

# Back Mountain Community News

DECEMBER 2020

Serving the Back Mountain & Surrounding Communities

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## Back Mountain Memorial Library is holding its annual Christmas Extravaganza Pop-Up Store



Back Mountain Library Christmas Extravaganza volunteers are pictured in the Antiques Room among some of the many holiday items available for purchase. From left are: Diane Coslett, Kathy Millington, Bev Cushner, and Kathy Simpson.

By MB Gilligan  
Back Mountain Community  
News Correspondent

The Back Mountain Memorial Library is holding its annual Christmas Extravaganza Pop-Up Store in

the Antiques Room behind the Library due to renovations to the interior of the Library. The room is filled with lovely holiday decorations and gifts all on sale to benefit the Library. The Antiques Room

will be open from 11 am to 4 pm on all Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, from now through December 20th.

Proper social distancing and mask wearing will be required.

Continue on page 3.

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## All Aboard as the Back Mountain Railroad Club announces upcoming holiday activities

The Back Mountain Railroad Club announces that the interactive travel train display will be setup at the Pro Hardware store on Memorial Highway, Dallas from November 27 to January 2. It will be available for viewing during regular store hours. The display will be in operation by club members on weekends in December. The hours of operation will be: Friday from 11AM to 6PM, Saturday from 11AM to 4PM, Sunday

from 12 noon to 3PM. The club will also be holding a limited Christmas open house for small groups at a time in the clubhouse, "The Trax at Twin Stax", at the Twin Stacks complex on Memorial Highway in Dallas on Saturday December 19, from 10AM to 2PM and Sunday December 20 from 12PM to 4PM.

Vendors will be set up at tables in the main hallway to the club. Our train store will also be open at this

time. Masks and social distancing are required.

Chances are available for train set prizes that include a Lionel O gauge Harry Potter set and a Thomas HO set, which will be raffled off at the open house on Sunday, December 20.

Club meetings are now being held in the social room at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Yalick Road, Dallas. A "fun" meeting is held on the second Monday of the month with "show 'n tell" and a business meeting is held on the fourth Monday of the month. Both start at 6:30PM. All are welcome to attend and see what is going on in the club. Don't forget to bring a mask and also some friends.

For more information on any of these activities please see any club member or contact Ray at 570-430-8639 or Wayne at 570-417-2995.

## Back Mountain Memorial Library announces the addition of new Memorial Books

In Memory of Calvin Sutton, beloved husband of Libby Sutton, "A Man and His Car" by Matt Hranek, presented by Ronald and Maria Sutton. In Memory of Eugene Cannon, "Greenlight" by Matthew McConaughy, presented by Elaine and Ron Moran. In Memory of Frederick Schiel, "A Man and His Watch" by Matt Hranek, presented by Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Wolfe. In Memory of Steve Remish, "The Sports Book: the sports, the rules, the tactics, the techniques", presented by Dave and Dolly Hoffman. In Memory of Thomas Berezich, "Running the Dream" by Matt Fitzgerald, presented by Norma Leandri. In Memory of Grace McCue, "Flying Free" by Cecelia Aragon, presented by Norma Leandri.

The following books are in Memory of Harriet Parker and are presented by Lolly Kersey: "Bunny Mellon: the life of an American style legend" by Meryl Gordon "Oxford Atlas of the World". The following books are in Memory of Harriet Parker and are presented by The Luzerne County Historical Society: "Images of America: Luzerne County" by Harrison Wick. "History of Luzerne, Lackawanna and Wyoming Counties, PA (Reprint 2019).

The following books are in Memory of Charlotte Jescavage and are presented by Dave and Dolly Hoffman: "Nick and Nack See the Stars" by Brandon Budzi. The Truth About Hawks" by Maxwell Eaton.

HONOR: In Honor of Kasia Lennon Krispin, in memory of her grandmother Catherine "Kasia" Walker, "Little Mermaid" by Anna Bowles, presented by Jackie Biscontin.



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**Deadline for the January issue of the Back Mountain Community News is Monday, December 28 at 9:00 am.**

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## Back Mountain Memorial Library is holding its annual Christmas Extravaganza Pop-Up Store



Above Cindy DeRosa is pictured preparing the sign for the Christmas Extravaganza Pop-Up Store at the Back Mountain Memorial Library.

Photo bottom right: Vicky Grzybowski, left, and Sharon Ayers are holding some of the gift items available for purchase at the Library.



Even the doorway to the Antiques Room at the rear of the Library is decorated for the Christmas Sale. Pictured, from left, are volunteers: Nancy Restaino, Mary Lou Grant, Mary Hoyes, and Louise Stout.



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## Food Pantry in Sweet Valley open

The new food pantry in Sweet Valley, located inside the Church of Christ on Main Road in Sweet Valley will be open to those in need of food on the first Friday of each month. Food donations are also being accepted. For more information call 570-477-2320.

## Welsh Cookies on sale for the Christmas Holiday

To order your Welsh cookies call Dianne Corby at 570-675-4893. Our famous "Welsh Cookies" are \$6.00 per dozen and cookies freeze well. Pre-order by Friday, December 11 and pickup is on Saturday, December 19th from 10:00 - 1:00 PM.

Some cookies will be available day of sale! The Eastern Star Hall, Foster Street and Woodlawn Avenue, behind CV's drugstore, Dallas,

The cookie sale benefits the Eastern Star Association.



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## Dallas Rotarians Decorate the Triangle



Several Dallas Rotarians recently gathered at the triangle at Routes 309 and 415 in Dallas to decorate it for the holidays with a festive new sign to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. They trimmed the sign and the large Christmas tree with colorful lights to wish everyone a happy holiday season. Kneeling from left: Todd Buckley, Ken Chapple, John Doerfler, Heidi Manning, Fred DiMaria, and Janice Horn. Standing: Bill Nafus, Kerry Freeman, Joe Stager, Art Peoples, and Ted Horn.

*Back Mountain Community News wishes everyone a very*

**Merry Christmas**

**& A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR**



## Dallas Rotarians deliver dictionaries to students



On November 11, four teams of Rotarians distributed dictionaries to 318 third graders in 14 classes at Dallas and Lake-Lehman School Districts. Although the Rotarians couldn't go into the classrooms to visit with the children as they always love to do, their gift of the dictionaries was well received by a representative of the school at the curb outside. Volunteers Paul and Melissa Saxon, John and Maureen Doerfler, Art and Sandy Peoples, Jon Pomrinke, Heather Fritz, and Chairman Ken Chapple visited the schools. All Dallas Rotarians made this annual event possible. Pictured from left: Rotarian Heather Fritz, Dallas School custodian Gene Koshinski and Rotarian Art Peoples transferred the dictionaries from their car to a cart for the custodian to deliver to the teachers to pass on to the students.



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## Winterfest Welcomes Dairy Court



Thank you to Mickey's Crafts and More for inviting the Luzerne County Dairy Court to take part in your Winter Fest. Court members reminded visitors to "shop local" for their milk by looking for the number 42! Pennsylvania milk will have the number 42 near the expiration date. You can also look for the PA Preferred checkmark. If you would like more information about the Luzerne County Dairy Court, check out their facebook page "Luzerne County Dairy Princess Promotions Team". Pictured above are: Luzerne County Dairy Maid Juliet Price, Santa, and Alternate Princess Ally Steltz with Santa Claus.

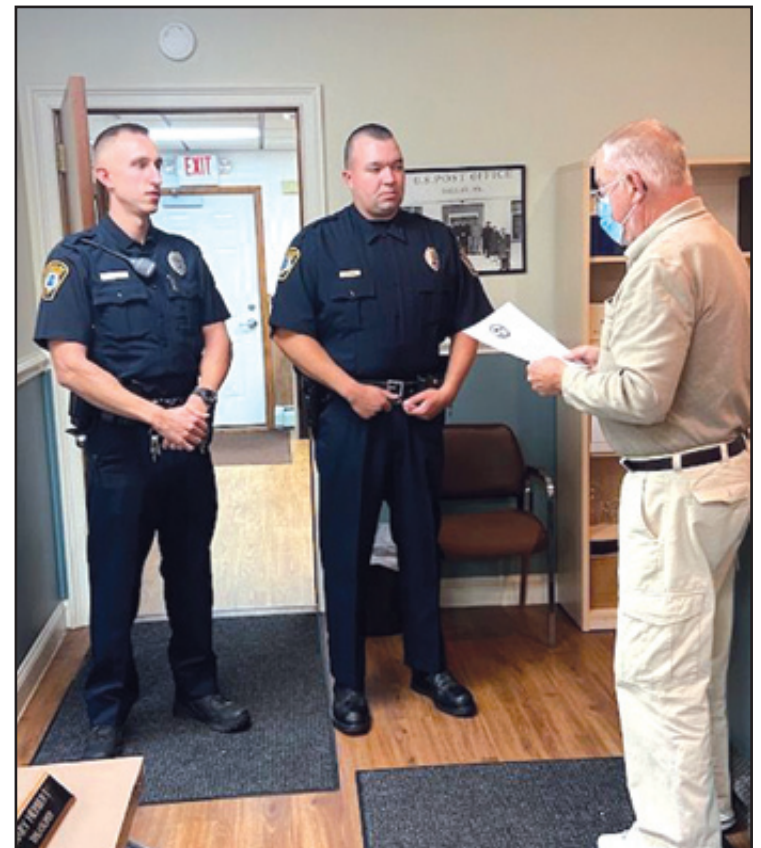
## Dallas Borough announces the hiring of two new full-time Police Officers

For many years, the Dallas Borough Police Department has consisted of three full-time officers along with Chief Drury and several part-time police officers. The availability of part-time police officers has diminished over the last several years to a point that Dallas Borough can no longer rely upon part-time officers to cover shifts. An investment of manpower was essential to ensure continuity of police coverage.

In the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of our community, Mayor Carroll and Dallas Borough Council have increased the number of full-time officers in the Dallas Borough Police Department.

Dallas Borough is pleased to announce two new full-time police officers have joined the Dallas Borough Police Department. Officer Cory Sidorek and Officer Justus Cole were sworn in by Mayor Timothy J. Carroll at the Council meeting held on September 16, 2020.

We welcome Officer Sidorek and Officer Cole to our Dallas Borough community! Shown are, from left: Officer Justus Cole, Officer Corey Sidorek, and Mayor Timothy J. Carroll.







## Mr. Gregory S. Riley, Dallas High School Principal announces the first quarter honor roll

The honor roll is determined by the following:  
Honors with Distinction: 98-100, no C's, D's, or F's

First Honors: 93-97, no D's or F's    Second Honors: 88-92, no D's or F's

**Honors with Distinction - Seniors:** Siwar Abdo, Noah Abdulqawi, Jacob Banta, Sabrina Barlow, Amanda Bedony, Amelia Bendick, Maura Berecin, Abigail Blockus, Ava Bonita, Claire Charlton, Alondra Church, Emily Crahall, Wade Curtis, Brady Dautrich, Vidhan Dhol, Drew Dickson, Hope Frantz, Spencer Gabriele, Nikolus Gashi, Andrew Gryskevicz, Aubrey Halbach, Logan Hayes, Isabella Hill, Allison Jones, Olivia Karcutskie, Julia Kocher, Gabriela Krochta,

Sam Leandri, Alex Lian, Janice Lisman, Andrew Lojewski, Zachary Luksic, Julia Macey, Michael McCann, Karly Milazzo, Logan Moore, Kareem Morsy, Julia Nicholson, Hanna Oldt, Tegan Ostroski, Lauren Palfey, Julia Phillips, Shelby Pocono, Garrett Porasky, Celia Reabuck, Mia Reinert, Harley Sabol, Brayden Saracino, Paul Shoemaker, Paige Tamagnini, Sydney Tellis, Sidney Thomas, Eric Timlin, Morgan Vincelli, Catherine Wallace, Emily Weiland, Riley Wren

**Juniors:** Danielle Blessner, Kaya Brown, Elena Burdge, Samuel Collins, Jake DelGaudio, Audrey DelGaudio, Nadia Evanosky, Janet Federici, Austin Finarelli, Alexia Gronski, Samantha Handley, Allison Hrivnak, Thomas Janoski, Matthew Jesse, Zachary Jesse, Jason Joshi, Connor Kavanagh, Kyle Kintz, Lorisa Klinger, Megan MacNeely, Edward Matushek, Alexis Mikolosko, Kyleigh Motley, Douglas Newbigging, Jr., Nicholas Nocito, Bryan Osipower, Olivia Podskoch, Alyssa Pritchard, Kalie Rizzo, Morgan Sakulich, Robert Wicht, IV, Allison Weiss

**Sophomores:** Jessica Atkinson, Morgan Bednar, Megan Bryk, Michael Bufalino, Lucas Carver, Selina Chen, Aiden Cotter, Caitlin Curran, Lucas Derome, Seth Dyrli, Peter Federici, Reagan Halbach, Sarah Hastings, Nolan Hedglin, Jenna Maslowski, Jordyn Meade, Madisyn Musselman, Lauren Oschal, Megan Ostrowski, Madison Pevear, Kira Pomrinke, Madison Simmons, Olivia Sitkowski

**Freshmen:** Sam Barrouk, Brynn Bittner, Emma Blazure, Juliana Burdge, John Cummings, Mary Dahdal, Landon Daney, Alex DelGaudio, Brianne Dempsey, Anna Dorofeeva, Gianna Evans, Lillian Ferretti, Sarah Gauntlett, Zoe Hakim, Scarlett Hobson-Tomascik, Nathan Johns, Cassie Kern, Emma Krzysik, Daniel Matthey, Kassidy Motley, Bryce Phillips, Caroline Podskoch, Marie Popielarz, Jordan Porasky, Daniel Sabulski, Hannah Scherer, Artem Smagin, Julianna Sobocinski, Jacob Solomon, Carleigh Thomas, Ryan Vallach, Elizabeth Viglone, Natalie Vincelli, Maddoc Watkins, Jessie Wienckoski, Haily Yakus, Lindsey Yencha

**First Honors - Seniors:** Dominic Aliciene, Brendon Austin, Gabrielle Avila, Samuel Barral, Thomas Baseski, Patrick Beisel, Katie Bogdon, Chloe Burke, Madison Carlsson, Claudia Carver, Matthew Cheskiewicz, Aidan Conrad, Alicia Cooper, David Cooper, Duane Craig, Dale Deyo, Daniel Dudick, Benjamin Fife, Daniel Flynn, Mikayla Goldsmith, Brooke Higgins, Kaci Hockenberry, Kaitlyn Hodakowski, Alyssa Hopple, Kayla Hopple, Jillian Kapitula, Carly Kappler, Anthony King, Allyson Kugler, Samantha Leon, Cooper Lewis, Matthew Lukasavage, Colin Marshall, Zachary McEntee, Thaddeus Mead, Julia Montgomery, Ashley Mosca, Gabrielle Olson, Madyson Pendolphi, Abigail Perrego, Joshua Peters, Thomas Pierce, Zachary Pokrinchak, Jacob Psolka, Amanda Puza, Dylan Roberts, Michael Ropietski, Chase Ross, Victoria Scott, Elizabeth Sheeder, Ethan Shilanski, Taylor Sitkowski, Alexis Spudis, Chrectien Stoss, John Stout, Rachel Strazdus, Alexandra Strobel, Madalyn Strutko, Emma Thomas, Lucas Tomko, John Tosi, IV, Hayley Vesek, Robert Wren, Kindra Yudiski

**Juniors:** David Biscontini, III, Emma Brown, Delaney Butler, Lauren Butwin, Steven Carr, Lorelei Centrella, Rachel Chamberlain, Abigail Chase, Kaitlyn Conrad, Logan Dalsanto, Leah Detore, Emma Dombroski, Patrick Doran, Paige Frank, Brandi Friedenthal, Haley Friedman, Benjamin Higgins, Olivia Jorda, Shauna Kern, Jesse Kosierowski, Kyle Langan, Kate Lettieri, Cades Linder, Abigail Lusheski, Lauren Mackey, Olivia Maniskas, Komal Mathon, Morgan McAndrew, Mallory McGeehan, Alexandra Morse, Calli Ogurkis, Matthew Oley, Logan Paczewski, Cara Pocono, Stepan Prodanets, Jason Puza, Marc Ramirez, Brooke Robbins, Grace Rose, Derrick Rygelski, Kyla Saracino, Gabriella Schmoll, Julia Sciandra, Sarah Sedeski, Kylie Sickler, Caden Skasko, Anna Smagin, John Sobocinski, Morgan Solano, Gabriella Spaciano, Caroline Stallard, Gabija Stewart, Nina Swailes, Michael Williams, Lydia Wrubel, Joseph Wysocki, Kya Yourdon, Olivia Yourdon, Angelo Zarola, Kaylin Zelinski, Katherine Zeyher

**Sophomores:** Olivia Andress, Brandon Banks, Samuel Boger, Jordan Bond, Ryan Borton, Hayla Bryant, Benjamin Carpenter, Natalie Conrad, Zachary Crahall, Ryan Cuba, Hayden Curran, Emily Dautrich, Sean Dolan, Chloe Dudick, Catherine Elgonitis, Dominick Fazzino, Aiden Fennell, Sophia Filali, William Filali, Chloe Fosko, Madison Fostock, Caelan Gallagher, Maxim Gingo, Kai Gomeau, Sadie Grochal, Shane Healey, Richard Hoyes, Mark Karcutskie, Jack Klikus, Colby Klinetob, Danielle Konnick, Abigail Lauer, Anderson Leo, Isabella Lepore, Hannah Letwinsky, Alan Lisman, Christian Lydon, Anthony Mackay, Peyton Mamola, Olivia Martin, Matthew Maxfield, Casey McGlynn, Isabella Molitoris, Noreen Morsy, Isaac Myers, Brian Nguyen, Jordan Nichols, Aidan Niebauer, John O'Donnell, Vegan O'Donnell, Erin Oldt, Alexandra Pehala, Sophia Piccolotti, Amelia Priebe, Ivan Prodanets, Abigail Quinnan, Allie Reardon, Matthew Richards, Abigail Salitis, John Scherer, Jr., Dustin Shaver, Christian Shedlock, Ty Solensky, Victoria Spaciano, Chelcie Strobel, Floyd Sutton, Ashley Sweeney, Nicholas Teberio, Jordan Thomas, Carter Thompson, Michael Timinski, Emily Tinner, Matthew Tosi, Nicholas Vincelli, Courtney Wallace, Gary Weaver, Carlyne Wintersteen, Mary Young

**Freshmen:** Samantha Alaimo, Noor Almekey, Jackson Barr, Trinity Basara, Shelby Bedony, Maximilian Bransford, Gabriela DaSilva, Sophia Depolo, Savina Evanosky, Sophia Farina, Kaylee Farrell, Ellie Flynn, AnnaLouise Fotiadis, Allyson Gattuso, McKenzie George, Joshua Gross, Mackenzie Hodakowski, Jacob Hoegen, Daniel Jones, Jack Karosa, Alyssa Loftus, Alex Marcin, Elsie McCafferty, Paul McMillan, Mikayla Miller, Emmett Moore, Adam Perry, Taylor Pickett, John Pierce, Coral Pugh, Trevor Radvanyi, Emily Raub, Declan Reavy, Brooklynne Reyes, Gabrielle Rogaski, Logan Sakulich, Paige Scott, Benedict Sevenski, Allyson Spangenberg, Jacob Speicher, Caleb Stephens, Sophia Tellis, Olivia Thomas, Madalyn Thomas, Ethan Tinner, Logan Tomkins, Jacob Valkenburg, Andrew Wilk, Tyler Williams, Madeline Youngblood, Amber Zimmerman

**Second Honors - Seniors:** Mason Baranski, Bryce Chopyak, Morgan Cochran, Olivia Cragle, Tyler Dezinski, Jeremy Fagan, Mia Fenske, Hannah Finney, Claire Malarkey, Meagan Manzella, Rachael Panzer, Kaylie Rollman, Deanna Wallace, Shannon Wood, Logan Young, Bailey Zelinski

**Juniors:** Zeid Alhashemi, Georgia Barouhos, Hannah Blazure, Benjamin Bradley, Stephen Brdaric, III, Julia Buro, Ashley Decker, Riley Donnelly, Taylor Dworak, Cole Hart, James Lehane, Mia Linder, Lillian Lombardo, Emily Miller, Brielle Moser, John Mulcahy, Trey Schappert, Jacob Seymour, Joanna Shaw, Scott Siglin, Max Steinruck, Bradley Strazdus, James Tigie-Ruane, Stephanie Wall, Evan Zawadzki, Colby Zern

**Sophomores:** James Antall, Jordan Artmont, Summer Bailey, Parker Bolesta, Abigail Boraski, Emmalee Carlsson, Tatiana Crane, Abigail DeAnthony, Tyler Edmondson, Melody Gill, Peter Harpersberger, Emily Iannucci-Furman, Jordan Kelley, Madison Kerdesky, Cody Konnick, Jordan Kovalski, Claire Lehane, Stephen Miller, Mihir Mukul, Drew Ogurkis, Joseph Peters, Mary Popielarz, Lucas Shultz, Emerson Sorber, Casey Whalen, Brianna Whitaker, Kennedy Wood

**Freshmen:** Benjamin Ackourey, Gavin Adamski, Layan Alhashemi, Sarah Allen, Ryan Andress, Audrianna Atherholt, Kevin Basalyga, Brooke Bealla, Sydney Bolesta, Trevor Brdaric, Abigail Cooper, Zachary Coy, Ciana Cruz, Abigail Cruz, Alyssa Fazzi, Alex Fife, Andrew Goodrich, Sophia Gordon, Anya Grzesek, Bryce Gulbransen, Isabella Jacobs, Lia Kirwan, Reghan Lloyd, Robert Luongo, III, Andrew Machulsky, Camryn Mallarkey, Camille Marianacci, Colin McCann, Zakary Mikolosko, Lauren Morris, Rory O'Brien, Nickolas Ripa, Samuel Robson, Ethan Sensenig, Logan Slacktish, Lucas Tirpak, and Braylee Walsh.





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### **Daddow-Isaacs Dallas American Legion Post 672 held Veterans' Day ceremony**



Daddow-Isaacs Dallas American Legion Post 672 held their annual Veterans' Day ceremony despite the inclement weather. Reverend William Lewis, Post Chaplain, offered the invocation and benediction. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the sparse crowd due to the rainy weather conditions. Clarence J. Michael, Post Historian, gave the main address, honoring the fallen and those currently serving. A commemorative wreath was put in place. TAPS was played followed by a rife salute by the Post Honor Guard. Shown above are: Joe Kelley, Harold Bolton, Charlie Kishbaugh, Charlie Fleming, Rev. Bill Lewis, Rich Malak, Jack Sidorek, Ed Podehl, John Emil, Sr., and Art Parks.

### **Your Dash 365, Inc., a local nonprofit 501 C3, raised over \$12,000 for First Responder Charities**



Your Dash 365, Inc., a local nonprofit 501 C 3, has raised over \$12,000 for 1st responder charities. \$4,000 for Camp Cadet Troop P. \$2,500 for Wilkes-Barre Police Community outreach fund, \$1,500 for Tunkhannock Police Athletic League, \$750 for Sayre Police Community Christmas Fund for children, Back Mountain Police Association \$3,460. and more through the Back the Blue Campaign. Back Mountain Police Association check was dedicated in memory of Officer James Martin (who passed away unexpectedly last year), Troop P Camp Cadet check is in memory of Jacob Busch of Wyoming, a former cadet and youth return counselor at the camp who tragically passed on May 18, 2020, from injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident in Dallas Township. Jacob is the son of Amy Callahan and Joseph Busch III. Jacob is survived by his sister, Ava Busch, grandparents, Maryann Callahan, of Wyoming, James and Marti Callahan, of Wyoming, Joseph Busch and Mary, of Laurel Run, step-mother, Donielle Busch, aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends. Jacob was a graduate of the Wyoming Area High School, Class of 2019, and was attending Bloomsburg University, where he was studying criminal justice in hopes of becoming a Pennsylvania State Trooper.

To learn more about Your Dash 365 or to join in our endeavors, go to [www.yourdash365.com](http://www.yourdash365.com). Shown in photo above, from left are: Angela Sperrazza- Camp Cadet Board Vice President, Dave Fusco – Board member Camp Cadet, Diane Grimes – volunteer Your Dash 365, Tpr. Carl Puskar – Camp Cadet Counselor, Joe Frank - Camp Cadet Board President, Marian DeAngelis - Co-founder Your Dash 365, Tpr. Deanna Piekanski – Camp Director – Trooper First Class, Brenda Pugh – AMP Global Strategies & Your Dash 365 Vice President, and Dave Shipula – Board member Camp Cadet. Missing from photo: Your Dash 365 Founder Al DeAngelis, Manager Cathy Martin, President Christin Snyder, 2nd VP Carolyn Wiatrowski, Dusty Titus, Donnie Evans and Secretary Debbie Johnson Martin.



## Legion Logbook

Daddow-Isaacs Dallas American Legion Post 672 met on November 10 at 7:30 P.M. Unfortunately, there was no quorum present. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT WE STILL HAVE MONTHLY MEETINGS AND NEED MEMBERS TO ATTEND. We wear masks and and stay six feet apart.

The Post Honor Guard, in spite of a constant rain, held their annual Veterans Day salute to those veterans who have served and those who are now serving in far, distant places. This covid-virus has made it difficult to conduct our annual parade, but we felt a need to honor our veterans on this special day of recognition. Reverend Bill Lewis offered the invocation and benediction, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance, Clarence J. Michael, Post Historian, gave the main address, John Emil, Sr. played Taps, and the the Honor Guard delivered a seven gun salute. A special thanks to all who attended. Art Pimm of the Legion Riders gave an updated report on the Wreath For America program that the riders are sponsoring. Wreaths will be placed at Chapel Lawn, Fern Knoll, Mt. Olivet cemeteries, and the V.A. The main ceremony will take place at the V.A. on Sunday, December 13, at 10 A.M. A 3-foot wreath will also be placed at the Luzerne County Courthouse. Northeast Pa. Chapter Painting and Decorating Contractors of America Carl Postupak, President, contributed \$2,000 to this endeavor. Commander Darlene Kupstas commended the Legion riders for this project.

Our Legion has always supported Patriot's Cove in their efforts to honor disabled veterans and first-responders with a variety of activities such as fishing. Our church, Trucksville United Methodist, made Patriot's Cove their mission project of the month. Monies raised will be forwarded to the cove to help their activities. Morag and I decided to visit Patriot's Cove to tell Jeff of this project. We were fortunate enough to have a volunteer John give us a ride around the facility. It was more extensive than we realized. We encountered Jack Cleary who is very active at the Cove. Jack explained its founding and said people should visit when some of the disabled veterans are present to see how wonderful the interactions are. I will close by suggesting that people should visit their extensive web-site to view their great programs.

Our next meeting will be on December 8 at 7:30 P.M. All Post members and prospective members are invited to attend. Have a Merry and safe Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**God Bless America!**



**Clarence J. Michael**  
Past Commander  
Dallas American  
Legion, Post 672

## The show must go on! Penn State Wilkes-Barre Student Helps Create Virtual Craft Fair

After Arts at Hayfield canceled both of its planned craft shows, volunteers began formulating a plan so the show could go on – with the assistance of a Penn State Wilkes-Barre student who is using her skills to help the event go virtual.

Arts at Hayfield has a long tradition of raising funds to support local arts programs and artists as well as supplying scholarships to Penn State Wilkes-Barre students. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and concern for patrons' safety and well-being, the organization was forced to cancel both the 2020 Summer Arts Festival and Homespun Holiday Craft Show. As an alternative to the live on-campus craft shows, organization volunteers worked together to create a craft fair to promote crafters and vendors.

Jonathan Pineno, president; Janis Winter, treasurer; William Bachman, marketing and promotions, and Autumn Resaut, social media, and marketing coordinator, developed the Hometown Traditions Virtual Craft Fair, which pays homage to the history of Arts at Hayfield craft fairs that have been hosted at Penn State Wilkes-Barre for 35 years. This year's virtual craft fair connects crafters to visitors through Facebook and the Arts at Hayfield website.

Throughout the coming weeks, Arts at Hayfield will post a featured crafter to help them gain exposure to Arts at Hayfield craft show patrons. Those interested in an item they see during the virtual event can visit the crafters' websites or contact the crafter to make a purchase. Autumn Resaut worked with Pineno, her mentor, to create a proposal and advertisement pieces for the virtual craft fair. Resaut continues managing the Facebook page, where she creates graphics and develops posts.

"Everything that I know about social media, event promotion and communications is from my Penn State courses," she said. "Volunteering with Arts at Hayfield has given me the chance to combine my passion for the arts and to apply what I have learned in my courses." Resaut also said helping the craft show continue is important to her because as a student herself, she knows how important the scholarships offered at Penn State Wilkes-Barre are. "I'm so passionate about helping Arts at Hayfield because it benefits students. I know that as a student, any help is welcomed," she said.

The Hometown Traditions Virtual Craft Fair launched on September 6 and will continue with through August 2021. The Hometown Traditions Virtual Craft Fair can be viewed on ArtsAtHayfield Facebook. For further information visit the Arts at Hayfield website: [www.ArtsAtHayfield.org](http://www.ArtsAtHayfield.org).

Arts at Hayfield Presents

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## Daddow-Isaacs Dallas American Legion Post 672 made donation to the Noxen Food Pantry

Daddow-Isaacs Dallas American Legion Post 672 recently made their annual donation to the Noxen Food Pantry. The donation was \$500.

Commander Darlene Kupstas stated, "We wanted to give this donation before the Thanksgiving holiday because we realized in these trying times, more people through no fault of their own, may

have to utilize the pantry. The American Legion has always been supportive of local community activities." Shown in photo, from left are: Wink Fleming, Chaplain Women's Auxiliary; Charles Fleming, Adjutant; Commander, Darlene Kupstas; Pantry coordinator, Barbara Shaffer; and Joe Kelley, Finance Officer.



★ After all the CHAOS this year  
★ why should we still celebrate  
★ Christmas?



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*Jesus came that first Christmas as a baby to rescue us from our sin.*

- **Accept His Birth**

Isaiah 9:6 - For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

- **Accept His Love**

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

- **Trust in Him**

Acts 16:31 - They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved - you and your household."

*If we each share His love, His grace and His forgiveness with one person today and each day during the Christmas season we can spread the HOPE that Christmas gives us all.*

*With love and prayers to you and your family; may you have the most blessed Christmas ever.*

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**THE FINANCIAL EQUATION:  
2021 Contribution and Benefit Limits**  
By Martin A. Federici, Jr., CEO of MF Advisers, Inc.



With a new year right around the corner, the IRS has released the 2021 contribution and benefit limits for retirement plans. Let's look at the plans and the limit changes from 2020 to 2021 below:

Plan and/or Type of Limitation	2020	2021
401(k), 403(b), & 457 maximum annual elective deferral limit	\$19,500	\$19,500
401(k), 403(b), & 457 plans catch-up contribution limit for those age 50 and over	\$6,500	\$6,500
Defined contribution plan annual limit	Lesser of \$57,000 or 100% of compensation	Lesser of \$58,000 or 100% of compensation
Traditional IRA contribution limit	Lesser of \$6,000 or 100% of compensation	Lesser of \$6,000 or 100% of compensation
Traditional IRA catch-up contribution limit for those age 50 and over	\$1,000	\$1,000
Roth IRA contribution limit (income and phase out limits apply depending on tax filing status)	Lesser of \$6,000 or 100% of compensation	Lesser of \$6,000 or 100% of compensation
Roth IRA catch-up contribution limit for those age 50 and over (income and phase out limits apply depending on tax filing status)	\$1,000	\$1,000
SIMPLE maximum annual elective deferral limit	\$13,500	\$13,500
SIMPLE 401(k) or SIMPLE IRA catch-up contribution limit for those age 50 and over	\$3,000	\$3,000
Defined Benefit plan annual limit under section 415	\$230,000	\$230,000
Income subject to Social Security tax	\$137,700	\$142,800
Highly Compensated Employee	\$130,000	\$130,000
Key Employee/Officer in a top-heavy plan	\$185,000	\$185,000
Annual allowable compensation limit for deduction, benefit, and contribution purposes	\$285,000	\$290,000

Lastly, you do NOT need to take RMDs (Required Minimum Distributions) from any type of retirement accounts for 2020 (due to COVID legislation). You're welcome!

Find an experienced financial advisor who educates clients, works for an RIA firm, earns his/her money from fees (NOT commissions), believes in having an abundance of investment choices for clients, and has the heart & demeanor of a teacher, NOT a salesman, and chances are you've found the right financial advisor to help you prepare and plan for your financial goals. For more information, please visit <http://www.mfadvisers.com>, email [marty@mfadvisers.com](mailto:marty@mfadvisers.com), or call (570) 760-6524.

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## The Back Mountain Memorial Library lists the following Upcoming Events

Patrons who are concerned about the recent spike in coronavirus should be aware that the Library is still offering curbside pick-up. Request your items by calling the Library and speaking to a staff member. We can provide a selection from a specific author or a certain genre if you're not sure what to request. Patrons are limited to 7 items at a time, and must have a valid library card to put items on hold. Once your items are ready for pick-up, you have 3 days to come for them. Call from the parking lot and a staff member will deliver them to your car.

The Library Gift Shop's annual Christmas Extravaganza sale is going strong. Due to the Library renovation, it is being held this year in the Antiques Room behind the building. This eagerly-awaited Pop-Up Shop draws Christmas lovers every year looking for decorations and decor, ornaments and angels, figurines, trees, serving pieces,

vintage collectibles, wreaths, baskets, and so much more! The shop is open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 11 AM to 4 PM, and will run through Christmas. All sales directly benefit the Library.

The Library renovations are now underway, and patrons may experience some temporary inconveniences as the work continues. We thank everyone for your understanding, as we know it can be hard to concentrate while sawing and hammering is going on. Please bear with us, as the end result of a more accessible and updated space will make it all worthwhile. We look forward to seeing all the planning, fund-raising, and hard work result in a beautiful, more spacious building. We think this is a fitting celebration of the Library's 75th Anniversary, by preparing for the next 75 years of service to the community!

Those patrons who are members of the First Reader Book Club



or our Silver Screen DVD Club can renew their memberships for 2021 now. The Book Club provides a dedicated selection of novels and non-fiction, and the DVD Club has the latest releases of current movies.

The Children's Room's announces Holiday stories with guest readers! Each Wednesday at 10 AM during the holiday season we will release stories related to various celebrations. The series kicked-off on November 25 with a Thanksgiving story read by Library Board member Dave Bradbury. Find us on Facebook at Back Mountain Memorial Library Children's Room, or by searching @BMMLChildrensRoom. Be sure to stop in for the accompanying craft kits.

The giant gingerbread house that graces the Children's Room has led to our Great Gingerbread Challenge. This season, make a "gingerbread" creation inspired by a favorite book. Bake it or draw it or craft it, take a picture and we'll post it on the BMML Children's Room Facebook page for others to see. Get creative and have fun. Let's see the Hogwarts School of Magic made of gingerbread. (Just kidding!)

The Library will be closed December 24 and 25 for Christmas, and December 31 and January 1 for New Years. Contact us at 570-675-1182. And find so much more at our website at [www.back-mountainlibrary.org](http://www.back-mountainlibrary.org).

To promote an event or fund raiser, send your community news and photos to:  
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## Harveys Lake American Legion recently made donation



Recently, the Harveys Lake American Legion gave a donation to the VA Hospital Canteen Fund. Also, Mission BBQ of Wilkes-Barre kindly donated a great luncheon for our Legion Veterans. Which was enjoyed by all. Shown in photo above, from left are: Nicole Guest - Dist. 12 VA Canteen Fund Rep., Bernie Castillo - Post Finance Officer and Caryl Anderson - Mission BBQ Community Ambassador.

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The biggest problem with today's recycling is what people are calling "wishful recycling". Wishful recycling is where good intended people send items to be recycled because they believe or hope they are recyclable, but they aren't. This creates an abundance of problems, including higher recycling prices due to added manpower. Simply look on the container to see if it is recyclable, rinse the item and remove the lid/cap before tossing in into the recycling bin. Check with your local recycling center to see what materials they are currently taking (our list is to the left) and abide by those restrictions. When purchasing a product take a look at the packaging – be aware if the packaging is recyclable. If not, look for a product in packaging that is - or at least more "earth friendly" to the environment; compostable for example. Although compostable materials cannot be placed in the recycling, they do break down in a landfill.

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## Old Shoe Game MVP awarded Dallas Rotary Trophy

For the first time in seven years, Lake-Lehman won the Old Shoe Game with a score of 42-0. Senior Lake-Lehman quarterback Ethan Adams won the most valuable player trophy awarded to him by Kristen Martin who represented the Dallas Rotary.

Mr. Robert Dolbear, co-founder of the Old Shoe Game, passed away, ironically the same day as the annual game. He was 104 years old.

The back yard rivalry began in 1948 when Dallas School Board President and Rotary President Red Ambrose, with Principal and Coach Robert Dolbear, picked an old shoe out of a pile and had it bronzed and mounted on a plaque to be awarded to the winner of the game.



## Thanksgiving Student Art Exhibit held at Sue Hand's Imagery

Very few annual art exhibits continue for 45 years, but that is what happened in Dallas. The 45th Annual Thanksgiving Student Art Exhibit was held at Sue Hand's Imagery, 35 Main Street, Dallas, during the week of Thanksgiving.

Sue's students of all ages participate. This year, the exhibit also included a section called "Emerging," a separate display of original drawings and paintings by Imagery high school students which could not be shown this fall at their usual venue due to the pandemic.

Artworks on display included impressionistic and realistic works in all fine art drawing and painting media. Landscapes, seascapes, still lifes, portraits and figures, animals and floral compositions were exhibited.

Students' ages range from 5th grade through adult. Award-winning artist and teacher Sue Hand was present during the exhibit to welcome visitors and answer questions about the artwork.

For more information about Sue Hand's Imagery studio, call 570-675-5094.



Above in photo are: Sierra Stash, grade 7; Grace Shepherd, grade 7; Dennis Lee, grade 7; Sue Hand; Daniel Parry, grade 11; Rachel Bogdan, grade 8; Jillian Savitsky, grade 7.



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## Back Mountain Memorial Library recently celebrated its 75th year



The Back Mountain Memorial Library recently celebrated its 75th year of service to the Back Mountain Community. Senator Lisa Baker presented the Library with a certificate from the Senate of Pennsylvania commemorating the anniversary.

Pictured from left are: Library Board of Directors President Karen Shuster, Senator Baker and Library Director Martha Butler.

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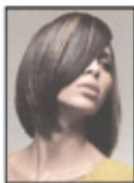
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