

Shavertown Fire Company auction is this weekend

The Shavertown Volunteer Fire Company is holding their annual fund raising auction this Friday and Saturday August 5 and 6 at the Fire Hall grounds, Main Street in Shavertown. The event will start at 6:30 p.m. both nights and end at closing.

Refreshments and games will be

on hand and the money raised from the auction will be used for upkeep on the fire trucks, equipment and the fire hall.

If interested in donating an item to the auction to help the volunteer fire fighting effort call 675-3056 or 696-3212.

Rains (continued from page 1)

stunted the growth of the produce available," said Daring.

He said that the dry weather conditions will be reflected in the prices of canned goods for the rest of the year because vegetable pickers have increased prices.

Harold Schupp of the Wilkes-Barre Job Service, could not confirm whether or not pickers have increased their prices, but the effect on prices of produce harvested in the Back Mountain should not be immediately effected. Only one grower in the Sweet Valley area uses migrant workers.

"Three farmers in the Sweet Valley area have gone out of business recently, because of other problems not associated with the drought. It is very possible that the total number of migrants due to come into Pennsylvania will be cut back because of the dry weather conditions," said Schupp.

The Yalicks market on Route 415, Dallas sells sweet corn and assorted small vegetables grown on the family farm across the highway; their produce has not suffered the complete effects of the long hot and dry spell. Irrigation and a late harvest can be credited with the quality of their crops.

"I know a lot of farmers with more acreage and different harvesting times were hurt by the weather, but thankfully the later

crops are getting needed moisture. We used irrigation for three days and then the rain started," said John Yalick.

Some crops were lost at the Yalick farm, and prices have gone up slightly to help cover the losses.

The Yalicks are not wholesalers. Their market on Route 415 is the only place where they sell their crops and they harvest just enough to support their family business.

"Sometimes you just have to take what comes, and when you go out on the field you never know what the season will be like. I remember in 1941 when a bad hail storm put me out of business in 10 minutes. It shredded the leaves off the corn and blew the tomatos off the vines. When it was over almost everything was gone," said Yalick.

Agricultural experts agree that the July rain has put a temporary stop to the drought conditions, but if the rest of the summer is dry the late season crops could still be damaged. The news for consumers worried about rising prices at the checkout counter is still uncertain; prices will increase but by how much remains to be seen.

Al Skala, Penn State Agricultural Extension Agent said, "As soon as news of the drought condition came out in the media the prices went up. The drought is not strictly an agricultural condition; it is also something in the minds of people and that effects the market also."



JO-JO THE CLOWN—Jo-Jo the Clown was a hit with young and old at the Marian Family Festival, Sunday, at College Misericordia. Above, Jo-Jo holds Nicole Konopki in her arms while Russell Collins IV stands by her side as all three admire a colorful miniature clown made by Midge Scruitsky. (Photo by Charlot M. Denmon)

250 attend Marian Family Festival at Misericordia

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

A crowd of approximately 250 adults and children attended the Marian Family Festival held Sunday, July 31, at College Misericordia. The festival was a day-long celebration in observance of the special Marian Year proclaimed by Pope John Paul II.

The festival was sponsored by the Marian Year Commission of the Diocese of Scranton and ran from 10:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., beginning with the recitation of the Rosary and followed by an outdoor Mass in front of McHale Hall, with Bishop James Timlin as principal celebrant and homilist.

Members of the Knights of Columbus were also present in the morning and others throughout the day. Seventeen of the Knights with their colored plumes escorted Bishop Timlin and formed a semi-circle of honor during the Mass.

Gifts were carried to the altar to honor the Blessed Mother including an altar cloth, candle, vestment, wine, water, bread, a rosary and a Bible.

Throughout the day inside the audio-visual room various film and slide shows were presented.

In front of McHale Hall from 1 to 1:30 p.m., Jo-Jo the Christian Clown performed for the children and adults. Jo-Jo is a well-known figure and has appeared with many famous celebrities and more recently, has been invited to appear on the Johnny Carson Tonight show.

Beginning at noon and continuing until 5 p.m., vendors set up their stands selling pizza, ice cream and Center Inn served food throughout the afternoon.

The various Diocesan organizations set up tables displaying a variety of items interpreting the Blessed Mother theme "Mary-a Woman of Faith for Our Times."

Mrs. Midge Scruitsky of the Back Mountain was chairperson of the children's games. There were a number of these which were especially popular with children of all ages, including one similar to Ring Toss, the Door game, Duck game and the Lollipop game. The game area was colorfully set off with bright-hued clowns made by Mrs. Scruitsky.

Principal speaker of the day, Rev. Joseph F. Spica spoke outdoors in front of McHale Hall from 3:30 to 4 p.m., followed by the crowning of the Pilgrim Virgin statue, Rosary Procession, Scripture Service and the Benediction.

General chairman of the festival was Marie Idah Margalis and honorary chairman was Florence T. Eckert. Other chairpersons were Joy Markowski, Eucharistic Liturgy; Valerie LaLuga, invitations; Joan Dobitsch, Rosary Procession; Frieda Neuman, publicity; Christina Warnagiris, posters; Ann Murnock, entertainment; Ruth Smith, audio-visuals; Mary Ann Susek, Rock and Rest; Mary Junta, tables; Mary Quinn, Ruth Pennoni, vendors; Midge Scruitsky, games; Rev. Michael Policare, John S. Marinko, transportation; Rev. William Maloney, D.C.C.M.; and Bill Jones, Knights of Columbus.

Mrs. Scruitsky will be installed as president of West-Luzerne District of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (D.C.C.W.) for the coming year.

The Marian Year will come to a close, Monday, August 15, and will culminate with a Diocesan Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral in Scranton.

Plan (continued from page 1)

changeably, and the first step has been taken toward a Back Mountain water commission," Potzer said. "The watershed of Toby's Creek takes in nine municipalities and one has an effect on the others so we all should work together."

"An authority controlled by a council of governments could have common ordinances dealing with all developments relative to water, sewage, lot sizes, land use and other factors," Potzer explained. "This should have been done 10 years ago, after the 1972 flood. The impact on the Back Mountain from that flood is now showing up."

Potzer has been in the process of working on an ordinance for township water supply, similar to PAMA's capped sewer ordinance. The proposed ordinance would require a developer to connect to a public water company if the water line is within adequate distance to the public water system.

Potzer explained that the township wants only sound water companies, those that are PUC approved, provide certificates of surety, and are financially sound.

Last year Kingston Township did a detailed re-writing of its zoning ordinances which dated back to the early 1960's. They now have a comprehensive plan to handle building proposals.

A developer's application first goes before the township's planning commission, then to the Luzerne County Planning Commission. It must include information on soils and corrosion, topography, PennDOT, water company, utilities, financial guarantees, and insurance certification.

Future planning and development would be easier if all municipalities had similar zoning laws; there would be fewer problems and objections in Potzer's opinion.

Lehman Township is the most recent municipality to approve a zoning ordinance, completing it in 1983. Their zoning ordinance also includes subdivisions, but recently officials turned the subdivision and enforcement back to the Luzerne County Commission with the township having final approval.

Jackson Township approved a zoning ordinance in 1978 following recommendations by a consultant, Maureen Pawlowski. The supervisors also adopted their own subdivision ordinance.

Harveys Lake appointed their own Planning Commission and adopted zoning ordinances in 1974. Since that time, the ordinance has been amended, according to the needs of the community.

Dallas Borough Council adopted zoning ordinances in 1973 but they have no subdivision plan, turning this over to the Luzerne County Planning Commission. Borough manager Robert Brown stated that he has recently recommended that the Council review the various ordinances and, if necessary, have them rewritten.

Dallas Township instituted zoning ordinances in 1965 and also included their own subdivision ordinance. Their zoning includes Residential-1, Suburban-1, Agriculture and Business, with the area zoned business running along main highways, mostly Route 309. The conservation area in the township is on land in the Country Club area.

Kingston Township's zoning was first written in 1963 but was rewritten in 1977 and done comprehensively again in 1987. The township also has its own subdivision ordinance.

Lake Township has no zoning laws of its own but operates under the Luzerne County Planning Commission.

Stanley Dysleski, subdivision administrator for Luzerne County, explained that under Act 247, all municipalities must forward development plans to the County for its recommendation. The municipality cannot approve a request for 45 days unless the county approves the plans in a shorter length of time. If the county has not approved within the 45 days, the local board can go ahead.

If the county commission gives a negative approval, a developer may submit a revised plan for approval. When officials go into a meeting having reviewed the revised plan carefully, they can approve it.

Dysleski explained that a developer must adhere to the following steps; preliminary approval, final approval, and submission of a performance bond. If he follows all of the required steps of the governing body and receives final approval, the developer may sell lots.

Dysleski said he understands that a Back Mountain Planning Commission might be plausible for the area but he believes it would have to set down general guidelines since the municipalities in the Back Mountain differ greatly in population, amount of undeveloped land available, and public services.

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