

Memorial Day services

Dallas

The Daddow-Isaac Post 672 of the American Legion will hold their annual Memorial Day Parade in Dallas on Monday, May 25. The parade will leave the Legion Home on the Memorial Highway at 9 a.m. sharp.

State Representative George Hasay will be the main speaker, with an honor roll in Dallas, then going to Warden Cemetery for the Memorial Day address. A salute to all veterans will follow. John George is commander of the drill team.

Rev. William Cusick, of Gate of Heaven Church, and Rev. Andrew Bealla, of the Dallas United Methodist Church, will offer the Invocation and Benediction. The Dallas Senior High School Band will take part.

Youth organizations of the Back Mountain will place the Memorial Wreath Furnished by the Legion Auxiliary. The Mayor, other dignitaries, as well as fire, police and other emergency units have been invited.

Commander of the Legion is Walter I. Galka. Parade Marshall is Stuart Oakley, and Assistant Parade Marshall is Craig Echoles. After the Parade, the Legion will hold services at Chapel Lawn Cemetery.

Jackson Township

A Memorial Service sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Jackson Township Volunteer Fire Company will be held at the Fire Hall Honor Site, Chase Road, on Saturday, May 23 at 2 p.m.

Rev. Ronald Cease, member of the Valley View Union Chapel, Larksville, will conduct the Memorial Services with a prayer given by the Very Rev. Herbert G. Nahas, retired pastor of St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church, Wilkes-Barre.

Speakers will be Lt. Kevin Miller of the 109th Field Artillery and Michael Balash, national director of the POW/MIA Veterans of the Vietnam War. Sgt. Brian McMichael will lead the firing squad, which will include Spc. Wayne Miers, Spc. William Harris, and Pfc. Patrick Gallagher, of the 109th Field Artillery.

The Ladies Auxiliary will present the memorial wreath to be placed on the granite monument to departed service men and women. Boy Scout Troop 232 of Dallas will place the wreath.

Jeffrey Kairo, bugler, will sound "To the Colors," "Taps," and "Retreat," at the end of the service. Tribute will be paid to the following members who recently passed away: Mrs. Caroline E. Essar, Mrs. Meryl Wagner, and also John Fielding Sr.

Sweet Valley

The choir of the Sweet Valley Church of Christ, Main Road, Sweet Valley, will present the patriotic musical, "To Be An American" on Sunday, May 24, beginning at 7 p.m. in honor of Memorial Day.

The musical has been designed to both inspire and cause those attending to reflect on the sacrifices that have been made by thousands of individuals to bring us the liberty we enjoy in our country today. During the musical, the choir, under the direction of Cindy Evans, will pay tribute to heroes of all types, whether they be those who served in the military, or those unsung heroes, like our farmers who had an equally important part in building our country. The Sweet Valley Church of Christ is located on Main Road, Sweet Valley, approximately 2.5 miles from Sheldon's Diner. For more information, you may call the church office on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 477-2320.

Science fair shows students' skill, concern

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

How do fish get oxygen from water? How does the human ear work? How is pollution affecting the Statue of Liberty? Do men or women have a better sense of smell?

These were some of the many questions explored in science projects by 55 Lake-Lehman Junior High students at the school's annual science fair May 11.

Many of these projects were very original," commented Ms. Catherine Gregory. "Students chose a research project, an explanation of modern technology or an experiment with verifiable results. Many used computer programs to tabulate and illustrate their results."

First place winner Mollie Lewis set up a blindfold test with common household items to determine if men or women have a better sense of smell. "Women scored better, especially in detecting licorice, oregano, mint, Band-Aids, cloves and garlic," Mollie said.

Second place winner Elizabeth Yeager's experiment determined what color of visible light best penetrates fog. "Yellow worked

best, which would make it a good color for fog lights," she said.

Third place winner Rachel Kaufman explored water purification techniques and had samples of water from her home and the school tested at a lab for specific substances. "Lead from solder and nitrates are the most dangerous," she said.

Rachel became interested in water purification from discussing it with her father, who works at Pennsylvania Gas & Water. As part of her research, she was able to tour the Scranton purification plant.

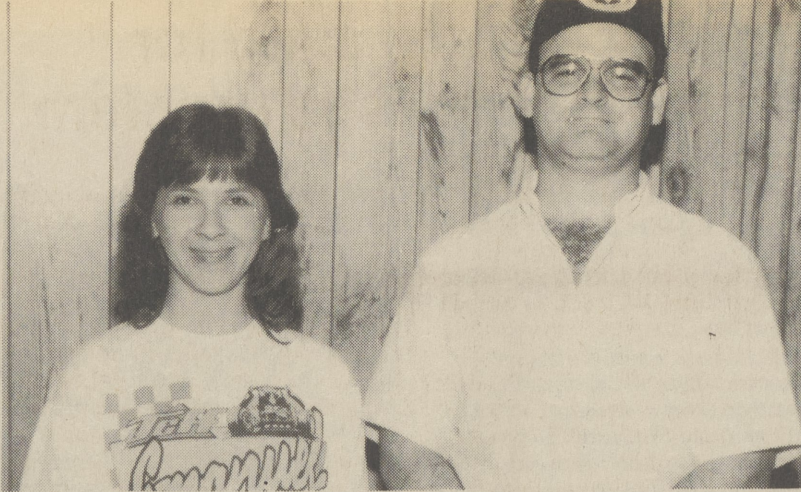
Debbie White, Olivia Hendershot and Jonelle Elgaway earned honorable mention ribbons.

Debbie explored atmospheric pollution, while Olivia's project, "Hot times on a warm planet," illustrated the greenhouse effect on global warming. Jonelle's project examined the relationship between short-term memory and age.

The science fair, now in its eighth year, is open to all junior high students. High school science department chairman Ms. Chris Kopcho and chemistry teacher Ms. Gail Keen judged the projects.

Luzerne County Fair Board will meet May 20

The Luzerne County Fair Board will meet Wednesday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m. at Damien's, Harveys Lake.



GOOD DRIVERS - School bus Road-E-O competition winners Anita Kuchemba, second place, and Tom Shina, third place, drive Dallas School District buses. (Post photo/Grace R. Dove)

Dallas school bus drivers among the best

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Wanted: school bus drivers.

Must be able to memorize the route, stops and whom to pick up or drop off and keep an eye on 60 kids behind them while driving, watching seven mirrors, checking dashboard gauges and staying alert for oncoming traffic, pedestrians and changing road conditions.

If this job description sounds rather demanding, remember that school bus drivers, the unsung and sometimes unappreciated heroes of the road, do it for a living.

"A school bus driver must be aware of everything going on, both inside and outside the vehicle at all times," commented Dallas School District driver Anita Kuchemba, who placed second in the Luzerne Intermediate Unit 18's School Bus Road-E-O, held May 2.

One of five drivers representing Emanuel Bus Lines, transportation contractor to the district, Kuchemba scored 502 points out of a possible 600 in the competition, which included a written general knowledge test, a personal interview, pre-trip inspection and driving skills tests in a bus.

In the pre-trip inspection, required before every trip, drivers had to find five vehicle defects.

Driving skills tests simulated a stop at a railroad crossing, smooth turning around corners and through a serpentine (winding road), backing up into a designated area where driver errors were measured in fractions of an inch, estimating overhead clearances and maneuvering through a course the width of which gradually nar-

rowed to an inch or two clearance on either side of the vehicle.

Although Kuchemba has been driving a school bus for only a year, she has seen some strange situations, including motorists trying to sneak along the berm to pass the bus while it is stopped.

"I don't think that the drivers realize that students may be crossing the road or walking along it," she said.

Fellow driver Tom Shina placed third, scoring 499 points out of 600. A former truck driver, he has driven school bus for six years.

"My greatest driving challenge is handling the kids," he commented. "Sometimes they get a bit overactive."

According to Dallas School District transportation manager Susan Farr, school bus drivers must be recertified every four years.

"My drivers all had to obtain the new commercial driver's license (CDL) that truckers must have," she said. "They also must take the tests for passenger vehicles, and some drivers voluntarily took the air brakes test, although we don't require it. The new CDL qualifications are extremely stringent."

School bus drivers must also have training in basic first aid and basic bus troubleshooting, Farr said.

Emanuel drivers Tammy Concert, Angelo Concert, Jr., and Andrew Simko also competed, placing in the top ten competitors.

Kuchemba will compete in the State Road-E-O at Penn State June 27. "No one realizes how difficult a job my drivers' have," Farr concluded. "I think that they do a darned good job."

Water hike

(continued from page 1)

"People don't mind an increase if they see improvements," said Steve Werner of Mount Airy Road. "I think that people can see physical work being done."

Werner is a founder of the Dallas Taxpayers Forum, along with Joseph Kunec, the group's president. The group was formed to protest what it saw as unreasonable salary requests by the Dallas School District teachers last fall.

Though Kunec said that several people have called him asking if the group would get involved in protesting the rate hike by the Dallas Water Company, he said the group is too busy now with education issues.

"I don't think they will get everything they're asking for," said Kunec, a Dallas Water customer. "Maybe they will get a little raise, it's the first time in many years they've asked for a raise."

According to Michael Coyle, manager of the four local companies, the profits have been slight since General Waterworks bought the four companies in May of 1990.

In 1990, the total profit of the four companies was about \$25,000, said Coyle. Two of the four companies made some money, Dallas about \$12,000 and Shavertown about \$33,000. The Harveys Lake company lost about \$18,000 and Noxen about \$3,000.

If the rate increase is approved, revenues for would increase by \$532,389 for the Dallas Water Company; \$27,715 for the Harveys Lake Water Company; \$15,695 for the Noxen Water Company; and \$101,886 for the Shavertown Water Company.

Besides boosting the profitability of the company, Coyle says that

the company also needs the increased revenues to pay for improvements to the system.

The most drastic improvement to the company's system is being undertaken now at Harveys Lake at a cost of \$100,000. The company has purchased an acre of land on Carpenter Road and drilled a 700-foot-deep new well to serve the customers on Hillside and Annabelle avenues.

The other most expensive improvement has been in Shavertown, where the company has spent \$43,000 installing an aerator to remove the sulfur smell from the water.

Coyle said that the new consolidated rates would mean that everyone in the system will pay the same amount for a given gallon of water.

Consolidation will also spread the cost of any improvements in any one company to the customers of all four companies. In this case, that means that Dallas and Noxen customers are subsidizing work on the Shavertown and Harveys Lake systems. If the rate increases were not consolidated, the rate request for Harveys Lake customers would jump up a whopping 640.22% and the increase request for Shavertown customers would be 44.51%.

Those wishing to lodge an informal complaint against a water company can call the Public Utility Commission Bureau of Consumer Services at 1-800-1110.

To file a formal complaint, you can call (717) 787-2395, or write: Secretary, Public Utility Commission, P.O. Box 3265, Harrisburg PA 17105-3265.

D.A. and state police investigating Harveys Lake Police Department

The Harveys Lake Police Department is being investigated for possible improprieties by the state police and the Luzerne County District Attorney's Office, according to District Attorney Peter Paul Olszewski.

"There is an ongoing investigation," said Olszewski, who would not comment on the nature of the possible offenses.

Olszewski said that the officers

being investigated include "assistant chief (Ronald) Spock and others."

Police chief Lionel Bullford said he was aware of the investigation.

As part of the investigation, a television was also reportedly confiscated by state police.

A television which is normally in the police department office was not there Monday, May 18.

Wilkes alumni will meet May 28

John F. Jastrem '77, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Knapp Communications Corporation (KCC) will be the featured speaker at the Alumni President's Breakfast Program on Thursday, May 28 at 7:30 a.m. at the Ramada Hotel on Public Square in Wilkes-Barre. Contact the Wilkes Alumni office for reservations by May 25, at 831-4134. Cost is \$8.25.

Property transfers

Property transfers recorded at the Luzerne County Court House from May 6, 1992 to May 7, 1992. Prices are extrapolated from transfer taxes paid. Many transfers, such as those between family members, are exempt from tax, so no amounts are shown.

Ruth D. Aston to David W. Aston, 25 Stafford St., Trucksville, property cor. Stafford St. & Davis Ave., Kingston Twp.

Philip Krasner to Jos. M. Hizny, RR 3, Box 272-27B, Dallas, property 1) 28.00 ac., 2) 14.029 ac., Lake Twp., \$42,000.

Harry Salavantes to John K. Delamater, 62 Penn St., Kingston, property Field Ridge Dr., Kingston Twp., \$35,000.

J. Ronald Carey to J. Ronald Carey, 154 Manor Dr., Shavertown, property L 31, Midway Manor, Kingston Twp.

Arline Rattigan to Wayne M. Scott, 34 Harris Hill Rd., Trucksville, property cor. Harris Hill Rd. & Main St., Kingston Twp.

Andrew Sinco to Allen L. Laidacker, RD 2, Box 173, Hunlock Creek, property Lehman Twp., \$200.

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