

# The DALLAS POST

50¢

WILKES-BARRE, PA.

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AN EDITION OF THE TIMES LEADER

## DALLAS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

# Fire companies debate territory boundaries

By SARAH HITE  
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The board of supervisors' new meeting format ended with the township's two fire companies exchanging heated words about disputed territories on Tuesday.

Dallas Fire and Ambulance addressed the board about contested boundaries within the township after two former supervisors did not approve suggestions made by both the fire companies and Luzerne County 911.

Last August, Luzerne County 911 approached the township to

redistrict the dispatching territories due to a new computer-aided mapping system that would replace the old paper system.

According to Andrew Zahorsky of Luzerne County 911, the county wanted boundary clarification on streets both fire companies served.

He said there were a few disputed areas within the township, and though he had suggested ways to resolve those issues, two former supervisors, Phil Walter and Glenn Howell, did not approve them.

The map was finalized in Octo-

ber, and Zahorsky said Luzerne County 911 started using the new technology last week.

Zahorsky said Kunkle Fire Chief Jack Dodson, who did not attend the work session, was opposed to surrendering one of the intersections to Dallas Fire and Ambulance, and Karri Dodson, of Kunkle Fire Co., said there were benefactors who lived in that area.

"So the financial is more of an issue than public safety," said Christopher Good of Dallas Fire and Ambulance.

Conrad Higgins of the Kunkle Fire Co. said the fire company is willing to work out the issues, though he felt Kunkle's territory has been depleted over the last 50 years he's been a part of the company.

"Because of this type of attitude, that's why these fire companies are fighting all the time," said Higgins. "One is no better than the other, so let's end it now."

Zahorsky said the system cannot be changed for at least a year after the maps are live, and the

county is willing to work with the current map if the supervisors deem no change is necessary.

Supervisor Frank Wagner, who was on the board in August, said the fire companies work well together and should settle the matter on their own.

Zahorsky said the supervisors have the final say in the matter.

In other news, the board discussed changes that will need to be made to the township's zoning ordinance to comply with Act 13, the recently enacted state law governing the natural gas and oil

industries.

Jack Varaly, the township's planning consultant, said the new law supersedes local zoning laws. The township approved comprehensive regulations on natural gas activities in October as two companies pursued gas facilities within the township.

Varaly said there are a few areas the law does not address, such as buffer zones and lot sizes, the township could use to strengthen its ordinance. He said the township does not need to be in

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## Family Fun Expo features science, book fairs



Dallas Elementary School second-grader Mia Linder, 8, right, and kindergartener Nina Angeli, 6, measure the voltage of a potato.

# A fun family affair

By SARAH HITE  
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Science projects and chapter books and summer fun vendors, oh my!

The Second Annual Family Fun Expo at Dallas Elementary was held on March 1, and about 600 people gravitated to the event.

The three aspects of the expo—the science fair, book fair and community vendors—were once held separately throughout the year, but due to low attendance at a few of the events, the parent-teacher organization decided to jam all the fun into one night.

"It keeps getting bigger and better every year," said Melissa Chrusch, Dallas Elementary librarian.

Students clamored for the latest titles at the annual Scholastic Book Fair, the proceeds of which help fund new book purchases for the library.

"I have a list of books the kids really want us to get," said Chrusch.

Tina Tomkins, of Dallas, browsed the chapter books with her son, 6-year-old Logan, and 5-month-old daughter, Gwendolyn.

"We read every night," she said. "This is a great way to encourage kids to get away from the computer."

Logan Tomkins was looking for a book on kung-fu.

"I get excited when I think about reading," he said. "I look forward to it."

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Lehman-Jackson Elementary kindergartener Jace Hynick listens intently to Dr. Seuss stories during Dr. Seuss Day at the school.

## LJ students celebrate Dr. Seuss

By SARAH HITE  
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Lehman-Jackson Elementary students and staff celebrated Dr. Seuss Day as part of Read Across America Week on March 2.

Classes completed activities, watched a showing of Dr. Seuss's "The Lorax" and sang silly songs to commemorate the day.

Lake-Lehman Superintendent James McGovern read aloud the tongue-twisting "Fox in Socks," by Dr. Seuss, sometimes stopping to take a breath or catch his bearings.

"It's not about how well or fast you read it, but having fun while you're reading," McGovern told the students.

After the reading, students also enjoyed a Silly Seuss Sing Along led by music teacher Jenilee Kukuchka, who dressed as Fox in Socks. Kukuchka and art teacher Selena Mazzella, who dressed as the Lorax, prepared the Dr. Seuss celebration this year.

"Ever since I was little I loved to read, and I still read whenever I get a chance," said Mazzella. "The key is to start when you're younger and to find something you're interested in."

The students also completed several different Dr. Seuss activities within their classrooms. Students were asked to dress in red, white and black, and some classes even had a theme.

One second grade class dressed as "Things," and students were numbered according to how many students were in the class.

Principal Marilyn Glogowski said the interactive day shows children that reading can be fun.

"Reading is important not only today, but every day," she said. "It's very vital. Children remember programs like this more than the curriculum."

## Dallas community pays to keep D.A.R.E. in tact

By SARAH HITE  
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Local governments and the Dallas School District are still footing the bill for the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program in the Dallas elementary and middle schools, though costs have increased in difficult economic times.

This year, the cost of maintaining the D.A.R.E. program at Dallas increased by nearly 25 percent, a cost shared by the district and the municipalities located

within the district, which include Dallas Borough and Dallas, Franklin and Kingston townships.

Officer Frank Ziegler of the Kingston Township Police Department has instructed the program in fifth and eighth-grades at Dallas Elementary, Wycallis Elementary and Dallas Middle School on a voluntary since 1995. He also taught the class at the former Gate of Heaven School.

"I believe you have to educate

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E. J. Williams poses with the D.A.R.E. lion, Darren.



Kingston Twp. Police Officer Frank Ziegler reaches out to students at Dallas Elementary through the D.A.R.E. program.

