

Dunmorean of the Month

IN MEMORIUM

WAYNE SMITH



Wayne G. Smith, 70, a legend in the high school band community, died peacefully last month after a lengthy illness.

He was the son of the late George C. Smith and Lois Polcha Smith. A lifelong resident of Elmhurst Twp. he was a 1971 graduate of North Pocono High School, and a 1975 graduate of Mansfield State College, where he met his wife, Kathie, who also became a music teacher.

Smith served as a beloved band director for the Dunmore School District beginning in 1976, first as assistant band director before taking over the top job in 1981. At Dunmore, he influenced the lives of countless students who continued to remain in his life as friends and colleagues..

He taught fourth grade beginner band right up through high school band for much of his career. This meant that his students had him as their teacher for up to eight years, during which he took an interest in everyone's success, whether it was in music or something else.

After his retirement in 2011, he became an assistant for performance music at the University of Scranton, and he continued to play in various ensembles throughout his music career. His legacy remains

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Dignitaries attending the groundbreaking ceremony for Bucktown Center included, from left: James Caffrey, UNCDC Board Chair; Jude McDonough, UNC Board Chair; State Senator Marty Flynn, 22nd Senatorial District; Pennsylvania Secretary of Aging Jason Kavulich; Lackawanna County Commissioner Chris Chermak; State Representative Kyle Mullins, 112th District; Lisa Durkin, UNC President and CEO; Lackawanna County Commissioner Bill Gaughan; Dunmore Mayor Max Conway; Robert C. Grimm, Grimm Construction; Michael Kelly, President of Senior Health Care Solutions, LLC, and Martin Fotta, UNC Chief Operating Officer.

Groundbreaking held for new Bucktown Center for seniors

United Neighborhood Community Development Corporation (UN-CDC), the nonprofit housing and economic development subsidiary of United Neighborhood Centers of Northeastern Pennsylvania (UNC), held a groundbreaking ceremony on a new 40-unit senior apartment community on March 15.

The newly-constructed, four-story apartment building, spanning approximately 46,000 square feet, will be situated at 222 East Drinker Street, at the corner of South Apple Street, in the heart of Dunmore.

Known as Bucktown Center, this development aims to address the critical need for quality affordable housing for individuals aged 62 and above in Northeastern Pennsylvania, while also providing brand-new, desirable commercial space.

The event honored developer Robert C. Grimm of Grimm Con-

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Dunmore Mayor Max Conway addresses those attending the groundbreaking for the new Bucktown Center.

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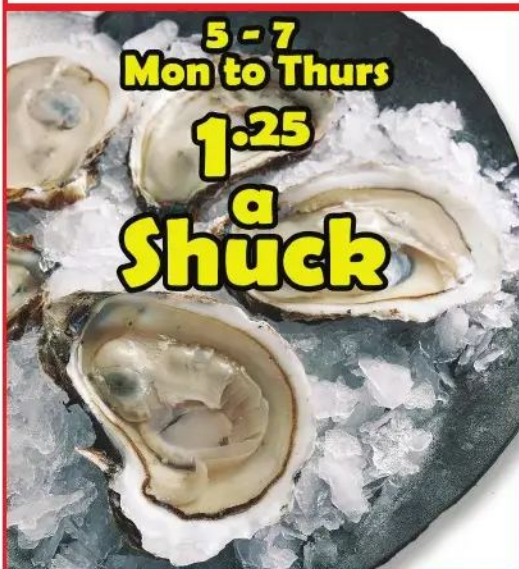
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Dunmorean of the Month

(Continued from Page 1)

strongest, however, as a music teacher, a role he filled with enthusiasm and dedication.

A former student, Karen Loessy Brown, who graduated from DHS in 2003, recalls, "Music is an outlet for students to gain confidence and come to express themselves. He provided a thriving and fun environment for students to learn about their own strengths and weaknesses and grow into themselves. Many students made friendships in band that have lasted a lifetime."

Along with that camaraderie, came trips to New York City to see shows, performance trips up and down the East Coast— from Boston to Disney World—and countless local parades.

Mrs. Brown notes, "His goal was not necessarily to make his students the best musicians, but the best people. For many, band was where they learned discipline, consistency, the results of practice and hard work, pride in their work, and the importance of another of Mr. Smith's favorite quotes: 'To Be Early is to Be On Time, to Be On Time is to Be Late, and to Be Late is Not To Be'."

Mr. Smith himself once said about teaching, "I feed on it. I thrive on it. I just love watching kids be happy. It's fun setting goals and then watching as they achieve them."

Along with his students, Smith was deeply admired by his fellow teachers and area band directors. He was considered the "patriarch" of band directors.

Smith certainly was able to relate to his students. He was in the marching band himself at North Pocono High School, and grew up playing percussion, horn and saxophone, and then focused on baritone horn while at Mansfield.

Karen Brown has so many recollections of his influence, including one of his favorite sayings; *Keep the Momentum*. "Generally, this was a reminder to us to take whatever progress we made and keep building on it," she explains. "Wayne will be remembered as someone who was always willing to lend an ear and provide encouragement," she says. "Simply put, he put his students first."

Wayne is survived by his wife, Kathleen Sears Smith, who he married in 1975. They were blessed with three children, son, Cory (Annaliza) and their children, Alessandra, Benjamin, Charles and Elena; son, Mark (Erin) and their children, Nathan, Cassidy, Colin, Andrew and William; and his daughter, Meghan.

Smith loved spending time with his grandchildren and could be seen encouraging them at their sporting events, music concerts, and dance recitals. Dedicated to his community, he was a member of Elmhurst - Roaring Brook Fire Company, where he served in many capacities including fire chief. He could be seen every year running the kitchen at the annual fireman's picnic.

An outdoor enthusiast, he was often spotted hiking the local trails and playing the links at Elmhurst Country Club and other courses with his

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McGrath family presents \$18,000 donation to YMCA

The McGrath family presented the Greater Scranton YMCA with an \$18,000 donation on March 18, which represents proceeds from the fourth annual Harry P. McGrath Memorial Golf Tournament held at Glen Oak Country Club.

Tournament proceeds will support the Greater Scranton YMCA's Summer Learning Loss Prevention Program, Summer Scholars. Summer Scholars is a free research-based and research-proven six-week summer learning program. The goal of the program is to get elementary students on track to read at or above grade level by the start of their next school year. In summer 2024, the program will serve rising first, second and third grade students attending the Dunmore and Mid Valley School Districts. Participants' days consist of 2.5 hours of literacy in the morning followed by lunch and enrichment in the afternoon. Enrichment activities include field trips, as well as trips to the Greater Scranton YMCA for use of the pools. The program is instructed by certified teachers and YMCA staff.

"We are happy to provide support to the Y's Summer Scholars program," said Betsy McGrath Ardizoni, Board Member, Greater Scranton YMCA, and daughter of the late Harry P. McGrath, Esq. "Our dad believed in the importance of children receiving the necessary tools to succeed in school, and this program does just that."

"The Greater Scranton YMCA is so grateful to the McGrath family for their continued support of our YMCA and our Summer Scholars Program," said Trish Fisher, President & CEO, Greater Scranton YMCA.

"The generosity of tournament participants and sponsors continues to amaze us. This funding makes such an impact on the lives of the children benefiting from Summer Scholars and supports our mission of keeping the program free for families."

The Scranton Area Community Foundation administers the Harry P. McGrath, Esq. Memorial Fund, established in May 2022, by Harry's family to support the charitable causes and organizations important to him including the Greater Scranton YMCA's Summer Loss Prevention Program. For more information about Summer Scholars, contact Helen Cruser, Education Director, at hcruser@gsymca.org. For information about the Harry P. McGrath Memorial Golf Tournament, contact Betsy McGrath Ardizoni at ecm0588@gmail.com.



The McGrath family presented the Greater Scranton YMCA with an \$18,000 donation on March 18, which represents proceeds from the fourth annual Harry P. McGrath Memorial Golf Tournament held at Glen Oak Country Club. Tournament proceeds will support the Greater Scranton YMCA's Summer Learning Loss Prevention Program, Summer Scholars. Shown from left are the presentation are: Rich Surridge, CFO/COO, Greater Scranton YMCA; Meghan Carnevale, Mission Advancement & Marketing Director, Greater Scranton YMCA, and Trish Fisher, President & CEO, Greater Scranton YMCA. Harry McGrath's grandchildren are, from left: Jack McGrath, Faye McGrath, Harry McGrath, Ella McGrath, Michael McGrath, Gaetano Arfdizoni, Meave McGrath Ardizoni, and Posie McGrath.



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By Steve Svetovich

Previously known as "Doin' Dunmore"

Dunmore's Pat Savage loving his life with We the Living

There are some people who put their minds on something and go right after it.

It's a way of looking at the bottle as half full, rather than half empty.

Take Dunmore's multi-faceted Pat Salvage, for instance. Salvage, a talented, energetic vocalist and bass guitarist, will perform with "We the Living" Saturday, April 20, from 7 to 10 p.m., at the Honky Tonk, 763 E. Drinker St., Dunmore.

Salvage, 63, was always a highly energized, rambunctious sort. He has a mind that can go in all different directions.

A 1979 graduate of Bishop O'Hara High School, Salvage went on to receive a degree in mechanical drafting from what was then known as Johnson College in North Scranton. He is a draftsman for Pleasant Mount Welding, Carbondale.

A football player in high school, he also played one year of football at Widener University.

Salvage in his young, wayward years developed a problem with alcohol, but came to the realization he had an addiction and conquered it. He has been sober since Dec. 17, 1998.

"Not everyone who takes a drink is an alcoholic," he said. "Not everyone who gets drunk now and then is an alcoholic. Some can handle it and others can't. I accepted that I could not handle it. I went for rehab at Marworth, got better, and haven't had a drink since."

"Beating my addiction enabled me to see that I could do anything I wanted to do as long as I'm willing to pay the price. And everything has a price. I focus on being the best person I can be each day and continue to grow as a person. I feel I can do anything I set out to do."

His long time significant other/girlfriend is Suzanne Perry who he credits for plenty of support.

And Salvage put his mind to becoming the best possible version of

himself. Number one, he is a proud family man and father of his son Jeremy, 42, and two daughters Jessica, 35, and Kimberly, 34.

Highly-focused and prolific, Salvage put his mind into becoming a dedicated college softball umpire and football referee.

As a softball umpire for the past 21 years, he worked his way up the ranks from Division III to Division I games. He served as Umpire in Chief for District 16 softball.

But it was his passion for music that he spent countless hours perfecting.

"I got my first taste of music in elementary school," he said. "I learned the basics of guitar from the nuns at Saint Paul's in Green Ridge."

"I played a little bass in the 1980's and was a roadie for some rock bands. I decided to go back to the bass guitar in 2011. I wondered if I could do it. But I put my mind to it."

"I practiced thousands and thousands of hours in the garage. I took lessons from Chris Capozza at the Scranton Music Academy in Keyser Oak. I practiced until I perfected it."

"I played my first gig a few years ago with the band, 'Delta Thunder,' before 2,500 people for the Valley with a Heart Benefit in Nanticoke. It was a true test with 2,500 people there, but it was a success."

I also later played for the 'Blue Emerald Band' out of Hawley, New Jersey and Northeast PA, as well as 10 shows for 'Street Survivors,' a Lynyrd Skynyrd Tribute Band from Rhode Island. We had a blast."

The hard-driving musician



Pat Salvage

also was a backup bass player for two other Lynyrd Skynyrd Tribute Bands.

Salvage joined his current band, "We the Living," in February of 2022 after answering a Facebook ad. "It's a great group of highly talented musicians," he said. "We are like family already. I consider them my very close friends."

The group includes Salvage on bass guitar and vocals; Marie Maroun as lead vocalist and rhythm and acoustic guitar; Kevin H. Brown on drums, and Tracie Ling on lead guitar.

"We play classic rock with a focus on the 90's," Salvage said. "We go from White Rabbit to Maroon 5. It's quite a mix."

The group also performs the music of Tom Petty, David Bowie, Led Zeppelin, No Doubt, Lynyrd Skynyrd, and The Counting Crows.

"We the Living" have developed quite a local following and perform

five or six times a month. The group has made several appearances at the Honky Tonk in Dunmore and often perform at Drafts in Lake Ariel.

Maroun, the lead vocalist and rhythm and acoustic guitar player, talked about the band's chemistry.

"The chemistry between band members is like magic," she said. "We all meshed together and became a little (sometimes dysfunctional) family over the years. I wouldn't want to share the stage with anyone else."

"And Pat is one of the best people I ever met. He's a friend for life now. He's a really good person."

She explained the band's name. "We the Living is the title of a book by my favorite philosopher. Tracie, our lead guitarist, introduced me to Ayn Rand and it completely changed my way of thinking. So the name of the band is a homage to her."



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- Thomas Jefferson, 1787

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Saint Joe's Center taking donations for Sidewalk Sale

By Steve Svetovich

Saint Joseph's Center is accepting donations for its annual sidewalk sale which will be held Saturday, May 18, from 8 a.m. to noon, at the DeNaples Building, 320 South Blakely Street, Dunmore, near Riccardo's Market.

Jeannie Kreis McDonald, a committee member for the fifth annual event, said donations will be accepted every Saturday this month and also May 4, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the DeNaples Building, 320 South Blakely Street on the Pine Street side, Dunmore.

The donations were also accepted at the same location this past Saturday, March 30.

After these dates, donations will be accepted by calling Jeannie at 570-335-7150 for arrangements and drop off at the front door at the DeNaples Building.

Donations for the annual Sidewalk Sale can include small furniture and new or gently used housewares, jewelry, home accents/decor, purses, lamps, holiday decorations, tools, toys, books and DVDs. No clothes or large furniture will be accepted.

Other committee members of the St. Joseph's Center Auxiliary for this event include Ann Hinton, Joanne Teevan, Cindy Hoban, Marilynn O'Bell, Jan Needham, Cathy Refice, Sharon Mulherin, Debbie Walton, Trish McDonough and Debbie May.

"We will be collecting donations every Saturday in April from 9 a.m. to noon," said McDonald.

"All of the proceeds will go to support programs at Saint Joseph's



Sidewalk Sale volunteers working to help St. Joseph's Center are, first row, from left: Leslie Corby 2024 Auxiliary Co-chair; Jeannie McDonald, Linda Breslin 2024 Auxiliary Co-chair, and MaryLynn O'Bell. Second row, same order: Jan Needham, Cathy Refice, Debbie Walton, Sharon Mulherin and Cindy Hoban.

Center in Dunmore.

"Last year we raised about \$31,000 for the entire year from two Sidewalk Sales, the annual Saint Joseph's Festival, and the Market Place.

"The annual Sidewalk Sale will be Saturday, May 18, from 8 a.m. until noon, at the same location we are accepting donations.

"We stress that the donated items should be gently used. That includes costume jewelry, tools, small furniture, gently used housewares and home decor, children's toys and books from 2020 on.

"It's a fun event that we look forward to every year. There is something for everybody.

"Remember if you can't sell it, then we probably can't either. We are very grateful for whatever we get. We are grateful for all of the donations and for everyone who volunteers to help out.

"It's all for a very good cause. It certainly helps out the various programs at Saint Joseph's Center. We are looking forward to another successful and fun event. We appreciate any help we get. Every little donation helps."

Dunmore Penn State students volunteer with THON fundraiser



Former Dunmore students who attend Penn State in State College and work on THON committees are shown in front row, from left: Chloe Ondek, Jacklyn Marichak, Molly Zimmer and Gemma Longo. Back row, same order: Colby Murray, Aden King, Hope Blasko and Jeffrey Walsh. THON, the largest student-run philanthropy in the world, raised nearly 17 million dollars to enhance the lives of children and families impacted with childhood cancer. Proceeds from the 46-hour dance marathon provide emotional and financial support, spread awareness, and ensure funding for critical research in the pursuit of a cure.



The 2024 newly-elected VNA Home Health Board of Directors for 2024 include, from left: Jeff Skrilow, vice president; Carl Tomaine, president; Robert Hudak, assistant secretary/treasurer; Robert Redgil, treasurer, and George Sheypuk, secretary.



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Cooper's Seafood House makes donation to River Association



Cooper's Seafood House presented a donation check of \$2,620.00 to the Lackawanna River Conservation Association, which was made possible thanks to patrons' support during the National Chowder Day fundraiser where the restaurant donated 100% of its chowder sales to the LRCA. Pictured in front row, from left: Stacy Cognetti and, Joyce Hatala, LRCA Board Members, Tara B. Jones, LRCA Executive Director; Missy Welshko-Williams, LRCA Program Manager, and Sara McDonald, LRCA Board Member. Back row, same order: Paul Cooper, Ryan Cooper, Jesse Cooper, Steve Cooper, Paul Davis, LRCA Board President; Jack Cooper, and Ray Ceccotti, LRCA Board Members.



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Many activities supporting Jog for Jude on April 20



Last year the Jog for Jude race was cancelled minutes before start time due to bad weather. While that was a crushing disappointment for founders and participants, this year's event on April 20 marks a huge comeback, including a Race To a Million. After ten years, the Jude Zayac Foundation is on pace to hit a million dollars in donations. Make sure to register and help reach the MILLI CLUB and help [#stompoutSIDS](https://www.instagram.com/stompoutSIDS). Go to Runsignup.com/jogforjude



Above and below: The Dunmore Service club recently raised 300 dollars by selling pink and blue bracelet to support the Jude Zayac Foundation. The annual Jog for Jude event will be held on April 20.

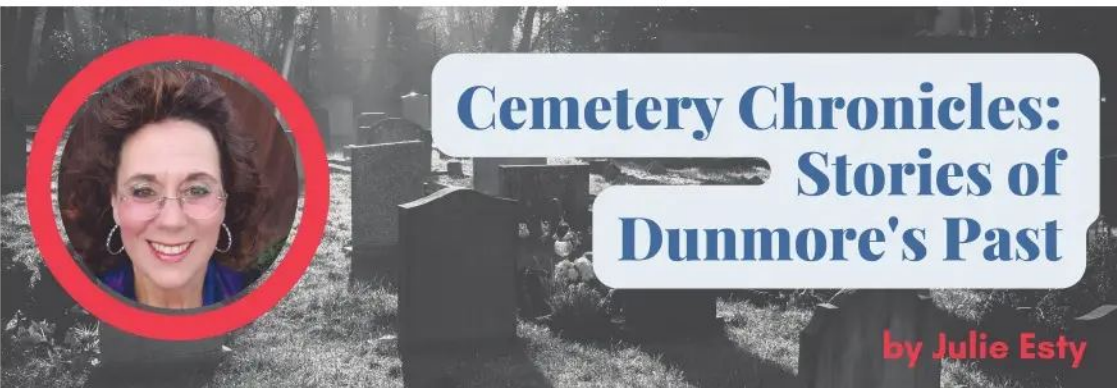


Jumpin' Jeff Walker from 98.5 KRZ visited the Dunmore Elementary Center to promote Jog for Jude, which will take place on Saturday, April 20. Pictured are Jumpin Jeff Walker, Greg Zayac, and students from the Dunmore Elementary Center showing their support for Jog for Jude.



BELOW: Teachers at Whittier Elementary School in Scranton dressed to support Pink and Blue Day for the Jog for Jude foundation.





Charles E. Hamilton pursued renowned theatrical career

"All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances, and one man in his time plays many parts."

From the 1870's to 1930's theatrical productions were a staple of life in the Lackawanna Valley.

Offering a brief respite to life lived in the shadow of the mills and mines, theatricals were often performed before packed houses. Before the advent of modern advertising techniques, these shows were publicized by the posting of "bills" promoting future events.

One man, buried in the Dunmore Cemetery, devoted over four decades to advertising and publicity of stage shows throughout the region.

Wilkes-Barre born Charles E. Hamilton began his theatrical career in his teenage years traveling with P.T. Barnum's Circus. Following his time with the circus, Hamilton returned briefly to Wilkes Barre and worked in a variety of positions ranging from chief stage carpenter to bill poster in the local theaters.

By the late 1880's Hamilton again traveled the country with burlesque shows. Returning to Scranton in the 1890's he worked for Frothingham's Theater in Scranton as an advertising agent and treasurer. Before the close



of 1895 he was employed by the Jacques Theater in Waterbury, Connecticut, as an advertising agent and treasurer.

The following year Hamilton was the advertising agent for the Wallingford Opera House in Wallingford, Connecticut.

At the start of the Spanish American War, Hamilton returned to Scranton and mustered into military service in April 1898 with Company B of the 13th Pennsylvania National Guard. He mustered out with the unit in March 1899. Following his military service he was affiliated with the General Gobin Camp, United Spanish American War Veterans for the remainder of his life.

After the war, Hamilton returned to the theaters of the Lackawanna Valley. He acted in a variety of man-

agerial and advertising positions for several local theaters. He also worked as an advertising agent for various theatrical and minstrel acts that were traveling the country at the time.

In 1906 his experience with advertising took him in a new direction. With the organization of the National Alliance of Bill Posters and Billers Local 39 in Scranton, Hamilton was selected as Treasurer of the Local. Similar to his theatrical career,

Hamilton worked his way through the ranks of this Union. In 1912 he attained the position of Vice President of the International Alliance of Bill Posters and Billers of America.

During his career Hamilton worked with some of the great thespians and performers of the time.

He counted theater magnate Sylvester Poli, William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill), Marie Wainwright, Edwin Booth, Lawrence Barrett, Robert Mantell, John Drew, John McCullough, Lillian Russell, and George M. Cohan as coworkers. He also considered many of them friends.

In October 1927, Hamilton was stricken ill. He died on November 8 of acute endocarditis. He was buried with military honors in Section 17, Spanish American War section of the Dunmore Cemetery.



Charles E. Hamilton's gravestone at Dunmore Cemetery looks like it is being consumed by a tree. Columnist Julie Esty says she likes it though -- "Like with our cemetery tours, it shows that you don't need to have a big mausoleum or a big name to have done cool things in life and played an important part of this valley."

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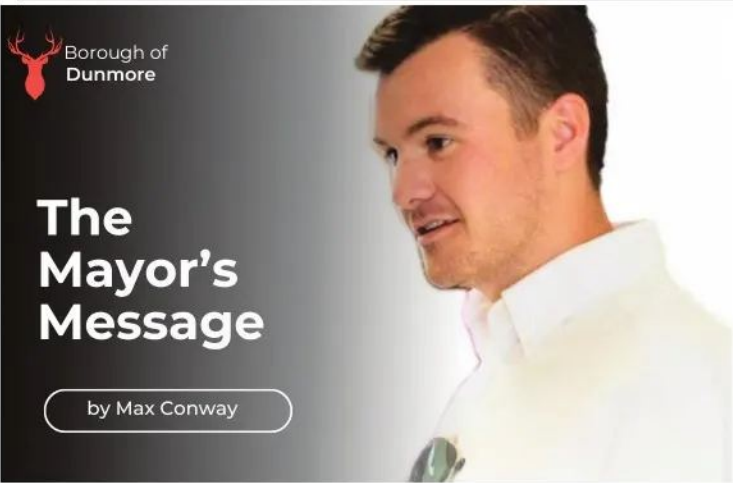
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The Mayor's Message

by Max Conway



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Dunmore Police Department receives grant of \$50,000 for body-worn cameras

I am proud to report that after several months of work, the Dunmore Police Department has received the good news that it was the recipient of a grant for \$50,000 to purchase body-worn cameras.

We would like to thank Representative Kyle Mullins for his critical assistance in obtaining this grant and Governor Josh Shapiro's Office of Community and Economic Development for reviewing and approving the grant.

The Dunmore Police Department is among the few departments in Northeastern PA that currently do not utilize body-worn cameras. When we were looking at how we could improve the department, we determined that body-worn cameras would benefit the department in many ways.

We recognize the role that body cameras play in transparency and accountability within our community. By enhancing public trust and officer accountability, these cameras will contribute to a safer and more accountable policing environment in Dunmore.

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Bridge Building Contest



Dunmore Junior/Senior High School STEM students Conor Roberts, Oum Patel and Giulietta Escobar competed in the Northeast Regional Bridge Building Competition at North Pocono High School on March 16. Conor placed first, with an efficiency of 1617.76 and second place in the architectural excellence category. Giulietta placed third, with an efficiency of 634.10, and Oum placed fifth, with an efficiency of 583.33. Conor will compete in the International Bridge Building Competition in New Philadelphia, Ohio, on April 27.



Conor Roberts, a STEM student at DHS Junior/Senior High School is shown receiving his second place certificate in the architectural excellence category. He also placed first in the Northeast Regional Bridge Building Competition and will compete in the International Bridge Building Competition in New Philadelphia, Ohio, on April 27.

Dunmore students shine



Congratulations to Dunmore High School students who were inducted into the National Honor Society in March. Senior NHS officers did a great job speaking and running the ceremony. Megan Gaynord served as our speaker. Mrs. Maura Irving and Mrs. Christy Hinton were organizers for the event.



Congratulations to our Students of the Month for February, including Irelyn Stets, 7th grade; Angelita Cantarella, 8th grade; Jacob Costanzo, 9th grade; Mya Harry, 10th grade; Cullen McCarthy, 11th grade, and Allison Dempsey, 12th grade. Buck Pride!

66th annual Holy Name Society Communion Breakfast held at SS. Anthony & Rocco's Parish



SS. Anthony and Rocco Parish Holy Name Society, Dunmore held its 66th Annual Communion Breakfast on Sunday, February 18, at La Buona Vita. The day began with 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Anthony of Padua Church. Principal speaker for the breakfast was David Hawk, shown above.



The breakfast is a yearly tradition of the Holy Name Society at the SS. Anthony and Rocco parish, drawing a large attendance. The breakfast speakers and committee included, seated from left: Carlo Pisa, cochairman; Rick Sabato, general chairman; Lou Ingargiola, Father Stephen Brenyah, assistant pastor; Bob McCormack, president, who gave opening remarks, and David Hawk, principal speaker. Back, same order: Father Cappelloni, pastor, and Lou DiMattio. Not shown is Alfredo Pisa, cochairman.



Mass before the 66th Communion Breakfast was celebrated by the Reverend David P. Cappelloni, pastor, with music provided by the parish choir under the direction of Joseph Moffitt. Lou DiMattio, left, was presented with the society's Pio M. Ferrario Christian Witness Award by Father Cappelloni, shown at right.



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Cheryl's
CUISINE

BY CHERYL RADKIEWICZ



Raise your hand if you have any leftover ham from Easter!

This seems to be an annual dilemma. I'm always hunting for some new ways to "reinvent" or "repurpose" these leftovers.

So, we're starting with two soups, one from my grandmother, which we prepare annually for the homebound in my brother's parish, where it has become a favorite. You'll be surprised by one of the ingredients, which takes the soup to a whole new level.

GRANDMA SEMPA'S HAM AND CABBAGE SOUP

Leftover ham, chunked
Ham bone

Ham soup base and seasoning
1 head cabbage sliced
Splash of vinegar
Water
Pepper, to taste
1 can pork and beans (14 oz.)

Put ham and ham bone in soup pot. Cover with cold water. Simmer ham and bone until heated through and water has ham flavoring. Note: you may have to add some ham soup base (I do), but be careful as it can become too salty. Then add sliced cabbage with a splash of vinegar (not much). Cook until cabbage is tender. Add 1 can flavored pork and beans (I usually use the maple flavored). Stir until combined. Simmer about 20 minutes more.

What to do with that leftover Easter ham?

WHITE BEAN SOUP WITH HAM AND CHEDDAR

4 Tbsp. olive oil
1 cup diced carrots
1 cup diced celery
1 ½ cups diced onion
Ham bone and ham trimmings
1 cup white wine
4 quarts chicken stock
8 cups cooked and drained Great Northern beans
3-4 cups milk
Salt and pepper, to taste
3 oz. cheddar cheese, diced or grated
Ham, chunked
Cheesecloth bag (sachet) tied with sprigs of thyme, bay leaf and 1 Tbsp. white peppercorns

In 8 quart soup pot, cook carrots, celery and onion with ham scraps in olive oil until tender. Add white wine and reduce by half. Add chicken stock and seasoning bag. Bring to simmer skimming fat and impurities that rise to the top.

Cook beans according to package directions. Add beans and simmer for 30-45 minutes more. Remove sachet and ham bone and blend soup in blender or processor until smooth. Bring back to simmer; add milk until desired consistency is achieved. Taste for seasoning.

To serve, place cheddar cheese

in bottom of bowls. Ladle hot soup over and serve. Makes 8-10 servings.

BEST HAM & CHEESE SOUFFLE'

16 slices white bread, crusts trimmed, cubed
Leftover ham, cubed
4 cups cubed sharp Cheddar cheese
1 ½ cups cubed Swiss cheese
3 cups milk
6 eggs
½ tsp. onion salt or powder
½ tsp. dry mustard
3 cups crushed cornflakes
½ stick (1/4 cup) butter, melted

Arrange half the bread cubes over the bottom of a 9" quiche pan or baking dish. Layer with ham, cheddar and Swiss cheeses. Top with remaining bread cubes. Whisk milk, eggs, onion salt and dry mustard in a bowl until blended.

Pour over prepared layers. Chill, covered, for 8-10 hours or overnight. Sprinkle with a mixture of the cornflakes and butter.

Bake in 375 degree oven for 40 minutes or until set. Makes 8 servings.

HAM AND ARTICHOKE CASSEROLE

¼ cup butter or margarine
4 Tbsp. flour
2 cups warm milk
Dash of seasoned salt
Dash of cayenne pepper
¼ tsp. nutmeg
Paprika
Pinch of pepper
1/2 cup shredded Swiss cheese
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
4 Tbsp. sherry
2-1 lb. cans artichoke hearts, drained
12 thin slices of ham
Topping

Melt butter; blend in flour until smooth. Remove from heat and stir in warm milk. When smooth, return to medium heat; stir until thick. Add seasonings and cheese. Stir over low heat until melted. Remove from heat; add sherry. Cut artichoke hearts in half if large. Arrange ham and artichokes in buttered casserole. Pour sauce over and sprinkle with topping. Bake in 350 degree oven for 25 minutes. Serves 6.

Topping:
2/3 cup buttered breadcrumbs
(you can use crushed crackers)

(Please Turn to Page 13)

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Cheryl's
CUISINE

(Continued from Page 12)
or panko also)
½ cup shredded Swiss cheese
½ cup grated Parmesan cheese

Combine all ingredients and
sprinkle over casserole.

DILLY HAM BALLS

½ cup dry bread crumbs
¼ cup finely chopped green
onions
3 Tbsp. finely chopped fresh dill
or 3 tsp. dill weed, divided
¼ cup milk
1 egg, lightly beaten
1 tsp. Dijon mustard
½ tsp. pepper, divided
1 ½ lbs. fully cooked ham, which
has been ground in food pro-
cessor
2 Tbsp. butter or margarine
2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
2 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
1 cup water
1 cup sour cream (8 oz.)
Hot cooked wide egg noodles

In a bowl combine bread crumbs,
onions, 1 Tbsp. fresh dill (or 1 tsp.
dried) milk, egg, mustard and ¼
tsp. pepper. Add ham; mix well.
Shape into 1" balls. In large skil-
let heat butter and vegetable oil.
Brown ham balls.

Remove to serving dish; cover
and keep warm. Drain drippings
into saucepan; blend in flour until
smooth. Gradually add water.
Cook over low heat, stirring con-
stantly until mixture thickens. Add
sour cream and remaining dill and
pepper; heat through. Do not boil.
Pour over ham balls and serve over
wide egg noodles. Serves 6.

HAM SLICE WITH MADEIRA SAUCE

4 Tbsp. butter
2- 3/4" slices cooked ham

4 Tbsp. finely chopped shallots
(or white onion)
1 ½ Tbsp. dried tarragon
4-5 Tbsp. dry Madeira
Freshly ground pepper
¾ cup heavy cream

Preheat oven to 300 degrees.
Melt 2 Tbsp. butter in large fry-
ing pan; cook until light brown,
watching carefully to avoid
scorching. Add ham slices and
saute' 3-4 minutes per side.
Remove ham to platter and keep
warm in the low oven. Add re-
maining 2 Tbsp. butter to pan and
saute' shallots until tender, but
not browned. Add tarragon and
Madeira to pan and cook until
liquid is reduced by half. Add
pepper. Add cream and continue
to cook until mixture is again
reduced by half. Pour sauce over
ham and serve immediately.



ABOVE: Dunmore Boy Scout Troop 66 recently held its annual Pasta Dinner, with lots of helpers on hand to make it a big success!



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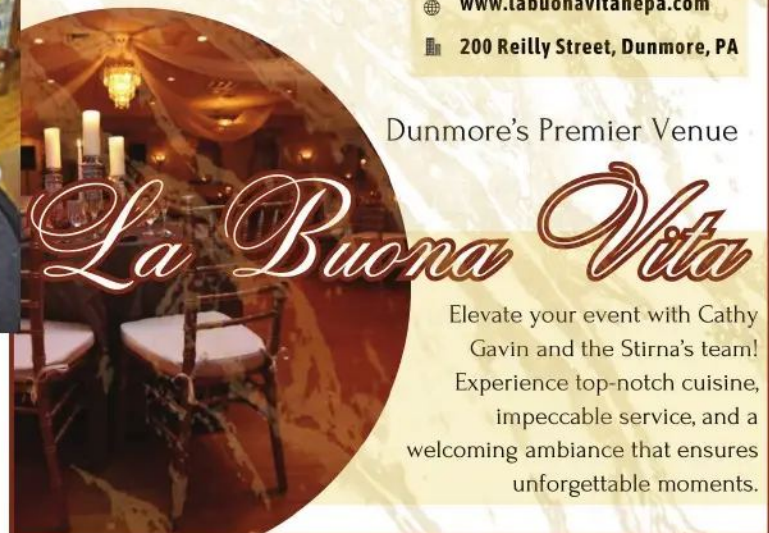
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DEC students celebrate birthday of Doctor Seuss

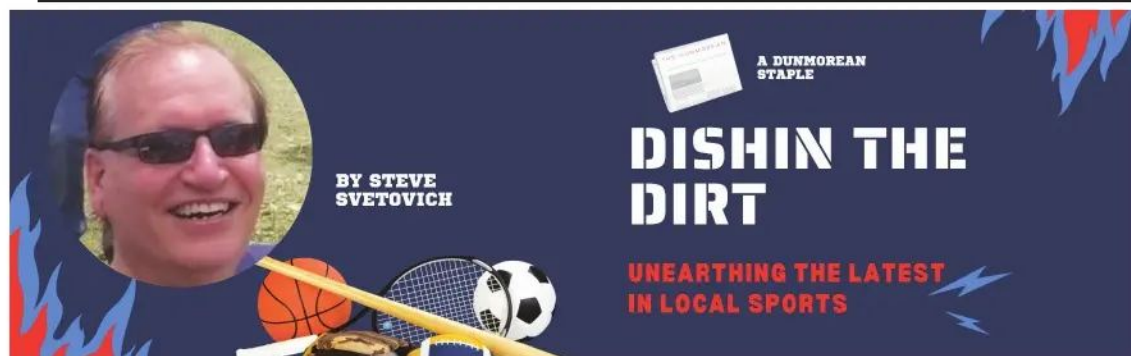


The Dunmore Elementary Center celebrated Read Across America Week recently, which coincides with Dr. Seuss's birthday. Students celebrated Dr. Seuss and his stories by wearing socks for Fox in Socks Day, dressing in green for Green Eggs and Ham Day, and more. Pictured are students and teachers participating in some Dr. Seuss fun.



Second grade teachers who participated in the Dr. Seuss Day fun included, from left: Mrs. Dana Cordaro, Mrs. Mary Gavalla, Mrs. Maggie Del Guercio, Mrs. Michele Walsh, and Mrs. Sara Amendolario.





Former Bishop Hannan and Syracuse University basketball standout **Gerry McNamara** named coach at Siena University...McNamara had been an assistant coach at Syracuse since 2009...Congratulations to **Tessa Mangan, Rebecca Oakes, Eva Kaszuba, Sophia Galko** and **Ella Schofield** of Scranton Prep named to All-Region Swimming and Diving team...

Maura Michalczyk won four individual events to lead Dunmore to 74-67 win over Mountain View in Lackawanna Track Conference Division III-IV girls meet Thursday, March 28...She won 100-meter hurdles, long jump, triple jump and pole vault to account for 20 points for Lady Bucks...

Condolenses to family of Dunmore's **Caroline Angerson**, always very active with Dunmore Senior Center, who died last month at 98...She was longtime volunteer for Telespond and Hospice of Sacred Heart and was chosen as Lackawanna County Volunteer of Year...Condolences to family of **Cactus Carl Evans**, well known local car salesman for over 50 years and proud Army veteran, who died last month at 92...

Congratulations to Scranton Prep girls basketball team for advancing to PIAA Class 4A title game, losing 56-44 to Blackhawk at Giant Center in Hershey...**Jenna Hillebrand** scored 16 points for Prep in the loss...Do you remember Dunmore's **Tara Macciocco** selected to play in annual girls basketball Roundball Classic at University of Pittsburgh's Fitzgerald Fieldhouse 30 years ago?...

Congratulations to Dunmore's **Luke Healey** for winning boys 100-yard breaststroke at District 2 Class 2A Swimming Championships at Wilkes-Barre Area High School...Congratulations to **Mario Matrone** of Holy Cross named to District 2 Class 2A

All-Tournament boys basketball team...Congratulations to **Peyton Graboske** of Holy Cross named to District 2 Class 2A All-Tournament girls basketball team...

Chicago Bears great **Steve McMichael**, hospitalized recently with ALS, to be inducted into Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton this August...Congratulations to Scranton Knights for winning fourth straight District 2 Class 6A boys basketball title, 68-58 over Hazleton Area...**Tony Battaglia** and **Oliver Almonte** scored 16 points each for Knights...**Pedro Lugo** added 12 points on six powerful two-handed slams and had 13 rebounds...Congratulations to Scranton Lady Knights for winning District 2 Class 6A girls basketball title, 46-34 over Abington...**Zya Small** led Scranton with 15 points...**Maggie O'Shea** added 10 points for Lady Knights...

Congratulations to University of Scranton Lady Royals sophomore and Western Wayne graduate **Kaell Romanowski** named Defensive Player of Year in Landmark Conference...Congratulations to Scranton Prep's **Rebecca Oakes** for winning 100 butterfly with time of 1:01.82 in District 2 Class 2A swimming championship...

Andy Russell, two-time world champion and seven-time Pro Bowl selection as linebacker in 12-year career with Pittsburgh Steelers, died last month at 82...Condolences to family of Dunmore's **Angelo Valvano**, U.S. Army veteran and brother of former Sunday Scrantonian Tribune sports editor **Guy Valvano**, who died at 86...Following his retirement from Gress Refrigeration Services, he worked at former Lackawanna County Stadium in commissioner's box...He also worked 18 years at A&P and participated yearly in St. Rocco's annual festival and procession in Bunker Hill section of Dunmore...Condolences to family of U.S. Marine Corps veteran and avid body builder **Dennis Williams**,

Green Ridge section of Scranton, who died last month at 73...Formerly employed at Tobyhanna Army Depot, he volunteered for civilian duty in Iraq during Operation Desert Storm and dabbled in writing and publishing music, guitar and comedy...

How about **Blake Snell** finally signing on two-year \$62-million deal with San Francisco Giants...Why are MLB free agents **Tommy Pham, Brandon Belt** and **Donovan Solano** not signed?...Pham hit 27 doubles, 16 homers and drove in 68 runs for Mets and D Backs last season and then hit three post season homers and batted .421 as Arizona's cleanup hitter in World Series...Belt, two-time world champion with Giants, hit 23 doubles and 19 homers with 61 walks and .369 on base percentage in 339 at bats with Toronto Blue Jays last season...Solano, former Silver Slugger, has hit between .280 and .330 in last five seasons...Surely, all three are major league worthy...

And how about former New York Yankees pitcher and Texas Rangers World Series hero **Jordan Montgomery** signing \$25 million contract with Arizona D Backs...If Monty starts 23 games this season, a \$25-million option will trigger for 2025 season...

Injury plagued and enigmatic **Ben Simmons** only played 15 games for Brooklyn Nets this season, with one year left on \$40-million a year contract...Does this teach NBA owners anything more about this guy?...Two-time Cincinnati Reds world champion and former New York Yankee **Ken Griffey, Sr.**, a .298 career hitter, was featured speaker at Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick's 78th Anniversary Dinner last month...

Congratulations to **Sophia Talutto** of Dunmore and **Abby Thompson** of Holy Cross named to Girls Basketball Lackawanna League Coaches' All-Star team and to All-Defensive team...Dunmore's **Tristan Canavan**, an honorable mention, also named to All-Defensive team...

Former Dunmore basketball standout **Moriah Murray** at press time averaging 4.6 points for Penn

State University and second on team with 39 3-pointers as redshirt freshman...How about Cincinnati Reds legend **Joey Votto** signing at age 40 with his hometown Toronto Blue Jays...Votto will begin season in rehab stint for Triple-A Buffalo...Congratulations to Duquesne graduate student **Kierra Saldi**, Holy Cross graduate, selected Northeast Conference women's Bowler of Year and first-team league all-star...

So **Ohtani** stated he never bet on sports and his interpreter **Ippel Mizuhara** stole \$4.5-million from him and told lies...With Mizuhara's alleged ties to an illegal bookmaker and millions in debts allegedly paid through Ohtani's checkbook, MLB better give Ohtani the same investigative treatment late MLB commissioner Bart Giamatti gave to Pete Rose...This could be MLB commissioner **Rob Manfred's** worst nightmare...Face of baseball or not...

Congratulations to first-year coach **Al Callejas, Jr.** and his Holy Cross Crusaders boys basketball team who advanced to PIAA Class 4A championship, losing to Aliquippa, 74-52...**Michael Hughes** led Crusaders with 13 points in loss...**Mario Matrone** scored 11 points and **C.J. Thompson** and **Adam Badyrka** added 10 each for Holy Cross...Congratulations to **Michael Hughes** and **Matt Lyons** of

Holy Cross named to Boys Basketball Lackawanna League Coaches' All-Star first-team...**Michael Hughes**, who averaged 18.1 points per game, also named Division III Player of the Year...**Matt Lyons** named to All-Defensive team...**Michael Hughes** scored 22 points and **Matt Lyons** added 21 in Holy Cross 78-66 win over Constitution in PIAA Class 2A semifinal...**Mario Matrone** added 15 points and freshmen **C.J. Thompson** and **Adam Badyrka** scored 10 each for Holy Cross...

Best of luck in retirement to long time Holy Cross legendary basketball coach **Barry Fitzgerald** who rallied his team to a district title and one win in the state playoffs before losing in second round to Minersville...**Peyton Graboske** led Lady Crusaders with 17 points in Holy Cross win, 58-50, over Wyalusing in first round of state playoffs...**Ava Schmidt** scored 14 and **Abby Thompson** added 13 for Holy Cross...

Look for Dunmore sophomore **Rachel Walsh** to have big year on mound and at plate for Lady Bucks this season...Congratulations to Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence Charter School for winning Diocesan J.V. championship with 48-40 win over St. Clare/St. Paul's...Do you remember **Wade Ollendyke**?...Whatever became of Clint "Jackson" Frazier?...



Julia Temperino was recently selected as the new Miss Buck for the 2024-2025 school year during tryouts before the student body at Dunmore High School.





This was a season to remember for Holy Cross basketball team

By Steve Svetovich

Sometimes you fall just a bit short of your journey. But when you look back, it was really worth the trip.

Such is the case for the Holy Cross Crusaders basketball team led by first year coach Al Callejas, Jr.

Fighting their way to the state championship, the Crusaders lost to Aliquippa, 74-52, in the PIAA Class 2A title game Friday, March 22, at the Giant Center in Hershey. It was a season to remember as Holy Cross finished 25-4 in Callejas, Jr.'s first season after replacing his legendary dad Al Callejas, Sr., who retired.

Aliquippa sophomore guard Josh Pratt was too much to handle for Holy Cross in the state title game. The electrifying guard scored 36 points on 14-for-19 shooting. He also had five steals.

District 2 champion Holy Cross finished as the runner-up in its second trip to the state championship game since 2013.

Holy Cross star guard Michael Hughes scored 13 points and added four rebounds in the loss.

"I'm very proud of these guys," Michael said. "Nobody thought we would be here. These guys worked their butts off every day. It was one heck of a ride.

"I'm very proud and appreciative of my teammates and coaches for all we accomplished this year. Not many people expected us to succeed as much as we did, but we always believed in each other and the results speak for themselves. I will always love my teammates and coaches like family.

"Coach Al, Jr. was put in a difficult position with only one returning starter and filling in the huge footprints of his dad. He is an incredible coach and overcame all of the challenges we faced. He was the backbone to all of our success."

Aliquippa (26-5) also won a state football championship earlier this

school year. The basketball team was physical and confident from the get go.

Aliquippa's Cameron Lindsay, a University of Pittsburgh football recruit, added 10 points and eight rebounds in his team's win.

Marlo Matrone added 11 points for the Crusaders. Holy Cross freshman Adam Badyrka scored 10 points, including eight in the final 41.4 seconds of the first half. Despite his buzzer-beating 3-pointer to end the half, the Crusaders trailed, 41-21.

Holy Cross standout Matt Lyons scored eight points, including six in the third quarter. He had two blocks.

"It was difficult for us," he said. "They played physical and took us out of our rhythm. I think it's incredible how far we came. Everyone doubted us before the season even started. No one thought we would win the league or district titles. I think we exceeded everyone's expectations and then some. It's been an amazing, great ride.

"But even then we didn't get the outcome we wanted in the end."

Holy Cross had its nine-game winning streak snapped in the loss.

The Crusaders won the Lackawanna League Division III and District 2 Class 2A titles in Callejas Jr.'s first season as coach. The Crusaders scored more than 70 points in five of their first six playoff games.

Holy Cross defeated Constitution, 78-66, in the PIAA Class 2A semifinal Tuesday, March 19, at Liberty High School.

The Crusaders dominated from start to finish in the state semifinal win. Hughes scored 22 points, and Lyons added 21 while not missing a shot to lead a balanced attack that frustrated Constitution and pushed Holy Cross to the PIAA Class 2A boys basketball final.

Matrone added 15 points for the

Crusaders in the big win. Holy Cross freshman C.J. Thompson scored 10 points and added five assists. Freshman Badyrka also scored 10 points.

The Crusaders set the tone by building an early 21-12 lead when hitting nine of 10 shots, including all 3-point attempts.

Hughes scored 22 points and Lyons and C.J. Thompson added 13 each in the Crusaders 61-51 win over District 1 champion Dock Mennonite Saturday, March 16, at Easton Middle School to advance to the PIAA Class 2A semifinal.

Forward-center Lyons had two powerful dunks in the win. Dock Mennonite built leads of 17-11 and 21-16 before the Crusaders mounted a comeback.

Thompson hit on a 3-pointer and Hughes went on his own 9-0 spurt as the Crusaders built a 28-21 lead and never looked back.

The Crusaders were relentless in the third quarter with Hughes, Thompson and Matrone responsible for a 6-0 start that staggered Dock Mennonite. However, Dock Mennonite was able to rally and pull to within, 52-45.

The Crusaders wouldn't fold. Hughes and Thompson combined for five free throws and Lyons finished the Pioneers off with a slam. Holy Cross defeated Schuylkill Haven, 70-35, and Claysburg Kimmel, 72-24, to get to the state quarterfinal.

The Crusaders made the state playoffs for the 16th time in 17 years of the program's existence. Holy Cross last made it to the state title game in 2008, losing to Beaver Falls.

This marked Aliquippa's third consecutive appearance in the state final. Aliquippa suffered losses to Devon Prep and Lancaster Mennonite in the team's previous two appearances.

(See more photos on Page 17)

ATHLETES OF THE MONTH

HOLY CROSS CRUSADERS BASKETBALL TEAM



Game Photos by Alexander Stabinski

Photo highlights of Holy Cross -Aliquippa basketball game



Photos by Alexander Stabinski



Holy Cross senior Abby Thompson savors every moment

By Steve Svetovich

It was a Cinderella basketball season for the Holy Cross Lady Crusaders, and senior Abby Thompson savored every moment.

"I knew this would be it for me playing basketball," she said. "I'm not going to play in college because I want to concentrate on my studies."

"So as the season wore on and we started winning, I just wanted to play harder and take it all in."

The Lady Crusaders finished the regular season with a 7-15 record and an underdog entering the district playoffs under veteran coach Barry Fitzgerald who announced he would be retiring at the conclusion of the year.

That's when Abby got together with two other senior teammates, Alison Ross and Jenna Luciani, and the trio decided they would step up their game and savor every single moment as their high school basketball careers came to a close. And the rest of the team bought in.

Playing as the underdog, the Lady Crusaders reeled off three straight wins in the district playoffs to capture the District 2, Class 2A championship over defending champion Montrose, 22-20, Sunday, February 25, at Mohegan Sun Arena.

Holy Cross beat Blue Ridge, 35-24, and upset top-seeded Lackawanna Trail, 42-36, in overtime to get to the district final. The district title win was the fourth in the last six seasons and fifth overall for the Lady Crusaders under coach Fitzgerald.

And the winning didn't stop there. The Lady Crusaders beat Wyalusing Valley, 58-50, in the first round of the state playoffs Friday, March 8. Abby scored 13 points in the win.

The Cinderella story finally ended in the next round of the state playoffs as Holy Cross lost to Minersville, 61-35, Tuesday, March 12. Abby scored 19 points in the loss, her final game.

Daughter of Judy Verrastro, Abby averaged 10.3 points per game this season and was named as a first team Lackawanna League Division III all-star. She was also named to the all-defensive team.

She talked about how her team went from having a losing record to a district title and another win in the state playoffs.

"The seniors on the team talked and we wanted to keep our season going and keep playing. We knew these would be our final games. We also wanted to win for Coach Fitzgerald, who was retiring. We had to step it up and play every game like it was our last. And then the entire team stepped it up."

"We knew this was the end for some of us. It would be the last time some of us played together, she says. "Alison, Jenna, and myself talked. We decided to play every game like it was our last. The entire team was re-energized. I tried to take in every moment of my final games."

"I was very upset when we lost the last game against Minersville. They are a very good team, talented, and well-coached."

"I came to the realization in the third quarter of the Minersville game that it was my last basketball game. I knew this was it and I wanted to just keep playing my best. I won't be playing in college, so that was it for me."

Abby is also a member of the cross country and track and field teams at Holy Cross. She is a member of the National Honor Society. With an impressive 3.8 academic average, her favorite subject is English.

The talented scholar-athlete will attend Penn State University in the fall. Abby said she is not sure what her major will be, but would like to pursue a career in health care.

Well-spoken and intelligent, Abby, 18, said her mom has taught her a lot in life.

"My mom teaches me to always be strong. She tells me to face challenges in life with confidence. She tells me to always be strong and confident. She is always there by my side."

The senior point guard also credits Coach Fitzgerald for teaching her a lot.

"He taught me to be a better player and person. Whenever things got tough, he always talked me through it."

Abby said she has enjoyed her four years at Holy Cross as she now gets closer to graduation.

"Holy Cross is amazing. I've loved every minute of it, ever since I shadowed as an eighth grader. Everyone was so welcoming right from the beginning."

"Everyone wanted to help out. It's like a close community. It's just a great place to be. It became even better for me this year with my brother D.J. here as a freshman. I really love it here."

Abby said she likes listening to music in her spare time and would like to see rapper Travis Scott in concert. "I hear his concerts are a lot of fun, like a big event."

Abby talked about her future goals. "I want to graduate college and work in the medical field," she said. "I want to focus on my studies and be successful in life. I want to get a good job and eventually settle down and have a family."





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Actors Circle to present Agatha Christie's 'Case of the Missing Will'



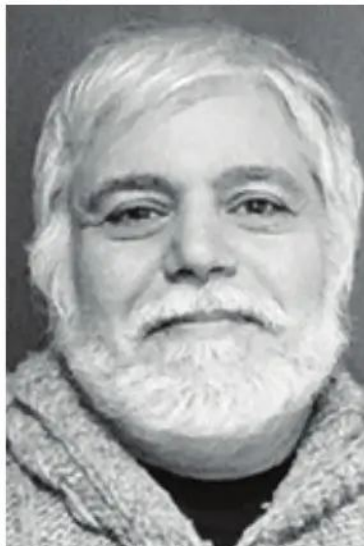
Cast and staff members for Actors Circle's new production of "The Case of the Missing Will" by Agatha Christie include, from row from left: Tricia Henning, Dominick Azzarelli, and April Holgate. Standing, same order: Cathy Rist Strauch, Katie VonBergen, director, Harry Powell, stage manager Mark Fryer, Jeff Ginsberg, and production designer Robert Spalletta.



Shown in rehearsal for "The Case of the Missing Will" by Actors Circle are Jeff Ginsberg, seated, and Harry Powell and Cathy Rist Strauch, standing.



Katie Von Bergen



Robert Spalletta



Cathy Rist Strauch

Actors Circle will present Agatha Christie's 'The Case of the Missing Will,' a short story adapted for the stage by Robert Spalletta at Providence Playhouse, 1256 Providence Road, Scranton.

Directed by Katie VonBergen, show dates are April 11, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 2024 with show times Thursday, Fridays and Saturday, April 20, at 7 p.m.; Sundays and Saturday, April 13, at 2 p.m.. Tickets are \$15 general, \$12 senior, and \$10 student. On Thursday, April 11, all tickets are \$10. Pay cash at the door or visit www.actorscircle.com to purchase tickets online. Call 570-342-9707 for reservations.

This is presented with assistance from a grant from Lackawanna County Arts and Culture.

In the play, Poirot assists an intelligent young woman in proving to her deceased uncle that her education was valuable. They must solve the puzzle of his will or else she will be left with no inheritance.

Members of the cast are: Dominick Azzarelli as Hercule Poirot; Tricia Henning as Miss Violet Marsh; April Holgate as Poirot's assistant Felicity Lemon; Harry Powell as Violet's uncle, Andrew Marsh; Cathy Rist Strauch as the cook, Mrs. Baker, and Jeff Ginsberg as the tradesman, Walter Cohan. Robert Spalletta is production designer and Mark Fryer is stage manager.

Katie VonBergen, director, is a resident of Scranton and is an administrator assistant at Holy Cross in Dunmore and the Moderator and Artistic Director of the Holy Cross Theatre Ensemble. Last spring at Holy Cross she directed "The Garment," and in the fall of 2023, "The Wizard of Oz." With Actors Circle, she has appeared in several AC productions, stage managed, and directed "On Golden Pond" by Ernest Thompson. Katie has also served on AC's board and is currently on its auxiliary board.

Cathy Rist Strauch, native of Dunmore, is the daughter of the late Harold W. and C. Marion McCabe Rist and resided on Clay Avenue in the Hollywood section of Dunmore during her early years. She attended St. Mary of Mount Carmel School, Dunmore (the same as her mother), and later, Scranton Prep and the University of Scranton.

Upon marriage to her husband, Joseph J. Strauch, she moved to Clinton Township, near Factoryville, where they raised three daughters. Cathy has been active in theater most of her life, joining Actors Circle board of directors in 1987, serving as a past president, and now as ongoing secretary. Throughout her theatrical career, Cathy has done many things: acting, singing, dancing, directing, producing, costuming, sound design, set decoration, fundraising and publicity.

Dr. Robert Spalletta joined the faculty of the University of Scranton in 1983 and served as the chair of its Physics Department for 11 years. Dr. Spalletta first got involved in theatre in 1964. He won writing awards during his high school, college, and postgraduate career. He has served on the Board of Directors for Actors Circle since 1990 and was president of the board for 12 years. He has been serving in the technical maintenance of the theatre since he came onboard.

Robert has directed for Actors Circle on several occasions and appeared in a few of their productions and has produced several shows. This is his second time adapting a story for the stage at AC. His last work was staging and directing "His Girl Friday" which was originally produced as a movie written by Charles Lerer and Ben Hecht.



Rehearsing for "The Case of the Missing Will" are, from left: Tricia Hemming, Dominick Azzarelli, and April Holgate.



Dunmore's Keystone Chapter UNICO National will host its 12th annual Charity Pig Roast on Saturday, April 20, from 5 to 9 p.m. at Fiorelli's Catering. "Equines For Freedom" is the primary beneficiary of this year's event which has the theme of "A Little Bit Country." There will be an open bar from 5-7 with passed hors d'oeuvres, Italian buffet dinner, and "EJ the DJ" will provide music.. There will be chances for an extensive basket raffle, money umbrella, Wilbur the money pig, and new this year is a "Wheelbarrow of Spirits." Cost is \$70. Reservations are a must and can be made with Michele at 570-343-7009 Sponsorship opportunities are available by calling Mark at 570-335-7830. Planning committee members are, front row from left: Cochair Bob and Sylvia Tagert; and representing "Equines For Freedom" are Roxann Nole-Graham, Therapist LPC; and Bruce Spencer, Board of Directors president. Second row: Mark McDade, sponsorships; Michele McDade, reservations; Chapter President Nanine Gramigna, decorations; Gloria Rizzo, "Wilbur The Pig" money raffle coordinator; Cesira Berardelli, "Italian Money Tree" coordinator, and Mary Lou Karliak, coordinator of the Super Italian Basket Raffle. Missing from photo are Anne and Vince Martino, coordinators of the "Wheelbarrow of Spirits."



The Double "R" Twirlettes will hold their annual twirl-a-thon to benefit Saint Joseph's Center on Saturday, April 6th. Group members will perform from 12-2pm at the Viewmont Mall. The event is free and open to the public and donations for Saint Joseph's Center will be accepted. For more information, please call 570-489-1935 or visit www.doublertwirl.com. The Twirlettes are under the directions of Kathleen Y. Mercatili. Pictured from left are: Molly Gilgallon, Julia Black, Sadie Solensky, Kali Mercatili, Noelle Hunter, Rachel Mosher, and Eva Schuler,

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Emma Renard recently represented Dunmore School District at the PMEA Northeast Region Orchestra at Blue Ridge High School. Emma qualified for all three District and Region level festivals (orchestra, band, and chorus) this year.



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BY: JOHN M. HART, III, ESQ.

As the spring season unfolds and homeowners venture outdoors to prepare their yards for the warmer months ahead, it's essential to consider the potential issues that trees on your property may pose to neighboring lands.

Trees, while often adding aesthetic appeal and environmental benefits to a property, can also become a source of dispute when they encroach upon neighboring properties.

In Pennsylvania, understanding the legal principles governing tree trespass and liability is crucial for homeowners to avoid conflicts with their neighbors.

Tree trespass occurs when branches, roots, or other parts of a tree extend beyond the boundary of a property and encroach onto neighboring land. When such encroachment causes damage or interference with the neighbor's use and enjoyment of their property, questions of liability arise.

In Pennsylvania, the general rule is that a landowner has the right to trim branches or roots that extend onto their property, even if the tree itself is located entirely within the neighbor's property. However,

landowners must exercise caution to avoid causing unnecessary harm to the tree, as willful or malicious destruction of trees may result in liability for damages.

One of the primary considerations in determining liability for tree trespass in Pennsylvania is whether the encroachment constitutes a nuisance.

A nuisance is defined as any condition or activity that substantially interferes with the use and enjoyment of another's property. When tree branches or roots create a nuisance by causing harm or unreasonable interference with the neighbor's property rights, the property owner may have a legal claim for damages.

However, Pennsylvania courts typically apply a reasonableness standard to assess whether the encroachment rises to the level of a nuisance, considering factors such as the extent of the encroachment, the severity of the harm caused, and the foreseeability of the damage.

In assessing liability for tree trespass, Pennsylvania courts may also consider the doctrine of "coming to the nuisance." This doctrine holds

that a property owner who moves to an area with pre-existing conditions, such as encroaching trees, cannot later complain of the nuisance created by those conditions.

However, this principle may not apply if the encroachment substantially increases after the property owner has already established residency, or if the encroachment constitutes a continuing nuisance that persists despite the property owner's efforts to mitigate it.

Furthermore, Pennsylvania law recognizes the principle of self-help in addressing tree trespass issues. A property owner may lawfully trim back branches or roots that encroach onto their property, up to the property line, without seeking permission from the tree owner.

However, the property owner must exercise reasonable care to avoid causing unnecessary harm to the tree, and they may be held liable for damages if their trimming actions result in injury to the tree beyond what is reasonably necessary.

When disputes arise over tree trespass and liability in Pennsylvania, it is advisable for the parties

involved to attempt to resolve the matter amicably through communication and negotiation.

Mediation or arbitration may also be viable options for resolving disputes without resorting to litigation. However, if informal resolution attempts fail, property owners may seek legal recourse through the courts to assert their rights and pursue remedies for damages resulting from tree trespass.

As homeowners in Pennsylvania embark on springtime yard maintenance activities, it is essential to be mindful of the potential issues that trees on your property may pose to neighboring lands. Understanding the legal principles governing tree trespass and liability can help property owners navigate disputes

effectively and minimize conflicts with neighbors. By taking proactive steps to address tree encroachments and maintain positive relationships with neighbors, homeowners can ensure a harmonious coexistence in their communities.

If you are unsure of your situation regarding a tree imposing on someone's land or someone's tree imposing on your land, don't hesitate to reach out to us at Hart Law.

While this article provides insight into potential legal issues related to tree trespass, it should not be construed as legal advice. For personalized guidance and more information, please call our office at 570-344-2626.

Connor Pensack of Dunmore will serve as Ambassador for the CHOP Walk of Hope on June 9 at Citizens Bank Park. Young Connor is trying to help his doctors find a cure for Very Early Onset Inflammatory Bowel Disease (VEO-IBD). Connor also has his own Connor Pensack Foundation to bring awareness and raise funds for research. (See full story in May issue of The Dunmorean!)

Dunmorean of Month: (Continued from Page 2)

golfing buddies. He and Kathie enjoyed the vast beauty of this country on several road trips across the United States, visiting 49 states.

NOTE: Memorial contributions may be made to Elmhurst-Roaring Brook Fire Department, 246 Blue Shutters Road, Roaring Brook Twp., PA 18444 or North Pocono Trails Association, 307 Market St., Moscow, PA 18444

In addition, a Wayne G. Smith Scholarship fund has been set up by the Dunmore School District. Checks can be made payable to the DHS Scholarship Fund, with na notation for the Wayne G. Smith Scholarship in the memo line, and mailed to Dunmore High School, Attn.: Nicole Zywicki, 300 W. Warren St., Dunmore, PA.

Fidelity presents donations to local non-profits



Broadway Theatre League of Scranton, Inc. received a recent \$20,000 donation from Fidelity Bank. At the presentation were, from left: Carmen Caputo, VP, Mortgage Sales Manager, Fidelity Bank; Kelley Laird, Retail Branch Manager, Fidelity Bank; Frank Blasi, Esq., Executive Director of Broadway Theatre League of NEPA, and Mary McNichols, SVP, Human Resources Director, Fidelity Bank



Everhart Museum of Natural History, Science & Art recently received a \$5,000 donation from Fidelity Bank. At the presentation were, from left: William J. Fennie III, CFA, VP, Investment Officer, Fidelity Bank; Camille Dantone, Community and Family Programs Manager, Everhart Museum; Tim Holmes, Chief Executive Officer, Everhart Museum, and Daniel J. Santaniello, President & CEO, Fidelity Bank



Northeast PA Center for Independent Living recently received a \$5,000 donation from Fidelity Bank. At the presentation were, from left: Michael Melody – SVP, Finance and Technology at MyCIL; Tim Moran – Chief Executive Officer at MyCIL; Mari Pacyna – AVP, Finance at MyCIL; Joseph Tomko – SVP & Commercial Relationship Manager at Fidelity Bank, and Gene Walsh – EVP & Chief Operating Officer at Fidelity Bank.



Skills in Scranton Business Education Partnership received a recent \$5,000 donation from Fidelity Bank. At the presentation were, from left: Theresa Hinton, Esq. CTFA, SVP & General Counsel, Fidelity Bank; Emily Pettinato, Workforce Development Specialist, Skills in Scranton Business Education Partnership; Amy Luyster, Vice nPresident, Skills in Scranton Business Education Partnership, and Kelley Laird, Retail Branch Manager, Fidelity Bank.

Sacred Heart Hospice hosts annual Social Work Breakfast and panel



Social Workers from Hospice of the Sacred Heart and many healthcare facilities gathered at the hospice office in Moosic on March 21 for the annual Social Work Breakfast. The theme of "Increasing Awareness and Sensitivity about Cultural Diversity and Inclusion" was highlighted by a panel discussion. The mission of Hospice of the Sacred Heart is to provide comfort, care, hope and choice to patients and their families, while guiding them through the end of life journey. Shown from left are: Sister Ruth Neely, MSN, CRNP, The Wright Center for Community Health, Ryan White HIV Clinic; Rabbi Daniel J. Swartz, Spiritual Leader, Temple Hesed; Diane Baldi, CEO, Hospice of the Sacred Heart; Martin Russo, Advocate for the transgender community, and Jumea Barooah, M.D., FACP, Designated Institutional Official, The Wright Center for Community Health



UNCDC, officials spearhead 40 unit senior apartments project in Dunmore Borough

(Continued from Page 1)

struction for his long-standing support of UNC and UNCDC. Speakers included Lisa Durkin, UNC President and CEO; Jude McDonough, UNC Board Chair; Brian Redmond, Vice President of PNC Real Estate; Pennsylvania Secretary of Aging Jason Kavulich; State Senator Marty Flynn, 22nd Senatorial District; State Representative Kyle Mullins, 112th District; Lackawanna County Commissioner Bill Gaughan, and Dunmore Mayor Max Conway.

In addition to the UNCDC, the development team consists of Karen Welsh, R.A., AIA, from UpStreet Architects as the project architect; Jude Cooney from A+E Group as the civil engineer; Robert C. Grimm of Grimm Construction as the general contractor; Atty. Mark Cohen of Askot, Weiner & Cohen, LLP; and Atty. James Hailstone and Atty. David K. Brown of Kreder Brooks Hailstone, LLP.

The \$19 million Bucktown Center project is funded through the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program managed by the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA), Federal HOME funds, The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Lackawanna County, and PNC Bank.

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The Bucktown Business Beat

by Yeraldi Pacheco-Miguel

Century 21 Jack Ruddy Real Estate

When we think about Dunmore, we think about community, and Century 21 Jack Rudy Real Estate can attest to that.

I was honored to have been able to sit down with Jackie Ruddy, the owner and broker of Century 21 Jack Rudy R.E.. Jackie walked me through the history of the business, which encapsulates exactly what community means here in Dunmore, PA.

Jackie's father, Jack Ruddy, is where the story begins. Mr. Ruddy attended St. Paul's High School in our Green Ridge area. After graduating, he attended The University of Scranton and served some time overseas. It was after coming back in the 1970s, that Ruddy started selling insurance.

When Jackie was born, he acquired his real estate license and started his own business right next door to their family home at that time. "Jack Ruddy Real Estate" was started. Shortly after, he looked to grow his business and decided to franchise with Century 21.

"My dad used to say, if he didn't insure your home or your car, he probably sold you a house," Jackie stated, as she reminds us of just how much her father served the local area. "Dunmore has always been a community that is well sought after. When a house listed in Dunmore, it sold, and a lot of times it would be by word of mouth, so he was challenged in that respect. Even today there are very few homes for sale in Dunmore."

Ruddy was able to integrate his business within the Dunmore community by simply being who he was. Jackie shared that he was a very humorous and outgoing person with high ethical standards, all qualities that helped his business thrive.

Jackie Ruddy followed in her father's footsteps and graduated from The University of Scranton, becoming a licensed realtor in 1993. In 1998, she became an associate broker and settled in as owner and principal broker at Century 21 Jack Rudy R.E. in 2009.

In her 31-year career, Jackie Ruddy has truly achieved great things, not only for herself, but also for her business and her community.

Jackie stated, "If I'm going to do something, I'm going to be the best that I can be."

From being named Realtor of the Year in 2006 by the Greater Scranton Board of Realtors to being our very own Dunmorean of the Month back in August of 2019, Jackie dedicates herself to her business.

"I live, breathe, eat... real estate, so I really pour myself into every part that I could be involved with," she exclaimed.

Jackie has a team of 28 real estate agents to whom she offers management as well as support and guidance. She also hosts a talk show called "The Real Estate Round Table," on Saturdays at 11 a.m. or Sundays at 11:30 a.m. on 94.3 The Talker. Episodes of this show can also be found on any podcast platforms.

All while also finding new ways to grow and develop the business and making sure Century 21 Jack Ruddy R.E. is giving back to the community that has given so much to them. "That comes from my dad, being out and about in the community," Jackie says.

You can find Jackie supporting organizations such as The Women's Resource Center, Great Chefs, The Ronald McDonald House, St. Jude's Children's Hospital, Scranton Shakespeare Festival, Bucktown Blood Drive, etc.

The list could go on forever; Jackie makes it a point to do as much for the community as she could. I was shocked when Jackie shared with me just how many Dunmore events they are involved with. These events include Dunmore Trunk or Treat events, Dunmore sports, and high school events, and so many more.

Century 21 Jack Ruddy R.E. spearheads the annual Dunmore Community Charity Bowling event, an event that brings the area together in such a beautiful way where everyone wins.

Jackie reminds us of how directly she is involved: "It's me going out, knocking on doors, getting people to either sponsor or donate and/or make a bowling team."

In this bowling event, there are four top winners, each winning a different monetary amount that is

to be donated to a charity of their choosing.

Some members of the Dunmore community that have participated are Nibbles & Bits, State Farm, Panderellas, and many more. Panderellas was last year's winner, and they donated to NE Suicide Prevention Center.

Jackie adds another layer to this event, "If a monetary donation is above a certain amount, I put them up on my digital billboard at the Dunmore Corners so that they get free advertising," she states. "It's a great night out. We provide food, we're there to have fun and root on the teams!"

As fun and exciting as community engagement is, Jackie reminds us that real estate is far from all fun and games.

"In sales, there are a lot of disappointments and things that don't work out, so there's a lot of time spent on something that might never come into fruition, but we still give it our all. It's something that is not for everybody, as it is 100% commission. We don't get a salary, we don't get an hourly wage, we don't get paid if we don't go to closing."

She is aware that the housing market is undergoing a challenging time and shares some positivity regarding it.

"We'll figure it out; everything is going to work out. Right now, we don't have a lot of answers, but I am 100% convinced that we will be okay," she assures. "We are in a transformation, and I think we are going to come out on the other side stronger and better. Every once in a while, this happens, not just to the real estate business. . ."

Jackie also shared some words of comfort for the new generation entering the housing market. "Right now, there may not be any steals in the market, but I wouldn't be nervous about the future of the market. Homeownership is part of the American dream, and I think it will be attainable for anyone who has the discipline to do the things they need to do in order to buy a house."

She reminds us of just how important it is to take care of the menial tasks such as paying bills

on time and watching our credit scores. "It's not unattainable; it will happen. It might not be today, but you'll get there," she says.

Jackie Ruddy is an outstanding businesswoman who represents just what it means to be a Dunmorean. A strong woman needs a strong support system, and that is exactly what she has.

Her husband, Pat, and son, Patty, are her greatest supporters. Her son is the joy of her life and what keeps her going. Patty also happens to be a previous Dunmorean of the Month!

As we finished our interview, I asked Jackie to share a bit of wisdom that she has acquired throughout her endeavors; she states:

"I will give the advice my dad would say to me. Don't give up."

If you have a dream and you want to achieve it, there are going to be bumps in the road, and you have a choice: do they break you? Or do they make you?"

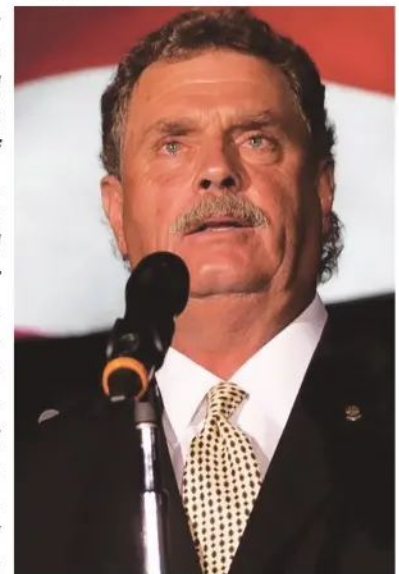
"When you're met with the challenges and the struggles and the difficulties that come about in anything that you choose to do in life, just get in touch with your 'why'; why do you want to do it? And that will give you the purpose and drive to succeed."

Century 21 Jack Ruddy R.E. has become such a staple in the Dunmore Community. Located at 111 W. Drinker St., Dunmore, they are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"We support each other," Jackie states, "and that is what Dunmore is all about," she concluded.

Anthracite Opera Co. plans spring concert

Anthracite Opera Company will present "It's Spring! Love is in the Air!" on Sunday, April 28, at 3 p.m., at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, corner of Ash Street and Taylor Avenue, Scranton, featuring popular, Broadway, and classical songs, Clark Luis is master of ceremonies; Linda Houck, accompanist, and Gary Richards, director. Along with various vocalists, instrumentalists featured are violinist Mark Woodyatt and theremin musician Jason Smeltzer. General admission is \$15, pay cash at the door. For more information, call 570-335-7702.



Clark Luis

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Exciting news for our community! The Nancy Kay Holmes Library, shown at left, in Scranton has been awarded \$333,700 in funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Education! This grant will support the construction and rehabilitation of the beloved library, ensuring it remains a vibrant hub for learning and community engagement.



At the Annual Keystone UNICO Valentine Social held recently, Albert J. Magnotta III was welcomed as a new chapter member. In the picture from the Induction Ceremony are, from left: Co-sponsors Vincent and Anne Martino; Mr. Magnotta; Membership Director Ann Summa; Keystone President Nanine Gramigna, and Inducting Officer Mark E. McDade. To become a member of Dunmore's Keystone UNICO, contact Ann Summa at 570-842-9336 or any of our Keystone UNICO Members.



Sherry's Royalties, under the direction of Sherry Nicolais assisted by Nicole Pizzola, will hold their annual spring twirling recital on Friday, April 26, at 7 p.m. in Dunmore High School's Gymnasium. Proceeds will benefit the Connor Pensack Foundation. Tickets will be available at the door. Senior Team members are, from left: Bella Blair, Haylie Keating, Julia Temperino, and Mia Irving.

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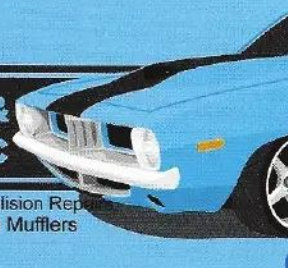
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Mothers Day tea

The Catherine McAuley Center will host a Mother's Day Tea Party on Saturday, April 27, from noon to 2 p.m. to celebrate mothers and other women in our lives. This event is open to the community. Refreshments, finger sandwiches, and dessert will be served.

In addition to the tea party fare, there will be children's activities, a family photo station, door prizes, raffles and so much more!

The Tea Party will be at The Space at Olive, 541 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton. Tickets are \$25 per adult, and up to four children up to the age of 18 are included on the ticket. There are sponsorship, donation, and volunteer opportunities.

For more information on the event, please contact the Catherine McAuley Center by calling Mary-Pat Ward, Development Director at (570) 342-1342 or emailing at mpward@catherinemcauleycenter.org. To purchase sponsorship/tickets: <https://tinyurl.com/2024cmcteaparty>

Marywood open house

Marywood University will hold a spring undergraduate open house



for high school students and their parents on Saturday, April 13. Registration begins at 9 a.m. in the Fireplace Lounge at the Nazareth Student Center on the University's campus, and the last campus tour departs at 1:30 p.m.

The event will include informative tours of the campus, complimentary continental breakfast and lunch for all guests, and the opportunity to meet with current Marywood students, faculty, and athletic coaches. Information sessions with admissions and financial aid counselors will also be available.

For more information and to register, visit marywood.edu/openhouse, email YourFuture@marywood.edu, or the admissions office at (570) 348-6234.

Designer bag bingo

St. Catherine of Siena Parish Altar & Rosary Society will conduct a Designer Bag Bingo on Sunday, April 14, in Kelly Hall, 220 Church St., Moscow. Doors open at 12:30 p.m., and bingo begins at 1:30. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Admission includes 20 regular bingo games. Additional bonus bingo games available for \$5 each or 4/\$15.

Delicious homemade foods, beverages, a 50/50 and a huge basket raffle tickets also available for purchase during the event. Tickets can be purchased in the parish office. Call Mary at (570) 842-4561 or Ann Marie at (570) 510-3125 for additional information on purchasing tickets.

Upcoming Events

Lunchtime Concert Series: Brian McGurl
April 3 11am-1pm @ The Shakes Space
Bring your lunch and stop by for a mid-day work break featuring music by Brian McGurl! FREE!

April First Friday Gallery Artist: Mark Loughney
April 5 5-9pm @ The Shakes Space
Come celebrate our featured Artist of the Month, Mark Loughney at April long! 7pm talkback discussion of his work on 4/5. FREE!

Youth Ensemble Scholarship Chipotle Fundraiser
April 7 5-9pm @ Chipotle Clarks Summit
Support our education department's scholarship program! Mention SSF or use online order code ANCJB6N and 20% of all proceeds go towards the Youth Ensemble Scholarship Fund.

Pasta Party Season 13 Fundraiser
April 20 2pm/5pm Seating and Show @ The Church of the Good Shepherd
Join us for a \$13 homemade meal to benefit our 13th season alongside a very "Italian" commedia dell arte dinner theatre performance!

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