Joann Ready, owner of Soul Shine in Grouse Hill in Mountain Top arranges some crystals for an eye-catching display.

Luigi Carannante is getting a sporty haircut by stylist Kassie Mandak at Design Works in Mountain Top.

Burger’s Farm Market in Drums is up and running with employees serving a steady stream of customers throughout the day on Tuesday, August 18.

Owner of Gene’s Garage in Mountain Top, Gene Snyder works on the rear brakes of a customer’s Mazda.

Jennifer Bielecki, owner of Poochie Cuts in Mountain Top and groomer Bronwen Fritzges are giving a much needed hair cut to an older pooch named Lily.

Sarah Denion, a server at III Guys Restaurant in Mountain Top, takes an order from customer Wally Lynch of White Haven.
Places To Go ... Things To Do ...

CANCELLED
MOUNTAIN TOP SOCIAL CLUB
All regular meetings of the Mountain Top Social Club are cancelled until further notice. For information about trips call Cathy Medeiros at 570-261-5016. For any other questions about the club call Rich Powell at 570-751-6249. Watch the paper for updates.

CHS CLASS OF 1970 REUNION
Due to the pandemic, the Crestwood High School Class of 1970 voted to reschedule its 50th class reunion to 2021. The reunion was originally scheduled for the weekend of October 16 and 17, 2020. With the Governor’s orders of limiting 25 at an indoor event, the committee felt it needed to change the date to September 11, 2021. The icebreaker will be held on Friday, September 10 at The Cabin at Edgewood.

SENIOR EXPO
Due to the ongoing public health crisis, Rep. Tarah Toohil (R-Luzerne) announced that her annual Senior Citizens Expo has been canceled. The event is normally scheduled to take place in September at Laurel Mall in Hazle Township.

Toohil’s Senior Expo annually attracts hundreds of older residents who attend to learn about the programs and services available to them from dozens of exhibitors.

CHS CLASS OF 1980 REUNION
The Crestwood class of 1980, scheduled 40th class reunion on Saturday, November 28 at the Woodlands Inn, Wilkes Barre has been postponed due to Covid 19. Updates will follow soon.

NOW
GUN RAFFLE
The Rotary Club of Mountain Top is currently conducting an Old West Gun Raffle. Tickets are $10 each with 20 days worth of prizes in October. Winning numbers will be based on the first evening Pick 3 PA daily lottery number drawn. See your Mountain Top Rotarian for tickets or stop by the Farmer’s Market to purchase.

UNTIL SEPTEMBER 27
HARLEY SOFTAIL OR $10,000 CASH GIVEAWAY
Enter for a chance to win a 2020 Harley Softail motorcycle, or $10,000 cash! For $25 per ticket, you will be entered in a drawing to win, and choice of prize is yours! Proceeds go to helping all 41 Rotary clubs.

See Places To Go, page 4

Editor’s Note: We have done our best to keep up with all the cancellations and postponements that are happening daily. If you have any doubt an event will take place, please call the contact number associated with that event.

Two-Day Basketball Clinic
Conducted by Professional Basketball Player Mia Hopkins

Lay-Up Camp
Saturday, September 5
Grades 2-5: 10 a.m.-12 noon
Grades 6 & up: 12-2 p.m.
$35 Per Day or Both for $60
Contact: 570-954-2301 or miaballer23@gmail.com for registration and more information.

Defensive Camp
Sunday, September 6
Grades 2-5: 10 a.m.-12 noon
Grades 6 & up: 12-2 p.m.
Rice Township Park
3000 Church Road
Mountain Top

Space not guaranteed day of the clinic. Participants should bring their own basketball and sufficient water/hydration. Proper social distancing guidelines pursuant to PA Department of Health and PIAA will be conducted.

ST. PAUL’S LUTHERAN CHURCH
316 S. Mountain Blvd. Mountain Top

DRIVE THRU CHICKEN BBQ

Saturday, September 12
Pick up from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost $10.00 Order ahead or just stop by!
Includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato, corn on the cob, cole slaw or apple sauce & dessert. Please contact Kevin & TJ Scott to reserve your dinner at 570-868-7368.
We have made shopping for tires easier!

Check out our newly designed website
www.steinbrennerauto.com

Click on “SHOP FOR TIRES” and select the right tire and price for you!
Any set of 4 tires ordered online will receive a 5% discount plus $10 off a wheel alignment
Top's farmers market will open on September 6 and 13 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.

**SEPTEMBER 11**
**CAR CRUISE IN THE PARK**
Mountain Top Area Community Association is hosting a car cruise in the park on September 11 from 5-8 p.m. at Wright Township Park. Rain date is September 12. The event will provide fun for the entire family. There will be raffle prizes and music. Abe’s Hot Dogs will be on site. Cars, trucks and bikes are all welcome.

**SEPTEMBER 12**
**DORRANCE TOWNSHIP CLEAN UP**
Dorrance township’s annual cleanup will be held Saturday, September 12 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. behind the municipal garage. The cleanup will be limited to residents only and proof of residency will be required.

---

**BALLIET TIRE & AUTO SERVICE**
1137 South Main Road, Mountain Top

- Authorized PA Safety and Emissions Station
- New And Used Tires
- General Vehicle Maintenance
- Buy 4 New Tires, Any Brand, Any Size, Receive a Free Oil Change up to 5 Quarts and Standard Oil Filter
- Free Tire Rotation • Free Brake Check
- Headlight Cleaning Services

**OIL CHANGE STARTING AT $29.99**
For Conventional, Synthetic Starts At $44.99 all up to 5 Qts of Oil and Standard Filter

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**PRIDE HOME SALES, LLC**
P.O. Box 54, Route 61, Pottsville-St. Clair Highway
St. Clair, PA 17970
570-429-1977
www.PrideHomeSales.com

**Open House**
**Sept. 12**
9 a.m. -1 p.m.
Registration Required
No Walk-Ins Permitted
Pleasant Valley Modular Homes
Route 433 E., Pine Grove

**FACTORY VISITS:**
Reserve a 90 minute visit: call us at 570-429-1977 to schedule
Monday-Friday with starting times
8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
NEW HOURS:
TUESDAY TO SUNDAY 3:30-8:30 P.M.

APPLE PIE
ICE CREAM
IS HERE!

359 S. Mountain Blvd., Mt. Top
570-403-2103
Open Tues.-Sunday 3:30-8:30 p.m.
Now open at 99 Pecora Road, Drums
Open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily
Wide selection of milks and drinks & ice cream, of course!

Watch Facebook for our food truck vendor days!

APPLE PIE
ICE CREAM
IS HERE!

BURGER’S FARM MARKET
Celebrating Our
131st Year!

OPEN FOR THE SEASON
with all fresh vegetables & fruit in season
*** OPEN 9 AM TO 7 PM ***
uniform  YOUR OWN VEGETABLES
Also at the Hazleton Downtown Market on Friday Mornings
371 St. John’s Road, Drums 570-788-1773

Burger’s
Farm Market
570-788-1773

Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.- 9 p.m. • Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sun. 12-9 p.m. • Indoor & Patio Dining Available.

MONDAY IS WING NIGHT
TUESDAY IS PASTA NIGHT Pick your pasta and sauce
WEDNESDAY IS PIZZA NIGHT
THURSDAY IS SEAFOOD NIGHT
FRIDAY: Crab Bisque & White Pizza
SUNDAY IS STEAK NIGHT 8 oz. filet with two sides

DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS & NIGHTLY DINNER SPECIALS TO GO ALSO AVAILABLE

For your safety we take temperatures of all staff and customers, we are social distancing all tables and our staff is wearing masks.

For your safety we take temperatures of all staff and customers, we are social distancing all tables and our staff is wearing masks.

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

Continued from page 4

required. There will be a $15
fee for each carload; $20 each
for small pickup trucks and
pul behind trailer loads; and
$50 each for trucks over three-
quarter ton.

Fee for batteries is $3 each
and all white appliances
$10 each. All freon must be
removed from refrigerators,
freezers, air conditioners and
dehumidifiers or they will
not be accepted. Tractor trailer tires will
not be accepted.

The following will not be
accepted: electronic devices,
asbestos, shingles, wood, paint
cans, propane tanks, house-
hold garbage or any hazardous
materials.

Anyone caught dumping
items at any other time will be
prosecuted.

Anyone wishing to clean up
any township road is asked to
call the township garage for

See Places To Go, page 16

CHICKEN DINNER
A Valley Day drive thru
chicken dinner will be held
on Saturday, September 12
from 12-5 p.m. at the CVCO
gym parking lot, Gould’s Way,
Conyngham. Dinners are $10
each and include 1/2 chicken,
roasted corn, halushki and a
drink.

SOCCER CHALLENGE
The St. Jude Council #6440
of the Knights of Columbus
will be hosting the soccer chal-
lenge on Saturday, September
12 from noon to 4 p.m. The
location will be in the play-
field behind St. Jude’s School,
access is best from Church
Road. This event is free and an
athletic outlet for young peo-
ple, boys and girls, ages 9-14,
to demonstrate their soccer
skills through a penalty kick
competition. Scoring is based
on 15 penalty kicks.

A copy of your child’s birth
certificate is required for proof

See Places To Go, page 16
Were millions in pandemic relief funding really necessary for cyber charter schools?

By Barry L. Boone, School Board Vice President Crestwood School District

It’s time we shine a light on a critically important issue and start asking some questions. As Pennsylvania’s school districts face revenue shortfalls of $1 billion or more due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Pennsylvania’s charter schools stand to see a windfall of pandemic relief funding while experiencing no loss of revenue.

First, under the recently enacted state budget, charter schools will receive $15 million in state health and safety grants to address Covid-19-related health and safety needs. This is much needed funding for school districts and brick and mortar charter schools that plan to offer some sort of adjusted schedule for in-person learning in the fall. But for cyber charter schools that offer all of their instruction virtually, this is simply free money.

Next, under the federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief fund, charter schools are entitled to $71 million in emergency, one-time funds to help schools respond to Covid-19 impacts. Brick and mortar charter schools reasonably incurred additional costs transitioning to an alternative learning system after school buildings were closed in March. In contrast, cyber charter schools should not have incurred the same costs, since their usual instructional method is virtual.

Finally, at least 26 charter schools were awarded Paycheck Protection Program loans totaling between $24 and $56 million which may be used for limited purposes such as payroll costs, continuation of healthcare benefits, interest on mortgage obligations, and rent and utility payments. Given that charter schools are publicly funded schools, the need for these loans should be questioned, especially in light of the fact that charter schools experienced no loss of revenue due to the pandemic.

Any single form of relief funding can potentially be justified as an attempt to ensure public schools can continue safely serving their students; however, there are two factors which should make us question the true intention of such funding – and why cyber charters are reaping the rewards when not impacted in the same way. First, Act 13 of 2020 ensured that charter schools would receive no less funding than they were entitled to as of the date public schools switched to online education. While Act 13 also guaranteed school districts the same level of state funding, local revenues were significantly decreased due to the pandemic. Second, 90% of charter school funding comes from mandatory tuition payments from school districts. Those tuition payments are based on the expenses of local school districts from the previous school year, so any impact on school district finances due to the pandemic would take years to impact.

To advertise call Wendy at 570-249-1233 or email wendy.mtpeaks@gmail.com

South Mountain Veterinary Hospital
266 Church Road, Mountain Top
474-5355
Fax: 474-551 5
Hours Mon.–Fri. • Call For Appointment

Pamper & Indulge Your Pet At Poochie Cuts Pet Salon & Spa
See what sets us apart!
• Relaxed spa experience including aromatherapy and calming music, all within a quiet setting
• Hand blow drying (No cage drying here!)
• No overbooking … one-on-one care and attention for your pet for a personalized, private spa experience
• No crating, unless requested
• Pick-up and drop-off available!!!

We’ve Added A Second Location!
Aunjie Liz’s Diamonds in the Ruff Too
Liz Hanley-Legas
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Hazleton, PA
www.auntieliztoo.rocks
80 N. Mountain Blvd.
Mountain Top, PA
570-474-5421

Mountaintop Animal Hospital
Our Goal Is To Keep Your Pet Healthy
Karen H. Spiece, D.V.M.
Gregory J. Werger, D.V.M. • Rachel Wenzel, D.V.M.
50 S. Mountain Blvd., Mountaintop
474-5273 Hours by Appointment

South Mountain Veterinary Hospital
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50 S. Mountain Blvd., Mountaintop
474-5273 Hours by Appointment
The Executive Board and Staff of Local 1310 wish all our members and working families a Happy Labor Day.

233 S. Washington St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701
570-826-1300

Representing:
- Luzerne County Correctional Facility
- Wilkes-Barre City Hall Employees
- Wilkes-Barre City Paramedics
- Wilkes-Barre City Housing Authority
- Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport
- Philly Shipyard
- Defense Depot, Susquehanna PA
- NuGate Group, LLC
- Caring Heart Manor
- Crozer Chester Medical Center
- Lancaster County Row Offices
- ZEP Inc, Allentown
- Ashley Police
- Advance Auto DC, Kutztown

Paige Gould checks the stock of hand sanitizer at a display inside the Triangle Pharmacy.

Candace Smith, a licensed Sales Service Representative at Kyle Goyne Insurance in Mountain Top works on an auto policy for a customer.
HAPPY LABOR DAY!
Applications are available the first Tuesday of the month from 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Please call for details 570-829-0634

Executive Board:
Edward Furman, Dave Fedor, Tom Shortz, Jay Skupski, Matt Turner

Instructors:
Scott Yoh, John Behm

Business Manager:
Paul R. Johnson

President:
Tip Wright

Vice President:
Phil Michael

Recording Secretary:
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Executive Board
Rich Eipper, Ed Furman, Joe Kornacki, Tom Shortz, Kody Sutliff

Instructors
Scott Yoh, John Behm, Jonathan Schultz

Applications are available the second Tuesday of the month from 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Please call for details 570-829-0634

Every advance in the last century: Social Security, Civil Rights, Medicare, Aid to Education, the Eight Hour Work Day, Minimum Wage and more, came with the support of Labor.

We salute all men and women on Labor Day and thank you for your contribution to America’s freedoms.
Serina Steinbrenner of Steinbrenner Auto in Mountain Top works on scheduling, which she did all day on Thursday, August 27.

Fred Bettica owner of Tuft & Stuff Upholstery in Mountain Top is working on fitting a piece of material on a chair for a customer.
Abe’s Hot Dogs donates shield to police

Jordan Kotowski, owner of Abe’s Hot Dogs in Mountain Top recently donated a pop shield to the Wright Township Police Department. A pop shield is the best way to have instant protection close at hand. Police can use them in many situations from traffic stops to an active shooter situation. From left, Police Chief Royce Engler, Kotowski and Sgt. Scott Rozitski at the presentation.

Referee clinic held for fall soccer

The Mountain Top Youth Soccer Association held a free referee clinic for anyone interested in working as a referee for youth soccer games in Mountain Top. This year’s clinic was held on Wednesday, August 5 at 8 p.m. at the SoccerPlex. The eleven attendees, 14 years old and up, arrived at 7:45 p.m. There was no fee for the clinic and anyone who is interested was welcome to attend. Advanced registration was required. The training clinic was provided by Certified Referee Trainer Tammy Velehoski.

Tammy Velehoski uses a power point presentation as part of her referee training clinic for the eleven registered participants.

Protect Your Investment, Get Your Vehicle Undercoated!

Chiverella’s Auto Service
479 S. Mountain Blvd., Mountain Top

570-474-1331
Your One Stop Service Center

OPEN DAILY MON.-FRI. 6 A.M.-5:30 P.M. • SAT. 8 A.M.-4:30 P.M.

FOUR WHEEL ALIGNMENT $54.99
OIL & FILTER $24.99
BOTH PA INSPECTIONS $44.99
FRONT OR REAR BRAKE PADS $79.99
RECHARGE A/C $69.99
UNDERCOAT NOW AVAILABLE

WE ARE YOUR FULL SERVICE AUTO CENTER.
BRAKES, TIRES, EXHAUST WORK, COLLISION WORK
ALL AT AFFORDABLE RATES!
Crestwood field house gets approval

The Wright Township planning commission at its August meeting voted unanimously last week to give final approval to the Crestwood School District field house project after learning all outstanding requirements had been met.

The approval allows the township’s former third-party inspector, Code Inspections, Inc., to issue an occupancy permit for the building.

While Code Inspections no longer is the third-party inspector for the township, the firm is still responsible for the project which was presented during its tenure.

Rising costs affecting recycling centers

Rising costs are causing recycling centers to become a financial burden on local municipal recycling facilities, to the point that one has closed, and another is limiting what it will accept.

Last month, Dorrance Township supervisors, citing rising costs, voted to suspend operations at the township recycling center.

Wright Township will no longer accept glass at its recycling facility and township officials are considering implementing a fee for non-residents to use the center.

Wright Township supervisor Matt Howton, the township’s road foreman, said that at one time the township made a small profit from its recycling center. Now, the facility center is costing the township money to operate. “There is a glut on recycling,” Howton stated. “The market just is not there anymore.”

“We’re running at a definite deficit,” Howton said. “And glass makes up 15 to 20 percent of our load,” he related. “We have to do something (to reduce costs).”

Historically, the center was open to anyone from the Mountain Top area. Residents of Fairview Township which does not operate a recycling center, have utilized the center. And, while Rice Township and Nuangola Borough have recycling centers, the Wright Township facility was open to those residents, if they chose to go there. “Since Dorrance closed its recycling center, I’ve been getting calls from residents asking if we will accept their recyclables,” Howton noted. “A couple of weeks ago, we

See News in Brief, page 17
On August 22, the Mountain Top Area Community Association (MACA) sponsored a scavenger hunt on the mountain.

Participants could pre-register online or in-person before the start of the event to win hundreds of dollars worth of prizes.

Starting at noon, participants received a list of clues. They had until 3 p.m. to solve the riddles, take a team photo and email or text the photo to their designated contact. The teams with the most correct photos win.

Each team member got a free food voucher from Abe’s Hot Dogs for participating.

Proceeds from the Scavenger Hunt fund MACA sponsored community events.

Members of the Mountain Top Area Community Association, Tracy Cornelius, Dan Cornelius, Ed Groth, Mark Bohn, Gail Rees and Tanya Gregory get ready to start registration for a scavenger hunt, sponsored by the association.

Participants stop by the Wright Township Municipal Park on August 22 to register for the scavenger hunt sponsored by Mountain Top Area Community Association.

---

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Now enrolling for our 13th season with classes in tap, jazz, ballet, hip hop, musical theatre and preschool dance.

We welcome students of all abilities from ages 2 and up.

Sibling discount.

Caring and qualified instructors.

No registration fees.

369 South Mountain Blvd., Mountain Top
570-592-7863
encoreschoolofdance@gmail.com
Your Chores, LLC can help you with all your home and property needs

When the American House Cleaners Association (AHCA) established September 17 as the annual National Professional House Cleaners Day, its goal was to raise awareness, respect and recognition for house cleaners and their important contributions to the health and wellbeing of our society.

For Shareen Zaghloul, owner of Your Chores LLC, of Mountain Top recognizing the important work professional cleaners do to create healthier environments in homes and businesses is especially important this year.

“Our work is considered essential,” Zaghloul said of her cleaning company. “So, we didn’t shut down during the pandemic,” she said. “That was good, but it also was a bit scary and overwhelming,” she noted.

While some residential clients put their cleaning service on hold during the height of the pandemic, her company added some new commercial clients as well as homeowners who wanted their homes sanitized. “We’ve had to be extra cautious,” she noted. “Our cleaners wear masks and gloves and we ask our clients to stay in separate rooms while we are cleaning. People have been very understanding,” she said. “Our clients are very important, but my employees are too,” she emphasized.

Zaghloul noted that some of her clients who put her company’s services on hold, actually continued to pay her. She split those payments up among her employees.

Zaghloul praised her cleaning staff for their “selflessness” in going into other people’s homes and businesses during the height of the pandemic. “People often overlook professional cleaners as being essential,” she offered.

She said she was fortunate enough to have commercial cleaning supplies to offer sanitizing material free to anyone who could not obtain it or couldn’t afford it. “We were able to get close to 700 bottles of disinfectant to residents and businesses and nonprofits in Mountain Top, the Valley and Dallas,” she said. “Some people did give money towards the cause which we appreciate.”

Zaghloul pointed out there are numerous benefits in having a professional house cleaner.

Regular professional cleaning, she said, reduces the build-up of dust. In older homes, exposure to allergens, lead, ...
Your Chores ...
Continued from page 14

and asbestos fibers increases. A regular schedule of professional cleanings removes those contaminants from the air.

The longevity of furniture, drapes, floors, and homes often is extended by professional cleaning. “Over time, items look newer longer and need replacing less often. These savings add up,” she explained.

Importantly, professional cleaners free up time for family, friends, and the essential things of life, Zaghloul noted. Psychologically, coming home to a clean house enables clients to relax because they don’t face clutter, and everything is in its place. “We’re there to de-stress your life,” Zaghloul related. “To give you time to spend with your family and friends. The motto of Your Chores is, we do your chores, so you don’t have to.”

And very importantly in these times, she noted, a sanitary cleaning in places like the kitchen and bathroom is essential. “Not only do professional cleaners know how to achieve a hygienic clean, but they also use the right tools for the job,” she explained. Zaghloul noted she was in the process of obtaining her Covid-19 cleaning certification from the AHCA.
Places To Go ... Things To Do ...

Continued from page 5

of age. Face masks and social
 distancing will be enforced.
 You must schedule a time to
 kick, so please call the Deputy
 Grand Knight, Mark Rongone,
at 570-441-6764 during the
 evening hours or email him
 your name and number at
 m.rockron@atlanticbbn.net
 for a call back.

SEPTEMBER 19
SUPPORT FOR LOCAL LAW
ENFORCEMENT

GFWC Mountain Top will be
collecting items for local law
enforcement officers on Sat-
urday, September 19 from 9
a.m. till 2 p.m. at Christ United
Methodist Church, 175 South
Main Road, Mountain Top.
This is a drive-by drop off!
Suggested items include bot-
tled water, Gatorade, granola
bar/trail mix, coffee (bagged
or K cup), gum, hard candy,
M&M candy single packs, small
packs of nuts, other individual
snacks, hand sanitizer, dispos-
able gloves, disposable masks.
Food items should be in indi-
vidual serving sizes please.
Monetary donations to pur-
chase additional items are wel-
come.
Anyone donating will receive
a free ticket for a gift basket.

SEPTEMBER 26
MEATLOAF DINNER

St. James Church in Hobbie
will be holding a meat loaf din-
er on Saturday, September 26
from 3-6 p.m. Cost is $10.
This event will be pre-orders
and take out only.
Orders are being taken now
until September 19. To order
please call Shelly at 570-854-
2161 or leave a message on
Facebook.
Due to the pandemic it will
be in a drive thru fashion. Menu includes: meatloaf, stuff-
ing, gravy, bread, vegetable,
apple sauce, and cookies.

OCTOBER 4
GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Knights of Columbus, St.
Jude Council #6440 is hosting
its annual charities golf tour-
nament on Sunday, October 4
at Sand Springs Country Club
in Drums. Shot gun start at 10
a.m. Teams are captain and
crew.
They are looking for hole
sponsors, individual patrons,
and any businesses in the area
wishing to donate. Please
contact Jerry Nash at 570-262-
8983 or email him at gtn55@
aol.com or Alan Guitson at
570-954-1231 or email him
at guitson@msn.com to sign a
team up or make a donation.

Send your
non-profit
events to
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mt-peaks.
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Pennsylvania’s cyber charter
schools have also stepped up
their advertising hoping to
capitalize on the fears of par-
ents who may be reluctant to
send their children back to
in-person classrooms this fall.
Despite apparently needing
millions of dollars in pandemic
relief funding, cyber charter
schools still have plenty of
money to spend on television
and radio ads.

Ensuring public schools can
safely educate Pennsylvania’s
children as a global pandemic
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and federal governments. But,
we need to stop and ask our-
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charter schools stand to, once
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a flawed education funding
system.

Editorial ...
Continued from page 6

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With families stuck at home
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Editorial ...
Continued from page 6

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Compost facility fee issue finally resolved

The issue of who has the authority to set fees for the Mountain Top Council of Governments (COG) compost facility appears to finally have been put to bed.

Wright Township solicitor Jack Dean told township supervisors he reviewed the Mountain Top Council of Government’s (COG) by laws and determined the COG has the authority to establish fees for permits for its compost facility. Earlier this year, the COG set the fee for annual permits at $25. However, Wright Township supervisors voted to charge township residents $10 and not charge senior citizens. Fairview Township collects the $25 rate for its residents.

At the July Wright Township work session there was a question as to whether the authority had the right to set the rate and if the township must reimburse the COG for the difference. After Dean gave his legal opinion, township’s supervisors approved a $3,965 payment to the COG at their August meeting.

Dorrance Township schedules cleanup

Dorrance Township’s annual cleanup will be held Saturday, September 12 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. behind the municipal garage. The cleanup will be limited to residents only and proof of residency will be required. There will be a $15 fee.
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SKILLED NURSING UNIT
PHYSICAL THERAPY
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
SPEECH THERAPY

Medicare, Medicaid Participant

Continued from page 17

fee for each carload: $20 each for small pickup trucks and pull behind trailer loads; and $50 each for trucks over three-quarter ton.

Fee for batteries is $3 each and all white appliances $10 each. All freon must be removed from refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners and dehumidifiers or they will not be accepted. Tires will be accepted at the following charges: $2 each for 13, 14, and 15-inch tires, no rims; $5 for 16-inch and larger tires no rims; $5 for truck tires, no rims. Tractor trailer tires will not be accepted.

The following will not be accepted: electronic devices, asbestos, shingles, wood, paint cans, propane tanks, household garbage or any hazardous materials. Anyone caught dumping items at any other time will be prosecuted.

The township volunteer fire company will be available to assist residents who need a truck. A reasonable donation is requested. To arrange for a truck through the fire company, call the township garage at 570-868-2005 and leave your name, phone, and address prior to Friday, September 4. As in the past, anyone wishing to clean up any township road is asked to call the township garage for bags. The bags can be placed on the side of the road and will be picked up by the road crew.

Still time to complete 2020 census
Mountain Top residents are taking completion of the 2020 census very seriously. According to information provided to Luzerne County municipalities by the county’s Convention and Visitors Bureau, three Mountain Top municipalities are among the top 10 in the county for completion of census questionnaires.

Yatesville Borough leads the county with 81 percent of its residents completing the census and Laflin is second at 80 percent. Wright Township is not far behind in third place at 79.5 percent. Fairview Township stands in sixth place at 76.8 percent followed by Rice Township in seventh place at 75.6 percent.

Ted Wampole, executive director of the Convention and Visitors Bureau, in his email to local officials, stressed the importance of completing the census. “Remember, every person not counted can mean the equivalent of lost federal funding and programs to the tune of $2,100 per person, per year,” Wampole said. “Not counting, or missing 500 people, can mean the loss of $1 million per year to Luzerne County, and $10 million over the next 10 years,” he added.

Wampole said the new deadline to complete the census is September 30. “There is still

See News in Brief, page 19

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Continued from page 18

Wright Township to apply for grant
Wright Township supervisors voted last month to apply for up to $750,000 in grants for two road improvement projects. They authorized submitting an application for a gaming grant not to exceed $400,000 for paving of Deer Run Drive. The second grant proposal is for a Multimodal Transportation Fund grant of up to $350,000 for Park Road. Secretary/treasurer Pam Heard and supervisor Matthew Howton explained the purpose multimodal grants is to make roads safer for motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists. She said the grant money will be used to make the road safer for pedestrians using the park as well as bicyclists. The road through the township park frequently is used by motorists as a shortcut from Route 309 to South Main Road.

They also approved a proposal by township resident Joseph Otero to erect a bench in front of the township building near the memorial stone as part of his Eagle Scout project. Otero is a student at Crestwood High School.

Dorrance to hold public meeting
Dorrance Township supervisors will hold a public hearing before their September 14 meeting on a proposed amendment to the township code of ordinances dealing with unattached accessory structures. The amendment will increase the maximum height of accessory structures.

CSD to receive grant for special education instruction
State funding in the amount of $208,680 will be shared among five school districts in the 119th District to assist with special education instruction for students negatively impacted by Covid-19, state Rep. Gerald Mullery, D-Luzerne, announced recently.

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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

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

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

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

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 aitalt12@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

The church has now reopened for indoor services. 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/faith lessons, snacks and food. Cost is $20 per family.

On Mondays and Tuesdays Faith Life Coaching and Counseling will take place. 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: 9:30 a.m.
Rev. Michael J. Kloton, Pastor
Route 309, Drums
570-788-3141

On Saturday September 5, the church will hold a Mass in the parking lot at 9:30 a.m. Folks may remain in their cars during the Mass. You may also bring your own chair and sit up by the altar which will be under the canopy in front of the church. Communion will be distributed. Everyone is encouraged to consider coming to this Mass. If you have any questions, you may call the parish office or the Immaculate Conception parish office at 570-636-3035 during regular hours. Rain date is Monday, September 7, at 9:30 a.m.

Deacon Jim will be resuming in-person Baptismal preparation classes at both Good Shepherd and Immaculate Conception following protocols established by diocesan, state, and CDC guidelines. Face masks are to be worn by all in attendance, and social distancing will be maintained. Class size is limited to 25 people. The class at Good Shepherd will be held on Thursday, September 24, at 6 p.m. in the St. Joseph Room. Call the parish office at to register. The class at Immaculate Conception will be held on Tuesday, September 22, at 6 p.m. in the parish hall located in the church basement. Call the parish office at 570-636-3035 to register.

There are two Masses at Good Shepherd, 6 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 a.m. Sunday.

See Worship, page 22

We are Praying for You

New Life Community Church
“A Bible Believing Church”
570 S. Main Rd., Mt. Top

Join us Sunday in person or on Facebook live at 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday Night Bible Study
“Is the book of Genesis real?”
Join us at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

Contact Pastor John at nlccmountaintop@gmail.com or call 570-868-5755 to get the Zoom link

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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. The church is open for private individual prayer until 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.

There will be one live streamed Mass each weekend on YouTube. The link is: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRogmn_HRMsp2zgXsysm5w. You can also access the Masses through their Facebook page (Good Shepherd Church Drums) and our website (good-shepherd-drums.org).

Montaintop 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. All other services and activities normally held at Montaintop Family Church are being held online or are canceled at this time.

Sunday morning services are also available through live-stream: MFC web page, www.mfcchurch.com/live-stream; Youtube, search for Montaintop Family Church; Facebook, go to Montaintop 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. Zoom Meetings: Men’s and Women’s Groups are held on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Ground Zero56 for completed grades 5 and 6 and Starting Point Youth for completed grades 7-12 are both 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. Children’s Activity Club is held on Tuesdays at 12 p.m.

Montaintop Family Church will host a blood drive on Tuesday, August 25 from 1-6 p.m. Please sign up for a time slot at www.redcrossblood.org.

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

Mountainview services are back on Sundays at 10 a.m. They have several environments for folks to encounter Jesus! They are: Livestream on Facebook every Sunday at 10 a.m. or @Mountainviewnepa or meet in person, outside on the church lawn in socially distanced circles for each family. Bring your beach umbrella, tents, beach towels, lawn chairs, and your own picnic! You can also park in your car on the perimeter parking lot and watch the service from your car using an FM transmitter to your radio. If it rains, they meet indoors with social distancing and everyone wears a mask. All small groups are still meeting via conference call or Zoom video chat. Small groups currently include:
Worship Together ...

Continued from page 22

Wednesday night Discovery Bible study for families, Thursday Small Groups: Evidence That Demands a Verdict, and Sermon Scripture Bible Study Group. Every morning at 7:07 a.m. join Pastor Brook and his wife, and others for a 20 minute devotional Bible reading, over Zoom.

Contact Pastor Brook for more information about small groups and gatherings: Brook Selby, Pastor 570-580-0808 www.MountainviewNEPA.org.

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.

Rev. Fran Fink will lead the worship service on Sunday, September 6. On September 13, Pastor Bob Thomas will lead the service.

The church has just received its second treatment of an electrostatic spray to kill the Covid-19 virus along with other bacteria and mold. The safety and peace of mind of parishioners continues to be the church’s top priority.

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 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

See Worship, page 24

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Worship Together ...

Continued from page 23

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.

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% seating capacity. Please bring your
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.
9 Chestnut Street, Mountain Top
570-474-9951

You are invited to join in worship on Sunday, September 6, via Facebook Live and back in the sanctuary. There are 2 sanitizing stations available, well as social distancing. If you have been ill during the 2 weeks prior to any service, you are asked to stay home and join in on Facebook or Zoom. They will continue to make the service available live on Facebook and for replay. Please continue to mail your tithes if you are not attending in person.

The church will return to the fall schedule on September 13 with worship at 11 a.m. The status of Sunday School classes is still pending with Covid guidelines.

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

See Worship, page 25

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Let us set up your professional seasonal program to do your own lawn. $125.00 yearly

10% MILITARY DISCOUNT
FREE LAWN EVALUATION
Continued from page 24

These are Zoom meetings and can be joined on video at http://PAiu.zo0m.us/j/52653314753 or can be joined by phone at 267-831-0333 meeting number 52653314753. This is a new call number. These numbers will be the same for all meetings including Sunday worship for those who do not use Facebook.

Some of the church boards are starting to meet in the church. Please check with your board presidents to make sure if you are meeting live or zooming!

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. Please check with your board presidents to make sure you receive your order.

Remember: the Mountain Top Food Bank is still open Fridays from 9:15 a.m. til 12 noon for those in need of food assistance. It is located at St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church on Route 309 in Mountain Top.

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

Services have begun in the church. Face masks must be worn except for children under 2. They are following social distancing practices. Offering plates will not be passed. They will be placed so people can place their offerings while entering or exiting the church. Please avoid any physical contact.

If you wish to mail in your offering, you can send it to St. James at 619 Birch Road, Wapwallopen, PA 18660.

The food distributions that St. James has been conducting since May 20 have been a great success. The give-aways will continue on a weekly basis. Time and dates or contents are not known until close to the date it occurs, so keep informed on Facebook or send your email address to leroh@pa.metrocast.net for notices. The food is available to anyone who can use it, you don’t have to be a member of St. James. People who do not have computers can call Linda at 570-239-8735 and you will be phoned when a distribution is planned.

Those distributions are held at the pavilion in the back of the church. If picking up food, please use Faux Road to enter the rear of the parking lot and stay to the right as you approach the pavilion, then exit the parking lot by staying to the right and driving straight ahead to County Road. Quantities of food are not known until close to the time of distribution and is usually gone within an hour. When there is food left that was not distributed, which has happened occasionally, it is given to a food pantry in Millville so nothing goes to waste.

The Cub Scouts have not been meeting and their summer camp experience was cancelled due to the closure of the camp.

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:

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Weekend Masses have resumed with the normal Mass schedule. Registration is required for weekend Masses. Each Monday they will post the link for St. Jude parishioners to register for the coming weekend Mass. The link will be posted at www.stjc.org.

Here are the requirements:
You must be a St. Jude parishioner; you may only register for yourself and members of your household; you will only be able to register for one weekend at a time; each Monday you will need to fill out another registration form if you wish to attend the coming weekend; the deadline for registration is Thursday at 1 p.m.; if you have difficulty with the registration form, call the parish office to place your reservation, 570-474-6315, ext. 221.

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.

First Communion Masses will be held September 13 and 20. Anyone who had taken a prayer partner envelope and would like to send a card/gift to their student can send them to the church c/o Carrie Grandzol by September 6.

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.

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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 regis-
Worship Together ...

Continued from page 27

Door 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. Eucharist 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.

Offering 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.

All religious education classes K-8 will be online through the end of 2020. Decisions moving forward will be determined based on current conditions at that time. They will continue to use their current familiar curriculum. Classes

See Worship, page 29

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Worship Together ...

Continued from page 28

will begin October 4.

With current restrictions, meetings are limited to the beverage stand in the grove. All groups must sanitize after use. To schedule a meeting please call the office. Current meetings: St. Theresa’s Guild September 8 at 6 p.m.; Altar & Rosary Society September 21 at 6:30 p.m.; AA Meetings Thursdays at 7 p.m.

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

For your health and safety, services will continue to be held outside for the welfare of everyone concerned. The drive in services will be held at 9 and 10:30 a.m. through September 6. Starting September 13th our services will be 9 & 11 a.m. through the rest of Sept. For those unable to join us, Pastor has been recording services viewable on our Facebook page and website www.stpaulsmt-top.com

The church office will be open Thursdays from 3-7 p.m. starting September 3. 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. The church has several individuals who have offered to assist those in need.

For those unable to join the

See Worship, page 31
Check out area businesses anytime, day or night.  

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church, Pastor has been recording services viewable on the church’s Facebook page and website www.stpaulsmttop.com.

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 from 9 a.m.-noon. Donations are always welcome.

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.

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.

The church will once again offer healing services on the first Wednesday of the month (barring any restrictions) the next service is October 7 at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary. You are asked to wear a mask. They will take all the necessary precautions. Following the service, you are invited to remain for lunch, but they ask that everyone provide their own.

On Saturday, September 12 the church will have a drive thru chicken bbq with pick up from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Cost $10. Meal includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato, corn on the cob, cole slaw and dessert. Please contact Kevin & TJ Scott to reserve your dinner at 570-868-7368, or stop by the day of to grab a delicious meal!

Movie night will be on Monday September 13 at 6:30 p.m.

You will watch The Other side of Heaven. Everyone is welcome. Social Distancing will be practiced.

On September 26 join them for an evening of music at an free outdoor concert! Musical acts include Pastor Stephen Perillo & the NEPA Praise Band, Mike Lewis, and James Harvey with Think of Three Band. This concert is open to the public and will have refreshments and baked goods for sale. Please bring a chair or blanket.

The church will begin collecting personal hygiene items for the McKinney Medical Clinic in Wilkes Barre. They are looking for donations of body wash, soap, shampoo, razors, alcohol free mouth and socks. A collection bin will be located at the entrance of church services for you to place your items. We will be submitting a Thrivent grant to match every item you donate!
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