

Back Mountain residents active in County Fair Festival



Michael Truchon

Truchon completes USN course

Navy Fireman Recruit Michael J. Truchon, son of Michael and Irene Truchon of Route 2, Overbrook Ave., Dallas, Pa., has completed recruit training at the Naval Training Center, Orlando, Fla.

During the eight-week training cycle, trainees studied general military subjects designed to prepare them for further academic and on-the-job training in one of the Navy's 85 basic occupational fields.

Included in their studies were seamanship, close order drill, Naval history and first aid. Personnel who complete this course of instruction are eligible for three hours of college credit in Physical Education and Hygiene.

A 1979 graduate of Northwest High School, Shickshinny, Pa., he joined the Navy in June 1979.

Paddock visits Hong Kong

Navy Ensign David G. Paddock, whose wife, Susan, is the daughter of Robert M. and Sally M. Schantz of Route 5, Valley View Drive, Dallas, Pa., recently visited Hong Kong.

He is an officer assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk, homported in San Diego, and currently operating as a unit of the U.S. 7th Fleet.

During the remainder of the cruise, the Kitty Hawk will be combining regular training operations with an extensive search of the Gulf of Thailand and the South China Sea, looking for Southeast Asian refugees in distress. Additional port visits are scheduled in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines.

The Kitty Hawk is 1,062 feet long and displaces more than 80,000 tons. She carries a crew of 2,800 officers and enlisted men, plus 2,150 personnel assigned to an attack aircraft wing. She is capable of carrying 85 jet aircraft and can travel at speeds in excess of 30 knots.

Paddock is a 1977 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Several Back Mountain residents are active in planning the fourth annual Luzerne County Folk Festival. The Festival, scheduled to be held Sept. 13 through 16 at the 109th Field Artillery Armory in Kingston, continues to be Northeastern Pennsylvania's only full-scale multi-ethnic festival.

A celebration of the ethnic diversity of the region, the Festival is

sponsored by the Luzerne County Tourist Promotion Agency. Paul Lauer of Shavertown is the Executive Director of the Tourist Agency.

More than 150 persons have participated in planning the Folk Festival over the past months under the guidance of Festival Co-chairmen, Dr. Walter Karpnich of Dallas and Dr. Clement Valletta of

Kingston. Initiated as part of the County's Bicentennial program in 1976, the Festival presents a gathering of the customs, culture, heritage, food, music and dance of the participating nationalities with accent on the authentic folk culture of the participants.

To date, 30 display-demonstration booths and eight food booths have

been reserved that include representatives of the Irish, Polish, Lithuanian, Chinese, Ukrainian, Arab, Pennsylvania Dutch, Jewish, German, Welsh, Lebanese, Black American, Seventh Day Adventist, colonial and contemporary American communities.

Traditionally varied entertainment schedule of the festival will be

enriched this year by the appearance of several nationally known ethnic performing groups. Appearance of these groups have been made possible with the co-operation of a grant from the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts to the Cultural Heritage Advisory Council. Mrs. Stefan Hellersperk serves as chairman of the council. Festival will open, Sept.

13th at 5:45 p.m. with a Parade of Flags from the Courthouse to the Armory in Kingston. The unique and exiting sword dance of China will be presented by the Chinese-American Arts Council on Friday. Jonosik Dancers of Temple University will offer the beautiful and lively dances of Poland on Saturday evening.

On Sunday afternoon, the Verkovyntsi Dancers

of New York will feature a variety of dances from the Ukraine. Outstanding local performing groups include Circle Eighters, Polish Women's Alliance Dancers, East End Ceili Dancers, New Community Singers, Order of the Arrow Indian Dance Group, Polish Women's Alliance Dancers, Baird Puppets, Pennsylvania Balalaika Orchestra and the Wilkes College Polish Chorus.



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