The Dunmorean

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November

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DUNMOREAN OF MONTH: Patricia Dougherty



By Steve Svetovich

Dunmore native Patricia Dougherty took her life's work, business experiences, and industrial psychology background as inspiration to write a self-help book.

Born and raised in Dunmore, the 1971 Dunmore Central Catholic (now Holy Cross) graduate entitled her book "Your Boundaries, Your Power, Your Peace: Break Free from Guilt and Take Control of Your Life."

Daughter of the late Tom and Peg Dougherty of Dunmore, the new author said she wrote the book for everyone who has ever felt stretched thin by obligations.

"Boundaries aren't walls," she said. "They're gates. You choose when to open them and when to close them.

"That choice is where your power and peace come from. That lesson is the heart of the book."

Dougherty worked behind the scenes of some of corporate America's most demanding offices, rising to Senior Administrative Analyst while supporting G-suite executives of a Fortune 500 company. She earlier in her career supported senior research analysts on Wall Street.

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BUCKS WIN DIVISION TITLE!

By Steve Svetovich



Junior running back Josef Wolff rushed for 203 yards and scored 4 touchdowns to help Bucks go undefeated.

The potent Dunmore Bucks football team capped its first undefeated regular season in nine years with a 53-6 win over Lakeland at Veterans Memorial Stadium on Friday, October 30.

The win also gave Dunmore (10-0) the Lackawanna Football Conference (LFC) Division II title. It is Dunmore's 13th division title in school history.

The top-seeded Bucks will now host the District 2 Class 2A football semifinal game against No. 4 seed Holy Redeemer (5-4) on Friday, November 6.

Dunmore senior back Josef Wolff rushed for 203 yards and scored four touchdowns to lead coach Kevin McHale's Bucks to the 53-6 win over Lakeland.

The speedy senior scored on runs of eight, 24 and 71 yards and on a 35-yard pass reception from junior quarterback Brady McCormick. All touchdowns came in the first half.

McCormick completed 5-of-6 passes for 134 yards, including three touchdowns. He also threw a 53-yard touchdown pass to Jacob Costanzo and a 16-yard TD strike to Logan Miller.

Costanzo snared two passes for 72 yards, including his touchdown, in the victory.

Dunmore fullback Xavier Burke also scored a touchdown on a two-yard plunge following a long rushing gain by Wolff.

"Our kids had a nice win over Lakeland on Senior Night," said coach McHale. "It was great for our seniors to honor their parents with a great effort.

"We still have many areas of improvement needed, but we're happy how we played in all three phases of the game.

"Our main focus is getting a little better each day and continuing with that improvement each game."

Standout quarterback McCormick was satisfied with another big win but wants more.

"I think the game came down to who wanted it more up front with the big guys and who was going to step up," he said.

"Our team has been outstanding all year long, but we really showcased it against Lakeland. Joe Wolff especially stepped up. I believe he sent a message to the whole district with that performance."

Senior stalwart Xavier Burke has dominated both at fullback and linebacker all season.

"The team's performance all season just speaks to the level of the community we have here in Dunmore," he said.

"We won 10 straight Mercy Rule games in a row. It shows the excellence in this team from top to bottom.

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Dunmorean of Month: Patricia Dougherty

(Continued from Page 1)

"It was a career built on saying yes, and it taught me how much saying yes to everything can cost," she notes.

A graduate of Marymount Manhattan College where she received a bachelor of science degree in Industrial and Organizational Psychology, Dougherty worked in the research department of Goldman Sachs and in industrial relations for Colgate Palmolive, spending 35 years in New York City before retiring in 2016.

"I always had a knack for writing," she said. "I would write down interesting quotes and save them. I started writing in retirement.

"I was a people pleaser in my working years. I always stayed late. I couldn't say no without feeling guilty. I looked at my psychology degree and work experiences and began to write."

Through practical strategies, real-world scripts and evidence-based techniques, readers can discover how to say no without feeling guilty and protect their time and energy from burnout.

"Limits need to be set that stick in relationships and at work to create lasting peace," she said.

The book empowers readers to reclaim balance and confidence.

Featured across major news networks, it introduces readers to a powerful new resource for overcoming guilt, reducing stress and establishing healthier boundaries in personal and professional life. She writes with a focus on time management, self-discovery, and creating a balanced life.

Her book offers readers practical tools to regain control of their time, reconnect with their purpose and find clarity in the chaos of modern demands.

"The book was born from a growing need to help individuals manage competing demands and provide a roadmap for breaking free from people-pleasing and rather to build lasting emotional well-being," she said.

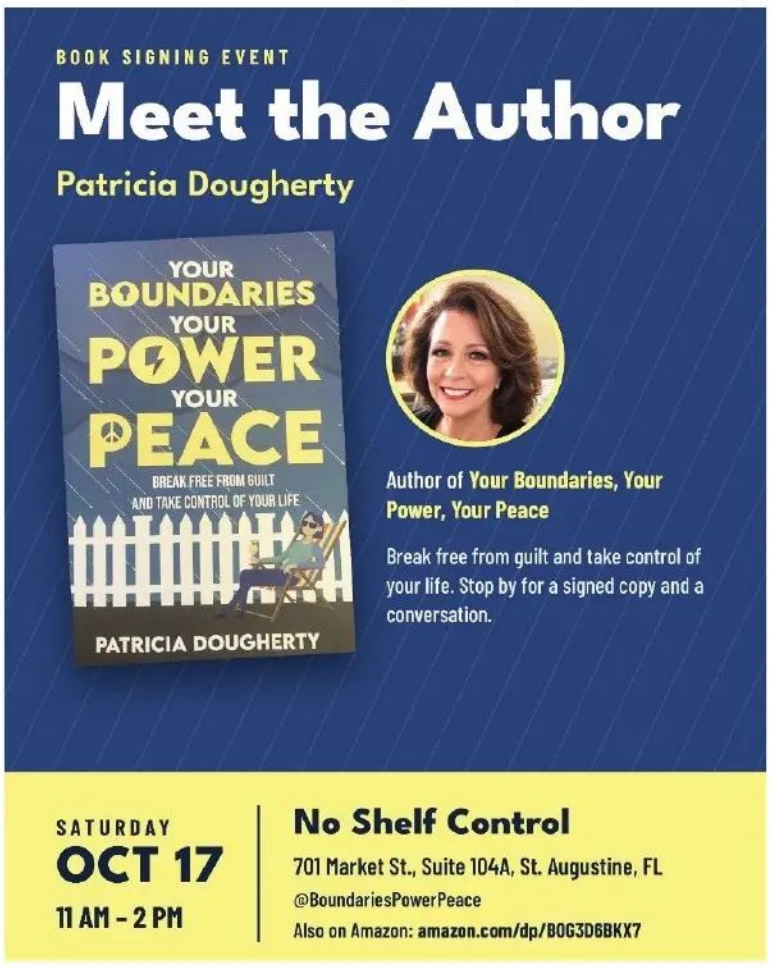


Native Dunmorean Patricia Dougherty is shown at her recent book opening which was sold out.

Personable and articulate, the Dunmore native brings a grounded, practical voice to her book, having navigated the corporate world gathering rich life experiences that now inform her writing.

Currently retired in Saint Augustine, Florida, she has a sister, Peggy, who resides in Scranton. Her late brother Tom "Doc" Dougherty was a basketball coach at Dunmore and member of NEPA Chapter of PA Sports Hall of Fame. The Chapter's annual Service Award was recently named after him.

The cover designer for the book is Brent Pettit. The book is published by Amazon and can be purchased at: amazon.com/dp/Bo63D6Bkx7. Those interested in her discussion guide, workbook, or speaking engagements can email to: padougherty553@gmail.com.





‘The Nutcracker’ Ballet to be presented on Thanksgiving weekend



Ballet Theatre of Scranton, under the artistic direction of Joanne Arduino, will kick off the holiday season with its 51st anniversary annual performances of *The Nutcracker* at the Theater at North over Thanksgiving weekend on Friday Nov 27, Saturday Nov 28, and Sunday Nov 29, at noon and 5:30 p.m. each day.

This traditional gift to the community has offered free public performances since 1976. Free tickets can be picked up at the box office at the Theater at North on the day of the specific performance, two hours prior to curtain.

A sensory-friendly performance is offered to an invited audience as well as the traditional educational performances for area school children.

Over 100 local dancers from ages nine to adult will perform and will feature alumna Laura Durkin as Sugarplum Fairy and professional guest artists Evan Ambrose, a professional freelance dancer, and Philadelphia Ballet principal dancers Arian Molina Soca and Dayesi Torriente.

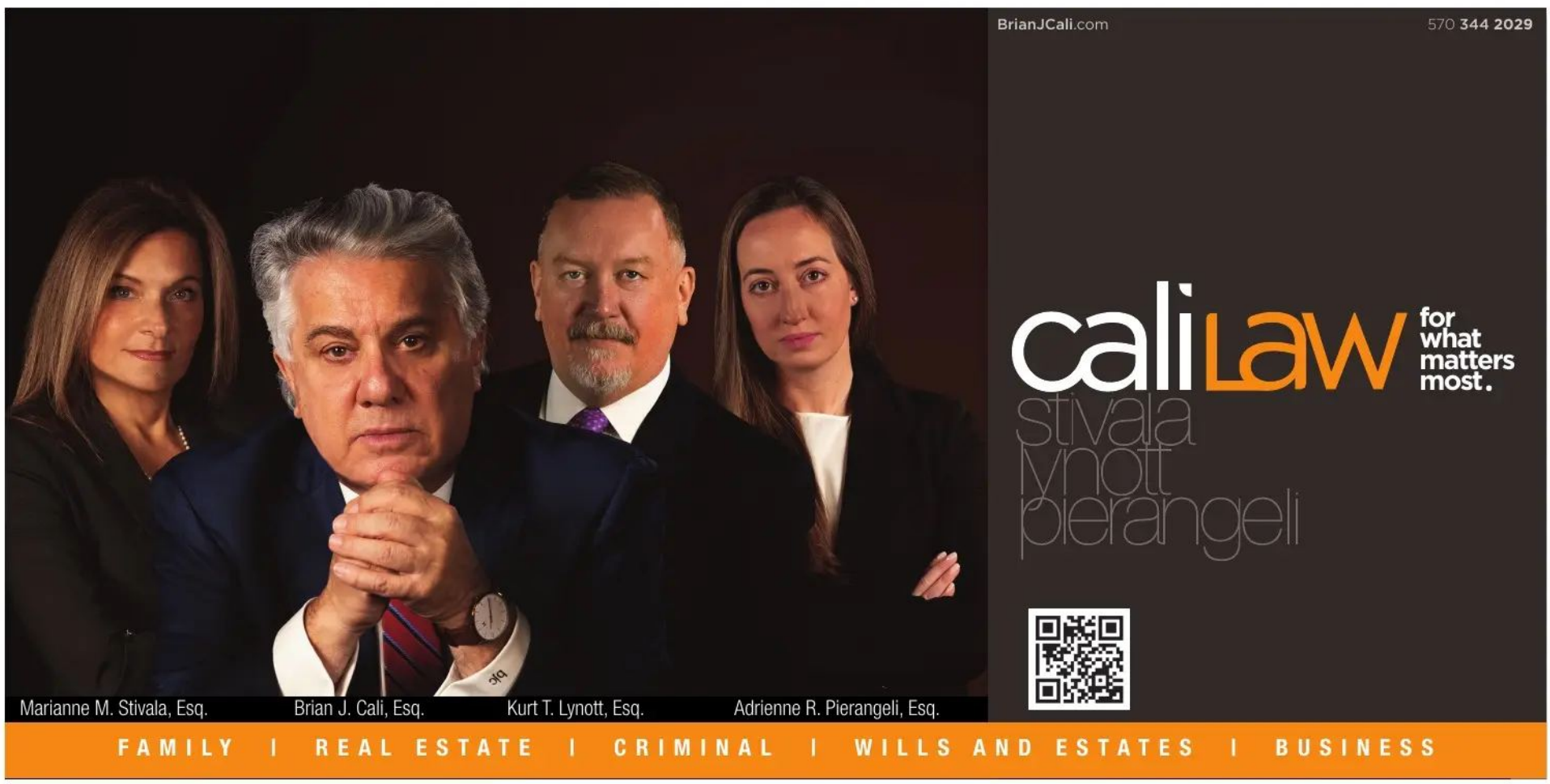
Lead local dancers are Smera Shrestha of Dunmore as Clara; John Roman Vachino as Nutcracker Prince; Enzo Cicco as Drosselmeyer; Nicola and Chloe Pugliese as Snow King and Queen, and Anna Flynn as Dewdrop. WNEP news anchor Jack Culkin will perform in the Act One party scene.

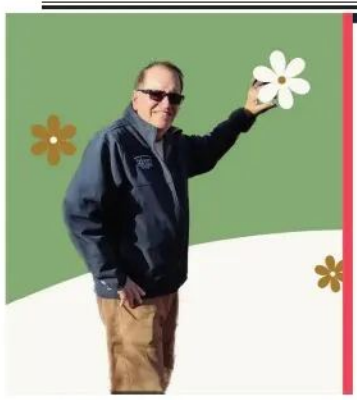
All performances are free and open to the public, with reserved seating available through Nutcracker Benefactor donations by Nov 1.

FOR TICKETS: For information about The Nutcracker call 570-347-2867 or visit www.balletscranton.org.



This year, the role of Clara in “The Nutcracker” ballet will be danced by Smera Shrestha of Dunmore.





A MONTHLY COLUMN • FORMERLY "DOIN' DUNMORE"

Well Dun...

A new inspiring story each month showcasing a noteworthy accomplishment

BY **Steve Svetovich**

Schools benefit from Chris Kelly fundraiser

A benefit held this year at Saint Anthony's Park in the name of late Dunmore musician Chris Kelly helped raise funds for the Dunmore High School Music and Art departments.

The Christopher J. Kelly Memorial Fund raised $2,800 which was donated to the Dunmore Educational Foundation, which in turn presented a check in the entire amount to the Dunmore School District for the Music and Art departments.

The late Kelly graduated from Dunmore High School in 1977. He went on to receive a bachelor of science degree in Art Education from Marywood University.

A highly-talented musician, he performed in local clubs in the late 1970s and 1980s. Andy Gavin's, Gallagher's, The Wine Cellar and Heil's Place were a few of his regular local venue stops for gigs. He often performed with local musician Danny McGlynn.

Following his education at Marywood, Kelly became an Art teacher in the Virginia School System. He carved out a career as a teacher and was well-liked by students and peers.

He died two years ago at age 65 while living in Washington, D.C. Kelly had just retired.

His friends had a "Celebration of Life" in his honor this past June 13 at Saint Anthony's Park in Dunmore.

The memorial in honor of Kelly featured live music, food and beverages. Donations were collected for the Christopher J. Kelly Memorial Fund. Dunmore's Pat Tigue organized the fundraiser.

"It is our hope that this will inspire at least one student to achieve the dream of becoming an aspiring artist or musician like Chris," Tigue said.

"Chris was just a great guy. He was a musician, artist, and teacher. He had a lot of friends. He performed locally quite a bit in his younger years. He was a big part of the local music scene. He continued to perform after moving from Dunmore. What a great way to memorialize him.

"He was a great person, very friendly and personable. Chris was a great listener. He made you feel like you were the only person in the room. He listened when you talked to him.

"His late dad Paul Kelly was a schoolteacher at Dunmore. Chris also loved teaching. And he was great at it.

"He was a musician and artist his entire life and even wrote poetry. Chris was very talented. He had many friends still here in Dunmore. Many came to the memorial fundraiser in his name. It was a great success," Tigue said.



Members of the Christopher J. Kelly Memorial Fund are shown from left: John Marichak, Dunmore School District superintendent; Cristin Hogan, Dunmore art department director; Katie Erick, Dunmore music department director; Joe Tomko, Dunmore Area Educational Foundation; and Patrick Tigue.



The late musician and art teacher Chris Kelly.



The Dunmorean

> *"The basis of our governments being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."*
>
> THOMAS JEFFERSON · 1787

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Getting ready for 'Christmas at the Corners'

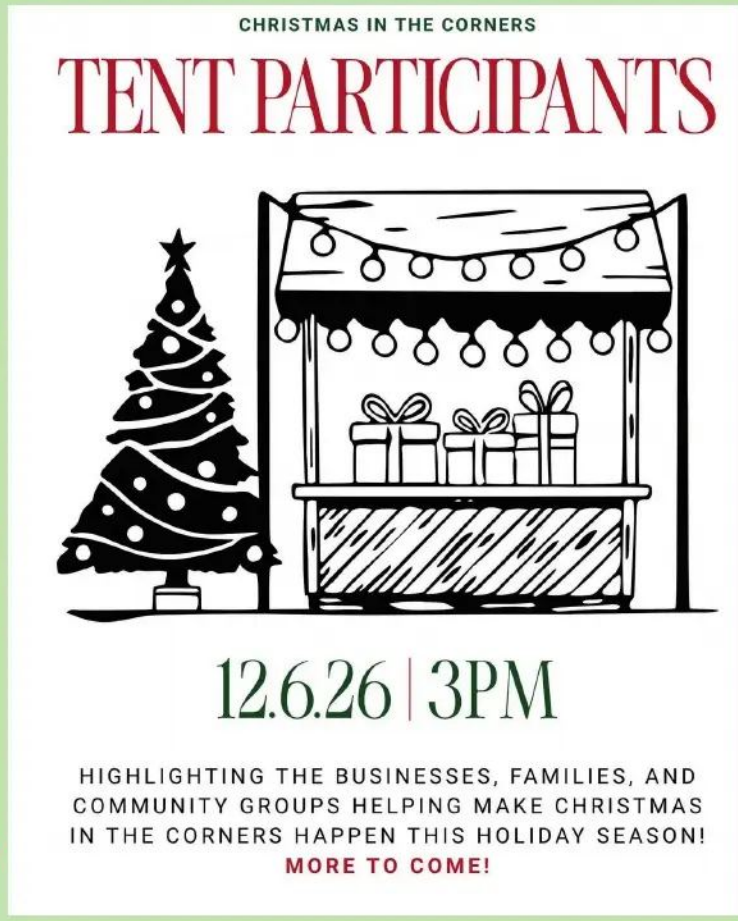


Plans are underway for the annual Christmas at the Corners events to be held on Sunday, December 6.

Donations are being sought and sponsorship levels have been announced.

Tent participants are getting ready to bring fun activities, crafts, and giveaways to Drinker Street during Christmas at the Corners on Sunday, December 8, beginning at 3 p.m.

If you are interested in hosting a tent, email dunmorebusinessassociation@gmail.com for details! You will be joining such participants are Carlucci, Golden & DeSandis Funeral Home; Dunmore Barks; Fellerman & Ciarimboli Law Firm, Honeychild's, Jenn A Snippers Salon, Ryan Mason Michalcyck Memorial Fund, Steamtown Studio, Travel With a Bow, Cara Mia Delicatessan, Drosinski Dental, American Asphalt Sealcoating; Bristran's Outdoor Services; Erin's Way; Judge A Craft; Original Pizza on Drinker; Pandarella's; People's Security Bank; Polizzi Kelly Insurance, Sweet Cheeks, and more.







Plan to celebrate on Dec. 6!



A MONTHLY COLUMN · DUNMORE HISTORY

Cemetery Chronicles

Stories of Dunmore's Past

— BY **Julie Esty**

William Walker Scranton had a scary tale to tell about Lake Champlain visit

Autumn days bring shadows and sounds that sometimes cause us to question what we have seen or heard. An unexplained darkness, snap of a twig or rustle of leaves without a breeze can put us on edge.

For one gentleman at rest in the Dunmore Cemetery, an encounter on an autumn day left him wondering exactly what he had experienced.

Born in 1844, in Augusta, Georgia, William Walker Scranton was the son of Joseph Hand and Cornelia Walker Scranton. Scranton family members were making their fortunes in this valley and Joseph and Cornelia Scranton joined them in Northeastern Pennsylvania in 1847.

William Walker was educated in local schools, and later Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts. He graduated from Yale University in 1865. In 1874 Scranton married Katherine Smith, daughter of Vermont congressman Worthington Smith.

In the fall of 1879, the couple visited Katherine's family in St. Albans, Vermont. Mr. and Mrs. Scranton were enjoying a boating trip that took them out to Woods Island on Lake Champlain.

While enjoying the shoreline, and a lovely autumn day, Scranton saw something in the water about a thousand feet from the shoreline. An unidentified, large aquatic creature was moving very quickly in the water.

According to an account of the incident by Scranton, he collected stones, jumped in a boat, and rowed out toward it.

A former member of Yale's rowing team, Scranton thought he would be able to get closer to the serpent which was in his sight for about 10 minutes.

Scranton described the unidentified form as dark with a head about as thick as that of a man.

He stated that three or four feet of the serpent's body was always above water. After following the unidentified creature, it disappeared. Scranton returned home to the Lackawanna Valley, never knowing what he had seen that afternoon.

Scranton, was a successful businessman, having a hand in many of the commercial interests of the Scranton family. He was also President of the Scranton Gas and Water Company.

William Walker Scranton died at the age of 72 from diabetes on December 3, 1916. He was interred in the family mausoleum/chapel on Block 11 of the Dunmore Cemetery.

The indigenous people of the Lake Champlain region believed the waters n that area to be home to a sea serpent. In 1879, the year of Mr. Scranton's encounter, *The New York Herald* reported multiple sightings of a serpent in the waters from North Carolina to the Newfoundland region.

Today the residents of the Lake Champlain region celebrate *Champ* – their version of the Loch Ness Monster. If a serpent does exist, it is now protected by laws in New York and Vermont.

Did William Walker Scranton encounter a cryptid, sea serpent, or a North American "Nessie" on that autumn day so long ago? This author would like to think so.



The Scranton family mausoleum at the Dunmore Cemetery

Fix-It Fair set to be hosted by County, Johnson College

Ever try to fix something on your own, thinking it would be easy? Then you found out it wasn't, that you made it worse, and ultimately had to call the repair guy. Well, help is on the way!

Lackawanna County's Office of Environmental Sustainability is teaming-up with Johnson College to offer a free, community Fix-It Fair on Saturday, November 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the campus of Johnson College, 3427 N. Main Ave., Scranton.

The event, which coincides with America Recycles Day, slated for November 15, is open to all Lackawanna County residents and the surrounding communities to help repair broken or damaged household items.

Ever mindful of the environment, the Environmental Sustainability Department wants to reinforce the idea that fixing and reusing items helps safeguard the environment by reducing waste; saving people money; helping others to sharpen their skills; sharing knowledge, and creating opportunities to learn new techniques.

There will be opportunities to "fix" small appliances, electronics, books, and bicycles; tailoring; and blade sharpening.

The fair will feature a variety of workshops on pet care, basic first aid, computers, electronics, soldering, and general repair work. Various information tables will offer advice and resource materials on numerous home-related elements.

Interested individuals must pre-register the item(s) they want to have repaired. People will receive a confirmation time and other information about the item(s) to be fixed.

It is important to note that the fixers will do their best to repair the items, but not every repair can be guaranteed. Some repairs may require specialized tools, equipment, or materials that aren't available at the event. If an item cannot be repaired, the fixers may be able to diagnose the problem and explain how the person can fix it or recommend a local business that can do the job.

Along with the repairs, there will be free family activities such as puppet shows, face painting, and more.

For questions on the event, contact Markieann Muncie at 570-963-2017, ext. 12002, or email her at munciem@lackawannacounty.org.

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Dr. Alice McDonnell at 570-650-8034



Marywood University opens new Bar None restaurant for students, neighborhood



Marywood University officially celebrated the grand opening of Bar None on Wednesday, October 14, introducing a new dining and gathering destination that reflects the University's commitment to enriching campus life and strengthening connections with the greater Scranton community.

Located in the Nazareth Student Center, Bar None is part of a broader vision to create welcoming, engaging spaces that bring students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the surrounding community together.

That vision also includes the recent transformation of a student lounge into an inviting space where students can gather, socialize, enjoy recreational activities, and relax outside the classroom. Together, these initiatives reflect Marywood's continued investment in creating a vibrant campus environment that encourages connection, belonging, and community engagement.

"A vibrant university is about more than what happens in the classroom. It's about creating a sense of belonging, building relationships, and offering experiences that bring people together," said President Lisa Lori. "We want Marywood to be a place where students feel connected and engaged, where our alumni always feel welcome, and where the greater community sees our campus as a destination for culture, entertainment, and shared experiences. Bar None is one part of that larger vision."

Gourmet Dining, Marywood's dining services vendor, provided funding to construct the facility, and they also operate the restaurant. Additionally, Marywood University School of Architecture students contributed to the design development of the Bar None space, reflecting the University's commitment to connecting academic learning with practical, real-world experiences.

Bar None features specialty pizzas, sandwiches, burgers, soups, salads, and signature offerings. Open to the public, the venue provides a distinctive setting for casual dining, social gatherings, and special events. The grand opening celebration featured remarks from University leadership, tours of the facility, menu samplings, and a ceremonial cake-cutting.

***

Bar None Hours of Operation:

Monday, Thursday, and Friday: Full Menu, 11 a.m.–10 p.m.; Bar, 4:30 p.m.–11:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday: Full Menu, 11 a.m.–10 p.m.; Bar, 11 a.m.–11:30 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday: Closed.



The Keystone Chapter UNICO presented a Random Act of Kindness check to Reagan Kearney, a graduate of Dunmore High School, to support her in her fight against Ewing's Sarcoma. Presenting the check are members of the Keystone Chapter shown from left to right: Bob Tagert, Mark McDade, Michele McDade, Reagan Kearney, Toni DiVizio, Mary Ann Coviello, Director of Random Acts of Kindness; Frank Coviello, Sandy Collins, and Bob Collins.

Bucks undefeated!

(Continued from Page 1)

"It's not just our football team, but the band, cheerleaders, coaching staff, and fans. It's truly an honor to be a part of such an amazing season. I can't wait to keep it going."

All-purpose senior Weston Yannone, who has excelled as a back, receiver, safety and punt and kick returner, did not play in the win over Lakeland. Still, he was just as elated and satisfied as his teammates.

"It was a great win with the team firing on all cylinders," he said. "Joe Wolff had an amazing night. And all of the line played amazing as always. It was a great win."

The Bucks pulverized opponents in every single regular season contest this year. Dunmore won by scores of 42-0, 62-7, 63-7, 35-0, 50-6, 56-0, 72-0, 63-11, 58-6 and 53-6.

The top-seeded Bucks have outscored opponents by a margin of 563 to 43.

It's complete domination and a credit to Coach McHale, his staff and the entire Dunmore football roster.

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November in Northeastern Pennsylvania means a few things. The leaves are mostly down. The temperatures are dropping. Blaze orange starts appearing in the backs of pickup trucks. And before long, thousands of Pennsylvanians will head into the woods for one of our Commonwealth's oldest traditions: hunting season.

This year, however, hunters and landowners should know about a significant change in Pennsylvania law concerning those woods — particularly when those woods are privately owned.

It's a change that immediately brought me back to law school.

I can still remember sitting in class reading cases about something called the "open fields doctrine." Law school has a way of introducing you to legal rules that seem perfectly logical on paper — and others that make you stop reading and think, "Wait a minute. They can really do that?"

The open fields doctrine was one of those for me.

The basic principle under federal constitutional law was that the Fourth Amendment's protection against unreasonable searches and seizures generally did not extend to an "open field," even when that field was privately owned.

I found that unsettling.

I particularly remember reading the cases involving police observing private property from aircraft. In California v. Ciraolo, police flew over a man's property in an airplane and observed his fenced backyard from 1,000 feet. Then there was Florida v. Riley, where police observed a partially covered greenhouse from a helicopter hovering at 400 feet.

The United States Supreme Court concluded that those observations did not violate the Fourth Amendment.

As a law student, that felt incredibly intrusive to me.

The idea that you could own a piece of property, fence it, post it and plainly tell the rest of the world, "This is private," yet the government's ability to observe or enter certain portions of that property could still receive relatively little Fourth Amendment protection seemed contrary to what most people probably assume the word "private" means.

But constitutional law doesn't always follow our everyday understanding of privacy.

And for years, Pennsylvania's law largely followed that traditional open-fields approach.

Now, decades of Pennsylvania law have changed.

When "Private Property" Wasn't Necessarily Private

The open fields doctrine has deep roots in federal constitutional law. Although the Fourth Amendment strongly protects a person's home and the area immediately surrounding it — what lawyers call the curtilage — the United States Supreme Court has long treated open land differently.

Pennsylvania followed a similar path.

In 2007, our Pennsylvania Supreme Court decided Commonwealth v. Russo and concluded that Article I, Section 8 of the Pennsylvania Constitution — Pennsylvania's own protection against unreasonable searches and seizures — did not provide greater protection to open fields.

For hunters and landowners, that became particularly significant because Pennsylvania's Game and Wildlife Code gave Game Commission officers remarkably broad authority to enter land while performing their duties.

The law permitted officers to enter private property outside buildings and the curtilage of a home, whether that property was posted or not.

Think about that for a moment.

You could own the land. You could put up a gate. You could post "NO TRESPASSING" signs. You could tell the entire world that people were not welcome to enter.

And yet, under the law, those signs did not necessarily keep a Pennsylvania Game Commission officer from entering the property without a warrant.

This summer, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court changed the landscape.

The Case That Changed the Rule

On July 21, 2026, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court issued its decision in Punxsutawney Hunting Club, Inc. v. Pennsylvania Game Commission.

The case involved two private hunting clubs that had taken considerable steps to keep their properties private. Their lands were posted with no-trespassing signs, boundaries were marked with purple paint, gates were installed, and portions were fenced.

Nevertheless, Game Commission officers entered the properties without warrants or permission. The controversy also involved the placement of motion-activated surveillance cameras on private property.

The hunting clubs challenged the practice.

This time, Pennsylvania's Supreme Court reconsidered the rule it had previously announced in Russo.

The Court overruled Russo and held that Pennsylvania's Constitution provides greater protection for private open land than the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

That distinction is important.

We often think of the United States Constitution as the beginning and end of our constitutional rights. It isn't.

The federal Constitution generally establishes a constitutional floor. A state constitution can provide its citizens with greater protections, and Pennsylvania has a long history of interpreting certain provisions of our Constitution independently.

That's exactly what happened here. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court concluded that Article I, Section 8 protects private land beyond the immediate surroundings of a home when the owner has demonstrated a reasonable expectation of privacy by taking sufficient steps to exclude intruders.

In other words, a field does not necessarily lose constitutional protection simply because it is a field.

For someone who remembers being troubled by the open fields doctrine as a law student, that's a remarkable development to watch more than a decade later as a practicing Pennsylvania attorney.

What Does This Mean for Hunters?

There is an important limitation, and this is where headlines can sometimes oversimplify court decisions.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court did not simply declare that every privately owned acre in Pennsylvania is automatically protected from every warrantless entry.

The Court focused on land where an owner has taken sufficient steps to establish a reasonable expectation of privacy.

That can include things familiar to Pennsylvania hunters and rural property owners: gates, fences, no-trespassing signs, purple paint and other measures clearly communicating that the property is private and outsiders are not permitted to enter.

When a landowner has sufficiently demonstrated that expectation of privacy, government officials — including Game Commission officers — generally cannot simply disregard those measures and enter the property to conduct a search. A warrant supported by probable cause, or a recognized exception to the warrant requirement, is ordinarily necessary.

But hunters shouldn't misunderstand what happened.

The Game Code still applies on private property.

The decision doesn't create immunity for hunters. It doesn't prevent Game Commission officers from investigating suspected violations. It doesn't eliminate search warrants. And the traditional exceptions to the warrant requirement remain.

The change concerns something more fundamental: how the government gets onto private property to conduct its investigation.

Now the Legislature Has Acted

When I first wrote this article, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court had spoken, but the story was not over.

The Pennsylvania General Assembly was considering Senate Bill 1431 in direct response to the Court's decision. At the time, I wrote that the legislature had the ability to make the rule clearer and perhaps broader than the constitutional holding itself.

In fact, the version of the bill then before the General Assembly contained a remarkably straightforward rule: Game Commission officers would be required to obtain a valid warrant before entering private property, "posted or otherwise," unless a recognized exception to the warrant requirement applied.

That was significant because the Supreme Court's decision focused on whether a landowner had taken sufficient steps to demonstrate a reasonable expectation of privacy.

I noted that this could leave us litigating questions such as whether one sign was enough, whether purple paint was sufficient, whether there was a gate, or whether the property was fenced.

My prediction was that the legislature might use the opportunity to make the rule simpler.

Then, before this issue of The Dunmorean could even go to press, the legislature acted. On October 22, 2026, Governor Josh Shapiro signed Senate Bill 1431 into law as Act 115 of 2026. The bill passed the House 203–0, and the Senate unanimously concurred in the House

(Please turn to Page 21)



THE DUNMORE SENIOR CENTER

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DUNMORE SENIOR CENTER

Joseph W. Loughney Jr. bench is dedicated



Catherine, Nancy and Joseph Needham are shown following the dedication of a bench in memory of Joseph W. Loughney Jr. in front of Dunmore Fire Company headquarters on Pine Street. --Apologies to the family from The Dunmorean for running this announcement with the wrong name in the October issue.



The McDonald Foundation presented the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute with a $5,000 donation to support the Cancer Institute's Community-Based Cancer Screening Navigation Program. Shown from left are: Leo Vergnetti, Board of Ambassadors Chairman; Honorable Thomas J. Munley, 2026 Spirit of Hope Tribute to Courage Honoree; Karen M. Saunders, President, Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, and Nevin Gerber, McDonald Foundation. The Spirit of Hope Board of Ambassadors is a group of community volunteers that hosts an annual Spirit of Hope Celebration in November at Mohegan Pennsylvania. Proceeds from the event benefit the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute's Community-Based Cancer Screening Navigation Program which helps low income and un/underinsured individuals in northeast Pennsylvania get their recommended colorectal, breast, cervical, and lung cancer screenings.

ARE YOU ON WORKERS' COMP?

The insurance company could be trying to reduce your benefits.

Remember, it's in their best interest to pay you as little as possible. Typically, that means they're always looking for ways to delay, reduce, or deny benefits *throughout your recovery period*.

To help make sure you get everything you deserve, call for a free consultation.

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Keystone UNICO hosts Columbus Day flag-raising event



Speakers at the Columbus Day event included, from left: Michael Cappellini, representing Saint Ubaldo Society, Jessup; Yvonne Gatto, UNICO National PA II District Governor; Bernadette Baum, President of Carbondale Chapter UNICO National; Vince Sardo, representing The Columbus Day Association; Dino Darbinzio, President of Scranton Chapter UNICO National; Jeff Casella, representing The Felittese Association and The Order Sons and Daughters of Italy Association, both of Old Forge; Carlo Pisa representing the Community of Saint Rocco Church, Bunker Hill; Alfredo Pisa, President of The San Cataldo Society of Dunmore.; Christina Casale McDermott, representing The Colony of Saint Lucy, Scranton; Linda Bonacci Anelli, representing The San Mango D'Aquino Society of Bulls Head, and Mark McDade, Charter President of Keystone UNICO, Dunmore, and Program Facilitator of the Italian Flag Raising of Lackawanna County.



Keystone UNICO members sponsoring the Italian Flag Raising were, from left: Mikhail Barnansky, Katherine Barnansky, Vince Sardo, JoAnn Martarano, Mary Lou Karliak, Ann Summa, Holly Capellini and son Angelo, Ann Berardelli, Cathy Bianchi, Cathy Gerard, Joe Lacertoso, and Michele and Mark McDade.



AT LEFT: Keystone UNICO attendee members are, from left: Mikhail Barnansky, JoAnn Martarano, Joseph Lacertoso, Ann Berardelli, Laurie Marino, Holly Cappellini, Stephanie Camoni, Michael Cappellini holding son Alessio, Katherine Barnansky, Angelo Cappellini, Yvonne Gatto, Catherine Gerard, Bernadette Baum, Robert Baum, Catherine Bianchi, Joseph Fazio, Vincent Sardo, Mary Lou Karliak, Mary Ann Capone, Dino Darbinzio, Jeff Casella, Carlo Pisa, Alfredo Pisa, Christina Casale McDermott, Linda Bonacci Anelli, Sherry Casale Crapella, Ann Summa, Mark McDade, Michele McDade, and

In celebration of October as Italian Heritage and Culture Month and in honoring Admiral Christopher Columbus for his navigational skills in reaching the Americas, thereby initiating the great explorations and migrations over the following centuries, Keystone Chapter UNICO recently conducted its 15th annual Italian Flag Raising at Lackawanna County Courthouse.

Eleven representatives presented on behalf of 12 Italian organizations about their contributions in our Lackawanna Valley. The attendees were welcomed by Mark McDade; the prayer in Italian was led by Michael Cappellini; the pledge to Old Glory was led by Carlo Pisa; and the Italian flag was raised by county employee Tony Pliska.

Hawk Family Foundation donates $15,000 to Allied Services

Allied Services recently accepted a generous $15,000 donation from the Hawk Family Foundation, continuing a longstanding tradition of generosity, partnership, and community impact.

The contribution marks the third year of the foundation's three-year pledge, reinforcing its commitment to the mission of Allied Services and the individuals and families served throughout the region.

The gift supports the 2026 Team Allied Services campaign, the nonprofit health system's annual fundraising initiative that brings together runners, sponsors, and community supporters to raise critical funds for life-changing rehabilitation and care for individuals of all ages and abilities across Northeastern and Central Pennsylvania.

This year's contribution is especially meaningful as Patrick Hawk, CEO of Gertrude Hawk Chocolates, once again took on the 26.2-mile TCS New York City Marathon on November 1, representing Team Allied Services. His continued participation reflects a personal commitment to the mission and a shared dedication to making a difference in the lives of those served by Allied Services.

"The work Allied does to help community members overcome challenges and reach their full potential is inspiring. I'm proud to return to the TCS New York City Marathon in support of Team Allied Services and to continue our family foundation's commitment to an organization that makes such a lasting impact," said Patrick. "Together, we can help ensure that more individuals have access to the care and support they need to thrive."

Since 2010, Team Allied Services has raised more than $6.7 million, a remarkable testament to the generosity, determination, and compassion of runners, sponsors, and supporters united by a shared mission.

With this year's event, Allied Services hopes to surpass $7 million in cumulative fundraising, marking an extraordinary milestone in its commitment to changing lives.



Jim Brogna, Senior Vice President, Allied Services, at left, receives a $15,000 donation from Patrick Hawk, CEO, Gertrude Hawk Chocolates.

Every dollar raised helps provide access to innovative rehabilitation technology, specialized therapies, and essential programs, giving children and adults throughout our communities greater opportunities to overcome challenges, regain independence, and achieve their fullest potential.

Jim Brogna, Senior Vice President of Allied Services, expressed his appreciation for the foundation's continued generosity.

"The Hawk Family Foundation has been an extraordinary partner in our mission," said Brogna. "Their continued generosity, combined with Patrick's personal commitment to Team Allied Services, is a wonderful example of how philanthropy and community involvement can create a lasting impact. Partnerships like this help ensure that the individuals and families we serve have access to the compassionate, specialized care they need to achieve their greatest potential."

The Hawk Family Foundation is dedicated to improving quality of life for individuals and families throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania through charitable giving to nonprofit organizations.

Upcoming Community Events

Fri., Nov. 6
Dunmore Bucks host Holy Redeemer, District 2 Class 2A football semifinal.

Fri., Nov. 6, 7 p.m.
U.S. Army Field Band's Six-String Soldiers, free concert, Scranton Cultural Center. Free tickets required.

Nov. 13–22
Actors Circle presents The Thanksgiving Play, Providence Playhouse. 570-342-9707.

Fri., Nov. 13, 7 p.m.
Interfaith Prayer Service, Temple Hesed, 1 Knox Road, Scranton.

Sat., Nov. 14, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Holiday Showcase designer clothing market and craft fair to benefit the Dunmore Senior Center, Dunmore Community Center, 1414 Monroe Ave.

Sat., Nov. 14, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
Free Fix-It Fair, Johnson College, 3427 N. Main Ave., Scranton. Pre-register items.

Tues., Nov. 24
Thanksgiving community dinner, Scranton Cultural Center, while supplies last.

Wed., Nov. 25, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Family to Family Thanksgiving food basket distribution, Scranton Cultural Center.

Nov. 27–29
Ballet Theatre of Scranton's The Nutcracker, Theater at North, noon and 5:30 p.m. Free.

Sun., Dec. 6, 3 p.m.
Christmas at the Corners, Drinker Street.

Thurs., Dec. 31
Deadline for Lackawanna County arts and culture grant applications.

State officials address Dunmore students





State Senator Marty Flynn and State Representative Kyle Mullins spoke to Civics students and AP Government students on October 28 at Dunmore Junior-Senior High School. The state officials took time out of their busy schedules to explain their roles in government and to answer student questions.



A DUNMOREAN STAPLE • LOCAL SPORTS

Dishin' the Dirt

Unearthing the latest in local sports

BY **Steve Svetovich**

Joe Cardillo, 2022 Dunmore and 2026 Marywood University graduate, finished second in Steamtown Marathon out of over 1,300 runners with time of 2:29:24 and was first local finisher...At Dunmore, he earned PIAA state medal, finished 22nd place at PIAA state cross country championship and set school record at 16:50...He was District 2 AA runner-up and PIAA state qualifier and earned second place in District 2 Class AA track and field championship to qualify for states ..At Marywood, he was 10,000 meter school record holder and named 2026 Atlantic East Men's Athlete of Year...He was Triple Conference champion across 1,500, 5,000 and 10,000 meters and three times NCAA Division III All-Mid Atlantic Regional... He finished seventh place in 2026 Wyoming Valley 10-mile run with time of 52:18...

Congratulations to undefeated Dunmore Bucks football team who earned Lackawanna Football Conference Division II title with 10-0 record under head coach **Kevin McHale**...Dunmore senior back **Josef Wolff** rushed for 203 yards and scored four touchdowns, three on runs and one on 35-yard pass from Bucks junior quarterback **Brady McCormick** in division clinching 53-6 win over Lakeland...Dunmore's **Jacob Costanzo** caught 53-yard touchdown pass and **Logan Miller** snared 16-yard TD pass both thrown by McCormick…Dunmore senior all-purpose performer **Weston Yannone** missed contest due to flu...With its first undefeated season in nine years, Dunmore outscored opponents by 563 to 43 margin in regular season...Top seeded Bucks will play No. 4 Holy Redeemer Friday, November 6 in District 2 Class 2A semifinals...

Boston College music graduate **Dylan Pidich** and his sister **Alyson Pidich**, a Manhattan MD, both from Moscow, won Fort North TV Festival Pilot and Script Competition held in Greenport, NY...Their script placed in top 25 at Austin Film Festival, largest scriptwriting competition in world...The siblings are in process of writing another screenplay...Dunmore senior football cheerleaders recognized Senior Night October 30 include **Chloe Bellas, Ayla Cantafio, Clare Fofi, Grace Hennessy, Emily McGowan, Maggie Mecca, Reagan Rodzniak** and **Riley McHale** who is Miss Buck...

Dunmore senior marching band members recognized include **Alina Alvarado, Kelsie Bidwell** and **Ryan McMynne**...Dunmore Crimsonettes honored are **Nakia Griffin** and **Shy Ann Hulse**... Dunmore soccer team won district quarterfinal game, 4-0, over Lakeland. **Russell Toole, Oliver Soriano, Gabe Vullo** and **Ryan Clark** scored goals for Dunmore... Congratulations to Dunmore cross country runners **Buddy Laroche** and **Olivia O'Brien** for qualifying in PIAA state cross country championships... Congratulations to Dunmore quarterback **Brady McCormick** for surpassing 1,000-mark in passing yards this season...

Dunmore football cheerleaders collected donations during Dunmore-Lakeland home game to support Lakeland multi-sport athlete **Matthew Pritchyk** who is battling lymphoma...Holy Cross cross country team helped raise $3,070 through **Gemma Bistran's** fundraiser for Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania... Congratulations to Holy Cross junior girls soccer player **Alaina Scassellati** who earned 500th career save...Holy Cross girls soccer team earned double overtime win over Elk Lake, 2-1, to advance to district semifinals…**Ryleigh Conway** scored game winner on long pass

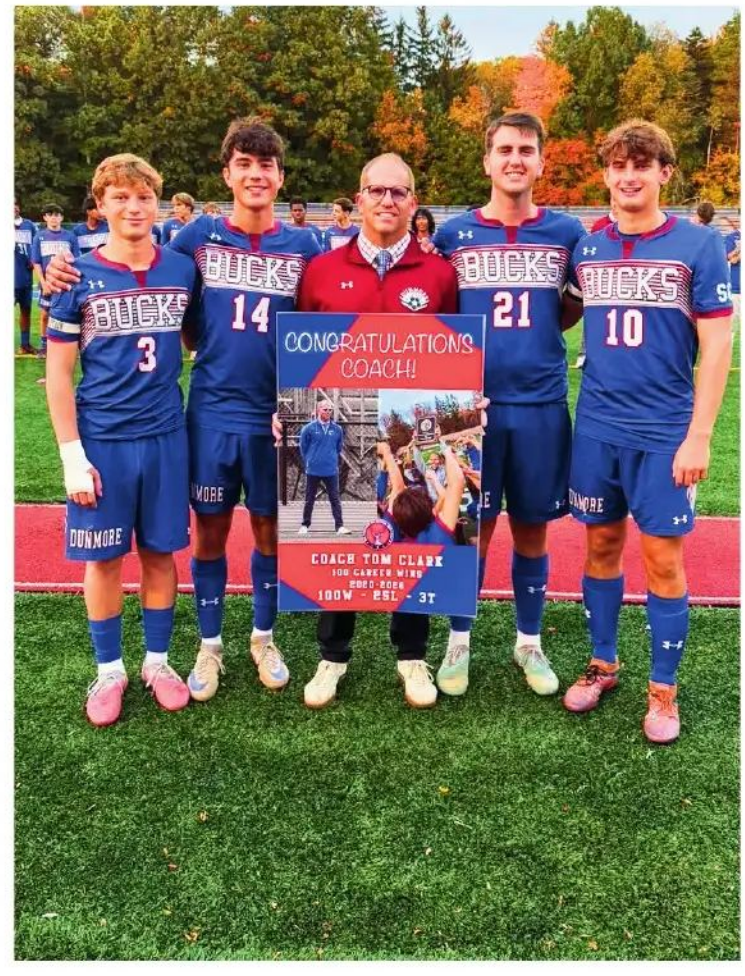
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Former Dunmore Cross Country standout Joe Cardillo placed second in the Steamtown Marathon out of over 1,300 runners.



Dunmore High School held a retirement ceremony held on October 12 for the soccer jersey of Johnley Jean.



Coach Tom Clark was recently honored for his achievement of 100 wins with the Dunmore High School soccer team from 2020 to 2026. His record stands at 100 wins, 25 losses, and 3 ties.

Kayleigh Semian inducted into NEPA Hall of Fame

By Steve Svetovich

Former Dunmore Lady Bucks basketball standout Kayleigh Semion was among 13 inducted into the Northeast Chapter of the PA Sports Hall of Fame last month at Fiorelli's in Peckville.

Long-time local sportscaster Phil Schoener served as toastmaster for the 42nd Annual Induction Ceremony.

Schoener is currently with SportsFever TC Network, a syndicate of NCAA college sports to ESPN, serving as play-by-play announcer for college football and basketball.

Dunmore's Bob Walsh is Chapter President of the Northeastern Chapter of PA Sports Hall of Fame. Former Mid Valley baseball standout Jerry Valonis is vice president. Judy Igoe Carr is secretary. Terry Greene is treasurer.

Other members of the Executive Committee include Dunmore's Rich Revta, Jerry Dempsey, John Davies and this scribe.

Besides Semian, other inductees included Bob Beviglia, Katie Dammer, Alan Finegan, James P. Gordon, Andrew Kettel, Jack Ott, Bruce Smallacombe, Will Squier, Evan Kraky, and the late Shirley McLaughlin.

Larry Holeva received the John McCormick Media Award. John Martin Davies received the Tom "Doc" Dougherty Service Award.

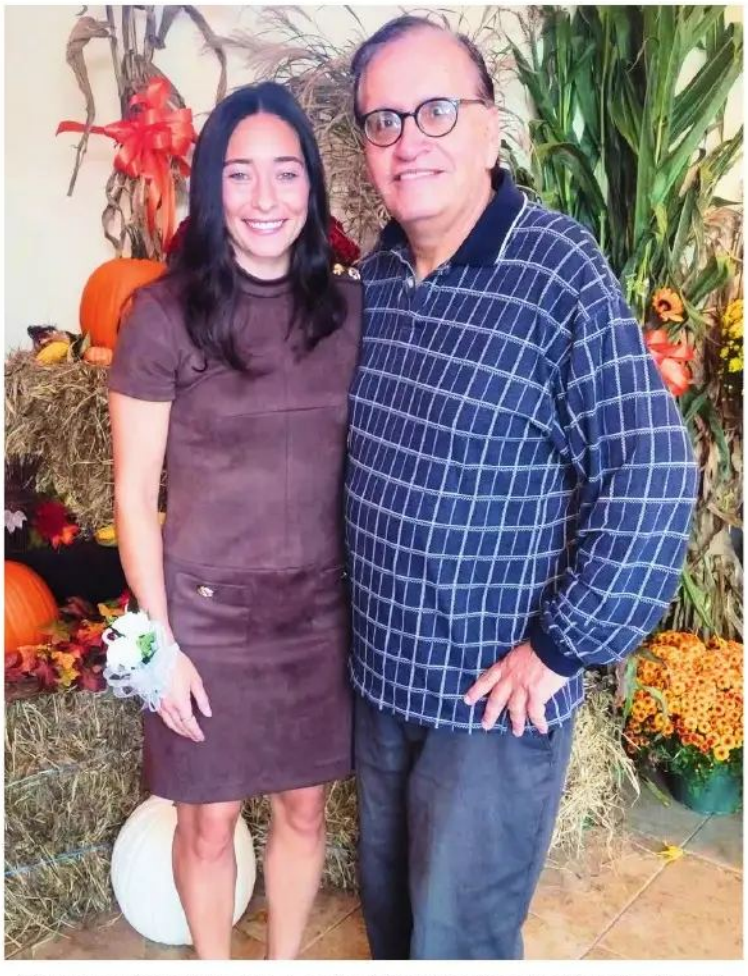
Semion was team All-Conference and Dunmorean Athlete of the Month in her freshman year at Dunmore. As a sophomore, she was first-team Scranton Times All-Star and on the Lynett Tournament All-Tourney team. As a junior, she was All-Regional, first-team All-Conference and Lynett Tournament MVP.

As a senior, she scored her 1,000th point, was on the Lynett Tournament All-Tournament team and Scranton Times Athlete of the Week.

She helped the Lady Bucks to a third straight District 2 Class AA title. She was also named Lackawanna Conference Female Student Athlete of the Year, Lackawanna Conference Player of the Year, Scranton Times-Tribune NEPA Player of the Year, team MVP, All-Lackawanna Conference, Scranton Times-Tribune All-Regional team, Lackawanna League Coaches Player of the Year, PA All-State selection, second-team Lackawanna League All-Star, WNEP16 top five high school basketball players. She scored 34 points in a loss to Neumann-Goretti, ranked No. 1 in the nation by USA Today. She also was a key player for the Penn State University girls' basketball team where she made the roster as a walk-on.



NEPA Sports Hall of Fame 2026 inductees are shown at the induction celebration held on October 4 at Fiorelli Catering, Peckville. Pictured in the front row, from left, are: John Davies, Jim Gordon, Larry Holeva, Donna DeMatteo, representing the late Shirley McLaughlin; Kayleigh Semion, and Katie Dammer. Shown in the back row, same order: Jerry Valonis, vice president; Will Squier, Bruce Smallacombe, Evan Kraky, Bob Walsh, president; Andrew Kettel, Bob Beviglia, Jack Ott, and Alan Finegan. ---Photo by Trista Carpenter.



Former Dunmore Lady Bucks basketball standout Kayleigh Semion, at left, is shown with The Dunmorean sports editor Steve Svetovich at the NEPA Chapter of PA Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony where she was one of 13 inductees into the Chapter.

Beviglia had a 240-53 girls' basketball coaching record at Scranton Prep. He led his teams to eight Lackawanna League Division I titles, eight PIAA District II titles, 11 consecutive trips to PIAA 4A State tournaments and his 18 State tournament wins are most among active Lackawanna League girls' coaches.

Katie Dammer at Abington Heights earned nine stars medals for cross country and track. She was seven times first-team All-State and Times-Tribune Performer of the Year for both track and cross country. She was three-time Lackawanna Scholastic Cross Country Runner of the Year. She holds numerous school records for cross country and track and field. She was undefeated in League and District level individual races in 2017 cross country season and 2017 and 2018 track and field seasons. She had record setting performances at Spagna track and field championship meet.

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Larry Holeva, at left, longtime Times-Tribune managing editor/reporter, is shown with Dunmorean sports editor Steve Svetovich at the NEPA Chapter of PA Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony held at Fiorelli's, Peckville. Holeva received the annual John McCormick Media Award at the event. Svetovich is on the committee for the NEPA Chapter.

Weston Yannone helps lead Bucks team this season

By Steve Svetovich

The Dunmore Bucks football team has been rolling over opponents this season and all-purpose senior Weston Yannone is one of the big reasons.

Coach Kevin McHale's Bucks at press time are undefeated at 8-0 and winning by large margins. Son of Phil and Jennifer Yannone, Weston totaled 18 touchdowns in the Bucks first eight games. He scored 16 touchdowns on offense, 12 on rushes, and four on passes, one on a punt return and one on an interception.

Weston totaled over 600 yards rushing and 190 yards receiving in the first eight games. He is averaging a robust 14.5 yards per rushing attempt.

The all-purpose senior plays running back, wide receiver, strong safety, and returns punts and kicks for Dunmore.

Multi-talented, Weston is a standout member of Dunmore's track and field team. He was a Coaches All-Star and All Regional selection for track and field as a junior last season. He was also named co-Performer of the Year for track and field last year.

Weston is editor-in-chief of the yearbook staff at Dunmore High School. He is a member of the Bowling Club, French Club and National Honor Society. He has a 3.5 academic average. Weston's best academic subject is English.

The senior stalwart talked about his team's great success following Dunmore's eighth win, 63-11, over Honesdale.

"It just shows how much work this team put in during the off-season," said Weston.

"We worked like crazy in preparation for this season. We have great coaches. Coach McHale makes all the right calls. All of the coaches do."

Weston said he worked hard and credits teammates for his success as an all-purpose player.

"It takes hard work and knowing your job," he said. "I know what I can bring to the team. Everyone does their job on this team, and my teammates make it easier."

Well-spoken and polite, Weston gives great credit to the Dunmore defense for the team's success.

"Our defense goes into each game picturing a zero. The idea is to be as dominant as possible. Defense wins championships.

"Jacob Costanzo has been great on pass coverage. Xavier Burke is in on almost every tackle. He has amazing dedication. Will Bonin stepped in following an injury and has played his heart out. Our defensive line has been amazing, every single one of them. I can't even single one of them out."

The senior scholar-athlete said coach McHale taught him a lot.

"He teaches me to never be complacent. Keep getting better. Things are going to get tough, but you have to keep going. Always strive to be better."

The speedy senior said his parents also taught him a lot. "They taught me to always be humble. Work hard and keep your head down. Keep doing what you do. Don't stop."

Weston said he likes listening to music in his spare time. He would like to see country singer Jon Pardi in concert.

The senior standout has a lofty goal. He would like to attend Army West Point in the fall and play football there.

In the future, he would like to become a chiropractor.

His immediate goal centers around the team. "Our expectations are to go as far as possible," he said. "Our goal is to make a huge run and win a state championship.

"We want to set the standard here at Dunmore for years to come."

Confident and articulate, Weston is enjoying his senior year at Dunmore.

"It's amazing here," he said. "It's one big family. It's one big community and everyone has your back."

***

UPDATE: Dunmore won by a score of 58-6 over Riverside on October 23. They completed a perfect season of 10-0 by defeating Lakeland on October 30 by a score of 53-6. The Dunmore Bucks are the 2026 Division II AA Champions. The top-seeded Bucks will host the District 2 Class 2A football semifinal game against No. 4 seed Holy Redeemer (5-4) on Friday, November 6.

ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

WESTON YANNONE









Dunmore School District highlights



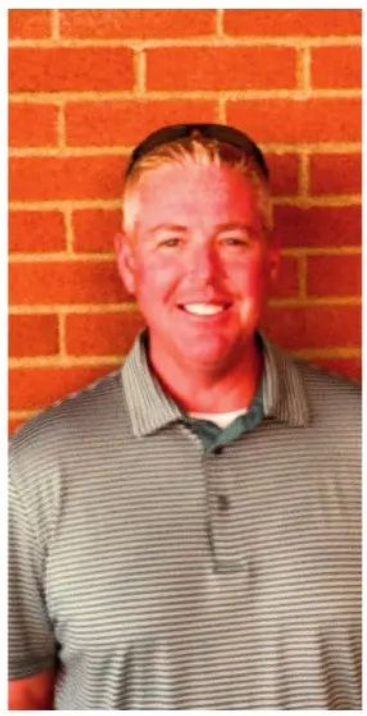
Dunmore High School held its annual Homecoming Assembly on October 9 to introduce the Homecoming Court to the Student Body. Students voted that morning, and the Homecoming Queen and Homecoming King were announced at halftime of the football game that night. Members of the court included, front row: Miss Buck Riley McHale, Paige Ancherani, Chloe Bellas, Ayla Cantafio, Clare Fofi, Grace Hennessy, Emily McGowan, Maggie Mecca, Sascha Novak, Reagan Rodzinak, and Anna Tekce. Back row, same order: Nate Grochowski, Will Bonin, Xavier Burke, Ryan Clark, Jake Costanzo, Carter Davies, Ethyn Durst, Luke Franek, Jackson Harding, Carter Sload, and Weston Yannone.



On October 9, Homecoming Queen Paige Ancherani and Homecoming King Jackson Harding were announced during halftime at the Dunmore High School football game.



Dunmore High School celebrated Cross Country Team Senior Day on October 14. Congratulations to senior Nikia Griffin and her family! Buck Pride!



Christopher Phillips has been announced as the new Dean of Students at the Dunmore Elementary Center.



Congratulations to Dunmore Junior-Senior High School Students of the Month for September. They are: Julia Scalese, seventh grade; Scarlett Hedglin, eighth grade; Courtney Rudalavage, ninth grade; Jude Stefanski, tenth grade; Russell Toole, eleventh grade, and Nikia Griffith, twelfth grade.

The Dunmorean

Dunmore News. Dunmore People. Dunmore Proud.

EXTRA! EXTRA!

WE'VE GOT A NEW LOOK.





Let's talk about the sides for Thanksgiving

Last November, we spent our time talking turkey—literally. We went through the different ways to prepare the centerpiece of the Thanksgiving table: roasting, brining, frying, smoking and all the various ways we convince ourselves that *this year* we've finally discovered the perfect turkey.

But I have a confession to make.

The turkey isn't the star of Thanksgiving dinner.

It's the stuffing. In fact, I'm willing to go a step further: **stuffing is the true entrée of Thanksgiving dinner.** The turkey is just there to make the whole thing socially acceptable.

Stuffing has always been my favorite part of the meal, and it is the one item on the Thanksgiving table that I am absolutely, positively going back for seconds. Turkey? Maybe. Mashed potatoes? We'll see. Stuffing? There was never a question.

There are a thousand different ways to make it, and every family seems to have its own version. Mine takes some inspiration from the great Paula Deen, but, as usual, we're going to tinker with things. Start with your bread. You can use dried bread cubes, breadcrumbs or a combination of the two. But here's one of my secrets: **saltine crackers.**

Crush them up and mix them in with the bread. They add a different texture and, more importantly, soak up all that wonderful stock, butter and flavor. Depending on what I have around, I'll even add some cooked rice to the mixture. Thanksgiving stuffing is not a place where we need to be overly concerned with rigid rules.

Then comes the meat.We live in Northeast Pennsylvania, so put some good local flavor into it. Brown up some **Schiff's breakfast sausage** and fold it into the stuffing. You can also use bacon—or, because this is Thanksgiving and calories cease to exist until Friday morning, use both.

Onions and celery go into the pan with plenty of butter. Let them soften and become fragrant before combining everything. Then add your stock gradually. You want stuffing that is moist and rich, but you're making stuffing, not bread soup.

And then there's sage. Use fresh sage if you can find it. It absolutely transforms the dish and gives you that unmistakable Thanksgiving aroma. But proceed with caution. Fresh sage is potent stuff. This is one of those ingredients where a little makes people wonder what you did differently this year, while too much makes the entire dinner taste like a Yankee Candle. Chop it finely, add a little, taste, and go from there.

Now, while we're discussing Thanksgiving controversies, I have a question:

Are yams sweet potatoes?

I know there is a technically correct answer to this question, but I'm more interested in what *you* call them. Growing up, were they yams? Sweet potatoes? Candied yams? And did they arrive at the table covered in brown sugar and marshmallows?

Because here is another Thanksgiving tradition I've never completely understood: sweet potatoes are already sweet. Why does nearly every Thanksgiving recipe seem determined to make them even sweeter? Brown sugar. Maple syrup. Marshmallows. More brown sugar. My suggestion this year? **Go savory.** Sweet potatoes become much more interesting when you play against their natural sweetness instead of piling more sugar on top of it. Roast them with olive oil or butter and plenty of salt. Add black pepper, garlic, smoked paprika, thyme or rosemary. A little cayenne can provide some heat. You can mash them with butter, salt and herbs just as you would a traditional potato.

That natural sweetness is still there, but now it has something to work against. Sweet, salty and savory all in the same bite—that's a side dish worth going back for.

Of course, mashed potatoes still belong on the table. Keep those simple. Good potatoes, plenty of butter, salt and enough cream or milk to make them luxurious. Thanksgiving isn't the day for low-fat mashed potatoes.

And if you were with us last month, you might remember our ridiculously simple butternut squash soup made from homemade chicken stock, squash and that little finishing touch of freshly grated nutmeg. Why not serve it on Thanksgiving? A small bowl of warm butternut squash soup makes a fantastic first course. You can even make it ahead of time, which is invaluable on a day when every burner, oven rack and square inch of countertop suddenly becomes prime real estate.

Thanksgiving dinner doesn't need fifteen complicated dishes. Give me a beautifully cooked turkey, excellent stuffing, mashed potatoes, a savory sweet potato dish, a vegetable or two, good gravy and maybe that bowl of butternut squash soup to start, and I'm perfectly content.

But whatever you decide to put on your table this year, I have one final request.

Please don't start talking about Christmas yet.

Don't put on the Christmas music. Don't rush to the next holiday. Don't make Thanksgiving feel like some inconvenient Thursday standing between Halloween and December. Thanksgiving deserves its moment. There is something wonderful about a holiday whose entire purpose is to gather around a table with the people you care about, cook far too much food, eat far too much of it and be grateful for what you have.So let Thanksgiving enjoy the stage all on its own.And pass the stuffing.

I'm getting seconds.

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50th Thanksgiving programs planned

Friends of the Poor and Catherine McAuley Center (FOTP/CMC) will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its annual Thanksgiving Community Program this November, continuing a half-century tradition of bringing the community together to provide food, fellowship and support to local families in need.

The 50th annual program will be held under the leadership of Sister Judy O'Brien, the agency's new President and CEO, and will feature three signature events:

The first event will be an Interfaith Prayer Service, in collaboration with the Scranton Area Ministerium, will be held on Friday, November 13, at 7 p.m. with a prayer service at Temple Hesed, 1 Knox Road, Scranton.

The annual Interfaith Prayer Service brings together members of the community representing a variety of faith traditions for an evening of prayer, fellowship and thanksgiving.

The second event is a Thanksgiving community dinner will be provided on the afternoon of Tuesday, November 24, or until supplies last, at the Scranton Cultural Center, 420 N. Washington Avenue at Vince Street. There will be a limit of two dinners per vehicle.

The third event will be a Family to Family Thanksgiving Food Basket Distribution held on Wednesday, November 25, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or until supplies last, again at the Scranton Cultural Center.

The Family to Family program will distribute Thanksgiving food baskets containing the ingredients needed for local families to prepare and enjoy a Thanksgiving meal together. Social service agencies may arrange larger pickups by contacting Linda Robeson at lindarobeson@comcast.net.

"Family to Family has been serving thousands of families during the holiday season for more than 40 years," said Linda Robeson, Family to Family Food Basket Program Director. "This Thanksgiving, we are hoping to provide approximately 3,500 local families with the ingredients to prepare a meal they can enjoy together. It is a wonderful tradition of neighbors helping neighbors, and we are grateful to everyone who makes it possible. From our families to yours, thank you."

The 50th anniversary of the Thanksgiving Community Program represents a significant milestone for FOTP/CMC and the many volunteers, donors, faith communities, community organizations and supporters who have helped sustain the tradition over the years.

"Thanksgiving is a time to come together, and for 50 years this program has reflected the generosity and compassion of our community," said Sister Judy O'Brien, President and CEO of Friends of the Poor and Catherine McAuley Center. "We are grateful for everyone who has helped make this tradition possible and look forward to continuing this important work for years to come."

To learn more about FOTP/CMC's programs and services, visit fotpcmc.org or call (570) 342-1342.

Actors Circle slates Thanksgiving play

Actors Circle will present *The Thanksgiving Play* by Larissa FastHorse, directed by Nickie "Kylie" Pimental, at Providence Playhouse, 1256 Providence Road, Scranton. This adult satirical comedy is intended for audiences age 14 and up.

Show dates are November 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, and 22, with Friday and Saturday shows at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are $15 general; $12, seniors, and students are $10.

Call 570-342-9707 or visit actorscirclescranton.com or follow on Facebook.



Nickie Pimental

The play features a well-meaning group. A good intention. A complete and total disaster.

Good intentions collide with absurd assumptions in Larissa FastHorse's wickedly funny adult satire, as a troupe of terminally "woke" teaching artists scrambles to create a Thanksgiving pageant that somehow manages to celebrate both Turkey Day and Native American Heritage Month.





Note: Dunmore Activity Hub, or Dunmore Senior Center, has seen a resurgence in interest in its painting class. Each month, *The Dunmorean* will introduce you to these talented artists and their artwork with the assistance of Dolly Michalczyk

Meet Patricia Reilly
November Artist of the Month

By Patricia Reilly

My love for painting began in the 70's at the YWCA in Scranton, where I took art classes with Ms. Haddie Emmick. It was there that I completed my very first still life. Those years sparked the love of painting in me.

I stepped away from painting for a few years, after we moved to New Jersey, to focus on raising our three children, Debbe, David, and Jackie. Painting slowly found its way back into my life when my husband Jack and I moved back to Pennsylvania.

Nearly 18 years ago, my sister in law Maria, invited me to join her for an art class at the DSC. Since then, we have been painting together side-by-side, sharing stories and laughter, and forming meaningful friendships with fellow painters. Even my husband Jack joined the class for a few years. It became an enjoyable way to spend our leisurely retirement together.

My paintings are inspired by the beauty around me and special moments with my family and my four grandchildren, Damian, Ashlynn, Avery, and Gabriella.

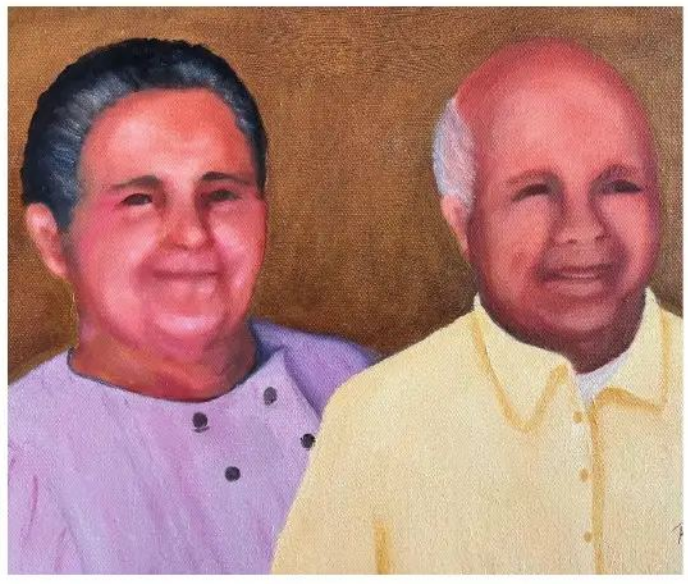
Dunmore Senior Center art teacher Jill Swersie has inspired me through sharing her expertise in painting.

From her, I have learned how to add shadows, to add a touch of red to bring a painting to life, and to use color in a new and exciting way. Jill has helped me see painting differently, which has given me the confidence to try new ideas with my paintings.

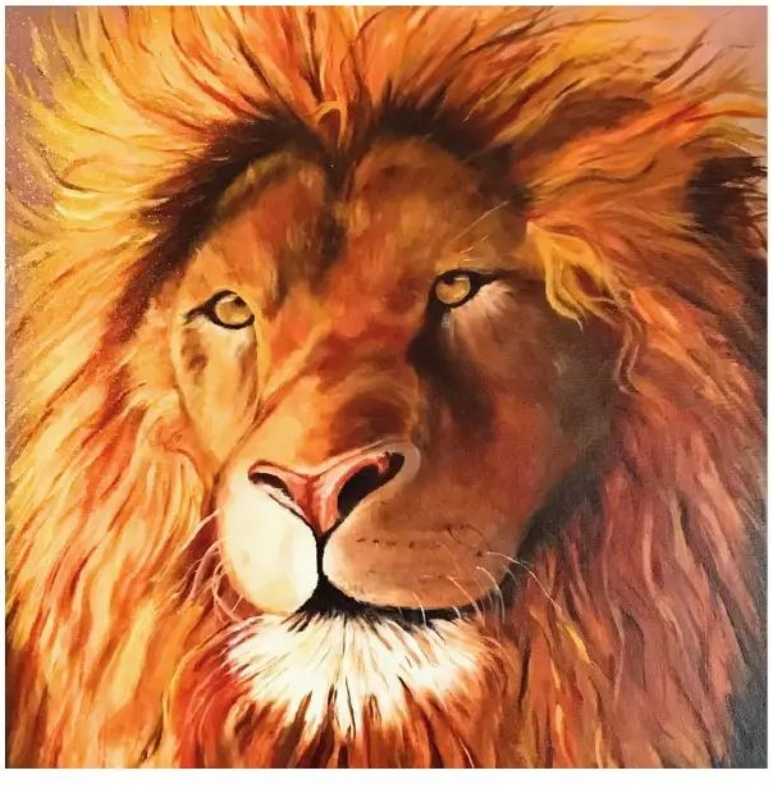
Looking back through the years, painting has been woven through different chapters of my life. It has brought me joy, connection, and a beautiful sense of belonging. I'm truly grateful that, after all these years, I'm still holding a paint brush and enjoying every moment of it.



Artist of the Month: Patricia Reilly













The Lackawanna County Commissioners presented Jeremy Komasz, second from left, Steamtown National Historic Site Superintendent, with a proclamation recognizing the museum's 40th anniversary in our area. The Steamtown collection, amassed by rail enthusiast the late F. Nelson Blount moved to downtown Scranton in 1984 into the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railyard. Shown from left are Commissioner Bill Gaughan, Mr. Komasz, Commissioner Chris Chermak, Scranton Mayor Paige Gebhardt Cognetti, and State Representative Kyle Donahue.

The Hart of the Issue...

Continued from Page 8

amendments, 50–0.

But there is an important twist: the final law did not adopt the broader "posted or otherwise" warrant requirement that appeared in the earlier version of the bill.

Before final passage, the House amended the legislation. The enacted version instead provides that Game Commission officers, employees and representatives may enter property outside of buildings only "in accordance with Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution of Pennsylvania." The enforcement provision was likewise changed to tie an officer's authority to that same standard.

In other words, the legislature did exactly what I suspected it might do in one respect — it responded quickly to the Supreme Court's decision and changed the Game Code itself. But it stopped short of creating the broader, blanket warrant rule for all private property that the earlier bill appeared poised to establish.

That distinction matters.

The constitutional standard announced in Punxsutawney Hunting Club therefore remains central. Whether a particular piece of open land carries a reasonable expectation of privacy can still depend upon the steps the owner has taken to exclude intruders.

There is also a timing point hunters should know. Although Act 115 was signed on October 22, it does not take effect until 60 days later. So, during much of this November hunting season, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's constitutional decision is the immediate rule to understand; the statutory amendments will take effect in December.

Case Law Meets Statutory Law — In Real Time

This is about as good a real-world example of the relationship between case law and statutory law as I could have asked for when I started writing this article.

The General Assembly writes statutes. Courts interpret those statutes and determine whether government action complies with the Constitution.

Here, Pennsylvania already had statutes giving the Game Commission broad authority to enter private land. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court examined that authority against Article I, Section 8 of our state Constitution and concluded that portions of it could not survive constitutional scrutiny. The legislature then responded.

Importantly, the General Assembly cannot pass an ordinary statute that takes away a constitutional protection recognized by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The Constitution remains superior to a statute. But the legislature can rewrite the Game Code to conform to the Court's constitutional ruling — and it can choose to provide even greater statutory protection if it wishes.

An earlier version of Senate Bill 1431 appeared ready to do the latter. The final version chose the former.

So, in a matter of months, a dispute between private hunting clubs and the Pennsylvania Game Commission reached our Commonwealth's highest court.

The Court reconsidered decades of precedent and interpreted our Constitution to provide greater protection to certain private land. The General Assembly then took up legislation addressing that decision, amended it, passed it unanimously, and sent it to the Governor, who signed it into law.

That entire process played itself out while this issue of The Dunmorean was being prepared for publication.

That's how American law develops — and, in this instance, we got to watch it happen in real time.

A dispute between citizens and the government becomes a lawsuit. The lawsuit reaches Pennsylvania's highest court. The Court interprets our Constitution. That decision changes decades of precedent. The legislature sees the consequences of that decision and considers whether a statute should establish an even clearer rule. And eventually, another court may be asked to interpret that statute.

Before You Head Into the Woods

Know whose property you're hunting. Get permission when required. Respect posted land and purple-painted boundaries. Follow the Game Code.

And if you're a landowner who wants your property to remain private, understand that the steps you take to communicate that expectation of privacy may now have constitutional significance.

More than a decade ago, I sat in a law school classroom reading about the open fields doctrine and wondering how land clearly intended to be private could receive so little constitutional protection.

I remember thinking that the law's definition of "private" didn't sound much like the definition ordinary people would use.

All these years later, Pennsylvania's highest court has wrestled with that very question.

And perhaps there is something fitting about the fact that the case that caused Pennsylvania to reconsider the open fields doctrine didn't begin in a city, an airport or a police station.

It began exactly where you'd expect a Pennsylvania case about the meaning of private property to begin: at a hunting club.

Have a safe and successful hunting season.

Be smart. Call Hart.

NEPA Sports Hall of Fame celebrates new inductees

(Continued from Page 14)

At Georgetown University, she was captain of a Big East championship cross country team. She also excelled in track and field at Georgetown.

Finegan was a high school football official for 50 years and 10 years for softball. He officiated high school basketball for 35 years and high school and college baseball for 40 years. He worked games involving the U.S. Olympic team and Japanese, Korean and Canadian National teams.

Gordon formed Scranton Central's first golf team. He represented Central in the 1959 and 1960 PIAA championships. He formed the golf team at Keystone in 1960 and finished third in the State Junior College Tournament. He went on to win numerous golf tournaments. Kettel coached basketball at Scranton Prep winning eight PIAA titles and three Lackawanna League championships. He organized the first "Coaches vs. Cancer" unit while at Lackawanna Trail in 2007. The unit has raised $4 million to date.

As Lakeland's quarterback, Kraky was twice named Times-Tribune offensive Player of the Year. He broke the PA record for yards passing in a career with 7,447. He threw for 29 touchdown passes in his senior year, including a record seven against Western Wayne. He was named AP small school State Player of the Year in Class 2A-1A in 2001.

The late McLaughlin officiated field hockey from 1953 to 2020, just short of her 88th birthday, for a total of 67 years. She was influential in beginning the NE area girls youth leagues.

Jack Ott had All-State recognition as a linebacker for Riverside. He was an All-Scholastic and Riverside football MVP in 1973 and 1974. He was first-team All-Conference as a Riverside basketball player. He was an All-Region linebacker in his freshman year at Potomac State Junior College. He later coached at Riverside both as head football coach and defensive coach and was part of three district titles. He is currently a PIAA football and baseball official.

As a bowler, Bruce Smallacombe won 16 league championships, eight league high game awards, four league high average awards, four high series awards and two league sportsmanship awards. He was invited to the PBA Masters Tournament and bowled a 710 series in the Pro Am. He started playing softball at 17 in the Jermyn-Mayfield Tavern League and continues to play in two softball leagues at age 72. He won the International Senior Softball World championship in 2006 and earned three State titles.

Will Squier has a record of 697-180 as Elk Lake girls' cross country coach and 745-152 record as boys' cross country coach. He led the boy's cross country team to three State titles. His teams have earned a combined 11 State titles and runner-up finishes.

Bob Beviglia had a 240-53 record in 11 years as Scranton Prep girls' basketball coach. He won eight Lackawanna League Division I titles, eight PIAA District II championships, and had 11 consecutive trips to PIAA 4A State tournaments. His 18 State tournament wins are most active among Lackawanna League girls basketball coaches. He coached the only undefeated basketball team in Scranton Prep history.

Larry Holeva has a 43-year distinguished career as a journalist. He began as a copy boy for the defunct *Scranton Tribune* and sports writer for *The Pennsylvania Athlete.* He spent 11 years in sports journalism, including 11 as a beat baseball writer before transitioning to editing in 1998. He became managing editor of *The Citizens Voice* in 2004 after 16 years as a reporter-editor for the *Scranton Times-Tribune*. He is currently executive editor for MediaNews Group's Northeast PA publications. He is past president of the PA Associated Press Managing Editors.

John Davies was the first Public Address announcer for the Scranton Wilkes-Barre Red Barons where he was employed from 1989 through 2006. He announced the league's AAA All-Star game on national TV in 1995. He also was an announcer for Scranton Prep football, Scranton Miners basketball in the Atlantic Basketball Association, the Lynett Basketball Tournament, University of Scranton men's and women's basketball, and the Scranton Wilkes-Barre RailRiders. He announced a total of 2,407 games in 35 years.

DHS senior art students enter PennDot's Paint-the-Plow contest for safe winter driving



Once again, talented seniors at Dunmore High School participated in the annual Paint the Plow contest for PennDOT. Congratulations to these gifted students and to art teacher Cristin Hogan





Gemma Bistran, a senior at Holy Cross High School, was asked to emcee the recent Ronald McDonald House Champions of Hope Gala in Philadelphia. This gala is a benefit to raise money for the Ronald McDonald Room on the oncology floor at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the Ronald McDonald camp for kids with cancer. Gemma has been a camper for the past four years. The gala raised over $500,000 which will aid so many pediatric cancer patients in their fight. Holy Cross is so proud of Gemma as she continues to Shine His Light with her incredible commitment to charity.

Arts & Culture Department of Lacka. County announces Community Project Grants

The Lackawanna County Arts and Culture Department has released the criteria for its annual Community Project Grants and Non-Profit Operational Grants.

Individuals, non-profits, and municipalities may apply for a Community Project Grant up to $3,000 for a project that enhances the cultural life of the County.

The Non-Profit & Municipal Operational Grants are only for operational funding. New applicants for this category can apply for a grant up to $5,000. Returning applicants to this category must follow the guidelines listed in the application.

Anyone who is seeking funding for a permanent public art project, such as a sculpture or mural, must contact the Arts & Culture Department directly to discuss the matter.

If a respective organization already receives funding from a County Non-Profit & Municipal Operational Grant, it must apply through that category.

The deadline for submission is Thursday, December 31. Award recipients will be announced in March 2027.

For more information on this program, contact the Arts and Culture Department, at 570.963.6590, Ext. 3176, or email arts-culture@lackawannacounty.org.

DISHIN THE DIRT



Alyson and Dylan Padich recently won the Fort North TV Festival Pilot & Script competition.

(Continued from Page 13)

from senior **Liza Froncek**...**Alexia Wasp** scored first goal on corner kick from **Natalya Musto**... Congratulations to Holy Cross senior **Elias Stabinski** named Lackawanna League cross country all-star...

Congratulations to Holy Cross soccer player **Alaina Scassellati** named All-State and first-team Lackawanna League all-star... Congratulations to Holy Cross senior soccer standout **Liza Froncek** named first-team Lackawanna League all-star. Congratulations to Holy Cross Lady Crusader soccer players **Jane Walsh** and **Sophia Roman** named second-team Lackawanna League all-stars. Congratulations to Dunmore soccer coach **Tom Clark** who earned 100th career win, 2-1, over North Pocono last month and for leading team to Lackawanna League Division II title...Congratulations to Dunmore soccer standout **Johnley Jean** whose uniform number was retired...**Paige Ancherani** and **Jackson Harding** named Homecoming Queen and King at Dunmore High School…Dunmore all-purpose senior **Weston Yannone** named Times-Tribune Offensive Player of Week in Week 8...Teammate **Xavier Burke** named Defensive Player of Week for same week ..Yannone named NPF Football Prime Player of Week for Week 8 after rushing for 187 yards and three touchdowns on seven carries in Dunmore's win over Honesdale...

Congratulations to Dunmore cross country runner **Olivia O'Brien** named second-team Lackawanna all-star... Congratulations to former Dunmore Lady Bucks basketball standout **Kayleigh Semion** officially inducted into NEPA Chapter of PA Sports Hall of Fame last month...West Scranton community mourning passing last month of **Bob "Whitey" White** who died suddenly from heart attack at 65 after recent retirement as Colts bus driver. Whitey was beloved and devoted family man who gave his time to West Scranton community as volunteer coach in various youth baseball leagues over a couple decades...

How about Brew Crew of Milwaukee winning World Series in five games over Tampa Bay Rays?... It marked Milwaukee Brewers first world championship ever and first trip to World Series in 44 years when Harvey's Wallbangers lost in seven games to speedy St. Louis Cardinals managed by late **Whitey Herzog**, the White Rat... Brew Crew plays old style baseball under manager **Pat Murphy** making contact, hitting hard singles, bunting, stealing, running bases well and forcing errors... Brew Crew living proof that launch angles, exit velocity and upper cut swings for fences are for computer nerds...And they won it for late **Bob Ueker**...Brew Crew fans were loud and clear even at The Trop in Tampa Bay...Brew Crew victory parade in Milwaukee featured four Hall of Fame members from 82 team - **Robin Yount, Paul Molitor, Ted Simmons** and **Rollie Fingers** who all spoke .. Congratulations to Brewers catcher **William Contreras** named World Series MVP... And how about **9**...Names you will not forget ..Only Yelich, team captain, was previously a household name...Cheers for lowest payroll teams making their mark playing old school baseball...**Lebron James** at 41 and in 24th year fitting in nicely with Philly teammates... Lebron hit go-ahead winning shot in 76ers recent win over Knicks, scored 20 points and added nine rebounds and nine assists in win... NFL community and fans mourning passing of legendary **Mike Ditka** at 86...The tough-skinned Ditka made his mark as player, coach, in TV commercials and as NFL football analyst - excelling at all...He once coached Super Bowl winning Chicago Bears team that lost only one game all season...Do you remember **Denny Pryle**?...Whatever became of **Moose Haas**?...

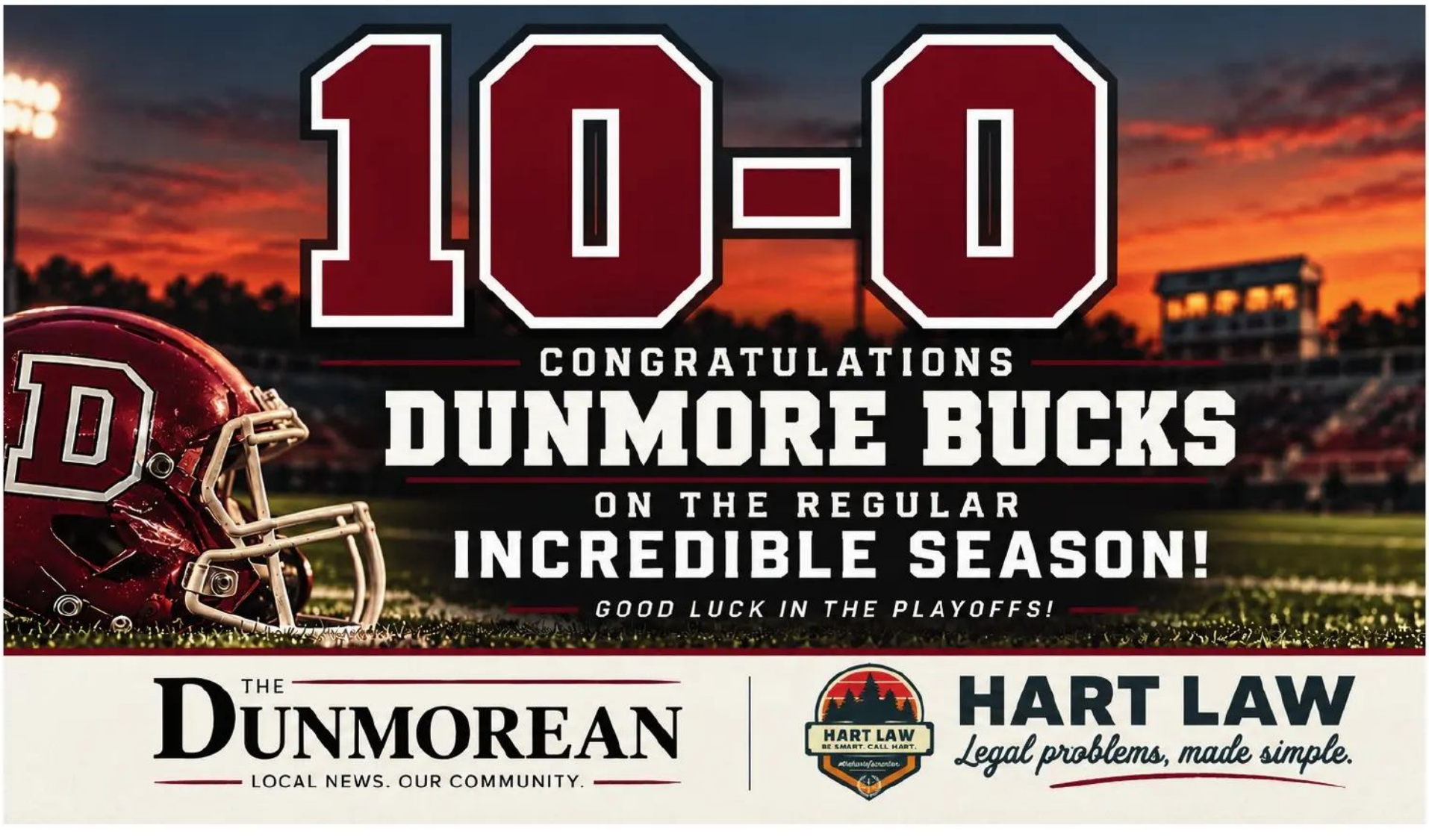
BUCKS BY THE NUMBERS

2026 regular season

Game 1	42-0
Game 2	62-7
Game 3	63-7
Game 4	35-0
Game 5	50-6
Game 6	56-0
Game 7	72-0
Game 8	63-11
Game 9	58-6
Game 10	53-6

Record: 10-0
Points: 563-43
LFC Division II champions

Next: District 2 Class 2A semifinal vs. Holy Redeemer, Friday, Nov. 6



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SC-265057

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SC-261428

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SC-263467

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SC-263333

2 Bedroom apartment upstairs ready to rent out. Downstairs make another apartment or small business. Dunmore Borough Rep states many light traffic commercial usages may be permitted to operate. No liquor license included. A bar/restaurant usage or other type of business that requires a lot of parking would need special exception approval. Seller willing to hear all offers! All buyers/buyers agents must verify their planned usage with Dunmore Borough.



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