



THE JOURNAL

of the POCONO PLATEAU

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Mid-April—Early May, 2020

PMSD moves with PA schools to mandatory online learning

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Pocono Mountain School District detailed Edgenuity and Google Classroom updates two weeks into the online education effort on April 15, reporting new guidance received just prior to the evening's school board meeting from PA Secretary of Education Pedro Rivera. Superintendent Dr. Elizabeth Robison announced "Continuity of Education Plans" would change in the coming week following mandatory submission to the state.

An April 19 video with Robison on *PMSD.org* revealed state mandated requirements for school districts to move from Enrichment and Review Knowledge Reinforcement; to Planned Instruction, "to ensure students learn new ma-

terial and continue to progress academically."

Reporting 90% participation, Robison declared mandatory instruction at all grade levels for the 8,600 student population, effective April 20. Recognizing some families have limited resources, she urged those experiencing difficulties to contact their child's school principal for assistance.

Noting reports of early elementary age students struggling with navigating the online system, she stated worksheets can be provided, "[to] supplement, not replace, online learning."

Understanding that 2020 graduates and their families are eager to ensure graduation and have end of the year recognitions, Robison stated that East and West High School

student councils will work together with the district administration and principals to review suggestions, using this "opportunity to create something unique."

Clear Run Intermediate School Vice-Principal Amy Haynes was named National Outstanding Assistant Principal of the Year for 2019/2020 by the Pennsylvania Principals Association. She will receive the award at PPA's October 2020 conference.

PMSD was selected as one of 2020's Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants foundation for the fifth year in a row.

Friday night scoreboard lights lit up East Cardinal and West Panther High School stadiums as part of PIAA's "Light



At Pocono Mountain East Cardinals' stadium on April 17, PME Cardinals and PM West Parents posted pride online with "Light up the Stadium" scoreboard images honoring the Class of 2020 and supporting frontline heroes. Photo provided by West's Athletics Director Mike DelGrosso

up the Stadium" – a unified effort to honor and recognize the class of 2020 and frontline workers like doctors, nurses and emergency responders.

Information on Pocono Mountain School District's next online meeting is at *PMSD.org*

Business builds in Mount Pocono borough, despite Covid-19

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Despite COVID19 directives necessary for the health and safety of citizens dealing a devastating economic blow to businesses throughout the region, review of future commercial plans at the April 6 Mount Pocono borough council meeting provided some optimism. A social distancing conference call kept borough agenda items rolling with engineers, attorneys and administrators

discussing land development and waiver details.

Borough engineer Chuck Niclaus of Barry Isett & Associates began with POSH Properties' plan for two new establishments: a 2,000-square-foot coffee shop franchise and 3,500-square-foot dental office along Route 940 in front of Walmart next to Perkins restaurant.

A McDonalds makeover is set for the site across Route 940 with Niclaus describing

building tear down and site accessibility adjustments. Calling the design, "Quite an improvement from what is there now," he described parking lot curbed islands with trees, landscaping between the restaurant and Wells Fargo bank, and sidewalks along Route 940.

Logistics Property Company rescinded its March 13 letter requesting use of one engineer to oversee project plans for a

See MT. POCONO, page 8





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Venues unite to help local/regional music scene

“NEPA LIVE FROM HOME” event series presented by Geisinger to stream first episode on Thursday, April 30

The ASM Global managed Mohegan Sun Arena and Karl Hall in Wilkes-Barre have announced a partnership to create an online platform entitled “NEPA LIVE FROM HOME” to feature local and regional artists performing live from their homes starting April 30.

“As managers and promoters of live entertainment venues, we know the struggle that the live entertainment industry is going through as we practice social distancing and try to keep ourselves, loved ones and community safe,” said Will Beekman, general manager of Mohegan Sun Arena. “From global touring headliners to up-and-coming local artists, our venues take great pride in being the host sites for people to enjoy all sorts of live entertainment. Even though we can’t get together in person right now, we wanted to create a virtual venue where local and regional artists can showcase their talents and help gather our community.”

“We are excited to announce a partnership between our venues to create a free, online platform to keep entertainment alive and well in Northeast PA,” said AJ Jump, Owner/Manager of Karl Hall LLC. “The “NEPA LIVE FROM HOME” series will feature

performances from talented individuals throughout our region and we will help bring these performances directly to your homes through our online resources.”

The full lineup of performers for the first season of episodes will be announced on each venue’s social media pages. Each episode will feature a local artist performing three original songs plus a question and answer session providing a behind-the-scenes look into the life of each artist. Featured artists that are scheduled to appear include Bret Alexander from The Badlees, Nick Coyle from Lifer / Cold and The Mule Team - Chris Kearney, JP Biondo and Roy Williams.

“We’d also like to take this opportunity to thank our friends at Geisinger for their support of this event, and of course we also thank the doctors, nurses, EMT’s and all medical personnel who are on the frontlines battling to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community,” said Beekman.

“And thank you to all essential businesses and their employees for keeping our community running through these challenging times,” said Jump. “You are the true rock stars!”

Performances will be posted each week beginning April 30 at 7:30 p.m. on the Facebook and Instagram pages for both Mohegan Sun Arena and Karl Hall.

“We look forward to providing our community with an opportunity to enjoy these performers and help keep entertainment in NEPA Live, from home,” said Jump.

Tune in via the following social media pages:

Mohegan Sun Arena Facebook / Mohegan Sun Arena Instagram
Karl Hall Facebook / Karl Hall Instagram

Both venues would like to publicly thank Zen Agency in Wyoming for their great work on the logo design for the “NEPA LIVE FROM HOME”

event series. Mohegan Sun Arena has had an incredible partnership with the team at Zen Agency for years and applaud them for their work on other venue projects including the logo for the arena’s “Healthcare Heroes Suite” initiative to begin in a few weeks plus the redesign of Mohegan Sun Arena’s website to be launched in the next few days.

VIRTUAL HIKE: A new point of view at Cresco Heights

While large-group hikes have become a temporary casualty of the coronavirus, Brodhead Watershed Association offers an armchair adventure to Cresco Heights in Monroe County, via video.

Then, armed with trail information and a yen to get outdoors, hike the Heights yourself, remembering to keep at least 6 feet away from other hikers.

There, you might get a new point of view from a lichen-covered rock bluff at 1,700 feet, bare except for pitch pines, grasses and scrub oaks.

The leaves are off the trees, opening up a 180-degree view. To the east, is the long sweep of ridgeline above the wild and scenic Delaware River. Then Delaware Water Gap with a sliver of New Jersey beyond, followed by the slopes at Camelback with early snow, Wind Gap, and south along the Appalachian Trail.

A woods road of solid rock leads past lichens like pixie-cup, British soldier, and reindeer “moss” grow in the crevices. Next comes a variety of pincushion mosses and evergreen ferns, a small bird’s nest, titmice and juncos. An

eagle glides by.

Quite a different view than the one from your couch.

- For the virtual hike, go to BWA’s YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/VCTJAEBJhVs>. Special thanks to Tom Gregory of Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau for the videography.

- Go to brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos for information on Cresco Heights as well as other hikes in the Get Outdoors Poconos series. The series is administered by Brodhead Watershed Association and supported by a grant from the William Penn Foundation.

WATCH COVID-19 WEEKLY BRIEFINGS

Every Friday at 10AM, tune in or stream live as a panel of community leaders provides important updates related to COVID-19 in the Pocono region.

WHERE TO WATCH:

LIVE Pocono Television Network &
PoconoMountains.com/COVID-19

LIVE Blue Ridge Communications TV13
Channel 734 & BRC 13 on YouTube.com



All Together Now: Pocono Community Good Deeds

by Rachel Camaerei

Here in the Pocono Mountains, community is our backbone. Our local businesses and organizations have been rallying to help the community during these unprecedented times of COVID-19.

From donating food to local pantries and hospitals to creating hand sanitizer and 3D personal protection equipment (PPE), our companies have stepped up to make a difference. Here are some of the ways companies are stepping up:

Employee and Food Assistance

Woodloch Resort distributed a second round of care packages to their 500-person staff. These packages contained a wide range of items from meat and dairy products to toilet paper. All leftover packages were donated to the local Pike County Food Pantry. They also gave hourly employees an extra week's worth of pay during the first week of the shutdown.

Settlers Hospitality offered 500 family-style meals to 125 employees, which featured a choice of meats, vegetables and dessert. Settlers also donated cookies to the Wayne Memorial Hospital.

Mount Airy Casino Resort donated 2,500 pounds of

perishable food items to Pleasant Valley Ecumenical Network, a food pantry that services the West End of Monroe County.

The Cooperage Project is distributing free breakfast and lunch to school-age children, afternoons Monday through Friday, thanks to meals provided by Wayne Highlands School District. **Wallenpaupack Brewing Company** donated \$5 from each sale of its 14-day Quarantine Pack to The Cooperage Project and is also donating school lunches and providing free kids meals if you order their takeout.

Moka Origins, at the **Himalayan Institute**, has also partnered with The Cooperage Project food drive to donate 100 lbs of coffee and chocolate to support impacted families whose children no longer have access to meals at schools. They also donated 100 lbs of coffee to fuel front-line healthcare workers at the Wayne Memorial Hospital.

Production Capabilities

Silverback Distillery, Barley Creek Brewing Company and Mountain View Vineyard, Winery, Brewery, & Distillery have all created hand sanitizer to combat the community short-

age. Silverback is donating the sanitizer to local organizations in need and Barley Creek and Mountain View are making theirs available to the public.

Boulder View Tavern created a new Grocery Pickup Program for people to place "takeout orders" for essential items that are hard to find in grocery stores, like eggs and meats. You can order and pay for your items on Boulder View Tavern's website or by calling them and pick your order up at their restaurant.

The **Stourbridge Project** has helped fashion PPE for local health care workers. This includes 3D-printed bands for face masks to alleviate the strain on the ears. The 3D printers were loaned to the Homestead School to make masks.

Community and Hospital Donations

The Pocono Mountains United Way (PMUW) started a Crisis Response Fund to raise money for local non-profits. So far, \$154,224 was raised in a few short weeks. The PMUW also created a Families and Restaurants fund to help support them through these tough times.

Baymont by Wyndham donated their billboard space on major roadways for import-

ant public service announcements to help keep the community safe and informed.

In addition to donating billboard space, **desaki** also donated complimentary meals to healthcare workers at Lehigh Valley Hospital - Pocono. They even started a 'Pay it Forward' initiative for anyone who would like to place an order for a group of front-line staff, which is delivered to them for you with a personal note of your choosing.

Sonia's Sweet Inspirations donated desserts for medical professionals at St. Luke's Hospital - Monroe Campus and Lehigh Valley Hospital - Pocono. Sweet indeed!

Blue Mountain Resort donated 1,200 goggles, masks, gowns, gloves and sanitizer to St. Luke's University Health Network.

Woodloch Resort also donated all its available N95 respirator masks to Wayne Memorial Hospital.

Milford Mayor Sean Strub, proprietor of **Hotel Fauchere** and **403 Broad**, has helped establish the Milford COVID-19 Relief Fund and continues creating public health awareness for the Milford area. **403 Broad** also gave out a dozen eggs per family over Easter weekend. Eggcellent!

Pocono Raceway has started #Air5Challenge to promote both positive social media messaging and community donation. Every time #Air5Challenge is used, the Mattioli Foundation will donate \$1 to the Pocono Mountains United Way Crisis Response Fund.

Ertle Subaru raised \$17,829 through the "Subaru Share the Love Event" for The Salvation Army of East Stroudsburg. This campaign raises money for different organizations each year, but this money will allow the organization to continue serving people in need in our own backyard.

The Pocono Mountains has many businesses and organizations helping our area, and we'd like to thank all our members who have stepped up in these times of need. Find community resources, restaurant offerings and more information on our COVID-19 microsite.

We'd also like to thank our local doctors, nurses, EMT, police, fire departments, grocery store workers, restaurant staff, delivery drivers and all front-line workers during this time.

You can do your part and help the community by staying home and social distancing when going out for essentials. Stay safe and stay healthy!

Area Funerals

ELSIE LAWRENCE

Elsie Lawrence, age 98 of Pocono Lake passed away April 13, 2020 at home. Elsie was the wife of the late Roland W. Lawrence who preceded her in death on September 25, 2003.

She was born in Pocono Lake on August 11, 1921, was the daughter of the late John and Olive (Keiper) Argot. Elsie was a member of the Pocono Lake Wesleyan Church in Pocono Lake.

We have been blessed with the presence of Elsie in our lives. She will be deeply missed by her children: Roland Charles "Chuck" Lawrence of Pocono lake and Debra Fradella and her husband Eugene of Old Bridge, NJ. Elsie was the loving and gentle grandmother to her three grandchildren: Lauren and husband Jeremy, Charles and wife Elizabeth, Kelly and husband Matt and her two great

grandchildren: Layten and Mackenzie.

She is also survived by two brothers: Paul Argot and his wife Betty of Stroudsburg and Homer Argot and his wife Gloria of Blakeslee and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her siblings, Lloyd and Ray Argot, Eleanor "Ella" Fullbright, Catherine Meckes, Betty Court and Thelma Searfoss.

Services will be private and at the convenience of the family. Elsie will be laid to rest next to her husband at Mountain Rest Cemetery in Pocono Lake.

A. JAMES McMANUS

A. James "Jim" McManus, 91, of Tobyhanna, died Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at home. He was the loving husband of the late Carmen P. (Perez) McManus who passed away in 2018.

Born in Buffalo, New York, he was a son of the late Arthur Owen and Rose (Quinn) McManus.

Jim served with the United States Army during the Korean War. After an honorable discharge, he earned his Master's degree in Education, and taught elementary through college. He loved books and reading, WWII history, and watching classic movies. Jim

John Joseph "Sonny" Horan Jr. 86, of Tobyhanna, died Sunday, April 19, 2020 in Philadelphia. He was the loving husband of the late Ann E. Horan, who passed away in 2018.

Born in West Orange, New Jersey, he was the son of the late John J. Horan Sr. and Camille DelPlato Horan.

A proud veteran, he served in the United States Marine Corps during the Korean War. After his honorable discharge, Sonny became a detective for the East Orange, New Jersey Police Department. He retired

JOHN JOSEPH HORAN

after 25 years and moved to Pocono Farms in Tobyhanna. Sonny had a love of cooking and worked as a cook in Studebaker's Restaurant and Pocono Farms Country Club. He was a loving father and devoted to his family.

He is survived by his three daughters, Kimberley Colasante and her husband, Anthony of Philadelphia; Lisa Mitros of Bradley Beach, New Jersey; Camille Horan of Long Branch, New Jersey and a son, John. Two cherished grandchildren: Anthony John "AJ" Colasante and Joshua Colasante; a great-grandchild, AJ Colasante; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service with military honors will be announced at a later date; private cremation has been entrusted to Bolock Funeral Home Crematory.

More obituaries on our website, pocononepapers.com

FRANCISCA CORDERO

Francisca Cordero, 94, of Tobyhanna, died Saturday, April 18, 2020, at Whitestone Care Center in Stroudsburg. She was the loving wife of the late Santiago Cordero.

Born in Carolina, Puerto Rico, she was the daughter of the late Eleno and Candidad (Matos) Velez.

Francisca was the glue that held the family together. It did not matter where life had taken any of us, including mom and dad. Her love for all of us kept the family close, even friends were considered family where she was concerned.

She is survived by her son, James Cordero and his wife, Angelina of Tobyhanna; daughter, Edith Pagan and her husband, Herman of Ocala, Florida; grandchildren: Jennifer and Samantha Cordero; Jason and Michael Pagan; Lilly and Yaritza Pagan; and 12 great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her eight siblings.

Services will be private. Cremation is entrusted to the Bolock Funeral Home Crematory.

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PMRPD ready to react to litter on lots

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Items intended to protect against COVID-19 continue to plague parking lots across the Plateau. Pocono Mountain Regional Police Commission at their April 14 meeting learned the PMRPD is ready to react with enforcement. An alarming number of disposable gloves and masks have been piling up outside near shopping carts at essential businesses such as supermarkets and stores like Walmart in Mount Pocono.

Kurt Cummings asked for department assistance, noting concerns not just over litter but also potential virus contamination. “We will take appropriate action,” responded Chief Chris Wagner, later explaining, “We [Pocono Mountain Regional Police] take littering in our communi-

ty very seriously and intend on continuing to provide proactive policing throughout the area with a commitment to enforcing the law should an officer witness someone improperly disposing gloves, masks and any other items or receive conclusive video evidence for investigation of such matters.”

He included a list of penalties as defined in the PA Crimes Code as “scattering rubbish.” Fines increase based on the number of offenses.

First offense is a summary violation with a fine up to \$300

Any subsequent offense is considered a misdemeanor of the 3rd degree involving fingerprints and mugshot plus a fine up to \$1,000 and/or prison up to one year

Littering is also covered in the PA Vehicle Code as “depositing waste and other



Items intended to protect like this rubber glove are plaguing parking lots as litter on the Plateau

material on highway, property or waters,” a summary offense drawing a fine from \$300 up to \$900, depending on the littering location.

Also discussed at the meeting were calls regarding operations of nonessential businesses. The chief said officers are taking a “compliance” approach reminding owners/operators of the suspension of services order. Many times these establishments have proof of exemptions from the state. Airbnb and short-term rentals should not be happening after April 6.

“We’re still healthy, we’re still functional at the police department,” stated Wagner,

noting proactive measures taken to “keep contagion out of the department.” Listing procedures like scaling back personal interaction by closing the department lobby, he also shared PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) steps taken to protect officers out in the field, thanking members of the public who made masks, Monroe County EMA (Emergency Management Agency) for providing supplies of N95 masks and gloves, Pocono Summit Volunteer Fire Company for respirators with Tyvek suits, and Tobyhanna Township Volunteer Fire Company using a disinfecting fogger throughout headquarters.

The Journal is collecting e-mail addresses to help communicate essential information during the COVID-19 situation and beyond. We plan to send out a between-issue e-blast at least once a week, and more often if needed. It will also include some fun stuff and ways to entertain yourself at home, as well as messages from our advertisers. If you’d like to receive it each week, please send an e-mail to journalruth@gmail.com with the subject line: **E-BLAST**

Chief Wagner provided the department’s annual review noting trends including purchased and actual hours changes from 2011 to 2019. He noted “a steady downward trend of Type 1 (violent crimes) throughout the coverage area.”

The COVID19 crisis put new vehicles ordered on hold due to dealership delays. Resolution 2020-001 New Vehicle Lease was approved for \$109,380.22.

In-house policy 6-3 Firearms Qualification was approved regarding replacement of side arms based on model, caliber and rounds. To insure officers’ safety, details remains confidential.

June 4 accreditation preparation included a recent rigorous virtual mock assessment so the department can fix any rough edges.

April’s bill pack totaling \$243,788.18 was approved for payment, with funds to be disbursed as follows: General Fund, \$229,535.65; Prescription Plan, \$1,619.19; Capital Projects Fund, \$12,633.34; ESSA April mortgage payment, \$8,983.34; Schoonover & Vanderhoof Architects security upgrades, \$3,650.

Commission members present during the online meeting included Dave Moyer, Dave Carbone and Brendon Carroll for Tobyhanna Township; Fran DePiano and Juan Adams for Tunkhannock Township; Mayor Michael Penn and Claudette Williams for Mount Pocono; and Lynn Kelly, Kurt Cummings and Anthony Lamantia for Coolbaugh Township.

PMRPC’s next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. May 12. Go to PMRPD.com for time and location confirmation for online or at police headquarters on Route 940 in Pocono Summit.



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Seth's Sightings

The Flowers that Bloom...

by Seth Isenberg

Things have become a bit “routine” during this shelter-in-place time. Ruth and I have allowed ourselves to slow down, which is not a bad thing, but we miss the variety of activity. This area offers plenty to do, when allowed to do it. We are now itching to go to farmers’ markets, ethnic restaurants, shows and the like. We can only wait for the reopening of the state’s businesses.

This would have been the weekend for the opening of Knoebels. Perhaps in mid-May, Governor Wolf?

Looking ahead, a wide number of activities are cancelled, some through June and beyond. The PA Shakespeare Festival is one, gone from the calendar is 2020. Holding on in hope include the Celtic Fling and Pocono Raceway’s NA-SCAR double header weekend in late June, and the Briggs Farm Blues Festival, and new for us this year, the Benton (PA) Frontier Days and rodeos in early and mid-July, all of which we’ll learn more about as the governments release restrictions. Perhaps there will be a return of ice hockey? It is sounding like games will resume soon; we can hope.

Sightings this week include the blooming dogwood trees that dot the hillsides, visible now ahead of the greening leaves. The warmer and wet weather has been good to get things blooming, although sadly, recent frosts have taken some of those blooms away. Magnolias had been putting on quite a show, but are now mostly frost-burnt. I am hoping the lilacs stay tight

for another week, missing the predicted next round of frosty nights.

I sighted three goats on a hillside along my ride into White Haven one morning – not something I usually see, but something I had seen before. They’d gotten loose – again. A farm south of Weatherly has a nice crop of lambs and kids, secured behind good fences. We have seen fuzzy deer and molting deer as they shed their winter coats.

As for our extra time, we continue with our books, newspapers and magazines, and videos. I am finding more comedy and concerts online, though I’d really rather be out and about. We did get a walk in along the shoreline at Tuscarora Lake west of Tamaqua. It was a popular trip for us when we had our dogs, and while we enjoyed being out (socially distanced), we missed taking one along for a swim.

Everyone is healthy among our family and friends, something we are very grateful for. Hope all of you are staying safe and healthy as well.

Mohegan Sun Arena to thank healthcare professionals

ASM Global Live managed Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza in Wilkes-Barre announced an initiative that will help recognize and thank local healthcare professionals at arena events beginning this fall. The “Healthcare Heroes Suite” will honor local healthcare professionals that are on the front lines fighting against the spread of COVID-19 in our community and around the world.

“Over the past 5 years, Mohegan Sun Arena along with the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton

Penguins have partnered to donate over 2,300 suite level tickets to Penguins hockey games to say thank you to members of our community that have served their country and community as part of the ‘Salute to Service Suite’ program,” said Steve Poremba, Director of Marketing at Mohegan Sun Arena. “The ‘Healthcare Heroes Suite’ will provide our venue with an opportunity to show our appreciation and gratitude to another service sector of our community that put the health and well-being of others ahead of their own.”

Nominations can be made online beginning May 10 – the beginning of National Hospitals Week. Each recipient will receive tickets to a select upcoming event in a luxury suite at Mohegan Sun Arena beginning in October, or once it is safe to host public events at the facility. Nominations and more information can be found at www.MoheganSunArenaPA.com/HealthcareHeroes.

This year, the performance of a lifetime goes to all those on the front lines...the brave nurses, doctors, healthcare workers, hospital staff and first responders.



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Community Aviation Day

Fly-in-Drive-in Breakfast rescheduled

In light of recent COVID-19 Social Distancing Directives, the Mt. Pocono Rotary has moved its Community Aviation Day Fly-In Drive-In Pancake Breakfast to a new date, Sunday, September 6, Labor Day weekend, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., with this year's proceeds benefiting Mt. Pocono Rotary and the East Stroudsburg Salvation Army. For the past 25 years, this popular community event has been held rain or shine at Pocono Mountains Municipal Airport, up to this year on Memorial Day weekend.

Event chair Mark Turner comments, "Given the uncertainty of whether we could

hold our event on Memorial Day Weekend, we have chosen to reschedule this long-standing community fundraiser to Labor Day weekend. As in years past, the day's events will include a pancake breakfast, airplane and helicopter rides, children's activities, civilian and military aircraft displays, a Huey helicopter, emergency services and antique car displays and if weather permits, a parachute jump." Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for children ages 12 and under. The day's activities include free airplane rides for kids ages 8-17 weather and space permitting. Parking is free.

Turner continues, "This event was created 25 years ago to give residents and visitors to our area the chance to visit the airport, see a variety of airplanes, experience helicopter and airplane rides and generally find out about how to get youth involved with aviation. It has grown to be one of the Mt Pocono Rotary's largest annual fundraisers with over \$200,000 raised and distributed to non-profit and deserving causes throughout the community."

One of this year's non-profits selected to receive funding is the East Stroudsburg Salvation Army. The mission of the Salvation Army is to preserve human dignity while empowering people to reach their potential through honoring heritage, strengthening family

values and meeting human needs. In the tough economic times created by this unprecedented pandemic we are now facing, when thousands of neighbors are finding it hard to feed their families, the need for services provided by the East Stroudsburg Salvation Army is under unprecedented pressure.

Last year, The Salvation Army East Stroudsburg Corps. provided 38,939 hot meals; 26,091 food baskets; and 8,983 nights of shelter to Monroe County residents. The Toys for Joy; Toys for Tots; and Angel Tree gift donations provided 20,964 Christmas items to children and ongoing, The Salvation Army normally feeds approximately 600 Monroe County families monthly. That number has

tripled because of Covid-19. This year, the East Stroudsburg Corps is expected to provide more than 100,000 hot meals to hungry men, women and children in Monroe County and provide grants for rent, utility assistance, heating fuel and healthy food for more than 20,000 families in need thanks to donations from individuals, organizations and the generosity of the Mt. Pocono Rotary.

In addition to free airplane rides for kids ages 8-17 donated by volunteers for the Young Eagles EAA Program, airplane and helicopter rides can be purchased with proceeds benefiting the charities. Those rides are donated by event sponsors: Moyer Aviation, Hi-Tech Helicopters, and Papillon and Moyer Excavation. Sponsors for the event include Bailey's, Shoprite, Smuggler's Cove (a lead sponsor for their food donation), Besko Outdoor, Sky's the Limit for the parachute demonstration and many more area businesses and organizations.

Turner concludes, "We are offering sponsorships and ads in our program booklet that will be distributed to our attendees. We welcome area businesses to join us in raising money for Rotary and this year's very worthy charitable organization." Pocono Mountains Municipal Airport is located just off Rt. 611 at 188 Airport Drive, Tobyhanna, PA. The event is held rain or shine. Tickets can be purchased day or in advance at RotaryFlyIn-Breakfast.com or by calling 570.839.7161.

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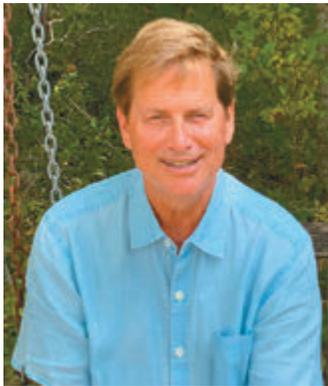
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Tunkhannock Township declares Disaster Emergency

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Joining other municipalities across the region, on April 8 Tunkhannock Township Supervisors declared a Disaster Emergency. In response to the current COVID-19 crisis, supervisors agreed to continue the March 19, 2020 declaration authorizing the township's Emergency Management Coordinator and administration to "act as necessary to meet current demands."

For health and safety reasons, purchasing, hiring temporary workers, and the like, plus other necessities can now temporarily be performed

without the need for approval procedure formalities.

In business, Locust Ridge/H&K Group's \$432,472.40 road paving project bid was approved conditional upon final agreement in writing. It was the lowest of four bids, the others being M&J Excavation, \$501,927; Bruce George Construction, \$533,625; and Kobalt Construction, \$616,758. Discussion turned to when, and if, the project can start prior to October if quarries do not open due to the COVID-19 crisis. Solicitor Dan Lyons reminded the the board that the township would have no recourse should a delay occur

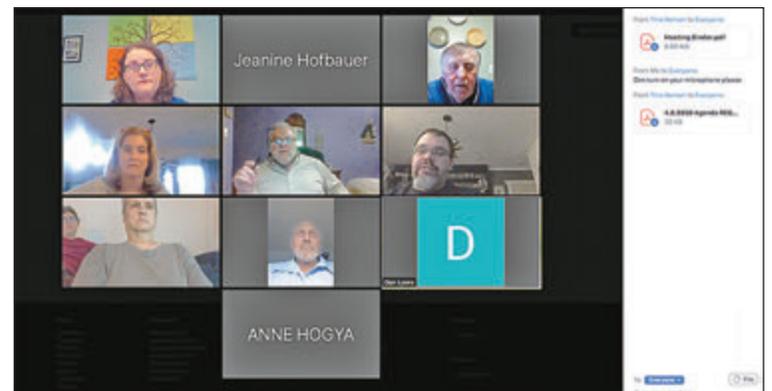
as circumstances would be beyond the contractor's control.

The Spring Clean-up/Bulk Trash dates of May 15-18 may be delayed pending further discussion at next month's meeting.

The new Primary Election Day for Pennsylvania will be June 2.

March's General Fund showed \$1,559,088, with income of \$176,262 and expenses of \$77,078. Bills were approved for a total of \$190,846.

Supervisors Fran DePiano, George Ewald and Steve Malaico joined the evening's meeting online via Zoom, in



Tunkhannock Township Zoomed into Online meeting agenda items April 8

addition to Atty. Lyons, secretary/treasurer Tina Kernan, zoning officer Kate Lambert, and a few spectators. Tunkhannock Township's

next regular monthly supervisors meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. May 13 at the municipal offices at 1557 Long Pond Road, Long Pond.

Mt. Pocono

Continued from page 1

property straddling Mount Pocono Borough and Coolbaugh Township. Council agreed with solicitor James Fareri's advice to keep its own representation. Calling it a "significant enough project," he noted that borough engineer Chris McDermott of Reilly Engineering and Coolbaugh engineer Russ Kresge have worked together successfully in the past.

Declaration of Disaster Emergency was enacted based on COVID19/Coronavirus impact on the health, safety and welfare of borough citizens. Borough

officials will be able to employ temporary workers, rent equipment, purchase supplies and materials without time-consuming procedures typically required. Two Emergency Management Coordinators, Rich Gannon and Denise Doremus, were named. Gannon works on Mount Pocono Municipal Authority and is a member of Pocono Mountain Volunteer Fire Company. Doremus is Pocono Mountain Regional EMS Director of Operations.

Four 2020 Road Rehab Bids were received: Hanson Aggregates, \$281,124; H&K Locust Ridge Quarry, \$291,583.10; Graver Industries/Barker & Barker, \$321,813; M&J

Excavation \$324,225. Low bidder Hanson Aggregates was awarded the contract, but supervisors agreed with Patty Bucco's request to consider renegotiating based on a drop in petroleum prices.

Council approved the borough treasurer's cash report listed at \$526,657.85.

Held by telephone conference, the evening's meeting included O'Boyle, Bucco, Claudette Williams, Tom Neville, Aida Montanez and Stacy Stewart-Keeler. Junior Council members Kathryn Crosby and Arissa Joy Chambers, Mayor Michael Penn, Atty. Fareri, and secretary/treasurer Lori Noonan also voiced input.

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Coolbaugh considers road project, amends zoning code

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Urging a review of cash flow, at the April 7 Coolbaugh Township supervisors meeting, supervisor Anthony Lamantia explained the \$460,000 budgeted for Coolbaugh Township road paving may need to be re-evaluated. Supervisors agreed to advertise for bids listing locations like Carriage, Avon, Viceroy and Lake Road.

Living Hope Community Church's request to reduce April's monthly lease amount was denied following discussion "So not to set a precedent," supervisor Lynn Kelly suggested waiving late fees for all of 2020 instead.

A letter of support will be provided to assist Pocono Mountain Regional EMS in a \$9,572 grant application.

Supervisors released \$5,500 in tax funds to Tobyhanna Township Volunteer Fire Company to purchase a power fogger and disinfectant chemicals. The TTVFC agreed to use the device on township DPW and municipal buildings once it is received.

The township zoning ordinance was amended, adding Large Scale Commercial Recreation Facility as a new conditional use permitted within C1 Convenience Commercial and I Industrial Zoning Dis-



Coolbaugh Township Supervisors' chairman Bill Weimer.

tricts following a public hearing. Recreation Facility, Outdoor Commercial was changed to a Conditional Use in C1 and WC Districts, and Recreation Facility, Indoor Commercial was changed to a Principal Permitted Use in C2 and C3 districts.

Solicitor Patrick Armstrong noted applicants must be on 10 acres or more but not more than 500 acres. Each approved site is allowed up to 10 individual uses. Tammy Prinzo asked through the on-line chat function where such districts are in the township—they are along Routes 611 and 196.

Bills totaling \$348,222.59 were approved for payment.

Attending were supervisors Kelly, Lamantia, Bill Weimer, Alma Ruiz-Smith and Claire

Colgan; Atty. Armstrong and secretary Erin Masker were joined online by up to 56 attendees.

Kelly's request to temporarily meet only one time each month to minimize exposure, failed with Ruiz-Smith, Weimer and Colgan opposed. The matter will be reconsidered at the next meeting on May 5 following a 6 p.m. work session. Directions on attending can be found at Coolbaughtwp.org.

Mount Pocono encourages borough cleanup

by Jeanine Hofbauer

"[This is a] trying time that we're in but at the same time we need to maintain our borough and keep our borough clean," said Mount Pocono borough council president Claudette Williams during the April 20 telephone conference worksession meeting.

Regarding garbage, shopping carts and other unsightly roadside trash, she noted that litter collection days like Earth Day and the annual Joe Baptist Cleanup have been affected by the COVID19 crisis.

Supervisor Tom Neville suggested commercial property owners be held accountable. Secretary Lori Noonan

said she would contact Monroe County Municipal Waste Authority the next day asking for assistance by enforcement officers.

"No one has denied a request for election," stated Mayor Michael Penn, explaining delays in dealing with a Labor Board Petition for Union were because hearings are on hold due to the Coronavirus. Later in the work session, it was noted that the borough will need to hire a labor attorney specializing in that area of law as discussion continues.

Review of the proposed Fireworks Ordinance included adjustments decreasing \$500,000 bond requirements to \$50,000; eliminating the

International Fire Code; and listing allowable times. Fireworks cannot be set before 9 a.m. or after 11 p.m. except for New Year's Eve, when the time is extended to 1 a.m. "They feel like they're being picked on," Fran O'Boyle stated noting an earlier conversation with Mount Pocono Volunteer Fire Company about the ordinance. Williams responded, noting solicitor James Fareri instructed council to establish the ordinance.

Council agreed to recommend approving PPL's no cost proposal to convert 114 borough streetlights to LED bulbs. A monthly savings of \$30 is expected. Mayor Penn suggested council members drive to

James Court to see how bright current LED lighting is.

Williams urged council to provide personnel policy edits and input by April 24. She noted unnecessary time wasted during regular meetings on topics that should be covered during work session time.

Held by telephone conference, the evening's work session included new councilman Ron Emilie, Williams, O'Boyle, Neville, Patty Bucco, and Aida Montanez, along with Mayor Penn and secretary/treasurer Noonan.

Council will connect next at 7 p.m. May 4 for their regular meeting. Watch for Borough updates on participation by phone.



Learn to garden for clean water

April showers bring May flowers, and on May 2, Brodhead Watershed Association will host a webinar on how to keep your water clean and the garden growing all summer long.

The online class, called Gardening for Clean Water, will begin at 9 a.m. with local Master Gardener Amy Romanelli-Girardi.

“What we put in our garden affects more than just our garden,” Romanelli-Girardi said.

Learn how your choice of plants can directly and indirectly contribute to water quality, how home landscapes impact the entire area drained by Brodhead Creek, and which native plants work for yourself, wildlife, and everyone’s drinking water.

Amy Romanelli-Girardi, a resident of Barrett Township for 20 years, has worked for a local garden center/nursery, tending to the stock of trees, shrubs, and perennials. She

particularly enjoyed helping customers make selections that matched their preferences with their site conditions.

The webinar is free, but registration is required by noon on Friday, May 1. To register, email info@brodheadwatershed.org or phone 570-839-1120. Instructions for signing in for the webinar will be sent to registrants. Note that dates and times are subject to change. People who register will be notified of any changes, and changes will be posted on the BWA website at brodheadwatershed.org/greening-mountainhome.

Gardening for Clean Water is one in a series of Go Green at Home workshops and part of BWA’s Greening Mountainhome project. Future workshops will include: July 25, rain barrels and how to install them; Sept. 12, rain gardens tour.

In another facet of the Greening Mountainhome

program, rain barrels will be installed at locations throughout the area. With the help of volunteer artists, Todd Schwartz and Boy Scout Troop 89, painted rain barrels will beautify their locations as well as catch roof runoff to be used in a rain garden.

Rain barrels will be installed in early summer at locations chosen by these Greening Mountainhome sponsors: Fisher & Fisher Law Offices; Joseph Dilger, DDS; ESSA Bank & Trust; NBT Bank; Blake Martin Financial; Donaghy Insurance; Steele’s Hardware; Capri Pizza; Mick Motors; Woodfield Manor; Frogtown Chophouse; Buck Hill Falls Company; Pour-House; Basso; Rotary of the Pocono Mountains; Barrett Township Historical Society; Hilfiger Restoration; Callie’s Candy Kitchen; Daily Bread; Barn Door Antiques; Mickey Miller; Peter Maier; and Natalie Berdoe.

Editorial

Littering in Covid Time

by Seth Isenberg

So here we are, at home, curfewed, even self-quarantined, just as April showers start local plants into budding and greening — and even flowering. What we don’t want to be seeing is trash everywhere.

You’d think in the time of gloves and masks, etc., that there would be more attention paid to carefully disposing of such things. Look around in parking lots right now and there are discarded gloves and masks — there for someone else to don gloves and masks to go pick up. That’s just not right.

Our area has adjusted to being hosts to people who have come here to flee places where the virus has taken a deeper hold. These new locals are welcome but cannot bring the city habits of “throw it out the car window” to local businesses and streets.

Once the Covid-19 crisis is over, we’ll get out and give our communities a good pick-up and scrub-up. But we don’t want to pick up your trash either. Please take your trash home with you.



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Pocono Organics now open & offering online ordering with barn-side pick-up service

Offering Farm-Fresh Food & Victory Garden Starter Kits

One of the most important and essential steps to ensure the best health, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, is to eat the most nutrient-dense, organic foods you can find. Pocono Organics officially started taking online orders with barn-side pick-up at the farm on April 22 (Earth Day) for community members looking for farm-fresh organic produce and meats, as well as start-

er plants for home Victory Gardens.

Pocono Organics, one of the largest regenerative organic farms in North America, is accepting online orders at its website (www.PoconoOrganics.com) where people can shop for certified organic herbs and leafy greens as well as order varieties of pork organically raised by Rodale Institute and organic chicken from Bell & Evans.

“We know that using food as medicine is so important to human health and we have been working hard to prepare farm-fresh food for our local community,” said Ashley Walsh, founder and president of Pocono Organics and granddaughter of Doctors Joe and Rose Mattioli, founders of Pocono Raceway. “People are looking for high-quality, nutrient-dense food during this crisis and we want to provide ingredients for family meals that are easy to order and taste delicious.”

Easy-to-make recipes, created by Food Network’s Chopped champion chef, Lindsay McClain, who is the Executive Chef of Pocono Organics’ Farm Market and Café, are

available online at the farm’s website.

Pocono Organics will expand its online selection, ready-to-make meals, and to-go menu offerings as more seasonal produce becomes available in the coming weeks.

Beyond providing the community with fresh food, Pocono Organics wants to also help the community learn how to grow their own food. Visitors to the farm’s website will also find Victory Garden starter kits and pre-planted window boxes for individuals and families who want to grow their own herbs and vegetables at home. Both kits are available for purchase online with barn-side pick up at the farm. Pocono Organics is offering a vast selection of herb and vegetable choices for custom-

ers to customize their Victory Garden kits or window boxes based on their tastes.

The Victory Garden kits include small gardening tools for adults and children, and customers can pick their own organic starter plants ranging from herbs, peppers, and eggplant to tomatoes, squash, watermelon, and cantaloupe plants. This fun activity will provide families with their very own fresh produce all season long.

Customers are asked to stay in their vehicles and a Pocono Organics’ employee, wearing a mask and gloves, will greet them. Customers will need to show their order receipt at time of pick up at Pocono Organics’ Big Green Barn which is near the intersection of Route 115 and Long Pond Road.

Make a mask to help Meals on Wheels

During these difficult times, Monroe County Meals on Wheels is continuing to deliver meals to its clients. In order to limit contact between clients and volunteers, some changes have been made to the delivery schedule, from daily deliveries to delivering a week’s worth of frozen meals at one time.

With the help of a gen-

erous food donation from Five Loaf House Food Panty, seniors in need who have contacted Meals on Wheels are being provided with an emergency bag of shelf stable food.

This increased need combined with the cancellation of several scheduled fundraisers has caused a need for a new way to raise necessary funds.

Executive Director Heidi Fareri came up with a unique and fun virtual fundraiser, the Virtual Masked Ball. The idea is that people get creative, decorate their facemasks, and then send in a picture of themselves wearing the mask.

Photos can be sent to akoeck@monroemeals.org.

Entries will be accepted until May 10. After that date, people can go on to the Facebook page and vote for their favorite by liking the photo. Voting will take place from May 11 through noon on May 15. The top three winners will be announced later that day.



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8		5				9		1	
		4		6					
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4	1				9	2	7		

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

ACROSS

1. *Like many mythical creatures
6. Second mo.
9. Spill the beans
13. Convex molding
14. "___ the President's Men"
15. Ankle support, e.g.
16. Make a logical connection
17. *E.T.'s craft?
18. Des Moines native
19. *Fire-breather
21. *Household spirit
23. Tucker of "Modern Family"
24. Antonym of is
25. *Grimm's Queen ___
28. Tailor-made
30. Showing on TV
35. "All's well that ___ well"
37. Golly!
39. Punctuation mark
40. Seaport in Yemen
41. Hitching post?
43. Additionally
44. Poison ivy or Poison oak
46. One more than The Beatles
47. Hold as a conviction
48. *Mrs. Potts or her son Chip
50. Andrew Sean Greer's 2017 Pulitzer-winner novel
52. Toast choice
53. Jack and Jill's water jug
55. "___ Now or Never"
57. *Horse's cousin
61. *One of the seven dwarfs
64. Ascetic holy Hindu
65. HHS agency
67. Relating to #25 Across
69. Banana treat
70. Go bad
71. Australian canid
72. Lou of "Walk on the Wild Side" fame
73. Card in the hole?
74. "The Forsyte ___," pl.

DOWN

1. Wisecrack
2. Like a zealous fan
3. Regular attendee
4. Hipbone-related
5. Cuban music genre, pl.
6. *Half-man, half-goat
7. *Santa's helper
8. Splotches
9. Arch on a face
10. Croquet turf
11. Popular smoothie berry
12. Well, to Sofia Loren
15. Relating to living organisms
20. Opposite of alpha
22. Genetic initials

24. Parents hope to do this with values
25. *Beauty's beau
26. Empower
27. Dropsy
29. *Big Bad One
31. Yellow brick one
32. Feeling worse than before
33. *Like Curious George
34. *Garden dweller
36. Finger move
38. Moneyed one
42. Pine product
45. Choose not to do something, 2 words
49. Toni Morrison's "___ Baby"
51. 1862 plots, for short
54. Prefix for below
56. Old photo color
57. Stalin's domain
58. Back of the neck
59. Not active
60. Past tense of chide
61. Fill beyond full
62. Sound of passing bullet
63. *Baba ___
66. *Who Bugs Bunny talks to?
68. Numbers, abbr.

CROSSWORD

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72						73				74				

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Journal Police Beat by Seth Isenberg

In this time of the Corona virus, there seem to be even more scams going around, trying to take your money. I have received another robo-call that informed me that since my car's warranty had expired, I could get help with a new extended one. It's a scam. Ruth received notice that her Amazon Prime account was suspended and provided contact information to resolve the matter — neither of us has an Amazon Prime account = SCAM.

Someone sent Ruth an e-mail notifying her there was a \$50 purchase from the App Store. She looked at the e-mail with justified suspicion, noting the poorly pasted-in logo. She threw the e-mail out. There was a receipt attached and we suspect the scam starts when you click on the receipt (don't do that).

Something called Czone, out of Canada, India, and elsewhere according to Better Business Bureau reports, called my uncle and convinced him that his two computers, printer, and Roku devices, and both his phones, were compromised. They said for \$399, they could fix all this. He didn't act, but they almost had him. They had already dinged him out of \$400 last spring for the same thing — so they were coming back for another bite.

He also told me of a call he received from someone reporting to be from a police department in Texas about a supposed accident in Texas and the caller said the driver presented my uncle's New Jersey driver's license. He politely hung up. There was no follow-up... so a likely scam.

Be alert for Census scams and federal supplement check scams. As always, when a supposed collector for taxes, or

electric bills, or similar, directs you to pay now by getting a gift card... someone is trying to steal from you. Hang up. Tax people and utility companies will always send something by mail to you if you owe.

Our advice, pay attention to the details. When in doubt, hang up. If you think you are dealing with a legitimate business, look up their legitimate phone number and use it to make your own contact. DO NOT let the caller provide you with a phone number and contact info as this is likely to be fraudulent.

DO contact the proper police department if you think you have been scammed, and provide them with complete details — documents, times, etc.

Police Beat:

6:22 p.m. 4-5, an altercation between two men at a Lehigh Gorge Drive, Lehigh Township, Weatherly area property ended when one of them, Robert L. Jones, Jr., 50, a White Haven businessman, shot dead. Investigators from the PA State Police Troop N — Hazleton Major Case Team are

looking into the circumstances leading up to the shooting.

At 8:15 p.m. on 4-6, Kenneth Knibiehly, 58, of Towamensing Trails, Albrightsville, was shot once in the head, then left for dead in his home. PSP-Fern Ridge Detectives went to work. By 4-8, an ex-boyfriend of Knibiehly's current girlfriend was arrested. John Anthony Martocci, 66, of Roseto, PA, (between Pen Argyl and Bangor) is charged with criminal homicide. He is a former member of Roseto borough's council. Martocci is held in the Carbon County jail.

4-9, Pocono Mountain Regional Police Detectives were investigating a drug overdose and learned the identities of two local heroin dealers. As an undercover operation, detectives arranged to purchase heroin/fentanyl from two women at a local gas & convenience store. There, they were both arrested while possessing the heroin/fentanyl that they intended to sell. Information led Detectives to obtain search warrants for a vehicle and a home on Mountain Terrace in Tunkhannock Twp. During

the search, PMRPD seized evidence of drug dealing, and also seized two firearms, two vehicles, and about \$7200 in cash. The women, 42 and 27, were arrested and taken to the Monroe County jail to await arraignment. Investigation is ongoing and additional arrests are expected.

The PMRPD's drug investigations led detectives to another heroin/fentanyl drug dealer after a probable drug

overdose/death in Mount Pocono on 4-14. Detectives determined the dealer was living in a room at the Days Inn in Tannersville. Police obtained a search warrant for the room and executed it just after 6 a.m. on 4-15. Detectives seized approximately 140 little bags of heroin/fentanyl, plus some marijuana, suboxone, drug paraphernalia, and \$587, then arrested John Janaskas,

See POLICE BEAT, page 15

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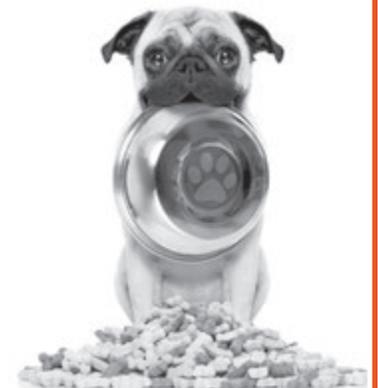


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Police Beat

Continued from page 14

33, taking him to the Monroe County jail. He will be arraigned before District Judge Danielle Travagline in Coolbaugh Twp. on the drugs and dealing charges, and then on the Megan's Law violation.

4-3, 3:38 p.m. After a brief argument, a 44 y/o Jim Thorpe area man grabbed a 42 y/o Albrightsville woman by the neck and strangled her, before fleeing. Police were called. PSP-F located the man and arrested him on charges of simple assault and harassment.

Four clients of Child First Services hired an Uber and were driven from their facility (off Route 903 in Penn Forest Twp.) just after 4:30 p.m. on 4-10. They have been reported as having run away to PSP-F.

An 18 y/o Slatington man was arrested after a harassing phone call to a 19 y/o Penn Forest Twp. woman, 4-21 to 22. He had been blocked as a caller, and told to cease contact. PSP-F.

There were a also handful of DUI and drugs reports over these four weeks.

Stealin'

Thieves stole seven handguns from a home in East Side, White Haven, the burglary discovered 4-8. PSP is investigating, and welcomes information—call them at 570 646-2271.

Two heat pumps outside and copper pipe from the basement was stolen from a building at 6000 Running Valley Road in Jackson Twp. on 4-15 and 16. PSP-F is investigating, information is sought here as well.

PSP also reports various shoplifting incidents in the Brodheadsville area, and that someone stole a purse from a shopping cart in Kinsley's ShopRite, 4-11 at 4 p.m.

Local and state police are looking into I.D. theft inci-

dents including unauthorized card use.

PSP-Lehighton investigated an attempted burglary at a Dogwood Drive, Bear Creek Lake, Penn Forest Twp. home the morning of 4-17. The person removed a screen, and walked around the building but was not able to enter.

Keeping the Rubber Side down

At 10:40 a.m. on 4-3, a 43 y/o Albrightsville man drove his Chevy Impala off Route 534 near Meckesville Road, while speeding. The car hit the guide rail and wrecked the front end and passenger side, disabling it. PSP-F, Penn Forest Volunteer Fire Co. #2 and Lehighton Ambulance responded. Police found the man to be driving under the influence. He was put into the Ambulance to be taken to St. Luke's—Gnaden Huetten for treatment and to get a blood chemicals test.

PSP-F responded to injury accidents on Interstate 80 several times last month. Mostly dry weather and little snow and ice made for a light list of crashes this month.

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Tobyhanna Township Volunteer Fire Company Lieutenant Wade Oddy uses the department's disinfecting fogger at Pocono Mountain Regional Police headquarters.

Local Fire Company aiding fellow essential resources

by Jeanine Hofbauer

"We're all working together keeping everybody safe," says Assistant Fire Chief Ed Tutrone as Tobyhanna Township Volunteer Fire Company continues aiding area organizations and first responders by disinfecting locations to help prevent Coronavirus contamination.

Since Coolbaugh Township supervisors' April 7 unanimous approval to release \$5,500 in tax funds for the purchase of a fogger and two 55 gallon drums of disinfecting solution, the department has visited the municipality's buildings, along with neighbors like Tunkhannock Township offices, Pocono Mountain Regional Police Headquarters, Monroe County Municipal Waste Authority, and fellow fire companies Thornhurst and Pocono Summit.

After each location's thorough room-by-room fogging,

the department leaves one gallon full strength bottles of the nontoxic compound to continue efforts in keeping these essential locations ahead of the COVID-19 situation.

Coolbaugh Township supervisors chairman Bill Weimer commented, "I am very impressed with the ingenuity and willingness to protect by the emergency fire service reaching out to their neighbors and offering to help. By offering a solution to disinfect on a large scale that has not been done to this magnitude in the past they have shown us a way to take care of everyone in a stronger capacity."

Expressing gratitude to Coolbaugh for enthusiastically responding to his call to put the request before supervisors for approval, Tutrone also extended appreciation to those across the community who continue to help others. "We all want to take care of our neighbors."

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PMSD adds online learning and meal service following school closures

by **Jeanine Hofbauer**

Due to the COVID19 crisis, schools like Pocono Mountain's were caught in the whirlwind of where to begin. Tackling tasks head-on, district officials created a stay-at-home plan allowing for education continuity. Within weeks, Edgenuity and Google Classroom were tested and implemented. Chromebooks for students who do not have a computer at home to use for educational purposes were offered. Those with computer access could use these online home learning platforms.

"We [PMSD/parents/students] will find our way to-

gether," stated Superintendent Dr. Elizabeth Robison. Acknowledging some confusion, even apprehension, in using the new learning tools, Robison reported that modules can be adjusted to suit each student's individual level, making clear that the focus remains on enrichment and review, not grade course work agreeing face-to-face in-class learning excels.

Seeing parents as partners, she asked that they encourage students to do assignments assuring teachers are ready to assist.

"No child should go hungry," reads PMSD's statement after each school meal service

update. The school closings created concerns over kids reliant upon in-school meals. Reporting that over 40,000 meals have been provided since the district's no cost service started, PMSD praised food service provider Chartwells for making the food, and school employee volunteers for distributing them to families at pickup locations outside Pocono Mountain East High School, West High School and Clear Run Intermediate School.

A newly established Emergency Student Meals Hotline has been announced. Families running out of food, unable to provide meals for their chil-

dren or with no means to picking up free student meals are asked to contact the district at 570-839-7121 extension 10165 and leave a message.

About the East and West High School proms and graduation, Robison reported each school's principal is working on plans. West High School Principal Mark Wade later stated, "Right now, we just know that proms will not happen on the original dates. We are working with our student council and student government to postpone the dates later in the summer contingent upon governmental guidance as the safety of our school community is paramount."

He added, "A decision on graduation has not been reached but we are exploring options."

Since this meeting, the district posted Governor Tom Wolf's announcement that all schools will be physically closed for the remainder of the school year. A vow to offer continuity of education through Edgenuity and Google Classroom included a request for parents to encourage students to keep using the online learning platform.

For information on Pocono Mountain School District's next online meeting, visit PMSD.org for sign-on instructions and updates.

Area Funerals

RICHARD D. JANOS

Richard D. Janos, age 63 of Mt. Pocono died April 3, 2020 at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital in Wilkes-Barre.

Richard was born in Greensburg on March 26, 1957, son of Tressa Delli Santi of Tobyhanna and the late William Janos. He was the husband of the late Lorraine Janos.

Richard had worked in the IT field as a Data Base Architect at Areotek CE in Parsippany, NJ.

He is survived by son, Jonathan Janos of Mt. Pocono; sister, Lorelei Fox and her husband Patrick of Gilbert; brothers William Janos Jr and his wife Michelle of Lucedale, MS and Anthony Janos and his wife Heidi of Brooklyn, NY; fiancée, Kate Miller of Mt. Pocono; and several nieces and nephews.

DELHI SCHNEIDER

Delhi Schneider, 77, of Mt. Pocono, died at home April 7, 2020. She was the widow of Alan L. Schneider.

Born in San Pedro Sula, Honduras she was the daughter of Francico and Transito (Robles) Altamirano.

Delhi was a resident of Mt. Pocono for the past 17 years and prior to that she resided in Staten Island, New York. She worked as an account analysis for the Chase-Manhattan Bank in New York City for many years. She was of the Catholic faith.

She is survived by two sons, Alan V. Schneider of Mt. Pocono, and Juan Altamirano and his wife Tina of Quakerstown; three grandchildren, Nicolas, Sonia, and Jessica; and a sister Zoila Rivera of Honduras.

Burial is in the Prospect Cemetery, E. Stroudsburg.

LUZ E. ABREU

Luz E. Abreu, 86, of Tobyhanna, died April 12, 2020, at St. Luke's Anderson in Easton, due to complications from the Covid-19 virus.

Born Saturday, July 15, 1933 in Yauco, Puerto Rico, she was the daughter of the late Santiago Rodriguez and the late Ramona (Torres) Rodriguez. She was also predeceased by her husband, Jose Francisco Abreu on October 11, 2018; and brothers, Julio F. Rodriguez Torres, Francisco Rodriguez Torres, and Mariano Rodriguez Torres; and sisters, Amalia Rodriguez Torres and Marta Rodriguez Torres.

Surviving are son, Jose Abreu and his wife Vickie of Tobyhanna; sister, Carmen Rodriguez Torres; grandchildren, Vanessa Abreu, Aiden Abreu, Jannaiya Abreu; great-grandchildren, Nicholas Reyes, Elijah Reyes, James King Wong.

MAGDALEN ORSULAK

Magdalen "Marge" M. Orsulak, 95, formerly of Pocono Summit, died April 17, 2020. She was the wife of the late Stephen Orsulak. Born in Stara Lehota, Slovakia, she was the daughter of the late Lukac and Blandina (Domin) Mihalko.

She is survived by three children; six granddaughters; and five great-grandchildren.

ANNELORE PAUGSCH

Annelore Paugsch, 97, of Long Pond, died April 9, 2020. Born in Arnstadt, Germany she was the daughter of Fritz and Martha (Woelke) Koch. She was residing in Long Pond for the past year.

Annelore is survived by her daughter Christa Texel of Long Pond and two grandchildren.

Longer versions of these obituaries can be found on our website at www.pocononewspapers.com

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22nd season for this fun recreational league for players 30+...and up.

Season starts May 2 with warm-ups at 1 p.m. and game at 2.

Games every other Saturday through August at Keiper Ballfield on Cross Street in Pocono Lake.

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Registration is \$40 for team T-shirts, balls and other supplies.

