

Use Of 'Angel Dust' Reaches Epidemic Level, Study Shows

ALBANY—The use of PCP or "angel dust"—a potent and dangerous drug—among secondary school students in New York State has reached epidemic proportions and is more than double the national rate, according to a survey released by the Division of Substance Abuse Services.

The recently-completed survey revealed that an estimated 257,000 youngsters, or 14 percent of the 1.8 million secondary school students in the state, have used PCP, properly called phencyclidine, at least once in their lives. The national rate is only six percent among the same age group, according to the prestigious Abelson National Survey conducted in 1977 for the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

The New York State study also revealed that:

- 161,000, or nine percent, used it since school began in September, 1977;
- 83,000, or five percent, used it during the 30 days prior to the survey;
- and 11,000 or one percent, used it at least 10 times in the 30 days prior to the survey.

The survey also showed that 124,000 students—46 percent of the users—used PCP for the first time in 1977 and 1978. This shows a recent and rapid rise in the spread of the drug through the state, according to statisticians in the agency's Bureau of Cost Effectiveness and Research.

PCP use was proportionally highest in the Buffalo and Long Island areas and lowest in the Rochester area, the survey report stated.

In addition, more than 99 percent of the students who used PCP also recently used one or more other substances.

The survey was conducted in March and April among a random sample of 35,371 seventh through 12th grade students in 1946 public and 48 parochial schools throughout the state and is the first statewide survey in the United States to measure PCP use among students. They survey also collected data on students' abuse of other drugs. When statisticians have finished analyzing that information, the division will report those findings to the public, according to division Director Daniel Klepak.

In another study by Hope House, an Albany drug treatment program funded by the division, researchers found that 68 percent of the clients in Capital District area residential treatment programs had tried PCP as well as many other drugs. Most of the persons interviewed in the treatment programs were males between the ages of 16 and 20. All said PCP was readily available in

both urban and suburban communities. PCP, which is also known as "angel dust," "dog," "super weed," and "elephant tranquilizer," was developed in the 1960s as a tranquilizer and general anesthetic. It showed great initial promise because it did not produce the severe negative effects on the cardiovascular and respiratory systems that are often associated with other general anesthetics. However, physicians soon learned that the psychic side effects were often bizarre and medical use of the drug was discontinued.

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, most PCP available on the street is manufactured in illicit laboratories and the purity varies.

Klepak noted: "Our survey proves the PCP problem is widespread among our young people. Every physician, every emergency medical worker, every drug abuse treatment volunteer and professional and, most importantly, every drug abuser in New York State should be alert to its dangers."

In February the Division of Substance Abuse Services and the state Health Department joined forces to inform professionals and the public about the dangers of PCP. Detailed clinical and pharmacological fact sheets were sent to every hospital and drug treatment program in the state. "This important information is still available through our communications office and will be sent promptly to anyone who needs it," Klepak added.

PCP—which can be smoked with marijuana or other vegetable matter, swallowed, snorted or injected—causes a wide variety of reactions ranging from mild euphoria to acute hysteria and paranoia depending on the dosage and the personality of the user. Violent actions and reactions are not uncommon. Suicide and murder have been associated with the use of the drug, Klepak said.

Doses of five milligrams or less can produce impaired speech, involuntary eye movement, blank stares and anesthesia. Five to 10 milligrams can cause loss of coordination, muscular rigidity, drooling and heavy perspiration. Doses of more than 10 milligrams can cause hallucinations, disorientation, vomiting, and long periods of alternating waking and sleeping. Persons suffering from heavy doses have been comatose for up to 12 hours. Unpredictable psychotic reactions can occur at any dosage level.

PCP is often misrepresented and sold on the street as other drugs such as TH-C, mescaline, psilocybin and LSD.



A WINNING RIDE—Arriving at the Canton-Potsdam Hospital after a six-mile bicycle trip last Friday were Bob Burns, president of the local chapter of Rotary International; and Rich Van Leuven, hospital pharmacist. Van Leuven, who lives in Sanfordville, received the tandem ride to work since he was high bidder on the offer during Rotary auction of services. The two also rode back out to Sanfordville at the end of the day. During the auction of services, the Rotary Club raised some \$225 to be donated to local charities. Other

services auctioned off included a sailboat ride, airplane ride, tennis time, golf lessons, yard work, driveway sealing, construction of a picture frame, and rides in a Potsdam fire engine, rescue squad vehicle, and antique cars. Awaiting the cyclists' arrival with a hospital bed were, from left, Dr. Frank Citro, chief staff; Mrs. Linda Lemieux, chief operating room nurse; Dave Grahlung and Herb Seymour of the respiratory therapy department.

Clarkson Prof Takes Part In World Symposium

Timothy B. Dailey, assistant professor of sociology and criminal justice at Clarkson, traveled to Athens, Greece, this summer to participate in an international symposium on "The Child in the World of Tomorrow." Professor Dailey presented a paper on child abuse entitled "Power Breeds Violence" in a meeting on the rights and obligations of parents.

The objective of the symposium was to bring together an interdisciplinary group including sociologists, pediatricians, psychologists, lawyers, and anthropologists from all over the world to determine what will be happening to children in the next ten years. After examining the needs and problems of children and families in a rapidly changing world, the participants defined desirable developments that should be encouraged, set priorities and recommended tendencies to be avoided.

The symposium was sponsored by Greece's Institute of Child Health, UNICEF, the International Year of the Child, the World Health Organization, UNESCO, the World Society of Ekistics, and the CIBA Foundation.

County Women's Center Okayed

CANTON — County women needing temporary shelter from domestic violence will have a place more tailored to their needs available in a few months, if Congress continues CETA funding.

Monday night, the county legislature approved, by a vote of 15 for and 5 against, with one abstention, a subcontract with the North Country Women's Center, to provide shelter on a round-the-clock basis.

Currently, the center's three rooms and volunteer staff fill the needs, as it arises. But the \$169,000 subcontract will allow 22 CETA participants not only to keep the shelter open at all times, but also to provide supportive services.

The women propose to rent a larger facility to serve as a shelter. Realization of the project depends on Congress, which will decide the fate of further CETA funding sometime in September. The new fiscal year begins in October.

Legislators who voted against the subcontract were William Lemieux, Canton; Donald Livingston, Town of Oswegatchie; Harold Bell, Fowler; Joseph Sovie, Ogdensburg; and Ralph Greco, Star Lake. Potsdam legislator Ernest LaBaff was absent from the meeting, for health reasons.

Three proposed subcontracts were tabled: \$75,000 agreement with the North Country Reference and Research Resources Council to provide 10 persons to index the Watertown Times; a \$980,000 subcontract to continue county Soil and Water Conservation District project; and a \$200,000 subcontract with the Potsdam Day Care Center.

Rules Tie Up Family Care Homes

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to the Department of Mental Retardation that a waiver be granted. For example, Miller said, a waiver might be requested for the stairs, and for the Gordons' one bathroom. Regulations state that there must be a bathroom for every six residents; seven people live in the Gordon home.

There was no final determination on the matter of the door to Tommy's room, although Miller did indicate that it might be possible to have the entry declared an archway, thus eliminating the need for a door.

Miller also noted that while the Sunmount committee can recommend waivers, it is up to the central office of the Department of Mental Retardation in Albany to grant waivers.

In addition to the home visits and

inspections, the Gordons must meet other regulations as well. For example, all of Tommy's babysitters must be investigated and approved in advance by the state. Gordon must also regularly comply with other rules. Recently, he was required to fill out and return a form that certified that Tommy would earn minimum wage if he is ever employed by the Gordons.

The Sunmount Developmental Center is currently seeking more family care homes for its resident. According to Dr. Richard Francis, director of the school, part of Sunmount's philosophy of treating the retarded is to place them in the "least restrictive" environment possible, the family care home.

Sunmount currently has 40 family care homes in a six-county area consisting of Hamilton, Franklin, Clinton, Essex, St. Lawrence and Jefferson counties. St. Lawrence County has 15 homes. One hundred sixty Sunmount residents are in family care homes; 387 are cared for at Sunmount.

Family care providers like the Gordons receive, in addition to a sum of money for the resident's care, the support services of a caseworker on a regular basis, and the services of a psychologist, nurse, physician, occupational therapist and educator as needed, Dr. Francis said. Tommy is

legally a resident of Sunmount who has been placed in the Gordons home, Dr. Francis explained.

On the matter of the requirements for the family care homes, Dr. Francis said that those requirements are "strictly for safety and health." "We have a certain amount of flexibility," Dr. Francis said, "but if you're going to be in the business of being a family care provider certain requirements must be met."

Sunmount itself has recently undergone extensive repairs and renovations, primarily fire and safety alterations, to meet more stringent federal standards.

Meanwhile, Tommy is still in the Gordons' home. "He's a doll, an absolute angel, a very lovable child," Ed Gordon says. The Gordons became foster parents five years ago, after answering an ad describing the benefits to the retarded person of placement in a private home. "We didn't do it for the money," Gordon said. "We didn't need it then and we don't need it now. We did it because we wanted to."

But the Gordons feel there has to be more consideration for the individual in their situation with Tommy and particularly if more homes for retarded residents are needed. "After all," Ed Gordon says, "if more people are going to be taking kids like Tommy, they have to know what they're getting into."

Housing Rehab Work Begins In Village

Work is well underway on the Village of Potsdam's housing rehabilitation project, according to project director Robert Juravich.

Juravich told the Courier and Freeman that six houses in the rehab area are being worked on, and write-ups for seven more houses are expected to be completed shortly. Once the write-ups are completed the projects can go to bid, Juravich said.

So far, Juravich said, rehab applications have been processed on a first-come, first-served basis, with actual work following, but by mid-September project officials hope to be able to both process applications and complete projects as the applications are received.

Some problems may come if the four members of the rehab staff are laid off as expected. All four are CETA Title VI employees, and are expected to be affected by the recent announcement of lay-offs for Title VI personnel because of budgetary problems within CETA. Juravich said that the four employees are part of a county-wide project which includes Ogdensburg's Association for Neighborhood Rehabilitation (ANR) project, CDP and the Farmers Home

Administration (FmHA) in Canton. Juravich said that he did not know when the lay-offs would occur.

The rehab project, funded through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is designed to provide monies for home repair jobs such as roofing, plumbing, electrical work, furnace repairs and insulation. Both homeowners and landlords may be eligible for rehab funds. A total of \$150,000 is available for the rehab program, Juravich said.

The rehab area has been defined as both sides of Maple Street and the west side of Market Street to Sisson Street in the village. Depending on income, owners and landlords in the rehab area may be eligible for outright grants, partial grants, a combination of grants and loans, incentive grants or bank loans to make needed repairs. The rehab program has also made three weatherization grants through the St. Lawrence County Community Development Program (CDP). Higher income families in the rehab area may be eligible for a lower interest home improvement loan through the rehab program.

Projects are being put out to bid, Juravich said, with "excellent competition" between bidders. Four to six contractors are bidding regularly on projects, he said, and the first six rehab jobs have contracts to five or six local firms.

Homeowners may also elect to do rehab work themselves, under a self-help option of the program. The homeowners purchase materials and does the work, and is later reimbursed by the rehab program. The self-help option helps cut the cost of labor, Juravich said.

All rehab projects are supervised by the rehab staff, and must be done according to the specifications in the job write-up, Juravich said. About \$3,000 per job is currently being spent, he noted.

By mid-winter rehab program officials hope to have at least \$75,000 of the total \$150,000 committed to specific projects, Juravich said. The rehab program, begun last fall under the direction of former rehab director Helen Browner, has actually been "in business" since April, 1978, he said. Rehab officials have estimated that as many as 100 homes in the rehab area may need some repairs, although not all the homeowners might be eligible for the program.



Norwood Library News

The Norwood Library will be closed Aug. 12-Aug. 28 while the staff is on their annual vacation. The book depository at the Prospect Street entrance may be used, it will be emptied on a regular basis. Hours resume as usual on Aug. 28, the winter schedule will begin after Labor Day weekend.

CSEA Workshop Set

WATERTOWN—Region V of the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA) has announced a State University of New York (SUNY) Workshop to be held Sept. 9, at the Ramada Inn, Watertown. Mrs. Mary Lauzon, President of Local 613-SUNY Potsdam, and Chairwoman of the State University Committee, said the workshop will include a morning session devoted to effective speaking, followed by an afternoon segment dealing with grievance procedures. SUNY employees and other CSEA members in Region V interested in attending the workshop are urged to contact Sandy Aldrich, CSEA Local 613, SUNY Potsdam, Potsdam, N.Y.

Notes 7 Gallons Given

Robert Good, a former Potsdam resident now living in Rochester, has been recognized by the American Red Cross as a donor of 56 pints of blood.

A pin signifying the donation of 56 pints, or seven gallons, was awarded to Good at a recent blood drive at Monroe Community Hospital.

In accepting the award Good said that he was proud to have been able to donate over the years and he hopes to continue giving whenever he can. "That makes seven gallons, and I'm still going strong," he said.

Village Eyeing Hydroelectric Power

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natural gas pipeline runs right by the water treatment plant.

He also said that the cost sharing aspect of the proposal would make it "very attractive" to Brookhaven.

Finally, he noted that the presence in the village of Clarkson College is a "strong asset" since Brookhaven would want to disseminate information on the project to professionals in fields related to energy production.

Fina said it would be at least a month, likely longer, before any word is received from the federal government on the proposal.

Potsdam Mayor Ruth Garner stated that the hydro generation feasibility study prepared last summer by Rist-Frost "certainly gave us a little extra lead time in this proposal." Garner and other village officials expressed confidence in the proposal and its implications for the village. Trustee Paul Claffey, who has consistently opposed the development of the hydro generating facility, was not present at Friday's meeting. Trustee Norma Thayer was out of town.

The feasibility study referred to by Garner was prepared by Rist-Frost last summer. It indicated that the village,

through the re-building of its hydro generating facilities, could generate enough electricity to serve four village buildings; the water treatment plant, the sewage treatment plant, the police station and Pine Street Arena. Power costs to the village for those four facilities were estimated at \$73,000 per year by mid-1979; Rist-Frost's estimates indicated that by 1988 those costs would be \$225,000 per year. At one time, the village generating facilities produced enough electricity for the entire village. Those facilities operated from 1926 to 1966.

Under the Potsdam-NYSERDA-Brookhaven proposal, the village would be expected to pick up costs of \$8,400 for the phase I feasibility and cost analysis of the project; \$1,200 for the phase II documentation; \$40,000 for the phase III detailed design phase; \$218,000 for the phase IV construction and \$70,000 toward the first year's operation cost.

There was no funding commitment in Friday's approval of the proposal. The approval indicates only a willingness on the part of the village to proceed with the proposal, village officials said. Resolutions to appropriate funds would be considered in the future, Mayor Garner said.

In a related matter, the Board of Trustees also passed a resolution to apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a license to construct and operate the hydro facilities. All such facilities must be licensed according to Fina; no fee is required with the application.

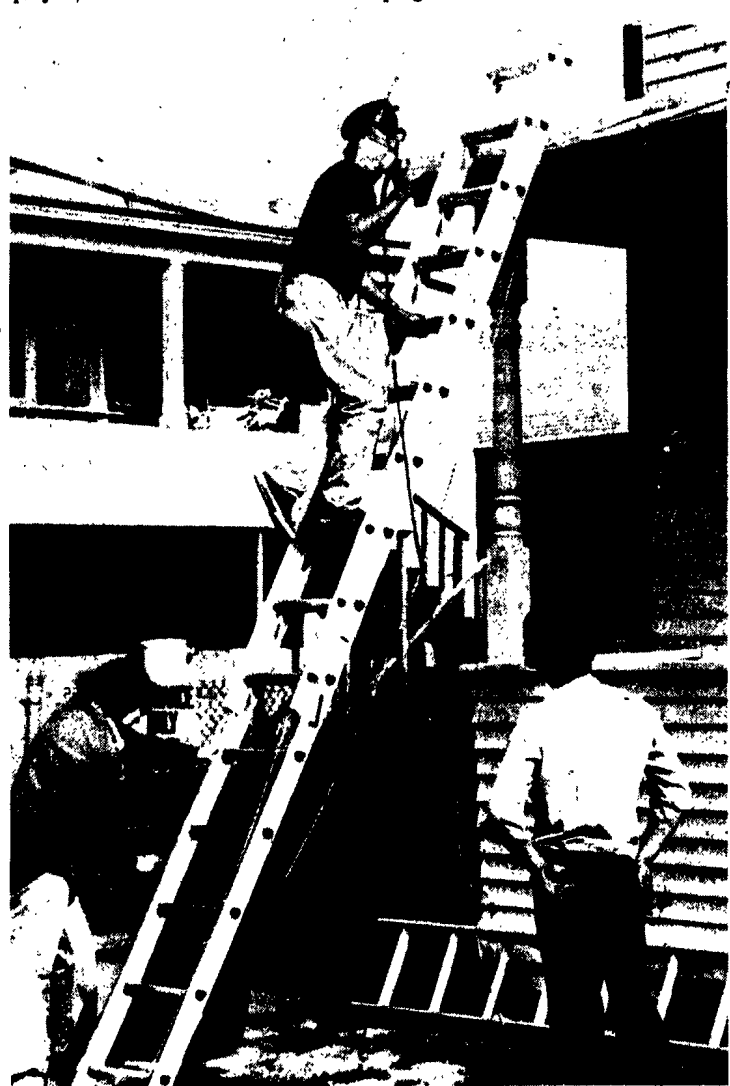
Other Business

In other action the board appointed Stephen J. Davis as village fire marshal, at an annual salary of \$900. The appointment is retroactive to April 18, 1978. Officials called the late action on the appointment an oversight.

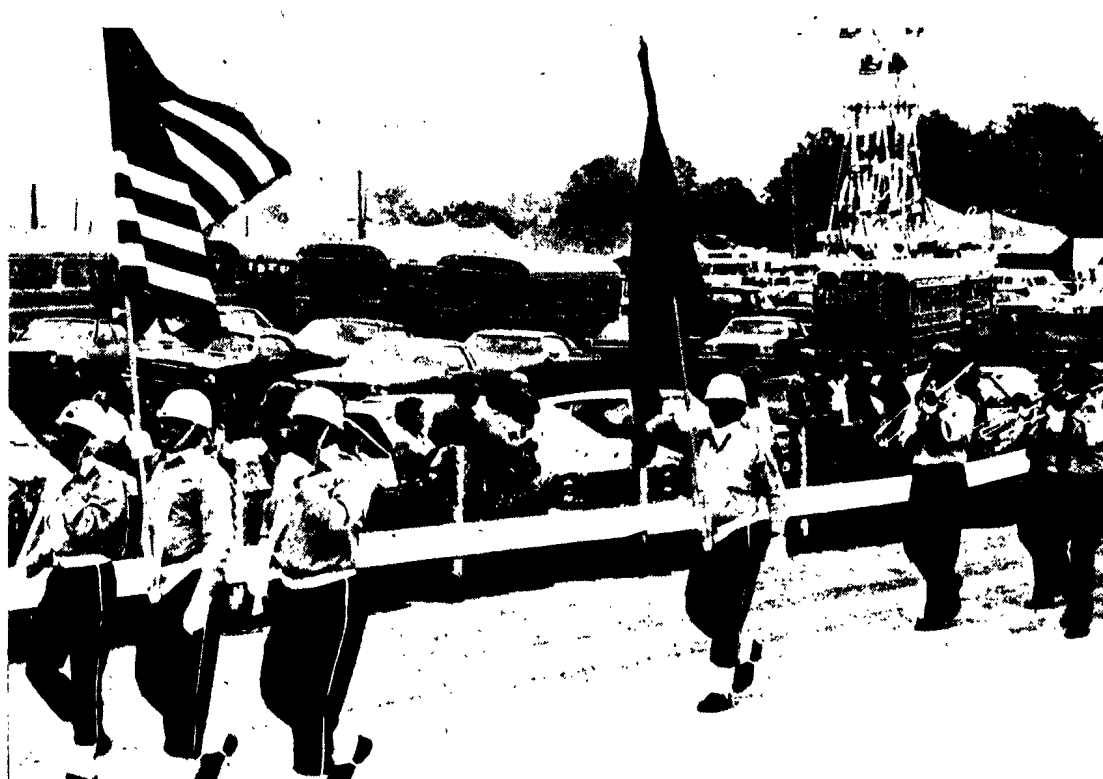
Bids for plexiglass for Sandstone Arena will be received at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 24 in the civic center board room. Funds for the 118 lineal feet of plexiglass come from federal revenue sharing monies; half the project is slated for completion this year and half next year.

The board also authorized the establishment of capital project accounts for the village's new aerial ladder fire truck and for renovations to the police station. Funding for the police station renovation is through federal revenue sharing funds.

The board meets in regular session at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 21.



NEW INSULATION—This home on Willow Street in Potsdam is one of six currently being refurbished under the Village of Potsdam's housing rehabilitation program. Work on seven more homes is expected to begin in the near future. (Betsy Baker photo).



NORWOOD FIREMEN—The Norwood Fire Department Band County Fair last week. They are shown here going through their paces. (Betsy Baker photo).