

Dunmorean of the Month **Jeff Mallas**



By Steve Svetovich

Dunmore's Jeff Mallas and Penn State Scranton have gone hand in hand for the past 42 years.

Mallas, a 1971 Dunmore High graduate who lettered in track and football, has been a major part of the athletic department at the Scranton Penn State campus, located on Ridgeview Drive, Dunmore, since 1979.

He has served as athletic director since 2000. In 2018, Mallas received the prestigious Robert J. Scannell Roll of Honor Award at University Park. The honor is bestowed upon an athletics administrator, coach,

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A Dunmore Borough snowplow attacks the storm on Monday afternoon as February arrives with a wallop. Additional pictures of the storm can be seen on pages 7, 25 and 28.

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Magistrate Paul Ware announces run for judge

Magisterial District Judge Paul Ware, community leader, father, and experienced litigator, has announced he will run for a seat as judge on the Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas in the May 2021 primary election.

Ware, currently serving his 10th year as Magisterial District Judge, has extensive experience in the law as former Lackawanna County Deputy District Attorney and is a practicing member of Minora, Krowiak & Munley Law Firm in Scranton, PA.

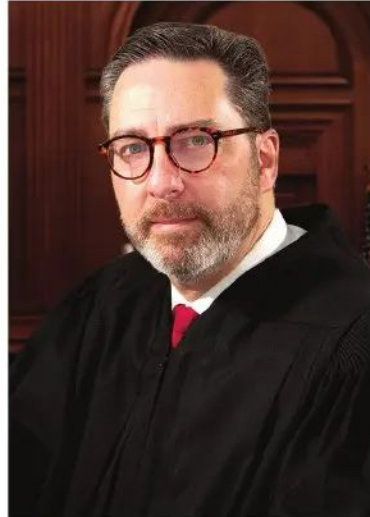
He has spent many years working in the community as former instructor with the Lackawanna County Police Academy and Adjunct Professor of Constitutional & Business Law at Lackawanna College, past president of the Lackawanna County Columbus Day Association, former mock trial moderator at Holy Cross High School, current Mock-Trial Judge, and past treasurer of the Green Ridge Little League.

"I'm seeking this position because I am a citizen who cares deeply about the quality of life and the safety of our communities and families. I am committed to all of the residents who call Lackawanna County home," Ware commented.

"Anyone considering running for judge should have a deep understanding of the law and extensive experience in understanding

in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; daughter Mary in Fort Polk, Louisiana; and son Michael in San Diego, California.

Paul Ware will utilize nearly a



Paul Ware

how our county court system works. I believe I have both. I pledge to bring my integrity, professionalism, and competence to the court. I look forward to earning the support of voters in the upcoming months."

Ware graduated West Scranton High School, earned his bachelor's degree from The University of Scranton, and law degree from Widener School of Law. He currently resides in Dunmore.

He has four grown children, daughter Kate resides in Annapolis, Maryland; daughter Maggie

decade of judicial experience, integrity, unbiased decision-making, and leadership as Lackawanna County Judge. The seat will

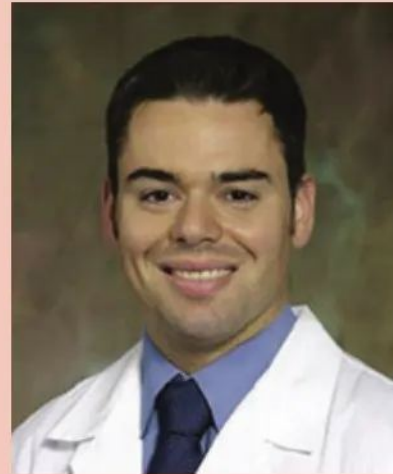
be vacant upon the retirement of Judge Thomas J. Munley. Primary Election Day is May 18, 2021. Ware's campaign chairperson is

Attorney Thomas W. Munley and his committee treasurer is Michael J. Mellody, CPA.

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With Steve Svetovich



Family legacy remains on East Drinker Street

Honey.

After he passed, his family ran the business for a time and leased it out for a few years.

But 10 years ago his daughter, Sharee Cantarella Gentile, decided to renovate the building and turn it into a bar-restaurant.

She named it "Honeychild's," as a dedication to her late dad.

"It's a fun place," said Dunmore's Mike Jones. "The food is great, especially the wings."

Honeychild's has two floors, with the second for entertainment. There is an wide bar menu and seven flat screen TVs creating a sports bar atmosphere on the first floor.

The menu includes a large variety of wings, including honey, mild, hot, honey hot, garlic parmesian and the famous boom boom choice.

Other menu items include the popular 8-oz. angus burger, a wide variety of fries, pizza, pierogies, calamari, homemade potato chips, the famous pot stickers, butterfly shrimp, chicken tenders, Italian platter, a wide variety of sandwiches and subs, soups and salads, chicken quesadilla, boneless bites and variety of handcrafted burgers. Grub hub is available nightly.

And Honeychild's is open seven nights a week. Catering is also available.

"We try to make it a fun, warm, friendly environment with casual dining," Sharee said. "Our customers mean a lot to us."

Sharee said she usually hires two or three-piece bands for musical entertainment on weekends, although not as much during the COVID-19 pandemic. "We will certainly get back to that soon," she said. "The second floor is for musical entertainment."

All social distancing and COVID-19 precautions are strictly followed at Honeychild's, said Sharee.

"I wanted to continue this as a family business in honor of my dad and that is why we named it, Honeychild's," said Sharee.

"We wanted it to stay a family business. Everyone in Dunmore knew my dad and I am sure they still think of him when they come in here for a drink and a bite to eat. We want customers to relax and have fun here. We have a wide variety of food.

"So in honor of my dad, this will always be Honeychild's."

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If you grew up in Dunmore and are over 35, then you knew "Honey."

That was Mike "Honeychild" Cantarella who died in 1994.

"Honey" died close to 27 years ago, but his family is making sure his legacy remains alive at 109 East Drinker St., Dunmore, the site for Honeychild's Bar and Grill.

It is the same exact site Honey occupied for close to four decades.

But Honey operated what was called Trouser Outlet, later to be called Shar-Eles Jewelry. The Shar-Eles name was a tribute to his two daughters, Sharee and Michelle.

Honey sold anything and everything, including suits, pants, jeans, trousers, shirts, socks, watches, belts, all kinds of jewelry and even 8-track tapes.

If you were looking for something, he probably had it.

And those in Dunmore all knew Honey well. He was a fixture at Dunmore Corners.

He was a great conversationalist, street smart and savvy. He often wore a fancy, brimmed hat tipped a bit forward.

And whether it was called Trouser Outlet or Shar-Eles, the regular customers knew it strictly as "Honeychild's" or "Honey's."

If you were from Dunmore, you knew why.

Everyone in Dunmore knew



Dunmorean of the Month: Penn State's Jeff Mallas

(Continued from Page 1)

faculty or staff member who has served Penn State Commonwealth Campus athletics, intramurals and recreation programs with distinction.

Below is an excerpt from Mallas' nomination, submitted by athletic department staff at Scranton: *"If there is one person at Penn State Scranton who truly 'Bleeds Blue and White' it's Athletic Director, Jeff Mallas. As a 1975 graduate of Penn State University, Jeff has been a strong supporter of Penn State and athletics, serving the university through non-profit work, coaching, teaching, and administration."*

Mallas was the assistant athletic director under Joe Simoncelli from 1980 through 1999. "I learned a lot under Joe Simon-

celli," he said. "You learn from good people. He was my cross country coach and advisor when I attended Penn State Scranton as a freshman."

Mallas is married 35 years to the former Karen Phillips. The couple has a son, Doug, a 2012 Penn State graduate who teaches biology at North Pocono High School.

Mallas is credited with starting the baseball program at Penn State Scranton in 1981. He coached baseball at the Dunmore campus for 25 years.

He named Dunmore graduate Dave Rubino, Dwayne Broad of Mid Valley and Kevin Yanul and Jerry Calpin of Scranton Tech as a few of his key players on the first Penn State Scranton baseball team in 1981.

"Our home games were initially played at Schautz Stadium in

Dunmore," he said. "We used to practice at Weston Field.

"In 1982 and 1983 I helped put our baseball field together at the school. Herb Rogers, the Penn State Scranton maintenance foreman at the time, did most of the work. He was the expert. I helped put the infield in. The Army Corps of Engineers did the landscaping.

"Of course our baseball field was totally renovated a few years ago and was named after Matt McGloin.

"Gino Tempesta of Dunmore, who still coaches baseball at North Pocono, helped me coach baseball for many years. He was great with the kids and a huge asset."

Mallas, always enthusiastic and an optimist when it comes to Penn State, also coached soccer for 20

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Penn State Scranton's athletic director Jeff Mallas, center, is shown in 2018 receiving the Robert J. Scannell Honor Roll Award at University Park. Shown with him are Maureen Cooper, left, and Ryan Ehrie, right.



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Dunmorean of the Month: Penn State's Jeff Mallas

(Continued from Page 5)

years at the Dunmore campus. He ran a soccer camp at the local college for kids ages 7-13 for 16 years.

He credits Dunmore's Joe Baltrusaitis, who currently coaches soccer at the local campus, for

his assistance helping him with the soccer program.

Penn State Scranton won a soccer championship in 1990 with Mallas at the helm.

Mallas has been involved with the Greater Scranton Penn State Alumni Chapter for the past 35 years. He has served as president

for seven years, including the past five years.

«We raise scholarships for students,» he said. «We invite speakers from the State College main campus and had Joe Paterno five times for the event.»

Mallas played football under coach Lou Costanzo at Dunmore.

«He made boys into men. He was tough, but a real gentleman off the field. He played football at Michigan State and was a great running back at Dunmore. What an honor to play for him. Our 1970 team went 7-2 and had some tremendous players.»

Mallas also ran track at Dunmore and played Legion baseball. Dunmore won the Lackawanna League track title in his senior year.

He graduated from Penn State with a bachelor of science degree in education in 1975 and went on to receive an M.Ed in Health and Physical Education from East Stroudsburg University in 1984.

Mallas began coaching tennis and soccer at Penn State Scranton in 1979 and started a lengthy career teaching the physical education activity classes which he continues to do to this day.

«I have been teaching activity classes at Penn State for 42 years,» he notes.

Well-rounded in all sports, Mallas coached the Penn State Scranton bowling team, leading it to many championships.

As athletic director, Mallas is responsible for 11 men and women's sports, including baseball, basketball, cross country, softball, soccer, golf and volleyball. He praised every single coach in all of the programs.

«You are only as good as your coaches and the people who surround you,» he said. «And we have great people. We have the best.»

He is credited with bringing women's basketball back to the Dunmore campus in 2002.

«We try to get as many kids as possible involved in our sports programs,» he said. «We make sure they have a positive experience and graduate. We try to retain every kid.»

There are a little more than 1,000 students in the local college and 162 are active in sports. «That's a better than 12 percent rate and that's pretty good,» he said.

Vito Ruggiero, Dunmore borough manager, was recently named the new baseball coach at Penn State Scranton.

Mallas said the local campus is looking to add tennis as a future sport.

The sports teams at the Dunmore campus participate in the Penn State University Athletic Conference, with championships played at University Park at State College. Title teams then go on to participate in the United States Athletic Conference playoffs.

Mallas credits Dr. Marwan Waffa, the school chancellor, for doing great things at the local campus.

«I cannot say enough for what he has done and is doing,» he said. «He does so much for this community here.»

Mallas has also been a PIAA basketball and soccer official since the early 1990's.

He is assisted in his athletic director duties by Sara Rinkunas who coaches men and women's cross country and serves as sports information director at the local college.

«My life basically has been Penn State,» Mallas said. «And I love it.»



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DePietro's Pharmacy is shown during the snowstorm on Monday afternoon.

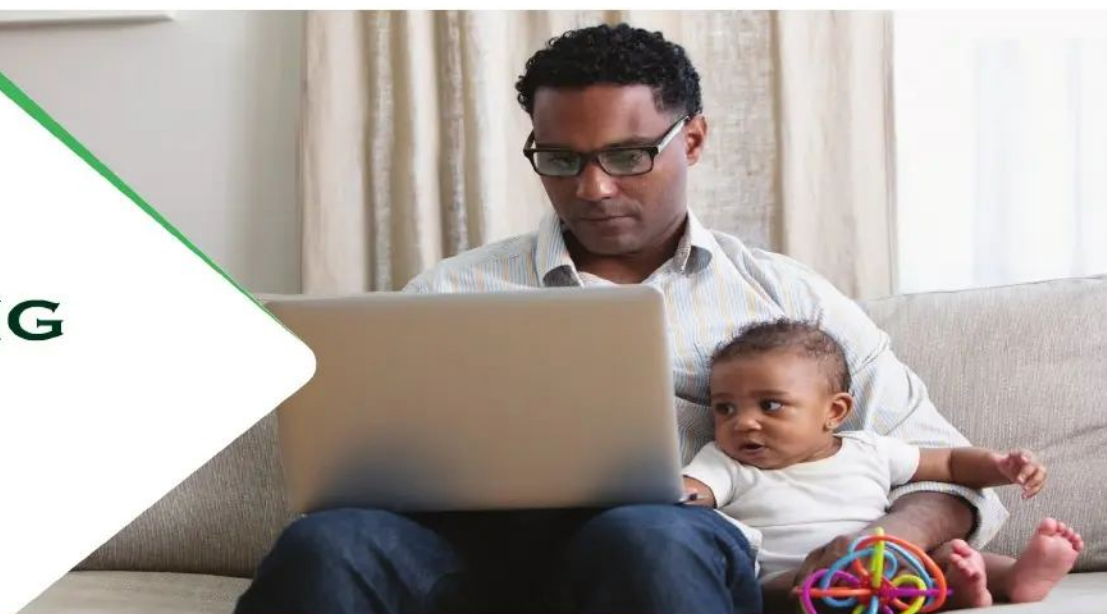


The World War I memorial and tank look especially solemn with their blanket of February snow.

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February Artist: Lillian Banick

Lillian Banick is one of the most dedicated painters at the painting class at Dunmore Activity Center. She and her sister, Lucille, were even seen stopping at the center for painting tips during the last COVID opening.

Lillian always admired art and her story is memorable.

"I started oil painting while working with the United States Foreign Service," Lillian explains. "I was stationed in countries around the world, but I believe I took my first art lessons while serving in India.

"Over the course of my career with the State Department, I painted landscapes and cityscapes of places that captured my imagination in France, Germany, Hong Kong, Mexico, etc. After retirement, I didn't pick up a brush for many years."

The above quote was shared by her proud nephew, Brian Petula, Esq. who lovingly added, "I enjoy looking at my aunt's paintings of the Taj Mahal, places she visited in the Rhine, the view from her embassy apartment in Hong Kong, etc.

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Lillian Banick, February Artist of the Month at the Dunmore Activity Center, is shown at right with 3 of her paintings, from left: "Lake Scranton", "Paris," and "Horse Frolicking."



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February Artist: Lillian Banick

(Continued from Page 8)

"Each painting reminds us of her many memorable stories and adventures of service around the world. For example, in India Aunt Lil worked with Mother Teresa helping place some of the most disadvantaged orphans with families in the United States.

"I have one of Aunt Lil's paintings of an old German village hanging in my living room. It is a daily reminder of how proud I am of her service and contributions to our country."

When Lillian discovered that the Dunmore Senior Center was offering a painting class, she was enthused and "jumped at the opportunity." The benefits are many, and she says, "It's been more rewarding than I ever expected!"

As well as painting, Lillian enjoys the social aspect of the class and the ability to share techniques with others.

"This class provides me the opportunity to meet many interesting people and view their paintings. Our instructor Jill Swersie is very patient and has shared invaluable artistic advice. "We have a good time and learn a lot from each other," she notes.

Lucille enjoys painting with her friends, and notes, "Landscapes and animals are my favorite subjects."

Her niece, Linda Ross, comments, "I recently received a painting of a lion and a lioness lying together in the grasslands that my Aunt Lillian recently completed during quarantine since her art classes are currently on hold. It is something I will cherish forever and I am proud to have her expression of art adorn our home."



The AOH Paul "Hook" O'Malley Division Four has been donating to numerous charitable organizations during the pandemic. The organization understands that our community needs more help now than ever and we are there to help meet those needs. Whether it is a food pantry or a shelter, our division will make every effort possible to meet the needs of Lackawanna County's residents. Shown from left: Treasurer Joe Holland, President Patrick O'Malley presenting a \$500 check to Amy Everetts, the Director of Development for the Women's Resource Center; Father Richard Fox of St. Patrick's Church and AOH Chaplain, and member Mark McDade.

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Sweets to make for your sweetheart...

Since most of us will be staying in this Valentine's Day, (Thank you, Covid) the possibilities are endless for serving some easy-to-make, delicious, creative desserts. If you have some fresh fruit, a jar of maraschino cherries, or frozen strawberries, you're on your way.

Most of these can be made in advance or just thrown together while dinner is in the oven or being picked up. So, relax and get

ready for some very special treats.

STRAWBERRIES AMARETTO

1 pint strawberries
1 pint strawberry ice cream, softened
1/4 cup Amaretto
1/3 cup toasted, sliced almonds

Wash and hull strawberries. Halve lengthwise and place in dessert dishes. Quickly combine softened ice cream and Amaretto. Spoon over strawberries and sprinkle with toasted almonds. Makes 4 servings.

JAN'S FRUIT CUP

2 cups combined sliced strawberries, seedless white grapes and bananas
1 Tbsp. sugar
6 oz. sherry or brandy
Whipped cream

Combine all sliced fruit in a bowl. Mix with sugar and sherry or brandy. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Serve with whipped cream.

STRAWBERRY ALMOND CREPES

4 crepes (made ahead)
1-3 oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened
2 Tbsp. powdered sugar
4 tsp. Half and Half
1 cup sliced strawberries
2 Tbsp. sugar
1 Tbsp. Amaretto
2 Tbsp. toasted, chopped almonds

In small bowl, combine cream cheese, powdered sugar and half-and-half; whip until smooth and fluffy. Spoon 1/4 of cream cheese

Cheryl's Cuisine



By Cheryl Radkiewicz

mixture down center of each crepe; roll up. Place seam-side down on plates. In small bowl, combine strawberries, sugar and Amaretto. Spoon strawberry sauce over crepes; sprinkle with almonds. Serves 2.

Note: If you have pancake mix in the house, you can use that to make the crepes. Simply mix 1 cup pancake mix with 1 cup water, 2 eggs and 2 Tbsp. sugar and beat until batter is smooth. Pour about 2 Tbsp. batter into hot skillet which has been coated with melted butter. Cook until edges start to dry and center is set. Turn to brown other side. **Note:** This happens very quickly, so don't leave the stove.

MOLDED STRAWBERRY DESSERT

2 pkgs. (10 oz. each) frozen strawberries in heavy syrup, thawed
2 cups whipping cream
3/4 cup dairy sour cream
4 Tbsp. sugar
2 envelopes unflavored gelatin
1/2 cup cold water

Drain strawberries, reserving

syrup. Set berries aside. In large bowl, mix 1 1/2 cups of the whipping cream, 1 1/4 cups of the reserved strawberry syrup, sour cream and 3 tablespoons of the sugar until sugar dissolves. Set aside.

In small saucepan, mix gelatin and water. Let stand for 1 minute. Stir over low heat until gelatin dissolves. Stir into cream mixture until blended. Pour into a 4-cup mold. Chill for 1 hour or until set. To serve, in a small mixer bowl at medium speed, beat remaining 1/2 cup cream and remaining 1 tablespoon sugar until stiff peaks form. Unmold chilled mixture onto serving plate. Place strawberries in blender container. Cover and blend at low speed for 30 seconds or until very smooth and shiny. Pour about 1/3 cup pureed strawberries over mold; top with whipped cream. Serve remaining berry sauce separately. Makes about 8 servings (1/2 cup each).

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1 jar (8 oz.) red maraschino cherries



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Cheryl's Cuisine

(Continued from Page 10)

1-8 oz. can crushed pineapple
Water
1 envelope (1 Tbsp.) unflavored gelatin
4 beaten egg yolks
2 Tbsp. lemon juice
1/8 tsp. salt
4 egg whites
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup heavy cream
Prepared and baked pie shell

Drain cherries and chop. Drain pineapple, reserving syrup. Add enough water to pineapple syrup to make 3/4 cup liquid. Soften gelatin in liquid in saucepan; add beaten egg yolks. Blend thoroughly; stir constantly over low heat until gelatin dissolves and mixture coats a metal spoon, about 5 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in lemon juice and salt; cool slightly. Add chopped cherries and drained pineapple.

Beat egg whites until soft peaks form; gradually add sugar, beating until stiff but not dry. Fold whites into gelatin mixture. Beat cream until soft peaks form; fold into gelatin mixture. Turn into pie shell; chill about 4 hours or overnight. Makes 6 servings.

WHITE CHOCOLATE MOUSSE CHERRY PIE

Crust:

14 cream-filled chocolate sandwich cookies (like Oreos)
3/4 cup chopped macadamia nuts
2 Tbsp. butter, melted

Filling:

1-21 oz. can cherry pie filling
2 Tbsp. water
1 Tbsp. cornstarch
1/2 tsp. almond extract

White Chocolate Mousse:

1 cup cold milk
1 pkg. instant white chocolate pudding mix
1 envelope unflavored gelatin
3 cups heavy whipping cream, divided
1/4 cup sugar
1/4 tsp. almond extract

Milk chocolate curls or shavings, optional for decorating

For crust: In food processor combine cookies and nuts; cover and process until cookies are finely chopped. Add butter, cover and pulse until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Press onto bottom

and up sides of a 9" deep dish pie plate. Bake in 350 degree oven for 8-10 minutes or until set. Cool on a wire rack.

For filling: combine cornstarch and water in small saucepan until smooth. Stir in pie filling. Bring to boil and cook and stir for 1 minute or until slightly thickened. Remove from heat, stir in extract. Cool completely.

For mousse: In large bowl, whisk milk and pudding mix for 2 minutes; set aside. In small saucepan, sprinkle gelatin over 1/2 cup cream; let stand for 1 minute. Heat over low heat, stirring until gelatin is completely dissolved. Remove from heat.

In large bowl, beat remaining cream until it begins to thicken. Add sugar and extract; beat until soft peaks form. Gradually beat in gelatin mixture. Fold into pudding. Refrigerate until slightly firm, about 30 minutes. Spread cooled filling into crust; top with mousse. Refrigerate for at least 2 hours or until firm. Garnish with milk chocolate curls. Makes 8-10 servings.



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At the Keystone Chapter UNICO Board of Directors meeting in December at the Victor Alfieri Society, Denise Hawk was installed as a chapter member. Pictured from left are president Mary Ann Coviello; new member Denise Hawk; membership director Ann Summa; and installing officer Mark McDade.

Dunmore pizzerias now on the map

Lackawanna County is known for its phenomenal pizza.

The county is not only home to Old Forge, the so-called Pizza

Capital of the World, and their signature style of pizza, but there are also 160 pizza shops throughout Lackawanna County, serving every variety of pizza imaginable.

To showcase just how amazing the pizza is, the county has created the Lackawanna County Pizza Trail, compiling the local favorites.

This delicious list allows people to plan a self-guided tour the whole family will enjoy.

Nine Dunmore pizzerias included on the website include: **Calabria Pizza & Restaurant; Cali's Don Tomaso Peatza, Cara Mia's Delicatessan, Drinker Pizza, Gold Crown Pizza, Grande Pizza Restaurant & Bar, Nardozzi's Pizza, Nina's Wing Bites and Pizza, and Two Brothers**

Restaurant and Pizzeria.

The county designed a system for locals to vote for their favorite shops from over 160 pizzerias.

The results created a map that consists of 63 pizza shops that span across Lackawanna County.

Only locally owned restaurants are included, and many have been open for 30 plus years with recipes that have been passed down from generation to generation.

The map can be found at <https://www.visitnepa.org/things-to-do/tours-itineraries/pizza-trail/>. It includes descriptions of the restaurants, photos, and where to find them in Lackawanna County.

The map is color coded to the different cities or regions to help plan your itinerary and route.

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The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute received \$8,000 as one of the benefitting organizations of the Fall Classic Charities Golf Invitational held at Sand Springs Golf Club, Drums.. The golf tournament was a captain and crew scramble format and golfers had food and beverages throughout the day and chances to win giveaways.

Since 2011, the Fall Classic Charities has raised over \$156,000 for local organizations in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Shown at the check presentation are, from left: Bob Gorski, President of Fall Classic Charities; Karen M. Saunders, President of Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, and Joe Ferguson, Secretary of Fall Classic Charities.

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REAL ID can be obtained at Driver License Center

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) announced that it has resumed issuing REAL IDs at reopened Driver License Centers offering driver license services throughout the state.

PennDOT paused REAL ID issuance throughout the state in March 2020 out of an abundance of caution and in the interest of public health, due to COVID-19. Additionally, the federal Department of Homeland Security post-

poned the enforcement date for REAL ID from October 1, 2020 to October 1, 2021 in response to COVID-19 and the national emergency declaration.

REAL ID is optional in Pennsylvania.

There is no requirement that any resident obtain a REAL ID; PennDOT continues to offer standard-issue driver's licenses and photo IDs.

REAL ID is a federal law that affects how states issue driver's

licenses and ID cards if they are going to be acceptable for federal purposes.

A federally-acceptable form of identification (whether it's a Pennsylvania REAL ID driver's license or ID card, a valid U.S. Passport/Passport Card, a military ID, etc.) must now be used on and after October 1, 2021 as identification to board a commercial flight or visit a secure federal building that requires a federally acceptable form of identification ID for access.

Customers can obtain a REAL ID by presenting documents for verification and processing at any driver license center.

Federal regulations require that to be issued a REAL ID-compliant product, PennDOT must verify the below documents:

***Proof of Identity:** Examples include original or certified copy of a birth certificate filed with the State Office of Vital Records/Statistics with a raised seal/embossed or valid, unexpired, U.S. Passport;

***Proof of Social Security**

Number: Social security card, in current legal name;

***Two Proofs of Current, Physical PA Address:** Examples include a current, unexpired PA driver's license or identification card, vehicle registration or a utility bill with the same name and address; and

***Proof of all Legal Name Changes** (if current legal name is different than what is reflected on proof of identity document): Examples include a certified marriage certificate(s) issued by the

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OBITUARY

Salvatore Anthony Verrastro



Popular local musician Arthur Kreinberg passed away peacefully at Abington Manor Nursing Home in Clarks Summit. Art was born in 1941, son of the late Arthur and Elizabeth Bessmer Kreinberg.

He is survived by his sister, Sylvia Serpiello, Sellersville, PA, and nieces Dawn Freeman and Leigh Edelman.

He was a graduate of Scranton Central High School where he studied under the tutelage of band director, the late Patrick Marcinko II, and Wilkes College. He also attended Berklee College of Music.

Art toured with the Glenn Miller Band and the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra. He performed locally with the Ferdie Bistocchi Orchestra, Gene Dempsey Orchestra, Northeastern Philharmonic, the Fran Burne Quartet, Doug Smith Jazz Quintet, Jim Buckley and Friends, the Tony Costa Trio, Julian Sparacino's improv groups, poet, Lucia Dailey, and blues guitarist Jack Wargo.

Art also performed with internationally acclaimed jazz pianist Bob Degen. Art played trombone with the Scranton Philharmonic, once under the baton of legendary conductor Leopold Stokowski. He performed in concerts at the Scranton Cultural Center at the Masonic Temple with Johnny Mathis and Doc Severenson, leader of the Tonight Show Band. He played in the Scranton Recreational Band under the direction of Pat O'Hearn. He also taught music at North Scranton Junior High School.

Art played trombone, trumpet, and piano equally well. He was a gifted arranger who could write directly from his head to manuscript and he was blessed with perfect pitch. Art possessed a great off-beat sense of humor and published two volumes of his original cartoons. He shared his gifts in teaching and mentoring many local musicians, including Marko Marcinko and Tony Marino. He was a life-long member of The Scranton Local #120 of the American Federation of Musicians.

A memorial service for Art will be held at a later date.





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Abbey Lentowski



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Abbey Lentowski making her mark as senior center for Lady Crusaders

By Steve Svetovich

Holy Cross Lady Crusaders senior center Abbey Lentowski is trying to make the most of her senior season.

And she is more than making her mark on the talented Holy Cross girls' basketball team.

Daughter of Andrew and Tricia Lentowski, the senior stalwart scored 30 points in the Lady Crusaders 76-44 win over Lakeland Friday, January 29. She scored 16 points in the second quarter alone as Holy Cross built a commanding 49-21 halftime lead.

It was the same game teammate Kaci Kranson, a junior, scored her 1,000th career point while contributing 26 points in the win.

The victory gave the No. 6 ranked Lady Crusaders a 4-1 record to start the season under veteran coach Barry Fitzgerald.

Abbey, 17, a four-year member of the Lady Crusaders basketball team, following the win over Lakeland, needed only 138 more points to reach 1,000 for her career.

"I am hoping to reach that," she said.

The scholar-athlete has an impressive 3.9 grade point average at Holy Cross. She is a member of the Foreign Languages Club, History Club and the National Honor Society.

She is a four-year member of the soccer team as a midfielder.

She talked about her team's improving performance.

"We started out our first game slow, but then we really came together and grew as a team. We are getting better each game as we continue to work together. Now we are working together as a team extremely well. I think we

can continue working well as a team and go far in the playoffs."

The talented senior center said her favorite academic subject is Spanish.

Her favorite musical artist is Ed Sheerin who she previously saw in concert. "He was amazing. I can't wait to get a chance to see him again."

Abbey will study and play basketball at Immaculata University in West Chester next year. She will major in criminology or pre law with a goal of eventually going to law school and becoming an attorney like her dad.

"I find law to be interesting," she said. "I've seen some of what my dad does and would like to follow in his footsteps."

Abbey is averaging 18 points per game after the team's first five games this season. She also had

(Please turn to Page 19)



Junior Kaci Kranson scores 1,000th point for Holy Cross basketball team

By Steve Svetovich

Only a junior, Kaci Kranson celebrated with Holy Cross teammates as she scored her 1,000th career point Friday, January 29, in the Lady Crusaders 76-44 win over Lakeland.

Kaci scored 26 points as her team won for the fourth time in five games this season. Senior center Abbey Lentowski led Holy Cross with 30 points in the win for the No. 6 ranked Lady Crusaders.

Daughter of Jill and Ryan Kranson, Kaci's late grandfather Jerry Foley was a local legend as a standout professional boxer in the 1960s and 1970s.

"I was very surprised and happy to achieve 1,000 points in my junior year," Kaci, 17, said.

"Every year I set personal and team goals. This was one of my personal goals, so I was happy to achieve it so quickly. It was just such a crazy, outstanding feeling. I was so happy my teammates were a part of it. They played a big part in making it happen."

Kaci averaged 23 points per game as a sophomore last season when she was a Lackawanna League All-Star. She is averaging 23 points per game with 115 points in her first five games this season.

"My parents always teach me to work hard and give it my very best shot. That is what they tell me

should always be my focus, trying my very best."

The standout junior point guard said Holy Cross veteran basketball coach Barry Fitzgerald teaches her similar values.

"He teaches me to always work hard. And he tells me to be more patient on the court while looking for the open pass or shot"

Kaci is a three-year starter on the Lady Crusaders basketball team. She will be a three-year member of the Holy Cross softball team, although no games were played last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

She plays centerfield and was a Lackawanna League All-Star as a freshman outfielder.

The scholar-athlete has an impressive 3.9 academic average. She is a member of the Service Club, Pro Life Club, Student Council and is class president of the junior class. She is a member of the National Honor Society.

She talked about what it takes to be a good point guard in high school basketball.

"You need to look up and down the court and be very selective with your shot or passing the ball." Kaci said she wants to play basketball in college.

She would like to see Sean Mendez in concert. Last year she saw Ariana Grande as a birthday present from her mom.

Kaci's best academic subject is English. The sharp shooter said she is thinking about studying physical therapy in college.

She talked about future goals. "Well, first I want to help our team go as far as we can in the district and state playoffs in the next two years. Then I want to get accepted to a good college, play college bas-

(Please turn to Page 19)



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Sharee Cantarella Gentile, owner of Honeychild's Bar and Grill, 109 E. Drinker St., Dunmore, drawing great reviews for her menu, including variety of wings, that attracts many local sports fans...Dunmore's **Mike Jones** looking forward to fans back in the seats at Yankee Stadium so he can attend a few games in the Bronx with his cousin, former Dunmore Councilman **Paul Nardozi**...Congratulations to Dunmore football standouts **Cristian Buckley** and **Dom Temperino** for their All Regional selections...Will there be summer collegiate baseball at Sherwood Park this summer?...

Congratulations to Holy Cross junior point guard **Kaci Kranson** who scored 1,000th career point in team's 76-44 win over Lakeland...

Teammate **Abbey Lentowski**, a senior center, scored team leading 30 points in the Lady Crusaders win...Dunmore all-state junior **Moriah Murray** scored 18 points in Dunmore's 62-53 win over Riveraide...**Cierra Toomey** scored 15 points and **Anna Talutto** and **Mia Blume** added 11 and 10 for the Lady Bucks...Riverside standout **Kylie Lavelle** scored 35 points...College basketball world mourning passing of former Temple coach **John Chaney** at 89...

Baseball world mourning passing of four more Hall of Famers - **Tommy Lasorda**, **Phil Niekro**, **Don Sutton** and **Hank Aaron** - last month...Lasorda was larger than life personality with LA Dodgers, earning two titles in lengthy managerial career...Niekro, greatest knuckleball pitcher of all-time,

Dishin' the Dirt

With Steve Svetovich



won 318 career games, including pair of 16-win seasons for Yankees at ages 45 and 46...Sutton won 324 games while recording over 3,500 strikeouts and is third all-time in games started behind **Cy Young** and **Nolan Ryan**...Aaron broke **Babe Ruth's** long standing career home run record and finished with 755 homers and record 2,297 RBIs while recording 3,771 career hits and setting records for career extra base hits and total bases...Subtract Aaron's 755 homers and he still has over 3,000 hits.. Hammerin' Henry, perhaps one of three greatest players ever, also stole 240 bases, leading NL once, and earned three Gold Gloves in right field...

Entertainment world mourning passing of **Cicely Tyson** at 96 and **Cloris Leachman**, who performed a decade ago on Dancing with the Stars, at 95...In meantime, **Betty White** celebrated another birthday at 99...Do you remember **Bob Francis**?...

Hard to believe, but **Tom Brady** is back in the Super Bowl for a 10th time in past 19 NFL seasons...Only this time it's with Tampa Bay...Take that, **Bill Belichick**...Former Holy Cross basketball standout **Abby Anderson** took position as J.V. basketball coach at Western Wayne...West Scranton's **Cayden Merrifield** closing in on 1,000 career points...Condolenses to family of **Susan Kardos Cirba**, former education director for Pennsylvanians for Human Life, Scranton, who died at 64...Condolences to family of Dunmore's

Salvatore Polizzi, a military veteran who served in the U.S. Army and 109th Infantry Pennsylvania National Guard, who died last month at 93...His son-in-law is former Dunmore Mayor **Patrick "Nibs" Loughney**...National Baseball Hall of Fame did not vote in any new members for 2021 class although former Red Sox/Phillies/Diamondbacks pitcher **Curt Schilling** came close with 71.1 percent of vote before sending e mail to Hall of Fame committee asking to be taken off next year's ballot...Schilling has rubbed media and public the wrong way with his wide spread use of social media and controversial posts...

Moriah Murray hit four 3-pointers and scored 20 points in Dunmore's 66-25 win over Lakeland...**Ciera Toomey** scored 18 and **Anna Talutto** added 14...**Kevin Walsh** scored 13 points and **Frankie Ruggiero** added 12 for Dunmore in 54-37 opening game loss to North Pocono...**Hayden Hosie** hit two clutch free throws and scored 15 points in Holy Cross Crusaders 52-50 win over Mid Valley...**Patrick Bennie** led Holy Cross with 19 points and 11 rebounds...**Frankie Ruggiero** hit five 3-pointers and scored 23 points in Dunmore's 71-37 win over Carbondale Area...**Kevin Walsh** added 19 points for Bucks...

Former Yankees hurler **Masahiro Tanaka** going back to Japan on two-year \$8.4 million contract after seven years in Bronx...Former Yankees fan favorite **Sir Didi Gre-**

gorius signed two-year \$28-million deal to return at shortstop for **Joe Girardi**, another former Yankee as player and manager, and Philadelphia Phillies...

New York Knicks fans mourning passing of **Hawthorne Wingo**, last man off the bench but fan favorite of 1973 championship team...Wingo, who died at 73, played in old EBA at Scranton CYC against Scranton Apollos..."We Want Wingo, We Want Wingo," Knick fans would chant late in fourth quarter of games at New York's Madison Square Garden...Do you remember **Jo Jo Cantafio**?...Whatever became of **Cal Koonce**?...

Order flags and markers

While it doesn't look it outside, the calendar is fast moving to May and the annual Memorial Day exercises and veterans' graves preparation.

Flags and markers order forms and other materials have been to all volunteers and post commanders to complete and return by March 1 to the Lackawanna County Veterans Affairs Office, Government Center, 123 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503, so that they can be processed for distribution in plenty of time.

Any questions should be directed to the Veterans Affairs Office at 570-963-6778.

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DHS basketball teams show resilience during pandemic

**By Zack Albert
Dunmorean Intern**

To those who are from this borough, the Dunmore High School Bucks and Lady Bucks provide a special energy through their academics, athletics, and extra-curricular clubs.

Whether it is the marching band playing for the athletes, the cheer-leading team peppering the other students to cheer for the athletes, or the play of the athletes themselves-- these students and the staff take their part in their school community seriously.

As athletic seasons are continuing in 2021, the players, coaches, administration, and parents have shown remarkable resilience

throughout the pandemic.

The completion and success of the 2020 football and volleyball seasons are examples of everyone accepting the responsibilities involved in keeping everyone as safe as possible while setting a foundation for upcoming winter sports seasons.

Going back to an earlier interview with superintendent John Marichak, the same comments he mentioned then continue to remain true as we reach the stretch of the 2021 basketball season.

"The guidelines provided by the CDC, federal, state, and local governments during the COVID-19 pandemic are part of ensuring our students, staff, and faculty remain safe. We also have implemented

other recommendations through the diligent work of our school board, athletic directors, Mark Finan, Timothy Hopkins, Maureen Burke, and our maintenance staff," Marichak said then.

"All have been phenomenal in getting our academic and athletic seasons executed as we have thus far, while keeping the safety of our students, faculty and staff at the forefront.

"Though challenges existed in all phases throughout this pandemic, the offseason workouts were able to occur, and we are excited for the regular season to start. Not having spectators will be tough for the students, but they know the community will be behind them."

The Lady Bucks have won all three of their league games thus far, including handing Riverside their first defeat of the season.

The Bucks have won back-to-back games for the first time this season.

Moriah Murray (15.0 ppg), Ciera Toomey (13.2 ppg), Mia Blume (8.6 ppg), and Anna Talutto

(8.2 ppg) lead the Lady Bucks in scoring.

Kevin Walsh (13.8 ppg), Frank Ruggiero (9.8 ppg), and Dom Temperino (8.8 ppg), lead the Bucks in scoring.

The Lady Bucks have been great at the free throw line, 70.9% (22 FTM -31 FTA), with the Bucks a bit lower at 55.0% (22 FTM - 40 FTA).

Both teams have their second game against Riverside to start the month, followed by upcoming rivalry games at Holy Cross, Lakeland, and Old Forge. In their latest wins against the Vikings, the Bucks and Lady Bucks used their tenacious offensive and defensive rebounding to not let Riverside

gain any sizeable advantage.

The Lady Bucks' defense in the first half while getting points on the other end was the difference, as the second half was deadlocked (23-22 scoring in the second half).

The Bucks' defense in the fourth quarter was the difference in their win over the Vikings as they held Riverside to 7 points in the quarter (31-21 second half scoring). Dom Temperino's game-high 18 points and 10 rebounds led the way for the Bucks.

A strong second half of the season is possibly in the works for the Bucks and Lady Bucks, and the Dunmore community is proud to support them through these challenging times!

Co-Athlete Abbey Lentowski

(Continued from Page 16)

three double-doubles in the team's first five games. She was a second team Lackawanna League all-star and made the Lynett Tournament all-tournament team last season.

Abbey was also a second-team all-star for soccer.

Intelligent and hard working, Abbey credits coach Fitzgerald for much of her success. "He teaches us to hustle on every play. He tells us to go all out all the time. He teaches us to work together as a team."

Abbey said her parents are always there for her. "My parents teach me to never give up even when things get real hard."

She talked about what it takes to be a good center in high school basketball. "You need to have a lot of energy, be physical and want to get the ball."

The senior standout said school and sports can be challenging during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It can be very nerve racking playing basketball during a pandemic. At any moment you can lose players or the season can end. We do take all the necessary precautions to make it work.

"And school being hybrid makes it difficult to learn at times. The students and teachers are trying their best."

Nevertheless, despite a pandemic for the past 12 months, Abbey has thoroughly enjoyed her experience at Holy Cross as she prepares to graduate this year. "I have enjoyed it a lot. The teachers and coaches here really care about you. It has been an excellent preparation for college.

"I'm excited about going away to college next year. It is my chance to be independent and see what I can do."

Co-Athlete of month Kari Kranson

(Continued from Page 17)

ketball and get a great education and finally have a good career."

Kaci is completely enjoying her experience at Holy Cross.

"I absolutely love it here at Holy Cross," she said. "Everyone knows each other here. It is like one big family.

"All of the teachers and coaches are great. It is the best place to be for me. I have met so many nice people and made great friends. We are all so close. This is a family here."

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Mary Walsh Dempsey announces run for judge

Atty. Mary Walsh Dempsey of Scranton has announced her intention to run for an upcoming vacancy on the Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas in the May Primary Election.

Dempsey, who currently serves as Senior Litigation Counsel for Ufberg and Associates in Scranton, has practiced law in Lackawanna County full time for the past 30 years. Her three-decade legal career includes extensive

experience in civil law, both in state and federal courtrooms, and experience in criminal law.

“Over the past 30 years, I have represented thousands of individual clients with passion, tenacity, intellect, integrity and the utmost respect for the law. I am proud to put my experience, my vast legal knowledge and my strong sense of community on the ballot in May as a candidate for Lackawanna County Judge.”



Mary Walsh Dempsey

Dempsey just recently completed a one-year term as the President of the Lackawanna Bar Association, and she was selected to fill a five-month vacancy as a Scranton City Council member in 2019. She also worked as an Asst. District Attorney in Lackawanna County and still holds several leadership roles in the Pennsylvania Bar Association and other community organizations.

“I have always considered the practice of law to be a calling for me and a way for me to serve others. Presiding as a Judge in the Court of Common Pleas presents yet another opportunity for me to use my proven, and time-tested

legal skills, to serve a community that has historically placed its trust in me.” Dempsey added “I know that I will maintain independence and that I will apply the rule of law to the facts of the case in all matters. I will also uphold decorum, effectively maintain judicial temperament, and just as important, I will be tough and tenacious when needed.”

Mary Walsh Dempsey resides in Scranton with her four children. She is a graduate of Scranton Preparatory School, The University of Scranton, and the Dickinson School of Law.

She will run for the seat on the Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas that will be vacated upon the impending retirement of Judge Thomas Munley. The Primary Election will be held May 18, 2021.

REAL ID

(Continued from Page 14)

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If current name is the same as what is reflected on proof of identity document (usually birth certificate or passport), a customer does not need to show proof of legal name changes.

Customers have three options for obtaining a REAL ID product: Customers may order their REAL ID online if they have been pre-verified and their REAL ID product will be mailed to them within 15 business days; they can visit any PennDOT Driver’s License Center that is open for driver license services, have their

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UNICO hosts pasta dinner



Dunmore's Keystone UNICO recently conducted its Second Annual Pasta Dinner. Proceeds were earmarked for their COVID-19 Relief Initiatives. Shown at the Pasta Dinner check-in table from left are take-out patrons Joe and Karen Sadowski being greeted by dinner cochair Keystone Chapter President Mary Ann Coviello and Frank Coviello.



Enjoying their Keystone UNICO Pasta Dinner are, seated from left: Michael Mecca, Cherie Mecca, Dolores Mecca and Tanya Skurka.



Enjoying the Dunmore's Keystone UNICO annual pasta dinner was the Rizzo Family. From left are Geena, Joe, Vito and Gloria Rizzo.



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The UNICO Scranton Chapter Ladies Auxiliary delivered Christmas gifts to the Catherine McAuley Center in Scranton for a family of four and a family of five. Pictured from left: Eileen King of the McAuley Center and Patti Montalbano, chair of the Ladies Auxiliary.



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The UNICO Scranton Chapter conducted a "13 Days of Christmas Raffle Extravaganza" that raised more than \$12,000 to support the Chapter's charitable causes. Pictured is raffle chairman Jim Sagona with some of the proceeds.



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UNICO observes motto during the COVID pandemic

The Scranton Chapter of UNICO National, the largest in the Italian-American service organization, has adapted to the realities of the current COVID-19 pandemic while still adhering to the group's credo: Service Above Self.

"Our members have truly been dedicated and done a wonderful job of ensuring that our service to the community has continued," said chapter president Gail Cicerini.

"The needs are greater than ever, and I am grateful to everyone for all they are doing to help in so many different ways."

Gail noted that the chapter is ensuring that safety and health protocols are followed while being creative with respect to its activities and service projects.

The Chapter's monthly dinner gatherings are suspended, but the Board of Directors meets every month via Zoom. Regular emails, and postings on the website and social media by Jim Sagona and Lori Nozzi aim to keep everyone connected. Mary Marrara, chair of the Membership Committee, continues to reach out and contact Chapter members.

Among the many areas of life affected when the pandemic began to spread more widely last spring was education. Despite the interruption to in-class learning, the Scranton Chapter maintained its tradition of presenting the Brian Piccolo Award to graduating high school seniors of Italian-American heritage who exhibit achievements in athletics and the qualities of hard work, integrity, leadership and courage exemplified by the award's namesake, who played professional

(Please turn to Page 24)



The UNICO Scranton Chapter Veterans Committee presented a DVD salute of greetings and gratitude along with gift certificates for a sheet cake to veterans who reside at the Gino Merli Center and Saint Francis Commons. Shown from left: Jack Trapani, Janice McCallister and James Miller of the Merli Center, Chapter President Gail Cicerini, Mary Marrara and Charlie Spano.---(See related photos and story on Page 22)



Several members of the UNICO Scranton Chapter volunteered to help distribute the Family to Family Thanksgiving food baskets to area needy. More than 3,000 packages were distributed the day before Thanksgiving. Shown from left: Kristen and Anthony Cianfichi, Karen Clifford, Louis and Chris DiMattio, and Vince Russoniello. Brian, Jason and Joe Castrogiovanni also participated.

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UNICO continues service projects

(Continued from Page 22)

football before succumbing to cancer. The Piccolo Award Committee chaired by Ann Genett, Lise Bieri and Cindy Farino reviewed the nominations and selected six students to receive the 2020 award.

The Chapter honors the men and women who have served our country in the armed forces. This year, in lieu of the annual bingo party held for veterans at the Gino Merli Center and Saint Francis Commons, the Veterans Committee presented a DVD salute of greetings and gratitude along with gift certificates for a sheet cake. This effort was coordinated by Charlie Spano, Jack Trapani and Mary Marrara.

The Ladies Auxiliary, with Patti Montalbano as president, has been typically busy and productive. Through its various activities, including the Mystery Purse raffle, donations were made to Trinity Child Care Center at Saint Joseph's Center, Family to Family Thanksgiving food basket program, Saint Francis of Assisi Kitchen, Meals on Wheels, NEPA Teen Shelter, Wright Center Food Pantry, Women's Resource Center, Children's Advocacy Center, and Catherine McAuley Center.

Since the weather began to chill, the Chapter has been collecting slightly used coats for men, women and children as well as donations and gift cards to help Friends of the Poor, the agency sponsored by the Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary that offers food, clothing and shelter to those in need. Diana Giovannini is chairing this effort, with help from Renee Rinaldi, Camille and Louise Frye, and Linda Stafursky, who has graciously lent space in her home as a drop-off spot for many of the coats.

An issue that might not be visible to many – the problem of students who experience periods of homelessness – has gotten the attention of the Chapter. Coordinated by Ann Genett, clothing and other items are being provided to a number of students.

Although the celebration of Christmas might have been somewhat different for many, the Scranton Chapter was able to make the holidays a bit more festive through a new endeavor. Harkening to the tradition of the 12 Days of Christmas, the Chapter took it up a notch with a "13 Days of Christmas Raffle Extravaganza." Each ticket gave the purchaser a chance for prizes with a total worth of more than \$3,900. Raffle chairman Jim Sagona conducted drawings each evening from December 11-23, live on the UNICO Scranton Facebook Page. More than \$12,500 was raised to support the Chapter's charitable causes.

Another holiday event, the Minicozzi Run/Christmas Party at the Boys & Girls Club in Scranton, was held according to safety protocols. This event normally is funded by proceeds from the Annual Cpt. James R. Minicozzi Memorial Race conducted at La Festa Italiana. Although the 2020 race was canceled due to the pandemic, the Minicozzi Race Committee led by Leslie Minicozzi Galacci and the UNICO Scranton Chapter made sure the kids enjoyed a nice luncheon party.

With the holidays behind and winter upon us, is it too soon to think about spring? Not if you're a golfer! Mark your calendar for May 26 and plan to participate in the Scranton Chapter Golf Tournament on the links of Mount Airy Casino and Resort in the Poconos. Vince Martino is chairing the committee for this event, which will follow safety protocols. Please call 570-499-8469 or email vcmartino@gmail.com for further information about the Tournament.



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Dunmore was covered in snow when February came in like a lion. Above: Dunmore Corners. Below: Riccardo's Market. At right: A snow plow begins what will be some very long days and nights as the big storm began its onslaught on Monday.



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CENTURY 21

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Mary Theresa Malandro, Diocesan Secretary for Catholic Human Services; the Most Rev. Joseph Bambera, Bishop of Scranton; and Sandra Snyder, Diocesan Grant Writer, display a copy of the check to support relief assistance received by the Scranton Area Community Foundation, administrator of Robert H. Spitz Foundation.

Robert H. Spitz Foundation gives \$20,000 grant to Catholic Social Services project

The Robert H. Spitz Foundation, administered by the Scranton Area Community Foundation, supported Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton with a \$20,000 grant for a project titled "Reviving a Core Model for Self-Sufficiency: A Return To Evidence-Based Relief Assistance."

The grant is helping Catholic Social Services provide relief assistance in Luzerne and Lackawanna counties in a manner that has measurable impact on recipients' lives.

Clients who receive relief assistance, for example, are tracked in their progress toward achieving individualized goals, such as maintaining stable housing, obtaining or retaining employ-

ment or repairing family finances through better credit management.

"It has always been our goal to show that clients who benefit from our services have achieved meaningful milestones in their lives as a result," said Mary Theresa Malandro, diocesan secretary for Catholic human services and CEO of Catholic Social Services.

"This grant is helping us to revive a service delivery model with proven reliability as we strive to continue to measure impact even as client numbers greatly increase during the pandemic."

Relief assistance, especially via case management, has always been a hallmark of Catholic Social Services' work.

"We are especially grateful to the Robert H. Spitz Foundation and to the Scranton Area Community Foundation for their continued partnership during these particularly troubling times," Malandro said.

For more information about Catholic Social Services' relief assistance program, call (570) 207-3808.

Happy Valentine's Day

REAL ID information from PennDOT

(Continued from Page 20) documents verified and imaged, and their REAL ID product will be mailed to them within 15 business days; or they can visit one of 12 REAL ID Centers and receive their REAL ID product over the counter at the time of service.

For a full list of opened driver license centers and their services, please visit the [PennDOT Driver and Vehicle Services website](#).

When a customer gets their first REAL ID product, they will pay a one-time fee of \$30, plus a renewal fee (current renewal fee is \$30.50 for a four-year non-commercial driver's license and \$31.50 for a photo ID).

The expiration date of their initial REAL ID product will include any

time remaining on their existing non-REAL ID product, plus an additional four years, unless the customer is over 65 and has a two-year license.

This expiration date structure means that the customer won't "lose" time that they've already paid for.

After the initial REAL ID product expires, the customer will pay no additional fee, beyond regular renewal fees, to renew a REAL ID product.

Since March 1, 2019, PennDOT has processed about 4 million customers, with more than 912,000 individuals choosing to opt in to the REAL ID program.

More info about document requirements for REAL ID, includ-

ing a [printable document checklist](#), can be found on the [Document Check page](#) of the [PennDOT Driver and Vehicle Services website](#).

Driver and vehicle online services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and include driver's license, photo ID and vehicle registration renewals; driver-history services; changes of address; driver license and vehicle registration restoration letters; ability to pay driver license or vehicle insurance restoration fee; driver license and photo ID duplicates; and driver exam scheduling. There are no additional fees for using online services.



Vaccination information

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues its grip on the United States and our community, it is vitally important that everyone protect themselves by getting vaccinated.

Patience is a big part of the process. Scheduling only one appointment at one location is also tantamount for medical professionals to vaccinate as many individuals as possible in a timely fashion.

The Lackawanna County Commissioners, their Human Services Department and their Area Agency on Aging caution all residents from signing-up on multiple lists at multiple locations. This is compounding the problem for vaccine providers as they move through their waiting lists, trying to serve as many people as possible. Multiple sign-ups take away spots from other consumers.

To that end, if you did sign-up at multiple locations, and got the vaccine, please make sure that you cancel the other appointments to free-up the time slots so more can be served.

The best avenue for one to take is that if you are a patient or customer of any medical group, doctor, or pharmacy, add yourself to one of their lists.

Streamlining the process to quickly serve a large number of people and help keep everyone healthy is the goal of the vaccination program. Inundating the system does not allow the process to move forward.

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2021 winter's fury hits hard

Dunmore's Borough Building, above, and La Cucina Restaurant, are shown shrouded in snow during the February storm.



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