

County Will Act On Safety Recommendations

WAYNESBURG — The Greene County commissioners have asked county maintenance superintendent John Higgins to follow up on building safety recommendations from the insurance company which provides coverage on county facilities.

The report notes that the grandstand shows signs of weakening and suggests an inspection by a qualified architect to make sure that it is safe for public assembly. The report also states that electrical wiring in the grandstand is inadequate for cooking appliances operated in the food stands under the structure and recommends that the wiring either be updated or cooking be prohibited.

The report also calls for installation of "no smoking" signs at the entrances to all fairgrounds barns, installation of an emergency lighting system for the grange building since it is used for night events, and repair of the emergency lighting system at the livestock barn.

Other recommendations include making the vacant Sayers-Hooper building on East High Street secure against intruders to prevent the possibility of general liability exposure, installation of emergency lighting in the old county office building and replacement of defective hoses at the fueling station at the county airport.

In other action at the meeting, the commissioners renewed the county agreement with Blue Cross of Pennsylvania for Blue Cross, Blue Shield and major medical coverage.

Chief Clerk Herbert Cox said that the agreement calls for an increase of \$7.56 per month in the cost of coverage for each of the county's 236 employees, which will translate into an increase of \$21,410 in premium payments during 1984.

The county pays for medical coverage on employees only, with the employees having the option of paying the difference in the premium if they want additional coverage. Those who pay an additional amount for family coverage, for example, will pay an additional \$11.75 per month next year.

The commissioners also renewed the county's agreement with the Pennsylvania State Association of County Commissioners to participate in its unemployment compensation trust. The county's contribution rate for the coming year will be increased from 1 percent to 1.25 percent of the first \$8,000 earned by each employee, which is still well below the 5.25 percent charged for participation in the state program.

It was also pointed out that, under a new state law passed this year, employees for the first time will share in the cost of unemployment compensation coverage. Beginning on Jan. 1, employers must collect one-tenth of one percent from the total wages earned by an individual.

Mike Simkovic and Eola Trumka of Nemaacolin met with the commissioners to ask the commissioners to deed over to the association the five acres of land surrounding the former county swimming pool in Nemaacolin. The pool was closed several years ago.

Authority To Receive Tap-In Fee From Housing Project

CARMICHAELS — The Carmichaels-Cumberland Township Joint Sewer Authority will receive a tap-in fee of \$12,600 this week from the Joyland Park Housing Project now under construction at Carmichaels.

Members of the authority board decided Tuesday to add to it \$3,400 from the authority assessment account and use the resulting \$16,000 to lower the \$28,000 balance due on its construction loan.

The board passed a resolution which was necessary to remove the three authority employees from the municipal retirement fund. The employees had requested that they be permitted to join their union pension plan instead. Funds paid into the previous plan will be returned to the employees.

The loan was taken out to build the Ceylon Road pump station and related construction work.

Authority members also agreed to write state Sen. J. Barry Stout expressing their interest in passage of House Bill 1570. The bill, which passed the state House of Representatives in October, is now before the Senate Transportation Committee. It would require the Department of Transportation to assume all responsibility for bringing manhole covers and drains up to grade level when it resurfaces state roads.

The authority's letter states that passage of the legislation would "relieve a financial burden of the authority over work of which they have no control. It will also result in improved service at lower cost."

Plant Manager Edgar Harris reported that all exposed metal at the sewage treatment plant has now been painted and that two tanks will be painted with coal tar next spring.

As a point of information, authority members pointed out that when the township paved the Old Waynesburg Road in May, the authority had to pay \$2,900 for riser rings to bring the manhole covers up to the new level of the road.

Screenings included vision, height, weight, anemia testing, blood pressure, hearing testing, nutrition assessment, dental evaluation and black lung testing.

Community Health Center Invites Public To Attend Board Meeting

BOBTOWN — The Southeastern Greene Community Health Center, which recently sponsored a Family Health Day at its Bobtown Center, will hold its annual board meeting at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, at the Bobtown Center.

A user of the health center is eligible to become a board member. Nominations will be accepted from the floor.

The project stressed the commitment to good health shared by family physicians and the people they serve.

The meeting is open to all residents of the communities served by the health organization, which has centers in Greensboro and Bobtown. The purpose of the meeting is to elect board members.

"The health center encourages all people from the community to attend this meeting," a center spokesman said. "We are striving to provide the best services available to this community and the best way to do that is to have active input from our community members."

Screenings help people to become more responsible for their own health, which creates a stronger partnership for health," the center spokesman said. "This year's Family Health Day was such a success that we are already thinking about an extended version for next year."

Grocery Workers Claim Lockout

RICHEYVILLE — Striking workers who have picketed the Rosefield Food Center now gather in front of the town's only grocery store to press their claim of being locked out.

The 14 cashiers, deli workers, meat cutters and stock personnel who went on strike Sept. 1 have offered to return to work under the old contract, but owner Thomas Villers rejected the offer.

Some New Rules For Free Cheese

WAYNESBURG — Since Greene County was allocated only 1,000 blocks of cheese for November, the Greene County Food Bank has established increasingly strict eligibility guidelines for the receipt of cheese at the Nov. 18 distribution.

Andrew Bury, United Steelworkers of America representative for the district that includes Local 14423 in Richeyville, said he does not think Villers wants a settlement.

Residents will be eligible to receive cheese on Nov. 18 if (1) they have a blue medical card, (2) if they do not live alone, and (3) if they have not already received cheese in November.

"It's a lockout as far as we're concerned," Bury said.

The requirement for a blue medical card includes all individuals, even senior citizens. No one will be served unless he or she is in possession of a blue medical card. Those who receive Supplemental Security Income because they receive less than \$336.70 in social security benefits are those who are eligible for the blue medical card.

According to Richard I. Thomas, Villers' legal counsel, "They consider it a lockout to make the strikers eligible for unemployment compensation. We consider it to still be a strike."

Only one block of cheese will be given to each household — regardless of family size.

The union sent Villers a registered letter on Oct. 17 offering to return to work under the previous contract and to continue negotiations.

Distribution points for the Nov. 18 distribution will be announced.

"We offered to go with the current contract for two years," Bury said.

GED Examination Offered At YDC

WAYNESBURG — The G.E.D. examination for high school equivalency will be administered Tuesday, Nov. 22, at the Waynesburg Youth Development Center administration building.

When the parties met two days later Villers orally acknowledged receiving the letter and rejected the back-to-work offer.

Those interested in taking the examination must register by 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21. Cost of registration is \$15. For additional information call 627-6185, extension 285.

"We're willing to work under the old contract and the people are willing to give him a contract he can live with during the next couple years," Bury said.

Needs Donations

WAYNESBURG — The Greene County Chapter of the American Red Cross is making an appeal for help for the Daniel Koscheck family of Swartz who lost everything in a fire Friday, Nov. 4.

Fire Destroys Barn, Telephone Line

NINEVEH — Residents of the Nineveh and Graysville areas lost their telephone service when a large barn was destroyed by fire Monday night.

The family needs a refrigerator, beds, dressers, couch and chairs, a television set, washer and drier, dishes, silverware, small appliances, towels, wash cloths, pillows and bedding.

The 9:30 p.m. blaze, which leveled a barn owned by Steve Martin of Nineveh R.D. I, also burned a utility pole and a trunk line of the Mid-Penn Telephone Corp. Service crews which worked throughout the night had all areas back in service by 9 a.m. Tuesday.

Anyone who could make a donation should call the Red Cross office at 627-3834 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. or, after hours, call Mary Collins at 627-5481.

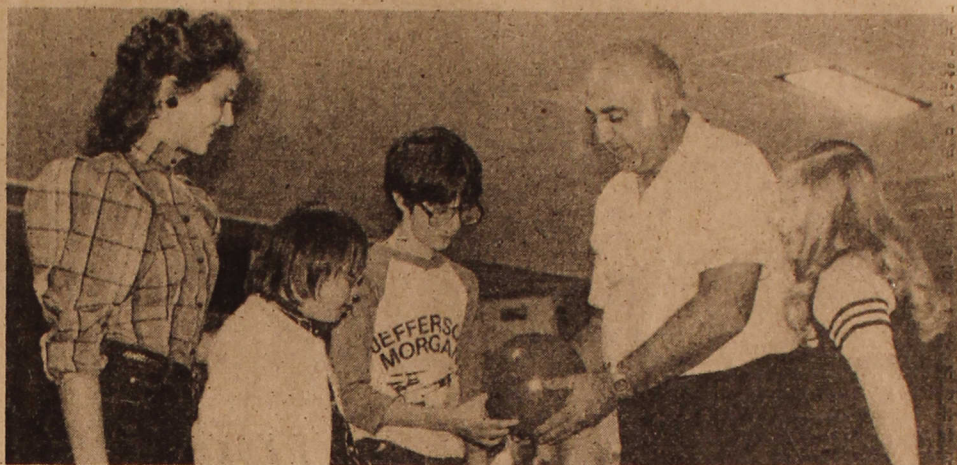
Randy Carroll, chief of the Morris Township Volunteer Fire Co. said the two-store stone and frame barn was located on Route 30048, between Nineveh and Graysville. It contained 2,000 bales of hay, a hay elevator and tools and equipment.

Cause of the fire was not immediately determined and no estimate of loss has been made.

Carroll said loss of telephone service prevented Mrs. Martin and neighbors from calling in an alarm. By the time firemen could be contacted, he said, the barn was beyond saving.

Fred Shea, engineering supervisor for Mid-Penn's Waynesburg service area, said the utility pole was located next to the barn, at a point where an "aerial insert" had been made in the underground telephone cable to permit work on a road slip.

Shea said the re-spliced cable has been strung temporarily along a fence so that service could be restored, pending permanent repairs.



Observer-Reporter

Special Olympics Bowling

Some 20 persons from Greene County will be among the expected 100 participants in Saturday's Area D Special Olympics Bowling Tournament to be held at Alpine Lanes, Washington. Five from Greene County will be among the 25 from Area D to participate in the state tournament in Harrisburg. Practice sessions for those from the Jefferson-Morgan district have been held at Sahady Lanes in Jefferson. Ernest Sahady, who donated his facilities for the practice, and Terrie Rush, a volunteer from the Jeff-Morgan High National Honor Society Chapter, are shown instructing, from left, Kandy Machesky, Michael Seals and Marcy McMannes. Parents and members of the Jefferson-Morgan Professional Association are also volunteering their help. Anyone wishing to volunteer may contact Sue Rice at 852-2323.

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