

The DALLAS POST 50¢

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

Prison expansion idea dies; residents relieved

Traffic, water, prisoner escapes are high on list of concerns

By REBECCA BRIA
rbria@timesleader.com

If the sirens are activated in Jackson Township, residents know it's time to go into their houses and keep their children in close sight because such warnings in that town are designed to make people aware of an escaped prisoner from the State Correctional Institution in Dallas.

Construction of a new prison at the SCID was initially included on

the Pennsylvania Bureau of Corrections 2007-08 proposed capital budget of House Bill 1589. But plans of expansion were removed last week at the requests of state representative Phyllis Mundy and state senator Lisa Baker.

Although neighboring residents of the facility are relieved that the idea is on hold - at least for now - some are still uneasy. Al Fox, Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and Treasurer in Jackson Town-

ship, lives on Pine Tree Road. His land borders the edge of SCID.

"The only thing that separates our property from the prison is a stone wall," said Fox.

Fox remembers when the prison was built in 1959 because his parents' home meets SCID on the Lehman side. Fox can recall several incidents where prisoners escaped. He says one time a prisoner broke free

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CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/
THE DALLAS POST

Al Fox's property borders the State Correctional Institution at Dallas facility in Jackson Township. He worries about water shortages if the prison is expanded.

Remembering a special guy



Madeline "Kylie" Vermeulen, niece of Kyle Wega, enjoyed the music at Wega Jam '07.

Wega Jam '07 at Irem Temple benefits Kyle Wega Memorial Scholarship

Friends of the late Kyle Wega converged on Irem Temple Country Club last Saturday night to celebrate his life and keep alive a scholarship named in his memory. Wega Jam '07 saw two bands performing at the country club pavilion in Dallas and a raffle that chanced off prizes like a football autographed by Donovan McNabb, a personal size flat-screen television, merchandise from local businesses, dinner certificates and more.

Kyle Wega died on February 20, 2006 at the age of 28 after he failed to make a turn in the road while on the way home from his girlfriend's house. Although his life ended tragically, his memory lives on - thanks to his family and friends.

Money raised from the Wega Jam directly supports the Kyle Wega Memorial Scholarship which is governed by the Luzerne Foundation.

Each year a senior from Dallas High School is chosen by a panel to receive the scholarship. The 2006 beneficiary was Elysia Balavage and this year's recipient is Adam Barry.



Adam Barry is this year's recipient of the Kyle Wega Scholarship, named in memory of the former Dallas School District employee.

CHARLOTTE BARTIZEKPHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Still time to find treasures at Auction



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ THE DALLAS POST

Paul Sabol walks past chairs lined up by auction-goers days before the 61st Annual Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction actually started Thursday evening. The auction continues tonight with special timed items and much more until at least midnight.

Back Mountain LIGHTS UP

The community of Kingstons Township and its neighbors were treated to a fireworks display last Sunday night, thanks to a cooperative effort between a Back Mountain church and an area businessman.

Paul Adamchick of Pizza Perfect donated \$15,000 worth of pyrotechnics for a pre-Fourth of July fireworks extravaganza and the Back Mountain Harvest Assembly Church on Carverton Road in

Trucksville provided its grounds for the event.

Cars filled a three mile square area along township roadways and surrounding yards were filled with neighbors, friends and relatives. Everyone enjoyed a night of fun and entertainment.

JONATHAN J. JUKA/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

A magnificent display of fireworks booms over Kingstons Township last Sunday night.

