

...discussed by county commissioner candidates

J. Doyle Corman

Centre County Commissioner J. Doyle Corman, in his bid for reelection, will be one of the Republican candidates listed on the May 20 primary ballots.

Corman said he felt his experience as commissioner qualified him for reelection. He said he already has been working with problems the county is faced with, and the state and federal programs which are funneled through the county.

"As commissioner, I want to continue to structure human service organizations," Corman said. He said the commissioners already have organized a Community Services Office to coordinate all human services for the county and to help prevent duplication and overlapping in services.

"We (the commissioners) are trying to act rather than react," Corman said. "We want to be on top of things."

Corman said it is difficult to name any specific problem confronting Centre County. He said Centre County's unemployment rate is close to the lowest in the state, primarily because of the University.

"The University is of utmost importance to Centre County—it's what makes us an up-and-coming county," he said.

"We look forward to continued good relations between the University and county government," Corman said.

The commissioners should try to bring more industry to the county, Corman said.

He also said housing for the elderly should be a major concern of the commissioners, and that the commissioners already have plans to build housing complexes in Philipsburg and Bellefonte.

"We're very proud of all the Centre County departments," Corman said, citing the Mental Health, Retardation and Children's Services Offices as examples of county government programs.

Corman, now serving his second four-year term as commissioner, has lived in Centre County all his life. He has been in the insurance and realty business in Bellefonte since 1957, although he graduated from Indiana University with a bachelor of science degree in education.

John Saylor

County government is no longer a caretaker type of government; it is big business, according to John Saylor, a Democratic state committeeman and candidate for the Democratic nomination for county commissioner.

Revenue sharing is a "very key, new" issue in Centre County, Saylor said, adding that he feels there is no adequate method for the public to participate in the decisions on how the money will be used.

"We must have more public input or recommendations," Saylor said. That input could be received through open hearings or written requests, he said.

To give "the workingman more access to county government," Saylor said he would have evening or Saturday office hours.

Saylor said he sees some inequities in property assessment taxes. He called the situation intolerable and said he would like to inform people on how to appeal their assessments.

"The elderly are the most underprivileged in Centre County," Saylor said. "This county has not kept up with the surrounding counties in providing housing, care and entertainment for the elderly. They are the forgotten people."

Saylor is serving his third term as inspector of elections in Bellefonte and has served three terms as treasurer and two terms as secretary during his membership on the county Democratic committee.

An Air Force veteran of the Korean conflict, Saylor is a

Penn State graduate with a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling. He was a counselor for the Pennsylvania Bureau of Rehabilitation in Pittsburgh before moving to State College to become a technical writer for HRB-Singer.

Regie Thompson

Regie Thompson of Millheim, who was appointed to take her husband's place as county commissioner after he died, is a candidate for that position in the Democratic primary election.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed being a commissioner, and I would like to be of service to the people of Centre County again. I have no other business interests, so my time is spent at the courthouse all day," Thompson said.

When asked what issues or problems she would work on if elected, Thompson said, "Things are changing so rapidly in the county right now, I have found it hard to project very far. You don't know what problems will be coming up next. There always seems to be a new problem coming up someplace."

However, she said she would like to see that the county provides the best possible services to the people, including medical programs and programs for children and the mentally retarded.

Concerning projects for the elderly, Thompson said, "I have always worked with the elderly, and I am very much for the programs now being planned by the county for the elderly." Thompson also said she always tried to have a good relationship with students and the University. "I never miss a football game and I go to many of the events up there. I was one of the judges for the dance marathon," she said.

The dance marathon was sponsored by the Inter-Fraternity Council for the Easter Seal Society. Thompson said she has done volunteer work for the Easter Seal Society and several other groups and belongs to several women's clubs.

Auto sales hit new low level

DETROIT (UPI)—The number of U.S.-built cars sold in the second 10 days of March fell nearly 29 per cent from last year's already depressed levels to a 14-year low, the four major auto companies reported yesterday.

Sales dropoffs of 23 to 31 per cent were experienced by General Motors, Ford, Chrysler and American Motors. The declines were noted in their second sales reports since extensive sales—stimulating cash rebates ended. Only Chrysler carried a modified rebate program into March.

Sales for the mid-March period were 175,674 cars, compared with 246,551 in the same period last year and 44 per cent below the record of 280,701 sold in the period in 1973 when the auto industry was heading toward a record year.

Despite the sharp dropoff from year-ago sales, industry executives pointed out the mid-March sales were up 12 per cent from March 1-10 levels. For the first 20 days of the month, sales were off 19 per cent from a year ago.

One bright spot was the reception given the new small, wide American Motors Pacer which was introduced Feb. 28. It accounted for 44 per cent of the 9,013 cars sold by AMC in the March 11-20 period. The AMC sales dropped 27.7 per cent from last year when the company couldn't meet demand for its small cars during the gasoline shortage.

GM said its sales were off 30.2 per cent from year-ago levels that were inflated by sales contests. Chrysler deliveries dropped 31.3 per cent and Ford sales were off 24.5 per cent. Industry executives were able to find some encouraging signs in the statistics.

"The continuing strengthening of the marketplace may well signal not only the start of the spring selling season, but also the underlying improvement in factors that influence buyer decisions," said Mack W. Worden, GM vice president for sales.

Despite the lower sales levels, which had been expected after the ending of the \$200 to \$600 rebates, automakers are scheduling higher output going into the traditional higher spring and summer sales period. Industry observers expect a higher sales tempo to result in the callback of some of the 212,000 hourly workers still on open-ended layoffs.

Ward's Automotive Reports, the industry's statistical service, estimates April-June auto production will total 1,865,000 cars, down 10 per cent from last year's levels but up 44 per cent from the first quarter of this year.

General Motors reported sales of 92,609 cars in the March 11-20 period, compared with 132,648 last year, to bring its sales so far this year to within 4.4 per cent of the 1974 pace.

Ford said it sold 48,245 cars in the period and is now 17 per cent off last year's pace while Chrysler reported sales of 25,807 cars to leave its year-to-date sales lagging 22.6 per cent below 1974.

Officials gauge tornado damage

ATLANTA (UPI)—Civil Defense officials said yesterday a preliminary survey indicated that damage from a tornado which slashed the northwest side of Atlanta would range from \$20 million to \$30 million and "possibly higher."

The twister, roared down eight times Monday, caused three deaths and left at least 170 persons injured, most with minor wounds. It raked an eight-mile path of destruction from public housing to the governor's mansion.

Bob Chaney, deputy Civil Defense director for Atlanta, said first reports from survey teams who began their study at dawn showed damage "running well over \$10 million. It is very conceivable that could triple or even quadruple."

At this point in the study, Chaney said, "I think we can safely say the damage could be \$20 million to \$30 million and possibly higher."

Gov. George Busbee toured the twister-devastated area by helicopter and said he was very hopeful the White House would act promptly on a request for aid after all damage reports are in.

He said there was "very severe" damage to Perry homes, a public housing project which first felt the tornado's power, an industrial complex and "on to the Governor's Mansion and beyond."

Busbee and his family escaped injury but the storm ripped off part of the mansion roof, tore down massive pillars and scattered stately trees like toothpicks. Estimates to refurbish the eight-year-old showplace were placed at \$500,000.

Bicen food to get additional sanitation

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—The city is getting \$1 million from the federal government to insure visitors eat cleaner food during the 1976 Bicentennial Celebration.

Under a two-year contract signed with the Food and Drug Administration, the city will hire 30 extra sanitation inspectors and set up a training program for managers of eating establishments.

Dr. Lewis D. Polk, acting health commissioner, said the added manpower will enable the city to have 15,000 additional inspections in 1975, and 30,000 in 1976, the peak year for Bicentennial activities.

City officials predict an influx of 45 million tourists during the celebration.

"No matter how many people come, there will be increased use of existing food establishments," Polk said. "Our job is not to put people out of business. Our job is to protect the health and welfare of the public."

Theodore C. Maravaglia, regional director of the Food and Drug Administration, said the additional inspections will be concentrated on establishments opened just for the Bicentennial. These would include caterers, vendors, taverns with food service and food booths at carnivals and fairs.

Robert Davis, milk and food control administrator for the Department of Public Health, said the city expects about 2,000 new food establishments to open in the next three years.

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