

Philmont

25 Per Cent School Tax Increase Forecast

School tax increase this year may be 25 per cent according to a Gerard Brehm, School Central Business Administrator. Arriving at this figure, Mr. Brehm did not take account of any increase except mandated wage increases and increases in the cost of Social Security and retirement benefits.

This dire news was forecast a year ago when the state budget slash threw local school board budgets into a crisis. It

was indicated then that the coming year would be worse when the full effect of the State aid decrease would be felt.

There is a ray of hope on the horizon. Governor Rockefeller has stated that he would look with favor on increasing present State aid per pupil from \$760 to \$900, and according to Senator Douglas Hudson "There is absolutely no doubt that the ceiling on State aid per pupil will be raised

from the present \$760 to \$900." According to Mr. Brehm this suggested increase while good is totally inadequate other adjustments, too, are needed.

He suggested. Transportation aid should be restored to 90 per cent, the cost sharing percentage should be raised from the present 46 per cent to 50 per cent, and there should be size correction aid. Unless this is done "taxes have but one way to go, and that is up," said Mr. Brehm.

News of Castleton

Drug Problem Causes Concern

Four students at Maple Hill have been identified as users of marijuana or "pep pills" according to a recent Administrative Bulletin published by the school. In each case, the parents and proper authorities have been notified.

Assemblyman Larry Lane has stated that more than one half of all narcotic addicts in the entire nation are in New York State and 25,000 youth are taking hard drugs, not marijuana, but heroin, and 250 died last year from over-doses. The Bulletin continued: "School authorities who hide such disclosures to protect the good name of the school are guilty of a great disservice to the parents of the students attending our schools." It is respectfully requested that parents speak openly with their children about the drug problems.

Teachers Join Faculty

Three new teachers have filled vacancies created by resignations during the year at Maple Hill. They are: Mrs. Martha Conner a new teacher in Grade 2 at the Castleton Elementary School. Mrs. Conner is a graduate of Cornell University.

David Waite, teacher of science at the high school, is a graduate of the State University at Plattsburgh. He plans to finish his Masters degree by the end of the summer. Mrs. Nancy Westbrook has an M.A. degree from Syracuse University and teaches English at the high school. She has two years teaching experience.

Registration Set

Registration for boys in the Castleton Area Little League, Babe Ruth, and American Legion baseball will be held in the V.F.W. hall on Saturday, March 7 from noon till 5 p.m.

Other dates scheduled are March 14 and April 4, the same hours. Registrants must show birth certificates.

Little League is for boys 8 through 12 years old; Babe Ruth is for boys 13-15; and American Legion is for boys 15-18. Registration is under the direction of John Carlic.

Lenten Service Slated

Father John Bertolucci, formerly priest in the Sacred Heart parish, Castleton, is scheduled to preach at the Union Lenten Service at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Castleton, Thursday, March 12 at 7:30 p.m. Father Bertolucci is now chaplain of Maria College. During his stay in Castleton he was devoted in his

work with young people. This week Rev. Gerard Van Heest will be preaching at the Reformed Church.

Reformed Church News
The Sociables will have the Irish Hootenanny March 14 with a corn beef and cabbage dinner served at 7:30 p.m. and entertainment provided by the Clearwater Singers.

The W.G.C.S. will have a food sale at the Prins Agency, Main Street, March 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Fire Leaves 5 Homeless

The Charles Davis family was left homeless by a fire which heavily damaged their home at 1645 Maple Hill Road on Thursday. It is not known how the fire started, but by the time fire apparatus arrived at the scene, it had made considerable headway. This, together with damage from smoke and water, left the family with only the clothes they wore.

Besides Mr. and Mrs. Davis there are three children, Debbie 16, Charles 13, and Mark 9. The family is staying with friends and a collection of clothing and cash is being taken by St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Castleton. Contributions made to the Church for their benefit will be forwarded to them.

Stangel Elected Head

Ward Stangel, 1880 Brookview road, was elected head of the Administrative Board of St. Paul's United Methodist Church at its meeting on Sunday. Mr. Stangel is manager of the Order Department, Iroquois Millwork Corporation, Albany, and has been treasurer of the church for five years. He is married to the former Irene Relyea and they have three children, David, Janet and Marty.

Aid Football Team

"Touch-Down, Maple Hill" is again in the limelight as Maple Hill Students start their Booster Drive. Students in the Maple Hill Football Association are selling windshield stickers for the next week and a half. Their profit will support "Touch-Down Maple Hill" for a Maple Hill football team.

A Lenten Service will be held in the Reformed Church, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. with guest preacher, Rev. Gerard Van Heest.

The Castleton Home Bureau will sponsor two films on Drug Abuse, Tuesday, March 10, 7:30 p.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church open to the public.

Boy Scout Troop 253 will hold a Paper Drive this Saturday. If possible please put your papers at the curb.

Bessie Diner

Philmont 672-7211
The Ladies Auxiliary of the Philmont Fire Company will hold their annual meeting Monday night, March 9. All members are urged to attend or be fined. The money award will be held and members are asked to return their books to Chairman Dorothy Glover. The annual banquet for members will be held at Kozel's on Friday, March 13. Reservations can be made with Rhona Olson.

The March refreshment committee is Margaret Dallas, chairman, Nancy Brousseau, Edna Moore, Mary Robertson and Barbara Hood.

The Legion 20-30 Club held their party on Saturday night with about 125 people attending.

A buffet was served and dancing to Bud Celantano's orchestra. Awards were made to Clifford Mulchay, Hugh Kromer, Richard Snyder, John Boor, Bradford Race and Wilmer Ritchie.

Attend Banquet

The Columbia County Fire Chiefs held their dinner and dance at Churchtown Saturday night. A roast beef dinner was served and afterward dancing was enjoyed. Attending from here were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wildermuth, Mr. and Mrs. Crawford Moore, Mr. and Mrs. David Van Tassel, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Klirna, Mr. and Mrs. William Laraway, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Mesick and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Snow, Jr. Mrs. Carol Dagenhart and Clinton Mossman, Sr. Mrs. Elizabeth Hoffman of Philmont, accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Roy Boice, Jr. and children of Antrim on Sunday to visit Miss Doris Boice who attends the University of Plattsburgh. It was Miss Boice's birthday.

Sale Nets \$73
The Ockawamick Branch of Columbia Memorial Hospital auxiliary netted \$73.78 at its food sale Friday at the Grand Union. Chairman were Mrs. Robert Near, Jr. and Mrs. Walter Omerod.

The men of our church are planning to use the March Saturdays for doing minor repair jobs and cleaning our church.

A community Bible Study group is forming for studying the book of Mark. Any women wishing to attend this informal study are invited to call Mrs. Rhoda Van Kampen, 477-5880 or Mrs. Gail Oliphant, 733-2115. It is being held mornings, with babysitting provided.

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Fire Auxiliary Slates Election, Banquet

Teatime is available for the Frank Harvey dinner which will be held Sunday, March 15 at the Legion rooms starting at 10 o'clock. A roast beef dinner will be served. The public are invited to help this worthy cause.

YAF Meeting
The Y.A.F. of the Methodist Church will hold their regular meeting Saturday, night March 7 with supper at 7 o'clock. Educational chairman Beatrice Snow had charge of the meeting. The refreshment committee is Mr. and Mrs. Michel Klirna, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Snow, Miss Mildred Johnson and Mrs. Fred Johnson.

Paper Collection
The next paper drive will be Friday night March 6. Please leave papers on curb or call NR3-7219 for pick up.

Sea for Armistices
Mr. and Mrs. John Armstrong are parents of a son Michael Howard born Feb. 22 at Columbia Memorial Hospital. Mrs. Armstrong is the former Carol Montague. The couple have one other son, Timothy.

Harder Appointed
At the Rotary meeting Monday night Rowland Evans was the guest speaker and spoke on fire system mutual aid in Columbia County.

Herbert Harder, a member of the Philmont Rotary, has been named lieutenant governor of

International Rotary District 321, Region 1, which covers Columbia, Greene Dutchess and Ulster Counties.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Elliott and children left on Sunday for a two-week vacation with relatives in Florida. Clarence Spittberger is tending to the business.

Harry Hasbrook was a recent patient in the Veterans Hospital in Albany.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Cava of East Orange, N.J. spent the week with John Schaible and family.

Methodist Church News
Rev. Mills spent a few days in Brooklyn so Harold Bush gave the sermon on Sunday.

Saturday, March 7, Confirmation class meets at 11 a.m. Nursery, March 8, Darcie Bush, March 14, WSCS will hold a food sale at the Grand Union Store at 10 a.m.

Mrs. Ruth Alverson was a Saturday visitor of Mr. and Mrs. George Gaspard and family at East Greenbush.

Reformed Church News
March 22, Palm Sunday, Confirmation class, Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m., the Lord's Supper, Good Friday, 12 to 3 p.m. The Seven Last Words of Christ.

Charles is Nine
Charles June celebrated his ninth birthday with a dinner at his home Sunday. He received many gifts. Those attending

were Mr. and Mrs. Philip Lasher and children of Hudson, Spec 3 Raymond Smith and Mrs. Smith and daughter of West Lebanon also Becky and Brenda June and Mr. and Mrs. Charles June, Sr.

Tuesday guests of Mrs. Myron

Good and Mrs. Thomas Green were, Mrs. John Kooz, Mrs. Leonard Bagel, Mrs. George Harris of Philmont and Mrs. Chester Keil of Hudson. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hudson and Mrs. Mary Plaster of Castleton, were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. George Harris.

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