

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Area Funerals	Pp. 4-5
Calendar of Events	P. 9
Classifieds	Pp. 16-17
Head Start Gala	P. 12
PMRPC	P. 16
PMSB	P. 2
Police Beat	P. 18
Seth's Sightings	P. 14
Toby Open House	P. 15

THE JOURNAL of the POCONO PLATEAU

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VOLUME 20, NUMBER 38

April 29-May 12, 2016

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Tobyhanna Township honors longest serving planner

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Since 1970 Joe Miller has served on Tobyhanna Township's Planning Commission. Supervisors honored him during the April 11 meeting. Anne Lambertson presented a plaque and resolution recognizing over 46 years of service by the resident and local businessman on behalf of a "deeply grateful" group.

Responding to a standing ovation, Miller thanked the group as Jennifer De-Leo grabbed him for another award from State Representative Jack Rader.

He shared that he calculated serving 1,100 plus hours while on the board. With a sigh and grin he noted confidence in the remaining members to carry on the task.



Anne Lambertson shares a laugh as she thanks Joe Miller for serving on the Planning Commission since 1970 during Tobyhanna Township's April 11 meeting. JP: Hofbauer Strategies

Supervisors released ri Resorts Stage B Letter of Credit Reduction Category \$23,965.65 from Kalaha-

One Improvements along with \$69,023.18 for Sewer Draw punch list items transferring \$51,806.48 into a separate account for the maintenance period.

Steve Pine's request that the township release \$72,500 held for roadway punch list items was approved after discussion. Twenty-nine months remain on Kalahari's maintenance bond, from which funds could be drawn should the resort fail to remedy seepage issues.

"We don't want to have to fix it more than once," Pine stated. Engineers will monitor the site for six months to determine the cause.

Supervisors agreed with Joe Collier's suggestion that formal complaints to the township should be in writing, and are considering creating a citizen concern form.

The municipality's bill pack totalled \$526,903.23. Bills are available at the township office for review.

Supervisors present included Lambertson, John Holahan, John Kerrick, Heidi Pickard and Don Moyer; Township Manager Phyllis Haase; solicitor Jonathan Reiss and an audience of approximately 30.

The next meeting is 9:30 a.m. May 9 at Tobyhanna Elementary Center.

PMSD turf project starts in May

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Pocono Mountain School District school directors have made their decision. Turfing will take place starting in May. D'Huy Engineering's James Lynch delivered final details on dollars during Pocono Mountain School Board's April 20 meeting.

Applied Landscape Technologies' \$2,360,350 field turf bid at West High School and Sprinturf's \$934,600 proposal for East High School's field were approved after discussion over wheth-

er a pause to ensure the sale of Coolbaugh Elementary Center should be considered.

"It's not final until a check is in hand," emphasized school director Jacquelyn Leonard.

Solicitor Atty. John Freund noted "a high degree of assurance" after interacting with the buyer representative, Pocono Services for Families and Children Head Start Executive Director Tim Lee.

Faced with a contracted construction start for mid-May at West and early June

for East, he explained settlement on the sale can occur 20 days after the May 2 court hearing for approval. Should the sale not be completed, the buyer will lose a \$300,000 deposit. \$1.5 million from the completed sale of Barrett leaves a \$1.6 million difference to meet the turfing total of close to \$3,456,000 for the two schools in that case.

A roll call vote with Leonard opposing gave the greens a go with a September target date for completion.

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PMSD Approves Enhanced Tax Relief

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Senior citizens could soon breathe a sigh of “relief” as Pocono Mountain School District president Rusty Johnson announced “We are expanding our senior rebate,” at the April 20 meeting. Following Pennsylvania eligibility guidelines, property tax payers age 65 or older, widows or widowers age 50 and older, as well as those with disabilities can expect double the dollars back in the coming year.

Business manager Joe Colozza explained the district currently matches state sliding scale rebates based upon an eligible taxpayer’s income.

Directors unanimously approved the 200% distribution to claimants upon proof of entitlement, without any detriment or risk to educational programs and financial obligations of the school district.

Colozza later discussed reports on neighboring Strouds-

burg Area School District’s accounting procedures, assuring PMSD holds a “shared responsibility [with] accountability to our taxpayers.”

“Let’s hope saner minds prevail in court,” stated Atty. John Freund in response to an arbitrator’s decision ordering rehiring or relief for 82 professional staff members furloughed in the 2011-12 school year.

Calling the appointed body’s “laundry list of documents” for furloughing an employee “huge assumptions” he reasoned, “If allowed to stand no district will be able to right-size its staff.”

Superintendent Dr. Elizabeth Robison announced a three-hour early dismissal the last two days of school June 3 and Monday, June 6. Grinning, she explained for students in the audience holding their enthusiasm, the reason is to prepare for Pocono Mountain



PMSD directors Dawn Wood (left) and Michael Stern (right) congratulate East Junior High SGA members (from left) Brielle Battisto, Samantha Whitney, Dean Nyberg and Mikayla Regan during the April 6 school board meeting.
JP: Hofbauer Strategies

East High School graduation ceremonies Friday at 6 p.m. West High School graduation is scheduled for June 4 at 10 a.m.

Pocono Mountain School District Board of Directors’ next regular meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 4 at the Administration building on the Swiftwater campus.

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Area Funerals

Gloria Clausen Duffy

Gloria Clausen Duffy, 85, of Pocono Lake, died Saturday, April 23, 2016. Formerly a 40-year resident of Springfield, New Jersey, she was the widow of Daniel Duffy.

She is survived by her children, Anne Katherine Smith and her husband, Dean of Arlington, Virginia, Patricia O'Connor and her husband, Bill of Cranford, New Jersey, Daniel Duffy and his wife, Eilyn of Roseland, New Jersey, Kevin Duffy and his wife, Laurie of Green Township, New Jersey, and Eileen Cunningham and her husband, John of Pocono Lake; and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were held April 27 at St. Teresa's Cemetery, Summit, New Jersey.

Jack G. Sidman

Jack G. Sidman, 86, of Mount Pocono, died Wednesday, April 20, 2016, at Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest. He was the husband of the late Virginia L.R. (Rajkowski) Sidman, who died in 1999.

Born in Philadelphia, he was a son of the late Benjamin and Bertha (Dittmar) Sidman. Jack attended Hopkins Elementary School and graduated from Mastbaum Vocational School in Philadelphia, in 1946. His education after graduating high school consisted of one year of accounting and business law, two years of electronics and one year of TV repair.

He was inducted into the U.S. Army in 1951, and served in Bremerhaven, Germany. Jack spent most of his adult life working in the ac-

Chicken Tender Dinner

McMichaels United Methodist Church, Route 715 and White Church Road, McMichaels, will host a Chicken Tender Dinner on May 21 from 4-7 p.m.

The dinner will also feature sides and beverages.

Cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 6 to 12, and children five and under eat free.

The event is handicapped accessible, and open to everyone.

counting field. Before his retirement in 1995, Jack spent 20 years working as night auditor at the former Mount Airy Lodge.

He was a musician, and a member of the Police Athletic League Baseball Team in Philadelphia and the American Legion Baseball League in his youth.

He is survived by his children, Jack Sidman and his wife, Elizabeth, of Lebanon, Connecticut, Anita Maher and her husband, Michael, of California, Maryland, Paulette Gibbons and her husband, John, of Forty-Fort, and Brenda Sidman of Tobyhanna; brother, Richard Sidman and his wife, Ellen, of Port Charlotte, Florida; eight grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Jack was preceded in death by his brother, Raymond, and sister, Norma Myers.

The Rev. Richard Czachor will celebrate a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 21 at Our Lady of Victory, 327 Cherry Lane Road, Tannersville. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Lehigh Valley Health Network Hospice, P.O. Box 7017, Allentown, PA 18105-7017. Private cremation has been entrusted to Bolock Funeral Home Crematory.

Gary T. Keiper

Gary T. Keiper, 72, of Tobyhanna, died Monday, April 18, 2016 at his home in Pocono Pines. He was the husband of Beth (Berger) Keiper, with whom he shared 54 years of marriage.

Born in East Stroudsburg, he was a son of the late Vernon and Mildred (Grabowsky) Keiper.

He co-owned and operated with his wife Beth House-minders Cleaning Service. Gary formerly owned Keiper's Service Station and worked for Selig Construction as a mechanic for many years.

He is also survived by his daughters, Connie Hudack of Pocono Pines, Michelle Unkle and her husband, Greg of Goshen, New Jersey; brother, David Keiper of Tobyhanna; sisters, Shirley Tremko and Sandra Tigue, both of Tobyhanna, one granddaughter who he raised, Dayna

Keiper of Williamstown, New York; great-granddaughter, Nariko Hart of Williamstown, New York and several nieces and nephews. Gary was preceded in death by his sisters, Dorothy Smith and Melanie Kuder.

Pastor Kenneth Cathcart conducted a funeral service April 22 at Bolock Funeral Home, 6148 Paradise Valley Road, Cresco. Burial followed at Fairview Memorial Park, Elmhurst.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the family, 199 3rd Street, Pocono Pines, PA 18350.

Filomena Polito

Filomena "Fannie" Polito, 92, of Tobyhanna, formerly of Bronx, New York, died Monday, April 18, 2016. She was the wife of the late Anthony "Puggy" Polito, Sr.

Born in New York, New York, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Angelina (Gavio) D'Amico.

She is survived by her children: Grace Conti and her husband Joseph of Murrell's Inlet, South Carolina, Donna Ardanuy and her husband, Raymond of Hawley, Jeanne Gallo and her husband, Gaetano, Jr. of Tobyhanna, and Adelaide Annunziato and her husband, Frank of Somers, New York; her 11 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. Fannie was preceded in death by her son, Anthony Polito, Jr.

The Reverend Father John Boyle celebrated a Mass of Christian burial April 21 at Our Lady of the Villa, 245 Meadowside Road, Mount Pocono. Interment followed at St. Raymond's Cemetery, Bronx, New York. The Bolock Funeral Home, 6148 Paradise Valley Road, Cresco, was in charge of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, PO Box 1000 Dept.

142, Memphis, TN 38101-9908.

William M. Carey

William M. Carey, 56, of Pocono Lake, died Sunday, April 17, 2016 at his home. He was the husband of Shelly (Golightly) Carey, with whom he shared 15 years of marriage.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, he was a son of Marvin and Joan (Brady) Carey.

William was a car detailer and worked for Marv Carey Auto in Wilkes-Barre.

He is also survived by his brothers, Scott Carey of Cocoa Beach, Florida and Bruce Carey of Wilkes-Barre.

Private cremation is entrusted to Bolock Funeral Home Crematory.

Rev. Antoine E. Thompson

Reverend Antoine E. Thompson, 53, of Tobyhanna, died Saturday, April 16, 2016 at Scranton Regional Hospital. He was the husband of Louise (Bailey) Thompson.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, he was the son of the late Al and Henryetta (Sherman) Thompson.

Antoine was pastor of A New Beginning in Christ Temple and former employee of the Pocono Mountain Charter School.

A home going service was held April 23 at the Faith International Church, Bushkill Group Inc., East Stroudsburg.

The church was Antoine's labor of love, it is important to keep his love alive, for through that he still lives.

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In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to, A New Beginning in Christ Temple, 743 Edgewood Road, Tobyhanna, PA 18466.

Private cremation is entrusted to Bolock Funeral Home Crematory.

Helen Guerriero

Helen Guerriero, 85, of Tobyhanna, died Saturday, April 16, 2016, at the VNA Hospice House East Stroudsburg. Helen was the wife of the late Frank J. Guerriero, who died in 2012. They were married for 36 years.

Born in Queens, New York, she was a daughter of the late Antonio and Paulina (Martino) Muscatelli.


She was of the Catholic faith.

She is survived by a son, Philip Brunetti and his wife, Jennifer, of Cresco; a daughter, Maria Behr of Queens, New York; one sister, Adele Alberghini of Queens, New York; and four grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a husband, Alexander R. Brunetti, and sisters Ann DeMartino and Dora King.

The Rev. Gregg Loughney conducted a Catholic blessing service April 20 at the Bolock Funeral Home, 6148 Paradise Valley Road, Cresco. Private cremation followed.


In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the VNA Hospice House, 502 VNA Road, East Stroudsburg.

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Lois L. Hoffman

Lois L. Hoffman, 87 years, 11 months and one week old, died peacefully, surrounded by her family on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at her home. She was the wife of the late Paul Hoffman who died in 1996.

Born in East Stroudsburg, she was the daughter of the late Ott and Florence (Sansenbach) Fischer.

A lifelong resident of Pocono Summit, Lois was a member of the Salem United Church of Christ in Pocono Pines. She was an avid reader, a snowbird and a sun worshiper, who could often be found at Joy's Ice Cream in Port Saint Lucie, Florida.

She is survived by her son, Randy Hoffman and his wife, Cheryl of Pocono Summit; daughter, Robin McShea and her companion, Rich Luthcke of Pocono Summit; brother, Robert Fischer and his wife, Shirley of Pocono Pines; and many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be announced at a later date. Private cremation has been entrusted to Bolock Funeral Home Crematory.

Memorial donations may be made to the Salem United Church of Christ, 108 Church St, Pocono Pines, PA 18350.

Robert Michael Press, Jr.

Robert Michael Press, Jr., 74, of Mount Pocono, died Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at his home. He was the husband of Jasoda (Ganesh) Press.

Born in Covington, Kentucky, he was the son of the late Robert and Beverly Jane (Bobbitt) Press.

Robert worked for United Envelope in Mount Pocono until his retirement.

He is also survived by his children, Robert, Sherry, Sabita, Louie, and Tommy.

Bolock Funeral Home, 6148 Paradise Valley Road, Cresco, was in charge of arrangements.

Private cremation was entrusted to Bolock Funeral Home Crematory.

All you can eat breakfast

McMichaels United Methodist Church, Route 715 at White Church Road in McMichaels, will host an all you can eat breakfast on May 14 from 8-10:30 a.m.

This is a complete breakfast with pancakes and beverages.

Donation only. Opened to everyone. Handicapped accessible. Take outs are available.

Call 570-629-1136 with any questions.

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Member: Pennsylvania Newspaper Association, MACPA, Pocono Mountain Chamber of Commerce, PMVB
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The Journal of the Pocono Plateau—providing information and communication to build a better community.

Pocono Alliance receives \$75K from Moses Taylor Foundation

Pocono Alliance received a \$75,000 grant by the Moses Taylor Foundation. These funds will be used to develop a comprehensive behavioral health improvement plan in Monroe County and support organizational capacity building.

The Scranton-based Foundation administers quarterly grant cycles to fund programs that promote health and wellness throughout Northeast Pennsylvania. This quarter, multiple requests to the Foundation focused on behavioral health - an

area of great need in our communities.

"We are so pleased to support Pocono Alliance and its partners' efforts to improve behavioral

health delivery systems in Monroe County. They have a proven track record as a convener and incubator of innovative health and human service programs

in Monroe County," said LaTida Smith, Moses Taylor Foundation president and CEO.

Pocono Alliance will serve as the coordinator to support the following organizations: Carbon-Monroe-Pike Mental Health Developmental Services, Carbon-Monroe-Pike Drug & Alcohol Commission, East Stroudsburg University, ESSA Bank & Trust, Northampton Community College, Pocono Medical Center, Pyramid Health Care, Inc. and a local attorney; in evaluating the continuum of behavioral health services in the region, identifying gaps and finding opportunities to increase access and awareness. Behavioral health was identified in Pocono Medical Center's 2014 Community Health Needs Assessment as one of the most important community health issues.

"This is the first time that this grant has been awarded in Monroe County. We are excited to have this opportunity to introduce Moses Taylor Foundation to our community while addressing the important needs around behavioral health," said Michael Tukeya, Pocono Alliance Executive Director.

Pocono Alliance provides resources to the community by building relationships and creating solutions. Pocono Alliance programs focus on self-sufficiency, healthy living and child & family development. For more information, visit Pocono Alliance's website at www.poconoalliance.org or on Facebook under Pocono Alliance.

Local inducted to Phi Eta Sigma

Brittany Erlsten of Pocono Pines was inducted into Phi Eta Sigma during Honors Week 2016 at Widener University.

Phi Eta Sigma is a freshman honor society. Founded at the University of Illinois in 1923, it is the oldest and largest freshman

honor society and now has more than 375 chapters throughout the United States and more than 1,100,000 members.

Any first-year student with a GPA of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale at the end of a full curricular period is eligible for membership.

Visit Longwood Gardens

West End Park & Open Space Commission will sponsor a bus trip to Longwood Gardens on June 23. Explore miles of trails, see fountains dance, and view a breathtaking Waterlily display.

The bus leaves Chestnut-hill Park, 221 Rt. 715-Brod-

headsvile at 7:30 a.m. and returns at 7 p.m.

Ticket costs are \$65 adults (18+), \$60 seniors (62+), \$50 students (18U), \$45 children (4U).

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Signs of Spring walk

Spring is a season of hope and renewal. On April 30, join members of the E.E. Center at 10 a.m. to meander the trails at Kettle Creek looking for the many signs of spring.

Cost is \$5 for non-members, \$3 for children under 12, and free for EE Center members.

To register, call 570-629-3061. For more information, visit www.mcconservation.org.

Garden Club spring luncheon

The Monroe County Garden Club will host its annual Spring Luncheon May 11 at 11:30 a.m. at Great Bear Golf Club, East Stroudsburg (Marshall's Creek).

Theme is "Proud as a Peacock and Strutting our Stuff." Proudest Peacock award, a

live auction, Tricky Trays, and a 50/50 Raffle will take place at the luncheon.

Guest speaker is Reiki Master Lori Jacobs from The Healing Path of Brodheadsville. Contact Lisa Gierlich at 732-841-7203 to order tickets, which cost \$30.

E.E. Center members awarded for outstanding efforts

On April 8 at Trout Lake, several individuals were recognized for their outstanding efforts and service at the Annual Members and Friends of the Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center's Dinner.

2015 Conservation Educator of the Year – Eric Argot, Scotrun

Eric, a second grade teacher at Tobyhanna Elementary Center, was recognized for his outstanding work running the TEC Green Team for several years. The team collects paper and plastics to be recycled instead of ending up in the dumpster. As a result, an overflowing dumpster has been reduced to half that amount. He is also in charge of keeping the nature trail at TEC clean of trash and debris. TEC students use the trail to study the natural resources surrounding their school. Monroe County, the Pocono Mountain West School District, and more importantly- its students - are fortunate to have such a dedicated teacher.

2015 Volunteer of the Year – Michael Carr, East Stroudsburg

Michael first started volunteering with Kettle Creek at the Meesing sugar bush in 2008 as a student at Northampton Community College. Since then, Michael has been a frequent and dependable volunteer, assisting at special events such as Bug Fest, bird seed sales, seedling sales, and maple sugar-

ing. Michael's long-time commitment to Kettle Creek is greatly appreciated.

2015 Service Award - Jackie Speicher, Director, Pocono Avian Research Center

Over the years this organization has helped with numerous programs and projects at the EE Center. From their coordination of the MAPS bird banding research at Kettle Creek since 2000 to the Saw-Whet Owl banding project they conducted last fall, their programs have documented the bird populations at Kettle Creek. Also, this has allowed them to get a banding station for the property, enabling them to do even more programs at the Center. Members are very grateful for their hard work and support.

2016 Stanley Becker Environmental Resource Scholarships – Dana Petrosino, Blakeslee

The Stanley Becker Environmental Resource Scholarship was established by his wife, Stella and family, to recognize an outstanding Monroe County High School student who has chosen to pursue an environmental major at college. They are always impressed with the quality of applicants who apply for this scholarship. In cooperation with the Becker family, Dana Petrosino from Pocono Mountain West High School was recognized as this year's recipient.

Master Gardeners present workshops at Western Pocono Community Library

Master Gardeners will present garden workshops on April 30 at the Western Pocono Community Library, 131 Pilgrim Way, Brodheadsville PA 18322.

The first workshop, on Beneficial Insects, will begin at 10 a.m. You will learn to recognize common and uncommon beneficial insects, including native bees and spiders. You

will learn gardening practices that will attract them to your garden and protect them so they will stay.

The second workshop, Landscaping with Herbs, will begin at 11 a.m. Herbs are not just for the kitchen garden anymore. You will explore some design ideas, herbal folklore, and perhaps some surprising benefits herbs can

bring to enhance your landscape and your life.

Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. and a \$5 donation is requested to cover any printed materials. For any questions, please contact Penn State Extension at 570-421-6430 or email MonroeExt@psu.edu. You can find all of Penn State Extension events at <http://extension.psu.edu/monroe>.

Fundraising event benefits Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center

Plan to attend the 25th Annual Kettle Creek Environmental Fund Dinner/Auction at Camelback on May 20 at 6 p.m. The Kettle Creek Environmental Fund, an organization of individuals interested in supporting the KCEEC, are pleased to invite members of the community to their annual fundraising event.

Since their inception in 1991, they have been able to raise over \$750,000 in support of the KCEEC, including \$100,000 toward the Center's mortgage. Over the years, funds raised have been used toward construction of a new sugar shack (2003) for public maple sugaring at our Meesing Outdoor Site, the purchase of a 46-acre parcel of land (2004) to adjoin the 120 acre Kettle Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, and building the Mattioli Outdoor Learning Pavilion (2008).

In addition, many program materials have been purchased to enhance their environmental education programs for County residents of all ages. Proceeds have also gone toward the purchase of a 15-passenger handicapped accessible bus for educational programs and funding to continue to send all Monroe County 4th grade students to the Tannersville Bog.

Join us during the cocktail hour where bids may be placed on silent auction items while being serenaded by The Crop Circle Agents. After dinner, you will have the opportunity to bid on items at a live auction featuring Auctioneer Brendan McDonald. Auction items are do-

nated by area residents and businesses which include artwork, unique handcrafted items, dinner outings, golf packages, fishing gear, service donations, and sporting goods. Drawings for a 50/50 raffle, a fly-fishing rod, and a handmade quilt will also be offered.

A delicious buffet dinner will be served, which includes: sliced filet mignon, chicken Francaise, lemon Dijon pasta, poached salmon, Caesar salad, wild rice, a fresh vegetable and a Viennese desert table. The cash bar opens and silent auction

bidding begins at 6 p.m., dinner is served at 7p.m., and the live auction begins at 8 p.m. The cost of the dinner is \$40 per person. Tickets must be purchased in advance by May 6. For a fun-filled and lively evening, this is the place to be. All proceeds benefit the KCEEC.

For more information, to purchase dinner tickets or to donate auction items, please call the KCEF at 570-629-3061 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Visit mcconservation.org to download auction and raffle forms.



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Shawnee Mountain announces 2016 festivals and events

As temperatures rise and the snow melts, Shawnee Mountain is gearing up for the summer/fall season and its incredible festival line-up. Having become the center of outdoor festival activity in the Pocono Region and home to nine major special events, they are excited to announce the launching of their new summer/fall website with extensive information on all happenings at the mountain this season.

Below you will find a short description of the events or you can visit them at www.shawneemt.com for more details including entertainment schedules, hotel packaging, online ticket sales, and more.

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5/6 Ruthie Foster
\$26, Show 8 p.m.

5/7 David Bromberg Quintet
\$34, Show 8 p.m.

5/13 Eaglemania
\$26, Show 8 p.m.

5/14 Glimmer Twins Rolling Stones Tribute
\$23, Show 8 p.m.

5/20 Ten Strings & A Goat Skin
\$17, Show 8 p.m.

Check our website

May 28 & 29
Shawnee Celtic Festival
See story on page 8.

July 3
Shawnee Annual Fireworks Display
Shawnee Mountain Ski Area is holding its annual Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks, which benefits the Shawnee Volunteer Fire Company. There will be an outdoor DJ, Uncle Sam Stilt Walker, Mark Clark's "All American Magic Show" and various food & craft vendors.

Birding in the Bog

Monroe County Conservation District's Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center is offering Birding in the Bog Programs at 7 a.m. on Tuesdays in May. Combine one of the most unique natural settings with one of the most spectacular natural phenomena and you get a morning of migration birding at the Bog.

Cost is \$6 for non-members, \$4 for EE Center or Nature Conservancy members and children under 12.

A delicious Hickory Licks barbecue is planned. "The Best Show in the Poconos," fireworks display will be at dusk presented by the Interstate Fireworks, Inc. *Sunday evening, gates open at 7 p.m., fireworks display starts approximately at 9 p.m. Rain date is July 8.*

July 16 & 17
Poconos' Wurst Festival
This Oktoberfest in July is back for its 7th year with even more wursts, wieners, kielbasa, pierogies, brats and

brews! Featuring The Chardon Polka Band, The Austrian Boys and various Polka bands and German Oom Pa Pa bands, German dancers, the Bier Stein Olympics and craft vendors, you're sure to have the best of times at the Poconos' Wurst Festival. Bring your appetite and your dancing shoes to this weekend full of brews, brats and music. *Saturday and Sunday 11a.m. to 5 p.m.*

August 13 & 14
Sweet Corn & BBQ Festival
New for summer 2016, come celebrate the Pennsylvania sweet corn harvest along with the region's best BBQ delights. Non-stop live entertainment with a Country and Western theme; including local show bands the Brian Dean Moore Band and the Cramer Brothers Band. There's country line dancing demonstrations and instruction, cowboy juggling and magic shows, corn eating, and corn trivia contests. Vote for People's Choice Best BBQ and Best Dessert Awards. Enjoy dozens of food and craft vendors including local

farm stands, mouthwatering sweet corn and BBQ vendors. Plus dessert treats, cold drinks, and cold brews to cool off. *Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

September 3 & 4
Pocono Garlic Festival
A legendary local favorite! Now in its 22nd year, this event will once again fill the Poconos with the aroma of garlic-y goodness over Labor Day weekend. Over 60 food and craft vendors will be offering everything from garlic vinegar and garlic ice cream to garlic-themed pottery and paintings. A showcase of local musical talent on 2 stages, educational demonstrations, cooking, and garlic eating contests and plenty of children's activities make this a great family event. *Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.*

October 8 & 9
Autumn Timber Festival
Catch a glimpse of nature's splendor at beautiful Shawnee Mountain during prime fall foliage time in the Poconos. Join us for this action packed autumn event including Timber Team Lumberjack Shows, K-9 Dog shows, chainsaw sculptures, scenic chairlift rides, wildlife shows, live music, children's activities, and food and craft vendors galore. *Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

October 15 & 16
Pocono Food Truck & Art Festival
Follow your taste buds... Over 30 food trucks, trailers and carts from Philadelphia, NYC, Northern NJ and the Pocono region will serve up their best dishes and compete for the Best Food Truck Award. Stop in the Hope and Trepp Lodges for the 6th Annual Art on the Mountain craft show and sale featuring over 50 of the region's most talented artists, crafters, sculptors, and photographers. *Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

For more information, call 570-421-7231.

Enjoy the film "Bridge of Spies"

Join the Words and Film Sunday Matinee at Eastern Monroe Public Library on May 1 at 2 p.m. for a viewing of the film "Bridge of Spies." This film stars Tom Hanks,

and also features Academy Award winner Mark Rylance and Amy Ryan. In this historical drama set during the Cold War, a Brooklyn attorney (Tom Hanks) is tasked with negotiating a prisoner exchange between an American pilot who was shot down over the USSR and a Soviet spy serving a 45-year sentence for espionage against

the U.S. "Bridge of Spies" was directed by Steven Spielberg and written by Matt Charman, Joel, and Ethan Coen.

Admission is free. This film is rated PG-13.

The Eastern Monroe Public Library is located at 1002 North 9th Street, Stroudsburg. For further information call 570-421-0800x317 or see www.monroepl.org.

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Calling all salamander searchers

The forests at Kettle Creek are home to several species of salamanders and other amphibians. On May 7, join them in exploration of trails in search of these slimy creatures.

The program, held by Monroe County Conservation District's Kettle Creek Environmental Center, begins at 10 a.m. and is open to salamander searchers of

all ages. Cost is \$5 for non-members, \$3 for children under 12, and free for EE Center members.

To pre-register, please call the E. E. Center at 570-629-3061, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and most Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information on other programs, visit www.mcconservation.org.

Ben Franklin's Religion

The mix of Benjamin Franklin's extensive life experiences and religion clashed many times. The Historical Association of Tobyhanna Township will present those conflicts within Franklin's life on May 12 at 5:30 p.m. at the Clymer Library in Pocono Pines.

Presenter Bruce Denlinger will discuss how Franklin's views evolved from when he was a young man and angry with God. Franklin wrote his views in three pamphlets early in his life, during his first trip to London, and upon his return. His later thoughts on religion, just before his death, reveal a side of Ben Franklin rarely known.

Bruce Denlinger is a lifelong student of history, and earned his Master Degree

of Liberal Arts from the University of Pennsylvania after retiring from the insurance industry. He has made various presentations about Franklin at Northampton Community College. Bruce is a HATT member and a Director. He and his wife Trudi live in Pocono Pines and Bethlehem.

This HATT program is being held at the Clymer Library, located at 115 Firehouse Road in Pocono Pines, 18350. The meeting is open to the public and is free of charge. No advance reservation is required.

If you have questions, call 570-580-5353 or write to hathistory@msn.com. Further information about HATT can be viewed on its award-winning website at www.TobyhannaTwpHistory.org.

Church yard sale set

Mt. Pocono United Methodist Church is holding a Church Yard Sale on May 28 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. rain or shine.

Vendors with items ranging from clothes, toys, books, furniture, and more will be selling items at the event. A variety of home baked goodies

will also be available.

The church is located on Route 611 and Church Avenue in Mt. Pocono next to PNC Bank. Please park in the back of the church or on the street, but not in the bank parking lot until after 12 noon.

All profits will benefit the Mt. Pocono UMC's ministry.

Century Day seeks 100 species

Monroe County Conservation District's Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center will host Century Day on May 21. Join Roger Spotts and Darryl Speicher for this all-day adventure, and try to find 100 species of birds without leaving Monroe County.

This year, participants will meet at Kettle Creek at 7 a.m., and then head to the

Pocono Plateau to start the day. Then, make your way south and east, visiting some incredible habitats along the way.

Cost is \$50 for EE Center members and \$65 for non-members. In addition to the opportunity to spend all day with Roger and Darryl, the fee includes lunch, beverages, and snacks throughout

the day.

Registration for this limited space event is required by May 13. Refunds are given only if notification is made at least three days prior to program date.

To register, call 570-629-3061. For more information, visit www.mcconservation.org.

Garden of Giving to host Fill the Truck event

The Garden of Giving will be holding its annual Fill the Truck event at the Brodheads-ville Tractor Supply Company on Route 209 on May 14 from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Stop by and purchase feed and supplies on the wish list for the wonderful chickens who have produced over 40,000 fresh organic eggs for our neighbors in need, as well as light refreshments, with proceeds going to The Garden of Giving. The Brodheads-ville TSC will also donate a portion of their proceeds to The Garden of Giving and everyone who contributes will also receive a

thank you gift.

A special thanks to the volunteers who helped plant the 4,800 red and yellow onions, along with spinach, kale, and parsley in April. Each is considered a "superfood" due to their high nutritional density and should be included in everyone's diet. For those who missed it, the next planting is scheduled for May 21 and 22.

The Garden of Giving is located in McMichaels and produces fresh, nutritious, organic produce and eggs for our neighbors in need. It is a great place for scouting, youth, and church groups to

learn and have fun while giving to their community, and also welcomes team leaders with gardening knowledge to guide the groups. The Garden of Giving is always in need of chicken feed, volunteers to help with the chickens, in the Garden and office, on the website, on their board (there is an immediate need for a board secretary), and at fund raising events.

For more information, please contact the Garden of Giving at 570-402-1282 or email GardenOfGiving@gmail.com.

Shawnee Celtic Festival

Kicking off the festivities of the summer season on Memorial Day weekend, Shawnee Mountain is pleased to announce the return of the Shawnee Celtic Festival to be held on May 28 and 29, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days, on the grounds of the popular Monroe County ski area.

This event promises two full days of the sights and sounds of the Emerald Isles and Scottish Highlands, fea-

turing 3 stages of non-stop Celtic and Children's Shows, along with parading bagpipers. Additional entertainment includes Scottish and Irish Dancers, Working Sheep Dogs, a Celtic Wizard and Irish Juggler. A variety of Irish and Scottish Craft and Gift Vendors, Celtic Food Vendors, a Wine Tent, and various kids' activities including a Celtic farm petting zoo and face painting will add to the festivities both days.

The main stage will be home to the KIR Project live, a virtually non-stop Celtic music and dancing show. Featured performers include Kirk McLeod of Seven Nations, Halagan – a high energy Celtic

Rock group, Two Piper's Piping – a dynamic mother and son duo, the fiddling Dale & Darcy band, the MacKay Pipe Band, the Pocono Highland Dance Academy, Gallagher School of Irish Dancing and the McElligott School of Irish Dance. All will perform individually and together on the main stage throughout the afternoon culminating in a grand finale.

The Irish Pub entertainers will feature the fun loving trio the Irish Lads and the energetic Poor Man's Gambit trio. Wizard Magician Stephen Christopher and Patty O'Furniture, the world's tallest leprechaun and juggler will perform in the Children's Show Area.

The event will be held rain or shine. Advanced festival admission costs \$12 for Adults, \$10 for children ages 5–12, and free for children 4 and under. Tickets are on sale now. Plenty of free on-site parking is provided. For more Shawnee Celtic Festival information, vendor applications, and online ticket sales visit www.shawneemt.com.

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Calendar of Events

Listings in the Calendar are free. E-mail to journalnews@pa.metrocast.net. To provide prices and additional details, consider placing a display ad. Prices start at \$10 for charitable organization. Call 570-443-9131 xt302.

Saturday, April 30—Spaghetti Dinner, 5-7 p.m., Pocono Lake United Methodist Church, 570-646-2650

Sunday, May 1—MS Walk, 10 a.m., Big Pocono State Park

Friday, May 6—Rummage Sale, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Tannersville, 570-629-1992, www.stpaultannersvillepa.org

Saturday, May 7—Rummage Sale, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Tannersville, 570-629-1992, www.stpaultannersvillepa.org

Saturday, May 14—All-you-can-eat Breakfast, 8-10:30 a.m., donation only, McMichaels United Methodist Church, 570-629-1136

Saturday, May 14—Child Safety Fair, sponsored by West End Park and Open Space Committee and GFWC Western Pocono Women's Club, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Chestnuthill Park, Brodheadsville

Friday, May 20—Bingo & Barbecue Night, sponsored by West End Park and Open Space Commission, 5:30 p.m., Chestnuthill

Township Park, 570-992-9733

Saturday, May 21—Yard Sale and More, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Pocono Health System Visiting Nurse and Hospice Care, 500 Independence Road, East Stroudsburg, 570-421-5390

Saturday, May 21—Chicken Tenders Dinner, 4-7 p.m., McMichaels United Methodist Church, 570-629-1136

Saturday & Sunday, May 21 & 22—Farm Animal Frolic, Quiet Valley Historical Farm, 570-992-6161, www.quietvalley.org

Sunday, May 22—GFWC Pocono Mountain Women's Club Tricky Tray and Fashion Show Fundraiser, 11 a.m., Chateau resort and Conference Center at Camelback, 570-328-5896

Saturday & Sunday, May 28 & 29—Farm Animal Frolic, Quiet Valley Historical Farm, 570-992-6161, www.quietvalley.org

Saturday & Sunday, May 28 & 29—Shawnee Celtic Fest, www.shawneemt.com

Saturday, May 28—Opening Day for Pocono Rodeo, 6 p.m., Grange Rd., Mt. Pocono

Sunday, May 29—Community Aviation Day Fly-in-Drive-in Breakfast, sponsored by Mt. Pocono Rotary Club, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Pocono Mountains Airport, 570-839-7161

Saturday, June 4—PLUMC Flea Market, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Pocono Lake United Methodist Church, 570-646-2650

Wednesday, June 22—Golf Tournament, sponsored

by Blakeslee Rotary Club, Mountain Laurel Golf Course, 570-646-7337

Sunday, July 3—Shawnee Mountain Ski Area Fireworks Display, www.shawneemt.com

Saturday & Sunday, July 16 & 17—Poconos Wurst Festival, Shawnee Mountain Ski Area, www.shawneemt.com

Saturday & Sunday, August 13 & 14—Sweet Corn & BBQ Festival, Shawnee Mountain Ski Area, www.shawneemt.com

Saturday & Sunday, September 3 & 4—Pocono Garlic Festival, Shawnee Mountain Ski Area, www.shawneemt.com

Saturday & Sunday, October 8 & 9—Autumn Timber Festival, Shawnee Mountain Ski Area, www.shawneemt.com



Pocono Lake UMC flea market seeking vendors

Vendors are now being accepted for the 14th Annual Pocono Lake United Methodist Church Community Flea Market to be held rain-or-shine on June 4. \$15 will reserve your table/space on the

Green in front of the church, located at 1188 Route 940.

The market is sponsored by the Pocono Lake United Methodist Women, and everyone is invited. It is always an event well-attended by neighbors, vacationers, racing fans, and folks simply driving by on Route 940. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The PLUMC Flea Market is always a fun start to the sum-

mer and is looked forward to by the entire community. There will be a wide variety of items available to purchase, including a White Elephant table that features interesting "treasures" and excellent buys.

It is always an enjoyable day perusing the tables, making delightful purchases, and greeting and welcoming back friends and neighbors. The United Methodist Women will

again feature their delicious home baked goods, hot dogs, hamburgers, and lunch items that will be available for purchase.

Vendor table/space reservations may be made by calling the church office at 570-646-2650. Prepayment for vendor tables/space is requested. Checks may be made out to Pocono Lake United Methodist Church Women.

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- Slow Roasted Certified Prime Rib served with Au Jus.....\$22
- Broiled Halibut in a creamy sundried tomato, artichoke and caper sauce with wild rice pilaf and vegetable du jour.....\$26
- Lamb Lollipops - Grilled to perfection topped with raspberry demi-glaze and a side of mint jelly.....\$25
- Chicken Oscar - Sautéed boneless breast topped with backfin crabmeat and hollandaise sauce with wild rice pilaf and asparagus.....\$24
- Broiled Lobster - 10 oz. tail served with a side of drawn butter.....\$34

All entrees to include our famous soup tureen, tossed salad, potato or rice and vegetable du jour, signature bread, coffee, hot tea.

Mothers receive complimentary desert.

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Women's Club Fashion Show fundraiser aids Women's Resource Center

The GFWC Pocono Mountain Women's Club invites you to join us for its annual Tricky Tray and Fashion Show Fundraiser. This year's beneficiary is the Women's Resource Center of Monroe County. Their mission is to end domestic violence for all women, children, and men in our community. Please bring a donation for the Women's Resource Center of deodorant, travel shampoo and conditioner, feminine products, or

new socks.

The event will take place on May 22. Doors open at 11 a.m. for Tricky Tray ticket sales (cash bar will be available). The event begins with lunch, served promptly at noon, at the Chateau Resort and Conference Center at Camelback, Tannersville.

Tickets must be purchased in advance no later than May 6. Cost per person is \$28 Adult/\$14 Children/Children 3 years old and under

free. Tricky Tray tickets will be purchased separately at event. Contact Dena Hughes at 570-328-5896 to purchase tickets.

Lots of fantastic baskets and prizes, like golf outings, resort and casino overnight stays, and more, will be offered.

Visit Events on their Facebook page facebook.com/PoconoMtWomensClub for more information.

Readers—want your organization's activities featured in these pages? Send news tips, press releases and photos to the editor at journalruth@pa.metrocast.net, or call 570-443-9131 xt304.

Farm Animal Frolic at Quiet Valley

Quiet Valley's 28th annual Farm Animal Frolic is on May 21 & 22 and May 28 & 29, Saturdays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sundays noon to 4 p.m. To folks in the 21st century springtime means warmer weather, flowers blooming, and the return of robins. It's time to pack away snow shovels and think about getting the lawn furniture out. In the early 1800s it meant fresh greens became available- a real treat after a bland winter diet. The kitchen garden was planted with such things as peas, onions, beets, and carrots. Chickens started laying eggs again and it was also when the animals on the homestead had their babies. At Farm Animal Frolic we celebrate the renewal of life that comes with the season of Spring.

Meet the baby farm animals up close and personal. See kid goats and lambs frolicking about. If you've ever wonder where the saying "two shakes of a lamb's tail" came from you can see the reason for yourself. Chicks will be peeping away and some will be hatching in incubators, so visitors can watch them crack out of their shells. There will be a new calf for the children to meet, and guests of all



ages will laugh at the ducklings as they play in the water. All the mummies of the babies will be on hand as well, keeping a close watch on their young, so folks will get to meet them, too, and learn something about their role on the farm. Clydesdale draft horses, Gunther and Wilhelm, will take you on a wagon ride to the ice harvest pond and back. In the lower part of the barn, make sure to say "Howdy" to Janie, our mule, who doesn't get to pull the wagon and sometimes feels left out. That's where you will also find the piglets, who are always a lively bunch.

In addition to the farm animals, there are plenty of other fun activities. Twice a day there is a special children's show where youngsters can enjoy puppet shows or storytelling. There are opportunities to play old fashion games, jump in the hay or try the Fish Pond. Our focus area for 2016 is the "Sheep Shed" where folks can learn some sheep lore, card wool, watch spinning or felting, try weaving and make a craft using wool. There will be a "Sheep to Shawl" demonstration Saturday May 21.

On May 21, throughout most of the day, you can watch as Margaret Quinn shears the wool off of Quiet

Valley's sheep. Kathy Uhler, from the Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, will present a show on local wildlife on May 28 at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The school marm will offer presentations in the One Room Schoolhouse on both Sundays. The outdoor brick bake oven will be in operation during all four days of the event making homemade bread, hot pretzels and cookies.

There is nothing more lovable than baby animals, and adults, as well as children will get a kick out of a visit to Farm Animal Frolic. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about farms, farm animals, and to spend a day in the beautiful outdoors.

Admission is \$8 for adults and \$5 for ages 3 through 12. Children under 3 years of age are free. Pony Rides and Horse-drawn Wagon Rides are an additional charge and are weather permitting. Refreshments are available. No Smoking or Pets. Frolic is held Rain or Shine. The schedule and prices are subject to change.

All funds raised go to support the mission of the non-profit farm museum.

For more information on the museum call 570-992-6161 or visit www.quietvalley.org.

Chicken BBQ Dinner

A Chicken BBQ Dinner will take place at Effort United Methodist Church on April 30 from 4-6:30 p.m.

The church is located at 178 Merwinsburg Road, Effort. It is air conditioned and elevator accessible.

Dinner includes 1/2 a BBQ chicken, mashed potatoes or corn, homemade cole slaw or apple sauce, gravy, role and butter, coffee, tea, and cold

beverages, homemade desserts. The children's meal will include a 1/4 BBQ chicken.

Children 4 and under eat free. Children 5-12 cost \$5, and adults cost is \$10.

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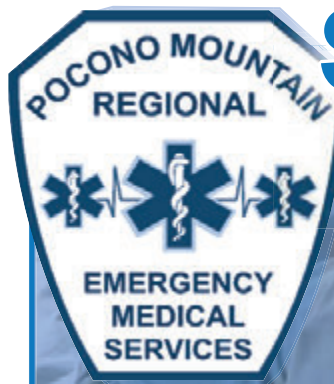
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Pocono Pines Celebrates Farm Fresh Friends-y



Ribbon Cutting ready April 16 (from left) Senator Mario Scavello, State Representative Jack Rader, Hanna's Farm Market owners Rick Hanna and Carol Turcotte and Tobyhanna Township Supervisor Heidi Pickard celebrate what hopes to be a fruitful endeavor for the region.

Photos by Hofbauer Strategies

by Jeanine Hofbauer

"I want to be part of the community," pledged proprietor Carole Turcotte as

Hanna's Farm Market celebrated a ribbon cutting ceremony April 16 alongside family, friends and passers-by.

Roadside attraction filled with a variety of fresh local products, music and more grew quite the crowd at the



Andrea Fuller (center) joins Jim Fuller (right) checking out after checking out Hanna's Farm Market in Pocono Pines.

Pocono Pines stand including well-wishers Tobyhanna Township supervisor Heidi Pickard, State Representative Jack Rader and State Senator Mario Scavello.

"I bought from three different places all at one," grinned Senator Scavello, applauding the community-conscious concept that started over one year ago. Bag in hand he admitted evening plans to dine on bread and a variety of vinaigrettes.

Offering "something for every economic status from 10 cents up to \$500," Turcotte turned facing flowers, meats,

dairy, home decor and more.

Thanking The University of Scranton Small Business Development Center's Leigh Magnotta and Michelle Bisbing of the Pocono Economic Development Corporation for assistance with cutting through the red tape developing a business plan, even applying for an LSA grant for equipment; she, joined by husband Rick Hanna, cut through SBDC green tape as applause erupted shouting an invitation to stop in and support not only your Pocono Pines place but surrounding providers.

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Head Start hits 50!



Raffles lined tables from an assortment of area businesses with an intriguing “wish tree” centerpiece grabbing the most attention.

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Pocono Services for Families and Children Monroe County Head Start Program celebrated its 50th Anniversary with a March 31 gala in Terraview at Stroudsmoor and they didn't look a day over Pre-K! Sharing major milestones with over 230 supporters, staff and program families, the nonprofit

focused on its mission of preparing children for elementary education.

Started in the 1960s “as part of the War on Poverty with an emphasis on preparation for school,” Pennsylvania Head Start Association Executive Director Blair Hyatt explained, “Ninety percent of brain development is by the age of 6.”

Applauding the outstanding evening turnout, he stated “It's people that make the program.”

Alumni Autumn Canfield considers the program beneficial to both parent and



Head Start supporters, staff and program families filled Terraview at Stroudsmoor for a March 31 gala to remember

child. Now attending East Stroudsburg University, the young mother grinned at Angel Dove saying, “They gave me a chance to bond with my daughter.”

“I think she's going to be nervous,” the 7 year-old whispered, understanding mom had an important role speaking that evening.

Other podium presenters included Gala Master of Ceremonies Senator Mario Scavello who commented, “They're doing great things for these young children and families.”

PSFC Board President and Eugenia S. Eden Award recipient Sharon Laverdure reminded, “Parents are a child's first and most supportive teacher.”

She added, “The passion of the staff” and support of community organizations including Champion for Children Award winner United Way of Monroe County and Gold Star Award's Sanofi Pasteur are all vital parts of Head Start.



Mother's Day Craft event

The West End Park and Open Space Commission will host a Mother's Day Craft event on May 7 at the Ross Township Park, Anchorage Rd-Saylorsburg from 10 a.m. – Noon.

Kids will get everything they need to decorate a flower pot, fill it with potting soil, and add a growing plant for Mom.

For more information, call 570-992-9733 or contact bkozen@weposc.org.

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Plant a Pollinator Garden and enjoy the many benefits

by Melinda Myers

Whether planting a garden, enjoying the beauty of your landscape, or sitting down to a delicious meal, you have bees, butterflies and other pollinators to thank. These essential members of our ecosystem are responsible for much of the food and beauty we enjoy each day.

Unfortunately, pesticides and habitat loss are threatening their existence. There is something you can do to help—Turn your garden, backyard, or balcony into a pollinator's habitat.

Plant a variety of flowering plants that provide nectar and pollen throughout the season. Planting masses of natives, herbs and other pollinator favorites like sedum, zinnias, alyssum, cosmos, and columbine will attract these beauties to your landscape. Include a variety of day and night blooming flowers in a variety of colors and shapes to support the widest range of pollinators. But don't let a lack of space dissuade you; Even a window box of flowers can help.

Keep your plants healthy and blooming with proper care. Match the plants to the growing conditions, provide needed water, and fertilize with an organic nitrogen fertilizer like Milorganite (find more information at milorganite.com) when needed. You'll promote slow steady plant growth that is less susceptible to drought and pests. Plus the slow release low nitrogen won't interfere with flowering, which is essential to the health and well being of our pollinators.

Supplement pollinators' diets with a bit of rotten fruit. And be sure to provide trees, shrubs, parsley, dill, and other plants that caterpillars, grubs and the immature stage of other polli-

nators prefer to feed upon. Put away the pesticides and tolerate a few holes in the leaves of their favorite plants. With a diversity of plants, you can easily overlook the temporary leaf damage. Plus, this is a small price to pay for all the benefits they bring to the garden.

Provide pollinators with shelter from predators and the weather. Include a variety of trees, shrubs, and perennials. Leave patches of open soil for ground nesting bees and some leaf litter to shelter some butterflies, bumblebees, and other pollinating insects. Supplement natural shelter with commercial or homemade nesting boxes. You'll find do-it-yourself plans on the internet from vari-

ous educational sources.

Puddles, fountains, bird-baths, and even a damp sponge can provide needed water. Include water features with sloping sides or add a few stones to create easier access. Or, sink a shallow container of sand in the ground. Keep it damp and add a pinch of sea salt for the butterflies and bees.

Maximize your efforts by teaming up with your neighbors. Together you can create a larger more diverse habitat that provides pollinators with the resources they need to thrive.

Your efforts will be rewarded with greater harvests, beautiful flowers, and colorful birds and butterflies visiting your garden.

Gardening expert, TV/radio host, author & columnist Melinda Myers has more than 30 years of horticulture experience and has written over 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening and the Midwest Gardener's Handbook. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything: Food Gardening For Everyone" DVD set and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments. Myers is also a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and spokesperson for Milorganite. Myers' web site is www.melindamyers.com.

Blue Angels to perform at Pocono Raceway

U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels, has announced the team will perform at Pocono Raceway in Long Pond on August 27 and 28. The Blue Angels are now scheduled to perform 70 demonstrations at 34 locations in 2016.

Demonstration sites are selected in support of Department of Defense objectives and in the interest of the armed services, with safety as the primary consideration. Performances greatly assist in recruiting and retention goals for the military services, enhance esprit de corps among uniformed men and women, and demonstrate the professional skills and capabilities of the

Naval services to the American public and U.S. allies.

The mission of the Blue Angels is to showcase the pride and professionalism of the United States Navy and Marine Corps by inspiring a culture of excellence and service to

country through flight demonstrations and community outreach. This year, the Blue Angels will celebrate their 70th anniversary. Since 1946, the Blue Angels have performed for more than 484 million fans.

For information about indi-

vidual air shows, please go to each air show's official website. For more information about the Blue Angels, including the 2016 and 2017 air show schedules, visit www.blueangels.navy.mil.

Enriching your life through gardening

Monroe and Pike County Master Gardeners will present a rescheduled Spring Workshop,

Enriching Your Life through Gardening, on May 7 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Country Club of the Poconos Municipal Golf Course Club House, East Stroudsburg.

Participants will choose two of four workshops to attend. Session 1 includes topics such as The FUNdamentals of Gardening: Creating Gardens in Miniature, or Rain Gardens and Why They Are Important.

Session 2 includes topics such as Herbs and Everlastings from the Culinary to the Creative, or Developing a Community Garden 101. Also, get inspired to garden as nature intended with the keynote speaker. A compost bin will be awarded to two lucky attendees.

The cost if pre-registered and paid by May 5 is \$20 per person. After the deadline, please contact Penn State Extension at 570-421-6430 for availability. Cost will go up to \$25. Walk-ins will be accepted as space allows for

\$25, no credit cards accepted at the door, and handouts are not guaranteed. Cost includes choice of 2 workshops, keynote presentation, and informal table discussions with Master Gardeners.

Register online anytime (find the event at <http://extension.psu.edu/enriching>) or by calling Penn State Extension Office at 570-421-6430, Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There will be a full refund if the workshop is cancelled by the Master Gardeners.

Child Safety Fair in Brodheadsville

The West End Park and Open Space Commission, along with GFWC Western Pocono Women's Club, a service organization in the West End for 40 years, is having a free Child Safety Fair.

The fair will take place on May 14 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Chestnuthill Park, 221 Route 715, Brodheads-

ville. The PA State Police will fingerprint your child and the West End Fire Co and Ambulance Association will have their equipment available to view.

A Fire Safety or simulated "Smoke House" from the Tobyhanna Army Depot will be available to demonstrate safe ways to escape a house fire,

Pocono Medical Center will check blood pressure, the West End Health Care Center will be represented.

There will be "Exercise with kids" demonstrations by Leslie Glover and lots of free literature. Concessions will be sold by Boy Scouts.



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Readers—want your organization's activities featured in these pages? Send news tips, press releases and photos to the editor at journalruth@pa.metrocast.net, or call 570-443-9131 xt304.

Seth's Sightings

by Seth Isenberg

This past week was short, but intense, due to an out-of-town business meeting we were to attend in western PA starting Thursday afternoon. Three newspapers were printed and mailed on an over-full Wednesday. We would have been good if things had gone to plan. They nearly did, but my luck ran out on a key bit at the end of the workday. Ruth and I paid the price with a late night's worth of mailing prep.

In between our late night of work we squeezed in a Rotary meeting and the tail end of the WBS Penguins' playoff game (a crazy day and evening). The game was a bit of a reward for the busy day. The Penguins gave us another reward, an overtime win against the favored Providence Bruins - very satisfying, and it gave us hope for the home team's chances.

That hope proved well founded. From our conference hotel, after evening meetings, we tuned to the internet and caught the tail end of the Penguins second overtime win. When we returned from our trip on Saturday, there was enough time

for us to tune into the local radio signal to hear the call for an amazing game that went into double overtime. Though tired from our long drive home, we stayed up to hear the end of it and were rewarded with a satisfying ending - our 37 year-old captain fed a pass to one of our 22 year-old newcomers, who scored the winning goal. This won the series, a sweep of all three games.

Our local Penguins will likely be facing the Hershey Bears as their next opponent. The Bears are the Washington Capitols' farm team. In the NHL, the big Penguins are skating against the Capitols in the Stanley Cup playoffs. There's also the slim chance that the Portland Pirates will beat the Bears this weekend, so, as of this writing, there's no schedule for the local games for the next series.

Our business meeting was in Seven Springs in the conference center attached to the resort hotel at the base of one of Pennsylvania's great ski areas. There were still some big patches of snow, especially on the trail with the half-pipe and jumps. Directions

via GPS and also Google Maps took us on good roads into Somerset. From Somerset, we were sent west on a narrow winding Pennsylvania numbered road into a little hamlet where if you weren't paying attention, you'd drive past the turn. I drove past the turn. I didn't drive far, and did get back on track to arrive to participate in an afternoon session.

The resort is one very long building alongside a very long parking lot at the base of some of the mountain's lifts. The distance between the conference center and the hotel was a quarter-mile (really), which seemed to get longer every time I needed to head to the room and back. Toward the end of the two days we were there, I could feel the added strength in my muscles from all the comings and goings.

During the meetings we learned some things which we will try some of in upcoming Journals. We also networked.

Friday night was the first night of Passover. It's difficult to be away on such a holiday. My plans were to be at a fam-

ily seder, but instead was on the opposite end of the state in a remote resort. I had the good fortune to find that there was to be a first night community seder in Johnstown's only remaining synagogue, an hour away. We journeyed to Johnstown via the same narrow roads. In downtown Johnstown, where we passed local fans gathering to cheer a professional hockey game at their old town arena. It was oddly welcoming to see this. We found the building up high on one of the hills, and enjoyed a wonderful seder (with possibly the best handmade macaroons we've ever tasted). Beth Shalom is the keeper of the history of four synagogues, and much of it is on display. One of the most interesting artifacts is a Torah that had gone through the 1936 Johnstown Flood. This battered but proud relic is on loving display in the main foyer.

Guys and Gals Tricky Trays

The NEPA Community Federal Credit Union Scholastic Foundation is sponsoring a Tricky Tray to benefit their Educational Award Program on April 30 at the Elk's Lodge, BPOE #319, 260 Washington St., East Stroudsburg. Doors open at noon. Drawing begins at 2 p.m. Cards are \$10 for 20 tickets, \$15 for 40.

Larger valued item tickets will also be sold. Items include tools, toys, Vera Bradley bags, Iron Pig and Rail Rider tickets, autographed Flyers' puck, a gun safe, book baskets, gift cards, Bowie knife with bone handle and sheath, 3-gallon pancake air compressor, artist print, Groner heating/air tune-up, charcoal grills, Minuteman Press Canvas picture enlargement, a great variety of baskets, and much more. More than 75

Leaving the resort on Saturday afternoon, having tired of the crummy roads already taken, I followed a sign indicating the way to the local hospital (needed with the ski area...) and found a beautiful, wide, straight road that led to a straight and wide state highway into Somerset. I'd been using the wrong way in the whole weekend ...

Being home was nice in that our yard now has its pinks in bloom, and the laurel bush is about to flower. In a week, the trees will leaf out as well. Spring has sprung.

The weekend will include a trip to see the Ringling Brothers Circus and the final elephant show for them, a Rotary District Conference, a possible SteelHawks football game in Allentown, and of course, a trip to Knoebels. And next weekend, we'll likely be at WBS Penguins games.

baskets will be featured at the event.

Come for a hardy lunch or a snack. Dave's Awesome Macaroni and Cheese, Soup, Mark's Delicious Chili, Baked Goods, and Hot Dogs will be featured. Beverages and water will be available at the bar.

You need not be present to win. Calls will be made to those not in attendance. For additional information, call Dave Piatt at 570-421-3943.

High Brushfire risk in Monroe County

The brushfire risk remains very high in Monroe County due to dry breezy conditions. Monroe County fire crews have responded to 51 brushfires since April 15, with three fires currently burning in Barrett and Jackson Townships.

The Bear Town and 16 Mile Road fires in Barrett Township are currently being fought by local and state fire crews-equaling 250 fire fighters. The Bear Town fire, impacting approximately 500 acres, is 95% contained and crews are expecting it to be extinguished by tonight. The 16 Mile Road fire is approximately 4000 acres in size and is not impacting any structures currently.

Monroe County Office of Emergency Management encourages residents to check with municipalities before

burning leaves and garbage as many have burn bans currently active. Residents can take the following steps to prevent fire from impacting your home:

- Regularly clean the roof and gutters.

- Maintain an area approximately 30' away from your home that is free of anything that will burn, such as wood piles, dried leaves, newspapers, and other brush.

- Connect garden hoses long enough to reach any area of the home.

- Review your homeowner's insurance policy and also prepare/update a list of your home's contents.

Residents are also encouraged to review emergency kits in your home and vehicles to ensure items are in functioning order and nothing has expired.

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Open House opens doors to community interaction

by Jeanine Hofbauer

"It's events like tonight's Open House that invite residents to explore all their township has to offer and feel comfortable meeting with the officials here to help make Tobyhanna Township a wonderful place to live and work," said township manager Phyllis Haase as Tobyhanna Township concluded its April 14 evening gathering.



Agreeing, State Representative Jack Rader said, "I'm proud to have an office in Tobyhanna Township," vowing to make the Open House an annual event.

"I encourage all residents to stop by my offices," he said, with one in Tobyhanna Township Municipal Building and one at Carriage House Square in Effort, adding, "My staff and I can help with a variety of state-related issues, including assistance with Property Tax/Rent Rebate forms, PennDOT paperwork, help contacting state agencies and more."

Haase closed by saying "Each month warm weather welcomes new opportunities to enjoy time outdoors with neighbors," with a reminder that May 20 is the first "Concert in the Park" at Blanche Price Park, free to the community from 6-8 p.m., and featuring Long Time Comin'.

Rotary golf tourney set

Registration is now open for the Blakeslee Rotary Club's annual golf tournament, scheduled for Wednesday, June 22, at the Mountain Laurel Golf Club outside White Haven. The Bob Matirko Memorial Golf Classic is the club's largest fundraiser of the year, and all proceeds go to community and youth projects and scholarships.

Cost of \$125 includes lunch, shotgun start tournament, cocktail party and buffet dinner. Players receive a shirt, gift packet, and a chance to win flight prizes, \$50,000 for a hole-in-one on a designated hole, and \$2,000 to be split among one lucky foursome.

Visit blakesleerotary.org or call 570-646-7337 or 570-620-8003. Sponsorships are still available.

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Police Commission returns to headquarters

by Jeanine Hofbauer

“We are done,” announced Chief Chris Wagner as the April 12 Pocono Mountain Regional Police Commission meeting returned to headquarters after a lengthy mold remediation process. Other department touch-ups included painting and wall treat-

ments. The group agreed it was good to back.

A fond farewell was bid “with mixed emotions” to 22-year PMRPF veteran Will Laverty, accepting the officer’s retirement effective June 29.

Citing intentions of “affording other officers upward mobility” the Lieutenant’s request

for assistance in his military buyback was granted. Chief Wagner explained a savings in salary outweighed the cost.

Ralph Megliola asked “Are we setting a new precedent?” Requests will be considered on a case by case basis. The chief was directed to look into filling the position.

Review of a Memorandum of Understanding giving Regional police jurisdiction if assisting Pocono Township police at The Crossings outlets came with confirmation officers’ pay including benefit rates and pension would be paid by The Crossings.

Asking, “What’s driving the

hours up in Coolbaugh?” Dave Moyer turned to Chief Wagner for February and March clarification.

“Just a difference in reporting,” explained the chief. A review of last year’s totals showed assigned time marked as patrol.

Please turn to page 17

Journal of the Pocono Plateau Classifieds

Deadline is 5 p.m. Monday. \$13/col. in. We accept Visa, Mastercard, Discover and American Express, as well as cash and checks. Call 570-443-9131 xt 304 to place your ad.

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PMRPD...

Continued from page 16

Reporting municipality hours Chief Wagner listed Coolbaugh Township over by 364, Tobyhanna Township under by 70, Tunkhannock under by 264, Barrett under by 167 and Mount Pocono under by 2 hours.

Considering the fleet limping along until delivery of new vehicles, the chief said high mileage cars 4, 8 and 16 have been taken out of service.

Commissioners approved the bill pack totaling \$281,199.25 with funds to be distributed as follows: General Fund, \$255,706.27 Prescription Plan, \$828.09 Capital Projects Fund,

\$24,664.89
 ESSA April Mortgage Payment, \$12,222.89
 Alicon Environmental Mold Remediation Testing, \$1,440
 Strunk-Albert Engineering Mold Remediation, \$625
 Richard Henry Construction Wall Treatments, \$8,908
 Richard Henry Construction Painting, \$1,469

Commission members present included Moyer, Don Moyer and Anne Lamberton from Tobyhanna Township; Juan Adams, Pete Volpe and Dave Pope from Coolbaugh Township; Mayor Fred Courtright from Mount Pocono; Fran DePiano and Brandon Igdalsky from Tunkhannock Township; and Megliola from Barrett Township.

PMRPC's next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. May 10 at headquarters located on Route 940 in Pocono Pines.

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

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Miscellaneous

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Police Beat

by Seth Isenberg

PA State Police – Lehighon arrested Sean Leindecker, 30, of Bethlehem, after he ran over a Palmerton-area woman after a domestic argument at 4 a.m. on 4-24. He then fled in his car. PSP-L Troopers responded to the incident and sent the victim via ambulance to LVMC to be treated for cuts, scrapes and bruises all over her body. PSP then began a search and located Leindecker in Palmerton where they arrested him and took him back to the barracks. Leindecker was arraigned before the on-duty Magistrate, who set bail for him at \$100,000 straight, and sent him to the Carbon County jail in lieu of bail.

A 25 y/o Henryville man was arrested and is charged with terroristic threats for pulling a knife on an ex-girlfriend during an argument at a Kunkletown home at 12:44 p.m. on 4-10.

PSP is also on the lookout for two teenage boys, ages 15 and 16, who escaped from the Youth Services Agency

in Penn Forest Township on 4-11. They were discovered missing at 9 p.m.

Keeping the Rubber Side Down ...

Pocono Township Police are looking for a light colored BMW that fled the scene of an accident its driver caused when it turned onto Route 611 from Route 314 (near Amber Steak House) and hit a southbound vehicle at 9:15

p.m. on 4-22. The impact spun the struck car out of control so that it struck another vehicle before coming to a stop. Everyone in the two struck vehicles was taken to Pocono Medical Center. The BMW, possibly an SUV, likely has front-end lights damage, possibly more. Anyone with information about this accident

is asked to call PTPD at 570 629-7200 x242 (ask for Officer Ackerman).

Pocono Mountain Regional Police are also looking for a hit and run vehicle after a crash on Route 940 at the entrance to the ShopRite in Mt. Pocono at 2:02 p.m. on 4-19. A car pulled out of the store entrance and ran into the passenger side, causing the struck car to spin off into the grass. The woman who caused the crash backed her mid-sized, burgundy colored

SUV up, then drove away towards Route 611. The vehicle is possibly a Chevy – and would have front-end damage. PMRPD did get video of the incident from Bill's ShopRite, and with more information should be able to identify and arrest the person involved. Anyone with information on the accident, or the SUV, is asked to call PMRPD at 570 895-2400.

PSP-L responded to a crash of an '03 Mercury Sable

Please turn to page 19

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Police Beat...

Continued from page 18

at 1:10 p.m. on 4-14, found rubber side up on Route 534 in Polk Twp. after its driver missed a curve and struck the guiderail, then over-corrected—steering the into an embankment causing the car to roll over once. The 47 y/o Kunkletown driver was taken to Pocono Medical Center by West End EMS due to minor injuries. PSP sent a ticket along.

A three-car crash on Route 115 south in Ross Twp. just after 1 p.m. on 4-10 started when an 87 y/o Wind Gap

area driver rear-ended a line of cars stopped to make a turn. Her Dodge Caravan hit a VW Cabria, pushing it into a Mercedes E350. The Dodge and the Mercedes were disabled, needing a tow. The VW had moderate damage, but could be driven away.

A Saylorburg driver who turned into an oncoming car as he tried to pull into his driveway 4-15.

The Pocono Plateau is NOT HIGH Enough for some

PSP-L had a busy two weeks, with three regular DUI arrests and two drugged driving arrests—mostly of teenagers and 20-somethings. There were also pot posses-

sion charges files on a 45 y/o after a traffic stop, and two more 20-somethings charged after traffic stops.

Stealin'

A white male between 20 and 30 years old came into the Dollar General store on Route 115 in Ross Twp. at 11:11 a.m. on 4-10. He was wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt, sunglasses, and a gray skullcap. He lifted his sweatshirt and showed the gun in his waistband to the clerk, then requested money. The clerk provided it, and the man fled—all within two minutes. PSP-L is investigating—anyone with information is asked to call them at 610 681-1850.

A Philadelphia man's weekend home on Woodchuck Dr. in Kunkletown was seen to have been broken into. PSP-L

was called to investigate, 4-9.

A Church Rd., Kunkletown-area home was broken into at 1:30 a.m. on 4-14 by someone who cut the wires to the home's alarm system and telephone. The thief then stole the 7-amp battery for the alarm system, and fled.

PSP-Hazleton report that between 9 p.m. on 4-21 and 1:10 a.m. on 4-22, thieves cut open the back wall of Bar-

ron's Quick Mart on Route 93 in Sugarloaf—pulling off the siding and cutting through plywood and drywall. They then cut an opening into the back of the ATM machine and stole money from it before fleeing. PSP is seeking any witnesses—call them at 570 459-3890 if you can help.

Also, a homeowner complained to police that someone stole his *Trump 2017* sign.

A FREE DINNER IN THANKS

Calling all veterans

Veterans from all branches of the military are invited to join members of the Blakeslee Rotary Club for a free chili supper on Saturday, May 21 at the Blakeslee Community Center.

The club is saluting all men and women who have served and who are currently serving to keep us safe. A special slide show and speakers on military and other benefits will take place.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and dinner will start at 6. The menu is meat and bean chili, rice, salad, rolls and butter,

corn break, dessert, coffee, tea and cold drinks.

The dinner is free to all veterans and their spouse or one other guest. Space is limited, so call 570-646-7337 to reserve a seat.

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