



S. JOHN WILKIN/ THE DALLAS POST

Attorney, William McCall, left, consults with Dallas Township Zoning Board member Gary Hozencamp during a hearing on the proposed gas compressor station.

DECISION

Continued from Page 1

len of Yelen Law Offices in Wilkes-Barre.

John Dean of the Elliot Greenleaf law firm represented the Dallas School District as objector of the application.

Wurfel was asked questions related to safety precautions and procedures, what exactly would be housed on the site and why the compressor station is necessary at this location.

He also wanted to stress what the compressor station isn't—he told the board the station will not store chemicals involved with well drilling or hydraulic fracturing, or fracking.

Wurfel stressed the numerous safety regulations that would preside over the facility should

it be built. Several state and federal organizations, namely the Environmental Protection Agency and state Department of Environmental Protection and Department of Transportation, have many stringent safety codes the company must follow.

He said local first responders and emergency personnel would be invited to the site prior to, during and after construction to learn the lay of the land and be trained in how to respond to emergencies.

Wurfel also said the station would largely be unmanned, but a sole operator would live near the station and monitor its activities daily.

The reasons Wurfel stated why the company is looking to build the approximately 5 acre facility off Hildebrandt Road included ease of access, proximity to the Transco pipeline and the fact that the land was for sale.

He also told the board that

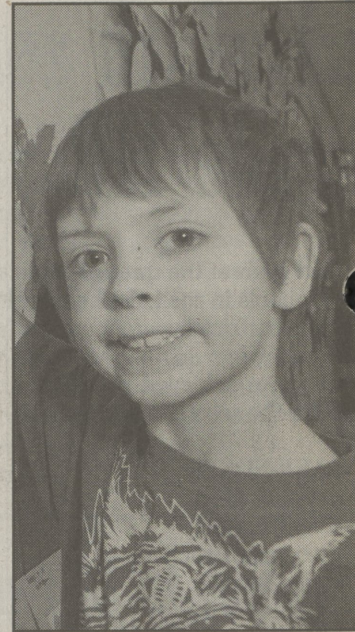
traffic for construction on the site would be coordinated to not interfere with school traffic, and after construction there would be a monthly traffic flow to and from the site for disposal of materials in water tanks and other services.

Wurfel also explained what materials would be contained at the site. Natural gas would move through the station — not be stored there. He also said materials one could find at a local grocery store, including methanol, which is in windshield wiper fluid; ethylene glycol, which is anti-freeze; and lubricating oil for the compressor engines, which is similar to motor oil, would also be stored at the compressor station.

He added that mercaptan, the odorizing chemical added to gas to give it its smell, will be stored on the site, but is not a hazardous waste.



BROOKE HIGGINS AND MADYSON PENDOLPHI



CLINT SMITH

VALENTINES

Continued from Page 1

"I can't tell who my Valentine is — he's standing right next to me."

Madyson Pendolphi
Shavertown

"He (Zachary) is my Valentine because I like him."

Brooke Higgins
Kumkle



NATALYA RACZKOWSKI

YEAR

Continued from Page 3

delphia," said Nguyen. "We had to pick them up today because the market doesn't deliver."

Dang recited a Mass in Vietnamese while the food was prepared, but spoke his sermon in both Vietnamese and English for the large crowd.

"It's surprising me to see there are so many Americans here," said Jenny Vo, 17, of Hanover Township. "It's more special. It makes it seem like

we're doing the right job to spread our culture."

Dang's loyal followers aren't only a part of the Vietnamese community, either. Marge Bart, of Dallas, said she's known Dang since she attended St. Mary's Church in Wilkes-Barre years ago.

She watched Dang struggle

in his early years as a priest as he learned the English language and tried to reach out to others.

"He persevered," she said. "He reached out to others and as a result, people love him."

Attendees also came out from Dang's other former parish, Holy Family Church in Sugar Notch, to see the priest in action.

"I think Father Vinny is as close to a saint on Earth as we could ever get," said Chris Stasko, of Warrior Run.

"When he was assigned to our church, we had a strong Irish and Polish community. They sent us a Vietnamese priest who did more to unite our community than anyone had ever done."

The 49-year-old priest has had a long journey since his days in Vietnam. Dang left Vietnam in 1986 for a refugee camp in Malaysia. From there he was accepted into the United States as a refugee and arrived in Scranton in 1987.

He studied philosophy at

various colleges in the area and was ordained by the St. Pius X Seminary in Dalton on June, 24, 1995. He has been a priest at various churches in the area before assuming the reins at St. Francis Cabrini Church in July 2009.

"People say to me, 'Father, you are good.' I say, 'I am good because you are good to me,'" said Dang. "It doesn't matter what color you are or where you come from, we are all trying to achieve the same goals."



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Jeannie Pham passes the collection basket at a Vietnamese New Year's Day mass and dinner at the Franklin Twp. Fire Hall.

CAMERAS

Continued from Page 1

Both Russell and Galicki said the same thing when it comes to the effectiveness of the cameras—they help to gather the evidence of a complaint rather than a "he said, she said" type of argument that can sometimes result from bullying accusations.

"Some parents say, 'Oh, it's not my child,' but now it's right there and visible for them to see and to hear," said Russell. "I just think as far as any parent who would be against it, they must be constantly against their child discipline-wise."

The cameras cost the district \$37,802, but most of the cost was offset by federal stimulus funds, money from a transportation account and savings the district accrued when it used outside transportation agencies.

Russell admitted she was surprised that the board took such

swift action on the issue.

"I couldn't have been more pleased with the response," she said. "The board so quickly took action, and Mr. Galicki was keeping me posted on where they were at the whole time."

Craig Rome, of Dallas, has three children who attend schools in the district, and he said the cameras are a great way to keep an eye on students.

"We knew they were installed," said Rome. "I see no problem with it. I think it can only help."

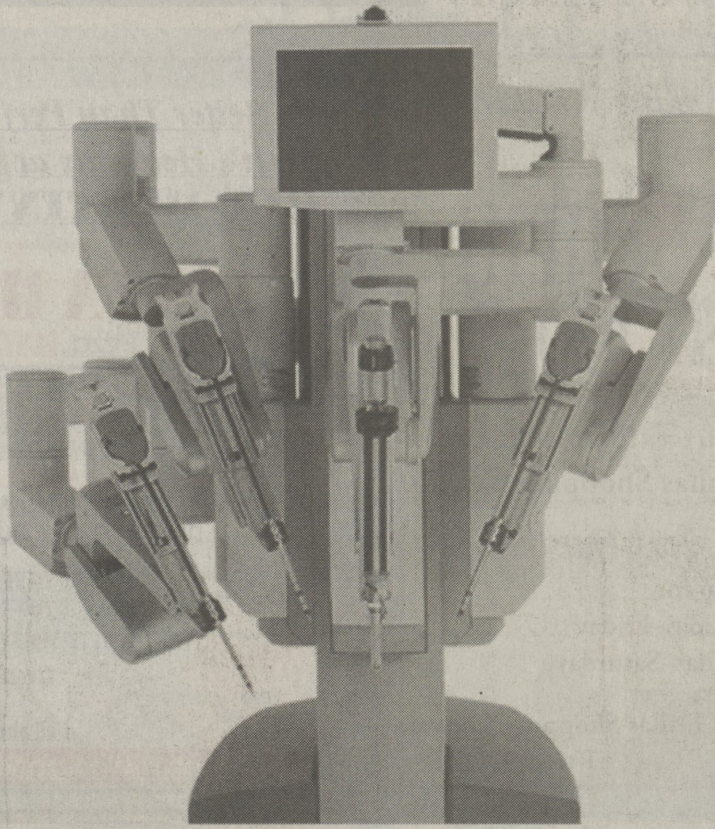
Russell said children at the daycare are also pleased with the cameras on the bus.

"They're not saying, 'Oh we have to ride this bus again,' anymore," she said. "They are aware. When they first put (the cameras) on the bus (the kids) came and told me."

Russell said she will continue to address issues of bullying within the district, but for now she is happy to see some progress.

"I couldn't be more pleased," she said.

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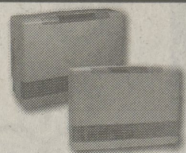
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