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The Dallas Post



THE DALLAS POST

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



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Despite safety concerns, bus stop stays put

By ERIN YOUNGMAN
Post Staff

DALLAS — After reviewing a bus stop considered unsafe by parents, the Dallas School District says it has no choice but to keep the bus stop where it is.

Al Kornak, a resident of the Ondish Hills development, told the school board in August that he and other parents who live in his area felt their assigned bus stop at Roosevelt Street and Ondish Road was unsafe due to

poor visibility and lack of sidewalks. The board said the transportation department would look into it.

Gil Griffiths, District Superintendent, said after a review by the transportation coordinator and bus company, the bus stop will have to stay where it is.

"Mrs. Farr (transportation coordinator) has gone out, Mr. Emanuel (bus company owner) went out and they indicated it wouldn't be safe to bring a bus into the area because of the turn-

ing radiuses," said Griffiths.

He said his understanding is that an alternate stop would require traveling on Hill Road which is too narrow and has a sharp curve that would make it too difficult for a 40-foot-long school bus to navigate.

Kornak contends the walk along the winding road up to Roosevelt Street puts children in danger of being hit, particularly during inclement weather when visibility is poor. He said when cars approach, they have to stop be-

hind the children until they are able to make it around them.

"I'm still very upset," said Kornak. I don't let my kids go out on that road to play, or to go to a friend's house, so I'm not going to let them walk to the bus stop."

He said parents have to either drive or walk their children to the bus stop. Griffiths said eight children use the stop, five elementary students and three secondary.

After looking at the bus stop, Robert

Jolley, Dallas Township Police Chief, said he is confident some alternate accommodation will be made by the district.

Asked whether he felt the stop was safe, he responded: "Well it's making a turn and backing out into the street where you can't see anything, so I can't see where that's a good situation."

Jolley said it's not uncommon to have to smooth out kinks in busing as-

See BUS STOP, pg 3

Back to class for Roberts

By ERIN YOUNGMAN
Post Staff

LEHMAN — Bob Roberts says he lives by one simple rule — to be able to look in the mirror each day and know he's done something right.

Last spring, after working with high school students on graduation preparations, the Lake-Lehman Superintendent of Schools woke up, looked in the mirror and had a realization.

"I thought, 'You're in the wrong place. You know deep down in your heart you belong with the kids.'"

That was in June. In July, he announced to the board of directors he had decided to step down. Now, for what in all likelihood will be his last year with the school district, Roberts is one of two principals guiding the new middle/high school building.

"My philosophy has always been that I like to be in a position where I can do the most for kids," Roberts said recently.

"When I came over and worked with the kids on the graduation ceremony, I knew where my place was."

Throughout his career, Roberts has followed the traditional public education path. He started out teaching history at the high school 33 years ago, then held just about every position available to him until he applied for the superintendent position three years ago.

"I thought, 'Okay, being commander and chief I could have more influence over the kids and the entire district and lead them in the direction I thought was the best way to go.'"

What he soon found out about the position, however, was that the voluminous amounts of paperwork combined with the inherent bureaucracy kept him from what he enjoyed most, one-on-one contact with students and teachers.

"I tried to get out of my office as much

See ROBERTS, pg 3



POST PHOTO/ERIN YOUNGMAN

Bob Roberts, Lake-Lehman Superintendent, is back to school this year, becoming co-principal of the new junior/senior high school while the board searches for his replacement.

Cell tower proposed for Kunkle

By ERIN YOUNGMAN
Post Staff

DALLAS TWP. — The 55-acre township recreational area in Kunkle may become the site of a new cellular tower.

At Tuesday night's supervisor's meeting, a consultant working for AT&T Wireless submitted a proposal for construction of a 190 foot tower. As proposed, AT&T would rent a 10,000 square foot area.

Joseph Fitzsimmons, President and CEO of Fitzsimmons Consulting Company of Waverly, said after looking at the 55-acre property, the ideal spot for the compound would be an old campfire pit, which Supervisors President Frank Wagner said once was used by local cub scouts.

Michael Melnick, Township Solicitor, questioned some of the terms in the proposal. He told Fitzsimmons the offered amount of rent was "on the low side," although he did not disclose the amount. He also said he wasn't sure the township would be interested in agreeing to a five-year rental lease.

Supervisor Phil Walter said he wanted to make sure any agreement would include terms that would provide for additional rental fees to the township if AT&T were to add other

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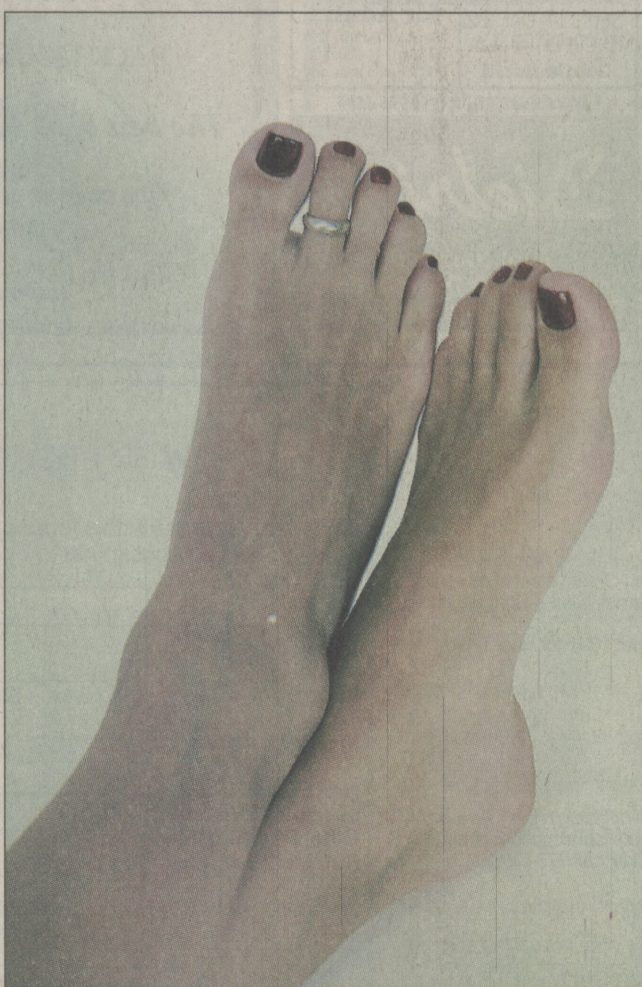
These tootsies could be the world's best

By ERIN YOUNGMAN
Post Staff

SHAVERTOWN — When Shavertown resident Tracey Reese came across The World's Most Beautiful Feet contest, she knew she had to enter. Now the local nanny has beaten out more than 3,000 entrants to be named one of 10 finalists worldwide.

"It's not something you hear every day," said Reese, admitting that the whole thing does sound a little odd. "Of course people think it's wonderful, but their first reaction sometimes is to laugh."

On August 4, Reese was named a finalist in the contest, co-sponsored by websites Foot.com and Shoes.com. That's no small feat considering her tootsies were picked by a panel of 10 judges that included podiatrists and pedorthists, from a batch of applicants so large this year the company didn't even count them, said Faye Rappaport, Foot.com spokesperson.



Are these the world's most beautiful feet? Your vote could help make them just that.

See FEET, pg 8

Supervisors get raise of 56¢ a day

By TARA BENNINGER
Post Correspondent

JACKSON TWP. — The Jackson Township Board of Supervisors are getting a raise.

At their September 2 meeting, the Supervisors voted to amend the schedule for their compensation, giving them each an additional \$17 per/month. The amendment catches Jackson Township up with the Township Supervisors Association guidelines, and will go into effect January 1, 2004.

After the vote, John Wilkes, Supervisors Chairman, joked, "Gentleman, please don't spend your 36 cents foolishly."

The township will collect signatures on a petition asking the U.S. Postal Service to review the township's request for new addresses. Safety concerns over the township's confusing address system were raised at last month's meeting. Crime Watch member Ed Chesnovitch said 911 dispatchers can be confused when they pull up an address on their computer terminals and it reads "Shavertown," which is actually a village designation in Kingston Township.

The board has drafted a letter to the Postal Service, which needs to be accompanied by a petition. The Postal Service requires that the township collect the signatures of "most of the residents of the township," said Jeffrey Malak, Solicitor. Residents wishing to sign a petition or collect signatures should stop by the municipal building.

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