# The DALLAS POST.

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### Dr. Collini does life-changing surgery on children in Ecuador

By REBECCA BRIA rbria@timesleader.com

When Dr. Francis Collini, MD, FACS, and his medical team showed up at Naal Hospital in Guayaquil, Ecuador, they und nearly 300 children waiting for them and all had only one thing in minda life-transforming surgery.

Because of the large turnout, the volunteers were forced to sort through the tears of relief of the parents make it all children and decide who would benefit worth it," said Dr. Collini in a press rethe most from an operation. Medical lease when the group returned home. screenings were performed on each child to ensure they were healthy enough for surgery and, by the end of the day, a little over 50 patients were chosen more than four hours. Three ear deforfor free surgery during the week.

in Shavertown and his team visited Ecuador in June to help underprivileged blood vessel tumor on the face) and cechildren with disfiguring birth defects phalocele (a cyst on the scalp that has and injuries. Their trip was sponsored by communication with the brain) were al-Dr. and Mrs. Collini's Back Mountain- so corrected. based charity Community Cares for Kids, which makes the annual visit to See COLLINI, Page 12

"The smiles of the children and the tears of relief of the parents make it all worth it."

Ecuador possible.

"The smiles of the children and the

During the trip, about 55 surgeries were performed on poor children, some of which were very complex and lasted mations, cleft lips and palates, burn Dr. Collini of the Renaissance Center scars and hand reconstructions were corrected. Cases of hemangioma (a



Dr. Francis Collini of the Renaissance Center in Shavertown and several volunteer medical personnel visited Ecuador in June and performed more than 50 life-transforming surgeries on children with birth defects.

## A winning design?

#### Former resident's bridal gown entry is finalist

By REBECCA BRIA rbria@timesleader.com

Jillian Krakosky was accepted to the Pennsylvania Governor's School of Excellence for Visual Arts in the summer of 2002. She was just a junior in high school who wanted to keep her options open, so she was majoring in ceramics and minoring in theater. But those summer classes hanged her forever.

"That summer, I was handed a white umbrella to use as a black canvas," said Krakosky. "I decided to paint a fashion figure on each panel. At that moment, I knew I was meant

to be a designer." one of five finalists in the Contrex Natural Mineral Water Bridal Design Competition.

Contrex Natural Mineral Water partnered with retailer Kleinfeld Bridal and New York Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) to support student bridal designers. Each finalist constructed an original, waterthemed wedding gown and presented it to a panel of judges on July 25. The panel judged on creativity, originality, wearability, demonstrated technical skills, and professionalism. They consisted of repesentatives from Contrex, ne Kleinfeld Bridal own-



Twenty-two year old Jillian Kra-Krakosky, 22, formerly of Dallas, is kosky, formerly of Dallas, is a finalist in the Contrex Natural Mineral Water Bridal Design Competi-

> Michelle and Henry Roth, and fashion editors from and Martha Stewart Weddings. The winner will be announced September 26 at Kleinfeld Bridal in New

earn bridal industry recog-

I've ever had."

A 2003 graduate of Dallas High School, the aspiring fashion designer relocated to New York City after high school to attend FIT. She has completed an internship at David Rodriguez in New York City in which she assisted with the making of Carrie Underwood's gown for the 40th annual Country Music Awards.

Over the years, Krakosky has received a variety of awards for her work. While at FIT, she was a recipient of the John Bakel (of Ralph Lauren) Critic Award for Art Specializa-

Before college, Krakosky was awarded the Rossetti Art Exhibit-David Berkowitch Memorial Award and Senior Art Scholarship, Dallas' Outstanding Scholastic Achievement in Art, WVIA-TV's Artist of the ers, high-end bridal designers Week, and the Cider Painters of America: Mertie Larish Award, Scholarship, Excellence in Minia-BRIDES, ModernBride, ture Art, and League Award for Art-

Comprised of about a half dozen high-end fabrics, Krakosky's wedding gown entry features 12,000 hand-sewn white Swarovski crystals. York City, will receive Because the gown had to be centered \$5,000 from Contrex and on water, Krakosky used sunlight on water as her inspiration. The overall construction of the dress mimics a "I'd spend every night at water droplet. Krakosky feels the FIT (Fashion Institute of dress reflects the seasons; the colors Technology) until they'd reveal the spring and summer and kick me out," said Krakos- the arrangement of the crystals also ky. "I'm so excited. I look like icicles, challenging her to think this is one of the create something different, unique best opportunities and wearable.

The arts have always been a love of Krakosky's. Both her mother and grandmother are artists and Krakosky learned from them. She also took professional art lessons from Sue Hand of Dallas.

"I think in order to be a successful designer, you need to be an artist and

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The front side of the wedding gown Jillian Krakosky designed reveals the intricate beading from her inspiration of sunlight on water.

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CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Jess Lincoln holds up a peacock egg for inspection. She's hoping to sell her 26 birds.



This is one of the 26 peacocks Jess Lincoln is hoping to sell.

get a peacock?

By CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK For The Dallas Post

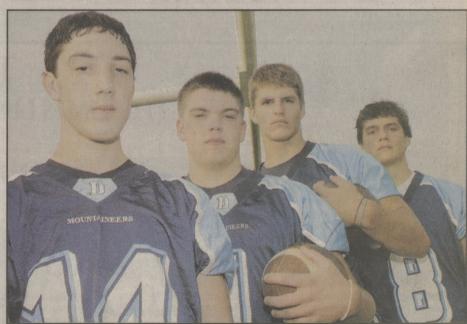
You can buy a peacock egg from Jess Lincoln in Harding but she'll be quick to tell you that you can't get the birds to sit and hatch them for you.

"Too many generations of people taking their eggs from them," she said. "They don't know they are supposed to sit on them."

Lincoln knows all about these curious and beautiful creatures because has hatched most of the 26 birds she

See PEACOCK, Page 14

#### MEET THE DALLAS FOOTBALL TEAM



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Andrew Ondish, Derek Martin, Fred Mihal and Nick Lombard are quarterbacks of the Dallas Dallas High School football team. For a story and more photos on Media Night, please turn to page 13.