

The DALLAS POST

50¢

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

www.mydallaspost.com

BMBA party aids businesses, spreads cheer

By EILEEN GODIN
Dallas Post Correspondent

IF YOU GO

What: Holiday party for small businesses
Time: 6 to 11 p.m.
Date: Saturday, Dec. 12
Place: The Cottage at the Lands of Hillside Farms, 65 Hillside Rd., Shavertown.
Admission fee: \$42 per person. Reservations required.
RSVP: 675-9380.
Menu: Catered by Appletree Terrace

The annual company holiday party has become an event many employees anticipate, but with a recovering economy, some small businesses have cut holiday celebrations from their budgets.

The Back Mountain Business Association (BMBA) and The Lands at Hillside Farms have joined forces to spread holiday cheer by hosting a Holiday Party for Small Businesses.

"We wanted to give small business owners a chance to invite some employees or entertain a client for the evening," said Chip Morgan, BMBA member and co-chair of the event.

The Holiday Party will occur

from 6 to 11 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 12, at the Cottage at The Lands of Hillside Farms. An admission fee of \$42 per person covers the cost of catered food from Appletree Terrace and other expenses.

Reservations are required and can be made by calling 675-9380. For more information on the menu, visit the BMBA's website at www.bmbaonline.com.

This is the first year the BMBA is holding the event with support from The Lands at Hillside Farms and representatives from both organizations would like to see the event blossom into a yearly affair.

Morgan said the historic cottage can accommodate 50 to 75 guests who will not only be treated to many of the cottage's charm, but will also be able to

dine on the original 1881 mahogany table.

Sonia Seman, BMBA treasurer and event co-chair, said The Lands at Hillside Farms is donating the use of the cottage on the hill at no charge. Chris Tweedy, director of development with the Lands at Hillside Farms, added a shuttle bus will be available to take party-goers from the parking lots at the dairy store up to the cottage.

"We have a 15-person shuttle bus we will be using," he said.

The marriage between the two organizations was a natural fit. Tweedy said the goal for The Lands at Hillside Farms is to promote community and support local businesses. Seman and Mor-

See PARTY, Page 13



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Discussing plans for a holiday party to be held Dec. 12 at "The Cottage" are, from left, Sonia Seman, Chris Tweedy, director of development for the Lands at Hillside Farms; and Chip Morgan. Only recently made available for private events, the ancestral turn-of-the-century estate home of the Conyngham family will be the site for the Back Mountain Business Association's annual holiday party.

Sharing birthdays with the grandkids

By REBECCA BRIA
rbria@timesleader.com

Reagan Hynick didn't plan to have her first child on her grandmother's birthday.

But she and her husband, Jeff, were pleasantly surprised to learn that the due date for their son, Jace, was Dec. 2, 2005 - the 82nd birthday of Reagan's paternal grandmother, Sarah Elizabeth Bombick.

Hynick was even more thrilled when Jace was actually born on his due date - and so was Bombick.

"I thought it was time for her to have it," Bombick said of the baby.

By chance, or possibly by fate, over three years later, Hynick gave birth to her daughter, Kate Elizabeth, on Jan. 26, 2009 - the 87th birthday of her maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Milbrodt. Kate was not due until Feb. 5.

"I thought that was a great coincidence," Hynick said. "It's pretty neat."

Milbrodt says she won't mind sharing her birthday with Kate.

"It's wonderful," Milbrodt said. "It's a good day."

Jace also enjoys having the same birthday as his Great-Grandma Bombick.

"It's fun," Jace said. "It's really

fun because I like it."

No one else in the family shares the same birthday, although Hynick's sister, Rochelle Rogers, was born on Jan. 27.

Hynick, 34, is a second-grade teacher at Lehman-Jackson Elementary School. She has lived on the same road, Hoover Road in Lehman Township, as Milbrodt for her entire life. Milbrodt would often pick Hynick and her siblings up from school and watch them while their parents, Rick and Tera Bombick, worked.

Milbrodt has one child, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She enjoys observing Jace and Kate the most when they visit.

"Just watching them, I guess," Milbrodt said. "They're into everything most of the time."

Bombick is a U.S. Army Air Force veteran where she worked radar and was a secretary during World War II. She came to Dallas from Tennessee in 1945 after she got married. She has four children, eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

"They're just two very strong women that have gone through a lot in life," Hynick said of her grandmothers. "They're good role models to look up to. I'm just lucky that I still have my grams. I'm 34 and I still have both of my grandmothers."



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/FOR THE DALLAS POST

Grandmothers Sarah Elizabeth Bombick, left, of Dallas, and Elizabeth Milbrodt, of Lehman Township, share more than the name Elizabeth. Their two great-grandchildren, Jace and Kate Hynick, of Lehman Township, share their birthdates. Jace was born on Dec. 2, which is Bombick's birthday, and Kate was born on Milbrodt's birthday, Jan 26.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Seventh-grader Kami McGhee is assisted by Laura Horn-Baker during a trip to the Junior Achievement Center in Pittston. The class completed this part of its curriculum at the center.

Learning how to budget money and pay bills

By REBECCA BRIA
rbria@timesleader.com

Twelve-year-old Kelsey Monahan knew she wouldn't be able to afford many luxuries with an annual salary of \$21,072.

But Monahan was adamant that she would be able to support her daughter by herself and was grateful to have something.

"We might not have all the high-class things, but we'll survive," she said of her fictional scenario.

Monahan was one of about 100 seventh-graders from Dallas Middle School who visited the Junior Achievement Finance Park in Pittston Township on Nov. 23. The other half of the seventh-grade made the trip to the center on Nov. 24.

According to Dallas Middle School Principal Tom Duffy, the field trip to the Junior Achievement facility is the culmination of a nine-week Junior Achievement course called "Money Matters"

At Finance Park, each student is given a play debit card that lists his or her annual salary, marital status, ages of children and taxes. The students' salaries are approximately between \$23,000 and \$64,000, reflective of salaries in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

that all seventh-graders at the school take.

Duffy says it is the second year Dallas Middle School has visited the Junior Achievement center. This year's seventh-grade class also went to the facility to participate in the fifth-grade program BizTown in 2007, the first year the facility opened.

At Finance Park, each student is given a play debit card that lists his or her annual salary, marital status, ages of children and taxes. The students' salaries are approximately between \$23,000 and \$64,000, reflective of salaries in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The students had 17 budgeting items, including homes, cars, phones, student loans, savings, insurance, etc. They also had to

collect bills and option sheets so they could decide the minimum and maximum amount they could pay on each bill.

"The idea is to help students build a personal budget and realize what things cost and to help them realize what they'll have to pay for when they get older," said Melissa Turlip, vice president of education at the Junior Achievement center.

Duffy says about 20 parent volunteers of Dallas Middle School students ran the Finance Park each day, arriving for training an hour and a half prior to the students the morning of the event.

Parent volunteer Barbara Goode, mother of seventh-grader Jesse Goode, led the philanthropy group. She says she also volun-

teered for Junior Achievement BizTown two years ago when Jesse was in fifth-grade in the Dallas School District.

"It's nice to see how much they learn because I don't remember learning about the finance part of life when I was a kid," Goode said.

Aaron Eldred, 12, was happy with his \$51,060 salary because it allowed him to purchase a 2003 Hummer with payments of \$514 a month.

"I got my dream car," he said of his fictional lot in life. "Since I don't have any kids or anything, all of the money goes to paying

See BILLS, Page 13



6 09815 20079 9