

All eyes are on Jackson Twp. recycling center

By REBECCA BRIA
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RECYCLING IN JACKSON TOWNSHIP:

- Permissible items for recycling include plastic and glass (bottles and jars only), tin, aluminum and bi-metallic cans, newspapers and glossy inserts and corrugated cardboard. These items must be placed in their correct respective containers at the drop off site.
- Items not accepted include trash, light bulbs, wood, oil, planters, shingles, air conditioners, trash bags, plastic bags, egg cartons, garden hoses, chunks of metal, pet litter containers, Styrofoam food containers, food waste, demolition waste, plastic sheds, microwave ovens and scrap metals.
- Hours at the recycling center are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of every month. The program is open only to township residents.
- Recycling violations may be reported by calling 675-6008.

Jackson Township officials want people to know the camera is rolling at their recycling center.

The township was issued a final non-compliance warning for its recycling program by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on Jan. 19 after a mattress, household trash and other non-recyclable products were left at the center. The recycling center is located behind the township municipal building on Huntsville Road.

"There's no mistake," said supervisor John J. Wilkes Jr. "A mistake would be an egg carton being recycled, not household trash with diapers and food waste; that's not a mistake. That's a bla-

tant problem."

Wilkes said this is the fourth non-compliance warning issued to the township by DEP. As a result, the township is in jeopardy of losing its seven-year-old recycling program, which is free to residents.

According to Wilkes, the township is not required by law to recycle because its population is under the minimum population recycling requirement, which he says is 5,000 or 6,000 people. The 2000 census determined the township's population to be

4,453.

A camera at the site recently caught someone dumping trash at 1:45 a.m. and recorded a license plate number on the perpetrator's vehicle. Wilkes said the video was turned over to the township's solicitor and police department and he expects an arrest to be made.

Wilkes said serious problems began at the recycling center in April 2009. Township officials distributed fliers, put up information on their Web site and spoke to residents who visited the center about what can be recycled.

"Most of the issues were corrected, but it's the late night issue that's really bothering us now," Wilkes said. "We know that our



Jay Wilkes helps guide tubing for environmentally-friendly fill toward a new piece of property next to the town hall. The additional area will help with the town's recent recycling problems.

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DALLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board approves six change orders

By REBECCA BRIA
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Six change orders for the Dallas Senior High School construction project were approved Feb. 8 by the Dallas School Board.

Five of the six change orders were at a cost to the district totaling \$115,105.54.

Those change orders were for a security fence, installation of a handrail at the loading dock, dry-wall of two rooms in the maintenance building, finish and paint walls in central storage in the maintenance building and a fire alarm upgrade in the high school and a data rack and fiber cabling.

The other change order was a credit for kitchen equipment in the amount of \$55,557.

"What is there that we don't know about that's going to come up again?" asked Richard Coslett, a board member.

According to board president Bruce Goeringer, approximately 27 percent of the \$1 million in contingency for the project has been used so far. Goeringer said the plan is to stay within the contingency.

"It's expected up to a point as long as we remain in our contingency," Goeringer said.

Bob Nesbit, of Crabtree Rohrbaugh & Associates, the project's architectural firm, said if a client of Crabtree is unhappy at the end of a project, Crabtree will come to a resolution as to how much the client should pay.

Public school district employee pension program

The board tabled a resolution advocating immediate action by the Pennsylvania General Assembly to enact legislative action regarding the public school district employee pension program reform.

The Dallas School District and the state jointly contribute annually from public funds to the school employee pension program a fixed percentage rate of the eligible school employee's salary.

The district employer's percentage rate of contribution for

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Richard Coslett
Dallas School Board member

the 2009-2010 school year is 4.78 percent. On July 1, 2010, the rate will jump to 8.22 percent for the 2010-2011 school year.

According to the resolution, the school district employer's rate of contribution is projected to increase significantly in the next four years to a projected 33.60 percent contribution rate in the 2014-2015 school year.

The resolution states that the projected cumulative cost increases would cost the district over \$13.7 million between the 2010-2011 school year and the 2014-2015 school year.

Lacrosse teams join PIAA

Also, the board approved the district's recognition of a boys lacrosse team and a girls lacrosse team as Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association sports teams for the next five years with the understanding that they operate at no cost to the district.

Personnel

The following people were hired: Jennifer M. Torok, housekeeper at Dallas High School, effective Jan. 19, 2010, at an hourly rate of \$11.68; and Lissa Munley, long-term substitute English teacher at Dallas High School, effective Nov. 11, 2009 through May 24, 2010, at \$35,000 prorated.

The following personnel were approved as tutors for the before school math and reading tutorial program: Kim Natitus, \$28.35 per hour; and Barbara Brandt, \$39.60 per

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"Crazy Hat Day" brought out the sillies in everyone at Gate of Heaven School in Dallas, including, from left, A.J. Bednar, Christian Diana, Jake Janosky and Carly Cavanaugh.

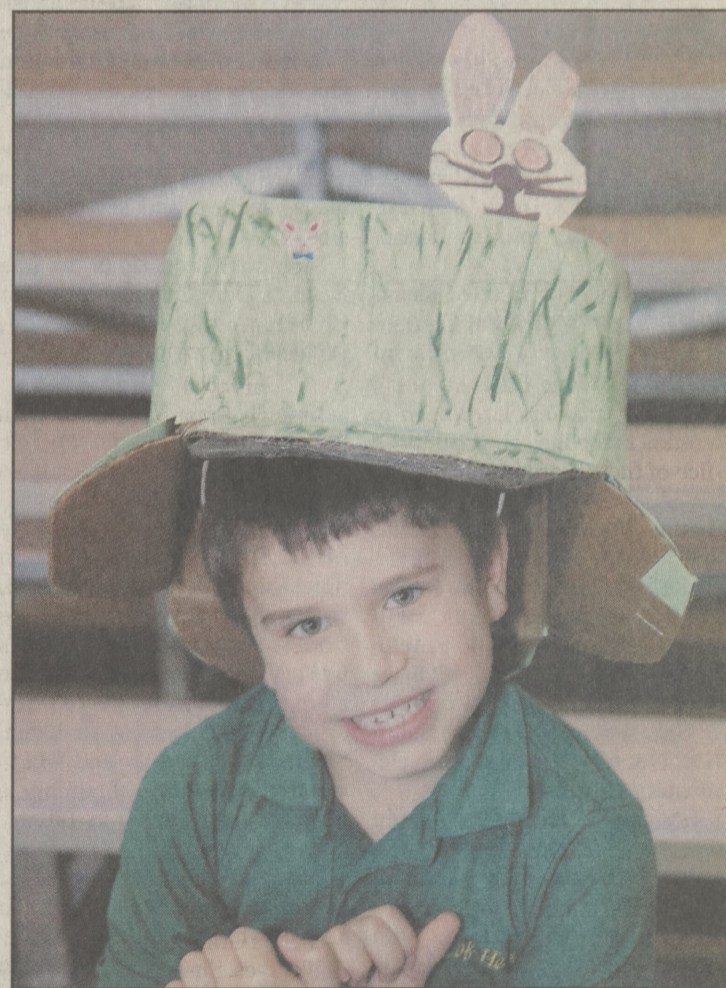
'Crazy Hat Day' at Gate of Heaven

Students at Gate of Heaven School in Dallas were silly last Thursday during Crazy Hat/Crazy Sock Day but serious at the same time as they donated their quarters for people affected by the earthquake in Haiti.

The activities were all part of Catholic Schools Week, celebrated by the Diocese of Scranton and Gate of Heaven from Jan. 31 to Feb. 6.

During the week, students celebrated by holding a talent show, dressing in their favorite sports team and, in addition to wearing their craziest hats and socks, participating in the annual Green and White Basketball Game.

All week long, students donated coins to be sent to people in Haiti.



Daniel Drost wears his mother's home-made hat creation.

ROSS TOWNSHIP

Residents will see change in ambulance service

By EILEEN GODIN
Dallas Post Correspondent

Putting residents' safety first, supervisors approved new protocols for the Sweet Valley Ambulance Association, Inc.

New procedures pertaining to back up services for the Sweet Valley Ambulance Association were put into place on Tuesday evening. Robert Walsh, chief of the ambulance association, said the protocols will add to the safety of municipal residents.

Walsh said the association has only two ambulances and

not all of its 17 volunteer EMTs are on hand at all times. When Sweet Valley Ambulance Association is unable to respond, a nearby community's ambulance has stepped in to answer the call.

The new protocols for the Sweet Valley Ambulance Association Inc. are as follows:

- Lake Silkworth EMS will be second on-call for basic life support calls in all of Ross Township and parts of Lake Township.
- Hunlock Creek Volunteer Ambulance Association will be

second on-call for parts of Union Township normally covered by Sweet Valley Ambulance Association.

- For all areas covered by Sweet Valley Ambulance Association, Northeast Paramedic Services will be the third on-call.
- All advance life support calls will be responded to by Northeast Paramedic Services. Plains Paramedic Services will be second on-call.

Walsh said having this kind of formal plan will offer better service to the community and that residents will be billed for am-

balance services unless they are members of the Sweet Valley Ambulance Association.

Annual membership fees for the Sweet Valley Ambulance Association are \$25 for a single membership or \$30 for a family membership. Walsh said flyers will be mailed out to all residents soon and advises anyone who does not receive a membership letter to call Alice Walsh, treasurer of the Sweet Valley Ambulance Association.

Ross Township supervisors will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 2, in the municipal room.

'Annie comes to Music Box

The Music Box Repertory Company presents everyone's favorite musical, "Annie," running Feb. 20 - March 14 at the Music Box Dinner Playhouse, 196 Hughes St., Swoyersville.

Nine-year-old actress/singer Madison Woods, of Kingston, will portray Annie.

Katie Colacito, age 9, of Dallas, will appear as Tessie, one of Annie's orphan friends.

Katie attends Dallas Elementary School and is in the fourth grade. She has already appeared in numerous productions around the area but is making her Music Box debut.

Music Box veteran actress Amanda Reese, also of Dallas, will portray the role of Grace Farrell.

Amanda has been involved with the Music Box for over five years and has appeared in numerous productions, including "Fiddler on the Roof," "Sweeney Todd," "Jekyll and Hyde" and "Evita."

A special "Family Day" show-only performance will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 7, at 3 p.m. when \$1 from each ticket sold will be donated to the Haiti Relief Fund.

For more information, call the box office at 283-2195.