

Special events on tap at Slocum Park

By ERIC FOSTER
Post Staff

On Saturday and Sunday, October 5 and 6, Frances Slocum Park will hold an all-out educational bash - featuring guided tours of the park, presentations from Native Americans, and demonstrations of traditional crafts of Native Americans and settlers.

"I'll do about five or six groups during an average week and usually one public program," says Jerry Kozlansky, the park naturalist. "I'm actually the environmental education specialist, but that title is a mouthful."

"There's a lot of history in this park," says Kozlansky, who is just finishing his second year at the park. "Some parks are resource based. We're split here, we're resource based and history based."

"They're connected; the reason the history is here is because the resources are here," says Kozlansky. "There were a lot of Native Americans along the Susquehanna and they used this area for their hunting grounds."

The native American hunters followed Abrahams Creek to the sea where the park is now.

And for good reason. Even today, the park is home to a multitude of deer, squirrels, and woodchucks. What is less well known is that the park is also home to fox, coyote, and occasionally, a transient black bear.

"I do everything from pre-school kids all the way up to senior citizen groups," says Kozlansky. "When we have the groups, I ask, do you want the historical tour or the nature tour?"

For a group of five and six-year-old nursery school students, Kozlansky takes them on a short hike. Along the way they stop periodically and collect things from nature to learn to use their senses. Something red for sight, something smooth for touch, and later something that smells like trees.

For a group of seven to nine-year-old brownies, Mr. Jerry (as the kids name him) explains how Native Americans used plants in the forest, hemlock trees to make tea (not the same as Socrates drank), maple trees for syrup, and acorns to eat and tan leather.

"The thing about this park is there is so much history that people don't realize," says Kozlansky. "They have found artifacts here over 3,000 years old. From that aspect alone I think it's interesting enough to read a little about it."

Artifacts such as arrowheads, spear points, and notched stones used to weight nets are displayed in the visitors center, along with stuffed birds and animals.

Who was Frances Slocum?

The park is named after Frances Slocum, a Quaker girl who was

kidnapped at the age of five by a band of Delaware braves from her home near the Susquehanna River on November 2, 1778.

A rock shelter where little Frances is thought to have spent her first night in captivity is located in the park.

Fifty years after her abduction, Frances Slocum was found living among the Miami Indians in Indiana. She had been adopted by the Delaware chief, and later married a chief of the Miami people.

Despite pleas from her family to return to Pennsylvania, she chose to stay among the Miami people. Now known as Mocanquah, or Young Bear for her strength and endurance, Slocum had been married to two chiefs, had four children. She was highly respected among the Miami and was wealthy, owning her own land and cattle.

The Miami were her new family and she died among them in 1838 at the age of 68.

The 1,035 acres which comprises the park has undergone radical changes since the night Frances Slocum huddled in the shelter of a looming cliff.

Farms and mills had been established in the area.

Originally there was no lake in the area. The lake came about after a flood control dam was completed on Abrahams Creek just before the Agnes Flood in 1972.

In contrast with the tall evergreen forests so prevalent in Ricketts Glen State Park at Red Rock, Frances Slocum has a more varied environment. Besides the evergreens, there are fields, marshy areas, and young stands of leafy trees.

"You have a lot of mixed woods," says Kozlansky. "We try to maintain highly diverse habitats to maximize wildlife."

Kozlansky graduated from college with a degree in Environmental Science, with concentrations in outdoor recreation and resource conservation.

While often those areas are at odds, "Here in the park, this is one place where they work together most of the time," says Kozlansky.

For the public, the park offers picnic areas, year-round fishing, hiking and snowmobile trails. Unpowered, or electric powered boats are permitted on the lake, and are also available for rent. For swimmers, there is a pool.

Groups interested in educational programs at the park can call 696-3525 and ask for Jerry Kozlansky. Programs can be conducted Sunday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through November. All programs are free, but pre-registration is required. If traveling to the park is not possible, Kozlansky can travel to the group to be a guest speaker.



TELLING TALES OF WOODCRAFT - Jerry Kozlansky, park naturalist at Frances Slocum State Park, tells Brownie Troop 946 of Harding how Native Americans lived in this area hundreds of years ago. (Post Photo/Eric Foster)

SCHEDULE FOR FRANCES SLOCUM DAYS

Saturday, October 5
 Noon to 4 p.m. - The Visitor Center will be open to the public throughout the weekend. All programs will start in the center.
 Noon to 3 p.m. - "Circle of Friendship"
 Members of the Munsee Band of Native Americans, attired in authentic tribal clothing, will tell legends, teach dances, and answer questions from the audience. A demonstration of Native American crafts will begin at noon, and the talk circle at 1 p.m.
 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. - "The Swetland Homestead"
 Jan Conway, curator of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society Museum and Swetland Homestead will give a slide presentation of the Swetland Homestead, with its history and antiques.

Sunday, October 6
 Noon to 4 p.m. - The Visitor Center will be open to the public throughout the weekend. All programs will begin at the center.
 Noon to 1 p.m. - "Tales of the Woodlands"
 A guided hike to the historical rock shelter where five-year-old Frances Slocum spent her first night after being captured by a band of Native Americans. The main point of discussion will be the lifestyle of Native Americans of the area.
 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. - "Natural Foods"
 Learn about the many wild edibles in the forest, many of which were used by the Native Americans.
 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - "History of Frances Slocum"
 A slide presentation of the history of the area we now know as Frances Slocum State Park.
 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. - "Grape Vine Wreaths"
 Learn to create your own natural craft items as the settlers did. Take home your creations.

Column on environment debuts in Post this week

The Dallas Post is pleased to welcome a new columnist to its pages this week. "A Case for Conservation," a column about the environment written by Alene N. Case of Trucksville will appear bi-weekly on the opinion pages.

Ms. Case holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Zoology from Duke University. She has worked as a research assistant and staff member on several environmental projects, including five years on the staff of the Water Quality Laboratory at Wilkes University. She has taught advanced water quality and ocean science at Wilkes and has been an instructor of advanced ecology at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. She has also served as editor or author of several publications dealing with contemporary environmental and social issues. She has lived in Trucksville since 1979.

Fall auction at St. Paul's aids church organ renovation

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Shavertown, will be holding a Fall Auction on Saturday, Oct. 5. The auction will begin at 4 p.m. in the church parking lot and will last until approximately 10 p.m. The auction is being held to help pay for the renovation of the church organ.

The organ renovation work began several months ago when the Wicks Organ Company, Highland, IL, was selected to build replacement components for the majority of the existing organ. Chuck Gibson, Philadelphia, was selected as the General Contractor to engineer and design all of the necessary modifications for the renovation.

It took approximately 10 months for the Wicks Organ Company to build the new ranks of pipes and

the other organ components. Chuck Gibson has been working on making the modifications and installing the organ components in the church since July. The project will be completed in early November.

The completed organ renovation will add several ranks of pipes and expose the old pipes. Additionally the entire organ console is being rebuilt and refinished and new organ chests will be installed. The newly renovated organ will be dedicated to the church on Sunday, Dec. 8, 1991.

The Fall Auction is being chaired by Majorie Marquart and Cindy Duncan. Matching funds will be provided by Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL) which is a fraternal benefits society.

Dallas High School class of '66 to hold reunion Nov. 30

The Dallas High School Class of 1966 will be holding its 25th class reunion on Saturday, November 30 at Convention Hall in Pittston. Invitations have been issued to all class members with the exception of those listed because of lack of address information. If anyone has information on these members, please contact Nancy Brown Campbell at 675-2266 or Linda Parry Vozniak at 675-4365.

Back Mountain briefs

- Lehman Methodist rummage sale Oct. 11-12**
 The Lehman United Methodist Women will hold a Rummage Sale at the church on October 11, 9-5 and October 12, bag day, 9-12. Rummage helpers are Lillie Lamoreaux, Ruth Disque, Helen Squier. Bake sale persons are Dorothy Moore, Celia Ellsworth and Patricia Miers. Snack bar, Fern Rogers, Jean Major, Marguerite Dubil and Ruth Johnson.
- Fairgrounds has space to rent**
 The Luzerne County Fair grounds, Rt. 118 in Dallas has boat and R.V. storage in a totally enclosed building. Storage will start in October and run through April. The price for this is \$3.00 per foot per month. For more information please call 288-5990 or 639-1398.

FURNITURE CLEANING

OSCAR SMITH CO.
 11 AMERICA'S OLDEST CARPET CLEANERS SINCE 1847
 The Truck Unit Supplies its Own Water and Electricity

2 ROOMS OF CARPET
Only \$35.00
 on 350 sq. ft. limit

288-4542 or 1-800-422-7668

SOFA \$35
 LOVE SEAT \$25
 CHAIR \$15

J and J
DELI & CATERING
 "Catering for any Occasion"
 659 Memorial Hwy., Dallas, PA • 675-6139
 (Owned & Operated by Jim & Jan Wertman)

We Have *Stopay* Chocolates -
 Featuring Their Famous
 Peanut Butter Chiffons

Mary Ellen's *at The Herft House*

Fashions for Today's Woman

Regular Hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 10-5; Sat. 10-4:30
 Closed Sun. and Mon.

104 E. Overbrook Rd.
 Sherwood, PA 717-675-4821

Mary Ellen Mooney *Master Card Visa*

FALL SALE DAYS

\$12.99 KNIT TOPS OVERSIZED S-M-L Reg. \$20	\$16.99-\$19.99 SKIRTS & JACKETS Rayon Co-ordinates S-M-L Reg. to \$28
\$16.99 KNIT SLACKS & LEGGINGS BY D.B. SPORT S-M-L Reg. \$22	\$24.99 SWEATERS RAMIE COTTON OVERSIZED S-M-L Reg. \$49

SAVE ON NAME BRANDS SUCH AS IVY • OUTBACK • DK GOLD

Charlene's
 FASHION CENTER
 DALLAS SHOPPING CENTER
 (Next to Ye-Oldie Clock Shoppe)
 MON.-SAT. 10-9, SUN. 12-5

TARA
 MEN'S CLOTHING

FALL COLLECTION ARRIVING DAILY

- Suits
- Sportcoats
- Slacks
- Accessories
- Sportswear

325 NORTH RIVER STREET
 Tuft Tex Complex
 PLAINS, PA 18705 • 823-3458
 George Tarasek, Proprietor

Accessorize & More
"2nd Anniversary Festivity"

Live Remote with Capt. Jack, WYOS, 12-4, Oct. 12

Selected Earrings - Buy 2 Pair, Get 1 Pair FREE

20% Off Selected Items

Selected Watches \$22.00
 Marked down from \$38.00 & up

Refreshments "Italian Cookies"

311 Market Street, Kingston (Koral complex)
 717-288-7088

Winter Hours: Tues, Wed., Thurs., 10-8
 • Mon., Fri., Sat. 10-6 • Sun. 12-5

JoAnn Castellino, Prop.

Apples - Cider

- Pumpkins, some "Ex. Large"

- Decorative Gourds

Follow signs for Apples & Cider to **Shadyrill Farm** in Loyalville

Dallas 309 415-118 29
 Bryant Rd.
 118W
 1 1/2 mi.
 Loyalville 29
 Loyalville Rd.