

House fire

Couple drops two children to safety

A Northampton R.2 couple was hospitalized and their bilevel home sustained more than \$10,000 damage in an early morning fire yesterday.

Joseph Dreisigmyer, 31, his wife Patricia, 27, and their two children had to jump 15 feet from the second level of the home to escape the fire, which broke out in the first level bathroom at 1 a.m.

Mrs. Dreisigmyer jumped first, and her husband dropped their two sons to her before he jumped himself.

Also yesterday, a fire of suspicious origin damaged the basement of Hamilton Market, 305 Hamilton St., Allentown.

Mr. and Mrs. Dreisigmyer are listed in satisfactory condition in Muhlenberg Medical Center, where they are being treated for smoke inhalation.

Their two sons, Kevin, 7, and David, 4, were treated in St. Luke's Hospital and released, to their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Shull of Whitehall.

A spokesman for the Allen Township Volunteer Fire Co., which responded to the blaze with 16 men and three pieces of equipment, said a possible electrical malfunction is suspected.

Allentown Fire Chief Melvin Keyser said the Hamilton Market blaze started in five different places and that the cellar fire and burglar alarm systems were cut.

The fire was confined to the basement except in one place where it burned a small hole through the first floor.

The cause of the blaze is under investigation by police and firemen.

The building is owned by Pablo Melendez of 158 Turner St.

The alarm came in at 4:27 p.m., and firemen were on the scene until 6:06 p.m.

A brush fire off River Road behind the Allentown State Hospital caused some problems for firemen because of its remoteness.

Firefighters couldn't get trucks near the blaze, so they used backpack water tanks and field-fire brooms to extinguish it. The alarm was called in at 5:29 p.m., and firemen remained until 6:58 p.m.

Other fire calls yesterday were:
6:40 p.m. — Lockout at 811 E. Tighman St.
6:44 p.m. — Oil burner malfunction at Muhlenberg School, 740 N. 21st St.



An overflow congregation hears Bishop James M. Ault at the consecration of new Asbury Church

E. Penn schools closed 5th day —no talks set

By LEONARD KUCINSKI
Of The Morning Call

East Penn schools today will be closed for the fifth straight school day as the district and striking teachers failed to reach an agreement.

It is the 23rd day schools have been shut down this term. Spokesmen from the school board and East Penn Education Association said there are no plans for another negotiating session.

However, the district plans to ask Lehigh County Court to reinstate injunctive proceedings to get the teachers back to the classrooms. Although a date wasn't given when the district would go to court, a spokesman indicated it might be early this week.

The proceedings were initiated in September and led to a 60-day interim agreement that reopened schools after an 18-day shutdown. The interim agreement expired Nov. 29 and the teachers struck Dec. 2.

Other court action is contemplated by a lawyer representing students. Atty. John Roberts, appointed by the courts as guardian for district school children, said he plans to take some legal action today in county or state courts, or both.

Roberts met Friday with some 300 students, who unanimously expressed their desire to get back to school as soon as possible.

Negotiating teams from the district and association have not met since Friday when three state mediators tried for a settlement.

"There's nothing scheduled. Nothing, period," said mediator Mark LaMont last night.

The major points of disagreement still remain the number of days to be worked by the teachers and the salaries to be paid this academic year.

The only other new development is that the special vo-tech bus schedule will go into effect today.

Dr. Richard Miller, assistant superintendent of the district, said schedules have been distributed to students. For the benefit of those not receiving one, the new bus schedules will be posted at the main entrance to the high school.

"All vo-tech students," Miller said, "will have to select the most convenient, temporary bus stop closest to his or her home." He also noted that walkers from the Emmaus area will be picked up at the high school parking lot.

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\$1.5-million Asbury edifice

By DICK COWEN
Of The Morning Call

"This community of believers in God and Jesus Christ, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, has adopted as its statement of purpose — to learn, to grow, to serve and to witness to ourselves and all mankind."

An overflow congregation of nearly 900 persons recited that commitment yesterday afternoon at the consecration of a new Asbury United Methodist Church in South Whitehall Township.

It was the first service in the \$1.5-million structure at Springhouse Road and Walbert Avenue.

The congregation had been at Hamilton and Jefferson streets in downtown Allentown from 1922 until a fire destroyed the building on Oct. 22, 1972.

Bishop James M. Ault of Philadelphia, as a new bishop of the Philadelphia Episcopal Area, made his first appearance at Asbury as a speaker on the night before the fire. He was the featured speaker again yesterday.

Crash avoided by jackknifing

Bethlehem's 4th Street-Daly Avenue Bridge was closed 3-5 p.m. Saturday after the 41,756 pounds of steel beams on a tractor trailer shifted and the rig was deliberately jackknifed to prevent a tragedy.

Driver Michael A. Kern, 24, of 131 E. Hamilton St., Allentown, received a light head bump from one of the load's 11 I-beams, which shifted forward as he turned sharply onto Daly from 4th Street to avoid an oncoming car, police said.

Kern, driving for Jacoby Transport Systems, Inc., of Philadelphia, turned even more sharply to the right, jackknifing the rig but preventing the load from hitting the other vehicle. Damages totaled \$8,100.

breakfast chatter



An Allentown woman got in a taxi the other night and said, "Take me to the library." The taxi driver said, "Which one?" The incident illustrates what may become rather delightful — or not so delightful — confusion. Allentown Public Library is at 914 Hamilton Mall. It has books that may be lent to patrons who have library cards. "The Library," a literary discotheque, opens Friday at 940 Hamilton Mall. It, too, has books that may be lent to patrons who have library cards — though it does feature such additional things as dancing and liquid refreshments.

Besides a full-to-overflowing sanctuary, Asbury United Methodist Church had a rather sizable crowd for babysitting during the consecration service. There were 13 infants cared for in a nursery and 23 somewhat older children in an adjoining room.

Channel 39 begins its holiday season membership week campaign tonight. The station features a "Monty Python" festival of six programs, starting at 8 tonight. Viewers may phone 866-2525 each night from 7 p.m. on with phone pledges to support station's programming. . . . Former Emmaus Mayor Clarence Hoffert is a patient at ASH. . . . State stores are handling what's described as a limited offering of "Built Like a Mack" bottles featuring the Mack bulldog in gold on the top and pictures of old-time Mack trucks on the side. Inside is 101 proof Wild Turkey bourbon. . . . One of our staffers says he recently visited North Carolina and found some communities there with their public libraries open on Sunday.

The Albatross, once a thriving underground newspaper published by teachers of Harrison-Morton Junior High, has come out of retirement with a rather beautiful tribute to Carl Kressler, a huge man physically who taught social studies at the school for about 25 years. He died Nov. 30. It notes, "He made fun of his size, and we did, too, but he told us bitterly how hard it was for a fat man to get a job as a teacher. His praise was full for Louis Dieruff who took a chance on him and hired him in the Allentown schools. As other groups became more militant, Carl threatened to start a Fat and Small Man's Movement to get equal rights for his segment of society."

Get on galoshes

Snow or rain may be coming

It will be cloudy with a chance of some snow or rain developing today, according to the National Weather Service at the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton Airport.

The high will be in the mid-30s. The low tonight will remain in the 30s. Rain is likely tonight into tomorrow with a high tomorrow around 40. The precipitation probability is 50 per cent today and 70 per cent tonight.

The high temperature yesterday was 40 at 1 a.m. The low was 22 at midnight.

The average wind was out of the north at 11 miles an hour. Maximum wind was 16 from the north-northwest at 1 a.m.

Week's weather

| | Hi | Low | Avg | DD | Prec |
|-----------|----|-----|-----|----|------|
| Monday | 61 | 27 | 44 | 21 | .18 |
| Tuesday | 38 | 26 | 32 | 33 | |
| Wednesday | 40 | 24 | 32 | 33 | T |
| Thursday | 33 | 22 | 28 | 37 | T |
| Friday | 49 | 26 | 38 | 27 | |
| Saturday | 52 | 27 | 40 | 25 | .05 |
| Sunday | 40 | 22 | 31 | 34 | |

Degree Days (DD) are a measure of heating needs. Each degree below average daily temperature of 65 equals one DD. Total degree days through Dec. 7: 1,078

Temperatures

Here are Sunday's high and low temperatures and precipitation in major cities:

| | High | Low | Prec |
|-----------------|------|-----|------|
| Allentown | 40 | 22 | |
| Boston | 37 | 28 | |
| Burlington | 17 | 12 | |
| Chicago | 34 | 29 | |
| Detroit | 36 | 21 | |
| Honolulu | 81 | 66 | |
| Jacksonville | 77 | 53 | |
| Los Angeles | 79 | 45 | |
| Miami Beach | 76 | 72 | |
| New Orleans | 63 | 59 | |
| Portland, Maine | 32 | 20 | |
| St. Louis | 36 | 29 | |
| San Antonio | 45 | 37 | .47 |
| Seattle | 44 | 37 | |
| Washington | 44 | 37 | |

"No building we consecrate is of little use unless the persons who use it are committed to Christ," the bishop said.

He praised the congregation for "your faith, your conviction, your dedication, your courage."

Bishop Ault said it was important for the congregation to remember its history, but more important to remember the advent of the Christian faith itself.

He said it began with Christ's invitation — "Follow Me" — and Christ's promise — "I will make you fishers of men."

He traced the training of the disciples, both through Christ's teaching by parables and His working of miracles, saying:

"Then, they were sent out two by two into a broken and divided world to tell the story of Jesus and to heal and cast out demons.

"The truth of the parables and the miracles is present in today's world. The kingdom will surely come for it is God's doing."

But he said that evil has penetrated every sector of our society. "Increasingly, persons are being taught that, to get along, you go along. Watergate represented only the tip of the iceberg."

He said that, this year, upwards of \$6 billion will be stolen by dishonest employees, and that a high percentage of such thievery is committed by people who are "baptized, confirmed, saved or barmitzvahed."

He asked, "How is it by you or me? We are living by standards that are far too low. If we intend being guided by Christ, we must rework our moral principles."

He recalled that, at the start of the church, the early Christians "caused quite a stir." Then he said the Christians today must make a difference in the world as well.

The Rev. John C. Kulp, pastor, called the occasion "a day filled with thrill and thanksgiving."

For the offering, the Rev. William H. A. Williams, pastoral visitation assistant, told the congregation to "give lavishly, give eagerly, give joyfully."

The Rev. Barry A. Wolfe, associate pastor, and Cheryl D. Williams, director of Christian education, also shared

in conducting the liturgy with the other clergy.

For a section of the service called "From Conflagration to Consecration," a drama of the three years intervening since the fire, Samuel D. Henritz, chairman of the corporate body, presented a copy of a report of goals compiled after the fire to architect William Wallace.

The architect presented a roll of plans to general contractor Ellsworth C. Machin Jr.

Machin then handed a photograph of the building to William H. Kemmler, chairman of the building committee.

Kemmler, like the others, had a few prepared lines of his group's involvement. He said "This building is constructed of more than bricks and stone, steel and glass. It is made from the hopes and dreams, the prayers and work, the worries and frustrations, the time and money of all of us."

He departed from the text to thank some people individually. When he men-

tioned his wife, he paused for a long moment. With a tremor in his voice, he resumed to thank his "wife, son and daughter for their help, support and love."

Kemmler presented a key to S. Glenn Ellenberger, chairman of the board of trustees, who passed it along to Bishop Ault with the words, "It means the unlocking of the door of this building for worship, for nurture, for the arts, for fellowship."

The clergy and Miss Williams then led the congregation through responsive reading for the act of consecration itself. A reception was held after the service.

There was one addition to the scheduled program. Rev. Kulp announced that Robert Beam, a South Whitehall commissioner, had asked to say a few words. This was midway through the service.

Least we can do

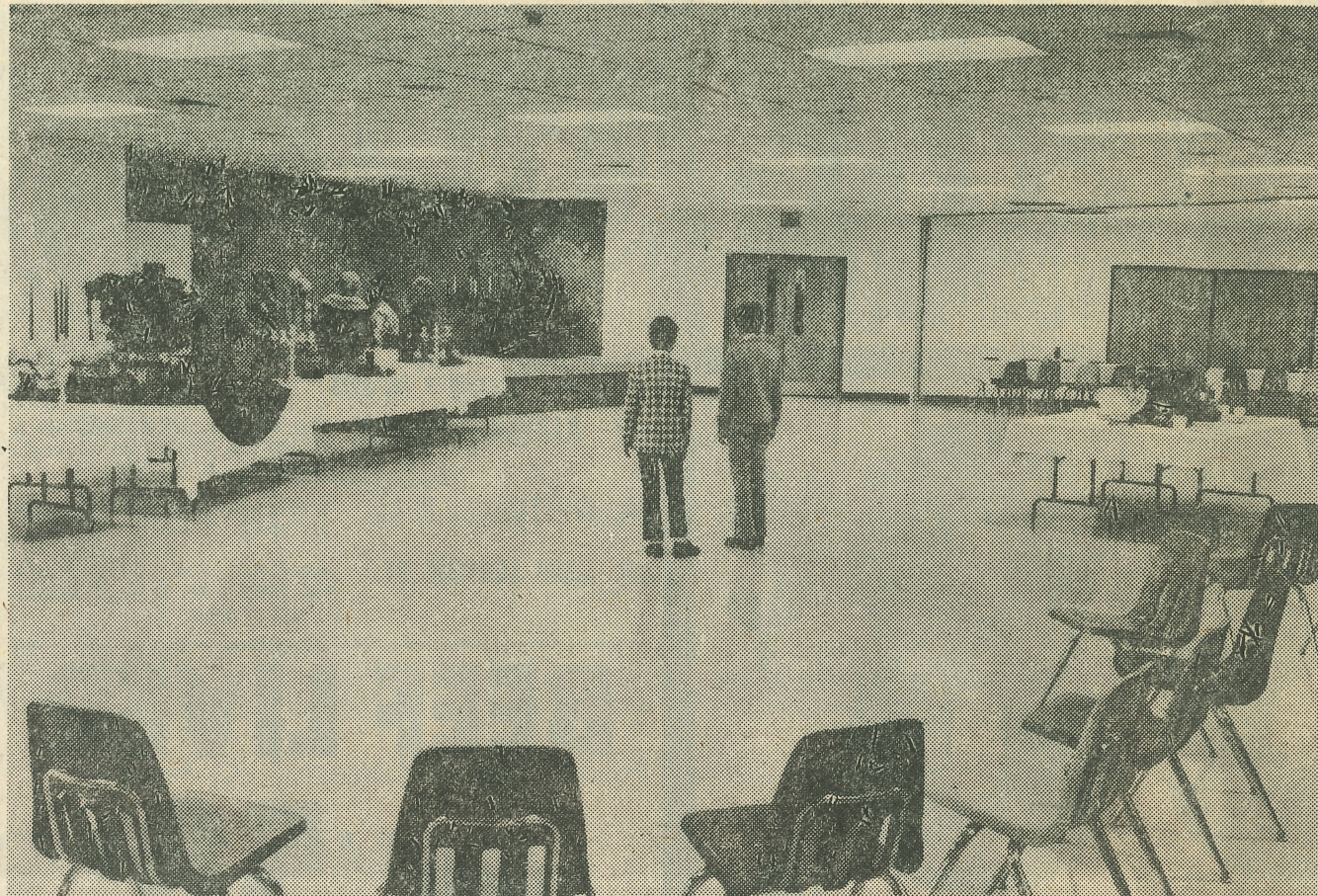
Aged and lonely of 2 counties aided

Mrs. M., a Lehigh County resident, is a childless widow who finds loneliness difficult to bear. Besides this, she is almost totally deaf, has poor eyesight, arthritis and a whole syndrome of circulatory ills. It is not easy for volunteers to communicate with Mrs. M., who is 80 and wants, very much, to remain in her own home. Her case is one that challenges the ingenuity of professionals and volunteer agencies. Lehigh County Meals on Wheels will continue to provide her with nourishing food to help maintain her limited health until something can be worked out.



Mr. B., a Northampton County resident, is 74 and lives in the house that his family has owned for many generations. He feels isolated because he does not have a close relationship with neighbors and there are no relatives who live close by. Physically, Mr. B. had been going down hill rapidly until he signed on with Bethlehem Area Meals on Wheels to make sure he got at least 10 square meals a week. Without the volunteer service he could not remain in his home for very long. Mr. B. uses his cane more and falls less. Meal deliverers and caseworkers are helping him.

Contributions to THE LEAST WE CAN DO, a holiday campaign that benefits Meals on Wheels, can be sent to the Lehigh County Conference of Churches, 36 S. 6th St., Allentown, 18101, or the Bethlehem Area Council of Churches, 520 E. Broad St., Bethlehem, 18018. The campaign will continue through Dec. 25.



Fellowship Hall (left) and the church 'parlor' are two features of the new Asbury United Methodist Church

900 take part in Asbury rite

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Beam told the worshipers that, as a boy, he wanted to become a minister of the Gospel. "As you know, I'm not no minister. I got lost along the way and became a politician."

He mentioned that his wife of 27 years works with him 100 per cent, that it will be two years next month since he became a commissioner and that what the people want is someone who will listen to them. "Even though I am a politician, I want to keep God's love in my heart."

Beam wished the congregation God's blessing in South Whitehall Township.

The sanctuary itself is triangular-shaped with a roof sloping upward toward a free-standing altar. The structure also includes rooms on two levels for various phases of its Christian education program.

Since the fire, the congregation has worshipped in the former Zion United Methodist Church at 9th and Linden streets, Allentown.

Conservancy seeks land for open spaces

A little-known group, called the Lehigh Valley Conservancy, Inc., has quietly begun studying ways to preserve open-space land in Lehigh and Northampton counties.

Since being formed in late 1973, the group has grown to more than 300 members, including about 100 recruited this fall.

The haunted barn in Hecktown, the group's prime fund-raising project, is perhaps better known than the sponsor, which opened headquarters at 556 Main St., Bethlehem, in September.

Kenneth A. Friedman of Bethlehem, who is part-time conservancy executive director (9 a.m.-1 p.m. weekdays), has the challenge not only of building the reputation of a new organization, but also to educate the public on what a

conservancy is and does. The new organization hopes to build up its membership to help pinpoint individual tracts of land whose owners should be convinced to set it aside for open space.

Conservancies are defined as "non-profit organizations run by their members . . . (for) preservation of land with ecological, esthetic, educational, scientific, recreational and open space values" in a recent LVC newsletter.

They can acquire land by buying it, but, "Outright purchase of lands becomes more difficult for conservancies each year as the value of the most desirable lands continue to increase," the newsletter notes.

"A second method of conservancy land acquisition is through donation or land philanthropy," it adds. "Some

older people who have spent many years caring for their land may not wish to see it parceled up for development . . . (or) wish to leave property to heirs who they fear will sell the property to developers.

"Some people donate land to conservancies in order to avoid capital gains taxes," the newsletter continues. "Such a donation to a conservancy is a gift and entitles the philanthropist to a deduction on income tax amounting to the fair market value of the land donated . . ."

"Another method of land acquisition used less frequently by conservancies is the purchase or acceptance of partial rights to land. Such partial rights,

called easements, limit the use of acquired land to its natural state and insure that it will remain undeveloped forever."

After its acquisition, "large conservancies with large financial resources may hold the land they acquire and manage it themselves. They may also lease their land to municipalities to be used as parks or open space."

The newsletter also describes ways it can help municipalities plan for open space or parkland through flood-plain zoning, obtaining easements or other methods.

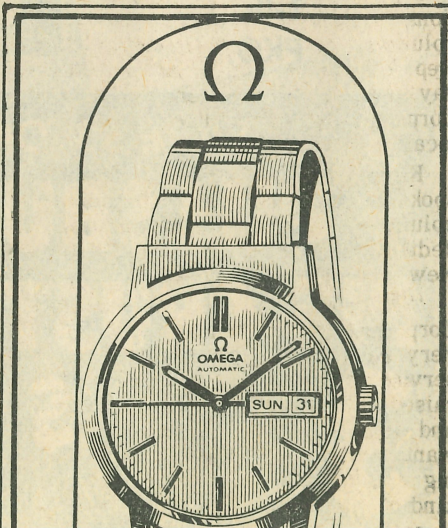
A conservancy's educational activities include providing speakers and programs for civic groups that emphasize the need to retain some land in a natural state, even in highly urbanized areas, for the preservation of wildlife.

The Lehigh Valley Conservancy serves all these functions, although on a limited scale since it is a new organization.

Also, the LVC has not yet acquired

scheduled early next year.

However, several land-acquisition studies are in progress, Friedman says, but their location, size and surface characteristics cannot be revealed until acquisition because of the speculative aspect of many real estate sales.



L.V. attorneys are cool toward advertising idea