

# Story Time at the library

Lake-Lehman High School senior Kim Konicki is organizing and presenting Story Times for eight weeks at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. Konicki is introducing children to the Story Hour setting with songs, finger plays, crafts and a short book. Parents and caregivers sit with their children in their laps in a circle on the floor for this interactive Story Time.



Olivia Stevens and her mom, Melissa, of Dallas, do the coloring part of Story Time together at the Back Mountain Memorial Library

Right: Lake-Lehman High School senior Kim Konicki, right, is organizing and presenting story times for eight weeks at the Back Mountain Memorial Library, much to the delight of parents like Beth Viglione, Dallas, at left.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Kindergarten classmates Paige Edwards, left, and Kaitlyn Schwartz compare packages after a PA agriculture mobile lab classroom presentation at Ross Elementary School.



## Science inside a mobile lab

That big thing parked outside the Ross Elementary School near the end of the school year was the Mobile Agricultural Science Lab that visited the Lake-Lehman school all last week, courtesy of the Parent-Teacher Organization. At the lab, students enter an air-conditioned building on wheels and perform hands-on science experiments pertaining to Pennsylvania agriculture. These hands-on lessons run parallel to the type of science programs the school purchased for elementary students in grades 1-6 two years ago.

**ONLINE:** For more photos go to [mydallaspost.com](http://mydallaspost.com)



CHRISTIE DELICATI/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Master Gardener Ron Petro uses his home garden in Dallas to demonstrate how to develop a healthy garden bed.

## GARDENER

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urday outdoor demonstration, Petro announced his open door policy, emphasizing the fact that he will make himself available at anytime to anyone in need of gardening advice or assistance. He then begins the class with a very detailed explanation of how to set the gardening bed, followed by explaining ways of irrigating and conserving water by use of a system called "drip irrigation" which reduces the spread of disease that can rapidly harm or even destroy a garden and all the hard work it entails.

"Organic means all natural," Petro said. "You feed the seed not the plant and constantly enrich the soil so you don't have to use fertilizers," he added.

Next, the onlookers listen with intensity as Petro stresses the importance of proper tool usage for each gardening step.

"My mother always told

me...you have to have the right tool for the job," he shares. Petro stresses the family reference as if it were the single most important words of advice he could offer. Additionally, he impresses upon the class that having professional, expensive tools is not necessarily what Mom's advice alludes to and follows up by informing the students of alternative and less expensive tools that can be equally as effective.

Taking a short break from the sun, Stephanie Frisbie, 33, grabbed some shade for her pale-skinned, 10-month old daughter, Emily. Frisbie, a stay-at-home mom from Archbald, wanted not only to grasp the fundamentals of organic gardening because of her developed hobby, but also would like her little girl to mature into a gardener.

"I loved Ron's class and really got a lot out of it," she said. "Emily attended the course with me because I want her to

one day be able to grow her own food, protect the environment and live within the local economy."

Meanwhile, back at the garden, Petro continued to offer tips and secrets that he says will aid in the development of a beautiful garden in no time - things like using a few drops of peppermint oil as pest repellent to using a styrofoam cup to protect plants from cut worms are both unique and simple methods he shared with the class just before wrapping up.

Growing up in Hanover Township, Petro has been involved in gardening since he was 10 years old because he was raised around it.

"Back then, everyone did it," he said of gardening. "Now it's more important than ever because of the war. I encourage everyone to go back and do some sort of gardening. You can have a safe, healthy product, save money, and you're just much better off."



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Children from Miss Long's kindergarten class at Ross Elementary School listen attentively to Debbie Ellis, PA farm bureau agriculture lab teacher during a session in a mobile learning unit.

## FIREWORKS

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more than those at last year's fireworks and he has also tripled the amount of portable toilets.

The future of Pizza Paul's fireworks is uncertain, though. "As long as I start getting some money coming back, I'll be able to do it," Adamchick said. "I would really appreciate donations from whoever can help out. I'm only one guy."

Donations for Pizza Paul's fireworks may be sent to: Back Mountain Harvest Assembly, 340 Carverton Rd., Trucksville, PA 18708. Please write "fireworks donation" in the memo.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Paul Adamchick, left, and Pastor Dan Miller go over plans for a fireworks show on the grounds of the Back Mountain Harvest Assembly property tonight.

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