

# Madeline visits the library

Members of the new Back Mountain Children's Theatre Company performed songs from "Madeline's Adventures" last week at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. The group is a non-profit touring company, under the direction of Gina Ackerman and Judy Harvey.

POST PHOTOS/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK



From left, foreground; Alison Considine, Dana Kintner. Background; Ashley Howell, Kate Mangan, Christine Zavaskas, Katee Pelleschi.



Taking a bow, from left; Dana Kintner, Alison Considine, Bryn Harvey, Ashley Howell, Jillian Keller, Christine Zavaskas, Katee Pelleschi, Erin Kovalick, Mary Therese Condoosta, Alexa Vrabel.



"Madeline," played by Carmella Gubbiotti, gets a hug from her "classmates."

# Lake-Lehman students get involved to help others

By KASIA McDONOUGH  
Post Staff

**LAKE-LEHMAN** - Schools nationwide are trying to cope with the tragedy in Littleton, Colorado, and students at Lake-Lehman High School are doing their part to spot problems before they get out of hand, for the benefit of individual students and the entire school community.

The Lake-Lehman Peer Helpers is a diverse group whose members share a common vision for a better high school.

They are selected following a rigorous process involving a formal application, interviews and voting. "We don't nominate people for these positions because we want to ensure a group of students who are truly dedicated," said Bonnie Gregory, guidance counselor and peer helpers moderator.

Their mission is simple but their methods are complex. "We help each other if we can," said Sam Saylor, a Lake-Lehman senior. "Sometimes that means just listening but sometimes it can be more complicated."

Sophomores Jill Sands and Breean Davies recently found out just how complicated life as a peer helper can be. The 10th graders befriended a new student who has just moved to the Back Mountain from Russia. "We tried to make her feel welcome here," said Davies. "We accompanied her to classes and introduced her to everyone so that she felt comfortable at Lehman."

The group believes it is important for students to focus on what they have in common with others. "Look at us - we are a small microcosm of the student body," said D.J. Kapson. "Some of us are athletes, some of us are on the honor roll, and some of us are in the band. We are different but we

*"Look at us - we are a small microcosm of the student body. . .*

*We are different but we work well together."*

D.J. Kapson

Lake-Lehman peer helper

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The peer helpers have been busy. They have organized a drug free carnival, an AIDS awareness seminar and an assembly at which inmates from the State Correctional Facility will speak to junior high students. "The prisoners are going to talk about their lives and the choices they made to get to where they are now," said Chad Sorber, a senior. "It's an important message because none of them planned on going to jail when they were young and maybe something they say will make a difference."

Violence is something that concerns these students as much as it concerns their parents. "I think video games and movies do have an effect on kids but each individual reacts differently depending on what they have been taught at home," said Kapson. "It is a matter of maturity."

Bonnie Gregory knows it is a difficult time to be a teenager and she doesn't want the peer helpers to get in over their heads. "We have taught them to report concerns about students hurting themselves or others to the appropriate adults," she said.

That policy works for this group. "Sometimes you see little things and you know you're making a difference," said Chris Coslett, a sophomore. "It feels good."

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# Celebrate the Power of Health

Open House & Child Safety Education

May 8, 1999

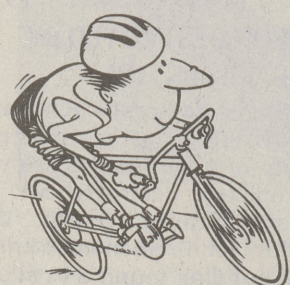
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Hospital Open House/  
Health Fair

Live Broadcast  
Magic 93  
Frankie Warren 1-4 p.m.

1 p.m. - 4 p.m.  
Bicycle Rodeo  
Celebrate National  
Safe Kids Week

- Tour the hospital. Witness the difference our staff makes.
- Diabetes Education: Benefits of a managed program
- Free blood pressure and basic respiratory screenings
- Free cholesterol screening (10 a.m. - 1 p.m.)
- Learn healthy eating habits with our nutrition experts
- Health Plan representatives on hand
- "Heart Saver" Adult CPR and obstructed airway training at 11 a.m. (register by calling 826-7624)
- Register to win a treadmill

- Bicycle inspections and interactive obstacle course
- Local police, fire department and rescue personnel on hand to discuss safety
- LifeLion scheduled appearance from 2 p.m.-3 p.m.
- State Police to provide car seat inspections
- Miss Pennsylvania, Angela Patla, from our own Medic 303 and Medic 2 units will be on hand
- Bike helmets will be awarded throughout the day
- Register to win a bicycle



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