



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Bridget Frame, of Tunkhannock, is chosen for a part as a French dancer during auditions for the "Nutcracker" at the Joan Harris Centre for the Gifted and Talented.

# BALLERINAS

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Nearly 70 dancers ages 7 to 17 auditioned for parts in the famous ballet, which will be performed by 40 professional dancers in the Moscow Ballet during a 70-city international tour. Each stop is a chance for amateur ballerinas to get professional experience.

Anna Giacometti, 13, of Dallas, wasn't as laid back about being in the same room with a professional ballerina.

"It's intimidating," she said. She danced in the show last year as an angel, and some of her nervousness before curtain call could be seen on her face literally.

"When I get nervous, I put on lots of sparkles," she said.

Giacometti will be angelic on stage again this year, so even

### IF YOU GO ...

**What:** "The Nutcracker"  
**When:** 7 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 14  
**Where:** F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts, Wilkes-Barre

those sitting in the cheap seats at this year's show will be able to spot this glittery gal.

Todinova, who has been to the Harris Conservatory nine times to cast the show, enjoys seeing the progression of the dancers every year.

"Working with children inspires me," she said. "It's a great experience for them to be on the same stage as us."

Anna James, 14, of Shavertown, agrees. She's been dancing for 11 years and has no plans to quit anytime soon.

"It's really cool," she said about being a part of the show. "You get to see what it's like to be a professional dancer."

James auditioned as a pointe dancer for the first time this year and landed a role as a Chinese dancer. The older students, like James, had choreography that included plies, pirouettes and pointe work — something James looked forward to this year.

"It's my fifth year doing 'The Nutcracker,'" she said. "I was a little Spanish dancer and a party guest (in past years)."

Elisabeth Harris, of Dallas, regional coordinator and director of the production, believes this is a priceless opportunity for the amateur ballerinas.

"It's going to make them better dancers," she said.

# BOARD

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tensive public involvement and much consideration from the board, and that the board feels this project would need the same attention.

"Leasing our assets to a private entity for a half-century — I'll admit that I and the board don't completely understand the intricacies of it," said Jones. "A decent amount of time should be afforded (to deciding on this project)."

Jones also focused on the notion that the board is comprised of nine elected officials that represent between 16,000 and 17,000 taxpayers, and their opinion on the project should be heard as well.

"The board's reply should be based upon thoroughness and compliance to the public," said Jones.

Though no resolution was passed, board Present Bruce Goering believes discussion of the project should continue.

"The doors are still open," he said.

*In other matters ...*

• The board approved two construction change orders totaling \$172,310 for the new high school project.

Most of the cost, \$130,000, will

be spent on the construction of an outdoor amphitheater which will accommodate up to 100 students and feature a concrete area for projection screens. The rest of the money will go towards a relocation of a sewer line; the installation of three inlets, frames, cover pipe and stone bedding; and a modification of the bus loop road at Dallas Elementary.

Bob Nesbit, of Crabtree Rohrbaugh Associate Architects of Mechanicsburg, said the high school is 56 percent complete by work and 58 percent complete by cost as of Monday.

Mark Kurowski, of K & W Engineers, a subcontractor of Crabtree Rohrbaugh, told the board that Pennsylvania-American Water Company is still asking for a replacement of a water line in conjunction with the new high school project.

Jones said this replacement may not be necessary, and the board is looking for a resolution to settle this dispute before requesting legal action.

• The board also heard a presentation from representatives of Fernbrook Solar Farm and Keystone Energy concerning replacing 40 percent of the district's electrical usage with solar energy.

The board was asked to sign a letter of intent in order for the project to proceed. Representatives were asked to revise the let-

ter before the board's signature due to changing escalation rates.

• Residents also brought to the board's attention conditions of the temporary field hockey practice fields.

Nick Voletti, who has a daughter in eighth-grade on the middle school team, said the practice field in the parking lot of the Back Mountain Little League field is "filled with ruts, rocks and dirt."

Chris Gabe, of Shavertown, said the conditions of these practice and playing areas should be considered while the district is constructing new fields for other sports teams.

Superintendent Frank Galicki said potential areas for field hockey practice were considered and looked over by the field hockey coach before settling on the temporary area.

• The board also voted to deny the request of JW Ventures for forgiveness of interest on back taxes on the former Mark II Family Restaurant property on Memorial Highway, and prompt payment is expected.

• The board voted to accept letters of retirement from the following employees: Caprice Ryan, part-time art teacher at Wycallis Elementary; and Sandy Pesavento, educational technologist.

• Jennifer Kelley was approved to be hired as a temporary speech therapist within the district at a salary of \$41,958.

Kevin Koziol, Noxen, assistant girls volleyball coach; Grant Shearer, Drums, assistant band director; and Scott M. Beck, Bethlehem, Indoor Color Guard instructor.

The following substitute teachers were approved pending clearances: Suzanne Hernandez, Dupont; Frank Barbrie, Pittston; and Scott Beck, Bethlehem.

Audra Lehman, fourth-grade teacher at Lehman-Jackson Elementary School, was approved for a leave of absence beginning Aug. 25 through the end of the second quarter. A half-year med-

ical sabbatical was approved for Daniel Williams, secondary industrial technology teacher, with the use of sick and personal days for the remainder of the year.

Eleven weeks unpaid leave of absence was approved under the Family Medical Leave Act for Kaitlin Fauerbach, speech pathologist, starting Oct. 4 and continuing until Dec. 20.

The next meeting of the Lake-Lehman School Board will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 18, in the Junior Senior High School Library.

• The partnership will collect food items for the Back Mountain Pantry as part of a Back to School Drive from Monday, Sept. 27 through Thursday, Sept. 30 at each of the partnership's municipal buildings.

• The partnership also agreed to send a letter of intent to purchase a speed trailer equipped with radar to monitor motorists

for five of the six participating municipalities. Franklin Township refrained from contributing to the purchase.

• The next Back Mountain Community Partnership meeting will be held at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 21 in the Sandy and Marlene Insalaco Hall at Misericordia University in Dallas Township.

# CHARTER

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Ciaruffoli and Heffron stressed their involvement in the charter and welcomed questions about the document.

*In other matters ...*

## HARVEYS LAKE BOROUGH

# Borough Council approves bids for road repair and resurfacing

By EILEEN GODIN  
Dallas Post Correspondent

Harveys Lake Borough Council approved a bid totaling \$131,505 for road repairs at its regular monthly meeting Tuesday night.

Extensive road repairs which will require cutting out, repairing and resurfacing large sections of road will begin shortly. Council president Francis Kopko said Slusser Brothers of West Hazleton was awarded the bid package.

The package contained bids to repair specific roads, including \$57,167.50 for Maple Street, \$29,766 for Ben Barr Street and \$15, 960 for Pine Street. This price also includes digging out the damaged areas, repairs and paving.

Barnum Street has a price tag of \$40,120 and is a more comprehensive project, requiring removal of a larger

The package contained bids to repair specific roads, including \$57,167.50 for Maple Street, \$29,766 for Ben Barr Street and \$15, 960 for Pine Street. This price also includes digging out the damaged areas, repairs and paving. Barnum Street has a price tag of \$40,120 and is a more comprehensive project, requiring removal of a larger section of road, repairs and paving, Kopko said.

Kopko add that, in some cases, damaged sections of roads were caused by drainage problems. Instead of just resurfacing the road, the drainage will be repaired before the resurfacing, he said.

In other news: Council passed a motion to support a one-year moratorium against gas drilling in hopes regulations will catch up with the industry. In regards to a question posed last month as to prohibiting the natural gas drilling from occurring under the lake, Kopko said the issue is still being re-

searched.  
• The borough will accept bids for the sale of its 2001 Crown Victoria police car. According to Kopko, the borough had recently purchased a newer police cruiser and wants to sell the oldest vehicle in its fleet. Bids will be reviewed at the October meeting.  
• Bids for the borough's 2011 garbage collection are being sought. Currently, J.P. Mascaro & Sons of Audubon is the approved collection service.  
• The next council meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 19, in the municipal building.

# PIPELINE

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will conduct.

• The board also discussed a conditional use request held by Humford Equities which represents the Country Club Shopping Cen-

ter's expansion project. The land between the center and M&T Bank on Route 309 was automatically approved for conditional use after a public hearing was not held 60 days after the application. Brennan said the issue will be sensibly resolved in cooperation with township guidelines.  
• The township will col-

lect non-perishable and canned food items for the Back Mountain Food Pantry from Monday, Sept. 27 until Thursday, Sept. 30.  
• The next Dallas Township Supervisors meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 5 at the municipal building on Route 309.

# KLOPP

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awesome rewards," he said. "You're able to actually take and make such changes in ... how (students) see and attack the world. I think that's an awesome responsibility."

With degrees from Bloomsburg, Wilkes University and Marywood University, he's lived in the area all his life.

You can catch him watching football on the weekends, but only after he's played a round or two of golf.  
"Yeah, I'm a weekend hacker," he said. "I enjoy it."  
Most of all, Klopp enjoys spending his down time with family, including his three children, who range in age from 4 to 10.  
"That comes first, then the stuff for (me) comes second," Klopp said of his family responsibilities. "They're with me all the time."

His dedication to youngsters is in every aspect of his life. Though Klopp's job description entails plenty of administrative work, it's the students who keep him focused on his career aspirations.  
"I don't know if it's something in (my) personality that wants to see others succeed," he said. "(Why I chose this field) isn't because of something I want for me — it's something a little bit more altruistic."

# ROBOTS

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at Wittenburg University in Ohio, wants to use different media platforms to promote positive messages.

He has worked with children in the past, at Head Start programs and in a pediatrics wing at a hospital, and he feels that children especially may benefit from this kind of support.

"There are a lot of other messages out there, and society is changing a little bit just because everything is just right there in front of you," he said. "I personally would just like to remind people that you don't always have to give in — you can still be you and you can still do what you define as fun or as exciting."

O'Brien's background in advertising also influenced his idea to turn his conception into more than just a book. By utilizing social media and networking, he hopes to create a commu-

nity around "The Robot."  
"It's almost like a social experiment as well because love can be defined in millions of different ways and it's different to every person," he said. "What I am hoping is that people will kind of see that you don't have to be what other people want you to be."  
Advertising is also leading him to build a business around "The Robot." O'Brien's expertise in the ad world is branding, and he hopes that, through the sharing of others via the website, different projects and ideas will develop from the lonely robot's whereabouts.  
"Essentially, what I would like to do ... is create a website and then an overall brand that can house similar community-oriented projects that would promote the positive messages," he said.  
O'Brien wants to make the website a congregation of ideas, and users would be able to log in, manage a profile and share their drawings and stories freely with one another.  
"Social networks right now

are insane," he said. "I mean, you now have the opportunity to reach millions and millions of people relatively easily."  
O'Brien and some friends are currently working on building the site, but he does have a Facebook page dedicated to the project where users have already submitted drawings for "The Robot." He welcomes any support on the site and hopes his endeavors will be helpful to anyone willing to listen.  
O'Brien's inspiration for the entire project is based on family. Growing up in a loving home with his parents and younger twin sisters, he feels not everyone has had the same experience. His goal is to show others that self-respect is an important aspect of finding love and happiness.  
"Everybody's on their pursuit of happiness," he said. "Everybody wants to find what truly makes them happy as an individual. There's no reason you can't do that and, at the same time, pay it forward, pay attention to what's going on around you and promote positive messages."

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

### King Crossword

Answers  
Solution time: 25 mins.  
S W A M A L B A D O T  
U R G E S O A R O B I  
M A R C H H A R E R I P  
S P A C E Y N A M E S  
A X A L A M O  
O A T S A L A P U P A  
F I E M I R S O D  
F L A P I C K J E E Z  
P U L S E S O  
S H A P E S E S A M E  
H E R M A D H A T T E R  
A R T O B O E L O N G  
M A Y N E E D E M U S

### Go Figure!

answers  
7 - 2 x 5 25  
+ x ÷  
9 + 7 x 1 16  
+ + x  
8 - 6 x 4 8  
24 20 20

### Super Crossword

Answers  
L E W D A S T I L S P A L U D C S L  
I D E A P H I L G O N T O U R L A T  
S I A M P I E S E S T E L L A A N T  
I T N E V E R R A I N S I N A U G U S T  
E A T N E E T S A R  
H E S T E R A D D S O L E S E I N E  
A L L A L A O S H E B E L F A X  
I M I M U N E T O P O I S O N I Y R  
R O D U S O A R E N O S T A I R S  
N E W S L E A D A T N U T  
A B C F I O N T S U R N I T A N G E E  
G A L F R O U E N E R L E  
E R O I C A L A K M E I L E A P E  
S N A K E S A R E A F R A I D O F U S  
A B E S A T A N R O T E W A R P  
S H A R K C L E F I S O S H E R R Y  
H O T E L A S A H A  
W H A T S U N D E R T H I S O L D L O G  
B A A H O N O R E D E N I D R A V E  
J I N N O R I N O C O E G A D A M E N  
B I D R E V P E R D E N Y W A I N E