

Flower show

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Lectures among the blooms

"In Concert With Nature," Northeastern Pennsylvania's first standard flower show, presented by the Back Mountain Bloomers Garden Club, will feature a variety of interesting lectures to be presented during the show.

Thursday, May 13:

- Gardening with perennials, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- Unusual annuals and what's new in perennials, noon-1 p.m.
- Edible centerpiece, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
- Unusual annuals and what's new in perennials, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Friday, May 14:

- Herbs and flowers in harmony, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- Garden photography, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 15:

- Garden photography, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- Freeze-drying: the newest way to preserve flowers, fruits and vegetables, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

by Grace R. Dove

the original terraces and patios around the building, known as the Bishop's Library because it was the home of the bishop of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

Bev Turner, Florence Hallstead, Mrs. Freifeld and Hope Chollack meticulously researched the Victorian-era rose bushes, lilies, herbs and perennials originally used in the garden, set up long before the modern age of hybrid plants.

The flower show developed from a home and garden show, which Mrs. Freifeld had worked on as a fundraiser for the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic, of which she is a board member.

"A standard flower show simply means that the rules which will be followed for judging the plant categories are used all over the world," she explained. "It's for amateurs only. We'll use accredited judges from the National Council of State Garden Clubs."

Although the four-day flower show is a first effort, it's no minor event, with a small army of 200 community volunteers helping out.

The show will appeal to all ages and interests, with lectures on topics ranging from care of perennials and annuals

to flower photography and edible centerpieces, created from fruits, veggies and other tasty garden products.

Plant judging classes for all ages will include green plants, flowering plants, dried plant displays and special exhibits.

Participating schools include Apple Tree Primary School, Lake-Noxen School, Wyoming Area elementary students, Wyoming Seminary Lower School, Evans Falls Elementary and Lackawanna, Monroe and Luzerne County Vo-Tech schools.

The Sierra Club and the Audubon Society will also be on hand.

"We want to educate the plant enthusiast on growing healthy, beautiful gardens, and to showcase local talent," Mrs. Freifeld said.

"People want to be part of the flower show. The public cooperation has been excellent."

Membership in the Back Mountain Bloomers is, as Mrs. Freifeld expressed it, open to anyone who is interested in plants and likes to work hard and get dirty.

Flower show tickets, \$5.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children, will be available at the door: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday.

Dallas budget

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James Richardson announced that the cafeteria lost \$27,000 this year, \$12,000 of which covered meals for low-income students not covered by the federal lunch program.

Richardson explained that the high school had dropped the federally-subsidized lunches because only 10 students were eating them, substituting an "a la carte" menu of more familiar foods (burgers, fries, salads and pizza), which was ineligible for federal reimbursement. Described by board member Mrs. Ellen Nagv as "too successful," the a la carte menu is serving up to 50 high school students a day, which the district

has had to fund itself.

Superintendent Gerald Wycallis said that the five-year food service contract expires this year and will be up for bid.

The board received a plaque from seniors Todd Paczewski and Kelly McIntyre, accompanied by teacher Jay Pope, presented on behalf of Clarks Summit State Hospital in recognition of a Christmas volunteer service project by the senior class.

The students had made holiday decorations and refreshments for more than 200 patients at the facility as part of a series of community action programs regularly performed by the class.

The board approved the 1993-94 school calendar, with the first day of school for teachers Tuesday, September 7, and for students Wednesday, September 8.

Barring inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances, school will end Wednesday, June 15, 1994.

The retirements of teachers Jean Wilson, Clyde Boyer, Robert Bowen, Floyd Gallup, Mildred Robinson and Harry Misson, who were commended for their years of service, were accepted.

Clerical substitutes Dawn Ellsworth, Nancy Higgins, Monica Karpinski, Heather Yeisley, MaryJo Johnson and Lori Culver were appointed on an on-call basis.

Tax deposits

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library books than magazines," he said.

Ms. Williams noted that the increase accounted for higher magazine prices, as well as the need to significantly increase the variety of magazines available to all segments of the student population in preparation for Middle States evaluation, scheduled to begin next year. "Ten years ago Middle States told us that we didn't have enough magazines on hand,

so we want to add to the selection," she said.

The district will realize a savings of \$20,000 on its new tax collector compensation plan.

The budgetary reserve, up \$53,976 from last year, is estimated to be \$787,886 next year.

School board president Jack Cleary commended Ms. Williams

for all her work in organizing the budget.

"We're staying within our means, with no millage increase for three years in a row, no labor problems, no need to dip into the budgetary reserve and raises for our employees. Not many districts can say that they do that," he said.

The board expects to adopt its final budget at its June meeting.

Miers

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stable in Dallas Township from 1974-1980, feels his reputation in dealing with the public can help him as magistrate.

"I've always operated as a police officer by being fair and impartial," said Miers, who has four daughters, Susan, Amy Jo, Emily and Debra with his wife, Sharon. "I feel the same attributes have to hold true to anyone who will sit in judgement of another person. I've always had a strong interest in the judicial system.

"Basically, a magistrate should never be a rubber stamp for any police department," added Miers. "A person is guaranteed rights by the constitution as well as the rules of procedure. A police officer should never take shortcuts. He should always be fair and impartial."

Like his competition, Miers is planning on making a few changes in the office if he is elected, including the addition of evening hours.

"One of the first things I plan to do is re-establish evening hours," explained Miers. "I want to make it more accessible to everyone. Some people can't make it to the office without some kind of incon-

venience. I want to make it easier for them."

Miers feels his military experience, which included keeping the personnel records of nearly 600 soldiers, as well as his knowledge of the community, are some of his strongest assets.

"I have 24 years experience in dealing with people and working in the community," said Miers. "I dealt with the records of more than 600 men in the military and also maintained records at the police level. I went through the public school system here. I've been dealing with the public since I was a little kid delivering newspapers. I know the people in the community."

Like his counterpart, Miers is glad the campaign has upheld the high standards the position warrants.

"I want to congratulate Mr. Tupper on maintaining the same demeanor at a level that shows the dignity of the office," concluded Miers. "I have no reason to doubt Mr. Tupper's integrity and I think he feels the same about me. The issue is that the people decide who is the most qualified person for the office."

Tough job

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Township, Lake Township, Lehman Township, Harveys Lake Borough and Jackson Township.

A candidate for District Justice must successfully complete magistrate's school at Wilson College, a one month five-day per week school with a tuition of approximately \$1,500. The justice must be re-certified every year.

"Basically, all criminal proceedings start here, from a misdemeanor to murder," said the 66-year old Gregory. "A district justice has total jurisdiction over all summary proceedings. He also has jurisdiction up to \$8,000 in civil proceedings and he has jurisdiction over all criminal proceedings up to the preliminary hearing level. We are allowed to take guilty pleas for the misdemeanor of the third degree (i.e. possession of marijuana)."

For example, in a simple driving under the influence arrest, the defendant is given a citation by the arresting officer and is given a summons with a date to appear before the magistrate. The defendant has a right to a preliminary hearing and the right to an attorney.

In a preliminary hearing, the defendant is told the nature of the charge and pleads guilty or not guilty. If the plea is not guilty, it is the arresting officer's duty to prove the guilt. The defendant, or his counsel, has the right to testify and cross-examine the officer.

After hearing the testimony, the magistrate can find the defendant guilty or dismiss the charges.

If the defendant is found guilty, the magistrate sets a bail (many times the defendant is released under his own recognizance) and sends a copy of the transcript to criminal court. The defendant has the right to appeal the magistrate's decision to a higher court.

The district magistrate processed 4,500 cases in 1992, including 2,939 traffic, 484 criminal, 740 non-traffic and 334 civil cases. The magistrate can hear a civil case up to \$8,000. That was an increase of 1,000—roughly 30 percent—from the 3,500 cases in 1991.

The District Justice is a government employee and is granted an extensive benefit package, including health, dental and eyeglass insurance. His current staff consists of three employees, all of whom work for the county. Gregory feels his staff could be larger.

"I don't have enough staff to run the place," said Gregory, who also has to handle the thousands of dollars that come into the office from traffic citations. "We're behind on cases. There's too many hearings, too many cases. We had 1,000 more cases last year than the year before and that still doesn't entitle you to any more help."

A District Justice signs warrants and participates with other

county magistrates in a 24-hour duty man roster. The magistrate on call handles any cases that may arise after normal office hours for a period of one week. Gregory said a magistrate gets the duty about once every three months.

A magistrate also has the authority to marry a couple, a right Gregory exercised about 20 times last year. The justice's last ceremony took place on April 23.

Despite the heavy workload and daily pressures, Gregory has kept

his sense of humor, especially when it comes to giving advice to his successor.

"I already gave them my advice. I told them that if they had any brains, they wouldn't be running for the job," quipped Gregory. "They don't know what they're getting into. They don't have the faintest idea. When the pay went up to \$45,000 a year in January, everyone thought I would run again. I said I wouldn't run again if this job paid \$100,000."

Tupper

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explained Tupper. The office is currently open on Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. "Some people have to take off work to come in and pay a fine or to file a complaint. I feel it's tough for someone to have to take off work to do this. I'd like to have office hours at night at least once a week, if not more.

"The office is so overburdened with cases," Tupper continued. "With the recent safety blitz, the workload is going to double. From what I hear, they (the office) could use more help. But that's up to the county. I'd like to set up a system where you don't have to wait eight months for a traffic hearing."

"I think I can show compassion and be fair-minded," said Tupper. "I've been out of police work for six

years and a lot of the officers have changed. I've also been the victim of a crime (Tupper suffered a gunshot wound to the leg in the line of duty). I can understand how they might feel.

"I plan to go back and review what I learned in (Minor Judiciary Board) school if I'm elected," added Tupper. "If you're elected, they send you back to school for a little while. It's just like being a police officer, you can know the law inside and out, but you have to be able to put it into practice."

Tupper added that he has been pleased with the tone of the campaign between the two candidates.

"Carl and I are friends," concluded Tupper. "I like it that way. I don't want to get involved in all that (mudslinging) stuff. After the race, I still want to be friends."

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