Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our readers. The next *Journal of the* Pocono Plateau will be published January 7. **Deadline is January 4.**



VOLUME 20, NUMBER 29

December 24, 2015-January 6, 2016



FEASTING FEEDS FOLKS: The recent fund-raiser held by Chat 'n' Chew Restaurant and Knights of Columbus Council 13752 raised \$1,000, to be shared by the Knights for their projects and the Top of the Mountain food pantry. Hopes are to make this an annual event. Shown serving from left are Past Grand Knight Steve Glinane, recording secretary Mike Logan, Grand Knight Jay Crandell, Donna Dovido, Mike Horoszewki, Past Grand Knight Dr. James Rinehimer, and Mike Dovidio. JH: Seth Isenberg

Coolbaugh voters could decide library tax increase

by Jeanine Hofbauer

A voter referendum could be in the cards at the next primary election as supervisors agreed to proceed with lending Pocono Mountain Public Library over \$191,000 during the December 15 meeting.

"We weren't going to let the library fail," commented Robert Zito detailing the deal with a payback of 10 years at 1.5% interest.

Noting reasons for a referendum he added, "I think the fairest way is to go to the people." With the threat of foreclosure looming as a December 31 Balloon Loan deadline approached, the decision will extend the date with ESSA bank to December 2016.

Solicitor Jerry Hanna stressed, "We [Coolbaugh Township and PMPL] need to have a bare bones agreement," explaining, "We've got to fund this thing within the next two weeks."

With Coolbaugh currently paying \$538,000 through a 2 mill library tax, Michelle Fairservice asked, "What's Mount Pocono paying?"

"At this point nothing," responded Zito with Fairservice encouraging fair share assistance.

"Anything that goes with taxpayers' money should be transparent," she urged suggesting the township keep budget reports for the library on file.

The stand on demolishing dangerous structures continues as supervisors reviewed stats on where things are at. Lynn Kelly reported con-

Please turn to page 2

Pocono Mtn. West PRIDE propelling pupils

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Pocono Mountain West High School Administrators joined Assistant Superintendent Betsy Gustafson illustrating strength in the school-wide Prepared Respectful Involved Dependable Empathetic (PRIDE) positive behavior support program during December 16's meeting. From the classroom, with students and faculty, to transport and lunch level drivers and servers-all are expected to participate as prevention

and intervention over reacting is the focus.

Applauding "what students are doing right," Gustafson listed common expectations, practices and language of the evidence based practice.

"Statistically 80% do the right thing," she said noting the importance of recognition for the good.

Dashing skepticism over encouraging the program at a secondary level, she reported a drop in expulsions from last

Please turn to page 3



Assistant Principal Brenda Fladger extends an invitation to PMSD directors to witness West PRIDE during December 16's meeting. JP: Hofbauer Strategies





COOLBAUGH SUPERVISORS CHAIRMAN Bill Weimer thanks outgoing supervisors Fred Pope, at left, and Robert Zito, above, during their final meeting as sitting township supervisors. JP: Hofbauer Strategies

Coolbaugh... Continued from page 1

attempts and results on eight fire-damaged properties. All but two have been persuaded to act. Supervisors applauded these achievements, and directed Atty. Hanna to pursue the owners of the remaining two sites on Belgravia and Falcon Terrace.

Reporting a response received from the courts in Staten Island of no estate for the deceased owners of one of the properties, Atty. Hanna noted, "We may have enough to do a public report."

Supervisor chair Bill Weimer said, "We still have \$50,000 in the budget to demolish."

Supervisors approved Center Rock Realty's sewage maintenance agreement for the new Ray Price Automotive facility adjoining their property along Route 940 after review with engineer Brick Lindner detailing his client's compliance providing a two year maintenance bond and letter of credit. Supervisors signed copies for municipal agreement to be recorded at the courthouse. Supervisors approved bill payments totaling \$218,740.22 with fund payments of:

General Fund-\$192,667.86 Sewer Fund- \$20,809.18 Escrow Fund-\$5,263.18

The group bid a fond farewell with thanks to Zito and Fred Pope as they complete their terms as supervisors. Each received public gratitude for serving on additional committees and boards. Zito responded with words of wisdom to newcomers.

"Approach this with a heart of humility," he said adding, "You don't know as much as you think you do."

Supervisors Zito, Pope, Weimer, Kelly and Juan Adams were present for the meeting along with administrative assistant Erin Masker and an audience of approximately 15.

Supervisors are scheduled to gather for their next meeting January 4 immediately following a 7 p.m. reorganization meeting in the administrative building located on Municipal Drive in Tobyhanna.



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PMSD bond issue to save millions

by Jeanine Hofbauer

"Pocono Mountain School District is solvent," declared Annabella Lastowski as directors applauded a savings of nearly \$4 million through bond refinancing during the January 6 meeting. Sharing excerpts from the district's public finance associate Boenning and Scattergood's report, Business Manager Joe Colozza detailed how, "It was the prime time to do this transaction."

He noted a Standard and Poor A+ rating attracting more buyers, as well as low rates, Rusty Johnson reminded all the achievement far exceeded expectations of a \$2 million threshold.

Ricky Smith explained the latest bond reissuance falls right in line with PMSD's savory savings trend taking the total financing savings to nearly \$7 million.

Comparing other districts across the state struggling to stay afloat through the turbulent budget impasse, Lastowski considered, "Sound financial management" the saving grace for PMSD.

The next meeting is set for 7 p.m. January 6 at the Administration Building on the Swiftwater campus.



The Journal of the Pocono Plateau—providing information and communication to build a better community.

Clymer Library honors *Journal of the Pocono Plateau*

In a recent dedication by the Clymer Library Board of Trustees, Ruth and Seth Isenberg of the *Journal of the Pocono Plateau* were honored for their years of contribution to the Clymer Library.

The library Trustees purchased and installed a walkway paver at its main entrance, "Dedicated by the Clymer Library Association to Our Friends at the Journal." Ruth serves as the Journal's Editor-In-Chief while Seth is the General Manager.

On hand to honor the Isenberg's were Board of Trustees President Frank Cacchione, Board Secretary Melissa Laverty, Trustee Rick Bodenschatz and Laura Laspee, Library Director.

Rick Bodenschatz stated "our community is so fortunate in these days of reduced print media to have such a quality community newspaper serving our residents." He further commended the Isen-



berg's for their dedication to keeping the local community informed of the resources and activities on top of the Pocono Plateau. "The Journal of the Pocono Plateau has done so much over the years, to keep our residents informed of the activity's at the library. As the library's resources have grown with the community, the Journal has been an important part of spreading the message of the value of the Clymer Library," as noted by Bodenschatz.

After the dedication Trustee Melissa Laverty commented how gratifying it is for the Journal to practice what it claims, since the Journal's tag line is "providing better information and communication to build a better community."

The Journal of the Pocono Plateau has grown over the years as a free weekly publication, and it now offers a quality electronic version of value to part-time and seasonal residents, that is emailed to subscribers for a very small annual cost.

Inside all BLAKESL vear Outside April to ? Routes 940 & 115 • Blakeslee, PA • 570-646-0943 LOCAL Z Brand Name Handbags & Clothes, Cell Phone Acc., LOCAL HONEY New & Pre-Owned Guitars & Amps, Music Accessories. Handmade Soaps, Coins, Collectibles, Jewelry, Knives, Antiques, Clothes, Avon, Lenox, Tools, Movies, TRASH CAN CAGES Music, Snacks, Pet Supplies, Video Games, Amish Sassafrass, Indoor and Lawn Furniture, Books, More! -Guaranteed lowest prices Delivery Available facebook Vendor Space Available GUITAR REPAIRS & SERVICE

The Clymer Library, located in Pocono Pines, offers thousands of books, movies, audio books, magazines, audio CD's, as well as computer and Internet access to patrons in Tobyhanna and Tunkhannock Townships. Each month the library offers many programs for patrons of all ages.

PMSD... Continued from page 1

year's 18 down to zero with an increase in grades and attendance.

Principal Mark Wade discussed West's overall "feel safe" climate and culture calling it "an environment of trust and respect."

Closing with "West is best," Assistant Principal Brenda Fladger reminded, "Every single thing these kids do represents us," extending an invitation for directors to visit and see for themselves.

Agreeing, Michael Stern commented, "You can actually see and feel the difference."

The next PMSD meeting is set for 7 p.m. January 6 at the Administration Building on the Swiftwater campus.



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Area Funerals

Michael G. Coughlin

Michael G. Coughlin, 67, of Pocono Lake, died Thursday, December 17, 2015 at home. He was the husband of Catherine (Funston) Coughlin, with whom he shared 47 years of marriage. Born in Philadelphia, he was a

son of John J. and Marion (Somers) Coughlin.

A veteran of the United States Army, Michael served during the Vietnam War.

The beautiful environment and the winters in the Poconos brought Michael and Catherine here in 1988 to purchase their vacation home in Arrowhead Lakes. In 2008 they made it their permanent residence.

He is also survived by his daughter, Christine Gallagher of Throop; brother, Gerald Coughlin of Philadelphia; sister, Rosemarie Elefant of Hamilton, New Jersey; three grandchildren; and 14 nieces and nephews. Michael was preceded in death by his son, Mike Coughlin and his two brothers Jack and Thomas Coughlin.

The Reverend Father Sean Carpenter celebrated a Mass of Christian Burial December 21 at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, Pocono Pines.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the National Wildlife Foundation, PO Box 1583, Merrifield VA, 22116-1583 or by visiting www.nwf.org. Private cremation has been

entrusted to Bolock Funeral Home Crematory.

Recently, team members at Frailey Insurance and Financial Services helped to load numerous gifts collected through the "Angels for Aging" Christmas tree project. These gifts were donated by clients, team members, and the public. It was the fifth year that Frailey Insurance and Financial Services partnered with this agency, and it was a huge success. Essentials to big-print books and bedroom slippers were on the list.

"For the past five years, we have supported Monroe County Area Agency on Aging during the Christmas holiday. By doing so, we were able to enhance the quality of life of some Monroe County senior citizens age 60 and older. We did this by picking a name off the tree and fulfilling their two wishes. We then wrapped the gifts, attached their name, and placed them under the tree." says Josephine A. Fontan, project coordinator.

Wanda J. Nicolo, Aging Case Aid II, and Lauren O'Connor, Fiscal Technician, helped to load and distribute the gifts. "The Monroe County Area Agency on Aging is thrilled to accept the generosity of Frailey Insurance and Financial Services on behalf of older Monroe County residents. It's just breathtaking to see the way your agency has blessed some of the seniors in our community. Many individuals are low income and do not have resources for the extras that make this time of year special. These gifts bring cheer to the



holidays for our consumers that may not have any other holiday enjoyment this year." stated Nicolo.

If you would like the Frailey team to partner with your agency, you may contact the team at 570-421-7447.

Michael J. Bolock, Supervisor

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<u>Thursday, December 24</u> 5:30 p.m. ~ Christmas Eve Family Liturgy Friday, December 25 10:30 a.m. ~ Mass of Christmas Day Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 10:30 a.m. - <u>Friday, January 1</u> Solemnity of the Epiphany 4 p.m. - Saturday, January 2 8 & 10:30 a.m. -<u>Sunday, January 3</u>





carsforhomes.org

Pocono Cinema and Cultural Center announces major changes

Pocono Cinema and Cultural Center, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non profit organization, that operates the former Pocono Cinema at 88 South Courtland Street, East Stroudsburg, announced major changes at a press conference on November 6. Effective immediately, the organization has changed its name from the Pocono Community Theater to the Pocono Cinema & Cultural Center.

Pocono Cinema also announced a new series of live entertainment shows, which will bring Broadway cabaret, comedy, hypnosis and other live performance to the stage.

Margaret Ball, D.M.A. and Chair of the Theater Department at ESU, focused on the community outreach and education aspect of the organization. "We are developing exciting programs to educate both youth and adults here at



\$23, Show 8 p.m.

- 12/31 New Year's Eve Dance Party \$10, Doors Open 9 p.m.
- 1/2 Iconic Songs of the 70s \$20, Show 8 p.m.
- 1/9 Eric Mintel Quartet Does TV \$18, Show 8 p.m.
- 1/15 Steve Forbert \$23, Show 8 p.m.
- 1/16 New West Guitar Group w/Vocalist Sara Gazarek \$18, Show 8 p.m.
- 1/22 Taarka \$15, Show 6:30 p.m.
- 1/23 Dirty Bourbon River Show \$18, Show 8 p.m.

Check our website

the theater, ranging from our successful book club-led by our board secretary Dr. Sandra Eckard- to creative acting and comedy workshops. We are in discussions about possible acting and comedy workshops. In addition, we offer low cost rentals to community groups who need a presentation space." Ball also announced that, in the spring of 2016, the theater would host a Holocaust Symposium for local schools.

The Theater, which has

added live performances from top-name Broadway talent and other artists to a line-up of current and classic movies, is planning upgrades and renovations with monies provided from a Share Account Grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Theater will improve in its physical plant to even better serve patrons and public and educational groups already using its facilities. This is an exciting next step in the plan to strengthen the Theater

as an invaluable community asset, providing entertainment, cultural, and educational programs.

Chairman Roger McFadden explained, "We have been working diligently in our transition from prior Leadership, and through those efforts, have arrived at an exciting time. Thanks to a grant from the state for \$162,000 and the great support of Senator Scavello and Representative Brown, we are starting a proj-

A list of participating parks and

programs is available at http://

www.eparks.com/store/con-

tent/863/Passport-Cancella-

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nial Passport to Your National

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parks," said Eastern National president Kevin C. Kissling.

"We're happy to be part of this

special anniversary as the Na-

tional Park Service commemo-

rates a century of conservation

stamps will also be available at various events associated

with the Pasadena Tourna-

ment of Roses Parade, where

the National Park Service will

feature a pop-up national park.

Visitors can get their Passports

stamped at the NPS Mobile

Visitor Center at Decorating Places (December 27-31) and

Post Parade (January 1-3).

Stamps will also be available at

Live on Green, a family festival

also held in Pasadena, from

cancellation

and preservation."

Centennial

tion-Locations/.

ect to renovate theater 1. The theater will get new flooring, seating and wall treatments. We will add a sound board for live performances. When it is completed. Theater 1 will be state of the art and rival any Cineplex."

McFadden also announced "We are starting a campaign to improve the appearance of the façade and lobby. We are starting a "Light the Lights" campaign aimed to repair the inoperable Pocono Cinema neon sign, replace our marquee lighting, and improve our exterior appearance."

For more information, contact President Courtney Tolino at 717-756-2405, Ellyse Burnett at 570-561-9537, or Ken Petrini at 610-751-2769.

Upcoming Live performances and special events

January 8 Comedy Cabaret Headline Show at 2:30 and 8 p.m.

January 10 Dirty Harry revival 7 p.m.



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Passport to Your National Parks offers Centennial Cancellation Stamps

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service in 2016, the popular Passport To Your National Parks® program will offer special centennial Passport cancellation stamps at national parks throughout the country.

Developed by the National Park Service's longtime nonprofit educational partner, Eastern National, the special stamp will print a round cancellation graphic with the name of the individual park around the top of the circle and "NPS Centennial" around the bottom. A middle line will read, "1916 -2016." The special stamps will be available starting on January 1 until the end of 2016. Visitors can view a sample of the stamp imprint on the Passport program webpage http://easternnational.org/what-we-do/ passport/.



"These centennial Passport stamps are a great way for visitors to join in the National Park Service's birthday celebration," said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis. "We hope that visitors will use the special cancellation stamps to help them rediscover their favorite parks in 2016 and explore some new parks as well."

Since its inception in 1986, the Passport program has introduced millions of visitors to the national park system. The program consists of a Passport guidebook, an annual series of commemorative sticker-style stamps, a companion mobile app, and the famous ink cancellation stamps.

Nearly all 409 national parks participate in the Passport program, as well as some national trails and scenic rivers and certain park and program offices.

BREAKFAST **SUNDAY, JANUARY 3** 8 a.m.-12 noon American Legion **Post 413**

Old Route 940, Pocono Lake Serving eggs, pancakes, waffles, French toast. assorted meats, homefries, juice, coffee & tea. Adults \$8

Children 12 & under \$5 570-646-6010



PAGE 6—THE JOURNAL OF THE POCONO PLATEAU, DECEMBER 24, 2015-JANUARY 6, 2016

Paint for Puppies

The West End Park and Open Space Commission will host a Paint for the Puppies event at the Chestnuthill Park Building on January 9 from 1-3 p.m.

Participants will get everything they need, including painting lessons, to create their very own masterpiece.

You can either bring your own refreshments, or enjoy complimentary ones. Cost is \$20, and benefits the future West End Regional Dog Park

For more information, call 570- 730-9887. Register online at www.ccreationscrafts. weebly.com.

Disney on Ice presents Dare to Dream

Disney on Ice presents Dare to Dream. This ice spectacular, presented by Stonyfield YoKids Organic Yogurt, is bringing Disney's princess stories and most beloved fairytales to the ice in a sensational live production coming to your hometown. It fea-



tures scenes from Tangled, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Cinderella, and The Princess and the Frog.

The show will visit Wilkes-Barre from January 13-18 for nine performances at Mohegan Sun Arena. Tickets go on sale on October 23 at 10 a.m. Tickets start at \$15 and are available at Ticketmaster.com. To learn more about the show, visit DisneyOnIce. com, or visit them on Facebook and YouTube.

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Gabriel Iglesias to visit Mohegan Sun Arena

Comedian/Actor Gabriel Iglesias returns to Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza in Wilkes-Barre on April 22 at 7:30 p.m. with The Fluffy Breaks Even! tour. Tickets, starting at \$30, go on sale on December 18 at 10 a.m. at the NBT Bank Box Office at Mohegan Sun Arena and all Ticketmaster outlets.

Iglesias is one of America's most successful standup comedians, and performs to sold-out concerts around the world. He recently had the distinct honor of being one of the few comedians to headline and sellout Madison Square Garden in New York, The Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles, and The Honda Center in Anaheim.

Gabriel stars in Fuse TV's "Fluffy Breaks Even!", which is a non-scripted comedic docu-follow series co-starring his eccentric tour mates and fellow comedians Martin Moreno and Rick Gutierrez. Audience members will have an opportunity to see what it's like for Iglesias to eat on the road, add up the calories, and then try to burn it off and "break even" with a different restaurant and workout in every episode.

Gabriel starred in the theatrical stand-up concert comedy film, The Fluffy Movie. For the past three years, Comedy Central has aired Iglesias'



premiered Gabriel Iglesias: Aloha Fluffy in an unprecedented two-night comedy special to over 15 million viewers. The special was a

follow-up to his previous DVD specials, Hot & Fluffy and I'm Not Fat...I'm Fluffy, which have sold a combined total of over 2 million copies.

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.





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THE JOURNAL OF THE POCONO PLATEAU, DECEMBER 24, 2015-JANUARY 6, 2016—PAGE 7

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RESTAURA

Seth's Sightings by Seth Isenberg

Thursday was our date with The Force. Ruth and I claimed our seats early before the late showing of the new Star Wars movie at Split Rock Resort's movie theater. The film was great fun—lots of good guys and some new bad guys—old heroes and new. The new digital projector at Split Rock made the images sharp and with a bucket of fresh-popped popcorn, it was as good viewing as anywhere. Park close by, there are no lines with the theater right at the north entrance to the Galleria.

Our only chance to see hockey this week was on Friday, when the WBS Penguins took on the top team in the AHL, the Toronto Marlies. This game we enjoyed in the company of friends. All of us saw the locals jump out to a 3-goal lead, and then the visiors claw back to even things up. The game ended tied. The overtime period ended tied. In the end, Toronto won it on the last shot of a shootout. The next home games are on Sunday the 27th at 4 p.m., New Year's eve at 5 p.m., Jan. 2 at the normal 7 p.m. and the 3rd at 3 p.m., then a rare Tuesday night game on the 5th. So Christmas week is light, but the Penns get rocking into the new year.

Cold temperatures over the weekend had local snowmaking crews furiously building a base on limited ski terrain. It's our hope that the snow made will hold up through Christmas week. Our area has been very quiet without the families who come up to ski. It's been odd to have golfing but not skiing in mid-December.

The lack of snow has also affected our hunters. Without the hunters, our area would have been very empty these last two weeks.

Saturday's weather was too good to not go out for a brisk walk with Chess, our English pointer. We again took her into the heart

HAPPY HOUR:

Monday - Friday:

4 - 6 p.m.

of Hickory Run State Park to keep safe from hunters – the Sand Springs day area is a no hunting zone, with the added bonus of a year 'round running water bathroom if needed. Chess took herself into the water as far as her hairless tummy when she decided the water was too cold to swim in.

On Sunday we headed into New Jersey to visit my Uncle Slater. Our visit was highlighted

570-895-4376 in the Pocono Summit Plaza on Route 940 Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed Sunday WE DELIVER (within 5 miles, \$20 minimum) Try our NEW premium Heros \$5.50 Regular Heros \$5.50 Premium Heros Soxed Lunch Specials from \$7.50. Also wraps, salads, hot food specials. with a good meal, and buying gas at \$1.71.9/gallon. On our way, we enjoyed sighting Santas on the fire truck touring their communities, first in White Haven as we were leaving, and then in Budd Lake, New Jersey as we arrived at my uncle's (there, a big Santa Claus on a big aerial ladder truck). I am pleased about the Patri-

ots earning a playoff bye. I didn't bother to follow the game - too easy. The Steelers helped out by beating the Broncos. The Panthers beating the Giants was a super game. Things will be hothot when it comes to earning the Wild Card spots. As for the Eagles - not too good of a game versus a much better opponent, but if they beat the Redskins this coming week, and then the Giants, it is their division - something that will earn them one game into this year's playoffs before they finally pack it in.

I'm not sure that the Sixers can be considered an NBA team at this point. Good luck to the new additions to the management and coaching staff, though Mike D'Antoni is a very good coach and can help if the team can add some talent.

We are still not sure of our New Year's plans – Split Rock's party or the one at the Mauch Chunk Opera House are possibles. And I made a typo last week about the PA Farm Show's opening day – it's the 9th. More on that in the coming weeks.

It's great to see the Pennsylvania gas prices going down. I'd like to see them go down even more, because in January, Pennsylvania drivers will see another gas tax increase of 7¢/gallon, and our state will have one of the highest gas taxes in the country.

On Monday as I wrote parts of this column, UConn's Lady Huskies were playing at home without their all-star senior, Breanna Stewart. The short-handed team was able to double up on a decent LSU team, 86 to 40. Next Monday, the undefeated and ranked #6 Maryland Terps are their opponent in a game at Madison Square Garden.



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Journal of the Pocono Plateau Classifieds

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Journal Puzzles

THEME: FINISH THE LYRICS

ACROSS 1. Southern cuisine pie 6. French lake 9. H or O in H2O, e.g. 13. *"Tell _____ I love her" 14. *"A long, long time _____ I can still remember how that music ... " 15. Cast somebody there 16. Misbehave 17. St. Louis player 18. First American-born saint, Elizabeth Ann 19. *"Blue jean baby, L.A. lady, seamstress for ____

- _____" 48. Fireplace 21. *"On a dark desert highway, cool wind in ______" 23. Draft pick 48. Fireplace 50. One-pot meal 52. *"I wanna be loved by you, ju
- 24. \$10,000, to a judge, e.g. 25. *"You ____ again" 28. *"You ____ me what I am today" 30. Inventor's right 35. Burden 37. Color of a bruise __ is a sound 39. *" salvation... cleaning up the nation" 40. Bumpkin 41. "Get _____" (1965-1970) 43. *"lsn't it a _ Isn't it a shame" 44. What a taster does 46. 41st or 43rd president 47. 1970s hairdo 48. Fireplace 52. *"I wanna be loved by you, just

53. *"May the road with you" 55. Use a Singer 57. *"Get this part started on a Saturday night, ever body's waiting for me to 60. *"Just a city bo born and raised South _____" 64. Killed, as in dragon 65. Go a-courting 67. Dome-shaped dessert 68. *"I'm sitting her doing nothing bu 69. Another word

- Tokyo 70. Did not go out to eat
- 71. Radio genre
- 72. "Losing My Re gion" band

SUDOKU

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7	2				3		8	1					
			4		1	5							
3			5		9		2						
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		2	8		5								
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Police Beat by Seth Isenberg

On 12-18 at 10:49 a.m., Kidder Township Police were called to the Penn/Kidder Campus of the Jim Thorpe Area School District about a note written on the wall of a second floor bathroom describing that a bomb would go off. Students were evacuated by bus to a safe location. The school was secured and PA State Police's bomb sniffing K9 team was called in. The K9 searched the school and did not locate any device.

School officials and police spoke with possible suspects. A 13 y/o boy admitted to writing the note. He will be charged in juvenile court with Felony Terroristic Threats, and misdemeanor charges of Reckless Endangering, False Alarms to agencies of public safety.

Pocono Mountain Regional Police were called to a domestic incident at a home in the 9000 block of Idlewild Dr. in upper APCP, Coolbaugh

Answers

Twp. at 11:46 p.m. on 12-19. Police arrived and spoke to those involved. A 37 y/o man began to yell and then tried to push his way past police to get involved with the investigation. He refused to obey commands to stop. One officer tried to keep the man away by extending an arm but the man struck the arm with a closed fist. This led to an arrest attempt that ended with the man getting Tasered, then taken into custody. He is charged with simple assault and resisting arrest, harassment and disorderly conduct.

PMRPD responded to another domestic early that day, 12:37 a.m., at a Country Court, Emerald Lakes, home. Police arrived to find a woman and her daughter each with bruises, one with a cut lip. The assailant, identified as the 38 y/o boyfriend of the mother, had fled. Police issued an arrest warrant and a search is underway.

A 13 y/o girl walking along Allegheny Dr. in Sierra View, Tunkhannock Twp., was hit by a vehicle at 3:34 p.m. on 12-15. PMRPD and EMS services responded to the accident scene near Candlewood Dr. The girl was life-flighted to the trauma unit at LVMC Cedar Crest. PMRPD is seeking all witnesses and any other information to aid their investigation. Call 570 895-2400 to PMRPD HQ if you can help. Stealin'

A 41 y/o Sun Valley, Effort man is arrested for an armed robbery of Sunny's Food Market on Effort Mtn. in Tunkhannock Twp. at 7:10 p.m. on 12-11. The man entered the store with a bandanna over his face carrying a long gun. He demanded the money in the register, and pointed the gun at employees. He took about \$50 from the register's cash drawer, then fled. Employees recognized the man as "Lou," a store regular. When PMRPD officers arrived, they told them they thought it was Luis Medina - who was then located at his home and identified as the robber. Medina was arrested and is charged with robbery, aggravated and simple assault, terroristic threats, theft, possessing a firearm when not allowed (felon), and more. He was sent to the Monroe County jail in lieu of \$200,000 bail, and awaits a hearing before Dist. Judge Richard Claypool in Pocono Pines.

PSP-L is investigating a break-in to a bank-owned home on Old Stage Coach Rd. in Polk Twp. where copper pipes and a faucet were stolen between 11-25 and 12-16.

A 48 y/o Jim Thorpe-area woman borrowed a white '98 Subaru sedan from a Deerview Dr., Penn Forest Twp.

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man on 11-30. Last week, he asked that she return the car. As of 12-17, it was not and he reported it stolen to PSP-L.

A '75 Chevy van was taken from Mountain Laurel Homes in Jackson Twp. in the summer and has not been located as of December according to a PSP-Fern Ridge report. It has Florida plates, K246XV. Contact PSP-F if you have information at 570 646-2271.

PSP-L and H report shoplifting incidents at their respective WalMarts. With PSP-L, a 40 y/o Albrightsville woman and her 14 y/o daughter were caught stealing nearly \$600 worth of items from the Lehighton store at 4:36 p.m. on 12-17. PSP arrested them both.

At 6:40 p.m. on 12-18, PM-RPD was called to a home on Larkspur Lane in Pocono Farms, Coolbaugh Twp. for a burglary in progress. Police were told a man and woman had gone inside and were assaulting a woman there. The pair fled in a black Nissan sedan prior to police arrival. Police found the woman who'd been assaulted - she had visible injuries, bite marks and cuts. She identified the man involved as Tymeek Grant of Pocono Farms East (a 20 y/o), and the woman with him as Grant's girlfriend who had hit her in the head with a flowerpot and also bit her. Police went to Grant's home on Cambell Way but did not find the pair. They identified the girlfriend as Itisha Brown of Staten Island, NY. As of this writing, the pair was still at large. Call PMRPD at 570 895-2400 if you can help police to find them.

PSP-Hazleton sent along holiday crime prevention tips. Always stay alert to your surroundings and the people around you. Don't become Please turn to page 11



ajchurchvmd@aol.com www.blakesleevet.com



THE JOURNAL OF THE POCONO PLATEAU, DECEMBER 24, 2015-JANUARY 6, 2016-PAGE 11

Police Beat...

Continued from page 10

distracted from your purse or packages. Carry a purse with the flap against your body – don't dangle it by the straps.



Men should keep wallets in front or inside pockets. Carry only the credit cards you need - don't carry large amounts of money (and don't show large amounts around). Always lock your vehicle - store packages in the trunk. Park in lighted areas close to store entrances. Use only legitimate sites online that are secured. Avoid telephone charity scams use charities that have local chapters to make donations. Trust your instincts and contact police if you see suspicious activity. If you do become a victim, contact police immediately.

The Pocono Plateau is NOT HIGH Enough for some

PMRPD was called to investigate a car that had crashed through the fence around the Camelot Forest (Blakeslee) tennis courts at 12:42 a.m. on 12-8. When police arrived, the driver had left the car and fled on foot. Investigation determined a 36 y/o Penn Forest Twp. driver had been at the wheel. He has a DUI suspended license. The car was also not insured, currently inspected or registered. The man is also wanted on three active warrants for prior incidents.

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Charges are filed with Judge Claypool's office.

PMRPD investigated a complaint about drug paraphernalia in the area of 1386 Pocono Blvd. in Mt. Pocono on 12-14 and found an active methamphetamine lab in an apartment there, as well as outside in the parking lot. The building was evacuated and PA State Police's Clandestine Lab team was called in. A meth lab has highly volatile chemicals. The lab in the apartment had the cooking instruments and flammable liquids. The apartment was rented by 26 y/o James Cockrell. He was located elsewhere in the borough and arrested on the drug manufacturing, dealing, and endangering other people. He also had an active warrant out for him via the Monroe County Sheriffs Dept. Before District Judge Philip Riley in Mountainhome, bail was set at \$30,000 - and Cockrell was sent to the county jail in lieu of that, plus is held on the warrant.

Keeping the Rubber Side Down

A 71 y/o Kunkletown woman was driving her Camry northbound on Route 209 in Polk Twp. when she sudden-

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 ly made a left turn to attempt entry to Orlando's Auto Body Shop – at a place where there was no driveway. A southbound driver in his Civic swerved as the Camry swung in his direction, but could not avoid a crash into the rear passenger side of the Camry. No one was hurt. The Kunkletown woman was ticketed by PSP-Lehighton for failing to yield to oncoming traffic, 2:38 p.m. 12-14.

PMRPD was dispatched to a 1-car crash off Route 196 into the woods near McNamara Lane in Coolbaugh Twp. at 3:40 p.m. on 12-15. Police and arriving EMS and fire personnel found a red SUV that had driven northbound, and was now crashed into a tree. Police arrived first and found a 2 y/o girl unresponsive there were also two adults and a baby boy in a safety seat. Police began CPR, and when PMR EMS arrived, gave the child into their care for a dash to PMC. Sadly, the child

Please turn to page 12



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Police Beat...

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died on the way. A 48 y/o male passenger had to be extricated by the Coolbaugh Twp. Volunteer Fire Dept. Once clear, he was taken by another PMR EMS ambulance to PMC. The driver, 28, from APCP, had a leg injury and was also taken to PMC, and the 8 month-old boy was taken to the hospital for evaluation. Route 196 was closed for 5 hours while PM-RPD reconstructed the scene. The investigation continues.

PSP Troop N wants area motorists to travel safely during these holiday weeks. They encourage drivers to take plenty of time for trips,



wear your seatbelts, drive appropriately for road conditions, keep a safe distance between vehicles, and keep calm when driving.

Remember, turn your headlights on in rain or snow.

When celebrating, don't drink and drive – use a designated driver.

PSP will increase patrols during the holidays, looking for DUIs, aggressive drivers and seatbelt violations – keeping motorists safe.

People only have until December 31 to apply to become a Pennsylvania State Police cadet. "Becoming a state police trooper is a great opportunity for women and men interested in law enforcement careers," says State Senator Mario Scavello. Graduates from the PSP academy in Hershey receive a starting

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salary of almost \$60,000. For information on a career, as well as an application, go to www.patrooper.com. Those who make it past the application stage will be invited to take a written examination in February. After that, successful candidates take an oral examination. Those who successfully emerge from the examination process must pass a physical fitness test, polygraph test, background investigation and medical and psychological evaluations before being appointed as a cadet. Cadets then must complete an intense 27-week training course before they become troopers.

Applicants must be at least 20 years-old when they apply; and be between 21 and 40 by the date they become a state police cadet. They must have a high school diploma or a GED, plus an associate's degree or 60 credit hours at an accredited institution of higher education at the time of application. Certain waivers to the education requirement are available.

Alt joins team at Frailey Insurance and Financial

For the past 13 years, Gary Alt, a fully licensed Financial Professional, has been help-



ing people grow and use their financial resources to reach their most cher-

ished goals. In recent years, he's added Automobile, Homeowner, and Commercial insurance to his portfolio, which already included a full suite of Investment vehicles as well as Life and Health Insurance.

"This will enable Gary to provide our members with a complete solution to their financial and insurance needs and protect what matters most," states Michael J. Frailey, CEO, Frailey Insurance and Financial Services.

Alt currently resides in the Poconos with his wife Judy, and has three grown children. His greatest love is music,





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