

Public Utility Commission approves PAWC rate increase

Pennsylvania American Water Company (PAWC) received approval from the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) for an 8.7% overall rate increase which will generate \$24.6 million dollars in revenue. The increase reflects costs, such as facility upgrades and the need to comply with regulatory standards, incurred since the company's last increase in October of 1997.

The request for an increase was filed with the commission on April 30, 1999. Following months of investigation, including testimony from customers and state legislators, a joint petition for settlement was presented to the Administrative Law Judge. After additional participant review and

recommendation by the Judge, the increase was approved during the commission's public meeting.

A PAWC spokesperson said the average residential customer should experience an increase of approximately \$1.59 per month as a result of the overall rate increase.

In addition to the rate increase, the Public Utility Commission agreed to raise Pennsylvania-American's current low-income tariff discount from 15% to 20%. The tariff is designed to ease the burden on low-income customers and enable them to continue making timely payments. Those customers who qualify will now enjoy a 5% savings on their basic service charge.

SCID receives accreditation

A 3-member team from the American Correctional Association (ACA) completed a 3-day audit of State Correctional Institution at Dallas and will recommend the facility be reaccredited.

To receive ACA accreditation, a facility must achieve 100% compliance with 41 mandatory standards, and at least 90% compliance with 443 non-mandatory standards. The standards cover a wide range of areas, including security, health care, food ser-

vice, inmate rights and programs, physical plant, environment, safety, maintenance, religion, mail, visiting, administration, staff training, and fiscal management.

SCI-Dallas achieved 100% compliance with the mandatory standards and 96% with the non-mandatory standards.

According to Superintendent Varner, this accomplishment is a tribute to the effort, professionalism, and commitment to excellence of the SCI-Dallas staff.



POST PHOTOS/M.B. GILLIGAN

Ancient Egypt in word and craft

Lake-Lehman 9th grade students have completed a unit on the culture of ancient Egypt. Along with research papers, the students made displays of people and structures.

At left; Sheryl Fishel is pictured with the wooden depiction of Cleopatra that she and Donna Kaminski worked on for a couple of weeks. Above; Britni Gurnari and Mike Mully. Mike linked his project with what he is currently studying in History.

Sign up for 'Winter Days Bouquets'

The Luzerne County Division of the American Heart Association is appealing to local businesses and industries to join in silling multi-colored mini-carnation bouquets for \$6 each as part of its annual fund raiser "Winter Days Bouquets." All money raised will benefit our local American Heart Association in its fight against heart disease and stroke. Interested businesses are asked

to call the Luzerne County Division of the American Heart Association office at 822-6247 for more information on how to participate.

Orders and money for bouquets will be taken now through early January. Flowers will be delivered to businesses on Tuesday, January 25, by AHA volunteers (minimum order of 10 for delivery).

Newspaper office closed for holidays

So that our staff may enjoy the Christmas and New Year holidays, the office of The Dallas Post will be closed Friday, Dec. 24 and Friday, Dec. 31. Items may be left in the deposit box at the front of the office. Late news and advertising deadlines will be the following Mondays.

Correction

Due to a typographical error, several students' names were omitted from the Lake-Lehman High School honor roll that appeared in last week's issue. The following names should have been included for ninth grade high honors: Betsy Pitcher, Amy Lynn Ruda, Jared Salla, Deena SanFanandre and Cheryl Schweitzer.

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REWARD

SEEKING information of person responsible for hit and run accident, Saturday evening, December 4th, 1999. The accident involved three vehicles on Lower Demunds Road, at Demunds corners.

SEEKING dark colored Pontiac Firebird with damage to front and sides. Anyone with information, Please contact (570) 472-9526.

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NEWS
Coverage area: The Dallas Post covers the "Back Mountain" area of Luzerne County, including Dallas, Kingston, Lehman and Jackson townships, Dallas Borough, Harveys Lake and the Dallas and Lake-Lehman school districts. We try to get to as many events as possible, but staff and space limitations make it impossible to cover everything. If you have news about your family, town or organization, please send it to us and we'll try to get it in. Photographs are welcome; we prefer black and white, but color will usually work.
Corrections, clarifications: The Dallas Post will correct errors of fact or clarify any misunderstanding created by a story. Call 675-5211.
Have a story idea? Please call, we'd like to hear about it.
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