

Concert memorializes teacher

By REBECCA BRIA
rbria@timesleader.com

Ryan McCleary made quite an impression on Tyler Rice last year at Dallas High School.

McCleary was the substitute teacher in Mrs. Meagan Gilroy's mathematics classes during the final semester of the 2007-08 school year. Rice, a student in McCleary's trigonometry class, says he and his classmates liked talking to the teacher and regularly stopped by his classroom during flex period to further their conversations.

"We kind of just hung out with him during school time," Rice said. "Toward the end of the year, everything was more laid back where we kind of got to talk to him. He was only 23 so he could relate to most of the things we were talking about."

But the friendship between McCleary and his Dallas students ended abruptly on Oct. 7,

2008 when McCleary was killed in a motorcycle accident in Dauphin County. A native of Montoursville and Elizabethtown, Pa., McCleary substituted at several schools in Luzerne County. He also led the youth group at Noxen Baptist Church.

Just before the accident, McCleary began a permanent position as a physics teacher at Upper Dauphin High School in September of 2008.

"I did meet Ryan two days before I started my leave," Meagan Gilroy said. "Ryan was confident with his abilities and eager to share his love of math with the students."

Now a junior at Dallas, Rice decided to do his senior completion project in memory of McCleary and organized a rock concert held April 18 at Dallas Middle School. Rice's band, Evolve180, played at the concert, as did Hidden Drive, Gino Lispi and Forever Oeuivre.

"When I heard that Ryan had died, I wanted to intertwine something with his name," Rice said. "It was a way for me to pay respect in a higher way than just going to the funeral. It was to show his family he was a great guy and he changed a lot of people's lives."

The event attracted 150 people and raised approximately \$1,000. All the money will be donated to New Tribes Mission, an organization that helps churches train, coordinate and send missionaries to unreached tribes across the world. McCleary was very involved with New Tribes Mission and traveled to South America one summer with the organization.

Rice says McCleary's fiancée, Sarah Smith, was in attendance at the benefit concert.

"I talked to her after and she was totally grateful for the whole thing," Rice said.



Members of the auxiliary of the Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center Basket committee are, from left, Bernie Hill, Louise Montigny, Maryan Daily and Hilda Healy. Absent at the time of the photo were Jean Wilson and Gertrude Hoyes.

Auxiliary planning 'Market on the Pond'

The Auxiliary of the Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Dallas, will hold its annual "Market on the Pond" fundraiser to benefit residents from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 20, on the center's grounds.

To kick off the event, a gift bas-

ket raffle is available at the center. Volunteers, staff and friends of the center donate baskets or items for a basket that can be combined to create a special theme. New ideas this year include Hannah Montana, Hand-Crafted Quilt, Summer Party and

Pasta Plenty.

Tickets may be purchased in the lobby at the reception desk or on the day of the event.

Anyone wishing to help with this project by donating a basket may call the volunteer department at 675-8600, ext. 195.



Above: Lisa Devlin, of Hunlock Creek, who has adopted two horses from REASON horse rescue, tries to make friends with a newcomer.

Right: Richard Geyer holds up bits and bridles as auctioneer Paul Aikens tries to get them sold at REASON horse rescue in Center Moreland.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Doing good by horses

REASON (Retired Equine Adoption Society of the Northeast) held its first fundraising auction at its farm in Center Moreland, Wyoming County, last Saturday to continue the effort to find good homes for unwanted horses.

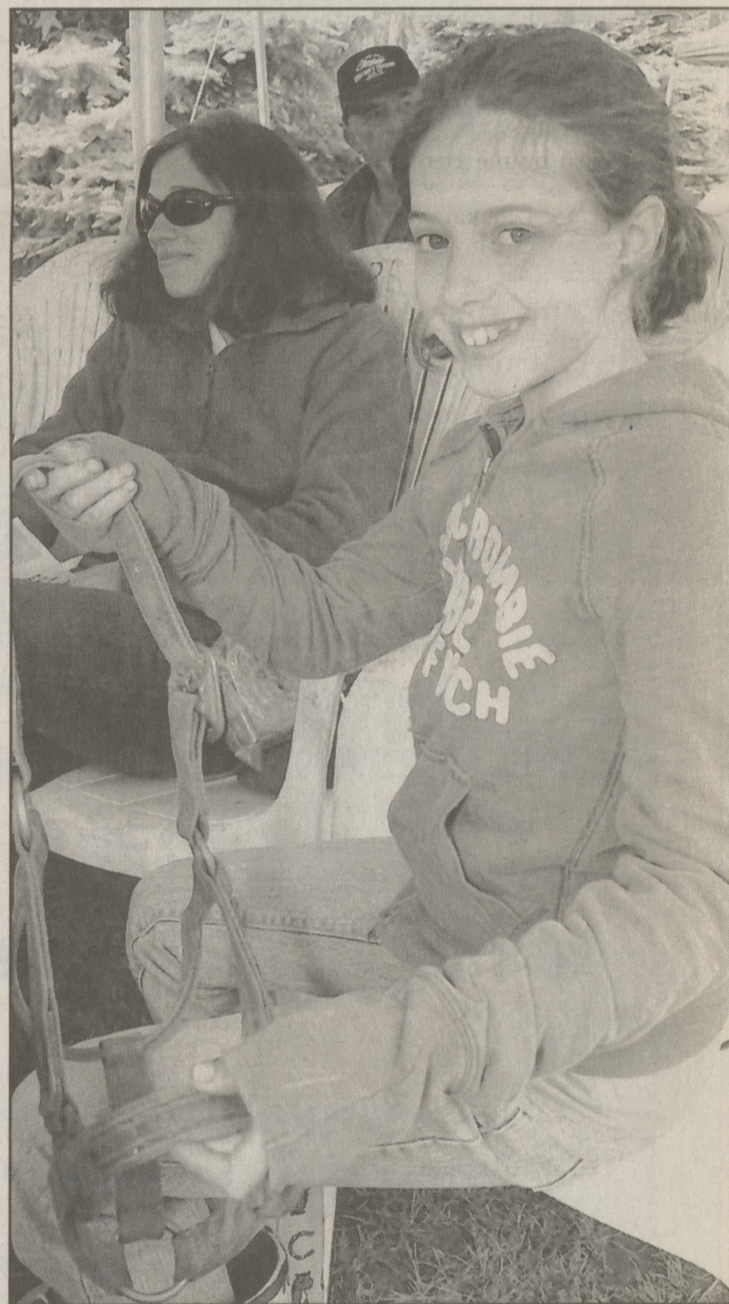
According to founder Lisa Smith, REASON has placed about 400 abandoned horses since 2001.

REASON works to match horses with good owners. Anyone interested in adopting a horse must fill out an application and pay about \$600.

The group came up with the idea of an auction to raise funds about a year ago, said Cheryl Willis, a REASON volunteer and auction organizer.

People donated horse equipment, such as saddles and bridles, along with household items for the cause. The Ken Geyer Real Estate Auctioneers donated its talent for moving merchandise.

Smith said REASON could always use food, hay, medications, supplements and horse or barn equipment. Anyone interested in helping may call 333-5266.



Nina Leeds and her mom, Mary, of Shavertown buy a lead for their horse at the auction.

CHURCH BRIEFS

St. Paul's summer schedule set

The summer worship schedule will begin at 9:30 a.m. today, June 7, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Route 118, Dallas.

Saturday worship will continue throughout the summer at 5:30 p.m.

The church is handicapped accessible.

For more information, call 675-3859.

Dinner and bake sale set for June 13

A Chicken and Biscuits Dinner and Bake Sale will be held from 4:30 to 6:30

p.m. on Saturday, June 13, at the Loyalville United Methodist Church.

Cost is \$8 for adults and \$3.50 for children under 12 years of age.

Takeouts are available by calling ahead at 477-3521 and leaving your name, phone number, number of dinners requested and pickup time.

Church sponsors Bible School

"Studio Go! Game Show" will be the theme of Vacation Bible School this year at the Center Moreland United Metho-

dist Church June 22-26.

Hours are 8:30 a.m. to noon on Monday, June 22 and 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, June 23, through Friday, June 26.

Children and youth will participate in the large group music, skits, Bible stories, crafts, refreshments, games and special mission projects where the children will be encouraged and motivated to go out and serve others.

Bible stories will be applied to their everyday life.

Pre-registration is encouraged and should be done by June 14 by calling

Meg Venn at 333-1016.

Craft vendors needed

St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Route 118, Dallas) is looking for craft vendors, selling new homemade items, to be sold at Summerfest on Saturday, Aug. 8.

Registration fee is \$25 for a 10' x 10' space; vendors need to provide their own table and tent.

For more information or to request a registration form, call Laura Stearns at 675-7045 or the church office at 675-3859.

Blood drives scheduled for May

The American Red Cross will conduct three blood drives in the Back Mountain Area during the month of June.

The first drive will be held from 1 to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, at the Dallas Baptist Church, Route 415, Dallas. The ladies of the church will serve home-made goodies to all who donate.

A drive will be held from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Monday, June 22, at the Dallas American Legion, Memorial Highway, Dallas.

The last drive of the month will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 27, at the Kingston Township Muni-

pal Building. Scouts from Brownie Troop #2642 from Trucks-ville will act as hostesses for this drive.

The Red Cross requests that all donors bring identification and their Red Cross blood card. First-time donors will receive a card after their first donation.

Anyone 17 years of age, weighing a minimum of 110 pounds and in good health is to donate. Youths 16 years of age accompanied by a parent may also donate.

A pre-scheduled appointment can be made to reduce the time needed for donating. To schedule an appointment call 823-7164, extension 2150.