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12-foot guest not welcome

By EILEEN GODIN
Dallas Post Correspondent

A 12-foot high green leafy guest stood proudly awaiting the return home of Dallas residents Bert and Rosalie Albert.

Albert, 78, guided a reporter and photographer to the back yard of his Valley View Road home to introduce the unexpected visitor. He and his wife usually spend the winter months in Florida and return in May. This year, due to health issues and guests, their stay was extended until the end of July.

Rounding the corner of the Alberts' home, the group saw a weed, with leaves larger than Albert's hand, standing taller than the height of his garage.

Chuckling, Rosalie, 80, said because the weed is comical because her husband is so attentive to the backyard's elaborate flower beds.

"There is never a weed in the yard," she said. "We call it Jack and the Beanstalk."

Albert pointed to a shorter weed with the same shaped leaves on it but admitted he is unsure of what type of plant it is or how it wound up taking root in his well-manicured garden. The weed has a stocky type of stem which, when broken, is hollow inside. Albert thinks it may be a type of bamboo.

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BLASTING OFF TO VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Pastor Lynn Snyder, dressed as a spaceman, tells a Bible story during the Shavertown Methodist Church Vacation Bible School. For more Vacation Bible School photos, please turn to page 4.

Church drawing donated by teen

Austin Shultz dedicates ink drawing of Lehman-Idetown United Methodist Church.

By EILEEN GODIN
Dallas Post Correspondent

A small country church inspired an area youth to apply his love of architecture and artistic talents, thus creating a detailed ink drawing of the church which will be used as a fundraiser.

Austin Shultz, 15, of Lehman Township, spent 12 weeks working on a black and white ink drawing of the Lehman-Idetown United Methodist Church. The drawing has been framed and was dedicated to the church during the 10 a.m. church services on July 25.

Reverend Beverly Butler proudly pointed to a space to the right of the altar where she plans to hang the drawing.

Butler said postcards and note cards featuring the drawing are available for purchase in groups of 10 for \$5 and a print signing is scheduled for August 15. Butler said 100 prints of the drawing have been made for the signing. The limited edition prints are not matted and a price is to be determined. Money raised from the sales will benefit the church, she said.

The drawing of the 1856 church is at an angle and so detailed that even the lettering on the stained glass window over the door, weathered marks on the siding and bricks in the chimney are visible. The scale and size of the church, steeple and surrounding landscape give a three-dimensional appearance.

The detailed drawing surprised both Shultz and Butler. Shultz said he took a black and white photo of the church first and, with guidance from Sue Hand from Sue Hand's Imagery of Dallas, was able to place and size objects in the drawing.

"It was good to have a different set of eyes looking at it," Shultz said of the direction he received from Hand. "This helped so I did not miss anything."

"I had no clue it would be so



The dedication of an ink drawing of the Lehman-Idetown United Methodist Church by Austin Shultz, of Sweet Valley, took place last Sunday morning.

detailed," Butler said. "I was amazed. Everyone who sees it is amazed."

When the drawing was shared with the congregation, Butler said gasps, followed by applause, erupted from those in attendance.

"My drawing shows more detail than the photograph," Shultz said.

Shultz said the simple family church design appealed to him and he specifically likes the steeple of the church as it appears in the drawing.

"I like the tower with the old bell up there," he said. "It is a nice classic little family church."

Shultz's mother, Robin, said her son's talent was realized when he was noted as the best in his sixth-grade art class. His cousin, Jerry Shilanski, saw potential in Shultz and wanted to encourage his talent.

Shilanski took Shultz to Sue Hand's Imagery to "look around." When Shilanski offers lessons to Shultz, the young man seized the opportunity.

"He has a great talent," Robin Shultz said. "He practices with the pen and ink the most. I am very proud of him."

Shultz hopes to develop his growing talent and interest in architecture to pursue a career in architecture design.

Ralling around a little girl in need

By KIM ROLLMAN
Dallas Post Correspondent

Sweet Valley's Brittany Rosencrans, 17, and Lake Silkworth's Ginger Mutzabaugh, 13, are spending their summer vacation helping others.

The two Lake-Lehman students spend their weekdays, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., volunteering at the Meadows Nursing Home in Dallas, transporting patients to and from therapy and assisting with resident activities such as fishing at the pond.

Next weekend, the enterprising duo will hold a bake sale to benefit a little girl who was born with a condition that, without costly surgery, will cause facial deformity.

Brittany and Ginger heard the story of little Erin Redmond just a few short weeks ago.

Redmond, 3, of Sweet Valley, was born with a coloboma of the eye, an irreversible condition which interferes with her vision. She was also born with retinal detachment, a separation of the light-sensitive membrane in the back of the eye (the retina) from its supporting layers. Doctors tried to reattach the retina, but surgery was unsuccessful.

Erin's mom, Michele Henninger, says failure to reattach the retina will have debilitating results in years to come. There is a high probability that Erin will go blind in her left eye, but nothing can be done to reverse the condition. In addition, Erin's eye will not grow, thus limiting her face from growing as well. As the little



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Michele Henninger, of Lake Silkworth, holds her 3 1/2-year-old daughter Erin Redmond who needs eye surgery.

girl ages and the rest of her body grows, the left side of her face will remain the same size. In order to prevent deformity, doctors will need to perform another operation to insert a conformer into Erin's eye, allowing her face to grow normally.

The surgery seems like an easy solution, however there is a major obstacle - money. According to Henninger, the procedure has been denied by her insurance carrier because it is considered cosmetic. Henninger needs to come up with \$20,000 for the surgery.

Touched by Erin's story, Brittany and Ginger decided they had to help.

After mulling over a few ideas, the girls decided to hold a bake sale in conjunction with a car show being held at the Meadows. The event will take place from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 7, on the grounds of the Meadows Nursing Home, Dallas. Baked goods will be available in the back pavilion near the food

vendors. The compassionate teens have asked family, friends and the staff at the nursing home to dust off their hand mixers and don their

IF YOU GO ...

WHAT: Bake Sale to Benefit Erin Redmond

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 7
Noon to 4 p.m.

in conjunction with Highlights Motor Club Classic Car Show (free admission and free parking)

WHERE: The Meadows Nursing Home
55 W. Center Hill Rd., Dallas
Back Pavilion

WHO: Coordinated by Brittany Rosencrans and Ginger Mutzabaugh

aprons to create a menu of sweet treats to sell at the event. The girls have even included residents of the nursing home in their project. The residents will assist with the baking as part of their daily activities. Cakes, cookies, brownies and pies will all be available along with "grandma's special" zucchini bread.

Henninger is grateful for the effort put forth by the teens.

"I am thrilled," she exclaims, "I think it's amazing that they cared

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Brittany Rosencrans, left, and Ginger Mutzabaugh, right, volunteers at The Meadows Center, have made this banner to publicize their benefit bake sale for Erin Redmond, center, who needs eye surgery.



BILL TARUTIS PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Participating in the dedication of an ink drawing of the Lehman-Idetown United Methodist Church are, from left, Rev. Beverly Butler, pastor; Robin Shultz, of Sweet Valley, mother of the artist; Austin Shultz, artist; Margaret Shultz, of Dallas, grandmother of the artist; and Jerry Shilanski, of Lehman, cousin of the artist.

