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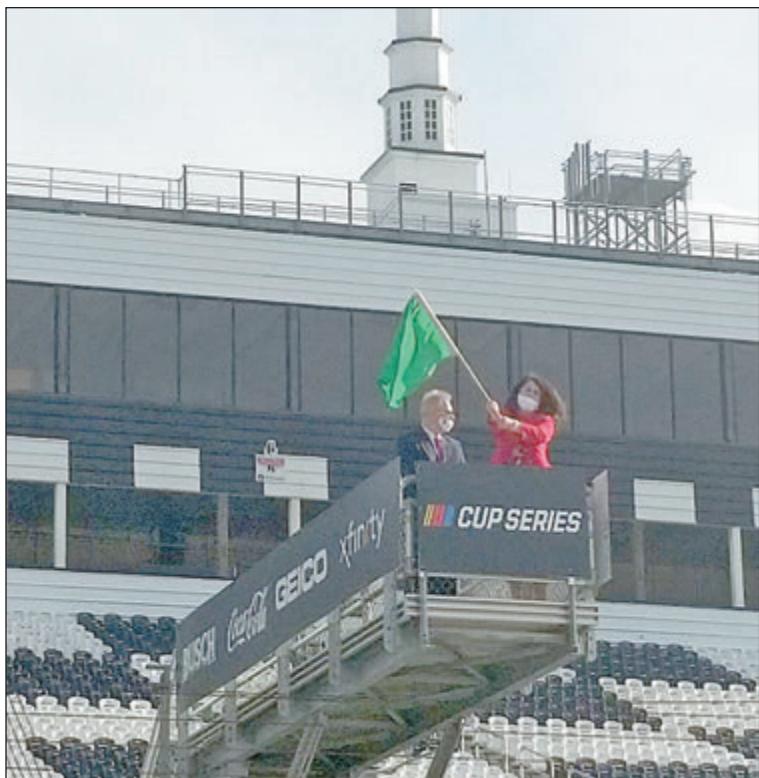
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June 18–July 1, 2020



POCONO MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT superintendent Dr. Elizabeth Robson waves the green flag at Pocono International Raceway to signal the start of graduation ceremonies for Pocono Mountain East High School on June 19. Pictures from East and West graduations on pages 7, 8 and 9.

JP: Jeanine Hofbauer

Roads reviewed by Tobyhanna Supervisors

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Tobyhanna Township reviewed road planning throughout the municipality at the June 15 supervisors meeting. As a start, Lake Naomi's request to install new signs, at no cost to the township for purchase or installation, was

approved following discussion. Pedestrian walk and run messaging will replace "Children at Play" on roadways. The H&K Group was awarded this year's road paving projects with a total bid of \$719,713 - beating three other contenders: Barker & Barker Paving,

See ARCHIVES, page 2



West graduate MacKenzie Hixon. Photo by Tom Eisler

Tricky Triangle succeeds with seamless ceremonies for seniors

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Ceremony uncertainty ceased for Pocono Mountain School District East and West High School Class of 2020 as Pocono Raceway came through with two days of graduation celebrations June 19 and 20 in Long Pond. Working closely with district officials, the Raceway team calibrated a seamless numbered scheme enabling each graduate to cross the track finish line in a vehicle in time with digital monitor recognition.

From a student perspective, West High School graduate MacKenzie Hixon shared how she found the unique cap and gown car ride. Sharing start to finish video updates for friends and family, like sister Grace,



Pocono Raceway official Kevin Heaney gives a walkie-talkie thumbs up, keeping cars moving along during graduation.

JP: Jeanine Hofbauer

cheering outside the gates, the Blakeslee senior celebrated from the passenger seat with dad Otto driving, along with mom, Kelly, and boyfriend Bill in the backseat.

Headed to PennState in the fall to study surveying and civil engineering, she smiled agreeing that it all was an "exciting experience."

Mom agreed, beaming, "This is the best ending to have for our Seniors." Adding thanks to organizers, she said, "We're all grateful to the Raceway for allowing our schools to use this amazing facility and Pocono Mountain for giving students such a wonderful graduation ceremony."

Hixon and fellow grads started out in parking lot rows with Raceway officials ush-

ering them through in order. Past cheering "fams" with balloons and banners in hand, cars moved through to spots on the track by number. Cruising to the finish line behind the Raceway pace car, faculty fans applauded as vehicles made their way to a checkered flag waved by Principal Mark Wade shouting, "Congratulations." After that, school board members went on with a well done as cars paused for "round" two.

Still led by the pace car, lights and sirens from Pocono Mountain Regional Police, Pocono Mountain Regional EMS and Tunkhannock Township Volunteer Fire Company, a final victory lap gave spectators a chance to take photos and videos before exiting.

Tobyhanna Twp.

Continued from page 1

\$868,917; Hanson Aggregate, \$910,789; and Wayco Inc., \$917,040. Roads on this summer's list include Redwood Terrace, Clear Pond, Lake View, and Little Pond, to name a few with a complete list on record at municipal offices.

Resolutions 2020-011 and 2020-012 for Multimodal Transportation Fund grant applications from the Commonwealth Financing Authority and Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, each in amounts not to exceed \$3,000,000, were approved. Funding is for the upcoming Pocono Summit West corridor transportation project.

Supervisor Dave Carbone's motion to send Pocono Mountain Volunteer Fire Company \$6,000 for the remaining balance of 2018 and 2019 coverage (during the time Pocono Summit Volunteer Fire Company was decommissioned) was approved. Half of the \$12,000 total was paid August 2019—and township manager Robert Bartal planned to send a letter of apology for the delay.

Supervisors agreed to clear the air, moving forward with Enviro Air Remedies, LLC Government Center building air duct cleaning.

Chairman John Kerrick described the financial impact that COVID has had on Pocono Mountain Regional Emergency Medical Services, suggesting that a committee be formed to come up with long-term ideas. Noting transport calls down due to patients' apprehension to go to hospitals, PMR EMS' Denise Doremus detailed other obstacles faced. Reporting patients not for-

warding payments made by insurance companies on claims, plus fundraising struggles for the nonprofit, she asked that the township consider approving immediate financial assistance. Council agreed to review ideas and form a plan of action.

Supervisor Lloyd Vought's resignation from PMR EMS, Pocono Mountain Council of Government, Neighborhood Improvement District and Sewer Authorities, in addition to the Budget and Finance Committee was accepted. He was appointed to these boards during January's reorganization. Attempts to reach Vought for comment at the time of publication had not been successful.

June bills totaling \$348,173.85 were approved, with Vought opposed, and Kerrick abstaining after removing roadwork payment to Papillon & Moyer for review.

Supervisors present for the online meeting included Kerrick, Carbone, Vought, Brendon Carroll, and John Holahan by phone, along with township manager Bartal and township solicitor Jonathan Reiss.

Tobyhanna Township's next regular meeting is 6 p.m. July 20 in the Municipal Building on Government Center Way.

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Calendar contest now open

Monroe County Conservation District's Environmental Education Center is holding its third annual Amateur Photo Contest. Send in photos that showcase Monroe County's finest Natural Resources. Earn a spot in both our art gallery and a 2021 MCCD calendar. Submissions are due September 25.

For official rules and to submit a photo, visit www.mcconservation.org/mccd-photo-contest.

For more information, call the Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center at (570) 629-3061. For information on other programs visit www.mcconservation.org.

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Ruth Isenberg, Editor-in-Chief,
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Inter-Tribal Pow-Wow planned for July

The public is welcome July 18-19 at an inter-tribal Native American Pow-Wow at

Camp Rotawanis in Drums. Chief Littlewolf and the Tribal Council of the Wyoming Trail

Council of Pennsylvania's Native Americans issued the invitation, "as we attempt to

step out of the heavy shadows of the Coronavirus Pandemic that has made us feel shut-in for so long. As our Native American culture followers of both native and non-native peoples have been deprived by the cancellation of so many other events, we feel that it is time to come together once again in the spirit of our old ways.

"Since many of us of the first nations are geographically separated by great distances, Pow-Wow has always been a way for us to come together to visit with one another, share our cultures, not only with one another but also with the general public so they may better understand our ways as we strive to hold onto the old ways of our past, while we must live with one foot on each side of a line that separates two very different ways of life. It is also a very spiritual time for us, as much prayer is involved in our dance, song, and drum. Many of the vendors who are set up at our

Pow-Wow depend on the sale of their wares, as it is their only means of income, and as we mentioned, most Pow-Wows for this summer have been cancelled.

"We will, however, be making every attempt to practice all safety measures possible during this event, and we hope that you will also, and above all, afford the respect of those around you.

"As we of Native American heritage are a very spiritual peoples, we will be looking to the Creator to bless us and keep all who attend safe. We hope that you will join us for these two days of festivities and activities. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the tribal office at 570-427-8723, or

email us at wyomingtrail@outlook.com."

Gates Open at 10 a.m. both days, with Grand Entry at noon. Admission is \$6; children under 12 are free. There is free parking. Bring your lawn chair.



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Seth's Sightings

by Seth Isenberg

I write this at the end of the week of high school graduations. This past Saturday, Ruth and I covered the last of the locals, the second of the two Pocono Mountain School District graduations. There were five in total, not counting the private schools, so we've had our fill of *Pomp and Circumstance*, and if we don't hear it again until next June, we'll be happy.

The last of the graduations had 400 in their class, which made it like the entire borough of White Haven turned out to see off their young folks. Where Weatherly's graduation was well under an hour, this took three.

Our reward is going to be a sedate couple of weeks leading up to the Fourth of July. Most every area event has been cancelled, or closed to the public. For example—June 26, 27 and 28 were to be Pocono Race Weekend here at Long Pond, with tens of thousands of people coming to our area. In the age of COVID-19, the races will be held with no fans in the stands, so our area misses out on a big economic boost at a time we could really use it.

This same weekend, Ruth and I had hoped to attend at least one day of the annual Celtic Fling at the site of the PA Renaissance Faire. As you'd guess, it's postponed. So it's going to be a literally uneventful few weeks.

Ruth and I are reaching out to our friends to see if we can create our own fun. One couple is thinking of a trip to Gettysburg in July—they've not been before. Perhaps we'll hire a guide. We're also thinking a winery trip with a meal—short drive, maximum fun.

Sightings included a couple of times when turkeys crossed the road, making me stop to wait. This happens more with deer—it has become second nature there. The last of the turkeys was on the Francis Walter Dam Road, and starting Monday the 22nd, that road will be closed for reconstruction, a project which will last the entire summer and into late fall. As for the deer, I'm sighting fawns, and the velvet covered horns that on some of-age males that will become nice antlers in due time.

One of the neater sightings

this past week was when we joined my uncle Slater for lunch at the Bear Creek Café off Route 115 on Saturday after the final Pocono Mountain High School graduation. A large bald eagle had set up across the stream from the

café, perched atop a dead tree directly. She—it was a big bird—was there for the better part of an hour before deciding to fly off to a place where there would likely be food. Ruth joked that she was there people-watching.

Our old Subaru has now been driven over 222,000 miles. It has a variety of elderly car problems, some typical for a car of this age, and some not. But... for one brief 15 minute time period last

See SIGHTINGS, page 5

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THEME: THE 4TH OF JULY

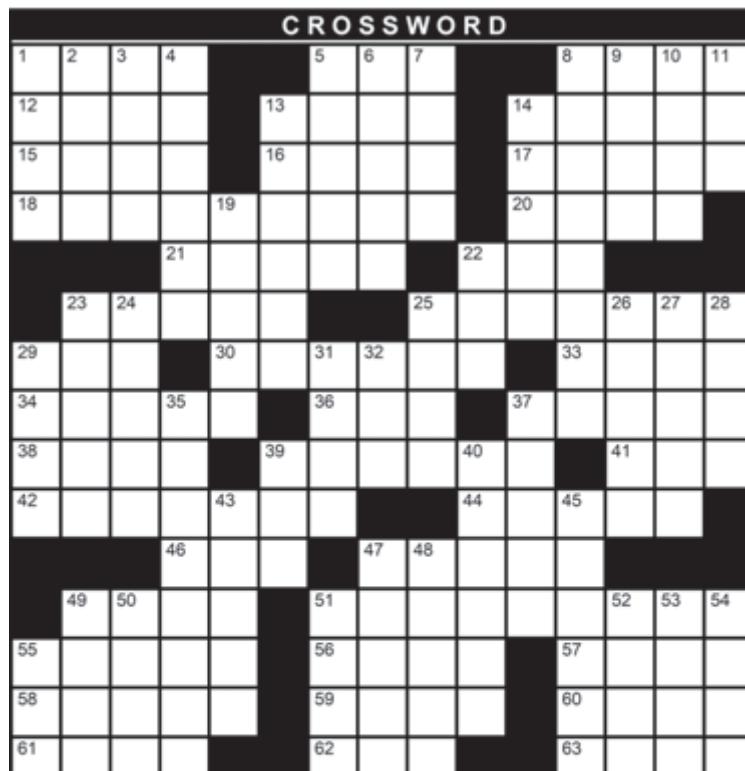
ACROSS

- Begone!
- Blue
- Instinctive motive
- Barbershop supply
- Cover with asphalt
- Twist and distort
- Dismounted
- Tiny particle
- Like smell of burning rubber
- *King of Great Britain when America won independence
- Same as pleaded
- "Well-____ machine"
- *Abigail Adams _____ Smith
- *Preferred cooking device on the 4th
- They play dead
- Tiller's tiller
- Santa's reindeer
- Dwarf buffalo
- Smart ones?
- "____ the hills and far away"
- Penicillin holder, e.g.
- Part of both levorotary and levorotatory
- *Like 4th of July
- Choler
- Egg dishes
- Actress Close
- *Jefferson was three and Washington was ____
- Medal of Honor word
- Castle material
- *Roman Candles and Fountains, e.g.
- Manuscript sheet
- Dirty money
- Dire fate
- Type of wrench
- Charitable contribution
- Genesis twin
- Dad's lads
- General Services Administration
- Job for a body shop

DOWN

- Without a date
- *American Revolutionary War spy, Nathan
- Miscellany
- Type of local tax
- French composer of "Gymnopédies" fame

- Steer clear
- Prefix for half
- *U. S. personified
- Steak choice
- Power system
- Former times
- Saffron-flavored rice dish
- Stares
- Decorates with gold leaf
- Negative conjunction
- Jewish folklore creature
- "Superman" star
- Machu Picchu country
- Remove from Pinterest board
- Grieve
- *Many retailers hold one for the 4th of July
- Sign of a saint
- *____ of Liberty
- Rooster's girlfriend
- *13 of these at the start
- Give a green light
- *What contestants did at Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest
- Ends of shoe laces
- "____ a high note"
- What river did to bank
- Viola da Gamba, pl.
- Wafting pleasantness
- Aria, e.g.
- Comrade in arms
- *It should never touch ground
- Official flower of the Kentucky Derby
- Riddle without solution
- Obscenity
- Like The Beatles



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Sightings...

Continued from page 4

it performed like it was young. The car had a hiccup and all the lights went on, then they went off. The computer re-set and for a short time, all that hadn't worked started working again. The cruise control was back. The air conditioning was back. Sadly, the next time the car was turned on, the problems returned — except that the air conditioning started to blow cold air again. I thought it stopped working this winter.

We had the Subaru on the road to Bethlehem on Sunday, feeding it oil and coolant. There was a trip to the Lehigh Valley Mall (department stores are open), and then a meal outdoors at The Red Stag (lamb stew and chicken tika masala, with a huge home-

made banana walnut bread pudding dessert with home-made ice cream). Then we shunpiked our way home.

It's worth a note that the mountain laurel flowers hereabouts are gorgeous this year. Drive through Hickory Run State Park for the best display. There are also nice individual trees near the Francis Walter Dam.

Wrapping this up... welcome summer and welcome to being in the Green zone when it comes to COVID-19 rules. Ruth and I are finding that our masks, keeping out distances, and using in-car hand sanitizers are doing the job, keeping us safe. We're glad to mask up in order to be able to go out to eat, to shop, etc. If we all continue to be careful, we can have a reasonably normal summer, and still keep ahead of this thing. Keep yourself safe, and see you out there...



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Open Letter from Pocono Mountains United Way

There has been an ache in our hearts and tears in our eyes...and now, a proverbial pen in my hand. The recent killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery have exposed the stark reality of racial injustice and racism that has plagued our nation since its birth.

Now is not the time to be silent. Indifference and passivity are our greatest enemies. Waiting is a luxury of the privileged.

Our community needs leadership. Leadership that stands up for justice. Leadership that links arms with those who are oppressed and protects the vulnerable with policies and systems reform. Leadership that uses its privilege to give voice to the unheard. I believe we have leaders like this in our community that equally want justice and fairness. I invite these leaders to join us in this fight.

We need education, and it

starts with a history lesson. Understanding and confronting our past will “unite us in our responsibility to do things not only for ourselves and for

future generations, but also for those who were there and are no longer with us.” (Fred Smith Jr., 2020)

Training. Yes, we need cultural competency training. Recognition of the overlay and intersection of poverty, trauma, and racism will serve our community well. It will help us

appreciate the burden of each and the avalanche of all when compounded.

So, where to begin??

Lament. Let us lament with groaning too deep for words. Our tears and heartache tell a story that can be read in any language.

Listen. One of the greatest strengths of any leader or community is to listen. Listen to learn. Listen to love. Listen to gain the perspective of someone that does not think, act, or look like you.

Lean in. It is easy to turn away from the injustice that we see. It is uncomfortable to unpack the history of systemic oppression. It is challenging to look at your own heart and mind. Do not give up. If we were to give up, it would mean that we did not act appropriately in the time of adversity.

It would mean that we did not challenge the status quo. Let us address these issues of racial injustice on three levels: individually, interpersonally and institutionally. As individuals, I implore you to search your own heart and beliefs. Interpersonally, connect with others to pursue fairness, equity, and a sense of belonging for all. Institutionally, we are all a part of the systems that could use reform. Curiosity will help us to see the areas of our lives and these systems that can be improved.

We can do this, together.

Michael B. Tukeva
President/CEO
Pocono Mountains
United Way
On behalf of
the Board of Directors

Game Commission to present program on wild turkey

The Pennsylvania Game Commission will be providing a family-friendly educational program on wild turkey at the Northeast Region Office in Dallas on Wednesday, July 22, at 6 p.m.

Game Commission Wild Turkey Biologist Mary Jo Casalena will take participants on a short walk along an easy trail, interpreting wild turkey sign, discussing the life of turkeys and their management. The walk will take place on the office grounds.

This program will be held outdoors rain or shine. Participants will be required to follow all PA state mandated COVID 19 safety protocols in place on the date of program.

The Game Commission Northeast Region Office is located at 3917 Memorial Hwy. in Dallas, (570) 675-1143. No reservations required.



**Wild turkey with poult.
Photo Courtesy of Jacob Dingel**

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Scenes from
Pocono Mountain
School District
East & West
High School
graduations,
June 18 & 19,
Pocono Raceway

Photos by Seth & Ruth
Isenberg,
& Jeanine Hofbauer



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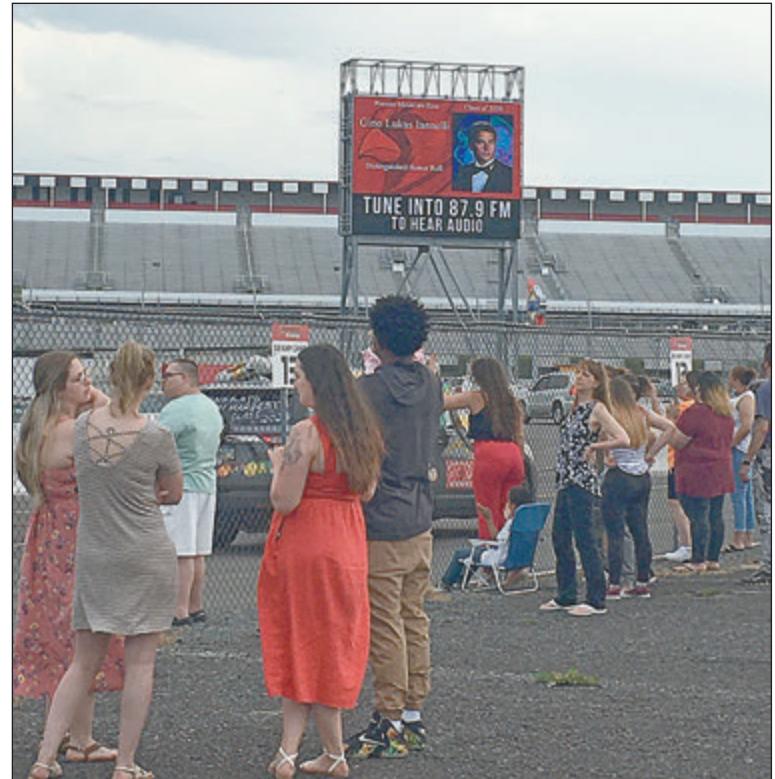


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The Torres Family turned out in support of graduate Dalilah Torres.



The family of Tyasia Ward showed off special cutouts of her. Posing for a picture is Teonna George, and, behind her Tyasia mask, Corletta Scott.



Caitlin O'Hearn, Private First Class, of the Pennsylvania National Guard.

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Area Funerals

STEPHEN D. WELGE

Stephen D. Welge, 59, of Tobyhanna passed away at home surrounded by his loving family on Friday, June 19, 2020. He was the husband of Donna Welge, with whom he spent 39 years of marriage. Stephen was born in Yonkers, NY the son of Norbert and Marie (Hunt) Welge.

Stephen was of the Catholic faith. He worked as an elevator mechanic for Local 1 Schindler Elevator for 35 years. Stephen enjoyed spending time with his family, dogs, and cooking a good steak. He loved his sports, as well as poker and fishing. He will be missed dearly.

In addition to his wife, Stephen is survived by his children, Gary, Stephen, and Joyce; grandchildren, Gary, Baylen, Lilianna, Nolan, and Gavin; siblings, William, Gary, Patricia, and Norbert; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

Mausoleum entombment was in Prospect Cemetery.

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JANINA T. HARMEL

Janina T. (Gosciniak) Harmel, 88, of Mount Pocono, died Wednesday, June 17, 2020 at home. She was the loving wife of an adoring husband, Waldemar Harmel, with whom she shared almost 60 years of marriage.

Born in Bydgoszcz, Poland, Janina was the daughter of the late Jan and Wanda (Pietrzak) Gosciniak.

At one time a competitive athlete in track and field, Janina was a member of the Polish "Wonder Team" in post-war Europe and represented Poland in international competitions.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her son, Richard Harmel and his wife, Victoria of Pompano Beach, Florida; and two daughters, Margaret Sudol and her husband, John of Clifton, New Jersey, and Katherine Goodwin and her husband, Robert of Kanab, Utah.

Bolock Funeral Home, 6148 Paradise Valley Road, Cresco, was in charge of arrangements. Father Gregory Loughney performed a blessing service June 21 at the funeral home.

Private cremation has been entrusted to the Bolock Funeral Home and Crematory.

FRANCES S. SMITH

Frances S. Smith, 96, of Pocono Lake, died Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at home. She was the loving wife of the late John H. Smith, who passed away in 1988.

Born in Philadelphia, she was the daughter of the late Jesse and Fanny (Liston) Shaffer.

Frances was a secretary at Belmont Elementary School in the Upper Merion School District in King of Prussia for many years. She spent the winter months in Florida, where she attended Lakeside

Methodist Church in Lake Worth.

She is survived by her daughter, Gail Crownover and her husband, Robert of Pocono Lake; grandchildren Heather Crownover of St. Louis, Missouri, and Roberta Bear and her husband, John of Lancaster; great-grandchildren Colin and Corey Shue, and Jack and Brynn Bear.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in Florida.

Private cremation has been entrusted to Bolock Funeral Home Crematory.

More Obituaries on page 15.

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GEORGE GUIDA

George Guida, 98, of Pocono Summit, passed away peacefully on June 14, 2020 at the Gino J. Merli Veteran's Center in Scranton. He was the loving husband of the late Mary Jane (Lehman) Guida, who passed away June 28, 2011. They observed their 60th wedding anniversary February 3, 2011.

Born January 23, 1922, George was the son of the late John and Mary Elizabeth (Pavilisko) Guida and a life-long resident of Pocono Summit.

George had been employed by Pocono Manor for 45 years. In his retirement, he kept active by caretaking for several cottages at Pocono Manor.

As a young man, George enlisted in the Marine Corp August 2, 1940, at the age of 18. His basic training was at Parris Island, S.C. after which he was sent to Norfolk Naval yard and St. Julian Creek Naval Ammunition Depot. George then went to Sound and Motion Picture School in Brooklyn and Waller Gunnery on Long Island. He was at Quantico, VA. when the attack on Pearl Harbor occurred. He was sent to Camp Elliott and Camp Pennelton in California for more training. George served in the South Pacific- Guadalcanal, Ulithi, Kwajalein and was wounded at Okinawa, where he earned the Purple Heart, eight days before the island was secured. He was flown to Pearl Harbor and then by hospital ship to San Diego Naval Hospital where he was a patient on VJ Day. In 1944 there was a Guida brother (5) fighting all over the world and they all made it home safely. George was honorably discharged at Bainbridge Naval Base, Bainbridge MD, October 22, 1945.

In 2014, he enjoyed a trip to the WWII Memorial in Washington D.C. sponsored by Honor Flight of Philadelphia. He had the time of his life accompanied by future Eagle Scout James White of Sellersville.

George was a life member of VFW Post 3448, Tobyhan-

na, American Legion Post 922, Canadensis and Dav-41 Wilkes-Barre. He also was a charter member of the Pocono Summit Volunteer Fire Company and member of the former St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, Pocono Summit and St. Mary of the Mount, Mount Pocono. George enjoyed visiting the VFW and playing the monkey machine. He also enjoyed fishing, golf and had a passion for food and knew where all the good restaurants were!

George is survived by son, George S. (Beth) Guida of Honesdale, daughter, Mary Elizabeth (Ken) Santoro of Reeders, and son, Robert Guida of Loris, SC; grandchildren Peter (Chrystal) Guida of East Stroudsburg, Kimberly Santoro of Arlington, VA, Rebecca Santoro of Springfield, NJ, and Kathryn Santoro of Reeders; great-grandsons Dylan and Jackson Guida of East Stroudsburg; sisters Anna Soken of Scranton, and Alice Kruk (Joseph) of Mt. Pocono; many nieces and nephews; and also dear friends Steve and Barbara Ghiggeri and family. In addition to his wife, and parents, George was preceded in death by his brothers Joseph, John, Michael and Samuel, and sisters Mary Vaccola and Helen Esmunicki.

There will be a visitation from 3 to 6 p.m. Friday, July 10 and from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, July 11 at Bolock Funeral Home, 6148 Paradise Valley Road, Cresco. Reverend Father Gregory Loughney will conduct a blessing service at 11 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home. Military Honors will follow.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to, VFW Post # 3448, 119 VFW Drive, Tobyhanna, PA. 18466 or Gino J. Merli Veteran's Center Resident Fund, 401 Penn Ave., Scranton, PA 18503.

Private cremation has been entrusted to Bolock Funeral Home and Crematory. Cresco.

Split Rock Resort reopens to public

Split Rock Resort reopened on June 11 following COVID Social Distancing temporary closures. Split Rock's Director of Facilities, Chuck Dickinson states, "We're very excited to welcome guests back. Our team has worked hard to install the necessary protocol measures to ensure the safety of our guests and employees.

"We're welcome our area friends and neighbors to our open-to-the-public miniature golf and bowling. And our H2O Indoor Waterpark is set

to open July 1."

The reopening of the beautiful Lake View Tavern & Patio at Split Rock Lodge is underway and starting to take reservations later this week.

Guests returning to Split Rock can find their "Commitment to cleanliness" details posted online at SplitRockResort.com. "Ensuring a safe, clean and inviting environment is the core of our commitment to providing the highest level of hospitality.



Mike Mooney of Pocono Organics directs the ribbon cutting, conducted by (from left) Jeff Moyer of Rodale Institute, Ashley Walsh of Pocono Organics with the shears, and Senator Mario Scavello.

Pocono Organics holds grand opening

**Photos and story
by Seth Isenberg**

The new Pocono Organics building had its public debut on June 18 with an official ribbon-cutting and grand opening tours. Ashley Walsh, the founder and president of Pocono Organics, introduced the facility, and the VIPs including Jeff Moyer, chief executive officer of Rodale Institute, PA Senator Mario Scavello, and State Representatives Maureen Madden and Jack Rader. The VIPs also made speeches of welcome.

Walsh proudly introduced Pocono Organics as "a global center for research and development." In addition to growing organic produce, the facility will be training people to grow organically, and offering teaching and wellness programs. "We know that using food as medicine is so important to human health," she said, adding the food grown here will make for a healthier community.

Jeff Moyer of the Rodale Institute, research partner in the project, spoke of research to be done, and training for organic farmers and home garden-

ers, education opportunities including classes on cooking organically, and more.

Scavello, in his remarks, noted that "this is the future, (where) we know how this food is grown." To Walsh, he added, "We wish you much success in the years ahead."

After the ribbon cutting, tours of the indoor facility were given. There are rows and rows of beautiful plants growing in the large greenhouses located behind the main building. My tour guide,



Tim Wilson, manager of greenhouse operations, shows a beautiful eggplant near ready for harvest in a mixed planting greenhouse.

Tim Wilson of Jonas, greenhouses manager, showed off the work of his team. In one of the greenhouses, that team was busy adding plants to rows fed by drip irrigation.

The 30,000 square-foot building and greenhouse complex also features a market for Pocono Organics' produce and other featured products such as organically raised pork and chicken. The facility has a café where organic meals will be offered by Lindsay McClain, Executive Chef of Pocono Organics' Farm Market and Café. Then there are fields of organic produce planted this spring, some near ready for their first harvests.

Right now, there are 25 employees, with another 25 who will work seasonally. As the business grows, those employee counts are projected to double. Construction of the facility, by The Jacob Companies general contractor, of West Palm Beach, Florida, employed 130.

Pocono Organics is located at the intersection of Route 115 and Long Pond Road. The Market and Café are open daily—check poconoorganics.org for details.

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**Notices**

Red Cross now testing all blood donations for COVID-19 antibodies

All blood types needed to prevent summer shortages

For a limited time, the American Red Cross is testing all blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies, providing donors insight into whether they have been exposed to this coronavirus. At the same time, there continues to be an urgent need for blood donations as hospitals resume surgeries and treatments that require blood products.

Antibody testing

will indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus, regardless of whether they developed symptoms. Donations will be tested using samples pulled at the time of donation and sent to a testing laboratory where they will also undergo routine infectious disease testing. A positive antibody test result does not confirm infection or immunity.

The Red Cross is not testing donors to diagnose illness, referred to as a diagnostic test.

Donation appointments can be made by downloading the free Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device. Thanks to Amazon, all those who come to give by June 30 will receive a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email.*

Host a blood drive

With no known end date in this fight against coronavirus, the Red Cross urgently needs air-conditioned locations to host blood drives throughout the summer. To learn more about hosting a blood drive and to sign up, visit RedCrossBlood.org/HostADrive.



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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.



Police Beat

by Seth Isenberg

There were two domestics in Penn Forest Twp. on 6-23, one in Penn Forest Streams, the other in Bear Creek Lake, PA State Police-Lehighton.

A 75 y/o Albrightsville man is charged with disorderly conduct for continuously sounding his car horn while driving on Whitman Lane and Teddy-uscung Trail in Towamensing Trails, Penn Forest Twp. at 9:17 p.m. on 6-20, PSP-Fern Ridge.

A 43 y/o Blakeslee area man is charged with criminal mischief for vandalizing the toilet at Valerio's Restaurant in Albrightsville at 11:08 a.m. on 6-14, PSP-F.

PSP-L conducted a death investigation of an elderly male on 6-14, finding the nothing

suspicious and so reporting it as natural.

A traffic stop on a westbound auto in Interstate 80 found 1.5 pounds of marijuana and three Kingston / Wilkes-Barre area men are charged with possession with the intent to deal, 6-13, PSP-F.

A welfare check on a woman found that she had taken "an excessive amount" of medicines in an attempt at suicide. Police took her to the hospital for care about the drugs, and also a mental health evaluation, 6-12, PSP-L.

A continuing neighbors' dispute that started in late May on Unionville Road resulted in harassment charges against the neighbor who was continually reporting noise to PSP-F.

Troopers responded numerous times, finding no basis for the complaints each time. The serial complainer is charged with harassment and disorderly conduct of 6-8, and will appear in District Court on the incidents.

A FedEx driver arrived at a Long Woods Dr., Chestnuthill Twp. home to make a delivery just after 1 p.m. on 6-4, and was bitten on the leg by the property owner's loose dog. There was another dog bite incident on Kathy Ct. in Penn Forest Twp. at 8:30 p.m. on 6-8, PSP-F.

Several DUI incidents are in the reports for these weeks.

Also on the lists were crashes into deer or because the driver swerved around deer, fender-benders, harassments (many of these with a wide variety of incidents), and vandalism including an egging, and

damaged mailboxes, plus in an incident in Jackson Twp. of smashed windows on logging equipment.

There was a citation issued to a business who has had four false alarms in a short period.

Stealin'

Someone stole a two-piece tan-colored composite glider and bench from the deck of Zurn Realty on Route 903 is south Penn Forest Twp., called in the afternoon of 6-22. Call PSP-L if you may have seen anything that can help solve this.

There were a handful of incidents where locals had their debit or credit card numbers stolen, or in one incident, there was forgery in a local's checking account, and a PayPal account opened in their name. PSP-F is investigating.

There is a suspected porch pirate incident at a South

Lane, Reeders home on 6-5 with a FedEx package reported delivered, but never received.

A white Chevy Suburban, '03, was stolen from the parking lot of Kost Tire in Brodheadsville between 6-14 and 20. It was there for service, PSP-F.

PSP-F and PSP-L seek information and witnesses. Call them at 570 646-2271 PSP-F or 610-681-1859 PSP-L if you can help.

Help Wanted

Monadnock Non-Wovens, a fast growing and busy manufacturer of media used in face masks and filters located in Mt. Pocono, is looking for great people to join our team and grow with us. Training is provided and rapid promotion follows. Build a career in manufacturing locally. We are currently hiring for the following positions:

Production Workers, a Maintenance Assistant and a Shipping Coordinator

We offer a safe work environment with good starting pay. Full-time employees are eligible for quarterly bonuses, health, dental, vision, 401k, tuition reimbursement and paid vacation. Must be dependable and able to work as part of a team. Good communication skills are required. Drug Free Workplace/EOE. Visit our website at: www.mnwovens.com/about/careers to complete our application. Questions? Send an email to: dsampson@mnwovens.com or call 570-839-9210, x232.

Puzzle Answers

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 8 |
| 8 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 1 |
| 9 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 6 |
| 2 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 3 |
| 4 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 5 |
| 6 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 4 |
| 7 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 9 |
| 5 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 7 |



**Out
in the
Open
TV**
**20th ANNIVERSARY
on Blue Ridge TV 13**

HOSTS: Alex & JoAnne Zidock

THURS. 9:30 PM

Replays: FRI. 8:30 AM & 9:30 PM
SAT. 12:30 PM • SUN. 1 AM & 11:30 AM
MON. 12 AM & 6 AM

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Area Funerals

ROY J. BISHOP

Roy J. Bishop, 81 of Long Pond, died Wednesday, June 17, 2020 at his home. He was the loving husband of Carole (Hunt) Bishop, with whom he shared 61 years of marriage.

Born in Queens, New York, he was the son of the late Homer and Eleanor (Wiederman) Bishop.

Roy had a charmed 20-year career with the NYC mounted police department, within which he was an excellent horseman and upstanding officer during a difficult time in history. After retirement, Roy had a second career as an executive salesman. He enjoyed being part of the fabric of Manhattan.

Roy loved sports and was a great athlete. His family enjoyed being spectators when he performed in the National Horse Shows in Madison Square Garden and played softball on the Broadway Show League. Roy especially loved

playing basketball with his sons, son-in-law, and grandsons. In his later years, he enjoyed golf and claimed to have hit a hole in one; unfortunately there were no witnesses! He was a notorious “putterer” and liked to create order and beauty in his environment. He was very social and a great story-teller. Roy made friends wherever he was planted. He had the best sense of humor and great love for his family. He will be missed by many

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his sons, Roy Bishop of Fishkill, New York, and Ryan Bishop and his wife, Buffy of Pine Bush, New York; daughters, Sherrie Schouten and her husband, James of Port Angeles, Washington, and Diane Bishop of Las Vegas, Nevada; 11 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. Private cremation has been entrusted to Bolock Funeral Home Crematory, Cresco.

RICHARD F. TOWNSEND

Richard F. Townsend, 64, of Tobyhanna, passed away Thursday evening, June 11, 2020, at Regional Hospital in Scranton surrounded by his family.

Born on August 1, 1955 in East Stroudsburg, he was a son of the late Douglas and Marguerite (Buck) Townsend. He was a Monroe County resident for over 50 years, having lived in Stroudsburg, Tobyhanna and Saylorsburg prior to becoming a resident at the Gino Merli Veteran's Center three years ago.

He served in the U.S. Navy Seabees from 1973 to 1977.

Richard worked for Tobyhanna Army Depot and Defense Distribution Depot for over 40 years and retired in 2016.

He was an active member of the Coolbaugh Township Fire Company.

His favorite sport was football, he loved the Philadelphia

Eagles, and enjoyed model railroading.

Rich was a loving father and is survived by his two daughters, Erica Townsend and husband Glen Brown of Pittston and Meghan Townsend of Nazareth. He is also survived by three brothers, Douglas Townsend and wife Donna of Virginia, Henry “Hank” Townsend and wife Barbara of East Stroudsburg, and Robert Townsend and wife Donna of East Stroudsburg; several nieces and nephews; and he was married to Lynn (Reiz) Townsend for 36 years. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, John Scott Townsend.

Burial was at Laurelwood Cemetery in Stroudsburg.

In lieu of flowers memorial remembrances may be made to Gino J. Merli Veteran's Center Resident Fund at 401 Penn Ave., Scranton, PA 18503.

DOUGLAS E. GERTZ

Douglas E. Gertz, 55, of Long Pond, passed away Monday, June 15, 2020. Born in Patchogue, Long Island, New York, he was the son of William and Carol (Jehoda) Gertz Sr.

Douglas was a resident of Long Pond for the past 15 years and prior to that he resided in Long Island, New York.

Doug was employed as a New York City Fireman for the past 30 years. He was of the Catholic faith.

He is survived by a son, Jared D. Gertz and his fiancée Allana of Jacksonville, Florida

Cremation services were private. Burial will be in New York.

VINCENT J. McMAIL II

Vincent J. McMail II, 57, of Tobyhanna, died Sunday, June 7, 2020 at home. He was the loving husband of Veronica McMail.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, he was the son of the late Vincent J. and Irene (Stroinski) McMail.

Vincent worked for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 102 in Parsippany, New Jersey. He was an avid “face melting” drummer, and a “master electrician.”

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his children, Vincent Joseph McMail III, and Erin McMail, both of Tobyhanna; grandchildren Vincent Joseph McMail IV, and Arwen Arabella Maynes; daughter-in-law, Mariella McMail; son-in-law, Ryan “pizza boy” Maynes; and countless friends, who were as good as blood. He was preceded in death by his son, Ryan McMail.

Services are private; cremation is entrusted to Bolock Funeral Home Crematory, Cresco.

TOMEC statement seeks peace and healing in our nation

In light of recent events in our nation, the Top of the Mountain Ecumenical Council (TOMEC) has issued the following statement:

There are no grounds for racism in the Judeo/Christian ethic. As children of God, we are called to love, not hate.

Racism has been called the Original Sin of the United States of America. In 2020, racism continues to cause acts and attitudes of hatred, as we have unfortunately seen so clearly in the events in our nation and communities in

recent days and weeks.

The need to speak out and stand up against racist ideologies has become most urgent and our efforts must be constantly led and accompanied by prayer and self-reflection. Psalm 150 ends, “Let every breath praise Yah, Hallelu-yah.” Every breath – the life-force of all – is to be used to praise God. If our last breaths are used to call out, “I can’t breathe,” that is not a breath in praise of God. If our collective breaths are not used to protest, to correct, to

advise and to console, we are not truly using our life-force to praise God.

May we remember to listen to the stories that are being shared that describe the lived, daily experiences of people of color in our country. May we learn to use our words and deeds for the common good and never cease to believe that goodness and faith will triumph in the end.

TOMEC is the cooperative effort of eight congregations on the Pocono Plateau

– Blakeslee United Methodist Church, Faith Lutheran Church, Iglesia La Gran Comision, Pocono Lake United Methodist Church, Pocono Lake Wesleyan Church, Salem United Church of Christ, St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish and Congregation B’Nai Harim Reform Synagogue – and strives to meet the spiritual needs of the people in Tobyhanna, Tunkhannock and parts of Coolbaugh Township.

For more information, contact 570-646-6424.

Streamwatchers needed; free training offered

Would you like to be a Streamwatcher? Brodhead Watershed Association will soon welcome new “water warriors” into its popular Streamwatch program.

A Streamwatch volunteer training webinar will be held via Zoom at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 27. Registration is required by noon on June 26, and registrants will be emailed details on joining the webinar.

For 28 years, BWA Streamwatch volunteers have been checking local streams on a monthly basis. If problems are discovered, BWA alerts regulatory agencies, such as the Department of Environmental Protection. With more than 70 volunteers in seven sub-watershed regions of Monroe County, new volunteers are always welcome to join the efforts to ensure water quality. This program is also a refresher course for veteran Streamwatchers.

The training will last approximately 30 minutes, with 15 minutes of questions and answers at the end.

After the webinar, anyone who wants to be a Streamwatcher will be matched to a testing site that is most convenient for the volunteer. Then, a team leader will contact new volunteers to finalize and answer questions.

To register or for questions, call 570-839-1120 or email info@brodheadwatershed.org. For more about Streamwatch, see brodheadwatershed.org/stream-watch/.

If you are interested but cannot attend the June 27 webinar, the taped webinar will be available on the BWA website. If you want to join, please email or call so a team leader can guide you through the process.



DO NOT Flush Wipes!

Prevent plumbing backups and wastewater overflows. Do not flush wipes! Put wipes in the trash. Even wipes labeled as flushable don't break down and can cause backups in household plumbing and larger blockages in wastewater collection systems. Do not flush tissues, napkins or paper towels.

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