



# The Dallas Post

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SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

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## Ridge visits Offset

Picks local plant to deliver message on workmen's comp

By RONALD BARTIZEK  
Post Staff

DALLAS - Gov. Tom Ridge wanted a "world-class company" at which to deliver a plea for reform of the state's workmen's compensation insurance program last week. So he came to the Offset Paperback plant in Dallas Township March 14.

After a brief introduction by Sharon Newell, back to camera, Donna Bly and "Pat" Campbell chatted with Gov. Tom Ridge during his tour of Offset Paperback last week.



Sharon Newell, back to camera, Donna Bly and "Pat" Campbell chatted with Gov. Tom Ridge during his tour of Offset Paperback last week.

## Speeders plague Pioneer Avenue

By GRACE R. DOVE  
Post Staff

KINGSTON TOWNSHIP - With few stop signs between Harris Hill Road and Dallas Corners and a 35 mph speed limit, Pioneer Ave. is often used as an alternate route to Route 309.

Several people who live or work along the residential two-lane road are concerned that once construction on Rt. 309 begins, even more motorists will use Pioneer Ave. as a way to beat additional delays. Ron Carey has been a school crossing guard on Pioneer Ave. since 1983, first at Mount Airy Road and now at A. M. Pugh Associates.

Although he has seen only one near miss, in which a car skidded on a patch of ice and barely avoided hitting several children standing on the roadway, he's concerned about the safety of the children he protects each morning. Carey's post is at the crest of a hill where there aren't any sidewalks for the children to use when

"I worry about the traffic. It's constantly busy. We'll probably see more once the road work starts."

Beverly Comparetta  
Lives along Pioneer

walking to the bus stop. Dallas School District moved the stop there from Davis St. three or four years ago for safety reasons.

"I think the drivers all go too fast through here," he said. "There are yellow caution signs facing both ways before the bus stop but nobody pays attention to them. I have tried to signal people to slow down but they don't know what I'm doing."

He has suggested to no avail that four-way stop signs be set up at Pioneer and Overbrook Ave.

See PIONEER AVE., pg 3

## Young chess wizards ready to compete at next level

By GRACE R. DOVE  
Post Staff

BACKMOUNTAIN - They may be members of the Smart Alekhines, but don't call them smart alecks.

Six members of the Smart Alekhines Chess Club (named for chess champion Alex Alekhian) will participate in Bishop O'Reilly High School

Chess Club's first tournament March 21. Ranging in ages from 11 to 14, they'll square off against high school students, who have been grouped according to their ability in the game.

Coached by George Trent, the local club ranks first in the state.

Fifth grade champion Jordan Koslosky, 11, has been playing chess for about five years. The son of Ron and Rhonda Koslosky

of Shavertown, Jordan attends the Lehman-Jackson School.

"I try to mate (win) quickly so I don't get really tired, and I can eat lunch," he said. "My Dad taught me the game but now I can beat him pretty easily. He knows I'm better than he is."

Jordan attends club practice sessions with coach Trent twice a week to stay in practice and learn new strategies. He said he

likes playing against the older students because they're more of a challenge. "They're surprised I'm that good for my age," he said.

Ron Koslosky credits Trent with the club's success.

"Chess is good for the kids," Koslosky said. "It teaches them discipline and how to stay fo-

See CHESS, pg 8

## Harry Owen retires with respect, fond memories

By GRACE R. DOVE  
Post Staff

TRUCKSVILLE - Harry Owen, the well-loved gentleman in charge of maintenance at the Kingston Township municipal building, has retired after 35 years of service.

Owen, who celebrated his 85th birthday March 16, first started as the custodian of the Trucksville Fire Company, of which he is a life member. When the township erected its municipal building to the rear of the fire apparatus garage, he was appointed to be its caretaker.

"I've met a lot of people while opening and closing the building for meetings," he said. "I knew all the police officers and chiefs, Harvey Updyke and Paul Sabol. Davey Gregory often stopped by for a little chat."

Residents with problems, saints, criminals, firefighters, the press - Owen knows them all. When he was younger, Owen went out with the firefighters to help set out hoses and equipment.

"Harry has been here as long as I have," reminisced road foreman

"He often scolded my officers for bringing in mud on their shoes."

Paul Sabol  
Retired police chief

Butch Chamberlain, who joined the fire company with Owen in 1954. "He's a real gentleman and a great kidder. He can take it as well as dish it out."

"He's one heck of a great guy," said supervisor and retired police chief Paul Sabol. "Keeping the building clean was a matter of personal pride for him. He often scolded my officers for bringing in mud on their shoes. He's a good friend with a wonderful sense of humor. I miss seeing him around the building."

Sabol recalled a wisecrack Owen made one day when supervisor William Tippett was visiting Sabol in the police station.

When Tippett said he should leave, Owen chimed in, "Yes, you'd better. It's time for the chief's nap."

Owen's honesty and integrity are legendary among the township's old-timers and are perhaps best typified by an incident in which he found a large

See HARRY OWEN, pg 3

## Board okays air quality testing at Middle School

By ANN POEPPERLING  
Post Correspondent

LEHMAN TWP. - The Lake-Lehman school board passed a motion at its March 12 meeting to begin the first phase of air quality testing at the Middle School at a cost of \$1,355. District architect Doug Trumbower said the initial testing is scheduled to begin Thursday by Air Management Technologies, Inc. and will probably take one to two days, although meters will be there about a week or so.

The tests are being done in

response to complaints from staff members who say they have suffered allergic reactions and respiratory difficulties, said Robert Roberts, principal of the school.

Roberts said four teachers had requested that air purifying equipment be installed in their classrooms, which has been done. He said the complaints began about three years ago.

Trumbower said the testing, which involves about 10 of the 16 classrooms at the school, will include surveying entire rooms, classroom ventilators, and installing CO<sub>2</sub> monitors for about seven

days, as well as monitoring other air quality and humidity levels.

The motion was passed on a 7-2 vote, with Rose Howard and Lois Kopcha voting no. Howard prefaced her "no" vote by explaining: "It's (the testing) waited this long, it can wait a few more months until the budget is determined."

On another 7-2 vote, the board authorized a \$2,000 contribution to the Lake-Lehman Band Sponsors toward transportation costs for a band competition trip to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee in April.

The two negative votes were cast by Allen Moss and Ed Kern.

Moss said that "the departments should plan their budgets more carefully and work within that budget," explaining, "it's not a vote against the band, it's a vote in favor of fiscal responsibility."

Karen Whipple said the board has always given this money to the band as long as she can remember.

Members Lois Kopcha and Ed Kern echoed Moss's feelings with Kopcha saying that "the spending has to stop somewhere."

The board also approved four

See LEHMAN BOARD, pg 5

## Drama group will break from tradition

The Dallas High School Drama Department will depart from its usual spring format this year to present two children's theater productions. From Friday, Mar. 29 - Mar. 31, the students will present a full weekend of interactive entertainment designed for children from pre-school to third grade.

The High School students will present two different plays that weekend with a similar theme. *The Terrible Tale of a Dreaded Dragon* will be presented Friday night at 7 p.m. and Saturday afternoon at 4 p.m. *The Invisible Dragon* will be presented Saturday night at 7 p.m. and Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. Both plays provide a lighthearted approach to the subject with an opportunity for the children to interact with the characters.

Families can plan to attend either or both plays. Single play tickets are available for \$2 each.

See SPRING PLAY, pg 11



Jennifer Moser, with the Dragon, during rehearsal for the Dallas High School Drama Department's spring program. Above, Dean Evans and Alison Piazza practiced their roles. The shows, directed by Don Hopkins and Audrey Ide, will be presented March 29-31 at the high school.

POST PHOTOS/JIM PHILLIPS

■ **Burned out** A fund has been established to help Clara Joan Kittle, who lost her Sweet Valley home to fire. Pg 3.

■ **Crafty help** The Dallas Soccer Club will hold a craft fair Sunday. Pg 11.

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