of the musical and Pearson will be Amy in the second half when her character has matured.

"We're kind of alike already," Pearson said of the two Amys, who both have light skin, eyes and hair.

Sophomores Winter Wenner and Brittany Adams will also share a role. Unlike Amy, their character, Rodrigo, is a man. Wenner will have to sing an octave lower than she normally does to play the role.

"I have a pretty big range so I don't really mind," Wenner said.

Jonathan Pineno, who has been directing the performances

See WOMEN, Page 11



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Stanley Lugosky, of Luzerne, explains to James Siberski his role in the care of his mother who had Alzheimer's disease.

Seeking help with Alzheimer's

By REBECCA BRIA
rbria@timesleader.com

All Kay Fairley wants are a few friends and help addressing her Christmas cards. After 20 years as a caregiver to her husband, David, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease, Fairley says she has lost contact with most of her friends and is faced with social isolation.

"It might sound crazy, but sometimes I have lunch with workers from the Bloomsburg Wal-Mart," Fairley said.

The Benton woman is one of about 10 people who regularly attend the Dallas Alzheimer's support group at the Meadows Nursing Center. The group meets at 11 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month.

Dallas resident Maryann Daily, 79, founded the Alzheimer's support group in June 2004 when her husband, John, was in the final stages of the disease.

"I was desperately in need of support myself and went looking for a group," Daily said. "There weren't any, so I called the association and said, 'Can I start one?' Since I did that, I've never

been happier to be able to help other caregivers."

The group typically attracts about eight to 10 caregivers of those with Alzheimer's at its monthly meetings. About a dozen other caregivers communicate with Daily for support only by the telephone or through e-mail because they have no one to watch their loved one with Alzheimer's or they have to work.

Some months the groups will invite a speaker, such as James Siberski of Misericordia University, an assistant professor, coordinator of gerontology education and director of the Geriatric Care Management Program Center at the university. But most of the time, Daily leaves the meetings open so people can talk

amongst themselves.

"Support groups go a long way towards reducing emotional and practical stress," Daily said. "It is the best opportunity to feel reassured and to get validation. Groups give you private and confidential time to allow tears and fears to flow. Everyone understands since they have been in the same situation."

Tonipaula Yakoski attended the meeting for the first time in April. The woman is debating whether or not to send her 95-year-old father, Paul Cybul, who has dementia, to a senior citizens center several times a week to socialize.

"It's hard because he doesn't want to go anywhere else; he wants to live with me," Yakoski



Amy and Allison Zeiss, of Dallas, participate in an Alzheimer's support group which meets at the Meadows Nursing Center in Dallas.

IF YOU GO...

Alzheimer's support group
Meets the first Thursday of every month at 11 a.m. in the board room of the Meadows Nursing Center, Dallas
For more information, call 822-9915 or 675-8600, ext. 195

said.

Yakoski's father lives with her in her Springville home, nine miles north of Tunkhannock. She made the trip to Dallas be-

cause there is no Alzheimer's support group in Wyoming or Susquehanna counties. Howev-

See HELP, Page 11

Cast of 'Little Women' prepares for production

Cast of "Little Women, the Broadway musical"

Jo March - Leah Conklin
Professor Bhaer - Ryan Glatz

Amy March (child) - Mikayla Orrson

Amy March (older) - Tyler Pearson

Meg March - Johnna Hudak

Beth March - Mariah Raspen

Marmee March - Kiri Koziol

Mr. Laurence - Christoffer

Dunsmuir

Laurie Laurence - Mitch Burke

Aunt March - Amber Hartman

Mr. John Brooke - Derek Osborne

Mrs. Kirk - Anne Wallo

Clarissa - Brittany Austin

Braxton - Julia Whitesell

Rodrigo - Winter Wenner

Rodrigo 2 - Brittany Adams

sKnight - Derek Osborne

Hag - Ranya Grzyboski

Troll - Hunter Root

Chorus of Trolls - Rebecca Rosser, Charity Marvin, Tyler Pearson, Johnna Hudak and Amanda Teutonico

Chorus of Hags - Emily Sisk and Autumn Galka

See CAST, Page 11

STOCKING EASTER EGGS



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Members of the Dallas High School Key Club helped stock and decorate for the Dallas Borough's annual Easter egg hunt. From left, are Tiffany Miller, Amanda Mikolai, Laura Zimmerman, Gabrielle Carravaggio and Kasey Bloom. For more Easter egg hunt photos, please turn to page 11.



6 09815 20079 9