

Back Mountain Community News

January 2015

Covering the Back Mountain and surrounding communities!

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Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center thanks Dallas Kiwanis, Dallas and Lake-Lehman Key Clubs



With the help from the Dallas Kiwanis Club, Dallas and Lake-Lehman High School Key Clubs, the holiday season arrived at the Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Dallas. These community volunteers worked hard assembling and decorating the center's Christmas Trees. The Meadows gratefully thanks all who participated in this very special annual project. Shown above, front row from left are: Becky Stout, Alisa Jolley, Maura Chappell, Kathryn Roberts, Michaela O'Connell and Lloyd Ryman. Standing behind from left are: Lily Cimino, Megan Sinoracki, Allison Deboer, Charles Kishbaugh, Beverly Atherholt, Glenn Davis and Harold Stout. Missing from photo: Tex Wilson.

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Dallas Elementary School held its annual Holiday Shopping event



Inside page 17

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Available at over 90 locations each month free of charge in the following areas: Dallas, Shavertown, Trucksville, Lehman, Harveys Lake, Sweet Valley, Hunlock Creek, Lake Silkworth, Noxen, Benton, Center Moreland, Luzerne, Kingston, Forty Fort, Edwardsville and Plymouth!

Don't miss an issue!

The Back Mountain Community News

It's All Good News!

**Locally owned and independently operated.
Not affiliated with any other publishing company.**

Please note:

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 an organization. If there is a charge to attend an event, advertising rates may apply.

The Back Mountain Community News, L.L.C. - is a monthly publication available at over 90 locations throughout the Back Mountain and surrounding communities. Each month you will find community news and photographs, recipes, puzzles, school news, shopping information and more. **Everything you would expect from a community publication.** I invite the community to take part in this monthly publication by submitting your information, birthdays, engagements, anniversaries, sports & community photographs, information on upcoming events and what you have going on. *It's All Good News ... Don't Miss An Issue!*

NOTICE: The Publisher of The Back Mountain Community News, LLC., reserves the right to edit and reject submissions deemed as unsuitable for publication. Advertising, articles and community submissions to the Back Mountain Community News may or may not be the opinion of the publisher and therefore the publisher will not be liable.

The Back Mountain Community News, L.L.C. is not responsible for lost photographs or information however, when indicated with submissions, the Publisher of the Back Mountain Community News, LLC will return all photographs to the original sender. To our advertisers, we will strive to exceed your advertising expectations and our goal is to publish an error free publication. If an error should occur, we will credit the portion of advertising space or offer the same space of advertising in the following publication. The publisher will not be responsible or liable for lost revenue.

CCK Donates to Dallas School District

CCK members recently gathered to make a donation to the Dallas School District. \$2,800 dollars was raised by the organization and presented in the form of a Weis Market gift card to assist families in the Dallas School District for the holidays.

CCK will hold its Annual Fund-raiser, "Carnivale", on Saturday, January 24, 2015 at the Westmoreland Club in Wilkes-Barre.

A volunteer organization, Community Cares for Kids was founded in 2006 by Dr. Francis Collini and his wife Susan. Monies raised allow Dr. Collini and a team of surgeons to travel to countries such as Ecuador to provide corrective surgery to children who otherwise could not afford it. For more information on this year's fund-raiser, please call 570-674-6525. Shown in photo are: front row from left are: Cherilyn Keating (guidance counselor); Diane Sherman (guidance counselor); Susan Collini (co-founder, Community Cares for Kids), and Norbert Swithers (home school visitor). Behind are: Donna King (guidance assistance administrator), Yvonne Mould (CCK committee member), and Matt Kelly (guidance counselor). Absent from photo: Cheri McCue.



Bingo Dates & Dinner planned

Bingo will be held on Monday, January 12, at the Northmoreland Twp. Volunteer Hall in Centermoreland. Doors open at 5:00 PM and early birds begin at 6:30 PM.

Bingo will be held on Monday, January 26, at the Northmoreland Twp. Volunteer Hall in Centermoreland. Doors open at 5:00 PM and early birds begin at 6:30 PM. Food and beverages are available for both dates.

Chicken and biscuit dinner will be held on Wednesday, January 28, at the Northmoreland Twp. Volunteer Hall in Centermoreland. Serving from 4:30 PM until 7:00 PM. Adults \$9.00 and children 12 and under \$4.00. Eat in or take out. Pay at door.

For more information call James Gilpin at 570-333-4906.

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Harveys Lake Borough Joins Back Mountain Community Partnership

Harveys Lake Borough recently became a member of the Back Mountain Community Partnership (BMCP).

Harveys Lake Borough is the 7th member municipality in the BMCP which also includes Dallas Boro, Dallas Twp., Franklin Twp., Jackson Twp., Lehman Twp. and

Kingston Twp. The BMCP was formed to serve the needs of the Back Mountain region of Luzerne County and provide communication, cooperation, and joint action in the interest of local governments of the Back Mountain region individually and collectively.

In 2008, State Senator Lisa

Baker, in cooperation with Misericordia University and the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA), provided the impetus for the formation of the BMCP. NEPA has been the administrator of the BMCP since its inception. The BMCP has worked cooperatively on a number of projects to improve the Back Mountain community including the new Back Mountain Regional EMA Building on Route 118 in Dallas.

In order for Harveys Lake Borough to join the Partnership, the Borough had to petition the BMCP for membership. Each of the BMCP municipalities passed a resolution in support of Harveys Lake Boro's membership in the BMCP. Harveys Lake Boro's membership was confirmed at the November 20th BMCP meeting. The BMCP meets monthly at the Back Mountain Regional EMA Building.

New District Boundaries in Effect, Boback Says

In Pennsylvania, the redistricting process takes place every 10 years. During this process, each of the 203 House and 50 Senate seats are examined and adjusted to make sure they reflect the current distribution of the Commonwealth's population. Boback's district had previously included portions of Columbia, Luzerne and Wyoming counties.

The new 117th Legislative District includes part of Lackawanna County consisting of the townships of Benton, La Plume and West Abington and the borough of Dalton; part of Luzerne County consisting of the townships of Dallas, Fairmount, Franklin, Hunlock, Lake, Lehman and Ross, and the boroughs of Dallas and Harveys Lake along with all of Wyoming County.

Boback's district office locations remain unchanged. Her office in Tunkhannock is located at 608 Hunter Highway, in Suite 110. The office can be reached at (570) 836-4777. Boback's office in Dallas is located at 1108 Twin Stacks Drive and can be reached at (570) 675-6000.

Services available at the district offices include: Driver's license and vehicle registration applications and renewals. Assistance with PennDOT paperwork (lost cards, changes, corrections, special registration plates, farm plates and exemption stickers, vanity plates and placards for disabled persons). Assistance regarding birth certificates. PACE and PACENET applications for seniors. Property Tax and Rent Rebate applications. State tax forms. Farm plate and exemption stickers. Referrals to agencies to resolve state-related matters. A map of the new 117th Legislative District is available at www.RepBoback.com.



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Dallas Borough Winter Parking

Please be reminded of the following winter parking and snow removal regulations for Dallas Borough:

It is the duty of the owner, tenant or occupant of any property in Dallas Borough to clear the entire width of the sidewalks contiguous thereto of all snow or ice within twenty-four (24) hours after the cessation of any storm or fall of snow.

It is unlawful to deposit any snow or ice on a road or immediately next to a fire hydrant.

It is unlawful for a vehicle to stand or park in any Borough roadway which interferes with the snow plowing or ice removal.

It is unlawful to be parked on a Borough road during or following a measurable snowfall of one inch or more. Parking on Borough roads is prohibited for a period of three (3) days following a snow accumulation for the purpose of clearing snow and ice. Vehicles not removed from streets or roadways will be ticketed and towed at the owner's expense.

A more detailed summary is available on the Dallas Borough Website at www.dallasborough.org. The Dallas Borough Road Department thanks you for your anticipated compliance.

Back Mountain Memorial Library recently held a Holiday Open House

By MB Gilligan
Back Mountain Community
News Correspondent

The Back Mountain Memorial Library held a Holiday Open House on December 17 and 18 which featured punch and cookies made by the library staff.

"It's just a little thing that we wanted to do for our patrons," said Martha Butler, library director. "We want to wish them a Happy Holiday season."

Photo right: Jerry McNulty, a frequent visitor to the Back Mountain Memorial Library, enjoyed the homemade cookies at the Holiday Open House.



Pictured during the library's holiday event, from left, are Janet Bauman, children's librarian, Martha Butler, director, and Louise Rood, library volunteer.



Dallas Borough Announces Schedule for the Curbside Pick Up, Recycling of Christmas Trees

The Dallas Borough Road Department will commence curbside collection of Christmas trees on January 5, 2015 and continue through until January 23, 2015.

Christmas trees must have all decorations removed prior to being placed curbside. Do NOT place trees on the roadway or in swales/ditches.

Residents are to refrain from placing their trees curbside prior to weather predictions for snow and/or freezing rain events.

Dallas Borough thanks our residents for their assistance and cooperation in the Christmas tree collection program. Any questions or comments may be directed to the Administrative Office at 570-675-1389.

Antique Children's Books on Display at the Back Mountain Memorial Library



Carolyn Oravitz of Harveys Lake will be displaying her antique children's books collection during the month of January at the Back Mountain Memorial Library.

Her collection consists of the now famous 1930 Elson Pre-Primer Reader with the well-known story characters of Dick and Jane. Several of the other books that will be on display date back over a hundred and twenty years. The oldest book is Pollard's Synthetic Third Reader which dates back to 1890. This book contains 80 short stories and poems with a vocabulary list at the beginning of each story. Another antique book includes English, Greek, Russian, American Indian and Hindu fairy tales. When viewing the collection, one will be able to see some of the delightful illustrations as Carolyn has made framed copies of them for the display.

Many of these antique books belonged to Carolyn's relatives who have passed away and some were purchased at antique sales. Carolyn, a school teacher for years, pointed out the quote in the teacher's edition of Fun with Dick and Jane which stresses the importance of "awakening keen interest in reading and stimulating a strong desire to learn to read effectively." Come and see the collection this January and see how teachers and parents of the past strove to meet this goal with their children.

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Special Notice from the Back Mountain Community News

From our family to yours, wishes to all for a very **Happy and Healthy New Year.**

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the readers and advertisers of the Back Mountain Community News for your continued support throughout the past year.

I am truly blessed to be given the opportunity to serve our community with all good news and look forward to serving you in the new year ahead.

**Thank you ~
Lisa Pretko, Owner / Publisher**

Winter Parking in Dallas Twp.

Except in locations whereby ordinance prohibitions against vehicular parking are more restrictive, vehicular parking on Township roads is prohibited now through April 30, between the hours of 6:00PM and 6:00 AM.

Violators shall be subjected to a fine of \$15.00 for the first offense and \$25.00 for the second offense.

Annual Meeting of the Cedar Crest Cemetery Association

The annual meeting of the Cedar Crest Cemetery Association, Inc., was held on November 1, 2014. The officers of the Board of Directors were elected for 2015. They are president, Richard Harrison, Sr.; Vice President, Robert Law; Secretary, Louise Hazeltine; and Treasurer, Dr. Mark Law.

The Board officers noted that there are no more plots to be sold. However, burials will continue for all persons owning plots. Deeds will need to be presented when requesting interment at Cedar Crest. As it is a very old cemetery, deeds may have been lost over time. A member of the board should be contacted to assist in validating the plot ownership. Please call: 570-696-1332.

The primary responsibilities of the board are to maintain the burial grounds, employ a person for seasonal mowing and clean up, and administer the fund for annual giving essential to cover expenses.

At the present time, the cemetery association is seeking three persons to serve on the board. The by-laws call for the board to meet two times each year and for an annual meeting to be held in the fall. Anyone interested in serving on the board should call 570-696-1332.

Written communications should be sent to: Cedar Crest Cemetery Association, Inc., 40 Knob Hill Road, Trucksville, PA 18708.

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Legion Logbook

Daddow-Isaacs Dallas American Legion Post 672 wishes everyone a Happy New Year.

The Children's Christmas Party was well attended with Santa Claus (our own John Emil, Sr.) handing out gifts, and holding smiling children on his lap as those in attendance snapped many pictures. Food and entertainment were provided. The monies raised from the annual Turkey Raffle were utilized to provide for this community activity. Left over toys were taken to the Marines to distribute in their Toys-For-Tots campaign.

The following week Santa Claus and the SAL sponsored a bingo night at the local Veterans Hospital. Dollar canteen books were offered as prizes and refreshments were served. The veterans enjoy these visitations. The local Post 672 will also sponsor a Penguins' trip for the veterans in January.

Our annual Pearl Harbor Day Breakfast which took place on a Sunday this year was well attended. The breakfast meal was prepared by the Legion Riders. We still had some World War II veterans, Len, Willis, Pete, and the Hanover Legion told us of their exploits. We also remembered all of our WW II members who have passed away. We are losing too many members of that Greatest Generation. Commander Jim Baloga, Rev. William Lewis, and I offered some remarks, and all in attendance sang Let's Remember Pear Harbor and God Bless America.

Commander Jim Baloga, local Oratorical chairman, told me that we have three students who have entered the Oratorical Contest, and we need to schedule a run-off. For many years we had no participants, and last year our entrant won a \$3,000 scholarship at state competition. With the escalating cost of college tuition that may have motivated students to apply. More money is available for first and second state winners as well as a trip to national competition.

The state Essay Contest is also underway. The topic this year is: "What Is The American Legion And What Does It Do As An Organization?" This is a question we can ask of everyone to see how we are perceived. All our legionnaire's will be interested in the essays that are submitted. How would each of you answer this question? Phone or write me. I can be reached for further information on the contest at (570) 675-0488.

At our last Legion meeting we discussed the Pig Roast in February. More information will follow. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 6, 2015. God Bless America!



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

Meadows Auxiliary Sponsors Resident Holiday Party



Volunteers and staff at Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Dallas, shared their holiday spirit with residents at the annual holiday party sponsored by the Auxiliary. Residents enjoyed delicious pastries, seasonal beverages, and entertainment provided by Al & Dedra. The Meadows would also like to thank all the community groups that visited residents throughout the season, provided gifts and performed various musical programs. Above in photo, first row from left are: Camille Fioti, Assistant Director of Community Services, Cheryl Bombick, volunteer, Rose Mary Schultz, Hannah Frantz, Pat Muchukot, residents and Betty Sorchik, Director of Community Services. Standing behind from left: Bob Law, Mary Law, Fran Dierolf, volunteers, Al & Dedra, entertainers, Diana Yaskiewicz, Irene Mike, Nelson Ashburner, Joan Doran and Peg Kleban, volunteers.

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Eye Care Specialists wrapped up the 7th annual Coat Drive for Head Start



Eye Care Specialists just wrapped up the 7th annual Coat Drive for Head Start. Coats were collected in all eight Eye Care Specialists locations including Dallas, Berwick, Bloomsburg, Hazleton, Kingston, Nanticoke, Scranton, Wyoming and the Kingston Surgery Center. A collection was held at the Penguins home game against the Hershey Bears on December 5th. A grand total of approximately 700 coats were donated. Pictured are: Tux assisting in the distribution of the coats at the Head Start Beekman Street facility.

Honor Society Students Help Dallas Rotary Bring Joy to Children



Above in photo, Dallas High School Honor Society students who helped Santa: first row, from left are: Emma Doran, Haley Haddle, Lia Ruggerio, Jill Kwak. Second row: Kaitlyn Yakus, Alexa Dosiak, Caylee Irvin, Caroline Thomas, Richard Burkhardt as Santa, Brielle Brace and Milan Novak.

The Rotary Club of Dallas recently hosted its 50th annual Christmas shopping spree for 45 Back Mountain children from the school districts of Dallas, Lake-Lehman and Northwest. McDonald's in Shavertown provided a complimentary breakfast for the children.

Then they were off to the Bon Ton at the Midway Shopping Center where they were treated to coats, boots, hats, mittens and outfits for school. The children were paired with a chaperone, appointed by the Dallas Rotary Club, to help them with their selections on their wishes-come-true shopping day. Several students from the Dallas High School Honor Society helped the children find the perfect items to take home. Each child had his or her picture taken with the Rotary Santa.

The Dallas Rotary Club provided a generous shopping allowance for each child, and a discount coupon from the Bon Ton stretched their shopping dollars even further. The Rotarians raised the money through their annual fall charity golf tournament, their wine festival last summer, and generous donations from foundations at a local church.

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Meadows Nursing & Rehabilitation Center Thanks Dallas High School Art Class

A group of Dallas High School Art Club students recently visited the Meadows Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Dallas, to paint winter scenes on various windows throughout the center. This community service project is under the direction of Dallas High School art teacher, Claire Morris.

We are so grateful to these young artists for sharing their talents that help make the holiday season extra cheery.

In photo right, first row from left are: Brielle Brace; Lauren Anderika; Caitlin Gill; Brittany Sokolowski and Maria Ansilio. Standing behind are: Chandler Caruso; Heather Harvey; Alana Lathrop; Caroline Sheehan; Joe Sherinsky; Cienna Brumagin and Kelsey Monahan.



Dallas Rotary Club rings the bells for the Salvation Army



Members, spouses and friends of the Rotary Club of Dallas volunteered for two days in December to help the Salvation Army assist others during the holiday season.

The members of the Rotary Club of Dallas have rung the bells for the Salvation Army for many years. This year their kettle drive on Route 309 in Dallas brought in \$1,500.00, thanks in part, to a very generous donation of \$400 from J&J Deli, Route 415 in Dallas. The funds came from their management, employees and tips from their customers.

Above Rotarians who rang the bells outside in the cold weather, from left are: Jerry Reisch and Nick Stredney.

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By MB Gilligan
Back Mountain Community
News Correspondent

Anytime Fitness, a recently opened gym in Dallas, is everything its name implies. "We're open 24/7, 7 days a week," said Steve Sherwood, owner of the local franchise. "Anytime you want to use the fitness center, you can. The place is never, never closed."

Anytime Fitness is located in the Country Club Shopping Center on Route 309. It occupies the space at the far end of the shopping center that has been vacant for three years. The large, open floor space is loaded with new, state-of-the-art equipment including treadmills, ellipticals, and exercise cycles. Each and every one has its own video screen where you can watch TV, listen to Pandora, or go online.

"Gone are the days when people had to line up in front of their TV to exercise," said Steve. "Here, you can just walk in and plug your set of headphones right in."

Each client has a key and they can set goals for any given time period. Then, whenever they come in, they can log on to check their progress and their history.

Anytime Fitness has free weights, and top of the line Precor plate-loaded weight machines. Precor has been designing and manufacturing fitness equipment with a focus on ergonomic motion for nearly 30 years. The weights are independent so you can actually load more on one side if that is how you want to work out.

"Being 24/7, we have a lot of built-in safety in these machines. There are stops in place to prevent the weight bars from coming all the way down. The Precor machines have a lot of integrated safety features," said Sherwood, a former Army major with the Field Artillery. "I like this business because it's people helping people just like the Army."

Anytime Fitness in Dallas is one of 2700 locations around the world. Members have access to all of those gyms so it is also a great option for people who travel. The biggest draw, though, is that it is always open. So, no matter what your work schedule is, you can get to the gym.

"We have a lot of members who work second or third shift and like to come in after work. It's great for anyone who needs that flexibility,"

said Steve. "There are also 87 different classes available here all the time."

The gym has a large, separate classroom that is available for individual or group classes. The programs are digitally available to all members at the push of a button. The classroom is fully stocked with exercise equipment that may be used in the various classes and the instruction is taped and presented on a large screen in the room.

"We have Zumba, yoga, Pilates, step class, cycling, and weight-lifting classes available on demand, all the time," said Sherwood. "Kickboxing is especially popular. People come and use the room by themselves or bring a group. Anyone can just hop in on a class that is running."

Most of the pre-recorded exercise programs run for about 20 minutes so if there is something going on that you don't want to do, you can just use one of the machines for a few minutes while you wait. Steve said he has never yet had a problem with people waiting to use the room.

All Anytime Fitness members start out with an introduction to the gym and its equipment with a trainer who is available just about any time a member wants to schedule a meeting. "The biggest thing is to educate people," said trainer Ryan Duffy. "They may be doing something wrong and I can correct them but I also try to offer them something newer."

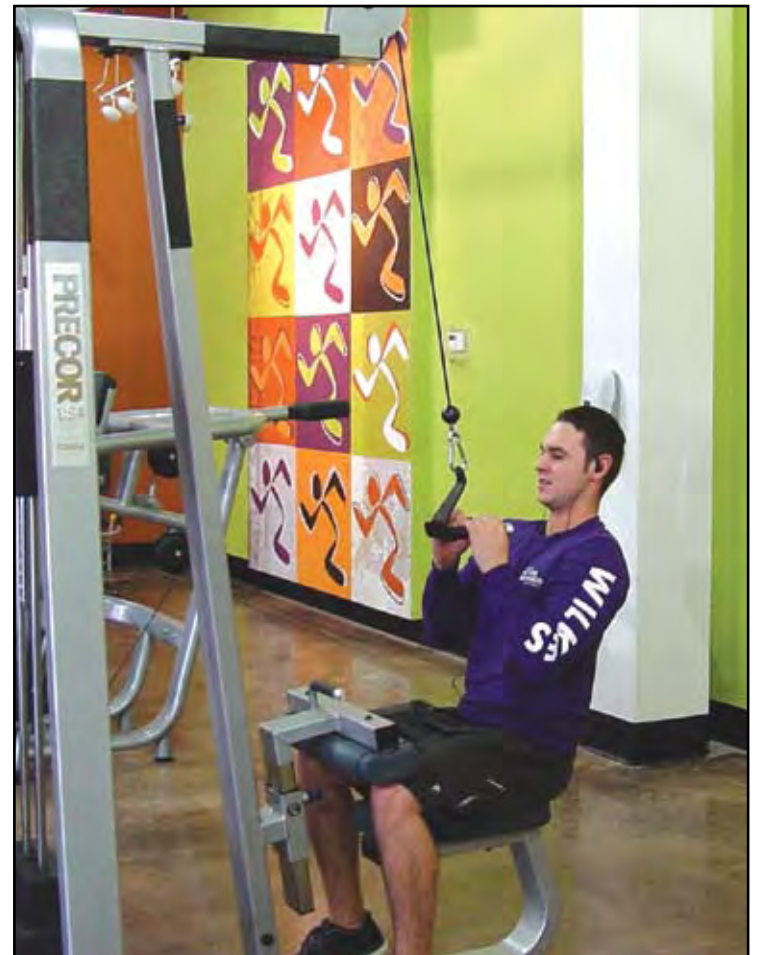
Ryan, who played baseball while attending Wyoming Valley West High School, is certified by the National Association of Sports Medicine and studied at the National Personal Training Institute in Orlando. "I was fortunate to work with people with a lot of different issues like osteoporosis, diabetes, heart issues, and, even, cancer," said Ryan. "It's a personalized fitness program here. We are like a family. We know everybody's name and what they like to do."

Anytime Fitness also has both vertical and horizontal tanning beds available for members to use anytime they want. They are easy to operate and work with timers.

For more information about Anytime Fitness, you can visit



Steve Sherwood is pictured in the main room of Anytime Fitness.



Anytime Fitness trainer Ryan Duffy is pictured in the gym.

them on Facebook or at their web site www.AnytimeFitness.com/gyms/3609/Dallas-PA-18612. Membership information is also available by calling Steve at 570-780-8471. There is a No Enrollment Fee special available until 2/1/15.

"This is the best thing that's happened to the Back Mountain," said member Stan Kardish, of Harvey's Lake, who used a different area gym for 20 years.

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Equilibrium Spine, Cranial Center opens in the Twin Stacks Center

The Twin Stacks Center is excited to announce the opening of Equilibrium Spine & Cranial Center, a practice specializing in patients who suffer from fibromyalgia, migraines and weight loss issues. Dr. Gregory Petruzzi, D.C., brings his years of experience in chiropractic care to help improve your lifestyle and health through customized programs and consultations.

Please join us for a ribbon cutting ceremony to be held January 7th, at 5pm at 1994 Twin Stacks Center Drive, Dallas.

Appointments can be made directly with Dr. Gregory Petruzzi by calling (570) 310-1351

And the littlest angel sang for them

At a recent Christmas breakfast meeting of the Back Mountain Men's Ecumenical Group, held at the Irem Country Club in Dallas, the members and their spouses enjoyed a special musical presentation by seven year old Gina Pugliese, a second grade student at Dallas Elementary School.

Under the direction of Debbie Kelleher, the musical director at Shavertown United Methodist Church, Gina sang a Christmas medley including: The Touch of an Angel, O Holy Night and Silent Night. There were more than 100 people in attendance and they had much praise and appreciation for her poise and talent.

Gina is the daughter of Dallas residents Robert and Gretchen Pugliese and the granddaughter of Larry and Peggy Schuler.



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Meadows thanks the community for helping to make the Holiday Season bright



The Meadows thanks the many community groups for bringing the holiday spirit to its 130 residents. One special group that visited the Meadows was the Dallas Middle School International Club whose members serenaded the residents with Christmas favorites in several foreign languages.

Trucksville Early Childhood Education Center recently held their annual Thanksgiving Program



The Kindergarten class at Trucksville Early Childhood Education Center recently held their annual Thanksgiving Program. The program was directed by their teacher Tina Kravits and aide Sue Collins. The children performed the story of the first Thanksgiving through recitation and song. Following the program they enjoyed a Thanksgiving Feast with their families. A wonderful experience was had by all! In photo above front from left are: Chase Kresge, Spencer Long, Gemma Ciravolo, Lily Horsefield, Ryan Roman, and James Manasco. Standing behind from left are: Eleanor Greenfield, Owen Wielgosz, Isaac Switzer, Marissa Greco, Braden O'Brien, Noah Nikita, and Danielle Cramton.

Clothes Closet to open in the Spring

The Clothes Closet at River of Life Fellowship Ministries, 22 Outlet Road, Lehman, is now closed for the winter season. The tentative date for re-opening is Saturday, April 4, 2015, weather permitting.

Watch local newspapers in March for information regarding definite opening date and times.

Alzheimer's Support Group meets monthly

The Meadows Nursing & Rehab. Center hosts an Alzheimer's Support Group on the first Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Meadows board room. This support group benefits caregivers by providing the opportunity to address their concerns and learn about the newest developments in the treatment of this disease. For more information, call (570) 675-8600, extension 115 or 195.

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Harlem Wizards return to the Back Mountain for a rematch against the Black Knights

Thousands watched the Harlem Wizards Slam Dunk the Black Knights at Lake Lehman High School last January. They are returning on Saturday, January 17th, 2015 at 6:30 PM for a fun filled rematch sure to entertain the crowds.

The Harlem Wizards will wow students at Lehman-Jackson, Ross and Lake Noxen Elementary Schools on January 5th, 2015

during in school assemblies to promote the fundraiser.

The Harlem Wizards event will feature ball-handling wizardry and amazing basketball talent along with hilarious comedy.

This family friendly event is open to the public with tickets available at the door for only \$12 each. Advance tickets are available for sale on January 4th and 11th, 2015



Photo by Christin Snyder: Harlem Wizards team members Tomahawk (front left) and Space Jam (front right) entertain hundreds of kids during the half time show at the Harlem Wizards VS Black Knight game in January 2014.

from 12PM – 4PM in the Lake Lehman High School Lobby, January 8, from 6PM – 7PM in the Ross Elementary School Lobby and January 14, from 7PM – 8PM in the Ross Elementary School for a special price of \$10 each. Online ticket sales are also available by visiting www.lje-pta.com.

The Lehman Jackson Elementary PTA is bringing the Wizards to the area to raise funds for Lehman-Jackson Elementary programs for students. Bring your appetite because the PTA will be having food, drinks and snacks available. Official Harlem Wizard souvenirs will also be available. The game will

conclude with a postgame interaction an autograph session which will not end until every autograph is signed.

Mark your calendar for January 17, 2015 and bring the whole family to experience tricks, hoops and alley oops in the Back Mountain! The doors open at 5:30PM.

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Thanksgiving at Trucksville Early Childhood Edu. Center



The Pre-Kindergarten classes at Trucksville Early Childhood Education Center recently celebrated Thanksgiving by reenacting the first Thanksgiving. Throughout the previous week the children participated in many activities designed to give them an understanding of some of the things the Pilgrims and Native Americans may have experienced. They learned the story of the first Thanksgiving and made props and costumes. At the end of the reenactment, they shared a Thanksgiving Feast with their classmates and expressed what they are thankful for. It was a fun and educational celebration!

Pictured above are Mrs. Strutko and Ms. Nelson's classes: Front row from left: Hunter Borchert, Alexis Hudak, Emily Smith, Brooklyn Reilly, Arianna Kazimi, Madison Azarewicz, Lindsay Swire, and Lucy Brunn. Back row from left are: Nick Costello, Joe Costello, Chase Aten, Alex Christopher, Carter Sowcik, Tyler Janosov, Teague Stahovic, Ryan Zimmerman, David Hoover, and Henry Weiskerger.



Mr. Douglas Klopp-Principal of Lake-Lehman Jr/Sr High School has released the 1st Quarter Honor Roll for the 2014/2015 school year.

7th Grade High Honor Roll : Samantha Aben, Alana Antonello, Lucia Bassett, Brian Boston, Grayson Bruno, Ayden Carey, Kailea Cerene-Adkins, Rylee Chapin, Lauren Chapple, Izobel Concert, Fionuala Daly, Lauren DeRemer, Sarah Derhammer, Paige Edwards, Hayley Evans, Eva Fine, Kayla Gliddon, Angel Haines, Brianna Hodle, Nathan Hoover, Amber Hoyt, Jaedyn Kolb, Katelyn Konopinski, Matthew Kubasti, Wyatt Lopasky, Robert Lugiano III, Andrew Martin, Morgan Masters, Cherokee May, Nathan May, Eryn McMonagle, Bryan Morio, Paige Motovidlak, Nicholas Mrochko, Kylie Nevel, Madeline Newman, Abigail Paczewski, Robert Pellegrini, Sophia Poslock, Scott Robbins II, Nathan Salus, Sarah Salus, Autumn Savitski, Kyle Sincavage, Ceaira Smith, Emily Smith, Amy Supey, Shelby Traver, Maclyn Vasey, Joseph Walser, Makenzi Walsh, Chloe Weaver, Lily Wood and Gabriel Zielinski.

7th Grade Honor Roll: Gregory Albertson, Madeline Aloï, Olivia Anderson, McKenzie Apaliski, Seanna Ashton, Emily Bacon, Calvin Barto, Andrew Battin, Faith Beere, Jessica Benyo, Jonathan Berholtz, Brenden Boston, Madison Chulick, McKenzie Connors, Jared Cook, Kaci Coole, Anna Del Pino, Allyson Denmon, Christian Diana, Cody Dunn, Jason Eiden, James Evans, Christopher Farrell, Conner Fassett, Giovanni Ferrari, Emma Fielding, Matthew Galasso, Klaudia Gocek, Ethan Grzymiski, Kaitlyn Gyle, Diane Harris, Daniel Harrison Jr, Zachary Healey, Ashley Hodgson, Abigail Hopkins, Logan Hoyt, Justin James, Casey Kaminski, Alyssa

Kapsick, Susan Kemmerer, Alicia Kipp, Mackenzie Lasinski, Alex Magdalinski, Jaymes Martin, Nicole Miles, Hailey Nogie, Conor O'Brien, Sarah Orbin, Morgan Patla, Kaitlyn Schwartz, William Shaver, Emma Simmonette, Ryleigh Skovira, Angeleah Sopko, Logan Stambaugh, Kailee Steele, Jordan Stefanowicz, Jennifer Swartz, Bryce Taylor, Jakob Trumbower, Austin Wallace, Dylan Wesley and Makayla Zacharias.

8th Grade High Honor Roll: Stephanie Ayers, Macenzi Barker, Ava Baur, Rebecca Bonomo, Madison Budzak, Emily Burgit, Joelle Burke, Christopher Cercone, Stephanie Chaga, Casey Dale, Emily Elliott, Jessica Evans, Madison Federici, Scott Field, James Herceg III, Dillon Ide, Andrew Jubis, Hannah Kasko, Hunter Kline, Wade Kreller, Charles Leo III, Hannah Lukasavage, Morgan Marchakitus, Amanda May, Tyler McGuire, Mikaela Meeker, Samantha Mihalko, Kyle Naugle, Lauryn Pembleton, Jacob Prest, Rachel Price, Savannah Purdy, Alyssa Raczkowski, Sarah Rood, Julia Sabol, Jessica Salus, Corinna Scoblick, Eva Sicurella, Abigail Souder, Sarah Stanski, Jacob Stefanowicz, Donald Thompson and Bryce Woodward.

8th Grade Honor Roll: Abigail Bartuska, Aryan Blazick, Carlyn Blight, Mackenzie Bosak, Julia Bucholtz, Michael Bulzoni, Airik Carey, Morgan Critchisin, Mason Cross, Ibrahim Dabsheh, Nicholas Fegely, Matthew Field, Destanee Good, Zachary Grey, Dakota Heinrich, Nicholas Henninger, David Hogrebe, Brandon Hoyt, Jordyn Jones, Richard Kemmerer III, Jacey Kleintob, Megan Krakosky, Luke Kreller, Alexander Kristeller, Frank Kutz, Tiffany Lasinski, Robert Long, Julianna McMahon, Floyd McRoy, Terrance Meehan, Gabriel Mitchell, Mikella Monaco, Chloe-Lyn Osborne, Kiera Paraschak, Caylin Patla, Natasha Pavlichko, Alyssa Pudimott, Jonathan Raspen, Kate Roberts, Keiona Roberts, Casey Shager, Trinity Skovira, Cierra Snyder, Jacob Sowden, Jacob Stokes, Toni

9th Grade Principal's Honor Roll: Makayla Adams, Edward Brighthaupt, Grace Butler, Antonio Carey, Lacey Carey, Krystin Chaga, Jade Fry, Mikayla Kidd, Ethan Krzysik, Angela Lockavich, Jason Marcin, David Miller, Kiana Price, Henry Selingo, David Sorber, Celeste Spak, Samantha Spencer, Olivia Vasey, Yonah Wasik, Gianna Williams and Kyras Yurko.

9th Grade High Honor Roll: Kaelyn Adams, Aleah Ashton, Vincent Bulzoni, Tristen Cotter, Keara Gallagher, Gabrielle Grzymiski, Courtney Henninger, Nathan Labar, Madelyn Lewis, Jessica Martin, Nathan O'Donnell, Emily Paciga, Kaitlyn Premus, Jessica Ravert, Courtney Richards, Caitlin Romanofski, Tyler Savitski, Molly Seashock.

9th Grade Honor Roll: Christopher Ash, Amanda Ayers, Joshua Bacon, Connor Beyer, Alexandra Concklin, Kathryn Galasso, Lynea Gregory, Taylor Grey, Joshua Hinkley, Abbey Hogan, Miranda Hutchins, Madison Klopp, Garrett Kolb, Kaleb Konigus, Cassandra Konopki, Katie Kostrobala, Alexa Kovaly, Mackenzie Love, Destiny McHenry, Michael Nastasiak, Riley Newman, Isabel Radel, Faith Reseigh, Courtney Roberts, Morgan Rogers, Madison Siley, Carly Souder, Jacob Sutliff, Joshua Szabo, Kaelyn Traver, Chloe Vangorder, Jacob Wesley, Dakota Williams, Nicole Wojciechowski and Tara Yezefski.

10th Grade Principal's Honor Roll: Elizabeth Bartuska, Emily Carey, Shawn Deeds, Vincenzo Ferrari, Ashley Herceg, Peter Hummel, Michael James, Emily Johns, Justin Lansberry, Andrew Leahy, Devin Lindley, Marina Malcolm, Thomas Manzoni, Kara Martin, Sean McMonagle, Kaitlyn Meehan, Jake Selingo, Cole Spencer, Mackenzie Sutton, Nicholas Wnuk and Connor Zekas.

10th Grade High Honor Roll: Kimberly Albertson, Nicholas Albertson, Nikolas Antinnes, Savanah Aton, Alexis Barker, Cheyanne Brucher, Jessica Derhammer, Jennifer Evans, Rebecca Ford, Kaitlin Hennebaul, Andrew Herrick, Karly Johns, Katherine Kaminski, Carolyn Kerkowski, Collin MacMullen, Tyler Manzoni, David Orehotsky, Kendra Pudimott, Justin Raspen, Sequoia Saxe, Walker Shaw, Hailey Shefler, Michael Sikora, Katie Strohl, and Morgan Thompson.

10th Grade Honor Roll: Taylor Alba, Donald Aldrich, Makalie Blazick, Jamie Buzink, Jared Campbell, Janelle Cawley, Taylor Cercone, Samuel Ciravolo, Mahmoud Dabsheh, Ian Dawsey, Ariana Dellarte, Robert Derhammer, Ryan Dourand, Samantha Evans, Morgan Fedorczyk, Jay Foster, Zachary Gabel, Zackery Garnett, Noah Gorski, Evelyn Hosey, Donn Hunter, Katelynn Hutchins, Daniel Ide, Glenn Johnson, Carey-Anne Keiper, Dakota Kittle, Hailey Kubiski, Sydney Lamoreaux, Krystal Lowery, Matthew Makara, Maranda Martin, Rachel Martini, Katie McCue, Owen Morgan, Adam Motovidlak, Michaela Jo Murphy, Matthew Myers, Jonas Neidig, Corrine Nevel, Julia Newberry, Jillian O'Brien, Paige Robbins, Ashley Rushton, Megan Rusonis, Sarah Sabaluski, Aubrey Scavone, Tyler Scharff, Ethan Sensbach, Katelyn Sincavage, Marylillian Stepanski, David Thomas, Sierra Titus, Blake Valyo, Kenneth Wickard, David Williams, Luke Yapple, Kaitlyn Young, Zachary Zaleskas, and Lauren Zeisloft.

11th Grade Principal's Honor Roll: Emily Bauer, Eric Bordo, Jacob Corey, Zachary Corey, Lauren Cunius, Kaley Egan, Julia Eneboe, Nicholas Eury, Dominic Hockenbury, Jacob Hummel, Julia Hutsko, Marie Johns, Kristin Kalish, Colby Karnes, Corey Kinney, Karlie Lobitz, Rachel Malak, Karen Marchakitus, Michael Minsavage, Alaina Nastasiak, Miranda Parry, Lindsay Pembleton, Christopher Sabol, Hope Sipler, Madison Stambaugh, Kaitlin Sutton, Rachael Turner, Clayton Vasey, and Thomas Williams.

11th Grade High Honor Roll: Jillian Ambrose, Holly Banta, Jacob Barber, Elizabeth Bauer, Joseph Chaga, Karli Coole, Zachary Field, Charles Hennebaul, Perry Hoover, Kayleigh Konek, Maranda Moosic, Haley Nice, Megan Spess, Molly Storz, Katie Supey, Brandon Tosh, Blaise Waligun, Corey Weaver and Mikayla Weston.

11th Grade Honor Roll: Julia Baur, Benjamin Brooks, Zachary Brucher, Aubrey Bullock, Morgan Coburn, Andrew Cook, Emily Dale, Brendan Dillon, Matthew Durling, Courtney Eiswerth, Andrea Gagino Mato, Megan Galasso, Carissa George, Cynthia Gingrich, Domanique Glatz, Anthony Greco, Chad Grzesnikowski, Kyra Grzymiski, Jared Guth, Alivia Harrison, Katelynn Harrison, Isabelle Henry, Adam Jacobosky, Kyle James, Bernard Karlowicz, Kyle Katchko, Song-Eun Kim, Tyler Kolb, Grace Kuschke, Lisa Labar, Rachel Leskowsky, Tyler Long, Rachel Mahoney, Connor McGovern, Jared McGrath, Nickolas Nat, Jerome Natishan III, Dylan Nayavich, Dakota-Rose Newell, Christina Olson, Brian Orbin, Rebecca Osiecki, Zacharia Ouladelhadjahmed, Michael Peck, Edward Price, Wesley Price, Sara Schuler, Joseph Sharon, Giana Smith, Matthew Sowden, Courtney Spare, Bailey Stockage, Jeremy Taylor, John Thomas, Jessica Ulozas, Claire Wilson and Henry Zielinski IV.

12th Grade Principal's Honor Roll: Melissa Anthony, Katherine Bartuska, Kirsten Cope, Emily Crawford, Noah Crispell, Hannah Cross, Zane Denmon, Matthew Ekins, Emma Evans, Antonio Ferrari, Jason Field, Sela Fine, Micayla Grey, Elana Herceg, Philip Hettes, Andrew Hutsko, Shauna Leahy, Nicole Lockard, Lauren MacMullen, Megan Mahle, Matthew G. Miller, Jasmine Moku, Jenna Mortenson, Jamie Niedjaco, Julia Pilch, Rachel Pilch, Eliana Sicurella, Cayle Spencer, Hannah Stull, Michael Symeon and Ronald Ziomek.

12th Grade High Honor Roll: Alysa Adams, Aleaha Blazick, Lauren Bucholtz, Jade Butler, Cahil Carey, Courtney Carey, Matthew Chabala, Deana Dailey, Monica Fries, Katrina Joyce, Jared Kepner, Ginger Mutzabaugh, Alexis Oplinger, Carolyn Price, Joshua Sayre, Amanda Scavone, Colleen Spencer, Danae Sutliff, John Vanscoy, Korri Wandel, Gary Weaver and Jacob Yapple.

12th Grade Honor Roll: Crystal Audia, Natalee Barker, Mitchell Benson, Joshua Bullock, Tyler Burke, Justus Cole, Matthew Cragle, Daniel Cross, Kenley Cutter, Brian Devine, Morgan Dizbon, Derek Dragon, Kaitlyn Evans, Emily Galasso, Jessica Geiger, Jessica Harvey, Caitlyn Henninger, John Hospodar, Cory Hoyt, Amy Ide, Jeremy Jayne, Matthew Karuza, Mercedes Keller, Kierra Kimble, Brandon Kozlowski, Ashley Lawrence, James Loefflad, Kayleigh Love, Tiffani Malinowski, Collin Masters, Eric Masters, Colleen Moreck, Neil Mras, Robert Nayavich, Anna O'Connell, Micaela Payne, Adam Simmonette, Melissa Smith, Bethany Taylor, John Tomasura, Sara Tronsue, Frank Vacante, Tye Valyo, Rachael Waligun, Jeffrey Williams, and Mallory Wilson.

Dallas American Legion and its Auxiliary held their annual Christmas Party

By MB Gilligan
Back Mountain Community
News Correspondent

The Dallas American Legion and its Auxiliary held their annual Christmas party on December 13 with many local children in attendance.

Wrapped presents were given to all of the children by Santa Claus who arrived at the party on a fire truck. Santa read a story to the children before handing out stockings and presents.



Children and parents alike listened as Santa read a story at the Dallas American Legion.



Volunteers at the annual party at the Dallas American Legion included, from left, Joe Kelley, Rose Deamon, Ginger Spencer, Wink Fleming, and Chuck Fleming, chairman of the event.



The Morse family of Dallas attended this year's Christmas party. Diane and Ed brought their children, from left, Allie, Lilly and Derek.



Kate Gialanella and her grandson Jayden Vanderhoff enjoyed the hot dogs and snacks served at the annual party.



Robin Polomchak brought her grandchildren, Ilyssa and Ian Rinehimer, to the Legion's Christmas party.



Stacie, Angela and Frank Prest are pictured at the Legion's holiday party.



Anxiously awaiting the arrival of Santa Claus at the American Legion Christmas party, from left, are: Melissa Shotwell, Louis Emel, Jr., in stroller, Kirah Gentner, Tracy O'Kane, Makenzie Emel, and Natalie Emel.



5-year-old Jausyn Rose Estus of Trucksville is pictured in front of the many presents wrapped and ready for Santa to hand out to the guests

Your New Year's \$ Resolutions

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



Let's face it: after the holiday season spending spree is finished, most of us feel like our bank accounts are a bit lighter than we'd like them to be. With this in mind, let's look at 10 steps you can follow to start off 2015 a little bit better money-wise and hopefully stay with throughout the year:

1. Stop getting nicked & dimed by everyone – but don't start doing this to everyone else. Why let stores, friends, family, etc., take advantage of you when it comes to money? Be fair about it & don't get taken advantage of by anyone. Instead, use coupons, negotiate better deals/terms, ask firmly but nicely for the money you're owed. Stop getting the short end of the stick – you deserve better.
2. Put a budget in place AND stick to it. No sense in going about spending your money aimlessly – let's figure out how to better us this green stuff, eh? Nothing will help you do that better than figuring out what goes out & what comes in. No excuses either – plenty of cheap & easy to use software that can help you create/track your budget. This way, you can figure out where you're going wrong money-wise & put a stop to it.
3. Put a financial plan in place AND stick to it. See #2 above. Make sure your investments are doing what they should be with your goals in mind...whatever those goals may be.
4. Eliminate terrible debt. The big-box plastic is probably #1 for most. The only acceptable debts (as long as the interest rates are reasonable) are mortgages, car loans, home improvement loans, and college loans. Negotiate lower rates whenever possible – no need to pay more interest than you should.
5. Get a sufficient emergency fund in place NOW. This way, you won't resort to plastic when you have one of those "uh-oh" moments. Shoot for 3 mos. of income for starters...if you can get to 1 yr. of income than would be best.
6. Improve your health...yes, this affects your \$! Less money spent on medications/prescriptions, less doctor's visits (except your regular checkups), etc. Eating better (you can contact me about this – I know a thing or two in this area also) and regular exercise (we all have to start somewhere – even if it's just taking a walk after lunch and/or dinner) are truly your financial "friends". If you make healthy changes, you will spend less money for all types of insurances going forward & enjoy a better quality of life. We all want that, right?
7. Take care of the things you have. No sense in spending \$ frequently on big-ticket items. Make them last for a while. Maintenance is key, especially when it comes to vehicles, boats, your home, properties, etc.
8. Be satisfied with what you have. No need to play that game called "Keeping up with the Joneses". Having the latest big-screen TV in every room in your house is not wise if you don't have enough saved for retirement or for little Suzie's college education. Prioritize the things that really matter – delay the gratification instead of having the "I need this yesterday" mentality that gets too many people into financial trouble.
9. Avoid doing dumb things. What I mean is that lots of people sue lots of people every day, so refrain from giving the sue-happy crowd any reason to come after you. There's a reason there are a lot of lawyers in the good ol' U.S. of A....and, last (but not least)...
10. Learn something new financially every day. Even if it seems like something minor, the more you educate yourself about financial matters, the better financial decisions you'll make. Hire a qualified financial professional who values educating you on a regular basis – this 10th step (if you hire the right advisor) can easily help you with the prior 9 steps!

Happy New Year everyone – let's make 2015 a great year!

For more information please visit <http://www.mfadvisers.com>, email marty@mfadvisers.com, or call (570) 760-6524. About MF Advisers, Inc., MF Advisers, Inc. is a full-service, fee-only RIA firm and fiduciary based in PA & FL specializing in wealth management, investment advice, and financial planning (including retirement planning). With 20+ years of licensed experience, over 10 years of professional education, and an unwavering commitment to improving your financial situation, MF Advisers, Inc. is the advisory firm to best serve YOU.

Meadows Nursing Center participated in "Toys for Tots" Campaign

During the holiday season, the United State Marine Corps sponsors a "Toys for Tots" campaign that makes the season brighter for thousands of children.

Staff and friends of the Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Dallas, joined in this campaign and collected an array of toys for children of all ages. The Meadows thanks all who participated.

Shown in photo right, kneeling from left are: Camille Fiotti and Betty Sorchik. Standing behind, back row from left are: Ruthann Rogers; Corporal Pastore; Audrea Bernard; Nancy Space and Lance Corporal Martinez.



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Dallas Elementary School held its annual Holiday Shopping event

By MB Gilligan
Back Mountain Community
News Correspondent

The PTO of Dallas Elementary School held its annual Holiday Shopping event on December 5 and 6. Gifts, priced under \$7, for parents, grandparents and others were available for the children to purchase. Free gift wrapping was also provided.

Members of the 5th grade band provided music for the hour on Friday evening before the arrival of Santa Claus.

"We also had baskets donated for the raffle and a bake sale," said PTO vice president Erica Elgonitis. "All of the proceeds help fund PTO programs at Dallas Elementary."

Photo from cover: Fifth grade band members provided some entertainment. From left, are: Kyle Kintz, Dakota Nichol, Morgan Solano, Alyssa Pritchard, Gabe Allen, Morgan Williams, and Benjamin Higgins.



First grader Julia Ostrowski in front, helped other volunteers at the gift wrapping table. From left are: Nicole Trevaskis, PTO volunteer, and seventh graders doing some community service, Sarah Stallard and Hannah Ostrowski.



Jennifer Rinehimer is pictured with her children, on left, Cody and Mya Rinehimer, and her niece and nephew Emma and Jacob Kachinko.



Helping out at the DES Holiday Shopping, from left, are James, Julia and Jill Antal, and Cheryl and Ryan Kintz.



Jacqueline Schineller did some holiday shopping with her daughter Giuliana.

Wyoming Sem Announces Upper School Dean's List

Wyoming Seminary Dean Jay Harvey has announced the Back Mountain students named to the Upper School Dean's List for the fall trimester of the 2014-2015 academic year.

Dean's List High Honors: Bobby Austin, Dallas; Isabella Del Priore, Dallas; Samarth Desai, Shavertown; Gabrielle Grossman, Shavertown; Andrew Kim, Dallas; Michael Kim, Dallas; Jake Kolesar, Shavertown; Alyssa Kristeller, Shavertown; Nicole Rose Lukesh, Wyoming; Duncan Lumia, Dallas; Alexander McCarthy, Dallas; Olivia Meuser, Shavertown; Elijah Miller, Shavertown; Madison Nardone, Shavertown; Daniel Paglia, Shavertown; Leana Pande, Shavertown; Kevin Platt, Dallas; Jacob Ridilla, Shavertown; Adam Rinehouse, Shavertown; Andrew Schukraft, Dallas; Madison Sweitzer, Dallas; Samuel Sweitzer, Dallas; Dominic Wright, Dallas.

Dean's List: Liam Barrett, Shavertown; Arianna Bufalino, Dallas; Corinne Conyngham, Shavertown; Connor Graham, Shavertown; Cassandra Kizis, Dallas; Courtney McCarthy, Dallas; Jacqueline Meuser, Shavertown; David Nape, Shavertown; Olivia Ostrowski, Dallas; Miranda Pace, Noxen; Garrett Pall, Dallas; Alexis Quick, Shavertown; Jacob Schall, Hunlock Creek; Jason Schwartz, Shavertown; Levi Sunday-Lefkowitz, Shavertown; Alana Swartz, Dallas.

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Dallas K of C to Sponsor Youth Free Throw Championship



All boys and girls ages 10 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. The local competition will be held, starting at 12 noon, on Saturday, January 17, 2015 at Gate of Heaven Gymnasium, 40 Machell Ave., Dallas.

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions. International champions are announced by the K of C headquarters based on scores from the state-level competitions. All boys and girls will compete in their respective age and gender divisions. Since its beginning in 1972, over 2.5 million youths have participated in the contest.

All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. In 2014 Ben O'Connell was the local champion of the 14 year old boy's Free Throw competition and he progressed to win the International trophy. For entry forms or additional information contact chairman Jim O'Donnell 696-2831 or 406-8999.

With more than 1.7 million members, the Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic lay organization. It provides members and their families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, the community, families, and young people.

Committee members above, from left, first row are: Paul Reich, Jack Cacoza, Grand Knight; Bill Roberts, advocate and Bob Lukus, trustee. Second row, Marty Lukus, Trustee; O'Donnell, event chairman and recorder; Joe Sallitt, financial secretary; and Ed Sholtis, Deputy Grand Knight.

Dallas Lions Club makes donation to the Back Mountain Food Pantry



The Dallas Lions Club placed a donation bucket at their booth for the Back Mountain Food Pantry during the Luzerne County Fair. As a result, a check for \$200 was presented to Carol Eyet, Food Pantry Manager. Shown, from the left, at the check presentation were Lions Joe Dwinchick, Don Berlew, Eyet and Lion President, Joe Czarnecki.

The Dallas Lions meet on the first and third Thursday of each month at the Irem Country Club at 630 p.m.

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Soup Dinner Planned

A Soup Dinner sponsored by the Youth Group at River of Life Fellowship Ministries, 22 Outlet Road, Lehman will be held on Saturday, January 10, from 5 to 7 P.M.

Suggested donation at the door will be used to raise money for gym repairs. A variety of delicious home-made soups will be served.

Dallas Rotary Sponsors Luncheon for Senior Center Members

On Friday, December 12th, several members of the Rotary Club of Dallas welcomed 50 members of the Dallas Senior Center to the Appletree Terrace at Newberry Estate.

The Christmas Luncheon featured a feast of traditional holiday foods with all the trimmings and a fabulous assortment of desserts



More than 50 people enjoyed the Christmas party including from left: Marjorie Barnes Mottern, Grace Sutton, Shirley McDonald, Joe McDonald and Rotarians Ken and Carole Chapple.

all made and served by Rotarian Fred DiMaria, owner of the Appletree Terrace, and his staff.

The event was made possible by the support of the members of our community who faithfully participate in Dallas Rotary's fundraisers such as the annual

charity golf tournament in September and the wine and dine festival in June.

Rotarian Eric Martin led the group in singing many old favorite Christmas songs. Richard Burkhardt, who played Santa, and Rotarian John Doerfler also

entertained the group with several more Christmas songs, and invited everyone to sing along.

The Senior Center members enjoyed the meal and the music and each left with a happy heart and a bag full of gifts and treats.



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Vertebral subluxations (spinal misalignment) also typically do not trigger symptoms in their early stages. That is why it is vital to maintain regular chiropractic appointments to detect and correct spinal problems before the emergence of pain and other symptoms.

Drs. Klein and Spencer are extremely concerned about the common misconception that symptoms are the first sign of a health problem, rather than indicating final stages of a disorder. This misconception results in a "Disease-focused" attitude toward healthcare, rather than a "Prevention-focused" approach that promotes wellness. Chiropractic focuses on empowering patients with a "Prevention-focused" approach to wellness.

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“Steakout Fundraiser” raises money for Fallen Officers Remembered



Hunter Davis, Dallas, completed his senior project by holding a Logan's Steakhouse “Steakout Fundraiser” to raise money for Fallen Officers Remembered. Hunter raised funds to donate 2 bullet-proof vests to officers in the Lackawanna County Area. Fallen Officers Remembered is a non-profit, 501C3 organization that donates vests to officers through their Adopt-A-Cop Program. You can read more about this organization through www.fallenofficersremembered.org. Above in photo are: Hunter Davis (Senior, Fundraiser) and Gina Boyle (Fallen Officers Remembered Co-Founder).

Dallas Lions Club makes donation to the Back Mountain Memorial Library



The Dallas Lions Club presented a check for \$500 to the Back Mountain Memorial Library. The club's donation is used to provide large-print books and audio tapes for the sight-impaired. This is the 29th year that the club has made their annual donation to the library. Shown at the check presentation are, from the left: Ron Moran, library board president, Martha Butler, librarian and Don Berlew, immediate past president of the Lions Club. The Lions Club meets on the first and third Thursday of each month at the Irem Country Club.

Girls in Junior Troop 32647 recently learned about the Christmas traditions of the Netherlands



The girls in Junior Troop 32647 recently learned about the Christmas traditions of the Netherlands. Monique Pritchard, a native of the Netherlands, taught the girls about Sinterklaas and Zwarte Piet who visit boys and girls in the Netherlands on the 5th of December each year. Sinterklaas' birthday is December 6th and he celebrates by bringing toys, candy and gold coins to good children and coal for bad children. Sinterklaas travels by horse from house to house, making his deliveries; children leave hay and carrots in their shoes for the horse to eat. Zwarte Piet is his helper who goes down the chimneys to deliver the gifts; he gets covered in soot from the chimneys.

Sinterklaas travels from Spain each year by ship and his travels are reported on the national news in the weeks leading up to his arrival. Each year, a new adventure / mystery involving Sinterklaas and his helpers takes place. It is discussed in schools, on the news and in homes. Luckily, everything always gets resolved in time for the celebration! After the presentation, the girls got to see a collection of Sinterklaas items, taste Dutch treats and dress up as Sinterklaas and Zwarte Piet. In photo above from left are: Jessica Allen, Hannah Blazure, Emmalee Carlsson, Lauren Butwin, Monique Pritchard, Madison Carlsson, Morgan Williams, and Alyssa Pritchard.

Mobile Veterans Center to Visit Tunkhannock, Boback Says

Rep. Karen Boback (R-Lackawanna/Luzerne/Wyoming) today announced an addition for her January outreach hours. The Mobile Veterans Center, operated by the Veterans Administration, will now visit her office in Tunkhannock on Tuesday, Jan. 6, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The office is located at 608 Hunter Highway, in Suite 110. For an appointment, call (570) 344-2676.

“This is a great resource for veterans and their families,” Boback said. “It brings the services of the Veterans Administration to the 117th Legislative District and I advise anyone in need of assistance to take advantage of this opportunity.”

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Scouts from Troop 281, Dallas, recently hiked the Valley Forge Historical Trail



Scouts from Troop 281, Dallas, recently hiked the Valley Forge Historical Trail in Valley Forge National Park. The scouts hiked 9.1 miles through the historic park, visiting such places as the Washington Memorial Chapel, Washington's Headquarters, Varnum's and Huntington's Quarters, The National Memorial Arch, and the Valley Forge Museum and Visitors' Center. They spent the weekend camping at the Valley Forge Scout Campground. All scouts earned the Valley Forge Historical Trail Medal.

Scouts who attended shown in the photo above, first row are: Jacob Fenske, Jeff Buscher, Rusty Coolbaugh, and Alex Perry. Second row: Mark Chappell, Carter Marso, Declan Dixon, Joey Sabatini, and Nick Moshey. Third row: Matt Schnable, Nick Guzzo, Vlad Gingo, Scott Alexander, Drake Detore, Hunter Zimmerman, Ryan Kelly, Michael Santora, Jonathan Adams, Ryan Cohen, and Al Cohen. Fourth row: Jarod Blockus, Kyle Zern, Bradley Adams, Danny Burkhart, Stephen Postupak, Michael Smith, David Schnable, Paul Smith, John Macey, and Ryan Trumm. Back row: Stephen Lofing, James Hughes, Joshua Frankevich, Mark Lofing, Mike Zern, and Hugh Hughes. Missing from photo are: Carl Postupak, Melissa Alexander, Mark Chappell, Joe Sabatini, Jim Kelly, Paul Smith, Mike Dennis, and Ron Santora.

District Governor Mimi Tosh, recent guest of the Dallas Lions Club



District Governor Mimi Tosh was a guest of the Dallas Lions Club at a recent dinner meeting of the club at the Irem Country Club. Governor Tosh spoke about the various charities that the district funds and thanked the club for their efforts in keeping with the high standards of the district. She emphasized that the district is requesting all clubs to reach out and increase membership. She also commented on the Hometown Hero banners which are on display throughout the town and she felt this was a most worthy project, showing patriotism for members of our armed forces, both past and present. The club gave a check for \$1129 as their fair share annual commitment to the district. Shown above, presenting the check to DG Tosh is Lions president, Joe Czarnecki. The club meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month at the Irem Country Club.

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Men's Breakfast Group meets at Irem

The Back Mountain Men's Ecumenical Group meets at the Irem Country Club for their weekly breakfast meetings at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesdays. All men are welcome to join the group as they share fun, fellowship and faith.

Grief Support Group

The Grief Support Group at River of Life Fellowship Ministries, 22 Outlet Road, Lehman, will not be meeting during the winter months through March, 2015. If you need help during the time period that meetings will not be held, call Denise at 570-639-2115.

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Navient recently made donation to Fallen Officers Remembered



Navient recently presented a donation to Fallen Officers Remembered. Their donation was raised through Caitlyn Thomas' idea to hold a dress down day. Navient held a dress down month and raised money, "In Memory of PA State Trooper Bryon Dickson" The donation was presented to Fallen Officers Remembered during Navient's annual holiday employee dinner. The donation will help support the purchase of equipment needed to keep our officers safe. Fallen Officers Remembered is a 501c3, all volunteer, non-profit, that purchases equipment that to help keep law enforcement officers safe. For more information on the organization, visit www.fallenofficersremembered.org.

Shown in photo above, front row are: Pat Wesley, Lisa Stashik, Caitlyn Thomas, Gina and Thomas Boyle (Fallen Officers Remembered). Behind are: Alice Skiro, John Zemetro, Patti Potomis, Connie Devens (Dunmore State Police), and Lori Bednar.

Harveys Lake American Legion Post recently made donation to the Back Mountain Food Pantry



Harveys Lake American Legion Post 967 made a donation to the Back Mountain Food Pantry in memory of Don Zimmerman, a recently deceased Post Officer. Pictured left to right: Bill Stephens, 1st Vice Commander, Bernie Castillo, Finance Officer; Carol Eyet, Pantry Manager; and Carl Carpenter, Post Commander.

WBGH Auxiliary Scholarship Fund, The Luzerne Foundation awards scholarship to Misericordia University Doctor of Physical Therapy student



The Wilkes-Barre General Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship Fund of The Luzerne Foundation recently awarded a \$6,000 scholarship to Nicholas Lombard of Shavertown, Pa., a Doctor of Physical Therapy student who will be entering his second year of graduate study with the spring 2015 semester. In order to be eligible for the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship Fund of The Luzerne Foundation, the recipient must have graduated from a high school in Luzerne County, be enrolled in a college or university in Luzerne County that offers specialized health care educational programming, meet academic requirements, and exhibit financial need. Nicholas Lombard is a graduate of Dallas High School. The son of Phil and Meg Lombard is scheduled to receive his doctorate in physical therapy in December 2016. Shown above are: Misericordia University Doctor of Physical Therapy student Nicholas Lombard of Shavertown, accepts the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship Fund of the Luzerne Foundation from Charles M. Barber, president and CEO of The Luzerne Foundation, left, and Susan Barker, P.T., Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of P.T. Misericordia University.

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Misericordia University social work students examine issues of rural poverty during area tour and visit to Pastor's Food Pantry in Noxen



Students in the Social Work Club at Misericordia University are teaming up with social work students from Alvernia University in Reading, Pa., and in Nepal as part of the Sahayogi Connections international service-learning project. The collaborative international exchange project is designed to expand their understanding of international social work practice by having them first examine social work practices in their local community. One of the first stages of the project for the Misericordia students was a tour of both affluent and impoverished neighborhoods in and around the rural community. A visit to the Pastor's Food Pantry that is affiliated with the Noxen United Methodist Church. The pantry's director, Pearl Race, conducted the tour. As much as 9.2 percent of the population of Noxen Township, Wyoming County, and nearly 20 percent under the age of 18, are living below the federally established poverty line, according to Race. Because of the need, the food pantry serves an average of 60 to 80 families per month from Noxen and surrounding communities. "I did not know such poverty existed in this area, and that there is such a gap between the wealthy and those in poverty in the same area," said Olivia Paone, Toms River, N.J., a member of the executive committee of the Social Work Club. "With all the need that there is, I can't believe that the pantry is as small as it is and is located in the basement of the pastor's house. Now that I have seen it, I definitely want to come back to help."

Misericordia University Social Work Club members visited the Pastor's Food Pantry in Noxen, Pa., as part of an international study project on poverty. Shown, kneeling from left, Olivia Paone, Meghan Horbey, April Lennon, and Katie Smith. Standing, Sandra Pace, Montie Perry, Victoria Scofield, Pearl Race, director, Pastor's Food Pantry; Margaret Rapp, MSW, Ph.D., associate professor and chair of the Department of Social Work; Clair Colwell, Alicia Lomascolo, and Susan McDonald, Ph.D., L.S.W., assistant professor and social work field director.

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