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Dunmorean of the Month CHAS EHNOT



By Steve Svetovich

Chas Ehnnot has been a part of Dunmore's Sherwood Youth Association for a long time, but now he plays an even bigger role.

Ehnnot, 40, Dunmore, was named by the Board as the new president of Sherwood Youth Association this past March.

He succeeded Matt Fedor who served as president the past six years. Charlie Ehnnot, Dunmore, his dad, is one of the past presidents of the Sherwood Youth Association.

Ehnnot works in Dunmore with his dad as an independent financial advisor.

His dad has always been a strong influence and mentor. "I learned from the ground up," he said. "I learned from my dad. I started learning the business from him at age five. I started working with him at a young age. We work right out of the house now. My dad taught me a lot about everything."

Son of Charlie and Deborah Ehnnot, Dunmore, Chas is a 2001 Dunmore High School graduate. He graduated from the Virginia Military Institute in 2005.

"The military institute was an experience like any other good college," he said. "But it was most definitely the most physical and emotional rewarding experience I ever had."

"It taught you about personal character and a code of ethics I was

(Please turn to Page 2)



Dunmore High School participants in the 42nd annual Scholarship Award Dinner hosted by Dunmore Lions Club at the Dunmore Community Center included, seated from left: Mark Finan, DHS athletic director; Nico Ruggiero, DHS Male Scholar/Athlete; Carl Boone, Penn State scholarship winner, and Ciera Toomey, DHS Female Scholar/Athlete. Standing, same order: Mike Colangelo, invocation; Justin Patchcoski, toastmaster; Beth McDonald Zangardi, Gino Tempesta, dinner chairman, and Sam Sebastianelli Sr., Lion president;



Holy Cross High School participants in the 42nd annual Scholarship Awards dinner included, seated from left: Al Callejas, Holy Cross athletic director; Mary McHugh, Holy Cross Female Scholar/Athlete; Gabe Gonzales, Holy Cross Male Scholar Athlete, and Vince Tanana, Holy Cross Penn State Scholarship winner. Standing, same order: Mike Colangelo, invocation; Justin Patchcoski, toastmaster; Beth McDonald Zangardi; Gino Tempesta, dinner chairman, and Sam Sebastianelli Sr., Lions president. --See related story on Page 2

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Dunmorean of Month: CHAS EHNOT

(Continued from Page 1)

able to take right into my personal life."

Ehnot is a proud father of his son Charlie III, 10, who will enter the fifth grade at Dunmore Elementary Center.

Hard-working with a strong work ethic, Ehnot is excited about his new position as president of Sherwood Youth Association.

"It was a little bit overwhelming to hear the Board selected me," he said. "I was happy to see the Board placed that kind of faith in me. I have a lot of support. I want to help make Sherwood Park as great as it can possibly be for the children of the community."

Ehnot talked about some of the renovations during his first four months as president, "We have a new center feature for the splash pad at Sherwood Park. We also worked on the pavilion. We are always looking for the next project to beautify the area."

"We continue to use Sherwood Park for the Dunmore Miss E League and Dunmore/Green Ridge Youth Soccer. We are looking at programs to add for next year."

Ehnot talked about even more future goals for Sherwood Park. "We want to create a walking path around the park. We are also thinking about having a small section for a dog park. We want to continue having a positive relationship with everyone who uses the park. We want to continue the maintenance of the grounds and make sure Sherwood Park is enjoyable to everyone who uses it."

Right now the always busy Ehnot is preparing for the annual Sherwood Park Summer Festival to be held on the grounds August 17-18-19. There will be an assortment of home made food and desserts, games for children and youth, live music and a beer tent for adults.

"It's our biggest fundraiser and we are already holding meetings and getting ready for it. It's going to be great as always."

The Sherwood Youth Association is known for its many outstanding past presidents. The list includes the late Addie Michalek, Carol Scrimalli, Charlie Ehnot, and Matt Fedor. Chas Ehnot has some big shoes to fill, but already he's off to a great start.

"This means a lot to me and I want to do my best for everyone who uses the park. I'm excited about the opportunity."

Dunmore Lions honor high school graduates

The Dunmore Lions Club recently held its 42nd Annual Scholarship Award Dinner at Dunmore Community Center in Dunmore. This is the 72nd year the Dunmore Lions have been serving the community.

Honored with Penn State Scholarships were *Carl Boone* of Dunmore High School, and *Vince Tanana* of Holy Cross High School. Also, honored with monetary gifts were: Dunmore High School Male Scholar/Athlete-*Nico Ruggerio* and Female Scholar/Athlete-*Ciera Toomey*, and Holy Cross High School Male Scholar/Athlete-*Gabe Gonzales* and Female Scholar/Athlete- *Mary McHugh*.

Remarks were made by *Mark Finan*, Dunmore High School's Athletic Director, and *Al Callejas*, Holy Cross High School's Athletic Director. Further, Coaches Longevity Awards were presented to Dunmore's Cross Country Coach *Vince Fedor* for 53 years of service, and Holy Cross High School Basketball Coach *Al Callejas* for 30 years of service.

Presentations of awards were made by Lion President *Sam Sebastianelli Sr.*, while Lion *Gino Tempesta* served as Dinner Chairman and Lion *Michael Colangelo* offered invocation.

Lion *Justin Patchcoski* served as Toastmaster and congratulated all award recipients, "not only for the great honor they are about to receive, but to be at such an exciting time in their life." Further commenting, he added, "I was thinking of a few remarks for this evening and I kept coming back to opportunity and perspective. As recent graduates, you've got the whole world at your fingertips. What an exciting point in your lives! With all the innovation in today's world, I can't imagine what opportunities the next 5 to 20 years will bring."

"Perspective helps us to understand situations from other positions, to consider other beliefs, experiences, and viewpoints. Enjoy the months ahead, maintain perspective and make the most of your opportunities."

Borough earns county grant for Bucktown Musicfest

Dunmore Borough's Bucktown Music Festival is among 20 projects focusing on recreation, public safety, security, utilities, music, and sports which were approved for funding by the Lackawanna County Commissioners through their Community Re-Invest Program totaling \$100,000. The Dunmore festival was granted \$5,000, as were all other recipients.

The Community Re-Invest Program was established in July of 2013. It represents the "last mile" funding to help bring the initiatives to fruition.

Other projects that were approved for the initial round of funding for 2023 include: San Cataldo Club, historic building preservation/renovation; West Scranton Wrestling Alumni Association, training mats; Spring Brook Volunteer Fire Company, lighting and electrical infrastructure upgrades; Vandling Borough, maintenance and rehabilitation of borough building/garage; William Walker Hose Company, Security Lock Entry System Replacement.

Also, Archbald Community Ambulance & Rescue Squad, thermal imaging cameras purchase; Northeastern Philharmonic, Scrantastic Spectacular: Brass & Percussion Ensemble Sponsorship; Eagle Hose Company #1, upgrade personal protective equipment (PPE); Jessup Hose Company #2 Ambulance, Lucas 3 CPR Device purchase; Justus Volunteer Fire Company, upgrade truck bay lighting.

Also, Northeastern Pennsylvania Council, Boy Scouts of America, financial assistance for youth membership; St. Stephen's Booster Club, furnace replacement/energy efficiency update; Olyphant Fire/Police, Uniforms, safety supplies & communication equipment; Mayfield Borough, refurbish playground mulch; Jefferson Township Lions Club, exterior stair replacement; American Ukrainian Veterans, Capital Assistance Project for facility renovations/addition; Blakely/Peckville Crime Watch, Police Department vehicle camera upgrade; Veterans Home Association of Cortez, commercial dishwasher and dining room chairs purchase; Olyphant Hose Company #2, facade improvements.

Projects will continue to be reviewed and funded into the Fall of 2023. Boroughs, municipalities, townships, and nonprofit entities are encouraged to submit applications for projects that are "ready to start" so that the Community Re-Invest Program can help to successfully complete them.

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to
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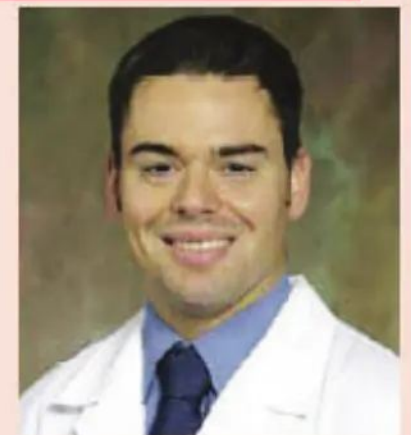


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Doin' Dunmore

With Steve Svetovich



It's like a boutique without the high prices!

Darlene and Danielle Dalessandro had an idea and decided to go for it.

And thanks to a close friend, Judy Cosgrove, from the Green Ridge section of Scranton, the mother-daughter team decided to open up D Marie's Consignments at 108 Potter St., Dunmore, the former location of the Sports Page barber shop..

"People are still coming in to ask if we give haircuts," joked Darlene Dellessandro who owns the consignment shop with her daughter Danielle Dalessandro.

The Dunmore consignment shop opened last month.

Darlene is married to Dr. David Dalessandro, a noted cardiologist who has his own private practice in Plains. The couple has one daughter Danielle, 28, and a son Nick, 31, who works in finance in Philadelphia.

Darlene received a bachelor of science degree in biology in 1986 from the University of Scranton where she met her husband.

D Marie's Consignments specialize in high end women and men's clothes and other accessories such

as shoes, hats, purses, jewelry, belts and other items.

"It's been very nice," Darlene said. "There has been an outpouring of support from this area. So far it's been such a great experience.

"My daughter and I have always been fascinated by the clothing industry. We've been involved with consignments for the past 10 to 15 years. The opportunity came up and we thought it was a great idea. Our friend Judy Cosgrove pushed us and here we are. Judy runs the store for us. We make a great team."

Darlene said D Marie's is also looking to start adding young adult and teenager clothing and accessory items.

"Our consignment shop makes you feel like shopping in a boutique without the high prices. We try to cover everyone. That is the aim of our shop."

Danielle, also the owner of Next Door Real Estate, and her daughter live in Moosic but are quickly adapting to the Dunmore community.

"The Dunmore community has been so great," she said. "All of the Dunmore business owners sent their support and well wishes. And



Shown from left are: Judy Cosgrove, Darlene Dellessandro, and Danielle Dellessandro at their new consignment shop on Potter Street in Dunmore..

so have the customers and clients. "We find ourselves doing the same with them.

"We find the businesses in Dunmore help each other word of mouth. I like the networking. Dunmore is such a nice area. The people in this community are so friendly."

D Marie's is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday from noon to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Darlene was born and raised in central New Jersey before she

attended the University of Scranton. Her husband is from Exeter. The couple currently reside in Moosic.

"I've always loved the clothing industry. Judy Cosgrove is one of the big reasons we opened our store. She has been fabulous and such an asset to our store. She runs it for us. She is by far the best in the business and a wealth of knowledge.

"This is so exciting for us right here in Dunmore. We enjoy it and all the great customers who come in."

THE DUNMOREAN

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T. Jefferson

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The Mayor's Message

By Max Conway



It's hard to believe that summer is here and 2023 is halfway over! As the sun starts to shine and the temperatures heat up, I want to remind everyone of the importance of road safety during these summer months. Dunmore has so much to offer, and it is crucial that we all do our part to make sure our roads remain safe for everyone.

First and foremost, let us remember the significance of buckling up. Seat belts are one of the simplest yet most effective safety measures, and they can save lives in the event of an accident. Regardless of how short the trip may be, please make it a habit to always buckle up.

Additionally, please be mindful of speed limits and follow them faithfully. The Borough has been working diligently to curb speeding, and you may have noticed an increase in speed patrols and additional speed radar signs placed on East Drinker and Electric Street. Speeding not only puts you at risk but also endangers your fellow Dunmoreans.

Speaking of responsible driving...PUT DOWN THE CELL PHONE! No text is more important than getting to your destination safely and ensuring pedestrians and other drivers can do the same!

Another vital aspect of road safety is the use of designated crosswalks and pedestrian paths. With more people walking and biking during the summer months, it is crucial that we remain vigilant and respectful towards our fellow citizens. It is Pennsylvania Law to give pedestrians the right of way and Dunmore PD has been advised to issue tickets to those not obeying the law.

Lastly, but certainly not least, I urge you to never drink and drive. As we celebrate summer parties and enjoy the company of our friends and family, it is important to remember that alcohol and driving never mix. If you plan to drink, arrange for a designated driver, uber, lyft, or make use of the many alternative transportation options available in our area.

Together, we can ensure that every journey taken in Dunmore is a safe one.

Ally, Mollie, and I wish you all a very happy summer!

Munley Law Is Proud to Sponsor the Dunmorean Scholar of the Month

CARSYN COLE

Carsyn Cole, valedictorian of the Class of 2023 at Holy Cross High School, is the July Scholar of the Month.

Daughter of Bob and Donna Cole of Duryea, Carsyn attended Holy Rosary School. She and her family belong to Nativity of Our Lord Parish.

During her high school career, Carsyn has been a member of the Holy Cross Mock Trial Team, Cross Country Team, Track and Field Team, Girls Basketball Team, and Holy Cross Theater Costume Department.

She is also a Junior Leadership Northeast graduate and Senior Advisor; Presidential Service Award recipient, and a National Honor Society member.

Carsyn's academic career will continue at the Frederick Honors College at The University of Pittsburgh where she will pursue a major in Psychology and Biochemistry. Carsyn hopes to pursue a career in Child Psychiatry.

Carsyn's greatest hope for her class-



mates is that they remain grateful for what God has placed in their lives. Gratitude is the first step toward happiness, something with which she hopes her fellow graduates' futures are filled.

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Nicole Morristell, executive director of Leadership Lackawanna received the 2023 Change Makers Awards presented by the Greater Wyoming Valley Chamber of Commerce on June 15. The award was presented at Light up the Valley, held at Public Square Park in Wilkes-Barre. Morristell and 40 community influencers were recognized for their outstanding efforts to make NEPA a brighter place. Through her efforts, Morristell impacts the community by being an advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion; volunteerism and innovation—improving the quality of life in the greater Scranton region.

Dunmoreans on Marywood Dean's List

Marywood University announces Dunmore students named to the Spring 2023 Dean's List from each of its colleges. Students who earn a semester GPA of 3.50-4.00 on 12 or more graded credits merit this academic honor.

Dunmore residents named to the Dean's List from the College of Health and Human Services, as declared by Interim Dean Shelby W. Yeager, M.Ed., LAT, ATC, CSCS, include: Jonah Cogliette, Margaret Davis, Kathleen Kennedy and Alexis Overholtz.

Dunmore residents named to the Dean's

List from the Insalaco College of Arts and Sciences, as declared by Dean Jeffrey Johnson, DMA, include: Max Burke, Caroline Coar, Arianna Costanzi, Emma Eynon, Alyssa Ferrence, Colton Grohs, Jillian Mooney, Lia Schwenk Isabella Watson, and Rachel Zarubski.

Dunmore residents named to the Dean's List from the Reap College of Professional Studies, as declared by Dean James J. Sullivan, M.Arch, RA, AIA, include: Olivia Ciullo, Gianna DiPietro, Frank Golden, Megan Pavlowski, Hunter Robertson, and Haylee Sileo.



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Holy Cross High School announces 4th quarter honor roll

Holy Cross High School has announced its fourth quarter Honor Roll as follows:

12th Grade

Distinguished Honors:

Michael Allardyce, Julianne Barrett, Alicia Bellagamba, Ryan Burda, Samera Burrier, Kaeden Carr, Alec Cherundolo, Corey Cicci, Carsyn Cole, Kayleigh Farrell, Nora Flannery, Ashley Gentile, Jake Grodack, Daniel Haikes, Rylie Heusner, Johnathan Jones, Jacque Kakareka, Norah Kennedy, Aidan Krieger, Manpreet Lahl, Sarah Lyons, Karli Mahasky, Grace Mangan, Giuliana Mazza, Aiden McCoy, Mary McHugh, Shannon O'Malley, Cecelia Otis, Jessica Pavlowski, Alexis Phillips, Ron Prislupski, Katie Romanski, Keith Rowlands, Brielle Scheland, Sadie Shedlauskas, Andrew Smith, Robert Staples, Cassandra Suchecki, Marie Takach, Vincent Tanana, Avianna Voglino, Dante Warhola, Tyler Williams, Katie Wywoda, Alexander Yankowski

Honors:

Kylie Gallagher, Gabriel Gonzales, Sydney Hartland, Evan Hofsommer, Maura Kosek, Christopher Martinez, Mary Katherine Melody, Mary Melnikoff, Connor Rasi-movich, Aidan Romanchick, Cody Schoonover, Gabriel Sczesniak, Joseph Trichilo

11th Grade

Distinguished Honors:

Brandon Art, Connor Art, Isabella Bagnuolo, Anna Bebla, Brooke Bilski, Ryan Boyce, Lily Butler, Eva Carachilo, Abigail Ednock,

Rachel Fay, Nikauri Fernandez, Luke Healey, Journey Horeis, David Huester, Gillian Idhaw, Lillie Kochis, Joseph Lalli, Cecilia Matatics, Giavanna Matrone, Zachary Minich, Aubrey Moase, Lexi Moncinelli, Angelena Montefour, Luke Mozeleski, Benjamin Mulvey, Charles O'Malley, Christopher Petrucci, Everly Prostka, Jenna Robertson, Alison Ross, Connor Straka, Alexander Strausser, Abigail Thompson, Paul Wildermann

Honors:

Hailey Bittencourt, Mya Czankner, Madolyn Murphy, Julia Norella, Scott Ohmnacht, Alyssa Pajalich, Alyssa Resio, Anthony Salina, Alexander Stabinski, Evan Stabinski, Brianna Walz

10th Grade

Distinguished Honors:

Gavin Brennan, Natalie Charles, Trista Chicheletti, Anthony Colonna, Gianna Coroniti, Kyle Cortazar, Olivia DePrato, Isabella Evans, Conor Farrell, Mia Galella, Aayush, Ghale, Brenley Harashinski, Megan Hassaj, Morgan Hembury, Michael Hughes, Makenna Knight, Zachary Kovaleski, Adriyanna Kushner, Calder Lehman, Joshua Lentowski, Emma Luciani, Matthew Lyons, Connor Martin, Katie Martinez, Mario Matrone, Lily Matthews, Chloe Mendicino, Sophia Moffitt, Gavin Monahan, Brayden Moran, Kai Mozeleski, Clinton Muir, Tyler Musso, Elizabeth Myronyuk, Rockne O'Connor, Jacob Paroby, Anthony Piestrak, Hannah Pisarcik, Jacob

Pope, Roger Rossi, Christopher Rotell Tierney, Nicholas Rusinko, Richard Shelp, Ryan Stone, Olivia Strazzeri, Lucas Urban, Nico Warhola, Abigail Waters, Emma Woody,

Honors:

Lucien Bolola, William Boock, Frederick Ceccacci IV, John Elko, Grace Gregorowicz, Elizabeth Lalli, Ashley Lopez, James Mancini, Elizabeth McGlone, Lincoln McIver, Grace Rogers, Nicholas Tunis, Jacob Villano, Juleann Walsh

9th Grade

Distinguished Honors:

Angelica Antonova, Kathryn Apolinario, Natalia Archangeli, Arianna Ayon-Tennyson, James Bordo, Elizabeth Coval, Chloe D'Avella, Grace Donohue, Bridget Fay, Emelia Franceski, Grady Grill, Alexander Harrison, Shelby Hartland, Alyssa Hartman, Margaret Jones, Cameron Kelly, Matthew Kennedy, Savanna Killino, Aidan Lalley, Jael Lema, Alessandra Lynn, Simon Madore, Evan McCoy, Keira McGurgan, Eugene Musto, Elizabeth Myers, Avianna

Natale, Sadie Pappas, Giuseppe Pilone, Claire Polishan, Jamie Prislupski, Madeleine Reynolds, Jacob Roberts, Ava Schmidt, Kayleigh Shelp, Kevin Vincent, Alexa Waltman, Lola Wilding, Drew Wozniak, Ray Zhang

Honors:

Smriti Basnet, Addison Flannery, Joseph Hanley, Noelle Hunter, Daniella Mulonda, Gregg Novak, Jr., Briana Perez, Allison Romanchick, Zander Schaeffer, Robert Wallace

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employee spotlight

Tom DePietro's daughter, Dominica, has been helping out a couple days a week. She is hardworking, eager to learn, and loves meeting all our loyal customers. Stop in and say hi!

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Dunmore's Emma Pasko assisting with ScrantonShakes

Emma Pasko, 19, is a 2022 graduate of Dunmore High School, and now a sophomore at Ithaca College majoring in Television and Digital Media Production and minoring in Live Event Design and Management.

This summer she is acting as Assistant Stage Manager during the summer season of the Scranton Shakespeare Festival.

Emma is working on the main-stage production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, as well as two productions for SSF's Youth Ensemble, *Twelfth Night* and *The Lightning Thief*. The Youth En-

semble, composed of high school students from throughout Northeast Pennsylvania, also presents a cabaret style *Player's Piece* each season.

Although it is her first year working with ScrantonShakes, Emma is no stranger to the organization. Her father, Jason Pasco of Dunmore, introduced her to the local theater organization when she was younger, and she vividly recalls favorite SSF productions such as *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *Hood: The Musical*.

"I grew up with this," Emma points out. In addition, her sister,

Julia Pasco, a recent graduate of New York University who is now looking to begin her theater career in NYC, appeared in SSF productions of *Troilus and Cressida* and *Footloose*, and played the clarinet in its presentation of *Cabaret*.

Emma has also been involved in band, chorus, and theater at Dunmore High School where she worked on *Beehive: The 70s Musical* and *The Wizard of Oz*.

Working on *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* this season feels like a "full circle moment" to Emma. During her sophomore year at Dunmore High, the student company was just days away from presenting the popular musical when it had to be shut down because of COVID.

Inspired by her early experience growing up exposed to the arts—both as an audience member and as a participant in theater camps including Arts Alive!—Emma has been drawn to focus on television and movie production at Ithaca, with an ultimate goal of becoming a director for television or film. She enjoys camera work, audio and lighting.

"My freshman year I felt nervous, wondering if this was a good fit for me" Emma explains. But my first year professors have been wonderful and it's a great environment."

Emma draws support from her family. Her father, who also loves music and concerts, is supportive of her goals. Her family also includes her mother, Pamela Pasco, and her grandparents, Paul and Eugenia Pasco of Dunmore and Joseph and Francine Kalinowski of Olyphant. In addition to Julia, she has two more siblings, Luke and Olivia Perez.

As far as her summer job, Emma says it is dream to work with the



professionals at ScrantonShakes, and she is learning a lot of skills and how to work in a fast-paced environment where the company is doing multiple shows simultaneously.

"I am so grateful for this opportunity to learn in a professional setting, but also to be part of pro-

viding free theater to our area!" Emma says.

NOTE: For listings of show dates and times go to ScrantonShakes.com. Tickets are free, but seats must be reserved in advance at the website.

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Helping to celebrate the retirement of Mary Lou Wascavich, long time Executive Director of the Lackawanna Blind Association (LBA), are Lion President Sam Sebastianelli Sr. and Lion Secretary Jim Colangelo. The event was organized by Lion Mary Regina Perry, who also catered the light luncheon for LBA's clients and staff members. Mary Regina is also a member of the Lackawanna Blind Association. For information on the Lackawanna Blind Association phone 570-342-7613, or email info@lackawannablind.org. Dunmore Lions may be reached at 570-466-5058 or email dunmorelions@gmail.com

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

Lebanese Food Fest

The 22nd annual Lebanese-American Food Fest will be held Aug. 11, 12 and 13 at St. Joseph Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, 130 N. St. Frances Cabrini Avenue (off lower Jackson Street), West Scranton, featuring Lebanese food and pastries, local picnic favorites, and variety baskets.

Hours are Friday and Saturday from 4 to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 7 p.m. Holy Day services will be held daily. Check for the menu in August at melkitescranton.org or on Facebook.

For more information, contact melkite.scranton@gmail.com or call the rectory at 570-343-6092.

Car show, barbecue

Saint Ann Basilica Parish will have its 9th Annual Car Show and Chicken BBQ on the grounds of the Basilica in West Scranton on

Sunday, Aug. 6.

Gates open at 8 a.m. and the show runs from 9 a.m. thru 4 p.m., rain or shine. All vehicles are welcome with pre-registration at \$10 and \$15 on the day of the show.

Chicken BBQ is pre-order only at \$12 each from noon to 4 p.m. For the early birds, breakfast sandwiches will be available for purchase.

To pre-register your vehicle or to pre-order your dinner or for more information, please call the parish rectory at 570-342-5166. All proceeds benefit Saint Ann Basilica Parish.

Animal shelter benefit

Griffin Pond Animal Shelter will host a Homeless Hound Hoedown at The Barn of Glistening Pond, 421 Pine Hills Road, Falls, PA., on July 22, from 5 to 10 pm. This event will have a live band called Jake's Rockin & Country with a

line dance instructor, an open bar, dinner, and raffles.

Come out and support a great cause of dancing, eating, laughing, and socializing. Stop by and say howdy and wear your Western outfits, all for a good cause.

Tickets are \$75 a person. Tickets can be purchased in advance at www.griffinpondanimalshelter.com under the upcoming event tab.

For more information, get in touch with Sherry Crolly, Development Director, at 570-586-3700 ext. 522 or fundraising@griffinpondanimalshelter.com. Complete details are available at www.griffinpondanimalshelter.com.

All proceeds will benefit the shelter's animal medical fund.

St. Eulalia picnic

St. Eulalia's Parish will celebrate its annual Summer Festival on Fri-

day, July 21, and Saturday, July 22, from 5-10 p.m., on its picnic grounds, 214 Blue Shutters Road, Roaring Brook Twp.

The weekend also features the Jerry Mahon 5K Walk/Run on Saturday at 9 a.m.,

The festival includes an array of homemade ethnic foods, such as pizza frita, potato pancakes, haluski, pierogi, porchetta, and sausage and peppers, as well as traditional picnic fare like wimpies, burgers, hot dogs, chicken tenders, and a beer pavilion.

There is also a flea market, Tricky Tray basket raffles, bake sale, and an arts & crafts boutique, as well as kids' games, face painting, pony rides; a 50/50 Summer Cash Raffle, and small games of chance. Entertainment will be offered.

Golf tournament

The North Pocono Public Library (NPPL) has announced Joe Castrogiovanni as the Guest of Honor for its third Annual Golf Tournament on Monday, Aug. 7 at 1p.m. at Elmhurst Country Club, Moscow.

Cochairs, Jim Coles and Ed Steinmetz invited Castrogiovanni to participate to honor his legacy in the North Pocono community while also raising funds for the library.

The presenting sponsor of the tournament is Dr. Lionel Bulford, and Media Partner is WNEP-TV.

For more information, to register to play or be a sponsor, contact Christopher Kelly, Development Director at 570.498.0678 (cell), ckelly@albright.org. Please visit www.lclshome.org/north to learn more about the tournament.

Calligrapher's plan conference

The Calligrapher's Guild of Northeastern Pennsylvania was established in 1980 with five founding members who shared a love of beautiful writing: Melissa Flannery Conway, Sheila Cutler, Rev. James Doyle, Eleanor Kremerand Margaret Towne.

From July 17-23, the guild will host IAMPETH-International Association of Master Penmen, Engrossers and Teachers of Handwriting member conference at The Hilton Scranton & Conference Center. This is an exciting once-in-a-lifetime event for our area.

It brings over 250 participants together for intensive study in the lettering arts to improve their craft, guided by artisan experts. The draw to the Electric City is the special collection of vintage and illuminated documents housed at The University of Scranton's Weinberg Library.

The guild is thrilled to welcome new visitors, showcase our uniquely diverse community, highlight area culture, and create a welcoming pathway to local businesses. Meetings, presentations and workshops are currently held in room 336A, Insalaco Center, Marywood University.

In addition to the conference, the guild will exhibit for the month of September at The Hazleton Art League, 31 W Broad Street, Hazleton. An opening reception will be held on Friday, Sept. 1.

If you wish to join the guild, or have any questions, please email caligraphyNEPA@gmail.com.

O'Connell cancer benefit set at St. Anthony's Park

Friends and family of Sandy and Billy "Okie" O'Connell will host a Summer Benefit on Saturday, July 15, at St. Anthony's Memorial Park, Hill Street, Dunmore, from 2 to 9 p.m. with food, a mega basket raffle, DJ music by the O'Connell's son Keenan, and live music featuring Robbie Walsh and Jack Foley from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Admission is free and the event is BYOB. Proceeds will help lift some of the O'Connell's medical and living expenses while cancer treatments continue. For those unable to attend, donations can be sent to the Billy "Okie" O'Connell Fund, PO Box 196, Dunmore, PA 18512. Make checks payable to "Bill O'Connell Fund."

A GoFundMe account is also available for donations. If you would like to donate a raffle prize for the event, send an email to billyoconnellfundraiser@gmail.com.

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Keystone Chapter UNICO presents Piccolo, Angeline Manci scholarships to local high school students



Keystone Chapter UNICO presented three scholarships, including two Piccolo Scholarships which are awarded to a male and a female graduating high school student athlete of Italian American heritage who is going to pursue higher education. Further requirements include academic achievement, community service, and acceptance to a school of higher education. At the presentation of the Keystone UNICO Piccolo Scholarships were, front row from left: Emma Aversa, Old Forge High School, who will attend Penn State University; Cataldo Talutto, Dunmore High School, who will attend Marywood University, and Piccolo Award chairman Marilyn Vitali. Back row: Piccolo Award committee members Bob Kovatch, Keystone UNICO President Louise Ligi, Ann Summa, and Nanine Gramigna. Missing from photo is Mary Lou Karliak.



Keystone Chapter UNICO recently awarded three scholarships, including the Angeline Manci RN Nursing Scholarship designed for a graduating senior from Dunmore High School whose intent is to pursue a degree in nursing, with a desire to contribute to the nursing profession with compassion, knowledge and care as was exemplified by Angeline Manci. The student must have a B average or higher and have been accepted at a college or university, with plans to obtain a B.S. in nursing and licensure as an R.N. At the presentation of the inaugural scholarship, which is sponsored by the DiVizio and Manci families are, from left: Gene and Toni Manci DiVizio; awardee Maura Sheets of Dunmore High School, who will be attending Bloomsburg University; Maura's mother, Mrs. Shannon Sheets; and Patti Manci.

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Digital mammogram screenings planned at two locations

The Wright Center for Community Health is collaborating with Lackawanna Mobile X-Ray, Inc., to offer convenient mobile digital mammogram screenings at two locations in Lackawanna County.

The 15-minute appointments are available aboard a mobile unit at The Wright Center for Community Health Scranton Practice parking lot, 501 S. Washington Ave., from 9 a.m. to noon on July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 6, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, and Dec. 6.

The Mid Valley Practice parking lot, 5 S. Washington Ave., Jermy, is offering the specialty service from 1:30-4:45 p.m. on July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 6, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, and Dec. 6.

To reserve an appointment, contact Christen Marante, BSN, RN, associate vice president, Value-Based Performance Program, The Wright Center, at 570-591-5225 or marantec@TheWrightCenter.org. Participants are asked to bring insurance cards to their appointment.

"The Wright Center is proud to be able to partner with a longtime community provider of mobile diagnostics services to make life-saving mammograms more accessible to the communities we serve in the region," said Marante.

"Mammograms remain the most effective screening tool used by

health care providers to find breast cancer in most women."

Lackawanna Mobile X-Ray, Inc., is the Mid-Atlantic region's most experienced, full-service mobile diagnostics services provider.

For more than 35 years, its highly trained specialists have been providing a wide range of mobile medical services on-site, including X-rays, EKG exams, ultrasounds, vascular studies, mammograms, and Holter monitors.

A Federally Qualified Health Center Look-Alike, The Wright Center for Community Health's patient-centered medical home is an essential community provider of safety-net primary and preventive health services, a state-designated Opioid Use Disorder Center of Excellence, and a Ryan White HIV/AIDS Clinic.

The Wright Center for Community Health's nine locations in Lackawanna, Luzerne, and Wayne counties include a mobile medical

and dental unit called Driving Better Health that together serve more than 40,000 unique patients annually and ensures everyone in the service area has access to integrated, affordable, high-quality health services regardless of their insurance status, ZIP code, or ability to pay.

For more information about The Wright Center for Community Health, go to TheWrightCenter.org or call 570-230-0019.

McGrath golf tournament set

Registration is open for the fourth annual Harry P. McGrath Memorial Golf Tournament and Dinner Celebration. This year's tournament will take place on Friday, Sept. 15 at Glen Oak Country Club. Event proceeds will benefit Summer Scholars, one of the Greater Scranton YMCA's two Summer Learning Loss Prevention Programs.

The luncheon will begin at 11:30 a.m., with golf at 1 p.m., cocktails at 6 p.m. and the dinner/program at 7:30 p.m.

Harry McGrath was a proud member of the Greater Scranton YMCA. He specialized in education law, advocating for the rights of all students, particularly those with special needs.

The Y's Summer Learning Loss Prevention Program is a six-week program serving rising first and second grade students who are struggling with reading and are attending the Dunmore and Mid Valley School Districts. For more information about the tournament, including sponsorship opportunities and registration, visit the Greater Scranton YMCA online or contact Betsy at (570) 768-6118 or Meghan Carnevale, at mcarnevale@agsymca.org.

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Cheryl's Cuisine

By Cheryl Radkiewicz



As I'm sitting here under a cloudy, rainy sky, I'm wondering if we'll get a real summer this year. By the word "summer" I mean 80-90+ degrees, entertaining outdoors with family and friends, barbecuing and sipping ice-cold drinks, while relaxing and enjoying some "down-time."

One of my favorite summer drinks has always been a Virgin Mary (non-alcoholic Bloody Mary).

In recent years, V-8 has produced a Bloody Mary version of their famed tomato juice, which has all the flavor you would need for this drink. However, it's not always easily available—in fact, the only grocery store in the area which carries it is Giant Market. So, I

usually empty the shelf and store the juice in my food pantry.

If, however, you can't find the Bloody Mary V-8, here's a wonderful recipe to enjoy:

VIRGIN MARY

- 1-48 oz. can or jar of V-8 Tomato Juice or Sacramento Tomato Juice**
- 2 tsp. horseradish**
- ½ tsp. each salt and pepper**
- 1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce**
- 5-6 shakes celery salt**
- 1-2 dashes of Tabasco**
- Lemon wedge**
- 1 Tbsp. Old Bay seasoning**
- ¼ cup Kosher salt**
- Fresh celery stalks**

Cool off with refreshing summer drink recipes!

Prep the glasses by rubbing the rims with a lemon wedge then dip moistened glass rims into a plate containing the kosher salt mixed with Old Bay seasoning. In a large pitcher, mix the V-8 with horseradish, salt, pepper, Worcestershire sauce, celery salt, and Tabasco. May be made in advance. Serve ice cold. Pop celery stalk in each glass.

Note: If using the V-8 Bloody Mary, simply pour the chilled juice in a glass which has been rimmed with the Old Bay-Kosher Salt seasoning. Also, if you prefer Bloody rather than Virgin, use 1/4-1/2 cup vodka.

CHAMPAGNE LIME COOLER

- 1 cup lemon-lime soda**
- 1 cup assorted berries, such as raspberries, blueberries and strawberries**
- 1-6 oz. can frozen limeade concentrate, thawed**
- 1-750 milliliter bottle Champagne or sparkling white wine**
- Mint**

Combine lemon-lime soda, berries and limeade concentrate in a pitcher and stir well. Stir in Champagne gradually. Garnish with mint and serve immediately.

Note: for a non-alcoholic version, substitute sparkling grape juice for the champagne.

SUNNY CHAMPAGNE SIPPER

K.G.B.

- 1 quart pineapple or orange sherbet, softened**
- 4 cups orange juice, chilled**
- 4 cups white grape juice, chilled**
- 1 bottle Champagne, chilled**
- 1-2 oranges, sliced**
- Mint sprigs**

Spread sherbet in ice cube trays or scoop with a melon baller. Refreeze for 8-10 hours. Combine orange juice and grape juice in large container. Add Champagne just before serving and stir gently. Place several sherbet cubes or balls in tall glasses. Add Champagne mixture. Top each serving with an orange slice and/or mint sprig. Serves 10-12.

How about serving these at your next outdoor brunch!!!!

MIMOSAS

- 4 cups orange juice, chilled**
- 1 bottle champagne, chilled**
- 12 whole fresh strawberries**

Combine orange juice and Champagne in large pitcher. Pour into stemmed Champagne or wine glasses. Garnish each with whole strawberry. Serves 12.

- 1 oz. Kahlua**
- 1 oz. Grand Marnier**
- 1 oz. Bailey's Irish Cream**

Fill glass with ice. Build the drink by adding Kahlua first, followed by Grand Marnier and ending with Irish Cream. Makes 1 drink.

TOBLERONE

- 1 tsp. Bailey's Irish Cream**
- ½ oz. Kahlua**
- ½ oz. White Creme de Cacao**
- 1 oz. Frangelico**
- 2 oz. Cream**
- ½ tsp. Honey**

Blend with ice. Can top with onion flakes and a piece of Toblerone Chocolate. Heavenly!!!! Makes 1 drink....However, you'll want to make a pitcher!

BLUSHING BERRY

- 6 oz. milk**
- 2 oz. raspberry cordial**
- 2 oz. cream**
- ½ oz. coconut milk**
- Frozen raspberries**

Blend raspberry cordial, coconut milk, milk and whipped cream with ice. Place frozen raspberries around rim of glass.

Note: Another heavenly drink!

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Fashion show held at Glenmaura



Members of Dunmore's Keystone UNICO supported the Blind Association at its Helen Keller Day Fashion Show at Glenmaura. Seated from left are members and friends of Keystone UNICO: Christine Zike, Cathy Chamoni, Linda Ferrari, Elvira Grasso, Julie Luongo and Valerie Riggi. Standing, same order: Cathy Gerard, Michele McDade, Marie Burke, Anne Martino and Mary Ann Stoppini.



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FNCB announces promotions of staff members

FNCB, locally-based since 1910, has announced the following staff promotions:

Christina Baker, Banking Officer, Community Office Manager II

Christina Baker has been promoted to Banking Officer, Community Office Manager II where she is responsible for strengthening existing relationships and creating new relationships to grow the Bank's deposits and loans to increase branch profitability, all while delivering world class customer service.

Miss Baker joined FNCB Bank in July 2021, where she was Per-

sonal Banker III and most recently Community Office Manager.

Prior to joining the bank, she gained experience as a Universal Banker with Mellon Bank, and as a Head Teller, Retail Branch Assistant, and Loan Officer at Community Bank NA.

She is a graduate of North Pocono High School and has completed Leadership Lackawanna's Leadership Fundamentals 2.0 program.

She resides in Elmhurst Township with her husband Christopher, daughter Victoria, and son Ean.

Debra Burnett, Banking Officer, Human Resources Generalist

Debra Burnett has been pro-

moted to Banking Officer, Human Resources Generalist where she is responsible for coordinating the internal and external staffing process to identify, evaluate, and on-board qualified candidates.

Miss Burnett joined FNCB in 2017 and most recently was a Human Resources Generalist. Prior to joining the bank, she worked for Gentex Corporation and Keystone College.

She is a graduate of Benjamin Franklin High School and Keystone College with an associate degree in business administration and a bachelor's degree in human resources management.

She resides in Carbondale with her husband Richard, and has two children, Nicole and Richard.

Michael Darter, Assistant Vice President, Community Office Manager

Michael Darter has been promoted to Assistant Vice President where he is responsible for strengthening existing relationships and creating new relationships to grow the Bank's deposits and loans to increase branch profitability, all while delivering world class customer service.

Mr. Darter joined FNCB Bank in 2021, and most recently served as Community Office Manager. Prior to joining the bank, he gained twenty years of management experience in mortgage banking and retail banking with different companies including Santander, Citizens Bank, CitiBank (CitiFinancial), First NLC Financial, and Ameritrust Mortgage.

He is a graduate of Freeport High School (NY). He resides in Drums with his son Jacob.

Paula Kashuba, Banking Officer, Community Office Manager II

Paula Kashuba has been promoted to Banking Officer, Community Office Manager II where she is responsible for strengthening exist-

ing relationships and creating new relationships to grow the Bank's deposits and loans to increase branch profitability, all while delivering world class customer service.

In her time with FNCB Bank, she has worked in Customer Care, served as a Customer Service Representative, a Personal Banker, Assistant Community Office Manager, Community Office Manager, and most recently Banking Officer, Community Office Manager II.

She is a graduate of Old Forge High School and attended Marywood University. She completed the Professional Development Program at FNCB and is a graduate of the Leadership Northeast program. She resides in Pittston with her children Geena, Jaime, and Richie.

Christopher Moshinskie, Banking Officer, Community Office Manager II

Christopher Moshinskie has been promoted to Banking Officer, Community Office Manager II where he is responsible for strengthening existing relationships and creating new relationships to grow the Bank's deposits and loans to increase branch profitability, all while delivering world class customer service.

In his time with FNCB Bank, (Please Turn to Page 25)



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Dishin' the Dirt

With Steve Svetovich



Congratulations to recent Holy Cross graduate **Katie Wywoda** presented with LIAA award as most outstanding scholar-athlete in school...A center fielder with .395 batting average on Lady Crusaders softball team, Katie had perfect 4.0 academic average and was vice president of Student Council...

Congratulations to wiry New York Yankees pitcher **Domingo German** who pitched fourth perfect game in team's history and 24th in MLB in 11-0 win over Oakland A's...Yankees veteran catcher **Kyle "Higgy" Higashioka** caught the perfect game...**Don Larson, David Wells** and **David Cone** were the other Yankees pitchers to hurl perfect games...**Yogi Berra, Jorge Posada** and **Joe Girardi** were other Yankees catchers to catch perfect games...

Dunmore freshman **Rachel Walsh**, who recorded 140 strikeouts as pitcher, also hit three homers as hitter for Lady Bucks this past softball season...NBA commissioner **Adam Silver** suspended Memphis Grizzlies star guard **Ja Morant** for 25 games without pay for flashing guns for second time on social media...What will punishment be for a third offense?...Congratulations to **Lindsey Green** who recently opened her shop of simple and pure plant based, zero waste products at The Releafery, 709 East Market St., Green Ridge section of Scranton...Remember **Jim Ross** of Dunmore named Athlete of the Year 20 years ago?...

Condolences to family of **Sam Incavido**, former Dunmore educator and coach, who died last month at 84...Incavido, member of Northeastern Chapter of PA Sports Hall of Fame, was assistant football coach at Dunmore and then golf coach for 33 years...Veteran scribe **David Lewonczyk** still writing about fishing and hunting for local newspapers...He has been turning his passion into newspaper columns for past six decades...Cincinnati Reds rookies **Elly De La Cruz**, **Matt McLain**, **Spencer Steer**, **Will Benson** and pitcher **Andrew Abbott** helped spark team to 12-game winning streak and into first place last month...**Jake "The Rake" Fraley**, **T.J. Friedl**, **Tyler Stephenson**, **Luke Maile**, **Jonathan India**, **Nick Senzel**, **Alexis Diaz**, **Hunter**

Greene, Nick Lodolo and **Stuart Fairchild** are other young members of Reds group who sparked winning streak...And let's not forget veteran **Joey Votto**, 39, who came back from shoulder injury to make season debut and hit three homers in midst of winning streak...

Congratulations to **Cadence Lewis**, key member of Lady Bucks basketball state title team, who was Dunmore High School Valedictorian...**Ayman Mounota** was Salutatorian at Dunmore...Congratulations to **Carsyn Cole**, Valedictorian at Holy Cross High School...**Sarah Lyons** was Salutatorian at Holy Cross...Former Holy Cross and University of Scranton baseball standout **Tony Duchnowski**, now Latin teacher at North Pocono, went 5-for-5 and received game ball in his season debut with Lavelle Insurance in Tri-Valley Baseball League last month...

Congratulations to Green Ridge newlyweds **David and Keira Boyle**, West Scranton graduates, married last month at Saint Patrick's Church...**David Boyle** is West Scranton baseball and basketball product...Congratulations to Mid Valley Lady Spartans, led by all-state player **Maranda Runco**, for winning state softball title...Dunmore basketball cheerleaders raised \$5,000 during Coaches vs. Cancer Week...**Maura Reilly** is basketball cheer moderator for Dunmore...Congratulations to Dunmore's **Cory Domiano** and **Tommy Clark** named to Lackawanna Track Conference Coaches' All-Stars...

Congratulations to **Eva Carachilo** of Holy Cross and **Maura Michalczyk** of Dunmore named to Lackawanna Track Conference Coaches' All-Stars...**Liam Hart** and **Aiden McDonnell** combined on two-hitter to lead Dunmore to 4-2 win over Old Forge in District 17 Little League Major all-star game last month...**Jimmer Mendola** had two hits and two RBIs for Dunmore...**Justin Schuster** had a two-run single...**Luke Dempsey** went 2-for-2 with four RBIs to lead Dunmore to 22-0 win over Old Forge in Dunmore District 17, 9-11 Little League all-star game last month...**Ben Dempsey** and **Brady Schulte** each had two hits and three RBIs for Dunmore...Holy

Cross junior bowler **Mark Ottone** had streak of nine strikes in row and bowled 806 series in Northern Lackawanna Bowling Conference Scholastic League (NLBCSL)...Do you remember **Carl Belz** of Scranton Miners in EBA?...

Condolences to family of **Robert "The Colonel" Yankoski**, at one time one of top body mechanics in area, who died last month at 90...Get well wishes to former Dunmore Councilman **Paul Nardozi** recuperating from hand surgery...Dunmore Lady Bucks state champion **Ciera Toomey** at University of North Carolina getting ready for her first college semester and upcoming basketball season...Dunmore's **Ryan Svetovich** performing as guitarist/vocalist for Rock Royalty Tribute Band Saturday, July 29, from 7 to 10 p.m., at A.J.'s Viaduct Pavilion, Carbondale...Will Miami Marlins second baseman **Luis Arraez** hit .400 this season?...Arraez looks like modern day **Rod Carew** at plate...Do you remember **Sean Pryle**?...Whatever became of **Felix Millan**?...

Do you know an athlete, sportsman, or coach who should be mentioned in Dishin' the Dirt?

Send items for The Dunmorean's Dishin' the Dirt to
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by the last Wednesday of each month

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Photos by Tim Drewes

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Young Luke Dempsey a strong leader for Dunmore Little League All-Stars

By Steve Svetovich

Dunmore Elementary School student Luke Dempsey is proving to be a leader and key member of the Dunmore Little League 11-year-old all-star team.

Luke, who is actually still 10, went 2-for-2 with 4 RBIs to lead Dunmore to a 22-0 win over Old Forge/South Scranton in District 17, 9-11 all-star baseball action Friday, June 23.

He hit two singles driving in two runs on each base hit.

Ben Dempsey, his cousin, and Brady Schulte each had two hits and 3 RBIs for Dunmore.

Adam Grecco allowed only one hit and struck out five to earn the pitching win.

Son of Atty. Mike and Caressa Dempsey, Dunmore, Luke has an older brother, Michael, who is a former Dunmore Little League all-star and currently plays junior high school baseball at Dunmore.

Luke is the first baseman and clean-up hitter for his all-star team.

He talked about what it takes to be a good first baseman. "You need to be able to catch the ball and make a real good stretch," he said. "And you need to talk on the field to your teammates."

A serious and hard-working ball player, Luke had a robust .615 batting average during the regular Little League season. He hit two doubles, a triple and added 20 RBIs.

Hitting is not something he takes for granted. "You become a good hitter with a lot of hard work," he said. "It's also very important to always have fun."

Amazingly, Luke did not strikeout in 40 at bats during the regular Little League season or in the first all-star game.

He plays travel ball for The Sandlot Baseball Academy.

His all-star coaches are Brian McCarthy, Ralph Steeves, and Pat Clark.

"My coaches always teach me to play hard and hustle," he said.

Luke said he has learned a lot from his parents.

"They teach me to have fun and run hard all the time. Run everything out. And no crying.

"There is no crying in baseball."

Polite and earnest, Luke said he enjoyed playing in the first all-star game of the season. "It was very exciting and a lot of fun," he said. "We played under the lights."

Luke said he also enjoys listening to music and likes rap artist "Da Baby."

Luke is 5-1 and bats and throws right.

A contact hitter all the way, Luke said he loves playing baseball and living in Dunmore.

"We have great coaches, great facilities and the best people."



Editor's Note: Luke Dempsey went 3-for-3 with three RBIs to lead Dunmore to a 22-2 win over West Scranton in District 17, 9-11 All-Star baseball action Saturday, July 1.

Brayden McCarthy added three hits, including a double, and two RBIs for Dunmore. Brady Schulte had three hits for Dunmore.

Colin McHale has two hits and two RBIs. Ralph Steeves was winning pitcher.

Pickleball tournament to benefit UCP of NEPA

Summit Slam Pickleball Tournament for UCP of NEPA will be on Saturday, July 22, from 1 to 5 p.m. at Birchwood Tennis and Fitness Center, 105 Edella Rd., Clarks Summit. The event is a non-sanctioned, round-robin tournament of men's, women's, and mixed teams.

Teams will enjoy playing on eight newly-surfaced, indoor Nova® hard pickleball courts. All players will receive an official tournament shirt, player gift bag, bottled water, and a free drink coupon for a beverage from the exclusive event drink menu at the "Clink & Dink Tournament Eve Happy Hour."

The Clink & Dink Tournament Eve Happy Hour will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, July 21, at Andy Gavin's Eatery & Pub, Scranton. This event will include pickle-themed drink specials, food, raffles, and more. Prior to the event, any guest who makes a \$10 donation via UCP of NEPA's website, www.ucpnepa.org, will receive a free drink coupon for an item from the exclusive event drink menu.

There also will be a basket and gift card raffle of prizes from restaurants, businesses, and more located throughout northeastern Pennsylvania. Chances may be purchased at either event or online at <https://ucpnepapickleball.my.canva.site/#home>.

For more information, contact Mrs. Jackie Galvin, director of communications and development, at j.galvin@ucpnepa.org or 570-347-3357, ext. 33.

To register to play or to provide a sponsorship or donation, visit <https://ucpnepapickleball.my.canva.site/#home>. All event proceeds will benefit people with physical, intellectual, and developmental disabilities.

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ATHLETE
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KATIE WYWODA



Katie Wywoda leaves on high note with Lacka. Scholar-Athlete Award

By Steve Svetovich

Recent Holy Cross graduate Katie Wywoda was a shining light for the Lady Crusaders on the softball diamond.

And now she will be chasing her dreams in the fall at the University of Delaware where she will study business analytics/sports management in hopes of becoming a sports analyst.

As a captain of the Holy Cross Lady Crusaders softball team, Katie batted .395, with four doubles, a triple, a homer, 29 runs and 16 RBIs. She had a .487 on base percentage.

Daughter of Georgeann and Pete Wywoda, Katie played center field, but also pitched for Holy Cross.

Katie helped lead Holy Cross to the District 2 Class 2A softball title game, a 2-1 loss to Elk Lake at the University of Scranton.

It was the third consecutive year the Lady Crusaders lost the district title game by one run to Elk Lake.

The stalwart center fielder went 2-for-2 with a double, triple, and three runs scored in the Lady Crusaders 11-8 win over Lakeland in the district semifinal contest.

Teammate Mia Galella went 3-for-3 with a double, homer, 5 RBIs and two runs.

Winning pitcher Ava Schmidt, who came on in relief, had two hits, two runs and an RBI. Chloe Mendicino had two hits and Mia Scalese drove in two runs.

Holy Cross finished the season 14-9 as the district runner up under veteran coach Joe Ross.

Very well-spoken and articulate, Katie talked about the success of the team this past year. "We had great team morale," she said. "This is the major thing with Coach

Ross. It's all about the team, not personal stats."

A three-year starter on the Holy Cross softball team, Katie was the recipient of the LIAA (Lackawanna Interscholastic Athletic Association) Scholar-Athlete Award.

"I was very grateful and very surprised," she said. "Our school has so many fantastic athletes. It's an honor."

The scholar-athlete finished her senior year with a highly impressive 4.0 academic average. Her favorite academic subject is math.

Katie also served as Student Council Vice President and was a member of the National Honor Society. She was a member of the Book Club, History Club and TRU Club. She was a member of the cross country team in her senior year.

The speedy center fielder said she learned so much from coach Ross. "If I had to put it into words," she said, "well, I almost said goodbye to the game. But coach Ross taught me to put the love back into the game. He taught me to appreciate the game. I'm so happy I stuck with it."

"Coach Ross also taught me so much about myself and how to be a great leader. He taught me the game is a privilege and that every time we step on the field as a team, it is an opportunity to make memories with our teammates and have fun with the game we all love."

"As far as his impact goes, words can't describe how much he changed my life. I am forever grateful that I had the opportunity to play for a coach like him."

Polite and humble, Katie played in the 570 Sports all-star softball game Friday, June 30, at Connell Park, Scranton. Katie also honed her skills playing many summers

of travel softball.

Her sister Carly was a standout softball player at Holy Cross and will enter her sophomore year at Mansfield University in the fall.

Katie said it takes strong communication skills to be a good center fielder.

She talked about what it takes to be a good hitter. "I always approach the pitcher with a clear head," she said. "Don't be intimidated no matter how good the pitcher is. Have confidence with every at bat."

Katie said she enjoys listening to music in her spare time and has seen Harry Styles in concert. "He was great. I love him and want to see him again."

The confident aspiring sports analyst said her parents taught her a lot. "They tell me to do what I set my mind to. They never give me less than complete encouragement."

Katie also likes to keep her goals simple. "I want to be happy and successful. Happiness is always important in life."

Intelligent and sincere, Katie described her feelings regarding her years at Holy Cross.

"Having the privilege to attend Holy Cross was one of the best experiences I could ever ask for. From the academics and athletics to the school community itself, Holy Cross gave me so many fantastic opportunities and experiences. I am so grateful to have been a part of a school like Holy Cross."

"Even though I have graduated, I have no doubt in my mind that any member of the faculty, staff, administration, or even the numerous coaching staffs would not hesitate to help me with anything at all. Holy Cross taught me so much and I am so very grateful that I spent four years there."



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Dunmore UNICO hosts National President's Dinner



At Dunmore's Keystone Chapter UNICO National Presidents' Dinner at La Buona Vita, UNICO National PA II District Governor Terri Pettinato installed the new slate of officers and directors. The 2023-2024 Officers and Directors of Keystone Chapter UNICO are, from left: Gloria Rizzo, Marge Ruggiero, James Mack Sr., Cesira Berardelli, Bob Kovatch, Treasurer Mike Gramigna, Joe Ligi, Val Riggi, Nancy Malone, First Vice President Michele McDade; PA II UNICO National District Governor Terri Pettinato, installing officer; Recording Secretary Mark McDade; Board Chairman Louise Ligi; Mary Ann and Frank Coviello, Cathy Bianchi, Cathy Gerard, Nancy Angeloni, Mary Lou Karliak, Second Vice President James Mack Jr.; Sylvia Tagert, Ann Summa, and Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Tagert.



Keystone UNICO Chapter's new members and their sponsors gather with UNICO National Past National President Glenn Pettinato. Shown from left are: Membership Director Ann Summa; sponsors Mark and Michele McDade; inductee Mikhail Barnansky; sponsor Marci Barnansky; inductees Michael Germano and Dawn Germano; Immediate Past Chapter President and sponsor Louise Ligi, and Past National President Glenn Pettinato, inducting officer.



At the Keystone UNICO Installation Dinner are, from left: UNICO National President Dr. Peter Pettinato, installing officer; Michael Gramigna holding the bible for his wife; and Nanine Gramigna taking her oath of office as Keystone Chapter president.

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"THE HART OF THE ISSUE"

By JOHN M. HART, III, Esq.



"Highway Construction Hacks—Mastering the Art of the Zipper Merge"

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Last month, I wrote about road trips, family vacations, and scenic drives during the summer months.

Well, sorry to bore you, but I'm revisiting the topic again, but for different reasons. I'd like to take this opportunity to discuss the "zipper merge."

This past weekend, I took to the highway with my camper in tow and encountered the finest experience PA has to offer... highway construction zones.

While I sat there in standstill traffic—so stagnant that I was able to put the car in park—I started my rant, once again, to my wife about a topic I read about somewhere across the internet a couple of years ago: the zipper merge. I think they might do it in Germany, but don't quote me on that.

Then I suggested to my wife that PennDot should start putting signs up to explain this method, as a way to let others know of its benefits.

My wife said, "Before you get PennDot involved, how about writing about it yourself?" So here we are.

Throughout the past couple of decades of driving, I have found myself guilty of engaging in lane policing or lane straddling. This act involves seeing a "merge left"

or "merge right" sign, some two miles ahead of a lane closure, and merging immediately in hopes of getting through the construction area quickly.

However, for the next two miles, I start to see cars zooming by me in the now open lane. This, of course, infuriates me because I feel like these drivers are cutting the line ("queue-jumping").

As a result, I might slowly move my vehicle towards the center of the two lanes, hoping to prevent more cars from going by. I've seen tractor trailers do this numerous times, even witnessing them getting into the imminent closed lane and driving slowly to stop any and all other cars from zooming by.

But then I read about the zipper merge, and I realized I was wrong all along.

When a lane closure on the highway is imminent, drivers are often unsure of when and where to merge. The 'Zipper Merge' or 'Late Merge' technique offers a beneficial solution to this predicament, compared to the traditional early merge method.

The zipper merge works as its name suggests. Drivers use both lanes of traffic until reaching the point of closure. Then, vehicles

alternate merging from the closing lane into the open one, like the teeth of a zipper.

This is contrary to the early merge method, where drivers move into the open lane at the first sign of a lane closure, leaving a significant portion of the closing lane unused. When you think about it and picture that long stretch of unused road, it makes complete sense. The zipper merge is way better. It provides three key advantages:

Efficiency and Reduced Congestion: When drivers merge early, it often results in a long line of vehicles in one lane, while the closing lane remains largely empty. This not only under-utilizes available road space but can also lead to increased congestion and longer traffic queues.

The zipper merge, on the other hand, capitalizes on the maximum available road capacity, which can help maintain a smoother flow of traffic, reduce the length of traffic queues, and increase overall traffic throughput.

Safety Enhancement: The zipper merge technique promotes safety in several ways. It eliminates the risks associated with erratic, last-minute merges by setting a clear rule of alternating merges at a designated point.

Moreover, by reducing the difference in speed between the two lanes, it minimizes the chance of rear-end and side-swipe collisions, which are common in early merging.

Additionally, by specifying the merging point, it provides predictability and a common understanding among drivers, reducing the likelihood of aggressive driving

behaviors such as lane straddling or preventing others from merging, thereby increasing overall road safety.

Traffic Equity: The zipper merge promotes a sense of fairness and equity among motorists. In the early merge method, drivers who merge ahead of time can feel frustrated when they see others zooming by in the closing lane to merge at the last second. The zipper merge method eliminates this perception of "queue-jumping" as it encourages all drivers to use both lanes until the merge point, with everyone taking turns to merge.

The zipper merge, with its many advantages, certainly seems to be a promising strategy for dealing with

lane closures on highways. It maximizes road utilization, improves traffic flow, enhances safety, and promotes equity among drivers. The key to reaping the benefits of the zipper merge lies in increasing public awareness, understanding, and acceptance of this technique.

So yes, I think the next step is to take this issue to PennDot in hopes that they will invest in driver education and clear signage to promote this effective traffic management tool. But for now, I hope this article has provided some insight to all of you, and hopefully, it will alleviate some frustration that you might experience, like me, when finding yourself in the inevitable PA pastime of highway traffic.



FNCB Bank presented a \$15,000 Pennsylvania Neighborhood Assistance Program/Special Program Priorities (NAP-SPP) donation to the Friendship House for their downtown Scranton building renovation project. The project, which encompasses the Murray Building at 413-415 Biden St. and the Davidow Building at 200-216 Wyoming Ave., when completed, is expected to house substance abuse, mental health and pharmacy services for the community. Shown from left are: Alex J. Hazzouri, Friendship House, president and CEO; Chris Moshinskie, FNCB Bank Scranton Community Office Manager; and Richard Drust, FNCB Bank Senior Vice President, Retail Banking Officer.

DEADLINE

Our deadline for copy is on the final Wednesday of the month for the following issue..

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Marywood's E-Sports team places in second place in nationals



The Marywood Esports Rocket League team is shown from left, including Austin Gagnon, James Marsh, Jack Biggs, Jacob Lutsky, and James Cawley. Marywood secured second place in the nation after the finals match in the NECC's Emergents Division.

The Marywood University Esports Rocket League Team, coached by Austin Sienkiewicz, was among the top-ranked teams in the nation to compete in the Emergents Division of the National Esports Collegiate Conference (NECC) from June 15-17, advancing through the brackets to a best-of-seven finals match with the Cleveland State University Vikings. The Pacers kept the hard-fought series tied going into the final match, ultimately securing second place nationally.

Marywood finished in its regional division (Emergents Central Atlantic) as the #1 seed in Rocket League during the regular season this past semester and attained second place in the regional division playoffs, before going on to compete in nationals.

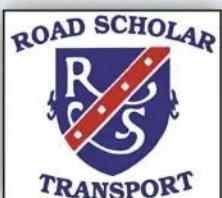
The Rocket League team won all three of its matches without losing a single game in the Nationals Group Stage, and this 3-0 score placed them in the Top 8 bracket. Once reaching the Top 8 bracket, Marywood took a close 3-2 win over St. Ambrose University, and swept New Mexico State University's "Pete" Team in 4-0 fashion.

The final match against Cleveland State University Vikings was tough, with the match coming down to the final moments of game seven. Despite coming short of first place, Marywood will receive a portion of the prize pool for taking second across the nation in the NECC's Emergents Division.

Marywood launched its competitive esports program in Fall 2021. Under the direction of Harley Adler, Marywood's esports program currently features Overwatch, League of Legends, Rocket League, and Super Smash Bros. Ultimate.

In Fall 2023, Valorant will be added, bringing the program's offerings to a total of five teams. Marywood University is one of a select number of higher education institutions nationally to respond to the ever-increasing number of students seeking this option, as the esports industry continues to explode throughout the country.

A viable option for students of all majors, the program is continually recruiting Marywood student players for all games.



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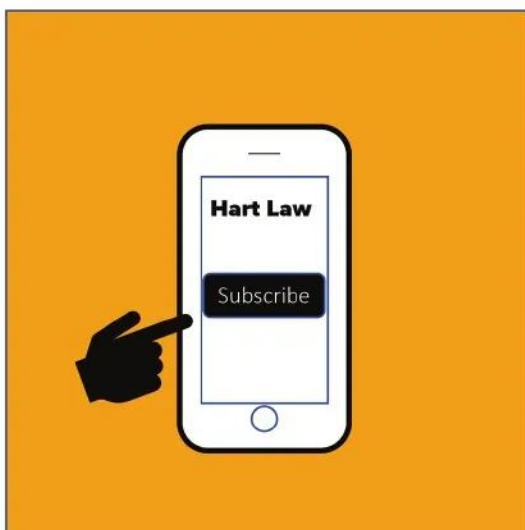
The Women in Philanthropy initiative of the Scranton Area Community Foundation recently awarded a \$4,500 grant to Penn State Scranton during the Women in Philanthropy Quarterly Meeting and Reception held at the Century Club of Scranton. Shown from left: Ryanne Jennings, Women in Philanthropy Supporter; Susan Jeffery, Women in Philanthropy Supporter; Shelly Egan, Principal at Old Forge School District; Dr. Melissa Labuda, Assistant Teaching Professor at Penn State Scranton; Christine Ostroski, Director of Development at Penn State Scranton; Amy Betts, Women in Philanthropy Supporter and Scranton Area Community Foundation's Community Initiatives Manager; Laura Ducceschi, Women in Philanthropy Supporter and President and CEO of the Scranton Area Community Foundation.---See related photos on Page 25.



The Women in Philanthropy initiative of the Scranton Area Community Foundation awarded a \$3,000 grant to St. Joseph's Center during the Women in Philanthropy Quarterly Meeting and Reception held recently at the Century Club of Scranton. Shown from left: Tamara Murray Leety, Women in Philanthropy Supporter; Tamara Hall, Director of Maternity/Family Services at Saint Joseph's Center; and Amy Betts, Women in Philanthropy Supporter and Scranton Area Community Foundation's Community Initiatives Manager.

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- Benjamin Franklin



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Home Matters Day took place during NeighborWorks Week this year, an annual week of service from June 3-10 that showcases the collective ways NeighborWorks members from across the country are able to strengthen communities. Area participants included, from left: Pamela Anslinger, Homeownership & Financial Services Manager, NeighborWorks Northeastern Pennsylvania; Gerard Hetman, Community Development Specialist, NeighborWorks Northeastern Pennsylvania; Mary Endrusick, Aging in Place Manager, NeighborWorks Northeastern Pennsylvania; Lisa Durkin, President & CEO, United Neighborhood Centers of NEPA; Marty Fotta, Vice President of Community Development, United Neighborhood Centers of NEPA.

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JULY SCHEDULE

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MONDAYS: Knitting, 10:30 a.m.; Sketching, noon;

Oil Painting, 1 p.m. (Sponsored by LCAAA)

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS: 11:30 a.m.,

Yoga with Mindy Hill (Sponsored by LCAAA)

WEDNESDAYS: Bingo, 11 a.m.

FRIDAYS: Mahjong, 1 p.m.

COFFEE KLATCH: July 12 & 26 at 1 p.m.

PINOCHLE: July 12 & 26, 1 p.m. (All skill levels welcome)

Summer Picnic St. Anthony's Playground, July 21:

Bingo, 11 a.m.; Lunch at noon

Summer Picnic at the Center July 31:

Lunch at noon.

Entertainment by Doug Smith Dixieland All-Stars, 1 p.m.

Must RSVP for both picnics by calling the Center
(570-207-2662)



The Lackawanna County Commissioners recognized the importance of conservation stewardship by issuing a proclamation for Pollinator Week - June 19 - 25. Pollinator species are vital partners for the food supply, water, timber, wildlife and more. Birds and insects play a significant role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem. The County, through its Conservation District and Environmental Sustainability Office, manage habitats and land development at its parks and community-at-large. Shown from left: Traci Harte, the County's deputy Chief of Staff; Commissioners Jerry Notarianni and Debi Domenick, Jerry Stiles, the County's Conservation District Director; Katie Gray, Watershed Specialist at the Conservation District; Nicole Shapiro, the County's Environmental Sustainability Director; and Commissioner Chris Chermak.



Five students from Marywood University's School of Business and Global Innovation have been selected to participate in the X-Culture Global Business Week in Lublin, Poland, from July 12-19. X-Culture is an international business plan competition in which students compete on teams composed of other students from around the world on real-life projects, set up by companies seeking to enter international markets. Shown from left: Joel DiCarli, Gabrielle Troch, Madison Guelho, Daniel Gomez, Michael Romano, and Dr. Chris Speicher, executive director, School of Business and Global Innovation.



Scranton Counseling Center was honored to accept a donation from NET Credit Union towards the center's Crisis Receiving and Stabilization Unit (CRSU). Standing, from left: Marc Michalowski, NET CIO; Clarence Baltrusaitis, NET CEO; Doug Hein, Scranton Counseling Center Director of Development, and Dr. Sarah Wodder, Scranton Counseling Center President and CEO.

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Women in Philanthropy award grants to transform lives of women, girls

Women in Philanthropy (WIP), the initiative of the Scranton Area Community Foundation that focuses on empowering and transforming the lives of women, girls, and their families in Northeastern Pennsylvania, announced

the recipients from its 2023 grants cycle, awarded after a highly competitive grant process.

A total of \$35,000 in grant funding was awarded to eight local nonprofit organizations during the Women in Philanthropy Quarterly

Meeting held at the Century Club of Scranton.

The recipients included nonprofits Catherine McAuley Center (\$6,000), Outreach Center for Community Resources (\$5,500), United Neighborhood Centers of

NEPA (\$5,000), Center for the Living City (\$4,500), Penn State Scranton (\$4,500), The University of Scranton (\$3,500), Junior Achievement of NEPA (\$3,000), and Saint Joseph's Center (\$3,000), all to support innovative projects and/or programs that work to transform the lives of women or girls across the Northeastern Pennsylvania region.

The grant award recipients and grant amounts were selected by Women in Philanthropy supporters, who had the opportunity to vote after hearing presentations from each of the nonprofit organizations.

The Women in Philanthropy (WIP) initiative is comprised of a group of over 120 supporters committed to transforming the lives of women, girls, and their families in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

WIP engages its supporters in collective decision making to help move women in the region to levels of personal empowerment and economic self-sufficiency. Since

its inception in 2014, WIP has provided over \$130,000 in grant funding to local nonprofit organizations; STEAM education to over 2,000 students in K-12 local public schools; \$25,000 in full 'STEAM Stars' Scholarships to the nationally-recognized Level Up Program at Lackawanna College; loan capital and training support to help launch 15 local women-owned businesses; grant support to 21 women business owners in Lackawanna County facing COVID-19 hardships; a dollar for dollar match to women with low-to-moderate-incomes trying to build a savings; and more.

To date, Women in Philanthropy has raised over \$1.6 million to benefit women, girls, and their families in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Women in Philanthropy is an initiative of the Scranton Area Community Foundation. To learn more about Women in Philanthropy, visit www.supportnepawomen.org.

NOTE: See related photos on Page 22.

FNCB staff promotions....

(Continued from Page 14)

Mr. Moshinski has been an Assistant Community Office Manager, Community Office Manager I, and most recently Community Office Manager II. Prior to joining FNCB, he was a Licensed Banker at Citizens Bank.

He is a graduate of Bay Shore High School (NY) and the University of Phoenix with a bachelor's degree in accounting. He was awarded a certification in the Foundations in Leadership Program, provided through FNCB.

As an active member of the community, he is an assistant coach within the Jessup Youth Sports Association. He resides in Jessup with his wife, Danielle, and children Gianna, Alivia, Logan, and Dominic.



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Pictured at right are the principals and awardees at the High School Choral Competition, including, front row from left: Louise Ligi, president, Keystone UNICO; Ann Manganiello, judge; Gabriella Fueshko and Aidan Casey of The Scranton Knight Rhythms; Matthew Lorenzetti and Belle Desmarais of Mid-Valley Spartan Choir; Hannah Sottile and Nick Roditski of Abington Heights Honors Choir; Toni DiVizio, Event cochair; and Michele McDade, event chairman. Back row are: Tony Nicosia, Stage Director; Peter Noto, Master of Ceremony; Michele Conaboy McGrath, judge; Patrick Hein, Scranton Knight Rhythms Director; Ronelle Barrett, Scranton Knight Rhythms Technical Director, partially hidden; Jonathan Mengoni, Mid-Valley Spartan Choir Director; Dana Boylan, Abington Heights Honors Choir Director; and Erin Malloy, Judge. Absent from photo is event cochair Cathy Van Nort.



The Keystone Chapter UNICO Annual High School Choral Competition was conducted this winter, and this year's first place winner was The Scranton Knight Rhythms who were awarded the competition's plaque and \$500. Honorable mention was awarded to The Abington Heights Honors Choir and The Mid-Valley Spartan Choir, each receiving a plaque and \$250. The Scranton Knight Rhythms also received the Peoples Choice Award. Pictured above are the Scranton Knight Rhythms, First Place Choral Competition Winners. Shown from left are: Tony Nicosia, Stage Director; Peter Noto, Master of Ceremony; Toni DiVizio, event Co-chair; Patrick Hein, Choral Director; Aidan Casey and Gabriella Fueshko, student choir representatives; Ronelle Barrett, Technical Director, and Michele McDade, Event Chairman.



Looking back at UNICO's high school choral competition



Pictured above are the Abington Heights Honors Choir, Honorable Mention Choral Competition winners. From left are Michele McDade, Event Chairman; Toni DiVizio, cochair; Hannah Sottile, Student Representative; Dana Boylan, Choral Director, and Nick Roditski, Student Representative.



Pictured above are the Mid-Valley Spartan Choir, Honorable Mention Competition Winners. From left are Michele McDade, Event Chairman; Toni DiVizio, Event Co-chair; Belle Desmarais and Matthew Lorenzetti, Student Representatives; and Jonathan Mengoni, Choral Director.



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Dunmore's Keystone Chapter UNICO inducted two new members at its monthly meeting at Arcaro and Genell, Old Forge. Pictured from left are past UNICO National president Glenn Pettinato; new member Sienna Delfino; sponsor Cesira Berardelli; Keystone UNICO President Louise Ligi; past UNICO National membership director Mark McDade; new member Anthony Betti; sponsor Gregg Betti; and inducing officer PA II District Governor UNICO National Terri Pettinato.

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