

Economic Troubles Trickle Down To Pet Owners

By ELLEN LYON

THE (HARRISBURG) PATRIOT-NEWS
HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) – Recently a woman walked nearly seven miles from her Cameron Street home to the Humane Society of Harrisburg Area shelter to give up the 7-year-old pit bull she had raised since it was 8 weeks old.

The distraught woman told shelter officials she was being evicted and couldn't keep the dog, Humane Society spokeswoman Kelly Hitz said.

The female pit bull has since found a new home. But animal rescue workers in the midstate say the economic crisis that started on Wall Street and spread to Main Street has now hit the backyard doghouse.

The Humane Society of Harrisburg Area and the York County SPCA report increases in pets surrendered because of their owners' financial hardship.

An average of 10 people a week contact the Humane Society to say they can't afford to keep their pets, Hitz said. About 20 percent end up surrendering their animals to the shelter.

The Humane Society refers the others to its free pet food bank, stocked with donations from the public, and its low-cost vaccination and spay/neuter clinics, she said.

The shelter is "very overcrowded" with 575 dogs, cats and other animal residents, Hitz said.

Since the beginning of September, the York County SPCA has taken in 17 animals because of home foreclosures or other financial problems, Executive Director Melissa Smith said.

"We've also seen an increase in cats being abandoned at the shelter," left by the door in cardboard boxes or cat carriers, Smith said. The shelter is at capacity with 425 cats, 108 dogs and seven rabbits, she said last week.

The York SPCA also has a free pet food bank, called Chows for Pals. "We've gotten more inquiries about that," Smith said.

PAWS, a foster care and adoption network for homeless dogs and cats in the midstate, has seen a three-fold increase since the beginning of summer in pets returned to it after adoption, PAWS President Kathy Smith said.

"We have had people more frequently tell us it is because they can't financially provide for the animals," Smith said.

The group's foster care homes are filled, and some volunteers can't give as much time because of having to work part-time jobs, she said.

PAWS offers low-cost vaccination clinics and reduced-fee vouchers for spay/neuter surgeries, she said.

Castaway Critters, another mid-state foster home network, is receiving about 50 percent more calls from people who want to surrender their animals for financial reasons, board member Betsy Clark said.

"We've also recently noticed a decrease in adoptions over last year. It's huge," Clark said. She estimates the rescue has seen a 30 percent drop in adoptions at the same time that fewer foster homes are available.

Clark noted that financially strapped animal owners can avail themselves of low-cost spay/neuter and vaccination clinics offered through the Spay Neuter Assistance Program and other organizations.

Horse Runs Wild Through Pa. Town

NEW WILMINGTON, Pa. (AP)

– A frightened horse that came loose from an Amish buggy after a collision ran wildly through a rural western Pennsylvania town, damaged a delivery van and made its way down the main street before being corralled about five miles away.

New Wilmington Borough Police Chief Carmen Piccirilli said the horse ran south on state Route 158 and into the borough early Thursday morning, where it hit a delivery van and careened past. The horse then made its way down the main street in New Wilmington.

The horse's wild flight was finally halted 15 minutes later after it had run about five miles, Piccirilli said. By then it had crossed into Wilmington Township, Lawrence County.

The crash damaged the delivery van and the horse suffered minor injuries, Piccirilli said. The animal was returned to its owner. No one was hurt.

Such incidents are not uncommon in this northwestern part of Pennsylvania, where there is a large Amish community.

On Oct. 24, just a week before Thursday's incident, another horse tore off after a collision. It took off still attached to its Amish buggy and only came to a stop when it hit a sign post at the entrance to the high school, turning the buggy onto its side, Piccirilli said.

20 Years Ago

From The Files Of November 10, 1988

'88 A McConnellsburg man was found dead in his car off the north side of U.S. Route 30 bypass in Todd Township, about one mile east of U.S. Route 522, around 6:45 p.m. last Saturday. Police said that Alan Long, 26, McConnellsburg, was found after persons spotlighting deer in that area discovered the wreckage of his 1976 Plymouth Roadrunner at the bottom of a steep embankment off the north berm of the bypass. Dr. McClucas pronounced Long dead at the scene and reported that he may have been dead for 18 to 24 hours prior to the discovery of the wreckage.

With a county voter turnout of a fraction less than 75 percent, Fulton County followed its neighbors in electing Republicans Dick Hess and Patrick Fleagle to the state House, returning Republican John Heinz to the U.S. Senate and electing Republican George Bush to the White House. With 4,707 of the 6,280 registered voters casting ballots, countians preferred George Bush to Democrat Michael Dukakis by a margin of 3,086 to 1,532. Nationwide, with 77 percent of the vote in, Bush led Dukakis 54 percent to 46 percent in popular vote and overwhelmingly in the electoral college tally.

McConnellsburg Spartans captured their ninth District 5 soccer title in the past 13 years on Monday with a 5-1 win over Conemaugh Township, and the Forbes Road Cardinals defeated Southern Huntingdon 3-0 last Thursday to win their first-ever District 6 field hockey title.

A 40th anniversary party was given for Harold and Betty Hershey on September 18.

Karen Swope and Todd Fisher were united in marriage September 10 at Needmore Church of the Nazarene. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Swope of Warfordsburg and Mr. and Mrs. James Fisher, also of Warfordsburg.

Mr. and Mrs. John Kendall II of McConnellsburg wish to announce the engagement of Mrs. Kendall's daughter, Tammy, to Robert Morgan Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morgan Sr., also of McConnellsburg.

Deaths: Lorna Everhart, Three Springs; Evelyn Morton Cunningham, McConnellsburg; John Horton, St. Thomas; Lena Mellott, McConnellsburg; Madeline Mellott, Berkeley Springs; Lucy Ritchey, Beech Creek; Alan Long, McConnellsburg.

Births at the Medical Center: a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. David Strait of Hustontown on October 29; a son to Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Elmes of McConnellsburg on November 2; a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. William Guilfof of Harrisonville on November 3; a son to Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Simpson of Big Cove Tannery on November 2.

30 Years Ago

From The Files Of November 5, 1978

'78 The Conestoga Inn property was sold at public sale at the courthouse on Saturday and was knocked down to Moss Mills of Dry Run, former owner and execution creditor, for \$750.

The Halloween parties sponsored by the Fulton Jaycees are proving to be successful with over 400 children attending them and foregoing the traditional "trick or treating" on the street.

It's probably the most publicized non-happening of contemporary political history – voter apathy. Voters are staying home by the roomfuls and the political analysts and social psychologists have more work than they can shake a statistic at. The consensus is that apathy and cynicism are the culprits. The polls show voters either don't care who gets elected or they don't think it will make any difference. So the majority of them doesn't vote.

An automobile accident in Phoenix, Ariz., on Friday took the lives of two daughters of Mrs. Mabel Sharpe Martz, McConnellsburg, and the late W. Russell Martz. According to a family member, Mrs. Shirley P. Martz Morelli, 42, of Reno, Nev., was visiting her sister, Mrs. Madeline L. Martz McKenzie, 51, of Scotsdale, Ariz., when the accident occurred. She was killed instantly and Mrs. McKenzie died in a hospital a short time later.

Specials at the IGA: chicken noodle soup, 5 cans for \$1; grapefruit, 6 for 99 cents; Heinz ketchup, 89 cents.

Births at the Medical Center: a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Kenny L. Seiders of Chambersburg on October 23; a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Michael F. Truax of Warfordsburg on October 23; a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Harold McMullen of Shade Gap on October 25; a son to Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Shives of Needmore on October 26; a son to Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bradshaw of Warfordsburg on October 27; a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Downes Jr., Fort Littleton, on October 27.

Marriage licenses: Keith Lynn Book and Carol Ann Robinson, both of Blairs Mill; Raymond E. Hill and Patricia M. Cullison, both of Upperco, Md.; George C. Cifra, Elizabethtown, and Marlene Fallat of Irwin, Pa.

Deaths: Ferlan L. Fraker, Hustontown; Austin I. Mellott, Needmore; Alfred D. Stotler, Berkeley Springs; Ellis Keefer, Washingtonville, N.J.

40 Years Ago

From The Files Of November 14, 1968

'68 Pictured in this week's "News" is Pfc. Gerald L. Smith, who was recently awarded a life membership in VFW Memorial Post No. 9723, Naha, Okinawa, the largest VFW post in the world. Pfc. Smith, at present, is at the Camp Kue Hospital on Okinawa as a wounded patient.

The 21st running of the Hershey Hillclimb, sponsored by the Appalachian Sports Car Club and sanctioned by the Pennsylvania Hillclimb Association, will be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 16 and 17. Hillclimbers from this area will include Bud Weikert of Blue Ridge Summit; Dr. William Black, Alex Beattie and Garnet Hummelsine of Chambersburg, and Bob Nitterhouse of Fayetteville.

Ellis J. Souders, son of Ellis J. Souders of McConnellsburg, is a member of the freshman class at Lycoming College, Williamsport.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Levin Seville of Big Cove Tannery will honor their parents on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary by holding an open house at the McConnellsburg Firehall on November 24.

An altar adorned with white gladioli and lighted candles was the setting of the wedding which united in marriage Miss Patricia Arlene Souders, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Souders of McConnellsburg, and Joseph Eugene Chilstrom, son of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Chilstrom of Gettysburg, South Dakota, on September 28, at the United Methodist Church.

Specials at the A&P: Florida oranges, 5-lb. bag, 69 cents; Italian style bread, four 1-lb. loaves, 99 cents; Bounty jumbo towels, 19 cents; Jane Parker fruit cakes, \$1.79.

The Green Hill Sewing Club members finished their last boiling of apple butter on Saturday for the season, making a total of 17 kettles in all.

The first snowfall of the season fell Monday night and

FROM DAYS GONE BY

MEMORY JOGGER



This week's Memory Jogger is comprised of photos taken by C.B. Chubb of the McConnellsburg Future Farmers of America organization around 1947 and were presented to the McConnellsburg Alumni and Friends Association by the Fulton County Historical Society. The FFA students and their experimental vegetable plots were under the supervision of Mr. Chubb, vocational ag teacher, and George Reiser, county supervisor of vocational agriculture. Pictured in photo no. 1 are William Nesbitt, Donald Divens, Garvin Edwards, Melvin "Spanky" Reeder Jr., and John Mentzer. Pictured in photo no. 2 are George Reiser and C.B. Chubb.



Tuesday, leaving a heavy, wet blanket which disrupted telephone service, school schedules and brought traffic to a minimum on the hazardous roads.

Births at the Medical Center: a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Lee Clark of Needmore on November 2; a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Strait of McConnellsburg on November 7.

Deaths: Mrs. Maxine B. Peck, Warfordsburg; Brinton E. Cutchall, Six Mile Run; Harvey H. Doyle, McConnellsburg; Harry Gathers, Burnt Cabins; Wayne Wilson, Shade Gap; James Sherman Garland, Hancock.

sausage jingle" contest and won a Sunbeam electric skillet.

Births at the Medical Center: a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Fix of McConnellsburg on November 3; a son to Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Cunningham of McConnellsburg on November 5; a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Larry Johnson of Hustontown on November 6; a son to Mr. and Mrs. John E. Secrist of McConnellsburg on November 7; a son to Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Benedick Jr. of McConnellsburg on November 8.

Deaths: H. Curtis McClain of St. Petersburg, Fla.; Van Bureau Kegrise of Altoona; Robert Hunter Miller of Taylor Township; Raymond Luther Chamberlain of Wells Tannery.

50 Years Ago

From The Files Of November 13, 1958

'58 Lt. Harold Knepper, who pilots a jet plane, has been transferred from Okinawa to the Portland International Airport as a member of the Fighter Interceptor Squadron there.

Rush Kerlin Jr., who is with the U.S. Army overseas, writes the News that he married a London girl on November 6.

Local state police started a roundup last Wednesday of juveniles and older youths who have been for some time entering the Conestoga Inn and stealing various amounts of whiskey, beer, etc. Entrance to the tavern was through a recently replaced window sash which has not yet been equipped with a lock. So far police have nabbed eight of the group, four of whom are old enough to be lodged in the county jail. Two of the latter four have been released on bail. The first police-recorded incident took place on October 5 when two-fifths of whiskey and some potato chips were taken; the last on November 5 when whiskey, beer, pretzels, potato chips and cash were taken. The youths apprehended so far will appear in court in December.

Four fires last week kept local firemen busy. They were first called to the turnpike on Thursday when a freight truck caught fire. Again on Thursday, a vacant house at Andover was destroyed by fire. On Saturday, they were called to extinguish a fire at the "dump" on Mercersburg Mountain. Again on Saturday, they were called to extinguish a woods fire on the A. Washabaugh farm north of McConnellsburg, believed to have been caused by a careless hunter.

A senior extension club has been organized in northern Fulton County with Alma Anderson as president; Nelson Walker, vice president; Yvonne Graeber, secretary; and Ethel Long, news reporter.

At a recent business session held in Jefferson City, Mo., the directors of the Missouri Baptists building Fund Inc. elected Dr. George S. Hixson as executive director. Dr. Hixson was born in Brush Creek Township, Fulton County. Besides his various preaching assignments, he was a chaplain in the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1947 and now holds the rank of major as a chaplain in the reserves.

The newly purchased Allen electronic organ in the local Lutheran Church will be dedicated on Sunday. The organ was purchased for the congregation by the United Lutheran Church women. The service on Sunday will include special music by the choir under the direction of Mrs. Paul T. Ott, with Mrs. Eugene Earley at the console of the organ and an organ recital by Mrs. Henry Earley of Newville.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Naomi Alice Mellott to Pfc. Elliott Deshong Jr.

Mrs. Mildred Shaw, local preacher of the Hustontown Charge, will fill the pulpit of Harrisonville Charge for two weeks because of the transfer of Rev. David B. Reams to Oriskany. Mrs. Shaw was authorized by the New England Conference of the Methodist Church to receive a local preacher's license in February 1946.

The Fulton County Farmers' Association was one of 11 such organizations in the state to receive recognition at Williamsport on Tuesday night for its well-rounded program of activities during the past year. President Earl Gordon attended the meeting and accepted the award for the local association.

Four Fulton County bankers are attending the meeting of the Pennsylvania Bankers Association in Philadelphia this week. They are: Harry R. Brantner and Henry W. Daniels of The First National Bank and Eugene F. Earley and Elwood J. Mellott of The Fulton County National Bank.

Special highway user taxes zoomed to a record level of \$8,800,000,000 in 1957 and will approach \$10 billion in 1959.

William S. Geyer, who resides in the Comerer apartment on Lincoln Way, suffered fractures of both bones in his left leg in an accident last Wednesday. Employed by the Cumberland Valley Electric Co., he was injured when a light pole rolled against his leg. He is a son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Mellott of town.

Mrs. Maxine Croft, who is employed at the Cove Valley Restaurant in Taylor Township, was one of the winners in the recent Frigidaire sweepstakes contest, winning a Benrus Citation wristwatch. Last year, she entered the "brown and serve

60 Years Ago

From The Files Of November 18, 1948

'48 Births: a son to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hamm of Harrisonville on November 10; a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Charles K. Mellott of Needmore on November 15.

James Harris of Big Cove Tannery, 32-year-old father of three children, had his right arm torn off in an accident at the Mellott stone quarry on Monday morning. The victim was adjusting the machinery when a stone fell on his head, causing him to reach for support, thus getting his arm caught in the mechanism. The arm was torn off at the elbow necessitating the later removal of the arm four inches below the shoulder. Every bit of Harris' clothing, except his shoes and socks, was torn off.

George Wayne Brant, 22, of Laidig, Fulton's first peacetime draftee, will leave for induction next Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Helman of McConnellsburg celebrated their 36th wedding anniversary on Sunday.

A kitchen shower was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fora B. King on November 11 in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Foster.

Funeral services will be held on November 22 for First Lt. Robert M. Fields, who was killed in action on February 22, 1945, while returning to his home base in Italy from his 30th mission over enemy territory.

70 Years Ago

From The Files Of November 17, 1938

'38 Miss Freeda Duvall will open a beauty shop soon in the house recently vacated by C.M. Lodge, opposite the courthouse.

Walter Ray and family moved into the A.W. Grissinger house on Lincoln Way last week.

Deaths: Mrs. Mary Catherine Fields of Clear Ridge; Mrs. Theresa May Clevenger of Wilkinsburg; Isaac C. McClain of Oriskany; Grace North Kauffman.

A Civil Service examination will be held at Mercersburg to fill the office of fourth-class postmaster at Warfordsburg. Receipt of applications will close on November 25.

An addition is now being built to the D.L. Hohman property, to provide more space for McLaughlin's Drug Store.

Henry Wilson, 80-year-old farmer of Clear Ridge, was instantly killed on Sunday morning when the car in which he was a passenger and a car driven by Donald Cromer collided head-on about a half mile south of Fort Littleton. Mr. Wilson's head went through the windshield where it became wedged, necessitating the breaking of the rest of the glass to free him. He suffered compound fractures of the skull and hip. Two other persons in the car were taken to Waynesboro Hospital for treatment. They were Harry Mort, the driver of the car, who suffered shock and lacerations of the face and head, and Mrs. Harry Mort, who had both legs broken below the knees, the bones being shattered. Warren Locke, 12, a passenger in the Cromer car, was taken to the same hospital for treatment of a dangerous forehead bruise. Other passengers in the Cromer car who were treated at the scene by Dr. H.C. McClain were Carrie Locke, 41, of Fort Littleton, a deep laceration of the forehead, and Mrs. Clara Brown, 31, of Fort Littleton, bruises and shock. Ruth Locke, 13, of Fort Littleton and Norma Ravenstein, 17, of Saluvia received minor injuries.

Harold Richard Stenger and Mary Elizabeth Harr were married on October 30.

Mrs. Merrill W. Nace is confined to her home with a badly sprained ankle, received in a fall on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Peck entertained at a turkey dinner at their home on November 12 in honor of the double birthday of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pittman.

Fulton County farmers will meet at the courthouse on Monday evening to discuss the matter of whether an Agricultural Extension Association shall be formed here, the only county in the state that does not have the services of a coun-

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