

Youth hoops league aims to keep kids out of gangs

By **MARK MARONEY**

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The city's police chief Tuesday afternoon urged young basketball players at Penn Vale housing project in Loyalsock Township to act responsibly and strive to be their best.

Chief John McKenna helped open the fifth-annual Youth Summer Basketball League, sponsored by the Community Alliance for Progressive Positive Action, CAPP, at the project managed by the Lycoming County Housing Authority.

The court was alive with chatter of children eager to play and families watching from chairs beneath shade trees around the paved court.

McKenna was joined by Timothy Fausnaught, principal of Loyalsock Township Middle School, who told the children to "be strong and courageous."

"That means not getting angry if you aren't playing enough or if someone pushes you," he said. "Be the best you (See **YOUTH**, Page A-3)



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City Police Chief John McKenna talks to children at the Youth Basketball Opening Day event at Penn Vale in Loyalsock Township.