

Split Sessions Follow 500-G Bellport HS Fire

40 Students, 1 Teacher Hospitalized

Thirty-eight students and one teacher were admitted Friday to Brookhaven Memorial Hospital and two students to Bayview General Hospital as a result of the fire at Bellport Junior-Senior High School.

Brookhaven hospital authorities said that two students continue in critical condition. John Allers, 13, of 720 Bellport Avenue, Bellport, suffered two broken ankles, internal injuries and smoke poisoning when he fell or was accidentally pushed from the second floor of the burning school. His attending physician is Dr. Peter deRoos. The youth is the son of Fifth Precinct Patrolman Henry Allers. David Hassell, 18, of 196 South Country Road, Bellport, suffered two broken knee caps. He underwent surgery Sunday (see another story in this issue) on his right leg. Hospital authorities said yesterday that he would undergo surgery on his left leg in the near future, but no day has been set yet.

According to hospital authorities, those admitted to Brookhaven were as follows: John Allers, 13, of 720 Bellport Avenue, Bellport; Gas Knapik, 17, of 62 Donegan Avenue, East Patchogue; Henry Kadinski, 15, of Bell Haven Road, Bellport; Joseph Laddy, 14, of 756 Bourdais Avenue, Bellport; Celeste Lento, 14, of 143 Orchard Road, East Patchogue; Michelle Maler, 16, of 147 Patchogue Avenue, East Patchogue.

Others: Robert Monahan, 13, of 718 Hoffman Avenue, Bellport. (Continued on page 5)

Others: Michael Goldbach, 16, of 527 Maple Avenue, Bellport; Mark Haneman, 16, of 748 Waverly Avenue, Bellport; David Hassell; Richard Haynes, 16, of 657 Waverly Avenue, Bellport; Linda Kern, 14, of 34 Finco Street, Bellport; Gas Knapik, 17, of 62 Donegan Avenue, East Patchogue; Henry Kadinski, 15, of Bell Haven Road, Bellport; Joseph Laddy, 14, of 756 Bourdais Avenue, Bellport; Celeste Lento, 14, of 143 Orchard Road, East Patchogue; Michelle Maler, 16, of 147 Patchogue Avenue, East Patchogue.

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St. Pat's Day Parade Set For Saturday

The "Long Green Line" of the Village of St. Pat-Chogue will really be a long one this year as the second Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, sponsored by the Suffolk County Board of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, steps off at 10:30 a.m. Saturday March 16.

The parade will include 5,000 marchers, 19 bands, schools, fire departments, Knights of Columbus organizations, military units, Boy Scouts, Brownies, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, veterans' groups and dignitaries from all over Long Island. Eighty units will start on Waverly Avenue and go east along Main Street to Rider Avenue.

The Village of Patchogue Recreation Department is the sponsor and will extend to the "Green Line" that is to be paraded along Main Street and to the banding of the Shamrocks to the light poles. Mayor Robert T. Waldbauer has requested all business establishments to decorate their store fronts to welcome the many guests. Among those expected to participate are: the Suffolk County Police and Fire; Amityville Fire Band; Thomas Fahey, Grand Marshal; A.O.U.H. County Banner; Alan Lawrence, president; Board of Suffolk A.O.U.H.; Joseph McCabe, vice-president; A.O.U.H.; Joseph Conley, parade chairman; John C. McManon, assistant parade chairman; May-



LOOKING EAST smoke may be seen rising from old section of Bellport Junior-Senior High school. United States flag waves in front of new wing to left. Firemen direct water in gymnasium, center. The \$500,000 fire destroyed the old section.



MAIN WALL of Bellport Junior-Senior High School fronting on Station Road was knocked down by Brookhaven National Lab's crane to permit firemen to get at fire more easily.



BROOKHAVEN HOSPITAL NURSE checks on 38 students admitted to the hospital after fire, which started about 1:44 p.m. Friday, and forced students to jump from second floor of building to escape flames and smoke.



MINUTES after picture was taken Bellport Fire Department ladder truck moved into position on sidewalk in front of main entrance to Bellport Junior-Senior High School, where Friday's fire caused 40 students and one teacher to be admitted to Brookhaven and Bayview Hospitals.



REPAIRS on the center two-story wing, with possible other damage yet to be determined.



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17 Are Still In Hospitals; Laud Rescue

By Robert B. Martin

Seventeen students, two still on the critical list, remain in Brookhaven Memorial and Bayview General Hospitals suffering from injuries of smoke poisoning incurred as the result of the \$500,000 fire that swept the old section of Bellport Junior-Senior High School Friday afternoon.

They were among 40 students and one teacher admitted after heroic rescue efforts cleared the blazing building miraculously -- without the loss of life. Fire inspectors are still probing the ruins of the building on Station Road, Bellport, in an effort to determine the exact cause of the fire.

Despite widespread and erroneous reports, the near-tragic fire was not touched off by an explosion of any kind. It has been positively determined, a spokesman for the school declared, that boilers, inspected just prior to the fire, remain in fully usable condition today.

The entire old section of the building, which housed 450 students, was destroyed. Minor smoke and water damage was reported in the new section.

It was announced that Bellport Junior-Senior High School students are to report to school today on split session.

Homeroom Grades 10, 11, and 12 are to be at their bus stops at 7 a.m. and will attend classes from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Homeroom Grades 9 and 11 are to be at their bus stops at 12:30 p.m. and will attend classes from 12:30 to 5:44 p.m.

The Board of Education moved to start split sessions in the remaining new wing when programming and staffing were completed.

Also completed were inspections by the State Education Department of Buildings and Grounds and local fire departments to assure maximum conditions of safety, sanitation and health, the district spokesman said.

No plans, as yet, have been announced for restoration of the shell or complete rebuilding of the school.

Plans are already under way for a vote to be called on a new high school building to be erected on a site in Brookhaven. That site was finally passed by the voters after five previous high school site proposals had been defeated.

The fire, discovered at about 1:44 p.m., just 20 minutes before the start of the school day.

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Reunions of Family Units Highlight Day of Schl. Fire

By John McLoain

Rumors between members of families -- rejoicing that a son or daughter, brother or sister were still alive -- continued part of the human drama Friday when the Bellport Junior-Senior High School was destroyed by fire.

There were anxious minutes and hours for mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers who did not know if their families were complete -- if a boy or girl were still in the flaming two-story building at Station Road and Kresmer Street. But in every case the boy or girl was discovered in its crowds at the site or at Brookhaven Memorial or Bayview General Hospitals.

Maryann found her younger sister, Jo Ann Piccinone, at Brookhaven, and was able to report to their mother in the crowd.

RR Sta. Parking Area Bids Made Available

At Monday's regular meeting of the Patchogue Village Board, Village Clerk Ronald Blau reported that bids for the Long Island Rail Road station parking field had been made available to contractors Friday. The legal notice to bidders had been published on the same day.

It is encouraging to note, he said, before noon time six contractors had already picked up their copies of the bids. This was interpreted to mean that contractors at the present time are most anxious to bid on this type of construction because of the uncertainty of possible state work

FIRE SIDELIGHTS

Bellport Fire Captain Richard Harrow was discharged Saturday afternoon from Brookhaven Memorial Hospital after suffering from smoke poisoning in the Bellport school fire. He worked on the second floor to pass students out the south window to the Rev. Frederick L. Smith and Bellport Fire Chief Robert Terwilliger, who were each at the head of a ladder on either side of the window. The youngsters swished down to the ground on the department's eight-foot wide canvas tarpaulin spread between the ladders.

The 33-year-old fire captain said that as he worked he did

not know whether his son, Donald, 13, was safe. About an hour later he was told that the eighth grade student, who had been in an English class at the time of the fire, had jumped safely into a blanket held on the west side of the burning building in a parking lot. When she heard the sirens, Mrs. Harrow rushed about two blocks to the school from the family's home at 27 Circuit Road, Bellport. She discovered her son lying on a stretcher and brought him home. The boy had wrenched his left shoulder in the jump from the building.

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RESTING at Brookhaven Memorial Hospital after ordeal by fire Friday is David Hassell, 18, of 196 South Country Road, Bellport, who suffered fractured knee caps when he fell on concrete walk from second floor window from which many students escaped.

Three Town Resolutions Approved for Public Vote

The Brookhaven Town Board voted unanimously Tuesday to submit two bond issues and an enabling resolution to the voters in public referendums.

Supervisor Charles R. Dominy said the public vote would take place in about one month. Approval of the two bond issues -- \$750,000 to widen and resurface 75 to 80 miles of town roads, and \$1,425,000 to acquire land for drainage pumps -- came as the three-man Democratic minority of Councilmen Frank Conaway, John J. Foley and Howard L. Rowland cast affirmative votes on proposals made by the supervisor.

Mr. Dominy reported that it had been determined that a 4-3 vote was all that is required to pass the resolution authorizing a public vote on enabling legislation to permit the highway department to request the town board to increase the machinery fund (Item 3 in town highway budget) from \$200,000 to \$300,000. However, Mr. Foley insisted that another vote be held on the resolution since the supervisor had declared at the February 13 and 26 votes on the seven projects recommended by the board's Republican majority that the enabling resolution was defeated. Up until recently Mr. Dominy said, it had been thought that five affirmative votes were required to pass such a resolution. On February 13 and 26 the vote on the enabling resolution had been 4-to-3.

Tuesday's vote leaves the status of the other four bond issues uncertain. They were: 1) bond issue to expand present town hall, 41,900,000; 2) bond issue to construct new town hall, \$2,050,000; 3) bond issue to acquire lands for sanitary landfill program, and 4) bond issue to acquire land and construct swimming pools, \$1,250,000. The February 13 and 26 votes these resolutions and the highway widening and drainage resolutions were defeated, 4-to-3, since five affirmative votes are required for bonding motions.

Mr. Dominy did not say when and if he would ask the board to vote on the four resolutions urged by the GOP majority of Mr. Dominy and Councilmen Clarence L. Hough, George Fuchs and David Weisberger. Mr. Foley said further points must be clarified on the resolutions, but would not say whether the Democrats are "opposed" to any of them.

3 RESOLUTIONS

Opening the question of the resolutions, which were passed, Mr. Dominy said the entire board.

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Fire Alarm at Bay Ave. School

Patchogue Fire Department units, led by Fire Capt. Joseph Rhodes, responded at 9:29 a.m. yesterday to an alarm at the Bay Avenue School.

Spencer Lowell, the school's principal, said that a teacher, Mrs. Rosemary Folles, told him that she smelled smoke. Mr. Lowell said that he also smelled smoke and turned in the fire alarm. Mr. Lowell said that all of the school children were out of the building in "less than a minute's time." Firemen said they were unable to determine the origin of the smoke.

Patchoguers Go to Polls On Tuesday

After what has probably been the quietest election campaign in village history, Patchogue voters will go to the polls Tuesday, March 19, to fill three trustee seats.

The all-Democratic Village Board has three trustees running for re-election -- Dominick G. "Mike" Maletta, E. Donald Schneider and Charles H. Miller. Mr. Schneider is seeking his second term and Mr. Maletta and Mr. Miller their third terms in the two-year trustees.

Running under the GOP banner are George W. Gilligan, 38, of 57 Howard Street; Patchogue, a stockbroker; Michael Greco 44, of 91 Bailey Avenue, Patchogue, a second term and Mr. Maletta, 38, of 27 Dogwood Lane, Patchogue, a partner in the Synbel-Carpe and Linoleum Corp.

Voting hours are from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday, March 19. The Democrats are "running on their record," while the Republicans are seeking to end "13

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