



FIRST BUCK—Don Rudick of Trucksville expresses his delight in bagging his first buck in eight years of hunting on Monday, the opening day of the deer season. Rudick brought down a nine-point, 170 pound buck. (Mark Moran Photo)

Deer kill bigger this year

Officials of the Northeastern Region of the Pennsylvania Game Commission reported Tuesday, that the deer kill in the 13 counties under the Northeastern jurisdiction was up considerably over 1979.

The excellent weather conditions and the mid-40's temperature encouraged a record number of hunters to take to the woods the first day.

The Luzerne County field reported showed more than 575 deer killed the first day, 150 more than reported the first day in Luzerne County last year.

During the 1979 season, cold weather and freezing rain discouraged many hunters from going out the first day. This year,

much of the early snow remained on the ground making it easy to track the deer.

Usually, about two-thirds of the deer are killed the first day of buck season and, according to the game commission, last year's mild winter resulted in a healthy and heavy population of deer this season.

Only two injuries were reported in the Northeastern region, both of them minor.

Many Buck Mountain hunters were still at club houses or cabins of friends on Tuesday but a quick survey of the area indicated that many local nimrods were successful the first day.

Mel Morris, Jr. of Harveys Lake bagged a 10-point buck the opening

day in the Fernbrook area and his brother, Ken, killed one in the same area.

Father and son bagged a buck in the Wilson family. Tex brought down a spike buck and his son, Ted, killed a four point buck, both of them in Centermoreland.

Don Geiger of Huntsville brought down a four point buck at 7:30 a.m., Monday morning and George Poynton of Dallas, bagged a spike buck, about 11 a.m., on South Mountain.

Lou Katchko of Dallas shot a 105 pound spike buck and Don Rudick killed his first buck in eight years of hunting, a nine point, 170 pound buck, near Sweet Valley at approximately 3:40 p.m.

Fritzges named school board head

Dallas School board officers for 1981 were elected by secret ballot at the reorganization meeting of the board held Monday. Very few persons were in the audience, as the meeting conflicted with the first day of hunting season as well as the dinner hour.

New president of the board is Earl Fritzges, Cliffside Drive, Trucksville. Vice president is Harry Lefko of Dallas Borough. Ernest Ashridge was reelected to the West Side Vo Tech board. Other committee appointments will be made at a later date.

Director Atty. Basil Russin submitted his resignation explaining he has sold his house in Dallas Township and now resides in Forty Fort Borough.

He noted he enjoyed his term as a school board member "with the many frustrations and few joys that it brings".

The board, he said, for the most part, was a pleasure to work with and the administration team, lead by Dr. Shipe, extremely efficient, professional, and helpful. Russin

said his main regret is he has failed to see the tax collectors commission reduced to better reflect the actual work done by them.

Russin continued that the board is privy to a lengthy report prepared by a review committee several years ago.

The report advocates a change, preferably to a per duplicate compensation. "The timeto make the change is now, this month," said Russin.

The three tax collectors run for election next year and notice requirements must be met before their nominating petitions are filed.

Russin then wished the new board a successful year. The departing director, praised by his colleagues, closed on a poetic note - "Thank you for letting me be a part of your past".

Earl Fritzges said Russin was an asset to the board, very dedicated, who worked well with the board.

Dr. Richard Shipe, superintendent, expressed his deep appreciation for all the personal help Russin was to him. Shipe also took

the opportunity to point out school directors have responsible positions and it is difficult to understand why they are not compensated.

President Richard Hislop wished Russin much success and said "some of us may wish we were in your shoes".

Russin had the last word when he joked with the members of the press telling them he had to move because the school taxes were too high.

In other business, John Roberts was named assistant in charge of the junior high wrestling and Paul Marchal was appointed assistant.

The resignation of George Dombek, senior high assistant coach, was accepted. No successor was named but there are some persons interested in the position, Dr. Shipe said.

The unpaid 'leave of absence' for Mrs. June George secretary at the Intermediate School was extended to January 19, 1981. Mary Blair, RD 1, Harveys Lake was appointed temporary full-time library clerical aide under CETA.

Bittner replaces director Russin

The new director of the Dallas School Board, Clarke Bittner, Republican, was sworn into office by Luzerne County, Judge Charles Lemmond, Jr. at Monday's reorganization meeting.

Bittner lives with his wife, Joanne, and three children at Shrine Acres in Dallas Township. He is employed by Bevaco Food Service, a position he accepted following a long affiliation with the United Penn Bank as a vice-president.

A graduate of Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, Bittner is active in community affairs, including the United Fund, the board of directors of the Philharmonic, campaign worker for the YMCA, and a supporter of the soccer program at the schools.

His employer Frank Bevevino, said Monday in a phone conversation "Bittner is a great candidate, who will work very well for the district as he is very interested. Bevevino described him as a "a very giving person".

Bittner was administered the

oath of office but not before Judge Lemmond quipped "it sure will be a short oath as Clarke comes from a small school". He will serve until Dec. 1, 1981. If Bittner wishes to continue past that date, he must enter the 1981 Spring primaries.

Explaining after the meeting she would not cast a "yes" vote on Bittner's appointment, school director Pat Gregory boycotted the formal meeting proceedings by sitting in the audience representing the taxpayers and fulfilling her role as a private citizen and taxpayer. Mrs. Gregory prefers the term "tax over" to taxpayer.

At any rate she did not vote or enter into the official business in any capacity Monday night.

An unpleasant exchange erupted when director Dr. Mahmoud Fahmy was prompted by her absence at the board table to issue and appeal that she join the board at the table.

Gregory told Dr. Fahmy he was very well aware of her feelings as to why she had chosen not to be a party to the meeting. Undaunted by an angry Mrs. Gregory, Fahmy

continued to press the point of her absence, continuing to urge her presence at one point saying, "you should be over here".

Gregory proved a worthy adversary and stood her ground when she admonished Fahmy "The board is well aware of why I am sitting here and I will not justify anything to anyone". She then told Fahmy "I'm sure you don't want to air what we spoke of during a one-hour phone call earlier today." Dr. Fahmy agreed and dropped the subject.

Director Ernest Ashbridge asked if the Bittner letter of appointment was the recommendation of the two Dallas Township board members, Fahmy and Russ Havey. Secretary Brennan told him all she was asked to do was read it whereupon Ashbridge, receiving no response from the two said "I just wondered."

The vote to appoint Bittner was nearly unanimous with the exception of Mrs. Gregory's vote, which was not cast.

Street problems discussed

Problems existing in the first block of Main Street in Dallas Borough, in the area of the police department, were discussed at the Nov. 18 meeting of the borough council.

The discussion indicated that the open drinking ordinance submitted in the past by Mayor James B. Davies should be taken into consideration by council members.

A letter from a Main Street businessman pointed out that the actions of bar patrons has caused one family to move and, since they were tenants of the businessman, the conditions are now costing money.

In the past, council dismissed the mayor's anti-open drinking ordinance but new developments as outlined by Wilbur Houck indicate the need for council to recognize the fact that a problem of major proportion exists on Main Street in Dallas. Houck urged the borough council to take action.

The letter regarding the Main Street problem caused by bar patrons was read at the council meeting. In it, Houck charged that the excellent tenants residing at property owned by him at 24 Main Street, Dallas, were moving due to the actions of persons who frequent the Main Street bars and park in Houck's lot.

According to Houck's letter, foul language, loud noises, littering of debris along with disturbances at 3 a.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights have combined to prompt his tenants move.

Houck indicated that the bar patrons park in his lot, a practice he has tried unsuccessfully to block. Another resident present at the meeting said he picks up from 12 to 18 beer bottles from in front of his place of business on Main Street near the police station.

Councilman Jerry Machell said that he didn't notice a sign on Houck's parking lot prohibiting

public parking but that he understood the problem. Councilman Willard Newberry said that Houck, who owns Saylor's Furniture Store, has been very patient.

It appeared that council was reluctant to delve into the problem when Chairman Harold Brobst changed the subject by asking "What else is here?"

The anti-open drinking ordinance was first introduced by the mayor two years ago but no official action on the ordinance was taken by the borough council. Several of the members, at that time, feared that the ordinance could result in selective enforcement.

In view of the recent letter from the businessman, many residents now believe that the borough council should pass an ordinance which would give the police authority to take the necessary action to keep Main Street the respectable center of the borough.

Why won't PP&L answer NRC?

by Gerald R. Schultz
SEA has learned that PP&L is itself responsible for delay in fuel loading and licensing of the nuclear plant near Berwick-not the opponents of the plant. PP&L has failed to answer over 100 questions put to the utility by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as part of the licensing process more than 20 weeks ago five or six weeks more time than is usually necessary to provide answers.

SEA obtained a copy of a letter from the NRC to PP&L, dated Oct. 31, 1980, which states: "Our review

schedule generally allows 14 to 15 weeks for applicant responses to our questions. On Oct. 1, 1980, our records indicated that more than 100 unanswered staff questions had been outstanding for more than 20 weeks."

"Furthermore, a delay in providing requested information can result in an additional delay in the staff's completion of your review because of manpower reallocation to the review of other projects."

"We want the public to know the facts that PP&L is itself respon-

sible for the delay in the opening of the plant-not the nuclear opponents," stated Gerald R. Schultz, SEA coordinator. "PP&L is complaining about delays from the government and nuclear opponents while they themselves are failing to answer these questions."

SEA is an environmental action organization based in Wilkes-Barre. Comments and questions are welcome at 825-4304; in Dallas, at 675-1093, or Mountaintop, at 678-7534.

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