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Editorially Speaking

Two Summer Events In The Bag

The Back Mountain is drawing a long breath after the two main bouts of the summer, the Library Auction and the Lehman Horse-Show. Frequently, the marchers get sprinkled with a light shower on the Fourth of July, but this year they lighted in luck, providing their own moisture in the sizzling temperature, but with no assist from the clouds.

The Auction grounds got a much needed bath Wednesday night, a rainfall that did nothing to lower the humidity, but smelled heavenly on the parched grass.

Ten years ago, at the Tenth Library Auction, it rained all day Thursday, letting up for the evening bidding. And on several other occasions, the Auction has been rained out, to start again the following Monday or the following Saturday.

Catherine Gilbert, tabloid editor, caught the spirit of the successive Auctions in last week's issue, using pictures from each of the nineteen preceding Auctions, with just enough explanation to bring out the character of each.

There are extra tabloids on hand, if anybody wishes a pictured version of the twenty years.

James Kozemchak is responsible for the major part of the pictures used. The picture of the library on the front of the tabloid, is the same that was this year for the Auction posters.

Graphic Arts has for years been donating the "cuts" to the Dallas Post for the Auction pictures, a donation which mounts up into the hundreds of dollars.

It's tempting providence to schedule two main events for two successive weekends. One or the other can get drowned out.

Out in Franklin Township some years ago, an annual fund raising dinner on July 4 got thunder-stormed out so consistently that it gave up.

Freahish heat, such as the Back Mountain experienced for two weeks running, usually is terminated by a cold spell that causes the area to build fires in the fire-places, or turn on the central heating.

Auction visitors have frequently appeared on the final night in winter coats, or muffled in sweaters. On those occasions, the refreshment stand did a hot coffee business that would have been the envy of a truck-stop diner.

Watch That Fire

Local as well as State fire services, join in warning picnickers and campers that the woods are extremely dry after the driest June on record.

Camp fires should be carefully guarded, doused thoroughly with water, stirred, and doused again.

State forests and camping grounds offer welcome relief from the summer heat, but the welcome is coupled with responsibility.

A person who tosses away a burning cigarette stub may not see a blaze. Such a stub smolders in pine needles, feeding itself until it can get enough oxygen to burst into flame.

The camper or picniker may be long gone by the time a flicker of flame reaches a pocket of tinder-dry leaves or needles. He feels no responsibility, because he is too ignorant to realize it.

Fire-fighters drop their work to battle the blaze, and unless they conquer it speedily, there goes another tract of timber.

Watch that trash fire, too. Papers are funneled aloft by the air from an incinerator, to fall, still blazing, far from their origin. If they fall in a patch of dry woodland or brushy area, they have all the power of a demon to regenerate.

Never burn trash out of doors unless you have by your side a bucket of water and a dampened broom. A broom is the official fire-fighting weapon, far superior to a rake, which spreads rather than smothers a grass fire.

We Have A Law Against Fireworks

We have a law against fireworks in Pennsylvania. So why is it that a small boy can be killed by a fire-cracker exploding in a tin can and blowing it to bits?

Where did he and his small friends get the fire-cracker? It was obviously a large cracker, or its force would not have been sufficient to do the damage.

Did his parents know that he had firecrackers? Or did they close their eyes to a "minor infraction" of the law?

Is there a bootleg traffic in fireworks? In our community, many packs of firecrackers were set off, completely against the law. They popped the night before the Fourth of July, and they popped until long past midnight on Monday.

There are many people who think that the ban on fireworks is ridiculous. They point out the tragic traffic toll on the holiday highways.

Only Yesterday 30 Years Ago

All-time heat record fell as mercury hit 103 in Scranton. (So, you thought you were hot in Dallas over the Fourth of July weekend?) Consumers were urged to not be wasteful of water. Crops were damaged by late frosts and summer drought.

Body of a Lehman man was found near Huntsville dam. Verdict on the death of Thomas Doleski, 41, suicide. Found guilty of operating a car while under the influence. Friend A. Mitchell, Dallas, was taken to prison in default of \$1,000 bail.

20 Years Ago

The State promised to make Ricketts Glen outstanding, retaining its natural aspects, but insuring safety. Shrine well was supplying Dallas. Native Loacs well was being drilled.

New plant in Dallas was to be known as Natona Mills, approved by CPA. Atlantic Commission rented the Devens Building for green tomato handling.

10 Years Ago

Library Auction closed Saturday night with the Barn still filled with merchandise. Unfavorable weather on the second day prevented a big sale. Postponed for a week. Howard was chairman.

Pix showed Judge Flannery on the auction block, Harry and Howard selling a rooster, Norti and Bob holding up a mounted moose head, Harry extolling the Auction lamb, Mrs. Kitchen beaming broadly from the Odds and Ends, the Antiques committee and the refreshment committee in full cry. And who was that broiling hamburgers? See issue of July 13, 1956. That was the year of the chicken barbecue in the school yard.

Victims of a crash in Gettysburg, mother and son from Idetown: Mrs. Laura Albert Agnew, and Harry J. Weaver. Joe Lavelle was cited by the United States Postal Department for saving a child from burning to death in a parked car. Citation was based on a Dallas Post story.

Russell Honeywell headed Dallas Borough Civil Defense, replacing James Bessecker. Married: Jane Elizabeth Owens to Edward Stair. Diane Grace Colston to Lawrence Menafee Jr. Dolored Motto to John F. Vavrek. Joan Croman to David Moore.

Died Ralph Austin Davis, 76, Harveys Lake. William Lance, 69, Chase. Mrs. May Bronson, 73, Lake Silkworth. Kenneth Laycock, Shavertown.

Pix Identified, Thank Bob

Well, we were pretty sure it was Alton Whittaker, but not so sure as to take a chance on burying him in an envelope. Bob Bessecker called Thursday morning to make positive identification.

KEEPING POSTED

July 7: HOFFA WINS AGAIN, third term voted for head of 1,7 million teamsters in face of prison sentence. P. M. WILSON expects to visit Moscow July 16. FLURRY OF DIPLOMATIC talk about chances for peace. SURVEYOR YAWNS, opens a sleepy eye, after prodding from earth scientists. Jubilation in space circles.

July 8: MAJOR AIRLINES strike-bound, mechanics out. IN VIETNAM, third attack in a week on torpedo boats, and pumping station near Haiphong wiped out. SHARE POWER not Black Power, creed of Wilkins and King, as CORL runs berserk, threatens genuine trouble. GOLDBERG CONFERS with Pope Paul. Possible peace feeler to end war?

July 9: HEAT WAVE RETURNS after brief respite. MORE BOMBINGS in North Vietnam. MORE BOMBINGS in North Vietnam. is successful unless on a do-it-yourself basis. Could be the break needed. KING AND WILKINS suffer fate of all revolution ary leaders, become respectable as more rabid rabble-rousers rise. "White and black need each other."

July 10: VIRGINIAS SENATOR BYRD, 79, dying of brain tumor. The old order changed, giving place to new. His son will have to really campaign to get elected. High wind rising, black vote wooed. SURVEYOR AT LAST GASP, takes 24 more pix, about to suffer heat stroke. CAMBODIAN BORDER action, more bombings in north.

July 11: POLAND FOLLOWS RUSSIA in boycotting the California track meet, protesting against bombings of North Vietnam. OLD GUARD fighting it out in Virginia primaries as Harry Byrd Jr. opposes Booth. ALL STAR GAME in St. Louis, 105 degrees. HEAT SPARKS RACE trouble in Chicago. MIDWEST HEAT WAVE goes into sixth day. POWER LOAD nearing dangerous peak in Midwest, some big industries could be curtailed during heat. PRIME MINISTER NEHRU in Moscow.

July 12: SANDUSKY OHIO, heavy rain raises waters of Lake Erie by five feet. No justice. The Back Mountain could use that rain. HARRY BYRD JR. wins in Virginia. RUNAWAY TRUCK fails to note signs saying "All trucks STOP, go into low gear," rockets down East End Boulevard, great destruction, one man killed in car, body released by acetylene torches.

July 13: MEDICARE TWO WEEKS OLD, no stampede of the elderly to hospitals. HARRY BYRD JR. wins in Virginia. RUNAWAY TRUCK fails to note signs saying "All trucks STOP, go into low gear," rockets down East End Boulevard, great destruction, one man killed in car, body released by acetylene torches.

More Footprints For 1965

August 19, 1965 Wally Gosart's retaining wall collapses into Toby's Creek. Green tomato season in full swing. Fire cleans out the John Kubastli home in Roushey Plot. Rotary braces for Fall Fair. Center Moreland Auction runs three nights.

Died: infant girl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Schramko, Dallas RD3. Mrs. Dennis Enright, 93, Virginia; Mrs. Elizabeth Kelley, 86, Johnson City. Stephen Lawrence, Sr., 71, Lehman. Aaron Sutton, 97, Lehman. Mrs. Sara Holtzinger, formerly of Chase. Donald Arthur Knell, formerly of Huntsville. Mrs. Louise Reese, Lake native. Charles Lipp, 81, East Dallas. Mrs. Edna Ross, 83, Oneonta. Mrs. Josephine Miliauskas, 62, Lehman.

August 26, 1965 Lake Postoffice now visible above the ground. Himalayan goat astonishes Coppermine Hill, escapee from Game Farm. David Gary Anderson represents Back Mountain in Vietnam. State eyes Ruggles Hollow for possible lake site. Thomas Jenkins, Dallas High School Principal, Know Your Neighbor piece.

Died: Edward W. Petroski, 69, Muhlenburg, suicide. Mrs. Julia Cragle, 67, Roaring Brook. Eugene Hummel, 68, Harveys Lake, fall from roof. Mrs. Edith Evans, 72, Center Moreland. G. Earl Smith, 82, Harveys Lake. Thomas L. Edwards, Noxen. Married: LaVerne Marie Hlanak to William Rinken.

September 2, 1965 Helicopter port being built at Red Rock. Goal, water bombing of forest fires. Area had two boys on Carrier Champlain: Bradley L. Rauch, Harveys Lake, and Richard E. Smith. Lake-Lehman holds bus-driver workshop. Noxen Auction nets \$1,000. Usual rash of small accidents, none fatal.

Died: Mrs. Daisy Webb, Sutton Creek Road. Mrs. Addie Payne, Loy-alville. Andrew Teno, 63, Broadway. Catherine Clark, 83, Lake. Sally Hirner, mother of Mrs. Herman May. Married: Jacqueline Jenkins, to John Sheehan Jr. Flora Sue Anderson to William Weber. Birthday: Mrs. Mary H. Dendler, 95, Mrs. Margaret Dilz, 85.

September 9, 1965 Public schools start, preliminary meeting for facilities. Labor Day weekend wrecks, none serious. Close dump at Lake. Yatsko's landfill proposal considered. Died: Mrs. J. D. Joseph, 97, Shavertown. Mrs. Ida B. Keiper, 77, Noxen. Darwig K. Roberts, 44, Dallas. Jonathan ...

Safety Valve

To Dallas Post Readers: Since it is impossible to write a personal note to each one involved, may I use this means of thanking all those who gave their time to do the door-to-door solicitation for our recent Library Auction.

We know it is time-consuming, but without these "bread and butter items" a great deal of the fun and human interest, as well as profits, would be lost. A special thank-you also goes to those who received our solicitors so graciously and contributed the many items which went over the block or to the various booths.

Sincerely, Thelma W. Ratcliffe

Dear Editor: In connection with the ringing on July 4th of the old hand bells with which some of us called youngsters to school half a century ago.

Up in Susquehanna County, an up-and-coming community, is re-opening its old one room school as a community museum. This looks like an excellent idea. There are still several one room schoolhouses standing in the Back Mountain Area, and it would probably be possible to assemble plenty of old books, slates, waterpails, dippers, erasers, brooms, and even desks and seats, as well as tables and benches—and of course a pot-bellied stove.

I would suggest we give it a try. D. A. Waters Ed Note: There are still a flock of old desks. A number were sold at the Auction. But there are very few of the two-seated models left. A number of the solid old structures have been turned into equally solid homes.

Let's get together on promoting a museum. What school did you have in mind? Hix

ART SHOW RESPONSE

Dear Mrs. Risley: At the close of our "Spring Comes to Wyoming Valley" art exhibit, it seems appropriate to extend my gratitude to you for the splendid coverage you gave this event. The success of the exhibit was due to the combined efforts of many persons. I am sure that I express not only the gratitude of the Bank, but also the gratitude of those persons who worked so hard to make the show the success that it had proved to be.

I thank you most sincerely. Very truly yours, Noel B. Caverly President

Child Burns Feet On Hot Charcoal

A Binghamton child was badly burned on Sunday when he stepped on hot charcoal carelessly thrown on the ground at a Harveys Lake park.

Craig Bingham, aged 3, was visiting here when the mishap occurred. He was rushed to Nesbitt Hospital by Harveys Lake Ambulance, where he was treated for 2nd and 3rd degree burns and then taken to Binghamton General Hospital by his parents.

October 14, 1965 James Lee Brady escapes State Correctional Institution, Jackson Township. John Milz, 76, third pedestrian killed on new highway, in Trucks-ville.

Father Kane assists Pope Paul VI at Mass in Yankee Stadium. Married: Joyce Sweppenhiser to Robert Redington Jr.; Betty Jane Cyphers to John Paul Mokychie. Birthday: Mrs. Raisy Pryn, 80. Died: Verne Evans, 69, Goss Manor, Dr. Ziba L. Smith, 84, Lehman native, in Nanticoke; Earl Parsons, RD 5 Shavertown; Richard Robins, former Dallas resident, in N.J.; Mrs. Eunice Norris, 91, Chase; Mrs. Maude Eipper, 78, former Dallas resident, in Binghamton; Elmer Weaver, 68, Noxen; Mrs. Emma Schriber, 56, Shavertown; Mrs. Ellen Deater, 77, Noxen.

October 21, 1965 New fire-fighting equipment discussed by Trucksville, Noxen companies. Walter Rowett appointed temporary secretary, Borough Council. LaBerge-Bowen election error controversy before Judge Lewis. Centermoreland customers voting on toll-free phone service to Wilkes-Barre.

Sister Chrysoptom, Gate of Heaven principal. Married: Carol Owens to David Nevel. Clara Hopper to Elmer Lyons. Anniversary: Mr and Mrs. Walter Kyttle, 58th.

Died: J. Bowden Northrup, 61, Dallas. Winfield Brace, 57, East Dallas. Betsey Bessecker, 91, Muhlenburg. Mrs. Alice Sibert, 60, Sylvan Lake. Zigmund Tomkiewicz, 74, Harveys Lake. Mrs. Muriel Matthews, 40, Hunlock Creek RD. Ann Eaton, Harveys Lake. Samuel DeWitt, 76, former Shavertown merchant, Wyoming. Mrs. Alice Holcomb Ruth, 86, former Huntsville resident, in Rochester. Mrs. Nellie ...

Pillar To Post...

by HIX

When I wrote about the 250 pound anvil in last week's Dallas Post, and mentioned that a smaller model had stepped on my finger in my extreme youth, I had no idea that history would repeat itself.

Truth to tell, I had no idea that the anvil would ever hit the Auction block at all, and I will confess to a feeling of horror and premonition when it was hoisted into the air. Dropped on a foot, from any kind of a height, it would inevitably reduce that foot to a bloody pulp.

I held my breath as the Explorer stalwarts raised it to auction block level, and started to exhale thankfully just before the anvil got Mr. McCoo's finger. And an accolade for the assistant Scout leader. He never made a sound, though the pain must have been terrific.

First Aid is OK for superficial cuts, but a mashed finger rates a trip to the hospital. Having mashed my own finger in a car door at one time, and being reduced to helpless, though silent, tears, I know exactly how it felt.

The anvil was supposed to have been a gag. It was a gag that back-fired. Whoever bought it, bought herself a white elephant. A white elephant that at last reports was still sitting on the auction block, as it called for a block and tackle to remove it, or a wrecker with equipment.

We will miss the anvil. It has been crouching in the corner of the auction barn for months. Nobody ever offered to make away with it. It needed no nailing down for safety. Who could lift it? It belonged to Levi Updyke, who was once a blacksmith of considerable note in this area. He went out of business awhile back, and advertised his forge and other equipment in the Dallas Post.

It seemed like a good idea at the time, to take the anvil off his hands. The way we feel about it now, we'd like to see it go into the melting pot in a steel foundry, where it would quickly become anonymous. I asked the woman who was writing out a check for its purchase, "What do you plan to do with it?"

She said she was going to put it in her garden. I can see it now, 100 years from now, sitting under a lilac bush, lying in wait for the unwary. I can hear the amazed comments: "Boy, those pioneers had it tough. Just look at that! There's a family that had to shoe its own horses. But where do you suppose the forge is? Must have had a forge. History says you gotta heat up a horseshoe before you can beat it out on an anvil."

And a small child, "Mom, what's a horse?" "A horse, darling, is a large four-footed animal with hooves. The hooves had to be shod in the olden days. You can see a picture of a horse in the Encyclopedia. Horses were once used to plough the fields, and people even rode them before midget airplanes were invented."

"Weren't they scared, Mom?" "Sometimes they were, I suppose, but you have to remember that those were the days when people didn't have all the modern improvements. They had to make do with they had. It must have been a hard life."

"Did the horses bite?" "Could be. But now just run out an play with your space-ship. Mother is busy pushing buttons to clean the house. You want me to push the ice-cream button and get you a nice big cone? Stand back, here it comes."

Unless that anvil hits the melting pot, it's likely to be around for the next thousand years. Levi Updyke, Hix, and Scott, certainly started something.

Children's Book Booth Nets \$137

by Nancy Rodda

The children's book booth, under the chairmanship of Phillip Scott, The booth was open all three days netted \$137 this year. The people who worked included Leslie Hamm, Rick Pietraccini, Tom Yarnal, Bill Gorton, Dave Johnston, Mark Hicks, and Nancy Rodda. Mac Frey helped out on Saturday morning.

The people who worked in the booth had as much fun helping the Library as they had and will have to fifty cents. "Sometimes they were, I suppose, but you have to remember that those were the days when people didn't have all the modern improvements. They had to make do with they had. It must have been a hard life."

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