

FREE

Mountain Peaks



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NEWSPAPER, LLC

June 25-July 8, 2020

NEXT EDITION: JULY 9
DEADLINE: JULY 3

Volume 17, No. 13
www.mt-peaks.com

Congratulations graduates!



Derek Petrochko relaxes as the graduation parade gets started at Crestwood High School.



Scarlett Furedi gives the peace sign as she is driven up to receive her diploma for graduating from sixth grade at Rice Elementary School.



Graduate Jack Novelli makes his way into St. Jude Church for the 8th grade graduation ceremony.



Eza Chaudhry is all smiles after picking up her diploma cover during ceremonies at Crestwood High School.



At left: Julia Dessoie stands up through the sunroof as she makes her way to the point where she receives her diploma for graduating from Rice Elementary School.

Mountain Peaks/Norberta Kosin &
Claudia Strycharz photos

More graduation
photos, pages 18 & 19



Father Joe Evanko presents Lauren Lokuta with her diploma during the graduation ceremony at St. Jude Church on June 5.

It was a party atmosphere as Crestwood graduate Anthony Caporuscio waits in line for the parade to get under way.



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

NOW FALL YOUTH SOCCER REGISTRATION

Mountain Top Youth Soccer Association, in concert with US Youth Soccer and Eastern PA Youth Soccer, is moving forward to give youngsters the opportunity to play soccer once again, come August/September/October. They'll play if it's safe, but if some or all of the season must be cancelled, a refund proportional to the cancelled part of the season will be available, minus the cost of the uniform, which is yours to keep. To register youngsters age 4 through 18, visit: https://system.Gotsport.Com/programs/6719984t2?Reg_role=player.

All 2020 registration will be completed online. If your child registered for spring soccer, please do not make payment for fall soccer online. Instead, mail your payment (\$100/player) to MYSA, P.O. Box 102, Mountain Top, PA 18707. For any questions, please reach out to kristen.cavanaugh7@gmail.com.

COOKIES FOR A NOBLE CAUSE

The Rotary Club of Mountain Top is sponsoring Cookies for a Noble Cause. All proceeds will benefit programs in our community. To order contact John Kranyuck at 570-466-9528. Pick up date is August 4 from 1-5 p.m. in the Crestwood High School parking lot. Cookies are baked fresh by Simply Delicious Desserts and are \$7 per dozen.

UNTIL AUGUST 29

YOGA IN THE PARK

Free Community Yoga in

the Park will run every Saturday until August 29 at 9 a.m. on the tennis courts in Wright Township Park. Please try to arrive by 8:45 a.m. to secure your spot. Spaces are on a first come first serve basis. Face masks are not needed, but they will still be practicing social distancing. Bring your mat, water bottle, a towel and anything else you may need. Mats and props will not be provided. Please check Facebook for updates in case of weather cancellations.

Contact Kim @ Mountainyogallc@gmail.com or Tracy @ Positivevibes.tmc@gmail.com.

JULY 5 FARMERS MARKET

The Rotary Club of Mountain Top's farmers market will open on July 5 with the following vendors on site in the Crestwood High School parking lot: Mrs. D's Welsh Cookies, J & A Farms, Ten Mile Mushrooms, High Meadow Micros, Fermented Delights, Simply Delicious Desserts, Keiner Apiary and Sugar Plum. In the weeks to follow vendors will also include Creekside Farms, OHF (Fruits) and Rock Farms.

The farmer's market runs on Sundays throughout the summer from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

JULY 11

CARNIVAL FOOD SALE

Slocum Township Fire and Ambulance is holding a carnival food drive thru on July 11 starting at 3 p.m.

The sale will include potato pancakes, pork bbq, wimpies, halushki, chicken and broccoli shells and more.

Pre-orders are appreciated but not required. Message them on Facebook or call the station at 570-868-6255 to place your order.

FOOD TRUCK JAMBOREE

Come out and support Valley Regional Fire and pick up some of the area's best food on wheels on July 11 from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. There will be plenty of options on site from premier vendors such as DA's Volcano Drinks, Tarnowski Kielbasa, Butcher Bob's Smoked Meats, Vince's Cheesesteaks, Cardinal Winery, Honeys Sugar Waffles, Joe's Pierogies, Tony's Gyros, FonDippity Ice Cream Truck.

The Fire Co. is located at 14

See Places To Go, page 7

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Mountain Peaks
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. To send news and photos, mail or email using info below.

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Crestwood offering new summer lunch program

Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, Crestwood School District food service has served thousands of meals to the students and children of the Crestwood School District and surrounding communities in the Mountain Top area.

On Monday, June 15, Crestwood School District started offering a new summer meals program. The program offers five days of meals on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. only throughout the summer break.

On Monday you will receive two breakfasts and two lunches for Monday and Tuesday meals, on Wednesday you will receive three breakfasts and three lunches for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday meals.

Please follow social distancing and remain in your vehicle. Food service staff will place meals in your unoccupied back seat or trunk.

Free meals are available to all children 18 and under at these sites: Crestwood Secondary Campus, 281 South Mountain Blvd., Mountain Top; White Haven Public Library, 121 Towanda Street, White Haven and Slocum Township Fire Hall, 1923 Slocum Road, Wapwallopen.

Slocum VFD distributes free boxes of dairy products



Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photo

Bianna Burford carries a heavy dairy box to someone stopping by to pick up one of the many donated boxes.

The Slocum Volunteer Fire Company held a dairy give-away on Friday, June 12 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the fire station. Volunteers handed out pre-boxed dairy products. Each box contained two gallons of 2% milk, three packs of individually wrapped cheese slices, one pound of butter, one quart of half and half and one 32 oz. container of vanilla yogurt. The items were free for anyone, however there was a one box per vehicle limit. There were 200 boxes to be given away all of which were donated to the fire company by the New Hope Center in Nescopeck.

Honoring Crestwood's senior athletes!

Volleyball

Dylan Kronick

Dylan is a member of the Crestwood volleyball team.

He will be attending Luzerne County Community College in the fall to study computer science.

Dylan is the son of Scott and Jill Kronick.



Congratulations to all the Crestwood senior athletes!

Have a Safe and Happy 4th of July!



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570-474-0388
 While the fireworks and parade may have been cancelled, we want the community to celebrate with an unprecedented 2 day celebration at Abe's Hot Dogs!!
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Class of
2020
 Congratulations

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Watch Facebook for our food truck vendor days!

Dining Room

Now Open



We are open for your dining enjoyment, and committed to serving you safely!

In early June our represented restaurant owners met together to share ideas on opening, safety procedures going forward and supporting one another in business. We appreciate the support and the amount of take-out business you gave all of us through the Covid-19 quarantine.

It really made a difference for our employees and we want to say a giant "Thank You!"

Mountain Top is home to great restaurants and we, like you, love going to all of them. We look forward to serving you at our tables!

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Saint Jude holds parking lot band concert

When a national pandemic cancels your band lessons and annual concert you find ways to keep the music alive!

Thanks to the creativity and ingenuity of the Saint Jude School Band Director, Mr. Mark Stransky, students took virtual band lessons from March through June via Zoom. Mr. Stransky even organized a virtual recital for upper level band students who were invited to compose their own pieces and play them for their fellow students and families.

The capstone event was a parking lot concert, held at three area Catholic Schools to celebrate and showcase the students' musical abilities.

The Saint Jude concert welcomed students from Saint Jude School, Holy Family Academy and Saint Nick's. Parents fanned out cars in the parking lot packed with younger siblings, and faced a pseudo stage at the front of the school. Upper level students played their recital pieces and then

even a few of the students new to band did so, as well. The concert concluded as the band played *Eagle Summit March* together.

The Saint Jude families wish to thank Mr. Mark Stransky for keeping the music alive during this tumultuous time.



Fourth grade student Rhea Mascarenhas showcases her hard work on the clarinet as her brother Matthew looks on from the car.



Sixth grade student Patrick Smith plays the saxophone while sister Isabelle watches from the car.



Siblings Clare and Michael Grandzol share the music as they belt out *Eagle Summit March*.



Sisters Lainey and Emily Conway play during the parking lot concert at Saint Jude School.



Wishing all of our friends and neighbors a safe and Happy 4th of July!

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

Continued from page 2

W. Butler Drive in Drums.

JULY 18 DRIVE-THRU, TAKE-OUT HAM DINER

Emmanuel UCC will hold a ham dinner on **Saturday, July 18** from 3-5 p.m. Cost is \$10.

This event is pre-orders and take out only!! Orders are being taken until July 11. To order please call Joan at 570-574-0626 or the church office at 570-868-5675, leave

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

a message.

Due to the pandemic it will be in a drive thru fashion. Menu includes: ham, mashed potatoes, corn, apple sauce and bread.

Emmanuel UCC is located at the end of Alberdeen Road in Dorrance Township, Mountain Top, across from Andy's Gas Station.

JULY 19 CHS 1970 CLASS REUNION MEETING

The Crestwood High School Class of 1970 will hold its next meeting on **Sunday, July 19** from 2-3:30 p.m. at the Wright Township park pavilion. All classmates are urged to attend to finalize the events for the 50th reunion to be held over the weekend of October 16 and 17.

JULY 26 CAR SHOW

The Sons of the American

Legion, Post 781, Mountain Top will hold its 7th annual car show on **Sunday, July 26** from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. All vehicles welcome. \$10 show vehicle registration starts at 10 a.m. Dash plaques for the first 100 vehicles.

Free admission to the general public, Food and refreshments available. No alcohol for sale.

For advanced registration call 570-474-2161, email mtsal781@gmail.com or on facebook: [salpostseveineighty-one](https://www.facebook.com/salpostseveineighty-one).

All proceeds will benefit local veterans and their children.

The Legion is located at 1550 Henry Drive, off Church Road in Mountain Top.

AUGUST 8 RIDE FOR PATRIOTS

Patriots Cove invites you to join them for the Ride For Patriots, a benefit for motorcycle enthusiasts. In the morning, Patriots will cruise in honor of veterans and first responders. Following the ride, Patriots Cove will host Wheels For Patriots Car and Bike Show, as a chance for enthusiasts to put their motorcycles, classics, and customs on display! Winners will take home trophies and get braggin' rights.

Ride for Patriots will be held on **August 8**. Registration starts at 9 a.m. at Mountain Top American Legion Post 781, 1550 Henry Drive, Mountain Top. They will roll out of Mountain Top at 11:30 a.m., and end at Black Walnut American Legion Post 510 for a car and bike show, chicken bbq, live music by R.J. Scouton, vendors, and raffles! All ride participants will be entered into the car and bike show at the Black Walnut American Legion, Old Route 6, Laceyville.

Judging will take place upon arrival at Black Walnut. The awards being offered this year are: Top 20, Top 5 motorcycles, 1st, 2nd and 3rd Best in Show, Patriots Choice, and most unique. The chicken barbecue will include baked potato, cole slaw, baked beans, and dessert.

Proceeds will support veterans and first responders at Patriots Cove. Patriots Cove is a non-profit organization in northeastern Pennsylvania that was founded by a military veteran and his spouse to empower other veterans, first responders, and their caregivers to heal and adapt to life after service.

Registration for the Ride for Patriots is \$15 per person, which includes admission to the Ride for Patriots, car and bike show entry and a chicken

barbecue dinner (first 400)!

Are you interested in becoming a sponsor or vendor? Contact Sheila Brandon at 570-855-8964 or email patriotscove@gmail.com for details and applications.

AUGUST 28 GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Kiwanis Club of Mountain Top golf tournament originally planned for June 5 has been rescheduled for **Friday, August 28** at Mountain Laurel Golf Club in White Haven.

This tournament is the primary fundraiser for the Club. Please come out and enjoy a much needed day of golf, fun and fresh air with your neighbors for a great cause.

Kiwanis has been active in the Mountain Top Community for well over 50 years, and supports worthy causes.

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

SEPTEMBER 13 PURSE BINGO

The Rotary Club of Mountain Top will hold a purse bingo on **September 13** at Wright Township Firehall, South Main Road, Mountain Top. Doors open at 12 noon with bingo beginning at 1 p.m.

The event will feature food, raffles, 50/50, refreshments, special games and a bake sale.

Presale tickets are \$20, \$25 at the door. Proceeds will go back into the local community in many ways.

For more information or tickets contact Joanne Joseph at 570-262-0548.

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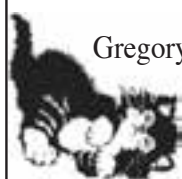
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SENIOR FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION (VOUCHER) PROGRAM

The Area Agency on Aging for Luzerne & Wyoming Counties will be holding the annual distribution of the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) vouchers provided by the United States and Pennsylvania Departments of Agriculture. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is the Departments' top priority to ensure seniors can receive the SFMNP vouchers without fear of being exposed and, for this reason, the voucher distribution this year will be done completely by mail.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE SENIOR FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM 2020 APPLICATION FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
APPLICATION _____

TO QUALIFY YOU MUST BE 60 OR OLDER (OR TURN 60 BY 12/31/2020) AND MEET THE HOUSEHOLD INCOME GUIDELINES

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: I certify that the information I have provided below for my eligibility determination is correct, to the best of my knowledge. This certification form is being submitted in connection with the receipt of Federal assistance. Program officials may verify information on this form. I understand that intentionally making a false or misleading statement or intentionally misrepresenting, concealing, or withholding facts may result in paying the State agency, in cash, the value of the food benefits improperly issued to me and may subject me to civil or criminal prosecution under State and Federal law. *Standards for eligibility and participation in the SFMNP are the same for everyone, regardless of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. I understand that I may appeal any decision made by the local agency regarding my eligibility for the SFMNP.*

By signing this, I acknowledge that my total household income is within the Income guidelines: \$23,606 for 1 person in the household; or \$31,894 for 2 people in the household and that I am 60 years old or older (or will turn 60 by December 31, 2020).

1st Participant Name (Print): _____ **Birth Date** _____
(Person the checks are for)

Signature _____

2nd Participant Name (Print): _____ **Birth Date** _____
(Person the checks are for)

Signature _____

Address (Print): _____

Telephone Number: _____ **County You Live In:** _____

Please place check by the most appropriate identifier for each. Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino Not Hispanic or Latino

Please circle the most appropriate identifier for each:

Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino Not Hispanic or Latino

Race: American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander White

If more responses are received than funding allows, you will be notified by mail.

Mail or email your completed SFMNP form before September 30, 2020:

**Mail to Area Agency on Aging for Luzerne & Wyoming Counties, 93 North State Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pa 18701
or Email to Rhonda.Adams@luzernecounty.org**

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TO BE ELIGIBLE, YOU MUST MEET ALL REQUIREMENTS:

- Be a resident of Luzerne or Wyoming Co.
- Be at least 60 years of age by December 31, 2020
- Meet income guidelines based on 2020 Total Household Income:
(All income is included, i.e. Social Security, Pension, etc.) - Self declaration.
Program officials may verify eligibility information.

- 1 Person/Household - \$23,606 or less
- 2 People/Household - \$31,894 or less
- 3 People/Household - \$40,182 or less
- 4 People/Household - \$48,470 or less

The Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) Application shown with this press release must be completely filled out, signed by the eligible participant and then mailed or emailed to our agency. The distribution by mail will be done from June through September 30, 2020 -- **applications received after the deadline date of Wednesday, September 30th will not be accepted.**

This year two participants can be included on one application as long as they live at the same address. EACH participant must complete their part of the application and BOTH signatures must be on the application, or it will not be processed. Proxy forms WILL NOT be required this year -- you will be allowed to have someone pick up your fruits and vegetables in your place with the vouchers. It is important that your name and address are printed clearly and legibly in order to expedite the process of sending out the vouchers.

PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) Each qualifying individual is allowed four (4) \$6 vouchers for a total SFMNP benefit of (\$24) ONE TIME per program year.
- 2) A person is not eligible if he/she resides in a nursing home, convent or residential facility where meals are prepared.

SFMNP applications are also available for pickup at any of our Active Adult (Senior) Centers listed; on AAA/Luzerne-Wyoming Counties' agency website: www.luzernecounty.org under Dept.-Area on Aging-News; and from your local legislature's office.

The completed SFMNP Application can be either mailed to: Area Agency on Aging for Luzerne & Wyoming Counties, 93 N. State Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pa 18701 or emailed to Rhonda.Adams@luzernecounty.org.

Walk-in or drop off applications will not be accepted because of social distancing restrictions.

Once the application is reviewed and approved, the (SFMNP) vouchers and pertinent information will be mailed to the participant. Please allow a few weeks for your application to be processed and for your checks to arrive in the mail.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rhonda Adams
SFMNP Coordinator
570-822-1159 Ext. 2337

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FALLS ACTIVE ADULT CENTER

2813 Sullivan's Trail, Falls, PA 570 388-2623

FREELAND ACTIVE ADULT CENTER

701 Chestnut St., Freeland, PA 570 636-3080

HAZLETON ACTIVE ADULT CENTER

24 East Broad Street, Hazleton, PA 570 459-1441

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

613 S.J. Strauss Lane, Kingston, Pa 570 824-4646

KINGSTON ACTIVE ADULT CENTER

335 Third Ave., Kingston, PA 570 287-1102

LEE PARK ACTIVE ADULT CENTER

140 Lee Park Ave., Wilkes-Barre, PA 570-825-9883

MOUNTAINTOP ACTIVE ADULT CENTER

Wright Manor Apts. 460 S. Main Rd., Mt. Top, PA 570 868-8517

PITTSTON ACTIVE ADULT CENTER

441 N. Main Street, Pittston, PA 570 655-5561

PLAINS ACTIVE ADULT CENTER

50 Second Street, Plains, PA 570 824-5542

PLYMOUTH ACTIVE ADULT CENTER

Dan Flood Apartments, Community Room
160 East Main Street, Plymouth, PA 570 779-9664

ROSE TUCKER ACTIVE ADULT CENTER

145 East Green St., Nanticoke, Pa 570 735-1670

SHICKSHINNY ACTIVE ADULT CENTER

19 W. Vine Street, Shickshinny, PA 570 542-4308

WYOMING COUNTY ACTIVE ADULT CTR

101 Dymond Terrace, Tunkhannock, PA 570-836-2324



News in Brief ...

July 4th festivities cancelled

The Wright Township supervisors voted at their last meeting to cancel the fireworks display the municipality annually sponsors on July 3. Supervisors weighed the pros and cons of holding the

fireworks, including the possibility the county would be in the green stage by the end of June. Concerns over following state guidelines for green stage gatherings and the municipality's liability prompted the unanimous vote to cancel the event which draws thousands of spectators to the area. It also

was pointed out that Wilkes-Barre City already cancelled its fireworks display.

Besides the cancellation of fireworks, the Mountain Top Area Community Association (MACA), which planned to conduct a parade in Wright Township, has decided that because of the Covid-19 virus it would

be too risky to hold the parade.

Mountain Top on the Move (MTOTM), previously announced it would not hold a parade, though it is hoping to have a Labor Day event. The two organizations split late last year as a result of a dispute over governance and policy. At one point after the split there

were indications both organizations might hold a parade.

MACA making alternative plans for the fourth

While there won't be fire-

See News in Brief, page 11



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News in Brief ...

Continued from page 10

works or a parade this year in Mountain Top to celebrate America's Independence Day, the Mountain Top Area Community Association (MACA) is doing its best to make sure residents have the opportunity to express their patriotism.

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, MACA decided to cancel this year's July 4 parade and festival. "While celebrating patriotism and American independence are at the forefront of everyone's minds this time of year, we must consider the health and safety of the community," MACA officials stated in a press release. They pointed out that though the governor has declared Luzerne County 'green' as of last Friday, the organization feels risks of large gatherings prohibit MACA from putting on the kind of event that Mountain Top has enjoyed in recent years.

However, in keeping with the community spirit of Independence Day, MACA is working with the Crestwood School District and WVIA to allow Mountain Top and surrounding communities to come together on the Fourth of July. Plans are in the works for Crestwood High School's marching band to play some patriotic songs which MACA plans to present to the public via Facebook Live beginning at 11:30 a.m. Then, at noon on July 4, WVIA has agreed to pause its normal broadcast to play the national anthem on 89.9 FM, followed by their own musical selections, according to MACA officials.

The community association invites everyone to tune in to 89.9 FM at noon and sing along to the national anthem

and other familiar tunes. "Whether shopping around town or working in the front yard, we can all be together as a community to celebrate our nation's independence," the MACA release stated. "We hope everyone enjoys this very unique celebration. MACA looks forward to hosting next

year's July 4th parade and festival and allowing everyone to celebrate the holiday as we have in the past."

Police Chief addresses death of George Floyd

Wright Township police

chief Royce Engler, in a letter to the community posted on the township's website, addressed the recent death of George Floyd at the hands of four Minneapolis police officers. Engler expressed his department members' shock and grief over Floyd's death.

"I join all of you in my shock

at the video of the death of George Floyd while in police custody in Minneapolis," the veteran chief stated. "While that community and their court system pursue justice in the case, I want to assure you that the Wright Township

See News in Brief, page 15



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Retiring worn US flags during special ceremony on Flag Day



Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz photo

Scouts unfurl the flag for all to see before refolding it with the history being told of each fold's meaning.

Venturing Crew 461 of the American Legion Post 781, 781 BSA Girls, Mountain Top Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts all came together to hold a flag retirement ceremony on Flag Day, June 14 at 7 p.m. Members of the American Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion as well as the public gathered to hear what the flag represents and to remember and honor its meaning. Many old and worn flags were burned in honor and remembrance during the ceremony, of which all who attended participated in.



Four-year-old Scarlett Smith hands a worn flag to scout leader Tony Rogers who will place it in the fire.



Linda and Randy Case hand an old flag to scout leader Tony Rogers so he can place it in the fire pit to be properly disposed of.

Mountain Top students inducted into Aquinas Society

Alexandria Smolenak, John Macri, and Cara Henahan of Mountain Top, all students at King's College, were three of 42 students to be inducted recently to the Aquinas Society, the college's honor society that recognizes students of superior academic ability and achievement who are involved in significant service-related extracurricular activities.

A junior human resource major, Alexandria is the daughter of Zack and Kristen Smolenak. She is a member of the college's cheerleading team and the Sigma Kappa Tau and Beta Gamma Sigma honor societies.

John is a senior physician assistant major and the son of John and Nadine Macri. He is a member of the Delta Epsilon Sigma honor society.

A junior physician assistant major with a minor in neuroscience, Cara is the daughter of Mike and Sue Henahan. She is a member of the college's Commuter Council, women's rugby team, Biology Club, and is a dean's list student.

Membership in the honor society is open to juniors and seniors with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.4 (4.0 scale) who have attained the dean's list for at least four of their semesters at King's.

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News in Brief ...

Continued from page 12

Police Department in no way instructs, utilizes, or condones the excessive use of force used by Derek Chauvin and the other three officers who contributed to Mr. Floyd's death," Engler said in his letter to the community.

He emphasized the seven-member department takes pride in its professionalism and close bond with the community. "Our department has and continues to build relationships that go beyond the uniform we wear," Engler related. "Our members serve as teachers, coaches, and are

community leaders. We organize fundraisers, are on boards, participate in community activities, and mentor children. We are part of this community in every sense of the word. In fact, 6 of our 7 officers are also residents of Mountain Top," he added.

Engler pointed out his

officers are trained by both experts in the field and in-house instruction to ensure that they deal with any situation appropriately. "When met with resistance, there are levels of response, and every one of our officers is well-versed and trained in a variety of responses," he explained.

"Public safety is of utmost importance, and that includes the safety of individuals in our custody," Engler related. "If we do meet with resistance, we respond appropriately. Once an individual is in custody, it is our duty to keep them safe," he emphasized. He noted many of the officers have deep roots in the Mountain Top community. "It is an honor to serve Wright Township and the entire Mountain Top community, and we do not take it lightly," he stated.

Engler pointed out that when an incident like the one in Minneapolis occurs, it casts a dark shadow on professional police

officers everywhere who have dedicated their lives to protecting and serving others. "It means we must work harder to retain your trust in the Wright Township Police Department," he stated. "I, along with Sergeant (Scott) Rozitski, have worked hard to keep strong, open lines of communication. We are constantly working to better our service," he offered.

Engler closed his letter by promising his department will continue to work hard, better the agency and engage in active communication with all the people of Wright Township. He promised his department will continue to serve the Mountain Top community with the respect and dignity that it deserves.

Wright Township reschedules clean up

Wright Township supervi-

See News in Brief, page 16



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News in Brief ...

Continued from page 15

sors decided that the annual cleanup, usually held in the spring, will be held later in the year, most likely early in October. There was no decision on whether an electronics recycling would be held.

In other business ...

Supervisors voted to award a contract in the amount of \$350,637.90 to Barletta Materials and Construction for paving of roads in Walden Park. The project includes paving of Yorktown Road from Hitching Post Road to the southerly end; Red Coat Lane from Walden Drive up to dead end just past Colonels Ridge Road; the northerly portion of Rebel

Hill Road. Supervisors decided not to include paving of Fawn Court and White Tail Drive from South Main Road to Deer Run Drive in Deerfield Acres which would have cost an additional \$50,000.

The scope of work includes two-inch milling of existing roadway surface; base repair where directed; two-inch binder course structural overlay; one and one-half wearing course overlay; and shoulder back-up material where required along both sides of the road.

State Liquid Fuels funds will be used for the project. Supervisor Louis Welebob voted against awarding the pact. He expressed concern that once additional engineering fees

associated with the work are paid, that would not allow enough money remaining in the Liquid Fuels fund to pay for street lighting and winter snow and ice removal in the next winter. The fund has a balance of \$412,365 as of the end of May. Welebob suggested waiting until the engineering costs are determined before awarding the bid.

Supervisor Donald Zampetti abstained. He complained that he had not received information on the bids prior to the meeting and did not feel he had enough information to vote.

After putting off a decision for a few months, supervisors voted 4-1 to accept a four-

tenths of a mile portion of Morio Road from the Mountain Top Area Joint Sanitary Authority. The township already owns most of the road for which it receives Liquid Fuels funds. Welebob, who voted no, expressed concern that the township would be accepting a road that does not meet current construction specifications.

Supervisors approved a to-year extended warranty contract for police department radio at a cost of \$2,580.

Dorrance recycling re-opens

Dorrance Township recycling center re-opened recent-

ly. The center is open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Anyone is welcome to drop off recyclables, even those who aren't township residents.

Drivers are asked to stay in their vehicles and township employees will retrieve the recyclables from the vehicles. Masks must be worn and social distancing observed if you leave your vehicle.

Plastics, aluminum, cardboard, paper, tin cans and similar goods are accepted.

COG urges care in yard waste dumping

The Mountain Top Council of Governments compost site in

See News in Brief, page 17



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News in Brief ...

Continued from page 16

the Crestwood Industrial park was open less than four hours when someone dumped some pieces of steel rebar mixed in with yard waste. Wright Township supervisor Donald Zampetti, COG president, said material could have put the COG's yard waste grinder known as The Beast, out of commission had it gone through the machine.

"It cost over \$10,000 just for the parts to repair The Beast last month," Zampetti said. "The COG doesn't have that kind of money to fix it again," he related. "If it breaks down again, we will have to shut down the compost site," he warned.

Zampetti urged residents using the facility to be careful not to dump construction material or any other debris other than leaves and yard waste. He also asked that people using the site notify the attendant if they see material other than yard waste being dumped.

Pickleball court completed

The Rice Township pickleball court finally has been completed and is ready for play. The township received a grant last year for the court which is the first outdoor pickleball court on the east side of the Susquehanna River. Supervisor Bob Pipech said the bulk

of the work, including excavating, drainage and painting was completed by township public works employees. He noted lights will be installed soon. The court is located adjacent to the township tennis courts which also are open. Pipech said the township park's softball fields and walking trail are open, but the children's playground equipment remains closed for safety reasons.

An official ribbon cutting will be held June 27 at 10 a.m.

Cavanaugh's Grille surprises Crestwood graduates

When Crestwood High School graduates opened their

diploma folder last week, they found a surprise — a certificate for a free pizza at Cavanaugh's Grille. Kudos to Cavanaugh's owner Jim Foley who is known for his support of Crestwood athletic programs, providing free pizza to teams after home games.

YMCA reopens

After closing its facility on March 27, the Wilkes-Barre Family YMCA reopened to members on Monday, June 22. To date, the Y has reopened child care programs, the pool, summer day camp and outdoor group exercise. The facility will be limited to 50 percent capacity.

The Wilkes-Barre Family

YMCA will operate on limited hours: Monday through Friday, 5:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. From 9-11 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, the Wilkes-Barre Family YMCA is asking members to respect the time frame for use by older adult members, those ages 62 and up, as well as those in a high-risk category.

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Congratulations graduates!



Little Big Steps, Inc. in Mountain Top held its pre-school graduation for eight students on Tuesday, June 9 at 6:30 p.m. outside for parents of children that will be moving up to kindergarten in the fall. In the front row are Jana Smolinsky, Emily Benyo, Blake

Silva, and Emily Landmesser, back row are Mariangela Carannante, owner, Malik Jordan, Nora Grauel, Carla Calabrese, owner, Adalyn Cole, Matthew Dutrow and Kristina Decowski, Pre-K teacher.



The St. Jude School, Class of 2020, alphabetically, Francesca Basalyga, Olivia Kathryn Bilbow, Ethan L. Brenner, Addison Burick, Avery Grace Chepolis, Lainey Ann Conway, Margaret Mary Ganter, Carly Rebecca Glaser, Molly Grove, Kaylee Gryboski, Kyle Leonardo Kocon, Joseph Kopko, Lauren Olivia Lo-

kuta, Alexander Matthew Martin, Jenna Marie Medvetz, Jack Walter Novelli, George J. Sabatini, Ahyaan Ali Asghar Arshad Sayed, Donato Albert Strish pose for a "social distancing" class photo. Absent from photo: Kaden Ayre.



St. Jude kindergarten student Reagan Seiwel celebrates her graduation with her mother, Jennifer and brother Livio.



Alivia Detweiler waits in line to receive her St. Jude kindergarten diploma with her parents, drive-up style.



Starry Knights Learning Center, LLC. in Mountain Top held a pre-school graduation parade on Saturday, June 13 beginning at 2 p.m. at the corner of Yeager and South Main Road. The parade of seven students made their way to Starry Knights where Center owner Melody Glazenski handed out gifts and diplomas to the children in the cars. A Wright Township Volunteer fire Depart-



ment fire truck led the procession to the center. At left: Isabella Slavinski receives her gift and diploma from Ms. Melody through the skylight of their car as her sister Rosalie looks on. At right: Ella Delessio one of the eight graduates is all smiles as she is about to receive her gift and diploma from Ms. Melody.



Saint Jude students show off the gift from their school, graduation signs. From left: Olivia Bilbow, Kaylee Gryboski, Lauren Lokuta and Lainey Conway.

Mountain Peaks/Claudia Strycharz & Norberta Kosin photos



Raymond Chitswara receives his diploma cover at the Crestwood High School graduation ceremony.



Crestwood graduates line up before the start of the parade in their honor.



Rice Elementary School Principal Bonnie Gregory hands a diploma to one of the sixth-grade graduates.



Tricia Scanlan drives her son Patrick in the Crestwood graduation parade.



Addison makes sure to thank all the teachers and Principal Gregory during the Rice Elementary School sixth grade graduation parade.

Crestwood seniors experience a very different kind of graduation

Graduation was different this year, but then a lot of things have been different since Covid-19 struck in early March. The class of 2020 had a drive-through graduation on their home turf in front of the recently completed athletic field house.

Graduates started arriving at the school at 3 p.m.; some in decorated vehicles. After checking in with the staff and

receiving their placement card, they lined up in the front parking lot. At 4 p.m. the parade of graduates started, with the Wright Township police and fire companies in the lead. Residents, family and friends lined the route and cheered. The parade went up Route 309 to Church Road, turned at St. Jude's and worked its way back to the Crestwood campus. Once they reached the field

house, small groups of graduates, wearing masks and maintaining "social distancing" left their cars and proceeded on stage. They picked up their diploma covers, turned the tassel on their hats, had their picture taken, walked down the ramp and back to their cars. Diplomas were then mailed to the graduates.

Graduates and their families were able to watch the ceremony

on two large LCD displays that were set up in the parking lots or on Facebook Live. It was also carried live on WYLN.

A memorable moment came during the opening ceremony when Connor Olingenski, class vice president, who gave the welcoming address, said he intended to start his remarks with a powerful quote, but instead asked for a moment of silence for Lael Swank, mother

of fellow classmate Garrett Swank, who died in March after a long and courageous battle with cancer. He said he is sure she is here; "she just has a better view".

Although there was some disagreement initially about what kind of graduation ceremony Crestwood should have, there seemed to be universal

See Crestwood, page 21

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Crestwood ...*Continued from page 20*

agreement on social media that graduation 2020 at Crestwood High School was a huge success. Many thanked the faculty and staff for all their hard work during these unprecedented times.

Crestwood graduates are:

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 Maximus A. Albee
 Steven C. Alvarez
 Rianna Ambosie
 Britney Amigon
 Zachery James Andrews
 Alexis Renee Armstrong
 Alicia Marie Armstrong
 Robinderpal Bahl
 Makayla Elizabeth Ball
 Zachary Baranousky
 Andrew John Barno
 Hendrik Bastemeyer
 Minh Bauch
 Karla Bautista Ramirez
 Thomas J. Beurmann

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 Cassidy E. Brumagin
 Tyler Bryk
 Evan Scott Burleson
 DeHaven N. Burns
 Cam'Ron Burrows
 Stewart John Caladie
 Anthony J. Caporusio
 Tyler H. Cesario
 Emilie M. Chappell
 Eza Chaudhry
 Raymond Chitswara
 Gabriel Chmiola
 Brian Anthony Costello
 Kimberly Rose Council
 Justin Joshua Craft
 Megan Cragle
 Adam J. Cramer
 Chloe Crawford
 Megan Croke
 Joshua Cronce
 Jocelyn Leigh Cussatt
 Laetham Dahms
 Gene Daisey III

Samuel Charles Daniel
 Kaynan Wesley Davis
 Kira Suzanne Davis
 Sarah Deets
 Jenna Deisenroth
 Ashleigh Ann Delay
 Riley K. Dennis
 Chloe Grace DeSanto
 Lauren DeSousa
 Linsee Grace Dillon
 Daniel B. Dimmitt
 Joseph Philip Dotzel
 Austin Chesney Douglas
 Ethan Dragonette
 Andrew Dreyfus
 Nathan Dunsmuir
 Cortney Elizabeth Dushanko
 Brenden Allen Ehret
 Alexander J. Elsasser
 Peter Espiritu
 Evan Feng
 Christopher J. Ferraccio
 Kollin Martin Flaherty
 Georgia J. Forst
 Lilly A. Fraley
 Timothy John Gallagher
 Gabriel Alexandria Gardner

Christopher T. Garren
 John A. Gaughan
 Michael R. Gavin Jr.
 Michael Joseph Geroski
 Anthony James Gesford
 Samuel D. Glowacki
 Payton Jon Glynn
 Daniel Sheppard Gomes
 Chase Patrick Govan
 Hunter L. Greenberg
 Chloe Greene
 Evan Donald Grevera
 Olivia Elizabeth Grigas
 Daniel R. Grosek
 Tyler D. Haasis
 Abbigail Lynn Harris
 Allyson Nicole
 Okamura Helfer
 Charles Helmbold
 Kayla Marie Henkel
 Madison Hiller
 Alexander Hischar
 Joshua T. Hooper
 Dylan S. Horn
 Layla Sunrise Howell
 Joshua Hudak
 Rachel Grace Hudock

Abigail E. Jacobson
 Andrew Michael Jarus
 Colby Lawrence Jones
 Daniel J. Jones
 Zachary Joseph Jones
 Sarah Evelyn Joseph
 Daniel Kaczmarczyk
 Nathan James Kamowski
 Sydney Karchin
 Zachary Karchin
 Alexis Carley Kazmierski
 Sydney Morgan Kearney
 Kaya Rose Klepaski
 Natalie Alice Klimek
 Nicholas Calvin Kline
 Jonathan Konschnik
 Ian Gregory Koons
 Breena Rose Kravchick
 Carrie L. Kraynak
 Hannah Marie Kresge
 Dylan Kronick
 Thomas J. Kulak
 Mario J. Lavariega
 Bridget Rose Leroy
 Winsor Lin
 Jenna Rose Lines

*See Crestwood, page 22***WE DO THAT!****A Guide To Area Businesses****CONSTRUCTION****J.DE CONSTRUCTION**

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Crestwood ...*Continued from page 21*

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Lee Lysiak
Luke Lysiak
Michael MacDonald
Matthew Louis Macurak
Hailey Mago
Dustin Makavensky
Madyson Erika Maldonado
Madison Elizabeth Malet
Wyatt James Malia
Samantha McGlynn
Noah L. Meckes
Kyle A. Mendenhall
Francisco Andres Mendoza
Cassondra Menn
Anthony Mercadante
Jordan Hunter Miale
Peyton Miller

Ryan M. Miller
Brooke Mackenzie Moran
Kaylee Madison Moran
Tyler Mudzik
Robert William Murawski
Brandon William Niemenski
Matthew John Niznik
Connor Jon Olenginski
Olivia Olshefski
Joseph Olszyk
Nicole Ann Reese Orlando
Madeline Elizabeth Palmiero
Bradley Papura
Astar E. Passante
Nihar A. Patel
Mahtab Peimany
Robert Joseph Pellegrini
Carly G. Pennington
Derek Charles Petrochko
Michael Phillips
Jamesdean Pickett
Corbin James Piercy
John Edward Pollack

Alexander J. Post
Evan M. Priest
Sierra Prokarym
Parker Jacob Puza
Kevin D. Regap
Abigail Rose Reilley
Isabela M. Reluzco
Sarah Anna Richards
Emily Sakura Roberts
Dwayne P. Rockey
Charles Ruckle
Chad Hartford Russell
Jocelyn Hope Ryan
Sean Philip Saenz
Patrick J. Scanlan
Cody T. Schade
Kirsten Scheffley
Ryan Jacob Schmidt
Patrick Schneider
Kaitlyn Schwartz
Donald Joseph Shaw III
Matthew Alexander Shiplett
Donald Shovlin

Courtney Barbara Siejak
Shane Keith Simon
Dillon Skupski
Nia Ayanna Small
Alexis Jasmine-Arlene Smith
Erin Michelle Smith
Ryan Robert Smith
Hannah Sobolewski
Madyson Layne Sobolewski
Luke Adam Spaide
Justin A. Sterling
Matthew John Stopper
Allie Ryann Stover
Emily Sulkowski
Kayla Marie Supkowski
Garrett Swank
Samuel Taylor Taney
Natalie A. Thomas
Samantha Grace Thorpe
William Raymond

Tomalinas IV
Peri Jane Urbanovitch
John Alan Van Fossen
Joshua Edward Van Gorden
Ashanty M. Vargas
Dalton Vencak
Matthew Mark Venturi
Abigail Grace Waite
Amber Lynn Wehrenberg
Brooke M. Weiss
Brandon M. Wejkszner
Scott Whitonis
Adam Matthew Williams
Sarah Anne Wolf
Emily Wrobleksi
Bryce Mitchell Wyda
Mackenzie Autumn Yenchik
Sarah Ann Zaleppa
Allison L. Zaprazny
Jesse Zaykoski



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St. Jude School holds drive-by retirement parade for Kempinskis

The St. Jude School family held a drive-by retirement parade for two beloved teachers, Les and Eileen Kempinski, affectionately known as Mr. and Mrs. K.

Eileen has taught various grades at St. Jude School for 45 years and Les has been the

eighth grade teacher for 44 years as well as the boys basket ball coach.

Students, past and present drove by, many in brightly decorated vehicles with balloons and carrying signs thanking the couple and wishing them a happy retirement.



Students and friends drive by with presents and thank Mr. and Mrs. K. for their long tenor at St. Jude School.



Mountain Peaks/Norberta Kosin photos

Bill and Janet (not visible, in the driver's seat) Jones and their daughter Rachel drove by with a sign that read: "Mr. & Mrs. K: The universal question to ask, 'Who was the best teacher you ever had?' Signed Caroline and Rachel Jones." Both graduated from St. Jude School.



Eileen and Les Kempinski

Facebook photo

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Grandinetti receives degree

Joseph Grandinetti of Mountain Top received a Bachelor of Arts degree in digital design and media art from Wilkes University.

The degree was one of 720 bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees awarded at a virtual degree conferral ceremony held by Wilkes on May 16.

An in-person graduation ceremony is planned for September 12, in the McHale Athletic Center of the University Center on Main on the Wilkes campus.

Individuals completing degrees in both spring and summer will be individually recognized at the ceremony.



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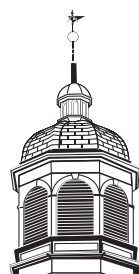


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Brinn Gammer graduates as Salutatorian from Hazleton Academy of Sciences

This month Brinn Gammer of Drums graduated as the Salutatorian from the Hazleton Area Academy of Sciences High School with a 102.0375 grade point average. She has been accepted to the University of Pennsylvania where she major in the biological basis of behavior. She hopes to participate in their Ben Franklin scholars honor program.

"Because of my STEM background from the Hazleton Academy of Sciences, I seek a liberal arts education that includes neuroscience, which has always interested me; however, I also can't wait to learn more about philosophy, politics, and law in order to integrate my passions for my future dream career," she relates.

She is an avid learner, she



Brinn Gammer

enjoys calculus, public speaking and writing. She plans to pursue a career in law in the future.

Brinn has received 9 scholarships: The Rotary Club of Hazleton Memorial Scholarship (top prize; \$2500 per year for 4 years); Reverend Louis Garbacik Memorial Scholarship (top prize); tecBRIDGE "Big Idea" Scholarship (top prize; \$1000); Leonard "Big Red" Williams Scholarship; Tim Martin Memorial Scholarship (\$500); Speak Up & Reach Out – Help Stop the Silence Scholarship (\$500); Ryanne Cara Memorial Scholarship (\$500); HAHS Superintendent's Award (\$250); Drums Lioness Award (\$250).

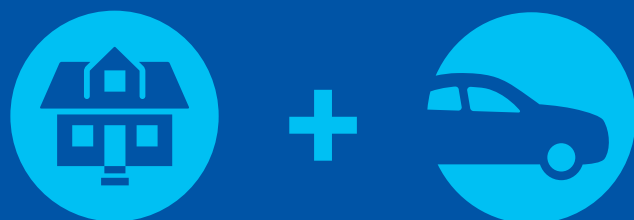
She has also attained the following honors and awards: 2019 HOSA International winner; Commended National Merit Scholar; National AP Scholar award winner; National Honors Society member;

Spanish Honors Society member; 2020 Standard Speaker's Scholastic Superstar; Edgar L. Dessen Community Award; 2020 Senior HAAS "Miss STEM" Award; Diocese of Scranton Bishop's Youth Award.

Brinn also has the following achievements: Founder of The Unidas Project (organization promoting cross-cultural domestic violence and mental health awareness); International, state, and regional winner in health education research at HOSA: Future Health Professionals; President of HASD Mock Trial and winner of First Place Attorney Award for Monroe County, as well as at district and college competitions; Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar "Waves of Impact" Outstanding Alumna; volunteered as assis-

tant catechist for four years at St. John Bosco Church, Junior staff member at the Hazleton Integration Project, and senior volunteer at Junior Leadership Hazleton; participated in clubs such as Reach HEI, HASD Executive Council, Start with Hello, Mock Trial, and HOSA; 2019 HOSA International winner; Commended National Merit Scholar; National AP Scholar award winner; National Honors Society member; Spanish Honors Society member; 2020 Standard Speaker's Scholastic Superstar; Edgar L. Dessen Community Award; 2020 Senior HAAS "Miss STEM" Award; Diocese of Scranton Bishop's Youth Award.

Brinn is the daughter of Kristin Gammer of Drums and the granddaughter of Irene Yurkanin Lazarsky of Sugarloaf.



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MMI inducts 30 students in National Honor Society

MMI Preparatory School inducted 30 students in the Andrew J. Stofan Chapter of the National Honor Society.

MMI English instructor Donna Titus serves as the National Honor Society advisor. National Honor Society officers are: Christian Yamulla, president; Hugh Soltau, vice president; Alexander Jordan, secretary; Robert Rinaldi, treasurer; and Dominique Kline, historian.

National Honor Society inductees are: Lieth Abdulrahman, son of Jihad and Basema Abdulrahman of Hazleton; Sandra Abdulrahman, daughter of Jihad and Basema Abdulrahman of Hazleton; Viva Barrett, daughter of Mark Barrett and Kheshan Melendez-Barrett of Pottsville; Olivia Bartholomew, daughter of Dean and Cheryl Bartholomew of Jim Thorpe; Alain Benitez, son of Iris Mendoza of West Hazleton and Jose Benitez of Elmont, NY; Rachael Betz, daughter of Dr. Amy Houm of Tamaqua and Richard Betz of Honesdale; Andrew Blasko, son of Andrew Blasko of Freeland and Renee Lapchak of Drums; Jayden Bonham, son of William and Melissa Bonham of Sugarloaf; David Castro, son of Angel and Danielle Morales of Freeland; Gina Galada, daughter of Danielle Donadi of McAdoo and Joseph Galada of Tamaqua; Christian Homnack, son of Dennis Homnack of St. Johns and Lori Pavell of Hazleton; Lindsay Horvat, daughter of Thomas and Lisa Horvat of Drums; Kyle Kim, son of San and Jenny Kim of Jim Thorpe; Ashley Loss, daughter of Frederick and Melissa Loss of Hazle Township; Thomas Mayernik, son of Thomas Mayernik and Valerie Rudawski of Freeland; Keiran Mele, son of Michael and Laurie Mele of Jim Thorpe;

Amelia Minzola, daughter of Joseph and Debra Minzola of Drums; Katelyn Overa, daughter of Timothy and Lori Overa of Drums; Josiah Pacchioli, son of Marc and Nancy Pacchioli of Barnesville; Dustin Paul, son of Rustin and Cynthia Paul of Jim Thorpe; Juliana Salio, daughter of Joseph and Tracy Kress of Sugarloaf and Sylvester Salio of Swoyersville; Connor Spencer, son of Christopher and Christina Spencer of Mountain Top; Althea Stewart, daughter of Dina Stewart of Hazleton; Morgan Strecker, daughter of Peter and Tara Strecker of Mountain Top; Kennedy Tavaris, daughter of Nathan and Theresa Myers of Mountain Top; Alexandra

Tierney, daughter of Thomas and Crystal Tierney of Weatherly; Daniella Vasquez, daughter of Ramon Vasquez and Seily Abreu of Hazleton; Grace Warner, daughter of Heather Warner of Drums and Stanley B. Warner III of Drums; Colin Williams, son of Atty. Richard and Shannon Williams of Mountain Top; and Kaylee Witner, daughter of Michael and Kristi Witner of Freeland.

The National Honor Society (NHS) is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. NHS honors those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership,

service, and character. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginning in 1921.

Membership in the Nation-

al Honor Society recognizes students for their accomplishments and challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service.



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The church will hold a live online worship Sunday at 10:45 a.m. Visit its website at christonthemountaintop.blogspot.com for details. Replies are also available.

The council is working at implementation plans that keep the current recommendations from the Bishop, the PA Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control in mind. The technology team is working at testing

and implementing technology to make it possible to live-stream worship from the sanctuary. The staff is imagining how to make worship "fun" given the limitations imposed by the virus and how to provide a diverse menu of options to reach a congregation with a variety of needs.

For more information: church office: 570-474-6060, church email: ChristUM-ChurchOffice@gmail.com.

EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Services: Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Louis Aita, Pastor

**7768 Blue Ridge Trail, Dorrance
570-868-5675**

Summer is here and with it

comes vacation time. Emmanuel United Church of Christ hopes that you will remember to keep your faith with you all summer long, wherever you may be. It is easy to get into the habit of skipping a Sunday here and another one there. Pretty soon, God is forgotten. True believers know that God is with them wherever they go and can't be left behind, only overlooked. We need to keep in mind that he is our Creator and deserves our praise in every season of the year.

Services have resumed and they are following the CDC guidelines. They welcome visitors and friends to join them for worship every Sunday.

Emmanuel UCC will hold a ham dinner on **Saturday, July**

18 from 3-5 p.m. Cost is \$10.

This event is pre-orders and take out only!! Orders are being taken until July 11. To order please call Joan at 570-574-0626 or the church office at 570-868-5675, leave a message. Due to the pandemic it will be in a drive thru fashion. Menu includes: ham, mashed potatoes, corn, apple sauce and bread.

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

If you are in need of pastoral care, call Pastor Lou Aita at

570-582-9550 or email him at aitatl12@ptd.net. E-mail access is emmanuel_ucc@hotmail.com and the website is emmanuel-ucc.org.

FAITH CHURCH DRUMS

Service: Sunday 10 a.m.

Keith Evans, Pastor

**4 Rittenhouse Place, Drums
570-599-8123**

On Sunday, June 28 at 1 p.m. the church will hold a quarantine picnic with hot dogs, music, devotional time. All Are welcome.

The church will hold Parents Night Out every Friday night from 6-8 p.m. in the summer with games, Christian and Clean family movies, Biblical/

See Worship, page 28

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Worship Together ...

Continued from page 27

faith lessons, snacks and food. Cost is \$20 per family.

On Sunday, July 5 at 12 noon there will be a car show, food, and a concert with David DeMarco.

Beginning Mondays and Tuesdays on June 29 and 30: Faith Life Coaching and Counseling. More details coming soon. You can inquire by texting 570-599-8123, \$40 for group, \$60 for Individual sessions.

If anyone is in need of help contact the pastor at 570-764-6444.

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

There are two Masses at Good Shepherd, 6 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 a.m. Sunday. Weekday Masses have begun at 8 a.m. The Bishop has allowed for 25% capacity. For Good Shepherd, this is a total of 67 parishioners. Confessions have resumed on Saturdays from 5 to 5:30 p.m. in Fr. Kloton's office. Please enter and exit through the outer library door (white storm door) located at the ramp entrance to the church.

Attendance at weekend Masses will be by reservation only. Parishioners will call the office of the parish on Tuesday evenings between 5:30-7 p.m. Your name and phone number will be taken (they have been mandated to take names and numbers in the event that they need to backtrace if someone tests positive at a later time). When you call

in and a weekend Mass is no longer available, you will be given the choice of a weekday liturgy (the same rules apply for weekday Masses). At this point the Pastoral Council has decided that you can only sign up for one weekend Mass a month. Remember, this plan is for the present. In the future it will change. Reservations will be taken for those in your household only.

Those on the list will come to the front door of the church. You are to take a seat at the blue tape (with the tape in front of you so that both hands can be on either side of the tape.) This will ensure proper social distancing. Families may sit together. Anyone who comes into the church must wear a mask. There will be a sanitizing station at the entrance and exit of the church. They ask that you sanitize your hands

See Worship, page 29

Religious education students celebrate Mary from home

The Religious education year at Saint Jude Parish typically ends with a program-wide May Crowning celebration. With the Covid-19 shut down, and students at home for the last few weeks of the scheduled religious education year, students were given an option to complete a May altar at home. Students used materials and pictures of their own to create a unique, prayer space for their family.



The Wenzel brothers, Braxtyn and Bryce stand with their May altar.



Ethan Klime chose to create a May altar in his home.



Tyler and Evelyn Kruczek created their beautiful May altar outside in their yard.

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Worship Together ...

Continued from page 28

as you enter and leave the church.

Holy Communion will be distributed at the end of Mass. Parishioners will remain in their pew and come up one at a time. Pull down your mask, receive Communion, put your mask up and exit church. You may not go back to your seat after you receive Communion. Once you receive Communion, you will exit by the rear side doors. Please do not exit by the center door. Parishioners are asked not to congregate outside the church.

A basket will be at the entrance of the church for your envelopes. There will be no collection during Mass.

There will be one live-streamed mass each weekend and available for viewing at any time.

MOUNTAINTOP FAMILY CHURCH

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

Mountaintop Family Church is holding modified Sunday services at 9 and 10:30 a.m. for one hour. Children and adults will attend service together and there will be limited seating. They ask that anyone who has been sick, has recently been exposed to Covid-19, has a compromised health condition, or is not comfortable

attending services to please continue joining them for online services. They will continue to record and post the KidsTown Devotional until they are able to have children's services on Sunday mornings. All other services and activities normally held at Mountaintop Family Church are being held online or are cancelled at this time.

The Sunday morning services are also available through live-stream on MFC webpage: www.mfcchurch.com/live-stream; Youtube: search for Mountaintop Family Church or on Facebook: go to Mountaintop Family Church Facebook page. On Sunday afternoon, they will post the video of the service on the church website under the "watch and listen" tab.

Zoom meetings are being held throughout the week and the links for the Zoom meetings can be obtained by emailing Debbie@mfcchurch.com.

com. Zoom Meetings: Men's and women's groups are held on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Ground Zero56 for grades 5 and 6 is held on Wednesdays at 3 p.m.; Starting Point Youth Group for grades 7-12 is held on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.; KidsTown Church is held on Thursdays at 1 p.m.; Canvas Young Adult Group is held on Thursdays at 7 p.m.; Cup Stacking Club is held on Tuesdays at 12 p.m.

Please contact the church office at 570-474-0900 if you have any questions or would like more information about MFC.

MOUNTAINVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

Service: Sunday 10 a.m.
Brook Selby, Pastor
5126 N. Lehigh Gorge Dr.,
White Haven
570-443-9438

The church is closed. They will be live-streaming the ser-

vice on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m.

All small groups are still meeting via conference call or video chat. Talk to your small group leader, or contact Pastor if you would like to be a part of one.

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 June 28.

The church has been sanitized and disinfected with a special electrostatic solution which kills the Covid-19 virus for up to 60 days. Masks are optional but they are still following guidelines of social distancing.

On Sunday, July 5 Rev. Fran Fink will lead the worship service.

For more information on church guidelines and services, please contact Diane Webster at 570-379-3713.

NEW HOPE WAPWALLOPEN CHARGE

Services:
Faith UMC: 8:45 a.m.
Stairville UMC: 10 a.m.
Slocum UMC: 11:15 a.m.
Scott O. Miller, Pastor
Stairville Road, Mountain Top

All three churches are open for services with masks required and social distancing through the green phase. There is no Sunday School or

See Worship, page 30

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Worship Together ...

Continued from page 29

other church activities at this time.

For any needs or concerns, please contact: Faith UMC: Wilma Baratta at 570-200-5329; Stairville UMC: Christine Kellow at 570-868-3413; Slocum UMC: Charles Herring at 570-868-6478

Pastor Scott can be reached by phone, text, or email at: 570-200-5388, email: somiller@susumc.org.

Visit them on Facebook at New Hope Wapwallopen.

worship on Sunday, June 28, via Facebook Live or with a little prayer back in the sanctuary. In-church services are not expected to resume until July 5. They will continue to make the service available live on Facebook and for replay. Pastor Neil Partington will deliver the message. Please continue to mail your tithes if possible.

There is also a children's program with study and games on Tuesday evening at 6 p.m. On Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. there is a fireside chat/Bible

study for anyone interested. These are Zoom meetings and can be joined on video at <http://PAiu.zoom.us/j/52653314753> or can be joined by phone at 8773690926, meeting number 5263314753. These numbers will be the same for all meetings including Sunday worship for those who do not have Facebook.

The church logo t-shirt order has been put on hold until after the "shelter-in" directive is over. You can still reserve one by emailing size and color to the

church.

If you have any questions about the church or its ministries call 570-474-9951 or find them on Facebook: Presbyterian Church of Mountaintop PA.

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**

The church will continue church services via facebook on Sundays at 9 a.m. Services at St. James will resume in July, possibly July 12.

Sunday morning worship services led by Pastor Brown are still available on St. James site of Facebook beginning at 9 a.m. These services are live and include Bible readings, music and a short message. Most of them last about 1/2 hour.

Even though there are no

See Worship, page 31

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.

The church has reopened for in-person services at 50% of our seating capacity. Please bring your own Bible as they will not be using the pew Bibles, hymnals or bulletins at this time.

Everyone is welcome to join them for a time of Bible study on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. If you prefer to join in with Bible study using Zoom, please contact Pastor John.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF

MOUNTAIN TOP

Services: Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

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Worship Together ...

Continued from page 30

services, the expenses continue for the church. If you wish to mail in your offering, you can send it to St. James at 619 Birch Road, Wapwallopen, PA 18660.

ST. JUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Services: Saturday 4 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 & 11 a.m.

Father Joseph J. Evanko, Pastor
420 S. Mt. Blvd., Mountain Top

570-474-6315

St. Jude Church is now open for private prayer from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday to Friday. The Parish office will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday to Thursday and parishioners are asked to use the intercom system. Due to the small space and social distance requirements, the Adoration Chapel and St. Jude Shrine will remain closed until further notice.

Daily Masses have resumed following the regular schedule: Monday to Friday, 7 a.m.

Weekend Masses have resumed with the normal Mass schedule: Saturday 4 p.m. and Sunday 8:30 and 11 a.m. Reservations for weekend Masses are required. To make your reservation, please visit the parish website www.stjc.org for submission. If you have issues with the online reservation system, please call the parish office, 570-474-6315, ext. 221.

Please follow all instructions for attending Mass or visiting the church for private prayer: Do not arrive for Mass more than 15 minutes for daily Mass and 30 minutes for weekend Mass. Enter the center double doors, wearing a mask then stop at the table to sanitize your hands; you will then be guided to your seat. You will

stay in your seat until after Mass when the priest will instruct you for communion. You will be guided, as the flow has changed. Keep six foot social distancing at all times referring to the markings on the floor. Once you receive communion you will proceed directly to your car. There will be no gathering of any kind before or after Mass.

When visiting the church for private prayer as well as daily Mass, please follow as stated above using only the 2 center sections and sit in the marked locations to maintain social distancing.

The week of service this year will be from July 19-24, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., grades 7th to 12th, cost is \$20 suggested donation

to cover expenses.

This year, Week of Service will be a little different. They are still going to serve our community, that's what it's all about! But they will be doing most of the service at St. Jude's. Also, this year they are coordinating with Vacation Bible School. VBS will have a drive-thru pick up of activity bags. They will assemble the bags and hand out to the families. Here's a tentative look at how the week will go: Sunday, July 19 (time tbd): come help put together VBS activity bags and decorate the front of St. Jude's. Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m. gather for prayer and get ready for the day; 9 a.m.: help hand out

See Worship, page 32

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Worship Together ...

Continued from page 31

VBS bags and say hi to the kids as they drive through to pick up. Assemble the bags for the next day; 10 a.m.: work on the service projects of the day; 2 p.m.: group discussion and closing prayer. There may also be some days with optional service projects that are at different Mountain Top locations or at different times (park cleanups, food packing, etc.). Everyone will be notified and have the option to participate in these projects. This year lunch will be provided. Bring a water bottle and snack.

Registration form and Hold Harmless Agreement are due July 14. Hold Harmless may be scanned and emailed to tscanlan@stjc.org.

Gift Card sales have resumed with a limited number of cards from page 1 only. Please refer to the parish website or call the office for buying procedures.

Vacation Bible School has been postponed. They are hoping to hold a possible "at home" program in July.

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

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

All services and activities are temporarily postponed.

The Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem, of which St. Martin's is an independent parish, provides live streaming of not only Sunday worship service, but other services throughout the week from the Cathedral of the Nativity. Go to diobeth.org for a full listing. Rev. Timothy Allen, Priest in charge at their sister parish, St. Stephen's Pro-Cathedral in Wilkes-Barre, prays morning, noon and evening prayer on his Facebook page. He has also continued his healing services on Mondays and Wednesdays at noon.

For more information visit smartintimeless.org or call Patty Siegel at 570-868-5690.

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

St. Mary's Church is once again open for church Masses. No registration is required for weekday Masses. Registration will be required for weekend Masses. Every Monday they will post the link for Saint Mary's parishioners to register for the coming weekend Mass. Registration will close on the Thursday of that week at 1 p.m.

The requirements are that you must be a Saint Mary parishioner; you may only register for yourself and members of your household; you may

only register for one weekend at a time. Each Monday you will need to fill out a new registration form for that coming weekend.

Please call the parish office if you do not have access to social media, or if you need assistance with the registration form 570-868-5855.

Weekend Mass instructions: Doors will open 30 minutes prior to Mass. You will enter through the main double doors, street side. You must put on your mask before entering the church. Volunteers will provide hand sanitizer and check you in. An usher will escort you to your reserved pew. The congregation is asked to refrain from singing. Eucha-

rist will be distributed at the end of Mass. You will immediately exit the church using the same door. Prayer of thanksgiving can be done walking out or in your car.

At this time, they will not be using the offertory baskets for collections. Offertory boxes will be at the main doors on weekends and at the side door during the week. All envelopes and loose donations may be securely dropped in these boxes.

Please follow all social distancing markings. No congregating in church or in the parking lot after Mass.

The church bazaar, which was scheduled for June 27/28

See Worship, page 33

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Worship Together ...

Continued from page 32

has been cancelled.

Information changes daily. Visit Saint Mary's website: stmarydorrance.org; Facebook Page: Saint Mary's of Dorrance and Saint Mary's of Dorrance Youth Group or call 570-868-5855 for more information.

Parish office is open Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

**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

As the county begins to enter the Green Phase, services will continue to be held outside for the safety of everyone. The drive in services will be held at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. each week. Thank you to all of you for complying with the restrictions. Your compliance has

allowed us to gather each week in a safe manner.

For those unable to join them, Pastor has been recording services from St. John's in Nanticoke that are available on their Facebook page and website www.stpaulsmthood.com.

The church office is currently closed. For those who

cannot get out or are in need of assistance please contact the church office and leave a message or contact Pastor. Kaufman at 570-443-0832. They have several individuals who have offered to assist those in need.

The Food Bank continues to distribute food to clients every Friday using safe distance practices. If you would like to drop off donations at the church, please do so on Fridays between 9 a.m.-noon. Donations are always welcome, and appreciated.

On Thursdays, Bible Study has resumed in the parish hall at 1 p.m. Tables have been set up to allow for participants to "social distance."

The church is happy to share that St. Paul's mini library (free book exchange) has been installed in the front of the church near the steps to the playground. It is available to both members of the church and the community to take a book to read or drop off books you have already read.

Thank you to everyone who

See Worship, page 35



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Worship Together ...

Continued from page 33

participated in the church's White Ribbon event honoring all essential workers, and first responders, who worked to provide basic, and necessary services during the recent pandemic.

Red and black ribbons were added to the display to honor recent graduates. Congratulations to the Class of 2020!

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Services: Sunday 9 a.m.

Sunday School: 10 a.m.

**Janelle Wigen, Pastor
418 Berwick St., White Haven
570-443-9424**

They are hosting virtual worship service through an online platform called Zoom. The worship service is at 10 a.m.

Mountain Top residents participate in service trips

Cara Henahan and Kaitlyn Roberts of Mountain Top, both students at King's College, recently volunteered with a group of other King's students for SpringSERVE (Students Engaged in Reflective Volunteer Experiences) trips.

Henahan volunteered at the Christian Appalachian Project in Martin, Kentucky. The Christian Appalachian Project reaches out to those in need by offering services such as food, clothing, home repair, education, and other support services. The group performed home repairs for low-income families and learned about social, political, and economic aspects of life in central Appalachia.

A junior physician assistant major with a

minor in neuroscience, Cara is the daughter of Mike and Sue Henahan. She is a member of the college's Commuter Council, women's rugby team, Biology Club, and Aquinas Society. She is a dean's list student.

Roberts volunteered at My Brother's Keeper in Easton, Massachusetts, where the group made door-to-door deliveries of furniture and food to families in need.

Kaitlyn is a sophomore physician assistant major and the daughter of Sandra Felichko and Christopher Roberts. She is a member of the college's women's volleyball team, the Pre-Physician Assistant Club, and the Emergency Response Club. She is a dean's list student.



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Clarks Summit: 570.585.0600
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Hazle Twp: 570.501.7575
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MOUNTAIN TOP Come out to see the new Woodberry Manor Model Home! Impressive Hallmark Homes creation loaded with upgrades! New spec homes and phase 3 lots are still available! Call for more details!
LISA 570-715-9335



MOUNTAIN TOP Brand new construction! Nice floor plan w/many upgrades. Level lot, 2nd floor laundry, front porch, mud room/locker area. Choose your selections!
MLS# 20-0278
LISA 715-9335

\$427,900



MOUNTAIN TOP Great floor plan! Building in spring of 2020. Choose your carpet color. 4BR, HW all 1st floor, KIT painted Maple cabinets & quartz tops.
MLS# 20-0390
MATT 714-9229

\$367,900



MOUNTAIN TOP 5BR, new construction to be completed by Fall 2020. Modern KIT w/Birch cabinets & granite tops. 1 full BA, 3/4 BA, 1/2 BA. 2 car garage, gas heat, central A/C MLS# 20-1844
MATT 714-9229

\$279,900



MOUNTAIN TOP 50' lake front on Lake Nuangola! Small home on property in poor condition. Motor boats are allowed.
MLS# 19-3433
LISA 715-9335

\$224,900



MOUNTAIN TOP 4BR 2-Story is full of charm & character! Formal LR & DR, original HW & woodwork. 2BA, 1st floor laundry. 2 car garage.
MLS# 20-0626
LINDA G. 715-9316

\$169,900



MOUNTAIN TOP Charming historic church/home combo w/ endless possibilities. HW flrs, stained glass, 2BR on 1st flr., 1 car att'd garage.
MLS# 19-4592
STEFANIE 951-6724

\$115,000



MOUNTAIN TOP Beautiful lakefront lot on 3.34 acres in the Ice Lakes Development! Pick your own builder. Public sewer. Natural gas. Aluminum dock. MLS# 18-5839
LISA 715-9335

\$219,900



MOUNTAIN TOP 20 Acres of beautiful wooded land to build your dream home - mostly level, slightly sloped in some areas. Located on Red Shale Pit Road (between Tunnel & Middleburg Roads). Location gives you great access to Turnpike, Route 80 and tons of recreation nearby (Lehigh River, D&L Trail access are within walking distance). Approx 410' of road frontage - located in Crestwood SD. Perc tested in 2018. MLS# 20-0147
JILL 715-9322

\$175,000



MOUNTAIN TOP 5.68 acres, mostly level. Building lot located within minuets of I-81. Public sewer & electric at road. Private well required. Over 700' of road frontage-lake view from rear of property. MLS# 20-0262
JILL 715-9322

\$125,000



MOUNTAIN TOP Phase 3C now open! Lot sizes may vary. Prices starting at \$64,900. Premium pricing on large lots. Public sewer and water, natural gas and curbs. Protective covenants apply. MLS# 20-0077
LISA 715-9335

\$64,900



WHITE HAVEN Beautiful half acre lot in Penn Lake Park w/ views of the lake. Public utilities and Crestwood School district MLS# 20-1060
KRISSIE 570-501-7519

\$47,000