

The DALLAS POST

50¢

Serving the communities of the Dallas and Lake-Lehman School Districts

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GETTING AN EARLY START AT SCHOOL



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Dallas elementary students Abygale Nikolaichik, left, and Keely Patton peer through bus windows waiting to go home after the first day of classes in the Dallas School District on Aug. 23. The district started unusually early this year to allow more time in June for construction of the new high school.

Piglets thriving - thanks to an army of caring volunteers

Twelve piglets orphaned after mother dies; community rallies to help.

By SARAH HITE
shite@mydallaspost.com

Abbie Fallon considers herself a mother.

Twelve of her "children" require hourly bottle feedings and they squeal when they don't get what they want.

Some of them sleep in the bathroom while others sleep in crates at Fallon's home.

They sure are cute, too, with pink noses, floppy ears and not-quite-coiled tails.

Fifteen-year-old Fallon isn't raising human babies - she works at The Lands at Hillside Farms where a litter of 12 piglets recently became orphaned.

They were born on Friday, Aug. 20 and the next day their



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Emily Deome feeds one of 12 orphaned piglets at The Lands at Hillside Farms.

mother grew ill and passed away. The staff at Hillside assumes she

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What's new in school this year?

By SARAH HITE
shite@mydallaspost.com

(Gate of Heaven) Principal Abraham Simon says the school upgraded all of its computers during the summer.

It's a new year for the Dallas and Lake-Lehman school districts and, with that, come a few tweaks and changes in staff and surroundings.

The Dallas School District opened on Monday, Aug. 23 to allow for the completion of the new high school next summer.

"We believe it was one of the smoothest openings we've had in years," said High School Principal Jeffrey Shaffer.

Students within the Dallas School District can expect to see some new faces in the halls within each of the schools. Several new teachers were hired within the district.

In the high school, Vicki Stuffle will serve as a long-term math substitute, instructing students in Trigonometry and Algebra I.

Nancy Roberts, the district's athletic director, will act as a part-time health and physical education teacher in the middle school due to the retirement of Anne Seitz.

Cory Patton, Diana Snyder, Ashley Barchik, Lesley Baltimore

and Amber Costello will serve as long-term substitutes in the Wyallis and Dallas elementary schools.

Bridget Gavin will be a vision teacher for the 2010-11 school year and Ashley Sobiech will serve as a special education teacher.

Shaffer wants students to know about a new course offering at the high school. The course is a year-long Algebra I class which will give ninth-graders extra time to learn the intricacies of math.

Dallas students can also expect to get to school on time as buses in the district will be tracked using global positioning devices.

The Lake-Lehman School District will begin the 2010-11 year on Monday, Aug. 30.

Elementary students will enjoy an addition to Ross Elementary which was completed during the summer. A new library, along with extra classrooms, a computer lab and a new playground were part of the \$1.7 million project.

The junior/senior high school

will be under the helm of a new principal - Douglas Klopp, who served as principal of Northwest Area.

New teachers hired within the district include:

Jill Vanderhook, art teacher at Lake-Noxen and Ross elementary schools; Justine Hallenbeck, special education teacher at Lehman-Jackson Elementary School; Kathryn Mullins, elementary teacher at Lake-Noxen Elementary School; Emily Fischbein, elementary intervention in all elementary schools; Matthew Nonnenberg, long-term substitute in industrial technology at the junior/senior high school; Krystal Miner, physical education teacher at the junior/senior high school; Alexander Higgins, instrumental music teacher and band director at the junior/senior high school; Vanessa Wengen, special education teacher at Lehman-Jackson Elementary School; Alysia Jones, elementary teacher at Ross Elementary; Laura DePrimo, elementary intervention

teacher; Stacy Little, long-term substitute; and Thomas Bryan, long-term substitute in industrial technology at the junior/senior high school.

The Black Knights also have a new football coach in Jerry Gilsky and a new girls volleyball coach in Tiffany Hettes.

For Gate of Heaven, classes will commence on Monday, Aug. 30.

Students will notice a new school logo in the gym as a former Gate of Heaven student redesigned the school's logo and painted it in the gymnasium. Holy Redeemer High School students also completed a service project during the summer and painted images of Gator basketball players on the gymnasium walls.

Principal Abraham Simon also says the school upgraded all of its computers during the summer.

Mary Ann Ostrowski will help little ones learn as a preschool teacher for the 2010-11 year.

Advanced placement students will once again compete in a NA-SA science program. The school competed nationally last year and was ranked as one of the top 15 schools in the nation who completed the program.



BILL TARUTIS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Gas Drilling Awareness Coalition member Mary Rodriguez, of Dallas Township, right, talks with Jack Ossont of upstate New York about the status of natural gas drilling in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Learning about drilling

By SARAH HITE
shite@mydallaspost.com

about his involvement in gas drilling. "My regular life is over."

One of the organizers of Gas Stock, a free music festival held Aug. 21 to raise awareness about gas drilling, Finan hopes the rally will change people's minds about

For Frank Finan, becoming a community activist against gas drilling isn't a choice. It's his life.

"It's changed my life completely," the Hop Bottom resident said

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Hundreds run, walk and support Lt. Michael J. Cleary Foundation

By SARAH HITE
shite@mydallaspost.com

2006, benefits soldiers who are wounded or need assistance after returning from active duty overseas.

"Mike played soccer on these fields," said Cleary's father, Jack. Michael Cleary graduated from Dallas High School and Jack is proud that Michael's alma mater is honoring his memory.

"These kids will realize that, when you work to help others, you receive more than you give," he said. "It means a lot to (my family) personally."

Jack Cleary told the story of a local soldier who served three tours of duty overseas with the National Guard. Wounded and unable to work, the man found himself struggling to pay his bills and take care of his children. The Lt. Michael J. Cleary Foundation was able to help and now the man is attending Luzerne County Community College.

"He wasn't asking for a hand-out; he just needed a hand," Cleary said.



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Groups from the Back Mountain and surrounding communities support the Run for the Fallen effort.

The organizers of the event, all runners for Dallas High School, were happy to work for the foundation.

"Between doing radio interviews, setting up registrations, getting sponsors, contacting

media and making tags for the runners, it was all for a good cause," said Chelsea Martin, 16, a junior at Dallas High School

RESULTS

1st Place
Joe Hickey, Drums, 17:23
Mary Frank, Wilkes-Barre, 20:44
2nd Place
Vinay Murthy 17:38
Nadalie Soloman 20:57
3rd Place
A.J. Limongelli 17:53
Marissa Durako 20:58
4th Place
Kenny Roman 17:54
Cassandra Gill 21:26
5th Place
Jeremy Stonier 17:55
Ally Rome 21:27
Youth
Jeremy Stonier 17:55
Cassandra Gill 21:26
Masters
Dan Thomas Jr. 19:00
Cynthia Rachilla 27:10



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