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at a rate of \$11.16 per hour, Max Derby as a groundskeeper in the maintenance department at a rate of \$12.64 per hour, and Jacob Chielli as a lifeguard in the natatorium at a rate of \$10 per hour. • Barbara Richardson, Susan Kotch, Sarah Kashatus and Jason Rushmer were approved as completion project advisors for the 2010-11 school year at a stipend of \$1,500 each, and Ruth Skammer

was appointed to the position of Wellness Department Chairperson with a stipend of \$499 in addition to \$60 per person within the department for the 2010-11 school year.

• Todd Hunter was appointed to the positions of band director and jazz band director in the senior high school. Frank Kelly was appointed as a volunteer to help with marching band for this school year.

• The board appointed the following high school winter sports coaching positions: Mary Jo Hromchak as the head girls' basketball coach with a stipend of \$6,235; Kelly Johnson-Martin as the assistant girls' basketball coach with a stipend of \$3,295; Ted Jackson Jr. as the head boys' basketball coach with a stipend of \$6,235; John Saba as the assistant boys' basketball coach with a stipend of \$3,295; Mike Richards as the head wrestling coach with a stipend of \$6,235; Bob Jesse as the assistant wrestling coach with a stipend of \$3,295; Romayne Mosier as the head swimming coach with a stipend of \$4,090; Jen Swiderski as the assistant swimming coach with a stipend of \$2,373; and Arie Van-Kuyk as the diving coach with a stipend of \$2.217.

• In the middle school, the board made the following winter sports coaching appointments: Jerry Ogurkis as the wrestling assistant-in-charge with a stipend of \$3,295; John Hutchins as the wrestling assistant coach with a stipend of \$2,725; Paul Darling as the girls' basketball assistant-incharge with a stipend of \$3,295; Johnna Schickram as the girls' basketball eighth grade coach with a stipend of \$2,725; Mike Riddell as the boys' basketball eighth grade coach with a stipend of \$2,725; Chris Plaviak as the

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Metz was involved in the Major Performing Arts Center, which was located in the same Dug Road location that Take the Stage occupies before it merged with a studio in Wilkes-Barre earlier this year. Once Metz realized her dreams of owning a performance center could come to fruition, she got to work.

to the world of performance a great way for children to build arts. She was bitten by the theater bug in high school, working on the murder-mystery "Enter Pharaoh Nussbaum."

"I was behind the scenes, helping with directing (and) stage management," she said. "I found that very quickly I was more suited to the technical aspects and the creative process."

Metz said the process comes very easily to her - when she reads a script, she can visualize the entire production without so much as designing a prop or seeing a costume.

Taking care of her three children also afforded her a chance to hone her niche into something more specific - children's theater.

"When my daughter was very little, I started getting involved in ... the directing side, assisting and working with the kids, and found that I love working with kids and helping them," she said. "Doing theater is a great ness," she said.

way to build self-esteem, to build confidence, for kids to be able to find that voice of theirs."

Katelyn Buyarski, 14, of Kingston, has been dancing since she was 4 years old and danced with Major Performing Arts before the merger took place. She enjoys ballet, modern and jazz dancing, but her favorite part of the art form is the way she feels during a performance.

"It kind of expresses things instead of like, screaming or something," she said.

Metz said working with youth has been one of the great This isn't Metz's first foray in- rewards of her life and acting is their public speaking skills because they can "hide" behind the character they play. She saw this at the theater group's first performance of "The Commedia Pinocchio" at the Back Mountain Library summer reading program's final party in August, an event attended by hundreds of children and their parents.

> "One of the girls that was in the 'Pinocchio' show (is) extremely shy," said Metz. "She does not talk; she does not sing. But she got up in front of all of those kids and she performed."

Another aspect of Metz's studio is community - she is passionate about keeping in touch with her roots. She graduated from Dallas High School and then-College Misericordia.

"What I want most is for people to go, 'Oh, (the studio) is part of the community,' and not 'Oh, that's just another busi-

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Berkheimer Associates to Centax-Don Wilkinson Agency until next year. The change was mandated by the state in 2009 under Act 32, and Reino says the effort was meant to save municipalities money on commission rates. Township Manager Kathleen Sebastian told the board that the commission rate for Berkheimer Associates is .085 less than Centax-Don Wilkinson Agency.

Reino also expressed concerns about the technological capabilities of the Wilkinson Agency.

"They still use paper processes, so we're going to have to write checks instead of wire transferring," he said. "This

"We haven't been successful in getting grants individually, so we are trying to get grants through working together," he said.

following announcements: the Kingston Township Recreation Commission will host its second annual Halloween parade at the East Center Street Park Field on Saturday, Oct. 30 at 1 p.m. with a rain date scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 31; an autumn road inspection is set for Sunday, Oct. 24 at 8 a.m.; and a Fall Leaf Pick-up will run from Nov. 8 through Nov. 19.

 The next public work session will be on Monday, Nov. 8 at 7 p.m. and the next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

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Sarah Thompson attempts to open locks and doorknobs with a plastic bag restraint, simulating how a disabled person would have to deal with the situation.

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Students were able to learn sign language, push themselves around in wheelchairs and walk through an obstacle course blindfolded or wrapped in elastic tubing.

Victoria Flynn, kindergarten teacher at Wycallis Elementary, believes the earlier the children are exposed to these challenges, the better-equipped they will be disabilities.

"They are so curious about

(age) because they are so accepting and understanding."

The obstacle course consisted of cushions, plastic steps and angular foam pieces that simulated walking through grass, trudging through a muddy football field, walking up a ramp, stepping onto a bus and climbing on bleachers. Students' arms were wrapped

close to their bodies with a Velcro sheet and elastic rubber tubes were secured around their legs.

The setup was aimed to portray the stiffness and lack of control one has over one's muscles to interact with those who have with conditions such as cerebral palsy or a traumatic brain injury. Project ABLE co-director builds respect."

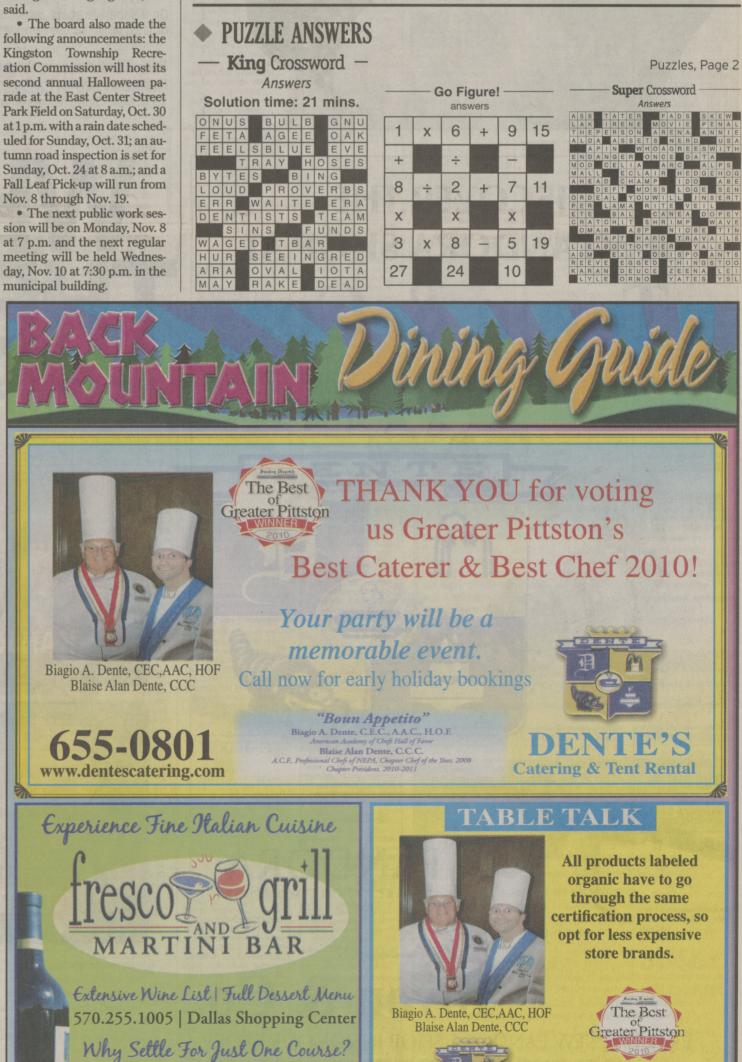
this," she said. "This is a great Diane Smulligan helped the students through the course as they cautiously worked their way across the demonstration.

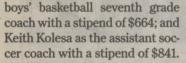
"It was really hard," said kindergartener Sara Wren. "You couldn't move where you wanted to.'

Smaglick hopes the children were able to understand that "it takes talent and skill" to overcome the challenges faced by those living with disabilities.

"We don't believe a 15-minute simulation of a disability can show you what it's truly like," she said.

"But it shows you where there's a will, there's a way — and that





• Evie Marie Jones was appointed as a bus driver for the 2010-11 school year.

• The board also approved the addition of a hiking club in the high school for the 2010-11 school vear

• The Dallas School Board will have its Committee-of-the-Whole meeting on Monday, Nov. 1 and its next regular meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 8 in the administration building next to Wycallis Elementary.

could create additional labor costs." • The board also agreed to

participate in an inter-municipal cooperative project which would convert the Pendragon/ Sheetz traffic light and all pedestrian crossing lights in Kingston Township to LED lights.

• Reino was also appointed as a representative for the Back Mountain Community Partnership and will propose a Local Share (Gaming Grant) Account Grant Funding application in order to acquire funds for all the municipalities in the partnership.



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