

**FREE**

February 17- March 2, 2022

NEXT EDITION: MARCH 3  
DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 24

Volume 19, No. 4  
www.mt-peaks.com

# Mountain Peaks

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## Dancing the night away at Crestwood

Crestwood High School's gym turned into a dance floor on Feb. 12 as the school held its annual semiformal dance. Instead of gym shorts and sneakers, students took to the gym floor in tuxedos and dresses on Valentine's Day weekend. Additional photos, Page 18



Joseph Otero picks up some food with his date Abigayle Cryon before taking to the dance floor.



Kylie Doherty, right, jokes with her aid Alli Henry as they enjoy a drink.

Fred Adams | For  
Mountain Peaks

A group of girls attending the Crestwood's semiformal sing and dance to ABBA's 'Dancing Queen' in the school's gymnasium in Wright Township on Feb. 12.

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

### EVERY SUNDAY

#### SPIRITUAL YOGA

Join Stairville United Methodist Church, 1790 Stairville Road in Mountain Top for spiritual yoga on Sundays at 5:30 p.m. Bring your own yoga mat. A donation basket will be available and donations are given to the church. The class lasts 1 hour, all levels welcome.

### FEBRUARY 22

#### SOCIAL CLUB MEETING

The Mountain Top Social Club will start its 2022 season on February 22 at 1 p.m. inside St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Mountain Top on Rt. 309.

Members of the club look forward to seeing you at the first meeting so bring a friend with you! Call Sharon Gorka at

570-868-6598 or John Dopp at 570-535-0990 for any questions about the club. For trip information contact Cathy Medeiros at 570-261-5016 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

### FEBRUARY 20

#### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The St. Jude's Knights of Columbus will host a pancake breakfast on February 20 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the St. Jude Elementary School. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and any child under 5 eats for free.

The menu will include pancakes, eggs, sausage and more.

### FEBRUARY 25

#### SOUP SALE

Slocum Township Fire Company will hold its annual Lenten soup sale. Preorders only. Orders

are due by February 25. Pickup will be at the fire hall March 4 from 5 to 7 p.m. Soups will be served chilled. New England clam chowder \$8 per quart, creamy potato \$6 per quart and vegetable soup \$6 per quart.

Message them on facebook or call 570-706-5582 or 570-574-5751.

### FEBRUARY

#### 26 & 27

#### KRISPY KREME SALE

Krispy Kreme Donut Sale February 26th and 27th after all Masses

Dozen Original: \$9.00

Half Dozen Specialty: \$8.00

Proceeds support Youth Group activities throughout the year. Thank you!

Volunteers needed to sell at

Mass.

Please contact Mrs. Scanlan if you can help out! 27 after all Masses. Dozen Original: \$9; half dozen specialty: \$8. Proceeds support St. Jude youth group activities throughout the year. Volunteers are needed to sell at Mass. Please contact Mrs. Scanlan if you can help out. They're on Instagram! Follow them at stjudeyouthgroupmttop. Please contact Mrs. Tricia Scanlan if interested in participating or have questions — tscanlan@stjc.org or 570-474-6315 ext. 228.

### MARCH 1

#### AL AUXILIARY MEETINGS

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 781 will hold its monthly meetings the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the legion home in the downstairs meeting room. Executive meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular meeting.

Meeting dates are March 1, April 5, and May 3.

All auxiliary members are encouraged to come, bring a guest and ideas for some fund

raisers and veterans' programs.

### MARCH 6

#### PURSE BINGO

On Sunday, March 6 the Mountain Top Rotary Club will host its second virtual designer purse bingo. This event will take place live on Zoom and is limited to 100 attendees. Pre-payment is required to participate. Tickets are \$30 each and will include 1 book for 10 games of regular bingo (3 cards per page), 10 raffle tickets (1 for each prize) and 1 ticket for the special game which will be a higher value handbag. Additional books for an attending guest are \$10 each. Additional raffle tickets are \$10 for 1 chance at each prize. All bingo game prizes are designer handbags.

For tickets please contact Joanne Joseph at 570-262-0548, event chair, or any Rotary member.

All proceeds will benefit The Mountain Top Rotary Club and it's community projects!

*See Places To Go, page 16*

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## Active Adult Center Menu

### Week of Feb. 21

Monday: Centers closed

Tuesday: Roast turkey with gravy, brussel sprouts, mashed potatoes, bread stuffing, fruit crisp.

Wednesday: Meatballs, spaghetti with sauce, broccoli, cinnamon peaches.

Thursday: Crispy fish sandwich, vegetable blend, roasted potato wedges, ww sandwich roll, chocolate pudding.

Friday: Baked ham, halushki, ww dinner roll, grapes, graham cracker.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The menu for the week of Feb. 28 was unavailable at press time.

## Photo of the Week



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Each edition Mountain Top resident Joe Sainclair will share a photo with Mountain Peaks readers.

This week, Sainclair's subject may be one very familiar with readers.

In late 2021, one-year-old Jack the goat blew up social media in Mountain Top when he jumped over a four-foot gate and escaped his owners' property sparking a search that lasted for over two weeks. Today, he is under closer supervision and learning to enjoy life on the farm. Pictured are owners Hilari and Mike Kilheaney with Jack the goat.

Sainclair, a Crestwood graduate, teaches English and public speaking at the school and has been an avid explorer of nature and abandoned ruins since high school. He's married and has two children in the district. You can find him on Facebook and Youtube at JTS Explorations.

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wendy.mtpeaks  
@gmail.com

# Fundraisers held for Crestwood player battling cancer

By Mackenzie Gasper  
mgasper@timesleader.com

WRIGHT TWP. — Community Members Rallied Around Crestwood Sophomore Mayson Girton Through Multiple Fundraisers In The Area.

Girton Was Playing In A Crestwood Jv Football Game Against Berwick As A Linebacker When He Suffered An Injury That Was Treated As A Shifted Patella. When The Pain In His Knee Didn't Go Away After Six Weeks, Doctors Ordered An Mri.

After The Mri Showed An Incidental Finding Of A Mass Tumor, Mayson Was Diagnosed With A Rare Form Of Pediatric Cancer, Myxoid Liposarcoma. On Jan. 5, He Went In For Surgery At The Children's Hospital Of Philadelphia To Remove The Tumor.

To celebrate Girton's birthday early, Pizza Bella in Mountain Top hosted "Mayson



Mackenzie Gasper | Mountain Peaks

See Fundraisers, page 15

Pizza Bella owners Jackie and Frank Doherty.



Mackenzie Gasper | Mountain Peaks

Mayson Girton stands in front of baskets donated by local businesses in his honor at a recent Crestwood wrestling meet.

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## Crestwood Menu

Crestwood School District operates "Offer vs. Serve" meal programs following the guidance of the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs overseen and regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the PA Department of Education.

Due to the recent Covid pandemic, Crestwood School District is providing a reimbursable breakfast and lunch at no charge for all students, regardless of family income. This benefit is set to expire June 30, 2022.

While meals are currently free of charge during the 2021-22 school year, parents/guardians are encouraged to apply for meals benefits. This confidential information is used by both CSD and state agencies to determine funding for a variety of programs. Failure to apply for benefits could disqualify your student/family from additional benefits that may be available.

In order to qualify for a reimbursable free breakfast or free lunch, students must take all necessary meal components

per USDA guidelines. For lunch, each plate must have at least three components and one component must be a fruit or vegetable to be counted as reimbursable.

If the plate does not contain these items, the student will be charged ala carte pricing. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the food service program, contact the Food Service Director at 570-474-6782 ext. 313.

### Elementary School and Secondary Campus Week of February 21

Monday: No school

Tuesday: Mini corn dog nuggets or cowboy burger on a roll (cheese, onion rings, bbq sauce). Featured veggies:

Steamed green beans, baby carrots.

Wednesday: Famous Comet Bowl: Popcorn chicken, mashed potato bowl with dinner roll or hot dog on a roll. Featured veggies: Steamed corn. Caesar Salad.

Thursday: Homemade beet and cheese lasagna with dinner roll or chicken parm sandwich. Featured veggies: Steamed garden peas. Garden salad.

Friday: Pepperoni pizza or ham and cheese melt on a pretzel roll. Featured veggies: Steamed carrots. Black bean Salad.

### Week of February 28

Monday: Italian meatball and cheese hoagie or chicken nuggets with roll. Featured veggies: Tater tots, baby carrots.

Tuesday: Walking taco with beef and cheese or cheeseburger on a roll. Featured veggies: Steamed garden peas. Chickpea salad.

Wednesday: Classic toasted cheese sandwich or hot dog on a roll. Featured veggie: Baked beans. Tomato soup.

Thursday: Spaghetti with meat sauce with garlic toast or chicken parm sandwich. Featured veggies: Steamed garden peas, celery sticks.

Friday: Cheesy pizza or ham and cheese melt on a pretzel roll. Featured veggies steamed mixed vegetables. Chickpea salad.

## Russell makes dean's list

Chad Russell of Mountain Top, PA, has been named to the Champlain College Dean's List for the Fall 2021 semester.

Students on the Dean's List have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher during the semester. Russell is currently enrolled in the Game Design major.

Making the Dean's List is a tremendous achievement in any year. Many of the high achievers balance their classes with serious jobs, internships, clubs, and volunteering, as well as a global pandemic. We congratulate you on this great accomplishment and honor.

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**CHOICE B**

INCLUDES \*HOUSE SALAD, ROLLS & BUTTER

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## News in Brief ...

### Bagle shop plans receive final approval

Earlier this month, Fairview Township supervisors approved final land development plans for a Mountain Top Bloomin' Bagels at 123 N. Mountain Boulevard. The bagel shop, with a drive thru, will be built on a parcel opposite 10X Fitness.

Fairview Township supervisors also this month awarded a contract to Stell Enterprises for much-needed repairs to Deerpath Drive, Park Lane East, and Park Lane North. The Plains Township firm was the low bidder at \$253,103.5.

The work includes re-grading grass and rock-lined swales, piping, inlets and complete restoration of Deerpath Drive between Valley View Drive and Park Lane North; milling and paving of Deerpath Drive between Park Lane North and Park Lane East. It also involves installation of stormwater pipes under existing driveways and rock lines-swales, milling, and paving of Park Lane North; and overlay, saw cutting and milling of existing driveways to blend into new pavement on

South Hill Court.

The township plans to use a \$200,000 Local Shares Account (LSA) grant it received last August to fund the project.

Township engineer Dennis Peters along with township officials met earlier this month with state Department of Transportation (PennDOT) officials to discuss grant opportunities for repair or replacement of a culvert on Dale Drive at the end of Valley View Drive. The township received a \$120,000 LSA grant for the project. Township officials estimate the cost of the project at nearly four times the grant amount. PennDOT ordered the bridge closed almost two years ago year following an inspection

### Group asks for premission for July 4 parade

Fairview Township supervisors reported at their Feb. 1 meeting that they received a letter from Dianne Hoppersberger, president of Mountain Top on the Move, requesting permission to begin the group's July 4 parade on Route 309 in Fairview Township.

They did not take action on the request. Last month, Wright Township approved the group's application to use roads in its jurisdiction for the parade. The group hopes to begin the parade near the former Chalet Restaurant and proceed south on South Main Road to the Wright Township municipal building.

### Fire company holding soup sale

The Slocum Township Fire Company is holding its Lenten soup sale.

Soups available are New England clam chowder (\$8 per quart); creamy potato and vegetable (\$6 per quart). Deadline to order is Feb. 25 and soup will be available March 3 and 4 from 5 to 7 p.m. Soup will be

served chilled. To order, message the department on its Facebook page or call 570 706-5582 or 570 574-5751.

American Rescue Plan rules updated

Local governments will have much more leeway in how they spend American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money as the result of the final rules for use of the funds issued last month by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

Most local municipalities have held off spending the funds because the interim rules set out by the Treasury Department severely limited how the money could be used.

Both the interim and final rules permit recipients to use the ARPA funds for "government services" in an amount

equal to revenue lost due to the pandemic. Under the interim rules, municipal governments had to document lost revenue, much like itemizing deductions on federal income tax returns.

However, as attorney Sean W. Logsdon explained to Fairview Township supervisors at a meeting, the Treasury Department's final rule allows municipalities to claim a standard COVID-19 allowance of up to \$10 million (not to exceed their total allocation), without having to document that loss.

Essentially, the final rule allows municipalities to use the ARPA funds for any governmental service, including road paving projects and purchase of equipment, which were not allowed under the interim

*See News in Brief, page 8*

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Valentine's Day Specials the week of the 13th with a JT & Carol dance party Friday 2/18 (8-12) and the Kellie Reilly Duo Saturday 2/19 (8-11)

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## News in Brief ...

Continued from page 7

rules.

Logsdon told supervisors the final rule liberalizes the program. "You have a little more leeway (in use of the money)," the solicitor told supervisors. "You're no longer hamstrung." He cautioned that municipalities cannot use ARPA funds make any pension payments, cover revenue lost due to a cut in taxes, or make debt or settlement payments.

Meanwhile, in Wright Township, a committee appointed by township supervisors for recommendations on how to spend its ARPA allocation, recently came up with its list of 10 recommendations. The municipality already has received one payment of \$294,000 and expects to receive a total of about \$600,000.

Premium pay for township employees who worked throughout the pandemic; pur-

chase and implementation of technology to improve various township services; and replacement of bathrooms in the township park are some of the committee's recommendations.

Committee members include Pamela Heard, township secretary/treasurer; Marion Peeler, Christopher Madden, Kyle Rozitski, and supervisor liaison Candace Smith. Stephen Gothreau was originally appointed but resigned before the committee's recommendations were finalized.

Township supervisors are not bound by the recommendations. They are only suggestions.

The Wright Township committee's top recommendation is to award \$2,000 in premium pay to 12 full-time township employees who worked through the pandemic. The stipend would cost \$24,000.

Using the money to enable the township to live stream

supervisors meetings was one of several technology-related recommendations. Live streaming of government meetings is common in other areas of the state.

Rozitski noted that use of live streaming technology not only would help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 but would create more avenues for residents to access public meetings. Rozitski, who was an unsuccessful candidate for township supervisor in last November's general election, pointed out that while talking to residents while campaigning, this was a frequent recommendation.

I've attended most Wright Twp. meetings over the last 15 years, and it's been my experience that, with a few exceptions, only a handful of residents turn out for the sessions. When the meetings were streamed on Zoom, upwards of 25 to 30 people participated.

Another recommendation is improvements to the township website to make it easier to navigate and comply with the Sunshine Act.

Purchase of software for the police department to provide electronic means to create, edit and view its policy and procedures manual is recommended. The software is viewed as essential to providing compliant police services.


Implementation of an online permit application system is another recommendation. The use of technology, committee members explained, also helps mitigate the spread of COVID-19. An on-line system would allow residents and contractors the ability to apply for permits from their homes or offices, without having to come to the municipal building.

High on the list of recommendations, as well as the

See News in Brief, page 24

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# MMI senior in running to become Coca-Cola Scholar

MMI senior Daniella Vasquez has been named a semifinalist for the 2022 class of the Coca-Cola Scholars Program, moving to the next round of the selection process to become a Coca-Cola Scholar and receive a \$20,000 college scholarship.

A joint effort of Coca-Cola bottlers across the country and The Coca-Cola Company, the Coca-Cola Scholars Program is the largest corporate-sponsored, achievement-based scholarship program in the United States. With the addition of the 2022 class, the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation will have provided more than 6,600



Vasquez

ers throughout the country and encouraging their passion for serving others not only empowers the students, but also lifts up those around them." said Jane Hale Hopkins, president of the Foundation. "The Coca-Cola system is dedicated to giving back to the communities they serve, and the Coca-Cola

Coke Scholars nationwide with over \$78 million in scholarships over the course of 34 years.

"We believe that identifying these young leaders throughout the country and encouraging their passion for serving others not only empowers the students, but also lifts up those around them." said Jane Hale Hopkins, president of the Foundation. "The Coca-Cola system is dedicated to giving back to the communities they serve, and the Coca-Cola

Scholars Foundation is proud to be a part of that commitment."

In addition to receiving college scholarships, those students selected as Coca-Cola Scholars will be welcomed into a vibrant and growing family of alumni that have become a powerful force for positive change in the world. Through networking, collaborations, and friendships, the group strives to make a greater impact together. Recent initiatives include a podcast called The SIP, Coke Scholars Care (Coke Scholars doing good in the midst of the pandemic), and the fifth year

of a coaching program that partners seasoned alumni with first-year Scholars as they transition to college. Every 5 years, all alumni are invited to a Coca-Cola Scholars Leadership Summit.

Semifinalists are now asked to complete Phase 2 applications, which include essays, a recommendation, and transcripts. An independent selection committee will review the applications and select 250 Regional Finalists by the end of January to participate in online interviews. 150 Coca-Cola Scholars will be named in March to receive a \$20,000

college scholarship and participate in the Coca-Cola Scholars Leadership Development Institute facilitated by program alumni.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation celebrates and empowers visionary leaders who are refreshing the world. With its 33rd class of Coca-Cola Scholars, the Foundation has provided more than \$75 million in scholarships to over 6,450 program alumni who together have become a powerful force for positive change. Learn more at [www.coca-colascholarsfoundation.org](http://www.coca-colascholarsfoundation.org).

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# Nuangola Station resident lovingly recreates railroad's glory days

By Roger DuPuis

rdupuis@timesleader.com

RICE TWP. — For the general public, a few road signs for Nuangola Station are the only daily reminder of the electric railroad that once ran through the community and gave the hamlet its name.

For Guy Simms, the reminders are closer and more tangible.

Across North Front Street from his home, a length of concrete platform and a bridge abutment are the lone remnants of the Wilkes-Barre and Hazleton Railway's former station at this location. The trolley line, whose cars were powered by an electrified third rail, operated between 1903 and 1933.

Having trouble visualizing what the station looked like?

Inside the former general store that Simms, a longtime contractor, now uses as a workshop, a collection of photos and memorabilia pay tribute to the station and the long-lost railroad line.

The focal point of that collection is

an O-scale diorama that Simms built to recreate the station and its surroundings as they looked nearly a century ago, complete with a bright orange trolley car crossing the abutment as it approaches the station.

While he was born long after the line closed, Simms has a deep interest in its history, and that of the neighborhood.

"The fact that there was a railroad there fascinated me," said Simms, who has lived in a house across from the station (next to the old store) since 1974.

He's read books about the line, and has spent many long hours talked to neighbors about their recollections. Simms also has built models of other buildings in the neighborhood, including the former Pleasant View Store (now a residence) and the Nuangola Station Store, built in 1905 by John Frankenfield — that's where his workshop and collection reside now.

He has compiled 80 pages of information based on his conversations and research.



Roger DuPuis | Mountain Peaks

Guy Simms stands in front of his O-scale diorama of Nuangola Station.



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# St. Jude School celebrates Catholic Schools Week



Submitted photos  
The fifth grade girls took on the fourth grade boys in a fun game showcasing the treasure of their basketball talent. From left: Elizabeth Bilbow, Kira Millard, Alivia Sweet, Hannah Fauerbach, Sophia Kurlandski, Leah Smith, Keirsi Mooney, Mia Correll and Rhylea Reinhardt.

Catholic Schools Week was in full swing this year as pirates a'plenty roamed the hallways of Saint Jude School.

This year's theme, "Saint Jude School, Where Treasures Abound," saw teacher-built pirate ships in the hallways and colorful class T-shirts creating a sea of color to thank the school volunteers at the weekly school Mass.

Each day centered around the things the school community treasures most: students, community, volunteers, talents and faculty. Students took part in pirate game in gym class and went on treasure-themed scavenger hunts around the school.

The younger children dressed as pirates and mermaids, while the older students took part in crazy hair/crazy hat day.

One of the week's highlights was the school Penny Wars event, with classes working hard to sabotage one another with silver coins and bring their class to victory while other classes walked the plank.

Faculty, staff and students enjoyed the fun festivities and "Arrgh" so grateful for their school.



Submitted photos  
Audrey McShea, TJ Grego, Jack Obmann and Autumn Lont show off their class t-shirts.

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Submitted photos  
Pre-Kindergarten students Elise Carone and Phee Stahl show off their 'bounty' from the school book fair.



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## Schmude to speak at AAMC conference

Three representatives of Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine have been invited to speak at the 2022 Association of American Medical Colleges' (AAMC) Health Professions Financial Aid Administrators Conference.

Michelle M. Schmude, EdD, MBA, associate dean for admissions, enrollment management and financial aid and an associate professor of medical education, Department of Medical Education; Suzanne McNamara, director of financial aid; and Roxanne Seymour, MBA, associate director of financial aid, will deliver a session entitled, "Developing and Deploying a Comprehensive Financial Wellness Program for Medical Students using Active Learning Pedagogies" at the conference, scheduled to take place virtually February 23-25.

AAMC's Health Professions Financial Aid Administrators Conference brings financial aid and student records administrators from across the health professions together to learn about the latest professional trends and connects colleagues facing similar challenges and opportunities in financial aid and student records management.

During their session, Dr. Schmude, Ms. Seymour and Ms. McNamara will examine the various components of GCSOM's financial wellness program, including debt management and financial literacy and how the school has used active learning strategies to engage medical students.



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# Mountain Top native named first 'Miss Pennsylvania Volunteer'

By Bill O'Boyle

boboyle@timesleader.com

**MOUNTAIN TOP** — There is an old saying usually uttered when someone is about to go on stage and perform — “break a leg.”

Caroline Jones gave that good luck offering a new twist.

A few weeks before Jones was to compete in the Miss Pennsylvania Volunteer pageant, Jones broke her foot during a trip to Paris, France.

Having to compete with a brace on her left leg, Jones did not let the injury hold her back — she won.

On Sunday, Feb. 13, Jones, 25, was crowned “Miss Pennsylvania Volunteer” and will now represent the state in the national pageant on May 7, in Jackson, Tennessee.

A native of Mountain Top, Jones was crowned the first-ever “Miss Pennsylvania Volunteer” at the Miss Pennsylvania Volunteer pageant in Philadelphia.

The Miss Volunteer America is a nationwide, service-oriented scholarship program that seeks to empower young women across the country through educational scholarships and extraordinary opportunities. The five pillars of the program focus on scholarship, education, responsibility, volunteerism and empowerment.

“I’m so excited to represent our state,” Jones said. “I will be the best representative I can be. I promise to make all of Pennsylvania proud.”

Jones is a graduate of Holy Redeemer High School and King’s College. She is employed by The Princeton Group as a Financial Advisor and Assistant Vice President in the Wilkes-Barre and Yardley offices. She recently earned her Master of Science from the College For



Submitted photo

**Caroline Jones, center, was crowned the first 'Miss Pennsylvania Volunteer' on Sunday, Feb. 13. She is shown with her parents, Janet and Bill Jones of Mountain Top.**

Financial Planning.

Jones is the daughter of Bill and Janet Jones of Dorrance Township. Her dad is President/CEO of the United Way of Wyoming Valley.

Jones competed against contestants from across the state in several phases of competition — interview, talent, fitness and wellness, evening gown and on-stage question. She is an accomplished pianist and selected “Midnight Escapade” for her talent presentation.

Her service platform promotes

Childhood Literacy and she is an author of four children’s books. She said she has volunteered for years in the “read to Succeed” program, helping young students learn how to read.

“I have always been an advocate for promoting childhood literacy,” she said. “And now I will be able to do that all across the state.”

Jones said she is in the process of working on her schedule that will take her throughout the state to schools and organizations to promote childhood literacy.

As the state title holder, Jones will receive \$3,000 in scholarship funding. She was also selected as the recipient of the Evening Gown Award of \$500 in memory of Stephen Yearick, a nationally renowned evening gown and costume designer who had supported pageantry for decades.

“It is an absolute honor and privilege to be crowned the first

Miss Pennsylvania Volunteer,” Jones said. “While Miss Volunteer America is a relatively new pageant system, it is built on time-tested values and empowers young women to lead, serve, and achieve. I am really looking forward to representing the state, helping to build the system, and more importantly, helping young women as I have been helped.”



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To receive text messages go to [www.rainedout.com](http://www.rainedout.com) and

serach White Haven Borough. Click on White Haven borough and then continue. Enter your cell phone number or email address and check to agree to the terms box. Then click on start sign up. You will then get a validation code either to your cell phone or the email

address you just used. Type in that validation code and click validate code button. You should then receive a message stating

If you need any assistance feel free to call or stop by the borough offices.


## Little League sign up

The Weatherly Little League will be holding sign ups for girls softball at the Engine House on Saturday, Feb. 26, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Happy Birthday




Samantha Marie Weiss, daughter of Jeffrey and Eileen Weiss of Mountain top, is celebrating her eighth birthday today, February 15. She is the granddaughter of John and Carol Hrobaski of Swoyersville, and of Liberta Weiss and the late Michael Weiss of Honey Pot.




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## Fundraisers

*Continued from page 5*

Girton Day” on Feb. 5.

Jackie Doherty, Pizza Bella’s owner, expected a big crowd the day of and even asked multiple employees to come in early to help out with the 400+ pies they anticipated making. Patrons were invited to eat in, take their food to go or get delivery and 100 percent of the proceeds above food cost went to Mayson and his family to help with medical costs.

On Feb. 9, the Crestwood Comet wrestlers and booster club hosted their own fundraiser in support of Mayson at

their last home wrestling meet.

Supporters were encouraged to wear or purchase “Mayson Strong” t-shirts and to “flood the stands with black and yellow.”

Local businesses and community members, including Junie G’s breakfast and Grateful Roast Coffee, donated baskets and gift cards as basket raffle prizes.

All proceeds from the concession stand, 50/50 and basket raffle went to Mayson and his family. The booster club also accepted donations for the family.



Community members participated in a basket raffle in honor of Mayson Girton at a recent Crestwood wrestling meet.

Mackenzie Gasper | Mountain Peaks

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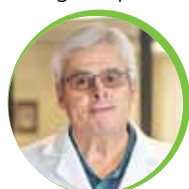
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Due to a very high volume of local news, some pictures and stories did not fit in this edition. Watch for them in future editions.

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

*Continued from page 2*

**MARCH 25  
 KRISPY KREME SALE**

Slocum Township Volunteer Fire Company is holding its spring Krispy Kreme sale.

Orders are due March 25. Pickup will be on April 9 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Dozen glazed donuts are \$9 per ½ dozen, specialty donuts (chocolate iced, raspberry filled, crème filled, and lemon filled) are \$8 per half dozen. 12 oz. ground coffee available in smooth, decaf and rich for \$10 per bag.

Message them on Facebook or call them at 570-706-5582 or 570-574-5751 to place your

orders.

**APRIL 23. 25  
 KIDS FISHING DERBY**

The Mountain Top American Legion will host its annual Kids Fishing Derby at the pond located at the American Legion. The Legion will provide prizes for every child, along with food and refreshments to all individuals at no cost. The pond will also be stocked with fish. This year, there will be a second day of fishing for children with disabilities. The Legion is looking for donations to support the event. Donations include: cash/checks to fund purchase of prizes, fish and refreshments; food donations of hot dogs,

buns, chips, etc.. Make checks payable to Mt. Post 781 S.A.L. Donations can be dropped off at the post or mailed to: American Legion Mt. Post 781, 1550 Henry Dr., Mt. Top, PA. 18707.

**JULY 9**

**TRAIN EXCURSION**

The Rotary Club of Mountain Top is excited to announce the return of its steam train excursion on July 9, 2022. Tickets can be purchased by mailing payment to P.O. Box 244, Mountain Top, PA 18707, or in person at Century 21 Smith Hourigan Group, 69 N. Mountain Blvd., Mountain Top. There will be an Event Brite purchase option as well. Tickets are \$70.



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# Crestwood holds annual semiformal dance



Fred Adams | For Mountain Peaks

Paige Ceaser holds a bouquet of pink roses that match her dress.



Fred Adams | For Mountain Peaks

A group of friends pose for a photo at Crestwood's semiformal on Feb. 12 in the high school gym.

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## Fireman's Convention Parade returning

It will be one last time with feeling for the Freeland and White Haven fire departments.

The two organizations have announced that they will once again host the 118th Six County Fireman's Convention Parade on June 25.

It will be the last parade for the association, and both departments are hoping that the event receives "the farewell it truly deserves," according to press release.

All the members are asked to look back at this proud organization and for one last time make an effort to attend.

Any questions regarding the parade can be directed to Dean Raudenbush Jr, by email at [whchief1863@yahoo.com](mailto:whchief1863@yahoo.com) or by phone at 570-751-8784. Information is also available on our facebook page, 118th Six County Fireman's Convention.

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If you would like to attend a fitness class or educational workshop, you will need to pre-register and you will be asked to fill out a registration form and pre/post exercise class surveys. This information is very important and is required so that we can continue to sponsor the classes and workshops at no cost to you.



Learn more by calling your local Area Agency on Aging today

Call us at 1-800-252-1512

## Worship Together ...

**Editor's Note: If you have any questions about worship times or church activities, please contact the church. Things change quickly due to Covid-19. We try to publish accurate information but things may change between publications.**

### CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Services: Sunday 9 & 10:45 a.m.**

**JP Bohanan, Pastor**

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

Sunday worship is held at 9 & 10:45 a.m. online and in-person. Masks required indoors.

Visit the church's Facebook page: Christ on the Mountain Top or its website: christonthemountaintop.org.

### CONYNGHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Services: Sunday 10:30 a.m.**

**Graham Truscott, Pastor**

**411 Main Street, Conyngham 570-788-3960**

Join them for worship on Sundays online on Facebook and in person at 10:30 a.m.

The church is asking everybody to wear masks in church. Also please practice social distancing where possible. Following CDC guidelines wearing masks also applies to people who have been vaccinated.

Kids and Youth Sunday school at 9 a.m.

There are several programs, ministries, and groups geared towards adults that allow anybody of any age to faithfully par-

ticipate in the life of the church and to grow in their faith.

Adult Sunday school classes meet every Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the social hall. In these classes they dig deep into the Bible. Adult Sunday School classes focus on interpreting Biblical Scripture, understanding historical features of the Scripture, and providing a meaningful message for use in the world today.

There will be a winter family movie night in the sanctuary, showing a family friendly film at 6 p.m. on Feb. 19.

### EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Services: Sunday 10:30 a.m.**

**Louis Aita, Pastor**

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

The Wapwallopen Ministerium Food Bank has been restocked thanks to the wonderfully generous contributions from the members of the churches that make up the Wapwallopen Ministerium. The Food Bank is at Emmanuel United Church of Christ at the end of the Alberdeen Road.

The Food Bank is open by appointment. All contacts are kept strictly confidential as we understand each person's need for privacy and self-esteem. If we can help you or someone you know, please call 570-868-5675 for an appointment and we will

provide nourishment for you and your family.

Sunday mornings at 9:30 am is Sunday School for ages 3 through 6th grade. We have a great program based on our Hands On Bibles. We'll have fun making crafts, playing games, and solving puzzles which help us understand the stories in our Hands On Bibles. Come join us as we learn about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

Our Teen Talk is for anyone in 7th grade and above. We meet on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am to talk about God and Jesus, how our lives are influenced by them and how we can be an influence to others around us. There are so many things that try to manipulate us away from God. Come to Teen Talk and find other teens who want to make their faith stronger and be better at dealing with ideas and things that pull us away from being Christians.

Our Sunday worship service is at 10:30 am and is led by Pastor Lou Aita. We welcome visitors and friends to join us for worship every Sunday.

Upcoming events: Feb. 13 – Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. and Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.; Feb. 20 – Bingo at 4 p.m.

### 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**

Masks in church are no longer required if you have been fully vaccinated, but they strongly urge everyone to wear a mask for your own protection. Also, those who receive Holy Communion on the tongue are asked to come up at the end of the Communion line. Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms should not enter the church. You are also asked to sanitize your hands as you enter and leave the church.

Bingo at Good Shepherd Church on Tuesdays is back. The kitchen opens at 5 p.m. and the Early Bird game begins at 6 p.m. If you would like to volunteer, call the parish office.

The Queen of Our Hearts Rosary Group invites you to pray the rosary in church on Saturdays from 5 to 5:45 p.m. They will pray the rosary, the Infant of Prague Novena, and the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

### 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 holds Sunday services at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. for one hour along with KidsTown Children's Ministries. During both services, our teens are invited to a special youth service after joining the adults in the sanctuary for worship.

Our Sunday morning services are also available through live-stream at: MFC Webpage - [www.mfcchurch.com/live-stream](http://www.mfcchurch.com/live-stream); YouTube - search for Mountaintop Family Church; FaceBook - go to Mountaintop Family Church Facebook page.

MFC's Wednesday Small Groups are meeting in person. Men and women are invited to

**See Worship, page 21**



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## Worship Together ...

Continued from page 20

attend our Men's Small Group and Ladies Small Group; both meet at 10am and 6:30 p.m. Starting Point Youth for students in grades 7-12 meets in the Youth Room from 6:30-8 p.m., Ground Zero56 for students in 5th & 6th grade will meet from 6:30-8 p.m. in the sanctuary and our Royal Rangers and Girls Ministry programs for children 4 years old through 4th grade will meet from 6:30-8 p.m. Registration forms and payment required for Royal Rangers and Girls Ministries. Please contact the church office if interested. No registration is necessary for Ground Zero or Starting Point Youth.

Young adults out of high school are invited to get together

for a time of fellowship, prayer, Bible study and fun! Canvas, a small group for Young Adults meets on Thursdays at 7 p.m. at various locations. Contact the church office for more information and to see where they will be meeting this week.

During our Sunday Morning Services and Wednesday Programs face masks are required for children, teens and their teachers and leaders to help keep our students safe and are also recommended for those that may have a compromised immune system or are at risk in any way, or if you just feel more comfortable wearing one!

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 10:30 a.m.**  
**Brook Selby, Pastor**  
**5126 N. Lehigh Gorge Dr.,**  
**White Haven**  
**570-580-0808**

There are a wide variety of small groups available to join in person, via conference call or on Zoom.

Together Family Ministries: Anchor Your Family To Christ. On the 2nd Sunday of the month they will meet for 15 minutes after the service for Together Family Prayer. They will gather together and pray with their children.

On the 3rd Sunday of the month at 9:30 a.m., they will have Together Family Morn-

ings. They will have juice, snacks and family teaching with practical and meaningful application. Let's give our family the wisdom to stand firm in the face of whatever the world throws at you. This is for the whole family, kids and parents. This is not a dropoff program..

For more information, please contact Pastor Brook 570-580-0808.

### MT. ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Services: Sunday 9 a.m.**  
**Pastor: Rev. Fran Fink**  
**Lily Lake Road, Slocum**

On Feb. 20, Cindy Faust will lead our worship service.

Michael Deckman will be our special guest speaker on Feb. 27. Following the service everyone

is invited to stay for our Gospel Gleanings. Topic this month is "Personal Death" and will be led by Karen Alderfer.

Our Ash Wednesday & Communion Service will be on March 2 at 6 p.m.

For more information regarding our church services or activities, 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

See Places To Go, page 22

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## Worship Together ...

Continued from page 21

Join Stairville United Methodist Church for spiritual yoga on Sundays at 5:30 p.m. Weather permitting, the class is outdoors but there is room to move inside if needed.

Bring your own yoga mat. A

donation basket will be available and donations are given to the church. The class lasts 1 hour, all levels welcome.

For any needs or concerns, please contact: Faith UMC: Wilma Baratta at 570-200-5329; Stairville UMC: Christine Kel-low 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.

### 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 join them for in person worship services. You can also join via Facebook Live

on the NLCC homepage. Come grow with them as they study God's Word on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in person or via Zoom. Please contact Pastor John for the link.

The 10:30 service includes kinder church for ages 4-6 years and junior church for 7-12 year olds.

For additional information, visit the church's website at nlcc-mountain-top.com.

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MOUNTAIN TOP

Services: Sunday 11 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Interim Pastor: Neil Partington  
9 Chestnut Street, Mountain Top

570-474-9951

YOU are invited to join in Worship on Sunday, Feb. 20. The Service is at 11 a.m. Sunday School begins at 9:30 p.m.. Masks are optional. If you have been ill during the 2 weeks prior to any service, you are asked to stay home and join in on Facebook. We will continue to make the service available live on Facebook and for replay. Please continue to mail in your tithes and offerings

The Fireside Chat Bible study has resumed on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Please note the following numbers: Zoom Link <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83505317603>. meeting I.D. 83505317603 Zoom Phone: 267-831-0333

Information will soon be available to sign up for small groups.

Purpose Driven Life in an 8-week study starting Feb. 27. All in the community and the church are invited to join a group.

Feb. 27 - POTLUCK after worship. Bring a dish or dessert to share and fellowship with the church family. ALL are invited with or without a covered dish.

The deacons are requesting the college addresses of any members or friends of the church who are away at school. All members are encouraged to update your contact information since some phone numbers and addresses on file are obsolete.

The church is also collecting diapers and sanitary products for Brandon's Forever Home. For more information see Elder Nancy Badal.

### ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Services: 9 a.m.  
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.  
Oliver Brown, Pastor

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## Worship Together ...

Continued from page 22

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The church doors are open for worship services on Sunday mornings. Services are also live on Facebook every Sunday morning, you can tune in by opening Facebook and typing St. James Lutheran Church, Hobbie, in the search line.

### 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**

Please be aware that anyone who is not fully vaccinated against Covid 19 is strongly encouraged to still wear a face mask. If you are experiencing Covid 19 symptoms, please do not enter the church. Call the Parish Office, 570-474-6315 if you have any questions.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is Monday evenings from 5:30-7 p.m. in the St. Jude Adoration Chapel.

A pancake breakfast will be held on Feb. 20 at 9 a.m. in the cafeteria.

Regular office hours are Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Closed for lunch 12-12:30 p.m.) Questions, call the office, 570-474-6315, ext. 221.

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

**Services: Sunday 10 a.m.**  
**3085 Church Road, Mountain Top**  
**570-868-5358**

Everyone, regardless of their

faith or background, is welcome to attend worship services. St. Martin-in-the-Fields is an inclusive and modern Episcopal church, incorporating the best of both Catholic and Protestant traditions. As an inclusive church, St. Martin's recognizes divorce and the remarriage of divorced people, male and female clergy, single or married, LGBTQ equality, and a Eucharist open to all baptized persons, regardless of their faith background.

They uphold five marks of mission which includes proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom, teaching and nurturing new believers, safeguarding the integrity of creation, and of particular importance to them, responding to human need through loving service and seeking to transform unjust structures in society; and, challenging violence of every kind. The charitable work they do individually, and collectively as a congregation reflects their commitment to these increasingly crucial needs in our area.

For more information on St. Martin's services and upcoming events, visit [smartintimeless.org](http://smartintimeless.org) or call 570-868-5358.

### 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**

Saint Mary's has confession on Saturdays from 4:30-5:15 p.m.

Visit Saint Mary's website: [stmarydorrance.org](http://stmarydorrance.org); Facebook Page: Saint Mary's of Dorrance and Saint Mary's of Dorrance Youth Group or call 570-868-5855 for more info.

The next meeting of the youth group will be Feb. 27 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the social hall. Please wear a mask. Food will be provided.

Religious education students are selling Gertrude Hawk chocolates. Orders can be picked up the weekend of March 26/27. Why go to mall when you can order your Easter candy from the great selection in the catalogs in the back of the church. Prepaid orders are due by February 20.

Parish office is open Monday and Wednesdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Molly will be at St. Jude office Tuesdays and Thursdays. Calls

will be forwarded on those days.

### ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Services: Saturday 5 p.m.**  
**Sunday: 10:15 a.m.**  
**Rev. Peter O'Rourke, Sacramental Minister**  
**411 Allegheny St., White Haven**  
**570-443-9944**

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

The Diocese of Scranton strongly recommends that all parishioners and visitors wear a mask while attending Mass, regardless of vaccination sta-

tus. With the high increase of Covid-19 infections, they have a responsibility to protect their own health and the health of their neighbors.

Confession schedule: Saturday, 4 to 4:45 p.m.; Sunday, 9 to 9:45 a.m. You may also schedule an appointment.

February Bingo is cancelled.

St. Patrick choir is looking for new members. Adults and children in grades 3 and up are invited to join. Practices are on Wednesdays from 6:15 to 7 p.m.

Lectors are needed for both masses. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in back of the church or you can call the office at 570-443-9944.

*See Worship, page 24*



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## Worship Together ...

Continued from page 23

### ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Services: Sunday 9 & 11 a.m.**  
**Sunday School: 10 a.m.**  
**Rev. Michelle Kaufman, Pastor**  
**316 S. Mt. Blvd., Mountain Top**  
**570-474-6616**

Join us for worship at St. Paul's at 9 (indoor) and 11 a.m. (outdoor) Everyone is welcome. Office hours will be Monday-Thursday, 9-1:30 p.m., closed Fridays.

The annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 20 between services. The purpose of this meeting is to review the past year, as well as an opportunity to discuss projects and ideas for the coming year.

Our next council meeting will be held on Feb. 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Ladies lunch out will be Wednesday, Feb. 23. In order

to carpool, we will meet at the church for 11:45 a.m. Let Pastor know if you'll be attending.

It is that time of year our young people, second grade or older who have not received 1st Holy Communion instruction are invited to attend classes with pastor in preparation for receiving their First Holy Communion. This will take place on Thursday, April 14, if all goes as planned. Please contact Pastor Kaufman if your child will be attending these classes.

### ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Sunday morning worship service is at 9 a.m.

The church is using Zoom so you will still be able to attend

services. It is held on Sundays at 10 a.m. If you are not able to join a computer, phone or ipad, you can call into the worship service.

The number is 1-646-876-9923. Press the # sign after the prompt. The meeting room ID again is 557 531 789 and the password is 470085.

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

**Services: Sunday, 9:30 a.m.**  
**Adult Sunday School: 8 a.m.**  
**Todd Glasmire, Pastor**  
**335 W. Butler Drive, Drums**  
**570-788-3051**

Pastor Todd and the congregation invite you to worship with them every Sunday at 9:30 a.m., and for Bible Study every Wednesday from 6-7 p.m.

They are an active, praying congregation with great plans for after the pandemic. They have a great family of people but have

plenty of room to grow.

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WHITE HAVEN

**Services: Sunday 11 a.m.**  
**Sunday School 11:15 a.m.**  
**Bill Lester, Leader**  
**305 Berwick Street, White Haven**  
**570-443-7293**

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

Al-Anon meets every Tuesday from 7-8 p.m. and Fireflies Youth Group meets Fridays from 6-8 p.m.

For more info on their group, check them out on Facebook at Fireflies Youth Ministry.

Sunday School is provided from September-June to children ages 4-12 during worship service, after the Children's Moment. It takes place in the lower level of

the church.

### WHITE HAVEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Services: Sunday 9 a.m.**  
**3rd Saturday 5 p.m.**  
**Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.**  
**David Botzer, Pastor**  
**900 Buffalo St., White Haven**  
**570-443-7153**

White Haven UMC welcomes everyone to worship with them.

Sunday worship: Traditional, 9 a.m.; contemporary family, 5 p.m. with Holy Communion on 3rd Saturday and first Sunday of month.

Sunday School at 10:15 a.m.

All visitors are welcome!

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

## News in Brief ...

Continued from page 8

top suggestion by people who took the township park master plan survey, is replacement of unsafe park bathrooms.

A professional assessment of township roads to facili-

tate short and long-term paving projects was suggested by Heard. Other public works projects recommended include stormwater pipe replacement in Green Mountain Estates and an engineering study to determine the extent of the storm-

water pipe replacement needs in Walden Park.

Finally, the committee recommends improvement in municipal building security to include installation of an alarm system, cameras, and swipe cards to insure only authorized

people can access the facility.

New bar/restaurant opens  
Congratulations to Dean and Carrie Kline on the grand opening of Mountain Top's newest bar/restaurant, Mountaintop Pub & Eatery. The couple purchased the former Shalimar at

371 S. Mountain Boulevard which had been closed for nearly two years and, after a lot of work, opened the doors to their business last weekend. Besides food and drink, the new owners are planning entertainment on a regular basis.

"I'm beyond thankful for all of the amazing people that turned out for our amazing opening this past Saturday," Dean Kline commented on the eatery's Facebook page. "It was as if the entire mountain and half the county turned out. It really was special and for that... I'm truly blessed."

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Mackenzie Gasper | Times Leader

ATV prize winners, Bob Murawski and Lee Harvilla, pose with their new ATVs at Wychock's Beverage with Northeast Eagle Distributors.

## Wychock's awards two ATVs

By Mackenzie Gasper  
mgasper@timesleader.com

WRIGHT TWP.— Good things are happening in Mountain Top as two community members are celebrating big wins this week.

Bob Murawski and Lee Harvilla picked up their new Polaris ATVs at Wychock's Beverage in Mountain Top on Friday morning. The winners both entered a promotional contest at Wychock's Beverage, and ended up being two out of three winners on the East Coast.

The Anheuser-Busch contest was sponsored by Northeast Eagle Distributors of Pittston, which was giving out three camouflage ATVs in honor of Busch Beer's limited edition, fan favorite camouflage "Hunter" cans.

Wychock's Beverage invited potential winners to stop by to scan a QR code to complete their entry. The sweepstakes ran from September 2021 to December 2021 and was open to residents of the 12 states. The winners were announced in January 2022.

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## Mt. Top Health Care hosts warm wishes bingo for residents



Mt. Top Health Care hosted a warm wishes bingo for its residents. The prizes were handmade afghans donated to the facility from a previous resident's family. Mt. Top Health Care would like to thank the community for the continued support and generosity they have given to our residents throughout the year. Pictured are residents Flo, Jeannie and Anita.

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## Sneaker drive ongoing

Do you have used sneakers at home that no longer serve you or your family members a purpose?

Now is your chance to donate those old stinky sneakers for an awesome cause. The Conyngham Valley Civic organization is hosting its annual Sneaker Drive Fundraiser with the sneaker recycling organization, GotSneakers. 100% of the proceeds will benefit the United Charities Children's Home.

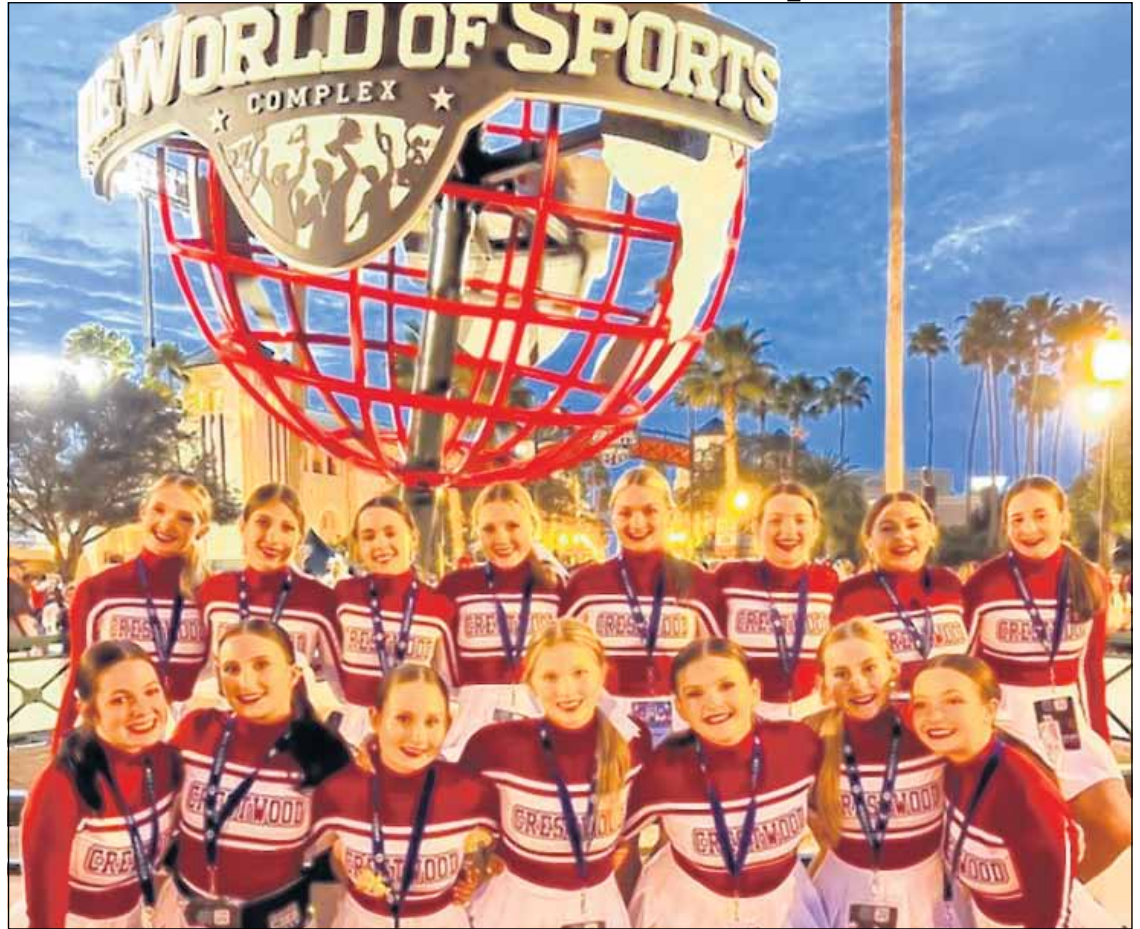
There's two ways you can get involved- either by dropping off your used sneakers at the CVCO gym during the designated times listed below or by making a monetary donation. If you are interested in making a monetary donation, then please send an email to CVCOinfo@gmail.com for further instructions.

There will be a donation box set up right outside of the CVCO gym, located just off Main Street on Gould's Way, on Saturdays between 8 a.m. to noon through March 12th for a contactless Sneaker drop off. If you have friends/family that participate in the CVCO's Shooting Stars program, you could give them your shoes to drop off when they go to practice. If Saturday mornings aren't good for you then email us at CVCOinfo@gmail.com for some additional days/times you could come by to drop them off at.

Please note only collecting sneakers are being collected - any other types of shoes will not be accepted.

Your sneakers do not have to be in a nice condition for you to donate them. We will accept sneakers with rips, holes, or even ones that are practically falling apart.

## Crestwood cheerleaders place 7th at national competition



Submitted photo

Pictured are the Crestwood High School cheerleaders. Front row (from left): Julia Vogt, Megan McGovern, Makayla Rutchaskas, Ella Panzik, Taylor O'Farrell (captain), Emily Barley, Gemma Alberti Second row (from left): Ava Usavage (captain), Kaylee Rushton, Riley Robbins, Makenzie Maguire, Mikayla Toney, Saige Magagna (captain), Kellie Rother, Jenna Williams

Crestwood's varsity cheerleading competition squad is celebrating a major accomplishment after they placed seventh in the nation while competing at the most "pres-

tigious high school national championship in the country."

The Universal Cheerleading Association hosted its National High School Cheerleading Championship at Walt Disney

World Resort in Orlando, Fla., over the weekend of Feb. 11 to 13. The competition is the pinnacle of high school cheerleading, often the end goal that many teams practice for all year. Teams from all over the country come out to compete for the championship title and iconic white satin jackets.

The squad advanced to finals on Sunday, where they took their seventh place spot in the Small Game Day division. The team previously placed third at the UCA Pocono regional competition in the Small Game Day division back in December.

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## Saint Jude School students create backpacks for the homeless



St. Jude's eighth grade class created backpacks for the homeless. Pictured are: First row, from left: Alex Gordon, Michael Grandzol and Aurora Roote. Second row: Matthew Mascarenhas, Jacob Kopko, Cayden Sartori, Pierce Sparich, Patrick Smith, Paolo Gerini.



Submitted photo  
Seventh grade girls holding just a few of the items collected for those in need. From left: Giavanna Grego, Emily Carone, Isabelle Wasley and Emily Conway.

Saint Jude School students recently collected various items to help those less fortunate through the long, hard NEPA winter. The eighth grade class collected food, clothing and toiletries for those in need and packed it all into backpacks. The backpacks were then donated to the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. Toiletries were given to Ruth's Place, Wilkes Barre. Seventh-grade student Emily Carone did a collection to coincide with the eighth grade, collecting gloves and hats for those in need. Warm winter items were delivered to various agencies around the community.

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# MMI students advance to state finals of student journalism competition

Senior Jayden Bonham, Junior Khristian Banks and Junior Ty McDermott will represent MMI Preparatory School at the state finals of the Pennsylvania School Press Association's Student Journalism Competition. The state finals will be held on March 30 at Penn State University's University Park campus.

Bonham took first place in the Literary Magazine Poetry competition. In this category, students write an original poem for a literary magazine using the theme and length given. Entrants must title the poem and clearly indicate lines through identification and use of margins. Students are to exhibit an understanding of poetry, its conventions, punctuation and potential to create a setting, convey a tone, connect to feelings and to delve beyond the surface. He is the son of W. Craig Bonham and Melissa Bonham of Sugarloaf.

Banks took first place in the yearbook caption writing competition. For this category, students write captions and lead-ins for five provided pictures. Captions must tell a complete story and should have a minimum length of three sentences. She is the daughter of Michael and Renee Banks of Mountain Top.

McDermott took first place for literary magazine artwork. In this category, students are given a poem written by a professional poet. After reading the poem, students will create a drawing that is relevant to the poem and that would accompany the poem in the literary magazine. He is the son of Terrence and Lesley McDermott of White Haven. Jennifer Novotney, MMI English Department Chair, serves



Submitted photo

Three MMI students advance to state finals of PA School Press Association's Student Journalism Competition. Pictured in the front row are Jennifer Novotney, MMI English Department Chair and Advisor, and Khristian Banks. Back row: Jayden Bonham and Ty McDermott.

as the advisor for this competition.

The Pennsylvania School Press Association Student Journalism Competition features education and competitions for every student journal-

ist in Pennsylvania. The event includes writing, design and artistic opportunities similar to those offered at the Journalism Education Association's semi-annual conventions.

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## White Haven Community Library News

### Wall of Honor & Remembrance

The library is once again offering individuals and businesses the opportunity to purchase a beautiful plaque to mark life events, pay tribute to those who have made unique contributions.

The plaques, which come in a variety of sizes and are inscribed with personalized messages, will be hung on the main floor of the library near the Young Adult section. For more information, email or call the library and ask to speak to Charlotte Carter

### John Murphy Room available for rent

Did you know that the John Murphy Room is available to rent? It is the perfect venue for celebrations, parties, meetings, get togethers, classes, workshops, or any small group gathering. WI-FI and a 72" Promethean board are available. The room can accommodate up to 48 people. Come check it out or call the library and ask to speak to either Maureen Findley or Charlotte Carter.

### Temporary library hours

Tuesday: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

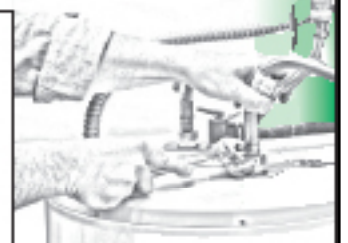
Thursday: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Call the library at (570) 443-8776 for more information.

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# Democrat Malacari announces for 119th Legislative seat

By Bill O'Boyle  
boboyle@timesleader.com



Malacari

HANOVER TWP. — Vito Malacari of Hanover Township announced that he is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for State Representative in the 119th Legislative District.

The 119th Legislative District consists of the city of Nan-

ticoke, the townships of Fairview, Hanover, Newport, Plymouth, Rice, and Wright, and the boroughs of Ashley, Edwardsville, Larksville, Plymouth, Sugar Notch, and Warrior Run.

Incumbent State Rep. Ger-

ald J. Mullery, D-Newport Township, recently announced he will not seek re-election.

"I am proud and excited to announce my candidacy for the Democratic nomination for State Representative," Malacari said. "As a teacher, father, and involved community member, I am intimately familiar with how the decisions made in Harrisburg impact the daily lives and futures of everyone in our Commonwealth. I look forward to bringing my experiences and skill-set to the Capitol to help address many of the issues facing our citizens."

Malacari added, "Extreme political ideologies appear to be driving current debate and policy creation in Harrisburg. The people of Northeastern Pennsylvania are interested in leaders who rise above rhetoric, display professionalism, and apply common-sense rationale to solve problems and that is exactly what I intend to do."

Malacari, 35, said his platform will focus on the issues most pressing to those in Northeastern Pennsylvania:

- Helping to retain and attract high-quality family-sus-

taining jobs.

- Investing in education, including technical education and career readiness to ensure the next generation has the skills required in an ever-changing job market,

- Protecting those workers once they have landed a job in their chosen field.

- Creating a market to support and encourage small business development.

"We must do everything we can in Harrisburg to give our small businesses in Nanticoke, Mountain Top, Plymouth, and the entire Wyoming Valley the chance to not only succeed, but thrive," Malacari said.

Additionally, Malacari said he understands how vital our most senior residents are to our communities.

"I will advocate for expansion and increases to our property tax and rent rebate program," he said. "Our seniors shouldn't have to worry about losing their homes to property taxes."

Malacari has been a Social Studies & American Government teacher in the Northwest Area School District for 11 years. He has been President of the Northwest Area Education Association for six years. He serves as an alternate delegate to the Northeast Pennsylvania Health Trust Consortium.

Malacari resides in Hanover Township with his wife, the former Lauren Klug, and their five-year-old twins, Roen and Grier.

Malacari said he decided to run because the seat is open with Mullery leaving and the district's boundary lines have been re-drawn.

"What I really want to do is help people and be their voice in Harrisburg," Malacari said.

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