

The DALLAS POST

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How much will the Walk of Terror scare you?

Fundraiser for Harveys Lake Fire & Ambulance scares up big bucks.

SARAH HITE

Dallas Post Correspondent

Harveys Lake Fire Chief Dave Davis is skilled at the art of knowing when someone has been adequately scared.

And it's not how loud they scream or how fast they run out of the fire company's annual haunted house at the Luzerne County Fairgrounds.

It's how dry their pants are when they leave the facility.

"Our first weekend we saw that at least three people had peed their pants," he said. "They just couldn't hide it."

The fire company's new attraction, Walk of Terror, features four frightening trailers filled with darkened hallways, terrifying animatronics and plenty of unexpected guests.

The attraction was plucked from Dracula's Forest in Ransom Township. Organizers decided not to stray from the original set up, as the Walk of Terror is new to this area.

"We heard about the sale (of the Walk of Terror) and we decided it was time for a change," said Davis. "We like to change it up every year."

For those who have experienced the Walk of Terror, don't worry - there are two additional trailers with the fire company's personal touches, including a "Hick Cabin" which looks more like a slaughterhouse on the inside.

The fire company's haunted house has been a Back Mountain staple for the past 15 years and it's a major source of funding for the general operation of the department.

"This is probably our biggest fundraiser," said Davis.

Along with ticket sales, the fire company

profits from a food trailer, photo booth and T-shirt and sweatshirt sales.

"All of the profits go towards the Harveys Lake Fire and Ambulance," he said. "No one gets paid to be here."

One of those volunteers is 23-year-old Jeremy Kaleta, of Trucksville, whose evil clown routine is essential for making visitors scream.

Kaleta, who doesn't enjoy walking through haunted houses himself, got his start in scaring while volunteering at the Haunted Library at the Back Mountain Memorial Library a few years ago.

"I just get a feeling a pure joy," said Kaleta. "I get a rush out of scaring people."

He said he doesn't even practice his high-pitched sinister clown laugh - it just comes naturally from him.

"I hate clowns," said Davis.

Davis is one of many members of the crew who prefers to stay out of the haunted halls of the Walk of Terror.

"I used to be involved in the haunted house but now I prefer to work the outside jobs," he said.

Jen Leach, 24, of Harveys Lake, enjoys dressing in elaborate costumes to scare those waiting in line to walk through the haunted house, but she rarely volunteers to go inside.

"I'll help inside if they need me," she said. "I don't like being scared."

Davis hopes to expand the attraction to nine trailers next year and the crew will keep coming up with more terrifying and twisted ideas for the haunted house.

But Leach said there's one aspect in many haunted attractions that is always creepy.



Photos by BILL TARUTIS | FOR THE DALLAS POST

The cast and characters of the Harveys Lake Fire & Ambulance Walk of Terror at the Luzerne County Fairgrounds.



Claudia Lynch, left, of Plymouth, applies makeup to fellow actor Jordon Nichol, of Dallas, before the start of the Walk of Terror sponsored by Harveys Lake Fire & Ambulance at the Luzerne County Fairgrounds in Lehman Township.



Fluffy waits to greet visitors to the Harveys Lake Fire & Ambulance Walk of Terror at the Luzerne County Fairgrounds.

IF YOU GO ...

What: Walk of Terror, a haunted house benefiting the Harveys Lake Fire and Ambulance Company

When: 7 p.m. to midnight Fridays and Saturdays and 7 to 10 p.m. Sundays throughout October

Cost: \$10

Where: Luzerne County Fairgrounds, 476 Reservoir Road, Dallas

More information: 570-639-5167

Note: The Walk of Terror is not recommended for young children and may not be suitable for pregnant women, asthmatics, those with heart conditions or epilepsy.

LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board not united on coaching positions

SUSAN DENNEY

Dallas Post Correspondent

The Lake-Lehman School Board appointed assistant coaches for the 2013-2014 year. But voting was not unanimous for wrestling coaches.

Board members David Paulauskas and Karen Masters voted "no" for Walter Sorber as volunteer varsity wrestling coach. Masters also voted "no" to Jack Davis as varsity wrestling coach. Neither Paulauskas nor Masters would comment on the vote, saying it was a personnel issue. Board member Bo Kreller was absent from the vote.

Paulauskas made a plea at the end of the school board meeting. He said that the board receives letters from parents from time to time about deficiencies in coaches, that the majority of those letters are unsigned and that it is hard to take action on an unsigned complaint. Paulauskas assured residents that any communication to him, to athletic director Jeff Shook or to the superintendent would be kept confidential.

Paulauskas said, "If you're going to submit anything, please sign it."

The following assistant coaches were appointed: Ted Sadowski for varsity boys baseball, Rich Colorusso for varsity boys basketball, Barry Brooks for junior high boys basketball, Barry Horvath

for varsity girls basketball, Janene Kasarda, Sherry Metz and Ann Adams for junior high girls basketball, Janice O'Brien and Erin Yurko for varsity swimming and diving, Jack Davis for varsity wrestling, Jason Procopchak for junior high wrestling and Walter Sorber, Jim Davis and Scott Davis for varsity wrestling.

Announcements by Superintendent James McGovern proved that Lake-Lehman's Night of Mayhem continues to pay off. McGovern said that new band uniforms, a new sound system for the stadium, chorus risers, materials for a proposed ice rink and a resurfaced track are results of the successful event.

Matt DePrimo of Barber Ford presented the district with a check for over \$2,000. Ford paid the district for test drives taken at the Night of Mayhem activity.

McGovern announced that the next Night of Mayhem would take place in October 2014.

The board will advertise for several part-time positions in transportation and in food service. The board also accepted the resignation of Alex Coveleski, effective Oct. 31, 2013. The board will advertise for a replacement for his social studies position.

The board will also advertise for a "request for proposal" for band uniforms.

Brinley Williams crowned LL Homecoming Queen



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK | FOR THE DALLAS POST

Brinley Williams is congratulated by her friend, Emily Buerger, from Northwest Area High School, after being crowned the 2013 Lake-Lehman Senior High School Homecoming Queen. The Black Knights of Lehman took on Northwest in a Wyoming Valley Conference high school football game following Homecoming activities. For more Homecoming photos, see page 12

Joanna Wallace earns Girl Scout Gold Award

Joanna Wallace, of Troop 32664 in Dallas, has earned the Girl Scout's highest honor, the Gold Award.

A sophomore at Dallas High School, Wallace recently completed her Gold Award project, titled "Walk MS Child Activity Tent" at the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's Walk MS in Wilkes-Barre.

Walk MS Child Activity Tent, a proj-

ect developed and executed by Wallace, addressed the need for providing an additional play area at Walk MS. As a key part of her project, Wallace not only set up a space at the walk where young attendees could play, she created fun and educational activities that taught children and adults about multiple sclerosis and how it affects people.

By planning and implementing her proj-

ect, Wallace learned a new set of skills.

The Girl Scout Gold Award challenges Girl Scouts in grades 9-12 to change the world, no matter how big or small their impact might be. There are seven steps to completing a Gold Award project They are: Identify an issue, Investigate it thoroughly, Get help and build a team, Create a plan, Present the plan and gather feedback, Take action and Educate and inspire.

Wallace holds the position of Yearbook Editor-in-Chief at her high school and volunteers in a variety of community service projects such as, making cards for Operation Quiet Comfort and assisted living residents, decorating assisted living facilities for the holidays and working with younger Girl Scout troops.

She plans to attend college and study technological communications.



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