

## BOBACK HOLDS ENERGY DISCUSSION



Representative Karen Boback (R-Harveys Lake) hosted a round table discussion recently with Larue Sutliff, of Sweet Valley, a contingent of professors from Penn State University and David Bingaman, Chief of the Department of Agriculture's Division of Conservation and Agricultural Technology.

The group gathered at Penn State's Lehman campus to discuss Mr. Sutliff's theory on red beets as an alternate source of ethanol fuel.

Jay Schmidt of Mountain Top was also in attendance and presented his research on recycled cooking oil as a potential alternative to diesel fuel.

Boback is a member of the House Energy Task Force and a proponent of alternate sources of energy production. The task force will continue to hold hearings on alternative energy throughout the state.

## SCHOOL BRIEFS

### Kindergarten Readiness Program slated

Lake-Lehman School District has scheduled a Kindergarten Readiness Program for children planning to enter kindergarten next fall.

There will be four presentations throughout the school year. The first presentation will focus on Reading Readiness.

Faculty members from each building will conduct the presentation.

The schedule is: Ross Elementary, 9 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 8; Lake-Noxen Elementary, 9 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 9; Lehman-Jackson Elementary, 9 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 10.

Parents are requested to register for the first presentation of the program by calling Ross Elementary at 477-4050 or 256-7897, Lake-Noxen Elementary at 639-1129 or Lehman-Jackson Elementary at 675-2165.

This program is only for children who will be 5 years old before September 1, 2008 and are planning to enter kindergarten for the 2008-2009 school year.

### MU sets Open House

The Center for Adult and Continuing Education at Misericordia University will host an Adult Learner Night from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 8, in the Banks Student Life Center's Kennedy Lounge.

The event is open to adult learners interested in obtaining more information about Misericordia University's undergraduate and graduate programs.

For more information about the Adult Learner Open House, contact Larree Brown, coordinator of Adult Education, at 674-6451 or at lbrown@misericordia.edu.

### Sem Jazz Band to present program

The Wyoming Seminary Jazz Band will present a program of big band music at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 15, at Wyoming Seminary's Buckingham Performing Arts Center, Sprague Avenue, Kingston.

The 18-member band, led by Sem's Lower School music teacher Robert Lugiano, will

perform a variety of jazz standards such as "Stompin' at the Savoy," "I Feel Good," "Cut to the Chase" and other big band favorites.

The program will feature student soloists and jazz combos and is free and open to the public.

For more information, call 270-2190.

### Sem Music Dept. plans Winter Concert

The Wyoming Seminary Music Department will present its annual Winter Instrumental Concert at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 20, in the Great Hall, 228 Wyoming Ave., Kingston.

The concert features the Wyoming Seminary Orchestra and several instrumental chamber ensembles and will include music by Bizet, Handel, Schubert, Debussy, Ravel and other composers.

The program is free and open to the public. For more information, call 270-2190.

### Open House Week scheduled

Truckville Nursing School,

will conduct Open House Week January 28 through February 1. The school is located in the William and Melba Dickson Educational Facility of the Truckville United Methodist Church, Church Road, Truckville.

Anyone wishing to tour the school is asked to call 696-3899 and make a reservation.

### Battle of the Bands at L-L HS

A Battle of the Bands will be held at 4 p.m. on January 12, 2008 at the Lake-Lehman High School Auditorium.

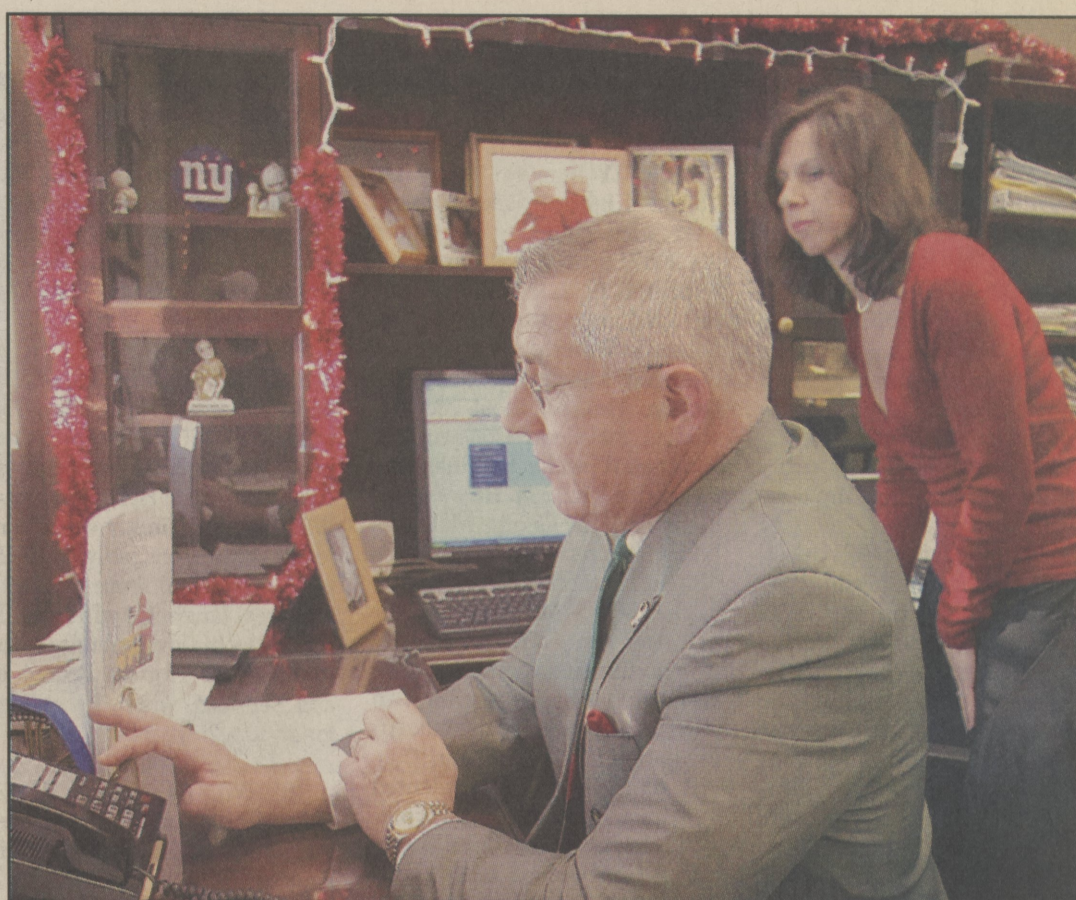
The event is the senior project of Lake-Lehman student Adam Patla.

A sound system will be available but participating bands must bring their own instruments.

The event is open to all genres and all age groups with proceeds to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

A registration fee of \$20 per band is required. Trophies will be awarded for first, second and third place.

For further information, call Adam Patla at 477-3443.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Recording messages on the new emergency notification system, "Connect-ED," at the Dallas School District is superintendent Frank Galicki. Assisting him is Sandy Pesavento, the district's educational technologist.

## Getting Connect-ED at Dallas

By REBECCA BRIA  
rbria@timesleader.com

### ON THE WEB

For more information on Connect-ED, visit [www.ntigroup.com](http://www.ntigroup.com).

Students in the Dallas School District no longer have to sit through 20 minutes of school cancellations at the bottom of their television screens before they learn whether inclement weather will affect them.

All they need to do now is listen to a short, immediate message on their telephone.

During the morning of December 20, Superintendent Frank Galicki recorded the very first message for the district on the mass notification system Connect-ED.

The one-minute message was set to reach all 3,094 students and staff by phone on Friday, Dec. 21, at 6 p.m.

Dallas Educational Technologist, Sandy Pesavento, and Assistant Superintendent, Paul Reinert, assisted Galicki with the first message.

"This service will allow the school district to communicate

periodic and personalized messages regarding important school events and activities, including weather-related delays, early dismissals and closings," Galicki said in the message.

Connect-ED automatically filters out calls to households with more than one student in the district.

Reinert says even though 3,094 people are in the database, only about 2,000 calls will be made. The system also has the capability to route calls based on school, grade, language or a customized group.

Connect-ED costs the district about \$3 a year per student.

A letter explaining the new system was mailed to all students' homes during the school week of December 17.

The letter asks for updated contact information and other ways to reach parents such as work and cell phone numbers, and e-mail addresses. This way, parents can easily learn if students will be dismissed early.

"We wanted to get this going as quickly as possible with the weather the way it is," Galicki said.

Currently, only phone calls will be placed via the system. But in the future, e-mail and text message alerts will be made available.

The system will also eventually be used to remind parents of Pennsylvania State Assessments Tests, report cards, events and more.

Connect-ED is now fully functioning and parents and staff should expect to receive a phone call the next time the school schedule is affected by weather.

Rebecca Bria, a staff writer for The Dallas Post, may be reached at 970-7436.

"We wanted to get this going as quickly as possible with the weather the way it is."

Frank Galicki, superintendent

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Fernando Carlos, MD  
Pediatrician  
Residency at Mount Sinai School of Medicine

