

# Countywide

## Charter Voted Down; Local Incumbents Win

While the nation underwent a Democratic landslide in Tuesday's general election, Republicans held their expected lead in the Back Mountain, but fared less well county-wide. But there were no surprises. Every incumbent carried Luzerne County.

The Home Rule Charter question to change the Luzerne County system of government was stoutly defeated, 52,370 to 41,173 in unofficial returns.

Not surprising either, incumbent Republican U.S. Senator Richard Schweiker out polled his Democratic opponent Peter Flaherty in every voting booth in the Back Mountain. He was declared a state-wide winner early in the count. In Luzerne County he polled 62,295 to his opponent's 43,067.

Incumbent Gov. Milton Shapp took the county easily against Republican Drew Lewis, and was re-elected, with a vote of 59,377, to Mr. Lewis' 47,019.

In the U.S. Congressional race, incumbent Daniel J. Flood, a Democrat, defeated Republican Richard Muzyka in a three-to-one vote. Unofficial returns gave Rep. Flood 81,450, to Mr. Muzyka's 26,267.

In the biggest landslide in the county, state representative Raphael Musto, incumbent Democrat, out-poll'd his opponent, Republican William Spring, by more than five-to-one, with unofficial

totals showing Musto with 13,107 to Spring with 2,863.

In other statehouse contests, District 116 Republican incumbent James Ustynski defeated opponent Ronald Gatski, 10,110 to 8,470; District 117 incumbent George C. Hasay defeated Democrat Edward F. Burns, 10,620 to 8,824; District 119 Democrat Fred Shupnik out-poll'd his opponent Joseph Zelinsky, 12,461 to 5,199.

In District 120, Kingston Republican incumbent Frank J. O'Connell tallied 12,934 to Kevin Nelson's 5,201; and incumbent Democrat Bernard O'Brien of Wilkes-Barre showed a total of 9,139 to John Tasker's 6,491.

In the State Senate races incumbent Democrat Martin Murray carried his opponent, John J. Cicero, more than two-to-one, with unofficial tallies showing Murray with 49,297 and Cicero with 19,920. Incumbent Republican T. Newell Wood in District 20 tallied 16,185 votes to his opponent, Michael J. Lewis' 13,727.

Unofficial totals showed that both Wilkes-Barre City and Kingston Borough voted to adopt a Home Rule Charter system of government. Yes votes in Wilkes-Barre were 7,890; No votes were 6,128. In Kingston, Yes votes were 1,857; No votes were 1,721.

Back Mountain and other communities showed the following vote:

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## Landfill Still Troubles Lake Twp. Supervisors

A fire which destroyed part of the Department of Environmental Resources' Public Square office also seems to have won Lake Township a reprieve from the agency in their hassle over the township landfill.

Lake Township supervisors Walter Hoover, Nesbitt Hummel and John Adams were scheduled to meet with DER representatives Oct. 23 concerning the landfill, but a fire Oct. 21 caused the meeting to be cancelled.

When asked how soon the meeting might be rescheduled a secretary at DER said all meetings and decisions had been postponed and it would probably be several weeks before anything would be rescheduled.

At last Saturday's meeting of the board of supervisors, township secretary Judy Steltz read two letters they had received from State Assemblymen Fred Shupnik and George Hasay.

Mr. Hasay said he wrote a letter to DER asking them to reconsider any action they might take to close the dump. Mr. Shupnik said he would attend the meeting with DER and the township supervisors.

At last month's meeting the supervisors directed the secretary to write letters to State Senator T. Newell Wood, Representatives Shupnik and Hasay, and Congressman Daniel Flood informing them of the township's problems with the

department.

DER has been sending Lake Township reports of violations at the landfill for years. At various times the agency has said the township must hire a professional engineer to supervise covering of the trash, install toilet facilities with running water at the site for the convenience of the one worker who is there four hours a week, and install truck scales to weigh the trash. The agency has also said the soil being used to cover the trash is composed mainly of shale which allows water to drain through the covering and the trash which could pollute area water.

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## Fire Inspectors Say Tire Company a Hazard

Charles Broody and local officials are still arguing about last Thursday's fire at Broody's tire company in Edwardsville.

Mr. Broody claims fire officials never gave him written notice that no business should be conducted at the site or told him of any violations to the fire codes.

An official at Council of Governments Code Enforcement Office tells a different

# Election Returns

# THE POST

News of the Back Mountain Area, Luzerne, Swoyersville and Pringle

VOL. 85 NO. 45

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1974

DALLAS, PA.

TWENTY CENTS

## Charter Committee Charges Campaign Tactics are Unfair

In a voting day press release, the Luzerne County Committee for the Charter charged county commissioner Edmund Wideman Jr. with unfairness in Tuesday's election.

C.A. Hardwick, general campaign chairman of the Committee for the Charter, said that a refusal of Mr. Wideman to permit poll watchers' certificates to be issued cast serious doubt on the fairness of the election. "And," Mr. Hardwick said, "this is just another of the tactics used to interfere with the county charter question." The press release said that commissioner Wideman twice denied the certificates.

Commenting on the avenues open to county voters to insure a fair and free election, Mr. Hardwick said "Voters should have the facts and ignore the lies, innuendos, and scare tactics coming from phony courthouse committees.

"It is unfortunate, Mr. Hardwick said, "that the courthouse politicians resorted to malicious lies in a desperate attempt to save their patronage and power in the county. The opposition would have voters believe that if Home Rule is adopted in the county all county workers would be fired.

"Why," asks Mr. Hardwick, "did each county employee receive a 'score card' with his name printed on it and a space for recording the Yes and No votes with

the threat that if the No votes in his district didn't exceed the Yes votes, his job is in jeopardy. This is just the kind of scare tactic which the charter would do away with. County employees are protected in the charter through a personnel merit system."

Mr. Hardwick said that on election day every county employee was given the day off and was forced to work for the defeat of the charter. "It would be nice if every candidate or issue had an automatic 1,000 workers for election day."

Mr. Hardwick said that, "No poll watchers' certificates, no street lists, a threat to county employees through the 'score card' approach to their jobs, and requiring county workers to work on election day to save their jobs indicate

what control the court house power group has in the electoral process."

"Over the last several weeks, those opposing the Charter have resorted to the most devious and malicious tactics in attempting to hoodwink the voters of Luzerne County," John B. Hibbard, a director of the Committee for the Charter, said, echoing Mr. Hardwick.

Mr. Hibbard noted that the opposition has stated that the Committee for the Charter and those supporting the charter are a special-interest group. "If they mean by special interest that the committee was trying to bring back the democratic form of government in Luzerne County with representation for each and every citizen, they are correct.

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## Swoyersville Appoints 2 to Recreation Board

At a meeting which lasted less than 45 minutes Monday night, Swoyersville Borough Council appointed two new men to the recreation committee and decided to have the zoning officer take the necessary steps to remove a family living in a trailer illegally.

Jim Pozaic and Tony Perzia are the new men on the recreation board. According to recreation chairman Joseph Olejnik the two have been helping out on the committee for several months and expressed a desire to be on the board. This brings the total complement of the board to seven men. Original intent was to have a nine-member board.

One resident, who has been complaining of an illegal trailer in his neighborhood, got what seems to be some concrete

action from council. Council will instruct the zoning officer to give the family on Mulberry Street 72 hours to move the trailer or legal action will be taken against them. The zoning officer was instructed to clear any legal action necessary with borough solicitor Andrew Puhak. The trailer resident was not in the flood.

The recreation committee will hold a teenage record hop Saturday night from 8 to 11 p.m. at the Scott Street Hose Company.

The recreation committee has been looking for a suitable site for an ice skating rink. Several properties have been considered. One seems to offer the best auxiliary facilities, but the land is private property and the committee will not announce its location until the owner has agreed to its use.

Council agreed to invest \$13,800 in monies from the police pension fund in bonds paying the highest going interest rate.

Secretary Joseph Koval read a report from the Council of Government Code Enforcement Program. Last month COG issued 49 building permits, 14 demolition permits, seven electrical permits, three plumbing permits, and one heating permit.

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## Dallas Buying New 3 Patient Van Ambulance

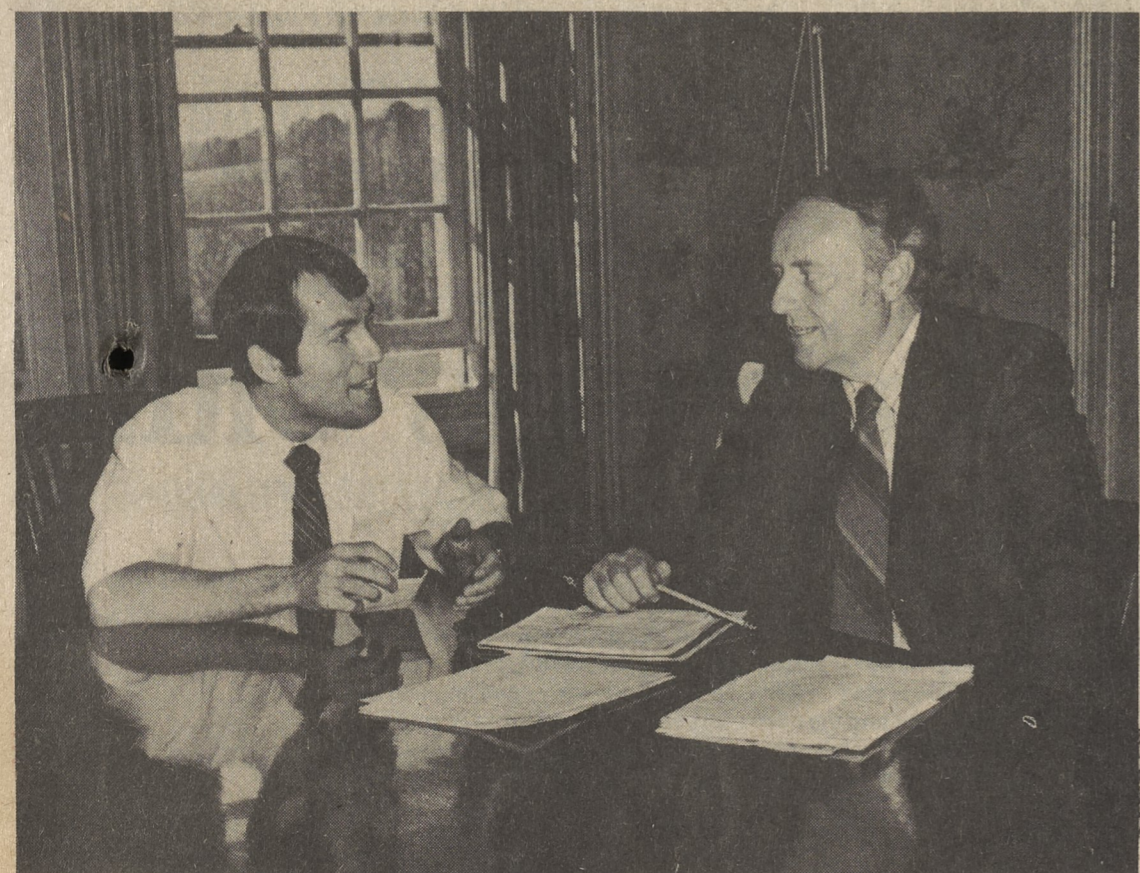
Dallas Fire and Ambulance Inc. have made arrangements to purchase a 1975 Care-O-Van, an enlarged van type ambulance. Cost will be approximately \$18,500 and delivery date is set for the end of February.

The new vehicle will accommodate three patients and will have piped oxygen and suction. It will be air-conditioned front and back and there will be a walkway from the driver's seat to the rear of the ambulance.

The ambulance will have a Dodge chassis and the body will be made by the Wayne Corp., a division of Indianhead. Wayne also makes buses and other transportation vehicles.

Members of the fire and ambulance company voted on the purchase of the new unit at the Oct. 28 meeting. A representative from A. Giesel and Son took the order Oct. 29 and the contract was signed. The ambulance will be serviced locally. This will be the first time in 20 years that Dallas has acquired a new ambulance. Recent ambulances have been used vehicles.

Bob Besecker says that the new ambulance will be purchased without any additional drives or solicitations from the community.



Penn State University's Wilkes-Barre campus will conduct formal dedication ceremonies of the local campus WPSI-FM radio station Nov. 7 at 4:45 p.m. President Dr. John Oswald will give the principle address which can be heard at 89.1 on the FM dial. Pictured left to right are Ralph Carmode, assistant professor of speech and faculty adviser, and George W. Bierly, director of the campus, who made the final arrangements for the ceremonies.

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