

Auction

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Woman at work!

Volunteer Peggy Young wields a paint brush with the Dallas Rotary Club refurbishing the buildings and grounds of the Back Mountain Memorial Library for the annual auction July 11-14.

the Dallas High School Key Club, which he tapped for volunteers.

"Those Key Clubbers and Keyettes were fantastic," he said. "They were a great help. We don't give young people enough credit today."

One Keyette took McCutcheon's lessons to heart. Peggy Jordan Harvey, whose father, Dr. Lester Jordan, was chairman in 1961, took over the chairman's reins in 1995.

Another former Key Clubber, Jim Snyder, started out working the block, then spread his talents to other booths. He has helped set up auctions at all three locations - and clean up afterwards.

"Jim's a real trooper," McCutcheon said.

This year will be Snyder's 35th year working at the auction. He started out at Howard Risley's barn with antiques chairman Mrs. Mitchell Jenkins, bringing the items from storage to the block set up on an old truck bed.

"Key Club members were also bid spotters and built the stands every year," Snyder recalled. "We sold everything, from a raccoon coat to lots of beautiful antiques. Many items would reappear on the block after 10 years, ready to find new homes."

The first booth he ran was the fun booth, featuring kids' games like the balloon bust and beanbag toss. Since then he has also helped out with parking, the Odds 'n Ends booth

and on the block.

"I've done everything but be chairman," he said, laughing. "It's really fun. I love the whole atmosphere."

He recalled one year, when a duck pond set up in a small swimming pool burst, drenching the bidders. Another year a severe thunderstorm Saturday night dampened things for a while, but "we were back in business 20 minutes after it was over."

Girl Scouts made tons of fudge to sell to several generations of families back in town especially for the event. Volunteers gave up six weeks of the summer to set up and tear down the booths each year, often staying on the grounds until 1 or 2 a.m.

"I think one of the nicest things about the auction is the beautiful paintings Sue Hand does each year," he said. "You see it being created and can say, 'Yes, I was a part of it.'"

Starting in 1960, Key Clubber Joe Hand worked in the barn or setting up, later he being drafted as one of the human targets for the dunk tank, for which his mother-in-law, Mertie Larish, always bought "lots of tickets."

Working at the auction was a family affair. Joe's father, Joe Hand, Sr., and his stepfather, Dallas mayor Paul LaBar, were both active committee members.

Joe's fondest childhood auction memory is the food - espe-

cially the luscious cherries in Risley's orchard next door, which just happened to hang within easy reach of those daring enough to climb the large white fence.

The Freeman family of Dallas Township have also made the auction a part of their lives. Kerry was chairman in 1977 and his wife, Joanne, was chairman in 1983. Their daughter, Kelly, also volunteers each year.

An auctioneer well-known for his wisecracks and flamboyant hats, Kerry always livens things up when he takes his turn on the block. The same group of auctioneers has worked together for a decade. There's plenty of clowning around to keep things interesting.

"We're seeing the fourth generation of workers," said Freeman, who became involved with the auction shortly after moving here from Wisconsin.

"It's a bit of Americana that should be preserved. I don't understand why people choose not to support it."

Through the years he has seen sales of pets discontinued due to animal protection laws and the loss of rural space, a greater emphasis on antiques and fewer new goods as Back Mountain merchants disappear. He's also seen truckloads of junk which the library has had to pay to have hauled away.

Freeman would love to see more new families in the community support the auction. It's hard to get volunteers, he

said. "People don't seem to want to work on something unless they get paid for it or unless it will benefit them personally," he said.

Barbara Lemmond says the auction is like a huge block party. Wehn her family was young she practically lived at the auction grounds, making it part of their routine.

Auctioneer John Vivian was great," she said. "The men on the block would give him a toilet seat and he'd hold it up and call it a picture frame. Or they'd hand him a chamber pot because they knew he'd always come up with a wisecrack."

She recalled one year when a lovely oak ice box was on the block. Two people nearly drove themselves crazy trying to outbid each other.

"Times like that are very exciting," she said.

One of the strangest auctions was 1972, when the Back Mountain housed thousands of survivors of the Hurricane Agnes flood and made it necessary to postpone the annual event until October. Instead of shading themselves from the hot July sun, visitors bundled up against the fall's chilly air - but they did it.

The places and faces may change, but old-timers and young pups agree that one thing remains constant at the auction - the community spirit which has made the Back Mountain famous.

ASK AN EXPERT

ADULT DAY CARE

Q: What are the benefits of Adult Day Care?

A: Adult day programs have a mutual benefit for both the caregiver and the participant. People with Alzheimer's disease, Post Stroke or Frail Elderly are no different from anyone else in their need to feel their lives still have meaning and that they fill a necessary function in the world.

It helps daycare participants make a connection to their former roles as mothers, fathers, teachers, business people, workers and social butterflies. Caregivers who use adult day care services find freedom to pursue their own interests knowing that their loved one is safe.

RIVERSIDE...Adult Day Care Center
220 South River St.
Plains, PA 18705
823-5161

BANKING

Last month I talked about preapproval. Now if you know how much you need to borrow for a mortgage, you can apply for preapproval. Preapproval is simply the customer and the bank going through the motions as if you were applying for a mortgage for a certain amount.

At Franklin First, you would apply and find out the results within one week in most situations. Once you are preapproved, you would have 60 days to apply for a mortgage. The mortgage would be subject to a favorable appraisal.

Preapproval is nice to have when you are dealing with a realtor and/or the people you are purchasing the house from. Franklin First would provide you with a document showing you are preapproved and this would reflect that you are a serious buyer.

If you are interested in more information, stop by or call a Franklin First Savings Bank near you.

FRANKLIN FIRST
Rt. 309 and Upper Demunds Rd., Dallas, PA 18612
675-3621 or 800-262-1210

CHIROPRACTOR

Q: What causes sciatica?

A: Sciatica is an inflammation of the sciatic nerve, the longest nerve in your body. It runs from your lower spine, through your buttocks, and into your leg and foot. When the sciatic nerve is inflamed, it can cause numbness, tingling, pain, or weakness in your lower back and leg.

Based on the results of your exam and tests, your doctor of chiropractic may recommend a treatment program to relieve the irritation that's causing your pain and other symptoms. Your treatment depends on the cause of your sciatica. During a spinal adjustment, your chiropractor gently presses on your spine to relieve irritated nerves and increase movement in your joints. Even if you don't have symptoms, chiropractic care is one of the best ways to manage or prevent spinal problems and maintain a healthier life.

Dr. John D. Wanyo
68 Main St., Luzerne PA 18709
288-0629

COUNSELING

Q: What are the major kinds of anxiety disorders?

A: There are several major types of anxiety disorders, each with its own characteristics. People with generalized anxiety disorder have recurring fears or worries, such as about health or finances, and they often have a persistent sense that something bad is just about to happen. Panic disorder involves sudden, intense and unprovoked feelings of terror and dread. People who suffer from this disorder generally develop strong fears about when and where their next panic attack will occur. A related disorder involves phobias, or intense fears, about certain objects or situations. Specific phobias may involve things such as encountering certain animals or flying in airplanes. Obsessive-compulsive disorder is characterized by uncontrollable and unwanted feelings or thoughts. Examples include: excessive hand washing or checking over something repeatedly for errors. If left untreated, anxiety disorders can have severe consequences. Many people who suffer from an untreated anxiety disorder are prone to other disorders, such as depression, and have a greater tendency to abuse alcohol and other drugs. If you experience any of these symptoms it would be important to have a complete evaluation by a mental health professional to determine your treatment needs.

Advanced Psychological Associates
Upper Demunds Road, Dallas, PA
674-7944

EYE CARE

Q: Why is a dilated exam so important?

A: A dilated examination allows the doctor a much more extensive view to the health of the eye. This is very important routinely for all people, however much more so for those with a history of diabetes, high blood pressure or a family history of glaucoma. Those individuals with high amounts of nearsightedness (Myopia) need to be evaluated every year as a routine precaution as well.

In high degrees of myopia, the retina can become stretched or thinned in certain areas; when this occurs the retina is more susceptible to holes, rips, tears or retinal detachments. Most of the time these can be prevented by a laser treatment which can prevent a retinal break or detachment from occurring. A dilated eye exam also allows more common health occurrences such as cataracts and macular degeneration to be monitored as often as your doctor recommends.

Evans and Russo
121 S. Memorial Highway, Shavertown, PA 18708
696-2000

FAMILY PRACTICE

Q: How do you know if you are allergic?

A: Allergies come in many varieties. Allergic reactions to pollen can cause runny nose, itchy eyes or asthma. Allergic reactions to drugs can cause a rash, hives, difficulty breathing or even collapse. Substances that touch the skin can cause an allergic reaction such as seen with poison ivy.

If you are uncertain about the cause of your symptoms, a consultation with your doctor is recommended.

Dallas Family Practice
100 Upper Demunds Rd., Dallas
675-2111

HEALTH & FITNESS

Basics of Resistance Training

1. Always warm up
2. Always stretch out
3. Concentrate on the muscles and levers being used
4. Keep a food diary
5. Remember to take appropriate recovery time
6. Circuit train if weight loss is your goal.
7. Drink plenty of water well before your workout

One-to-One Fitness
417 Memorial Highway, Dallas
675-6554

INSURANCE

Q: Do you have an All Terrain Vehicle? Is it insured? Should it be insured?

A: If you are an owner of an ATV, most homeowners policies will cover the vehicle for liability while being operated on your land only. The vehicle is also usually covered for any named peril under a homeowners policy, such as fire, theft, vandalism, wind, or lightning to name a few. If you wish to operate the vehicle on property other than your own and want to be covered for property and bodily injury liability, you may obtain additional coverage including comprehensive and collision loss.

NATIONWIDE INSURANCE
Gordon Business Center, Suite 1,
194 N. Memorial Hwy, Shavertown, PA 18708
675-5234

INVESTING

Q: How can I protect my estate from excessive taxes?

A: Planning for the distribution of your estate is an important and complex issue. If you are a married individual, your assets pass to your surviving spouse free of taxes upon your death. Without planning, the tax problem comes upon the death of the second spouse. This is when estate taxes can be imposed as high as 55%, plus probate costs. Your heirs could be left with very little from your estate.

Everyone should have an up to date will to ensure their wishes are fulfilled. But to minimize shrinkage of your estate upon death, your first step is to complete a detailed estate plan. An estate plan will determine if an estate tax problem exists, and will then show what steps should then be taken.

For a no obligation estate planning consultation, please feel free to contact the number below.

Merrill Lynch
600 Baltimore Drive, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
(717) 829-8048 • 1-800-275-1885

JEWELER

Q: What karat gold should a person buy, 10K, 14K, or 18K?

A: Well, 10K gold is very durable, however, it is very brittle. 18K gold on the other hand, is very soft and should not be used to hold diamonds such as prongs. 14K has been used mostly because of its durability and also the unique bending capabilities without cracking.

TOVON & CO.
Diamond Importers
Dallas Shopping Center, Dallas
675-4444

PODIATRIST

Q: I have a painful hammer toe. What can be done?

A: "Hammer toe" describes a buckling or abnormal curl of any of your toe joints. Corns (buildup of dead skin) forms on top or between these toes. If symptoms are mild, changing shoe, padding and trimming the corns may alleviate the symptoms. For severe painful hammer toes, an in-office surgery can be performed. You can often bear weight after the surgery, with a surgical shoe. After a month, you may be able to return to normal activities and shoe-gear.

Kelly Yurko, D.P.M.
550 Memorial Highway, Dallas, PA
675-9540

The professionals and specialists on this page have studied and worked to become expert in their fields. They are ready to serve you with their knowledge.