

Dallas Board recognizes student's achievements

By REBECCA BRIA
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Fred Searles, a senior at Dallas High School and West Side Career and Technical Center, was recognized and presented a certificate by the Dallas School Board last Monday night during its regular monthly meeting.

Searles and John Kasson, another West Side Tech student, placed fifth in the Pennsylvania Automotive Association Competition.

"It was a neat experience," Searles said of the competition. "I got to see all of the new vehicles that were out."

Parent upset over solicitation

Susan Allen, a parent of a Dallas Elementary School student, asked the board why her contact information was given to a private day-care center.

Allen says she received two solicitations in the past year from Hildebrandt Learning Centers, Inc., which operates before- and after-school care in the school's cafeteria.

"As a parent, I'm very upset that a company was given my information to solicit business based on my child's attendance at the school," Allen said.

Allen also questioned why Hildebrandt was the only day-care center that knew about a bid placed in the newspaper advertising the current before- and after-school care program in the district.

Board President Karen Kyle informed Allen that a personal directory of district students is available to the public. Parents who do not wish to be included in the list must sign a document at the beginning of the school year. Kyle also said Hildebrandt volunteered to distribute a survey regarding summer care in the Dallas schools.

District business manager Grant Palfey said if the survey determines summer day care is needed in the district, a bid would be publicly advertised for the program. Palfey says in the future, he will also call local day-care centers about bids in addition to placing an ad in the newspaper.

The board approved the 2009-10 school year calendar, which will run August 24, 2009 through May 28, 2010. The earlier return is due to construction on the new high school.

New high school project

Representatives from Crabtree Rohrbaugh & Associates, Inc. updated the board on the new high school construction project. Rick LeBlanc, of Crabtree Rohrbaugh & Associates, Inc., said bids for the project should be released in early April and construction is slated to begin by the end of May. The target completion date is Sept. 12, 2011.

A representative from K & W Engineers presented the board with designs for a synthetic track which would replace the existing track at Mountaineer Stadium. The track, which includes separate discus and javelin areas, would take about two months to construct and the field would be unusable for approximately two years due to reseeding. The track is estimated to cost \$380,000, but the final cost will depend on what material the board chooses to use.

In other business, the board:

- Appointed M. Jay Pope as the district sports information director/athletic director upon his retirement from the district as a full-time professional employee. Pope will be paid a salary of \$10,000 per season, amounting to \$30,000 annually because there are three seasons per year.

- Approved the revised Dallas School District Policy No. 237, Personal Communication Devices, for students. Superintendent Frank Galicki noted the district looked at policies and procedures recommended by the Luzerne County District Attorney's Office.

- Approved the continuation of leave of absence for elementary teacher Brenda Burkhardt from March 2 through May 29.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Jameel Chaudry, left, and Carl Peterlin are preparing to open Back Mountain Creamery, an ice cream store next to Pizza Perfect on Carverton Road in Trucksville.

Ice cream store opening soon

By REBECCA BRIA
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Carl Peterlin remembers his first large ice cream cone.

He was just 12 years old and his father picked him up from football practice in his green Volkswagen Beetle and took him to Dairy Queen. To his surprise, his father told him he could get the large size and Peterlin felt like he was becoming a man.

Fast forward 34 years and Peterlin, now 45, of Harveys Lake, is scheduled to open his own ice cream shop, Back Mountain Creamery, on Carverton Road in Trucksville, in early April.

"When they were building the Wyoming Valley Mall, my dad wanted to start a Dairy Queen," Peterlin said. "I first saw a Coldstone four or five years ago. I looked into the franchise but it was so expensive. I wanted to do something like that here."

A regular Friday customer of Pizza Perfect for the past 34 years, Peterlin was dining at the restaurant on June 13 of last year when owners, the Adam-chick family, offered to lease

him a nearby building. Always wanting to own an ice cream business, Peterlin jumped at the chance.

Located just above Toby's Creek near Pizza Perfect, the building previously served as home to an insurance company and as a private garage. Peterlin and his wife, Mary Ann, and sons Carl Joseph (CJ), 18, and Joel, 15, began remodeling the inside of the building the first week of July 2008.

Back Mountain Creamery will allow patrons to choose their own ice cream flavor and ingredients to form a customized concoction on a cold slab. The shop will offer recipe suggestions, but people are free to make up any combination.

According to Peterlin, Scranton-based coffee roaster Electric City Roasting Co. will supply the shop's coffee. Homemade Italian ice, gelato and ice cream cakes will also be available and hot ice cream-based treats will be added to the menu during winter months.

"We want to be as local and involved in the community as we can," Peterlin said.

"Hoping to focus on family, Peterlin will offer a free sprin-

kle bar to children.

"We want to be more about memories than ice cream," he said.

Open year-round, Back Mountain Creamery will seat 12 people inside with additional benches outside.

Jameel Chaudry, originally from Montreal, Canada with 12 years experience in the restaurant industry there, is the store manager. Chaudry relocated to the area because he is a referee for the American Hockey League, including for the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins.

Peterlin met his manager through Chaudry's wife, Sheryl Charbonneau, a co-employee at CVS Caremark in Hanover Township where Peterlin is a production planning analyst.

Back Mountain Creamery will employ 15 to 20 people part-time and is still hiring employees. The ice cream shop will be open Thursday through Sunday in the spring and all week beginning in the summer.

"Starting out, we're going to want to hear a lot of feedback from customers because they're our priority," Chaudry said.

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at

The Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

will be hosting its 5th annual National Nutrition Month Health Fair on Thursday, March 19, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The following vendors will be at the health fair with information:

Nutritional information by Rebecca Barna, RD, Licensed Dietician for the facility, Hearing Screens by Asby & Ziegler Audiology Assoc, Alzheimer's Association, Meadows Volunteer Services, Massages from Serenity Wellness Center, Associated Family Home Care, Inc, Glaucoma Screening by Association of the Blind, Sam's Club Pharmacy and Optical.

There will also be live cooking demonstrations throughout the day and raffles! Residents, family, staff and friends of the community are invited.

Join us as we celebrate National Nutrition Month!

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