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A GOOD HOME NEWSPAPER

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Mapletown High School Students Help Clean Up

By Christie Molzon, Staff Writer

GREENSBORO — There are no classes at Mapletown High School these days. The classrooms are empty and the halls echo from the sound of an intruder's footsteps. The lights are off in the library, the football field is desolate, and the microscopes in the lab sit waiting.

But never let it be said that some of the students aren't getting an education. Nor take away the fact that they also have, in many ways, become teachers themselves. For the past week, these students have taught many people, some three times their age, what it means to be a good neighbor.

Ever since the floodwaters from the Monongahela River started receding from the town of Greensboro, a group of about 30 high school students has been helping in the cleanup.

Most of them have worked for the past seven days, sometimes in mud up to their knees, clearing out water-soaked rugs, appliances and household furnishings which had to be disposed of. They show up every morning and work until it is dark, carting truckload after truckload to the dumping ground at Mon View Park. They have been in almost every home that suffered water damage. While others much older have grown weary and cranky, they have worked tirelessly, without complaint. And, over the weekend, they had to line up to get tetanus shots.

What could have been a week-long vacation from school has become an exhausting, grinding, messy chore that goes on day after day.

Why, then, do they do it? "Mostly to help the people down here," said Jeff Wilson, a senior. His home is in the Cabbage Flats area, up on high ground, yet because he knew most of the flood victims he wanted to lend his assistance.

Chuck DeBolt is a ninth grader

who joined the cleanup forces a day late. "I had my own home to clean out," the boy explained. His family, which lives in the Sandy Run area, had water halfway up the first floor.

Not only have the boys carried numerous freezers and clothes washers and dryers out of basements, but it took 14 of them to remove a wet carpet from a house in Alicia. "It weighed 700 pounds," Wilson said.

And the boys weren't the only ones out doing the dirty work. Jennifer Solosky, who was recently chosen as the school's Miss Merry Christmas, has been part of the cleanup crew since last week. On Monday, she was covered with mud from her boots to her long, blonde curls.

"I'm really impressed," said teacher Bernie Kubitz when asked about his students' efforts. "Oh, they like to have fun and joke around, but they really work hard. And there's nothing they won't do. They're just great."

Part of the fun shows up in the beat-up truck the students ride from house to house. The old World War II surplus truck looks comical enough coming down the street with a dozen muddy teen-agers hanging off of it, but then they added decorations — a couple of American flags for the back

and antlers attached to the hood.

Some of the students were quick to point out that it was their teachers who deserved credit for the cleanup work. "If it wasn't for Mr. Lubich, this wouldn't have been possible," one student said, "because he organized the whole thing."

Lubich and about 20 other faculty members have also spent the past week getting muddy, and only four of them live in the Southeastern Greene School District. One teacher, who lives in Washington County, has been paying a babysitter everyday so she could work on the flood detail.

No one seems surprised that people connected with the school district pitched in to help, even though in other areas the same spirit has not prevailed. Mark Brozik, business manager, said simply, "We have good people down here."

The high school cafeteria continues to serve from 1,200 to 1,500 meals a day, supplying not only those whose homes were washed out, but firemen and other volunteers.

"We surprised ourselves," said Maryann Haney, the head cook, who has worked more than 12 hours each day. She laughed when she told of the

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Mapletown High School students clean up the flood debris from a home in Greensboro.

A special section of pictures and stories on last week's disastrous flood is a part of this edition of the Republican.

Millsboro Couple's Win To Ease Flooding Woes

MILLSBORO — A Millsboro couple whose home was flooded last week got a bit of good fortune Sunday, Nov. 10, courtesy of the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Shop 'n Save grocery company.

"It couldn't have come at a better time," Helen Hart said Monday after being notified that she had won a \$1,000 grocery order from the Greensburg-based firm. "My friends told me they had heard my name announced as a winner, but I was too busy cleaning our house to listen to the game, even on radio."

She won on the Steelers' first touchdown against Kansas City, a first quarter pass of 13 yards from quarterback David Woodley to veteran receiver John Stallworth. Since the Steelers hadn't scored in the fourth quarter of the game against Cleveland the preceding week, there was a \$500 carryover to raise her prize to \$1,000.

Mrs. Hart, 64, and her husband, Ralph G. Hart, 68, live in a house close to the Monongahela River. On Tuesday of last week floodwaters reached a level of three feet on the second floor of the house.

She and her husband, who is a retired miner who formerly worked at Gateway mine in Clarksville, are back in their house after removal of the worst of the muck left behind when the river receded. They had been residing temporarily with their son, John

E. Hart of Millsboro, and his family.

"We still have a long way to go," she said when contacted Monday at Millsboro Presbyterian Church where she and her husband were eating lunch. "We managed to salvage some of the furniture, but we lost all our groceries, so this comes in very handy."

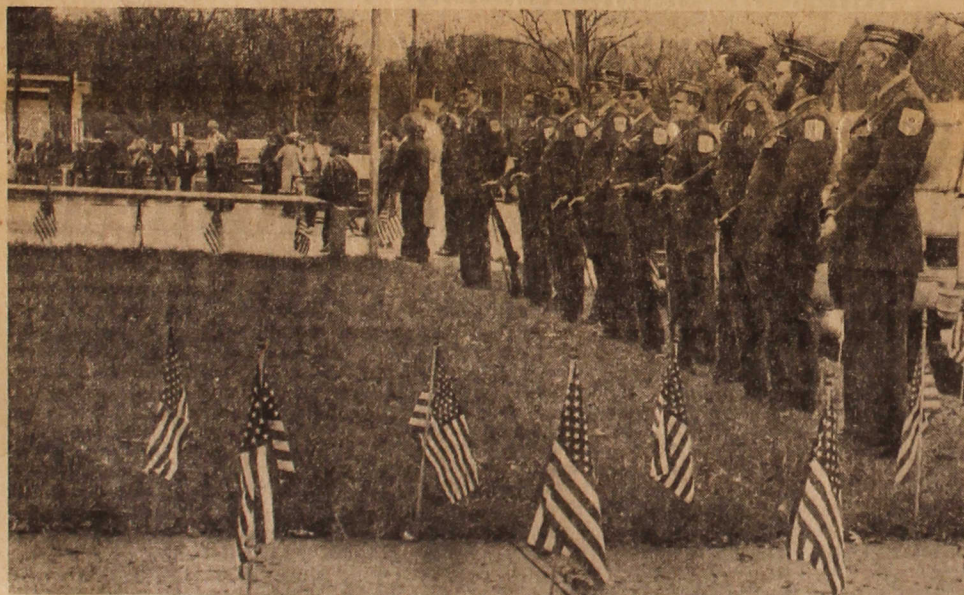
She said she and her husband entered the contest at the Millsboro Shop 'n Save store, which was destroyed by the flood.

A company spokesman said that Mr. and Mrs. Hart can spread the purchase of groceries over a year and can buy them at any Shop 'n Save store.

The Rev. Kenneth Nolin, pastor of Millsboro Presbyterian Church, said the church has been serving three hot meals a day to flood victims and workers ever since the flood struck a week ago.

He said an unexpected boost came Sunday with the delivery of a load of canned goods and other food from Beth Israel Center, a Jewish synagogue in the Pleasant Hills section of Pittsburgh.

"Some folks who live here have friends who are members of the synagogue," the pastor said. "When they told them what we were doing here, members of the synagogue got together, collected the food and brought it down to us. It was really a nice thing to do."



Waynesburg VFW members stand at attention for the National Anthem.

VFW Post Commander Speaks At Veterans' Day Ceremony

WAYNESBURG — The Veterans of Foreign Wars' advocacy of a strong defense system is based on knowledge of what lack of preparedness can

tion to the tragedy of war," the post commander said. "For anyone who went through a war, their service is the high point of their lives, no matter

Cumberland Supervisors OK Agreements

CARMICHAELS — Cumberland Township supervisors approved four agreements at their meeting re-

Refuse Rule, Police Program Trigger Citizens' Complaints

WAYNESBURG — Waynesburg Borough Council Monday night acted on several items and heard complaints from citizens concerning the mandatory refuse collection ordinance and a police-sponsored Christmas program.

Farley Toothman asked several questions about the Christmas program being sponsored by the Waynesburg Police Association, composed of borough patrolmen.

Toothman questioned the "hard-sell tactics" of phone solicitors and also questioned statements made by the phone salesmen. Toothman said he believed there was some misrepresentation involved.

Some council members expressed the same feelings.

tion is guaranteed a certain amount of money up front and additional money could be received based on a graduated scale of total sales.

Council briefly discussed the possibility of regulating such telephone campaigns in some manner, but tabled any action.

In other action, council approved a form to be used in regulating the recently enacted mandatory refuse ordinance. At the suggestion of the borough solicitor, the form will not contain the word "adjacent" homeowners as listed on the sample form.

This action clarifies that senior citizens must live in adjoining homes to be allowed one single collection point. It was previously understood

Agency on Aging and the project architect.

Councilman Lonnie Dusenberry reported he had received no calls concerning the possibility of establishing a neighborhood crime watch.

Councilman Frank VanCleve recommended the codification of two current ordinance establishing police duties into one ordinance. The recommendation will be reviewed by the borough solicitor for possible passage at the next meeting.

Charles Vandruff, a resident of the third ward, protested the mandatory refuse ordinance and asked that he be excused. Vandruff explained he takes his refuse to his 600-acre farm for disposal. Council expressed its regret and suggested Vandruff show the or-

Commissioners Select Firm To Inspect County Bridges

By Bob Eichenlaub, *Greene County Editor*

WAYNESBURG — Fayette Engineering Co. of Uniontown has been selected by the Greene County commissioners to make a required inspection of 88 county bridges at a cost of \$52,700.

While the decision is subject to approval of state Department of Transportation officials in Harrisburg, the commissioners said they anticipate no problems since selection of the engineering firm was already cleared with PennDOT District

12 officials in Uniontown. The inspection, which will center on safety factors, is required by the federal government, which will pay 80 percent of the cost, leaving the county with an obligation of \$10,540. Fayette Engineering's proposal was the lowest of those received from four engineering firms, the commissioners said.

The firm has agreed to meet a Dec. 15 deadline which has been set by the state for completion of the study. "The proposal is to be re-

viewed in Harrisburg on Friday and the company could begin work as early as next Tuesday," board Chairman John Gardner said.

Representatives of the Greene County Library System met with the commissioners to request an allocation of \$20,000 in the 1986 county budget, representing an increase of \$5,000 over the amount allocated in 1985.

"Funding from the county is essential to meeting our operating expenses," Library Administrator Mar-

jory Johnston said, adding that it is a key factor in determining the amount of assistance received from the state library. "An increase of even \$1,000 would give us an additional \$500 in state aid," she said.

Both Mrs. Johnston and co-administrator Ruth Mecera of Flenniken Library, Carmichaels, spoke of the wide range of services provided to both adults and children throughout Greene County. Counties are served not only by the libraries in Waynesburg and Carmichaels, but through

the Outreach for Books service, which maintains mini-libraries and conducts program in various parts of the county, and through Operation Outreach, which provides audio-visual materials.

They said that 81,000 items were circulated during the first nine months of this year.

"Library service in Greene County is really a bargain," Mrs. Johnston said, noting that all services are provided without charge. "A county appropriation of \$20,000 would

amount to 49 cents for each county resident."

The commissioners indicated they would consider the request in making up next year's budget.

A report was given on results of an inspection of the county airport on Oct. 11 by the state Bureau of Aviation. Chief Clerk Herbert Cox reported that Airport Manager William Shultz has already taken care of most of the recommendations, which involved the removal of scrub trees and shrubs in the area of the runway approach.



New Fabric Store

"Mary's Fabrics" recently opened at 68 West High Street, Waynesburg, in the former J. Broadwater Yardgoods store. The shop features a complete line of fashion fabrics, patterns, craft fabrics, notions, Christmas prints and ready-made crafts, as well as alterations. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday. Pictured are seamstress June Morgan, left, and Mary Lee, the owner.

Cumberland Zoning Board Holds 2 Public Hearings

By Marcia Biddle, *Staff Writer*

CARMICHAELS — The Cumberland Township Zoning Hearing Board held two public hearings recently.

The first concerned a request for an appeal of the zoning officers' decision to issue a non-conforming use permit to Joseph Gresko. The permit would allow him to sell wood on a triangular-shaped lot, owned by his mother, Josephine, between Ceylon Road and Old Waynesburg Road in Carmichaels.

The board at its September meeting had reviewed and approved the issuing of the permit. The property is in an R-1 area and formerly was the site of the VFW post home.

Gresko had remodeled the old VFW building for a restaurant, but the building burned in 1977, before the restaurant could open.

The appeal was filed by George McCombs and other neighboring property owners. The neighbors requested that the permit be revoked on the grounds that the sale of wood on the property is prohibited in a residential area.

They also said the zoning ordinance requires that while any non-conforming use started before the ordinance was enacted in April 1981 may be continued, the present business is new and was not started until

the spring of 1985 and is therefore prohibited by the ordinance.

Gresko argued that he had been selling firewood and railroad ties for several years and had been storing small amounts of wood on the lot before 1981.

He presented sales receipts to prove that he had been in business for a number of years.

Both sides called on witnesses to support their cases. David Campbell and others spoke for the neighbors.

Campbell said neighbors had not observed any sales being made on the site before 1985.

Annetta Sabolsky submitted photographs of the property which showed it vacant in 1979. She said pictures taken in June through August 1985 showed the first development of a wood lot.

Two witnesses, Ernie Gresko and Sandra Croftchek, testified for Gresko. They said that they and others had bought wood from Gresko in previous years. They also said no one objected until the business began to expand.

After a long and, at times, heated discussion, Campbell concluded by repeating that the neighbors believe the property had been abandoned since 1977, that the cleanup was started in 1985 and that the permit should be denied because it is a new

business attempting to start in an R-1 area.

Gresko replied that the wood is stacked neatly on the property and that weeds had been cut. He repeated his argument that this was not a new business and that he had been selling wood there many years.

The board announced that a decision would be made at its next regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 2.

In the second case, a variance was granted to Eli Wokovitz of 113 Fair Street, Carmichaels, to add 10 feet to a lot to make it a conforming lot plan of 10,000 square feet. He is the owner of all the lots in question. No one attending the meeting objected to the plan.

It was announced that the following permits had been issued in October: a permit was issued to the Carmichaels Sportsmen's Club for a pavilion on Crucible road; to Robert E. Cutwright for a garage on Route 88; to Gregory and Wanda Cutwright for an addition to a house and garage at House 63, Nemaacolin; to Albert Rush Jr. for a garage and porch on Glades Run Road; to John Modrick for a garage on Schroyer's Lane; to Mike Simkovic for a patio at House 148, Nemaacolin; to Kevin Friday for a mobile home in Route 21 Mobile Home Park; and to Richard Krajnak for a mobile home and porch on Route 702.

Some Cancer Charities Look Respectable, But Aren't

WAYNESBURG — Greene County residents have recently been asked for contributions to various organizations established for the announced purposes of raising money for research and providing support services for cancer patients and their families.

The American Cancer Society said these groups have names which sound similar to theirs, which may confuse the public.

Noting that there are guidelines

which may be used to distinguish between worthy and unworthy organizations soliciting money, the Greene County Unit of the Cancer Society suggests that the following questions be asked:

Is the charity willing to give you its budget and a complete, clear annual report, including an audit by an independent certified public accountant?

Are the group's fund-raising and administrative costs reasonable?

According to the National Charities Information Bureau, the cost of fund raising should generally not exceed 30 percent of funds raised.

Does the charity use ethical fund-raising methods? When responding to an appeal received by mail, be wary of exaggerated or unsubstantiated claims. Also look out for gimmicks such as unordered merchandise such as tickets on remit or return basis.

By whom is the charity managed or controlled? A good sign is a volunteer governing board well represented by doctors or other specialists in the field in which a group is focused.

Most important, does the organization have effective and useful programs? Check out the health charity in question with your physician, local hospital or other established sources.

Finally, does the charity meet the standards imposed by the two top charity-rating agencies, the National Charities Information Bureau, 19 Union Square West, New York, N.Y., 10003, and the Council of Better Business Bureaus, 1515 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Va., 22209. These agencies, without charge, will provide you with

House Approves New Legislation

WAYNESBURG — The House of Representatives has given its approval to legislation sponsored by state Rep. H. William DeWeese of Waynesburg which would allow doctors to use blue flashing lights on their cars when responding to emergency medical situations.

DeWeese said his legislation (H.B. 571) passed by a 197-5 vote. He noted it is the eighth measure he has introduced during this legislative session which has been approved by the House and sent to the Senate.

"Clearly physicians who use their automobiles to respond to calls for emergency medical care should have

the same priority on the highway as volunteer firemen and ambulance personnel," DeWeese said.

Under the bill, a physician would have to register at the nearest state police station before installing the emergency lights on his car. A physician retiring from active medical service would be required to remove the lights from his vehicle.

DeWeese said he introduced his measure after being contacted by a Fayette County physician who was arrested and convicted for exceeding the speed limit while responding to an emergency.

FAMILY ALBUM

Phillips, Russell Are Married

ROGERSVILLE — The Rogersville Christian Church was the setting on Saturday, Sept. 28, 1985, for the wedding of Louise M. Phillips of Waynesburg R.D.3 and Robert E. Russell of Mt. Morris.

The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. Bowers of Graysville. The bridegroom is a son of Robert M. Russell of Mt. Morris and the late Delores Russell.

The Rev. Garvin Hupp officiated at the 4:30 p.m. double ring ceremony. Jerry Knight of Rogersville was the organist and Autumn Stewart of Waynesburg the soloist.

The bride was given in marriage by her brother, Dan Phillips of Waynesburg.

She selected a full-length gown of white organza with a Queen Ann neckline of pearls and lace and an A-line skirt flowing into a full-length chapel train. Her white picturesque hat was accented with white satin roses and pearls with a waistline veil. She carried a bouquet of white, pink and wine roses with pearls and baby's breath.

Dee Eisiminger of Prosperity R.D.1 attended her cousin as matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Donna Elliott of Graysville R.D.1, aunt of the bride; Gina Morris of Waynesburg, sister-in-law of the bride; Paula Zeiler of Waynesburg, cousin of the bride; Robin Ammons of Westover, W. Va., sister of the bridegroom, and Lori D'Angelo of Oakdale.

The attendants wore wine-colored gowns and carried fans decorated with white, pink and wine roses.

Kristen Phillips of Waynesburg, niece of the bride, served as flower girl. She wore a gown similar to the bride's that was made by Chris Booth of Waynesburg and carried a pillow made by the bride.

Jeremy Baysinger of Waynesburg, nephew of the bridegroom, was the ring bearer.

Douglas Russell of Mt. Morris served as his brother's best man. Ushers were Ralph (Tink) Eisiminger of Prosperity, Dave Torboli of Washington, Gary D'Angelo of Oakdale, Jack Ammons of Wadestown, W. Va., brother-in-law of the bridegroom, and Wayne Baysinger of Waynesburg, brother-in-law of the bridegroom.

A reception for some 500 guests was held at the Waynesburg VFW home with music by the Morning Star Band. Susie Haught, sister of the bridegroom, attended the bride's book.

The bride is a graduate of West Greene High School and is employed by Columbia Gas Transmission Corp. as a cleaning-out helper. The bridegroom is a graduate of Waynesburg Central High School.

Following a wedding trip to Orlando, Fla., the newlyweds are residing in Waynesburg R.D.3.



MRS. RUSSELL

CLASSMATES SOUGHT

The addresses and/or phone numbers of members of the class of 1937 at Cumberland Township High School are being sought by Larry Ross, R.D.2, Carmichaels, Pa., 15320. His phone number is 412-966-7953.

ENDS TRAINING

Army Pvt. Samuel E. Rapp, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Wilson of Graysville R.D.1, has completed basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C.

He is a 1985 graduate of West Greene High School.

GRANGE MEETS

Aleppo Grange 2054 held its monthly meeting Nov. 4, with Worthy Master Josephine Bristor presiding.

Lunch was served by Hazel Polen.

Waynesburg Native Honored For Contribution To Science

PITTSBURGH — Dr. Patricia K. Eagon, daughter of Mrs. Mary C. Eagon of 364 South Richhill Street, Waynesburg, was recently presented the "Outstanding Contribution to Science Award" by the Southwestern Pennsylvania Federal Executive Board.

Dr. Eagon is a research chemist at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh. She also holds an academic appointment as assistant professor of medicine and biochemistry at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Eagon, who is married to Jim Stafford, formerly of Waynesburg, has been recognized nationally for her work in defining molecular mechanisms of endocrine dysfunction in chronic alcoholics.

In addition to her own work, which is funded by grants from the National Institutes of Health, she also

has worked with other researchers and published papers with national leaders in the field, including Dr. Thomas Starzl and Dr. David Van Thiel, noted transplant surgeons.

She has performed pioneering studies showing cells of several tissues of alcohol-treated animals respond differently to androgens and estrogens than in normal tissues, and she has begun work to develop hormone therapy to correct these alterations.

She received the Veterans Administration Alcoholic Research Award for the period 1982-85, a highly prestigious recognition of her work, which was only awarded to 15 recipients over the last 10 years.

Dr. Eagon also has conducted research concerning relationships between sex hormones and liver function with particular emphasis on regulation of liver processes in normal and diseased livers. Dr. Eagon's papers

describing estrogen receptors in livers are regarded as among the best in the field.

Dr. Eagon's teaching responsibilities include graduate student and medical student training and an undergraduate biochemistry course, and participation in a physician scientist training course.

She was nominated for a chancellor's excellence in teaching award in 1984. In recognition for her achievements in research, she has been elected to membership of several national societies, including the American Society of Biological Chemists, the Endocrine Society, American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases and the Research Society on Alcoholism.

She has been invited to speak and present papers at many seminars in the Eastern United States and Europe.



Observer-Reporter

Volunteers Honored

Two volunteers with the Eldercare program of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Area Agency on Aging received special recognition during the second annual volunteer appreciation dinner held recently in Waynesburg. Clara Easley, second from left, was recognized for her 571 volunteer hours, and Linda Bland, far right, received a plaque for her two years of service as a volunteer lay minister. Also pictured, far left, is Karen Jacobs, assistant coordinator for Eldercare, and Betty Lucas, Eldercare coordinator.

Public Is Using Private Property As Illegal Dump

By Bob Niedbala, Staff Writer

ALEPPO — The road winds its way down a hillside and enters a

for dumping garbage at this site.

Kleiner said most of the people who have been caught are local resi-

mit hunting on a specific portion of his property in exchange for a number of game commission services.



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between the bookends

by marcia mckenna biddle



Discussion groups have been meeting at locations all over the state recently, with the purpose of studying the Constitution of the United States. That document will soon have its 200th birthday.

The programs are sponsored by the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, which provided discussion leaders and reading material. In their handbook is a speech made by Dr. Benjamin Franklin, who seemed to utter a masterpiece every time he opened his mouth. On the other hand, his contemporaries may have had a different view of that. Still, they listened.

The Constitutional Convention had been going on for 109 days, from May to September 1787. When the writing, and wrangling, was finished, the document was read to the delegates. They had a very normal reaction — they thought it wasn't good enough. As the handbook says, "They expressed considerable fear that they had produced an imperfect docu-

ment." Dr. Franklin was the first to rise, with speech in hand. Notes taken by James Madison say that a Mr. Wilson read the speech, on behalf of our resident wise man.

"Mr. President," Franklin began, "I confess that there are several parts of this constitution which I do not at present approve, but I am not sure I shall never approve them..."

"For having lived long, I have experienced many instances of being obliged by better information or fuller consideration, to change opinions even on important subjects, which I once thought right, but found to be otherwise. It is therefore that the older I grow, the more apt I am to doubt my own judgment, and to pay more respect to the judgment of others."

Ah, what a diplomat. "Most men indeed as well as most sects in Religion," said the sage, "think themselves in possession of all truth, and that wherever others differ

from them it is so far error. "But through many private persons think almost as highly of their own infallibility as that of their sect, few express it so naturally as a certain French lady, who in a dispute with her sister, said, 'I don't know how it happens, Sister, but I meet with nobody but myself, that's always in the right.'"

"On these sentiments, Sir, I agree to this Constitution with all faults, if they are such; because I think a general Government necessary for us, and there is no form of Government but what may be a blessing to the people if well administered, and believe farther that this is likely to be well administered for a course of years..."

"I doubt too whether any other Convention we can obtain may be able to make a better Constitution. For when you assemble a number of men to have the advantage of their joint wisdom, you inevitably assemble with those men, all their prej-

udices, their passions, their errors of opinion, their local interests, and their selfish views. From such an Assembly can a perfect production be expected?"

"It therefore astonishes men, Sir, to find this system approaching so near to perfection as it does; and I think it will astonish our enemies, who are waiting with confidence to hear that our councils are confounded like those of the Builders of Babel; and that our States are on the point of separation, only to meet hereafter for the purpose of cutting one another's throats."

"Thus I consent, Sir, to this Constitution because I expect no better, and because I am not sure that it is not the best."

"On the whole, Sir, I cannot help expressing a wish that every member of the Convention who may still have objections to it, would with me, on this occasion doubt a little of his own infallibility — and to make manifest our unanimity, put his name to this instrument."

Tragedy of Flood Proves There Are Good Neighbors

It has been said that tragedy brings out the best in people. The personal catastrophes that so many residents of the Mon Valley suffered in last week's flood once again proved the truth of the saying as their friends and neighbors rallied to help them put back together the pieces of their lives.

Firemen and other volunteers by the hundreds assisted in the mammoth clean-up effort, prepared and served meals to both victims and workers, provided emergency shelter and did everything possible to help while government and disaster organizations were getting into position to provide necessary financial support.

While it is impossible to single out the many organizations and individuals who rose to the occasion, it was particularly exciting to see what happened when the flood forced closing of Mapletown High School.

Students, teachers and administrators joined with other volunteers in wading into the stinking black muck left behind as flood water receded to help Greensboro residents get rid of water-soaked furniture and carpeting and to clean and scour their homes — doing a nasty job when they could have remained at home to enjoy an unexpected vacation.

People at the school opened its doors to shelter the homeless on a temporary basis and began cooking 1,500 meals a day for the victims and volunteers, an effort which lasted well into the following week.

Their efforts were typical of the response to the emergency found along the entire river valley.

The personal tragedies and economic havoc engendered by the great Election Day flood of 1985 will be remembered for a long time. And so will the extraordinary response of the many people who proved that good neighbors do exist.

FACES FROM THE PAST

Members of the Lone Pine baseball team pose for a team picture back in 1895. Pictured left to right, front row: George Swart, Harry Williams, Hallie Paul, Charles Moninger, Levi Sowers and E.C. Curry; back row: Abe Crispin, John McKinney, Wiley Salsberry, Reed Reynolds, Harvey Knestrick and B.F. Bayne.



It's 1986 Already

Without the grace to permit the winners of Tuesday's election time to rejoice nor the compassion to permit Tuesday's losers to convalesce, candidates and potential candidates of 1986 are grabbing the political center stage.

A Dauphin County commissioner lowered himself this week into the contest for the Democratic nomination for lieutenant governor, an already announced goal of Rep. David Sweet of this county.

Contemporaneously, but not extemporaneously, the camps of the incumbent lieutenant governor, William Scranton, and of Democrat Robert Casey, the perceived respective front runners for the two gubernatorial nomina-

tions, released results of polls they caused to be taken. It is not surprising that the Scranton poll showed Casey a poor second to Scranton in the public view. There is an equal lack of surprise that Casey's poll shows Casey and Scranton at least on even terms.

In the U.S. Senate race of '86, Democratic expectants Don Bailey and Robert Edgar are already working at obtaining that party's nominations and any day now, Gov. Dick Thornburgh will announce he will or will not challenge Sen. Arlen Specter for the GOP nomination.

With this rate and intensity of effort, the election of 1986 might even occur before Christmas of 1985.

Current Comment

RAINY DAY
Scranton Sunday Times

Some of the nation's top economists are worried the United States has become a nation of spenders rather than savers. The virtue of thrift, they say, is giving way to a determination to spend rather than accept a lower standard of living. Given scant attention are such industries as steel and textiles that have been hardest hit by imported products. For them the rainy day for which many families save has arrived. Savings are being depleted to survive.

Even in good times, Americans save less, proportionately, than do citizens of other industrialized nations. What has caused concern among some economists is the decline of savings in this country during the summer to 2 percent of income, less than half the rate for eight of the past nine years. September saw the rate shrink to 1.9 percent.

The September decline is being explained by some experts as a reflection of the withdrawal of savings to buy new cars at cut-rate financing offered by Detroit automakers. Clearly, however, the jobless and those with survival incomes were not among the men and women making car purchases, and at last report the unemployed accounted for 7 percent of the work force.

While savings are near record lows, credit purchases are peaking even though interest rates remain relatively high. The shift from savings to buying on credit is a reflection of changing values in America. While the older generation grew up with the savings habit, younger Americans are more interested in keeping their credit ratings unblemished. For good or for bad, with the government subsidizing credit through income tax allowances for interest paid, a clean credit rating is being considered by many as better than money in the bank.

RECEIVES AWARD

Sue Ann Maloney, food service director at Carmichaels Area School District, was recently presented with Custom Management Corporation's Personal Development Award at the company's central regional district meeting in Pittsburgh.

Custom provides professional food service management to the school district.

Maloney, a native of Washington and resident of Havertown, is a graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where she received a degree in nutrition education. Earlier this year she received a master's degree in business administration from Waynesburg College.

She has been a member of Custom's operational team since 1979 and is a past recipient of CMC's special recognition award.

DELTA KAPPA MEMBERS

Two Greene County residents were initiated into the Rho Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International Society during ceremonies held recently at the Nemaacolin Country Club.

Initiated were Susan Maxwell of Central Greene School District and

Two Sentenced For Non-Payment

WAYNESBURG — Two Greene County residents received jail sentences when they were found guilty of contempt of court for non-payment of child support.

David H. Bowser of Nemaacolin will serve 15 days on weekends at the county jail, while Robert E. Phillips of Waynesburg will serve his 15-day sentence on consecutive days.

David Zwerver of the county domestic relations office said Bowser is \$19,845 in arrears on the payment of \$405 a month for the support of four children. Phillips is \$3,625 in arrears on the payment of \$250 per month for the support of two children.

"These are people who quit their jobs after we obtained wage attachments for support payments," Zwerver said.

A third defendant, Carl W. Morgan of Waynesburg, failed to appear for a contempt hearing, Zwerver said, adding that a process has been issued for his arrest.

Rotary Blood Testing Program Is A Success

WAYNESBURG — Officials of the Waynesburg Rotary Club are calling this year's multi-phasic blood testing program a huge success.

During the final two Saturdays in October, 967 local residents took advantage of the program, according to Rotarian Jack Smith, chairman of the project.

Now in its ninth year, the blood testing program is held annually by the Rotarians as part of its public service commitments.

All Around Greene

Juanita Pecjak from Southeastern Greene School District, Janet Ward Brown of Waynesburg College was reinstated.

It was announced Adelaide Guesman has been named coordinator from the Rho Chapter for the 50th anniversary program of the Alpha Alpha State Chapter.

The next meeting of the chapter will be held at 11 a.m. March 15 at the Greene County Country Club with Esther Cordray as chairman.

BOWLING SCORES

Dian DuBois of the Smilemakers blistered the lanes during Wednesday Night Ladies League play last week when she rolled a 231 high single and 595 series.

The Smilemakers took three points from Barnharts who were led by Connie Vernon's 193 single and 524 series.

Equitable Gas took three points from the American Legion behind the efforts of Rose Wright who rolled a 171 single and 473 series. Patricia Rohanna also had a 473 series. For the losers, Lil Conn rolled a 162 single and 403 series.

The Loyal Order of Moose took three points from Greenway, with Karen Hull rolling a 184 single and Kay Mooney, a 500 series. For Greenway, Carolyn Brown rolled a 168 single and 497 series.

Shumakers and Pepsi Cola split four points. For Pepsi, Bonnie Baily rolled a 183 single and Brenda Cole, a 445 series. Cindy Balaban rolled a 161 single and Norma Stockdale, a 399 series.

BOWLING RESULTS

Shirley Kerr rolled a high 224 single game to lead all bowlers in the

Monday Night Women's Bowling League this week. She also rolled a 584 series for her Humble & Sons team in sweeping the Baily Insurance team.

For the losers, Barbara Morris rolled a 163 single and 432 series.

The Mariner & Milliken Funeral Home team took three points from Hopkins & Son behind the 193 single of Jody Dusha and 497 series of Edith Haines. For the losing team, Bonnie Kiger rolled a 182 single and 514 series.

Mankey Engineering took three points from Tri-State Maintenance behind the 179 single of Bonnie Baily and 474 series of Marilyn Whiting. For the losing team, Suzanna VanSycoc rolled a 172 single and Susan Musgrave, a 445 series.

WIND RIDGE ITEMS

Mrs. Pauline Maxey and husband Mark, missionaries in Kyuahu, Japan are currently on leave in the U.S. A native of Wind Ridge, Mrs. Maxey was a member of the Wind Ridge Christian Church and attended the Christian Bible College in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. William Wirtner of Pittsburgh were weekend guests of her sister, Mrs. Mary McClellan of Wind Ridge.

Leota Adrian of Wind Ridge hosted a birthday dinner in honor of Mrs. H.E. Skinner. Present were Mr. and Mrs. H.E. Skinner of Waynesburg and hostesses Mrs. Adrian.

Terry Joe Staggers of Uniontown was a weekend guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Staggers and daughter Sandy Staggers and son of Wind Ridge.

BOWLING SCORES

Cathy Brooks led her 77 Market team to a three-point victory in Thursday Night Classic Bowling League action last week. In doing so, she rolled a 205 single and 506 series.

The losing Waynesburg Milling team was paced by Edith Haines' 200 single and 511 series.

Barna's Furniture took three points from Howard Motors behind the efforts of Glenda Engle who tossed a 199 single and Dorothy Nelson who had a 507 series. Shirley Kerr was top roller for the losers with a 194 single and 529 series.

Isabel's Catering grabbed three points from Shipmans with Isabel Berry rolling a 191 single and Jan Irvin, a 477 series. For Shipmans, Shirley Shipman had a 171 high single game and Lisa Haines, a 388 high series.

GASCO OFFICERS

Members of the Ladies Gasco Club of Waynesburg recently elected officers for the ensuing year.

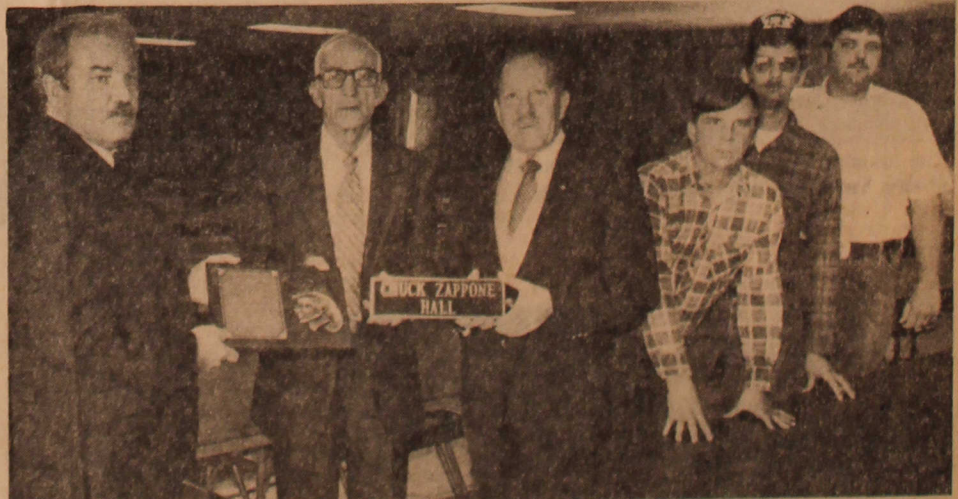
Elected were Evelyn Wildman, president; Marjorie Bissett, vice president; Barbara Weimer, secretary, and Carol Corwin, treasurer.

METHODIST SING

The monthly Greene County United Methodist Hymn Sing was held at Bobtown United Methodist Church, Bobtown.

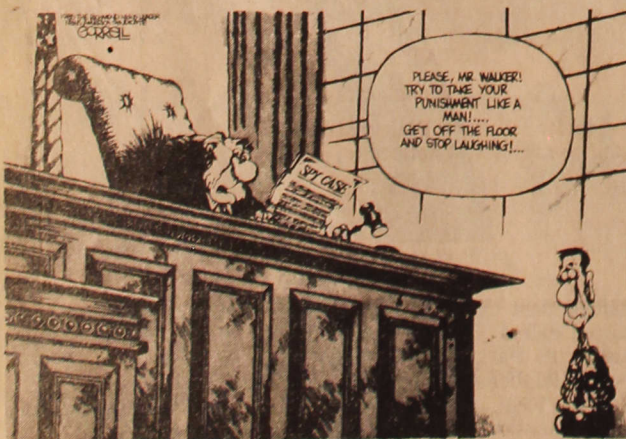
Selections were offered by the Bobtown, Jollytown Charge, Shannon Run and Fairview choirs.

A duet was offered by Terry and Carlon Grimes and the trio of Amy, John and Jerry Williams also offered a selection. Soloes were sung by Kenneth Haines and Amy Williams.



Firefighter Honored

Chuck Zappone, head trustee and a 37-year member of the Crucible Volunteer Fire Co., was honored this month when the large dining hall addition to the fire hall was named after him. A plaque designating it the Chuck Zappone Hall was presented to the fire company recently. Pictured, from left, are Jim Walters, president of the fire company; Zappone; L.R. Santore, county commissioner; Bob Demchak, fire chief; Jim Petron, secretary; and George Ferree, assistant chief.



California's Rapid Offense Sinks Waynesburg

By John Barker, O-R Sports Staff

WAYNESBURG — Sorry, William Perry, but the newest sensation to hit the football scene isn't an appliance.

The newest one is crafted by California University's football team, which unofficially unveiled "The Blur" Saturday afternoon, Nov. 8, at College Field.

There was no advance warning, no pre-game hype and "The Blur's" designer, Jeff Petrucci, forgot to tell Waynesburg College about it.

But the impact of "The Blur" was as powerful as "The Refrigerator's" on the NFL.

It goes something like this: California starts out slow on offense, plugging away enough to take a 7-0 lead in a game that means more in terms of bragging rights than it does in the standings.

Then while an opponent, in this case Waynesburg, is busy figuring out how to keep the game close, the Vulcans slam their offensive throttle into overdrive.

"The Blur" worked like a charm against the Yellow Jackets as California scored 21 points in 2:22 of the second quarter on its way to a 35-6 victory.

For Petrucci, the offensive explosion was a welcomed sight while the Jackets never knew what hit them.

"It took us a while to get in the flow," said Petrucci, whose team spent much of the preceding week worrying more about the flood that hit the Monongahela River area than their upcoming game. "We called off practice on Tuesday because of the tragedy of the flood.

"If Chuck Noll had as many problems he'd probably commit suicide."

The least of Petrucci's worry's occurred Saturday, however, when his team overcame the problems created by the flood and Vulcans' five-game losing streak.

California played well overall but was nearly perfect in the second quarter when it scored 28 points. In a blur. "Any time you win, you're

pleased," said Petrucci, who struggled to find solace in the fact his team is now 4-5 overall after winning a conference championship just last season. "We put some points in the board and it came against a pretty good defense."

California started out with quarterback Brendan Folmar playing "The Blur" on its first series. Folmar, a junior, converted a nifty option play down the sideline and back across the field for a 63-yard gain on the third play of the game. He was tackled at Waynesburg's two.

That was the end of the outburst for the moment, however. The Jackets held on three plays and blocked a field goal attempt of 19 yards by Greg Schuessler.

"We blew an excellent opportunity at the start," Petrucci said. "We had a first down on the one and I give Waynesburg credit. They could have packed it in early but they hung tough."

Waynesburg hung tough only until midway through the second quarter when the Vulcans exploded. After playing even against the Jackets, California got good field position when Waynesburg punter Bob Abbiatici was forced to kick from the back of his end zone.

The Vulcans took over on their opponents' 36 and scored in just five plays. A 20-yard pass from Folmar to Ed Alford was the scoring play. About four minutes later, "The Blur" hit.

California drove 45 yards on its next drive and scored on a two-yard run by Scott Jackovitz to take a 14-0 lead. After the ensuing kickoff, Waynesburg's Jim Bozek threw a weak pass over the middle that was intercepted by Bob Tokarczyk and returned 33 yards to the Jackets' five.

Dwayne Todd, who rambled for 109 yards on 28 carries in the game, rushed in for the touchdown on the first play just 19 seconds after Jackovitz' score and California led, 21-0.

The Vulcans kicked off again and with Bozek out of the game with a slight injury, Brian Virgin took a turn at quarterback. Virgin, a sophomore, scrambled for five yards on one play

and passed for 18 on another to Jim Anderson, then underthrew his next attempt.

Mike Grashion intercepted the ball at Waynesburg's 43 and five plays later Todd caught a short pass from Folmar and juked his way down the sideline for another TD, just 2:03 after his last score.

"The second quarter tells it all," Jacket head coach Bill Tornabene said after his team fell to 4-5. "I thought that they executed very well in the second quarter, took advantage of what we gave them and did the job."

"They shut us down running and passing and did what they had to on offense."

The second half was much closer.

Brian Tyler blocked a punt by the Vulcans' Jeff Stork early in the third quarter to set up the Jackets' only score. Waynesburg drove 26 yards in five plays thanks mostly to scrambles of five and 12 yards by Bozek, and scored on a five-yard run by Matt Carlisle to make it 28-6.

"We played much better in the second half. We gave up seven and scored six," Tornabene said. "By no means do we think we should have

won because they outscored us, but the second half proved to us we have heart and came back to play ball."

Waynesburg never threatened to score again but California did. The Vulcans drove 40 yards in the fourth quarter and scored on a two-yard run by Jackovitz.

"We got some turnovers and our defense got us the ball and we converted," Petrucci said. "We did the things we had to do."

"I thought Brendan played real well. He read the proper checks and found the receivers. Dwayne Todd is a game-breaker. Look, he took a swing pass and turned it into a touchdown. He's exciting every time he touches the football."

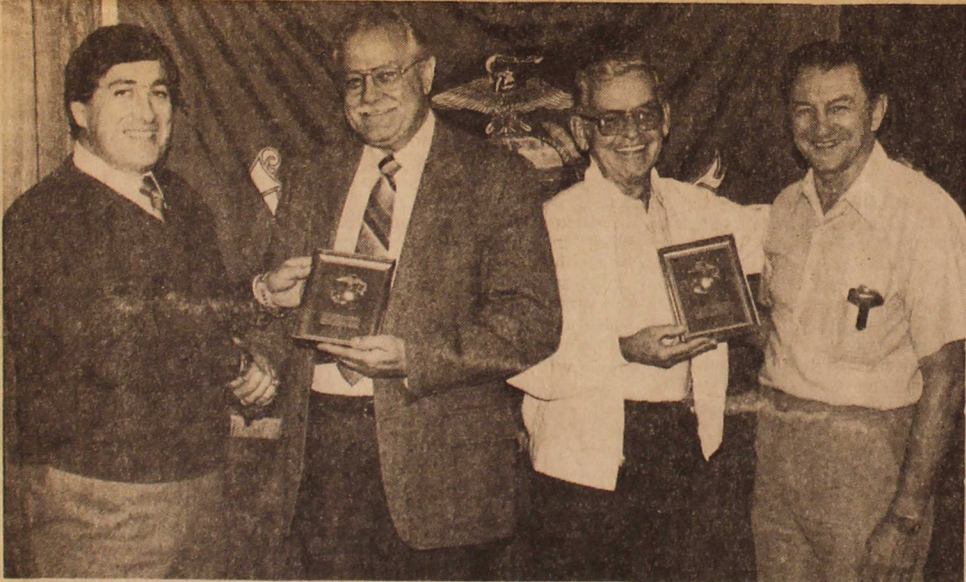
FLAK JACKETS — Bozek completed just 12 of 30 passes for 90 yards while Folmar connected on 15 of 29 for 192. . . Waynesburg rushed for only 45 yards. Andre Lewis led the Jackets with 26 yards while Carlisle carried just five times for five yards after 77 last week. . . The Vulcans' Gary Bero caught seven passes for 55 yards. . . Jacket noseguard Pete Long wasn't as effective as usual playing with a pulled groin muscle.



Observer-Reporter

American Baptist Women

The bi-annual meeting of the American Baptist Women of the Ten-Mile Association was held recently in the First Baptist Church of Waynesburg. Twenty churches, from Washington and Greene counties, as well as parts of West Virginia, were represented. Looking at a display are, left to right, Dorothy Tasker, president of the ABW of Pennsylvania and Delaware; Norma Faith, chairwoman of White Cross and World Relief; Rosemary Gilson, vice-president of ABW missions; and Evelyn Boord, president of the Ten-Mile Association of ABW.



Observer-Reporter

Marine Corps Honors

The Tri-County Leatherneck Club has presented "special service" awards to two local residents who were recognized at the annual U.S. Marine Corps Ball held Saturday, Nov. 9, at the Senior Citizens Center in Carmichaels. Pictured left to right, Ivan Modrick, awards chairman; R.A. Matteucci, honoree; Jim Ryan, honoree and trustee of the club; and Frank Novasky, club president.

Shekerko Appeals Murder Sentence

WAYNESBURG — Harvey A. Shekerko of Waynesburg is continuing his legal battle for reduction of the 10-to-20 year prison sentence he received earlier this year for third degree murder.

Shekerko, 33, who is serving his sentence at Huntingdon State Penitentiary, has filed an appeal to the Pennsylvania Superior Court from a Greene County Court order denying him the right of appeal. The court had rejected an earlier appeal for sentence reduction on May 22.

Shekerko was sentenced on March 25 after he pleaded guilty to third degree murder in connection with the beating death on March 21, 1984, of 4-year-old James Everett Caldwell, the son of a woman who at the time was residing in Shekerko's home in Waynesburg.

Shekerko's latest appeal came before the Greene County Court at a post-conviction hearing on Oct. 17. In rejecting it, Judge Glenn Toothman noted that the guilty plea was entered after a jury was selected and the trial

had already begun, with Shekerko having had every opportunity to confer with his counsel at every stage.

"Mr. Shekerko was represented in all legal matters before this court in a highly professional manner by his counsel...who left no stone unturned in the presentation of the case," Judge Toothman stated. He added that the 10-to-20 year sentence was within sentencing guidelines because of "the callous and heartless nature of the crime with which this defendant is charged."

Ten Defendants Sentenced

WAYNESBURG — Defendants in 10 criminal cases were admitted to the Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD) program following hearings in Greene County Court.

Eight of the 10 were charged with driving while intoxicated and related offenses. They are Edward T. Simyak of 403 North Market Street, Carmichaels; Edward H. Cooley of Bruceton Mills, W.Va.; Mark O. Fulmer of Brownsville; Harry Lee Taylor of Fredericktown; James

Price of Rices Landing; Darrell S. Mandt of Holbrook; James Allen Shank of 155 South Washington Street, Waynesburg, and Thomas Lee Harden of Barracksville, W.Va.

They were each ordered to pay \$250 plus court costs, had their licenses suspended for 30 days, were ordered to attend driver improvement school, and were placed on probation for one year.

Genevieve A. Patterson of

Crucible, who was charged with two counts of welfare fraud, was ordered to make restitution and pay court costs. She was placed on probation for two years.

Charles Edward Eddy of Waynesburg R.D.4, who was charged with being involved in an accident involving personal injury and with failure to immediately report the accident, was ordered to pay \$100 and court costs and make restitution. He was placed on probation for six months.

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Waynesburg Republican

County Obituaries

Emmett E. Miller

Emmett E. Miller, 82, Mather, died after a long illness at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, November 7, 1985, in the Guardian Angels Nursing Home, Carmichaels.

He was born September 7, 1903, at Normalville, a son of the late Elmer and Etta Jame Thomas Miller. Both his first wife, Hildred Seiler Miller, and his second wife, Virginia Leasure Miller, are deceased.

Mr. Miller resided most of his life at Mather, where he was formerly employed at the Mather Collieries. He was a member of the Mather Christian Church and of Gateway Local 6330, United Mine Workers of America.

Surviving are four daughters, Mrs. Ethel M. Montagna of Cecil, Mrs. Charles (Mary Jane) Tanner of Waynesburg R.D.1, Mrs. Loretta Hawk of Jefferson and Mrs. Ken (Ursal) Yankowsky of Bentleyville; five grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. Bessie Lipscomb of Carmichaels and Mrs. Violet Whooley of Baltimore, Md., and two brothers, Sherman McMannes of Bedford, Ohio and David McMannes of Waynesburg.

A grandson and several brothers and sisters are deceased.

Dorothy V. Kois

Dorothy V. Kois, 57, of Greensboro R.D. 1, died at 11:47 p.m. Sunday, November 10, 1985, at Monongalia General Hospital, Morgantown, W.Va.

She was born March 14, 1928, in Martin, a daughter of Martin R. Grmek, and the late Gertrude Menart Grmek.

Her husband, Joseph Kois, survives. On October 19, 1985, Mr. and Mrs. Kois celebrated their 39th wedding anniversary.

Also surviving are one son, Joseph Kois Jr. of Greensboro; her step-mother, Antoinette Grmek; one daughter, Diana Kois, at home; two brothers, Earl Grmek of Wickliffe, Ohio, and William Grmek of Rocky River, Ohio; one sister, Mrs. George (Julia) Marsinek of Wickliffe, Ohio; one granddaughter, Michelle Renee

Verna B. Minton

Verna B. Minton, 83, of Wheeling, W.Va., and formerly of Graysville, died Friday, November 8, 1985, at 5:15 a.m., in Reynolds Memorial Hospital, Glen Dale, W.Va. She had been in failing health for the past four years.

She was born May 3, 1902, in Aleppo Township, a daughter of Henry S. and Naomi Ruth Staley Mayne.

Mrs. Minton had been a resident of the Wheeling area for the past 20 years. She was a member of the Fairview United Methodist Church.

On June 2, 1926, she married Hallie L. Minton, who died January 6, 1950.

Surviving are two daughters, Kathleen Temple Gilbert of Graysville, Mrs. Wesley (Rozella) Amos of Graysville R.D.1; one son, Charles Ray Minton, of Wheeling; ten grandchildren; one step-granddaughter; eight great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Russell Mayne of Wheeling and Forrest Mayne of New Martinsville, W.Va.

Deceased are two sons, John Henry and Harold Lee Minton; and four brothers, Charles, Roy, William and Kenneth Mayne.

LaVerne W. Knight

LaVerne W. Knight, 67, of Canton, Ohio, and formerly of Greene County, died Monday, November 11, 1985, at 9:55 p.m., in Aultman Hospital, Canton. He had been ill for the past few months.

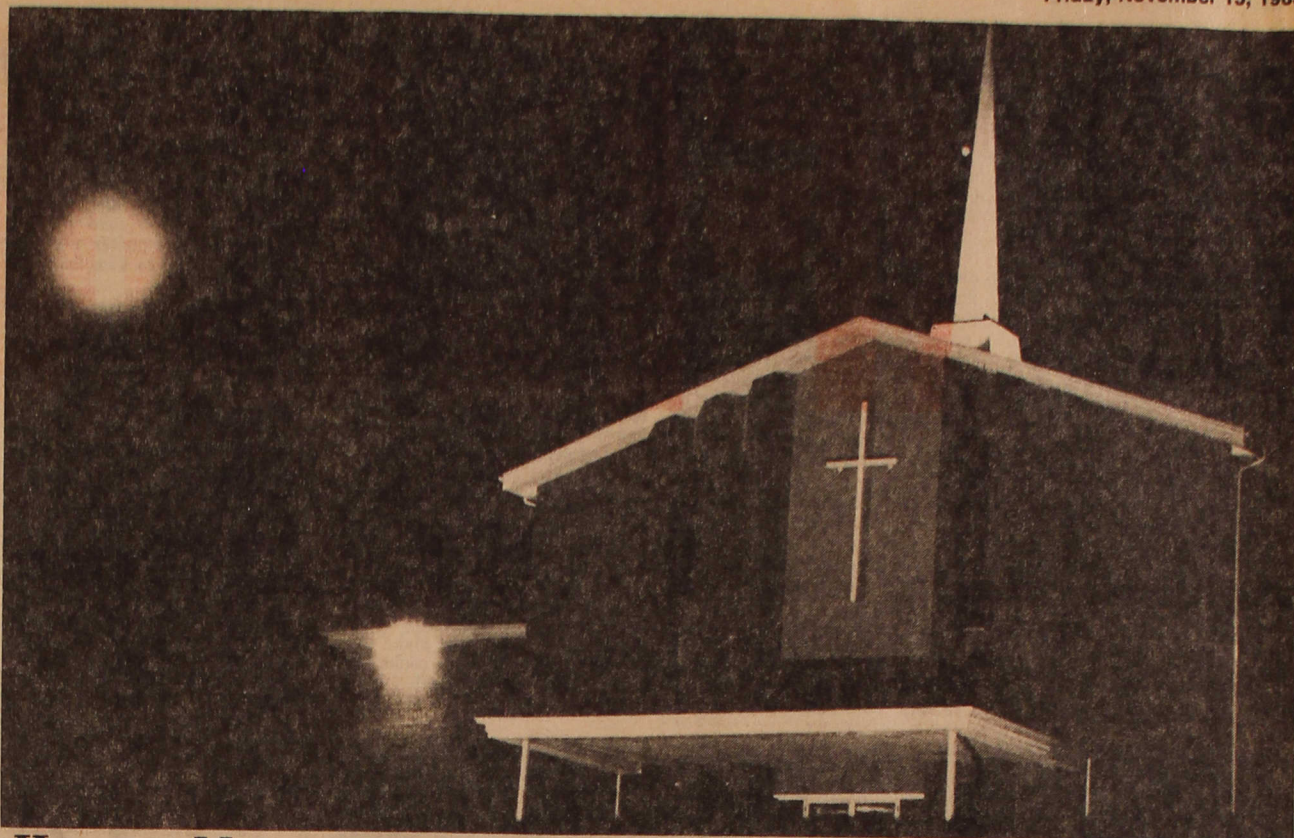
He was born March 23, 1918, in Center Township, a son of the late Roy F. and Lida Webster Knight.

On April 10, 1942, he married Helen McCracken Knight, who died November 11, 1976.

Mr. Knight was a graduate of Center Township High School.

A former resident of western Greene County, he had lived in Canton for the past 35 years. There he was a member of the Emmanuel Christian Church and a member and past master of the Canton Lodge No. 60 F & AM.

Surviving are two sisters, Deliah Harnaha of Annapolis, Md., Mrs. William (Betty) Bell of Bradenton, Fla.



Observer-Reporter / Christie Molzon

Harvest Moon

A full moon rises above the First Church of the Nazarene of Waynesburg on Deerfield Lane in Franklin Township.

The church was constructed less than two years ago and its well-lighted front makes a pretty night scene.

PennDot Employee Accepts Challenge

WAYNESBURG — Ruth Null has had few problems adjusting to change; so when the 62-year-old Sprinhill Township woman had the choice of being laid off or becoming a truck driver, she chose the later.

"This is not exactly the time in life that I thought I would be learning to drive a dump truck," said Miss Null. "But I did it."

Miss Null has worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for 14 years. For her first nine years at PennDOT, she was a secre-

tary. Five years ago her position was phased out, so she chose to become a highway maintenance worker.

As PennDOT has become more mechanized, it has found that it needs more equipment operators. In some parts of the state, PennDOT snowplows have sat idle due to a lack of drivers. The department often has had to contract with outside truck operators to help with road work.

According to Transportation Secretary Thomas Larson, the department has had an excess of general laborers, who cannot be fully em-

ployed during winter months, and a shortage of equipment operators, who are needed for snow removal.

Miss Null was one of those general laborers. Because there wasn't a need for highway maintenance workers, she could have been furloughed for the winter. But rather than being laid off, Miss Null signed up to learn how to drive dump trucks and loaders.

"I wasn't exactly enthused about having to learn to drive these big machines, but I've lived on a farm all my life and figured I could do it if I had to," she said. "Everybody was

There are 196 snow removal trucks in District 12, which includes Greene, Washington and Fayette counties, and Miss Null may be driving one of them this coming winter.

But first she will have to learn another skill. This winter, Miss Null will be a radio operator, talking to other drivers who are out maintaining the roads. She will do this two days a week; the remaining three days she will work out of the Nettle Hill depot.

Miss Null said the radio operator assignment also will be a new

SPECIAL
SECTION

FLOOD!



View of flooding in West Brownsville Tuesday, as seen from the Route 40 bridge.

Observer-Reporter / Jim McNitt

High Water Highlights

The high waters that coursed out of their banks in southwestern Pennsylvania Tuesday and Wednesday appear destined to be referred to in future years as the surprise flood of '85.

Everyone was obviously aware of the rains that continued through the weekend into the start of a new week, but few anticipated the build-up that produced the widespread and destructive flooding. Even the U.S. Weather Service admitted it had been caught with its computers down, attributing part of its problem to observers who were forced to leave their observation posts by the very waters the levels of which surprised the federal agency.

The surprise may have resulted partly from the fact that spring flooding is more common than fall flooding.

It was possibly also surprising because the rains were the spin-off of a tropical storm of a magnitude that didn't compare in intensity with another recent storm that tore up the Eastern seacoast but had little effect here.

If there was a fortunate aspect of the local flooding, it was that it produced no known fatalities despite creating potentially dangerous situations for any number of people.

If there was an encouraging side to a happening that caused the state government to declare counties most affected by the flood waters disaster areas, it was that it, like many natural disasters, brought out the best in a lot of people.

The flooding was marked by quick, vital responses by many agencies ranging from the state government to the National Guard, to local governments and their appropriate services, volunteer fire companies, police and social agencies.

It was even more pointedly marked by the responses of those who suffered the most loss and by those most seriously, personally threatened by the high waters. There was much evidence of helping of one's neighbors, of individuals bearing up under difficult circumstances and even of being able to smile and to find a humorous side of some situations.

That the human family is tough, resilient, resourceful and adaptable, here as much as anywhere, was splendidly illustrated Tuesday and Wednesday.



Mapletown High School students and faculty cart off and dump water-soaked carpets, furniture and appliances.

The Day After The Big Flood

By Angela Burrows, Staff Writer

Walter Albert Smith, 72, and his wife, Mary, 75, of 720 Water Street, Lock Four, sat at their son's breakfast bar late Wednesday morning.

Like about 79 other families in the lower part of North Charleroi Borough, they were evacuated from their home Tuesday afternoon as the waters of the Monongahela River continued to rise.

Smith said about four feet of water had accumulated in the couple's first floor.

"We'll have to start all over again," he said. "But I'm not going to worry about it. It's too late in life to worry about it."

Smith, who said that he and his wife had lived in the Lock Four area for about 50 years, worked on the river for about 55 years prior to his retirement.

"I put almost 55 years in on the river," he said. "This is the worst one," he said of the flood.

He and his wife have no flood insurance.

North Charleroi Councilman Joe Rapp reported that the river crested about 4 a.m. Wednesday at 46 feet in

the borough.

"At 4 a.m. it started to recede at Center Alley," Rapp said. The alley is half a block up from Monongahela Avenue.

Charles Murray, manager of the Charleroi Water Treatment Plant and Pump Station, reported early Wednesday afternoon that the station had been out of operation since 5:05 p.m. Tuesday.

Murray said the station serves about 35,000 customers in Bentleyville, Fallowfield Township, Charleroi, North Charleroi, Speers, Donora, Dunlevy and Monessen.

"Right now, we're drying out our electrical equipment," Murray said at noon. He estimated that it could be anywhere from "12 hours to 48 hours" before the plant was back in operation.

According to Murray, water used by those served by the inoperative plant was coming from storage reservoirs and tanks.

"If people don't start conserving, we will be running out of water shortly," Murray said.

Charleroi Mayor Fred McLuckie reported late Wednesday morning that he was planning to declare a

state of emergency in an attempt to force people to conserve water.

"The water is clear, it is not contaminated," McLuckie said. "We just want to get them (area residents) to conserve until we get the pumps started up again."

Earl Bugaile, Washington County public information director, reported late Wednesday afternoon that tanker trucks filled with drinking water were to be dispatched to the Charleroi pump station's service area shortly. Bugaile said that another truck would be dispatched to Allenport to supply drinking water to residents of Allenport, Elco, Stockdale and Rosco boroughs.

In addition, Bugaile said that an appeal had been made to the National Guard for water buffalos — tank-like containers used to carry water to men in the field.

According to Bugaile, the Western Pennsylvania Water Co. late Wednesday afternoon urged that all of its customers boil their water.

"Evidently some bad water from the Pittsburgh water supply leaked into ours (water supply)," Bugaile said.

McLuckie said that Charleroi's manufacturing areas were being surveyed Wednesday morning in an attempt to determine the extent of the damages caused by the flood.

The mayor described as futile the efforts to keep water out of the Corning Glass Works in Charleroi.

McLuckie said that Corning workers scheduled to report for the 3 to 11 p.m. and 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. shift Tuesday were notified that their shifts had been canceled. He added that it was later decided that the 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. shift Wednesday would be canceled.

When contacted at 4:45 p.m. Wednesday, Corning Plant Manager Jim Siner said that he was unsure when operations at the plant would be restarted.

"We're hoping that in another couple of days we'll have things back to normal," Siner said. "Our people will be notified (of their schedules) directly by our scheduling office."

There were also reports that the Lee Norse Co.'s Charleroi plant had been closed at 2 p.m. Tuesday. No one at the plant could be reached for comment Wednesday.

McLuckie said Wednesday the mid-Mon Valley area experienced its last major flood in 1967. The water that year crested at 38 feet or 12 feet above flood stage.

"This (flood) is the worst one in my time," the mayor said.

"The work of the fire departments and police departments has been splendid," McLuckie said. "We've had no accidents, no casualties."

According to the mayor the only flooding Charleroi Borough residents experienced was in their basements.

He added that there was water on McKean Avenue, one of two main streets in the municipality's business district, Tuesday night but added that water was not from the river.

Most of the roads into the city of Monongahela reopened Wednesday afternoon after being closed since Tuesday.

Only one road, Route 481, remained "completely submerged under water" Wednesday night, according to Owen Burns Jr., Monongahela police chief.

Routes 136, 837 and 906 were opened for traffic Wednesday while motorists were urged to travel Route 88 slowly, as it still had six to eight inches of water on it.

Burns, who had just come off a 30-hour shift, said from his home Wednesday night that there was still "a hell of a lot of water" left to do in the city and many families remained out of their homes.

Harry Albert, spokesman for the state Department of Transportation, said that there was no major damage to the roads in the mid-Mon Valley other than the fact that they were wet and muddy.

Greene County roads, however, sustained major damage, he said.

Mayor John Nipaver of Speers Borough said late Tuesday morning that he did not yet have a cost estimate on damages in his municipality.

He said there had been many evacuations from the lower part of the borough, near Dunlevy.

"The Coast Guard Auxiliary reported about noon (Tuesday) that the Cheat Dam broke (near Morgantown, W.Va.) and we alerted a whole section along the river," Nipaver said, adding that he later learned the report was false.

"Things have started to tone down a little now," he said about 11 a.m. Wednesday.

A native of Speers, Nipaver, like Walter Smith and McLuckie, said this week's flood was the worst he had seen.

"In the last eight or 10 years, we've had more things developed along the river," he said.

According to Nipaver, water filled the basement of the Back Porch restaurant along the river and had covered Smitty's restaurant at the Southwest Marina.

National Guardsmen Perform Flood Duty

By Robert H. Campbell, Promotion Manager

More than 500 Pennsylvania Army National Guardsmen were on duty Wednesday in communities in the Monongahela Valley that have been ravaged by floods.

The special task force is under the command of Col. John V. Aleandri of Greensburg, who is commander of Second Brigade, 28th Infantry Division, with headquarters at the Goodridge Armory at Washington County Airport. The command post for the operation is located at the armory. The missions of the task force are command and control, security and traffic control.

Aleandri and Maj. Gen. Richard Scott, the adjutant general of Pennsylvania with headquarters at Fort Indiantown Gap, toured the flooded areas by helicopter Wednesday morning and the Guard also picked up Lt. Gov. William Scranton shortly after noon at Allegheny County Airport for a flight over the Monongahela Valley.

The Guard was alerted for flood duty about 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aleandri said. Most of the troops on duty are from units of the 28th Division located in Washington, Canonsburg, Finleyville, Waynesburg, Connellsville, Mt. Pleasant, Greensburg, Scottsdale, Butler and Hunt Armory, Pittsburgh. One non-divisional unit, Company D

of the 876th Engineer Battalion, is also part of the task force that has an area of operations of nearly 40 miles, Aleandri said.

The number of Guardsmen and duty locations as of Wednesday afternoon were: West Brownsville, 20; California, 22; Fredericktown and East Bethlehem Township, 20; Coal Center, 27; Charleroi, 27; North Charleroi and Speers, 35; West Elizabeth, 40; LaBelle, Fayette County, 30; Greensboro, Rices Landing and Point Marion, 54; and Fayette City and Belle Vernon, 22. Approximately 10 percent of the force is being held in reserve at home armories.

Air support for the task force is being supplied by helicopters of Troop D, 1st Squadron, 104th Armored Cavalry, and Company A of the 28th Aviation Battalion, both units located at the Washington County Airport. Ground units on duty are from Second Brigade, 28th Adjutant General Co., 1st Battalion, 110th Infantry, 2nd Battalion, 110th Infantry, two units of the 107th Field Artillery Battalion, a unit of the 28th Supply and Transportation Battalion, and Combat Support Company of the 110th.

Aleandri said that the air survey conducted by Gen. Scott Wednesday morning indicated that there would probably be no need to alert additional Guardsmen for duty at this time.



Two National Guardsmen on duty in California

Flood-Victims Needs Are Being Assessed

By Barbara S. Miller, Staff Writer

Bedding and money to replace water-logged furnaces, water heaters and appliances are needed to help Mon Valley flood victims, according to the woman in charge of the Mon Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Stephanie Bartus, executive director of the Mon Valley chapter in Donora, said a survey was being taken Wednesday morning to assess the damage and find out exactly what people need.

"Right off the bat, we probably need bedding and I think we're going to need a lot of money," she said.

Water in basements ruined furnaces, hot water tanks, washing machines, and clothes driers. In one-story homes and where water levels rose even higher, tables, chairs, stoves and refrigerators were ruined by water and mud.

"We are accepting donations at our chapter here and they're to earmark it for Flood Relief, 439 McKean Avenue, Donora, 15033," she said. "At this point, we wouldn't have any place to store this stuff," so the Red Cross is asking for cash rather than appliances.

There were still some homeless people in shelters Wednesday, but the Red Cross director said her staff was trying to relocate them with family members.

At the height of the crisis, she knew of 15 shelters operating. As the deluge receded Wednesday, some of the shelters were being combined.

Ellen Clark, director of the Washington Chapter of the Red Cross, was in West Brownsville Tuesday night after 50 families had to be evacuated.

She went with with volunteers James McCune, chapter chairman, and board members Mrs. John McMurray, Ingrid Nelson and Mrs. William Laderer.

They brought sandwiches, applesauce, milk and cookies, meat and cheese, and left food for firemen so they could come in and eat at any hour.

"We had a shelter opened in the American Legion Hall. We thought we might have to evacuate it. There were 30 inches of water in their basement."

She was dismayed Wednesday because she could not reach anyone in West Brownsville. "I just can't get any communication with West Brownsville. They're just cut off."

She said of the cash requested by the Mon Valley chapter, "That's what we desperately need. I suppose if the Mon Valley wants bedding, we can take it, too."

Clarence Wills, field service manager for the Red Cross in Pittsburgh, said the Red Cross is bringing in workers from Youngstown, Ohio, and the relief effort is being coordinated from Cleveland.

Covering The Flood A Herculean Task

By Barbara S. Miller, Staff Writer

When the reporters were writing about areas cut off by floods and widespread devastation, how does the newspaper get the newspaper out?

Russ Woleslagle of Breezy Heights had the task of delivering 2,900 bundled Observer-Reporters to the Mon Valley early Tuesday just as the river was cresting.

"It was pretty, pretty, hectic out there. I had to backtrack all kind of places," said Woleslagle, 37, who has been delivering the paper for seven years.

He even disregarded the National Guard.

"I came out of California. When I got down there, the guards were getting ready to set up. I got the truck in gear and I wanted to get past before they shut these roads off."

"They were waving in their truck. I knew if they stopped me, they'd tell me I couldn't go where I wanted to go," Woleslagle said.

He breezed on past in the half-ton van marked with the Observer's "Fresh Daily" logo, and made his appointed rounds.

"I do know the area. I know how I'm going and how I can get there. I'm not going to do anything foolish," Woleslagle said.

He went through about two feet of

water in places, and was concerned about water seeping in the doors of the van. When making one delivery, he pushed the papers out the back of a van onto a loading dock rather than slog through the deep water.

"I knew it was going to be bad. As you went down the river, it got worse. I didn't see any fast water last night. It was fairly stagnant," Woleslagle said.

"When I got to Mon City, it was unreal. There was just no way to get there. Route 481 and Route 88 were closed," Woleslagle said. He called Monongahela police, who temporarily set up shop in Donora because the Monongahela police and fire departments were flooded. They directed him to try Route 136, which he did, successfully.

He said he found police all over the area very helpful.

"They knew I wasn't a screwball out there to see where I could go. There wasn't too much out last night," Woleslagle said.

He said his rounds, which usually take him three hours and 45 minutes to complete, took seven and a half hours.

He was able to make all his deliveries but two. The places that didn't get their newspaper were Down's News, Roscoe, and Speedy Mart, Stockdale.

He had Wednesday night off, so didn't have to worry about making the trip two nights in a row. He said he planned to spend the night at his home, which is west of Washington and miles from any river. "If it floods up here, God went back on his word," Woleslagle said.

This was the journey the paper took once it had been printed after midnight.

The story began Tuesday morning, when water in the Monongahela River was rising, and the threat of terrible floods from the Pennsylvania-West Virginia line northward sent out reporters in droves.

The earliest news of disaster hitting Pennsylvania came from Point Marion, just across from Greene County and just north of the state line. The first reports of flooding in Washington County came from the California area.

At the Observer-Reporter, 19 people covered the flood Tuesday, including 10 reporters, three photographers and six editors who were kept busy editing copy, laying out pages for separate editions for Washington and Greene counties, coordinating coverage and putting together a map for the front page.

All stories on the front page of the Washington edition dealt with the flood. The Greene edition did the

same, except for an election story.

Features that had already been placed on the Focus page were pulled and replaced by flood photos and a story about the homeless, covered from an evacuation center.

Four staffers had been planning to cover election results Tuesday night, but they instead wrote about the flood. Substituted for the election results was a story explaining that no ballots would be counted due to the high water and problems at many Mon Valley polling places.

Wednesday's Observer-Reporter featured 12 stories, written by reporters in the Washington office and Waynesburg bureau, and 11 local photographs.

Follow-up coverage of the flood on Wednesday mobilized nine more staffers, including three more photographers and seven writers. Thirteen stories on the flood, plus coverage of the election results, were assigned.

Co-publisher William B. Northrop planned on aerial shots Tuesday. Photographer J. Charles Wilson went up with a pilot, but they were hampered by low clouds.

"I was disappointed," Northrop said.

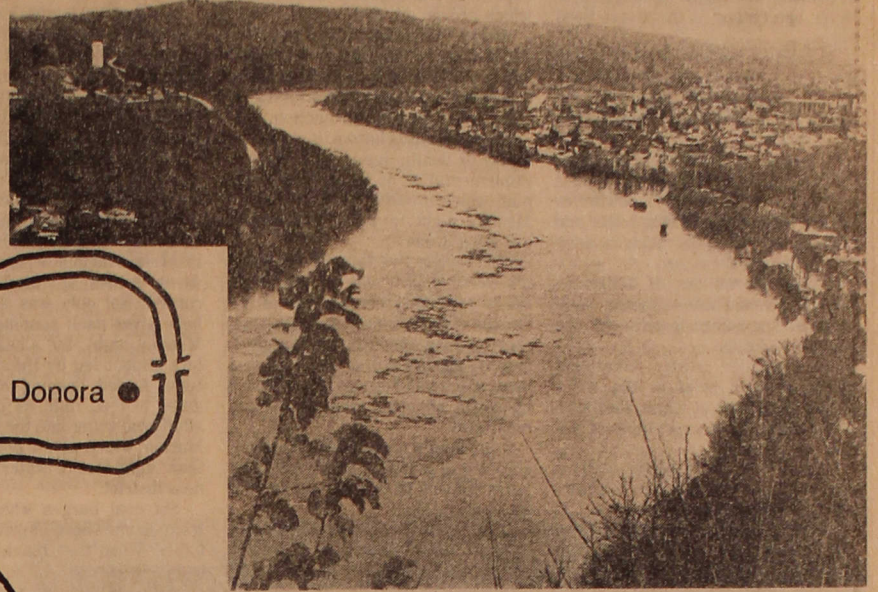
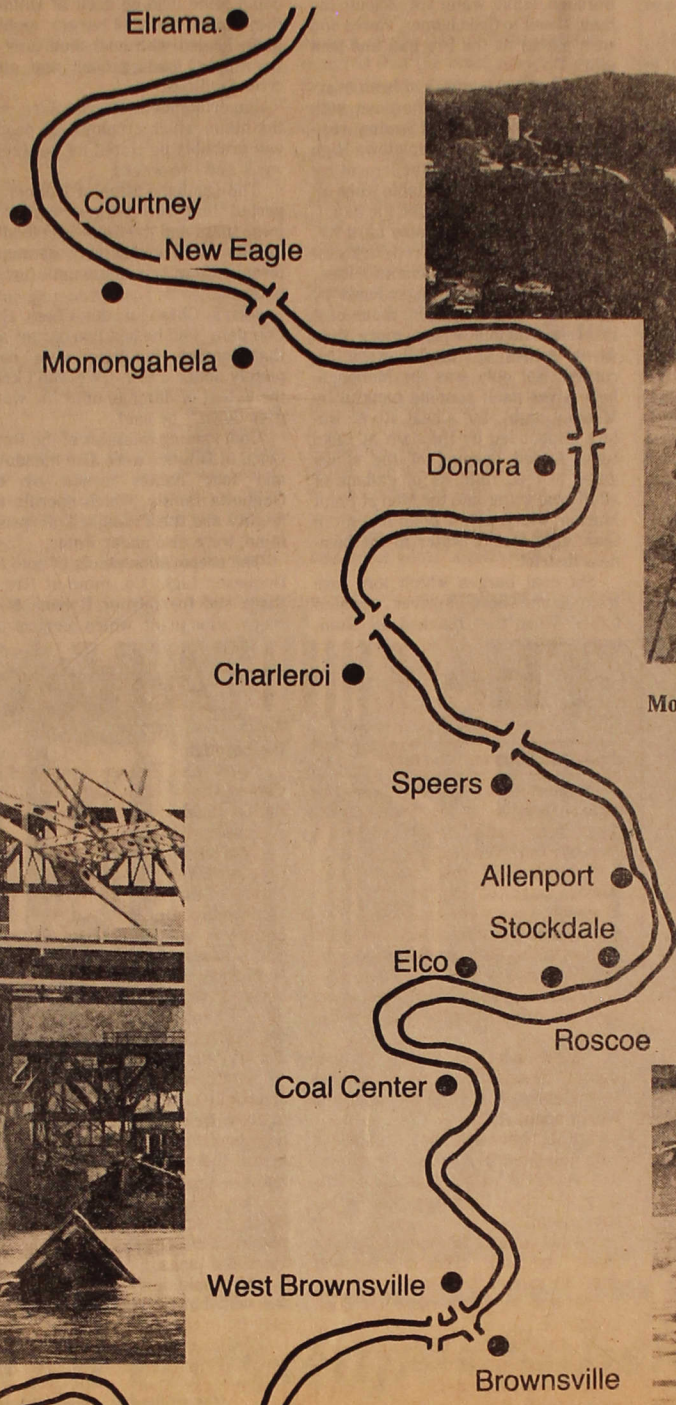
This was solved Wednesday by the hiring of a helicopter which would fly above the Mon to Pittsburgh and continue above the Ohio River to Weirton, W.Va.

A Path Of Destruction Up The Mon Valley



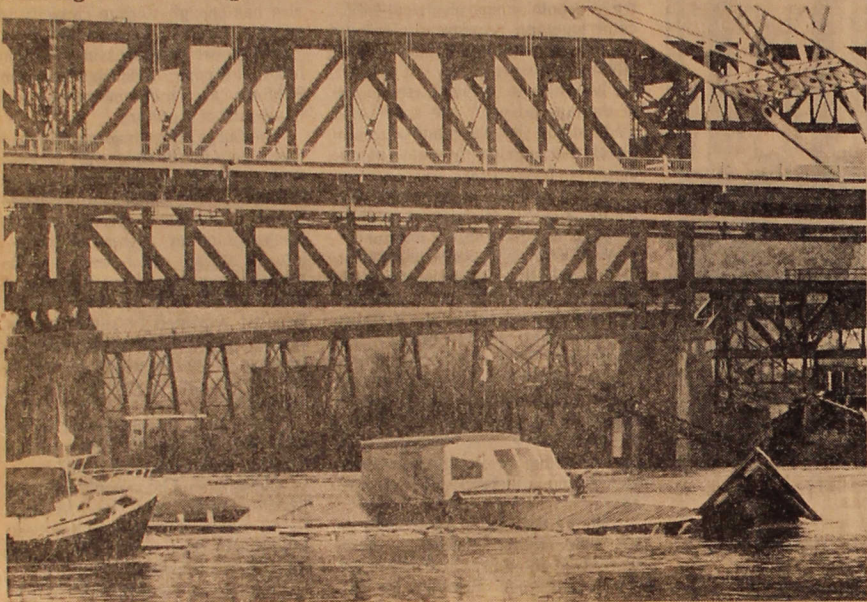
Plowing across a bridge into Charleroi

Observer-Reporter / Jim McNatt



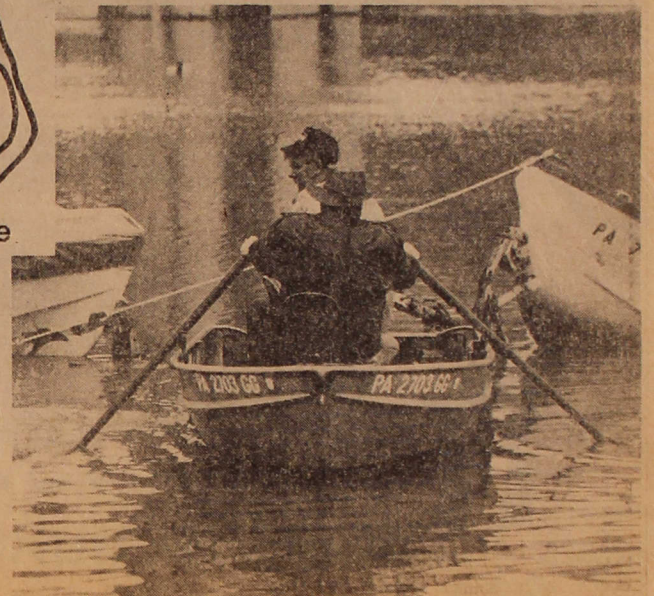
Mon overflows banks at California

Observer-Reporter / Jim McNatt



Damaged dock at Sneers Bridge

Observer-Reporter / Jim McNatt



River Bursts Into Homes, Onto Bridges

By Bob Eichenlaub, Greene County Editor

WAYNESBURG — People who live along the upper Monongahela River are calling it the worst flood ever.

It pushed fingers of water into places they had never reached before, sending hundreds of families to the safety of high ground as their homes were flooded.

It tore at least 40 coal barges loose, sending them careening into bridges as they swept wildly downriver toward Pittsburgh, forcing police and firemen to close the bridges as a precautionary measure.

It caused millions of dollars in damage to coal mine loading facilities, forcing mines to close for the foreseeable future.

It inundated water treatment plants on both sides of the river, posing the threat of water shortages in the midst of an oversupply of water.

It put four major power stations out of operation and led to interruptions of electrical service.

It tore mobile homes loose from their foundations, sending them bob-

bing down the debris-laden and muddy river.

It bred rumors of power plant explosions and ruptured dams, all of which proved groundless.

It led to activation by Gov. Dick Thornburgh of the Pennsylvania National Guard unit in Waynesburg Tuesday evening to assist with traffic control and property protection.

But so far as is known, it caused no injury or death, due in large part to implementation of an early warning plan which brought firemen out late Monday night to warn residents of low-lying areas.

"Everyone I've talked to tells me it's worse than it was in 1936," said Larry Marshall, coordinator of the Greene County Emergency Management Agency, referring to the legendary St. Patrick's Day flood of that year which has become the standard by which all other river floods are measured.

"But firemen, state police and everyone else involved did a really fine job in responding to warnings of what was coming."

The hardest hit community in Greene County was Greensboro

Borough, water water spread onto the main street to flood homes, stores and such places as the fire hall and post office.

At least 100 homes had been evacuated by late Tuesday afternoon, with centers for housing and feeding residents being set up at Mapletown High School and the Penn Pitt Elementary School, which were available when all classes were cancelled for the day.

Rices Landing was also hard hit, as were Millsboro, Fredericktown and other downstream communities.

The flooding was engendered by three days of steady rain, much of it in West Virginia where more than seven inches of rainfall were recorded. Not only was the Monongahela River itself running bankfull by Monday night, but Cheat River waters impounded by the dam at Lake Lynn forced opening of the sluice gates to feed millions of gallons of additional water into the Mon at Point Marion, which at one point had more than eight feet of water in the business district.

Six coal barges which tore lose from somewhere upriver created havoc. When they reached the Shan-

nopin Mine loading dock at Dilliner, they ripped away 16 barges, eight of them loaded with coal, and tore out the tippie, loading dock and other river facilities.

Superintendent Al Smalara said the mine, which employs 225 people, will probably be closed for between a week and two weeks.

The Dunkard Mine at Dilliner reported that two barges were torn loose there and the tippie and loading facility were extensively damaged, forcing the mine to close until further notice.

Larry Chess of the Chess Coal Company said he lost two barges and that loading facilities were completely under water. "We won't know the extent of damage until the water goes down," he said.

Coal loading facilities of the Danri Corp. at Dilliner were also inundated and four homes owned by the Gugliotta family, which operate the facility and the Triangle Enterprises mine, were also under water.

The preparation plants of both the Duquesne Light Co. mine at Greensboro and the former Robena Mine preparation plant, which services the

Cumberland Mine at Kirby, were also under water, but personnel there managed to keep barges from breaking loose.

Officials at the Nemaocolin mine said they closed the mine Tuesday morning, but so far had been able to prevent damage to the loading facilities.

Work at the Dilworth mine at Rices Landing was halted Tuesday afternoon because of high water, with no indication when it would resume.

As the barges swept downstream, they carried over the dam at Monongahela River Lock No. 7 at Greensboro, which was completely covered by water. The U.S. Corps of Engineers at Pittsburgh said that reports that the lock gates were damaged could not be confirmed until the water has receded and an inspection made.

The West Penn Power Company reported that both the Fort Martin Power Plant at Point Marion and the Hatfield Ferry Power Plant at Mason town were out of operation as water rose into the plants. Plants at Albright, W.Va. and Lake Lynn were also shut down.

"We're buying electricity and should be able to maintain power service to all of our customers," a West Penn spokesman said.

He confirmed there was a fire late Tuesday afternoon at the Hatfield Ferry plant which damaged a "cable tray," a point where electrical cables come together. "Apparently they got the fire out without too much trouble and nobody was injured, but we have not been able to determine the extent of damage as yet," the spokesman said, adding that the plant was completely surrounded by water at one point.

At the request of firemen, electricity was cut off in a number of areas as a precautionary measure.

West Penn said service to 100 families in the Riviera Trailer Court on Route 88 near Dilliner was discontinued at the request of the Bobtown Fire Company. At the request of the Greensboro Fire Company, service was cut off to the Mon View Park area and to Alicia. Rices Landing firemen requested a cutoff of 80 families along the river there, and Fredericktown firemen asked for elimination of service in the Millsboro and Newtown area.

"We've also had a lot of requests for help from customers from throughout the three-county area because of basement flooding," the utility spokesman said.

Route 21 traffic was disrupted several times during the day as the river span was closed as a precautionary

measure as runaway barges swept under it.

"I was standing on the bridge when one of them hit a bridge pier at 2 o'clock," said Capt. John Lewis of the Mason town police department. "It shook the whole bridge."

Water filtration plants operated by companies and authorities along the length of the river were flooded, creating the threat of water shortages.

Marshall said that the Carmichaels Authority and Dunkard Valley Authority at Greensboro were hardest hit in terms of available water.

"It was told they had no more than two hours of supply left Tuesday evening," he said, adding that the Emergency Management Agency was making arrangements with Higgins Hauling Service of Waynesburg to haul water to the affected communities.

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Water Authority, which serves a large area of Greene and Fayette Counties, said its Ronco plant was out of operation but that it has a sufficient storage supply for two days of water. In addition, it is augmenting its supply to Waynesburg from the filtration plant on Ten Mile Creek at Waynesburg.

The East Dunkard Water Association, which serves much of Eastern Greene County, said its plant at Dilliner was under water but that it also has enough storage capacity to provide water for the next two days. "We hope we'll be back in operation before it is gone," said Olga Brozik of Bobtown, a member of the association board of directors.

The Corps of Engineers confirmed that a gate on the Stonewall Jackson Dam on the West Fork River in Lewis County, W.Va. had malfunctioned Tuesday afternoon, permitting the discharge of an "excess of water" into the stream which feeds into the Monongahela River near Clarksburg. A spokesman said, however, that it was not expected to result in any substantial increase in downstream flooding on the Monongahela, which had crested at Greensboro by late afternoon.

"If we don't get any more rain the river should begin to fall Tuesday evening," the spokesman said.

Marshall said he was notified late Tuesday night that the National Guard unit at Waynesburg had been activated to assist with traffic control and to prevent looting.

"It came as welcome news to firemen and police who are exhausted," he said, noting that some members of the guard unit had already been assisting as volunteers.



Observer-Reporter / Christie Molzon

Greensboro resident looks at home partially submerged by overflowing waters of the Monongahela River Tuesday.

Greensboro Resident: 'We Grabbed The Kids And We Got Out'

By Bob Niedbala, Staff Writer

GREENSBORO — Firefighters in the Greensboro area started making calls and going door to door warning residents of the rising water a little after 1 a.m. Tuesday.

"They told us to get out, now," said Beverly Cloutier, who lives beside Lock and Dam 7 in Greensboro.

Like many of the residents of the low lying areas along the Monongahela River, from Point Marion to Rices Landing, the Cloutiers did not have time to take any of their belongings.

"We left everything," said Mrs. Cloutier. "We grabbed the kids out of bed and got out."

When the Cloutiers left, the water had yet to reach the house, which is about 50 feet from the dam. Mrs. Cloutiers said they later tried to return to the home to get some of their belongings, but the road was flooded.

Mrs. Cloutier's husband, Roland, runs a body shop in a garage next to the house. "It's gone," said Mrs. Cloutier. She said the last she heard, the water was at the level of the garage roof.

Warnings of possible flooding spread through the community after firefighters from the Greensboro-Monongahela Township Volunteer Fire Company received notice at

about 1 a.m. from the Emergency Management Agency, said fire chief Ed Helmick.

Helmick said he was told there was a "code three alert" in effect. He said he was told to evacuate the community.

About 500 people in the Greensboro, Glassworks and Sandy Run areas had to be evacuated during the day, according to assistant chief Harry Drew.

Some of the people went to the homes of relatives, while others, like the Cloutiers, found shelter in an evacuation center set up at the Mapletown High School.

It was also reported that families in the lower section of Rices Landing, the Pitt Gas and East Millsboro areas were evacuated as the water rose Tuesday morning.

Other residents living along the river, like the Cloutiers, had been told to leave their homes immediately and were unable to take belongings with them.

"The fire department called at about 2:30 a.m. and said they were supposed to let water out of the Cheat River," said Mary McCorkle of Alicia, who was at Mapletown High School.

"Everybody left. We took only pillows, blankets and a change of clothes," she said.

Mrs. McCorkle said residents of

the village tried to return to their homes later to get things, but firemen wouldn't allow them to enter the area. She added that she didn't object to the firemen's orders. "It's not worth your life to try and get anything," she said.

Mrs. McCorkle said she and her neighbors watched from a hill overlooking the village as the area flooded. A runaway barge just missing her neighbor's house.

Anna Buttermore, a neighbor of Mrs. McCorkles, also said she left her home with only her blankets. "I lived 45 years along the river banks in Greensboro and Alicia," she said. "This is the first time we ever had to be evacuated."

The water had yet to reach the houses in the Greensboro area when residents were notified about possible flooding. Although they had time to prepare for the high water, many thought the river would not rise as high as it did.

At about 10:30 a.m., Marlene Hetz watched in Glassworks as the water rose around the home of her mother, Grace Downing. She said many of her mother's belongings had been moved upstairs. "We got them up," she said, "but we didn't get them out. We kept thinking it (the rising water) was stopping," she said.

Adam Novak of Glassworks, whose backyard faces the river, said when he was notified about possible

flooding at about 3:30 a.m., the water was about 50 to 70 feet away from the home. By about 10 a.m., the water was at least a foot and half deep in his first floor.

Novak said he, several firefighters and neighbors took some of the furniture out of the house or moved it to the second floor.

"We saved the most important stuff," he said. "The washer and drier and furnace, it's all downstairs; and it's completely flooded."

The water continued to rise during the morning and afternoon. Novak, who was later at the Mapletown school, said the water rose enough to completely flood his house. "Only about three feet of the roof is above water," he said. Novak said he believes he lost everything that was left in the house.

No one was ready to estimate the extent of damage to homes in the area, but many of the residents talked about their losses.

"I got a few pieces of the living-room furniture upstairs, but that's all," said Edith Wamsley, who lives on Minor Street in Greensboro.

She added, "It's also the items that can't be replaced."

Lydia Aston of County Street said she had put a baby grand piano on the first floor of her house up on blocks. At the time she said this, the water was above the level of the first floor.

In Greensboro, the water rose until it covered First Street, which is closest to the river and Main street, the next street up. Homes in low lying areas of the town were also flooded.

Many residents were milling around, moving items out of their homes until about 1 a.m. when the fire alarm sounded and word spread that the dam at Cheat Lake had washed out. The report proved to be incorrect.

Downstream from Greensboro, in Rices Landing, the water started rising about 9:30 a.m. In three hours, the main street in the lower section of

town was flooded. Several families along the river had to be evacuated.

"You feel helpless. All you can do is stand her and watch it, it's not like fighting a fire," said Bill Faddis, chief of the Rices Landing Volunteer Fire Department.

Homes along low lying areas in the East Millsboro are also were flooded. Jim and Janice Retucci, owners of

Sunset Marina, had to move between

15 and 20 new boats out of their buildings. The water was over the front door of a mobile home, the Retuccis had just moved beside the marina about seven weeks ago. "Who would've thought this would happen?" asked Mrs. Retucci. "My husband said the water would never get this far."



Observer-Reporter / Jim McNitt

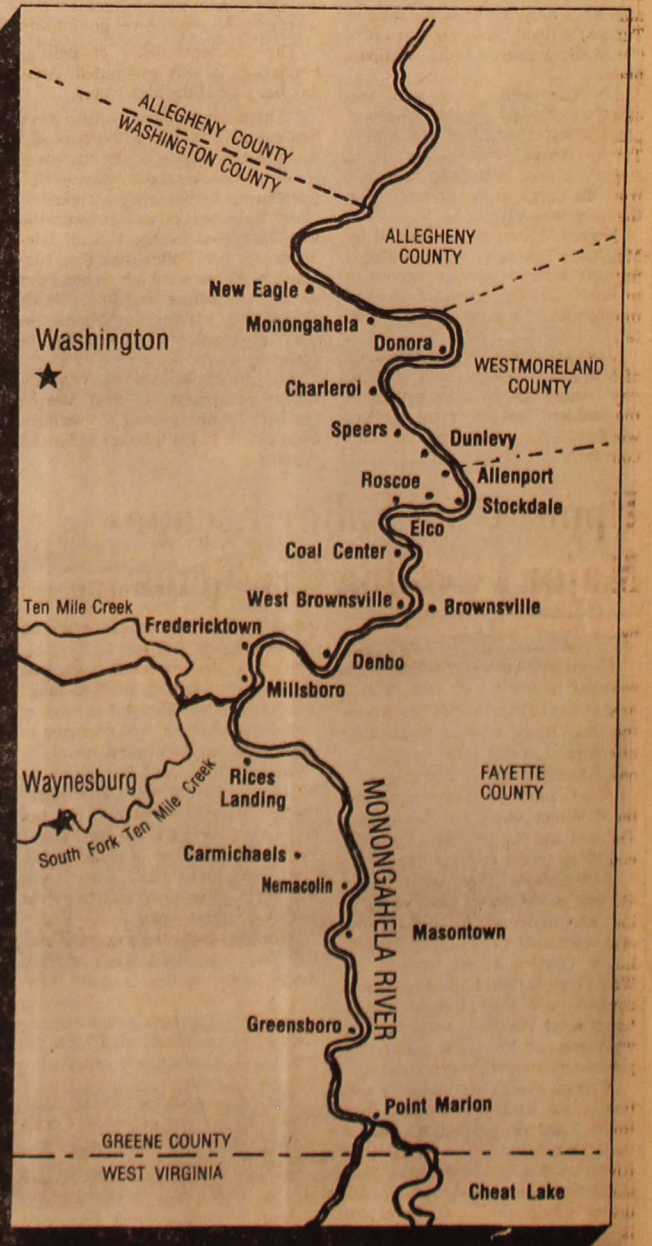
As this picture shows, Coal Center was one of the towns hardest hit by the flooding.

Clothing Available For Flood Victims

BENTLEYVILLE — The Pass-It-On station of the First Baptist Church of Bentleyville announced Thursday that it will make its supply of used clothing available to victims of this week's flooding.

The Rev. Harvey Thomas said clothing would be available during the regular hours of the station which are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays. The needy can also call Thomas at 239-4353 to arrange an alternative time to obtain clothing.

The Pass-It-On station is at 803 Main Street in Bentleyville.



Thousands Flee Monongahela River Flood

By Angela Burrows, Staff Writer

The Monongahela River surged more than 12.5 feet over flood stage Tuesday, driving an estimated 2,000 Washington County residents from their homes. About 250 of those were to spend Tuesday night in the 14 emergency shelters that had been set up in the county.

At 8 p.m., Gov. Dick Thornburgh formally declared that Washington, Greene, Fayette, Allegheny and Somerset counties were in a state of emergency. The governor's declaration came about five hours after the Washington County Commissioners declared a state of emergency here.

Police and fire departments in Washington and Greene counties were to be assisted by about 600 National Guardsmen who were dispatched to help with security and traffic control, as well as sandbag-

ging efforts.

According to Earl Bugaile, Washington County public information director, the river was measured at 38.5 feet at Lock 4 at North Charleroi about 3 p.m.

Bugaile reported late Tuesday that the water levels in some areas of the county were beginning to fall.

Robert Whiten Jr., Charleroi's second assistant fire chief, estimated that between 500 and 600 firefighters were helping with evacuation and pumping efforts in the mid-Mon Valley.

"Every firefighter that can do something is doing what he can," Whiten said. "It's a 100-percent effort."

Whiten reported about 2 p.m. that about 25 members of his 40-member department were out.

"Everyone else is on standby right now," Whiten said.

Charleroi firemen reported about 9

p.m. that McKean Avenue, one of the town's two main business areas, was flooded.

California Police Chief Nelson Horner reported that evacuations there started at 9:30 a.m. and Coal Center Borough Police Chief Charles Papp reported that Coal Center had been closed off about 9 a.m.

According to Papp, Coal Center Mayor James Roberts made a formal declaration at 9 a.m. that the municipality was in the state of emergency.

Papp said pickup trucks and vans were being used to remove furniture and belongings from flooded homes.

"Everyone (in the borough) is moving to higher ground," Papp said.

A portion of Monongahela's Park Avenue Extension was closed early Tuesday afternoon after it was flooded by the high waters of Pigeon Creek.

Luigi and Josephine Riccardi,

owners of the (Route) 481 Lounge, reported that the creek's waters had been rising since Monday night.

Monongahela Mayor John Moreschi said Tuesday night that all of the homes along Railroad Street there had flooded basements. He added that there was also flooding on First Street, Park Avenue and Seventh Street near Main.

Moreschi said that evacuations in Monongahela started between 4 and 5 p.m. and that there were residents at the city's firehall, which had been set up as an emergency shelter.

Del Grillo, North Charleroi Borough councilman, said about 1:45 p.m. that about 60 or 70 families of the borough's family had been evacuated. The homes were those located in the Lock Four area of the municipality, the area closest to the river.

"There's a big push to get everyone out of here," Grillo said.

Wilma Furlong, a part-time dispatcher for Allenport Borough, who was called out to work Tuesday, reported that about 15 families had been evacuated from homes the borough's Newtown section and an additional 30 homes had been flooded in Allenport Hollow.

Fredericktown Borough was reportedly blocked off due to flooding late Tuesday afternoon.

Stanley Fowler, former Fredericktown Fire Chief and a current member of the department, said that the Greenwood trailer court and Daci's Tavern on the Greene County side of the borough were both under water. According to Fowler, those wishing to get from Clarksville to Millsboro and Pitt Gas could not do so Tuesday afternoon because the road was blocked by water.

Fowler said liquor bottles from the state store in Fredericktown were

floating down Main Street.

Centerville Borough Mayor Dewey Milich reported about 10 p.m. that Denbo-Vesta 6 and 7, Mapletown and Chewtown were the hardest hit areas of the borough.

According to Milich, no businesses were damaged by the flood waters but there were thousands of dollars of property damage.

Mon Valley Hospital officials reported late Tuesday afternoon that they had treated one area resident who had suffered a cardiac arrest, another who had fractured an ankle and a third who had sustained a head injury. The hospital also reported they were keeping three homeless area residents who had been sent to them.

Bugaile said the Washington County Tax Assessment Office would dispatch five teams Wednesday to get an estimate on the damages caused by the flooding.

County Declared Emergency Area

By Suzanne Elliott, Staff Writer

Gov. Dick Thornburgh declared a state of emergency shortly after 8 p.m. Tuesday in Washington, Greene,

North Charleroi Man Dies In Flood

By Elizabeth M. Rogers, Staff Writer

One man was killed Tuesday and another was injured Wednesday in flood-related accidents.

A North Charleroi man was found drowned Wednesday after deciding not to evacuate his home Tuesday night, according to Washington County Coroner Farrell Jackson.

Leo Kelly, 40, of 520 Monongahela Avenue, was found in the kitchen about 1:18 p.m. by his wife, Dana, and a National Guardsman, Samuel Hampton, of Clairton.

All the residents of the neighborhood were asked to evacuate their homes Tuesday, but some decided to stay, according to North Charleroi police.

The flood waters had reached the first floor of the house Tuesday night. The flood waters had receded by Wednesday afternoon when Mrs. Kelly and Hampton went into the house.

Kelly was last seen alive about 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jackson said.

Charles Horney, 58, of Pleasant Unity in Westmoreland County was listed in critical condition in Mon Valley Hospital Wednesday evening after he reportedly fell from a tugboat into a barge about 5:30 a.m. Wednesday.

Horney was aboard a tugboat on the Monongahela River near the Allenport plant of Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp. trying to retrieve one of a number of barges that broke loose in Tuesday's flood, according to Carol Campbell, a guard at the Allenport plant.

Ms. Campbell, along with two other employees at the Allenport plant, assisted members of the Five Town Ambulance Service in carrying Horney, placed in a strop stretcher, from the barge and over a fence on the river seawall.

Horney, reportedly employed by Mon River Towing in Speers, suffered multiple trauma injuries, according to Karen Dei Cas, director of community relations at Mon Valley Hospital.

James Guttman, one of the owners of Mon River Towing, said Wednesday evening that he knew nothing of the accident and could not confirm whether Horney was employed by his company.

Upper Ohio Valley Escapes Major Flooding Problems

By Jim Dallara, Staff Writer

No major flooding problems were reported in the Upper Ohio Valley area of West Virginia and Ohio, where the Ohio River crested Wednesday afternoon. Levels were reported at one to five feet above flood stages.

New Cumberland reported the water at 36 feet, exactly at flood stage. The park and playground at the north end of town were under water.

At Wellsburg, water was reported 4½ feet above flood level. No buildings were under water, although several basements were heavily flooded. Lower Charles Street beneath the West Virginia Route 2 underpass was covered with two feet of water. Lower-level residents were keeping wary eyes on the rising water, but planned no moving or evacuations.

Weirton Steel Corp. closed a section of the bridge connecting Ohio Route 7 and Brown's Island, due to the high level of water on the Ohio River, at 9 a.m. Wednesday. Steel slabs were placed on the one-lane bridge to help stabilize it. The bridge is used frequently by employees enroute to their jobs. There was no

Fayette, Allegheny and Somerset counties because of extensive property damage caused by flooding.

The Washington County Commissioners declared a state of emergency at 3 p.m. Tuesday.

According to John Comey, press secretary for the state Emergency Management Agency, the governor also authorized the National Guard to provide assistance. About 600 members will be in both Washington and Greene counties. Areas in Washington County targeted for assistance include East Bethlehem Township, Charleroi, North Charleroi, West Brownsville and California. The areas targeted in Greene County will be in Greensboro and Rices Landing.

Comey said the National Guard will assist with sandbagging and also will be providing traffic control and security.

"We will probably be sending teams from Harrisburg Wednesday to begin a detailed survey damage report to assess the magnitude and severity of the damage in both the private and public sectors," Comey said.

The National Guard is on standby in Harrisburg. Earl Bugaile, county information officer, said the agency is prepared to use the personnel on an as needed basis — primarily for traffic control and security.

Several areas in both Washington and Fayette counties were without electricity and telephone service because of the high water.

William Kelly, the West Penn Power Mon Valley division manager, said 600 people in the Belle Vernon and Roscoe areas are without electricity at their own request. He said there are no reports of power outages due to faulty facilities.

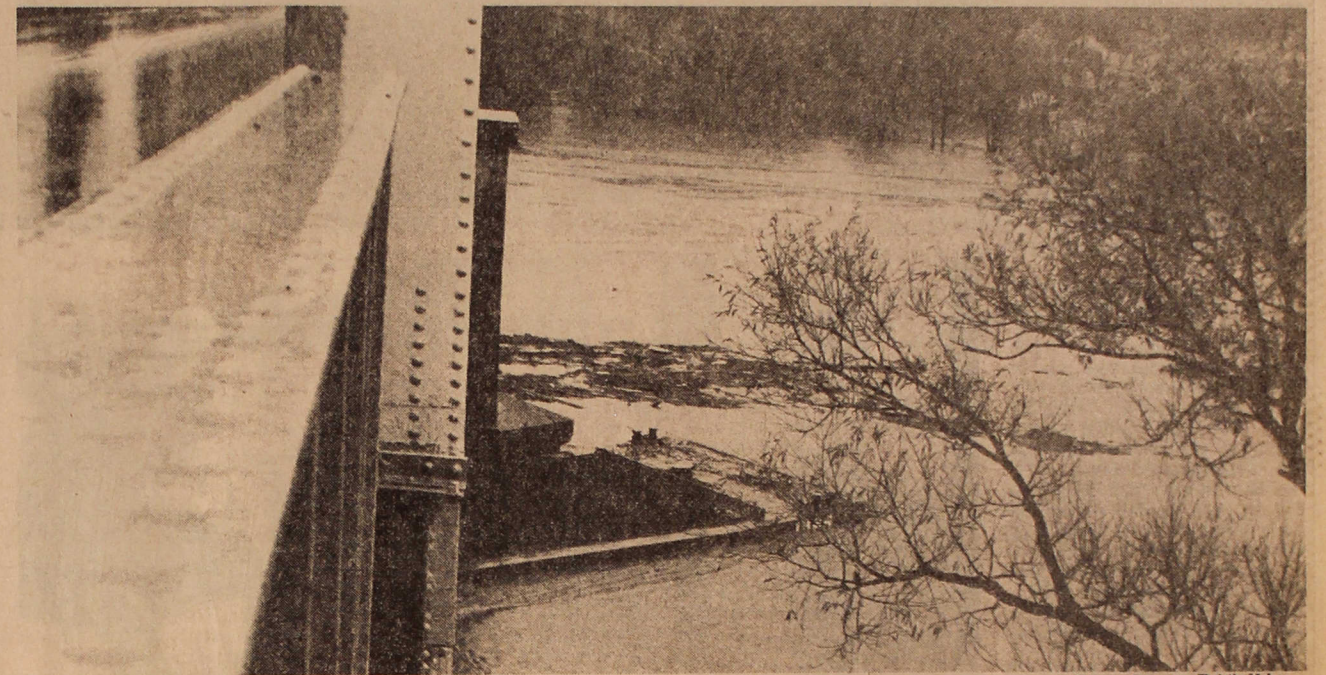
"We began disconnecting people's service at 10 a.m. Tuesday," he said and added that power will remain this way until the water level goes down.

The Charleroi office of Bell of Pennsylvania was evacuated Tuesday because of the high water.

"The main problem that we have had are slow dial tones because the customers are tying up the circuits," she said. "People should only use the telephone for emergency purposes."

In Fayette County, Brownsville was hampered by the lack of telephone service. Police chief Sam Nicola said phones were out on one floor of the municipal building, which slowed things down. Sixty homes in the city were able to receive calls, but not make them.

Ms. Kolencik said the Fayette County community of Port Marion has been totally isolated. Crews have been unable to get through and make repairs.



Observer-Reporter Christie Molton

A coal barge remains caught on Masontown Bridge, which was closed while PennDOT crews checked for damage.

Cal U. Escapes Substantial Damage

By Elizabeth M. Rogers, Staff Writer

CALIFORNIA — Although the borough was hit hard by Tuesday's flooding, California University of Pennsylvania escaped any substantial damage.

"Our problems are minor compared to what's going on up and down the river," Philip Coleman, dean of the college of liberal arts, said Tuesday night at the California Senior Citizen Center, which was set up as an evacuation center.

In fact, Coleman said, a large number of students living off-campus in the borough were more affected by the flood than those living in dormitories on university grounds.

A third of the student population lives on the campus, a third lives off-campus in private homes and the remaining students commute, according to Coleman.

Binns Hall, a dormitory for male

students located near the banks of the Monongahela River, was reportedly being evacuated Tuesday night due to a power outage.

If proven necessary, Binns Hall residents would be relocated to another male dormitory or a gymnasium, said Dr. Allan Golden, university vice president.

Monte Cianciotto, a resident of Binns Hall, said Tuesday night that he vacated his dormitory room at about 2:30 p.m., "before a lot of commotion started," he said.

At that time, there already was a couple feet of water in the basement and in the basement of the biology building next to it, he said. Firemen were called to pump out the lower level of the biology building.

"Most of the students in the building were getting prepared to evacuate or move their belongings to some higher ground," Cianciotto said from the home of a friend in Washington,

where he planned to spend the night.

"Everybody was in a panic. There was a little bit of chaos. Nobody knew what was happening. I didn't know if the building was going to be underwater by night, but I didn't want to stick around and find out."

The junior at California said students were receiving reports of a dam in West Virginia breaking, allowing residents of the borough and university only one hour to evacuate.

Those reports, according to Harry Albert, a spokesman from the state Department of Transportation, were false.

A major student parking lot near Binns Hall was under several feet of water in the afternoon, calling for the towing of at least one car, Coleman said.

Because the flood caused the closing of most of the roads leading to the university, Tuesday night classes were canceled.

Golden was uncertain whether Wednesday's classes would be held. The decision to cancel classes would be made at 6 a.m. Wednesday, he said.

In addition to university students, a number of students attending schools throughout the Monongahela Valley were dismissed early Tuesday.

Students in the Ringgold, Charleroi, Beth-Center, California and Belle Vernon school districts were sent home early.

Dr. Donald Celaschi, superintendent of the Charleroi School District, said Tuesday night that classes would be held Wednesday, even though school buses would not be able to get into certain areas, such as Stockdale, Dunlevy and a small portion of Speers.

It was unknown late Tuesday whether classes in other districts would resume Wednesday.



Observer-Reporter Christie Molton

A car, covered with mud emerges from the receding water at Rices Landing.

Rising River Drives Residents From Homes

By Angela Burrows, Staff Writer

CALIFORNIA — Mary Hart, director of the senior citizens center in California Borough, looked over the long recreation hall where the cots were set up Tuesday night. A Scrabble board and some other games were out to give the 24 people who sought shelter there something to do.

"We have enough food for tonight and tomorrow, and maybe one other night after that," she said. "Then, we'll just have to go from there."

"It's not like home," Ellwood Roberts, one of the 24, said. "But you can't do anything about it."

Roberts, of Apartment 403, California Manor, on Second Street, was one of several residents from the manor to be sheltered at the senior citizens center. All of the residents at the 28-apartment dwelling were evacuated.

Nora Rodriguez of Apartment 404 said the evacuation started about 4 p.m. She said residents of two other apartment buildings for the elderly — Riverview Apartments on Water Street and the California Apartments on Second Street — also had been evacuated.

Mrs. Rodriguez, who sat with several other California Manor residents at the center, said she was not worried about leaving her belongings behind.

"Nobody ever bothers with it," she said of the building where she lives.

Emma Rebolt of Apartment 104, California Manor, said the flooding had just begun at her apartment when the evacuation began.

She said she was unable to remove any of her belongings from her apartment.

"I left everything there," she said, adding that her furniture was between two and three years old.

All over the mid-Mon Valley residents fled their homes, leaving belongings behind as the Monongahela River continued to rise.

Coal Center Borough Police Chief Charles Papp reported at noon that about 40 families in the borough had been forced to leave their homes.

Patty Nantus of Short Street, Coal Center, said water first started to accumulate in her basement at 8 a.m. and by noon Tuesday, it had reached the first floor.

"My furniture was floating and I just bought some of it," Mrs. Nantus said.

"We took what (furniture) we could take upstairs," she said.

According to Mrs. Nantus, who left her house Tuesday afternoon, she and her family are staying with a cousin.

She said that before she left her home, she saw water through the first floor windows of a residence nearby.

Mrs. Nantus explained that because they are so close to the river, residents of Coal Center were unable to get flood insurance.

"We're too close to the river," she said.

The senior citizens center was one of three locations in the borough prepared to accept evacuees who had nowhere else to go.

Mrs. Hart said that the center could accommodate 30 people comfortably.

She said she was given no idea how long the center would be used as a shelter. According to Mrs. Hart, cots had been gathered from California University of Pennsylvania and blankets and pillows were donated by various community residents.

Thelma Encrapera, who operates Encrapera's Nursing Home at 130 Third Street, California, said the seven residents at the home had been transferred to the senior citizens center, where they had supper.

Ms. Encrapera said the seven would be transferred by ambulance from the center to the Maple Lane Nursing Home in Smock.

"All of the families have been notified," the nursing home owner said.

She said that the basement of the home, where diapers and pads were stored, had been flooded.

"They're (the diapers and pads) all down there floating around," she said.



Floodwater reaches some rooftops in West Brownsville.



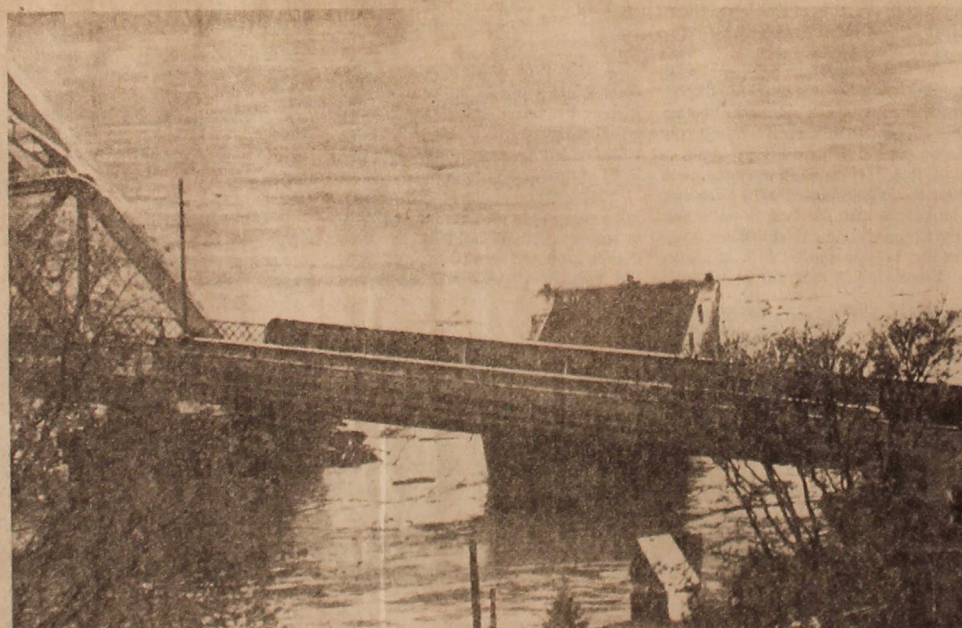
Frank Stasko rows down Water Street in Coal Center.



A home in Speers is evacuated



A North Charleroi neighborhood



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Water Continues To Be A Problem

By Marilyn A. Posner, Staff Writer

After the flood, water continues to be a problem in the Monongahela Valley and throughout Washington County as some communities have been left without drinking water while those who have water have been told to boil their water for a full minute before drinking.

"The real concern now is trying to get drinking water to the 2,900 people in the communities who are completely out of water — Elco, Roscoe, Stockdale, and Allenport," said Earl Bugaile, Washington County public information director. "The Charleroi and Donora areas are now seriously close to losing their water because their pumps got wet."

"Speers, Donora, Charleroi, North Charleroi, Dunlevy, Fallowfield Township and Monessen are running low on water reserves and could be out of water by tonight," said Mike Hanczer, community relations coordinator for the southwestern region of the Department of Environmental Resources, Wednesday.

"Most water treatment plants on the Monongahela River in the affected areas are closed, but water is available where reserves have not been depleted," Hanczer said.

The North Franklin Township Fire Company's stainless-steel pumper truck was dispatched Wednesday to Stockdale to supply water. Washington County was also contacting the National Guard and the Army Reserve to obtain water buffaloes to supply water to affected areas.

Water also was being trucked into Charleroi and Donora for firefighting purposes.

"In the Mon Valley we are urging everyone who uses a public water supply to conserve water. That means no showers, baths or cleaning," Bugaile said. "Use water only for drinking."

"For those who have well water, wells will have to be disinfected and sampled by the DER before they can be used again," Bugaile said. "DER inspection teams are in the valley and will probably set up their base in Charleroi."

"Private wells that have been flooded are to be considered unsafe," according to DER's Hanczer. "Those with private wells must bring water to a rolling-boil for a full minute before letting it cool for use. The boiling is just a short-term solution. Wells should be properly disinfected and then be tested by the DER."

Hanczer said the DER has given Western Pennsylvania Water Company's E.H. Aldrich Station in Elrama a boil-water notice because of high levels of cloudiness. That means all Washington and Allegheny county customers of Western Pennsylvania Water must boil their cooking and drinking water for one minute as a precautionary measure. Only a small amount of water for the two counties is coming from the Aldrich Station, but enough to warrant a boil-water notice.

The Aldrich Station obtains water from the Monongahela River. Because of the flooding, the river water is extremely turbid, cloudy, from particles that are not allowed to settle.

In addition to the city of Washington, West Penn Water serves East Washington, Canonsburg and Houston boroughs, the townships of Peters, Cecil, Nottingham, North and South Strabane, North and South Franklin, Canton and Chartiers.

The DER is also inspecting all eating establishments in the Mon Valley before they will be allowed to reopen.

Federal and state disaster teams are setting up centers in the Mon Valley to provide assistance information to the residents.

"Washington County through order of Gov. Thornburgh is declaring state of emergency here," Bugaile said. "The county has purchased a dozen high-suction pumps from Pittsburgh and the county bridge crew is picking them up today and going to valley to use."

The state Health Department's southwestern district director, Thomas Dudenhoefer, said his department was responding to county emergency management coordinators in the flooded areas. "In Fayette County we have been staffing three remote sites and providing public health nurses to give tetanus and diphtheria immunizations where needed," he said.

Dudenhoefer added that tetanus is always a concern during disasters in which people may receive injuries and be infected by water that may be contaminated by raw sewage. "Most children are properly immunized, but adults also need tetanus boosters every 10 years," he said.

At Monongahela Valley Hospital, guards were enlisted Tuesday to divert cars away from the flooded base of Cemetery Hill in Monongahela.

Five homeless people showed up at the hospital and are being housed in hospital rooms away from treatment areas.

"No municipality or authority approached us to house residents, but we did speak with local police, fire and ambulance services to say we were at their disposal," said Karen Dei Cas, Mon Valley Hospital community relations director.

Tuesday night, Mon Valley Hospital treated three flood-related victims — a cardiac arrest, a fractured ankle and a head injury.

Wednesday morning, a man on a tugboat near the seawall at Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel's Allenport mill fell into a barge he was diverting. The man was taken to Mon Valley Hospital where he remains in critical condition in the intensive care unit.

Only three flood-related incidents were reported by Brownsville General Hospital. "One man fell during a salvage operation and was brought to the hospital as a precautionary measure, then released," according to Alvin Allison, Brownsville Hospital assistant administration. "Two elderly people who were forced from their homes also were brought to the hospital and then transferred to boarding homes."

Greene County Memorial Hospital announced it will open up rooms to any flood victims, although none was being housed there Wednesday. Only one flood-related accident was reported at the hospital. According to Betty Long, Greene County Memorial public relations director, one man who had been evacuating flood victims pulled a shoulder muscle and was treated and released.

Wilfred Weiss, president of Weiss Packing Inc., Rostraver Township, said he was called by the Fredericktown Butcher Shop Tuesday when the power was turned off at the shop.

Weiss drove a refrigerated truck to Fredericktown to pick up meat before any contamination could occur. There was flooding near the shop, but the water never reached the store.

According to Weiss, it took him 1½ hours for a trip that normally takes 25 minutes. "I had to take three different routes to get there. It seemed whenever I got close to the river it was flooded out."



A huge mound of ruined furniture - one of many in Greensboro after the flood. Observer-Reporter / Christie Molzon

Flood Insurance? Few Carried It

By Byron Smialek, Staff Writer

FREDERICKTOWN — Ralph Hixon knows the value of insurance. He believes in it, promotes it, and sells it.

Unfortunately he didn't have enough of it, or at least not the right kind.

Like so many others in the Monongahela River valley, Hixon now wonders why he didn't have the foresight to purchase flood insurance.

Like his Front Street business associates and neighbors, Hixon is trying to cope in the wake of the valley's worst flooding in memory. Runoff from four days of continuous rain caused the river to escape its banks and forced the temporary evacuation of an estimated 3,000 people in three counties.

Emergency shelters were opened throughout the valley, two of them in the Fredericktown area — Beth-Center Elementary School and the Rich-eyville Fire Hall. As the water slowly receded, residents who spent Tuesday night in shelters began heading home Wednesday to begin the cleanup.

Route 88 into Fredericktown remained blocked Wednesday by water and debris at various locations, the most serious being at Engle's Holiday Harbor Marina at Millsboro.

For the past 20 years, Hixon has operated an insurance agency here on Front Street, facing the First Methodist Church with its back to the mighty — now muddy — Mon River.

Sometime around 1 a.m. Wednesday, the river crested over the desk tops in Hixon's State Farm office.

"No, I don't have flood insurance," Hixon said Wednesday morning while making the first tentative steps at getting his office back in order. "I never dreamed that the water would ever come up this high. In 20 years in this office the water has never come up like this. I've seen it come up in the backyard before, but never onto the street. Never into the office."

Everything in the office at hip-height or lower was soaked.

"When this place dries out, I probably won't be able to get into anything," he said while looking over the river-soaked papers in the desk and filing cabinet.

Without dry records to back him up, Hixon estimated that "maybe one in 50 of my insurance customers have flood insurance. I don't know why, they just don't."

Hixon, who estimated that it would take him at least a week to get the office back in shape for business, is one of the more fortunate businessmen on Front Street.

Up the street, at Gross Furniture where furniture floated in the main showroom, and at the corner, where "Going Out of Business" signs decorate the front windows of Lazovik's clothing store, evidence of the flood's damage was even more evident.

"Do we have insurance? I don't know," said Michael Gross, son of Myron Gross whose furniture store and two Front Street warehouses sustained heavy damage from the flood waters. "My father is not here yet, so I don't know. There is an insurance policy in a lock box in the bank down the street, but the bank is closed right now. The bank manager said the bank might open by sometime this afternoon."

Gross said it was not possible to move the furniture in advance of the rising waters. "There was just no place to put it," he said quietly, surveying the damage to the business operated by his father since 1950.

Mark Lazovik, who was already in the process of liquidating the business started 73 years ago by his grandfather, said he had no flood insurance

and no idea on the amount of his loss. "Instead of a going out of business sale, now we'll have a flood sale," he said.

Ron Phillips, whose house is adjacent to the Fredericktown Post Office, sat on a bench in front of the VFW and drank from a can of beer during a break in the cleanup.

"I left at 10 o'clock last night and the water was already up to the backyard," he said. "I'm coming back tonight, though. Most of us will, I guess. We have to in order to protect our property."

Even as Phillips spoke, however, two uniformed members of the Pennsylvania National Guard walked past Lazovik's.

"You have to give credit for what those guys are doing here," he said.

"It makes people feel a lot better to know there will be no looting while these guys are around. They're doing a lot for us."

Sgt. Ken Provic of Co. A, Detachment 1, 1st 110th Infantry from the Mt. Pleasant-Connellyville area, said the unit would remain in Fredericktown "for three or four days. I understand. Really, we'll stay as long as we're ordered here."

Guardmen carrying wooden clubs were stationed at strategic roadblocks into the stricken town in an effort to limit the number of sightseers.

"We've only had a few of them get through," Provic said. "We're only letting business owners and property

owners into downtown. And cleanup volunteers."

East Bethlehem Township Chief of Police Larry Despot was at the township building trying to salvage what he could in order to keep the department functioning.

"There's been no looting. We've been getting a lot of cooperation from the people," he said.

Paul Battaglioni, who is chairman of the East Bethlehem commissioners and the owner of a Front Street tavern, estimated his loss at "between \$15,000 and \$20,000." He, too, had no flood insurance.

"I don't know what's going to happen," he said after indicating that the commission would apply all available disaster aid. "I just couldn't believe last night."



Gov. Dick Thornburgh, second from the right, walks towards Brownsville Hospital shortly after arriving on the grounds by helicopter. Observer-Reporter

Governor Offers Assistance After Emergency Declared

By Suzanne Elliott, Staff Writer

BROWNSVILLE — Gov. Dick Thornburgh said Wednesday he would do everything possible to bring relief to the flood-ravaged Mon Valley, while Washington County officials said residential damage alone would exceed \$14 million.

The governor declared a state of disaster emergency in Washington, Greene, Allegheny, Fayette and Somerset counties at 8 p.m. Tuesday and also allocated \$1 million in immediate aid to those areas. The governor said he may extend the disaster site into other nearby counties.

In a press conference at Brownsville Hospital Wednesday afternoon, the governor compared the recent flooding to the devastating 1936 flood. Thornburgh and Lt. Gov. William Scranton III toured a 30-mile flood site by helicopter and visited several of the hard hit areas by car.

"It was sobering view of what could happen," said the governor.

Thornburgh said he had been in contact with the White House Wednesday morning in an attempt to secure federal money for the areas. He said he may make a formal request for the funds by the end of the week.

There have been no official damage estimates. Thornburgh said five assessment teams from the state were to begin inspecting flood sites at noon Wednesday.

Locally, five teams from the Washington County Tax Assessment office were dispatched to the Mon Valley to make estimates. County information officer Earl Bugaile said there is \$14.2 million in residential property damage from Monongahela to the southern portion of the county's section of the Mon Valley.

"The estimate is real estate damage only," Bugaile said. The real damage amount will be much higher because it does not count any possessions, only buildings."

The governor said various state agencies would be distributing state assistance and any federal money made available it will be "over and above and extra." He added there may be a possibility of single family grants of \$5,000, if the applicants meet certain criteria.

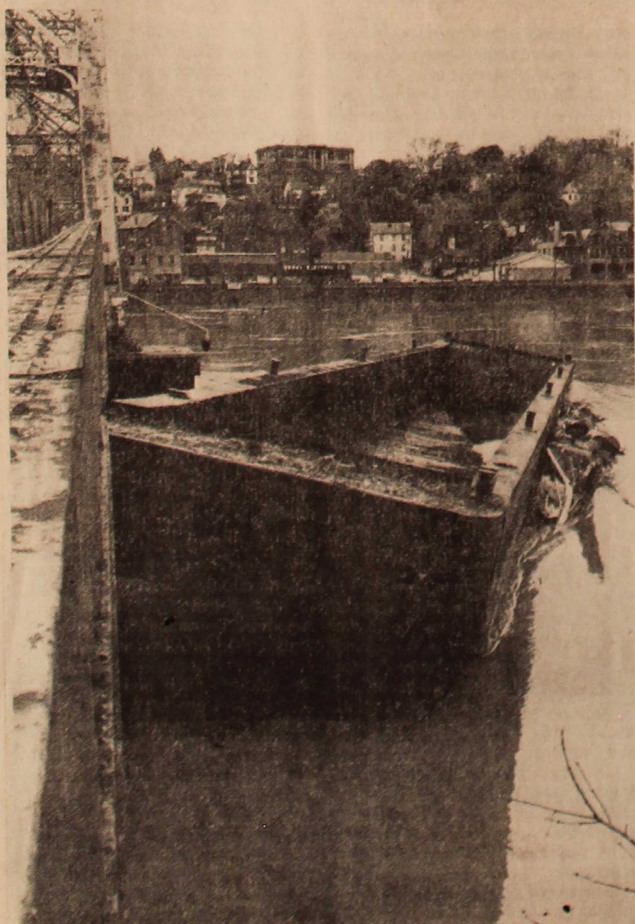
All relief efforts are going to be coordinated through the state Emergency Management Agency, which Scranton heads. He said there will be a major effort at assessment to expedite the possibility of receiving fed-

eral assistance. Scranton said after the press conference that the amount of relief Washington County will receive depends on the damage.

"We will try and get as much as we can," Scranton said. "I think it is very serious to have a natural disaster on top of an economic disaster." He added that the state's first concern will be housing for the homeless.

County Commissioner Frank Mascara visited several Mon Valley flood areas Wednesday morning and afternoon. He said there was extensive damage to buildings from East Bethlehem Township to Monongahela. There are also water contamination problems in West Brownsville, Charleroi and Five Town. The county is in the process of getting tanks of drinking water to these areas. In addition, several power generators in these areas will have to be rebuilt.

J. Bracken Burns, director of Emergency Services for the county, said hundreds of homes have been flooded and Wednesday was spent trying to pump water out of buildings. The water level in many of the flooded areas is going down and the county is beginning to recover, he said.



A barge remains lodged under Brownsville-West Brownsville bridge Wednesday afternoon.

Flood-Protection Project Pays Off For Canonsburg

By Bob Robertson, Staff Writer

Residents of Canonsburg and Houston and all through the Chartiers Valley are breathing a sigh of relief and thinking "what might have been."

There is little reason to dispute the notion that, had not the Chartiers Creek Flood Protection Project been pursued vigorously in the 1970s by public officials despite repeated obstacles, people in that area would be suffering through the same ordeal as those in the Mon Valley.



identified but who kept precipitation records, said 9.75 inches fell in the area in August.

The ground, it seems, was just not prepared to receive the torrential downpour which ushered in September.

Despite the havoc wreaked upon the Chartiers Valley in 1956 and in earlier floods, it took another decade for planning of the flood-protection project to begin, another two years for construction to start, and almost another decade after that for the project to be completed.

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Water Everywhere, But Is It Safe To Drink?

By Marilyn A. Posner, Staff Writer

A boil-water order is still in effect for Western Pennsylvania Water customers throughout Washington and Allegheny counties, and in the Fredricktown area, residents are faced with the irony of having to conserve water because of the Monongahela River flood.

The Tri-County Water Authority in Fredricktown was unable to get an adequate water supply because a coal barge lodged in the Maxwell lock and dam caused the level of the pool to drop.

Because of the low water level in that particular area, "Tri-County has had problems getting adequate pumping," said Earl Bugaile, Washington County public information director.

Tri-County is attempting to get an immersible pump to pump water from the river to purify it, according to plant operator Jim Carnahan.

He added local fire companies were hauling water from a local creek to be purified for use.

"We're still telling people to conserve and use water for drinking purposes only in the affected area. We're going to be in a tough situation until this flood gets straightened out," Bugaile said.

The bad news about Tri-County's

water came in the middle of the cleanup.

Barbara Lancaster of Millsboro said Thursday afternoon, "We squirted water in the kitchen and it's still muddy. A police car just came around and said, 'Conserve, the water level's very low.' Now I'm at a standstill. We're just throwing out stuff that's no good."

Meanwhile, Greg McKelvey, Western Pennsylvania Water Co. public relations director, said residents need to continue boiling water for drinking and cooking for at least one full minute. The water is safe, however, for sanitary purposes, bathing, and washing dishes.

"The boil-water order will continue until the Department of Environmental Resources, the state Health Department and Western Pennsylvania Water come to an agreement on when the order can be lifted," McKelvey said.

West Penn Water saw improvement of conditions Wednesday night and Thursday and reported that the order might be lifted as early as Friday.

"Things are getting better," McKelvey said. "As the Monongahela River recedes, it makes our job easier. As the river goes down, it reduces the suspended particles. On the Mon

River, we were seeing the highest levels of turbidity, rapid water, since 1936."

He added that the water in schools could be used for sanitary purposes, but that drinking fountains should be posted and not used.

According to Bugaile, a tanker truck was at the Charleroi fire hall Wednesday night because the water system there was shut down for a while. Water was restored in that area but the tanker truck remains in case of emergency.

"Water conservation measures continue to be in effect," Bugaile said.

Two trucks also went to Stockdale and Allenport, two communities that have been without water. Elco and Roscoe had also been without water service.

Thursday morning, the Washington Township Municipal Authority in Fayette County that serves the four affected communities notified county officials that its water system was back on and there was no need to boil water from that system. However, county officials decided to keep the trucks in the area to provide another source of water.

Thursday afternoon, the National Guard delivered a mobile water-filtration unit from Johnstown to the

Roscoe fire hall to dispense drinking water for local residents.

The county bridge department took eight high-suction pumps to the Monongahela fire hall Wednesday night and obtained three more pumps from the National Guard. A National Guard helicopter from Indiana landed at the Industrial Park site in Speers with five more pumps late Thursday afternoon.

Bugaile said the county bridge department began Thursday to contact Washington county municipalities for possible use of equipment and manpower to assist in the cleanup effort.

John Patton, state director of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, met Thursday afternoon with county commissioners, state legislators, and emergency medical officials on the flooding situation.

"The DER is continuing to inspect restaurants in the flooded areas," Bugaile said. "We have state and federal teams coming in today (Thursday) to survey the damage for a possible federal relief effort. The teams then will make their determination about setting up centers to provide information to homeowners."

Washington Hospital took quick action to assure its water supply was

pure. According to vice president Anthony Zelenka, the hospital turned off drinking fountains and ice machines and converted a 1,500-gallon hot-water tank temporarily to boil water.

The hospital used some distilled water for its central supply and surgery. The dietary department used water boiled in large soup kettles in the kitchen.

"Our laboratory is culturing the water three times a day," Zelenka said. "We don't have results yet, but there does not seem to be any evidence of a problem so far."

Mon Valley Hospital's 200,000-gallon holding tank was full at 1 p.m. Wednesday, 4½ hours before the boil-water order was given. "We then turned off the valve manually, so no water had gone into the tank during that time," said Karen Dei Cas, the hospital's director of community relations.

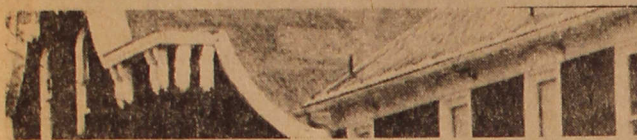
"We are running on reserve water. In an effort to conserve, we have brought in cases of distilled water for patient needs, dietary food preparation and employee drinking. We have curtailed temporarily our laundry services because we have enough in storage. We have turned off drinking fountains, ice machines and other

incidental water use in an effort to conserve in every area possible," said Mrs. Dei Cas.

Canonsburg General Hospital disconnected from Western Pennsylvania Water and connected its water system to a 6,000-gallon truck and compressor from a private water service. Because of the smooth reconnection process, the hospital is able to use its own water taps throughout the hospital. More trucks will be used as needed.

West Allegheny Hospital, Oakdale, an affiliate of Canonsburg General Hospital, stopped using its own water system except for sanitary purposes. Distilled water and a portable water tank from the Allegheny County Maintenance Department provided water for all hospital needs.

In the Washington School District, water fountains were turned off or posted that they were not to be used. The district also bought orange drink for all students and staff as a mid-morning thirst quencher. The school's food service did not serve salads or anything else that would have been washed with water. Only canned, cooked or processed food was served Thursday. Friday is scheduled as an in-service day for teachers in the Washington School District and no classes will be held.



Measuring Point	Flood Stage	Nov. 5-6 Crest
Lock 8, Point Marion	26 feet	44.4 feet <small>lower level</small>
Lock 7, Greensboro	21 feet	37 feet
Maxwell Lock, Brownsville	32 feet	42.7 feet <small>lower level</small>
Lock 4, N. Charleroi	26 feet	44 feet
Lock 3, Elizabeth	20 feet	31.6 feet <small>upper level</small>
Lock 2, Braddock	19 feet	28.6 feet

Sources: Pa. Emergency Management Agency and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. † Source: Reporter directly from lock. * Source: Washington County Emergency Management Office.

Flood Worst On Record

This week's flood is the worst ever recorded on the Monongahela River, according to records kept by the hydrology and waterways department of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh.

The Election Day Flood broke records set in July 1888. For example, the Monongahela crested at 35½ feet at Greensboro in 1888. This week, the water level rose to 37 feet, 16 feet above flood stage.

Changes along the river make the two floods tough to compare. Navigational locks have been rebuilt since then, and the Tygart Flood-Control Dam near Grafton, W.Va., was constructed in 1938.

If the Tygart Dam had been operating back in 1888, water levels would have been lower then, according to the Corps. If the Tygart Dam were not in place now, the Election Day Flood would have been even worse.

When people talk about big floods in this area, St. Patrick's Day 1936 always comes to mind. According to the Corps, flood damage in Pittsburgh was more serious than in the Mon Valley in Washington, Greene, Fayette and Westmoreland counties.

Some Belongings Were Saved

He Figured On High Water, But Not As High As This Was

By Kathie O. Warco, Staff Writer

COAL CENTER — When Jonas Price Gee decided to build his new home, there was no other choice for him and his wife, Donna, but to build along a bank of the Monongahela River that they so loved.

Realizing the potential for flooding in making his plans to build the house along the bank, Jonie took into consideration the worst flood known in the area in the last 100 years and built his home three feet above that mark. But after Tuesday's flood, it was apparent that was not enough as all but the roof of his home was submerged by the flood.

Last April, my husband and I were given a tour of cousin Jonie's recently completed log home, built on stilts. Jonie and his wife took us through the home they had so painstakingly built with their own hands and the help of family and friends.

We stood on the deck at the rear of

their home overlooking the then serene Monongahela River, with Jonie pointing out some of the happenings along the river. But Tuesday morning, Jonie awoke about 5 a.m. to hear noises he never had heard before from the Monongahela.

"I woke up and something just didn't sound right. When I looked, our dock had disappeared," he said. "The water continued to rise about eight inches an hour. At 8 a.m., Coal Center Police Chief Charles Rapp said there was an order to evacuate all the towns along the river."

"We had already been working for three hours to clear our belongings," Jonie said. "We pulled the drawers right out of dressers. We managed to get everything out but the refrigerator, stove, tools and some of our bedroom furniture along with a chest that was in the dining room."

Jonie and Donna were some of the lucky ones. Because Jonie awoke so early that morning, they were able to

clear about 70 percent of their belongings from their home until just about noon when the flood waters rose so high that it was impossible to return for anymore. With some of the furniture and clothing stored in the home of a friend in Coal Center who lived on higher ground, he and Donna spent the night with his father, Jonas, at his Wood Street home in California.

Their sporting goods store on Third Street in California was not damaged, with the flood waters stopping within six inches of the building.

Neighbors were not so fortunate. In recent floods, it was usually sufficient to place the furniture on the second floor or simply put bricks underneath the furniture to elevate it off the floor. But Tuesday, those measures were not sufficient to protect their belongings.

Jonie and his wife did not want to see their home while it was submerged. But by noon Wednesday, with the flood waters sufficiently receded they were able to return and see their home still stood. The amount of mud around the home precluded getting into it right away, but Jonie anticipated going back as soon as possible to begin the massive cleanup and assess the damage.

Like many others, the Gees do not have flood insurance nor do most of the other people he had talked to by Wednesday afternoon. Since there had been no floods since Hurricane Agnes in 1972, many people who had the insurance canceled it.

"It's going to take a good few weeks to get cleaned up, but everyone around here is pitching in to help one another," Jonie said. "I never saw the river like that. There were cars and barges just free floating down the river. I built the house three feet over the worst flood known that occurred in 1888, but the river rose to 10 feet above that."

"People who have lived along the river all their lives told me they never saw a flood like this."

Greensboro Area Residents Still Without Water

By Bob Eichenlaub, Greene County Editor

WAYNESBURG — Some 500 residents in the Greensboro area who are served by the Dunkard Valley Water Authority continue to be without service, but all other authorities which service Greene County reported that they were back to normal following Tuesday's Monongahela River flood.

The U.S. Corps of Engineers in Pittsburgh confirmed Wednesday that the flood was the worst in recorded history. The agency is estimating that the river crested at 32 feet at Lock 7 in Greensboro, which is 11 feet above flood stage and four feet higher than the previous record of 28 feet recorded on March 7, 1967.

"We can only estimate the height of the crest because all of the gauges at the lock were swept away by the floodwater," a Corps of Engineers spokesman said.

Frank Bosley, manager of the Dunkard Valley Authority, said that the authority is attempting to restore water service to the Greensboro area as soon as possible. He said the river inlet to the water well is plugged with debris and cannot be cleared until the river level drops to the point where sufficient pressure can be obtained to backwash the inlet.

"We met with DER officials today to see if there was something else we could do to solve the problem, but we'll just have to wait for the river to drop," Bosley said Wednesday. He added that the filtration plant itself was not damaged since it sits well above flood level.

Tanker trucks are being used to haul water to Greensboro and will continue in use until the plant is operational again, which Bosley hopes will be in the next day or so. The water is available at Mapletown High School and at the fire hall.

Isaac Lewis, manager of the East Dunkard Water Association, said his plant along the river in Dilliner was back in full production Wednesday.

"We had about 14 inches of water in the plant but it didn't get up to the pumps," he said. The association provides water to some 1,600 customers in southeastern Greene County.

In Carmichaels, the water authority resumed pumping at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday after being shut down Tuesday. "We anticipate that all of our customers will have service by this (Wednesday) evening," a spokes-

man said. With resumption of service, schools in the Carmichaels Area District are scheduled to reopen Thursday morning.

Joseph Simatic, manager of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Water Authority, said Wednesday that "we are running with no problems at all, with water quality meeting all standards of the DER." The authority services much of Greene County and a large section of western Fayette County.

Simatic said, however, that a ban has been placed on the use of fire hydrants for anything other than fighting fires as a matter of conservation of water.

"Our water is being used for hauling to communities which have lost their supply, and the height of the river makes it difficult to properly treat water," he said. "We do not have a sufficient surplus for unauthorized use such as using hydrants to hose streets," he said.

Disaster Plan Tested In County

WAYNESBURG — "I've never in my life seen water like that!"

For Larry Marshall of Waynesburg, coordinator of the Greene County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), the Monongahela River flood on Tuesday provided the first major test for the county's disaster plan — a test which it passed with flying colors.

"The plan worked well because the people responded well," Marshall said, singling out such people as Edward Helmick, Greensboro fire chief.

"He did one heck of a job," he said. "People in Greensboro were evacuated street-by-street as the water rose and were taken to Mapletown High School where 200 cots were set up. We had about 100 families there by mid-afternoon."

The plan went into operation at 10 p.m. Monday when people at the Cheat Lake dam at Lake Lynn called to announce a Stage II emergency as water began building up, necessitating the release of water into Cheat River, which flows into the Monongahela at Point Marion. By 1 a.m. it had moved to Stage III with 104 flood gates in the dam being opened to let water out. At 2:30 a.m. it became a Stage IV alert with all 140 gates being opened.

"This is the only time it has ever gotten beyond Stage II," Marshall

said. "When it reaches Stage III a flood cannot be avoided and at Stage IV you begin to fear for the dam itself."

Rumors that the dam had burst circulated throughout the day, but both the U.S. Corps of Engineers and West Penn Power Company, which owns and maintains the dam, said there was never any danger of a collapse.

As the river started to rise, fire companies along the river moved into operation to warn people and evacuate them if necessary. Road blocks were put up and the inter-county bridge at Point Marion was closed, with four feet of water building up in the Point Marion business district, eventually rising to eight feet.

By 9 a.m., the water had risen sharply, covering the river lock at Greensboro.

Mon River Recedes, Leaves Behind Town Mired In Mud

By Christie Molzon, Staff Writer

RICES LANDING — Normally this little town along the Monongahela River is a quiet, peaceful place with rows of quaint homes that face the graceful flowing river. But on Tuesday, the rising waters of the river turned parts of the town into a lake.

That was bad enough. But what the "Mon" left as it retreated Wednesday was a sea of mud. Thick, oozing, dark chocolate muck that still stuck eight inches deep inside of homes and businesses, and clogged backyards and streets.

One of the hardest hit was Elmer Svetz, who operates a paint shop in the center of the borough. "I got a double barrel," said Svetz whose home, next door to his business, also had over six feet of water in it. Svetz spent Tuesday night in his son's house in Lone Pine, "but I didn't sleep a wink."

In the large paint shop, where Svetz paints fabricated parts for industrial use, the water had seeped into every nook and cranny, sloshing over paint cans, machinery and tools. It had even reached his office on the second floor, leaving behind a coating of mud over the new carpet, chairs, filing cabinets and phone.

Yesterday his friends, Howdy and Ann Clark, and their son, Scott, were busy helping him sweep out some of the mud inside the business. Svetz hadn't had much time to go next door, but some furnishings were piled up on the front porch in an attempt to

dry them.

Also hard hit was the home beside Svetz's, where Robert and Margaret Stallard live. There was little inside the home, on the first floor, that was salvageable. All of Mrs. Stallard's appliances were lost, with the exception of a large, deep freezer which her sons had managed to get up to the landing of the second floor as the floodwater rushed into the home early Tuesday.

Mrs. Stallard, her sons and daughters-in-law, were busy sweeping out the house and discarding many of the furnishings. Her husband, who recently had a serious heart attack, was discouraged. "This has just floored him," she said. "He said, 'what are we going to do?' and I said, 'well, we're just going to start all over.'"

Down the street, Lawrence Flenniken was hosing down the steps in front of his house. He pointed to a high water marker next to the road installed by U.S. Army Engineers after the flood in 1967. The engineers assumed then, that following construction of the Maxwell Lock and Dam, the water would never again get that high. "I didn't have a problem then," Flenniken said. "It didn't even get into the basement."

But on Tuesday the water was well inside the first floor of his house and a day later only a frosting of mud showed where the backyard was supposed to be.

He, like many others who live in the borough, did not have flood insur-

ance. Some people said they were unable to obtain the insurance because their homes were not considered in a flood plain.

Most residents escaped serious damage, but lawns were covered with gas grills, picnic tables, Christmas decorations and other furnishings stored in basements. Two other buildings in town, recently acquired by the Greene County Historical Society, the W.A. Young and Sons Foundry Shop and the old Gallatin Bank building, were reported to have received only minor flooding.

As the afternoon went on there were few sightseers along the main street of town. Most of the people out there were there to help. Crews from Columbia Gas were digging near the entrance to Pumpkin Run Park to get water out of a gas line. Members of the National Guard were directing traffic. Firemen from the Rices Landing Volunteer Fire Department were busy pumping out basements and hosing away the murky mud from the streets.

One fireman, Bill Faddis, had had only a few hours of sleep the previous night and was back out working Wednesday. On Tuesday, as he watched the water rise through the center of the town he had said, "You feel helpless, all you can do is stand here and watch it rise, it's not like fighting a fire."

But one day later the residents of Rices Landing were out fighting — and this time they were fighting back.



Elmer Svetz points to the water line in his paint shop.

Flood Leaves Mud Behind

By Angela J. Burrows, Staff Writer

The waters of the Monongahela River had receded and all over the mid-Mon Valley Thursday, boots were donned and shovels were lifted as the arduous task of cleaning up the area began.

At Monongahela's city garage, street department employees Glenn Corbett, Don Smith and Ron Pelligrini worked with Mark Gadd, street foreman, and Frank Rose, who described himself as "just a neighbor helping out," to dry the city's soaked equipment.

It was the first time since Monday that the garage, which lies along Pigeon Creek, could be reached, Corbett said.

"Once we get started we'll get everything out to help with the cleanup effort," he added.

Corbett said at 12:45 p.m. Thursday that two of the city's trucks and a highlift had already been sent out to help clean up Monongahela's flooded area.

Owen Burns, Monongahela Police chief, shoveled the wet carpet from his office floor Thursday afternoon.

"See that," Burns said, pointing to a water mark about 3 feet up his office door, "that's where the water was."

The chief said he believed that although his files were wet, most of them had been saved.

"All the cabinets will have to be hosed down and disinfected," Burns said.

Monongahela Police evacuated their headquarters late Tuesday afternoon after a state of emergency was declared at 3 p.m. in the municipality.

A Donora dispatcher reported at 6:30 p.m. Thursday that although the Monongahela Police had been working to clean up their offices, their calls were still being dispatched by the Donora Police.

"Right now, the firemen are starting to pump out basements," Burns said.

"People are bringing in food so there's no problem there," he added.

"What we're doing now is trying to get some help in cleanup detail," the chief said.

Howard and Ruth Grant of the Salvation Army parked their truck in the driveway of the Monongahela Fire Department at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, preparing to distribute hot dogs, soup, pastries, coffee, tea and soda.

"We've had quite a few (people) stop by," Grant said about 1:15 p.m. Thursday.

He said the Salvation Army was scheduled to set up a service unit at the Methodist Church on Main Street, Monongahela. According to Grant, the unit will distribute vouchers for clothing and food.

In the lower section of North Charleroi Borough, a backhoe, which had been loaned to the municipality, pushed mud back into the river. Although much had been removed, many of the streets remained covered Thursday afternoon.

"We're doing as well as can be expected," Capt. Harry Coulter of the National Guard's Co. B, 1st Battalion, 110th Infantry said at about 1:30 p.m. as he stood near the railroad tracks a few blocks from the river.

"We'll probably be down here one more day," Coulter said.

He estimated that about 100 men from his battalion arrived in the mid-Mon Valley area at about 2:15 a.m. Wednesday.

"We have a lot of neighbors helping neighbors," North Charleroi Councilman Sandy Santini said Thursday afternoon as he tried to keep would-be onlookers out of the borough.

"These men are a Godsend," Santini said, pointing to Coulter and some of his men.

Pvt. Robert Bitz said that although each guardsman was to work an eight-hour shift and then sleep for eight hours, he hadn't been able to get more than three hours of sleep.



Muddy water is pushed down a storm sewer in West Brownsville. Observer-Reporter / Jim McNett

Like Santini and the guards, John Hemmings, a two-year resident of North Charleroi Borough, helped to block the entrance to the lower part of the borough.

"This is my part," Hemmings said. "I wasn't hit."

"I saw more yesterday (Wednesday) than I'd ever seen in my life," Santini said.

Guardsmen Bob Bodo of Steubenville, Ohio, sat in a chair in the Charleroi Borough Building.

A foreman at Weirton (W.Va.) Steel Co., he said he received a call at 10 p.m. Tuesday, notifying him that his battalion would be dispatched to help flood victims.

"I got in here at 2 a.m. Wednesday," Bodo said.

At 2:45 p.m. Thursday at the Allenport Firehall, Wilma Furlong, Agnes Kovall, Virginia Willey, Alice Glawinski and Pat Karbowski worked to prepare a spaghetti dinner, which was to be served that evening to the National Guardsmen in the borough, the firemen and anybody from the municipality who was hungry.

For at least some of the women, it was a case of

victims helping victims.

Wilma Furlong and Alice Glawinski said that although their homes had water in them, there was no major damage.

The women said that they expected about 20 Allenport residents to use the evacuation shelter that had been set up at the firehall Thursday night. The number was about half the number that had used the facility on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, the women said.

Frank Mascara, Washington County commissioner, announced at a press conference Thursday afternoon that about 70 unemployed people from the county would be hired at \$4 per hour to help in the county's cleanup efforts.

U.S. Sen. H. John Heinz made a helicopter trip over the Monongahela Valley Thursday to view flood damage from Clairton to Brownsville. He walked through sections of California and Brownsville accompanied by officials from Washington, Fayette and Greene counties.

Sen. Arlen Specter scheduled a visit to the area Friday.

Cleanup Begins Of Ruins Left By Floodwater

By Bob Niedbala, Staff Writer

GREENSBORO — While floodwaters were rising Tuesday morning, Sam Burich of Greensboro was busy helping others move their belongings to safer ground. He didn't bother with his own home, which is on Water Street, and less than 70 yards from the river.

"I didn't think it would come up this high," Burich said Wednesday, standing in the cold, wet living room of his home. "I lived here since 1936 and I've never seen it go that high."

Burich, several family members and friends were busy Wednesday, as were many homeowners in the Greensboro area, cleaning up the damage from Tuesday's flood.

Water in the basement had been pumped out earlier, leaving behind a floor coated with four inches of mud. Rugs were soaked, mud-covered and had to be removed and thrown away. The plaster on the walls was beginning to blister.

Markings on a backdoor of the single-story house showed that the water was at least two feet deep.

Burich said he had returned to his home that morning. "Half the furniture in the living room was in the basement," he said. "It floated down."

All the furniture will have to be dried and cleaned or replaced. The furnace, refrigerator, stove and electrical tools he had in a small workshop in the basement will have to be cleaned or repaired.

"I couldn't even give you a guess about how long it will take to clean up," Burich said. "The only good thing about it is I'm retired and I have all day to do it."

Ed Helmick, chief of the Greensboro-Monongahela Township Volunteer Fire Department, said he had heard that the river had been about 18 feet over flood level in Greensboro. From his own gauges, he determined at one point that the water was rising one foot every 25 minutes.

The fire department started the cleanup effort about 8 p.m. Tuesday, after the water crested and was beginning to recede. "We're working around the clock to try to get these people back in," said Helmick.

Helmick said that about 68 homes in the Greensboro area "had moderate to heavy damage, with water on the first floor or above."

"There are at least 10 to 12 homes that probably won't be restorable," he added.

The Greensboro area, including Glassworks, Sandy Run and Alicia, was hit the worst by floodwaters in Greene County, according to Wayne Long, assistant director with the county's emergency management agency.

In addition to the damage in Greensboro, about 20 mobile homes in Pitt Gas, and 10 houses in the Rices Landing area received water damage.

Long said a damage assessment team from the state will be in the Greensboro area Thursday to evaluate the damage to each house. Residents of the Greensboro area, however, did their own evaluations Wednesday.

"What I'll have, once I do the stripping, basically is a shell," said Keith Drew, whose two-story home on Water Street sits in the lowest area of town. At its highest point, the water was three and half feet deep on the second floor.

The fiberglass insulation in the basement ceiling was drooping and

torn; both paneled and plaster walls were warped. "They'll all have to be replaced," Drew said.

Drew said he was able to get some of his family's belongings out of the house, "but I didn't really have the vehicles available to move all the things."

The furniture and other household items that were left in the home Tuesday were still there when Drew returned the next morning; everything was scattered about, wet and covered with mud.

"It just looked like somebody had taken a hold of the house, shook it and set it back down," Drew said.

At about 2 p.m., the eight inches of mud that filled the basement had already been removed. Several friends and Mapletown high school students were there, giving Drew a hand cleaning up.

"I had a lot of help today, I've been lucky," Drew said, adding that he also is thankful that the foundation of his home is still sound.

Many of the residents of the Greensboro area were assisted in the cleanup Tuesday by friends, relatives and volunteers.

"Everybody is really putting out around here," said Helmick. "I can't get into thanking all the people. I'm afraid I'll miss somebody."

About 60 residents of the affected area had stayed at Mapletown High School Tuesday night and the school cafeteria was serving about 300 people each meal.

The school has been designated an evacuation center by the state and will remain so "as long as necessary," said Mark Brozik, district business manager. The decision to resume classes in the Southeastern Greene District will be made on a day-to-day basis, Brozik said.

In addition to food and shelter, the school also has a supply of potable water available to residents.

Food and blankets also have been sent to the area by the American Red Cross, which is sending officials to tour the area Thursday. State Department of Transportation workers cleaned mud from the roads and National Guardsmen stood watch.

Members of the local fire company and ambulance corp, many of whom had not slept since early Tuesday, a number of schoolteachers from the Southeastern Greene School District and other volunteers also were lending a hand during the cleanup that began Wednesday.

Tetanus Shots Not Necessary In Flooded Area

HARRISBURG (AP) — Mass tetanus immunizations aren't needed for residents in parts of flood-ravaged southwestern Pennsylvania, the state Health Department said Thursday.

The Health Department's regional and Harrisburg offices have been swamped with telephone inquiries about tetanus since flooding problems started, said Deputy Secretary of Community Health Dr. Alex Rakow.

"The best medical advice I can give is that tetanus immunization is generally not recommended unless the individual has suffered a puncture wound and has not had a tetanus immunization in the last 10 years," said Rakow.

He said that in the event of a puncture wound the victim should go to a hospital for treatment.

People See Water Take Homes, Boats

By Jim Moore and Robin Roberts, Staff Writers

One of the many persons to call the Observer-Reporter's Greene County Office Tuesday was watching the river from his home and in describing the scene said, "There goes a Scotty trailer. There goes a 35-foot mobile home."

Perhaps one, or both, belonged to Tom Hill of Waynesburg, who lost his mobile home, small storage trailer and his boat.

Hill, president of the Rices Landing Boat Club, never thought the river would rise that much. "I recall several years ago when it must have rained 13 days during a 15-day period and the water never reached the level it did Tuesday."

Hill, owner of the Waynesburg Restaurant, said 35 members of the club had at least one structure at the facility and all but four either lost their trailers or suffered major damage.

At the Pleasure Harbor storage facility where large cabin cruisers have been stored and winterized, the automatic bilge pumps allowed the expensive boats to remain afloat inside the building until they were finally forced through the roof by the rising water.

Kermit Christopher, 64, owner of the 9 to 9 Store in Dilliner, is a veteran when it comes to high water but he too was surprised by the rapidly rising water. He had to be rescued from his second floor by firefighters.

He went to bed Monday night and "slept like a baby." His son Elton arrived at 6 a.m. Tuesday and was unconcerned but when a clerk arrived at 8:30 a.m. the water was coming up fast. She decided to return home.

It wasn't long before it was too late to leave and Christopher retreated to his second floor from where he watched the water from a balcony.

Firemen arrived in the afternoon and rowed Christopher and his son to high ground.

Members of the family were unconcerned earlier because they reportedly had been told by PennDOT officials that Christopher was evacuated from the store at 2:30 a.m. Tuesday.

Several members of the national guard unit in Waynesburg volunteered early in the day to patrol in the Greensboro and Rices Landing area. Most had relatives or family living in the areas. They also aided with traffic control and guard duty near flooded homes.

Two officers from the Washington headquarters were at the river to monitor the situation but had issued no orders by early evening.

Firemen in Greensboro made at least five attempts to take a man from his home on Cord Street but the resident, who remains unidentified, refused to leave his property. On the last attempt to remove him, he slammed the door in their faces and went back into the house.

Employees of Brodak's Market in Carmichaels rushed to the site of their sister store in East Millsboro to begin moving items from the floor but were forced from the scene when the water began rising so fast. They waded to higher ground and when they left the scene, the water was five feet high inside the store.

Residents in Dilliner, concerned about neighbor Mary Maple, were unable to reach her home. They stood on a railroad trestle and threw rocks on the roof of her home in an attempt to arouse her. It was not learned until much later that she had already left.

Four stately homes owned by the Gugliotta family of Dilliner and located along the Dilliner-Point Marion Road were completely under water by late Tuesday afternoon. Damage in this area alone is expected to exceed \$1 million.

The Masontown Bridge which

crosses the Mon connecting Greene and Fayette counties, was closed no less than three times during the day after being struck by runaway barges. A PennDOT spokesman said that only the middle span of the bridge was visible during the early afternoon.

An estimated eight feet of water covered the business area of Pt. Marion and it was also reported the community's firehall and a number of private homes were flooded. Unofficial estimates ran as high as 500

residents of the Point Marion area were forced from their homes.

Initial reports from area broadcast media, made shortly after the announcement that Gov. Dick Thornburgh had activated the State National Guard, had the unit stationed in Waynesburg being called to duty in Washington County. In the meantime, Rices Landing, Greensboro, Clarksburg and other areas in Greene County apparently will be served a National Guard Unit from another area.



Mapletown High School students and faculty pitch in Wednesday to help Greensboro residents clean up flood debris. Observer-Reporter / Jim McNett

5 School Districts Cancel Classes Because Of Flood

By Barbara S. Miller, Staff Writer

Tuesday's flood forced the cancellation of classes Wednesday in four Mon Valley School Districts and in at least one other district Thursday. Schools will be reopening between Thursday and next Tuesday.

The Ringgold School District canceled Thursday's classes because of the possible contamination of water, according to Dr. Charles Stacey, assistant superintendent.

In addition, some areas in the district remained under water, he said Wednesday night. A decision on whether to cancel classes Friday will

be made Thursday, Stacey said.

Officials in nearby Charleroi Area School District were tentatively planning to hold classes Thursday.

Bill Hershiser, administrative assistant for the Charleroi district, said all school buildings were out of the flooded areas, but the Second Street stadium was inundated with about six feet of river water.

Hershiser said he expects the stadium to need "major repairs. We had a garage where we kept supplies, a tractor. There was some damage to a fence surrounding the stadium. We really don't know to the field itself

what kind of damage may have been done."

The Charleroi football team played its last game of the season Saturday.

North Charleroi Elementary School was used Tuesday as an evacuation center because it was above the water level in the flooded borough.

Ringgold officials plan to tour the district late Wednesday afternoon to check on receding water.

Stacey said he knew of two trouble spots, Main Street and Park Avenue in Monongahela. He described travel

in or out of Monongahela as "impossible."

"I know it's going to take a long, long time for water to recede and roads to be cleared in that area," Stacey said.

"The bus garages are by and large on the northern side of the flooded area and we can handle the north. The problem is to the south. Monongahela is separating Donora and parts of Carroll Township."

He estimated that 15 to 20 percent of Ringgold's students live in Monongahela.

Beth-Center Elementary School,

which sits atop a high hill, served as an evacuation center Tuesday for people who were unable to get to their homes or had to flee.

Classes will resume Tuesday, Nov. 12.

"I took a tour through Fredericktown about 9 or 10 o'clock today with the police," Superintendent Dr. Joseph Saeli said Wednesday afternoon. "Friday may have been marginal."

The superintendent said he wanted to give students and their families a chance to clean up after the flood. "Monday is Veterans Day, and we

have the day off anyway. We felt Tuesday is a reasonable time to try to start again," Saeli said. "The greater part of our kids have to bus in through Route 88. We're not going to run school for half the population," Saeli said.

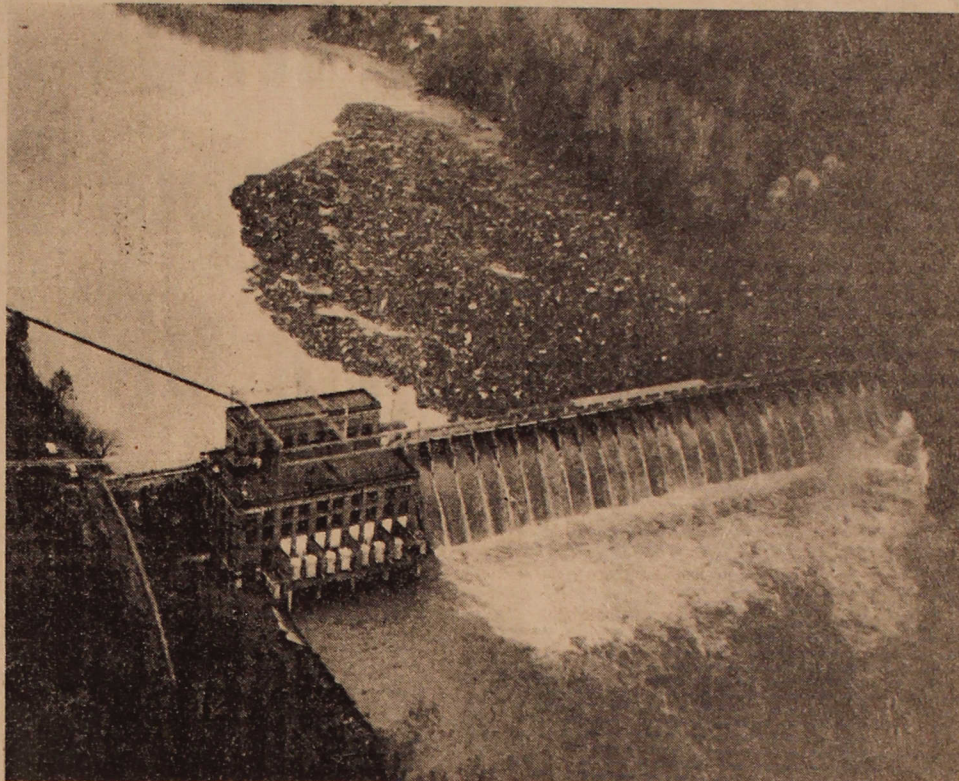
One of Beth-Center's bus contractors, the Impiccini School Buses near West Brownsville, was able to get his vehicles away from the flood waters, but had three feet of water in his garage, according to the superintendent.

California Area School District canceled Thursday classes but expects to resume school Friday.



Observer-Reporter / J. Charles Wilson

Men and machines begin cleanup in Fredericktown Wednesday.



Observer-Reporter

Flood debris backs up behind the Lake Lynn Dam on the Cheat River near Point Marion.

Point Marion Was Hit Hard

POINT MARION, Pa. (AP) — Runoff from three days of rain flooded this Monongahela Valley town and a string of its riverside neighbors Tuesday, forcing at least 1,200 western Pennsylvania residents to flee their homes for higher ground.

Gov. Dick Thornburgh declared Allegheny, Fayette, Greene, Washington and Somerset counties as state disaster areas and freed \$1 million in emergency flood relief aid for the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency. The governor also called out 600 National Guardsmen to assist rescue workers in flood-stricken areas, according to press aide David Runkel.

Thornburgh has not yet decided whether to ask President Reagan to designate the counties as federal disaster areas, Runkel said.

"There's people from my church parish that I talked to that lost everything, and they tell me 95 percent of the people in this town don't have flood insurance," said rescue worker Robert Burns of Point Marion.

dents displaced by the flood waters were being housed at the local junior high gymnasium. The waters crested at about 40 feet about 3 p.m. and were receding Wednesday night.

"We've got nearly half our town evacuated. All roads in and out are blocked with water," said Rudolph, who postponed a town election in which he ran unopposed for his first full four-year term.

"The old people in town say this the highest they've ever seen it (the Monongahela River)," said Danny Rhodes, a rescue worker for the Point Marion Police Dept.

No injuries were reported, but in Erie County, 160 miles to the north, volunteers searched Walnut Creek for a salmon fisherman swept away by the current.

The disappearance of Lawrence Kalisewski, 28, of Edinboro was the only one associated with the flooding in Pennsylvania.

He had been fishing the creek, which reaches 30 to 40 feet wide at

for Erie, Crawford and Warren counties, where more than 3 1/2 inches of rain fell in a 24-hour period and large pools of water were reported.

Flood warnings were also in effect for Erie, Crawford, Warren, Venango, Mercer and Somerset counties, along with counties bordering the Monongahela River south of Pittsburgh: Allegheny, Fayette, Greene, Washington and Westmoreland. The Ohio River was expected to crest in Pittsburgh at 26 feet, a foot above flood stage, at 5 a.m. Wednesday.

Warnings from the federal agency enabled Rudolph to order the evacuation of 500 to 600 of Point Marion's 1,600 residents from low neighborhoods in time to avoid injury.

"It seems to have been a pretty smooth evacuation. They were fortunate enough to have seen this coming," Morgan said.

The flooding forced officials in Washington and Fayette counties to postpone general election voting in 15 precincts, including 11 in Washington

River Pool At Maxwell Dam Threatened By Coal Barges

By Bob Eichenlaub, Greene County Editor

PITTSBURGH — The U.S. Corps of Engineers said Thursday night that coal barges lodged against the Maxwell Lock and Dam at Brownsville will result in "loss of the river pool" from that point upstream to Lock 7 at Greensboro.

"It definitely looks like the pool will be gone by noon tomorrow," said Major Tom York, deputy commander of the Corps' Pittsburgh Division.

He said that loss of the pool threatens the water supply of communities between Brownsville and Greensboro which draw their water from the

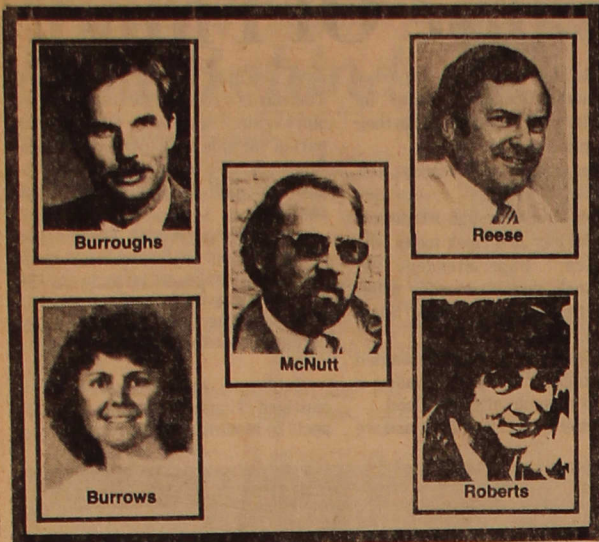
Joe Simatic, manager of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Water Authority in Jefferson, also referred to the old Rices Landing dam as a possible savior, noting that when a barge lodged in the Maxwell dam several years ago, it kept the river high enough to cover the intake plant at the authority's filtration plant at Ronco.

"It kept just enough water in the pool to keep our intakes just under water and we could keep pumping," he said, "and I'm hoping it will do so again. But this is the reason we announced Tuesday that we needed to conserve our water supply. We were afraid this might happen."

Fayette County along the river. Simatic said the authority has been given a clean bill of health on its water in terms of the flood, and also said that the filtration plant on Ten Mile Creek, Waynesburg, also is being operated to augment the supply from the river.

Lloyd Richards, manager of Carmichaels Municipal Authority, expressed the fear that a drop in the pool could leave that community without water within a few days.

"We're pumping now and our storage tank is a full tank, but once the river falls below our intake pipe, we will have no water," Richards



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