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Police say 'crack' here, but not yet widespread

By SCOTT A. DAVIS
Post Staff

The drug 'crack' has been filling the headlines of newspapers all over the country in the last several years, and Back Mountain residents may find the problem is not so far from home.

"It is definitely here in the Back Mountain," said Kingston Township Patrolman Robert Parrish Saturday. Parrish said the township arrested a man last month with 'crack' paraphernalia.

'Crack' is the streetname for a volatile mixture of cocaine and baking soda heated in a vial. "The vial can be anything that can be heated," said Parrish. "Like a test tube."

'Crack' is especially dangerous because of its addictive quality. Taking 'crack' once is believed to be capable of addicting the user for life. First-time users have been known to die from cardiac and respiratory complications immediately following the use of the drug.

Also, 'crack' is cheap, making it more accessible for young people. Parrish labeled 'crack', "The Poor Man's Coke."

"It is easy to make, it is cheap, and it is extremely addictive," Parrish said. "That is why it is so deadly."

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Local officials attack 'look-alike' drug pills

By SCOTT A. DAVIS
Post Staff

Companies advertising health and diet aides in various pill shapes have drawn criticism from local officials who say the companies are simulating controlled substances, including illegal narcotics, to earn money.

Many companies offer the pills by mail-order, advertising in magazines and books distributed nationwide. One outlet, the "Garden of Eden," in Harveys Lake, has left cards on automobile windshields throughout the

Back Mountain, picturing "look-alike" pills for use as stimulants and diet aids.

These companies depict in advertisements various capsules and tablets with no identification of each pill. Some local officials say the pills depict controlled substances, including illegal narcotics.

Larry Locata, a pharmacist at Trucksville Pharmacy in Trucksville, pointed out tablets on the local advertisement, saying the pills appear very similar

See LOOK-ALIKE, pg 3



She won Hand-ily

Heather Hand and Bonnie Belles of Dallas competed for the title of Miss Luzerne County Fair last Thursday. Heather won the crown. More fair photos on page 6. (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Oak Hill residents raise complaints about water

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Neither the Lehman Township Sewer Authority officers nor the residents of Oak Hill believe that problems with the Oak Hill water system have been caused by faulty sewer lines, as charged by the water company that serves the development.

"When our sewer lines were installed we had to have 95 percent or better compaction," said one resident of Oak Hill, who asked to remain anonymous. "We weren't even allowed to put back the dirt which was dug up when the lines were installed, but we had to have special fill put in to be sure the

lines would not move and break. "The water lines of National Utilities Water Company are old and many breaks occur in the pipes. The lines are never replaced by the company. All they do is patch a section where a pipe breaks off."

Another resident, who lives in a higher section of Oak Hill, said the company installed a big tank in the area and when the water goes through the lines the the pressure is so great it breaks the lines. According to residents, the lower section of Oak Hill has water but sometimes the pressure is low, but the upper section is out of water

See OAK HILL, pg 5

Water commission hopes committees will speed action

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

The Back Mountain Water Commission appointed four committees at their September 7 meeting, in an effort to resolve various projects more efficiently.

A Technical Committee chaired by Joseph Salla will move ahead with the recent water survey conducted by the commission. A Regulations Committee headed by Dan Faison of Franklin Township will work on drawing up uniform regulations for all of the member municipalities and a Finance Committee chaired by John Molski will investigate various grants available for the water commission. Eleanor Rodda, liaison between the Water Commission and the Back Mountain Citizens Council will be in charge of Public Relations.

The committees will meet the third Thursday of each month and

the Commission will meet the first Thursday of each month at which time the committee heads will report on the progress they have made.

At the September 7 meeting, secretary John Molski read a letter to the members from William Shane of the Public Utilities Commission in which Shane stated that the PUC was satisfied with the decision handed down concerning the permission for Dallas-Shavertown Water Company to resume water hook-ups to new homes.

The Commission approved a motion to reply to Shane's letter 'point by point' and ask him to give a specific reply to each point.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, Oct. 5, 8 p.m., at the Kingston Township Municipal Building. Residents with questions, complaints or problems relative to water are urged to attend.



BIZAARE CRASH - This vehicle flipped several times and landed in Toby's Creek Saturday afternoon. This accident was one of several violent accidents that occurred in the Back Mountain last week. (Photo by Scott A. Davis)

Two dead, several injured

Area suffers series of violent accidents

By SCOTT A. DAVIS
Post Staff

The Back Mountain was swamped with violent and spectacular accidents this past week, leaving two people dead and sending several others to area hospitals.

It all began Thursday morning around noon when a cement truck carrying eight yards of cement careened through a Kingston Township intersection and flipped over.

Lance Thomas, 19, RD. 1, Sweet Valley, was driving a cement truck south on Route 309 around 12:30 p.m. when the trucks brakes failed, according to Kingston Township Police. Thomas blew his horn repeatedly to warn traffic as he approached the intersection of Route 309 and Carverton Road.

Thomas attempted to turn left at the intersection onto Carverton Road, which goes uphill, to try to slow the vehicle and to avoid cars

stopped at the intersection. As the truck made the turn, it flipped onto its side in the northbound lane, tearing out guardrails and a Dallas Area Municipal Authority sewer cap.

No other vehicles were damaged in the mishap.

Thomas was removed from the vehicle by Kingston Township ambulance and rescue personnel. He was taken to Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston, where he was treated for facial lacerations and released.

Northbound traffic was rerouted off of Route 309 for about two hours, while the truck was righted and towed from the scene by Red's Service Center.

The truck was owned by Hunlock Sand and Gravel, Hunlock Creek.

Responding to the scene were police from Dallas Township, Dallas Borough, and Kingston Township. Assisting were Kingston Township Ambulance and King-

ston Township Rescue. Thomas was lauded a hero by witnesses of the accident for avoiding the other vehicles in the intersection.

Later Thursday evening, another spectacular accident occurred in the township.

A 35-year-old woman was seriously injured after she drove her van over a twenty-foot ledge at the end of a dead end street.

Jude A. Rhodes, Pittston, was driving her 1987 Ford Aerostar Van on Beverly Drive in the Brown Manor housing development around 5 p.m., when she failed to stop before reaching the end of the dead end street.

The van plunged down the embankment and slammed into a fallen tree. Rhodes was pinned in the vehicle for about 30 minutes before Kingston Township Rescue and Ambulance personnel were able to free her.

See ACCIDENTS, pg 5

Dallas board will pay LIU suit legal bills

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Dallas School Board members approved a motion by director John Litz to pay any damages Ernest Ashbridge may incur as a result of a lawsuit filed by Dr. Thomas O'Donnell, outgoing Luzerne Intermediate Unit executive director.

Ashbridge, president of the Dallas Board and Dallas board representative to the Luzerne Intermediate Board was one of the 13 LIU board members named in the lawsuit filed by O'Donnell in the United States District Court in July after his contract was not renewed.

The board also approved the appointment of Mary Clemm as part time audio-visual technician in the Dallas School District for the 1989-1990 school year at \$5.50 per hour for 25 hours per week and the appointment of Karen L. Beachem, Williamsport, as a long term substitute French teacher at the hourly rate of \$14.00 per hour for two and a half hours per day for the school year. Beachem will replace Gwen Quick who is on an approved sabbatical leave of absence for the 1989-1990 school year.

In other business the school directors

- Approved payment of \$18,090 to Ruth Corporation, \$39,728.25 to Interco Construction Company and \$12,937.50 to Rogan Electric for work done at the Dallas Elementary School.

- Approved acceptance of Plan-Con, Part C-Site Evaluation for Dallas Senior High School issued Aug. 14 by the Department of Education.

- Approved filing an application for the use of \$21,498 in TELLS Funds available for the 1989-1990 school year.

- Appointed Francis Kopko as instructor for the anti-smoking clinic for the 1989-1990 school year, an in-school program held one week each month at the senior high school.

- Approved the list of non-instructional employees and their salaries for the school year which

See SUIT, pg 3



A real inspiration

Harriet Sands, Carverton, had the pleasure of seeing her heifer, Weberlea Inspiration Gold, win Senior Champion at the Luzerne County Fair. The heifer was a 2-month-old calf when the barn in which she was housed burned in an arson fire. "I never thought she would make it," Harriet commented Friday. (Photo by Ron Bartizek)

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Coming up:

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE - Thurs., Sept. 14, 12 Noon-6 PM, Shavertown United Methodist Church, Pioneer Avenue

DALLAS BOROUGH COUNCIL - Tue., Sept. 19, 8 PM, Dallas Borough Bldg., Main Street

DALLAS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS - Tues., Sept. 19, 8 PM, Dallas Township Bldg., Route 309

HARVEYS LAKE BOROUGH COUNCIL - Tues., Sept. 19, 7:30 PM, Harveys Lake Municipal Bldg.

HARVEYS LAKE PLANNING COMMISSION - Mon., Sept. 18, 7 PM, Harveys Lake Municipal Bldg.