THE DALLAS POST



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Lisa Lindquist, in her backyard garden in West Wyoming, is the 2011 garden tour chairperson for the Back Mountain Bloomers.

"We have normally gardens of every level, every style out there. We try to have a real varied lineup."

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for gardens mostly comprised of flowers, but gardens featuring trees and shrubs are also included. Water features such as dens (suggested) from Harveys 'Who's that in my yard?"" part of the criteria, allowing there," said Mattas. club members to educate the public on all different sorts of year which is why the event is open up their gardens to us." garden accents.

every level, every style out ere," said Lindquist. "We try have a real varied lineup."

speakers are scheduled to present at the different locations to of education.

Lindquist feels the tour satisfies gardeners' natural curiosity.

"If you're a garden freak, that's what you want to do - you available to the public." want to get in there and nose around," she said.

parking can be an issue in small yards weeks before the tour. neighborhoods.

ponds and fountains are also Lake and parking is a problem laughed Lindquist. "We're try-

held every other year. The "We have normally gardens of chairpersons visit suggested hasn't always been easy for gardens a year prior to the event and take photographs so they know what will be in Wilkes-Barre for over 30 years In addition to the gardens, bloom at the time of the tour. with just a small patch of grass horticulture and gardening One member of the Bloomers is an ace at identifying plants and Lindquist says she is an irre- cally," she said. Now her 80 by continue in the group's mission placeable part of the planning 120-foot backyard is abloom process.

"We identify up to 150 plants in each garden," said Lindquist. "We label them and make a list

until the day of the tour - and for soming her potential as a gar-The most important aspect of good reason. Lindquist says choosing a garden doesn't in- there is so much anticipation volve plant types or waterfalls - among garden-goers, some "Anybody that could put a bulb it's parking. The 2009 tour at- homeowners would receive untracted over 450 people and expected guests in their back- there and hope and wait for it to

"We've had a number of gar- a family barbeque saying, timist."

ing to protect the privacy of Planning the tour takes over a people who are nice enough to

Lisa Lindquist

2011 tour chairwoman

Growing and tending flowers Lindquist – before she moved to West Wyoming, she lived in "about the size of an SUV."

"I learned how to grow vertiwith flowers, shrubbery, fountains, an arbor and some stubborn pigeons she's convinced have followed her and her husband from the city. They Tour locations are kept secret haven't stopped her from blosdener, though.

"We're optimists," she said. in the ground in the fall and sit grow for six or seven months -"People are out there having that's what it means to be an op-



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Coming from as far away as Ohio was 1987 Dallas High School alumnus Chris Piatkowski Shovlin and her children, Sam and Hannah, for the annual alumni soccer game at Cleary Field.

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cer world.

"Hey, Hot Rocks!" shouted one man.

"You saw your name in lights!" shouted another. "What happens when John would shout, 'Mr. Referee!'?"

asked Sheehan. The young soccer players were stumped, and by the end of half time, those wearing dark blue were ahead by four goals.

Kenneth McCafferty, McCafferty's brother who resides in

Scotland, came to the game challenge when he started the team 30 years ago, but was met support of her husband's former one alumni game before, but with lively players who were players. willing to learn.

grow," said Kenneth. "These John's lessons." guys are the salt of the earth."

Leslie, who admits to not being a sports fan despite her hus-



lie. He said his brother had a soccer team in 1981, of which John McCafferty was the coach.

"I thought it was absolutely to those who love him," she his former coach. brilliant at the time, and there said. "They're carrying his legawas potential for something to cy for the younger kids to apply you could tell he cared, even

ryland, was captain of the first the late coach. "I'm very sad-Dallas High School soccer team dened; he's done so much for band's interests, appreciates the in 1981. He had only attended the team."

felt it was important to attend 'This game means very much the 2010 game as a tribute to

"He was no nonsense, but though we lost all of our games Joe Lipo, who resides in Ma- that first season," said Lipo of

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TIPS AND TRICKS FROM STEVE DAVIDOWITZ

Below are some helpful hints from long-distance runner Steve Davidowitz should you decide to strap on some running shoes and take on a marathon vourself.

• Be prepared to wake up early on the big day.

"I have three or four alarm clocks ready," Davidowitz said. ers, including fans, family mem- • Get new shoes, but wear them in first.

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RANCH

Lake, an equestrian and educational center that will offer horse riding therapy for disabled veterans.

"Horses are veterans," she said. She said too often horses e mistreated or abandoned, d this is why she plans to use mostly rescue horses for the program, set to start in May 2011.

Funding is currently Basalyga's main concern. She's also focused on finding the right horses to be trained for the program. While it's possible to purchase horses with the appropriate training, Basalyga said rescue horses need the most help and can offer veterans a bonding experience.

Basalyga said the program will not only help injured veterans with physical therapy, but the horses can provide emotional and psychological support, as well.

"Horses will not accept you if you are not acting like yourself," she said. "A veteran with a disability tends to hide (his or her disability) in order to cope with it."

Basalyga has never served in the military, but even at a young age she was fascinated with soldiers at war.

"As part of the human condition, we try to avoid confrontation," she said. "A soldier looks at danger and runs full speed towards it. It blows my mind."

It was seeing the Twin Towers fall on September 11, 2001 while he was working as a manager at ime Warner that sealed the deal for Basalyga. She was working at a cable service station in Myrtle Beach, S.C., with over 50 TVs lining the parameters of the room at the time.

"I thought it was an accident at first," she said.

Not being able to speak because the hundreds of customer service representatives were answering phones, she wrote a message for her employees on a white board.



BILL TARUTIS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Shadow, a mix Morgan-Paint horse breed, will be used in an equine therapy program for disabled veterans at the Liberty **Reins Ranch in Harveys Lake.**

"I told them, 'Don't let whoever did this win. Keep going," she recounted.

When the United States entered into Iraq and Afghanistan, Basalyga displayed an American flag that is still hanging in front of her Clarks Summit house, where her son now lives.

"(The flag) is like the military. It's still hanging even though it's beaten up," she said.

She takes the flag down once in a while to sew tears and patch holes, but she won't remove it completely until the war is over. "It shows you that freedom isn't free," she said

The equine therapy program, still in its planning stages, was not something Basalyga expected to do.

Just two years ago she was living in Clarks Summit with her son and was on the verge of opening a sporting goods consignment shop called Experienced Gear.

"I was just about to open. I had everything on the shelves," she said

A ranch became available, and she said she had to take the chance.

"I had to jump on it," she said. "I told people, '(The store) will open eventually, just not now."" Basalyga, who hosts an an- to reward them somehow."



Volunteer Alexis Holena of **Dickson City cleans up the** stables at Liberty Reins Ranch in Harveys Lake.

nual Veterans Day party for friends and family, hopes her passion for horses will provide aid and comfort to service men and women.

"I never got to shake any of their hands," she said. "We have

who cheered runners on at the race to faze him this year, but he learned that lesson the hard way in his first race.

During his first run through the course, he gave high-fives to children and acknowledged the crowd throughout the race, which left him pretty exhausted by the time he finished.

"People get caught up in it," he said. "You can't waste energy."

He was well-prepared to take on the challenge this year, enjoying the long run in optimal weather. He even came within a minute of his best, finishing in when he ran the course in four for a guy my age and my size, I four hours and 45 minutes. He recorded his best time in 2008

Steven Derhammer, 14, recent-

ly won third place in the Tucker

Rocky Supercross Spring Series

at Evansville Raceway in Ber-

wick. A freshman at Dallas High

School, Derhammer rides a 2008

Yamaha Raptor 250 and a 2006

Honda 300 Ex. The son of Steve

and Derhammer, Derhammer is

currently in fourth place in the

PUZZLE ANSWERS

King Crossword —

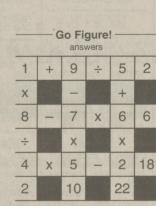
Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

Summer Series

Derhammer

wins event



Davidowitz buys new running shoes every few weeks, but the ones race day need a little wear and tear. "They can have 50 miles on them, but no more than 80." he said.

Keep your ears music-free.

Headphones may seem like a good idea, but Davidowitz says with tens of thousands of participants, it's more important to focus on the crowd and the unpredictability of the race.

Hydrate, but don't stop.

Davidowitz slows down at the various hydration stations during the race, but never comes to a complete stop, which he says is better for momentum.

Have fun.

Davidowitz said the most important part of running in the ING New York City Marathon is the experience itself. "It has to be pleasurable," he

hours and 44 minutes in 2008. could still have my personal "I still feel confident that even best," he said.



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