

Lake-Lehman Prepares For Commencement

Joint Schools To Present 96 For Graduation June 13

Lake-Lehman will give diplomas to 96 seniors at Commencement June 13. Anthony Marchakitis, high school principal, presented names at the joint school board meeting held May 9 at the Lake building.

Board members, following established custom, will join the line of March with faculty members on Commencement night, and present diplomas to graduates.

The board approved a school calendar of 188 days for 1961-1962, 180 days classified as student, approved participation of all seven custodians in the annual Custodians Workshop at Pennsylvania State University June 19, 20 and 21.

Building and Grounds Committee reported on all furniture and discussed the possibility of repairing and using some of it in the new building and at the Lehman Building after alterations.

Supply Committee awarded the entire bid for General Art and Duplicating Supplies to the lowest bidder, Kurtz Bros., and to Crawford of Natick on his low bid on Athletic Supplies.

Public Relations Committee proposed that a letter be mailed to all taxpayers of the area containing vital information on the three projects being undertaken by the Joint Board.

Project Committee reported on clearing up incidental matters preparatory to advertising for bids on the new high school building and other projects. Plans and specifications have been approved by the Department of Labor and Industry and the Department of Public Instruction.

John Sidler was authorized to take some of the top students to Penn State during the last week of school for a few days to enter the annual judging contest.

The Board approved the same dairies now furnishing milk to the various schools for the school year 1961-62: Crispell's at Noxen; Shady-side in Lake, Huntington in Ross, and Chase Dairy in Lehman.

Approved professional contracts for three teachers, subject to approval by the County Office: Samuel M. Davenport, Stanley J. Gulbish and Janet Turner.

Approved appointment of Mrs. Janet R. Reynolds of Tunkhannock, graduate of Pennsylvania State University, as Girls Physical Education instructor for the High School.

Approved a \$200.00 increase in salary to members of the present secretarial staff.

Approved appointment of Myron Moss as head teacher at Ross.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Because of the Memorial Day holiday, the Post will be published on Friday of next week instead of Thursday.

Correspondents, ministers, publicity chairmen, and others handling news are asked, however, to have their copy in the office on the usual days. Employees of the Post will not work on Tuesday.

Roy Hall To Be An Eagle Scout

Will Receive Citation At Father-Son Banquet

Roy Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Hall, Shavertown, will receive the coveted Eagle Scout award June 4 at the fifteenth annual Father and Son Banquet of Troop 232, at St. Theresa's Auditorium.

Charges to the Eagle Scout will be made by: George M. McCutcheon, representing the school; Dr. Frank Speicher, the community; Rev. William McClelland, Church and Home. Presentation will be by Jarrett Miller, Boy Scout executive.

Honor Scout award will be made by Scoutmaster John Butler.

Presentation of the colors will be in the hands of Robert Wolensky and the Bob-Cat Patrol; invocation by Rev. John Walsh, pastor; opening remarks by Paul Monahan.

Toastmaster is Explorer Scout Paul Sket; Scout Paul Gates will give the address of welcome, and his father, Paul Gates, will make remarks on behalf of dads. Rev. Andrew McGowan will give the address.

Tenderfoot investiture and Scout awards will be handled by assistant Scoutmaster Peter Lukavavage.

Rev. Francis Brennan will speak briefly, and upon conclusion of the program, pronounce the benediction. Arrangements for the baked ham dinner are in the hands of Scout Mothers.

Mr. Butler says, "The Scouting trail to the Eagle is not an easy one. The majority of Scouts do not persevere in their quest, and stop along the way."

Mellman Outlines School Budget

Better Schools Group Told Of Increases

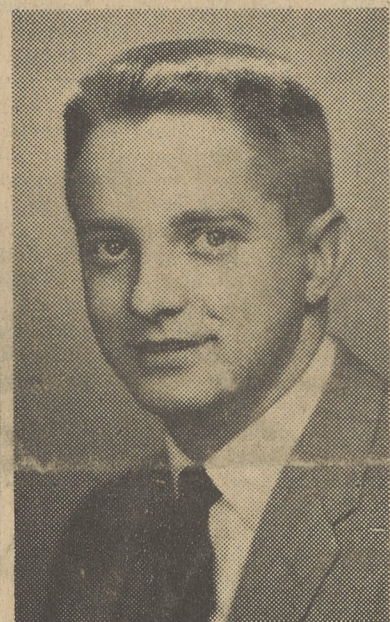
Citizens Committee for Better Schools heard Dr. Robert Mellman explain the budget for the Dallas School District for 1961-62. In a step by step resume of anticipated income and expenditures necessary for efficient operation of the million dollar business that our local schools have become. Reimbursements from the State were explained, and changes over last year's budget. Mrs. Harriet Stahl, secretary and business manager for the school district, offered detailed information.

Increases are accounted for principally by additions to the teaching staff. Eight new teachers of English composition will reduce the ratio of pupils per teacher in line with State recommendations. There will also be a new biology teacher and one new commercial teacher for the high school.

Requests have also been made for an additional guidance counselor for the Junior/Senior high schools and for clerical help to relieve teachers of some of their non-teaching chores. New textbooks are also needed, Dr. Mellman also explained that it will be necessary to take a school population census this year, in line with the new State regulation for a school census every third year.

Present school population of the Back Mountain area is 3193 with 2450 in public schools, and 743 in private and parochial schools.

To Visit Far Lands



SAMUEL M. DAVENPORT

Samuel M. Davenport, teacher of English at the Lehman building of Lake-Lehman area joint schools, will take part this summer in the Whittier College Study Tour of fifty concentrated days of visitation of many lands, starting from Idlewild Airport June 21 for the jet flight to Copenhagen.

Until August 9, when the tour officially ends in Switzerland, every day is packed.

The itinerary includes Stockholm, Leningrad, Moscow, Kiev, Smereinka, Budapest, Vienna, and Switzerland, partly by plane, partly by train.

The goal is to become better informed on social, economic, and political situations in the various countries; to see first hand the forces of the East and the West, and to ascertain conflicts of ideologies. Meetings with local people will be stressed, through the media of formal and informal discussions, hikes, social occasions, and just plain talk and living together.

Some of the tour members of the tour sponsored by Whittier College in California, will take an additional tour which will include several days in Germany, Belgium, France and England.

Mr. Davenport is son of Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Davenport, of Kingston.

Satellite Echo May Be Seen Over This Weekend

Tonight the satellite Echo will be seen at 10:32 p.m. south of the zenith; tomorrow night at 9:55, somewhat higher, but still south of the zenith; and Saturday, returning to north of the zenith, 83 degrees above the horizon. Always to the southeast, and scurrying like mad.

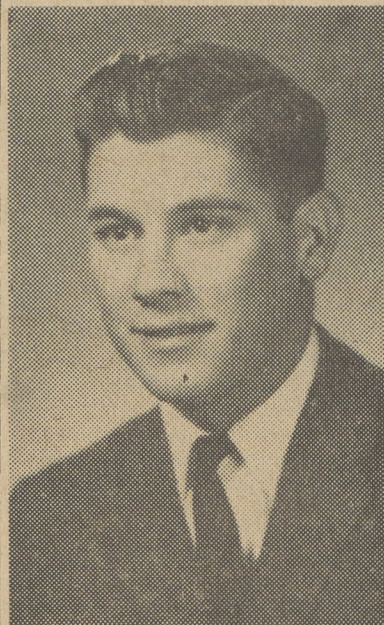
Ray Titus To Head Up C. D. Auxiliary Police

Ray Titus has been named head of Civil Defense Auxiliary Police for Dallas Borough. Instructors of rookies in this service, which will be of great benefit in case of disaster will be the regular police force. Anyone interested in joining may call Mr. Titus.

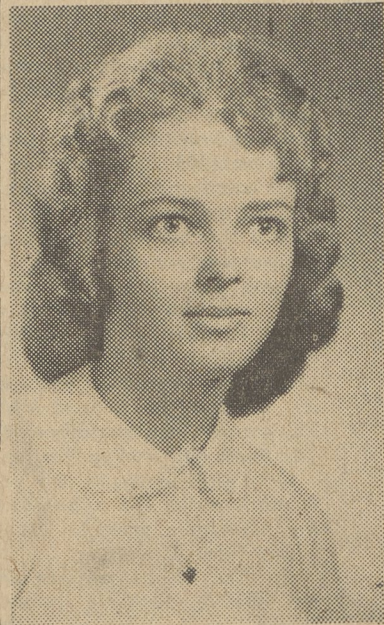
Special Notice

Westmoreland Parent Teacher Council will meet Wednesday, May 31 in Westmoreland High School at 8:15. Parents of 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade students are urged to attend and help make plans for next year's programs.

Lake-Lehman's Top-Ranking Honor Students To Speak At Graduation



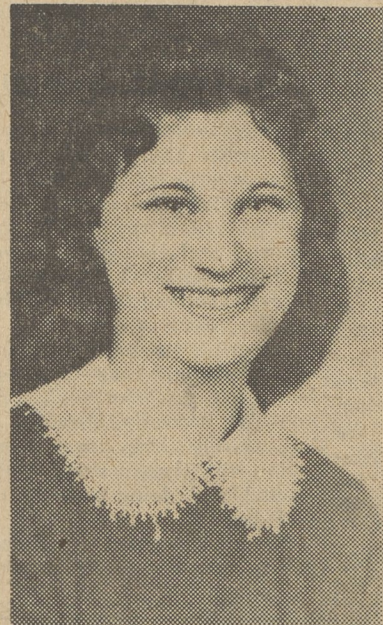
JOHN NORMAN LANDIS



JACQUELYN RUFF



SANDRA SLIMAK



DONNA MEECKER

Lake-Lehman's top ranking honor students are: John Landis and Sandra Slimak in the Lehman building; Donna Meecker and Jacquelyn Ruff, in the Lake building. The two top students, John and Donna, will each give a five minute address at Commencement, a joint high school ceremony scheduled for June 13 in the Lehman gymnasium.

John Norman Landis is son of Mr. and Mrs. John N. Landis of Oak Hill. Mr. Landis is the District Manager of the Commonwealth Telephone Company.

An academic student, he plans to attend Pennsylvania State University.

He has been in the senior band six years, and senior chorus three; a member of the National Honor Society three years and treasurer for two years; has been assistant editor of the school yearbook and sports editor of the school newspaper; earned two letters in football and has participated in other sports. John is a member of the Letterman's Club; has been president of the Hunting and Fishing Club for the past three years; was in the Junior and Senior plays; He is an officer of the Future Teachers of America Club at Lehman.

Donna Meecker is daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald G. Meecker of Noxen. Donna took the Commercial course and upon graduation plans to attend the Wilkes-Barre Business College.

Her many activities include Band, Chorus, Tri-Hi-Y Club, Newspaper Staff, Hobby Club, and Librarian of the School Library.

She is a member of the Valley View Church and President of the Sunday School Class. She is a Teacher in the primary department, sings in the senior choir, and her favorite pastime is working for the Pioneer Youth Club.

Jacquelyn Ruff is daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Ruff, Noxen. Jacquelyn took the academic course and after graduation plans to enter Bloomsburg State College to prepare for teaching.

She was a member of the band, and treasurer of the Chorus. She is a member of the Newspaper staff, Yearbook staff, Future Teachers of America, National Honor Society, and participated in the junior play. She was active in the Tri-Hi-Y and also taught the twirling club at school. She is a member of the Rainbow Girls and was chosen "Girl of the Month" in 1959.

Jacquelyn attends St. Luke's Lutheran Church of Noxen.

Crash Casualties Four Baby Birds

Harold Blizzard Is In Good Shape At General

Harold Blizzard, 20, of Noxen, badly shaken in a car crash Friday morning at 10, remains at General Hospital on the fourth floor. His condition is reported good.

Mr. Blizzard, subject to black-out spells since childhood, was driving his brother Arthur's car. At the turn-off from highway 309 which leads to Demunds and Orange, he lost control of the car and smashed into a car belonging to Charles Van Horn, parked in the driveway of the Daubert home at the branch of the road.

The VanHorn car slammed into the new porch Mrs. Edith Daubert had been enjoying this spring, knocked out two posts and part of the railing, and uprooted a small spruce tree at the corner. The spruce tree had in its top branches a nest of four baby robins. The robins, fledged out and nearly ready to take wing, were thrown with great violence to the porch floor. Four dead robins lay in a row under stripped branches and splintered railings.

Dallas Community Ambulance staffed by Shaffer and Bulford was summoned, but Blizzard was able to walk away from the wreck. Assistant Chief Lange took him to Dr. Gallagher, and later to General Hospital.

Dallas Legion Memorial Day Parade Tuesday

Starts From Post, Goes To Honor Roll Thence To Woodlawn

Daddow-Isaacs Post 672, American Legion, will hold its Memorial Day parade Tuesday beginning at 9:30 sharp from the Post Home on Memorial Highway.

Commander William O'Brien announced that Paul Shaver will head plans for the event.

The honor roll in Dallas will be the scene of the first part of the program, including the placing of a wreath furnished by the Post Auxiliary, placed by Boy and Girl Scouts.

Rev. Francis Kane, pastor of Gate of Heaven Church, will give the prayer.

At Woodlawn Cemetery prayer will be offered by Rev. Reining of Dallas Free Methodist Church, followed by salutes from American Legion Firing Squads.

Participating organizations will be Westmoreland Band, Key Club, Boy and Girl Scouts, Cub and Brownie Troops, Dallas Fire Company, Ambulance and fire equipment, Back Mountain Police and Post and Auxiliary members of the American Legion. Any other organizations wishing to be in the parade may call Paul Shaver.

The Legion will distribute flags to the following cemeteries this week: Woodlawn, Paul Shaver, Leonard Harvey, Fern Knoll, Tom Kane, Dick Fuller, Edward Buckley; Warden, Clara Winters; Rice and Shaver, Charles Stoekey; Chapel Lawn and Idetown; Tom Reese; Lew Reese, Harold Brobst; Mt. Greenwood and Evergreen Cemeteries, Shavertown, Dick Staub, Dave Rosnick, John Richards, Dale Parsons.

In case of any graves being missed kindly contact the Dallas American Legion which will take care of it immediately.

Thieves Get \$100 From Merl's Service Station

Merl Bigelow's Sinclair Service Station on Shavertown was robbed early Sunday morning, thieves entering through a smashed window, and taking \$100 in coins and cash money. Walter Shaver saw a car driving round and round the station at 2:30 a.m. Merl says he doesn't think it was a local gang that did it, because the window in the Ladies Room was smashed first, and then another that gave access to the snack shop.

Vandals Destroy Planting

The sportive youth of the area have discovered the pleasures of driving across lawns, uprooting newly set trees as they go, and leaving raw tire marks in newly seeded lawns. West Dallas homes have been the victims.

Alumni To Hear Organ

Ten members of the class of 1896 will attend the Alumni Day program of East Stroudsburg State College this Saturday. At 10 a.m. there will be a concert on the electronic organ recently given to the college by the alumni.

More Trout Stocked

Pennsylvania Fish Commission continued its trout stocking program in nearby lakes and streams this week.

Dallas On Trial Along With Youthful Slayer As Fatal Shooting Of Father Is Investigated

by HIX

Dallas was on trial this week at Luzerne County Court-house. Dallas residents testified, Dallas officers reluctantly gave their stories, Dallas attorneys defended the Dallas boy who on November 20, 1960, shot and killed his father, "against the peace and dignity of the State of Pennsylvania."

And a Dallas woman, crushed by circumstances and the ponderous machinery of the law, a victim as surely as was her husband, torn between loyalty to her husband and love for her son, sat quietly in Luzerne County Courthouse, numbed by grief. "It's the waiting . . . the waiting for six months," Mrs. Kurt Schweiss whispered hopelessly, "and my mother is dead in Philadelphia, and I am not allowed to go to her." She turned away with a gesture of resignation.

For Kenneth, the 17-year old prisoner, sitting by his jailer and betraying no outward emotion during the trial, the verdict had been inevitable.

Through his attorneys, Monroe Houtz and Robert Fleming, he had pleaded guilty . . . but not to murder in the first degree.

Kenny, in his dark suit and well-shined shoes, hands clasped, feet disciplined to remain side by side, dark brows above deep-set eyes, might well have not been present at all. He was not in the courtroom. He was at the senior prom . . . marching to the rostrum to receive his diploma with the rest of the Westmoreland seniors of the class of 1961 . . . hunting with his father . . . ushering at St. Paul's . . . breathing the fresh sweet air of spring.

Speechless and withdrawn into some inner fastness, he sat while the story built itself, bit by bit, each fragment a stone in a prison wall.

This was no hoodlum from the slums, no switch-knife juvenile gangster. This was a boy of better than average intelligence, a boy who attended church regularly, a boy who expected to graduate with his class in June, a boy who had entertained thoughts of attending one of the service academies . . . but who did not earn good enough marks in school to make this a possibility.

Brought out by Mrs. Schweiss' testimony, the story took shape, a conflict between a State Trooper who dreamed of higher education and wider horizons for his only son, and a son who realized that he was not living up to standards set by his father, resented that father's rigid discipline, and dreamed of somehow, sometime, breaking through the barrier that separated them, by force if necessary.

Testimony brought out that on Sunday, November 20, 1960, at five in the afternoon, Kenny applied the force.

He shot his father, State Trooper Kurt Schweiss, and pumped five more bullets into his unresisting body.

"I never saw him alive again," testified Mrs. Schweiss.

She was still supporting her husband's body when Dr. H. G. Gallagher told her that he was dead. Sober people from Dallas, under questioning by assistant District Attorney Vincent Quinn, built the story.

It was an unsatisfactory report card that sparked the tragedy . . . that, and the presence of a gun in an upstairs bureau drawer.

Officer of quarters at Wyoming Barracks took a phone message: "I've shot my father, and I think he's dead. You better come right away."

Chief Russell Honeywell, Billy Berti, Sandra Schweiss - Kenny's sister, Charles Lamoreaux, Mrs. Elizabeth Hughes, Al Shaffer, Don Bulford, troopers from the State Barracks, Butch Rimple, added their bit.

The story brought out was briefly this: Kenny had brought home a report card from Westmoreland that displeased his father. Trooper Schweiss said that until the next report card, a better one, was received, Kenny would be restricted to school, work, DeMolay meetings, Naval Reserves practice, church and home. He used no uncertain terms in laying down the law.

That was on Friday, November 18, when Kenny was due at the Texas Meat Market where he worked part time.

On Sunday, according to Mrs. Schweiss' testimony, after ushering at church and eating Sunday dinner, Kenny went upstairs to do his homework, took a nap, was again reprimanded by his father, ordered not to leave the house, and told to get his homework done. Kenny slipped out to go to Butch Rimple's home, taking with him his books.

Ordered to come home at once, he went into what Dr. J. Franklin Robinson described as an emotional panic.

He came home, studied for a time after his father went to Irem Country Club for target practice, and then took a gun from his father's bureau drawer.

"I thought of shooting myself," he said on the witness stand, "and then all this quarrelling would be over once and for all. And then I thought, if I could just hold him at gun point until I could explain a few things, maybe I could get it across to him. He was a lot bigger than I am."

He was indicted for murder by the Grand Jury late in January, and sent to Danville State Hospital for a month for observation. During that time, no evidence of mental disease was observed. He was returned to Luzerne County Prison.

Witnesses called by defense attorneys Fleming and Houtz included Mrs. Clara Shook, who from ground-floor apartment had listened in on the telephone conversation between Kenny and his father, when Trooper Schweiss had ordered Kenny to come home at once. "I can't repeat the language," she told Judge Frank Pinola. "Try," recommended the Judge succinctly.

Butch and Butch's parents said Kenneth had been greatly upset.

Edward Hoppa, who had employed Kenny at one time, said he was a good kid, and during the lunch break, on Tuesday, said if Kenny by the grace of God was released tomorrow, there would be a job waiting for him, that he loved the boy. That Kenny had said to him, "I wish I could talk to my father."

He added that Kenny had a great deal of mechanical ability.

Commander Reese of the Naval Reserve testified that Kenny had earned a good grade in his examination.

Percy Love testified that Kenny had been a model Boy Scout; David Jones that he assumed duties gladly in Sunday School and church.

Mrs. Schweiss, at the beginning of the trial, said sadly that Kenny could not seem to please his father, and that she realized discord between them was mounting.

So sure had she been that trouble was brewing that when she heard her daughter Sandra, 13, report that she had heard a funny click and thought Kenny had a gun, she sent Sandra outside the house.

When she accosted Kenny in the kitchen, she knew "from his wild appearance" that something was wrong.

Sharp cross-examination by Quinn Wednesday morning, when the boy again took the stand after having testified Tuesday afternoon, brought out that he had snapped the trigger twenty times after pumping lead into his father's body.

"I thought he was coming after me," he said.

"Didn't you know that a bullet would kill him?"

"No, I didn't think it would. I didn't want to kill him."

The defense rested.

Judge Pinola asked that briefs be submitted to him within ten days, from both prosecution and defense.

He stated that he would confer with two other judges after studying the evidence, and make a decision later.

Wilkes Awards Local Seniors

Major and Bronson Honored At Assembly

Thirty-one Wilkes College students were recognized publicly for outstanding scholastic achievements and/or for extracurricular activity during the college year. Two Back Mountain residents were so honored during a recent student assembly. They are Beverly Ann Major, Lehman, and Janice Nadine Bronson, Sweet Valley.

Miss Bronson received from Robert Morris, administrative assistant to Dr. Eugene S. Farley, an award for serving on the Student Government for the year. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Bryce Major, she is a member of the 1961 graduating class.

Westmoreland May Queen Reigns Over Annual Pageant



Celia Monika was chosen as "May Queen" of the Senior Class at the May Day Pageant held Thursday at Westmoreland athletic field.

Atured in a lovely floor length white gown, she was crowned by Mary Bennett, who was selected by faculty members as Junior Class Crown Bearer.

Maureen Conaghan and Harry Harter were train bearers. In the Court of Attendants were Beverly King, Sandra Chere, Sharon Samuels, and Karen Samuels.

Senior girls, wearing pastel gowns and carrying nosegays, opened the festival in a procession through an honor guard of the Keyette's Drill Team.

The Queen, her court and senior girls and a large crowd were entertained by Sophomore and Junior girls in a program with an old-fashioned western theme. There were the traditional May Pole dance, farmer dancing, Cowboy and Indian routines, a clown act and a dance

by saloon lassies in can-can costumes.

The outfits were all very clever, and credit goes to Miss Mabel Jenkins who directed and produced the selections. The weather man was cooperative and everyone was in a gay and festive mood.

Left to right are Beverly King, Karen Samuels, Mary Bennett, Celia Monika, Harry Harter, Sharon Samuels, and Sandra Chere.