



SARAH HITE/ THE DALLAS POST

Dallas High School seniors Sarah Pomfret, foreground, and Angelina Hoidra perform an excerpt from "The Miracle Worker," a play by William Gibson, for the Dallas School Board during a meeting Monday night. The pair qualified for the national forensics competition, which will be held at the end of May in Baltimore, Md.

DALLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT

'Champions' perform for board

By SARAH HITE
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The superintendent called it a "tournament of champions."

Two groups from Dallas High School that qualified to compete on the national level performed for the Dallas School Board on Monday night.

Students from the district's LifeSmarts team explained to the board about the group and the competition that awaits them in Philadelphia at the end of the month.

LifeSmarts was founded by the National Consumers League in which teens compete in academic contests in five subject areas - health and science, environment, personal finance, consumer rights and responsibilities and technology.

Five team members - Gates Palissery, Amber Habib, Sara Hudak, Samuel Reinert and team captain Decklan Cerza - asked sample questions from the competition.

Some of the questions left board members stumped, including this question related to

health and science: What part of the body absorbs poison the fastest?

Board members called out various names of human anatomy, including skin, lungs, liver and kidneys.

"It's the eye," said Habib.

Another group took center stage at the board meeting. Two members of the high school forensics team performed an excerpt from "The Miracle Worker" by William Gibson.

Seniors Sarah Pomfret and Angelina Hoidra qualified for the national competition for

their dramatic duo performance earlier this year. In the category, students act out dramatic works but cannot look at or touch each other during their performance.

"I can look confusing to people who haven't seen it before," said Hoidra.

The pair will perform at the national forensics competition in Baltimore, Md. at the end of May.

The board also received an update on the new crisis management plan, spurred by the

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DALLAS TOWNSHIP

Software would notify residents of emergency

By SARAH HITE
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The board of supervisors is mulling the purchase of emergency notification software to update residents during emergency situations.

Alan Pugh, township emergency management coordinator, spoke along with Scott Dettling, owner of Inspiron Logistics in Akron, Ohio, via speakerphone about the Wireless Emergency Notification System (WENS) at a work session on Tuesday.

WENS is a software program the township can use to send alerts to residents in the event of emergency situations, including automatic updates.

Pugh said several administrators can provide information for residents, who would sign up through the Dallas Township website or by visiting the municipal office. Residents could register their landlines, cell phones and addresses, which would be kept in a database.

Pugh said the system could even isolate messages to be sent only to residents within a certain area where a situation is occurring.

Pugh estimated the software to cost about \$650 per month, depending on how many landlines were provided in the sys-

tem. He said it would cost more for landlines to be registered because of the time it takes for the system to dial the individual numbers.

Pugh also provided residents with an update of the fire at the Lathrop Compressor Station located in Springville Township in Susquehanna County that occurred last week. The natural gas compressor station connects to the Springville Gathering Line, which ends in Dallas Township.

Pugh said the township was notified at 2:24 p.m. last Thursday about the incident, about three hours after the fire began. Pugh proceeded to notify other agencies, including the school district and county emergency management agency, about the fire.

He was told gas had stopped flowing through to the Transco interstate pipeline shortly after the fire developed, but began flowing again in limited amounts by Friday. He said he would be notified once the pipeline gas flow returns to normal.

Supervisor Liz Martin announced the township is planning to host an Emergency Services Day at the municipal building to give residents a chance to see what services the township offers. She said the

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BILL TARUTIS PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Attendees enjoy themselves at the first-ever Back Mountain Chamber Mixer at Eye Care Specialists in the Dallas Shopping Center.



Maggie Miles, left, Ann Zegarski, center, and Lori Stivers, all of Eye Care Specialists, look over photos at the Chamber mixer.



Lauren O'Shea, left, chamber board member Tim O'Shea, both of Hildebrandt Learning Centers, and board member Jill Kryston, of Defining Manners, strike up a conversation at the mixer.



Susan Traver, left, of Frontier Communications, and event organizer Cheryl Summa, of Eye Care Specialists, share a laugh at the Chamber mixer.



Terri Kosakowski, left, of M&T Bank, and Sue Whitesell, of Janney Montgomery Scott, look over hors d'oeuvres at the Chamber mixer.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Supervisors deal with several issues

By SARAH HITE
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Several ongoing issues within the township were discussed at a meeting Monday evening.

A \$340,000, 4-year loan was approved for the Bulford Road sewer project. Supervisor Al Fox said a meeting was held last week to determine a plan for construction.

The project cost is being shared with 19 residents on Bulford Road. At previous meetings, Chairman John Wilkes Jr. said the sewers had "major failures" and the cost-splitting tactic helped residents save more money on what they would have to pay on their own.

Some residents have opposed the project, but Fox has said that most understand the need for it and have been compliant.

Solicitor Jeff Malak told

supervisors the township has received partial payment from Larksville Borough concerning services rendered to Steele Road.

For 39 years, Jackson Township maintained the entire road and was paid \$400 in liquid fuels funds annually by Larksville Borough for work performed on the section located within the borough.

Larksville Borough has not made a payment since 2005.

Malak said the township has received a partial payment for this year's maintenance and is setting up a payment schedule for the backlogged funds.

The board also voted to share the purchase of emergency radio equipment for the Back Mountain Regional Emergency Management Agency with Lehman Township, to be reimbursed by a

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Chamber mixes it up

The Back Mountain Chamber of Commerce held its first business mixer April 3 at Eye Care Specialists in Dallas. More than 100 people attended the event, which was held to celebrate the Feb. 27 opening of the new Eye Care Specialists office in the Dallas Shopping Center.

Cheryl Summa, director of marketing for Eye Care Specialists, said the event was open to chamber members and those interested in joining the chamber. A representative of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce was also in attendance.

Food was provided by Vanderlyn's Restaurant, Catering by

Donna, Peking Chef and Tomasi's Original Italian Pizza. Music was provided by Steve Furmanski and Tom Schappert, who form the duo "Rub Yer Soul."

Summa said mixers like this help keep local businesses in touch with one another in a changing economy.

"I think it's important for local businesses to support other local businesses," she said. "With all the big box stores, it's important to support each other, to make sure we're all successful. There's just strength in belonging to a community's chamber of commerce."

- Sarah Hite



Tom Schappert, left, and Steve Furmanski provide musical entertainment as 'Rub Yer Soul' at the first-ever Back Mountain Chamber mixer at Eye Care Specialists in Dallas.