

Wendy's seeks permission for entrance on Mill Street

By ERIN YOUNGMAN
Post Staff

DALLAS — Alleged unsafe conditions at Wendy's, in Dallas Borough, have led the fast-food restaurant to ask for an additional entrance and exit on Mill Street. On Thursday, December 19, the Dallas Borough zoning hearing board will consider a request for a variance from Wendy's Restaurant to add an additional entrance and exit off of Mill Street.

Wendy's, which was denied in 1995 for the same variance, is citing unsafe conditions in the restaurant parking lot, caused by extreme congestion, as its reason for the request. Wendy's declined to comment for this article.

Wendy's submitted a traffic study by Pasonick Engineering in November.

Joe Moskovitz, Dallas Borough Manager and Zoning Officer, said the restaurant previously had an additional entrance/exit on Mill Street that was closed due to complaints from Mill Street residents. According to Moskovitz, residents felt the access "created an unsafe condition" on the narrow street.

Moskovitz said the borough is concerned about safety issues, but that it also has to take into consideration the concerns of people who live on Mill Street.

"It's a hearing, the decision will hinge upon evidence provided on Thursday night," said Moskovitz.

After the hearing, the zoning hearing board will have 45 days to render a decision.

The hearing is at 7 p.m. at the borough building on Main Street in Dallas.

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Marianne Bump-Lurie demonstrated how a tassel is attached to a Pysanky egg similar to the one that is hanging on the White House tree. Below, the invitation to visit the White House.

Ornament

(continued from page 1)

"It really was official," said Lurie sheepishly. "I really had to scramble and stretch to complete the piece. I worked on it for a whole week — maybe ten days — for 14 hours each day." Lurie had never used such a large egg before. She used vinegar to score the hard, shiny egg surface in order to accept the dye color.

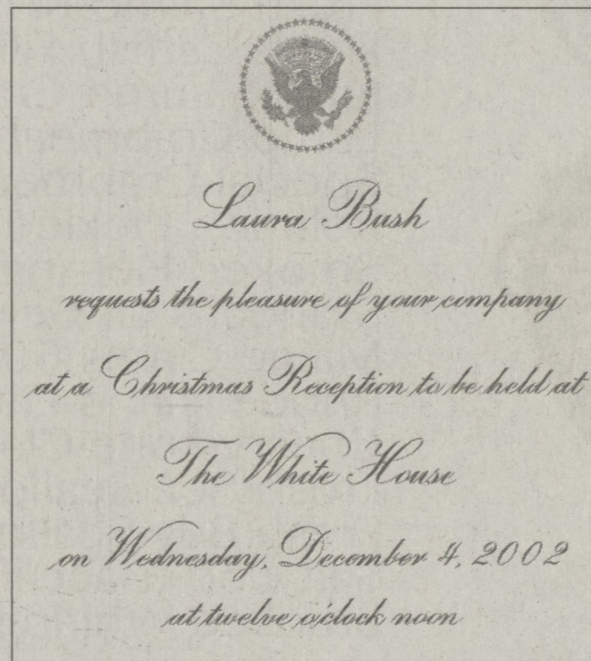
"I chose the cardinal because of its color, my red dyes are very good and pretty spectacular. The cardinal is an easy bird for me to draw. It also is a bird indigenous to Pennsylvania, and that was one of the requirements."

The eggshell came from a bird farmer in Virginia. The gold ornament hanger and beaded gold tassel were created by Rebecca Howell, a jewelry maker from Wilkes-Barre and friend of Lurie's. "I wanted the ornament to be large because the tree is an 18-foot-high Noble fir."

As large as the ornament was though, Lurie never got to see it hanging on the White House tree. In a reception line at the White House with Laura Bush, she was asked very kindly by the First Lady if she had seen her ornament hanging on the tree. "Not yet," she replied. Mrs. Bush, genuinely apologetic, referred her to a tree list and map.

"There were hundreds of people in front of us, and we couldn't wait, but I know it's on the bottom right of the White House tree," Lurie said. The

ornament will be kept in a permanent collection by the White House.



Lake-Lehman looking into new principal's background

By KALEN CHURCHER
Special to The Dallas Post

LEHMAN TWP. — The job record of a Lake-Lehman principal is dotted with controversy, including spending without approval and allowing student workers to remove asbestos from a school, published reports say.

District Solicitor Charles Coslett confirmed Tuesday he is investigating an "issue" involving High School Principal Michael Gokay, but would not be specific.

Coslett described the matter as a personnel issue and would only say he and Superintendent Robert Roberts are conducting the inquiry. Gokay was hired by the district in June to replace long-time principal John Oliver, who retired at the end of last school year. Gokay's salary is \$76,000.

According to the July 21, 1999 edition of Allentown's The Morning Call, two former student workers and a custodian must receive annual chest X-rays for the remainder of their lives because they removed asbestos tiles from the Upper Bucks County Area Vocational-Technical School in 1997. The report indicates the three were not trained or certified to perform the task and the district was fined \$102,300 by the federal Environmental Protection Agency. Gokay was appointed director of the school in 1995.

Also during Gokay's tenure at the school, questions were raised regarding a \$250,000 over-expenditure of the school's budget, the Morning Call report-

ed. An electrical contract was also allegedly granted before being put out to bid and purchases made without full-knowledge of the Joint Operating Committee, the report stated.

In December 2000, students at Harrisburg High School attempted to protest Gokay's leadership, but were ushered into an assembly by school officials, according to the Harrisburg Patriot News. Teachers also disagreed with Gokay's management style. Additional stories reported Gokay was suspended without pay due to poor performance, and a March 2001 report indicated he ultimately quit "rather than continue the district's attempt to fire him."

Gokay, who commutes to Lake-Lehman from the Harrisburg area, did not attend Tuesday night's school board meeting and could not be reached for comment. The Morning Call also reported some of Gokay's accomplishments, including school volunteerism awards and exceptional student acclaims.

Board President Michelle Coombs referred all questions to Coslett. Former School Board President Charles Boytin and Sheila Gionfriddo also deferred comment.

Gokay has been absent from recent School Board meetings, prompting some members to question in November if school policy should mandate administrators to attend the monthly meetings. Administrative participation is crucial to receiving prompt answers to Board issues, the members said.

This article appeared in original form in the Times Leader.

Early publication for Christmas

Because Christmas falls on a Wednesday this year, next week's issue of The Dallas Post will be printed early, so that local subscribers can receive their copies on Christmas Eve. The Post will also be available at newsstands Tuesday, December 24.

As a result, all submitted news and community items for the next issue must be received by 2 p.m. Friday, December 20. Display advertising should be ordered by 5 p.m. Thursday, December 19, and classified advertising will be accepted until 4 p.m. Friday, December 20.

The office of The Dallas Post will be closed all day December 25. The following issue will adhere to the a similar publishing cycle.

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