

THE POST

50¢

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS AND LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

KUNKLE VOLUNTEER FIRE CO.



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Tim Haddle of Kunkle has trouble keeping up with daughter Zoe at the open house for the new fire station.

Fire station opens doors to the public

By DAVE KONOPKI
Post Editor

KUNKLE - For more than five decades, the Kunkle Volunteer Fire Co. station was home to several firetrucks, an ambulance and a small office.

Now, it's home to a lot more. The fire company dedicated its new station during three days of activities last weekend. An open house that attracted more than 350 people was sandwiched around a square dance and a special dinner for current and past fire company members.

In addition to a full-scale kitchen, meeting rooms, and offices, the new station is home to a lounge with a donated large, flat-screen television and leather couches. The company had slowly outgrown the previous station - a former grange hall - since it started using the building in 1949.

"We're very happy with the new station," said Chief Jack Dodson. "The last one was so small. We wanted more office

space. Our officers can come in, use computers, and get some work done."

Members of the fire and ambulance crews have been spending more time at the station in 2005. The company has already responded more than 600 calls this year, compared to 570 in all of 2004.

"The new station is very (fireman-friendly). We have a lot of good volunteers who have been spending more and more time here. It's going to benefit us and it's also going to benefit the community. We're going to be able to provide better protection."

The company financed almost two-thirds of the approximate \$600,000 cost of the new station, said Dodson. The financed money will part of the company's annual budget and Dodson is hoping to hold several special fund-raisers each year to help pay off the debt.

Members of the community got an opportunity to see the new digs during the five-hour

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Members of the community got an opportunity to check out the new fire station in Kunkle.



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Fifth-graders Raymond Schultz, Dylan Pilger, Chris Reimard, and Tommy Stitzer take water samples and notes from the Honey Pot mine shaft in Nanticoke.

Studying the great outdoors

Dallas Elementary School students continue study of watersheds

By M.B. GILLIGAN
Post Correspondent

DALLAS TWP. - One of the goals of the Toyota Tapestry Grant Program is for participating students to gain an increased awareness of the environment. That is certainly happening with science students at Dallas Elementary School.

"I think it's better than reading an article about it," said fifth-grader Taylor Hodle. "You can visually see what you're studying about."

Hodle was referring to a recent field trip to study the affects of acid mine drainage at the site where Toby's Creek enters the Susquehanna River.

"There was like an orange glow in the water from the acid mine drainage and it smelled like rotten eggs," said Hodle. "I



Ronnie Chupka, a fifth-grader at Dallas Elementary School, helps Robert Hughes take a water sample from a coal canal in Nanticoke.

think it is less attractive and it could be affecting things in the water so they will not survive as long as they would without it."

The fifth grade science classes at DES are the beneficiaries of a \$10,000 grant from Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc. It is one

of 552 awards made to science teachers throughout the county over the last 14 years. The company has granted more than \$5 million for students to study various subjects in several scientific fields.

Last year, teachers Margaret Bestwick and Barbara Wesnes-

ki received a grant in the field of environmental science education to conduct a water quality and environmental study of the Susquehanna River and one of its tributaries, Toby's Creek.

"We started out this year learning about watersheds in general, moved to studying our schoolyard watershed, then our local watershed (Toby's Creek). We have now moved on to studying the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed," said Bestwick. "We're examining the water quality of these watersheds, looking for sources of pollution, and coming up with solutions to the problems that affect our watershed."

As part of the visit to their schoolyard watershed, the students were asked to draw maps to reflect what they thought the water run-off pattern would be. They revisited the area after a rainstorm to check

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Dallas Borough welcomes Medicare claims processing company

By ALLISON MUSSO
Special to The Post

There's been a recent change in Dallas. And at least one borough official hopes it will have a positive affect on businesses and residents in the Back Mountain.

The New York-based Medicare claims processing company Health Now recently relocated from the Kanjorski Center on Main Street in Nanticoke to a new location at the Twin Stacks Center on Route 415. The Health Now office is currently home to 155 employees, with another 45 or so expected to relocate to the Dallas location in the near future.

The relocation of the health company is expected to result



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Joe Moskovitz, right, welcomes Health Now executives Bill Wickis, left, and Don Ingalls, center, during a meeting of the Back Mountain Business and Professional Association. The company has recently moved an office to the Twin Stacks Center.

in positive results not only for the company, but for the

growth and development of the area, says borough manag-

"It's a shot in arm and a boost in the development of the Back Mountain."

Joe Moskovitz
Dallas borough manager

er Joe Moskovitz. "It's unfortunate Health Now had to relocate, but it will benefit our restaurants and local businesses," said Moskovitz. "It's a shot in arm and a boost in the development of the Back Mountain."

With the acquisition of
See HEALTH NOW, Page 10

DALLAS GIRLS WIN CROSS COUNTRY STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



Using a powerful combination of guts and skill, the Dallas girls cross country team captured the PIAA Class 2A championship last weekend in Hershey. With the win, the Mountaineers became the first cross country team from District 2 to win more than one state championship. Dallas also won the title in 2003. For a story about the team's effort in Hershey, see page 7. Members of the state championship team, shown on the winner's platform in Hershey, from left are assistant coach Ed Radzinski, Mariel Adams, Cassie Snider, Hillary Adams, Kenslie Kerestes, Lisa Giacometti, Jill Nutche, Erin Delaney, Kasia Szulborski, Debra Ketchner, Katie Gilligan, Alyssa Retzena, head coach Matt Samuel and Hannah Bestwick.

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News: 829-7248
thepost@leader.net
15 N. Main St.
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18711
Advertising: 829-7101
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and Delivery: 829-5000