

**FREE**

# Mountain Peaks



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NEWSPAPER, LLC

January 23-February 5, 2020

NEXT EDITION: FEBRUARY 6

DEADLINE: JANUARY 31

Volume 17, No.2

[www.mt-peaks.com](http://www.mt-peaks.com)



Shown from left, front row: Ethan Stoltz, Connor Murtha, Ryan Petrosky, Paul Feisel, Coach Mark Atherton, Brad Papura, Marcus Vieny, Michael Zaleski, Coach Jimmy Lavan, Dave Thole; back row: Coach Mike Boutanas, Sam Balliet, Nash Greene, Carter Laubach, Mike McLaughlin, Nick Ruggeri, Nolan Dunnum, Bryce Vieny, Jacob Zaleski, Declan Palmiero, Brandon Niemenski, Don Shaw, Bryce Wyda, Joey Gzemski, Tyler Oresick. Absent from photo: Adam Wood, Zayne Dunsmuir.

## Crestwood basketball coach Mark Atherton hits 450th career win

Crestwood basketball coach Mark Atherton hit a coaching milestone on January 14 when the Crestwood Comet basketball team beat Wilkes-Barre Area in an overtime thriller, 41-40. This gave Atherton his 450th career win. Ryan Petrosky scored five points

in overtime with a 3 point field goal and a couple of free throws as Crestwood used a late rally to beat Wilkes-Barre Area. Mike Zaleski and Marcus Vieny hit 3-pointers in a defensive fourth quarter to bring the Comets back from a four-point deficit and tie the

game at 35-35 to force overtime. Vieny led Crestwood with 14 points and Jacob Zaleski added 10 for the Comets, who moved to 5-0 in the WVC play and lead Division 1. Coach Atherton and the team celebrated the milestone with a cake to mark the event.

**To advertise in this spot call Wendy at 570-249-1233  
or email [wendy.mtpeaks@gmail.com](mailto:wendy.mtpeaks@gmail.com)**

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

### JANUARY 25, FEBRUARY 3, 11 LITTLE LEAGUE PLAYER REGISTRATIONS

Mt. Top Area Little League baseball and softball is offering sign ups for the 2020 season. Go to [www.mountaintoparealittleleague.com](http://www.mountaintoparealittleleague.com) to register online at any time.

Baseball and softball programs for boys and girls ages 4 thru 15, must turn age 4 by August 31, 2020 in order to play.

Programs include t-ball, coach pitch, girls softball and boys baseball.

The registration dates are: **Saturday, January 25, 3-5:30 p.m.**; **Monday, February 3, 5:30-7:30 p.m.**; and **Tuesday, February 11, 5:30-7:30 p.m.** All sign ups at Crestwood Middle School cafeteria and High School cafeteria. No sign ups after March 1, and no late sign ups accepted.

Visit [www.mountaintoparealittleleague.com](http://www.mountaintoparealittleleague.com) for details, forms, fees and additional information. Call 570-762-0379 for additional information and or questions.

### JANUARY 24 AN EVENING WITH JESSIE HOOKER-BAILEY

A special cabaret performance titled *From Wilkes-Barre to Broadway: An Evening with Jessie Hooker-Bailey* will be presented at Wyoming Seminary on **Friday, January 24** at 7 p.m. in the Kirby Center for Creative Arts, 260 North Sprague Avenue, Kingston.

In this program, a combination interview and performance cabaret, Hooker-Bailey will describe her journey as a singer and actress from her start in Wilkes-Barre and

Sem to her recent Broadway appearances. Free and open to the public. For more information call 570-270-2192.

### ROSARY RALLY

The St. Jude Knights of Columbus will hold a Rosary Rally in conjunction with the March for Life in Washington DC on **Friday, January 24** at noon. Please meet outside at the Prayer Garden, opposite side of church parking lot, on St. Jude's property. If it rains or snows the rally will be in the church. This rally is free and open to the public.

### JANUARY 25 NIGHT AT THE RACES

Mountaintop Youth Basket-

ball League will hold the 3rd annual night at the races on **January 25** at the American Legion Post 781, 1550 Henry Drive in Mountain Top. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Cost is only \$10 which includes admission, horse, food and beverages. If you have any questions, please email [myblpres@frontier.com](mailto:myblpres@frontier.com).

### NRA CONCEALED WEAPON COURSE

The Luzerne County Community College Public Safety Training Institute will hold an NRA concealed carry weapon course.

The course will teach the basic knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to carry a concealed pistol for per-

sonal defense. The course is designed to meet the minimum requirements of all the different states which issue concealed carry permits.

Two sections of the course will be offered. The classroom phase includes nine hours of instruction and the second phase includes nine hours on the range.

The first offering will be held on **Saturday, January 25** (phase one) and **Saturday, March 21** (phase two), from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The second section will be held on **Saturday, February 22** (phase one) and **Saturday, April 25** (phase two), from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, or to

register, call the LCCC Public Safety Training Institute at 570-740-0637 or 800-377-LCCC, extension 7637 or go to [www.luzerne.edu/publicsafety](http://www.luzerne.edu/publicsafety).

### JANUARY 26 CHS CLASS OF 1970 REUNION MEETING

The Crestwood High School class of 1970 is holding a class meeting on **Sunday January 26** at 2 p.m. at Abe's Lunch at 419 S. Main Street, Wilkes Barre. All classmates are invited.

### ST. JUDE OPEN HOUSE

Saint Jude School will hold its annual Open House on **Sunday,**

*See Places To Go, page 7*

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a peek into life in the Mountain Top community

**Mountain Peaks Newspaper, LLC** is published bi-weekly and distributed to stores and businesses throughout Mountain Top, White Haven, Conyngham and Drums, where it is available for no charge. For information on our advertising rates and publication schedule, see our website at [www.mt-peaks.com](http://www.mt-peaks.com). To send news and photos, mail or email using info below.

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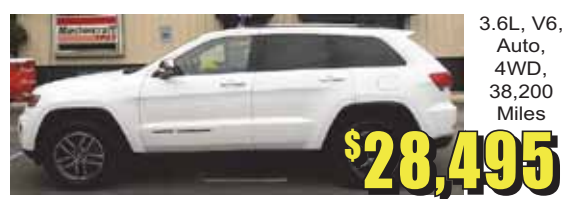
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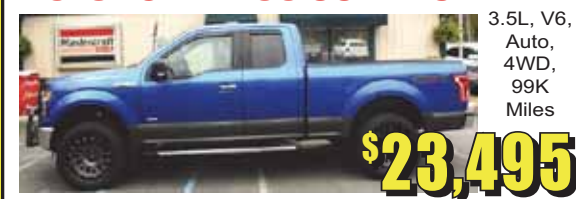
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## Barno named Senior Student of the Quarter



From left are Mr. Bechir Garraoui, Physics AP; Andrew Barno, Mr. Jeff Bellas, Calculus AP; Mr. Jeff Pierontoni, Engineering.

Andrew Barno was recently named Senior Student of the Quarter by the Crestwood Education Association. Andrew has applied to several excellent schools and will major in Engineering.



Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photo

From left, Supervisor Donald Zampetti, Chairman Matt Howton handing the keys to Police Chief Royce Engler, Vice-Chairman Colleen

Macko, Supervisor Michael Marshall and Secretary Pamela Heard stand with the brand new 2020 Ford Explorer 4x4 police vehicle.

## Wright Township receives new police vehicle

Wright Township Police Department took ownership of a 2020 Ford Explorer 4x4 on Tuesday, January 7. The vehicle is equipped with a

computer and all that is necessary for officers to safely patrol township streets. The new vehicle came with a price tag of \$47,000.



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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 January 27

**Monday:** National Chocolate Cake Day! Toasted cheese sandwich or chicken nuggets, pretzel sticks; featured veggies: tomato soup, tater tots, chocolate cake with lunch, choice of fruit and milk

**Tuesday:** Walking taco, tortilla chips or cheeseburger on a bun; featured veggies: refried beans, lettuce and tomato,

choice of fruit and milk

**Wednesday:** Oven roasted turkey over bread with gravy or hot dog on a bun; featured veggies: mashed potatoes, baby carrots, choice of fruit and milk

**Thursday:** Spaghetti and meat sauce, garlic bread or chicken patty on a bun; featured veggies: green peas, Caesar salad, choice of fruit and milk

**Friday:** Pepperoni pizza or meatballs and marinara with cheese on a roll; featured veggies: sweet potato fries, corn

salad, choice of fruit and milk

### Week of February 3

**Monday:** Toasted cheese sandwich or chicken nuggets, pretzel sticks; featured veggies: tomato soup, tater tots, choice of fruit and milk

**Tuesday:** Walking taco, tortilla chips or cheeseburger on a bun; featured veggies: refried beans, lettuce and tomato, choice of fruit and milk

**Wednesday:** Chicken in gravy over a biscuit or hot dog on a bun; featured veggies: mashed potatoes, baby carrots, choice of fruit and milk

**Thursday:** Spaghetti and meat sauce, garlic bread or chicken patty on a bun; featured veggies: green peas, Caesar salad, choice of fruit and milk

**Friday:** Pepperoni pizza or meatballs and marinara with cheese on a roll; featured veggies: sweet potato fries, corn

salad, 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 January 27

**Monday:** National Chocolate Cake Day! Turkey, bacon and cheese melt or Comet Bowl with popcorn chicken and a dinner roll; featured veggies: mashed potatoes, steamed corn, choice of fruit and milk

**Tuesday:** Ziti and meat sauce, garlic bread stick or chicken bacon ranch on a bun; featured veggies: cauliflower, baby carrots, choice of fruit and milk

**Wednesday:** Mac and cheese with a dinner roll or chili hot dog on a roll; featured veggies: stewed tomatoes, spinach salad, choice of fruit and milk

**Thursday:** Cowboy burger

with cheese, onion rings, barbecue sauce or barbecued rib on a bun; featured veggies: steamed broccoli, carrot sticks, choice of fruit and milk

**Friday:** Pulled barbecued pork on flat bread or Italian dunkers with dipping sauce; featured veggies: refried beans, tomato wedges, choice of fruit and milk

### Week of February 3

**Monday:** Turkey and cheese melt on Texas toast or chicken mashed potato bowl with a dinner roll; featured veggies: mashed potatoes, steamed corn, choice of fruit and milk

**Tuesday:** Ziti and meat sauce, garlic bread stick or chicken parmesan on a bun; featured veggies: cauliflower, baby carrots, choice of fruit and milk

**Wednesday:** Mac and cheese with a dinner roll or meatball hoagie on a roll; featured veggies: stewed tomatoes, spinach salad, choice of fruit and milk

**Thursday:** Cowboy burger with bacon, cheese, onion rings, bbq sauce or barbecued rib on a bun; featured veggies: steamed broccoli, carrot sticks, choice of fruit and milk

**Friday:** Pulled barbecued pork on flat bread or Italian dunkers with dipping sauce; featured veggies: refried beans, tomato wedges, choice of fruit and milk



**95 North Mountain Blvd. Mountain Top**  
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**JANUARY & FEBRUARY SPECIALS**

**APPETIZERS:**  
Sampler • Crab Pretzel Sticks

**DINNER PLATES:**  
Cashew Chicken Stir Fry • Chicken Pot Pie • Italian Sausage & Pepper Pasta

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

**MONDAY: BURGER & WING NIGHT**  
**50¢ WINGS** (Minimum of 12)  
\$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 \$1.75 Coors Light Pints**  
**SUNDAY \$1.75 Bud Light Pints**  
The Reuben \$8.95

**SATURDAY, JAN. 25: THE LESSER KNOWN'S • 7 P.M.**  
**SATURDAY, FEB. 1: TYME BAND • 7 P.M.**

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**SAT, FEB. 1**  
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Come in for our SPECIAL \$1.00 hot dogs w/ketchup and w/ everything (mustard, onions, Abe's famous sauce). Cheese, relish, sauerkraut, and Texas meat sauce regular price.

**\$1 HOT DOGS**

AND be donating a portion of our proceeds that day to **Skate With A Cop 2020** for the purchase of a Level IIIA Bulletproof Pop Shields for Law Enforcement in our community!!!

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## 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.

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 January 27

**Monday:** Swedish meatballs, whole wheat noodles, green beans, margarine, tropical fruit, milk and coffee

**Tuesday:** Four cheese baked pasta, garlic spinach, Italian vegetable blend, margarine, ambrosia, milk and coffee

**Wednesday:** Fish almondine, scalloped potatoes, peas and pearl onions, whole wheat dinner roll, margarine, apple bread pudding, milk and coffee

**Thursday:** Rotisserie chicken, green and wax beans, cream style corn, whole wheat dinner roll, crackers, margarine, fresh fruit salad, milk and coffee

**Friday:** Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, parslid carrots, whole wheat dinner roll, margarine, Greek yogurt, milk and coffee

### Week of February 3

**Monday:** Turkey Sloppy Joe on whole wheat Sandwich roll, roasted red potatoes, vegetable barley soup, margarine, chocolate chip cookie, milk and coffee

**Tuesday:** Caprese pork chops, garlic broccoli, brown rice, crackers, margarine, diced pears, milk and coffee

**Wednesday:** Salisbury steak with gravy, herbed mashed

potatoes, lima beans, whole wheat dinner roll, margarine, fresh apple slices, milk and coffee

**Thursday:** Baked fish with mustard and dill, macaroni & cheese, stewed tomatoes, broccoli & cauliflower, crackers, margarine, cherry jello, milk and coffee

**Friday:** Teriyaki glazed pork, sesame brown rice, stir fried vegetable, carrot ginger soup, margarine, fresh melon, milk and coffee

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

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.

## DAY DRINKERS SPECIAL



**SATURDAY**  
**JAN. 24**  
**3-6 P.M.**  
**with**  
**ACOUSTIC**  
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### OTHER DAY DRINKER'S SPECIALS

**SAT., FEB. 8**

**Better With Beer Duo**

**SAT., FEB. 22**

**PB&J**

**SAT., MAR. 14**

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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:** Delmonico Steak Night 14 Oz. \$19.95

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

**Sunday:** Wacky Burger \$7.95

**Trivia every Tuesday**  
**starting at 7 p.m.**

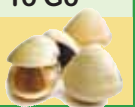
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## Places To Go ... Things To Do ...

Continued from page 2

January 26 from 12-2 p.m. at the school. Perspective families and their children will be able to tour the school, meet the teachers and ask questions

of faculty and staff. Tours will be conducted by Saint Jude families to provide an authentic experience and allow perspective families plenty of opportunities to learn about the superior academic, spiri-

tual and extracurricular education that Saint Jude School has to offer. Parent Teacher Guild Members will be on hand to discuss the various programs the active group provides, as well as to introduce perspective

families to the long list of volunteer opportunities available for parents and grandparents alike. This year's theme takes on a jungle flair, therefore the school encourages all community members to visit the open

house and learn just why they are: "Wild About Saint Jude School!"

### JANUARY 28 PHOTO CLUB MEETING

The Mountain Top Photo Club invites anyone interested in photography to attend its meeting held at King's Restaurant on January 28 at 6:30 p.m. Monthly workshops are given by talented members on a wide range of subjects having to do with the various aspects of photography, and field trips to various places are on the calendar. Whether new to photography or the professional photographer, all are welcome. Visit [www.MountainTopphotoclub.com](http://www.MountainTopphotoclub.com) or visit its Facebook page at Mountain Top Photo Club.

### WINTER TEEN GAME NIGHT

A Winter Teen Game Night for grades 6-12 will be held on Tuesday January 28 from 6-7:30 p.m. Come to the Kirby Library for a fun night of games and delicious snacks! Socialize and play Guess Who, Battleship, Kerplunk and more!! Registration is required. Please register at the M.S. Kirby Library, 35 Kirby Avenue, Mountain Top or call 570-474-9313.

### FEBRUARY 1 GFWC MEETING

GFWC Mountain Top will hold its February 1 meeting at Adelina's Restaurant at 9:30 a.m. The entries for the Arts Festival will be judged at that time. The categories to be judged at the festival are: Crafts, baking, photography and writing.

Food will only be judged by

# the BIG GAME

## Sunday, February 2



**Big Game Specials**

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- 50 Wings **\$30.00** +Tax
- Large Pie, Antipasto & Garlic Knots **\$20.99** +Tax
- Large Stromboli, Antipasto and Garlic Knots **\$24.99** +Tax

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**2ND QUARTER SPECIAL**

2 Lg. 18" Pizzas, 30 Wings (Hot or Mild) 2 Liter Soda \_\_\_\_\_ **\$47<sup>99</sup>** +Tax

**3RD QUARTER SPECIAL**

2 Lg. 18" Pizzas, 50 Wings (Hot or Mild) 2 Liter Soda \_\_\_\_\_ **\$57<sup>99</sup>** +Tax

**4TH QUARTER SPECIAL**

1 Lg. 18" Pizza, 24 Wings (Hot or Mild) 2 Liter Soda \_\_\_\_\_ **\$31<sup>99</sup>** +Tax

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Mon. 10-2, Tues.-Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-2

See Places To Go, page 8

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

Continued from page 7

the Mountain Top club and District. Contact Corine for further information and the paperwork.

The March meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, at the Christ Methodist Church

at 6:30 p.m.

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

### SOUPER BOWL

The Presbyterian Church

of Mountain Top is holding a Souper Bowl on Saturday, February 1 from 12 to 2 p.m.

Come and try the different soups and chilis. Awards will be given out to the best in numerous categories.

Volunteers are needed to make crock pots of soup and

chili and for donations of baked goods.

There is a sign up sheet in the back of the church or you can contact Greg Koons at gmkoons@frontier.com if you have any questions or would like to participate.

### FEBRUARY 4 SOCIAL CLUB MEETING

The first meeting for the new year for the Mountain Top Social Club will be on February 4 at 1 p.m. at Saint Paul's Lutheran Church on Route

See Places To Go, page 9

# the BIG GAME

## Sunday, February 2

## BIG GAME SPECIAL

Sunday,  
February 2



**2 Dozen Wings & Square Pizza** Both For **\$25**

Please call ahead to confirm pick up time.

## THE SHALMAR

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• One 2 Liter Soda

**\$16.99** Plus Tax

One Large 18" Plain Pizza • Full Tray Mixed Hoagies (Cheesesteak, Italian or Turkey & Cheese) • One 2 Liter Soda

**\$29.99** Plus Tax

Any Sicilian Pizza • 20 Wings, • Large Special Stromboli

• One 2 Liter Soda

**\$35.99** Plus Tax

BUCKET OF WINGS: 50 Wings of one flavor choice

**\$25.00** Plus Tax

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

*Continued from page 8*

309 in Mountain Top. The first casino trip will be Friday, March 27. The club is also

sponsoring a trip to Yankee Stadium on August 19. The seats are in the 200 section. Cost is \$119-\$126 per person, non-refundable. The trips are

open to the public.

Other trips for the new year are: *Esther* at The Sight & Sound Theater on May 5; Longwood Gardens on June 30; *Playing Our Song* at Huntington Hills on September 30 and *Saturday Night Fever* at Dutch Apple Theater.

Call Cathy Medeiros at 570-261-5016 for more information and reservations.

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**FEBRUARY 5- APRIL 8**  
**FREE TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE**

The AARP Foundation in cooperation with the Marian Sutherland Library in Mountain Top and the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Wilkes-Barre will again provide free tax preparation and e-filing of federal, state and local income taxes as well as property tax / rent rebate for area residents. This service is available to all taxpayers with low and moderate incomes with special attention to those aged 60 and over. Taxpayers are not required to belong to AARP to be eligible for this service.

To assure that your tax forms are properly completed, you must bring with you photo ID, Social Security Cards for taxpayer, spouse and all dependents, a copy of your 2018 tax return, your social security statement, all 1099s, W-2 wage statements, interest or dividend statements, and your property tax receipts for 2019, if filing for Property Tax Rebate, and any other tax forms you received for the 2019 tax year. If you are filing a joint return, both taxpayers must be present to complete the return. Appointments are required.

*See Places To Go, page 13*

## News in Brief ...

### Rice finishes 2019 with surplus funds

Rice Township officials and residents received some good financial news at the board of supervisors first meeting of 2020. The township ended 2019 with an unofficial unexpected surplus of just under \$60,000, according to secretary/treasurer Jeffrey Beck.

Beck reported that while the township's real estate transfer sale tax was about \$26,000 less than anticipated, some other revenues were up and expenses down. He told officials earned income revenue was up by about \$60,000, most likely due to a catch up from 2018. The township realized about \$25,000 in savings in

insurance costs. The result was the approximate \$60,000 surplus.

Supervisor Rick Arnold thanked Beck for his work on the dental plan saving \$2,000 for the township while increasing benefit coverage for employees.

#### *In other business ...*

Engineer Andrew Pasonick reported that work on the pickleball court was on hold due to the weather, and the demolition of the fire hall was awaiting historical commission clearance. Board chairman Bob Pipech asked Pasonick to be ready to advertise for its demolition when the clearances are received.

Supervisors granted final approval for Woodberry Manor

phase 3 as recommended by the planning commission.

### COG sticker to be waived for residents 65 and over

Wright Township residents who utilize the Mountain Top Council of Governments (COG) compost facility in the Crestwood Industrial Park will get a break this year. Supervisors voted at their January 13 meeting to waive the \$10 COG sticker fee for township residents age 65 and over. To qualify for the waiver, proof of age and residency will be required.

#### *In other business ...*

The township received some good financial news from the state Department of Environ-

mental Protection. The agency awarded a \$197,038 grant to the township for purchase of a new leaf vacuum and some security cameras. The township was forced to suspend its leaf collection last fall because its current machine was not operable. Supervisors approved spending up to \$2,000 for repair of the old machine.

Wright Township police department's new police vehicle has arrived. Supervisors voted at their year-end special meeting to purchase a 2020 Ford Interceptor police vehicle at a cost of \$47,442.83.

Supervisors approved the appointment of Gene Haverlak, to the Mountain Top Area Joint Sanitary Authority and

Katina Humen to the township's Environmental Advisory Council.

### Dorrance to appeal county court ruling

Dorrance Township will appeal a ruling by Luzerne County Court that reversed a decision by the township's board of supervisors denying the application for tentative approval of a planned residential development for The Preserve at Blue Ridge.

Supervisors voted unanimously to appeal the decision following an executive session prior to their January 6 meeting. Judge Kenneth Seamons, specially presiding, issued the

*See News in Brief, page 17*



## HOW TAX PLANNING CHANGES THROUGH FOUR STAGES IN RETIREMENT

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# Abe's Hot Dogs sponsors shield for Wright Township Police Department

Abe's Hot Dogs on South Mountain Blvd., in Mountain Top is holding its 2nd anniversary sale-a-bration on Saturday, February 1. Jordan

Kotowski, owner, will hold a \$1 hot dog day for customer appreciation, and then will donate a portion of the proceeds that day to *Skate With*

*A Cop 2020* for the purchase of a Level III A Bulletproof Pop Shields for Law Enforcement in our community. The shields costs \$600 each.

On January 3, Jordan and Abe's Hot Dogs donated \$600 to cover the discounted price of a shield, which costs \$1,333.36 full price. Since Jordan donated the cost of a bulletproof shield, he got to choose which police department he would like to receive the shield. Jordan chose Wright Township Police Department.

*Skate with a Cop 2020* is held every year in honor of National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. This year the date chosen for the event is Sunday, March 15 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Skate-away at 610 Blackman Street in Wilkes-Barre. DJ Donnie Evans is the organizer of the event and will be providing the live entertainment for skating. There will be raffle baskets and other items available for the opportunity to win.

Kotowski holds a special place in his heart for police officers as his mom Gina Kotowski is a police officer for the Dallas Township Police Department. When he was a boy it used to bother him that his mom had no bullet proof vest when she first became a police officer. So, he had an idea when he was about 12 or 13 years old to start a program he called "Caring for Cops" where he raised enough money through donations to purchase 10 bullet proof vests for new police officers. Fast forward to 2019, Kotowski went to the *Skate with a Cop 2019* and asked himself why didn't I donate money for a vest. So, he decided that in 2020 he would do it, and he did. But he didn't stop with that. He decided to raise more money through the \$1 hot dog Customer Appreciation Day on February 1 and donate a portion of the day's sales to the cause.

There are four tiers for donating the Level IIIA Bul-



Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photo  
**Jordan Kotowski, owner of Abe's Hot Dogs in Mountain Top takes a moment for a photograph.**

letproof Pop Shields, Tier Red, 3 or more Police Shields, Tier White, 2 Police Shields, Tier Blue, 1 Police Shield and Tier Silver, any donation over \$200. Donations can be made out to Shield Technology and sent to Donnie Evans, P.O. Box 1602 Kingston, PA 18704.

According to statistics provided by the FBI, 106 law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty in incidents in 2018. Of these, 55 officers died as a result of felonious acts and 51 officers died in accidents. Comprehensive data tables about these incidents and brief narratives describing the fatal attacks are included in the sections of Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted in 2018.

Kotowski says, "Police officers are mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters and so on and \$600 is not worth a life. You can always earn back that money, but you can never get a life back."

## An Event to Remember

• Weddings • Showers • Reunions • Bachelor Parties • Birthday Parties • Business Meetings

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## Garden Club gathers to make holiday wreaths

The Mountain Top Garden Club gathered to get ready for the holidays and constructed evergreen wreaths using a variety of pines and other materials. Holiday music, refreshments and good tidings were enjoyed by all. Two wreaths were placed at the Mountain Top community beautification area at the Triangle.



## An Event to Remember

• Weddings • Showers • Reunions • Bachelor Parties • Birthday Parties • Business Meetings



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

### Continued from page 9

At the Kirby Library, 35 Kirby Avenue in Mountain Top, tax assistance will be available on Wednesdays beginning **February 5** and continuing through **April 8**. Please call 570-696-

2935 and leave your name and phone number clearly. You will be contacted to make an appointment. Do not call the library for an appointment.

At the Good Shepherd Church, 190 S. Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, tax assistance

will be available on Tuesdays beginning **February 4** and continuing through **April 7**. Please call Lynn at 570-690-1418 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday through Friday to make an appointment to have your taxes pre-

pared at the Good Shepherd Church. Do not call the church for an appointment.

### **FEBRUARY 7** **PINK OUT GAME**

The Crestwood Lady Comets

will hold their Pink Out Game on **February 7** at Crestwood High School against Hazleton.

The girls will honor cancer survivors, those fighting and those who have lost their battle to cancer. A ceremony will be held between the junior varsity and varsity games at approximately 6:45 p.m. They hope to see you there to help them honor cancer survivors and cheer on the Lady Comets.

### **NIGHT WITH THE BEE GEES** **AT WHACL**

A *Night with the BeeGees* in concert will be shown on the large screen in the John Murphy Room at the White Haven Area Community Library on **Friday, February 7** starting at 7 p.m. Come listen to great music over the new sound system! Snacks and a variety of beverages will be served. The library is located at 121 Towanda Street in White Haven.

### **FEBRUARY 10** **SONS OF THE AMERICAN** **LEGION TO MEET**

Sons of the American Legion Mountain Post 781 will meet on **February 10** at 6 p.m. at the Post Home. For information, contact Lenny Biel at 474-2161 or mtsal0781@gmail.com.

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** **MEETING**

The next monthly meeting of the Knights of Columbus St. Jude Council #6440 is **Tuesday, February 10** 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 informa-

See Places To Go, page 16

# An Event to Remember

• Weddings • Showers • Reunions • Bachelor Parties • Birthday Parties • Business Meetings



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## Saint Jude School holds pep rally

Saint Jude School, led by their energetic eighth grade class, recently held a school pep rally to kick off celebrate the school basketball season. Students in grades pre-k through eighth grades were introduced to loud cheers from the entire student body along with the faculty and staff. Students took part in a snowball toss and a human snowman contest, with the teachers even getting in on the snowman action. Good luck to all of the Saint Jude basketball teams this season.



Fourth grade students show off their school pride. Row 1 from left: Jessica Powis, Sam Amandola and JJ Pavlick; row 2: Miles McShea, Zoe Oray, Kaitlyn Ziomek, Audrey Rymar and Clare Grandzol; row 3: Gavin Serock, Luke Gordon, Rhea Mascarenhas, Collin Brenner and Raymond Mazur.



One of the winning snow people, Olivia Billow, is surrounded by her team at the Saint Jude pep rally. From left: Lauren Lokuta, Kayleigh Gryboski, Avery Chepolis, George Sabatini and Francesca Basalyga.

## An Event to Remember

• Weddings • Showers • Reunions • Bachelor Parties • Birthday Parties • Business Meetings



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## Knights hold free throw competition at St. Jude's

**Kennady Korpusik, 10, takes a shot while Knight Joe Dombrosky looks on.**



Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photo

The St. Jude's Knights of Columbus Council #6440 hosted its annual free throw championship on Sunday, January 19 in the school gymnasium. The fun event began promptly at 1 p.m. and was open to all boys and girls ages 9-14, regardless of religious affiliation. There was no fee to participate only a signature of legal guardian was required along with proof of age and a copy of the children's birth certificates. Certificates were given when completing the competition.



# Happy Birthday



## Jane Baroody celebrates 100th birthday

Helen "Jane" Baroody was born in Celina, Ohio on January 19, 1920 and 100 years later her 100th birthday was celebrated with her daughter Toni Dutko and her many friends at Mountain Top Senior Health Care and Rehab where she resides.

Jane, as she likes to be called, has lived in Mountain Top since 1983 after her husband Thomas passed away. Her daughter, Toni, is also a long-time resident of Mountain Top, and her son Thomas resides in Florida. Jane was surprised as she was wheeled into the recreation room and saw everyone waiting to celebrate with cake and music. She was given a Penn-



Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photo

**Jane blows out the candles with help from her daughter Toni Dutko.**

sylvania House of Representatives Citation and a Certificate of Appreciation from the United States Navy.

Jane is a WWII veteran who served her country with honor and distinction as a Telegrapher and Communications

Specialist for the US Navy and attained the rank of Seaman First Class. She was the beloved wife of Thomas Baroody for many years and is the proud mother of two children, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



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

Continued from page 13

tion at 570-474-5785. Visit them at [www.stjudekofc6440.org](http://www.stjudekofc6440.org) or like them on Facebook at [stjudekofc6440](https://www.facebook.com/stjudekofc6440).

### FEBRUARY 16 NEEDLE FELTING WORKSHOP

A workshop to learn the art of needle felting will be held on Sunday, February 16 at 1 p.m. at the White Haven Area Community Library. The art will be taught by local artisan, Linda Kistler. Participants must register and there is a \$10 fee for the kit. The library is located at 121 Towanda Street in White Haven.

### FEBRUARY 17 MONDAY NIGHT WORSHIP

Monday night worship will be held at St. Faustina Parish, 520 S. Hanover Street, Nanticoke on Monday, February 17 at 7 p.m. Join them for a holy hour of praise and worship with the word music. Check facebook for the event. Contact Paul Walters at 570-332-2963 for more information.

### FEBRUARY 18 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 February 18.

Mt. Top Cares is a support group for those who have been affected by a loved ones substance use disorder.

For more information email [mmtopcares19@gmail.com](mailto:mmtopcares19@gmail.com) or call 570-262-3793.

### FEBRUARY 21 NITE AT THE RACES

Please join the Mountain Top Welcome Club for the 11th annual night at the races to raise money for local charities. This year's event will be held Friday, February 21 at 6:30 p.m. at the Wright Township fire hall in Mountain Top.

Proceeds of this year's event will benefit the Mountain Top Hose Co., Kirby Library and Candy's Place. In addition it will fund a \$1000 scholarship to a Crestwood Secondary campus senior.

Horses are sold in advance for \$10 (1 in 10 chance to win \$50). There's a \$5 admission at the door which includes beer, soda and food. The event is 21 and up. There will also be basket raffles and DJ entertainment.

The Welcome club is also looking for local sponsors. This year there are 3 tiers \$50, \$100 and \$250.

Interested in becoming a sponsor or buying horses please contact Pam McGovern at [Pam.McGovern@century21.com](mailto:Pam.McGovern@century21.com).

Send your non-profit events to publisher@mt-peaks.com

## Saint Jude class of 1970 planning 50th reunion

Saint Jude School class of 1970 is the process of planning its 50th reunion. The reunion is planned for August 8 of this year, the same weekend of St. Jude's annual Picnic in the Grove.

The invitation to the reunion is extended to the graduating class of 1970 as well as anyone who attended St. Jude's at any point during the fall of 1961 and the spring of 1970.

Tentative plans are to have the reunion at King's Pizzeria in the private dining room at 49 S. Mountain Blvd. in Mountain Top.

The committee is seeking contact information for: Phyllis Alaishuski Simoncavage,

Mike Carabba, Linda Cunningham, Terry Duffy, Sharon Gallagher, Carolee Hashagen, Regina Horn, Gerry Kaytrosh, Marc LeClair, Beverly Lorentzen, Mark Manewitz, Gary McCloskey, Madeline McKendry, Connie Meade, Barbara Mills, Renee Morrissey, Debbie Mullen, Bill Oldani, Lorraine Petroski, Debbie Raginski, Sharon Rostock, Carole Shearer, David Simmons, Janice Smith, Patty Suhoski, Robert Ulrich, Joseph Walters, Mary Lou Warman.

If you have any information about the people above please email Mari Madden Van Wie at [marivanwie@aol.com](mailto:marivanwie@aol.com) or Joanne Sakowski Dinoski at [jmdmtp56@msn.com](mailto:jmdmtp56@msn.com).



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**or stop in for more information**



## News in Brief ...

### Continued from page 10

ruling on December 12, 2019. Various briefs and oral argument were held on December 5.

The judge ruled the planned residential development could move forward conditioned on approvals of various regulatory agencies. The township's insurance company attorneys will handle the appeal and township solicitor Donald Karpowich will assist.

On August 7, 2018, the Preserve at Blue Ridge, LLC filed an application for approval of its plan to construct a PRD on 451 acres of land in a C-1 (Conservation) district located primarily in Dorrance Township and partially in Rice Township. The firm, headed by Robert

Tamburro, wants to build 134 residential units in four phases.

Supervisors voted at their December 10, 2018 meeting to deny the application following public hearings on the tentative plan held on October 1, 2018 and November 12, 2018 and the township's planning commission recommendation that supervisors deny approval.

### In other business ...

Dorrance supervisors approved a request from Mountaintop Youth Soccer Association requesting use of the fields for spring and fall seasons. Arrangements will be made to coordinate with fall baseball leagues and lacrosse. Proof of insurance will be provided. The approval will be contingent on trash being

properly disposed of and parking in designated areas only.

### Crestwood School District receives two grants

The Pennsylvania Department of Education on January 6 awarded the Crestwood, Greater Nanticoke and Hanover Area school districts \$25,000 each in Teacher in the Workplace grants, according to state Rep. Gerald Mullery, D-Luzerne.

The funding will be utilized by teachers to visit local employers to learn skills and business trends to strengthen their classroom instruction and boost student learning and readiness for the workforce.

"This funding will allow our hardworking teachers to have direct contact with our local businesses and take that information back to the classroom," Mullery said. "This program educates our educators in the latest in-demand careers and will help today's students be better prepared for tomorrow."

These are part of \$2.2 million in Teacher in the Workforce grants awarded to 92 school districts and education agencies. The grants from PDE are funded through federal money made available through Title II, Part A, of the Every Student Succeeds Act and from the Department of Labor and Industry through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act.

Mullery also announced a \$35,000 PAsmart grant has been awarded to the Crestwood School District.

"Job opportunities in tech

and computer science fields are in high demand to ensure our local, state, and national economies continue to prosper," Mullery said. "I am pleased to see Crestwood recognizing this critical need and taking steps to prepare our students of today for their future tomorrow."

Crestwood School District will use the grant to expand its computer science classes and provide educators from pre-K through grade 12 training to teach those courses.

The new PAsmart targeted grants were awarded to 163 school districts, charter schools and intermediate units across the commonwealth. All of them have prioritized expanding access to computer science for underrepresented students, such as students of color, girls, low-income students and students in rural communities.

*See News in Brief, page 20*

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## Experience Kindergarten Project comes to Immanuel Christian School

The new year brings a new enrollment season at Immanuel Christian School (ICS). ICS is offering parents the opportunity to “be a kindergarten student” in the classroom and experience kindergarten firsthand. “We understand that many parents feel anxious about sending their child off to kindergarten, and we want to provide this opportunity to parents. We think that seeing the quality of our program will help to put parents at ease,” said Jessika Lunney, Admissions Coordinator for ICS.

Starting January 24 and every other Friday after that, Immanuel Christian School will be offering the Experience Kindergarten Project from 7:45-9:30 a.m. There is a limit of no more than 3 parents each Friday and all attendees must pre-register. Parents will have the opportunity to experience the students’ morning routines, circle time, and morning academic work, including ICS’s unique approach

to phonics. Chancellor Kelly Knowlden credits the school’s approach to phonics as the reason that almost every Kindergarten student is reading by the end of the year. “We have been approaching phonics with a research-based, proven approach for 40+ years. Early literacy is essential for putting students on a path for successful learning,” says Knowlden. “It’s great fun seeing students learn to read. Parents will love it!” At the end of the classroom time, there is a 15-minute timeframe for questions and answers with the kindergarten

teacher, followed by a tour of the newly remodeled school at 40 W. Hemlock St. in Hazleton.

Immanuel Christian School offers full-day kindergarten and serves students through 12th grade. They offer tours of the school for all grades during enrollment season on Friday mornings. Tours include the opportunity to meet the school’s Chancellor, Academic Principal, and CEO, see classrooms and learn about the school’s academic program, small class sizes, and extra-

See ICS, page 35



ICS kindergarten students play and learn during one of several choice times in their day.

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## Wyoming Seminary mock trial team earns honors in recent state-wide competition

The Wyoming Seminary Mock Trial teams recently competed in the 10th annual Blue and Gold Invitational Mock Trial Tournament at LaSalle University, Philadelphia, with about 300 students and 40 schools in attendance.

Sem's Mock Trial Blue Team, one of three teams fielded by Sem, finished in eighth place. In addition, Sem sophomore Emily Aikens, Jenkins Township, received a Best Plaintiff Attorney Award, while sophomore Ben Zhao of Mountain Top received a Best Defense Attorney Award and junior Max Liu of Kingston earned a Best Defense Witness Award. Aikens was one of only two competitors to receive a perfect ranking from the judges.

Team members are coached by Attorney Michelle Quinn and teacher-coaches Dr. Elizabeth Penland, Morgan Howard-Penland and Tom Morris.



Seen following the LaSalle University Blue and Gold Invitational Mock Trial Tournament are, first row from left: senior Jillayne Gumbs, Allentown; sophomore Sophia Kruger, Shavertown; sophomore Sophia Galante, Kingston; sophomore Emily Aikens, Jenkins Township; junior Shailee Desai, Shavertown; and junior Sandra Hategekimana, Kigali, Rwanda; second row: Morgan Howard-Penland, Sem faculty-advisor; sophomore Bekah Kornfeld, Kingston; junior Ashley Dimen, Middletown, RI; sophomore Dominica Delayo, Moosic; junior Aaliyah Sayed, Mountain Top; junior Mya Dobrowski, Allentown; sophomore Jacob Ruderman, West Pittston; and sophomore Bridget Dowd, Lehigh-

ton; third row: sophomore Dorothea Schorling, Kronberg, Germany; junior Max Liu, Kingston; junior Philip Gelso, Duryea; junior Xiaobu Zhou, Chongqing, China, P.R.C.; and sophomore Aarez Khan, Mountain Top; fourth row: sophomore Runyu Liu, Beijing, China P.R.C.; sophomore Benjamin Zhao, Mountain Top; freshman Kim Nguyen, Kingston; freshman Sasha Mubasher, Larksville; and junior Shuyi Chen, XiaMen, China P.R.C; fifth row: sophomore Dongyang Han, Shanghai, China P.R.C.; freshman Chi Pham, Hanoi, Vietnam; sophomore Jinyang Han, Shanghai, China P.R.C.; freshman Jiarong Chen, Huzhou, China P.R.C.; and freshman Zimo Wang, Shanghai, China P.R.C.

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## News in Brief ...

Continued from page 17

### House passes bill to prohibit closure of White Haven Center

Legislation that would prohibit the scheduled closures of the White Haven and Polk state centers by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services was passed overwhelmingly by the House of Representa-

tives today in a vote of 139-55, according to Rep. Tarah Toohil (R-Luzerne), who spoke in support of the measure.

Senate Bill 906, sponsored by Sen. John Yudichak (I-14), garnered bipartisan support and now heads back to the Senate for a vote on amendments made by the House.

"Today's vote is a huge victory for the White Haven Center and its residents, some of whom have lived there for 40 or 50 years," said Toohil. "These individuals and their families deserve to have a state center safety net. The intellectually disabled deserve a choice in the type of care and housing they are afforded."

The bill would create the Task Force on the Closure of

State Facilities to analyze and manage the shutdown of any state center and prevents its closure for a minimum of five years.

### New chairmen elected in local townships

Gary Zane was elected chairman for 2020 in Dorrance Township. In Fairview Township, Michael Iorio was named board chairman, succeeding Robert Orloski Jr., who did not seek re-election. Robert Pipech was re-elected chairman of Rice Township board of supervisors.

Matthew Howton was elected chairman of Wright Township board of supervisors.

## We've Got Mail ...

### Couple thanks Crestwood for Christmas breakfast for seniors

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank the administration, the staff and the students of the Crestwood School District for the wonderful Christmas breakfast they had for the seniors of Mountain Top — what a great way to involve the older community with the school district.

Speaking for all of our friends and ourselves who had attended, we want to say thank you and know that all the effort and work that was put into it to make it a success was deeply appreciated.

Thank you again.  
John and Barbara Bellas

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

### Letter to the editor policy

Mountain Peaks welcomes your thoughts on any subject or issue. All letters must be signed to be published. Email your letters to [publisher@mt-peaks.com](mailto:publisher@mt-peaks.com) or mail to Mountain Peaks, P.O. Box 218, Mountain Top, PA 18707.

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## Programs offered at Nescopeck State Park in February

The following programs will be offered at Nescopeck State Park in February 2020. Register through the online calendar of events found at <http://events.dcnr.pa.gov/> or by calling the park at 570-403-2006.

### Saturday, February 1

WinterFest 2020; 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. No registration necessary.

Join the park for its annual WinterFest! Many returning favorites will be there, including the adorable sled dog team, children's activities, snowshoe demos, and more! Learn about the history of ice harvesting and join the PA Fish & Boat Commission as they talk ice fishing and ice safety. They'll have a warming fire and the Dennison Township Volunteer Fire Department will have hot

food and beverages to purchase, so don't let the cold keep you away! Activities may be modified due to snow and ice conditions.

### Saturday, February 15

Birds, Beans and the Great Backyard Bird Count; 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

No registration necessary.

Join them anytime in the four-hour time frame to hone your bird identification skills on visitors to the bird feeders while enjoying a hot beverage such as tea, hot cocoa or bird-friendly coffee. Park staff will be on hand to answer questions about bird identification, selecting a bird field guide, winter bird feeding, and other bird-y interests you may have. This is a program for all ages. Come on out and watch birds

with us as they participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count! **Saturday, February 15**

Bird Window Collisions: Be Part of the Solution; 1 p.m.

Ages 16 & up. Registration required.

Our windows are killing birds. Annually up to one billion birds die from colliding with windows. Learn why it's not big cities and high-rise buildings, but our homes, shopping centers, corporate and college campuses causing the most harm. Following the presentation, you'll be able to create and take home materials designed to cut down on bird-window collisions. Please bring measurements of several windows you'd like to stop bird collisions on. Please note: this program contains images of

dead birds which may make some people uncomfortable.

If you need an accommodation to participate in park activities due to a disability, please contact the park or make inquiries through the Pennsylvania AT&T Relay Service at 1-888-537-7294 (TTY).

Bureau of State Parks Staff will gladly discuss how to accommodate your needs. With at least three days notice, interpreters for people who are deaf or hard of hearing are available for educational programs.

For more information on any of Pennsylvania's 121 state parks visit DCNR website at [www.dcnr.state.pa.us](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us) (choose Find a Park) or call toll-free 888-PA-PARKS.

## Slippery Rock announces dean's list

Slippery Rock University has announced its dean's list for the fall 2019 semester. The dean's list consists of SRU undergraduate students who earned an adjusted semester grade-point average of 3.5 or higher, based on a schedule of at least 12 newly attempted and earned credits.

The following are area SRU students who made the dean's list: Jason McIlvain and Sadie McNulty, both of Mountain Top, and Tanner Pitman of White Haven.

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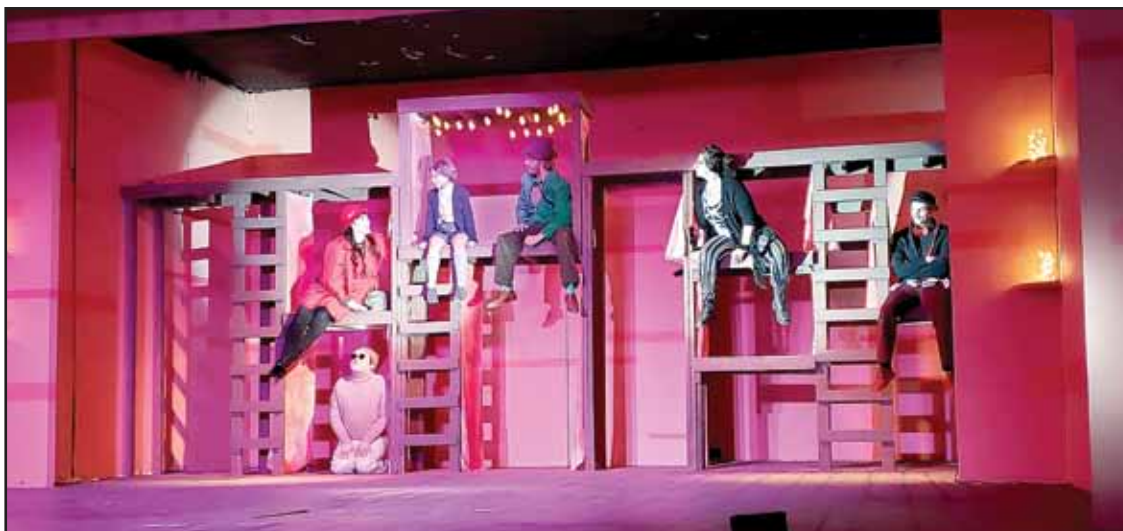
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Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photo

James meets Ladybug, Angel Berlane Mulcahy; Grasshopper, Scott Colin; Spider, Kayla Melcher, Centipede, Scott Rave and below Earthworm, Kelly Krieger.

## James and the Giant Peach debuts at the Nuangola Grove Center & Theatre

The Nuangola Grove Center & Theatre kick started its 2020 theatre season with the production of James and the Giant Peach on Friday, January 17 at 7 p.m. to a full house.

The play is based on the popular and much-loved children's book written by world-renowned Welsh author Roald Dahl. The book was first published in the US in 1961 and then in the UK in 1967. The book's vivid imagery and entertaining characters have made it a firm favorite of both children and parents for 50 plus years.

This production was directed by Kelly Krieger, who also played Earthworm, and choreographed by Abby Martino. Musical direction was by Robin Green, stage manager was Jamie Zapotosky, costumes were by Sue Huff and set design by Mike Wawrzynek and John Schugard.

The production is about poor James Henry Trotter who loses his parents in a horrible rhinoceros disaster, he then is forced to live with his two wicked aunts, Aunt Sponge and

Aunt Spiker. After three years of living a horrible existence, he becomes a very lonely and sad little boy. Then one day, a wizened old man gives James a bag of magic crystals that promise to reverse his misery forever. When James accidentally spills the crystals on his aunts' withered peach tree, his

adventure is set into motion. From the old peach tree, a single peach grows, and grows, and grows some more, until finally it becomes huge. James climbs inside the giant fruit and rolls away from his despicable aunts to a whole new life ... with his newfound friends.

See James, page 25



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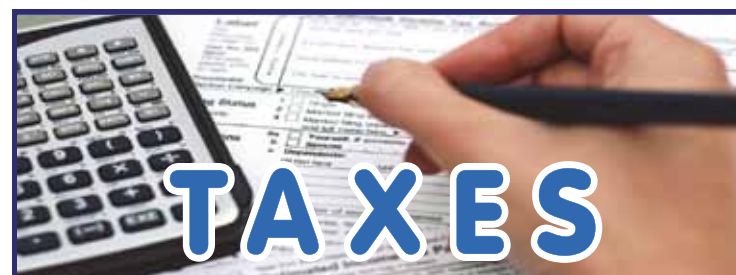
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## Holiday piano, voice, violin recitals held recently

Holiday piano, voice, violin recitals were held recently at the Darte Hall, Gies Recital Hall, Wilkes University. Teachers whose students performed in the afternoon recitals included Laura Anderson, Andrea Bogusko, chairperson

for the event, Molly Finkbinder, Diana Holliday, Lynn Hurst, Judy Katra, and Michele Millington. A variety of holiday, classical, Broadway music was performed and each student received a gift at the conclusion of the performance.



Pictured, first row, from left: Madden Brill, Shiloh Cote, Nolan Cote, Peyton Taylor, Lauren Hudak, Julie Truschel, Madalyn Detweiler, Leah Santos Smith, Alex Firek; second row: Ciana Cruz, Angelina Seeba, Gwyn Cruz, Owen Kline,

Anisa Mohyuddin, Adelynn Brill, Daria Clarke, Arushi Solgama, Megan McLaughlin, Mia Karcutskie; back row: Joseph Kopko, Rebekah Roskos, Larisa Yarczower, and Abigail Jerome.



Pictured, front row, from left: Thomas Potsko, Elizabeth Miscavage, Brielle Spearing, Kaitlin Naylor; back row: Viktoriia Fanha, Camila Caceres, Albert Xie, Angelina Holliday, Diana Hol-

liday, Isaac Levandowski, Derrick Xie, Cecilia Ngugen, Aubrey Spearing, Virginia Franks, not pictured Sydney Ogle.



## Peeks into the Past ...

Editor's Note: After many requests for me to do a feature of news items from the past, I have finally gotten around to it.

Starting with this edition, Mountain Peaks will feature Peeks into the Past at least once a month. Since I am unsure about the quality of these clips after printing I will have to make my final decision after seeing the printed copy.

My parents, Andrew and Jane Yurkanin started the first newspaper in Mountain Top back in the fall of 1961. It was called *The Mountain View*. I have every edition of that paper so all of these Peeks will be from that paper. These three are from the September 14, 1961 edition.

My hope is that these will bring back some great memories for the people who are in them or know someone or something they see and maybe some history to residents who are newer to the area.

Maryellen Aton, Editor & Publisher



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### Mountain Top residents to appear in *The Sound of Music*

Five Mountain Top residents will be among the cast of *The Sound of Music* which will be presented at the Music Box Dinner Playhouse, Swoyersville, beginning the weekend of January 25-26.

Cast members include Nicole Orlando, Taylor Rupp, Layla Howell, Joseph Hudak and his daughter, Lauren.

The Rodgers and Hammerstein musical is being directed by Adele Ann Tavella with music direction by Ted Anderson.

The play will be performed January 31, February 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16. For Friday and Saturday performances, doors will open at 6 p.m. Meal will be served at 6:30 with the curtain rising at 8.

For Sunday matinee performances, doors open at 1 p.m. with brunch at 1:30 and curtain at 3.

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## Ventriloquist visits St. Paul's Preschool



Ventriloquist Susan Klein and her friends recently entertained the students at St. Paul's Preschool and Playschool in Mountain Top. Pictured with Ms. Susan and some of her animal friends are the children in the 2 day Preschool class.

## St. Jude's to hold open house

Saint Jude School will hold its annual open house Sunday, January 26 from 12-2 p.m. at the school.

Perspective families and their children will be able to tour the school, meet the teachers and ask questions of faculty and staff. Tours will be conducted by Saint Jude families to provide an authentic experience and allow perspective families plenty of opportunities to learn about the superior academic, spiritual and extracurricular education that Saint Jude School has to offer. Parent Teacher Guild members will be on hand to discuss the various programs the active group provides.

This year's theme takes on a jungle flair, therefore the school encourages all community members to visit the open house and learn just why they are: "Wild About Saint Jude School"!



**Saint Jude students are "wild" about their school.**  
**Row 1: Dietrich Keiser, Gracie Holtz, Milan Hirian and Emma Ackourey;**  
**row 2: Thomas Elick, Inara Shutt, Gabe Shutt, Patrick Smith, Kayden Buzak and Jacob Hunsinger.**

## James ...

*Continued from page 22*

The cast included the remarkable talents of Olivia Robatin as James; Michael Melcher as Ladahlord; Jessica Bickel as Sponge; Karl Barbee as Spiker; Scott Colin as Grasshopper; Kelly Krieger as Earthworm; Scott Rave as Centipede; Kayla Melcher as Spider; Angel Berlane-Mulchay as Ladybug with the ensemble consisting of Molly Butler, Carlos Perillo, Jessica Miorelli, Ryan Williams and Sam Lipperini.

The next performance scheduled for the 2020 season is *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* March 13 through 15.

Nuangola Grove Center & Theatre is the official site on Facebook for the Nuangola Grove Theatre.

Tickets cost \$20 per adult and \$15 for students.

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## WB Academy holding registration January 29

Pre kindergarten is getting prepared for kindergarten registration. Wilkes-Barre Academy will be holding registration for kindergarten on

Wednesday, January 29 at 9 a.m.

Any questions or to register please call 570-823-7574.

**Pictured at left: seated: Arianna Duda, Liliana Duda, Abigail Sompayrae, Karsen Van Vliete; back row: Olivia Tucker, Anisha Davaluri, Has-**

**san Fadl, Debbie Cooper (preK teacher), Eliana Hrichson, Jacob Osborne, Collin Perry.**

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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.

Adult Choir practices Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m. Cherub Choir, Kids Choir, Adult Bell Choir and Kids Bell Choir also

practice on Thursday evenings.

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.

Mt. Top CARES (Community, Advocacy, Recovery, Education, Serenity): This is a peer-to-peer support group for those affected by a loved one's substance use disorder. The goal of CARES is to offer a safe

place for people to share their story, find support, understanding and empathy. Contact the church office for schedule.

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.

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 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.

*See Worship, page 28*

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## Worship Together ...

Continued from page 27

### CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Services: Sunday 10 a.m.  
Michael & Kim Pickreign,  
Pastors  
3577 Church Road, Mountain Top  
570-678-7231

Services are casual and family friendly. They are a group of believers passionate about sharing the gospel of Christ, healing broken hearts and seeking liberty for all who are oppressed.

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

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 aitat112@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 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 worship setting includes bistro tables with padded chairs, and a few rows for traditionalists.

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

Dinner Church Community Ministry. Once a month F.C.D. offers a free meal to the community.

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

Sunday, February 2: Super Godly (Bowl) Sunday, 10 a.m. till the end of the game. 10 a.m.: A Super Godly Message - Special Speaker TBA, After the service: Chili cook-off, music entertainment, special speakers, comedy, pizza, games and more!

Sunday, February 16: Love-ly Day Pasta Meal: After the 10 a.m. church service. Bring a friend and fellowship with other believers! Special speaker TBA.

Friday, February 28: Church Work Day: Painting, reorganizing, cleaning, set up and tear down of the stage from Christmas to Easter.

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

*See Worship, page 29*



Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photo

Barb Hoffman picks up a box of three dinners she ordered ahead of time.

### Salisbury Steak dinner held at St. James

St. James Lutheran Church held a take-out only Salisbury steak dinner on Sunday, January 12 at the church. Dinners could be picked up between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Cost for the well portioned dinners was \$8 for adults and a child's dinner (ages 6 to 12) cost \$5. Tickets could be purchased in advance and walk-ins were welcome. The dinner included Salisbury steak and gravy, stuffing, corn, apple sauce and dessert.

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## Worship Together ...

**Continued from page 28**

9:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. for children ages 4 through 14.

You can email Pastor Scott at somiller@susumc.org or call him at 570-200-5388. Find them on Facebook at 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 next quarterly Baptismal preparation class with Deacon Jim will be held on Tuesday, January 28, at 6 p.m. This class is mandatory for all parents

wishing to baptize their children. The Faith Formation registration form for 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.

As the parish breakfast is growing, more help is needed – setting up tables, serving, and clean-up. The Confirmation students are always welcome to help! We always strive to make sure all patrons enjoy a great breakfast. Please call Barbara Lawrence at 570-788-1676 if you have any questions or want to join the team.

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



*Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photo*

**George and Cora Berger help themselves to some of the delicious foods prepared with wild game.**

### Beast Feast held at New Life CC

New Life Community Church held its annual Beast Feast featuring potluck dishes made with wild game on Saturday, January 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Everyone was welcome to come sample dishes made with pheasant, venison hot dogs, venison roast, mule deer tacos, smoked antelope and more. There were plenty of desserts to choose from if you had room. The feast was a great way to showcase the brand new church kitchen that was built by the men of the church and finished just in time for the event. There were about 60 people who came to enjoy a taste of the wild.



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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.

**HARVEST**  
**CONYNGHAM VALLEY**  
Services: Sunday 10 a.m.

*See Worship, page 30*

## Worship Together ...

Continued from page 29

**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 nights 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.

### 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.

A Preschool Play Group will meet Thursdays, February 13 and 27 at 10 a.m. in the KinderTown classroom. Play Group meets the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month and is for all infant through preschool

aged children accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

A Super Bowl party will be held in the sanctuary at 6 p.m. on February 2. Sign up to bring a covered dish to share.

The Winter Session Small Groups will be held Sunday, February 16 through March 29 from 6-7:30 p.m. There are many groups to choose from and something for everyone from 1st grade through adults. Childcare is available for children in kindergarten and younger who have parents attending a Sunday Night Group. Please sign up in the church foyer by February 9 or contact the church office for more information.

Ground Zero56 meets every Wednesday evening from 6:30-8 p.m. and is for all students who are in 5th and 6th grade.

Starting Point Youth is for students who are in 7th-12th grade and meets every Wednesday in the Youth Room. There is a snack shop open from 6-6:30 p.m. and the youth service is from 6:45-8 p.m.

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

*See Worship, page 31*

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## Worship Together ...

Continued from page 30

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 holds Thursday Family Faith Nights. There is 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: Moun-

tainviewFMC.

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.

Pastor Bob Thomas will lead the worship service on January 26.

Cindy Faust will be the special guest speaker on February 2 as they celebrate "Souper Bowl Sunday." They are asking everyone to bring some money and canned or shelf food items. Since 1995, Mt. Zion has helped to raise about \$4,700 and has collected over

4,600 food items.

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.

All men are invited to the first quarterly Men's Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, February 1 at 8:30 a.m. with special speaker, Pastor John Johnson. A love offering will be taken for the guest speaker.

Everyone is invited to the Valentine's Day dinner on February 14 at 6:30 p.m., with pasta, salad and garlic bread for only \$3 each.

Everyone is welcome to join them for a time of Bible study on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. with prayer at 6:30 p.m.

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MOUNTAIN TOP

Services: Sunday 11 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
9 Chestnut Street, Mountain Top



Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photo

Erin Shade, Cecilia Pirolli and Betsy Scanlan enjoy making custom hot chocolate and getting a few snacks.

### St. Jude's youth group meets for an evening of food, fun and fellowship

St. Jude's Catholic Church in Mountain Top is holding its monthly youth group meetings every month in the school cafeteria during the school year. The fun group is open to all youth in the community in grades 7 through 12. Every month is a different theme and there are games from board games to video games to other activities, food and a whole lot of fun. The next meetings are scheduled for February 11, March 10, April 4 and May 14 at 7 p.m. The youth group met last on Tuesday, January 14 and the theme was game night where there were all sort of board games, cards, video games and many other games, there was a hot chocolate bar and a variety of great snacks to enjoy.

570-474-9951

You are invited to join in worship on Sunday, January 26. Pastor Bruce Williams will deliver the message. The annual meet-

ing will be held after worship.

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

The choir practices every Thursday at 7 p.m.

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.

Please donate your food items weekly to be given to the Mountain Top food bank. The need is great for packaged items,

See Worship, page 32

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## Worship Together ...

### Continued from page 31

mayonnaise, coffee and sugar canned corn, red beets, variety soups and cranberry sauce are also needed.

They are 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.

January 26: will be the Annual Congregation/Corporation meeting right after the worship service. All members and regular attendees are encouraged to stay. If your reports are late, please contact Lisa during office hours.

On Saturday, February 1 the church will sponsor the Souper Bowl Soup challenge. Awards will be given for the best in their category. Baked goods are also requested. Sign up in the back of church or contact gmkoons@frontier.com.

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.

St. James Lutheran Church is planning a bus trip to the Ark Adventure (the model of Noah's Ark which was built to the original measurements and specifications listed in the Bible) and the Creation Museum. The ark is an amazing re-creation built in Kentucky based on scientific facts and knowledge of the period. It is inspirational, educational,

and fascinating and appropriate for all ages.. Not only is the ark itself fascinating, but

*See Worship, page 33*

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### Mountaintop Family Church hosts programs for kids

Mountaintop Family Church hosted a one-day Lego Robotics Camp on Saturday, January 18 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for students in grades 3-6. Also, on the same day and time

the church hosted a children's painting party for children 6 years and up. There were 18 children that came out to paint a polar bear on canvas.



Ryder Ramsey, 9 and Wyatt Dane, 10 work together to create a super robot out of Legos.



Autumn Grauel, 9 and Anaya Choudhry, 9, work together designing their robot.



Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photos  
Carson Dane, 6, finishes up the snow on the bottom of his polar bear painting.



Lexi Coltrane, 7, is starts to paint the polar bear part of her painting.

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## Worship Together ...

### Continued from page 32

the story of how and why it was built is also captivating. The trip will be April 18-19. The price is \$300/person and includes bus, admission to the ark and the museum, hotel and breakfast on the 19th. Anyone interested in taking this two-day bus trip can sign up in the narthex. If you are interested or would like more information contact Shelly Lawton at 570-854-2161.

The church is still in need of someone to help prepare Communion. If willing to help even for one month, sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex. This involves filling cups with wine, getting the bread from Dalo's and setting up the wine and bread on the

altar and then cleaning up after the service. Currently, members of Council are taking turns setting up the Communion service. See Shelly Lawton (570-854-2161) or Eileen Hoffman (570-379-3503) if you would be willing to serve the church in this way on a regular basis.

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**

First Penance will be held at St. Mary and St. Jude Parishes/School on Saturday, February 8 at 10 a.m.

The Knights will pray the Rosary on Friday, January 24 at noon in support of the national March for Life taking place that day. All are welcome! Meet them in the Prayer Garden located by the rectory.

Religious Education for K-8th grade will not be held the weekend of January 26/27.

On Super Bowl Sunday, February 2, the congregation will once again be celebrating its annual "Soup-er Bowl" Sunday. To help others enjoy a zesty

meal, they'll be collecting cans of soup to stock the shelves of the local Mountain Top Food Bank at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. They're inviting you to participate and help them warm the hearts (and stomachs) of our neighbors. Bins will be located in the narthex the weekends of January 25/26 and February 1/2.

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: February 11, March 10, April 4 and May 14.

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

Are you looking for a relaxed but traditional family church 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 is an inclusive and modern Episcopal Church that incorporates into its liturgy the best of both Catholic and Protestant traditions. Everyone, regardless of their faith or background, is welcome to attend Holy Eucharist services on Sunday. The last Sunday of each month features a Healing Service.

Sunday School: Sundays at 10 a.m. in the Common Room.

AA Meetings: Mondays year-round in the Common Room at 7 p.m.

Stop by and visit the Book Nook, where you can select from a wide variety of books at low prices. The Book Nook is open on the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Book donations are welcome and much appreciated.

Everyone is invited to participate and attend choir rehearsals, which are held on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 9 a.m.

For more information on St. Martin's services and upcoming events, visit [smartintimeless.org](http://smartintimeless.org) or call Patty Siegel at 570-868-5690.

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## Worship Together ...

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### 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.

Youth Group focuses on SSS, spiritual, service, and social. Meetings are typically held twice a month on Sundays from 6-8 p.m. Questions or for more information please call Molly at 868-5855 or 262-4628.

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.

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.

Come help remove decorations: Sunday, January 12, at 10 a.m. Jobs for all ages and abilities.

Sweethearts dance: update: Mark your calendars for Friday, February 14. Cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person, and includes dinner, beverages, and music. Tickets will be available after Masses February 1/2 and 8/9.

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 St., 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 January 19 at 10:15 a.m. The 3rd grade students will lead them in prayer.

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 8:30 & 11 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. Communion will be served on December 29 at 9:30 a.m.

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.

See *Worship*, page 35

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## Worship Together ...

*Continued from page 34*

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

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.

### 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 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.

### 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).

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WHITE HAVEN

**Services: Sunday 11 a.m.**

**Sunday School 11:15 a.m.**

**Bill Lester, Leader**

**305 Berwick Street, White Haven**

**570-443-7293**

The congregation invites all to come and worship the Lord. If you are looking for a church home, they welcome you to come and worship with them every Sunday.

Sunday School is provided from September-June to children ages 4-12 during the worship service, after the Children's Moment. It takes place in the lower level of the church. They invite you downstairs in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, goodies, and fellowship after the service.

Al-Anon meets every Tuesday from 7-8 p.m. and Fireflies Youth Group meets Fridays from 6-8 p.m. For more info on their group, check them out on Facebook at Fireflies Youth Ministry.

### 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 Saturday 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](mailto:dbotzer@hotmail.com).

### ICS ...

*Continued from page 18*

curricular offerings including sports, music and art programs.

More information about the Experience Kindergarten Project and Friday morning tours for all grades is on the school's website: <https://www.icshazleton.org/openhouse> Busing is available through several school districts including Hazleton, Berwick, Weatherly, Crestwood, Tamaqua and Mahanoy City. As part of its commitment to making Christian education accessible to students in the city, 98% of the students who attend Immanuel Christian School receive financial aid, thanks to the generosity of financial partners.

More information about Immanuel Christian School is available on their website: [www.ICShazleton.org](http://www.ICShazleton.org) and Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ICShazleton/>.

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