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MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER, A COMMUNITY INSTITUTION

TEN CENTS

raging fire burns 25 acres Kingston Twp

A raging brush fire which consumed 25 acres, threatened a wooded sector and homes in Jackson Township destroyed an old trailer used for storage, a two story chicken coop and burned over a wide area on Monday afternoon.

Seventy-five firemen from Jackson, Dallas, Idetown and Lehman answered the call for help saving a home and barn nearby. At one point the fire leaped the road but volunteers were successful in keeping it away from other residences. The fire occurred on the grounds of Marcy Evans near the Chase Correctional Institute. Adding to the intensity of the blaze were a batch of old tires which ignited and blew up in all directions.

Dallas answered eight fire calls from during five days, ranging from brush fires to an old outbuilding. They were called to Cliff Parker's on Demunds Road, the Senior High School area, Reservoir Road, Midway Manor, Sacred Heart Cemetery sector and the Linear Plant area.

Out in Noxen the new fire truck was put to good usage on Thursday with three fires that same day, one near the H. Bellas home, one on Main Street near Rubin Allen and another in the woodlands behind Noxen.

Harveys Lake volunteers responded to two calls on Sunday, one on the Beaumont Lake Road and the other near Dewey Hoover's when they assisted Lehman Fire Company.

Lehman had several brush fires including the first mentioned above, one near John Rebennack's and another on the Harveys Lake Idetown Road.

Trucksville Fire Company spent most of Sunday on Bunker Hill where fires were believed to have been set and on Monday evening fires were set behind the Educational Building of Trucksville Methodist Church. A hayfield was lost on Friday when land behind Kerpovich home caught fire. This resulted when leaves being burnt got out of control. On Saturday Trucksville was called again to Schley Hill and Shavertown Fire Company along with Dallas fought fires in Midway Manor.

An apparently harmless fire on a windy day caught wisps of burning paper traveling two hundred feet to set a roof afire on the Donnelly Farm in Carverton and also a small barn on the property. Vought Long, Trucksville Fire Company answering a call on Wednesday



Uncounted dozens of tires went up in smoke Monday afternoon as flames swept 25 acres of land on Follies Road within sight of the prison. Shacks, pigeons, chicken coops were licked up by the advancing fire, a trailer was destroyed, apple trees blackened, an accumulation of years of litter reduced to ashes.

photo by Kozemchak Sr.

discovered both buildings burning. A disastrous blaze could have destroyed the home and buildings on the old Kuentzler property.

Long summoned Shavertown's tanker to assist. As fires continued to threaten and the rainfall is too scarce to wet down the tinder dry brush, all firemen caution residents once more to use extreme caution.

The constant use of equipment to fight such fires leaves unprotected the many homes in the area and this is of great concern to the volunteers who have spent many hours combating fires which shouldn't have occurred in the first place.

antique show and sale May 6-7

The 17th Annual Antique Show and Sale, which will be held at the Prince of Peace Episcopal Church in Dallas May 6 and 7, will again feature two special booths.

Mrs. Edwin Roth and Mrs. Peter Arnaud will head a committee for the Flea Market where one may find bargains in antique pieces. Dealers and other individuals will offer antique pieces that may have to be refinished or patched and

for this reason they are sold at bargain prices.

If you have pieces you would like to sell, the committee will do so on a consignment basis.

Another booth that has proved popular is the Flower Mart Corner. Here one may find plants and flowers for the garden or to plant in fancy dishes, etc. Mrs. John Prater is general chairman, with Mrs. Leroy Brown and Mrs. John Grant as co-chairmen.



Preparing for the 17th annual antique show and sale May 6-7 at Prince of Peace Church, Dallas, are Mrs. Hans Dreher, Mrs. Peter Arnaud and Mrs. Edwin Roth.

Kingston Twp citizens fire off complaint

A group of Kingston Township residents, including Mrs. Corrine Jones, Russell Lahr and Louis Ranier, among others, fired some verbal barbs at township supervisors last week over sewage and water problems.

The chief concern of the visitors to the regularly scheduled supervisor's meeting were costs they would have to face when the Back Mountain sewage system was installed.

Another area they took aim at was the function and powers of the recently appointed water commission, which was set up by the supervisors to study the poor water supply in the township.

Mrs. Jones demanded to know how the costs to homeowners for sewer hook-up and rental was determined, and expressed concern as to how residents on fixed income would be able to afford it.

She was informed by LaRoy Zeigler, chairman of the supervisors, that the costs were only approximations, that true costs would not be determined until after bids are received on April 17.

Bids will be received and opened by the Back Mountain Municipal Authority, the agency created by the local municipalities to operate the system, when they meet at Dallas Senior High School on that date.

Russell Lahr asked if the rates did not have to be approved by the supervisors and was informed by Mr. Zeigler this was correct.

"The supervisors have approved the project in principle," Benjamin Jones III, township solicitor informed the gathering. "The whole plan has to be approved in various stages. These are only approximate rates you have seen in the papers."

Mrs. Jones said she had information from Phillip Van Blarcom, a member of the Municipal Authority, that in some cases where private systems did not effect a local creek, owners would not have to sign up for the public system.

"What if the sewage is running into the road?," asked Supervisor Hill. "After water comes up and soaks back into the ground, it purifies itself," replied Mrs. Jones.

Louis Ranier declared that if the costs of the project were too high the township supervisors did not have to accept it. Mr. Zeigler agreed, adding that if federal monies were loaned and the plan did not go through, the township would not have to make reimbursement.

Mr. Lahr then asked the board what powers the water commission had. He said he reported to them his dissatisfaction over the proposed water meters to be installed by the public utility at property owners' expense, but no complaint was filed by the commission.

"You are paying for special counsel," Mr. Lahr said. "He must answer to the supervisors. The water commission must answer to the supervisors and they all take dictation from the politicians," he charged.

"That is not fair," interjected Bob Summers, a visitor

to the meeting. "Independent groups tried for 40 years to get something done about the water problems here and nothing ever happened."

He said that a public meeting took place when the water commission was set up and that everyone there favored such a move.

Mr. Lahr said that he attempted to get satisfaction from the commission over the water meter situation, but failed. He said he felt that they should

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lights out for Lehman?

Failure of numerous residents, particularly in the Lake Silkworth area, to pay their street light tax has caused Lehman Township to be in arrears for a light bill amounting to \$450.72 plus the current bill of \$81.70.

A letter was received from UGI informing supervisors that if the bill is not paid, service will be cut off, although the company regrets such an action.

Chairman William Samuels asked Ray Hillman of the Lake Silkworth Association what members were planning to do about it and Hillman suggested that the supervisors pay the bill and then have the tax collector enforce all delinquent sums. He said the Association would go over the tax books and liens would have to be placed if no other steps would bring payment. Supervisors had met earlier with Lake Silkworth Association.

Mr. Hillman said removal of some lights had also been suggested to cut down the cost. "The money is there," he stated, "but they just are not paying. I do hope the supervisors will pay the bill."

Mr. Samuels said this would have to be discussed in executive caucus.

The chairman also announced that the township would try and get along with the present loader since funds were not available and other projects were coming up. Bruce Spencer made a motion to void all bids submitted and Alan Major seconded.

Mr. Hillman also reported numerous complaints were resulting from the using of a swamp area for dumping. He asked if there was an ordinance against this.

Township solicitor William Valentine informed that there was an ordinance to this effect. He said that he had called the owner on the matter on direction from Samuels and was informed he had given permission for folks to dump there.

Michael Godek, township secretary, said the Health Department

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meeting fails to come off

A meeting concerning the proposed new highway through the Back Mountain area scheduled for Monday night failed to take place.

As reported in a daily newspaper, the meeting was to be held in the Kingston Township Municipal Building, but as the township supervisors had not been approached for permission to use the building, other meetings were scheduled and the highway study meeting failed to materialize.

According to LaRoy Zeigler, supervising chairman, the meeting will be scheduled tentatively toward the end of this month, probably around the 28th or 30th.

Quite a few people, some as far away as Kingston Borough, had to turn back.

The meeting supposedly would deal with questions concerning the highway which was proposed by the Lackawanna-Luzerne Transportation Study group.

Officials of Dallas Borough reportedly sought the meeting as they wished to express their concern over the effects the proposed expressway would have on present and future building in the community.

The route for the expressway was included in a list of highway improvements suggested for the next 20 years.

Lehman taxpayers present Governor with petition

Henry Tuck Jr., chairman of the petition circulating committee of the Lehman Taxpayers Association said he planned to present hand written petitions protesting increased taxes to Governor Shafer during his visit to the area Wednesday.

Mr. Tuck was appointed chairman of the committee by Association president Joseph Reina.

Aimed primarily at securing the signatures of Back Mountain area residents, the petitions reflected the "growing dissatisfaction of the average taxpayer with the spiraling tax picture," Mr. Tuck said.

The petition stated that taxpayers were "firm in our belief that the average family is paying more than their fair share of the tax burden and are unalterably opposed to any raises in the present taxation and particularly a state income tax."

"We propose, specifically, economy in government, efficient services, work for the money being paid to those in government positions, cutting the not-so-essential projects and aid to the not-so-needy as well as cutting down on the huge salary increases being presently given employees."

Reading from information

leaked to him by a State employee, Mr. Tuck stated that the number of Commonwealth employees had risen from 96,411 to 106,004 in less than two years. In the governor's office alone, Mr. Tuck asserted, the number of employees had increased by 156 workers.

"No wonder taxes have gone up!" Tuck exclaimed. The chairman of the petition circulating committee went on to say that the tax battle would be between the leftwing liberals and the conservatives, indicating that the conservatives would be the ones to attempt to lower taxes.



Jerry and Irvin Lamoreaux, Dallas, show their catch of trout on the first day of the season at Harveys Lake.

complaint filed over busing

School children will have a long Christmas vacation during 1969. The calendar for Dallas District as proposed at a meeting of directors last week shows Classes will begin September 3 with a 16 day period scheduled for Christmas holidays.

Teachers will have six days additional for in-service education. Snow days will be made up from June 7 on. Closing date for 1970 was set at June 2.

Nicholas Konek, a resident, asked why children were sent home one day last week when a bus failed to arrive. Dr. Mellman, superintendent, advised that children remain at their station in such incidences until another bus is sent for them.

Mr. Konek reported police sent the students home. He also mentioned that some bus drivers were not picking up all the children. The superintendent said he will check this out.

Mr. Konek also reported that one teacher was not observing the "pledge of allegiance" practice and asked if this was mandatory. Dr. Mellman said this was to be carried out along with inspirational readings.

The gentleman also inquired whether blanket instruction from a parent to have a child checked by his own physician would be favorable. Dr. Mellman said accidents are reported almost simultaneously to school nurse, parents and ambulance crews, if necessary. Solicitor William Valentine advised submitting letters designating doctor approval by parents.

Director John LaBerge announced the dedication of the County vocational-technical school on May 1 with open house on May 4.

Another resident, Warren Cease, requested the board to consider naming the new school after Dwight D. Eisenhower. Dr. Mellman said all school names must be approved by the DPI. Earl Fritzes, chairman, said the matter would be taken under advisement by the Executive Board.

Mr. Fritzes also announced that a scheduled meeting with the teachers had been postponed until definite information was received from the State. This regards teachers bill.

A number of bids for supplies were to be tabulated and referred to proper committees.

fisherman gets his

The angler from Sayre dropped his line into Harveys Lake on the first day of trout season, pulled in a 16½ inch palomina trout, one of 100 which had been planted in early March.

He tunked it briskly on the head, and felt a tap on his shoulder.

It was a man from the fish commission, holding out one hand for the fish, and extending a warrant for his arrest in the other.

It was half past six. The season started at 8 a.m.

The fisherman paid the fine and the waterways patrol went off with the trout.

auction dinner May 7

The annual Library Auction will get under way with the kick-off dinner, which will be held on May 7 at Irem Temple Country Club at 6:45. Mr. Edward Buckley and Mr. Charles Butler are dinner chairman and co-chairman respectively and promise the usual fun and frolic that will introduce this annual affair.

In charge of tickets are the following people: Thomas Reese, Lions Club; Phillip VanBlarcom, Dallas Rotary; Carl Goeringer, Dallas Kiwanis.

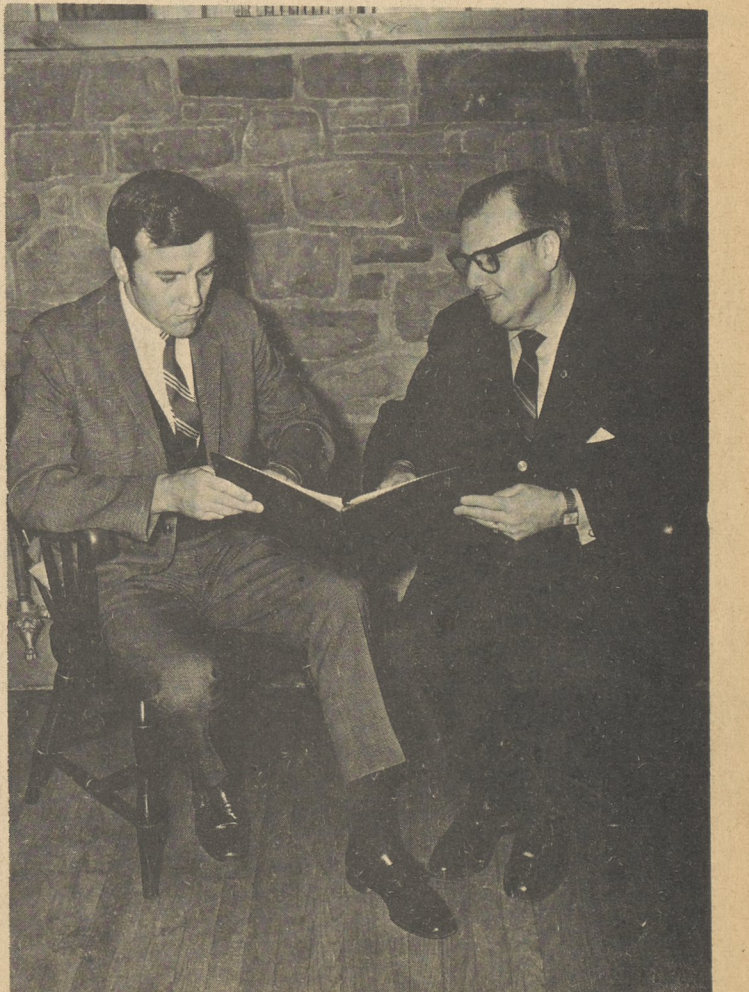
Tickets will also be available at various business establishments to be announced later.

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This year's auction chairman is George McCutcheon and his co-chairman is Robert Richardson. Mr. Donald Anthony will act as advisor.



Chairmen of the forthcoming Library Auction kick-off dinner discuss plans for the May 7 affair at Irem Country Club. Seated in front of the fireplace in the Library Annex, reading left to right, are co-chairman Charles Butler and Chairman Edward Buckley.