



**Mountain Top's Small Business Saturday a success, page 18**



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# Mountain Peaks

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Volume 24, No. 25  
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## Santa visits Mountain Top

Santa Claus has been visiting the Mountain Top Historical Society caboose on Sunday afternoons to greet youngsters and their families.

Admission is free and families are welcome to take photos with Santa. The caboose is located along Route 309 near Baab's Jewelry. Parking is available in Baab's parking lot.



Visiting with Santa and Mrs. Claus are Braxton and Brycen Minnick.

**To advertise call Wendy at 570-249-1233**

## White Haven hosted Hometown Holidays Festival



Chuck Stoffa, owner of Trail Town Bikes, 201 Main St., White Haven rides his bicycle through town during the Hometown Holidays Festival.

White Haven kicked off the Christmas season on Saturday, November 30 with its Hometown Holidays Festival. The fun got underway at 9:00 a.m. with breakfast with Mrs. Claus at Soapy Bee Country Store. Santa was available for photos later in the morning along with live reindeer. Businesses offered a chance to win prizes with chances to win prizes with Shop Local Bingo, and there was a model train display at the borough building. A Santa

**See 'Festival' on page 20**

**COMEBACKS BEGIN HERE**



Scan to read Kristi's story  
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# Places to Go... Things to Do

## DECEMBER 7 COMMUNITY CAROL SING

Mountain Top Presbyterian Church will be hosting a community carol sing to celebrate Christmas in praise and in song, December 7 at 6:00 p.m. at Mountain Top Presbyterian Church, 9 Chestnut Street, Mountain Top, PA. Refreshments to follow.

### SANTA PHOTOS

If you'd like a photo of your child with Santa Claus, the Crestwood Education Foundation is hosting Photos With Santa on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Fairview Elementary School, 117 Spruce St. A \$10 donation is requested. Proceeds will go to the foundation which supports extracurricular academic programs at Crestwood.

## DORRANCE ANNUAL WINTER WONDERLAND EVENT

FREE community event! (No tickets required.) Dorrance Twp. Volunteer Fire Department. 402 Saint John's Road, Wapwallopen.

Walk through an outdoor light display and join us inside for refreshments (Including hot dogs for sale!) and photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus and special guest, The Grinch!

Bring your letters for Santa or write one while you're here. Please include a return address for a special response letter in the mail!

We are a Toys for Tots collection site! Please bring a new, unwrapped toy for the Marine's program. They will be given out to kids before Christmas in our local communities.

## DECEMBER 8 SANTA IS AT THE CABOOSE!

Don't forget, Santa Claus will be returning to the Mountain Top Historical Society's red caboose to greet children on the following Sundays: December 8, 15, and 22 from noon to 4 p.m. Santa's helpers have made some handmade surprises for the children. The caboose is located on the society's grounds on Route 309 in Fairview Twp. near Route 437.

## DECEMBER 14 HOMEMADE CHRISTMAS CANDY FOR SALE

Faith United Methodist Church, 1448 Slocum Road, Slocum Twp is making homemade milk chocolate peanut clusters

& white chocolate peppermint bark for Christmas. Pre-orders due by Saturday, November 30. Candy pick-up @ Faith Church on Saturday, December 14 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$14.00 per pound (lbs. cannot be split) cash payment only @ pick-up on 12/14. Pre-order by November 30 with first/last name, phone # & how many of which candy ordering: Wilma 570-868-5511 msg (or) text or message Joy at 570-592-0725.

## CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE, CRAFT SALE, AND CHINESE AUCTION

Slocum Methodist Church will be hold its our annual Christmas Open House, craft sale, and Chinese auction on Dec. 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The church will be decorated as it was in the early 1900's. The event will include skilled crafters and their handmade crafts. The Chinese auction will feature over 100 different prizes including Christmas decorations, new items, and vintage items from the near and distant past, home décor, and gift cards. There will be homemade food

including wimpies, pork bar-b-q and hot dogs (with either sauerkraut or chili). There also will be pierogis, haluskie, and a variety of homemade soups and chili. Homemade cookies and cakes will be available.

## NUANGOLA LIBRARY CHRISTMAS COOKIE AND CRAFT FUNDRAISER

The Nuangola Library will be hosting their annual homemade Christmas cookie sale and craft show. All proceeds are for our annual scholarships to local high school students. Have a stress-free holiday with homemade cookies by our members and gifts and stocking stuffers from the vendors.  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

## DECEMBER 14-15

### "WALK THROUGH BETHLEHEM" AT MOUNTAIN TOP FAMILY CHURCH

Join Mountaintop Family Church for their 1st Annual "Walk Through Bethlehem" on December 14th and 15th from 5-8 p.m. All are welcome and admission is free. This unique and

interactive experience will help you relive the night Jesus was born. There will be a guided tour through "Bethlehem" with a Live Nativity and live animals. After your guided tour, hop on a Christmas lit hayride with the family (\$1 per person) and visit our Christmas Market Tent where you'll find hot chocolate, funnel cakes and homemade gifts available to purchase. This is an outdoor event, so be sure to dress warmly.

For more information, visit [www.mfcwalkthroughbethlehem.com](http://www.mfcwalkthroughbethlehem.com), contact the church office at 570-474-0900 or [katie@mfcchurch.com](mailto:katie@mfcchurch.com).

## DECEMBER

### 21

### HOLIDAY ROLL PICK UP

Saint Mary's Our Lady Help of Christians Altar and Rosary Society Christmas Holiday Rolls can be picked up on December 21, 2024 after 2:00 p.m. in the meeting room at Saint Mary's, 3529 St. Mary's Road Wapwallopen, PA 18660. Varieties include Nut, Nut & Raisin, Poppy, Poppy & Raisin, Apricot, Cream Cheese, and Raspberry.



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## MMI Announces 2024-2025 First Quarter Honor Roll List

MMI Preparatory School has announced the names of students who achieved Honor Roll status during the first quarter of the 2024-2025

school year. Students are as follows:

**Sixth Grade:** Maahi Patel, Mountain Top; Charles Rogers, Kingston; Elaina Seltzer, Mountain

Top.

**Seventh Grade:** Nathaniel Belanger,

See 'MMI' on page 4

# Hazleton Art League exhibit opens December 6

The Hazleton Art League's December/January art exhibition, Bob McCormick *Reclamation: From Coal Dust to Hope* opens with a reception Friday, December 6 from 5-8 pm at the Hayden Family Center for the Arts. Born in Big Mine Run, PA in 1952, McCormick experienced

the decline of Pennsylvania's Anthracite Era first-hand. His paintings and writings articulate memories, concerns, and musings regarding the history of coal in Pennsylvania, its lasting impact, and the state of our nation.

The gallery opening coincides with Wassail

Fest, the CAN DO Community Park tree lighting, pictures with Santa and more. It is fun for the whole family! *Coffee Talk*, a discussion with the artist about his work, takes place from 1-3 pm Sunday, December 8. Admission is free, and light refreshments are served. *Acoustic*



Bob McCormick—Reclamation: From Coal Dust to Hope

*Jam* with live music in the Gallery is Sunday, December 22 from 1-3 pm.

*From Coal Dust to Hope* art exhibition runs from December 6-January 26. Gallery hours are Tuesday

through Friday, 10 am - 5 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 1 - 4 pm, closed Mondays and holidays. For up-to-date information on classes, programs, and other events follow us on Facebook, Instagram

(hazletonartleague), and "X" (HALfortheArts). The Hazleton Art League, Hayden Family Center for the Arts, 31 W. Broad Street, Hazleton, PA 18201 www.hazletonartleague.org 570-455-3333.


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Ion Foot  
Detox

# Mountain Top native Kurt Warner releases inspiring book

A Mountain Top native who has lived through some formidable challenges in his life has

written a book aimed at helping others overcome the obstacles they face in their own lives.

The book, "Victory in Every Fall: The Antaeus Approach to Overcome Disabilities," written by

Kurt Warner, LMSW, was released in October by

**See 'Warner' on page 5**

**MMI from page 2**

Mountain Top; Paxton Bleiler, Mountain Top; Owen Farrell, Mountain Top; Jaxon Lyman, White Haven; Rian Patel, Mountain Top; Addison Potsko, Mountain Top.

**Eighth Grade:** Neal DeAngelo, Mountain Top; Keirsi Mooney, Mountain Top; Momin Muhammad, Mountain Top; Thomas Rogers, Kingston.

**Ninth Grade:** Kayleigh

Erickson, Mountain Top; Jack Farrell, Mountain Top; Maia Laverty, Mountain Top; Shreeya Parikh, Mountain Top; Angel Reymunde Wittmer, Mountain Top; Xavier Reymunde Wittmer, Mountain Top; Madalynn Young, Mountain Top.

**Tenth Grade:** Maximus Bleiler, Mountain Top; Gavyn Corchado, Mountain Top; Nicholas Erickson, Mountain Top; Arham Mehran,

Mountain Top; Angelina Seeba, Mountain Top; Ruhani Shah, Mountain Top; Amanda Stoffa, White Haven; Nicholas Swaditch, White Haven; Anna Zaroda, Mountain Top.

**Eleventh Grade:** Hasan Arain, Bear Creek Township; Alexis Bleiler, Mountain Top; Jozef Dovicak, White Haven; Mehak Manzoor, Mountain Top; Cassidy McDermott, White Haven;

Sharan Parikh, Mountain Top; Arushi Solgama, Mountain Top.

**Twelfth Grade:** Xavier Bleiler, Mountain Top; Aiden Hosier, West Pittston; Mary Kupsky, Bear Creek Township; Kiyam Paknezhad, Mountain Top; Lilli Warner-Senape, White Haven.

**To advertise call Wendy at 570-249-1233**



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**Warner from page 4**

Kallista Publishing.

The Crestwood High School graduate suffered traumatic brain injury in 2001 when he was assaulted at a party at Nuangola. As a result of the assault, he had a significant portion of his brain removed, forcing him to re-learn how to walk and talk at age 18.



Kurt Warner

Warner also has had severe obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) since age 5, struggled with bipolar disorder since he was a teenager, and debilitating back pain.

Yet, despite all these challenges, the 42-year-old Warner now is a therapist in upstate New York working with individuals to help them overcome

their own issues.

"I'm not trying to trumpet what I've been through and what I've accomplished," Warner said of his book. "Rather," he said in a recent interview, "it's about helping people realize that despite what may seem like impossible odds they can make something of themselves." The book, he related, is about helping people "make their yoke lighter."

Though his bachelor's degree from King's College was in English, Warner felt himself drawn to social work. Having known and felt suffering, he said he developed empathy for others facing similar obstacles.

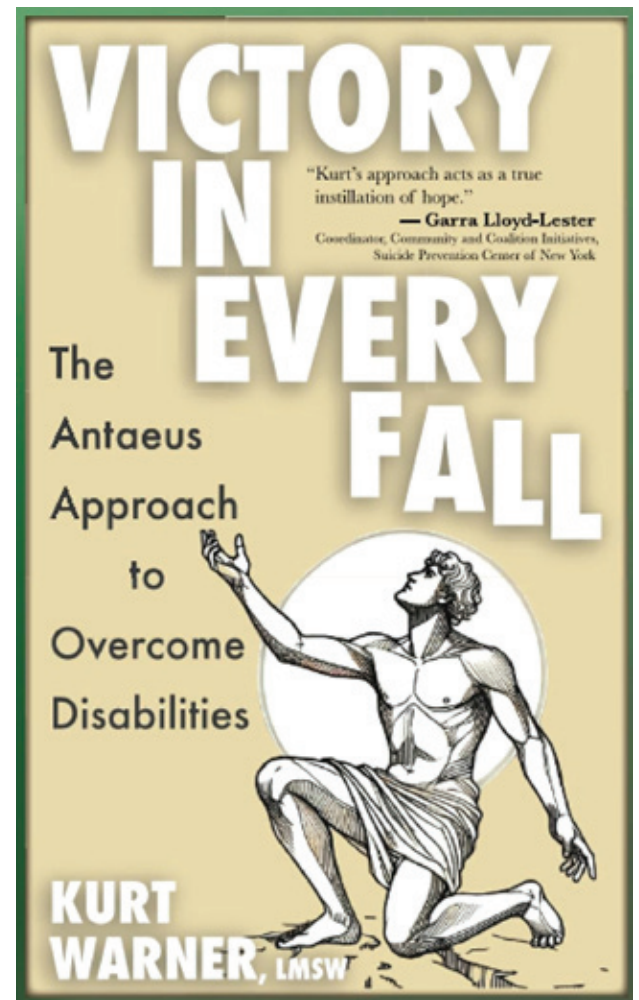
The title of his book, "Victory in Every Fall: The Antaeus Approach to Overcoming Disabilities," really is descriptive of the importance of the help it offers to people facing what they may perceive as disabilities in their lives.

In Greek Mythology, Antaeus was a giant

who was said to reside in Libya. He was the son of the sea god Poseidon and the Earth goddess Gaea and he compelled all strangers who were passing through the country to wrestle with him. Whenever Antaeus touched the Earth (which was his mother), his strength was renewed, so that even if thrown to the ground, he was invincible.

Warner's 256-page guide to overcoming life's greatest challenges, the author explained, is meant to help people like himself gain strength when they've been "thrown to the ground." The book offers readers a groundbreaking approach to resilience: every time life knocks you down, it's an opportunity to rise stronger than before.

Most readers, he explained, can use this approach to overcome their own obstacles. "I do it every day," Warner said of his own life. And through his work he has become proficient in helping people become stronger when they have what they consider



Cover of "Victory in Every Fall: The Antaeus Approach to Overcome Disabilities"

'disabilities.'

"We don't have to hide our deficits. They are part of the character that builds us," he offered.

"Kurt Warner's story is nothing short of transformative," says Anthony Raymond, CEO of Kallista Publishing. "His candor about living with OCD, bipolar disorder, severe traumatic brain injury, and chronic pain offers readers more than hope — it provides a blueprint for turning life's darkest moments into opportunities for growth. We believe this book will profoundly impact anyone struggling to find strength in the face of overwhelming challenges."

The book is available through major retailers such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and directly from Kallista Publishing.

**To advertise call Wendy at 570-249-1233**

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## Wright Center to offer full care and routine vaccination clinics in Hazleton throughout December

The Wright Center for Community Health is bringing its Driving Better Health mobile medical and dental unit to the Hazleton area in December to support the health and well-being of the community through a series of clinics.

Mobile full care clinics will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 3, and Tuesday, Dec. 17, at the Hazleton Area School District administration building, located at 1515 W. 23rd St., Hazle Township. These clinics are tailored for school-age children and college students, offering school and sports

physicals, vaccinations, and well visits. Appointments are required for these services.

Vaccination clinics for the general public will be available on Wednesday, Dec. 10, at the Hazleton Area School District administration building, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Wednesdays, Dec. 4 and Dec. 18, at Hazleton Integration Project, 225 E. 4th St., Hazleton, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

These clinics will provide routine vaccinations, including flu, COVID-19, chickenpox, TDAP (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis), meningococcal, Hepatitis B, and HPV.

While walk-up appointments are welcome based on vaccine availability, scheduling an appointment is recommended for convenience.

To schedule an appointment, visit [TheWrightCenter.org](http://TheWrightCenter.org) or call 570-230-0019.

Any individual younger than 17 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Guests are asked to bring identification and insurance cards.

All clinics are aboard The Wright Center for Community Health's Driving Better Health mobile medical and dental unit. The 34-foot vehicle delivers affordable,



The Wright Center for Community Health Driving Better Health mobile medical and dental unit.

high-quality, nondiscriminatory, whole-person primary health services to people of all ages regardless of their insurance status, ZIP code, or ability to pay. It has been serving

populations of special concern since 2020 and is regularly deployed to senior living centers, regional school districts, homeless shelters, and other community

gathering spots.

For more information about the services provided by The Wright Center for Community Health, visit [TheWrightCenter.org](http://TheWrightCenter.org) or call 570-230-0019.

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# 'Concert for Rebecca' held to support victims of domestic violence



From left are Tammi Burke, Tammy Rogers, Deputy Attorney General Angela Sperazza, Terry Renninger.

The 13th annual Concert for Rebecca was held Friday night at Sand Springs Country Club, Drums.

The concert is held annually in memory

of Rebecca Renninger who was killed by her estranged husband in a domestic violence homicide in 2009. They goal of the concert, organized by her father, Terry

Renninger, is to raise awareness about domestic violence and hopefully inspire others in a violent situations to call for help. The event raises funds for the Domestic



Supporting the Concert for Rebecca are, from left, Alice Doxsey, Jim Doxsey, Wayne Kaufman, Pastor Michelle Kaufman, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Mountain Top.

Violence Service Center and the Victims Resource Center.

Guest speakers were Deputy Attorney General Angela Sperraza, Tammy Rogers from the Domestic Violence Service Center and Tammi Burke from the Victims Resource Center.



Joanne Moore deposits a ticket in one of the basket raffles at the Concert for Rebecca. Moore came all the way from New Brunswick, Canada to support the event.



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## News in Brief

### Wright Township hockey rink to receive upgrades

A grant from the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' (DCNR) Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2) announced recently by Rep. Alec Ryncavage (R-Luzerne) will help Wright Twp. begin to implement one of the major parts of its park master plan adopted last year – a Dek hockey surface for the Madry-Kahlau Memorial Ice Rink.

The township will receive \$145,000 that will be used to construct a Dek hockey court and improve pedestrian walkways and ADA access.

“Wright Township Recreation Area is a staple for family fun and outdoor adventures – a true one-stop shop for families to make memories on the mountain,” Ryncavage said. “I’m incredibly grateful to see this funding come to our community.”

One of the important phases of the master plan is changes to the rink. The plan includes a proposed reduction of the length of the ice rink and installing applying a new “sport court” surface to the rink which would

allow it to be used year-round for craft shows, music and movies along with roller hockey and Dek hockey. There is a Dek hockey rink adjacent to the ice rink at Coal Street Park in Wilkes-Barre.

When developing the master plan, the committee noted the rink is used sparingly due to lack of ice, and “sport court” surface would allow for year-round use. The remainder of the rink space would be used for a splash pad. Because of its cost, a splash pad would be addressed in the final phase of the plan, unless substantial funds become available before then.

Township secretary-treasurer Pamela Heard said the township must provide a 50 percent match for the grant. She said she expects some of that match will be provided by the Kahlau-Madry non-profit foundation formed after the death of former Crestwood High School athlete Tanner Kahlau who was killed in a skiing accident in New York. The remainder of the match will come from the township.

Heard noted township officials are excited to rehab the rink as it was a

high priority in the master plan. “We have been really lucky with DCNR support of our projects,” she added.

Meanwhile, township supervisors at their November meeting did away with the township’s recreation committee.

Asked about why the action was taken, township officials explained that over recent years the committee lacked a quorum for its meetings and was unable to take any action. Secretary/treasurer Pam Heard noted many people are willing to help out with different events but do not have the time to commit to serving on the committee. She pointed to the successful Fall Festival held at the township park which was organized by volunteers.

*Continued on page 9*

## Mountain Top Christian Academy enjoys Thanksgiving Carnival



5th & 6th grade built their own catapult games! Left to Right: Marisa Truskowski, Aiden Cavallo, and Jaden Rubio

Written by Abbie Lloyd  
5th Grader at MCA

The Thanksgiving Carnival took place on November 27, 2024. Every class made one

or two carnival games for the other classes to enjoy. The classes walked around the school and played all the different carnival games. All the students had a great time

at the Thanksgiving Carnival!

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## News in Brief

### Continued from page 8

Supervisors also voted to advertise for a park consultant. Heard explained that because the master plan was funded and approved by

DCNR, it requires the township to have a consultant.

### Wright Township aiming to avoid tax increase

Wright Twp. officials are hoping to avoid a tax

increase by using a small portion of the township's .5 mill fire tax to fund needed repairs to the municipal building.

At a budget meeting last week, board chairman Don Zampetti told

Wright Twp. Volunteer Fire Department leaders that the township needs about \$50,000 to make necessary repairs to the municipal building, including a new roof. Zampetti said rather than

raise its property tax, the township would like the fire company to agree to shift a small portion of the fire tax to the township's general fund for 2025 only.

"We don't want to raise taxes," Zampetti explained. "The school district already raised taxes this year and we don't want to add an additional tax increase onto our residents," he added. Township secretary/

treasurer Pam Heard said about .07 mills would generate the \$50,000 sought by the township.

Asked about the fire company's surplus, fire company president Gary Price told supervisors the surplus from the fire tax has been going into the department's capital reserve fund to be used for a down payment on a

*Continued on page 10*

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life—especially beneficial during this hectic time of year!

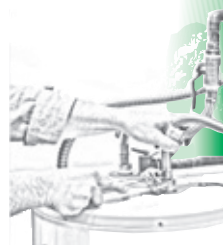
Join meditation expert Howard Thomas for a 3-part meditation series at the Marian Sutherland Kirby Library located at 35 Kirby Ave., Mountaintop. The meditation sessions are free of charge and will be held on Wednesdays, December 11 and 18 from 6:00 to 7:00 PM. Register once for all 3 sessions.

Howard has studied and practiced meditation for over 10 years. His guided meditations will help you feel calm and joyful, preparing you to embrace the holiday season!

Register by calling 570-474-9313 or email info@kirbylib.org. Bring a mat or cushion for seated meditation. Chairs will be available.

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## News in Brief

### Continued from page 9

\$1.26 million fire engine expected to be delivered in July of 2026. That vehicle was ordered in 2022. He said the department currently has about \$423,000 in that fund.

Price asked supervisors if the township would consider applying for a \$800,000 statewide Local Share Account (LSA) grant in conjunction with Rice Twp. to fund the remaining balance of the new fire engine. He said Rice Twp. officials have already expressed their willingness to apply for the grant with Wright Twp. Wright supervisors indicated they would support such a grant application.

Price said he would be willing to bring the township's request to the fire department membership for its approval on the condition the reduction in the fire tax be for just one year and the township's willingness to apply jointly with Rice Twp. for the LSA grant.

Zampetti emphasized the township would not be lowering property taxes, but rather shifting a small portion of the fire tax revenue to the general fund.

### Local budgets and tax rates for 2025

It's that time of year when municipalities across Mountain Top present their 2025 budgets along with tax rates.

Wright Twp.'s proposed budget for 2025 totals \$2,735,848. The current general fund property tax is .8 mills and the fire tax

is .5 mills, bringing the total to 1.3 mills. That tax rate is not expected to change.

Rice Twp.'s proposed 2025 budget was approved at the supervisors November meeting. The financial plan calls for receipts of \$4,162,958 and expenditures of \$4,086,588, leaving a \$76,370 surplus. While the total budget is over 4 million dollars, actual operating expenses are far less. The budget includes about \$2.4 million in state grants which are earmarked for township projects.

To fund that fiscal plan, supervisors voted 2-1 to increase the property tax from its current .26 mills

to .78 mills for 2025. Supervisors Rick Arnold and Bob Pipech voted in favor of the increase while supervisor Tom Romanysyn voted no. That increase in the property tax will generate about \$180,000 in additional revenue next year. Additionally, supervisors voted unanimously to institute

a .3 mill fire tax next year.

Fairview Twp.'s proposed 2025 budget calls for general fund expenses of \$1,996,453. The township's fire tax will increase from .3 to .4 mills, bringing the township's total property tax levy to 1.55 mills.

Dorrance Twp. supervisors approved the

township's proposed budget which calls for general fund expenditures of \$562,300 and maintains the property tax at .75 mills.

Nuangola Borough's proposed 2025 budget is \$411,133 and council president Joseph Tucker said the property tax rate will remain at .444 mills.

The annual cost for borough residents for trash and recycling removal will remain at \$475. Last year the borough signed a three-year pact was GFL for trash and recycling services at a cost of \$571,225.

Continued on page 11

# Rice Elementary Quarter 1 Honor Roll

Anderson, Shayley  
Angelo, Maria  
Arruzzo, Jayden  
Belanchik, Mya  
Bender, Nora

Brislin, Lucas  
Button, Slade  
Castro, Zavrina  
Cope, Bryce  
Cyphert, Lila

Davis, Madison  
Desai, Nisha  
Dohman, Brielle  
Eden, Porter  
Elliott, Jacob  
English, Kai  
Fitch, Paige  
Gagliardi, Raegan  
Kaslavage, Faith  
Kruk, Hunter  
Lent, Morgan  
McGeer, Christopher

Mellas, Riley  
Moyer, Ava  
O'Neill, Jack  
Pepperling, Ryker  
Rasys, Emma  
Robins, Mason  
Ruch, Brayden  
Sadowski, Landon  
Salinas, Damian  
Shah, Nemi  
Simpson, Amelia  
Storosko, Harper  
Tomasure, Thomas  
Vandermark, Jacob  
Velo Zorzi, Miles  
Verbyla, Emma  
Vosik Pekala, Brayden  
Williams, Adalae  
Wood, Alexander

**To advertise call Wendy at  
570-249-1233**

# News in Brief

*Continued from page 10*

Slocum Twp.'s proposed budget for 2025 totals \$409,424.47. Once again, the township will not levy a property tax, a practice that has been in effect since 1982.

**Congratulations to Jim Cavanaugh and the staff of Cavanaugh's Grille on a milestone anniversary**

The popular restaurant/pub will mark two decades of success on Monday, Dec. 3 with its 20th anniversary party.

To express its appreciation, customers will enjoy a free dinner buffet, \$1.50 domestic pints, and entertainment by renowned local artist John Simo.

Cavanaugh's Grille opened its doors 20 years ago in the former Mountain Top Hotel by Kevin Cavanaugh, Jim's brother, who restored the historic building. It was operated for a few years by Bill Aigeldinger and eventually taken over by Jim Cavanaugh who added the popular outdoor patio.



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School at 10:30 a.m.  
during the school year.  
Online worship at:

christonthemountaintop.  
org  
175 S. Main Road,  
Mountain Top  
570-474-6060  
Sunday worship is at

9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.  
in the sanctuary and  
online at our website:  
christonthemountaintop.  
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*Continued on page 15*



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# Worship Together...

Continued from page 14

in the narthex during Sunday worship.

Cancer Support & Grief Support Groups are

offered online monthly. Visit our website or contact the church office for more details.

Visit the church's Facebook page: Christ

on the Mountain Top or its website: christonthemountaintop.org.

For information on all of our worship services,

groups, events and community services, including Grief and Cancer Support Groups, please visit our website at christonthemountaintop.org, visit our Facebook page: Christ on the Mountaintop, or contact the church office at (570) 474-6060.

org, visit our Facebook page: Christ on the Mountaintop, or contact the church office at (570) 474-6060.

## 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.

Kids and Youth Sunday school at 9:15 a.m.

## EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Services: Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
Louis Aita, Pastor  
7768 Blue Ridge Trail,

## Dorrance 570-868-5675

Bring a Friend Sunday at Emmanuel UCC.

Share the wonder of Advent with your family and friends by welcoming them to worship with us beginning Sunday, December 1. Help others truly prepare for the coming of Christ by worshipping during the season of Advent and hearing the message of salvation born in a lowly stable.

The season of Advent is intended to serve as a time of preparation. Much of our time is spent in preparation for remembering his first coming to earth. We decorate, bake, shop and get caught up in the excitement of Christmas. But it is also a time for anticipating his second coming. Through our faith in Jesus and his promise to come again

Continued on page 16



Merry Christmas from...  
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Extended Hours: Tuesday 9-12 & 4-7:30;  
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*\* A Christmas Wish \* \* A Christmas Wish \* \* A Christmas Wish \**

# Worship Together...

*Continued from page 15*

we pray, worship and do God's work here on earth, in preparation for his return. The key is to look forward as well as back and to prepare for his second coming as we celebrate his first coming. How will you prepare for Christ's coming? Just remembering what was,

or anticipating what will be? Come, join in the preparations - not just to remember the past, but to anticipate the future and all that has been promised to us. And bring a friend with you to share in this wonderful event. "In my father's house are many rooms... I am going there to prepare a place for you." (Matthew 14:2)

He will prepare a place for all who prepare their hearts for him.

Emmanuel UCC offers Sunday School to anyone ages 5 to 18. Bible school is held before church services every Sunday beginning at 9:30. All of our instructors have current background checks, and the children meet in a safe environment in the

church.

Our Teen Talk is for anyone in 7th grade and above. We meet on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. 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 a.m. and is led by Pastor Lou

*Continued on page 17*



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## Worship Together...

### Continued from page 16

Aita. We welcome visitors and friends to join us for worship every Sunday.

Our newsletter, The Messenger, is available through our website, emmanuel-ucc.org, along with other information about us and our surrounding communities.

You can also check us out on Facebook at facebook.com/emmanuelucc.

Emmanuel United Church of Christ in Dorrance Township houses the Food Bank for the Wapwallopen Minsterium. All contacts are kept strictly confidential as we understand each person's need for privacy

and self-esteem. The food bank is open by appointment only. If we can help you or someone you know, please call (570) 868-5675 and we will provide for you and those you care for, at this time we are not accepting any food donations. We are offering gift cards only at this time. We are

accepting monetary donations to make the gift card purchases. Please give us at least 24-hour's notice in order to set up an appointment.

We thank everyone who contributes to our recycling aluminum cans project and hope you will continue to help us raise funds for the Cemetery

Association by recycling cans. Please place the cans in large bags and drop them off in the large crates at the back of the lower parking lot. Again, thank you for your continued support.

Emmanuel United Church of Christ is located at 7768 Blue Ridge Trail at its intersection

with Alberdeen Road (across from Andy's Gas Station) in Dorrance Township, Mountain Top, and we invite you to join us on Sunday mornings for Sunday Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. We have a Nursery available for children to age 6 during our Worship Service. If you need directions or would like more information, please call the church office at (570) 868-5675. Our church is handicap accessible.

If you are in need of pastoral care, please call Pastor Lou Aita at (570) 582-9550 or email him at aitatl12@ptd.net. E-mail access is

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Continued on page 19

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# Mountain Top local business owners were ready for Small Business Saturday shoppers



Staff of George Burger & Sons Garden Center work on cemetery logs, trees, fresh garland greens and other Christmas decoration items inside their workshop. From left are Mario GentileSCO, Debbie burger, Sarah showers holding Beau Showers, George Burger and Macey Durofchaly.

From a variety of women's clothes at the Women's Boutique & Consignment Shop to a wide selection of Christmas trees at George Burger & Sons Garden Center in Mountain Top, Shop Small Business Saturday gave shoppers the opportunity to visit local

stores to get a start on their Christmas shopping. Small Business Saturday is a day designed to encourage shoppers to patronize their small, local business that support their communities throughout the year.

To advertise call Wendy at 570-249-1233

Happy Holidays!

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Soul Shine staff with some of the unique Christmas gift items available at the shop located at 359 S. Mountain Blvd. From left are Joann Ready, owner, Tracy Cornelius and Alyssa Burne.

See 'Saturday' on page 22

May your holidays deliver good health, happiness and holiday cheer!

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SLEIGH BELLS ARE RINGING

Season's Greetings

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24 Hour Towing  
**474-6030**

# Worship Together...

Continued from page 17

emmanuel\_ucc@hotmail.com and our website is emmanuel-ucc.org.

## 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

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.

Confessions are on Saturdays from 5:00 p.m. 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.

## MOUNTAINTOP FAMILY CHURCH

Services: Sunday 9 & 10:30 a.m.

Brian Knorr, Pastor  
209 S. Mt. Blvd.,  
Mountain Top  
570-474-0900

Join Mountaintop Family Church for

their 1st Annual "Walk Through Bethlehem" on December 14th and 15th from 5-8 p.m. All are welcome and admission is free. This unique and interactive experience will help you relive the night Jesus was born. Enter through the front doors of our church and get ready to step into the past. There will be

a guided tour through "Bethlehem", with a Live Nativity and live animals. After your guided tour, hop on a Christmas lit hayride with the family (\$1 per person) and visit our Christmas Market Tent where you'll find hot chocolate, funnel cakes, a bake sale table

To advertise call Wendy at 570-249-1233

Continued on page 21





Happy Holidays

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HAPPY Holidays



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Happy Holidays!

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**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



**Jack Dean, General Counsel**  
For the  
**Crestwood School District**

Festival from page 1

parade from the firehouse to the caboose ended with the community Christmas tree lighting.



Besides enjoying breakfast, customers at the festively decorated Soapy Bee Country Store had the chance to visit with Mrs. Claus and one of her elves. From left are Rachel LeMay holding her daughter, Lily, Maddox Grey, Michele Yohey, owner of Soapy Bee, and Mrs. Claus, Adelyn Wanyo.



Chris LeMay and his daughter, Lily visit with a reindeer at white Haven's Hometown Holidays Festival. The reindeer were provided by Spruce Run Farm, Bloomsburg.



Karen Medvitz displays one of the many locally crafted gift items available in her store, Circle 25 Gifts located at 322 Main St., White Haven. The shop celebrated its second anniversary on Dec. 3.

Rice Recreation Park 3rd Annual  
**Holiday Tree Lighting**  
 Saturday, December 14 • 5pm-7:30pm  
**Come Join Our Celebration**

FREE Hot Chocolate, Coffee,  
 Refreshments & Campfire S'mores!  
 Christmas Stockings and  
 Stuffers for all children!  
 Meet & Greet with Rice Twp's  
 Newest Officer - Police Dog, Maverick

Accepting Donations for **TOYS FOR TOTS**


**Santa will be arriving for all children to meet!**

Don't miss the beautiful tree —located next to the pavilion in front of the baseball field!

Sponsored by Rice Township Supervisors and Rice Township Police Department

# Worship Together...

Season's Greetings from  
**Dr. Tiffany Wagner**  
and Staff



**South Mountain  
VETERINARY  
HOSPITAL**

266 Church Road, Mountain Top  
474-5355

Continued from page 19

and homemade gifts available to purchase. There will also be a station for families to make a card together as well as a children's craft, and there will be lots of family photo opportunities throughout the night. This is an outdoor event, so be sure to dress warm! For more information, visit [www.mfcwalkthroughbethlehem.com](http://www.mfcwalkthroughbethlehem.com), contact the church office at 570-474-0900 or

[katie@mfcchurch.com](mailto:katie@mfcchurch.com).

Our KidsTown Christmas Play will be presented on December 7th at 6:00 p.m. and December 8th during our 10:30 a.m. service. There will not be KidsTown classes during the 10:30 a.m. service. There WILL be KidsTown classes and a regular service during the 9 a.m. service on December 8th.

A Ladies Christmas Celebration will be held on December 20th at 6:30 p.m.. All ladies are

invited to attend. Bring a wrapped \$5-\$10 ornament for the ornament exchange and bring a large covered dish to share for dinner. Please sign up by December 15th.

MFC will hold Christmas Eve Services on December 24th from 4-5 p.m. and 5:30-6:30 p.m. We invite everyone to come celebrate the birth of our Savior with special Christmas music and sharing the Christmas story together.

Preschool Playgroup will meet on December 16th at 10:30 a.m. in the upstairs Youth Room. Infants, toddlers and preschool age children accompanied by their parent, grandparent or caregiver are welcome to attend. Playgroup meets every other Monday, but due to the holidays, there will be no play group on Monday, December 30th. Contact the church office or email [katie@mfcchurch.com](mailto:katie@mfcchurch.com) for more information.

Wednesdays at MFC have a ministry for just

about everyone in your family. Men and women are invited to attend our Men's Small Group and Ladies Small Group; both meet on Wednesdays with two times to choose from: 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Contact the church office for am small group locations. Evening small groups meet at MFC. Starting Point Senior High is for students who are in grades 10-12 and meets in the Youth Room from 6:30-8:00 p.m. and Starting Point Junior High is for students who are in grades 7-9 and meets in the sanctuary from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Ground Zero is for students in grades 4-6 and meets in the UpTown Classroom from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Rainbows, Prims and Rangers meet on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 p.m. for children 4 years old through 3rd grade. Registration forms and payment are required for these three groups. Please contact the church office for if interested in registering or for more information. There is no registration or payment required for Starting Point Senior High, Junior High or Ground Zero. Students may join at any time.

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 the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Mountaintop Family Church. Contact the church office

## Happy Holidays



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From all of us, to all of you, we send our very best wishes this holiday season.

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**THANK YOU**  
And wish you all a  
**HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!**

Continued on page 23

Saturday from page 18



Mandy Baab, left, and Susan Baab, right, with some of the beautiful jewelry available at Baab's Jewelry showcase, 167 N. Mountain Blvd.

See 'Saturday' on page 23

*Happy Holidays!*

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ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!

Saturday from page 22



Ava Wanshisen, left, and Somya Mylet, one of the owners of Crestwood Pharmacy, greet customers on Shop Small Business Saturday.



Abe's Hot Dogs, 315 S. Mountain Blvd., was the go to place for lunch for busy shoppers along with deer hunters on Shop Small Business Saturday. From left are Madison Hayes, Patrick Lakkis and Jordan Kotowski, owner.

See 'Saturday' on page 24

## Worship Together...

**Continued from page 21**

for more information.

Mountaintop Family Church holds Sunday morning services from 9 a.m.-10 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. KidsTown Children's Ministries

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

Our Sunday morning services are also available through live-stream. If one platform happens to not be working, please try the others!

**To advertise call Wendy at 570-249-1233**

### MT. ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Services: Sunday 9 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Fran Fink**

Come worship in an old country church built in 1891. There is no running

water and an outhouse is used for the restroom facilities.

For more information about our church services and activities, please contact Diane Webster 570-379-3713.

### NEW HOPE WAPWALLOPEN CHARGE

**Faith United Methodist Church 8:45 a.m. 1448 Slocum Rd.**

**Stairville United Methodist church 10 a.m. 1790 Stairville Rd. Slocum United Methodist Church 11:15 a.m. 1185 Blue Ridge Trail**

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

Visit us on Facebook at New Hope Wapwallopen. Check out our website at newhopewapwallopen.org where on line services can be found.

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

### NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH

**Services: Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Pastor: John Broglin**  
[www.nlccmountaintop.com](http://www.nlccmountaintop.com)  
**570 S. Main Road, Mountain Top**

Continued on page 25



May your holidays be peaceful and filled with joy!

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Saturday from page 23




Misty Kazmierski, left, owner of the Women's Boutique and Consignment Shop, helps shoppers Julia Danzeisen, center, and her mother Jennifer Danzeisen of Drums look through women's clothing at the Mountain Top shop.




George and Jane Albright display some of the poinsettia plants and flower arrangements available at Albright's Glen Summit Floral located at 215 Kirby Ave. Along with their son, George Albright III, Albright's offers poinsettia plants in a variety of colors, cemetery logs and grave blankets as well as Christmas flower arrangements. Albright's was voted Best Garden Center by Mountain Peaks readers.


See 'Saturday' on page 25




*H. Amos Goodall,  
Esq., LL.M., CELA\**




*Landon Hodges,  
Esq., CELA\**



*Jenna Franks,  
Esq., CELA\**  
\*Certified as an Elder Law Attorney by  
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*Julieanne Steinbacher,  
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Saturday from page 24



Hayley Forgach, owner of Floral Focus, 176 S. Mountain Blvd., displays one of the many Christmas bouquet creations at her shop.

**Continued from page 23**

**570-868-5155**

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

No coffee house in December.

Sunday, December 22, only one service at 10:30 a.m. with Christmas play followed by cookie fellowship.

Tuesday, December 24, at 6:00 p.m., Christmas Eve candlelight service.

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.

## Worship Together...

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.

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MOUNTAIN TOP**  
**Services: Sunday 10:30 a.m.**

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

**Pastor: Rev. Lory D. Ryan**

**Organist: William Blannett**  
**9 Chestnut Street, Mountain Top**  
**570-474-9951**  
**Facebook & Web: PBYCHMT.org**

All are welcome to Worship on Dec. 8th, the

second Sunday of Advent. The service begins at 11:00 a.m. with the message delivered by Pastor Lory Ryan. Sunday School is at 9:30.

If you are watching on the Facebook stream or are away on vacation please do not forget to mail your tithes and offers.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – All knitters and crocheters are invited to join in. The group meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. in the Sunday School rooms.

The CHOIR practices Thursdays at 7 p.m. New talent is always welcome! If you are interested in sharing your gift, please contact our Director of

Music Bill Blannett at 570- 498-7375, or by email at wpb67@yahoo.com. So come and make a joyful noise with friends who love and care about you

Women's Bible Study – The group will continue studying "Women of the Bible." The next meeting is January 6th at 6:30 p.m. at the church. This will be held every first Monday of each month.

Christmas Poinsettias: You can order your flowers to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas Eve until December 12th. Order forms are available in the weekly bulletin or contact the church office.

**Continued on page 26**



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# Worship Together...

**Continued from page 25**

Price is \$7.50 per poinsettia plant.

**SAVE THE DATES:**  
**CHRISTMAS HYMN SING:** Back by popular demand! The community is invited to a Christmas Hymn Sing on Sat. Dec. 7th. Come join in to have some holiday fun! The FUN starts at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary followed by cookies and fellowship in Fellowship Hall

**STAR of HOPE:** Local Children's names are available as stars on the tree in the rear of the Sanctuary. Please consider purchasing a gift to bring some SPARKLE to less-fortunate children of the community. Unwrapped gifts must be returned by Dec. 15th.

**CARRY-IN lunch and White Elephant Gift exchange:** Come join in some Christmas fun and food as the church celebrates with a carry-in luncheon on Dec. 15th after Worship. Bring a wrapped \$5.00 white elephant gift to exchange if you wish to participate.

**Food Bank – (How you can help) –** The food bank is in need of the following items: peanut butter, canned tomatoes, canned pasta, sugar, coffee, mayonnaise, catsup, and mustard. There is a bag located in the Narthex for the items.

**HOME Fund –** Please consider donating to the HOME Fund (Helping Others Meet Emergency Expenses) to assist those that can use a helping hand. Envelopes are located in the pew racks.

For more information

on the church and ministries the website is [pbychmt.org](http://pbychmt.org) or find us on Facebook.

## ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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.

We will be having a free Christmas meal on Saturday December 14. Everyone welcome and take outs available from 3-5 p.m. Sit down in person meal will begin at 6:00 p.m.. Please contact Shelly at 570-854-2161 if you wish to have take outs or attend in person.

We will be holding a gift basket BINGO on February 15. We will have special games also. Food will be available for purchase. Doors open at noon. Games begin at 2:00 p.m. Contact Shelly at 570-854-21 to reserve tickets.

## ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Services: Sunday at 10 a.m.**  
**772 St. John's Road, Drums**  
**570-788-2685**

St. John's welcomes everyone each Sunday for worship at 10 a.m.

Our mailing address is P.O. Box 2, St. Johns, PA 18247 and our phone number is 570-788-2685.

Our supply pastor is Rev. Chip Fairchild on 12/8 and 12/15. Pastor Michele Kaufman is our Pastor Designate.

On Saturday, Dec. 14th at 2 p.m., we will be showing the docudrama Why the Nativity by Dr. David Jeremiah. Free admission. All are welcome. Light refreshments will be available.

Visit us on Facebook: St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church- Saint Johns, PA and our updated website, [sjlutheran.org](http://sjlutheran.org).

## 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**

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

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 12:30 p.m.**  
**3085 Church Road, Mountain Top**  
**Rev. Father Charles**

## Warwick, Priest-in-Charge

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Everyone is welcome at St. Martin's. Our historic stone church offers familial worship, while still reaching out to embrace a modern diverse society. Here at St. Martin's the old meets the new. Tradition meets technology.

St. Martin's is part of the Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem. The diocese offers financial support and guidance through grant applications etc., but our church is governed by a vestry made up of members from the congregation with specified term limits. Any church member can be nominated to the vestry contingent on voting. It's truly democracy in action.

St. Martin's is conveniently located just off Interstate 81 near Lake Nuangola. The stone church which is situated in a rural setting makes it ideal for weddings, baptisms and all of life's formal happenings both large and small.

Members can have free use of the fellowship room which seats about 75 along with a spacious and well equipped kitchen. An outdoor pavilion adjacent to the church is ideal for picnics.

All of the church's fundraisers are timely and interesting with emphasis on the first three letters of fundraisers. And occasional arts and crafts classes by regional experts provide opportunities for church members as well as the community to improve and develop

their skills.

St. Martin's provides a true and authentic Episcopal Christian worship service where all are welcome at the communion table. Fr. Charles (Charlie) Warwick offers private pastoral counseling by appointment.

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 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

The parish will be hosting Yoga Classes on Wednesday evenings. (Thursdays the first week of the month). Parishioner Lisa Rosser will be the instructor. There is no set fee, but donations will be accepted.

Have you moved? Dropped a home phone? Changed your email address? Please call the office or drop your updated information in the offertory basket.

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.

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: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8 a.m**  
**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.

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

The Mission of Faith cabinet has been restocked with inspiring and informative materials for adults, teens, and children. The cabinet is located on the right as you enter the Church. Monetary donations are appreciated and are sent to the foundation that provides the books. These donations help the foundation to continue this service.

Please be aware the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation require our children to attend 2 years of Faith Formation. If they have not attended the required 2 years, they will be moved appropriately to fulfill the requirement.

**Continued on page 29**

# The Mountain Top Knights of Columbus News

The Mountain Top Knights of Columbus recently made a donation to Ruth's Place Shelter. The money was raised from the Knights of Columbus annual golf tournament.

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# Worship Together...

Continued from page 26

## ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Services: Sunday 10 a.m.**  
**Rev. Michele Kaufman,**  
**Pastor**

**316 S. Mtn. Blvd.,**  
**Mountain Top**  
**570-474-6616**

Join us for worship

at St. Paul's for Sunday services: 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. As always, you can call the church office and leave a message for any inquiries.

Congregational Meeting-Part 1-Sunday, December 8 for the sole purpose of electing new members to church council and approving the budget. Please plan

on attending, beginning at 10:15 a.m. between services.

Mark your calendars now, Our Christmas dinner and the annual Hanging of the Greens Service will fall on Sunday, December 8. Dinner will start at 5:00 p.m., with the service following at 7:00 p.m. We hope you plan to join us for this

very special event!

Paint Party/Luncheon & Cookie Exchange December 14 at 11:30 a.m. The cost will be \$50.

We will paint then have lunch paint some more then enjoy our cookie exchange! Please make sure if you plan on coming, you bring enough cookies for at least 15 people to exchange. Sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

Winter Clothing Drive: We will be collecting winter coats, hats, & gloves for the children of the Hazleton Head Start. We are looking for new and gently used coats, hats, and gloves will be accepted now through December 15, 2024. We are asking specifically for sizes 3T up to a children's size 7/8. Both girl and boy styles needed. If you are donating a gently used item, please ensure that it is washed prior to donation. A donation box

will be available in the Narthex. Any questions please contact TJ Scott 570-855-5813.

It's that time of year for Christmas Eve poinsettias! The cost is \$8.00 per plant. Orders are due by Sunday, December 15. Let's beautify the sanctuary this Christmas! Forms are in narthex.

Our Out to Lunch Bunch will meet again on Wednesday, December 18 (due to Christmas) please let pastor know if you plan on attending. We will meet at church to carpool at 11:45 a.m. You are more than welcome to bring a friend.

Please note: Food Bank continues to distribute food to clients every Friday. If you would like to drop off donations at the church, please do so on Fridays 9:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Some items needed are ketchup, mustard, canned soups, jelly,

peanut butter, pasta, and cereal.

## 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 828 6572 5051 and the password is 4439424.

## ST. PAUL'S DRUMS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Services: Sunday, 10:30 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 morning at 10:30 a.m. and for Bible Study every Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The church is an active, praying, joyful congregation. For more information check out Facebook @stpaulsdrums or email stpaulsdrums@gmail.com.



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Continued on page 31



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*Continued from page 29*

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**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 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Fireflies Youth Group meets Fridays from 6 p.m. to 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 through 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.  
Sunday School: 10:15  
a.m.  
Youth Group: 10:15 a.m.  
Maurice Delgado, Pastor  
900 Buffalo St., White  
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570-443-7153**

White Haven UMC welcomes everyone in the community to worship with us on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m., followed by fellowship and refreshments. Communion is shared the first Sunday of each month.

Sunday School welcomes children Pre-K through fifth grade. Youth Group welcomes those in sixth

*Continued on page 33*

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BEER BATTERED COD.....	\$11 (8oz piece)
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CRAB CAKES.....	\$12 (piece)
HOUSE MADE POTATO & CHEESE PIEROGIS (frozen).....	\$10 (frozen)
.....	\$12 (butter & onions)
COLE SLAW.....	\$8 (pound)

*Christmas Morning*

*all will be cold with baking/reheating instructions:*

FRENCH TOAST CASSEROLE.....	\$15 (1/2 pan)
MEAT LOVERS QUICHE.....	\$25 (9 inch)
BACON   HAM   SAUSAGE   CHEDDAR	
VEGGIE QUICHE.....	\$21 (9 inch)
SPINACH   ONION   BROCCOLI   CARROT   SWISS	

*Christmas Dinner*

*all will be cold with baking/reheating instructions:*

SLICED ROAST TURKEY.....	\$15 (pound)
TURKEY GRAVY.....	\$8 (quart)
SLICED BAKED HAM.....	\$13 (pound)
POT ROAST WITH ONION GRAVY.....	\$16 (pound)
CHICKEN FINGERS.....	\$12 (pound)
HOUSE MADE MEATBALLS IN SAUCE.....	\$15 (pound)
STUFFED SHELLS IN SAUCE.....	\$30 (dozen)
FRESH CRANBERRY RELISH.....	\$9 (pound)

	1/4   1/2
	PAN   PAN

WHIPPED POTATOES.....	\$12   \$22
OLD FASHIONED BREAD STUFFING.....	\$14   \$26
GLAZED SWEET POTATOES.....	\$14   \$26
CORN CASSEROLE.....	\$14   \$26
GREEN BEAN CASSEROLE.....	\$14   \$26
CAVATELLI IN SAUCE.....	\$14   \$26

*Sweet Teeth*

(servings)	
CHEESECAKE.....	\$40 (8 to 12)
CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER PIE.....	\$15 (6 to 8)
FUDGY CHOCOLATE BUNDT CAKE.....	\$18 (8 to 12)
APPLE CRUMB PIE.....	\$14 (6 to 8)
ORANGE CRANBERRY BUNDT (GLAZE CLASS).....	\$18 (8 to 12)

*Individual Platters*

*Platter A—\$24*  
*cold to reheat*

CHOOSE 1

SLICED ROASTED TURKEY BREAST WITH GRAVY  
 SLICED BAKED HAM  
 HOUSE MADE MEATBALLS IN SAUCE

CHOOSE 2

WHIPPED POTATOES  
 OLD FASHIONED BREAD STUFFING  
 CAVATELLI IN SAUCE

CHOOSE 1

APPLE CRISP  
 CHOCOLATE CAKE WITH BUTTERCREAM ICING

MEAL INCLUDES HERB BUTTERED GREEN BEANS,  
 SIDE SALAD WITH DRESSING, & ROLL WITH BUTTER

OR

*Platter B—\$24*  
*hot & ready to eat*

MEAL INCLUDES  
 BEER BATTERED COD  
 PEROGI IN BUTTER & ONIONS  
 COLE SLAW  
 ROLL WITH BUTTER

CHOICE OF  
 APPLE CRISP  
 CHOCOLATE CAKE WITH BUTTERCREAM ICING

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# Worship Together...

**Continued from page 31**

through 12th grade. Both meet every Sunday at 10:15 a.m. following worship.

Non-perishable food items are collected every Sunday to support the White Haven Food Pantry. Adult Bible Study meets every Wednesday

morning at 10 a.m. upstairs in the overflow room. If you have any questions or are in need of pastoral care, please

call Pastor Maurice at 570-443-7153 or 570-688-7941, or email him at mauricejdelgado@hotmail.com. Be sure to check the church out on Facebook at White Haven United Methodist Church. Have a Blessed day!

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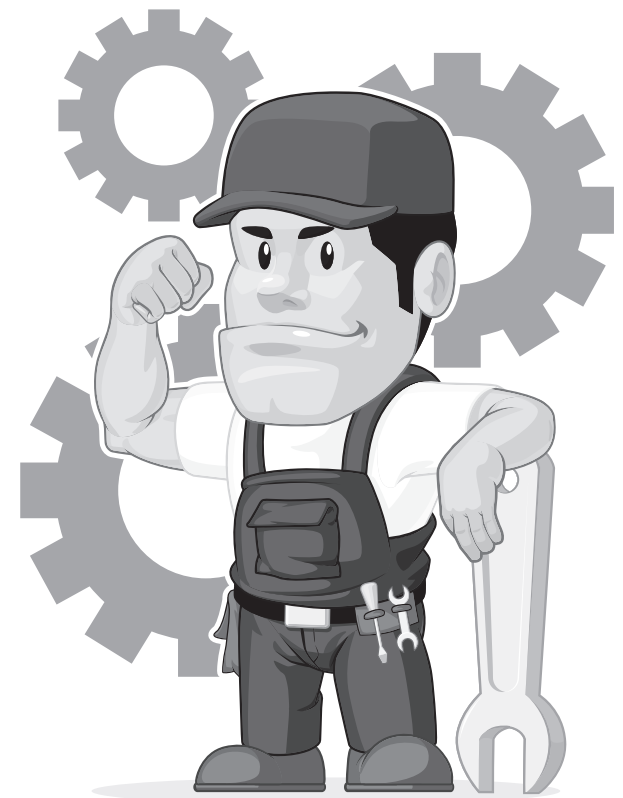
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# MMI Students Celebrate Founders Day

Students at MMI Preparatory School honored their School's founders, Eckley Brinton Coxe, and his wife, Sophia Georgianna Coxe, during a program at graveside service and at the School on Tuesday, giving thanks for the Coxes' contributions to the School and the area.

Senior class officers laid a wreath on the Coxes' grave at St. James Church on Tuesday morning and Donna Titus, Associate Dean and English Department Chair and longest tenured faculty member at MMI, provided a few words at the site. The class then toured the historic

Coxe home and enjoyed refreshments. Upon return to the School, they worked with the underclassmen to provide the history of the School's founders with a play and other activities.

Head of School Theresa Long reflected, "Our history is both deep and extraordinary. Honoring Eckley and Sophia Coxe gives students a meaningful chance to express gratitude for the vision and determination of the Coxe family, which shaped the School as we know it today." The School also celebrated with an all-school holiday lunch on Tuesday, the last day of classes before the

Thanksgiving break.

The lives of Eckley and Sophia Coxe provide an interesting history of the early coal-mining days and history of the Hazleton area. After graduating from Penn in 1858, Eckley was sent abroad to continue his studies at the Ecole des Mines in Paris, France. He attended the Mining Academy in Freiberg in Saxony, where he studied mechanics, which piqued his interest in mechanical inventions that aided the mining industry. After returning to the US in 1864, he established Coxe Brothers & Co. to combine control of the coal lands. Soon, his firm



Senior Class Officers and members of the MMI Administration pose for a photo after the School's annual Founders Day wreath laying on the graves of Eckley and Sophia Coxe. Pictured left to right are Senior Class Advisor Ms. Susan Baggs, Secretary Mike Kranyak, Associate Dean for the 11th and 12th Grade Donna Titus (front), Treasurer Evan Pedri (rear), Historian Jason Roberts, President Diane Kim, Assistant Head of School Marci Hosier (rear), Vice President Isabelle Wells, Head of School Theresa Long, and Senior Class Advisor Dr. Jeremy Davidheiser.

controlled more than 35,000 acres of coalfields and increased coal production. This consolidation brought almost every mining operation in NEPA under his control and is considered to be one of Eckley's greatest accomplishments.

He then produced the Mining and Mechanical Institute – today's MMI Preparatory School. This institution, founded in 1879, was chartered

in 1894 as an all-boys' school to teach the sons of miners. Today, it is a co-educational college preparatory school serving students in grades six through 12.

His wife, Sophia Georgianna (Fisher) Coxe, was equally well known throughout the region. Because of all the charitable works she performed throughout her lifetime, she was known as the "Angel of the Anthracite."

Her love of people and concern for their welfare prompted her to establish a hospital in Drifton, the first one in the area. Sophia also helped found St. James Episcopal Church in 1884 and taught Sunday school at the church for 40 years.

On November 26, 1925, Sophia celebrated her 85th birthday and Thanksgiving as she made her last public appearance. Even though she was in ill health and her physicians advised against attending, she was determined to dedicate her newest accomplishment, the MMI gymnasium. Sophia Coxe died four months later on March 3, 1926. She is buried beside her husband in the churchyard of St. James Episcopal Church.

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Kingston: 570.288.9371    Mountain Top: 570.474.9801    Clarks Summit: 570.585.0600    Drums: 570.788.1999    Hazle Twp: 570.501.7575  
 Shavertown: 570.696.3801    Wilkes-Barre: 570.822.1160    Scranton: 570.207.6262    Hawley: 570.390.7305    Honesdale: 570.616.0645

**MODEL HOME**

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

**NEW LISTING**

**MOUNTAIN TOP** - Move in ready Ice Lakes 2 sty features 4BR, 4BA, updated kitchen w/large center isld, hdwd on 1st flr. Finished basement with high end finishes w/bar & 3/4 bath. Outside features three tier deck w/cleared & level backyard. Must see!  
 MLS# 24-5369  
**EVELYN 570-715-9336    \$785,000**

**PENDING**

**MOUNTAIN TOP** - Beautiful & Grand! All brick-front 2-sty in Greystone Manor! 5BR incl 1st flr primary suite, 4 BA. 2-sty foyer w/large loft space. Open kit w/pantry, wet bar, finished LL w/walk-out, custom bar & full bath, covered rear porch.  
 MLS# 24-4455  
**LISA 570-715-9335    \$649,900**

**NEW LISTING**

**MOUNTAIN TOP** - Very well maintained 3BR 3BA home in a quiet neighborhood. Updated kit, finished LL, 3-season sunroom, all situated on a double lot with an extra garage. Beautiful setting and yard.  
 MLS# 24-4376  
**ANTONIO 570-262-7652    \$390,000**

**PENDING**

**MOUNTAIN TOP** - Freshly painted & well maintained. Beautiful 2 sty on almost a 1/2 acre features new roof 2021 w/gutters, new deck, newer luxury vinyl flooring. Finished LL with powder room. Mature landscaping & more!  
 MLS# 24-4785  
**CORINE 570-262-8218    \$389,000**

**PENDING**

**MOUNTAIN TOP** - Well maintained home on 4.7 acres, offers 2/3 bdrms, 1 bath, hdwd flooring in bdrms, & under carpet in living area. 2 heated cabin style bldgs for hobbies/crafts/studio. Multiple garages. One is heated w/loft. Move in ready!  
 MLS# 24-3598  
**JILL 570-479-2517    \$369,900**

**PENDING**

**MOUNTAIN TOP** - Move-in ready 2 story home w/many beautiful features! Serene setting on over a half acre lot. 20 x 20 maintenance-free deck; patio area; 12 x 18 shed; oversized 2-car gar; granite kit; fin. LL w/bath; newer heat pump, a/c, and a private well!  
 MLS# 24-3660  
**LISA 570-715-9335    \$359,900**

**PENDING**

**MOUNTAIN TOP** - Spacious 3-4 bdrm bi-level home with 2 car garage & nice backyard. Other features include: hdwd frs, vaulted ceilings, 4-season sun room, newer a/c & roof! Fresh paint completes the pkg & for you to call home!  
 MLS# 24-3461  
**ANTONIO 570-262-7652    \$369,900**

**NEW LISTING**

**MOUNTAIN TOP** -Cape Cod w/4BR - 2 on 1st flr. Plenty of living & storage space in this home w/finished walk-out basement. Kit has granite, 1st flr has some hadwd & bath on 1st flr is remodeled. Incredible room sizes. Put a bit of work into this & you have a GEM of a home.  
 MLS# 24-5255  
**JILL 570-814-4747    \$349,900**

**NEW LISTING**

**MOUNTAIN TOP** -A park like setting welcomes you to this pristine home. Space for entertaining inside & out w/two entertainment areas & a lg deck overlooking an expansive flat yard. Hdwd under carpet. Newer mechanicals & chimney lining make this home a solid investment & a lovely place to call home.  
 MLS# 24-4385  
**SANDRA 570-392-6036    \$299,900**

**PENDING**

**MOUNTAIN TOP** - Don't let this well maintained townhouse pass you by. Features 3BR, 2.5BA. Open floor plan, rear private deck overlooking pretty back yard. Walkout basement with screened patio. Won't last long.  
 MLS# 24-5221  
**EVELYN 570-715-9336    \$289,900**

**PRICE REDUCED**

**MOUNTAIN TOP** - Well maintain split level home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Hardwood floors. Corner lot at the beginning of a cul-de-sac location in Fairview Hills. Nice size sunroom to overlook the yard. Gas hot water heat.  
 MLS# 24-5371  
**CORINE 570-262-8218    \$264,900**