

Back Mountain Community News

FEBRUARY 2021

Serving the Back Mountain & Surrounding Communities

www.communitynewsonline.net **Free!**

CBH, Christ Brings Hope Ministry, Cancer Foundation, Bringing Hope and Making a Difference

By MB Gilligan
Back Mountain Community
News Correspondent

My father was such a generous man, he would give you the shirt off his back. If you needed a job, he would offer you one. He just loved seeing people enjoying themselves," said Michelle C. Higgins, RN, about her father, the late Joe Cicero. "When I was very young, he was diagnosed with throat cancer but we didn't really talk about it back then. I certainly didn't understand what he was going through to provide meals for us while undergoing treatment."

Joe Cicero survived that earlier bout with cancer but succumbed to colorectal cancer in 2014. He had started Polar Bear Refrigeration and Air Conditioning in Kingston and later moved his business and his family to Cape May, NJ. His daughter Michelle is a Registered Nurse who works in the Oncology Department of a local hospital. She is married to Doug Higgins the Chief of Police in Dallas Township and together they have three

children.

"We were invited to a cancer ministry training program sponsored by the Cancer Institutes of America and we decided to go," said Michelle of the program that aims to help church organizations start their own cancer ministry programs. "It was a very extensive training program and we do provide seminars to church groups but we decided to take it a step further." Doug and Michelle have started their own 501(c)3 nonprofit organization called CBH (Christ Brings Hope) Ministry and Cancer Foundation. The mission of CBH Ministry is to Make a Difference and to help those who may be struggling from the challenges that a cancer diagnosis may bring. It doesn't matter to the founders of CBH if the struggles are spiritual, emotional, physical, or financial, they are there to offer help and hope.

"One of the things we do is to provide HOPE in either a gift jar or



a bag," said Michelle who provides these gifts to local hospitals,

Continued on page 3

Order PIZZA BELLA Online: pizzabellanepa.com

Contactless Delivery & Curbside Pick-up Available!

LUNCH SPECIALS!

- 2 Cheese Pizza Slices & Soda • ONLY \$4.99
- Any 12" Cold Sub • ONLY \$5.99
- 2 Cuts Old Forge Wing • \$4.99
- Soup & Small Tossed Salad • \$5.99

Offers Valid Monday - Thursday 11-2

Pizza • Wings
Subs • Salads
& Dinners

We Do Small Event Catering • Call for details!
31 Lake St., Dallas • Open 7 Days a Week!
The Difference is in our Taste! Fast-Hot Delivery! 570-675-8000

HENNINGER PLUMBING, LLC

For all your plumbing needs.
Well Pumps & Water Systems

Now accepting credit cards. "No Job Too Small"

Call 570-675-5429

Dana Henninger, Owner ~ "Quality Work at a Competitive Price"
PA #105455 Licensed and Insured. Free Estimates.

brace place orthodontics

- DIGITAL | X-rays, Impressions (no goo!)
- BRACES | Colors, Clear, Designer Ties®
- ALIGNERS | Invisible, Removable
- RETAINERS | Clear, Colors
- MOUTHGUARDS | Custom

PENNY MERICLE, D.M.D., M.S.D.

570.287.8700 | Forty Fort, PA | braceplaceorthodontics.com

OCHMAN'S COINS & JEWELRY

Where The Past ~ Present & Future
Come Together

WE'RE BUYING GOLD & SILVER

In Compliance with State Procedures.

2607 Memorial Hwy.
Dallas
Call 570-675-5872

Located between Hogan's Heroes & Pizza and Second Tyme Around

News from the Back Mountain Food Pantry

The Back Mountain Food Pantry is open and continues to serve residents of the Dallas and Lake-Lehman School Districts. Are you or someone you know in need of food due to economic conditions or other hardship? We are here to help. The Back Mountain Food Pantry works in conjunction with CEO and the Weinberg Food Bank. We are located in the lower level of the Trucksville Methodist Church Educational Building, Knob Road, Trucksville. Please call us at 570-696-2917 for more information.

If you would like to help provide for others in our community, donations of nonperishable food may be dropped off at Hilbert's Tractor Store in Dallas, Cook's Pharmacy in Shavertown, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Dallas during regular business hours.

If you are interested in working as a volunteer with our dedicated staff be certain to give us a call.



We Care.
Help Support our
Back Mountain
Businesses &
Shop Local.

Deadline for the March issue of the
Back Mountain Community News is
Wednesday, February 24 at 9:00 am.

Please note: Due to some email concerns with Comcast not always being reliable, if you send an email to:
communitynews123@comcast.net and you receive a return message **undeliverable** - please forward to
lisapretko@icloud.com

Back Mountain
Community News FREE
Covering the Back Mountain & Surrounding Communities www.communitynews123.com

DON'T MISS AN ISSUE!
 Read the Back Mountain Community News online
 FREE of charge at: www.communitynews123.com
Email: communitynews123@comcast.net
Mailing address: P.O. Box 430, Dallas, PA 18612
Office: 570-674-7772
 Lisa Pretko, Owner / Publisher
 Mary Barbara Gilligan, Correspondent
 Sandy Peoples, Contributor

Back Mountain Community News is locally owned and independently operated and not affiliated with any other publishing company. It is the policy of the Back Mountain Community News to publish event notices free of charge ... if the event is free to the public and/or the proceeds are being donated to a non-profit organization. Advertising rates apply to all business advertising. For publication dates and deadlines, visit online: www.communitynews123.com. Back Mountain Community News is a L.L.C. and is published monthly and delivered to 90 locations throughout the Back Mountain & surrounding communities. No portion of the Back Mountain Community News can be copied and re-printed without prior written permission from the publisher.
It's All Good News ... Where Community Matters

Lentin meals planned at the Northmoreland Township Vol. Fire Company

The Northmoreland Township Volunteer Fire Company resumes Lentin meals on Friday, February 26, and Friday, March 26. Mainly a takeout meal with limited eat-in seating. Meals are as follows: Haddock, Fries and Coleslaw \$9.00. Crab Cake, Fries and Coleslaw \$9.00. Shrimp, Fries and Coleslaw \$9.00. Combo pc. of Haddock, Crab cake and Shrimp, Fries and Coleslaw \$ 9.00.

Also the following will be for sale: Homemade Haluski, New England Clam Chowder, and Manhattan Clam Chowder.

For information call the fire hall the day of the sale at: 570-333-4911.

Misericordia students qualify for Dean's list

Students at Misericordia University qualify for the dean's list with a 3.55 grade point average or higher. The following students were named to the dean's list for the Fall 2020 semester: Nicole Apodaca, Dallas, PA; Paige Boyle, Dallas, PA; Carly Cavanaugh, Dallas, PA; Jarod Cipriano, Dallas, PA; Kyle Dooner, Dallas, PA; Jacqueline Dottor, Dallas, PA; Rileigh Ellis, Dallas, PA; Aftin Felkowski, Dallas, PA; Ashlynn Fitzgerald, Dallas, PA; Desirae Garnett, Dallas, PA; Micayla Grey, Dallas, PA; Erica Haefele, Dallas, PA; Eric Jeffries, Dallas, PA; Conall Joyce, Dallas, PA; Makenzie Kapitula, Dallas, PA; Jessica Knowles, Dallas, PA; Justin Marshall, Dallas, PA; Stacy Mccarter, Dallas, PA; Jared McGuire, Dallas, PA; Matthew Myers, Dallas, PA; Olivia Panzer, Dallas, PA; Sara Reichold, Dallas, PA; Peyton Ross, Dallas, PA; Jacob Stritzinger, Dallas, PA; Emma Sweitzer, Dallas, PA; Samantha Sweizer, Dallas, PA; Rayna Swida, Dallas, PA; Jacob Thomas, Dallas, PA; Kaitlyn Van Etten, Dallas, PA; Olivia Vnuk, Dallas, PA; and John Zardecki, Dallas Township, PA.

Happy Valentine's Day
from the
Back Mountain Community News
It's All Good News ...
Where Community Matters!

Personal Touch Landscaping & SNOW PLOWING

Now's the time to call for all your Snow Plowing Service.

Personal Touch Landscaping & SNOW PLOWING

Fully Insured & Free Estimates.
Call Today before the Winter Storms.

Shavertown
Bill Sprau, Owner
 Personal Touch Landscaping

Bill Sprau at 570-696-5013



Don't live in an uncomfortable house any longer! We can help!

Ductless heating and cooling systems are energy efficient, environmentally friendly, and best of all they save you money!

Enjoy greater comfort and worry free protection when you join our Comfort Club

www.allmechanical.com

570.696.2222



CBH, Christ Brings Hope Ministry, Cancer Foundation, Bringing Hope and Making a Difference

Continued from front page.

doctors' offices, infusion centers, and churches. They are given to patients who are receiving chemotherapy. The Jars and Bags of HOPE contain encourage - mints, an ink pen and word search, tissues, lip balm, and are topped with a beautiful artificial flower. "We fill the bag with little things to help encourage them," said Michelle. "We add encouraging cards to show someone is thinking of you and praying for you."

Michelle has been filling and distributing these gifts with all of the encouraging scripture passages and notes while she gives full credit to Doug for the paperwork involved in creating and operating a 501(c)3. "He is a good guy. Whatever I ask of him he does," said Michelle. "We are blessed and fortunate to have the jobs we have."

The CBH Ministry and Cancer Foundation is nonprofit and depends on the generosity of others to provide help to families. "We may be contacted by a local church asking for financial aid for someone. We can provide a gift card for groceries or a gift card for gas. We try to help in any way that we can," said Michelle, of the organization they started this past July.

"We started with our own funds but we have done some fundraisers to help. The community has been very supportive.

I didn't want to ask because everyone is struggling but no one said no. That really means so much to us." One recent fundraiser was the result of a donation of a number of beautiful travel rosaries. CBH was able to find sponsors for all of those rosaries but may be offering them again in the near future.

CBH is holding a Valentine's Day Fundraiser in which three lucky winners will each receive a \$100 gift certificate for dinner, a dozen roses, and assorted Hot Chocolate Bombs. The chocolates were donated by a friend who wishes to remain anonymous but the roses are coming from Evans King Floral of Forty Fort. The dinner certificates are to PRIME at City Market in Dallas, Ruths Chris Steakhouse in Wilkes-Barre, or to the Beaumont Inn in Dallas. Tickets are available at Beynon Beautiful, a hair salon on the Memorial Highway in Dallas. You can also find tickets on the CBH Ministry and Cancer Foundation Facebook page. The Facebook page is also a great source for encouraging words and pictures. CBH has a website at www.cbhministry.com.

For those of you who would like to help Doug and Michelle make a difference in the life of someone with cancer, you can send a donation directly to them at: P.O. Box 281, Dallas, PA 18612. You can also request on Facebook that your friends contribute to a "Facebook Birthday Fund raiser" or CBH



Above: Doug and Michelle Higgins, delivering gifts of hope and making a difference in people's lives.

Ministry and Cancer Foundation can be listed in lieu of flowers on a funeral notice.

CBH has recently received donations of chemo caps which are used by cancer patients who lose their hair while undergoing chemotherapy. Michelle has provided some of those to area churches and to Beynon Beautiful for distribution. In addition, CBH received a donation of

25 port pillows that are helpful to a patient who receives chemo through a port. Go to the CBH Ministry Facebook page for more information about these items.

"One of the aides working in the oncology department brought a Jar of HOPE into the room of an elderly female patient who started crying when she opened it. Then the aide was crying as she told me about

it," said Michelle. "I went in to see the patient, too, and we cried together as she looked at the encouraging notes and scripture passages. When you can just bring hope, even if it's for just one person, it makes a difference. That's what we want to do. That's who my dad was."

Donations can be mailed to: CBH Ministry and Cancer Foundation, P.O. Box 281, Dallas, PA 18612.

Maransky's Auto Repair & Body Shop

Collision Repairs
Frame Straightening

24 Hour Towing

Major & Minor Repairs
Safety & Emission Inspections



John Oley - Owner
Phone (570) 477-3665

5396 Main Road
Sweet Valley, PA 18656

When it Comes to Clean Carpets, Have Yours Done The "Wright" Way!

Wright's Carpet Cleaning

WINTER SEASON SAVINGS!

Providing Professional Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning for over 13 Years!
Residential & Commercial • 24 Hour Water Removal Service

Whole House Cleaning Special
ONLY \$130.00 plus tax.
Includes 5 Rooms, Stairs and Hallway
With Coupon. No other offers can be combined. Expires 2/28/21

\$5.00 OFF
when you spend \$70 or more.

\$10.00 OFF
when you spend \$150 or more.
With Coupon. No other offers can be combined. Expires 2/28/21

Toll Free 1-877-823-3838
Visit us online at: www.wrightscarpetcleaningnepa.com

Call 570-639-3838

News from the Back Mountain Memorial Library

The Library is currently closed to the public, but please check our website for updates on our status. We will continue to provide books and materials to our patrons through curbside pick-up. Items throughout the Luzerne County Library System are available, as well. Request your items by calling the Library and speaking to a staff member, or you can place your holds online from home.

The Slightly Read Bookstore will continue to be open, but with reduced hours and days. We recommend that you call before coming to verify that they will be able to serve you.

The Children's Room is deep in plans for welcoming Spring with stories and accompanying crafts. Our craft kits let you say goodbye to Winter and hello to Spring. We provide all the supplies to make robins, shamrocks, flowering trees, and more! Check the Children's Room Facebook page for more information as it becomes available. The virtual stories are released every Wednesday starting February 10.

The Library renovations are proceeding with dispatch. Soon we will be enjoying our beautiful, more spacious, more handicapped-accessible building. Please understand there may be temporary inconveniences and short closures as the work proceeds. Thank you for your understanding! Contact us at 570-675-1182. And find so much more at our website at www.backmountainlibrary.org.

John Thalenfeld supports Family Service Association



Family Service Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania (FSA) is excited to announce that John Thalenfeld of Trion Industries made a generous gift of \$25,000 to FSA's as a part of its 125th Anniversary Annual Giving Campaign. Mr. John Thalenfeld of Trion Industries, noted, "I've contributed to Family Services for over 30 years because they do so many great things to help the community. Best known for Helpline, they also provide programs for Guardianship, Counseling, Anger Management, Batterers Intervention, Family Reunification, Family Finding and many others. Their programs combined with the dedicated staff who administer them help make NEPA a better place to live for us all". Gertrude C. McGowan, Esq., Chief Executive Officer, of the Family Service Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania, which oversees PA 211 NE, stated, "the entire Thalenfeld Family has been incredible supporters of FSA for generations. John Thalenfeld tirelessly supports each of FSA's events and is unparalleled in his generosity with FSA employees, as a Trustee, as Board Member, and in his philanthropy." The Family Service Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania was established in 1895 by a group of involved and concerned members of the community to provide diverse services to children, individuals, seniors, and families empowering them to achieve their full potential through building healthier relationships and stronger communities.

The SAL (Sons of the American Legion) Daddow-Isaacs Dallas American Legion Post 672 recently made a donation of \$300 to the Back Mountain Memorial Library



The SAL (Sons of the American Legion) Daddow-Isaacs Dallas American Legion Post 672 recently made a donation of \$300 to the Back Mountain Memorial Library. The Legion has supported the library since its founding. Since the advent of the covid epidemic the library has still provided services to the Back Mountain residents while undertaking some major renovations. Librarian Martha Butler praises her staff and over-see the renovations. Clarence J. Michael, Post 672 Historian, and patron of the library presented a check and a thank you letter to Martha Butler. The library was founded by the WW II veterans when they returned from their service. Shown in photo above are: Clarence J. Michael, and head librarian, Martha Butler.

DON'T GET LEFT IN THE COLD

NOW IS THE TIME TO CLEAN AND SERVICE YOUR FURNACE!

WE SELL, INSTALL & SERVICE **NATURAL GAS • PROPANE • FUEL OIL SYSTEMS**
HEAT PUMPS • DUCTLESS HEAT PUMP SYSTEMS

FREE ESTIMATES ON NEW OR REPLACEMENT SYSTEMS • 24 HR SERVICE

NEWCO

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

775 RUTTER AVE. KINGSTON
570.696.3831
570.283.5950

The SAL (Sons of the American Legion) Daddow-Isaacs Post 672 Dallas recently gave a donation to the Back Mountain Food Pantry



The SAL (Sons of the American Legion) Daddow-Isaacs Post 672 Dallas recently gave a donation of \$300 to the Back Mountain Food Pantry. Adjutant John Emil, Sr., stated, "We enjoy making donations to the community, especially in these trying times." After many years of dedicated service to the SAL, John is stepping down as SAL Adjutant. He and Tom Considine, President, increased membership and expanded donations to the Back Mountain community. Commander Darlene Kupstas thanked them for their service and added that they will be sorely missed. The SAL also donated monies to the Noxen Food Pantry and the Dallas Mayor's Fund.

Shown in photo above are: Carol Eyet, Food Bank Coordinator, Ned Poedehl, and Clarence J. Michael, Historian.

Rotary Auction for Charity

The 42 Rotary Clubs of District 7410, who support and help fund community projects in all or part of 10 counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania, are sponsoring a virtual silent auction online starting on Monday, February 1, and culminating at 5 p.m. Sunday, March 14, with scores of donated items up for bid throughout the process.

The lists of items include jewelry, vacation or weekend getaways, ski passes, tickets to professional sporting events and even professional services such as an attorney, an insurance agency and others.

Visit Trellis.org/RotaryAuction for a look at the variety of items up for bid. Once the bidding starts on February 1, 2021, bidders and prospective bidders may return to the site for a real-time appraisal of the bidding for items of interest until the bidding ends at 5 p.m. on March 14. Please join us to help us make a difference in our communities.

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.

Misericordia students earn degrees

The following are local Misericordia University students who were candidates for the degrees list below in December 2020. Nicole Apodaca, Dallas, Business Administration, BS; Zachary Dottor, Dallas, Health Science, BS; Mary Elena Dziadosz, Dallas, Medical Imaging, BS; Olivia Evans, Dallas, Health Science, BS; Anita Holmes, Dallas, Communications, BA; Justin Marshall, Dallas, Business Administration, BS; Jeremy Peters, Dallas, Organizational Management, MS; Mary Phillips, Dallas, Organizational Management, MS; Jacob Stritzinger, Dallas, Business Administration, BS.

HELP WANTED

Person to do yard work and maintenance on large property on regular basis. Dallas between Harveys Lake and Route 309.
Call 570-849-0235

Bingo planned

Northmoreland Township Volunteer Fire Company will have Monday Night Bingo on Monday, February 1, and Monday, February 15. Start time: 6:30 PM. Doors to hall open and kitchen begins serving at 5:00 PM. Where everyone still gets lucky! Please support your local volunteers!

Email your community news information and photos to: Back Mountain Community News at: communitynews123@comcast.net. To read the paper online free of charge, visit: www.communitynewsonline.net.

For advertising information call 570-674-7772.

Serving the community for over 15 years with
All Good News ...

Where Community Matters.

Read the Community News
FREE online at:

www.communitynews123.com

To submit community news
and photos email:

communitynews123@
comcast.net

To advertise call (570) 674-7772.

**Back Mountain Community
News**

It's All Good News ...

Where Community Matters.

Email your community news
information and photographs to
the Back Mountain

Community News at:

communitynews123@
comcast.net.

*Serving the Back Mountain and
surrounding communities for
over 15 years!*

Boback First Woman Appointed Chair of House Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee

Rep. Karen Boback (R-Lackawanna/Luzerne/Wyoming) has been appointed as the first woman chairman of the House Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee by Speaker Bryan Cutler (R-Lancaster) for the 2021-22 session. Boback was recently sworn into her eighth term in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

"I am proud to be part of a team of strong legislative leaders who support our Commonwealth," Boback said. "It is my honor to have Speaker Cutler's and my fellow members' continued trust and support with the chairmanship of this important standing committee."

The House Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee oversees legislation concerning public safety, emergency planning and preparedness, 911 emergency telephone services, fire and emergency medical services response and training, PA National Guard and military/veterans issues, nuclear power plant safety and response programs, flood response and mitigation programs, hazardous material planning and response, emergency communication systems, and homeland security and safety programs and initiatives.

"In the district, I have made veterans and their needs a priority,"

Boback explained. "I have held veterans' outreach in our offices, as well as organized mobile veterans counseling outreach." Boback has held 13 annual veterans' recognition events and expos. She is also an active member on the Gino J. Merli Veterans' Center Advisory Council. She has hosted several fire and EMS seminars to keep emergency responders in her district up to date on current emergency services laws and programs.

In the upcoming legislative session, Boback is eager to work with her colleagues in the House and Senate, as well as all of the stakeholder organizations and state

agencies which her committee oversees.

For more information about this committee, or any other state-related issue, contact Boback's Dallas district office at 570-675-6000 or her Tunkhannock office at 570-836-4777. Information can also be found on her website at Rep.Boback.com.

To place a classified ad in the Back Mountain Community News, mail your \$10 prepayment and advertisement to: Back Mountain Community News, P.O. Box 430, Dallas, PA 18612. For more info., email communitynews123@comcast.net

PROTECT



YOUR AUTOMOTIVE INVESTMENT

AUTO MAINTENANCE SPECIAL

Free Battery Test &
Charging System Test.
Oil Change ~ \$10.00 OFF

Expires 2/28/21

Back Mountain Auto Specialists

149 North Main Street
Shavertown, PA 18708

570-675-3336

Owner Dave Spurlin
Quality Service & Fair Prices
Always Guaranteed.



We're proud of our reputation for honest service, reliable work and fair prices, and we take our commitment to customer service seriously. Please contact us today for more information about our services and rates, or to schedule an appointment for your vehicle.

We invest in our facility and our technicians, so we can provide you and your vehicle with the highest level of service.

**STATE-OF-THE-ART
DIAGNOSTIC
TECHNOLOGY**
helps us identify and
resolve the source of car
trouble quickly and
precisely.

**CERTIFIED
TECHNICIANS**
offer specialized repair
and maintenance
expertise for all makes
and models.

Regular Maintenance Is Key
to maintaining your car's value
and performance down the road.



Like us / Share Us.



**415 PRO Hardware is your local,
one stop home resource center.**

**3101 Memorial Highway,
Route 415, Dallas**

570-415-1400



Hours: Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 6:00 pm; Saturday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Winter Safety Tips to Help Kids and Families Stay Injury-Free

Safe Kids Pennsylvania reminds parents to keep an eye out and avoid preventable injuries during the winter

Winter is a time when there is a risk of injuries in a variety of areas, from winter sports to home fires. Research shows that young children are particularly vulnerable to injuries from winter sports like skiing, snowboarding and sledding. Additionally, parents might unintentionally create unsafe environments for children out of concern for keeping their infants and toddlers warm during the colder weather.

Safe Kids PA recommends the following tips for winter safety. Car Seats and Winter Coats. We know you want your little ones to be warm, but please don't buckle your child into a car seat while they are wearing a bulky coat. The puffiness of the coat creates extra space between the harness and your child, which puts your child at a greater risk of injury in the event of a crash. Instead, use a blanket to keep your child warm, or lay the jacket over your children like a blanket once they're safely secured.

Sleep Safety. Extra blankets can seem so cozy in a baby's crib but soft bedding can block a baby's airway during sleep. A firm mattress covered with a tight-fitting crib sheet is all you need for your baby to sleep well. If you're worried about keeping your baby warm on those cold winter nights, try using a sleep sack (wearable blanket) and save the blankets for when baby is older. Additionally, remember to always have baby sleep alone, on their backs, in a crib (or similar flat item, like a bassinet or pack 'n play).

Winter Sports. Kids love to push the limits when they're skiing or snowboarding. Make sure they wear helmets and other proper gear to keep them safe if they fall. Also, while sledding may seem like a low-risk activity, children can still be seriously injured. Be sure to sled only on hills that are away from roads and clear of objects that could cause harm if struck (like large rocks, trees or stumps), and always have an adult supervising when children are sledding.

Carbon Monoxide. If you are warming up a vehicle before using it, don't forget to remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. It is extremely dangerous to leave a car, SUV or motorcycle engine running inside a garage. Make sure your home has a carbon monoxide alarm on every level, especially near sleeping areas, and keep them at least 15 feet away from fuel-burning appliances.

Safe Kids Pennsylvania is dedicated to the prevention of and education around unintentional childhood injuries, which are the number one killer of children throughout the USA. For more information on Safe Kids PA, visit our website at <https://www.pasafekids.org/> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/safekidspa/>.

Senior percussionist, Justin Doran, Lake-Lehman High School, has been accepted to the NAFME, National Association for Music Education

Senior percussionist, Justin Doran, of Lake - Lehman High School has been accepted to the NAFME, (National Association for Music Education) 2021 All - Eastern Honor Band. 719 of the finest high school musicians were selected from 1150 All - State applicants from Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont to the All - Eastern Honor Ensembles (Band, Orchestra, Mixed Chorus, Treble Chorus, and Jazz Ensemble).

The elite musicians will be participating in a "Virtual Weekend" experience March 4- 6, 2021 that will include keynote speakers, masterclasses with professional musicians, rehearsals with their conductors as well as opportunities to learn and network with colleges and universities of various types and participate in mock auditions.

This non - traditional and unique experience will be very different from the in - person rehearsals and concert that have, in the past, coincided with NAFME Eastern Division biennial conference. This year, students will individually record their performance from home led by a virtual performance of their conductor. The recordings will be edited together to produce a virtual ensemble for the concert performance. The recordings will be edited together to produce a virtual ensemble for the concert performance. The concert will be premiered on April 23, 2021 at 8:30 pm during the designated concert hour at the 57th NAFME Eastern Division Virtual In - Service Conference.

Dr. Cynthia Johnston Turner, Director of Bands, University of Georgia will serve as the 2021 All - Eastern Honor Band Conductor. Justin is the son of Brian and Jennifer Doran of Dallas. Ms. Cheryl Kulikowski is the Director of Bands at Lake-Lehman JSHS.





Mr. Douglas Klopp - Principal of the Lake-Lehman JSHS has released the 1st Marking Period Honor Roll for the 2020-2021 school year

Seventh Grade - High Honors: Kayla Barnard, Amanda Battin, Lyla Boice, Hailey Bond, Brianna Bower, Macey Brdaric, Bella Brown, Dominik Brown, Madison Bullock, Izabella Burke, Andrew Chapple, Olivia Corcoran, Greyson Dieffenbacher, Jarid Dietterich Jr., Lila Doughton, Isabella Duffy, Scott Egbert, Jake Evans, Joseph Fedor, Aiden Gallagher, Arianna Gorgan, Robert Gregor, Levi Hummel, Gracie James, Cameron Janick, Jeremy Janosov, William Jenkins IV, Troy Jones, Christopher Kaplanski, John Kashatus, Logan Law, Stephen Martin, Kaitlyn Marx, Andrew Mathes, Kathryn Morgan, Andrew Morris, Finley Norconk, Olivia Oliver, Hunter Palka, Adyson Perlis, Cadence Rindock, Grace Shepherd, Addison Sipler, Sierra Stash, Kate Stogoski, Riley Tana, Von Voelker, Sarah Walp, Tristan Wilhelm, Brianna Wright.

Honors: Gavin Babcock, Alex Bagheri, Brynleigh Bennett, Delcia Biscotto, Morgan Brelsford, Kylie Catalanotte, Hannah Chipeco, Karslyn Cummings, Gideon Deiter, Carter Deyo, Benjamin Farrell, Lia Faux, Benjamin Figura, Trent Gaus, John Gillen, Tyler Gordon, Raenah Grady, Logan Hassett, Nina Jones, Robert Lamoreaux, Courtney Lathrop, James Maculloch III, Justin Martin, Tyler Matreselva, Madalyn Morcavage, Mason Nastasiak, Emmyrson Norconk, Jackson Norconk, Alaina Raspen, Luke Richardson, Dominick Rikoskie, Connor Runquist, Hunter Scouton, Annabelle Sorber, Lily Spencer, Hayley Wallace, John Weaver, Gavin Williams, Logan Witkowski, Baylee Yedinak-Blendick.

Eighth Grade - High Honors: Landen Aritz, Kendall Borgers, Gracie Bucknavage, Isabella DeCesaris, Gianna Dominick, Kirsten Finarelli, Samuel Finarelli, Cassidy Gallagher, Amanda Giunta, Mia Gramlich, Samuel Higgins, Ryan Hollenbach, Ashley Hudak, Wyatt Joline, Reilley Kirkutis, Joshua Kizis, Brynlee Konopinski, Tyler Lukavitch, Jeffrey Martin, Ryan Michaels, Sage Morgan, Alana Palmaioli, Cole Park, Joseph Pinnacoli, Tristan Purdy, Javer Rogowski, Gavin Shoemaker, Chase Smith, Gary Stec, Aaron Stroud, Caleb Verosky, Summer Villarreal, Ariana Visneski, Logan Walsh, Giada Ward, Ella Wilson.

Honors: Taysia Bass, Aidan Borchert, Savannah Chaparro, Shelby Contois, Delana Cool, Sean Davis, Rachel Derhammer, Niccolo Diana, Benjamin Dowling, Cassandra Gobish, Brady Goss, Cortney Guastella, Josilynn Holshue, Tayelor Hoover, Jayedon Hoyt, Gianna Iannicari, Nicholas Joseph, Alex Kane, Rayne Lee, Sophia Lenza, Jacob Maculloch, Ayla Martin, Jonathan McGurk, Alahna Morris, Morgan Nethercott, Jonathan Neyhard, Juliana Nichols, Anna Pall, Saydie Pantano, Nathaniel Patla, Erin Redmond, Jonathan Sassi, Matthew Scoblick, Christopher Sholtis, Alexis Shotwell, Conner Smigielski, Ruby Sorber, Mia Stillarty, Olivia Stockage, Andrew Strohl, Emily Teetsel, Kailey Thompson, Lily Velez, Jonathon White, Jacob Zelenak.

Ninth Grade - Principal's Honors: Olivia Buckman, Alexi Chervenitski, Julianna Conte, Hailey Corey, William Geist, Lucy Honeywell, Jace Hynick, Evan Kaiser, Ryan Krakosky, Brianna London, Abigail Matysik, Sean Matysik, Jacob McHenry Jr., Colin Mikolaichik, Alyse Miller, Teagan Norconk, Cienna Pace, Francis Pinnacoli, Frances Scarboro, Allison Vitanovec, Benjamin Wnuk, Aaron Wood, Tanner Yanchick.

High Honors: Sarah Bednarek, Seth Berry, Benjamin Burke, Isabella Cassano, Tyler Coenen, Faith Depiero, Callie Dieffenbacher, Harley Dorshefski, Molly Fielding, Lyndsy Frey, Mercedes Hughes, Brenna Hunt, Molly Jenkins, Jason Jones, Kayla Lettieri, Connor Martin, Erica Moyer, Ava Nastasiak, Conner Partington, Ronald Pawlowski, Peter Stec, Adora Stroud, Jesse Traver, Lydia Vivian.

Honors: Brandan Blaine, Lauren Callahan, Kaitlyn Hazeltine, Faith Hollenbach, Adam Hoover, Samantha Horan, Jeremy Hospodar, Kyra Hoyt, Ava Klopp, Mark Kuciewicz, Caidence Leach, Jasen Lobacz Jr., Madison Long, Jonathan Longstreth, Michael Lugiano, Ava Magdalinski, Hailey Marx, John Morgan Jr., Aaron Morris, Drew Nice, Travis Pisano, Justin Pudimott, Bayne Raspen, Benjamin Roberson, Abbygail Roman, Lexia Schechterly, Sydney Sleyo, Brynn Tereska, Katelyn Tereska, Kate Walters, Raelynn Work, Bryan Yaletsko.

Tenth Grade - Principal's Honors: Giana Antonello, Michael Battin, Abigail Beyer, Rylie Bucknavage, Kara Domzalski, Lauren Domzalski, Jacob Doran, Olivia Dowling, Mackenzie Dwyer, Aidan Gaus, Angelina Goyne, Ava Gubbiotti, Kaelyn Hinkley, Nicholas Hockenbury, Ava Hudak, Sarah Kebles, Hailey Kline, Karl Kopczynski, Giovanna Limongelli, Amanda McGurk, Damian Napierkowski, Braelyn Neville, Hunter Orlofski, Autumn Palka, Faye Post, Angela Prest, Kalee Raczkowski, Madison Raspen, Evelyn Seifert-Blache, Joseph Shiskowski, Aleah Shonis, Ava Smith, Amanda Thompson, Julia Trumbower.

High Honors: Vivienne Aloi, Marissa Brdaric, Caleb Elderkin, Jake Eury, Brynn Giordano, Braden Law, Ethan Mathes, Jared McLaughlin, Margaret McLaughlin, Dana Post, Zachery Rager, Landon Schuckers, Charles Sleyo III, Luke Stone, Bo Voelker, Colin Wood.

Honors: Talyia Adamitz, Sam Alba, Corey Bean, Andrew Bucholtz, Jacob Chaga, Brandon Chapman, Ahmad Dabsheh, Sara DeRosa, Jennifer Eddy, Eric Hanley, Chad Honeywell, William Jesso, Travis Jones, Meagan Judge, Cole Kaiser, Stephen Kapsick, Samuel Kinsley, Margaret Kolanda, Kylee Kosek, Anton Koss, Emily Leahy, Jessie Meehan, Allyson Moyer, Gavin Paraschak, Vernon Roman, Joshua Ryan, Hannah Sayre, Alona Skidmore, Andrew Warzynski, Cameron Williams.

Eleventh Grade - Principal's Honors: Mckenna Budzak, Aidan Chapple, Sarah Coley, Joselyn Contardi, Sophia Dabsheh, Claire Dougherty, Caroline Duffy, Michael Ford, Jacob Herceg, Megan Hogan, John Kaplanski, Alexa Karlowicz, Gia Keefe, James Matysik, Grace O'Donnell, Maddison Park, Chase Purdy, Lilian Raczkowski, Trista Schechterly, Melanie Selner, Sarayah Smith, Abbey Stokes.

High Honors: Philip Blaski, Maya Buckman, Barbara Comerosky, Jessica Deangelis, Santino Diana, Lexi Doughton, Logan Dwen, Morgan Eiswerth, Jacob Falls, Nicholas Finarelli, Cameron Fleeger, Victoria Gabel, Skyler Hadsall, Evan Hoover, Hannah Hosey, Catherine Hossage, Pacelyn King, Emma Klusmeyer, Mason Konigus, Brittany Lanning, Madison Lasinski, Ethan Leone, George Manzoni, Brooke Martin, Jennifer Martin, Jocelyn Mattingly, Alayna Miller, Cole Morio, Matthew Nice, Skylar Poelma, Mason Price, Krista Scoblick, Mason Shell, Kaylie Skovira, Logan Slivinski, Emily Spencer, Jacob Stash, Sebastian Trapani, Adam Walp, Casey Weaver, Joshua Wickard, Ty Woodrosky.

Honors: David Blaine, Noah Budzak, Evan Cercone, Ty Federici, Adrian Flores, Avery Giordano, Kathryn Healey, Dustin Heinrich, Carolyn Kaminski, Seth Karnes, Katja Kolanda, Ian Kopczynski, Ian McCue, Dea Middleton, Seth Mieczkowski, Brady Newman, Edmund Orlofski IV, Kaitlyn Parsons, Skylar Poelma, Hailey Rambus, Aviona Robinson, Megan Rogers, Chase Shaw, Jacob Simoson, Brayden Spencer, Nathan Stanski, Courtney Tereska, Breanna Wesley, Genevive Yamelski, Ally Young, Tessa Zimmerman.

Twelfth Grade - Principal's Honors: Matthew Ash, Elizabeth Blaski, Faith Butler, Rylee Critchisin, Richard Cronin, Paige David, Justin Doran, Riley Egan, Savanna Eneboe, Chloe Gisewhite, Anya Gramlich, Sean Hanley, Mark Hutsko, Erica Jones, Halle Jones, Hayden Klopp, Walker Kmetz, Kaleigh Koss, Mikayla Krakosky, Katelyn Krzysik, Michael Longstreth, Samuel Lukasavage, Hannah Matysik, Erin McLaughlin, Rebecca Meehan, Annika Meeker, Natasha Mihalko, Connor Morgan, Blaise Napierkowski, Grace Naugle, Emily Novak, David O'Connell, Maggie Paciga, Maxwell Paczewski, Liam Pembleton, Ava Radel, Lyndsey Sayre, Randi Shaver, Gabrielle Shonis, Jessica Spencer, Emma Stroud, Madelyn Stuart, Jasmine Talbot, Joel Wilson.

High Honors: Ethan Adams, Lillian Aloi, Rhiannon Borchert, Madison Brdaric, Kayla Callan, Ryan Eiden, Kortney Harry, Morgan Headman, Katie Kaplanski, Amber Kocher, Rocco Limongelli, Elyse Martin, Ashley Mieczkowski, Keera Naugle, Kalani Price, Matthew Raczkowski, Robert Ritinski, Gavin Ruger, Timothy Schechterly Jr., Alexander Seprish, Tristan Sheffler, Rachel Shook, Aubrey Solack, Luke Spencer, Kendra Steltz, Zachary Stuart, Samantha Sutton, Corrine Tronsue, Jhon Masao Valle, Elena Walters, Amanda Winter, Marshall Woodrosky, Rayven Work.

Honors: Connor Allabaugh, Jared Barber, Logan Billotti, Emily Blaine, Joshua Bonomo, Bryce Burgit, Hunter Burke, Chase Cole, Damian Concklin, Cody Cragle, Patrick Depiero, Neil Dougherty, Ashley Elick, Christopher Farrell, Matthew Good, Ryan Hunt, Brandon James, Nathanael Jubis, Joshua Kane, Colby Kennedy, Hannah Kline, Natalie Knorr, Logan Kuhar, William Labar, Madisyn Lutz, Alec Mattingly, Katherine Mikalic, Bruce Nevel, Camryn Obsitos, Sarah Prince, Christian Seprish, Micheal Smith, Ashley Solack, Nicholas Stefanowicz, Madison Tereska, Nicholas Zaboski.



Proudly Celebrating 51 Years!

Trucksville Early Childhood Education Center

"Where a lifetime of love for learning begins!"

REGISTRATION is now open for the 2021-2022 School Year!

Call (570) 696-3899 for a registration form and access to an online tour.

Following all CDC & PA Dept. of Health Guidelines.

**Small Class Size in Preschool Program Section
2 to 5 Year Olds (AM, PM and Pre-K Full Day Available)**

- * Hands On Learning Centers * Kindergarten Readiness Program
- Computers * Music and Movement * Indoor & Outdoor playroom/ground
- * Pre K Extension Programs * Before & After Care * Summer Camps

Full Day Kindergarten

(Children must turn 5 on or before September 30th)

- * Starfall Curriculum * Lucy Calkins Writers Workshop
- * Low Teacher - Child Ratio / Small Class Size
- * Computers / Ipads / Apple TV * Music * Physical Education
- * Art * Cooking * Before & After Care

Dallas Kindergarten Extension

(For Dallas AM Kindergarten Students)

- Art * Science * Math * Lucy Calkins Writers Workshop
- * Cooking & After Care Available

www.TrucksvilleECEC.com

40 Knob Hill Road, Trucksville, PA

Meeting & Exceeding Learning Standards for Young Children in a Developmentally Appropriate way!

Low Teacher / Child Ratio's ~ Small Class Sizes



Five Tips to Prepare For Taxes

By **Martin A. Federici, Jr.**,
CEO of MF Tax & Accounting, Inc.



It's that time of year – tax preparation season is here! I'm sure some of you dread this time of year, but I've got five tips that can help you keep on track:

1. If you're not the do-it-yourself type, hire an experienced, professional tax preparer to handle your returns. Stay away from the generic chain tax prep services – they tend to significantly overcharge for preparing returns ... as in charging by the form (we view this as a rip-off) instead of using an hourly rate (much fairer).
2. Make sure you have all needed tax documents. Sounds simple enough, but being organized about collecting your tax documents (where did I put that W-2?) makes life much easier for your preparer (and you too)!
3. Your preparer should ask you many questions, especially if it is the first time they are preparing your returns. Even after the first year, personal/financial situations change over time, and any qualified tax preparer will know to ask the important questions (law changes like the SECURE Act, new possible deductions, etc.) so you don't leave any money on the table.
4. If you work with a CPA, hopefully they offer advice for your specific tax situation during and after preparing your returns. This can be very important for not only the current year (can a traditional IRA contribution lower your tax bill?) but the following year as well (should you contribute more to your 401(k) at work?). Offering suggestions that can increase the amount you get back (or help you pay less than you have in the past) can be very valuable for some.
5. Your tax professional should be willing to speak with any other professionals you have hired. There are many reasons why insurance professionals, professional financial advisors, attorneys, etc., should speak to your tax preparer (with your permission of course) to coordinate on issues that may be important and need to be looked at from different perspectives. This way, you get the input of trusted professionals on issues that overlap into several areas of your personal financial/tax situation.

Find an experienced local tax preparer who works for a professional tax preparation firm, earns his/her money from hourly/job fees (NOT charging by the form), believes in helping their clients improve their tax/financial situations, and has the heart & demeanor of a teacher, NOT a salesman, and chances are you've found the right tax preparer to help you with your tax situation.

For more information, please visit <http://www.mftax.com>, email marty@mftax.com, or call (570) 760-6524. About MF Tax & Accounting, Inc., MF Tax & Accounting, Inc. is a full-service tax preparation & accounting firm based in PA & FL specializing in tax preparation, tax planning & advice, and accounting services. With 10+ years of licensed experience, over 10 years of professional education, and an unwavering commitment to helping you, MF Tax & Accounting, Inc. is the tax & accounting firm to best serve YOU. Facebook | Twitter | LinkedIn

Read the Back Mountain Community News
FREE online at: www.communitynewsonline.net

To submit community news and photos email:
communitynews123@comcast.net.

To advertise call Lisa at (570) 674-7772.
Serving the community for over 15 years.
Locally Owned & Operated.
It's All Good News ... Where Community Matters!



**Shop with the
Back Mountain
Community News**
It's All Good News ...

Where Community Matters.

Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on our local economy.

Locally owned businesses are the businesses we count on for donations to our local organizations and contribute dollars to our local causes.

A marketplace made-up of many small businesses ensures lower prices over the long-term and local business owners work hard to fulfill the needs of the people within our community every day.

 **eSubscribe
Free!**

Do you like reading the Back Mountain Community News online each month? Would you like the paper emailed to your email inbox before delivery ...

Send an email, let us know!

Each month you will receive the Back Mountain Community News "PDF" pages to your email inbox!

It's All Good News ...

Where Community Matters!

Visit online at

www.communitynewsonline.net

@ click the advertisement to send us your email address.

Type in the subject field "subscribe" and each month you will receive an email from the Back Mountain Community News eSUBSCRIPTION when the paper is READY TO READ!

For more information or to place an advertisement, call Lisa Pretko at 570-674-7772.

Harveys Lake American Legion

Is now open 1pm to 11pm; Sunday thru Saturday
All Covid19 guidelines are adhered to.



JOIN US!

Legion Fund Raiser
CHILI COOK-OFF!
Saturday, February 20th

2:00 - 4:00 pm

Entry Fee: ONLY \$5

Categories:

Most Original
Spiciest & Overall

For Additional Information

Contact: Clarence Hogan: 570-639-2240

Albert Ashton Home Improvements

Planning Home Improvement Projects?

Additions • Repairs of all Types • Drywall

Painting • Decks & Patios

Kitchens • Baths and More!

Serving the Back Mountain and surrounding communities for over 25 years.

Good Work and Reasonable Rates.

Call Today! 570-675-2110



PA #080319



EIO WASTE SOLUTIONS & RECYCLING

Roll Off Dumpsters from 8-40yd.



Facebook EIOWasteSolutions
www.eiowastesolutions.com
email: eio@epix.net

Call Today (570) 255-2574
5312 State Route 309, Dallas

Family Owned & Locally Operated. Serving the community for 21 years.



NOW HIRING

We are an independently, locally owned and operated nurse staffing agency. Curatio Staffing was created to provide high quality nursing and allied medical services to our host's facilities when they require supplemental resources to care for their patients. We exist to provide care in acute, long term and home environments in a manner that facilitates our hosts, meeting their patient's goals.

REGISTERED NURSES

Curatio Staffing is seeking to fill positions for Registered Nurses for 13 Week contract assignments in Med-Surg, Tele, ICU and Step Down Units. Positions are available in Scranton, Danville, Wilkes-Barre and across the country. You will need current RN License, BLS and ACLS. Pay rates are competitive.

We will respond quickly to all inquiries. Please visit us at www.curatiostaffing.com to apply or call 570-245-1532 for more information and an interview appointment.

HOME CARE AIDES and COMPANIONS

Curatio Staffing is seeking to fill positions for Home Care Aides and Companions to help support our growing company. We are seeking part time and full time employees. You will need a current driver's license, experience in direct patient care and a strong desire to provide quality care. We offer competitive wages and training for credentials.

Please visit us at www.curatiostaffing.com to complete an application.

*We Offer: Competitive Wages, Health Incentives, Education Benefits and more.
Join a team that really cares about our employees
as well as the patients we serve. To find out more, visit online.*



Visit us and follow us on facebook

We are an equal opportunity company that truly cares about our employees and the work that they do.



**PROPANE TANKS
& PROPANE TANKS FILLED**

Winter Special
Best in the Back Mountain
Back Mountain Natural Heat
5312 Rte. 309 / Tunkhannock Hwy.
(just minutes from Dallas)
Call 570-255-2574

**Lowest Prices
Guaranteed!**

MF Tax & Accounting, Inc.

Receive **\$10** for every referral!

For every new referral we receive from you who has his/her taxes prepared by **MF Tax & Accounting, Inc.**, we will give you **\$10** off of your tax preparation AND your referral will receive **\$10** off of his/her tax preparation as well! No limit on the number of referrals!

EMAIL - marty@mftax.com PHONE - (570) 760-6524

Offer expires April 2, 2021. Not to be combined with any other offer or promotion.

Quality Collision, Inc.
Committed to Quality... Guaranteed

**Insurance Claims - Uni-body Alignment - Frame Repair
Complete Body, Collision and Paint Shop**

- State-of-the-art facility • Alignments • P.P.G. Certified
- Towing • Precision uni-body frame equipment
- Free estimates • Highly trained technicians with friendly and knowledge staff.
- Extensive expertise in modern repair technology
- All work guaranteed and we handle all insurance claims.
- Downdraft paint booth, computer matching, baked-on original factory finishes.

Over the years, we have earned our customers' trust with our integrity.
At Quality Collision, this principal is built into everything we do.

Route 309, Dallas • (570) 675-7755
350 Brook Ave., Kingston • (570) 283-1844
365 Courtdale Ave., Courtdale • (570) 714-5581



**Newell
Fuel Service**
696-3838

**Newell
Fuel Service**

We Carry Non-Ethanol Gas at our
Convenient Store in Shavertown.

Family Owned and operated for over 57 years

- Heating Oil-Kerosene
- Gasoline-Diesel
- Automatic Delivery
- Payment Plans
- 24 hour emergency service

Retail and wholesale deliveries
1355 Memorial Highway
Shavertown Pa 18708
570-696-3838

Fernbrook/Dallas Self Storage

Units Available

**5x10, 10x10, 10x15,
10x20, 10x25 and 10x30 sizes**

2 Convenient Locations

18 Trout Brook Road
(off of Lower Demunds Road)
in Dallas

Route 309 in Dallas
(across from Frontier)
570-675-8833

Antiques • Primitives • Vintage
Collectibles • Furniture & More

2nd Tyme
Around

2613 Memorial Highway, Dallas
(570) 675-7833

Hours: Thursday through Saturday, 10-5 p.m.

Located next to Wayne's World and Ochman's Coins & Jewelry.

Legion Logbook

Daddow-Isaacs Dallas American Legion Post 672 met on January 12, and unfortunately did not have a quorum. Commander Darlene Kupstas requested members to attend the monthly meetings so that business could be transacted. Art Pimm gave an update on Wreaths Across America and termed it a success.

Food is being prepared daily. A fish dinner was offered on Friday, January 15. I can attest that it was very good since I bought five dinners for our family. Notices are offered on our sign in front of the American Legion to list upcoming events and special food offerings. Please support your Legion to keep it a viable entity in the Back Mountain. The annual Pork Roast will be on March 6. More information will be forthcoming in the future.

I urge all veterans to check out the Department of Veterans Affairs on your computer. Join My Health Vet.com and you will find a wealth of information pertaining to veterans. I can contact my primary care doctor on this site and send her secure messages. I sent a message to Dr. Ahmed two weeks ago requesting that I be put on a list to receive a covid shot. Lo and behold I got a call the next day advising me to come and get the vaccine shot. I have read and heard on tv that some people are fearful of receiving this shot. From my experience it is like the flu shot: soreness at the site of the injection for a few days and a little tiredness for a day. My daughter has received the shot where she worked; George Morgan who I joined the service with got the shot, with no after effects. My wife Morag has just signed up through Geisinger to get the shot. I would urge everyone to get the vaccine to protect yourself and everyone else. I will receive the 2nd shot on February 4 and I will keep you posted on the result.

I've told you in past columns how interesting as well as valuable the American Legion Magazine is. This is one of the perks of Legion membership. Contact any of the Post 672 members for an application form. Now I will toot the horn for My Health Vet. Some articles on the current site concern the 30th Anniversary of the Desert Storm and Shield War. General Colin Powell is quoted as stating, "The veterans did a fabulous job." There are over 700,000 Desert War veterans and Marine Corps vet Scott Stump headed an effort to get a monument in Washington, D.C. honoring the Desert Storm War vets. A memorial is set to break ground this year next to the Lincoln Memorial and Vietnam Memorial. If you know or meet a Desert Storm veteran, be sure to express your thanks for his particular service. The commander extends a special invitation to the Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom veterans, and Enduring Freedom veterans to join our Legion as well as veterans of all of our wars. See you at our next meeting in February.

Another interesting article dealt with the Easter Seals Military and Veteran Services. I was unaware that the Services specialize in identifying the needs of veterans and their families, particularly with employment, job training, and support like family respite opportunities.

Our next meeting will be held on the second Tuesday, February 9, at 7:30 p.m. Commander Darlene Kupstas invites all members and prospective members to attend. GOD BLESS AMERICA (Stay healthy!!)



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

YOUR "Get it Out of Here" SPECIALISTS!



JUNK BE GONE

ESTATE CLEANOUTS

Large or small - we do them all! Tenants have been known to leave some unwanted items behind, and perhaps you are dealing with more of a hoarder? No matter the situation, we've got you covered!

Just upgraded your appliances? We will come get all your old ones. Heavy items ~ not a problem. We can pickup anything from a refrigerator to a hot tub.

SINGLE ITEM PICKUP

EARTH & YARD CLEANUP

We can do more than remove "junk"! If you have fallen trees, brush, stumps or piles of leaves, we have the team and tools for the job.

Re-doing an old sidewalk or did the previous home owner leave a pile of dirt or stone? We have the equipment to remove it.

STONE & CONCRETE

Family owned and operated. Proudly serving the Back Mountain and surrounding communities in NEPA (within a 50 mile radius).

Call 570-519-2025
5312 State Route 309
Monroe Township, PA 18618

Always Fresh • Always Hot!

Spare Time Pizza & Ice Cream

at the

Back Mountain BOWL

Rte. 415 Memorial Hwy.
Dallas, PA 18612

675-5026 www.backmountainbowl.net

Boback Reminds 100% Service Connected Disabled Veterans of Real Estate Tax Exemption

Rep. Karen Boback (R-Lackawanna/Luzerne/Wyoming), chairman of the House Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee, would like to remind veterans who are 100% permanently disabled due to service that they are eligible for an exemption on their real estate tax.

This program provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) offers real estate tax exemption for any honorably discharged veteran who is 100% disabled, has a financial need and is a resident of the Commonwealth.

Veterans may apply for the exemption by contacting the Veterans Affairs director in their county of residence: Lackawanna County - Director David Eisele - 570-963-6778 – <https://www.lackawannacounty.org/index.php/departmentsagencies/human-services/veterans-affairs>. Luzerne County - Director Jim Spagnola - 570-706-3960 – <https://www.luzernecounty.org/508/Veterans>. Wyoming County - Director Jack Hubert - 570-996-2258 – <https://wycopa.org/directory/veterans-representative/>

Veteran's eligibility criteria: Served in the military honorably. Served during established war service dates as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs **The following decorations can also be used to establish wartime service: Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal or Navy Expeditionary Medal. Must have a total or 100% permanent service-connected disability rating by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or as the result of military service the veteran is blind or paraplegic or has sustained the loss of two or more limbs. Must be a resident of the Commonwealth. Must occupy the real estate as his/her principal dwelling. Dwelling is owned solely by the veteran or as an estate in the entirety. Must prove financial need:

Veteran must prove financial need according to the criteria established by the State Veterans Commission if their annual income exceeds \$92,594, effective Jan. 1, 2019. Applicants with an annual income of \$92,594 or less are given a rebuttable presumption to have a need for the exemption **Upon the death of a qualified veteran, tax exemption may pass on to the unmarried surviving spouse if financial need can be shown.

An exemption for the financial need can be considered when the applicant's allowable expenses exceed the applicant's household income. The applicant's monthly household expenses will be calculated to include a cost of living allowance and dependent's allowance.

After the DMVA certifies the financial need for an exemption and the eligibility criteria is verified, the county board of assessment and revision of taxes will grant the tax exemption. Cases that have been granted tax exemption will be reviewed periodically to determine continued need for exemption from certain real estate property taxes.

For more information on the real estate tax exemption program or any other state programs and services supporting veterans, visit www.dmva.pa.gov.



Go Ahead ...
Melt Her Heart
& SAVE 30% OFF
Jewelry

Make it a Happy
Valentine's
Day!

Like us on
facebook

OCHMAN'S COINS & JEWELRY

Call 570-675-5872 • Route 415, Dallas
next to Hogan's Heroes & Pizza



**Shop the Back Mountain
Community News ...
Where Community Matters.**

Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on our local economy.

Locally owned businesses are the businesses we count on for donations to our local organizations and contribute dollars to our local causes.

A marketplace made-up of many small businesses ensures lower prices over the long-term and local business owners work hard to fulfill the needs of the people within our community every day.



Happy Valentine's Day
from the
Back Mountain Community News

*It's All Good News ...
Where Community Matters!*

**LEHMAN
TOWNSHIP**
Recycling Center
570-674-7788

Recycling is everyone's responsibility

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday – 7am-1pm
Wednesday – 1pm-7pm
Friday – 7am-1pm
Saturday (2nd & 4th of the month)
– 10am-2pm

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Acceptable Recycling:**

- ✓ Clean Aluminum Cans;
- ✓ Clean Steel Cans;
- ✓ Clean Tin Cans;
- ✓ Clean Plastic #1-#2 Bottles and Jars**
- ✓ Clean newspaper, office paper, magazines;
- ✓ Clean Cardboard that is broken down;
- ✓ Clean Brown Paper Bags;

Visit us on



**“Lehman Township, Luzerne
County, Pennsylvania”**

or LehmanTwp.com

*Free
for Lehman
Township
Residents*

2021 Permits are available now.
Visit our website or recycling
center for an Application.

*\$25 per year
for Community
Members*

** Please note.

- NO** Glass;
- NO** Aerosol cans;
- NO** Plastic bags of any kind;
- NO** Food-stained containers;
- NO** Chip, candy or any other wrapper;
- NO** Styrofoam of any kind;
- NO** Paper towels or napkins;
- NO** Ceramic glass, dishware, drinking glasses,
bulbs, mirrors or window glass;
- NO** Shredded paper or paper to-go containers
(pizza boxes), waxed paper, waxed cardboard or
frozen drink/food containers;
- NO** Hazardous or medical waste; Please contact
the office for options to dispose of medication.

*We will not accept any items NOT indicated on
the “accepted items” list at the recycling center
or on our website.*

WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT.

**All Recyclables need to be CLEANSED & RINSED.
They must not contain any food, liquid, mold or mildew.**

Boback Announces Federal Funding Awarded to Area School Districts

Rep. Karen Boback (R-Lackawanna/Luzerne/Wyoming) has announced additional funding made available to local school districts from the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CCRSA). “Ensuring that our students and teachers are provided for has been a priority during this pandemic,” explained Boback. “It is wonderful to see that federal funds were made available to our school districts from this program that plans for and covers those additional expenses sustained due to the COVID-19 pandemic.”

In the 117th Legislative District, Dallas, Lackawanna Trail, Lake Lehman, Northwest Area and Tunkhannock School Districts all received funding as a part of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER).

As part of the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CCRSA), Congress and the Trump Administration established and appropriated a total of \$54.3 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund. Funding is distributed to states based on each state’s proportionate share of Title I, Part A (Title I-A) funding. ESSER funds are intended to support COVID-19 response efforts and may be spent on a wide range of allowable activities.

Pennsylvania’s share of this funding is approximately \$2.22 billion, which will be distributed to the state’s school districts and charter schools based on the Title I-A formula. This funding is on top of the \$471 million that was distributed to school districts last year through the CARES Act.



**Greenhouse &
Country Store!**

*The Blooming
Barn* **Decorate with Original
Handcrafted Home Decor!**


New Vendors Arriving Weekly!

See our beautiful variety of Floral Arrangements,
Country Decor and Refurbished Furniture
Come Shop over 50 Vendors with New Items in Store
a variety of unique, homemade gifts for any occasion!
All Spring Seeds & Flowers Are Ordered!

304 Broadway Road, Hunlock Creek
570-256-4396

Winter hours: Wed., Thurs. & Fri., 3-7pm;
Sat. & Sun., 9-5pm. Closed Mon. & Tues.





At The Back Mountain Memorial Library

Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1 PM to 6 PM
Wednesdays, 10 AM to 6 PM
Fridays, 1 PM to 5 PM, & Saturdays, 10 AM to 2 PM

Best Book Bargains in Luzerne County!

elegance style innovation energy color



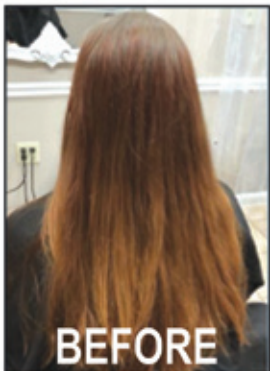
Salon Nouveau

Experience The Salon Difference.

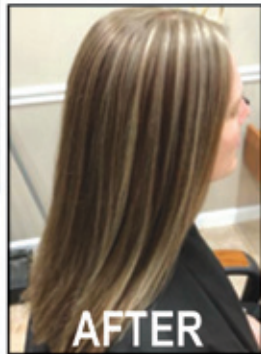
A Full Service Salon!

The Perfect Salon for Women * Men & Children

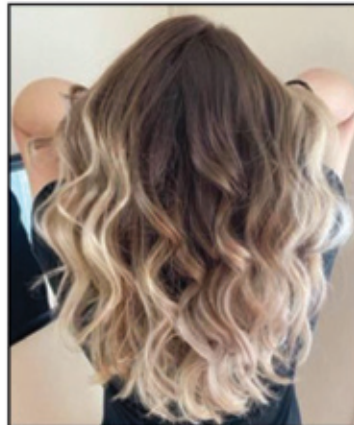
Give us a call to schedule your complete make over!



BEFORE



AFTER



We would like everyone to know we have taken all of the proper measures to ensure all of our clients safety.

Call for your personal consultation for the perfect treatment & solution for you! Award-winning smoothing solution ~ Same Day Smoother, Speedy Smoothing Solution Bang or Spot Treatments • Frizz Blocker Blow-Dry ~ Sleek & Smooth or Red Carpet finish!



Specializing in Beautiful Hair Color Techniques and Transformations. We are your Balayage & Ombre Color Specialists.

Call (570) 675-5111

www.salonnouveauaccessories.com

Call for Appointment ~ Walk-Ins Welcome.

63A Gerald Avenue, Dallas

Hours: Tues., 9-6; Wed., 10-7; Thurs., 9-7; Fri., 9-6; Sat., 9-4

A Gift Certificate Makes A Great Gift!

CK's Cantina

63 A Gerald Ave.
Dallas, PA 18612



570.675.5556

Eat-In / Take Out

Open
11am - 9pm
closed Sundays

Authentic Mexican Food & So Much More!

On The Menu

1/2 lb. Burgers • Cheesesteaks
14oz. Ribeye Steaks • Pasta
Hot Soups Served Daily
Sandwiches
Chicken Wings & More

\$5 DELIVERY AVAILABLE FOR ORDERS OVER \$20



Thank you to everyone in the community for your support during these uncertain times!

Offering delivery from 3-9 weekdays and 11-9 on Saturdays. Curbside service is available.



Ice Cream Shack is closed now for the season.

Looking forward to serving you in 2021!



All Items on our Menu are Made Fresh to Order and May Take a Little Extra Time. Thank You for Your Patience.



Gift Certificates ... Makes a Great Gift!