



Elizabeth Dillon models clothes from the Snooty Fox, Dallas.



Jack Barr and his mother, Abby, of Dallas, model the latest fashions.



Debbie Rafferty, of Dallas, models a long summer gown.

Modeling for a cause

By SARAH HITE
shite@mydallaspost.com

A quiet rustling behind a foldable partition accompanied the Prince of Peace "Step into Spring" Fashion Show on Sunday, April 3 at Newberry Estates.

It wasn't a "creature stirring"—it was the sound of 15 volunteers kicking off shoes, buttoning shirts and getting in line for their modeling debuts.

"They should be professionals," said Jean Carson, of Dallas, one of the organizers of the event, as models sashayed across the stage at Appletree Terrace.

The fashion show featured parishioners modeling clothes from local retailers, including Buca, Humphrey's and Snooty Fox Consignment, all in the Back Mountain; Shooze and Yuki's, both located in Kingston; and Dress Barn, located in Wilkes-Barre Township.

The event was held to raise money for the church's general fund, said Ann Russin, a co-organizer.

"We're hoping it will be an annual event," she said. "We wanted to raise money for the church and do some community outreach. And it's spring and everybody likes to look at nice clothes."

About 85 attendees enjoyed a sneak peek at what local retailers have to offer, from luxurious coral sweaters with cascading ruffles to gently-used Coach purses with bright floral décor.

Jane Tolomello, of Dallas, said the "Step into Spring" event allowed her to mix her flare for finding fashion with helping her community. She owns the Snooty Fox Consignment store in Shavertown, and the clothes she chose for models reflected what can be found inside the shop.

"I'm wearing a casual outfit from Snooty Fox," said Elizabeth Dillon,



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Joan Kasarda, of Rickett's Glen, and her daughter, Lisa, of Shavertown, enjoy the fashion show.

14, of Dallas. "I've got on a Coach purse, a DKNY shirt, Old Navy shorts and Worthington shoes. I never expected this stuff to be there."

Dillon's sister, Catherine, 12, also sported apparel from the consignment shop. She defined her style as "laid back and sporty," and the neutral floral print shirt and jean shorts combo she wore onstage seemed to fit her personality just right.

Lisa Kasarda, of Shavertown, was at the event to support the church, but judging by her buttonless duster jacket with its gold-on-crimson paisley pattern, the single mom of two knows the difference between chic and shabby.

"It's from Yuki's," she said of the sweater-jacket. "I like their eccentric fashion. I would say my style is contemporary conservative, and I like dressing up most."

Attendee Rosellen Garrett, of Dallas, said the outfit she wore to the event was "over 10 years old," but it looked fresh and fun on the clear April day. Her self-described "deep peach" ensemble featured matching dress, scarf and earrings,

all of which were purchased separately over the years.

The fashion show also featured styles for every girl and boy, including pink-clad Tyler Wood, 7, of Shavertown. Wood stepped onstage with her mother, Keri, dressed in pink from head to toe. Her baby pink shawl was worn over a taupe full-skirted dress with large pink roses. She had a near-hot pink rose headband and completed the outfit with glittery silver and pink Mary Jane flats.

"My favorite color is pink," she said, sitting comfortably on the floor outside of the dressing room. "I would wear this to a fashion show and birthday parties."

The outfit would have come in handy a day earlier—Wood celebrated her seventh birthday on April 2.

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