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Memories can serve as lessons

LAUREL: To those involved with the intergenerational production, "War Bonds: The Songs and Letters of World War II," which was presented Friday at the Indian Valley SAAC in Souderton.

The show- a three-person production that focused on how the war began, how it ended and how it affected people on the home front - obviously would be a fairly easy draw for those who may consider themselves senior citizens.

Some may have lived through that time as adults; others as people at least old enough to remember the effect it had on their lives.

But those attending also included young people under the age of 20 - quite obviously too young to remember the war or its effects, but also quite obviously of an age affected by the present war; and of an age who should be learning and appreciating what World War II meant.

Some in the audience shared their own experiences after the performance ended, telling stories that were just as important as those related during the production.

"War Bonds" also was performed at Montgomery County Community College this past weekend, and we hope many in the area were able to share that experience.

Learning from the past is invaluable, as is preserving the memories and stories that so many right in our own area have to tell. DART: This isn't so much a dart as an observation; a sad one, that is.

In the past few weeks, this area seems to have been hit by fires far too often, ranging from the devastation of the Lans-Bowl Fire in Lansdale to several house fires that have left families displaced at least temporarily.

We have no complaints with our local firefighters - let us make that clear. They are quick to arrive on the scene, do a fine job of fighting and containing the blazes, and no doubt do their best to console the victims and give them guidance on what to do next.

Firefighters put their lives on the line every day, most are volunteers and all of them give of their time selflessly.

We just have to question why, after a fairly quiet and safe winter, our area residents suddenly seem to be hit so often?

All residents should be doing safety checks in their homes and businesses; ensuring that smoke detectors work and all rules are being followed regarding electrical and heating equipment; and also making sure their families have escape routes in place.

Our firefighters are wonderful people; let's help them in any way we can.

