

Locals dance today in 'Nutcracker'

The Moscow Ballet will perform the classic Great Russian Nutcracker at 3 p.m. today, Nov. 14 at the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts in Wilkes-Barre as part of its 70-city international tour.

The production once again will feature local dancers in supporting roles.

This past September, prima ballerina Svetlana Todinova from the company visited the area and conducted auditions at the Harris Conservatory for the Arts.

Sixty-six regional performers from 11 area schools were cast in a variety of parts, including party guests, snowflakes, mice, angels and many of the variations of the famed Tchaikovsky work.

Ten dancers from the Back Mountain communities were given roles in the Nutcracker. They include Nadine Daley, Tunkhannock; Alyssa Dragon, Trucksville; Bridget Frame, Tunkhannock; Anna Giacometti, Dallas; Gabrielle Grzynski, Shavertown; Anna James, Jackson Township; Alexandra Jayne, Hunlock Creek; Alexandra Kijek, Wyoming; Amanda Kornak, Dallas; Janice Lisman, Shavertown; and Julia Macey, Dallas.

The Moscow ballet hired Dallas resident Elisabeth Harris to serve as the regional coordinator and trainer for the production.

Ms. Harris has been working with the Moscow Ballet since August 2000 and has choreographed over 25 ballets.

Her students have performed with the Joffrey Ballet, the Amer-



Anna James, of Jackson Township, will join other Back Mountain residents in the performance of the Great Russian Nutcracker today, Nov. 14 at the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts.

ican Ballet Theater, the New York City Ballet and the Tampa Ballet.

BLUE CROSS VOLUNTEERS PREPARE FUTURE GARDEN SITE



Sixteen employee volunteers from Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania (BCNEPA) recently lent a hand at The Lands at Hillside Farms to prepare land designated to become a Victorian garden in the spring of 2011. The garden site is adjacent to a historic greenhouse currently under renovation. From left, first row, are Julia Markowski, Blue Cross volunteer; Anne Poole, educator and master gardener, The Lands at Hillside Farms; and Rachel Miller, Blue Cross volunteer. Second row, BCNEPA volunteers Janice Kehler, JoAnn Gill, Gloria Bubblo, Rita Yanchick, Mary Jo Nace, Jerrilynn Carminati, Molly Timko, Joanne Trusa, Pam Kempinski and Joan Wasilewski. Third row, BCNEPA volunteers Sharon Hollock, Rich Walker, Lori Ostrowski and Kate Ostrowski.

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TABLE TALK

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Seasoning for Thanksgiving turkey under the skin by using your fingers is tricky since it is hard to distribute the salt evenly without tearing the skin. Pry the skin from the bird by using an iced tea spoon. Place the salt on the spoon and reach under the skin to distribute evenly.

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