

Teenage pregnancy

Numbers alarming; students dropping out of school

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

Teenage pregnancy, its risks and responsibilities, was the theme of the annual meeting of Maternal and Family Health Services, Inc. held Oct. Friday in Wilkes-Barre.

Statistics on the number of teenage pregnancies in the Back Mountain for the past year were not available when The Dallas Post went to press but it is generally understood that the number is increasing from year to year.

The increased rate of teenage pregnancy in the Back Mountain area is alarming. Two out of three pregnant teenagers drop out of school and without proper secondary education, the teenage mother lacks the necessary job skills to obtain employment. Unable to obtain sufficient income, the teenage mother is forced to become financially dependent on her family, or in lieu of that, welfare.

Dr. Robert Crothers, president of the National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association, spoke to the room of doctors, attorneys and agency people. He told them that more active community and home programs aimed at peer pressure for premarital sex are needed.

Crothers said teenage pregnancy is a major public health program which needs more funding or support from the federal government. He also advocated clinics where teenagers can receive birth control devices.

The Maternal & Family Health Service officials spoke on their sex education programs and demonstrations they had been conducting in schools of the LIU 18 Unit during the past year and the successful results they had.

Representatives were quick to mention however, that the statistics are teenage pregnancies are alarming. More than 550,000 teenage girls give birth each each year and many of these are girls as young as 13 and 14 years of age.

There are many cases where the pregnant teenager does not receive the proper support from her parents and becomes the victim of both physical and emotional problems. During the first three months of pregnancy, important months in pregnancy, seven out of 10 pregnant teenagers are likely not to see a doctor or go to a clinic.

The death rate from pregnancy complications is much higher among girls who give birth under age 15 than among older mothers and the teenager is more likely to be undernourished and suffer premature or prolonged labor.

Abuse of infants, neglect and abandonment of the teenage mother by the alleged father are other problems that become the problems of the community.

The Adolescent Family Life program offered by the Maternal & Family Health Services includes a certified nurse midwifery program which includes teenagers. When the teenager enrolls in the program, a social worker discusses with her the first adjustments to pregnancy such as telling her parents, the role of the alleged father, economic matters, employment and the importance of continuing education.

A health visitor is assigned to each pregnant teenager, who provides assistance with housing, schooling, infant care and other needed support services. Each teenage mother is followed by the health visitor for two years after the teenager gives birth.

A registered dietician counsels the teenager and makes dietary recommendations, discusses infant feeding and any other nutritional problems of her pregnancy.

Each teenager, accompanied by the father of the baby, a parent or a friend, attends three different sessions scheduled prior to their regular pre-natal visits. The first session, made easier by the presence of a teenage mother who

has recently delivered, deals with concerns, problems, adjustments or discomforts due to the pregnancy. The second session teaches labor and delivery preparations and the third session deals on readiness for parenthood.

Adoption is discussed briefly with the teenager as an option but specific referrals held to a later date.

School presentations, the Adolescent Family Life Program, has provided in-school education sessions, which cover the risk factors of teenage pregnancy. These sessions are tailored to the individual school and to the age of the students. They promote active student involvement and open discussions on the social, economic and medical risks of teenage pregnancy.

Maternal health social workers recognize that the "Say No to Sex" philosophy is not the answer to a decrease in teenage pregnancy. The idealist answer is to reach all adolescents before they become sexually active in order to give the most guidance and support available to adolescents from parents and other family members, and to promote self discipline and other prudent approaches to the problem of adolescent premarital sexual relations including teenage pregnancy.

Back Mountain on the move

OLA KRASZEWSKI, a native of Poland, and now residing at Penn State's Main Campus, State College is really enjoying our United States and visiting the Back Mountain and surrounding areas.

Ola, who is married to Charles Kraszewski, a former resident of Larksville, had lots of changes to adapt to when she married and left her home country of Poland. Now working in a Weis Market and attending college she is speaking English quite well and really enjoying the states.

Mr. and Mrs. John Kraszewski of Larksville spent the past weekend visiting their son and daughter in law at State College. "It's always a pleasure" they report.

MR. AND MRS. MARCUS HOZEMPA, Dallas, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on Sunday. Daughter, Diane Bryant, hosted a surprise party in their honor on Saturday evening. Happy Anniversary wishes Lorraine and Marc!

Jean Hillard



"CHORUS LINE" was the show at Genetti's Dinner Theatre in Hazleton this past weekend and 15 women of the Dallas Area Federated Womens Club and their guests enjoyed the lovely evening. Thanks goes to Mary Rice who organized the event.

MR. AND MRS. JACK FABIAN of Sacramento, California have spent a week in Trucksville with Mr. and Mrs. George Everhart. Mrs. Fabian reports the stay was great and the beauty of our fall foliage will remain in their memories forever. Rides through our area and surrounding communities have been so enjoyable as the

leaves and colors are at their peak in beauty.

CHRISTOPHER DUGAN of Jackson Twp. had quite a surprise last week when his family was informed they found his wallet - that was lost in 1974 at Harveys Lake while he was diving. Chris now resides in Dallas, Texas. At the time he lost his wallet he was a lifeguard at the Harveys Lake Yacht Club. Many of the items in his wallet that was plastic covered were still legible - 12 years later.

HAVE YOU NOTICED all those brightly colored Halloween decorations on the windows at the Meadows Nursing Center? The people responsible for this seasonal beauty are Laura Watkins, Clara Troxell, Irene Tribendis, Don Williams, Florence Shively, Millie Dreher, Grace Resio, Mary Brunges, Ann Dymond, Alice Nordfors, Theta Dickson, Helen Parsons, Rachel Hale, Tess Polachek, Julie Niziolek and Ethel Roden.

The residents and activities department are grateful for these special friends.

BARB MEYERS, a resident of Orchard View Terrace, has purchased "The New York Connection," a lovely line of ladies clothes. Barb plans on opening at the location next to J & J Deli very soon, hopefully in early November.

I wish Barb lots of luck as she ventures into a business, all her own. A very classy lady, I'm sure she'll have a lot to offer our ladies in the Back Mountain area.

LISA MEYERS, daughter of Dave and Barb Meyers, gets our get well wishes this week. Lisa has been quite sick and is bedridden with mono among other things at this time.

THE DALLAS SENIORS have a senior advisor I'm told! One thing I know for sure, is they are selling candy - their first fund-raiser toward their senior expenses. Be sure and support

this class, they need us all behind them to get them out in front, they had a late start! Candy is only 50 cents and it's sooo good!

THE ANNUAL KIWANIS HALLOWEEN PARADE was cancelled on Sunday afternoon as the rains kept coming down. Disappointed kids and lots of planning all were put on hold due to the bad weather.

CONGRATULATIONS go to Leigh Pawling who was chosen Homecoming Queen at Saturday's football game against Nanticoke. Dallas won their game with an exciting 15-12 victory Saturday on Dallas' field. Several of last year's homecoming finalists were seen enjoying the events of their Alma Mater during halftime.

SATURDAY WAS ALSO AN EXCITING DAY for members of our Fall Fair board. Luzerne

County hosted the semi-annual State Fair Zone 2 meeting at Quality Inn. A record attendance of 100 people attended this important meeting, the first time ever to be held in Luzerne County or Northeastern Pa. Bob Cartier, President, Dave Crissman, Vice President, Jean Hillard, Secretary and Donna Cupinski, Assistant Secretary, hosted the meeting for Luzerne County. It's interesting to watch

us grow, what just a few years ago was a "small fair" is now recognized state wide.

REMEMBER - This is Halloween week, drive extra carefully when the kids are trick or treating and treat each child like it is your own. Let's all protect each other this Halloween.

(Jean Hillard, a Back Mountain resident, is a columnist for The Dallas Post. Her column appears regularly.)

Marriage licenses

(The following Back Mountain couples have filed for marriage licenses at the Luzerne County Courthouse:

JAY TODD LIVZIEY, 970 Fal-lamont Dr., Williamsport, and TAMMY RODRIGUEZ, 1248 Chase Rd., Shavertown.

GREGORY A. SORBER, 2 Carr Ave., Dallas, and KIM-BERLY RHEA MINES, RD 6, Box 46, Dallas.

CHARLES J. MAJIKES, JR. 72 Barnes St., Ashley, and

MARY LOUISE MANZONI, RD 2, Box 251, Dallas.

JOHN J. STUBEDA, JR. 521 N. River St., Wilkes-Barre, and CHARLENE L. BAKER, 37 Stafford St., Trucksville.

DALE L. ENGLE, RD 1, Benton, and ROSEMARY GOWER, RD 1, Sweet Valley.

RAYMOND THOMPSON, RD 1, Box 319A, Dallas, and

ARLENE ROCCOGRANDI, RD 1, Box 319A, Dallas.

Divorces

(The following Back Mountain couples have filed for divorce at the Luzerne County Court-house:)

SHARON REINARD, Plaintiff, 26 Grandview Ave, Hanover Twp., and RICHARD REINARD, 7 Orchard St., Trucksville.

MATTHEW J. DRAGON,

Plaintiff, RD 2, Box 132, Harveys Lake, and DEBORAH A. DRAGON, Defendant, Rear 51 1/2, Dana St., Forty Fort.

MICHELE A. WALSH, Plaintiff, RD 2, Box 352 Loyalville Rd., Dallas and THOMAS

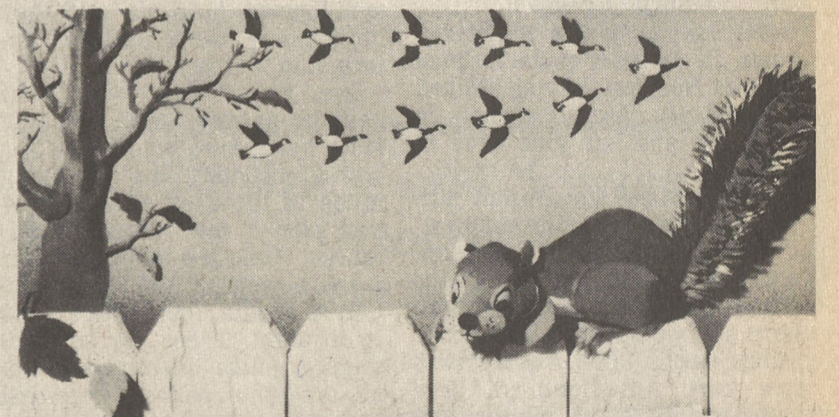
WALSH, Defendant, P.O. Box 1727, Shavertown.



Dallas Post/Charlot M. Denmon

Cookbook sale begins

Bonnie Elston, Fundraising chairman of Lake-Noxen School's PTA explains the organization's cookbook sale to the elementary students. The cookbook with recipes by the students parents, is divided into categories with the artwork done by the students. Students will win prizes for selling five or more of the books at \$5.00 each.



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