

To celebrate 225 years of Lancaster newspapers, we present this weekly series of 52 front pages from throughout our history. Many feature events that would shape the course of world history. Some feature events of great local importance. Still others simply provide windows into the long-ago lives of Lancaster County residents. Make sure to check in every week, and enjoy this trip through time with LNP.

1963

WEATHER (U.S. Weather Bureau) Mostly Cloudy, Windy, and Mild, with Scattered Showers and Possibly Thunderstorms. High Mainly in the 60s. (Details On Page 26)

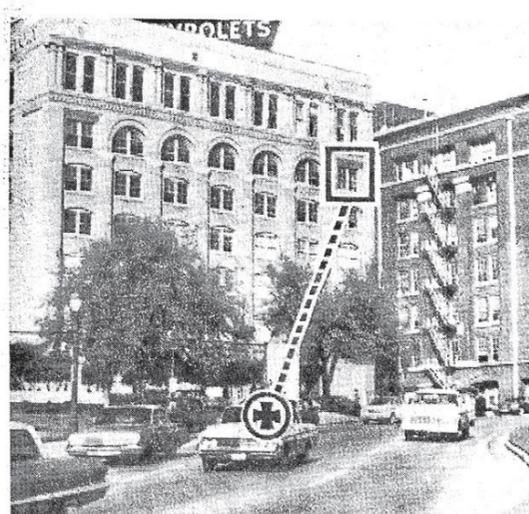
Intelligencer Journal

Jest for today Motorist, to youth standing beside overturned sports car: "Anybody hurt in the accident?" Youth: "There wasn't any accident — I'm changing a tire."

170TH YEAR.—NO. 138. Metropolitan Lancaster Population 278,359 LANCASTER, PA., SATURDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 23, 1963. CITY EDITION 26 PAGES. 42c PER WEEK—7c Per Copy.

PRESIDENT KENNEDY ASSASSINATED

Lyndon B. Johnson sworn in as successor



Police say that a gunman with a high-powered, telescopic-sight-equipped rifle fired the shot that killed President Kennedy from the window (marked by the box) in the Dallas School Book Depository. The President was riding in an open-top car in a motorcade approximately at the spot marked by a cross when the fatal shot struck him.

New leader pledges to do his best

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Lyndon B. Johnson took over the controls of government from the dead hand of John F. Kennedy on Friday night with a pledge to do his best and a plea for the help of God and the American people. ... "I will do my best," Johnson said. "That is all I can do. I ask for your help, and God's." ... It was early afternoon in Dallas when the assassin struck. Kennedy was riding in a motorcade with Gov. John B. Connally of Texas and their wives. He had received a rousing reception. ... Rifle shots spat out—three of them. Connally was hit seriously, Kennedy fatally. Both were rushed to a hospital. Thirty minutes later the President was dead. ... John F. Kennedy's body was placed aboard the presidential plane in a bronze casket for the sad journey back to a saddened capital. Before the plane departed, Johnson took the presidential oath of office in one of the cabin compartments. ... Friday night, Johnson talked on the telephone with FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover about the great manhunt for Kennedy's assassin. He talked also, the White House said, with Connally's physician and learned that the governor's condition is good. ... At 9:24 p.m., Johnson left the White House to motor to his residence in the fashionable Spring Branch section of the city.



JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

Suspect professing his love for Russia accused of murder

DALLAS, Tex. (AP) — A gunman assassinated President Kennedy from ambush Friday with a high-powered rifle. Nearly 12 hours later, a 24-year-old man who professed love for the Soviet Union was charged with his murder. ... The charge was filed against Lee Harvey Oswald, 24. Officers said he was the man who hid on the fifth floor of a textbook warehouse and snapped off three quick shots that killed the President and wounded Gov. John B. Connally of Texas. ... As the shots reverberated, blood sprang from the President's face. He fell face downward in the back seat of his car. His wife grasped his head and tried to lift it, crying, "Oh, no!" ... Half an hour later, John F. Kennedy was dead and the United States had a new president, Lyndon B. Johnson. ... Within the hour, police had arrested Oswald following the fatal shooting of a Dallas policeman. Homicide Capt. Will Fritz said Friday night witnesses had identified the man as the slayer of the policeman and he has been charged with murder. He has a Russian wife. ... Fritz said it had been established that he was in the building from which the shots were fired at time of the assassination. ... SUSPECT DENIES SHOOTING ... Oswald denied that he had shot anybody. ... Fritz said Oswald was a member of an organization known as "Fair Play for Cuba." ... The assassination occurred just as the President's motorcade was leaving downtown Dallas at the end of a triumphal tour through the city's streets. ... His special car — with the protective bubble down — was moving down an incline into an underpass that leads to a freeway route to the Dallas Trade Mart, where he was to speak. ... THREE SHOTS REPORTED ... Witnesses heard three shots. Two hit the President, one in the head and one in the neck. ... The third shot wounded Gov. John B. Connally of Texas in the side but his condition was reported

'It can't be true' Lancaster community stunned by tragedy

"It can't be true." That was the collective first reaction of the Lancaster community to the news of President John F. Kennedy's assassination Friday. ... The doubt and disbelief that such "a thing could happen in the United States" quickly turned into shock and numbness as the word came, "President Kennedy is dead." ... As the impact of the tragedy slowly seeped into the minds of Lancastrians, those in stations both high and low were speechless. ... Women wept quietly in restaurants, men brushed away a tear, and the normal busy Friday afternoon center city activity ground temporarily to a halt. ... In offices and stores, crowds gathered around radio and television sets hoping that what they heard was just an evil dream. ... The soberness of the occasion was even reflected in the hushed tones of ordinarily enthusiastic teenagers alighting from buses after school. ... Mayor George B. Coe, who learned of the assassination while returning to the Municipal Building after lunch voiced the thought uppermost in the minds of all—"The death of President Kennedy is a great tragedy to the United States and the world." ... Flags on all public buildings, and private ones as well, slowly were lowered to half-staff. ... Mayor Coe said they will fly at half-staff until after the funeral. ... "On behalf of all the people of Lancaster," said Coe, "I extend my sincere sympathy to the family." ... Turn To Page 14 For More Of REACTION

Inside today's Intell

Today's Intell carries a complete and comprehensive account of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in Dallas, Texas, Friday afternoon. ... Among the highlights on other pages are: ... 3—Negroes feel their ally is lost. ... 4—Reaction in Pennsylvania is disbelief, sorrow. ... 5—Lyndon Johnson well-groomed for Presidency. ... 6—John Fitzgerald Kennedy, biography of a President. ... 7—Youthful leader kept U.S. in space race. ... 8—Full page of pictures. ... 9—Shocked Senate adjourns until noon Monday. ... 26—Eyewitness account of assassination.

Slain President's funeral will be held on Monday

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Kennedy's funeral will be held Monday at St. Matthew's Roman Catholic Cathedral, the White House announced Friday night. ... The body of the slain President will lie in repose at the White House today and will lie in state in the rotunda of the Capitol on Sunday and Monday. ... The President's body will be taken a couple of miles to the cathedral at 11 a.m. Monday. ... There, Richard Cardinal Cushing, archbishop of Boston and close friend of the Kennedy family, will celebrate a Pontifical Requiem Mass at noon. ... Acting White House press secretary Andrew T. Hatcher said he did not know where Kennedy would be buried. ... Turn To Page 14 For More Of FUNERAL

Suspect denies any part in Kennedy death

DALLAS, Tex. (AP)—Police Chief Jesse Curry said Friday night charges of murdering President Kennedy have been filed against Lee Harvey Oswald. ... Henry Wade, district attorney in Dallas, said the case will probably be brought to the grand jury by the middle of next week. He said there is still some additional information which they want to gather before they present it to the grand jury. ... Capt. Will Fritz, head of the homicide section of the Dallas Police Department, said that Oswald had made no statement, had signed nothing and had admitted no part in the President's death. ... Oswald was arrested at a theater some four miles from the triple underpass where Kennedy was shot. ... Fritz said Oswald had been identified from a police lineup as the man who shot Patrolman J. D. Tippett. He said an eyewitness made the identification. ... As Oswald was returned from the lineup, a reporter shouted: "Did you kill the President?" ... Oswald replied in a loud voice, "No. I did not kill the President. I did not kill anyone."

Suddenly it became quiet in Lancaster

By JOY OWENS ... Friday, November 22, was not a happy day, not a proud day in Lancaster or in the rest of the United States. Here, as elsewhere, citizens were shocked by the assassination of President Kennedy. Here, as elsewhere, emotions ran deep but were expressed quietly if at all. ... That was particularly true in the Southeast sector of the city, where President Kennedy's following was particularly strong and where interest in his civil rights program probably is keener than elsewhere in Lancaster County. ... What were these people saying, what were they doing after tragedy struck Friday? ... One of the first things an observer noticed was the absence of people on the streets in the sector's residential areas. ... Normally, late on a Friday afternoon, South Duke Street is crowded with pedestrians. Youngsters are out of school, and the weather has been good. Workmen are returning from jobs. There are a number of grocery stores and markets along the street, on Fridays, particularly the hour or so before supper time is a busy one along the streets and in the stores. ... Yesterday, it wasn't that way. Most of the few persons ... Turn To Page 14 For More Of QUIET

Coincidence in JFK's death

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Kennedy's death Friday continues the coincidence that presidents elected at 20 year intervals in zero-numbered years die in office. ... The list includes: ... 1840—William Henry Harrison ... 1880—Abraham Lincoln ... 1880—James A. Garfield ... 1900—William McKinley ... 1920—Warren G. Harding ... 1940—Franklin D. Roosevelt ... 1960—John F. Kennedy ... Roosevelt did not die in the third term to which he was elected in 1940 but during his fourth term. ... Three of the previous presidents on the list were assassinated — Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley.

60,000 Berliners gather in mourning

BERLIN (AP) — In a mass demonstration of grief, 60,000 West Berliners spontaneously gathered at City Hall early Saturday to mourn the death of President Kennedy. ... "We in Berlin mourn because we have lost our best friend," said Mayor Willy Brandt. ... Students carried torches whose glow showed the tears streaming down the faces of the Berliners. ... "We in Berlin have become poorer," Brandt said. "America has lost its President. A tortured humanity has lost the man so many believed could help us along the road toward a just peace and a better life in this world." ... For hours, through the torchlit darkness, the Freedom Bell, a gift from the United States, tolled.



LEE HARVEY OSWALD Charged with slaying the President

It's In ... The Intell ... Today ... Church 10, 11 ... Obituaries 2 ... Comics 16, 17 ... Ruth Millet 13 ... Crossword puzzle 17 ... Sports 18, 19, 20, 22 ... Dorothy Dix 13 ... Sports Journal 19 ... Tell Me Why 17 ... Drew Pearson 12 ... Theaters 20 ... Editorials 12 ... TV & Radio 22 ... Financial 21 ... Weather calendar 26 ... John Chamberlain 12 ... Women Today 13 ... Letters to the editor 12 ... Club 16

COVER 37 OF 52

JFK SLAIN

The last conversation held by President John F. Kennedy was short and to the point. ... As Kennedy, his wife, Jacqueline, and Texas Governor and first lady John and Nellie Connally made their way through Dealey Plaza in the now-infamous 1961 Lincoln Continental on Nov. 22, 1963, Mrs. Connally said this: ... "Mr. President, you can't say Dallas doesn't love you." ... Kennedy's last words were in response — "No, you certainly can't." ... Within minutes, Kennedy's life was over and American history had been changed irrevocably. In the half-century since JFK's assassination, the known details of the case have been etched in the country's collective consciousness. Kennedy, hoping to mend a

few Democratic fences as well as undertake some fundraising efforts, chose to visit Dallas in late 1963. A motorcade was announced to give visibility to Kennedy, who was hoping to win over an area that he had lost in the 1960 election. Each facet of what happened next could and would be given several books worth of attention. The parade route. The Zapruder film. Lee Harvey Oswald. Walter Cronkite delivering the news to a rapt and emotional nation. Not since Abraham Lincoln met a similar fate in 1865 and the nation witnessed such an event. ... In the immediate aftermath of the slaying, though, none of these things were known to Lancastrians. Other than what they had just seen on television or heard on the radio or from a friend. Then-Mayor George B. Coe ordered all flags to be flown at half-mast and instituted a state of mourning

throughout Lancaster. The Intelligencer Journal interviewed numerous citizens to get their immediate thoughts on the tragedy. Of these quotes, another former mayor, Thomas J. Monaghan, might have had the most poignant: ... "It is a very, very sorrowful day when you realize what can happen to a nation that prides itself on being a nation of freedom — a leader of the free world. A man is gunned down in the prime of his life, just as 100 years ago another man was killed because he stood in the way of things. What does history teach people? I don't know. They may have killed an individual, but they will never kill the spirit which put the man there. They may be able to hire a gunman but they can't harness forever the will of the American people."