

## Aerobics workout to benefit Reese family

An aerobic workout benefit for six-year-old cancer victim Wendy Reese will be held at Penn State Wilkes-Barre's gymnasium on April 20.

From 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. fitness leaders from throughout the Back Mountain will be leading a variety of both low and high impact aerobics.

A minimum \$6 donation at the door will help the Reese family, of Dallas, pay the medical bills for Wendy. Additional donations will be appreciated.

Sponsor sheets may be obtained at Fitness Plus, Route 415, Dallas, or at the Penn State Lehman Campus.

If you are unable to attend, but would like to send donations, they can be sent to: Fitness Plus, RD 2, Box 82A, Harveys Lake, PA 18618-9619. Make checks payable to Jennifer Reese.



**FIRE CLAIMS A LIFE** - This ranch home on Perrin's Marsh, Franklin Twp., was destroyed in a fire which claimed the life of Ella Mae Christian early Saturday morning, April 11. Firefighters from six area fire companies battled the blaze. (Post photo/Grace R. Dove)

## Fire claims life of elderly woman

By GRACE R. DOVE  
Post Staff

Fifty firefighters from six Back Mountain fire companies responded to a house fire early Saturday morning which claimed the life of Ella Mae Christian, 70, of RR 3 Old Mill Road, Franklin Township.

Owned by William and Marie Watkins, the one-story ranch-style home on Perrin's Marsh was fully engulfed by the time firefighters arrived on the scene shortly after 2:45 a.m., according to Franklin Twp. Fire Chief Ron Witkowski.

"The family was awakened by the smoke alarms and were able to escape," Chief Witkowski said.

"When they called to Ms. Christian, she answered that she was coming, but when they got outside, they couldn't find her."

Firefighters later found Ms. Christian's body in the home's

basement, where it had evidently fallen when the floor burned through, Witkowski said.

The state police fire marshal said that the fire began in the basement and was caused by accidental electrical problems, Witkowski said.

He added that firefighters had a hard time with this fire because of the home's layout; it was originally a house trailer on a basement with an addition.

William Watkins and William Price, who also lived with the Watkins family, were transported by the Franklin-Northmoreland Ambulance to the V.A. Hospital in Wilkes-Barre, where they are listed in stable condition, according to Lee Strickland of the hospital's public relations department.

Both men are being treated for burns; Price is also being treated for smoke inhalation, Strickland

said. Firefighters from Kunkle, Mount Zion, Falls, Northmoreland and Shavertown fire companies assisted Franklin Township at the scene.

"It was very unfortunate for this to have happened," Witkowski said. "But all of the firefighters who helped at the scene worked together to the best of their ability."

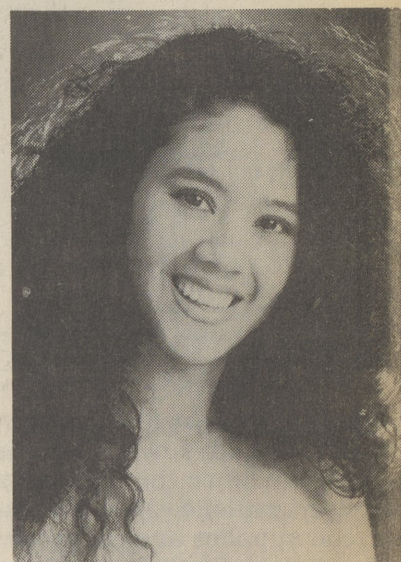
He added that any time that someone sees a fire, they should immediately call 911.

"We would rather come out and find that the fire is very small or has already gone out, than to have to call out neighboring companies for assistance at a situation that became a major fire," he said.

Chief Witkowski also urged all township residents to regularly check their smoke detectors to make sure that they are working properly.

## Angela Patla enters Miss Pennsylvania USA pageant

Angela L. Patla, 19, daughter of Ed and Leann Patla, Sweet Valley was selected as an Entrant in the 1993 Miss Pennsylvania USA Pageant, a Carver Production, held at the Palace Inn High-Rise Hotel, Monroeville, Pa., March 6 to 8.



ANGELA L. PATLA

Patla, selected as an entrant-at-large, will be competing with girls from all over the Keystone State for the title of Miss Pennsylvania USA. She is a graduate of Lake-Lehman High School and is currently employed at Market Street Square. Angela is also a graduate of the Models Workshop professional modeling school and John Casablanca's of Philadelphia. She has modeled in fashion shows and has won the title of 1989 Miss PA semi-finalist in the 1990 Miss PA Teen USA Pageant, where she was chosen as one of the top 15 out of 97 contestants. She currently holds the title as the 1991 Luzerne County Fair Queen runner-up.

Patla's sponsors to the Miss Pennsylvania USA Pageant are: Full Moon Cafe, 219 Jackson St., Edwardsville; Jim Donovan Roofing & Siding, Edwardsville; Thom

Greco, Market Street Square, Wilkes-Barre; Energy Convertors Inc., Dallas; R & R's Country Store, Rt. 118, Sweet Valley; Sweet Valley Pharmacy; Star Beauty Academy, Wilkes-Barre; Siani's Cleaners, Dallas; Robert Koons, D.M.D., Hanover Township; Gordon Insurance, Dallas; and an old friend, Joe.

## Used auto batteries now can be recycled

The Dallas Area Municipal Authority, DAMA now has three recycling programs on line for residents of the Back Mountain. DAMA, in conjunction with Interstate Batteries, Inc., has begun a battery recycling program believed to be the first of its kind in Eastern Pennsylvania, aimed primarily at automotive batteries according to DAMA representative Larry Spaciano. (The program will also accept the gel-filled type batteries used on electric wheelchairs.)

Spaciano says automobile batteries are lead filled and create a wide range of disposal problems. In landfills they create a risk factor for contamination of groundwater supplies. Incineration of the lead-filled auto battery poses risks of toxic air emissions. Recycling, according to Spaciano, is today's safe option to disposal of auto batteries.

Interstate Batteries, Inc. was happy to become involved in the Back Mountain prototype battery recycling program according to Spaciano. Residents of Dallas Borough, Dallas Township and Kingston Township interested in participating in the battery recycling program must drop the used battery off at the designated site at the DAMA complex, 530 South Memorial Highway, Trucksville.

The newly-announced battery recycling program joins curbside trash recycling and used motor oil recycling programs currently administered by DAMA.



### A big smile for the Easter Bunny

Maxine Kesselman, 4-1/2 years old, had her face painted by Pat Nicely at the Dallas High School Soccer Club's craft show Saturday, April 11. (Post photo/Grace R. Dove)

## DAMA receives \$37,749 state recycling grant

The Dallas Area Municipal Authority (DAMA) will receive a \$37,749 state grant to reimburse it for the cost of purchasing recycling bins and advertising.

Dallas Township sponsored DAMA's grant application. Tom Bagley, executive director of DAMA, said that about \$31,000 of the grant will be used to reimburse the authority for recycling bins, while the rest will be used to reimburse the cost of printing brochures and other advertising.

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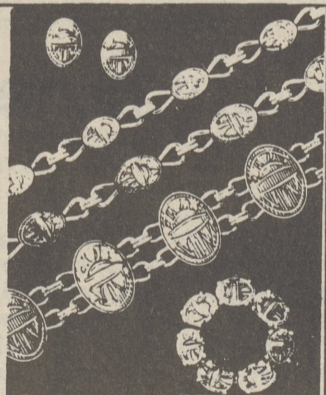
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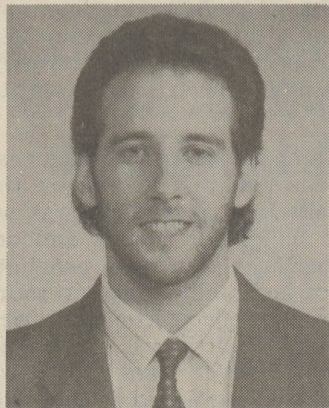
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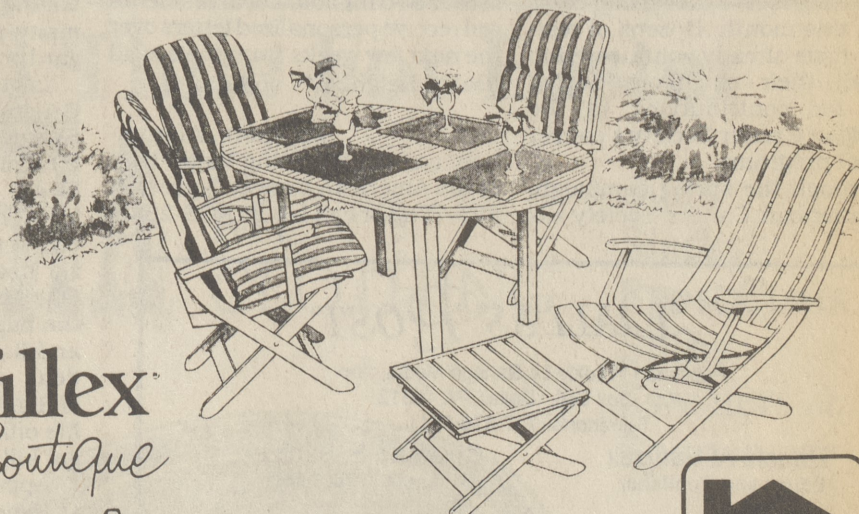
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