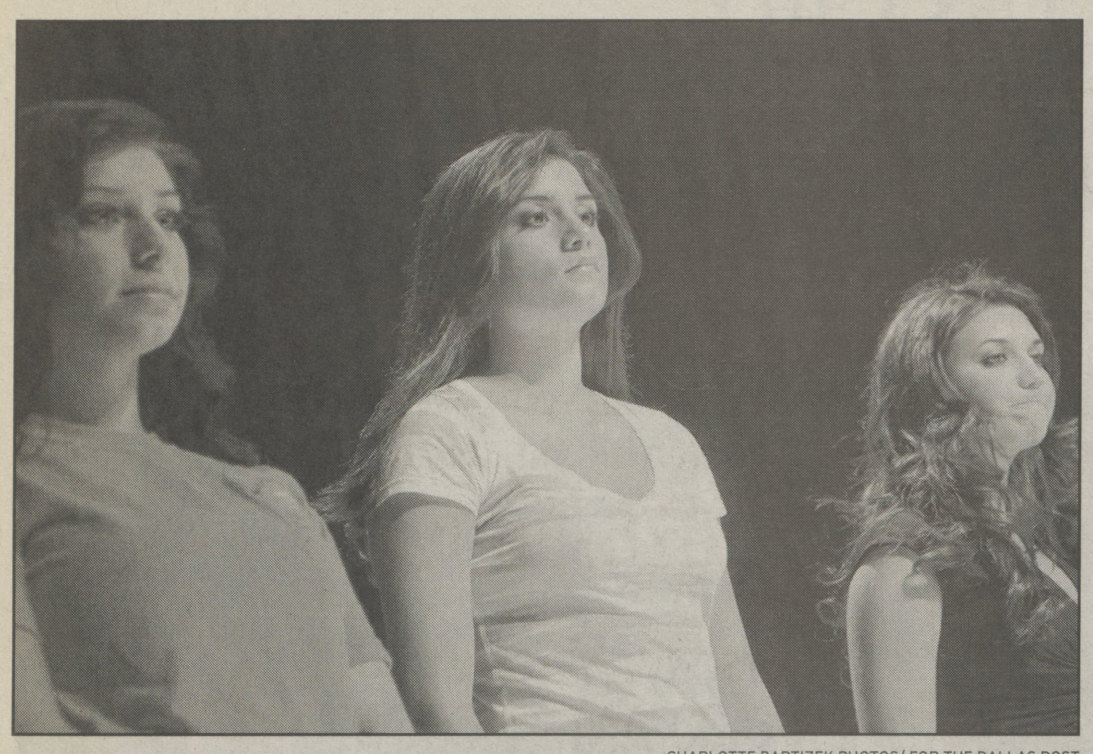

CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Mason Palissery, center, listens carefully to stage instructions for the Miss Luzerne County Outstanding Teen Contest. Looking on are Rebecca Zaneski, left, and Alexis Selli, right.

TEEN

Continued from Page 1

eants," said Duffy. "All of them conducted themselves with self-confidence and poise."

Duffy said it was nice to see nearly half the girls participating were from the Back Mountain, and though he was able to listen and ask questions during the interviews, he alluded that other aspects of the contest may not have been very easy for him to judge.

"I don't know how to judge evening wear and things like that," he said.

Other judges included Cassandra Coleman, mayor of Exeter Borough; Frank White, operations manager of the Miss Philadelphia Scholarship Pageant; Doreen Pavinski, executive senior sales director of Mary Kay, Inc.; Lauren Harrington-Cooper, a middle school language arts teacher and dance instructor; and Darlene Deeley Malone, who was named the first Miss Wilkes-Barre/Scranton in 1986.

Palissery took a different route to the stage - she also signed up for the pageant when Gruber came to town, but didn't start to prepare until two weeks prior to the event.

She quickly wrote a stand-up comedy routine to perform during the show, and her related platform reflects her adoration of all things funny.

"I love making people laugh," she said. "Laughter is the best medicine."

Taryn Chopyak, 13, of Dallas, had only done dance performances on stage before, but because many of her friends wanted to take to the spotlight, she thought it might be a good experience for her as well.

Her platform, "Start Smart 4 School," helps underprivileged children receive school supplies.

"I have a huge family, and I had a couple cousins who were made fun of at school because they didn't have everything they needed for school," she said.

She's been tap dancing since she was 4 years old, so it was only a matter of practicing a little more for her performance to the "Hawaii Five-0" theme song.

Mikayla Orrson, a junior at Lake-Lehman High School, prepares her make-up for the Miss Luzerne County Outstanding Teen Pageant. Orrson was the third runner-up in the contest.

Taryn Chopyak has her hair sprayed before the pageant.

"It's not really something I normally do," she said of participating in the event. "I'm kind of nervous."

Mikayla Orrson, 16, of Lehman Township, isn't afraid of the stage - she's a veteran actor of the Lake-Lehman Theater Troupe. She thought her experiences in various plays throughout the years would be a good basis for her platform, which she called "Beyond the Theater Lights."

"I've been in theater since I was 11 years old," she said. "It makes you more confident and gives you social skills. I did well during the whole interview because I'm used to talking to people."

The Miss Pennsylvania Outstanding Teen pageant is a sister organization to the Miss Pennsylvania scholarship competition, which funnels into the Miss America national competition.

Miss Outstanding Teen competitions are held on local and regional levels throughout the state, and contestants will compete in June at the state level for the title of Miss Pennsylvania Outstanding Teen.

Local coordinator Gina Major Ackerman, a former Miss Pennsylvania in 1984, said despite the program's changes over the years, the competition still helps young women learn life lessons through experience.

"When I was entering, I entered because of scholarship and talent," said Major Ackerman. "I was putting myself through college at Drexel University in Philadelphia. That's why girls enter."

PILOT

Continued from Page 1

sible for students to visit certain off-limits websites during class – something that's already a part of the Dallas technology rulebook.

Students are now responsible for their own computers, but a letter sent home to parents in April said students must only use their computers for school-related activities during school hours, and disruptive material or behavior will result in administrative action.

Gartrell said certain behaviors are curtailed by banning students from using computers, and he likes that computer use in the Dallas High School is seen as a privilege that can be taken away.

"Kids are allowed to use games as an incentive to complete work," he said. "Kids can listen to music in writing labs – they really like that."

He said students who enjoy these activities will be less likely to commit actions that will prevent them from utilizing their computers in the future.

"That's why, in the beginning, we'll go over this slowly with each student so they know they'll be jeopardizing a great thing (if they misbehave)," he said.

Students who lose computer privileges could also get left behind in class if a teacher is using a computer to teach or present material without physical books. Gartrell said some textbooks also offer e-books to accompany the material, and others allow a limited number of scanned editions to circulate within schools.

"The goal is to use less paper and save money," he said.

Yet, Gartrell also said some teachers have never used computers in any sort of capacity and are doing just fine.

"There's still a place for books and worksheets," said Gartrell. "So many great teachers never use technology."

Students may be using less paper, but they will be using more power – there will be fewer opportunities to print at the new high school, but there will be a media center where students can drop off their devices to charge them during the day.

"That's why we're telling students to get more energy-efficient products," said Gartrell. "(We'll advise them to get) something with longer battery life."

While the program's test run means extra work for Gartrell and his crew, he said the switch to utilizing more technology in the classroom will only better prepare students for the future.

"The more things we can do to get kids ready for college, the better," he said.

GAS

Continued from Page 1

Brennan. "We can only use the curative amendment procedure once every three years, so please, no more emergencies, no more new things in the township."

Brennan asked the board to vote on the resolution before the proposed amendment, which would keep the pending ordinance doctrine intact. He said all applications received after the April 7 advertisement date of the proposed ordinance amendment were subject to that amendment, and no action would be taken until the amendment was voted upon.

He believes the resolution passed on Tuesday will be a continued "holding pattern" that will ensure a sort of "moratorium" on zoning applications since the advertisement date until now.

Brennan said he and Jack Varaly, the township's planning consultant, researched the resolution even before the proposal of the zoning ordinance amendment.

The option was further researched after about 50 residents packed the municipal meeting room April 28 in opposition of the proposed amendment, which many said did not adequately protect the township from certain aspects of natural gas industry activities.

Attorney Earl Phillips, of the Robinson & Cole law firm based in Connecticut, and resident Joe Cigan, also an attorney, had several points of criticism, and argued the existing ordinance would be more protective than the proposed amendment.

Residents were pleased with the result of Tuesday's meeting, but were aware that more still needs to be done in terms of protecting the township.

"It's nice to have a little breathing room instead of being rushed into something," said resident Norm Tomchak.

The township currently has two zoning applications pending decisions – one for Chief Gathering LLC's application for special exceptions to build a metering station off Hildebrandt Road, and another from Williams Field Services LLC for special exceptions to build a metering station about 500 feet away from the Chief site.

Brennan said he will go over applications to see if any apply to the current resolution, but he said the resolution will work "prospectively, not retroactively."

In other news...

• The board announced the Dallas Area Municipal Authority will no longer offer the Dallas Township building as a mulch hauling site for commercial businesses.

• Mark Van Etten announced that effective May 16, Dallas Fire & Ambulance will have an advanced life support rating, which means the organization will have paramedics in addition to emergency medical technicians and a 24 hours a day, seven days a week crew as well as a second crew available during the day.

AIMEE DILGER/ THE DALLAS POST

Dallas Township Supervisors Frank Wagner, right, and Phillip Walter, left, discuss a proposed ordinance.

UP NEXT

The next meeting of the Dallas Township Board of Supervisors will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 18 in the municipal building. A public hearing will be held at 7 p.m. regarding an inter-municipal alcohol liquor license transfer. A zoning hearing for Williams Field Services LLC's application to build a metering site about 1,800 feet from the Dallas schools will be held May 16.

AGENDA

Continued from Page 3

costly for districts to utilize outside sources for score tracking.

However, Reinert said biology and math classes in the high school have begun to change curriculum structure to align with new standards. The class of 2015 will need to take four Keystone Exams as field tests - algebra I, English literature, composition and biology.

The board also received an update concerning the district dress code policy from high school principal Jeffrey Shaffer.

Shaffer prepared a proposal for the board to consider in terms of more clearly defined parameters for what is allowed to be worn at the high school. He said there have been some issues about too loose, too tight and too revealing clothing at the school.

After speaking with students, parents and teachers, Shaffer said the proposal was developed to include better defined language in regards to clothing.

"This is my 10th year in high school administration, and I just realized it," said Shaffer. "When it comes to fashions with high school age kids, fashions come faster than we can make policies."

Bob Nesbit of Crabtree Rohrbaugh & Associates also provided the board with an update to the high school construction project. He said the project is currently lagging three weeks behind due to problems with a flooring subcontractor.

The board approved two change orders for the project, totaling $3,946.

In other news...

The board approved the following matters:

• A lateral transfer of Michelle Maransky from part-time guidance secretary and part-time athletic director secretary to building secretary of the Dallas Middle School to replace Allyson Lord, effective May 3.

• The appointment of Todd Hunter as chairperson of the music department for the 2010-11 school year and compensation for his services throughout the year.

• The appointment of Thomas Gilroy as chairperson of the social studies department and as assistant senior class advisor for the 2010-11 school year and compensation for his services throughout the year.

• Changes to the meeting schedule for the next three months. The board will meet on May 23, June 20, June 27 and July 11, which will be the only meeting in July. August meetings will return to normal schedule, the first and second Monday of the month.

Greenbriar residents enjoy Spring Fling

The Village at Greenbriar held its annual Spring Fling recently. Residents enjoyed music, food and chose a king and queen. From left, first row, are Margaret Dzanis, queen; and Ed Conologue, king. Second row, Lynmarie Young, activities director; and Courtney Sadusky, activities.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Puzzles, Page 2

King Crossword Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

S	A	G	A		C	B	S		R	E	D	O
A	G	E	G	R	O	U	P		E	V	E	N
C	O	L	L	A	P	S	E		M	I	L	L
			E	N	E		C	O	O	L	L	Y
P	L	E	A	D		K	U	R	T			
H	A	R	M		C	O	L	L	E	G	E	
D	I	G		A	R	R	A	Y		L	A	W
	C	O	L	L	I	E	R		P	I	S	A
			I	O	T	A		F	I	B	E	R
B	R	U	N	E	I		E	E	L			
E	I	R	E		C	O	L	L	O	Q	U	Y
A	L	G	A		A	R	M	A	T	U	R	E
D	E	E	R		L	E	O		S	A	N	S

Go Figure! answers

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8	÷	8	+	3	4
–		×		×	
9	×	2	+	5	23
23		18		20	

Super Crossword Answers

S	A	P		L	A	S	T		B	E	L	A		A	S	T	R	A
E	W	E	S		A	N	T	I		A	L	O	G		S	A	S	H	E	S
C	A	P	T	A	I	N	A	M	E	R	I	C	A		H	A	T	E	T	C
T	R	I	A	L			G	E	T				S	A	O			E	O	N
	E	N	C	A	S	E			A	U	G	U	S	T	A		S	M	O	G
			K	I	N	G	O	F	T	H	E	H	I	L	L		T	P	K	
P	A	L			A	G	R	A		F	S	U				M	A	E		
A	L	E		R	I	S	E	R	S		T	H	O		B	A	R	R	I	C
M	A	A	Z	E	L		L	E	A	S	E		P	O	O	L	R	O	O	M
		D	E	N	S	E		A	S	I		M	I	D	G	E		R	N	A
S	T	E	N			B	O	S	S	T	W	E	E	D			A	J	A	R
O	A	R		D	E	B	U	T		K	I	D		S	E	T	T	O		
P	R	O	G	R	E	S	S		M	A	G	I	C		S	H	A	N	T	Y
H	E	F	L	I	N		T	R	I		S	C	A	N	T	Y		E	R	A
		T	O	P				O	N	A		A	R	E	A			S	A	M
	A	H	A		M	A	S	T	E	R	B	L	A	S	T	E	R			
F	R	E	T		C	U	T	C	O	M	E			T	E	R	E	S	A	
R	A	P			O	K	A				E	S	T			I	C	I	L	Y
A	B	A	T	E	S		C	H	I	E	F	W	I	L	D	E	A	G	L	E
N	I	C	O	L	E		E	R	M	A		I	D	E	A		P	H	I	L
C	A	K	E	D			Y	E	A	R		T	E	A	M			T	E	L