The NeuroSensory

Center of Eastern

left are Dr. Jeffrey

and Sheila Becker.

Pennsylvania donated

books on picky eating and autism to Miser-

icordia University. From

Becker, Jennifer Luks

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RINNAI HAS THE SOLUTION...SMART HEATING

The NeuroSensory Center of

Eastern Pennsylvania

Continued from Page 1

"I like art because you get to express yourself," she said.

Amy said she had the same reaction to art as a child, and she hopes the more exposure children get will encourage them to pursue art in the future.

"Art gave me an identity as a child," she said. "When I was younger I decided I wanted to be an artist and I never thought of doing anything else."

Five-year-old Heidi Williams of Tunkhannock feels the same way. "When I grow up, I want to be

an artist," she said. She worked diligently on a clay model horse during the class, rolling thin strips of clay for each piece of the horse's mane. The budding artist said it was the first time she'd ever dabbled with the medium.

"I like horses because I take horse riding lessons," she said. "I like pottery because your fingers get all messy and it feels weird."

Amy, who has two teenage sons, said teaching children is very different from teaching adults.

"Kids still believe they can do anything," she said.

This was true of one of her sons. She said she used to bring her son to the studio as an infant, and once he was old enough to walk, he started to mix plaster all on his own.

"It was like he just knew what to do because he watched me," she said.

The students in the class were creative in other areas, too. Scott Williams, 11, of Tunkhannock, said if he wasn't at the class, he'd probably be at home playing with his Legos.

"I like that you can make anything," he said.

Continued from Page 3

his lawn - a Santa, some reindeer, a toboggan. But his prized possession is a wood cutout of Victorian-era ice skaters more than five feet tall that are highlighted by a spot light in his front yard.

"I usually make something every year," he said. "Between the tracing, cutting and painting it takes about five to six hours for one piece. Plus more time if you're thorough about sanding. And I'm thorough."

It's no surprise that the Dzanko home has gotten some attention due to Mike's efforts. They said people drive by and take pictures all the time, and they've even been nominated for the Kingston Township contest once before, in 2008.

"When we're in church people tease him about all the lights," said Joan, who said she isn't as involved in the lighting process as her husband. "They call him Clark Griswold."

It took Mike a few years to get the lighting equation just right. He started with red, green and blue lights, but wasn't impressed by their effect. Then he switched to light-emitting diode (LED) lights, but noticed a bluish tint in their appearance. Now he uses all-white midget twinkle lights, mostly strands but also some icicle-style strings.

While Mike said he wasn't able to do as much this year due to a knee injury, the home on Harris Hill Road is still the brightest on the block.

"It's nice to be nominated and to know somebody appreciates

all the work," he said. The Fords on Maple Leaf Road were also not expecting a nomination for their red-, green- and white-lighted home, but then again, Darren and Tracy don't decorate for their own enjoyment - it's all about the kids.

"I love doing it for the excitement of the kids in the neighborhood," said Darren.

New to the Fords' festive décor are lit candy canes, which are placed in the ground in their front yard. Darren even decorated in the backyard of their home, which is part of his pre-Thanksgiving tradition.

The Dzanko, Ford and Golden families have a similarity despite their very differently decorated homes – they said the hours and efforts expended in lighting traditions are well worth it, even if there are busted bulbs and loose

"It takes hours of work, but it's nice thing to do," Darren said.



Students who participated in a Veterans Day program at the Dallas Middle School are, from left, first row Jake Ross, Alexis Murdoch, Maddie Hurst and Abbie Bendick. Standing, Thomas Duffy, principal; Sue Holthaus, event organizer; Caroline Sheehan, Patrick Martin, John Emil Sr., Charlie Fleming, Ned Phodel, Rev. Bill Lewis and Matthew Barrett, assistant principal.

# Students pay tribute to veterans

School celebrated Veterans Day was chosen as a winner. during their annual assembly.

Each student collected information about a veteran.

That information was then placed on a star and was hung from the ceiling in the lobby of the school. More than 600 stars were hung.

The students also participated in a writing contest. Stu-

rio. "The students took com-

plete control over the situation."

cards to boost troops' spirits

during the Christmas and New

Jobe Stepanski, 16, Sweet Val-

ley, stayed behind one day to

help finish packing up the donat-

ed items. He brought in some

much-needed deodorant for the

troops – a small price to pay for

"They do so much for us," he

said. "It's the least we could do." Two eighth graders who

aren't even in Candelario's class

- Sarah Evans, 13, of Dallas and

Kirsten Cope, 13, of Shavertown

They made a large sign on post-

er board to direct students' do-

nations to a certain area in the

They also helped out after

"I didn't think it would get this

big," said Candelario. "I was

like, 'Where did this come

said the students' generosity

made her a lot "nicer" in class, it

hasn't put a hold on classroom

"Oh, chemistry never sleeps,"

activity during school hours.

And even though Candelario

school with whatever Candela-

rio had for them to do.

helping others while earning ex

The students also made handwritten thank-you and holiday

Continued from Page 1

Years season.

tra credit.

classroom.

from?"

she said.

Students at the Dallas Middle sixth, seventh and eighth-grade Dallas Middle School and her

Each winner received a certificate, an essay medal and a gift card from the American Legion Post 672 and was invited to read their letter at the program. The Wyoming Valley Veterans Day Parade Committee Essay Con- ences in Iraq. test was also a part of the Veterans Day program.

Only one essay per school was dents were assigned to simply allowed to be entered into the write a "Thank-You" letter to a contest. Abbie Bendick's essay veteran and one letter from the was selected to represent the U.S.A."

essay took honorable mention out of 19 schools from the Wyoming Valley.

The program featured a special speaker, Cpl. Patrick Martin, who shared his reasons for joining the Marines and experi-

The program also featured the Dallas Middle school select chorus singing the "Star Spangled Banner," "America the Beautiful" and "God Bless the

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ABOVE: Colleen O'Callaghan, Sarah Spess and Colleen McCoy pack food and other items into boxes - also found a way to contribute. on their way to troops serving in Afghanistan.

> TOP: The following students, in Cecilia Candelario's science classes at Lake-Lehman, participated in a food and gift drive to be sent to troops in Afghanistan: Colleen McCoy, Stephanie Cunningham, Mikayla Orrson, Sarah Spess, Colleen OCallaghan, science teacher Cecilia Candelario, Kyle Fine, teacher Amanda Boice Ashley Metz, Jake Winters, Justin Partington, David Blejwas, Eyanna Gruver and principal Douglas Klopp





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