Liberty Bell

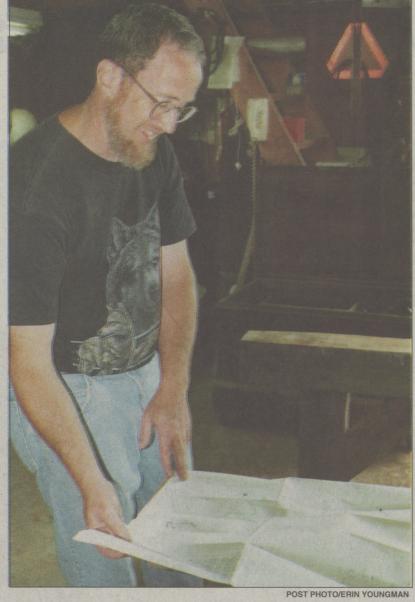
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opportunity to give something back in the wake of September 11. He bid to donate all of the labor costs incurred in replacing the wood yoke and base in memory of the victims of 9/11. "It's something little we wanted to do in memory of 9/11," he

To keep historical continuity, Rowland sought to blend materials that were used on the original bell and the 1950s reproduction. Because both types of trees that were used in the original yoke and base are near-extinct wood species, Rowland procured and fabricated the timbers from re-claimed salvage timbers.

The American elm used for the yoke came from a century old barn near Port Jervis and was donated by Conklin's Barnwood of Susquehanna. The base is made of American chestnut. A natural fiber rope was a last minute addition requested for the installation, so President George W. Bush will be able to ring the bell at the eremony.

"In 21 years of business, it's the smallest job, but it's been the most fun. Having the connection to September 11 has put it (the experience) over the edge for me," said Rowland about the process that began in April and was completed and installed August 29.



Mitch Rowland explains his plans for the reconstruction of the liberty bell reproduction.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BMT Ministerium service Sept. 15 at Misericordia

The Back Mountain Ministerium will conduct a service of remembrance and renewal on Sunday, Sept. 15 at 4 p.m. in the amphitheater at College Misericordia, Dallas, to mark the first anniversary of the September 11, 2001, disaster in New York, Washington and western Pennsylvania.

Local clergy members involved in the planning are: Pastor Charles Grube, St. Paul's Lutheran Church; Pastor Jan Clark, Shavertown United Methodist Church; Pastor Bill Kennard, formerly of Alderson United Methodist Church; and Cheryl Cavalari, Misericordia Campus Ministries.

Pastor Grube has indicated that Back Mountain clergy members and other special guests will focus In the three voices of the church: priestly, prophetic and pastoral.

John Curtis, Director of Music at College Misericordia, will present special music for the service. The service is open to the public and all are invited to attend.

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Trinity Presbyterian Church, 105 Irem Road, Dallas, will hold a service of prayer and remembrance September 11 at noon. The public is invited. The sanctuary will be open for prayer and reflection every day, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. until noon.

Fellowship Evangelical Free Church

The Fellowship Evanglical Free Church will have a special memorial service at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 11. At the service we will recognize and honor our local firemen and police forces and pay tribute to those who lost their lives one year ago, Everyone is invited to come hear a message of hope in a hurting world. The church is located on Hildebrandt Rd. near the Dallas Schools. For more information call the church office at 675-6426

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

The sanctuary will be open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for private meditation.

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Lake-Lehman

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record straight" after numerous public "misstatements and false accusations" by Lake-Lehman Education Association's (LLEA) head negotiator, John Holland.

In the release, the school board said top representatives of the teachers' union and their negotiating representative did have an offer from the school board on August 6, contrary to denials by Holland. The statement said the offer was agreed upon beforehand by LLEA President Daniel Williams, Richard Cronin and Phil Lipski and four members of the board. The release also said "teachers present at the LLEA meeting at the end of August were not informed of the offer or the board-'s good faith effort to settle the contract." Teachers at that August 26 meeting voted to authorize a strike.

Board President Charles Boytin said Holland repeatedly called him a liar and denied receipt of the offer in "a barrage of press" last week even though

"Every time I think there is a resolution to the problem something new crops up."

> **Charles Boytin** Board president

the union president, Williams, by Boytin after a board meeting August 6.

"We thought we had a resolution to this problem twice in the last few months. It did not work out," said a clearly frustrated Boytin to district parents and residents at Tuesday evening's board meeting. "Every time I think there is a resolution to the problem something new crops up."

Parents and students of the Lake-Lehman School District expressed concern about the possibility of a teachers' strike. Felicia Ryan, parent of a Lakethe offer was hand delivered to Lehman senior, said she was

apprehensive about the talk of a strike and hoped negotiations were continuing as, historically, ongoing negotiations "put a

strike on the back burner." "I'm hoping that everybody acts in good faith," Ryan said when told by Boytin a tentative meeting had been set up for

Monday. Boytin said he had spent numerous hours with the board's chief negotiator, Bruce Campbell, over the weekend deliberating the board's next step.

"Hopefully we can get something done next week," Boytin said. "It takes both sides to try to get something done."

Board Solicitor Charles Coslett added that negotiation of a teachers' contract was a complex field of law. "Tensions obviously run high and the longer it takes to achieve the end result, the more nasty things get said."

Coslett added, "If you have ever been through it you know why Mr. Boytin is a bit frustrated with the whole thing."

Bus snags

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few district students.

"I then had to transport (my sixth grader) to the school and rush back in order for my other two (children) to be able to make the bus for Ross Elementary," Herrick said.

Herrick said two of her three children arrived home well after 5 p.m. and spent more than an hour and a half on the bus after school.

"I have a problem with that,"

"I promise you we will work diligently that this does not happen again," Superintendent Robert Roberts told Herrick

Board member Sheila Gionfriddo also had busing problems with her children, as did board member Lois Kopcha's grandson. Concerned board members suggested changes and times be more effectively communicated to the parents in the district.

"We are talking about kids standing out on country roads for half an hour or an hour," said Kopcha. "(Parents) certainly should have been advised of the time changes."

Business Manager Kathleen Williams warned that in past well said

learned what bus they were to ride and drivers learned their new routes. She expects this year to have the same learning curve and late arrivals. Students from Ross Elementary who lived in Evergreen Estates were the last to arrive home at about 6 p.m., said Williams.

The unexpected resignation of Transportation Coordinator Kimberly Holcomb caused a bit of chaos, as there were no knowledgeable persons to man the phones. All buses are equipped with phones making the task of locating children who were on the wrong bus easier. Williams said she and her staff made a point to call all parents back and ensure all students arrived home

"We will do better next year," said Williams concerning notifying parents of changes in bus schedules and school starting

The next board meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. September 10 in the high school auditorium.

In other business;

• The first day of school went Superintendent years, buses tended to run late Roberts, save the transportation for the first few weeks as children problems. Roberts praised the

diligent efforts of the Director of Building and Grounds, Ben Schall, and his staff in getting the high school ready to go. Roberts said while there were small things left to do and the library and art room not yet completed, all classrooms were avail-

The biggest problem at the high school, Roberts said, is fixing the traffic flow problem. At present, there is only one entrance to the high school parking lot. Project architect Douglas Trumbower said the other two entrances will be finished in mid-November.

• The board is expected to seek bids on a tractor with blade, loader, mower and cab to mow the large areas at the high school. The mower will cover a 15-foot width. It is expected to cut costs and time.

• The following changes will be made to the school calendar to provide for five local holidays; the day after Thanksgiving, November 28. December 23. 24 and 26. There will be no school on these days in addition to Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day, January 1.

Q: Where do you find the most Back Mountain news each week? A: Only in The Dallas Post

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