

**FREE**

October 31-November 13, 2019

NEXT EDITION: NOVEMBER 14

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 8

# Mountain Peaks



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NEWSPAPER, LLC

Volume 16, No.22

www.mt-peaks.com

## TRICK OR TREAT!



Carol Duffy and Bonnie Silveti enjoy the warm fire at the Dorrance trunk or treat on October 27.



Construction worker Shawn Mulligan, 8 plays on the teeter totter before the start of the Halloween parade in Wright Township on October 26.



Cassidy McDermott and Arowyn Mulhearn show off their dinosaur tails and their Jurassic Park themed trunk at the White Haven Area Community Library truck or treat on October 12.

More  
Halloween  
photos, page  
24 and 25



Kayla Miller, 2, gets a candy bar from Key Club member Chloe Caplan, 16 at the trunk or treat at Christ United Methodist Church on October 26.



Hope Gould, 6 helps herself to some treats at the Starry Knights Trunk or Treat on October 26.

Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photos



Daniel, 6 and Emelia Pachick 8, are having a great time at the trunk or treat at Christ UMC on October 26.

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## Places To Go ... Things To Do ...

### NOVEMBER 2 CONQUER THE MOUNTAIN

The Mountain Top Rotary Club is hosting its annual Conquer the Mountain 5K Walk/Run on **Saturday, November 2** in Wright Township Park in Mountain Top. Support the Cause: For the prevention of overdoses and suicides. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Pathway to Recovery, Counseling and Educational Services.

Pre-register at [www.nepa-runner.com](http://www.nepa-runner.com) or on Facebook: Rotary of Mountaintop Events. Registration day of event: 8-9:45 a.m. Race starts at 10 a.m. for runners and 9:45 a.m. for walkers.

Sponsors of the race are: Platinum Sponsor: Lehigh Valley Health Network; Gold Sponsors: Jessica's Light, Cross Valley Federal Credit Union; Silver Sponsors: Fidelity Bank, NBT Bank, Screen Printing USA, Cornell Cookson; Bronze Sponsors: Mountaintop Chiropractic, Country Kennels, Junie G's, Little Big Steps, Mountain Peaks Newspaper, Independent Life Homecare, Mountain Yoga, Simply Delicious Desserts, Cavanaugh's Grille, Disabled American Veterans, Adopt a Vet.

### TURKEY DINNER

Christ United Methodist Church, 175 South Main Road, Mountain Top will hold its turkey dinner on **Saturday, November 2** from 4 to 7 p.m. Takeouts are available 2 to 4 p.m. The meal includes turkey, gravy, stuffing, mashed potatoes, homemade cabbage, corn, green beans, and pie. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults, children 5 to 10 are \$5 and under 5 are free. Tickets will be available at the door

and by calling the church office at 570-474-6060.

### CRAFT FAIR

Mountaintop Senior Care will host a craft fair on **November 2** from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. There will be a variety of handmade crafts, vendors, and comfort food. Mountaintop Senior Care is located at 185 S. Mountain Blvd. Mountain Top. For more information contact Joann at 570-474-6377 ext 181.

### ROAST BEEF DINNER

Saint Mary's, Dorrance is holding its annual roast beef dinner on **Saturday, November 2**, from 3-7 p.m. in the parish social hall, 3529 Saint Mary's Road, Wapwallopen.

Dinner includes roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, green beans, pickled beets, pickled cabbage, rolls and butter, dessert, and beverages. The all you can eat din-

ner is served family style. Take outs are available. Cost: take outs and adults \$10, children 5-10 years old \$4, and preschool: no charge. For more information please call the parish office 570-868-5855.

### NOVEMBER 3 HOLISTIC EVENT

The White Haven Library will hold a holistic event on **Sunday, November 3** from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be numerous vendors including tarot card readers, psychic mediums, numerology, chair massage, reflexology, reiki, and jewelry and healing stones for sale.

The library is located at 121 Towanda Street in White Haven. Call 570-443-8776 for more information.

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Kiwanis Club of Mountain Top will be serving the

famous "all you can eat" pancake and sausage breakfast on **Sunday, November 3** from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Crestwood High School cafeteria. The menu also includes scrambled eggs, orange juice, coffee, tea and hot chocolate. The cost is \$8, with children under 12

paying only \$3. Please come out and enjoy the morning with your neighbors for a great cause.

Kiwanis has been active in the Mountain Top Community for well over 50 years, and sup-

*See Places To Go, page 4*

## AMERICAN LEGION MT. POST 781

1550 HENRY DRIVE, MOUNTAIN TOP • 570-678-7105

## NOVEMBER ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

*November 1:* PB&J DUO

*November 2:* BETTER WITH BEER

*November 8:* DJ CAROL & JT

*November 9:* TRAFFIC JAM

*November 16:* HOT SHOT

*November 23:* ALIBI

*November 30:* PB&J

Members & Guests  
Any questions please contact the Legion.



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- Earn College Credits
- Refreshments



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Editor and Publisher: Maryellen Aton 570-868-3070  
Advertising Sales: Wendy Griffiths 570-249-1233  
Photo Journalist: Norberta Kosin  
Correspondent: Claudia Strycharz

P.O. Box 218  
Mountain Top, PA 18707  
Phone: 570-868-3070

email:  
[publisher@mt-peaks.com](mailto:publisher@mt-peaks.com)  
[ads@mt-peaks.com](mailto:ads@mt-peaks.com)

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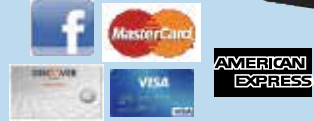
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## Places To Go ... Things To Do ...

### Continued from page 2

ports worthy causes such as the Crestwood Odyssey of the Mind teams, MS Kirby Library and numerous charitable programs that focus on the well-being of children.

For more information on the breakfast or about joining the club, please see their Facebook page or call Brian at 570-868-5861.

### BREAKFAST & BAKE SALE

Mt. Zion UCC Slocum will hold its annual fall breakfast and bake sale on **Sunday, November 3** from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Slocum Fire Company Hall.

The all-you-can eat hearty breakfast features bacon, sausage, eggs, home fries, pan-

cakes, toast, coffee, juices, and homemade goodies.

Cost is adults \$9; children (6-12 years) \$4.50 and children 5 and under are free.

Join them for a morning of good food and fellowship!

### NOVEMBER 4 GFWC MEETING

GFWC Mountain Top will hold its next meeting on **Monday, November 4**, at 6:30 p.m. at Christ United Methodist Church, Route 309, Mountain Top. The theme will be Pj Party For Ruth's Place. The guest speaker will be from Ruth's Place, and a donation of new PJs would be appreciated. This is a PJ Party so you are welcome to come in PJs to the

meeting. Hostesses are Mary Jo, Stacey and Marge.

For more information or questions please call Gaylene at 570-751-6144 or visit them on Facebook @ GFWC Mountain Top.

### NOVEMBER 7 AL AUXILIARY MEETING

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 781 will hold its monthly meeting on **November 7** at the American Legion Home off Church Road in Mountain Top.

There is a Junior Auxiliary always looking for some young people to join their family. The junior members run activities to help veterans and community. If you are interested in having some fun and learning more about

the Juniors please contact Ava Groth (avagroth@yahoo.com). Ava is presently selling Gertrude Hawk candy bars for \$1, there is a box at the Legion for your convenience or email Ava for additional information. Ava is in the process of getting a raffle ticket together, all members are asked to help her in this fundraiser. If you can sell tickets for her please contact Ava at her email, or at the American Legion Home off Church Road in Mountain Top.

### NOVEMBER 9 INDOOR YARD SALE

St. Michael's Orthodox Church in Freeland will sponsor an indoor community yard sale on **Saturday, November 9**

from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Michael's Recreation Center, 300 Fern Street, Freeland.

Numerous vendors with new and old items and crafters will be selling their goods. A bake sale will be featured, along with tricky-tray chances and much more. As always, delicious homemade foods will be available for eat-in or take-out.

This is a rain or shine event and plenty of parking is available. No "early birds" please.

### YOGA BENEFIT

Tracy Cornelius, owner of Positive Vibes is holding a donation based yoga class at the American Legion Post 781, 1550 Henry Drive, Mountain

*See Places To Go, page 5*

# FALL ROAST BEEF SUPPER

## Saturday, November 2 • 3-7 p.m.

### St. Mary's Church, Dorrance

3529 St. Mary's Road, Wapwallopen

Adults & Take Out: \$10  
Children 5-10 years old: \$4  
Under 5: No charge

570-868-5855



## Places To Go ... Things To Do ...

### Continued from page 4

Top on **November 9** at 12 noon for the Veterans Yoga Project. 100% of the proceeds will go to their mission to support recovery and resilience to our veterans, families and our communities.

Please wear comfortable clothing, bring a mat, and a water bottle. This class is appropriate for everyone in the community.

### CHICKEN & WAFFLE SUPPER

Faith Church will be holding its annual chicken & waffle supper on **Saturday, November 9**, serving family style from 4 to 7 p.m. Take-outs are available from 3:30 p.m. The

cost is \$10 for age 13 through adult, \$5 for children age 5 to 12, and children under age 4 are free. Tickets can be purchased at the supper.

Faith will be making Christmas candy in December including white chocolate peppermint bark, milk or dark chocolate raisin clusters, peanut clusters, and mixed clusters. Cost \$10 for 1 pound box. Please call 570-301-8097 by November 12 to place order.

Faith United Methodist Church is located at 1448 Slocum Road in Wapwallopen.

### NOVEMBER 10 PURSE BINGO

Crestwood Senior Lock In will host a purse bingo fund-

raiser in the Crestwood High School cafeteria on **Sunday, November 10**. Doors open at 12 noon, games begin at 1 p.m. Cost is \$20 in advance.

Please contact Jen Phillips to purchase your tickets at 570-579-6403 or tickets may be purchased at Boxes And Bows, 134 North Mountain Blvd. or Golden Scissors Salon, 132 South Mountain Blvd., Mountain Top.

Please make checks payable to Crestwood Secondary PTA. Tickets can also be purchased at the door for \$25.

Please come out to support the Crestwood Class of 2020!

### FALL FUNDRAISER & BASKET RAFFLE

A fall fundraiser and basket raffle will be held on **Sunday, November 10** from 12-6 p.m. at King's Ristorante, 49 S. Mountain Blvd., Mountain Top to benefit Donna Kozden. Donna is currently undergoing treatment for her second

battle with breast cancer.

The event includes a luncheon, 40 plus basket raffle, 50-50s, bake sale and face painting. \$10/person at the door.

Donations are welcome as are volunteers. To donate or volunteer please call Kim at 570-710-1457 or Chris at 570-497-0890.

### TURKEY BINGO

Saint Mary's, Dorrance, will hold its annual Turkey Bingo on **Sunday, November 10** at 1 p.m. in the social hall, 3529 Saint Mary's Road, Wapwallopen. Doors open at noon. The kitchen will be open for lunch. In addition to regular bingo, there will be specials, raffles, and door prizes. Admission is \$5 and includes 20 games. This is an all paper bingo with 4 games per sheet. The bingo is presented by Saint Theresa's Guild whose mission is to support programs and projects for the benefit of the parish chil-

dren. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month. To join the guild or for more information please call Terry at 570-868-3461.

### NOVEMBER 12 SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION TO MEET

Sons of the American Legion Mountain Post 781 will meet on **November 12** at 6 p.m. at the Post Home. For information, contact Lenny Biel at 474-2161 or mtsal0781@gmail.com.

### SOCIAL CLUB MEETING

The Mountain Top Social Club will meet at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Route 309 in Mountain Top on **November 12** at 1 p.m.

The last trip of the year will be the Christmas show on the November 13. The next casino trip will be November 21.

They are working on trips for 2020 so far there is one scheduled for on May 5 to Sight & Sound Theater, the show is Esther.

The casino trip leaves St. Paul's Church at 8:30 a.m. and St. Aloysius Church in Wilkes-Barre at 9 a.m. and departs the casino at 3:30 p.m. for home. Cost for the casino trips is \$26 per person and you receive a rebate of \$30 for slot play and a \$5 food coupon.

If you are interested in the trips call Cathy Medeiros at 570-261-5016. To join the social club call Rich Powell at 570-868-5701 or John Dopp at 570-535-0990.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING

The next monthly meeting of the Knights of Columbus St.

*See Places To Go, page 8*

VOTE AND SUPPORT  
**DON ZAMPETTI**  
FOR WRIGHT TOWNSHIP  
**SUPERVISOR**  
WILL WORK TO MAINTAIN LOW AND  
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WRIGHT TOWNSHIP  
**SUPERVISOR**

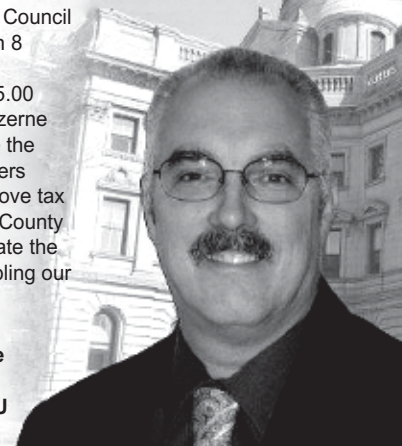
TUESDAY, NOV. 5 VOTE  
**WALTER L. GRIFFITH JR.**  
**LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
"A VOICE FOR THE PEOPLE, NOT AN ECHO"

The County Manager and County Council has increased our taxes 5 times in 8 years, eliminated the Homestead Exemption, and implemented a \$5.00 Vehicle Tax on all residents of Luzerne County and during this entire time the Incumbent County Council Members remained silent and voted to approve tax forgiveness for Big Corporations. County Council did nothing to help eliminate the STORM WATER FEE that is crippling our Citizens.

On November 5th vote for **Walter L. Griffith Jr.** for Luzerne County Council and get a "Bulldog" that will fight for YOU and only YOU every day.

**WALTER L. GRIFFITH FOR COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**"A REAL VOICE FOR THE PEOPLE" FOR A CHANGE**

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## Crestwood Menu

### Elementary Schools

Breakfast available daily. Available daily: peanut butter and jelly sandwich, assorted deli sandwiches and wraps.

### Week of November 4

**Monday:** Philly steak and cheese on a roll or popcorn chicken with a dinner roll; featured veggies: curly fries, chick pea salad, frozen 100% juice cup, choice of milk

**Tuesday:** French toast sticks with scrambled eggs or cheeseburger on a bun; featured veggies: potato triangles, red pepper strips, 100% fruit juice, choice of milk

**Wednesday:** Nacho grande with beef, tortilla chips or hot dog on a bun; featured veggies: Mexicali corn, tomato and onion salad, choice of fruit and milk

**Thursday:** Asian sesame chicken with rice or chicken patty on a bun; featured veggies: steamed carrots, celery sticks with ranch, choice of fruit and milk

**Friday:** No school, Act 80 Day

### Week of November 11

**Monday:** No school, Veteran's Day

**Tuesday:** Italian style meatballs with penne pasta and bread or cheeseburger on a bun; featured veggies: steamed carrots, garden salad, choice of fruit and milk

**Wednesday:** Hot ham and cheese on a pretzel bun or hot dog on a bun; featured veggies: steamed peas, carrot sticks, choice of fruit and milk

**Thursday:** Thanksgiving meal: Roasted turkey with gravy, traditional stuffing, cranberry sauce, dinner roll; featured veggies: mashed potatoes, steamed corn, Thanksgiving treat, choice of milk

**Friday:** Stuffed crust pizza or meatball hoagie; featured veg-

gies: baby carrots, green beans, choice of fruit and milk

### Secondary Campus

Breakfast available daily. Grill line open daily with cheeseburgers, chicken patties, grilled chicken and pizza. Assorted salads, wraps and sandwiches available daily.

### Week of November 4

**Monday:** Cowboy Burger with bacon, cheese, onion rings and barbecue sauce or chicken tenders with a dinner roll; featured veggies: oven fries, chick pea salad, choice of fruit and milk

**Tuesday:** Pancakes with scrambled eggs or chicken parmesan on a bun; featured veggies: potato triangles, red pepper strips, free soft pretzel with lunch, choice of fruit and milk

**Wednesday:** Nachos grande with beef, tortilla chips or meatball hoagie on a roll; featured veggies: Mexicali corn, tomato and onion salsa, choice of milk

**Thursday:** Pulled pork sandwich or barbecue rib on a bun; featured veggies: baked beans, celery sticks with ranch, choice

*See Crestwood, page 7*

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### WEEKLY SPECIALS

**Monday:** Wing Night 6 wings \$4.95 • 12 wings \$8.95

**Tuesday:** \$5 Martini Specials & Meatloaf \$10.95

**Wednesday:** Mexican Night — Mexican Menu Available

Margaritas \$4 and \$6 for jumbos, on the rocks or frozen

**Thursday:** Lobster Tail \$19.95

**Friday:** Prime Rib Night 12 Oz. \$18.95 • 16 Oz. \$21.95

**Saturday:** Chicken Pot Pie/Fried Chicken Dinner \$9.95

**Sunday:** Wacky Burger \$7.95

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## COME IN & CHECK OUT OUR NOVEMBER SPECIALS!

**HAPPY HOUR MON.-FRI. 5 TO 7 P.M.**

**MONDAY: 50¢ WINGS**

\$6.99 Build Your Own 1/2 lb. Burger

**TUESDAY: TEX MEX NIGHT**

All Your Favorites!

**WEDNESDAY: PIZZA & TRIVIA NIGHT**

5 Sicilian Cuts for \$5 & 3.99 Bar Pie (IHO)

Trivia Night Starts at 7:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY: SEAFOOD NIGHT**

Clams, Shrimp, Crab, Lobster & Fish

**FRIDAY: HOMEMADE CRAB BISQUE**

Double Crust White Pizza

**SATURDAY: COLLEGE GAME DAY**

\$1.75 Coors Light Pints

**SUNDAY: NFL TICKET**

\$1.75 Bud Light Pints



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2: RYTHUM & BOOZE • 8 P.M.**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9: THE TONES • 7 P.M.**

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## Crestwood ... Continued from page 6

of fruit and milk

Friday: No school, Act 80 Day

### Week of November 11

Monday: No school, Veteran's Day

Tuesday: Jacked up fries with popcorn chicken and cheese or chicken parmesan on a bun; featured veggies: curly fries, baked beans, choice of fruit and milk

Wednesday: Egg, sausage and

cheese on a bagel or meatball hoagie on a roll; featured veggies: tater tots, carrot sticks, choice of fruit and milk

Thursday: Thanksgiving meal: Roasted turkey with gravy, traditional stuffing, cranberry sauce, dinner roll; featured veggies: mashed potatoes, steamed corn, Thanksgiving treat, choice of milk

Friday: Asian meatballs with fried rice and egg roll or Italian dunkers with sauce; featured veggies: baby carrots, green beans, choice of fruit and milk

## Active Adult Center Menu

Active Adult Centers sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging for Luzerne and Wyoming Counties offer hot noon meals Monday through Friday to people age 60 and over.

This menu is a guide — some diets may vary.

If you did not order a lunch and would like one, call the center at 570-868-8517 to check for any cancellations.

### Week of November 4

Monday: Open Face hot turkey sandwich on whole wheat bread, chive mashed potatoes, vegetable soup, margarine, fresh honeydew melon, milk and coffee

Tuesday: Beef and bean chili, brown rice, chuckwagon corn, margarine, fresh fruit salad, milk and coffee

Wednesday: Italian pork chop, roasted red potatoes, Italian green beans, whole wheat dinner roll, margarine, grapes, milk and coffee

Thursday: Pineapple chicken, cilantro lime brown rice, tropical vegetable medley, crackers, margarine, tropical fruit, milk and coffee

Friday: Beef Monterey, cheesy mashed potatoes, sauteed peppers & onions, whole wheat

See Active Adult, page 8

**OPEN THANKSGIVING EVE!  
CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY.**



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570-520-5955 Check our Facebook page for Hazleton hours.

**Places To Go ... Things To Do ...**

*Continued from page 5*

Jude Council #6440 is **Tuesday, November 12** at 7:30 p.m. in the library of St. Jude's school. All current members are asked to attend. New members are always welcome. Please call the Recorder, Stanley R. Gutkowski III, for more information at 570-474-5785. Visit them at [www.stjudekofc6440.org](http://www.stjudekofc6440.org) or like them on Facebook at stjudekofc6440.

**GARDEN CLUB MEETING**

The Mountain Top Garden Club will meet on **Tuesday, November 12** at 6:30 p.m. at the Rice Township Municipal Building.

Let's get ready for the Holi-

days! With a few simple directions, anyone can quickly get into the holiday spirit by constructing their own wreath using evergreens. Come on out and get an early start on this year's "to-do-list" and learn a new skill.

The meeting is open to the public and new members are always welcome. The Garden Club offers educational presentations, creative activities, and plenty of gardening information, and exclusive discounts at several local garden centers. Their mission is to help beautify the Mountain Top area by planting many beautiful gardens throughout the town.

*See Places To Go, page 16*

**Active Adult ...**

*Continued from page 7*

dinner roll, margarine, scalloped peaches, milk and coffee  
**Week of November 11**

**Monday:** Center closed for Veteran's Day

**Tuesday:** Baked fish with lemon and onion, macaroni & cheese, stewed tomatoes, broccoli, margarine, ambrosia, milk and coffee

**Wednesday:** Center closed

**Thursday:** Creamed turkey, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, whole wheat biscuit, margarine, orange jello, milk and coffee

**Friday:** Pork & pea carbon-

ara, whole wheat spaghetti, Italian vegetable blend, margarine, fresh fruit salad, birthday cake, milk and coffee

Seniors are invited to attend lunch daily. Regular and health plus menus are available. The

suggested donation is \$2. Make your reservations at least one day in advance by calling 868-8517 before 1 p.m.

The center is located at 460 South Main Road, Mountain Top.



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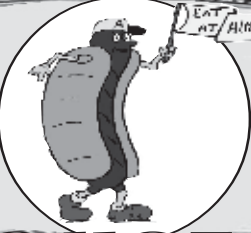
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To order call (570) 788-3652 or e-mail: [gburger@ptd.net](mailto:gburger@ptd.net)  
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## NOVEMBER IS \$5 MONTH!!!

**MONDAY:**  
All Cheesesteaks \$5

**TUESDAY:**  
All Burger & Fry Combos \$5

**WEDNESDAY:**  
All Fish \$5  
Clam strips, crab cakes, fish sandwiches, shrimp



**THURSDAY:**  
2 Hot Dogs & Fry Combo \$5

**FRIDAY:**  
Chicken Tenders Basket \$5

OPEN MON.-FRI. 10:30 A.M.-6:30 P.M.  
SAT. 11 A.M.-4 P.M.

### ABE'S HOT DOGS

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# HALLOWEEN PARTY

**FRI., NOV. 1**  
**8 P.M.-MIDNIGHT**

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## Community comes together for Matt Howton after heart transplant

A benefit was held on Saturday, October 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Mountain Top Hose Co. #1 to help Matt Howton pay for medical costs incurred after a recent and long-awaited heart transplant.

Matt is a beloved member of the community and always strives to do whatever he can for the community and its residents. Now, the community has stepped up to help him.

The event was hosted by members of the community and consisted of a huge community yard sale, bake sale, Chinese auction and raffle. There were also some fun things for the kids to do including a pumpkin painting table and face painting. Local artisans and crafters donated portions of their sales to the benefit. Abe's Hot Dogs, Butcher



**Matt Howton**

Bob's and Junie G's donated a portion of their sales on that day.

Monetary donations will continue to be accepted and checks or money orders may be mailed to Matthew Howton at 311 S. Main Road, Mountain Top or dropped off at 15 Old North Road, Mountain Top. Please make checks payable to Matthew Howton.



Sandy Makara rings up items that Peggy Delorenzo is buying.



Evelyn O'Hara-Stine peruses through some sale items in the morning.

*Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photos*



A banner at the benefit reminded everyone why they were there.

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# VETERANS DAY

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

## Nine ...

*Continued from page 10*

Yurkanin entered pilot training, but never got to fly planes in the war. He was injured in training and was unable to serve overseas. As a result, he was assigned to the Air Corps training command, working with bomber groups until his discharge in April of 1946.

Meanwhile, John, George, Joseph, Frank and Michael all served in the European Theatre during the war in various

**“At that age, you think you are immortal, you never think about being killed.”**

— Andrew Yurkanin

capacities. While all five were in harm's way during the war,

fortunately only Joseph was injured, sustaining wounds from shrapnel.

“At that age, you think you are immortal,” Yurkanin commented. “You never think about being killed.” While all his brothers survived World War II, he did have some friends who lost their lives.

It is estimated 16 million men and women fought in World War II. Yurkanin is one of only about 500,000 veterans of the “Great War” who are still alive. His brother Tom is still alive, along with two sisters.

His three younger brothers, Patrick, Tom and August, enlisted in the military, but did

*See Nine, page 12*



The six Yurkanin brothers who served in the United States army together, are from left, John, George, Mike, Frank, Joe and seated, Andrew. Brothers Patrick and August also served in the US Army and Thomas in the US Naval Reserve.

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# VETERANS DAY

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

## Nine ...

*Continued from page 11*

not serve during World War II. "At one time, all nine of us were in the service," Yurkanin noted proudly. Besides his brothers, two of Yurkanin's grandsons also have served in the military.

Following his discharge, Yurkanin earned his high school diploma and then enrolled at the University of Scranton. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Scranton and then matriculated to Columbia University where he earned a master's degree in clinical social work. After finishing his education, Yurkanin worked for a few years for the Veterans Administration and later Luzerne County Child Welfare Bureau. He left social services in 1963 when he started the first Mountain Top newspaper called the Mountain View, it was eventually sold and Andy maintained a commercial printing business with the same name.



The photo of the six Yurkanin brothers hangs in a Mission BBQ Restaurant in Plymouth Meeting, PA.



This plaque sat in the window of the family home while the boys were in the service.


  
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**State Representative Gerald J. Mullery**

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<sup>¶</sup>Offer valid for new personal checking account customers only. A \$400.00 deposit will be made into your Fidelity Bank checking account when direct deposits or recurring electronic credits of \$2,500.00 per month are received for a minimum of three (3) consecutive months. Requirement must be satisfied within one hundred and fifty (150) calendar days of account opening. Deposit will be made on the first (1st) business day after one hundred and fifty (150) calendar days from account opening. Minimum deposit to open a checking account may range between \$25.00 and \$1,000.00, minimum balance requirements and monthly service charges depend on which checking account is chosen. Please consult your Fidelity Banker for specific product information. Minimum balance requirements and fees may reduce earnings. The annual percentage yield (APY) for Performance Checking or Platinum Checking accounts is 0.03% if balance requirement of \$2,500.00 is met. APY is current as of August 1, 2019 and may be rescinded or changed at any time. Rates are variable and may change at any time. Bonus will be reported on IRS Form 1099-Misc. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Customers may only receive one new checking account and savings account opening related bonus per calendar year.

<sup>§</sup>Annual Percentage Yield (APY) of 2.00% is current as of September 26, 2019. Offer may change or discontinue at any time. Money Market promotional offer requires a new or existing personal Fidelity Bank checking account. Advertisized fixed rate is available when \$10,000 of money not currently held at Fidelity Bank is deposited and maintained in the Money Market account each day. If account balance falls below \$10,000 during the promotional six (6) month period, APY will convert to the following: \$0 - \$2,499.99 earns no interest; \$2,500.00 - \$9,999.99 earns 0.35% APY. Rates are variable and may change at any time. Fees may reduce earnings. Earnings may be reported to the IRS for tax purposes. Offer valid for existing personal checking account clients when new money requirement is met within a new or existing Money Market account. After the six (6) month promotional APY, the Money Market account will revert to the current rate in effect for the product as stated in current deposit rates. Regulation D Transaction limitations – preauthorized transfers including Electronic Funds Transfers, Overdraft Protection linked to savings account, check draft, debit card, point-of-sale or similar order made to a third party are limited to six (6) transfers from your account per calendar month.

<sup>•</sup>New Fidelity Bank business customers eligible only. To receive the \$250.00 bonus, customer must have actively processed credit cards for 60 days. To receive additional \$250.00 bonus, customer must open a new Fidelity Bank business checking account maintaining an average balance of \$5,000.00 on the 60th day after account opening. Credits will be made to the business checking account within 15 days after the 61st day of processing. <sup>+</sup>Offer applicable only if three (3) months of statements are presented for accurate analysis.

## Fidelity Bank holds grand opening at new Mountain Top branch

Fidelity Bank held its grand opening at its new bank in Mountain Top on Saturday, October 26.

The new Mountain Top office features an eco-friendly design in keeping with Fidelity's "Grow Green with Fidelity Bank" theme and its signature Fidelity color. Showcasing some of the most innovative 'green' building features currently available, the Mountain Top location includes daylight harvesting sensors that adjust artificial lighting based on the amount of natural light; high-energy, efficient HVAC systems and radiant heat; Zero Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) paint; high-energy, efficient frosted glass that adjusts according to the sun's orientation, and more.

The festivities began with appearances by Vampirina and Coco's Miguel. There were prize giveaways, a photo booth, face painting, pumpkin decorating, a bounce house, games and ice cream. A ribbon



Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photos

**Fidelity Bank CEO welcomes everyone and gives a little history on the bank and on the opportunity in Mountain Top to open a Fidelity Bank. He is accompanied by Michele Dempsy, an architect with DX Dempsy Architecture; Beth Langston, Branch Manager and RJ Riley, Relationships Manager.**

cutting ceremony was held at 11 a.m.

Fidelity Bank is located on North Mountain Boulevard in across from Burger King.



**Above: Vampirina and Coco Miguel entertain the children with music and dance.**

**At right: One-year old Camden Hausherr decorates a pumpkin.**



## You're invited to MMI's Visitation Night

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**Call today to register for  
Visitation Night  
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# MMI

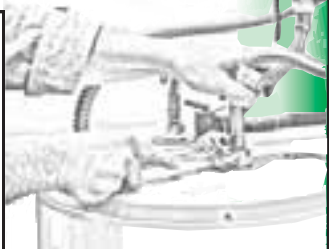
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Mountain Peaks/Norberta Kosin photo

Audrey Tkatch and Barb Thomas prepare a take-out order while Chet Buff make sure the trays are full.

## AL Auxiliary serves ham dinner

The American Legion Auxiliary, Mountain Post 781 held a ham dinner on October 19 from 4 to 7:30 p.m. Take outs were available. The dinner will consist of ham, mashed potatoes with gravy, vegetable, apple sauce, dessert and a beverage and cost \$10.

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## Lee Ann McDermott for Luzerne County Council on Tuesday, November 5th, 2019

### Lee Ann's goals as a member of County Council:

- To work for a sound fiscal management, deficit reduction and a balanced budget.
- To provide the best services for Luzerne County Taxpayers at the lowest cost.
- To focus on the future by seeking economic and industrial opportunities.
- To ensure Council is an accessible and responsive governing body.



Paid for by the Friends of the Committee.

**About Lee Ann:** Successful Shavertown business owner for 24 years. Understands the need for prudent fiscal planning. Active community volunteer in leadership positions. Lifelong resident of Luzerne County. Married with four children and one grandchild.

## CHS varsity soccer hosts community night

In what turned out to be a splendid evening of fun and learning, both on and off the soccer field, the Crestwood High School varsity girls soccer team hosted more than 60 young players and their families in a special Community Night at the Crestwood High School soccer field. Mountain Top Youth Soccer participants were invited to meet and play with the varsity team players, and learn more about playing the sport of soccer at a higher level.



Young soccer players enjoy some laughs during the event.

But it wasn't all about soccer. The high school girls also provided fresh inspiration to their young admirers, along with free hot dogs and Gatorade for each attendee,

plus free raffle tickets for soccer prizes being offered by the high school team.

According to one MYSA parent, "This was just a delightful

opportunity for our daughter, and we're so very thankful to the CHS girls team for doing this. Our daughter was really excited!"

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## November 16-22

# Places To Go ... Things To Do ...

## Continued from page 8

If you have any questions or would like to join, please email the Garden Club at mtgar-den-club@gmail.com.

## NOVEMBER 12, 19, 26 AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Mountaintop Family Church will host After School Clubs on Tuesdays, November 12, 19 and 26. All children in our community in 1st-6th grades can be dropped off from 3:40 to 4 p.m. and picked up at 5 p.m. at the church.

The children will have free play time with ping pong, air hockey, Legos, games and more. Children will choose from the following clubs: Crafts or Cup Stacking for grades 1-6, Lego Robotics for grades 3-6 and Stomp for grades 4 to 6.

Please sign up by November 3 by contacting Debbie

Knorr at the church office at 570-474-0900 or debbie@mfchurch.com.

## NOVEMBER 17 GFWC AUCTION

The GFWC of Mountain Top

will host its annual auction on Sunday, November 17 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Route

309, Mountain Top. Bidding begins at 2 p.m. Light refresh-

**See Places To Go, page 18**

TIFFANY M. WAGNER, D.V.M.

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# 403(b) Plans

A 403(b) plan is an employer-sponsored retirement plan for certain employees of public schools, tax-exempt [501(c)(3)] organizations, and churches. The employer can purchase annuity contracts for eligible employees, or establish custodial accounts to be invested in mutual funds or other investments. In the case of annuity contracts, a 403(b) plan is sometimes referred to as a tax-sheltered annuity (TSA) plan. (Church plans are subject to several special rules not covered here.)

## How does a 403(b) plan work?

Depending on the specific type of 403(b) plan, contributions may be made by the employee, the employer, or both the employee and employer. Many 403(b) plans are similar to 401(k) plans: you elect either to receive cash payments (wages) from your employer immediately, or to defer receipt of all or part of that income to your 403(b) account. The amount you defer (called an “elective deferral”) can be either pre-tax or, if your plan permits, after-tax Roth contributions.

Employer contributions, if made, may be a fixed percentage of your compensation, or may match a specified percentage of your contribution, or may be discretionary on the part of the employer. One unique characteristic of 403(b) plans is that your employer is allowed to make contributions to your account for up to five years after you terminate employment.

## Who can participate?

In general, if any employee is eligible to make elective deferrals, then all employees must be allowed to do so. This is called the “universal availability rule.” However, your employer can exclude certain groups of employees from participation (for example, employees who normally work less than 20 hours per week, or who are eligible under another deferral plan — for example, a 401(k) plan — of the employer). Your employer may also require that you attain age 21 and/or complete up to two years of service before you’re eligible for employer contributions.

Some 403(b) plans provide for automatic enrollment once you’ve satisfied the plan’s eligibility requirements. For example, the plan might provide that you’ll be automatically enrolled at a 3% pre-tax contribution rate (or some other percentage) unless you elect a different deferral percentage, or choose not to participate at all. If you’ve been automatically enrolled in your 403(b) plan, make sure that your assigned contribution rate and investments are appropriate for your circumstances.

## What are the contribution limits?

You can defer up to \$19,000 of your pay to a 403(b) plan in 2019. If your plan allows Roth contributions, you can split your contribution between pre-tax and Roth contributions any way you wish. Unlike 401(k) plans, employee elective deferrals to 403(b) plans aren’t subject to discrimination testing (which in 401(k) plans can often significantly limit the amount higher-paid employees can defer).

If your plan permits, you may also be able to make “catch-up” contributions to your account. You can contribute up to an additional \$6,000 in 2019 if you’ll be age 50 or older by the end of the year. If you

have 15 years of service with your employer (even if you haven’t attained age 50) a special Section 403(b) rule may also allow you to make annual catch-up contributions of \$3,000, up to \$15,000 lifetime. If you’re eligible for both rules, then any catch-up contributions you make count first against your 15-year \$15,000 lifetime limit.

If you also contribute to a 401(k), 403(b), SIMPLE, or SARSEP plan maintained by the same or a different employer, then your total elective deferrals to all of these plans — both pre-tax and Roth — can’t exceed \$19,000 in 2019, plus catch-up contributions. It’s up to you to make sure you don’t exceed the limits if you contribute to plans of more than one employer. Total contributions to your 403(b) account — both yours and your employer’s — can’t exceed \$56,000 in 2019 (or 100% of your compensation, if less). Age 50 catch-up contributions are not included in this limit, but special Section 403(b) catch-up contributions are. (Aggregation rules may apply if you also participate in a qualified retirement plan.)

## Can I also contribute to an IRA?

Your participation in a 403(b) plan has no impact on your ability to contribute to an IRA. You can contribute up to \$6,000 to an IRA in 2019, \$7,000 if you’ll be age 50 or older by the end of the year (or, if less, 100% of your taxable compensation). However, depending on your income level, your ability to make deductible contributions to a traditional IRA may be limited if you contribute to a 403(b) plan. (Your income level and tax filing status may also impact your ability to contribute to a Roth IRA.)<sup>1</sup>

## Income tax considerations

When you make pre-tax 403(b) contributions, you don’t pay current income taxes on those dollars (which means more take-home pay compared to an after-tax contribution of the same amount). But your contributions and investment earnings are fully taxable when you receive a distribution from the plan.

In contrast, your after-tax Roth 403(b) contributions are subject to income taxes up front, but are tax free when distributed to you from the plan. And, if your distribution is qualified, then any earnings are also tax free.

In general, a distribution from your Roth 403(b) account is qualified only if it’s made after the end of a five-year waiting period, and the payment is made after you turn 59 1/2, become disabled, or die.

If your distribution is nonqualified, then you’re deemed to receive a pro-rata portion of your tax-free Roth contributions and your taxable earnings.

Your employer’s contributions are always made on a pre-tax basis, even if they match your Roth contributions. That is, your employer’s contributions, and any investment earnings on those contributions, are always taxable to you when you receive a distribution from the plan.

If you receive a payment from your 403(b) account before you turn 59 1/2 (50 or 55 in certain cases), the taxable portion may also be subject to a 10% early distribution penalty, unless an exception applies.

## When can I access my money?

In general, you can’t withdraw your elective deferrals from your 403(b) until you reach age 59 1/2, become disabled, or terminate employment (deferrals to annuity contracts prior to 1989 aren’t subject to these restrictions). Some plans allow you to make a withdrawal if you have an immediate and heavy financial need (“hardship”), but this should be a last resort. Your withdrawal will be subject to regular income taxes and a possible 10% penalty tax. If your plan allows after-tax (non-Roth) contributions, your plan can let you withdraw these dollars at any time.

Employer contributions to 403(b) custodial accounts are subject to similar withdrawal restrictions. But employer contributions and pre-1989 deferrals to 403(b) annuity contracts are subject to somewhat more lenient distribution rules. Check with your plan administrator for your plan’s specific rules.

If your plan permits loans, you may be able to borrow up to one-half of your vested 403(b) account balance (to a maximum of \$50,000) if you need the money.

## What happens when I terminate employment?

Generally, you forfeit all employer contributions that haven’t vested. “Vesting” means that you own the contributions. Your plan may require up to six years of service before you’re fully vested in employer contributions, although some plans have much faster vesting schedules. (Your own contributions are always 100% vested.) You can generally leave your money in your 403(b) account, transfer it to a new 403(b) account, roll your dollars over to an IRA or to another employer’s retirement plan, or take a distribution.<sup>2</sup>

## What else do I need to know?

- You must begin taking distributions (“required minimum distributions,” or RMDs) from your 403(b) account after you reach age 70 1/2 (or after you terminate employment, if later). (The RMD rules don’t apply to contributions made prior to 1987.)
- If your employer offers 403(b)s from various vendors, you may be able to transfer your assets from one contract to another while you’re still employed. This can be helpful if you’re dissatisfied with a particular vendor’s investment offerings.
- Your 403(b) account is fully protected from creditors under federal law in the event of your bankruptcy. If your plan is covered by ERISA, then your account is generally protected from all of your creditors’ claims.

<sup>1</sup> If you have both a traditional IRA and a Roth IRA, your combined contributions to both cannot exceed \$6,000 (\$7,000 if age 50 or older) in 2019.  
<sup>2</sup> When considering a rollover, to either an IRA or to another employer’s retirement plan, you should consider carefully the investment options, fees and expenses, services, ability to make penalty-free withdrawals, degree of creditor protection, and distribution requirements associated with each option.

## Places To Go ... Things To Do ...

Continued from page 16

ments will be served. The Club is seeking donations from local businesses; food, gift cards and crafts. For more information or questions please call Gaylene at 570-751-6144.

### NOVEMBER 19 MT. TOP CARES MEETING

Mt. Top Cares meets on the third Tuesday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Christ United Methodist Church, 175 S. Main Road in Mountain Top. The next meeting is November 19.

Mt. Top Cares is a support group for those who have been affected by a loved ones substance use disorder. For more information email mttop-cares19@gmail.com or call 570-262-3793.

### NOVEMBER 22 & 23 CHS PLAY

Crestwood High School will present the James Lapine and Stephen Sondheim award winning classic *Into the Woods* in the school auditorium on Friday, November 22 and Saturday, November 23 starting at 7 p.m.

### NOVEMBER 27 QUILTERS MEETING

Mountain Top Quilters will meet at the Marian Sutherland Kirby Library, 35 Kirby Avenue, Mountain Top on Wednesday, November 27 at 6:30 p.m. They meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. New quilters are welcome to attend. Contact Judy Gober at 570-262-3858.

### NOVEMBER 29 CONCERT FOR REBECCA

The 9th annual Concert for Rebecca and all victims of domestic violence will be held on Friday, November 29 from 6-10:30 p.m. at Sand Springs Country Club, 10 Club House Drive in Drums

Music by: Don Shappelle & The Pickups Band with Craig Thatcher; John Lukas plus guest speakers D.A. Stefanie Salavantis, Tammy Rodgers and Pat Rush-ton.

Free admission. All donations will be sent to: Domestic Violence Service Center and the Victim's Resource Center.

Basket raffles will also be held.

Send your non-profit events to [publisher@mt-peaks.com](mailto:publisher@mt-peaks.com)



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Thursday 11-7 • Friday 12-5  
Saturday 10-4 • Sunday 10-4

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✘ Kimberly Spath

✘ Stacy Haddix

✘ Write-In

✘ Lauren McCurdy

Amanda Modrovsky

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## 100th anniversary of apple fest at Heller Orchards bigger and better than ever

In celebration of the 100th anniversary, the 31st annual apple festival, which was held the weekend of October 19 and 20 in Wapwallopen was bigger and better than ever. Temperatures were in the 60s on Saturday - it was a perfect fall day to walk the grounds and enjoy the good foods and many activities.

The event features traditional and ethnic foods of all kinds; there were rows of craft booths, pony rides and horse drawn wagon rides for the kids, broom making, historical woodcarving, butter making, cross cutting competitions and a Civil War encampment to mention just a few.

For entertainment there was the Covered Bridge Cloggers, Square Dancers, Emerald Isle Step Dancers, spiritual hymns

by the pond and concluded with a costume parade with prizes as the closing event.

And of course, there was a wide variety of apples, fresh apple cider, apple desserts - apple dumplings, apple pie, apple cake and candy covered apples for sale. Proceeds from the apple festival benefit area churches and local area responders.



**Elmer Stewart and his mom Shirley stop for apple dumplings.**



**Nellie Hoyt, dressed in a period costume to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of Heller Orchard, shows 10-year-old Trenton Brockett how to make butter - the old fashion way.**



**After looking at the wide variety of apples that were available, Tom Paisley decided to buy a bag of Cortland apples.**



**Cayne Emrick and Carmen Cusatis try their hand at shucking corn.**

*Mountain Peaks/Norberta Kosin photos*

# OPEN HOUSE



9:30 am

# Wed. Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> 2019

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## News in Brief ...

### Cost of recycling nearly doubles

The cost of disposing of recyclable materials has nearly doubled this year for Dorrance Township.

Supervisors learned at their October meeting that Northeast Cartage increased the cost to haul recycling to \$155 per dumpster.

The hike was the second this year. The township began the year paying \$80 per dumpster. Northeast Cartage increased the rate to \$120 in May and to \$155 September 1.

### Hearing on PRD scheduled

The proposed Preserve at Blue Ridge Trail planned residential development (PRD) in Dorrance Township is scheduled for a hearing on November 4 in Luzerne County court.

Township solicitor Donald Karpowich told supervisors at their October meeting that a senior judge will be assigned to hear arguments. The township's insurance carrier will provide an attorney to handle the case.

Supervisors denied approval of the proposed PRD on December 10, 2018 following nearly two years of hearings and meetings on the project. The township planning commission had

recommended the proposal be denied.

The developer, TFP Limited, wants to construct the PRD near the Blue Ridge Trail Golf Course. The area for which the PRD is planned is zoned conservation. A PRD is a permitted use in that district, however the developer needed to obtain conditional use approval from the township.

The township planning commission cited several deficiencies in the plan in their recommendation to supervisors. They included issues with the storm water management plan; boundaries do not clearly define the golf course; lack of evidence the developer has permission to cross the state right-of-way to connect to the sewer system; and the water source is not off-site.

The developer appealed the township's decision to Luzerne County court.

### In other business ...

Supervisors accepted the resignation of Duane Seltzer from the township road department. Seltzer will retire on November 15. Supervisor Kevin Gallagher, township roadmaster, praised Seltzer for his work for the township, describing him as an asset to the road department. Supervisors hired Christopher Anthony as a road department employee effective October 21. His starting salary will be \$17

per hour. Gallagher also commended the road department for its work on the pipe installation on Eroh Road and laying asphalt where it was needed.

Supervisors voted to advertise for bids for a CPA to perform the 2019 audit in place of auditors.

The next supervisors regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12, at 7 p.m. due to the Veteran's Day holiday.

### Cable installation continues to cause concerns

The Atlantic Broadband cable installation project in Wilderness Estates continues to cause concern among residents of the Rice Township development.

The company began instal-

lation of cable to provide high speed internet service over the summer. Supervisors reported at their September meeting that the project was begun without the knowledge of township officials and without a permit. At the October meeting, residents report the project has stalled, leaving Wilderness Drive in need of repairs. The utility has installed cable on a section of Wilderness Drive but has not completed the installation.

Responding to an inquiry, township secretary/treasurer Jeff Beck said grant money is not available to be used to pay expenses incurred by a for-profit company.

Supervisors did vote to repair a section Wilderness Drive by Sealmasters at a cost of \$3,100.

The work was done on a section of the road that had deteriorated and was not connected with the Atlantic Broadband project.

### In other business ...

Township engineer Andrew Pasonick reported net posts at the pickleball court were set and Smith's Blacktopping is scheduled to pave the courts. Pipech discussed work on the pickleball court performed by the public works crew. He said once the courts are paved the asphalt will be allowed to cure the winter and painting will be done in the spring. He said the fence and lighting can be installed during the fall-winter timeframe.

Pasonick reported that he was working on bids for the demoli-

See News in Brief, page 23

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## Three Comet runners take first place

Three Comet runners took first place at the Wyoming Valley Conference Championship in Meshoppen on October 17.

First place runner: Varsity Molly DeMarzo with a time of 19:07. First place runner: Junior Varsity Weston Medvetz with a time of 11:25 and First place : Junior Varsity Ella Novelli with a time of 13:10 .

Varsity runners who also medaled: Nash Greene (seventeenth 18:11) and Eric Johnson (twentieth 18:19); varsity runner Julia Johnson (twenty-fifth 18:19).

Junior high runners who also medaled: James Modrovsky (sixth 12:12); Evan Poncavage



**First place runners, Molly DeMarzo, Weston Medvetz and Ella Novelli.**

(fourteenth 12:47); Isaac Mertz (sixteenth 12:53); Ryan Kozich (twenty-first 13:14); Gabe Deckman (twenty-fourth 13:30) Nick Danishefsky (twenty-fifth 13:31); Clark Groth (thirtieth 13:42) and Kate Gallagher (fourteenth 14:40).

## Book fair and family night held at Rice Elementary

Rice Elementary School held its annual Fall Book Fair from October 23 through 25 at Rice Elementary School in Mountain Top. On Thursday, October 24 from 6 to 8 p.m. the fun Family Night was held in the Library where books were available for purchase and in the large group room the annual Rice Elementary Haunted Gallery was set up for all to enjoy. Also, there were activities, games and goodies in the gymnasium. The 6th grade bake sale had a variety of goodies for sale as well.



*Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photos*

**Ainsley Durofchalk, 9, a fourth grader shows her mom Tammy and big sister Macey, 14, the haunted door that she made.**



**Josie Smolinsky, 2, found this book that she really likes.**



**Lucas Schoch, 6, is in first grade, and looks seriously at the books that interest him a lot.**



**Giana McLaughlin, 5, a kindergartener, signs the big sign in sheet to enter the Haunted Gallery.**

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- Served St. Jude's running Bazaar (1992-2018)
- Serves on Wright Twp. Environmental Advisory Council
- Serves on Wright Twp. Parks and Recreation Board
- Member of Mountain Top Historical Society

**Christopher Madden**

**570-301-8196**

cwm5050@gmail.com

## News in Brief ...

*Continued from page 20*

tion of the former volunteer fire department hall.

### Changes listed for township meetings

The General Election and Veteran's Day have caused changes in meeting dates for some municipalities.

Fairview Township supervisors will meet Wednesday, November 6 at 7:30 p.m. instead of Tuesday. The change is necessary because the municipal building is now one of two polling places in the township.

Rice Township supervisors have moved their meeting back to Tuesday, November 5 at 7 p.m. The meeting was origi-

nally scheduled for Wednesday, November 6, but because the township's polling place was moved from the municipal building, there was no need to change the date.

Because of Veteran's Day, both Dorrance and Wright Townships have moved their meeting date to Tuesday, November 12 at 7 p.m.

**KENDRA RADLE**  
FOR LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Wright Township seeking grant

Wright Township is seeking a PennDOT grant for multi-modal roadway improvement grant to make improvements to township roads. Officials voted last month to apply for a grant not to exceed \$700,000. Township secretary/treasurer Pamela Heard explained the grant could be used for road improvements if signs for pedestrian and bicycle use are included.

### Wright Township leaf collection changes

Wright Township will be collecting leaves this fall, but it will be up to residents to put the leaves in bags for pickup. In previous years, township crews collected leaves that were raked to the edge of the road using a vacuum machine. Because of mechanical problems the machine it is not available this year.

Supervisors said residents who want the township to pick up their leaves should put them in biodegradable paper bags and place them at the edge of the right-of-way. They emphasized plastic bags will not be collected and there is a weight limit of 60 pounds per bag. Paper bags, officials noted, are available at most hardware and home improvement stores.

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*See News in Brief, page 26*

# TRICK OR TREAT!



It was a family project for the Stash family – Carl, Donna, Sienna and Karlie. They decorated the trunk of their car and lawn mower with cobwebs and scary creatures at the Presbyterian Church of Mountain Top Trunk or Treat on October 19.

Dumb and Dumber, Garret Chalker, 6 and his big brother Wyatt Chalker, 9, are sharp dressed dudes from the movie, at the trunk or treat at St. Mary's Church on October 27.



Mia Hernandez, 3, of Mountain Top rocks this witch costume at St. Mary's in Dorrance on October 27.



Kayla Cora, 6, is looking quite cat-like at the trunk or treat at Christ UMC on October 26.



Mountain Peaks/  
Claudia Strycharz and Norberta Kosin photos



Jace Burke, 2 is off and running after taking some candy out of a scary frog trunk at Starry Knights Trunk or Treat on October 26.



Candy corn witch Hope Kneeland, 2 is ready for some treats as she makes her way around to all the tricked-out trunks at the Dorrance VFD on October 27.



Cousins, Lily Rinehimer and Alana Madara, both five years old, love unicorns and are dressed in unicorn outfits for the party held indoors at St. James Lutheran Church on October 27.



Playing the RIP graveyard ring toss in the Wright Township Park is this little butterfly, Gracie Pearce, 3.



Instead of a scary trunk, Mark Randall had a sweet message of love for trick or treaters and lots of candy at the Presbyterian Church of Mountain Top Trunk or Treat on October 19.

The McDermotts, from left dad Martin, Jameson, 8 months; Jocelyn 8, mom Kelly and Lacey, 7 are ready to visit the decorated vehicles in the parking lot of the White Haven Area Community Library on Saturday, October 12.



Hunter Bedosky, 5, is a very pretty devil as she plays a game of pumpkin corn hole in Wright Township Park on October 26.



The Dotzel family, dad Chris, mom Lindsey, Chase, 7 months, and Roush the Labradoodle are on safari at the trunk or treat at St. Mary's Catholic Church on October 27.



Twins "Axel" Vito Greco and "Slash" Anthony Greco, 3 look awesome dressed as Guns and Roses band members at the Wright Township Park right before the start of the Halloween parade on October 26.



## News in Brief ...

### Continued from page 23

They urged residents to plan ahead and put leaves out early to ensure collection. The township web site, [www.wrighttownship.org](http://www.wrighttownship.org) will have dates and details for leaf collection.

Supervisors noted residents may also dispose of leaves by taking them to the Mountain Top Council of Governments (Cog) yard waste facility in the Crestwood Industrial Park. The COG site is open Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is a \$10 annual permit fee to dispose of leaves and yard waste at the facility. Permits may be purchased at the facility or the township office.

Burning of leaves is not permitted in the township.

### New address for mailing Wright Township taxes

Wright Township Tax Collector Barbara Macko has announced that tax bills were mailed August 1. Please note the new mailing address on the tax form which is 256 South Main Road, Mountain Top, PA 18707. Any questions call Barbara at 570-474-0995.

### Trees continue to be removed from park

Wright Township officials are continuing to take steps to remove dead trees from the township park.

Supervisors voted at their October meeting to award a contract in the amount of \$4,750

to Jack Gentilesco to remove trees in the playground area of the park. Officials said Gentilesco should be able to remove 60 to 65 trees for that amount. Township secretary/treasurer Pamela Heard said Gentilesco's bid was one of two the township received for the work.

"We have to get those trees down," supervisor Colleen Macko commented. "People are very concerned. It will cost us a lot more if someone gets hurt," she added.

Previously, Sun Tree Removal company was hired to remove dead trees in the park's "tot lot" at a cost of \$3,600 for two-day's work. The company did not submit a bid for the third round of tree removal, Heard said.

### Controversy continues over dirt bike track

The Luzerne County Common Pleas Court has ruled in favor of Wright Township in an ongoing controversy over the operation of a dirt bike track in a rural area of the township.

Township solicitor Jack Dean reported at the October 14 meeting of township supervisors that Judge Fred Pierantoni determined the township's zoning hearing board made an error in its decision regarding the case. The judge sent the

matter back to the zoning hearing board.

The controversy began in the summer of 2016 when former township zoning officer Andrew Holter sent Mick and Melissa Gentilesco a violation letter for operating a private recreational facility on their property. The letter was sent after Holter received complaints from neighbors about noise and dirt pollution emitting from a dirt bike/ATV track on the Gentilesco's property.

The zoning board originally

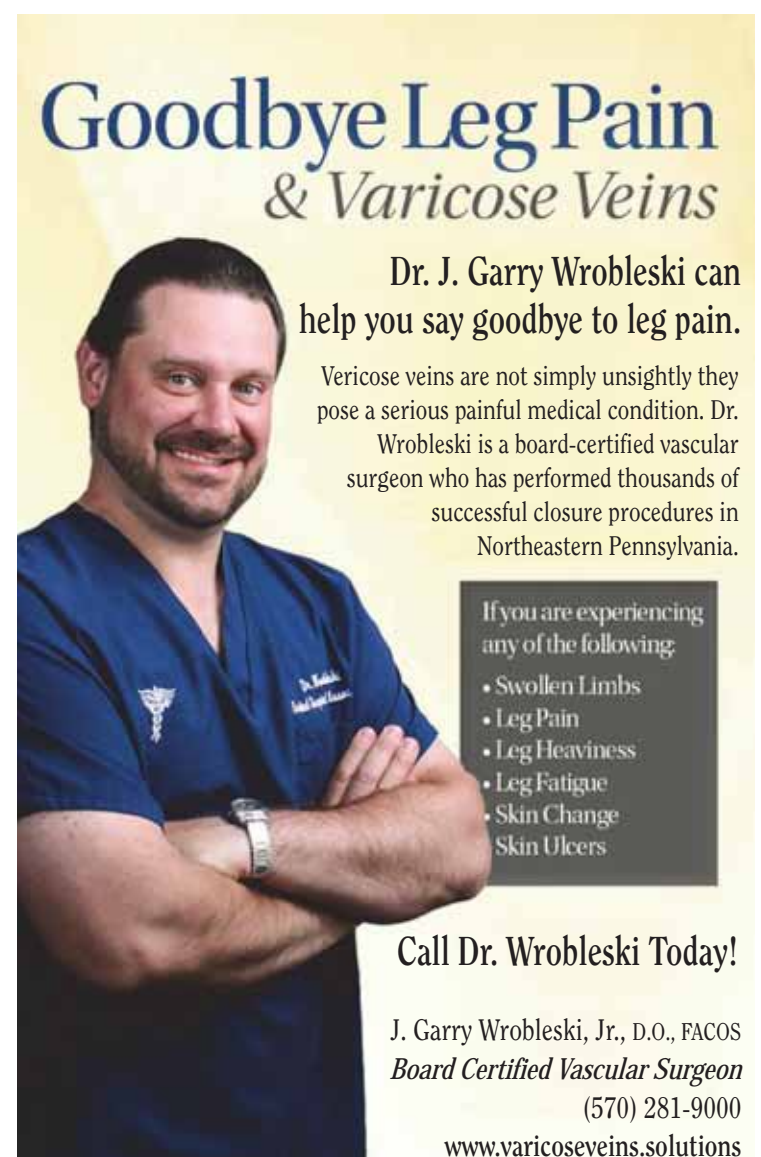
**See News in Brief, page 29**



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Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photo

Sandra Petrosky purchases several specials tickets from Assistant Fire Chief Todd Wagaman.

### MTHC #1 hosts designer purse bingo

The Mountaintop Hose Company No. 1 hosted a designer purse bingo fundraiser on Sunday, October 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the firehouse in Fairview Township. Tickets cost \$25 for 20 games of play. There were also four specials for an additional cost of \$5 each and the prizes included an overnight stay with two buffet tickets at Mount Airy Casino, four tickets to the Tran Siberian Orchestra, an 8 day/7 night Myrtle Beach trip and a Louis Vuitton Graceful Purse. Some featured purses for regular games included Kate Spade, Coach and Michael Kors. There were also chances to win gift baskets and there was a 50/50. Food and non-alcoholic beverages were available for purchase as well.

## Drums Lioness Lions Club inducts new members

Will Kresge, the Lions Club District Governor of 14-W recently visited the Drums Lioness Lions Club and inducted new members into the club.

From left, Lorna Veglia, club president; Monica Weidick, sponsor; Mary Ann Molendini, sponsor; Lisa Molendini, new member; Will Kresge, District Governor. Missing from photo Betty Tima, new member.



## Farmer's Market vouchers need to be used by November 30

The 2019 Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program's voucher/check distribution ended on September 30.

The Area Agency on Aging for Luzerne and Wyoming Counties would like to remind the participants to redeem

their vouchers before the deadline date of November 30.

These vouchers can only be used to purchase PA grown fresh fruits & vegetables at Farmers Market stands that are participants of the Dept.

of Agriculture's SFMNP; baked goods, meat, jam, honey, apple cider or eggs are not allowable for purchase with these vouchers.

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## News in Brief ...

Continued from page 26

advertised that it would hold a hearing on April 9, 2018 on an application by the Gentilescos for a special exception to operate a private recreational facility on their property located in a conservation zoning district. However, the hearing never took place.

At that session, attorney Mark McNelis, representing the Gentilescos, took the position that the

hearing was not about an application for special exception, but rather an appeal of the zoning officer's letter. He claimed they had appealed the zoning officer's violation letter and were entitled to a hearing. He insisted the township had the burden of proving the violation, rather than his client presenting the case for a special exception.

The zoning hearing board decided the Gentilescos were entitled to an appeal of the zon-

ing officer's violation letter. The board held hearings and voted 3-0 on July 17, 2018 to dismiss a notice of violation letter issued by Holter. The board decided the track, located on Yeager Road, does not constitute a private recreational facility, which would be a violation of the township's zoning ordinance.

The township subsequently voted to appeal its zoning board decision.

Dean explained that the court's decision means it will be up to the Gentilescos to file an application for a special exception to use their property as a private recreational facility. In that case, Dean emphasized, it will be up to the applicant to prove their case to the board to grant the special exception.

### WTVFD asks township to consider fire tax

Wright Township Volunteer Fire Company has asked township supervisors to consider

enacting a fire tax to help fund its operations and implementation of part-time paid firefighters.

In making their case for paid part-time staff and the fire tax, at the supervisors October 14 work session, fire department officials outlined the problems the volunteer organization faces.

They told supervisors there has been a significant decline in volunteers coupled with an increased demand for services. The department, they reported, responded to over 400 calls for service in 2018, the most in its history.

Besides the increased demand for services, the department faces an increased demand for community involvement; organizing and implementing fund drives; maintenance of its building and equipment; and administrative functions. They pointed out the annual fund drive requires significant manhours with just a 30 per-

cent return averaging about \$35,000 annually. They noted the department's annual bazaar also requires numerous man-hours.

The department officials outlined for supervisors the ongoing efforts to attract volunteers and the various strategies they have tried. "Efforts to retain and recruit volunteers is falling short," they stated. One barrier to recruiting new volunteers is the lengthy and rigorous training required by the state.

In order to meet the demand of providing fire service to Wright Township, the department is proposing the implementation of part-time paid firefighters beginning in the first quarter of 2020. Their plan is to staff the department with one firefighter on duty 12 hours a day, seven days a week in 2020.

Beginning in 2021, the staffing would change to 24-hour coverage seven days a week

*See News in Brief, page 31*

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Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photo

Residents Shirley Daubert and Annette Harcharufka welcome the assistance of eighth grader Olivia Mitchell during a game of Pokemo.

## Halloween party held at Mountain Top Senior Care

Mountain Top Senior Care and Rehab hosted a Halloween party on Sunday, October 20 with residents and 15 members of St. Jude's youth group. The students had a great time assisting residents play a variety of games. Everyone also enjoyed ice cream sundaes. The event was a great way for students to get some community service in plus to get an opportunity to interact with residents and put smiles on their faces.

## Nature Trail at Fairview was haunted on October 25

Family and friends lined up early to walk the Haunted Trail at Fairview Elementary School.

There were screams of fright and laughter as the fifth and sixth grade students performed Halloween skits along the Haunted Nature Trail on the evening of October 25.

Carved pumpkins lined the way around the winding path. There was basketball — Monstars vs. Toonsquad, Jack's pumpkin patch, a haunted dinner party, a haunted campfire, a game show and a mad scientist to scare and frighten those who dared to walk the path.

The Haunted Nature Trail was sponsored by the Parent Teacher Association to help pay for student activities.




The fifth-grade girls take their places as they get ready to perform their Jack's Pumpkin Patch skit.


Mountain Peaks/Norberta Kosin photos

These sixth graders performed the Halloween edition of Family Feud.






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## News in Brief ...

### Continued from page 29

with two paid, part-time firefighters. The paid part-time staff would be supplemented with volunteers. Fire Chief Dave Pettit noted many departments in the area, including Hanover Township and Hazleton City, use this model effectively.

Fire department officials estimate the annual cost for 2020 would be approximately \$230,000, plus the cost of

insurance. For 2021, the cost to operate the department with two paid part-time firefighters would be approximately \$428,000. Currently, the township donates approximately \$100,000 annually.

To pay for the part-time paid firefighters and fund the department's operations, the department proposed a fire tax. In order to cover all the department's operational costs and provide full coverage 24 hours

a day, seven days a week, they estimated a fire tax of 1. to 1.1 mils would be required. That tax, they said, would cost each household an estimated \$146 to \$161 annually.

"We're not here to make money. We're here to provide services," Fire Chief Dave Pettit told supervisors.

The fire tax, fire department officials stated, would provide numerous benefits to the community. Among those listed by the firefighters, are improved public safety, better response times with a fully staffed department; reduction of fire insur-

ance costs for residents; more time for firefighters to focus on training.

Pettit, in an email following the meeting, emphasized that the 1 or 1.1 mil fire tax is department officials' best estimate, based on information available. He said that tax would generate enough revenue to fund the department, in their projections, for a foreseeable 20-year period, assuming most things do not change drastically besides normal cost increases.

"We are not in a bad spot as it stands, however the future is not looking favorable for vol-

unteers and fundraising," he noted. "Also, costs continue to rise, and we do not want to be at the point where it is not recoverable and too drastic."

The fire chief noted the proposed part-time paid firefighters plan has come up before. "This is not new to them (supervisors)," he stated in his email. "We have been asking for many, many years for consideration of part-time staff and ways to generate funds but it is normally set aside. The volunteer service is in a bind and will not get any better moving forward without plans. That is the main reason we decided to move forward with this."

While supervisors did not respond to the proposal, they did complement the department officials for their comprehensive presentation. The supervisors will hold budget planning meetings on November 4 and 18.

Fairview Township, at the request of Mountain Top Hose Co. No. 1, enacted a .0003 mil fire tax to support the department's operation. The fire department, which utilizes all volunteers, received \$111,801 in 2018 from the fire tax revenue.

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## Girls Volleyball

**Monday, October 14**

Crestwood lost against Nanticoke 0-3.

Scores of the matches were: 19-25, 16-25, 17-25.

Leading scores for Crestwood: Mel Golden 10 Assists, 2 Kills; Jady Hooper 6 Kills, 2 Blocks; Carly Bono 5 Service Points, 2 Kills.

JV won 2-1.

**Wednesday, October 16**

Crestwood lost against Tunkhannock 2-3.

Scores of the matches were: 23-25, 21-25, 25-17, 25-18, 13-15.

Leading scores for Crestwood: Mel Golden 28 Assists, 6 Kills, 11 Service Points; Carly Bono 10 Service Points, 11 Kills, 5 Aces; Mady Sobolewski 9 Kills; Kelsey Kulak 6 Kills, 5 Blocks.

JV won 2-1.

**Monday, October 21**

Crestwood won against Wyoming Area 3-1.

Scores of the matches were: 25-20, 23-25, 25-20, 25-19.

Leading scores for Crestwood: Mel Golden 28 Assists, 4 Kills, 14 Service Points; Carly Bono 19 Service Points, 11 Kills, 9 Aces; Ellie Glowacki 8 Kills, 2 Service Points.

JV won 2-0.

**Thursday, October 24**

Crestwood lost against Western Wayne 0-3.

Scores of the matches were: 12-25, 21-25, 13-25.

Leading scores for Crestwood: Mel Golden 10 Assists, Service Points, 2 Aces; Carly Bono 7 Service Points, 8 Kills, 4 Aces; Kelsey Kulak 6 Service Points, 3 Kills

## MMI schedules visitation night

Parents who are looking for smaller class sizes, personal attention, and co-curricular and extra-curricular options in athletics, the arts, and academics, as well as a well-rounded, college preparatory liberal arts education, for their students in grades 6 through 12 can explore all the benefits MMI Preparatory School offers during Visitation Night on Wednesday, November 13. The event begins at 6 p.m. on MMI's campus at 154 Centre Street in Freeland.

During Visitation Night, families will learn more about how an MMI education maximizes a student's academic, social, and character potential in preparation for success in college and beyond. As parents and students tour the campus, they will discover how MMI sets

itself apart from other schools with a strong curriculum that provides an integrated liberal arts program.

The event will begin with a presentation by the school's administration, where families will see how MMI gives students a chance to grow and thrive through coursework that ensures a rigorous challenge along with many opportunities for success. Parents and students will receive details about the school's curriculum, including fine arts, cross-curricular opportunities, and Advanced Placement classes, as well as information on financial aid, athletics, and extracurricular activities. Attendees will also have the opportunity to talk with current students, parents, faculty, and staff.

Families of students entering sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth grades next year are especially encouraged to attend Visitation Night and consider starting their child in MMI's middle school or as a freshman.

MMI operates on the principle that a quality education should not be out of anyone's financial reach. Currently, more than 50 percent of MMI students receive some form of need-based tuition assistance.

Those planning to attend Visitation Night are asked to register and should arrive by 5:45 p.m. the night of the event. For more information or to register, contact Marci Hosier at [mhosier@mmiprep.org](mailto:mhosier@mmiprep.org) or (570) 636-1108. You can also visit MMI's website at [www.mmiprep.org](http://www.mmiprep.org).

Due to a very high volume of local news, some pictures and stories did not fit in this edition. Watch for them in future editions.

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### Social Club holds Halloween party

The Mountain top Social club held it's Halloween party and pot luck dinner on October 22. Prizes were given out for the scariest, the winner was Dorothy Warke; the most original the winner was Helen Raduta and the funniest was Betty Comiskey.

### White Haven Historical Society holds open house

The White Haven Area Community Library hosted a visual history on the White Haven Area on Saturday, October 26 from 1 to 4 p.m. in the historic Engine House. The White Haven Area Historical Society presented the display of historical photos and memorabilia from its growing collection. The presentation was a wonderful way to learn about the past and share any information or photos the public may have from the local and surrounding area. The Historical Society is always looking for additional items to share.



*Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photo*  
**Dave Searfoss and Lynne Jarick, Historical Society members, talk about the Foster Township Tax record books from 1895 and turn of the 20th century.**

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### St. Jude's holds Halloween fest

St. Jude Parish held its fifth annual family-oriented Halloween Festival on Friday, October 25. Parents, grandparents, family and friends attended this fun filled event. There was something for everyone - lots of Halloween treats, pumpkin painting, different games for the children and dancing in the gym.

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*Mountain Peaks/Norberta Kosin photo*  
**First grade student Valerie Strohl arrives with her mother, Lorraine Wanca at fifth annual Halloween Festival at St. Jude School.**



## MMI senior Benjamin Putnam advances to Poetry Out Loud regional competition

MMI senior Benjamin Putnam captured the School's *Poetry Out Loud* contest and will advance to the regional competition, which will be held in December at the WVIA Studios in Pittston. The regional winner will move on to the state competition in March.

Putnam, the son of Benjamin and Andrea Putnam of Sugarloaf, recited the poems *Flaxman* by Margaret Fuller and *Ways of Talking* by Ha Jin.

Freshman Jillian McGeehin, the daughter of Larry and Amy McGeehin of Sugarloaf, and junior Samantha Sparich, the daughter of Joseph and Michele Sparich of Weatherly, also finished in the top three in MMI's competition. McGeehin recited *Song for the People* by Frances Ellen Watkins Harper and *I am the People, The Mob* by Carl Sandburg. Sparich recited *The Author to Her Book* by Anne Bradstreet and *Helen* by H.D. Senior Katharine Pinto, the daughter of Karen Pinto of Mountain Top, recited *Invictus* by William Ernest Henley and *Un Tintero*, Inkwell by Desirée Alvarez. Junior Emily Ryan, the daughter of Sam and Susan Ryan of White Haven, also participated in the competition by reciting *Eating Poetry* by Mark Strand and *April Love* by Ernest Dowson.

*Poetry Out Loud* is a national arts education program that encourages the study of great poetry by offering free educational materials and a dynamic recitation competition to high schools across the country. This program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life. *Poetry Out Loud* is a partnership of the National Endowment for the Arts, Poetry Foundation, and the state and jurisdictional arts agencies.



MMI senior Benjamin Putnam, second from the right, captured the School's *Poetry Out Loud* contest and will advance to the regional competition. Also pictured are, from left: top three finishers Samantha Sparich and Jillian McGeehin and Jennifer Novotney, *Poetry Out Loud* advisor.



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We are also participating in the WNEP Feed a Friend Program, anyone who brings a non-perishable food item will be entered to win a prize donated by the CTC.

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## Worship Together ...

### CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Services: Sunday 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.  
Saturday 6 p.m.

JP Bohanan, Pastor

175 S. Main Road, Mountain Top  
570-474-6060

Rev. JP Bohanan invites everyone for worship on the Lord's Day. Professionally staffed nursery available during the 9:30 adult Sunday School hour and the 10:45 worship service.

Holy Communion is served the first Sunday of every month. Sunday School: Children in Pre-K thru 4th grade meet during worship from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Grades 5 thru adult meet at 9:30 a.m.

The church will hold its turkey dinner on Saturday, November 2 from 4 to 7 p.m. Takeouts are available 2 to 4 p.m. The meal includes turkey, gravy, stuffing, mashed

potatoes, homemade cabbage, corn, green beans, and pie. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults, children 5 to 10 are \$5 and under 5 are free. Tickets will be available at the door and by calling the church office.

Adult Choir practices Thursday evening at 7 p.m. Cherub Choir, Kids Choir, Adult Bell Choir and Kids Bell Choir also practice on Thursday.

Trunk or Treat will be held on Saturday, October 26 from 5 p.m. Food, fun & more!

Christ Church offers a community Cancer Support Group meeting the last Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Grief Support Group meets by appointment. Breakfast Fellowship Group meets at the Chalet, Thursday at 8 a.m.

For more information: church office: 570-474-6060, church email: ChristUM-

ChurchOffice@gmail.com;  
Pastor's email: bohanan.jp@gmail.com. Web: Christonthemountaintop.blogspot.com.

### CONYNGHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Services: Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
Calvin Collins, Pastor

411 Main Street, Conyngham  
570-788-3960

Religious studies are at 10 a.m. Prayer Circle meets on the first and third Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the church library. Brothers in Christ meet every Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

The church is currently updating directory information. Please stop by the table in the social hall and check your information such as phone number, email address, etc.

Altar Flowers: Most dates are open for the month of September. If you are interested in providing altar flowers or giving a donation, please contact Mary Lou Legg or Heidi Klein.

Church office hours: Pastor Calvin will be available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. At all times, he will be available



Mountain Peaks/Norberta Kosin photo

Molly Kislan and Melissa Houser were selling crafts, handmade scrunchies and hair ties at the Autumnfest.

### Autumnfest held at St. Paul's

St. Paul's Autumnfest was held on Saturday, October 19 at the church from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Autumnfest included a used book sale, which was new this year, a Chinese auction, bake sale, and a craft sale. Many enjoyed a homemade lunch, featuring wimpies, hot dogs, walking tacos, and halushki from the kitchen concessions. All proceeds from Autumnfest help to defray the cost of several of the youth from St. Paul's who are attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN in 2021.

for pastoral care and concerns and may be reached at 570-788-3960. Hours are subject to change due to visitation.

The church secretary is available Tuesday 10:30-12:30,

Wednesday 10:30-12:30, and Thursday 9:30-1:30. Other secretary office hours are available; call 570-788-3960.

Hours are subject to change for emergencies and holidays.

### CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Services: Sunday 10 a.m.

Michael & Kim Pickreign,  
Pastors

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## Worship Together ...

Continued from page 35

Cornerstone Food Pantry is available for anyone who is in need. Pickups are available Sundays after the service, around 11:45 a.m. and by appointment.

The church is handicap accessible. For further information contact Pastor Pickreign.

### EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Services: Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
**Louis Aita, Pastor**  
 7768 Blue Ridge Trail,  
 Dorrance  
 570-868-5675

Most everyone knows what the last day of October is: Halloween. But not many people know the meaning of the name. It is actually a contraction of "All Hallow's Evening". It is the evening before the day on which Christians remember the people who promoted the Christian faith, All Saints Day, which is November 1. Pope Gregory IV first instituted All Saints Day in 837 to honor all saints, known and unknown. This was also done in an effort to bring non-Christians into the faith. In many countries, November 1 was celebrated by pagan people as the beginning of winter and the decreasing daylight was feared as a time when evil spirits would be more powerful. To counteract this superstition, Pope Gregory IV provided a Christian ritual.

Teen Talk is for anyone in 7th grade and above. They meet on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. to talk about God and Jesus, how their lives are influenced by them and how they can be an influence to others.

If recycling, place the cans in large bags and drop them

off in the large crates at the back of the lower parking lot.

The Wapwallopen Ministerium Food Bank is housed at Emmanuel UCC and is open by appointment only. All contacts are kept strictly confidential.

If you are in need of pastoral care, call Pastor Lou Aita at 570-582-9550 or email him at aitatl12@ptd.net. E-mail access is emmanuel\_ucc@hotmail.com and the website is emmanuel-ucc.org.

### FAITH CHURCH DRUMS

Service: Sunday 10 a.m.  
**Keith Evans, Pastor**  
 4 Rittenhouse Place, Drums  
 570-599-8123

Faith Church Drums (formerly Valley Community Church) offers a unique and inviting place to and for worship. There is one worship time at 10 a.m. on Sundays with a blended service which includes contemporary choruses, a hymn, responsive reading, a time of reflective corporate prayer, and inspiring/dynamic preaching.

The Holy Grounds Cafe is open every Sunday as they serve coffee, soda, tea, juice, bagels, snacks, and more.

## Talents shine at St. Paul's talent & craft auction

St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Mountain Top held its annual talent & craft auction on Sunday, October 27 in the fellowship hall. The doors opened at 5:30 p.m. for browsing and the auction began at 6 p.m.

This event is a great way for parishioners to let their talents shine and have a lot of fun. Some have hobbies that are very creative and can make great things to donate. Some offer their time to babysit, rake leaves or do other fall yard work, shoveling snow for someone who cannot do it anymore, or helping someone paint a room in their house, etc. Gardeners can produce beautiful flowers and plants, or bakers can produce some goodies, or cooks can prepare a few meals for a shut-



Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photos

**Above: Judy McAnally checks out the goods before the start of the auction.**



**Gaylene Hunter checks out a hand painted cradle.**

in, or holiday decorating, the list goes on. Apple dumplings were served during the auction and any leftovers were sold at the end of the auction.

The event benefits WELCA.

Dinner Church Community Ministry. Once a month F.C.D. offers a free meal to the community. The menu is listed on its "Activities" page.

See *Worship*, page 37

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## Worship Together ...

### Continued from page 36

The worship setting includes bistro tables with padded chairs, and a few rows for traditionalists. You are always invited to gather with them at F.C.D.!

Upcoming events: Ignite Young Adults (ages 25-40) children/teens of adults are invited every 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Tuesday, November 12 at 6 p.m. Christmas Shoe Box packing party.

Sunday, November 24 from 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: A SunDay of Thanksgiving, a Thanksgiving meal after church.

Every Sunday in December is "The Sounds of Christmas".

For information you can check [www.yourvcc.com](http://www.yourvcc.com).

### FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Services: Sunday 8:45 a.m.**  
**Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.**  
**Scott O. Miller, Pastor**  
**1448 Slocum Road, Wapwallopen**  
**570-200-5388**

Pastor Scott and the congregation invites all to join worship service. Holy Communion is offered the first Sunday of the month.

Sunday School is held from 9:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. for children ages 4 through 14.

Faith Church will be holding its annual chicken & waffle supper on Saturday, November 9, serving family style from 4 to 7 p.m. Take-outs are available from 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 for age 13 through adult, \$5 for children age 5 to 12, and children under age 4 are free. Tickets can be purchased at the supper.

Faith will be making Christmas candy in December including white chocolate pep-

permint bark, milk or dark chocolate raisin clusters, peanut clusters, and mixed clusters. Cost \$10 for 1 pound box. Please call 570-301-8097 by November 12 to place order.

You can email Pastor Scott at [somiller@susumc.org](mailto:somiller@susumc.org) or call him at 570-200-5388. Find them on Facebook at [newhopewapwallopen](https://www.facebook.com/newhopewapwallopen).

### GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH

**Services: Saturday: 6 p.m.**  
**Sunday: 8 & 9:30 a.m.**  
**Rev. Michael J. Kloton, Pastor**  
**Route 309, Drums**  
**570-788-3141**

The Faith Formation registration form for 2019-2020 is now available to be downloaded. Please go to the "Downloads" page of their website for the printer-friendly (PDF) form.

Please note that the new day/time for confessions is Saturday from 5-5:30 p.m.

The 2020 Mass book will open November 1. Mass intention request forms are on the table in vestibule. Please note: No masses will be automatically grandfathered and no masses will be scheduled over the telephone. All mass requests must be completed in writing on the forms that are provided.

All parents who wish to have their child baptized are required to attend the mandatory Baptism Preparation class held quarterly by Deacon Jim. Even if you have attended a Baptism Preparation class within the past three years, it is necessary for you to attend the class with Deacon Jim each time you wish to have a child baptized. The next quarterly Baptismal preparation class with Deacon Jim will be held

*See Worship, page 38*

## Slocum UMC celebrates 160 years



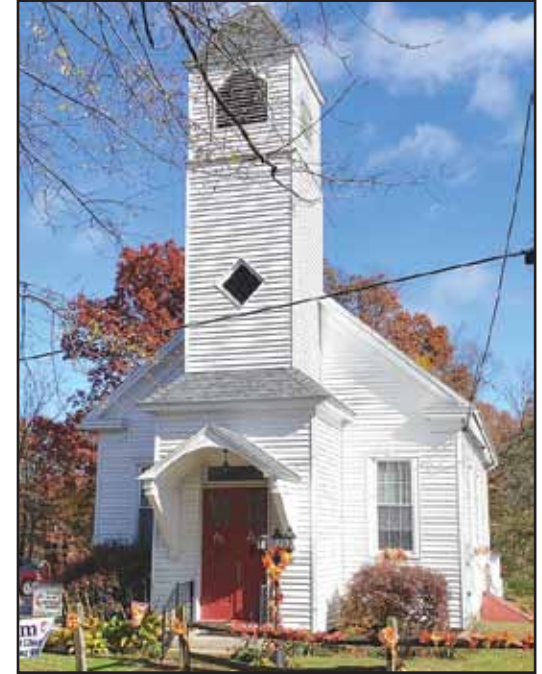
**Pastor Scott O. Miller welcomes everyone.**



*Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photos*  
**Church Elder, Carl Peters talks about the long 160 year history of the Slocum UMC. Pastor Scott O. Miller looks on.**

The Slocum United Methodist Church on Blue Ridge Trail in Slocum Township celebrated its 160th anniversary on Sunday, October 27 with a special service at 11 a.m. Members of the New Hope Charge of Wapwallopen, which includes Slocum UMC, Stairville UMC and Faith UMC, all gathered for the special service given by Pastor Scott O. Miller and then enjoyed a light luncheon held in the fellowship hall.

The service began with Pastor Scott O. Miller welcoming all and doing the announcements. He introduced Rev. Larry Leland the Lewisburg District Superintendent who congratulated Slocum UMC and its members on their 160th anniversary and welcomed everyone. Carl Peters, a church elder and church



**Slocum United Methodist Church**



**Getha Ogin, a member of Slocum UMC, enjoys lunch among her many friends.**

historian read to everyone the complete history of the church from its inception and the building of the church in 1859 through the mid twentieth century and the past few years when many updates and restorations were done. He spoke with emotion as he recalled going to the church as a child and opening the doors to smoke from the oil burner.

Following Pastor's sermon on "Have Mercy" church member Charles Herring talked about the Creche (Nativity) displayed in the fellowship hall and its importance to all Christians.

Pastor Scott then ended with a Benediction and song.

Following the service everyone went into the fellowship hall to partake in a light meal together.

## Worship Together ...

*Continued from page 37*

on Tuesday, December 17, at 6 p.m. This class is mandatory for all parents wishing to baptize their children. If you are unable to attend this class, there is a class at Immaculate Conception Parish on Tuesday, December 10, at 6 p.m. Please register by calling the parish office.

The parish email address has temporarily been removed from their website. While they investigate alternatives, for any parish business please contact them using the phone number for the office.

Tuesday night bingo at Good Shepherd Church starts with an early bird game at 6 p.m. They play 22 games each week and payouts range from \$50 to over \$500. Regular games pay \$100 each. The kitchen opens at 5 p.m. with special soups, sandwiches, beverages, ethnic foods and a variety of other goodies including fries, pretzels, candy, chips, and more. They also provide complimentary coffee, tea, and cake to players and volunteers.

### GRACE INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH

**Services: Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.**

**Brian Korner, Pastor**  
Blue Ridge Trail, Slocum Twp.  
570-868-6298

An old fashion Bible believing church still using the 1611 King James Version Bible and singing old favorite hymns.

Mid-week fellowship and prayer meeting is the first Wednesday of every month. Meal at 6 p.m. and prayer meeting at 7 p.m. Some fluctuations with this service can occur, so please call before attending to confirm.

Sunday School classes for children of all ages will help them learn at their level.

Children will love Junior Church during the Sunday morning service. Kids K-4 through 6th grade will be excited as they sing, learn memory verses, get prizes and hear preaching at their level.

A well equipped, well staffed nursery is provided for infants and toddlers.

The church has a bookstore, "Growing in Grace." They have a good selection of KJV Bibles, music, and various other items.

To contact the church call 570-868-6298 or email [Kornerb@Truevine.net](mailto:Kornerb@Truevine.net).

### HARVEST CONYNGHAM VALLEY

**Services: Sunday 10 a.m.**  
**Jeff Butala, Pastor**  
475 Main Street, Conyngham  
570-788-1055

Come and experience vertical worship and unapologetic preaching of God's word! Harvest CV seeks to develop grace and truth worshipers who share the good news of Christ with boldness!

Sunday children's ministry is age specific. Each child is loved and cared for by approved and responsible adults and youth support staff. At Higher Ground, each child is valued and taught the Word of God in age appropriate

ways that encourage children to learn and enjoy their time in Harvest's Children's Ministry.

Everyone is encouraged to join a small group. Find one that fits your schedule. Contact [info@harvestcv.org](mailto:info@harvestcv.org) or indicate "Small Group" on the Friendship Register during a church service, or simply ask someone how to get more involved in small groups. Groups are currently gathering and forming.

For more information visit [harvestcv.org](http://harvestcv.org) or Harvest Conyngham Valley on Facebook.

### MOUNTAIN TOP BAPTIST CHURCH

**Services: Sunday 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.**  
**Dale Mooney, Pastor**  
865 Church Rd., Mountain Top  
570-868-6863

Mountain Top Baptist Church invites you to join them for services. They offer a fully staffed nursery for all Sunday worship services for ages 0-3.

Sunday School for all ages is held on Sundays at 10 a.m.

Wednesday night at 7 p.m. is a Bible study for the adults. There is a Bible study class for teens and younger ones have fun in the Kids4Truth Club with singing, Bible lessons, memory verses and other activities.

The Kids 4 Truth clubs curriculum and program is a local-church-based children's education ministry that utilizes a lesson time, a TruthBook time (memory and recitation), a song time, and a reward time in order to fortify young hearts and minds with the essential teachings of the authentic Christian faith.

The primary goal of this program is to help boys and girls know, love, and worship God by grounding them in essential Christian truth. Kids 4 Truth clubs work to ensure that boys and girls of all ages will learn what Christians believe and why they believe it.

The Kids 4 Truth clubs program and curriculum have become a dynamic platform for the church to teach boys and girls 120 of the most important truths of Scripture – in an understandable, useful, and memorable way.

### MOUNTAIN TOP FAMILY CHURCH

**Services: Sunday 9 & 10:30 a.m.**  
**Brian Knorr, Pastor**  
209 S. Mt. Blvd., Mountain Top  
570-474-0900

MFC invites families to church on Sundays during the contemporary services. Come a few minutes early for a continental breakfast with coffee, tea, bagels, and danishes.

KidsTown Children's Ministries takes place during both services for children 8 weeks old through 6th grade. The certified KidsTown staff provides a safe environment for children to grow in their relationships with God and with others.

On Saturday, November 2, a Soup and Chili Cook-Off will be held from noon to 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per entry and entries are due October 27. Tasting is 25¢ per soup/chili and voting is \$1 per vote.

*See Worship, page 39*



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## Worship Together ...

Continued from page 38

During the cook-off, there will also be free hayrides and a moon bounce outside, weather permitting. A dessert auction and bake sale will be held at 1:30 p.m. after the cook-off. All proceeds will benefit the children's and teen ministries.

An After School Club will be held at MFC on Tuesdays, November 12, 19 and 26. All children in the community in 1st-6th grade can be dropped off from 3:40 to 4 p.m. and picked up at 5 p.m. at the church. The children will have free play time with ping pong, air hockey, Legos, games and more. Children may choose from the following clubs: Crafts or Cup Stacking for grades 1-6, Lego Robotics for grades 3-6, and Stomp for grades 4 to 6. Please sign up by November 3 by contacting Debbie Knorr at the church office at 570-474-0900 or emailing [debbie@mfcchurch.com](mailto:debbie@mfcchurch.com).

Mountaintop Family Church will be hosting a Thanksgiving food drive and a coat drive through November 20. Food being collected includes corn, gravy, broth, stuffing, green

beans, canned fruits, cranberry sauce, canned sweet potatoes and noodles. They will be accepting gently used and washed coats, winter hats, scarves, gloves and mittens for the coat drive. All donations can be placed in the bins in the church lobby.

Contact the office or email [debbie@mfcchurch.com](mailto:debbie@mfcchurch.com) for information.

### MOUNTAINVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

Service: Sunday 10 a.m.

Brook Selby, Pastor  
5126 N. Lehigh Gorge Dr.,  
White Haven  
570-443-9438

Mountainview is a family church. They believe that through their relationships with one another and with Jesus, they will experience the freedom, confidence, and the full life that is available to them. Their mission is to provide an environment where anyone can encounter Jesus' love and guidance.

Every 4th Sunday is Family Sunday, when the children stay in the service and the church shares communion together.

The church will hold Thursday Family Faith Nights. There will be dinner together followed by the various kids' groups. While adults wait for their kids they can take part in a class called Christianity 101 which will be an opportunity to explore questions about the faith. Dinner, fellowship, fun and spiritual growth all in one night! How awesome is that?

For updated information on Mountainview Community Church, their small groups, and various activities, please visit [www.mountainviewnepa.org](http://www.mountainviewnepa.org) and Facebook page: MountainviewFMC.

Mountainview is located about 1 mile from the Rt. 437 intersection in White Haven.

### MT. ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Services: Sunday 9 A.M.

Pastors: Bob Thomas and  
Rev. Fran Fink  
Lily Lake Road, Slocum

Come worship in a real country church. Built in 1891, Mt. Zion still has no running water and uses an outhouse for their rest room facilities.

The church will have a spe-

cial Saturday night worship service on November 2 at 5 p.m. Rev. Fran Fink will lead the service.

On Sunday, November 3 they will have their annual fall breakfast at the Slocum Fire Company Hall from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The all-you-can-eat breakfast features bacon, sausage, eggs, home fries, pancakes, toast, juices, coffee, and homemade goodies. Cost is \$9 for adults, \$4.50 for children 6-12 years of age, and free for children 5 & under. As always, they will also have a bake sale table. Please come join us for a morning of good food and fellowship!

Pastor Bob Thomas will lead the worship service on November 10.

For more information regarding the church services and activities, please contact Diane Webster at 570-379-3713.

### NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Services: Sunday  
8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Pastor: John Broglin  
570 S. Main Road, Mountain Top  
570-868-5155

New Life Community Church, invites you to come and worship the way it used to be.

Everyone is welcome to join Bible study on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to dinner and a movie on Friday, November 8 at 6:30 p.m., featuring the movie *Breakthrough*, for only \$3.

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MOUNTAIN TOP

Services: Sunday 11 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.

9 Chestnut Street, Mountain Top  
570-474-9951

You are invited to join in worship on Sunday, November 3. Pastor Neil Partington will present the message.

Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. Classes are available for all ages.

The choir practices every Thursday at 7 p.m. If you are interested in this ministry and would like to participate in the Christmas Cantata please stop by or contact Choir Director/Organist Bill Blannett.

All friends and church family are invited to join in corporate prayer for this time of the church's transition. Prayer will be held between Sunday School and church, about 10:20 a.m.

A blood drive will be held in Fellowship Hall on November 9 from 9 a.m. til 1 p.m. Help save lives!

Please donate your food items weekly to be given to the Mountain Top food bank. The need is great for packaged items, mayonnaise, coffee and sugar canned corn, red beets, variety soups and cranberry sauce are also needed.

See Worship, page 40

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## Worship Together ...

Continued from page 39

They will also be collecting supplies and clothing (new) for Brandons Forever Home. A bin will be located in the narthex. If you have questions please contact Nancy Badal or any of the Presbyterian Women's group.

2020 dates to purchase bulletin covers to honor or recognize someone are now available. A month's supply of bulletin covers is \$35. Flowers are also available to purchase for \$35 for the vases or a special arrangement for the pedestal. Contact Lisa Bachman to schedule flowers or call the church office.

The church office is open Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Email: pbychmt@verizon.net. If you have any questions about the church or its ministries please call 570-474-9951 or find them on Facebook.

**STAIRVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**Services: Sunday 10 a.m.**  
**Scott O. Miller, Pastor**  
**Stairville Road, Mountain Top**  
**570-868-5640**

The congregation invites you to come and worship with them this Sunday. Communion is celebrated every 1st Sunday of the month. There is plenty of parking behind the church.

Choir practice is every Thursday at 3 p.m.

The J.O.Y. Circle meets every second Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the large fellowship hall. They make the plans for all church events, new members are welcome.

**ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Services: 9 a.m.**  
**Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.**  
**Oliver Brown, Pastor**

**827 E. County Road, Wapwallopen**  
**570-379-3878**

Pastor Brown conducts Bible Study on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month beginning at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

A soup and bake sale will be held at the election polls again this year. The date is November 5. Baked good will be needed and help is needed to make soup on Monday, November 4. Volunteers to work the stand will also be needed. If you are able to help, contact Diane Bloss at 570-379-3811 or Teresa Readler at 570-379-3873. It is possible that the election poll will be changed to St. James Church for the November election, but no details have been finalized.

The Thanksgiving baskets for needy families will be put together at St. James on November 24 beginning at 11 a.m. The children will bring home notices of the items they are asked to bring. The congregation is also asked to bring items to support this effort. This is a Sunday School project in cooperation with St. Mary's R.C.C. Help is always needed to assemble the baskets.

Christmas baskets for shut-ins will be assembled on December 15 by the adults while children are in class. Help would be appreciated by

parents who would normally be dropping off their children.

The annual Christmas program will be held during the worship service on December 22 beginning at 9 a.m. There will be no Sunday School classes.

There will be no Sunday School classes on December 29.

Boy Scout Troop 300 continues to meet at St. James Lutheran Church on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8 p.m.

Cub Scout Pack 379 meets on Sunday evenings from 6-7 p.m. Kindergarten through 5th grade boys are welcome to join. Call Billy Jo Scott at 570-854-3755 for more info.

**ST. JUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**Services: Saturday 4 p.m.**  
**Sunday: 8:30 & 11 a.m.**  
**Father Joseph J. Evanko, Pastor**  
**420 S. Mt. Blvd., Mountain Top**  
**570-474-6315**

St. Jude Parish will participate with St. Paul's Lutheran Church in the Feed-a-Friend program that helps to supply Thanksgiving food bags for families in the Mountain Top area. Suggested nonperishable food items include the following: boxes of stuffing mix, pie crust mix, Bisquick, Jello, pud-

*See Worship, page 41*



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**Members of Emmanuel United Church of Christ in Dorrance prepare take-out turkey dinners in the social hall on October 19.**



**Megan Ceaser, 9, and her little brother Mark, 3, were busy boxing desserts.**

*Mountain Peaks/  
 Norberta Kosin  
 photos*

### Emmanuel UCC prepares turkey dinner

Emmanuel United Church of Christ held its take out turkey dinner on Saturday, October 19 from 3 to 7 p.m. The meal included turkey, gravy, stuffing, mashed potatoes, corn, green beans, homemade pickled cabbage and dessert.

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## Worship Together ...

Continued from page 40

ding, instant potatoes, and hot roll mix and cans of vegetables, fruit, turkey gravy, cranberry sauce, pumpkin, apple sauce, soup and pie filling.

No glass please. Food may be dropped off at the church and placed in the containers located in the narthex marked Feed-a-Friend until Friday, November 22.

Attention kids in grades 3-7: the church needs you to join the children's choir. The fall season begins on September 10. They rehearse on Tuesdays from 4:45-5:30 p.m. in the church. Please contact Stephanie, stephaniekulpa@gmail.com for any additional information.

The Children's Liturgy of the Word program will now be offered at the 8:30 a.m. Mass and the 11 a.m. Mass each week (except for 8:30 a.m.

family Mass once a month). Children will hear the Liturgy of the Word in their own language and talk about the messages heard on an age appropriate level.

God Loves Moms Bible Study Group: A mom-led discussion group surrounding the book, "God Loves Moms". Bring your young children, they have babysitters to play with them while you sit, relax and reflect on God in your crazy mom-life!

The group meets twice a month from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the church meeting room. Please feel free to invite your friends, too!

Children in grades 1st through 6th are welcome to join as they learn about God, have some fun and each month complete a service project along the way.

This month is all about Mary. To sign up or for more information on CLOW, God Loves

Moms Bible Study or Caring Kids Club, please contact Carrie at cgrandzol@stjc.org.

This school year join your friends for a fun night of service, games and snacks. Once a month starting at 7 p.m., the youth group will meet in St. Jude School cafeteria to work on a service project. They will also have games and snacks! Feel free to invite friends too! Youth night dates are: November 12, December 10, January 14, February 11, March 10, April 4 and May 14.

Donations Needed ~ Operation Christmas Child: The world's largest Christmas project of its kind, Operation Christmas Child, uses gift-filled shoeboxes to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. The Youth of St. Jude are having a Shoebox Packing Party this November and are in need of the follow-

ing items: toys such as dolls, toy cars, small balls or balls with pumps, small musical instruments, jump ropes, yo-yos, stuffed animals, puzzles, playing cards, small games; accessories such as socks, hats, barrettes, hair ties, sunglasses, jewelry, flash lights (with extra batteries); non-liquid hygiene items: soap, tissues, toothbrushes, combs, wash cloths; school supplies: such as pens, pencils, notebooks, crayons, coloring books, rulers, calculators; quality crafts: such as knitted hats, friendship bracelets, hair bows; monetary donations: each shoebox costs \$9 to get to its destination (checks may be payable to St. Jude Parish with "Operation Christmas Child in the Memo").

Needed: Empty, clean standard sized shoe boxes or plastic containers shoebox sized. They will have baskets in the narthex the weekends of Novem-

ber 2/3 and November 9/10. If you'd like to pack a shoebox of your own, feel free to pickup a brochure in the narthex and drop off your filled shoebox with \$9 to help shipping costs by November 10. Questions or for more information, contact Tricia at tscanlan@stjc.org.

Youth Advent Bible Study for grades 9-12. Take a break from the hustle and bustle of the holiday season this year. Spend some time with God and with friends to read and discuss what He has planned for us. It's only 3 Tuesdays and 1 Monday in December at 6 p.m. The church will provide all materials. Dates they meet: Tuesdays, December 3, 10, and 17 and Monday, December 23 (if you can't make all the meetings, that's ok). Contact Tricia at tscanlan@stjc.org or call the Parish Office for more information and to register.

The following items are needed for the Mt. Top Food Bank: Boxed soup mix instead of Ramen noodles, noodles, rice, boxed macaroni and cheese, vegetable soups, cream soups, baked beans, jelly, peanut butter, canned fruit, tuna, ketchup, mayonnaise, pudding, jello, sugar, hot chocolate and coffee.

The Parish office hours are Monday-Thursday: 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; Friday and Saturday: closed and Sunday: 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**ST. MARK'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Services: Sunday at 11:15 a.m.  
285 Pond Hill Mt. Road,  
Wapwallopen  
570-735-8531

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See Worship, page 42

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## Worship Together ...

Continued from page 41

service? The congregation of St. Mark's invites everyone to join them as they share God's Word and celebrate Holy Communion every Sunday.

St. Mark's is a small country church with a big Christian heart! They believe they are called to: Be the body of Christ: His heart, His hands, His voice!

Like them on Facebook, "St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Pond Hill PA", to see pictures and announcements.

### ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Services: Sunday 10 a.m.

Rev. Daniel FitzSimmons, Rector  
3085 Church Road, Mountain Top  
570-868-5358

St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church is an inclusive and modern Episcopal Church that incorporates into its liturgy the best of both Catholic and Protestant traditions while remaining open to new directions from the Holy Spirit.

Everyone, regardless of their faith or background, is welcome to celebrate Holy Eucharist with them on Sundays. For more information, visit [stmartintimeless.org](http://stmartintimeless.org) or call Janeann Lokken at 570-868-6895.

### ST. MARY'S OF DORRANCE

Services: Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 9 a.m.

Father Joseph Evanko, Pastor  
3529 St. Mary's Road, Dorrance  
570-868-5855

The church warmly welcome all visitors! Contact the parish office if you would like to become a member of the parish.

Religious Education classes

are held weekly on Sundays from 10-11:15 a.m. Please call Stacy Panas with any questions or concerns at 570-332-3801.

Roast beef supper: Saturday, November 2, 3-7 p.m. Tickets are available! Adults and take out: \$10, Children \$4 (age 5-10). Donation sheets for desserts and other needed items are in the back of the church. Dinner is served family style and includes roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, corn, pickled beets, pickled cabbage, dinner rolls, dessert, and beverages.

Turkey bingo: Sunday, November 10, 1 p.m. Saint Theresa's Guild will hold its annual turkey bingo on Sunday, November 10 in the hall. Doors open at noon, Early Bird at 1 p.m. Admission is \$5, and includes a 20 game book of 4-on cards. Additional books are \$2.50. This is an all paper bingo. There will also be specials, door prizes, and raffles. The kitchen will be open.

Saint Theresa's Guild members are asked to donate \$5 worth of lottery tickets for a special raffle that will be used at the turkey bingo. Tickets are due to Elaine Polak or Molly (office) by November 3. Lottery calendars are due to Julia Vencak or Penny Smith by November 10.

Children's Christmas party: Sunday, December 8, 1 p.m. Saint Theresa's Guild will sponsor a Christmas party for children of the parish up to and including 10 years old. Sign up sheets are on the table in the social hall vestibule. The reservation deadline is November 10. Due to advance planning and preparations needed for this event late sign ups can-

See Worship, page 43

### St. Patrick's youth host spaghetti dinner

St. Patrick's Catholic Church in White Haven hosted a spaghetti dinner on Friday, October 18 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Parish Center. The parish youth worked in the kitchen and dining room making sure diners had all they needed.



Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photos  
Members of the church's youth group, Brooke Lenahan, Cassidy McDermott and Abby Best serve diners spaghetti and meatballs.

Cost for the dinner was whatever donation one felt like leaving and included spaghetti and meatballs, bread, salad, dessert and beverages.

Proceeds from the event will benefit youth group projects and the local food pantry.



Friends Donald Croughn and Donte Fanelli are involved with the church's youth group and are taking some time to enjoy some spaghetti.

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# Worship Together ...

**Continued from page 42**

not be accepted. Children will be served lunch and receive a gift from Santa. Time will be available at the of the party for photos.

The church will soon be preparing its 2020 offertory envelopes. Please call the parish office if you would like envelopes and don't already receive them. Also, please call the office if you have updated information (family name, phone number, address, or email address).

The church is looking for parishioners who would like to partner with the seventh and eighth grade students to journey with them as they prepare for Confirmation. Your commitment would include praying for them, and offering them encouragement and support via cards and letters. Call the parish office if you are able to share your love of the Catholic faith with one of the

young adults, or if you would like more information.

Altar & Rosary Society is sponsoring a baby shower to benefit Human Life Resource Center: There will be a bassinet in the back of the church. Anyone can put their unwrapped gifts in it. There will also be a "Piggy Bank" for monetary donations. The collection will be for the entire month of October.

A hat, scarf, & glove collection for Saint Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen and parish families is taking place. The clothing items most in need at the Soup Kitchen for winter are hats, scarves, and gloves. Please call the office if you would like to come and look at the available items.

Boxes are at the church doors for anyone who would like to make a donation. We ask that items be softly worn, new, or hand made.

The Knights of Columbus is

looking for a few good men! If you are interested in giving back to your church and community and having fun while doing it call John Baab 516-241-5297.

Office hours are Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. or by appointment. In case of emergency call 570-474-6315 and follow prompts for emergency.

## ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Services: Saturday 5 p.m.**

**Sunday: 10:15 a.m.**

**Rev. Peter O'Rourke,  
Sacramental Minister  
411 Allegheny Street,  
White Haven  
570-443-9944**

St. Patrick's Church welcomes all to visit and worship with them. Contact the parish office if you would like to become a member of the parish. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

Faith Formation (CCD) classes for grades Pre-K to 8th are held in the Parish Center from 9 to 10 a.m. every Sunday. The next children's Mass will be on November 10 at 10:15 a.m.

Youth folk group is looking for new members! Practices

are held on Thursdays from 5 to 5:45 p.m. in the church.

The Rosary is recited each Tuesday at 5 p.m. The Miraculous Medal Novena is prayed each Tuesday morning after the 8 a.m. Communion Service.

Weekday Masses are held on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 8 a.m.

If you would like information about joining the Knights of Columbus, please contact Jim Curto at 570-443-8494.

## ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Services: Sunday 9:30 a.m.**

**Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.**

**Rev. Michelle Kaufman, Pastor  
316 S. Mt. Blvd., Mountain Top  
570-474-6616**

The congregation of St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Mountain Top encourages you to join them for worship this week. The following is a brief summary of upcoming worship and service opportunities.

Bible Study is held every Thursday at 1 p.m. They welcome interested persons to attend. Have some fun with learning; only 2 hours a week with a knowledgeable teacher. Snacks provided.

It's that time once again for

Feed-A-Friend to seek volunteers to help with the sorting, packing and handing out Thanksgiving baskets to those in need. This year they are seeking volunteers of all ages to help sort food starting on Saturday, November 23 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. On Sunday, November 24, they will pack bags with the Sunday School/adults can help too. Finally, distribution day will be Tuesday, November 26 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. to help carry the food to cars. Any time you can volunteer and help would be greatly appreciated! Any questions contact Terry Scott at 570-868-7368 or tjscott805@gmail.com.

The hoagie group needs new volunteers! If you can help, please contact the church secretary for more information 570-474-6616.

Now recruiting new members for the adult vocal choir! It's almost time for another year of singing! Consider joining for the 2019-2020 year! The blue signup sheet is in the narthex. See Schyler with questions.

The first Sunday of each month has been declared "Food Bank Day" and they ask that members bring non-perishable food items in order to keep up with the demand for food.

Every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday at 7 p.m. AA meetings are held, at 6:15 p.m., on Wednesdays Weight Watchers meetings are in session. Every Thursday NA meets at 6 p.m. Stress & Anxiety Management: Every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

The church office is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

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**See Worship, page 44**

## Worship Together ...

Continued from page 43

### ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Services: Sunday 9 a.m.**  
**Sunday School: 10 a.m.**  
**Janelle Rothrock, Pastor**  
**418 Berwick St., White Haven**  
**570-443-9424**

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday at 9:15.

Sunday school for ages preschool through confirmation classes, is from 10 to 11 a.m. throughout the school year.

Activities at St. Paul's include: youth group for those in grade 4 through 12 the first and third Sunday at 6 p.m. Quilters on

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Monday at 9:30 a.m., Adult Bible Study on Tuesday at 7 p.m., community lunch each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11:30 a.m. in the Parish House.

Please join them for their 6th annual free community Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings! Enjoy home cooked roasted turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, sweet potatoes, vegetables, dinner rolls, drinks, and of course, all types of delicious desserts including pumpkin pie! The dinner will take place at the church on Wednesday, November 27 from 3 to 6 p.m.

The Sunday School children will be proclaiming the good news on Sunday, December 15 with their Christmas Pageant.

### ST. PAUL'S DRUMS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Services: Sunday, 10:30 a.m.**  
**Adult Sunday School: 9 a.m.**  
**Rev. Debra L. Hebden, Pastor**  
**335 W. Butler Drive, Drums**  
**570-788-3051**

Pastor Debra and the congregation invite you to worship with them every Sunday. Fellowship time follows the service. Holy Communion is offered on the first Sunday of the month.

Ongoing ministries include Tuesday evening Bible Study at 6 p.m.

For more information, contact them at [www.stpaulsdrums.com](http://www.stpaulsdrums.com) or Email: [stpaulsdrums@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsdrums@gmail.com).

[stpaulsdrums@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsdrums@gmail.com).

### WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN FELLOWSHIP

**Services: Thursday, 6:30 p.m.**  
**David Holmlund, Pastor**  
**317 Glen Oaks Drive**  
**White Haven**  
**215-237-5514**

Westminster Presbyterian Fellowship is holding worship services this fall on Sundays at 5 p.m. at the facilities of New Life Community Church, 570 S. Main Road. Their desire is to see the ministry grow upon the foundation of Christian worship so that they might take their place among the congregations of Mountain Top in service to others and in witness

to the community.

All visitors are most welcome to join them, and for those who are active in other area churches they appreciate your prayers for their new church plant effort.

The first services have been very encouraging in building a common bond through worship before moving next door to enjoy a time of Christian fellowship over a light supper. The congregation of NLCC have been so kind to let them use their facilities for both of these activities.

The Thursday evening Bible studies allow small group discussion of God's word as well as time for prayer together.

See Worship, page 45

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## Worship Together ...

### Continued from page 44

Please contact them for more information on the Bible study as different families are hosting each week.

Pastor Dave Holmlund, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church's Regional Home Missionary in eastern PA, is the minister working with Westminster Presbyterian Fellow-

ship while the ministry takes these early steps. You can reach Dave at 215-237-5514 (cell) or daveholmlund@gmail.com.

### WHITE HAVEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Services: Sunday 9 a.m.  
3rd Saturday 5 p.m.

Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.  
David Botzer, Pastor  
900 Buffalo St., White Haven  
570-443-7153

White Haven UMC welcomes everyone in the community to worship with them. Communion is shared the first Sunday of the month. A contemporary communion service is held on the third Sat-

urday of the month at 5 p.m.

Sunday School welcomes children Pre-K through 5th grade. Youth Group welcomes those in 6th-12th grade. Both meet every Sunday at 10:15 a.m. following worship.

If you are in need of pastoral care, call Pastor Dave at 570-443-7153 or e-mail him at dbotzer@hotmail.com.

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## Scout Troop 106 visits Niagara Falls

Scout Troop 106 visited Niagara Falls New York this past summer. Scouts enjoyed a wet ride on the famous boat, Maid of the Mist and climbed to the hurricane deck of the Cave of the Winds. The scouts also hiked down into the gorge at Whirlpool State Park to get up and personal with the Niag- ara River. Scouts logged a fifteen mile hike in one day and camped at Four Mile Creek State Park which is located on Lake Ontario.



Scouts in attendance: Allen Anderson, Anthony Anderson, Simon Basham, Kyle Barley, Luke Barley, Andy Grove, Aaron Kutney, Nathan Harvard, Weston Medvetz, Jacob Price, Parth Patel, and Johnny Watkins  
Scout leaders in attendance: Bob Barley, Christal Basham, Hank Bastemeyer and Eric Krapf.

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