

Allegheny West Magazine

MONTOUR EDITION

Vol. 11, No. 61
September/October 2013

FREE Direct Mail
Community Publication

HOLT: PRESERVING "THE GREEN"

**PTI Rolls Out New
Culinary Academy**

**CCAC Takes
Mechatronics Program
to Next Level**

**Montour Back to
School & Fall
Sports Calendars**

Montour School
District News



Pg. 14



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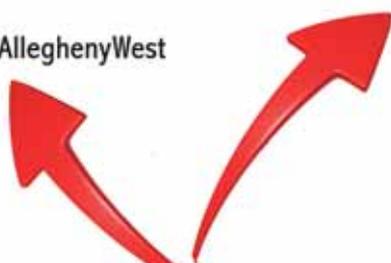
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We've Turned 15, and Still Something New to Learn, Someone New to Meet!

Last month's issue marked a milestone for us. *Allegheny West Magazine* turned 15 years old! They say time flies when you're having fun. Well, we have certainly seen time fly over all the years we have sat at our desks, or attended hundreds of events, meetings, interviews, photo shoots, and more.



Just when you think you know about everything going on around our town, you learn something new, meet someone new, or hear something new.

For example, Pittsburgh Technical Institute proudly rolled out its American Academy of Culinary Arts to meet continued growing demand for cooks and chefs in the region.

The Hollow Oak Land Trust is doing bigger and better things to preserve nature in this part of Allegheny County, as guest writer, Carolyn Morrison, reports in her story on page 22.

With the new school year underway, we learned about the new

mechatronics program at CCAC, a new partnership between Rosedale and Precision Manufacturing Institute, and new classes and programs for students in the Montour School District.

And, we had the pleasure of learning about some more of the outstanding residents in your hometown. Learn about Priscilla Salvatore, now retired from the Western Area YMCA, who was honored with a Paul Harris Award from the Parkway West Rotary, and Maggie Forbes, who has returned to direct the Carnegie Library and Performing Arts Center. And read about Rosedale's director, Dennis Wilke, who has been elected to guide his national industry organization.

Needless to say, we continue to enjoy the ride and especially to play an important part in helping to keep our residents and businesses connected and informed.

Thank you! As we celebrate our 15th birthday, being the community's storyteller has been one of the best gifts we could ever receive. And it keeps on giving!



Pat Jennette, Publisher & Editor



Continued Community Discoveries Amaze and Impress

I don't know about you, but when the Discovery Channel show *Man vs. Wild* started airing on television a few years ago, I became a fan.

My introduction was the episode where host Bear Grylls, a British special forces member-turned motivational speaker, got dropped into a remote location in Hawaii. After traipsing across cooled lava fields and plucking fresh avocados right out of the treetops, Bear made a home-made smoker to quell a giant bee's nest, and pulled out a first-sized chunk of gooey honeycomb that he devoured right there on the spot.

For those of you not familiar with the since canceled show, Bear was often dropped into remote locations like the Sierra Nevada or Rocky mountains to demonstrate survival skills. Serving as the show's backdrop were some of the wildest and most beautiful places on earth. To me, sitting in the cramped apartment in Boston I used to rent, with the sounds of neighbors on all sides, and the daily battle of the subway still fresh in my mind, it was pure escape.

The idea of the unending wilderness is one that's actually pretty ubiquitous, and become the backbone behind some pretty big business. While it's been good for clothing lines and retail box stores, it's also been good for our parks. Ecotourism helps them survive.

In this issue, we feature a story about the Hollow Oak Land Trust, and the organization's efforts to preserve green spaces throughout the airport area by encouraging eco-tourism into some surprisingly beautiful spaces right under our noses. I encourage you to read the piece, and also check out some of the trails that HOLT is developing. Maybe you'll even volunteer with them.



Doug Hughey, Assistant Editor

contents

RIGHT: Area children participated in the youth programs held this summer at the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden.



Allegheny West Magazine

"GOOD NEWS ALWAYS, MAILED & DELIVERED FREE, EVERY TIME"

Allegheny West Magazine - Montour Edition, is an all positive, good news publication mailed free into the homes and businesses of the Montour School District communities of Ingram, Kennedy, Pennsbury, Robinson, and Thornburg to connect communities, promote people, heighten awareness about the richness of the airport region, and build pride in the western suburbs of Allegheny County.

Montour Edition

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ABOUT THE COVER

Efforts to protect areas of green space in the airport west suburbs are growing due to the efforts of the Hollow Oak Land Trust. Read the story on page 22.

PHOTO BY SARAH HUGHEY

Save your local economy...
three stores at a time.

the 3/50 project

SAVING THE BRICK AND MORTAR. OUR NATION IS BUILT ON

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MORE INFO

Allegheny West Magazine-Montour Edition is published in January, March, May, July, September, and November, six issues a year, by Jennette Communications Group, 15 Walnut Street, Suite 101, Imperial, PA 15126. Mailed and distributed free to residents and businesses in Kennedy, Ingram, Pennsbury, Robinson, Thornburg, and adjacent areas. Extra copies available at municipal offices, schools, libraries, stores, advertisers, hotels, and businesses.

Available by mail subscription for \$12 annually. Story ideas welcomed. Community events and announcements from non-profit groups must be received by the 15th of the month prior to publishing date.

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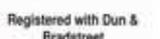
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Jennette Communications Group also publishes the Moon Edition of Allegheny West Magazine, and the West Allegheny Edition of Allegheny West Magazine.

MEMBER :



WE PROUDLY SPONSOR AND SUPPORT:

A variety of community, school, and nonprofit organizations in our coverage areas of Moon, Montour, and West Allegheny.



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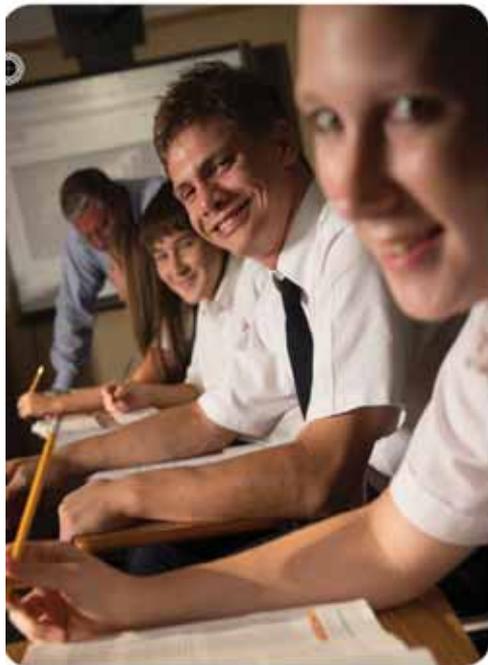
DID YOU KNOW

The community of Pennsbury once was part of Robinson before it seceded to form its own community with its own governing body in 1976. It remained part of the Montour School District.



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NEW ARRIVALS



(left to right) Paul M. Zubritzky, M.D.; Tera S. Conway, M.D.;
Patrick T. Christy, M.D.; and Paula A. Duncan, M.D.

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Paul M. Zubritzky, M.D., specializes in obstetrics and gynecology. He earned his medical degree at Temple University School of Medicine and completed his residency at The Western Pennsylvania Hospital where he served as Chief Resident. Dr. Zubritzky is board-certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Tera S. Conway, M.D., specializes in obstetrics and gynecology. She earned her medical degree at Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine. Dr. Conway completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at The Western Pennsylvania Hospital where she served as Administrative Chief Resident.

Patrick T. Christy, M.D., specializes in obstetrics and gynecology. He earned his medical degree at Jefferson Medical College and completed his residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Lankenau Hospital. Dr. Christy is board-certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Paula A. Duncan, M.D., specializes in obstetrics and gynecology. She earned her medical degree at Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine. Dr. Duncan completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at UPMC Magee Womens Hospital.

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On the Horizon

LEFT: Jewelry designed by Moon Township artist Alma Lleras will be among the many unique and creative items showcased by vendors at the annual Unique Boutique hosted by Heritage Valley Healthcare Foundation on November 9.

Ongoing

Perspectives 2013, The Mall at Robinson, lower level near Macy's, through **October 29**, exhibition of photographic artwork by students in Pittsburgh Technical Institute's School of Design.

Genealogy Club: Beginning Genealogy, September 12, **Show and Tell Night**, October 10, **Citing Sources**, November 14, **Holiday Gathering**,

December 12, membership free, new members welcome, Heather Anderson, moongenealogyclub@gmail.com.

GriefShare, September 14-December 14, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Crossroads Church, \$15 workbook fee, (412) 494-9999, www.crossroadsumc.org/northfayette-griefshare.

September 7

Moon Area Fall Soccer, September 7-October 26, games played Saturday mornings, team practices one evening per week, \$80 registration, moonsoccer@gmail.com.

September 8

Pet Memorial Sunday, sponsored by Chartiers Custom Pet Cremation, 2-3:30 p.m., Melrose Cemetery, Bridgeville. Speakers will discuss relationships with pets, followed by words of tribute written by pet owners, please do not bring live pets to this event, (412) 220-7800, www.cpcp.ws.

"On the Horizon" provides space for nonprofit organizations and groups to post upcoming events and programs. Send announcements by e-mail to: alleghenywestmagazine@comcast.net. Please follow format as indicated above. Items will be edited to fit.

Ohio River Trail Council Gear & Beer Music Festival, the Lodge in Bradys Run Park, **September 8, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.**, mountain bike race, road bike ride, 5k run/walk, kayaking and canoeing, rock climbing wall, auctions, raffles, music, wine, and craft beer tasting, adventure equipment vendors, supports ORTC's mission of land stewardship through outdoor recreation, \$20 admission, \$20 extra/any athletic event, (724) 728-2625, www.ohiorivertrail.org.

September 14

Robinson Township 11th Annual Autumn Festival, 12-9:45 p.m., Daniel P. Tallon Memorial Field, Burkett Park, live music by The Collisions, Ruby Red and the Dirty Devils, local dance groups, Montour HS Drum Line, remote controlled street car race, fireworks, www.townshipofrobinson.com.

September 21



11th Annual Tour the Montour Trail Ride, registration starts 7:15 a.m., 62-mile riders depart 8:15 a.m., staggered start times for different ride lengths from six to 62 miles, optional timed challenge at Hassam Road, scavenger hunt, pre-registration \$25, family \$45, after September 6, \$30, family \$50, \$5 member discount, registration packets available at REI Settlers Ridge September 19, 6:30-8:30 p.m., benefits Montour Trail, (412) 257-3011, www.race360.com/15908, thetour@montourtrail.org.

Jacob Ferree Chapter DAR Benefit Luncheon, September 21, Montour Heights Country Club, 11 a.m., \$25, Chinese auction, entertainment by harpist Suzanne Hershey, to register, (412) 931-4309.

West Allegheny Class of '78 Reunion, September 21, J & D Cellars Winery, Eighty Four,

(owned by a classmate), e-mail: sam.scarfone@hswa-pa.org.

Nutcracker Auditions at the Carnegie Performing Arts Center, boys and girls, **September 21, Ages 5-12 at 1 p.m., 13 and up at 2 p.m.**, Carnegie Performing Arts Center, third floor, 150 East Main Street, Carnegie. Rehearsals on Saturday afternoons. Two weekends of performances will be presented in a full-stage production at the historic Andrew Carnegie Music Hall in Carnegie. Director Monica Ryan choreographs the production, (412) 279-8887, www.carnegieperformingartscenter.com.

September 22

Kennedy VFD Chicken Dinner Fundraiser, Kennedy Fire Hall, 12-7 p.m., barbecue chicken dinner with baked potatoes, baked beans, cole slaw, and more, Chinese auction, proceeds benefit Kennedy VFD, donations and tickets: Anita Kulik, (412) 787-5422.

September 26

Moon Area AARP #3451, 1 p.m., Sharon Presbyterian Church, 522 Carnot Road, Moon Township, program, "LIFE: Living Independence for the Elderly" (about programs available to help seniors stay in their homes). Coffee/pastries, new members/guests welcome, (412) 264-6810.

September 28

2nd Annual PIMBA (Pennsylvania Interscholastic Marching Band Association) Competition hosted by Moon Area Marching Band, Moon Tiger Stadium, University Boulevard, Moon Township, 5 p.m., great music presented by 11 western Pennsylvania marching bands: Blackhawk, East Allegheny, Fox Chapel, Leechburg, McGuffey, Moon Area, Penn Trafford, Rochester, Serra, Southmoreland, Springdale, \$8/ adults, \$4/children/ senior citizens. (724) 777-7457.

Truck Touch Library Benefit, September 28, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Clinton Park,



Route 30, Clinton, ("no horn" time between 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. for children frightened of sirens). Co-sponsored by Findlay Township, Macaroni Kid/Robinson and Western Allegheny Community Library. Kids can climb and explore fire engines, school buses, construction vehicles, bucket truck, and more, food and drinks available for purchase, admission free, donations benefit Western Allegheny Community Library, (724) 695-0500, http://robinson.macaronikid.com.

October 5

11th Annual Help Kids Lose the Blues! Clarion Hotel in Greentree, 7 p.m., benefits Circle C's programs to help local at-risk children, teens, and young adults, \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, appetizers, cash bar, raffle, silent auctions, (412) 937-1605 x224.

October 6

West Allegheny Foundation Golf Outing, benefits school and community initiatives, Quicksilver Golf Club, details: www.wafoundation.net.

October 12

Monte Carlo Night and Dance, SNPJ, Imperial, 6-11 p.m., Nathan Zadrozny Memorial Foundation, door prizes, raffles, auction, benefits Make-A-Wish, tickets: Denise, (412) 965-1390, www.NathanZadroznyMemorialFoundation.org.

November 9

Unique Boutique, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Edgeworth Club in Sewickley, sponsored by Heritage Valley Sewickley Foundation, benefits foundation programs, \$10 admission or \$35 admission with lunch, (412) 749-7052, www.heritagevalley.org.

Fall into Fun at the Western Area YMCA



Zumbini™

Thursdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m., September 19-November 21. For children up to 3-years-old and caregivers, takes little ones on their first steps toward an active, musical life, wiggle, sing, learn dance 'n' play movement, fun props, instruments, cool Zumba® music with world rhythms and catchy, kid-friendly tunes created just for this program, register by September 13, facility members, \$75, program members, \$120, sibling discount is \$40 off, includes 2 CD's and a song book valued at \$40.

Drop 10 in 10

Tuesdays, 12 p.m., September 17-November 19. Add a healthy balance to your life with this Highmark program designed to help you drop ten pounds, or ten percent of your body weight, in ten weeks, register by September 10, \$20 for Highmark members, nominal fee for non-Highmark members.

Personal Nutrition Coaching

To schedule an appointment: (412) 787-9622. A personalized Highmark program designed by a registered dietician to address the needs of an individual seeking nutrition counseling related to weight management, heart health, and diabetes.

Insanity

Visit the Welcome Center or www.westernarea-y.org for class dates and times. Group exercise class that uses MAX Interval Training for insane results, free to facility members, \$60 for 10 classes for program members.

Tai Chi

Visit the Welcome Center or www.westernarea-y.org for class dates and times. Ancient practice that uses movement and breath to reduce pain and improve mental and physical well-being, free to facility members, \$60 for 10 classes for program members.

Purse Bingo featuring Vera Bradley Purses

October 20, 1 p.m., doors open at noon. Play bingo while winning Vera Bradley designer purses and accessories, proceeds benefit Western Area Y Building Bridges Campaign, includes lunch, Chinese auction, purse raffles, door prizes, and bingo, at Holy Trinity School, Robinson, \$25 in advance, purchase at Western Area YMCA on September 20.

Tricks, Treats, and Fun

October 25, 6-8 p.m. Family fun night filled with fall and Halloween activities, magician, pumpkin painting, games, crafts, snacks, wear your costume, bring the family, free and open to members and non-members, pre-registration required.

Ten & Under Tennis

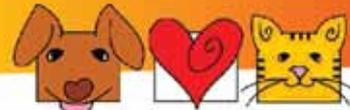
September 9-October 26, October 28-December 14, no classes week of November 25. Tennis gets kids moving, improves balance, agility, and hand-eye coordination, teaches self-confidence and self-assurance, safe, supportive environment, classes ages 3-5 and 4-10 available, see program guide at www.westernarea-y.org.

After School Child Care

Programs in the Montour School District

Every school day from dismissal until 6 p.m. YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh offers quality school-age child care programs in the Montour School District, programs held at Burkett and Forest Grove Elementary for children in kindergarten through fourth grade, contact Andy Keaton, akeaton@ymcapgh.org.

For more information on these programs, call (412) 787-9622.



Beaver County Humane Society

Tails on the Trails Pet Walk

Sunday, September 29, 2013

11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Rain or Shine

Brady's Run Park Shelter #7

For more information and to register online visit www.tailsonthetrails.org



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Contests,
Vendors
and a
whole lotta
fun
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Saturday, November 9, 2013

Edgeworth Club, 511 East Drive, Sewickley

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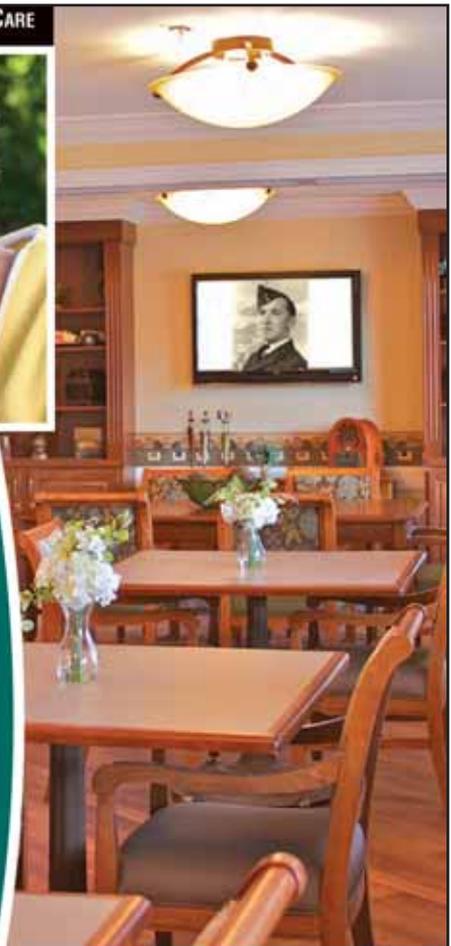
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AHN.org

Montour School District

Welcome Back to School!

Montour High School

The Montour High School Administration, Faculty, and Staff welcome back our students, as we look forward to the start of the 2013-2014 school year! Each new school year brings excitement as students return to the high school campus. Our students have much to look forward to as we implement new and exciting academic and co-curricular programming. With the addition of even more new technologies our students will continue to have access to the very best educational programming. Montour High School continues to be a regional leader in STEM education that compliments a comprehensive curriculum that is focused on rigorous and relevant learning opportunities for all students. We wish all of our students an outstanding 2013-2014 school year! Welcome Back!

Mr. Todd M. Price, MHS Principal

David E. Williams Middle School

Welcome back for the 2013-2014 school year. As a school community, we realize that we are a high achieving school in the areas of academics, athletics, and the arts. Reflecting on the job that our students and staff did last year, we have reason to be proud! We realize that we continue to grow as a school and continue to build on the success of previous years.

The upcoming school year will prove to be a challenging one. As always, our academic focus will be centered on the traditional state standards in all content areas. Additionally, we will focus on the newly adapted Common Core learning standards. The Common Core learning standards will challenge our students with a new level of rigor and depth of understanding. To that end, students will engage in learning activities that stress research skills, synthesis of information from multiple sources, and consideration of multiple strategies for problem solving, to name a few. At the same time, a number of 7th and 8th grade students will take part in the Keystone graduation exams in the areas of algebra and biology. A number of our students took the algebra I Keystone exams last year, and our students passed the exam at a rate that far exceeded the pass rate in the Commonwealth.

As the school year begins, our staff understands that our first mission is to instill and nurture a strong sense of positive school culture. We have always enjoyed a positive climate at our middle school, and our students and staff make David E. Williams a great place to learn and work. Our students and staff have a tremendous amount of pride, and we are prepared to accomplish all of our goals this school year. On behalf of the Montour School District, we wish all of our students and staff a successful and gratifying school year!

Mr. Dominick Salpack, DEW Principal

Burkett Elementary School

Burkett Elementary School is excited to welcome our returning 4th graders and new 3rd grade students to school. Many new and exciting initiatives are taking place at Burkett Elementary School to promote the continued academic, social, and emotional development of our students.

This year, we embrace a departmentalized schedule to enhance our content focus as we transition to the rigorous Pennsylvania Common Core Academic Standards.

In addition, to ensure that our students receive the most current and researched instruction, we are implementing a brand new math series. McGraw-Hill's My Math will foster a deeper understanding of math concepts and engage students in fun and meaningful ways.

Burkett Elementary School is also rolling out multiple Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) initiatives as we were selected for the AIU Center for Creativity grant of \$20,000. The art and science areas are undergoing a transformation reflecting the current trends in elementary STEAM!

Our school's web page will share information and articles about things happening here at www.montourschools.com!

Mr. Dan Didesidario, Principal

Forest Grove Elementary School

Welcome Back! It is with great excitement that we've been preparing for the 2013-14 school year at Forest Grove! Our entire staff is excited and proud to be a part of the Forest Grove Elementary school community and to be working with our families this year!

Our teachers were busy throughout the summer readying their classrooms and preparing curriculum materials to ensure a successful start to the year for all of our kindergarten, first, and second grade students.

There are new academic and positive school culture initiatives being developed to guarantee another fulfilling and enriching school year. As noted above, a new math program, McGraw-Hill's My Math, will strengthen math concepts through fun and meaningful ways for students.

A Principal's Advisory Committee is in the developmental stages to promote an environment of collaboration among the staff and to better serve the social and emotional needs of students. We are also very excited to begin a collaborative effort between Forest Grove and Burkett that will involve members of the school community, at all levels, to develop a school-wide positive behavior program for both elementary schools. This plan will serve as part of our ongoing comprehensive plan to develop the academic, social, and emotional needs of students.

Visit the Forest Grove page at www.montourschools.com for more information regarding the 2013-14 school year.

Ms. Jennifer Kosanovic, Forest Grove Principal



Ingram Resource Center Offers Much

When the Ingram Elementary School closed, the Ingram Resource Center emerged in its place. The center is the place to go for community programs, computer usage, free Internet access, free tutoring, reading programs, and, of course, books and reference materials one would expect in a center where information is the core.

The Ingram Resource Center is open every Tuesday and Thursday to all Montour students from 6 to 8 p.m.

There are seven computers with network access to the Internet, and free WiFi for those wishing to bring their own laptops or netbooks.

Once again, the district is offering the Accelerated Reader program at the Ingram Resource Center. As a result of this service, multiple students reported back last year that they had improved their grades.

For the community at large, groups in need of a space for small committee meetings can use rooms within the center. There is no fee; however, the room is available only during resource center hours, which are Tuesday and Thursday evenings between 6 and 8 p.m. The space comfortably holds up to 20 people. If more space is needed, groups can request permission to use a classroom within the building.

Amanda Meyers, who is presently filling in at the center,

Montour Students Invited to Participate in Regional Marketing Initiatives

Twice this summer, Montour students were invited to be part of marketing efforts for two regional and highly respected organizations: Dick's Sporting Goods and WPXI-TV.

In July, members of the high school basketball team participated in a photo shoot under the guidance of Barry Berenson, manager of photography for Dick's Sporting Goods. The purpose of the photo shoot was to incorporate the images into the *2013 Basketball Digest* that the company publishes.

Dick's geared the photos toward practice and drills, as Montour's coaches gave guidance during the sessions.

In August, about 20 members of the Montour Spartans Marching Band were invited to perform as part of the WPXI-TV's promo day commercial. Additionally, members of the Montour football team took part.

welcomes the community to attend the kickoff event on September 12, a movie night with snacks and drinks. The Disney movie, "Epic," will be shown from 6 to 8 p.m. There is no need to RSVP, and the event is free.

Amanda said that tutoring is available to all Montour students in kindergarten through grade 12. However, students in kindergarten through grade eight must be accompanied by an adult. She added that tutoring is available for all subject areas.

Both Amanda and Debra Peelor provide the tutoring; both women have teaching degrees. Amanda works primarily with students in pre-kindergarten through grade six because of her certification in those grades, while Debra works with middle and high school students as well as assisting with help in the sciences.

Amanda said the center hopes to form a renewed partnership with the high school National Honor Society this year to provide tutoring assistance.

She noted that, while tutoring services are free, it is helpful to contact her by e-mail (peelord@montourschools.com) so she knows what subject areas to expect to help with when a student arrives.

www.montourschools.com

Montour School District

TO REACH THE SCHOOLS

Dr. Donald Boyer, Superintendent
(412) 490-6500, ext. 6222
boyerd@montourschools.com

Mr. Jason Burik, Asst. to the Supt.
(412) 490-6500, ext. 6231
burikjason@montourschools.com

Dr. Christopher Stone, Dir. Curric. & Instr.
(412) 490-6500, ext. 6103
stonec@montourschools.com

Dr. Fran Serenka, Dir. Special Education
(412) 490-6500, ext. 6101
serenkaf@montourschools.com

Dr. Silke Caparelli, Supv. Special Education
(412) 490-6500, ext. 6102
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Mr. Bill Addy, Dir. Human Resources
(412) 490-6500, ext. 6235
addyw@montourschools.com

Mrs. Anna Borsos, Business Mgr.
(412) 490-6500, ext. 6232
schweitzerp@montourschools.com

Mr. Bob Wagner, Transportation Director
(412) 490-6500, ext. 4700
wagnerb@montourschools.com

Mr. Lou Cerro, Athletic Director
(412) 490-6500, ext. 1627
cerrol@montourschools.com

HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Todd Price, Principal
(412) 490-6500, ext. 1612
pricet@montourschools.com

Mr. William King, Asst. Principal
(412) 490-6500, ext. 1614
kingw@montourschools.com

D. E. WILLIAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mr. Dominick Salpeck, Principal
(412) 771-8802, ext. 2611
salpeckd@montourschools.com

Mrs. Candice Bostick, Asst. Principal
(412) 771-8802, ext. 2612
bostickc@montourschools.com

FOREST GROVE ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Jennifer Kosanovic, Principal
(412) 264-6452, ext. 3611
kosanovicj@montourschools.com

BURKETT ELEMENTARY

Mr. Dan DiDesiderio, Principal
(412) 787-0408, ext. 4611
desideriod@montourschools.com

INGRAM ELEMENTARY

RESOURCE CENTER
(412) 921-2727, ext. 5611

Montour Makes Significant PSSA Gains

Over the past six years, the Montour School District has experienced significant gains in students scoring Advanced or Proficient on the annual state assessment.

The adjacent chart provides a historical perspective on the percentage of students passing the PSSA in the areas of reading, math, and science.

Montour continues to make positive academic strides forward!

PSSA Historical Data Review, 2012-2013 School Year

Year	Reading	Math	Science
2012	84%	93%	86%
2011	83	90	70
2010	82	83	66
2009	82	86	65
2008	81	82	67
2007	77	80	58
2006	75	77	NA

Grade Level Centers Yield Positive Academic Results

During the 2012-2013 school year, the Montour School District migrated to grade level centers, Forest Grove (K-2) and Burkett (3-4). The following data provides evidence of positive academic growth as measured by the 2012-2013 third and fourth grade PSSA scores. Congratulations to our staff and students!

Overall Percentage of Advanced / Proficient Students: Math 93%, Science 91%, Reading 84%
Increases from the 2011-2012 School Year: Math +6%, Science +7%, Reading +1%

*data comparison to 2011-2012 elementary structure

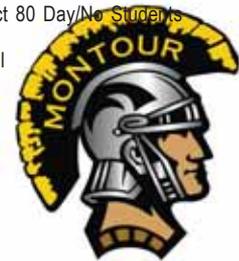
More Back to School News

- High school football coach Lou Cerro has been named athletic director to fill the spot vacated by Mitch Galiyas, who retired last year.
- New high school courses are Advanced Placement Biology and a Medical Interventions course for juniors, the latter which is part of the Project Lead the Way Biomedical Sciences Program.
- Students in grades 8 through 10 can now take a new biology course.
- At the middle school, students can now take Gateway to Technology courses, which include science, technology, engineering, and math. Nutrition and wellness courses are also now offered to middle schoolers.
- New math textbooks are now available for students taking math courses from kindergarten through algebra.

2013-2014 Calendar

September 23
September 24
September 25
October 11
October 14
November 5
November 11
November 27
November 28-29 & Dec. 2
December 23-31 & Jan. 1
January 20
January 27
February 14
February 17
March 21
April 16
April 17 - 21
May 9
May 26
June 11
June 12

Open House - FG & DEW Grades 7 & 8 (1 Hr. Early Dismissal for All)
Open House - Burkett & H.S. (1 Hr. Early Dismissal for All)
Open House - DEW Grades 5 & 6 (1 Hr. Early Dismissal for All)
Teacher In-Service/No Students
Local Holiday/No School
Local Holiday/No School
Parent/Teacher Conferences - Act 80 Day/No Students
Early Dismissal
Thanksgiving Recess/No School
Holiday Recess/No School
Local Holiday/No School
Teacher In-Service/No Students
Local Holiday/No School
Teacher In-Service/No Students
Local Holiday/No School
Early Dismissal
Spring Break/No School
Teacher In-Service/No Students
Memorial Day/No School
Last Day for Students/Early Dismissal
Teacher Clerical/Last Day for Teachers





MONTOUR SPARTANS FALL VARSITY SPORTS SCHEDULES

Football - Boys Varsity

Sept. 6	Central Valley (Youth Night)	Home	7:10 pm
Sept. 13	Mohawk	Away	7:30 pm
Sept. 20	New Castle (Home Coming)	Home	7:10 pm
Sept. 27	Ambridge	Away	7:30 pm
Oct. 4	Chartiers Valley	Home	7:10 pm
Oct. 10	Blackhawk	Home	7 pm
Oct. 18	West Allegheny	Away	7 pm
Oct. 25	Moon Area	Away	7:30 pm

Volleyball - Girls Varsity

Sept. 9	Hopewell	Home	6 pm
Sept. 10	Mt. Lebanon	Away	6 pm
Sept. 12	Bethel Park	Home	6 pm
Sept. 17	West Allegheny	Away	6 pm
Sept. 21	Moon Area	Away	TBA
Sept. 23	South Fayette	Away	6 pm
Sept. 25	Moon Area	Home	6 pm
Sept. 26	Chartiers Valley	Home	6 pm
Oct. 1	Baldwin	Away	6 pm
Oct. 3	Mt. Lebanon	Home	6 pm
Oct. 8	Bethel Park	Away	6 pm
Oct. 9	West Allegheny	Home	6 pm
Oct. 14	Vincentian Academy	Home	6 pm
Oct. 17	Moon Area	Away	6 pm
Oct. 21	BishopCanevin	Away	6:30 pm

Tennis - Girls Varsity

Sept. 9	West Allegheny	Away	3:30 pm
Sept. 11	Montour	Away	TBA
Sept. 12	Montour	Away	TBA
Sept. 13	Allderdice	Away	3:30 pm
Sept. 16	Baldwin	Away	3:30 pm
Sept. 17	Montour (MAC 2 Brady's Run)	Away	8 am
Sept. 18	Oakland Catholic	Away	3:30 pm
Sept. 19	Oakland Catholic	Home	3:30 pm
Sept. 23	Mt. Lebanon	Away	3:30 pm
Sept. 25	Montour	Away	TBA
Sept. 26	Montour (Section Doubles)	Away	TBA
Sept. 27	Chartiers Valley	Home	3:30 pm
Sept. 30	Upper St. Clair	Away	3:30 pm
Oct. 3	West Allegheny	Home	3:30 pm

Soccer - Girls Varsity

Sept. 7	Chartiers Valley	Home	10 am
Sept. 9	South Fayette	Home	6 pm
Sept. 11	Obama	Away	TBA
Sept. 14	Freeport Area	Away	10 am
Sept. 16	West Allegheny	Away	6 pm
Sept. 19	Carrick (Varsity Only)	Home	6 pm
Sept. 19	Keystone Oaks	Home	6 pm
Sept. 23	Quaker Valley	Away	6 pm
Sept. 25	Moon Area	Home	6 pm
Sept. 26	South Fayette	Away	6 pm
Sept. 30	Obama	Home	6 pm
Oct. 2	West Allegheny	Home	6 pm
Oct. 5	Carrick (Varsity Only)	Away	12 pm
Oct. 7	Keystone Oaks	Away	6 pm

Oct. 9	Quaker Valley	Home	6 pm
Oct. 15	Beaver Area	Home	6 pm

Soccer - Boys Varsity

Sept. 10	West Allegheny	Away	6 pm
Sept. 17	Beaver Area	Home	6 pm
Sept. 19	Keystone Oaks	Home	7:30 pm
Sept. 21	Quaker Valley	Away	6 pm
Sept. 24	South Fayette	Away	6 pm
Sept. 26	Obama	Home	6 pm
Sept. 28	Carrick (Varsity Only)	Away	10 am
Oct. 1	West Allegheny	Home	6 pm
Oct. 3	Butler Area	Away	6 pm
Oct. 5	South Park (Varsity FirstR	Home	2 pm
Oct. 8	Keystone Oaks	Away	6 pm
Oct. 10	Quaker Valley	Home	6 pm
Oct. 12	Blackhawk	Away	11 am
Oct. 15	Central Valley	Away	6 pm

Soccer - Boys Varsity

Sept. 10	West Allegheny	Away	6 pm
Sept. 17	Beaver Area	Home	6 pm
Sept. 19	Keystone Oaks	Home	7:30 pm
Sept. 21	Quaker Valley	Away	6 pm
Sept. 24	South Fayette	Away	6 pm
Sept. 26	Obama	Home	6 pm
Sept. 28	Carrick (Varsity Only)	Away	10 am
Oct. 1	West Allegheny	Home	6 pm
Oct. 3	Butler Area	Away	6 pm
Oct. 5	South Park (Varsity First)	Home	2 pm
Oct. 8	Keystone Oaks	Away	6 pm
Oct. 10	Quaker Valley	Home	6 pm
Oct. 12	Blackhawk (JV First)	Away	11 am
Oct. 15	Central Valley	Away	6 pm

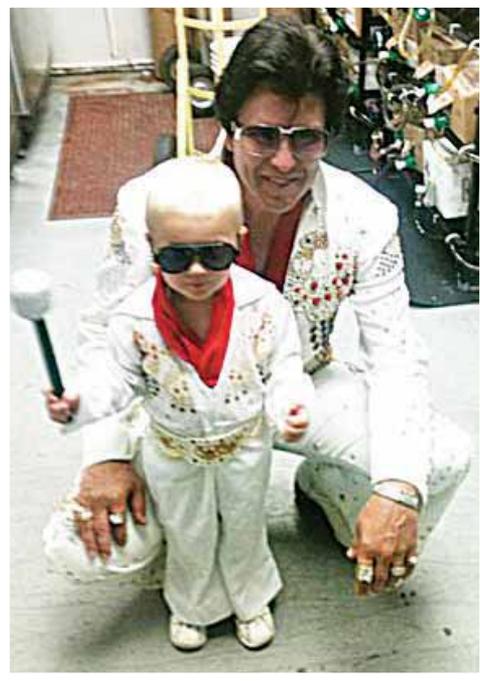
Cross Country - Boys & Girls Varsity

Sept. 14	Montour (SRU Invite at Coopers Lake)	Away	10 am
Sept. 17	West Allegheny	Away	3:30 pm
Sept. 24	Ambridge	Away	4 pm
Oct. 1	Central Valley	Away	3:30 pm
Oct. 8	Moon Area	Away	3:30 pm
Oct. 15	Montour (MAC Invitat@ Brush Creek)	Away	2:30 pm
Oct. 17	Montour (Tri-State Coopers Lake)	Away	2:30 pm
Oct. 24	Montour		

Golf - Boys Varsity

Sept. 6	Central Valley	Away	3 pm
Sept. 9	Shaler	Home	4 pm
Sept. 10	Hopewell	Home	4 pm
Sept. 12	Blackhawk	Away	TBA
Sept. 16	Ambridge (Ind. Qualifier)	Away	TBA
Sept. 17	Blackhawk	Away	3 pm
Sept. 18	Montour	Away	TBA
Sept. 18	Montour (Boys MAC at Fox Run)	Away	10 am
Sept. 19	Ambridge Area	Home	4 pm
Sept. 26	Moon Area	Away	3 pm
Sept. 30	New Castle	Away	3 pm
Oct. 1	Moon Area		

Around Your Town



ABOVE: Kennedy Township's Don Obusek, AKA "Elvis," with his three-year-old grandson, John. Looks like little John is taking after his granddaddy! Don has performed in the area and around the nation as Elvis for many years, carrying on Elvis Presley's memory and music. Together with his wife, Hilda, they coordinate, schedule, and present performances throughout the year. Most recently, Don and Hilda presented Don's "Elvis" show at the new Latitude 40 in North Fayette in honor of the anniversary of Elvis's passing.

MAGGIE FORBES RETURNS TO THE CARNEGIE IN CARNEGIE

Maggie Forbes has returned to the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall (ACFL&MH) to serve as its Executive Director, announced Amanda Sargent, President of the Board of Trustees.

The position is not new to Forbes. She was brought to the Library & Music Hall in 2003 by the Chartiers Valley Partnership, while working with A.L. Brouman & Associates, to run the Partnership's campaign to restore the ACFL&MH's historic landmark facility. Under Forbes' direction, the campaign raised \$7.5 million. She served as Executive Director from 2005 until she stepped down in 2011.

"We are excited to have Maggie on the team," said Sargent. "She really made her mark on the Library & Music Hall and the community it serves, and her commitment to both is outstanding. The Board and staff look forward to where we will go together."

Forbes is delighted to have been offered the position. "I'm referencing Evita here ('Don't Cry for Me Argentina') but I really can say 'the truth is I never left you,'" said Forbes. "My heart belongs to the 'Carnegie Carnegie' – and to Carnegie."

Forbes knows there will be a learning curve. "I've been gone almost two years, and I understand that the Library & Music Hall is not the same place I left." Her top priority is to work with the board and staff to stabilize finances and reinvigorate ACFL&MH operations, then to finish the campaign to restore the building.

Forbes comes to Carnegie frequently (to catch Stage 62's performances, to go to a jazz concert at 3rd Street Art Gallery, to attend an opening at The Clay Place, or to get her hair cut). She is excited about the borough's new vitality, ranging from Carnegie Coffee Company in the old post office to the Community Development Corporation's monthly "Crawls" to Off the Wall Theater to the new stationery store, More Than Just Words, on Main Street. She believes a vibrant Library & Music Hall is the linchpin of a vibrant Carnegie.

"There's work to be done, but the ACFL&MH is a magical place – a wonderful community library, a gem of a regional performance venue, and a national treasure of a Civil War room – all housed in a gorgeous facility that is the heartbeat of an amazing town."

SISTERS RECEIVE DUAL SCHOLARSHIPS FROM ALCOA

Alcoa is pleased to announce that Marsha Stamatakis, top right, a 2013 graduate of Montour High School, has been awarded a four-year, \$6,000 scholarship from Alcoa Foundation. The scholarship, payable in yearly \$1,500 installments, is based on academic achievement, leadership, volunteerism, and character.

Marsha will study physical therapy at the University of Pittsburgh.

Marsha was a member of the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Honors Choir and Tri M Music Honors Society, and served as treasurer for the National Honor Society. Marsha graduated from Montour High School with Distinguished Honors.

Alcoa also announced that it is pleased to award a four-year, \$6,000 scholarship to Joan Stamatakis, bottom right, also a 2013 Montour High School graduate. The scholarship is also payable in yearly

\$1,500 installments, and based on academic achievement, leadership, volunteerism, and character.

Joan plans to pursue a degree in industrial engineering from Penn State University.

Joan graduated from Montour High School with Distinguished Honors. She was a member of the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Honors Choir and the Tri M Music Honors Society, and served as secretary for the National Honor Society.

These scholarships are part of the Alcoa Foundation's Sons & Daughters Scholarship Program, which is open to children of U.S. Alcoa employees. There were 194 applicants this year competing for 48 scholarships.

Marsha and Joan are the daughters of Paul and Helen Stamatakis of Robinson Township.



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Thomas Dance Studio.....	3:00 -3:30
Tang So Doo Karate.....	3:30 -4:00
All Star Gymnastics.....	4:30 -5:00
St. Malachy's Cheerleaders.....	4:00- 4:30
MLS Cheerleaders.....	5:00 -5:30
Scriva Dance Studio.....	6:00 -6:30
Holy Trinity Cheerleaders.....	6:30 -7:00
DJ Entertainment.....	7:00- 9:45

Main Stage

I am Sea Creature.....	12:15- 1:15
Nicky Mo & the Mamalukes.....	1:45 -3:00
Montour Drum Line.....	3:00-3:45
Jukebox Band.....	3:45- 5:00
Red Ruby & the Dirty Devils.....	5:30-7:00
The Collisions.....	7:30-9:45

CCAC WEST TAKES MECHATRONICS PROGRAM TO NEXT LEVEL

Earlier this year, the Community College of Allegheny County's West Hills Center began creating a course in robotics. The course, which teaches students how to program robots not unlike those used to run factories across the U.S., was the third in a series at CCAC in mechatronics.

The courses, which combine elements of engineering, electronics, process control, and manufacturing, train students to fill a range of manufacturing jobs. Because of a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, they're free to students, at least through next September. The idea behind the courses, says project manager Sylvia S. Elsayed, is to cover a gap in manufacturing knowledge in the region.

"Baby boomers are retiring, technology is increasing, and people just are not trained to take these jobs," says Sylvia, "and these are good paying jobs."

Sylvia says that CCAC offers the program free of charge to anyone with a high school diploma or GED and who qualifies with an 11th grade equivalency in a math and reading placement exam, regardless of manufacturing experience. Those with experience can start in one of the higher level courses, but the 140-hour Certified Production Technician (CPT) course gives students with no experience a vital introduction. The course combines class time and e-learning, and is offered every three months, with the next beginning in October.

Those who complete the CPT course, or have prior manufacturing experience, are eligible to take a level one

Advanced Manufacturing/Integrated Systems Technology (AM/IST) course.

Graduates of the CPT course are able to fill a range of introductory manufacturing jobs, from shipping, receiving and traffic clerks, to team assemblers.

The 360 hours of instruction in the AM/IST course can be completed in six

RIGHT: Paul Blackford demonstrates a training apparatus in the mechatronics classroom.

months or less, says Sylvia, and will prepare graduates for entry in more technical troubleshooting and repair type jobs.

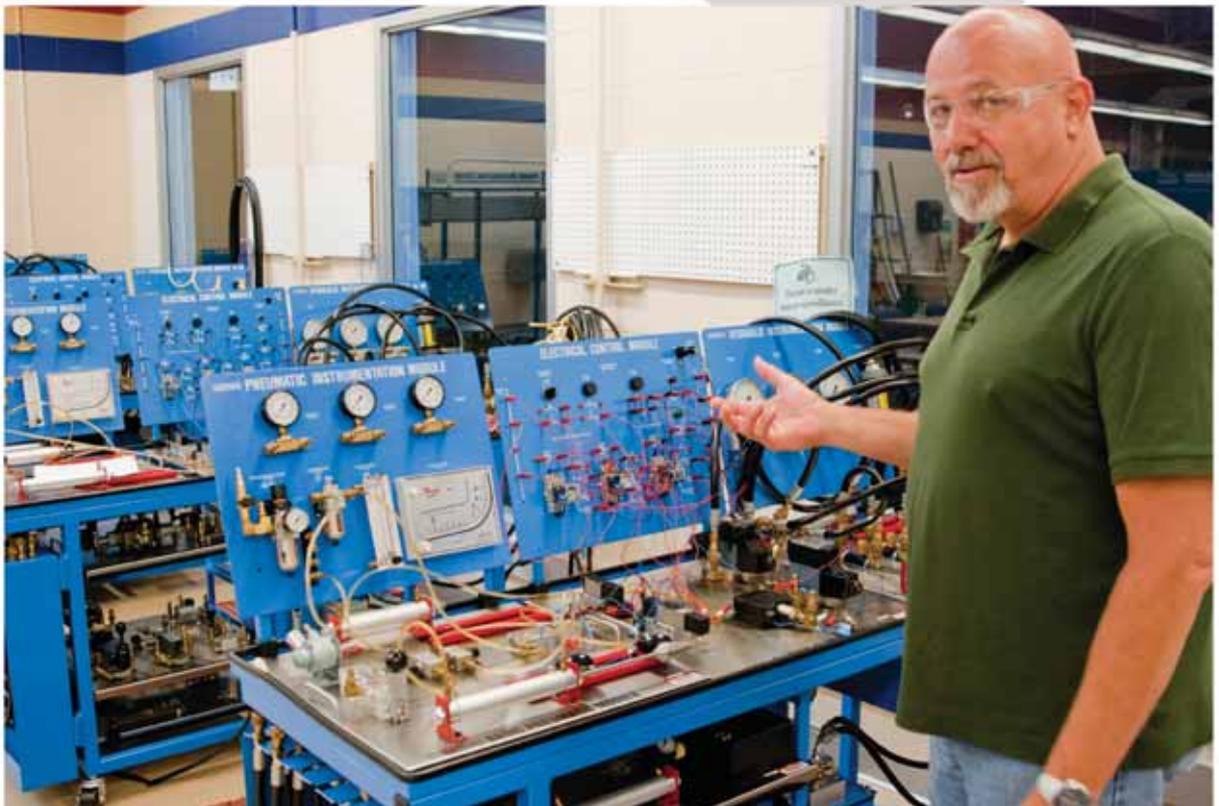
Graduates of that course can also advance to level two, where students begin to focus on areas of interest as they build systems that employ motors, convert AC currents to DC, and utilize electrical and mechanical systems. The course goes beyond the learning premise of level one, and students begin building actual systems using information learned in the first level to complete objectives laid out in textbooks.

Along the way, D. Paul Blackford and his fellow instructors guide students and test them by throwing figurative wrenches in their systems that mimic real life situations. With a twist of a valve or flip of a switch, they create pressure drops and electrical malfunctions that students must assess, diagnose, and correct.

Those same systems, says Sylvia, are used in a range of settings, from water filtration plants to hospitals and schools. Graduates can fill jobs such as electrical and electronic equipment assemblers and perform mechanical maintenance and machinery repair. They can work fixing and maintaining equipment at hospitals, in steel mills, and in high schools and colleges.

"People don't realize the extent to which technical maintenance is used," says Sylvia, pointing out that they have some of their own people taking the classes.

Throughout both levels, students also work on Programmable Logic Controllers. Not much bigger than a toaster, the computers



are the same as those used in factories, and powerful enough to run one. They're also the same as those used by midstream companies at compressor stations in the expanding Marcellus Shale natural gas industry.

"It just crosses over into a lot of different industries," says Sylvia.

Thus far, CCAC's introductory and level one mechatronics courses have proven popular. As of this writing, Sylvia says there are still spots open for the upcoming CPT course, but that the 14 spots for next mechatronics course in September have already filled. She expects the 15 to 20 spots for the upcoming CPT class to fill up quickly as well.

The next mechatronics class is set to begin in March of 2014. The grant making all the courses free to students currently runs through next September, but she says that the school is continuing to pursue other opportunities.

Later this year, CCAC will begin offering its level three course in robotics and motion control. During the course, students will use machines similar to the PLC machines they've been trained on to program actual FANUC robots; the type that Paul says are used by about 70% of factories in the U.S. Using grant money, CCAC purchased three robots, two of which are FANUC robots, costing around \$35,000 apiece. The robots, about three feet in height, are smaller versions of the kind often shown on television assembling automobiles. Paul says they use the same program functions, commands, and motions of their big brothers.

"This is making believe we have a factory," says



LEFT AND BELOW: FANUC robots used in CCAC's level 3 mechatronics robotics course.

Paul, who spent 25 years in the manufacturing sector before coming to CCAC.

A former Kent State student and Navy machinist mate, as well as an FMCC graduate,

Paul journeyed as an electrician and oversaw factories

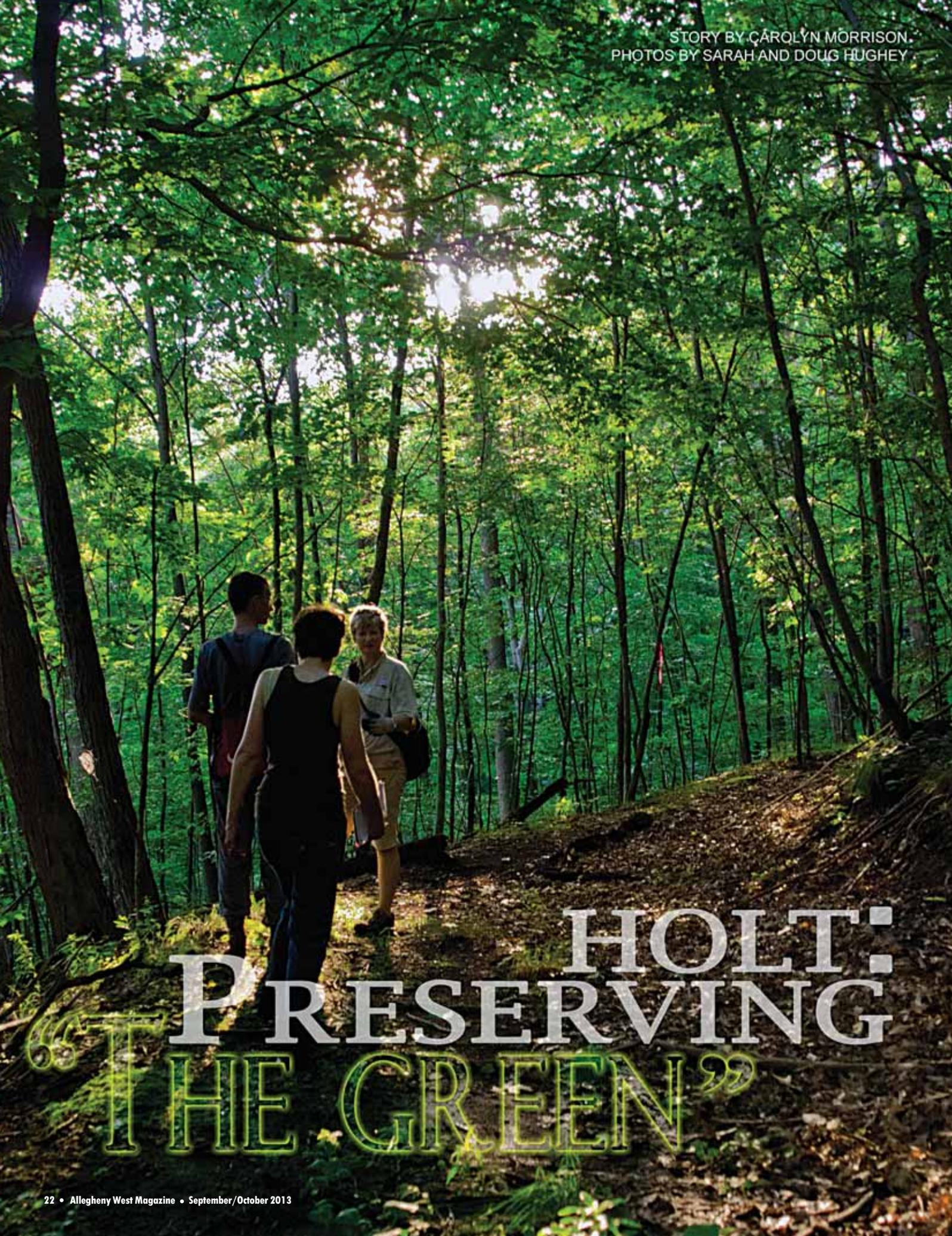
run by Coleco Toys and Gerry Baby Products. He modestly mentions that while at Gerry his factory became so efficient that the company brought three products lines back from China. Over the summer, he instructed the first three students entering into the level two mechatronics course at CCAC West Hills.

Among those students was Sacha Pellaton, a self-employed, South Vo-Tech graduate who works as an auto mechanic. The trained electrician says that he's already had one job offer in a related field at \$70,000, and is hoping to work in the oil and gas industry. He says he's looking at a job as a field technician for a third party company leasing equipment to a gas delivery company. Currently, he says that the company is flying technicians in from Louisiana to work on equipment because of a lack of trained local workforce.

Over the summer, Sam Hinterlang, a level 1 mechatronics graduate, continued with the level 2 mechatronics course through his company, which runs a steel galvanizing plant. Sam says his employer looked at the curriculum, and saw an opportunity for him and the company to benefit. Sam took the class during down time at the company, and continued to receive pay while taking the level one and two courses two days per week.

"It's free training," he says. "Why would I not want to do it?" For more information please contact Sylvia Elsayed at (412) 788-7534 or via email at selsayed@ccac.edu.

STORY BY CAROLYN MORRISON
PHOTOS BY SARAH AND DOUG HUGHEY



HOLT:
PRESERVING
“THE GREEN”



Following a day of torrential rainfall, flash flooding, and while in the midst of a sweltering evening threatening more storms, Sean Brady is anxiously leading the way into the forest. With a quick step and scanning eye, he surveys ribbons of clay and mud ahead. Whether the trails that he, along with other members of the Hollow Oak Land Trust, and numerous additional volunteers, have built have held up or not remains uncertain.

Looping along the Oil Well Trail, which is named after an abandoned well below Hassam Road, Sean stoops and swerves, shucking fallen limbs and logs back into the brush as he pulls back vines beaten down by the rain. In places, water runoff has been diverted from the elevated trail bed, just as Sean designed. It's a momentary victory, however. Pausing briefly, he marvels at the powerful sound of rushing water farther below. Deeper into the dense vegetation of spicebush and invasive knotweed, water pours across the trail, ankle deep, while other trail arms have completely assumed the role of streambeds.

Sean expresses no anger or disappointment, but rather an energetic mix of awe, even glee, at the power of nature. In light of his goal to guide and channel the natural flow of water away from the carefully crafted, sustainable trails, he admits that the trail building at Meeks Run Greenway area is indeed still a work in progress.

Nearby, a small yet dramatic waterfall - turbid white caps falling over sandstone - lies just upstream of the confluence of where the two recreationally and ecologically significant streams Montour Run and Meeks Run meet. In the same manner that these streams converge, Sean envisions local green spaces in the Western suburbs overlapping, increasing natural biodiversity as well as enjoyment by outdoor enthusiasts.

In 2012, Sean Brady became the newest Executive Director of the Hollow Oak Land Trust, a nonprofit conservation organization that since 1993 has been acquiring and maintaining natural areas in Western Pennsylvania, including areas of Robinson, Moon, and Kennedy. The aim of the organization is to preserve these areas as high quality habitats for natural plant and animal communities, and utilize them for sustainable recreational activities such as hiking, biking, wildlife watching, and fishing.

Despite the total acquisition to date of over 400 acres of green space, Sean is concerned HOLT has become too "quiet" of an organization, and hopes to entice local residents to utilize and fully appreciate the natural beauty of their own neighborhoods. A long-standing goal of the organization has been the development of a "green corridor" encompassing the perennially popular

OPPOSITE: Laurie Plummer, Austin Jepsky, and Carolyn Morrison along the Oil Well Trail.

ABOVE: A small waterfall along Meeks Run.

Montour Trail. This environmentally-sound buffer zone would protect the surrounding woodland habitat from detrimental commercial and housing development while maintaining the scenic pleasure experienced by trail users, along with the ecology of the watershed.

Hollow Oak's initiatives, such as the Meeks Run Greenway and Trout Run Greenway, greatly advance this goal, simply with their protected status. Together, these greenways will form a 10-mile loop that utilizes a three-mile section of the Montour Trail.

Sean wants to see this goal taken a step further. He envisions not only a connected corridor of land trust property alongside the Montour Trail, but a vast network of integrated and contiguous green space that seamlessly connects Hollow Oak's conservation areas to the resources of Moon Township's expansive municipal parks: Olson, Robin Hill, and Moon Community.

Sean emphasizes that land trust purchases or easements often aid municipalities when it comes to stormwater management, while also increasing quality of life and property values without incurring any additional expense from maintaining township parks.

Long-term community involvement will be the key to the greenway's success, says Sean, but Hollow Oak has already been getting some help. Numerous volunteers from airport area businesses, such as Eaton Corporation, FedEx Ground, and The Mall at Robinson, have been laboring together under Sean and Hollow Oak Board members Laurie Plummer and Darin Shaffer to create and advance trails at Meeks Run.

On July 20, over a dozen members from the Pittsburgh Trail Advocacy Group (PTAG) joined HOLT members for a major trail advancement and picnic. PTAG is a non-profit organization whose mission is to create and maintain single-track trails abiding by strict International Mountain Bicycling Association standards that minimize environmental impact. Peter Greninger, President of PTAG, adds that "Sean has actually worked with PTAG for years as our volunteer park steward in Riverview Park, which made Hollow Oak Land Trust a great partner for PTAG to explore expanding our efforts into privately owned open spaces designated for public recreational use." Thanks to regular volunteer participation from these groups, the Oil Well and Hemlock Trails are now completed, tying in with the Meeks Run and Powerline trails for two connected loops.

Most recently, Robinson Mall volunteers dug a rainwater

diversion ditch near the parking area on Hassam Road in Moon Township approximately 100 yards uphill from the Montour Trail. Laurie credits Sean's "unbridled passion for the outdoors, combined with really spectacular people skills," for all of the volunteer dedication. Sean's previous leadership experience also includes working with the Pittsburgh-based environmental and recreational organizations Venture Outdoors and Riverlife.

In addition to local corporate participants, educational institutions both public and private are investing in the greenway. Frank Todd, Science Department Chair and educator at Moon Area Middle School, will include a "Trout in the Classroom" project this coming school year for eighth grade students sponsored by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. The ultimate goal is to raise Pennsylvania's state fish, the Brook Trout, from eggs to fingerlings, for release in a local PAFBC-approved waterway. Frank is hoping it will either be Montour or Meeks Run. He says that the goal of "Trout in the Classroom" is "to educate young people about cold water conservation" and how to achieve healthy aquatic environments in the state. Frank adds that, "Sean Brady, in particular, has graciously donated a 55 gallon (fish) tank and equipment for us to use in the classroom



and will help provide ideas for activities."

Sean, who is also an avid fly fisherman, cites a 2012 study led by Duquesne University professor Dr. Brady Porter that shows the related Brown Trout is already reproducing in Meeks Run.

Austin Jepsky, a member of the Moon High School Cross Country team, has been a regular trail builder at Hassam Road on Wednesday evenings. Austin understands the long-range potential and personal pride of building trails that the team can use for years to come. He is attempting to organize his fellow students to take on this site as their community service project, even after the trails are completed, to help steward and maintain them. Simple tasks, like clearing the trails of fallen hickory or walnuts, will be needed.

He says that while the team currently runs the relatively level Montour Trail, the ten miles of trails at Montour Woods will offer new challenges, such as the steep, cool slopes of the Hemlocks Trail, the stream crossings of Meeks Run Trail, and the ravines along the Powerline Trail.

Robert Morris University's campus trail committee, aka "Trail Nuts," recently sought Sean's advice on how to enhance the natural wooded areas of their 230-acre campus. Armand Buzzeli, Director of Campus Recreation, says the group met with Sean



LEFT: Volunteers from Robert Morris University working on the Oil Well Trail. MIDDLE: Remnants of an historic oil rig along the Oil Well Trail. RIGHT: Sean Brady shares some spicebush with an RMU volunteer.

Brady and Amy Ottaviani, Assistant Executive Director of Moon Township Parks and Recreation, to discuss, "working together to create a community that is connected by trails and designated shared and/or dedicated bike lanes." They plan to reconvene monthly to explore potential sources of grant funding for the project with Sean, who earned his master's degree in professional writing at CMU. According to Amy, "Moon Parks is focusing on ways to connect people to nature...there are many exciting opportunities on the horizon".

Jessica Mann, Assistant Director of Student Civic Engagement, recruits 20 to 30 students to clean up the campus trail each academic year, and adds that it is a very popular service choice among students. Mann believes the relationship with Hollow Oak will expose students, "to a wonderful resource that is minutes away from them."

Back on the Oil Well Trail, Sean stops at what he says was once an impenetrable mud hole, covered by invasive multi-flora rosebushes; until he and fellow volunteers dug it all out by hand. The now small, channeled stream is so crystal clear that Sean can't resist cupping his hands in it. He says that the rusted remains of an old oilrig, nestled between some nearby hemlock



trees, will become an historical exhibit. As he rushes back to the parking area to meet volunteers, a brilliant red fox trots up the rocky slope leading to Hassam Road, gives an attentive glance, and then vanishes.

In the next five years, Sean anticipates the completion of two other greenways besides Montour Woods. One will connect their Boggs Run Conservation Area with Olsen Park and the Becks Run valley. The other will link the Robert Morris Campus with

Robin Hill Park and the Moon Ohio Riverfront Park, which will be built near the Sewickley Bridge. The goal of uninterrupted green space will be achieved by linking green spaces such as farms, golf courses, and bike routes, along the way.

"By that point, I expect to be working with other municipalities and organizations throughout the airport corridor," he says, "to extend the network of greenways connecting their communities to nature so that we can all capitalize on perhaps Pittsburgh's greatest asset: our rich natural heritage of streams, wooded valleys and wildlife."

Please visit hollowoak.org to become a member or email Sean at sbrady@hollowoak.org to explore upcoming volunteer opportunities.



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PTI Rolls Out New Culinary Academy

Pittsburgh Technical Institute hosted the official ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremony of its new American Academy of Culinary Arts (ACA) on August 14.

PTI President Greg DeFeo and Executive Vice President George Pry, together with a group of dignitaries, including Chef Director Norman Peter Hart, cut the ribbon with a ceremonial Mercer French knife and invited attendees to tour the kitchens, meet students, and taste ACA chef-prepared hors d'oeuvres.

The festivities were all part of the school's new Culinary Arts Center at its campus on McKee Road in North Fayette.

The center is outfitted with two teaching kitchens, hot and cold storage areas, and a dining lab. It features the latest in culinary technology, including state-of-the-industry combination and convection ovens, specialized stoves, and DuraWare professional cookware.

Students will study under the direction of internationally acclaimed Chef Norman Peter Hart, a member of the American Culinary Federation and the exclusive Honorable Order of the Golden Tote. Chef Hart received the Ordre Mondial des Gourmets de Gustateurs medal and the Confrerie de la Chaine des Rotisseurs des Etas Unis medal, both in Paris, France. In 2003, he became one of the first five recipients of the coveted medallion from the Conseil d'Honneur des Etas Unis.

In 2007, Chef Hart was named National Educator of the Year by the American Culinary Federation. He is a Certified Executive Chef, a Certified Culinary Educator, a member of the

American Academy of Chefs, and the recipient of countless industry awards and achievements.

Chef instructor is Chef Amanda Flesch, CC.

By age 22, Chef Amanda Flesch earned two gold medals and a bronze professional medal through the American Culinary Federation. Previously, she won the regional title and earned third place national honors in the Best Teen Chef Competition.

Professionally, she has worked her way up the kitchen brigade system at The Duquesne Club, a private club of distinction founded in downtown Pittsburgh in 1873. There, she trained and worked alongside Executive Chef Keith Coughenour, a renowned chef and culinary Olympian.

The first class of students began their studies under Chefs Hart and Flesch on July 18.

"I really like the classroom environment. We get to put into practice what we learn right away and our chef instructors are sharing their expertise," said Charles Quick of Lancaster, South Carolina, a student in ACA's first class, "Already they have shared tricks and skills that aren't in our textbooks. That's exciting."

ACA students will benefit from an in-field internship, a cooperative learning experience between the American Academy of Culinary Arts and the professional culinary community. An advisory board of culinary professionals supports ACA and helps guide the development of curriculum, professional development projects, and internship sites.

"PTI has a great location, a beautiful campus, and students dedicated to their careers, many of whom I've called on to



support our food and beverage operations with great success,” said Drue Vitter, Executive Chef of the Hyatt Regency Pittsburgh International Airport, and a member of the ACAA culinary arts advisory board. “I am very excited about the AACA. The curriculum is well-rounded, in both theory and hands-on education.”

According to President DeFeo, AACA students will benefit from the established success of PTI’s School of Hospitality graduates, “PTI already is well known and respected within the hospitality industry for preparing travel, restaurant, and hotel management degree graduates who are ready to work in an industry that continues to lead the region in job growth.”

Chef Hart says the AACA experience is designed to reflect the formal apprenticeship programs available during his training years.

“Our training is deeply connected to the American dream,” said Chef Hart. “From owning and operating the classic American diner to working as an Executive Chef for a five-star establishment, the American Academy of Culinary Arts will provide graduates the skills they need to become the great American chef.”

According to Chef Hart, the AACA will deliver a strong foundation in culinary fundamentals, including precision knife skills, sanitation, mastery of the five mother sauces, basic cooking methods and professional development. “We will prepare students to think and act like a professional chef – then explore, innovate, and experiment with fresh interpretations until graduates have mastered a revolutionary approach to American culinary arts.”

For information about The Academy of Culinary Arts, course listing, and culinary careers, visit: aaca.pti.edu.



OPPOSITE PAGE: Chef Norman Peter Hart;
ABOVE: Chef Amanda Flesch.





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BEFORE

AFTER

Your Schools

Rosedale Technical Institute

Rosedale President

Elected to PAPSA Board of Directors

Rosedale Tech is a long-standing member of the Pennsylvania Association of Private School Administrators (PAPSA), an organization representing more than 320 private career colleges and schools in the Commonwealth before the legislature, state agencies, and professional associations. At this year's annual conference held in Harrisburg, it was officially announced that RTI President and Director, Dennis Wilke, was elected to PAPSA's 13-member board of directors. Every two years, each of the participating schools cast a vote to elect roughly half of the board's new members on a rotating basis.



Nationwide, the PAPSA organization is considered to be one of the leaders of its kind.

Representatives from other states will often attend conferences and other training sessions held in Pennsylvania to learn about the most current practices and procedures in the world of career colleges. One of PAPSA's current goals is to highlight the often overlooked positive impact that schools like Rosedale have on the state of Pennsylvania. They also host seminars and other training discussions on the best admissions, education, career services, marketing, and administration practices throughout the state year round.

"I am very excited to be on the board of directors," Dennis Wilke said.

One of the main reasons he decided to accept the nomination had to do with the departure of Dick Dumaresq, PAPSA's executive director. PAPSA flourished during his 28 year tenure.

"It's important to me to get another good executive director. I look forward to being part of the hiring process," Mr. Wilke also said.

Among Dennis' duties as board member will be to serve on several committees that focus on such areas as legislative outreach, professional development, member recruitment, and others. He will meet with the board four times a year as well. His appointment may be in the blood as Dennis' father, Ben Wilke, served in the same capacity for MAPSA (Maryland Association of Private School Administrators) years ago.

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Rosedale Tech and PMI Announce Management Partnership

In an effort to combat the growing skills gap, Meadville's Precision Manufacturing Institute and Rosedale Technical Institute, located in Pittsburgh, recently established a management partnership. PMI is a non-profit technical training center that blends knowledge and technology to support advancements in manufacturing. Founded in 1987, manufacturing employers have trusted the value of PMI's training for their current employees for years. They also turn to PMI to hire those new to the field upon graduation. PMI offers hands-on training in the high demand fields of CNC Operator and Machinist, Mechatronics, and Welding. Their students take advantage of state of the art training equipment in a clean and professional environment.

Formed over 60 years ago, Rosedale Technical Institute offers training in Automotive, Diesel, Electrical, and HVAC technologies, as well as in Truck Driving.



Graduates of each of their programs are in extremely high demand, as evidenced by their nearly 90% overall job placement rate.

Employers consistently hire Rosedale graduates for their

extensive experience and base of knowledge upon entering the field.

Leading the new partnership is President and Director Dennis Wilke. "We are looking forward to this joint venture. The opportunity for growth in education and training in the trades is extremely exciting. Students in these fields have chosen to enter high demand careers and this partnership will certainly expand their options," he said.

As a sister school, Rosedale will help to enhance PMI's visibility while further developing current and new curricula. Students of both schools will benefit from a newly shared cache of resources and facilities. The partnership will help to meet the increasing demand for skilled tradespeople as American manufacturing has returned and continues to grow.

Rosedale Students Take Advantage of E-Learning

The development of new technology continues to create a more efficient and effective workforce. In the medical and cyber fields, examples of improvement are easy to see. Though not always evident, technology has had a similar impact on productivity in other fields. Rosedale Technical Institute, a non-profit trade school offering training in Automotive, Diesel, Electrical, and HVAC technologies, realizes how important it is to stay current with technological advancements. To do so, students have recently been given the opportunity to take advantage of e-learning and training through the use of a tablet. It truly has become an added tool to their toolbox, both in the lab and classroom. Rosedale is excited to be on the forefront of this type of technology with this type of training unique to most similar educational facilities.

The Student Services department at RTI recently announced the e-learning option for students through the Samsung Galaxy Tab 2. Electronic versions of course textbooks can be downloaded to the tablet at a discounted price, offering up to 50% savings in certain cases. It also grants internet access, enabling students to look up parts, solutions to problems, and more. Many currently working in Rosedale's respective fields of study also use tablets to troubleshoot various issues on the job. Graduating students will now be afforded even more real-life experience in the classroom and lab setting, something upon which Rosedale prides itself. It can also be used on personal time.

Once purchased, the tablet is theirs to keep. Student Services Coordinator John Fostyk stated, "The response from students who have switched to the tablet and e-books has been extremely positive. They like the convenience of not having to lug around their books, the fact that they can use it to take notes, and all the



ABOVE: Diesel Technology student Nick Hoovler watches an instructional video on his new tablet.

additional bells and whistles that come with a tablet, like internet access for example. Plus, it's theirs for life." RTI's foresight into the technological demands of its fields of study will continue to positively shape the student's learning experience.

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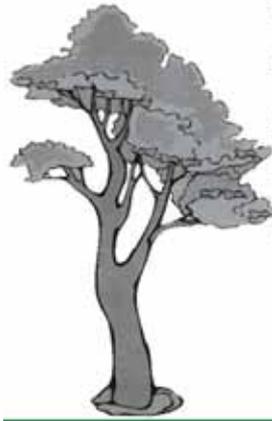
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New in Town

Firehouse Subs:

Now Located in The Pointe at NF



On June 17, Brendan and Erika Martin opened their new restaurant, Firehouse Subs, in the Pointe at North Fayette. The restaurant's concept involves serving up hearty subs with top quality steamed meats and cheeses on a toasted bun while supporting those risking their lives in the public safety sector.

Via a partnership with the Public Safety Foundation, Firehouse Subs donates money that goes directly towards buying everything from life-saving equipment for first responders to funding disaster relief. When customers visit the Pointe location, they have the option of rounding up their purchase, the balance of which goes to PSF. The restaurant even donates money generated by selling their empty five-gallon pickle barrels for \$2 apiece, and running additional fundraising efforts.

Patrons will be satisfied, though, not just with their good deed, but also a top quality sub. Brendan explains that for each hot sub, they steam their USDA-choice meats and cheeses and then load them on a toasted bun. Of their most popular so far, he mentions the Hook and Ladder sub: a delicious combination of smoked turkey breast, Virginia honey ham, and melted Monterrey Jack cheese, and the Smokehouse Beef and Cheddar Brisket: a mouth-watering beef brisket smoked for over 16 hours, steamed with cheddar, and finished with special sauces.

"They are meant to feed firemen," says Brendan.

Firehouse Subs also runs limited-time features like the Hawaiian; a juicy combo of pulled pork on a sweet Hawaiian yellow bun.

Customers can spice up their sub using an eclectic collection of about 50 different hot sauces, and customize a drink from 120 flavors with the Coke Freestyle machine. The restaurant's mural, unique to each location, depicts mascots from West Allegheny, Montour, and Moon, fighting over a sailing football with the Pittsburgh skyline and a North Fayette fire truck in the background.

For Brendan, who graduated from West Allegheny, the shop marks a homecoming. After graduating from Penn State University with a degree in industrial engineering, he worked for Levin Furniture as an operations manager. Erika, another PSU graduate who also holds a degree in industrial engineering, currently works for the Connors Group.

The couple lives just a couple miles away in McDonald.

Firehouse Subs is located in The Pointe at North Fayette, 320 McHolme Drive, near Walmart. For information, (412) 788-4070, Twitter - @FirehouseSubs, Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/firehousesubs>.

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New in Town

Discover Fitness and More Opens in Kennedy

Patty Dietz of Kennedy Township is bringing her 30 years of fitness and health experience to her hometown as she announces the opening of Discover Fitness and More at 1639 Pine Hollow Road, near Ohio Valley General Hospital.

She earned her Bachelor of Science at West Virginia University and a Master of Science at the University of Tennessee, both in Exercise Physiology.

Previously, Patty did business as Health Fitness Specialists, which, since 2004, offered in-home personal training and workplace classes. She says that the business evolved into semi-private personal training in Moon Township. With the new concept, Patty also offers healthy

lifestyle services.

These include semi-private personal training (small group individual workouts), healthy lifestyle and fitness consulting and coaching that encompass assessments, goal setting, motivation discovery, and program design and guidance. She also offers yoga and provides educational workshops.

Over the years, she has gained a wealth of experience working with clients with chronic medical conditions, pre/post natal mothers, and aging seniors experiencing a myriad of issues.

"I work personally with my clients, and help them with periodic tuneups," Patty explains.

She says her services are an alternative to the traditional gym or health club for those who aren't comfortable there because of self body image, being in a large group, or feeling intimidated by others who appear more experienced or more fit.

She added, "I also meet people who simply don't know what to do but want to learn, and prefer a more personal atmosphere."

Often, she says, they are seeking not only some form of better fitness but the comprehensive experience that includes nutrition and lifestyle changes.

"I not only want to train my clients, but to educate them so they can empower themselves by embracing a healthier lifestyle."

Prior to the business, Patty was the owner of Health Fitness Specialists, and previously, she was the wellness director at The Masonic Village in Sewickley.

Patty maintains a second location, with limited appointment openings, in the Airport Office Park in Moon Township.

She resides in Kennedy Township with her husband, Kirk, and their two dogs, Nicky and Teller.

For information, call Patty at (412) 354-9089, or by e-mail: info@discoverfitnessandmore.com. To learn more, www.discoverfitnessandmore.com.



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Owner Patty Dietz holds a BS and MS in Exercise Physiology, and has gained a wealth of experience to help others on their path to fitness and good health

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Also at Airport Office Park - Moon Township

New in Town

Top That Yogurt



On July 26, Chip and Nancy Trapani of Kennedy Township, opened a new business in the Kennedy Center Shopping Plaza. After almost a year of research and planning and months of remodeling, TOP THAT YOGURT BAR opened its door and let in the neighborhood!

When Chip and Nancy decided on the concept of a frozen yogurt shop, it was an easy decision to base their business in the heart of Kennedy Township, since they both felt that Kennedy Township and the surrounding area needed a great local place to have fun, meet with friends, and enjoy a healthy treat. It was a perfect fit for them and their community. After scouring the country looking for a model and finding great ideas from Las Vegas to Myrtle Beach, TOP THAT YOGURT BAR was born!

TOP THAT YOGURT BAR is a self-serve frozen yogurt shop where you, the customer, can fill your cup with whatever yogurt and toppings you want. When you are done, the cup is weighed and you pay by the ounce. As Chip and Nancy like to say, "Grab a Cup & Fill It Up!"

With 12 delicious and healthy frozen yogurt flavors, including sugar-free and non-dairy options, plus over 60 ever-changing toppings and sauces from fresh cut fruit to hot fudge, the combinations are just about endless. They even offer hard packed ice cream for those not ready to convert to frozen yogurt so that everyone can enjoy the toppings bar experience. It's a treat everyone can enjoy and, since you make it yourself, you can have as many cherries as you want!

TOP THAT YOGURT BAR has indoor seating for 30 and outdoor seating is also available. The shop will be open year round with seasonal flavors and toppings. Like TOP THAT YOGURT BAR on Facebook to keep up-to-date with all their specials and promotions.

TOP THAT YOGURT BAR is located between Rockefeller's and BoRics in the Kennedy Center (Giant Eagle) Shopping Center.

For information or to learn more, see their ad, right, or call (412) 458-5633.

Top That Yogurt Bar

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Steubenville Pike Auto Grows to Meet Needs

On five acres of property along Steubenville Pike in Robinson Township, Jason Pottle has established a one-stop-shop auto center. Being in the automotive business wasn't on his radar when he was younger. It all just emerged over time, because he saw a need and an opportunity.

After graduating from Kiski Area High School, Jason joined the active duty Air Force. He went on to college, then took a job with KDKA-TV as an account executive.

During his seven years at KDKA, he had an opportunity to purchase an existing automotive business in Robinson. Jason purchased the business in 2002 and in 2008 created Steubenville Pike Auto. He noticed that his customers needed more than just mechanical repairs, so he opened a body shop right next door. With space getting tight, Jason purchased an additional two acres of adjacent property and consolidated another business he had begun, Foreign Fix, and brought those services to the property.

"I learned that sometimes people would bring their cars to us for repairs because they were in accidents, so I thought a used car lot would be of help to them, as well as anyone looking for an affordable used car," Jason explained.

In 2010, his auto sales division was born.

The space provides room for 100+ cars, whether they are on site for repairs or inspections.

In 2011, Steubenville Pike Auto became the exclusive day-time towing company for AAA in western Allegheny County. Jason explains that this new opportunity gives his company exclusive first access to providing towing within a ten-mile radius of his facility. Over time, he added eleven trucks to handle the towing and service calls.

"We anticipate upwards of 20,000 calls this year alone for towing services," he

explains.

Over time, Jason said that the different aspects of the business have been good for customers.

"We can offer people big savings with repairs based on our size and ability to negotiate with vendors, our ability to utilize services we already offer onsite, and our ability to provide a diversity of expertise across the many aspects of our service operations," he said.

Jason is also proud of the fact that his facility is the only independent body shop in Robinson Township. Steubenville Pike Auto's employment of 34 includes some that hold the highly respected ASE Blue Seal certification.

Over the years, the company has been very involved in local charitable efforts, and has established its own charity, SPARC, Steubenville Pike Auto Repair Charity. This effort encourages nominations from community people to suggest individuals in the community who put themselves before others and are in need of a vehicle. Steubenville Pike Auto will provide a totally refurbished pre-owned vehicle to the chosen recipient. More information is available on their Web site at www.steubenvillepike.com.

With a full-service, neighborhood facility that provides automotive repairs, inspections, auto sales, and towing, Jason still finds time to continue to volunteer with the military. He is a member of the 171st Air Refueling Wing stationed at the Pittsburgh International Airport.

When not working or volunteering for his country, Jason enjoys time with his wife, Linda, and three children. The family resides in North Fayette Township.

For information about services offered by Steubenville Pike Auto, call (412) 787-9800.

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Around Your Town

BOY SCOUTS RIDE TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

Six days and four states, totaling 335 miles, summarizes the recent trip completed August 11-16 by five Boy Scouts and two leaders from Troop 301 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Robinson Township.

The trip started at Point State Park and proceeded along the recently completed Great Allegheny Passage (GAP) bike path that stretches beyond the Eastern Continental Divide to Cumberland, Maryland. At that point, the trail joins the C&O Canal Towpath to Washington, D.C.

The bike path is a 335-mile traffic and motorized vehicle-free route between Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C.

In addition, two leaders provided gear transportation to the nightly campsites. The riders enjoyed a train ride home. Boy Scout Troop 301 meets at Holy Trinity Church, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.



ABOVE: left to right: Joe Honeychuck, Michael Maslakowski, Joe Lueck Jr., Joe Lueck Sr, Brody Connor, Joe Weber, Tom Connor, Scoutmaster. Not pictured are those who provided gear support, Heather Honeychuck and Leon Fischer.

LYNDSEY CIESLAK IS JUNIOR MISS PENNSYLVANIA 2013



Lyndsey Cieslak, a fourth grader at Burkett Elementary School, recently entered the Pageant with a Purpose and was named Junior Miss Pennsylvania. This charity-driven organization encourages each participant to select a charity she is passionate about and help raise money to support the charity as well as increase awareness.

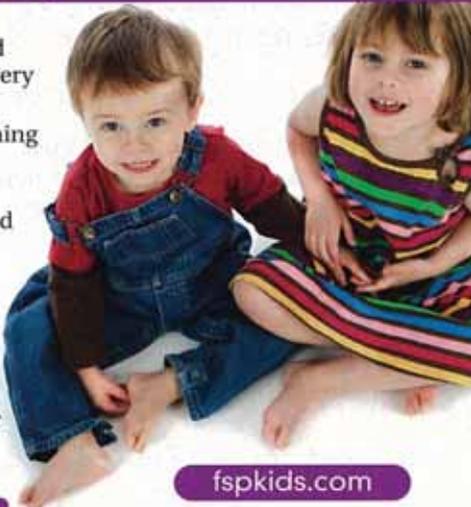
This past June, Lyndsey was chosen to hold the title of Junior Miss Pennsylvania for the coming year. During her reign, she will raise money for cancer, a disease close to her heart. Lyndsey has three immediate family members fighting the disease. The charities she selected to raise money for are the American Cancer Society, Denise's People, and the Western Pennsylvania Humane Society.

As Junior Miss Pennsylvania, Lyndsey participated this past summer in the Relay for Life Race hosted by the American Cancer Society on July 20, and in the Kennedy Township Parade on August 17.

To help Lyndsey or have her make an appearance at a local community event, contact Mandie Cieslak at (412) 628-3801. Also, visit Lyndsey's Facebook page, "Lyndsey Cieslak-Junior Miss Pennsylvania 2013."

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Around Your Town

YMCA'S PRISCILLA SALVATORE HONORED WITH ROTARY'S PAUL HARRIS AWARD



ABOVE: Outgoing president of the Parkway West Rotary, Dan Padgett, presents the Paul Harris Award to Priscilla Salvatore.

Priscilla Salvatore, whose career at the Western Area YMCA spanned several decades overseeing their operations and programs as associate executive director and membership coordinator, was recently honored with the Paul Harris Award from the Parkway West Rotary.

The Paul Harris Award recognizes either a chapter member or a citizen for outstanding humanitarian support and community volunteer service "beyond self."

Priscilla has been a long-time member of the Parkway West Rotary Club, coordinating numerous events and assisting with many projects throughout each year.

Now retired, Priscilla spends her winters in Florida.

Paul Harris recognition was created in memory of Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary, as a way to show appreciation for individuals who show furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations among people of the world.

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News from Heritage Valley Health System

Heritage Valley Health System has expanded its medical neighborhood locations to include Edgeworth in the new Esmark headquarters building. The new location offers a variety of health care services in one convenient location. Other Heritage Valley medical neighborhoods are located in Chippewa, Moon Township, Ellwood City, and Robinson Township.

A "medical neighborhood" is a one-stop shopping concept and design that provides patients with the convenience of accessing primary care, as well as ambulatory and diagnostic services in one community location.



Heritage Valley Health System is partnering with Life Line Screening, the nation's largest provider of preventive screenings, to identify such things as risk factors that lead to stroke or fractures before these disabling or deadly events occur.

Provided screenings include, but are not limited to: Carotid Artery Screening, Atrial Fibrillation Screening (Afib), Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening, Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening – PAD, and Osteoporosis Screening.

A special Wellness Package of all four screenings is available for only \$149. The whole process takes less than an hour.

To pre-register, www.lifelinescreening.com or call 1-800-690-0295.



Heritage Valley Health System is pleased to welcome Piper Kilpatrick, MD, as the Medical Director of Heritage Valley SportsCare, a collaboration between the Health System and Associates of Specialty Physicians (ASP) Orthopedics and Sports Medicine.

The highly trained and experienced sports medicine health care providers at Heritage Valley SportsCare provide care to athletes of all ages. Additionally, SportsCare offers education to area athletic trainers, schools, and athletic organizations on a variety of sports training and injury prevention topics.

Heritage Valley SportsCare is located in Beaver in the Beaver Medical Commons, 1030 Beaver Hollow Road, across from Heritage Valley Beaver. To schedule an appointment, call (724) 770-0416.



Heritage Valley Sewickley was recognized in the September issue of *Consumer Reports*, which included a special section on hospital surgery ratings. This news complements Heritage Valley Sewickley's recent recognition by Cleverly + Associates as a Community Value Five-Star Hospital® as well as the hospital's renewed designation as an Aetna Institute of Quality®.

Aetna, a leading health insurer nationwide, recently recognized Heritage Valley Sewickley as an Institute of Quality® Orthopedic Care facility for spine surgery and total joint replacement and an Institute of Quality® Bariatric Surgery facility for treating individuals living with morbid, or extreme, obesity. Aetna makes information about the quality and cost of health care services available to its members to help them make informed decisions about their health care needs.

Heritage Valley Sewickley also remains a Blue Distinction Center® for Bariatric Surgery, recognized by Blue Cross and Blue Shield Companies for its expertise in delivering Bariatric Surgery.



News from the PITTSBURGH BOTANIC GARDEN

Peek & Preview Tours!

We are hosting public Peek & Preview Tours until our Opening Day (mid-2014). These one-hour tours will introduce visitors to the Woodland Gardens and its historic homestead front door.

Learn about the history of the area, our current work, and our future plans! Contact the Botanic Garden office for details.



Inspired by Terra Design Studios and constructed by apprentices at the Carpenters Training Center, the cedar-shingled house with a green (literally and figuratively) roof, above, is one of the treasures of the Eastern European Woodlands area of the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden.

The Garden hosted over 300 children last month in special programs at the Garden. Another 200 children are expected this month.

Butterflies, bugs, and plants took center stage as the children explored nature's wonders, which featured our new Storybook House, the centerpiece to the Bookworm Glen.

Help Us at "Grow the Garden Days!"

Our next "Grow The Garden Day" is October 10, 9.a.m. to noon.

Tour of the site when you are done with the volunteer work!

Half Way to Earth Day Celebration

Saturday, October 12, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Gardens

Food, Tours, Music, Demonstrations, and Activities

For members and volunteers of the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden.

To thank those who have dedicated their time and effort to helping the Garden grow. Bring your children to explore "Lets Get to the Root of the Matter," the child-size bird nest, and the Storybook House.

The Pittsburgh Botanic Garden is transforming 460 acres of abandoned mining land—just 20 minutes west of the city—into a world-class botanic garden, including 18 distinct gardens, five diverse woodland experiences, a visitor's center, an amphitheater for outdoor concerts and performances, a celebration center to accommodate weddings and corporate events, and a center for botanic research.

For info or to volunteer, call (412) 444-4464.

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firebeat | by **JOE KULIK**

Should There Be a Fire Tax?



Every year, local volunteer fire departments face the same basic question: can we afford to continue to exist? With this is the related question of: what will happen to our community if our local volunteer fire department has to shut down?

A 2012 study examined costs to provide fire services, if all the volunteer fire departments in Pennsylvania closed. It was calculated that such costs would be at least six billion dollars. I believe that figure may be low, but even if it is correct, think about the impact on everyone. The recently passed budget in Pennsylvania of approximately \$28.5 billion would mean that an increase of 21 PERCENT would be necessary to provide services that are now done on a volunteer basis.

Many municipalities have realized that a fire tax may be the only way to provide funding for, and keep, their local volunteer fire department. Especially in these difficult economic times, many folks do not sign the check to send to the local fire department for the annual "fund drive," and many people are busy and do not find the time to attend the pancake breakfast or chicken dinner. The efforts put into the fundraisers are not providing a great return. A lot of work goes into having the dinner or "monte carlo" night, only to generate a few thousand dollars.

Further, the folks doing the work--the volunteer firefighters--already have time constraints. The volunteer firefighter works, wants to spend time with his or her family, is involved with church events, has kids that are in activities, and gives upwards of 25 hours weekly for training, responding to calls, maintaining the fire equipment, and doing all the other work that is necessary. It is difficult to find even more time, on top of that, to try to plan, promote, and staff events to raise money.

A fire tax also means that everyone pays their fair share. Despite the tremendous generosity of those that do contribute to their local fire department, the statistics show that the average response is approximately 22 percent. (Thanks to the generosity of the great folks in Kennedy, our department's "success rate" is higher!) That means that over three-fourths of homeowners in a municipality do not donate to the local department. A fire tax would be assessed on all homeowners, a fair result since ALL homeowners certainly want the security of knowing that there are people who will respond if there is an accident, fire, or medical emergency.

In eastern Pennsylvania, many local municipalities have adopted a fire tax to fund their volunteer departments. It would not be surprising to see this trend continue into our area. While nobody likes taxes, let alone a new tax, the bottom line is a very simple one: support your local volunteer fire department, or watch taxes increase greatly to fund a paid force.

**JESUS said,
Except a man be born
again, he cannot see
the kingdom of GOD.**

John 3:3

Enthusiastic, energetic and civic minded people needed. Opportunity to be part of building and directing a new Kiwanis Club in the Moon area.

Emphasis on Early Childhood Education and supporting local youth programs.

Contact Jeff Steiner at clubbuilding@pakiwanis.org.



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- 2 Maximum closing cost reimbursement amount is up to \$500.00. Closing cost amount will be rebated after you finance a minimum of \$10,000 in a new Home Equity Loan. Closing costs will also be rebated with a minimum of \$10,000 added on to an existing Clearview Home Equity Loan. If a loan is re-mortgaged with another financial institution or paid off within 12 months of origination, the rebate must be reimbursed to Clearview.
- 3 Interest may be tax-deductible. Consult a tax advisor.

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We're Expanding Our Space!

Fall is bringing all sorts of changes to Robinson Township Library. We have leased upstairs programming space from Robinson Township and renovations begin in mid-September. Stay tuned to our Web site at www.robinsontownshiplibrary.org for updates. An open house is planned for late October/early November to showcase our new space! During this time of renovation, several programs will be put on hold and no special performances will be planned. The following is a list of programs that will be continuing in September and October.

CHILDREN & TEENS

Morning Family Storytime – Mondays at 11 a.m., ongoing program: stories, songs, rhymes, and crafts for children 6 and under.

Evening Family Storytime – Tuesdays at 6 p.m., ongoing program: stories, songs, rhymes, and crafts for children 6 and under.

Mother Goose and Toddler Too Storytime – Wednesdays, 10:15-10:45 a.m.; beginning September 18, rhymes, songs, and finger plays for birth to age 3 with a caregiver.

Preschool Storytime – Wednesdays, 11-11:30 a.m.; beginning September 18, stories, songs, and fingerplays for ages 3 to 5.

Tween/Teen Anime/Manga Club – Thursdays, 6-7:25 p.m., watch anime, eat snacks and talk about manga! For Ages 11+.

Baby LapSit – Fridays at 11 a.m., ongoing program: stories, songs, and fingerplays for babies under two (older siblings are always welcome).

ADULTS

Sit and Knit – Wednesdays, 6 p.m. Needleworkers of all skill levels are invited to join this group to learn new techniques and improve old ones!

Wise Walk – Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. Montour Trail's Brothers Grimm entrance. Healthy snacks will be provided to each walker. Sponsored by the Allegheny County Library Association, in partnership with AARP and UPMC For Life.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Book Discussions – There are six monthly book discussions sponsored by Robinson Library.

Niko's Coffee House – (Steubenville Pike) One Monday a month, 7 p.m., September 9, **The Secret Daughter** by Shilpi Somaya Gowda; October 7, **The Year of Pleasures** by Elizabeth Berg.

Mystery Book Club – Second Tuesday, 2 p.m.; September 10, **White Doves at Morning** by James Lee Burke; October 8, **Haunted Ground** by Erin Hart.

Morning Book Club – Third Wednesday, 10 a.m., September 18, **Breakfast at Tiffany's** by Truman Capote; October 16, **The Secret Keeper** by Kate Morton.

Historical Fiction – Third Thursday, 6:30 p.m., September 19, **Captain Alatriste** by Arturo Perez-Reverte; October 17, **The Last Runaway** by Tracy Chevalier.

Winery at Wilcox - (Settlers Ridge) – Second to Last Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., September 18, **The Hours** by Michael Cunningham; October 23, **A Discovery of Witches** by Deborah Harkness.

Robinson Library Fiction – Last Tuesday, 7 p.m., September 24, **Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker** by Jennifer Chiaverini; October 29, **Wish You Were Here** by Stewart O'Nan.

EVENTS

Robinson Township Autumn Festival – Saturday, September 14 – The library will be selling books for .25 each/5 for \$1 at this year's festival from noon to 5 p.m. Stop by and visit your favorite librarians and look into becoming a Friend of Robinson Township Library!

Kid Zone Toddler Tuesday – Tuesday, September 17, 10 a.m., The Mall at Robinson, rotunda near Banana Republic. Join Miss Sharon and Macaroni Kid Robinson for fall storytime and crafts at the mall!



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THE CHAMBER

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Ribbon Cuttings and Celebrations

TOP TO BOTTOM: On August 16, FASTER, LLC, was joined by Chamber Ambassadors for their official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony; Quarterson Family Chiropractic celebrated its 10-year Milestone with Chamber Ambassadors; AFLAC - Janet Ruperto was joined by Chamber Ambassadors for her five-year Milestone ceremony.



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Coming Up . . .

SEPTEMBER 20

Legislative Breakfast, 7:30 a.m.
at Montour Heights Country Club

SEPTEMBER 26

BizBlast @ Noon
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
at Latitude 40

OCTOBER 11

Sally Haas Memorial Golf Outing &
Dinner, 10 a.m. shotgun start at
Chartiers Country Club

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Around Your Town

MONTOUR SOCCER WINS BIG IN SPRING TOURNAMENTS

This past spring, Montour Youth Soccer participated in two separate tournaments and came away with honors across various age groups.

The under-12 girls team traveled to Cedar Point, where they won the first annual Cedar Point Coaster Classic. Montour also entered a number of teams in the Pennsylvania West Open Tournament, held every spring in Edinboro. This season, MYSA entered eight teams and brought home five championships. The U-13/14 girls, U-13 boys, U-14 co-ed boys, U-17 boys, and U-19 boys all brought home championship honors.

Montour Youth Soccer is open for ages four through 15 for in-house, and ages eight through 19 for travel soccer. The home fields are at Burkett Park on Route 60 in Robinson Township.

For more information, visit www.montoursoccer.com.



PICTURED: Among the winning teams of MYSA were, clockwise from top: Faith Team-Cedar Point; 13U14B team; girls U14 team.



TREAT BAGS
just stuff it!
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Want more from the Mac Kid Moms? Watch us monthly on KDKA Pittsburgh Today Live or invite us to speak at your local event.

It may only be September but before you know it that Halloween Party will be knocking on your door like the grim reaper! Do you know what it wants? Not you. (pheeew)

The BEST Halloween Giveaway treat bag that you can come up with for 36 thousand kids (or so) Without breaking the bank.

Don't fret. Keep calm & step away from Pinterest. The Mac Kid Moms have got you covered. Pictured are several treat bags that we felt were worthy of stuffing. Yes, we've tested all of them. *Especially that smores one. YUM.* Listed below is the tiny url that will lead you to the instructions for all of them!

<http://tinyurl.com/JUSTSTUFFIT>

So hop to it. Get to stuffing!

For more great tips & tricks visit www.robinson.macaronikid.com

Sign up for the weekly E-Newsletter offering West Pittsburgh's most comprehensive calendar listing of family events in our area. It's 100% FREE!

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SMITH AND MUSTIO SECURE BUDGET FUNDS TO SUPPORT EFFORT TO PRESERVE 911TH AIRLIFT WING

In a bipartisan effort, State Senator Matt Smith and Representative Mark Mustio have secured assurances that \$200,000 in appropriated budget funds will go to studying, maintaining, and protecting Pennsylvania's military bases, including the 911th Airlift Wing in Moon Township.

Senator Smith and Representative Mustio worked with Department of Community and Economic Development officials to ensure that certain funds from the General Government Operations budget line item go to studying the viability of Pennsylvania's bases and protect them from being reduced or closed by the Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

"These funds will help ensure the Commonwealth's national and regional security as we make the case for these vital military installations," Senator Smith said. "Thank you to Rep. Mustio for working together to ensure these funds would be used for their intended purpose, to protect bases such as the 911th Airlift Wing in Moon Township that contributes so much to our economy and provides jobs to nearly 2,000 people."

Representative Mustio added, "One of the reasons we have been successful in keeping our bases in the past is because elected officials and volunteers from the community have proactively worked in advance to prepare for the BRAC process. It will be no different this time and that is why Senator Smith and I worked together to make sure funding is available for this purpose."

Smith said the funds would support the Pennsylvania Military Communities Protection Commission, which will conduct various studies, engage in outreach to the public and private sector, work with partners and stakeholder groups all levels of government, and support projects that enhance the military value of Pennsylvania installations.

The Allegheny County lawmakers noted that the U.S. Department of Defense decided in March to keep the 911th at full staffing levels through fiscal years 2013 and 2014, and operate eight C-130 aircrafts. Smith said the decision was a tribute to the base's military value and ability to work cooperatively with other military and local law enforcement entities.

While Mustio called the decision "promising," he cautioned that BRAC could potentially conduct a review of base operations again next year. He said it was important for the state to remain vigilant and continue making a case for its military installations.

"We recognize the importance the military presence plays in our community," added Mustio. "Senator Smith and I will continue to work with our Congressional delegation, the Airport Area Chamber of Commerce, Military Affairs Council and the community at large to ensure that we are prepared for next year's BRAC review."

"These military bases are crucial to Pennsylvania's security and economy," Smith said. "The 911th is a model base and tremendously cost-effective in terms of efficiency, particularly because of its utilization of shared services with other military installations and Allegheny County."

Smith and Mustio's respective districts include the 911th Airlift Wing, Pennsylvania Air National Guard 171st Air Refueling Wing, and the Army Reserve 316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command as well as Pittsburgh International Airport. The Navy Operational Support Center and a state-of-the-art commissary will be operational in the near future.

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Around Your Town

KENNEDY'S RYLAN WINS SCHOLARSHIP



Rylan Kadlecik, 12, of Kennedy Township, received a musical scholarship through her church from the National United Choirs, Musical Scholarship Committee located in Troy, Michigan. The Music Scholarship Program was instituted and tailored to develop musicians within the Polish National Catholic Church.

She is a member of the Holy Trinity Polish National Catholic Church in McKees Rocks. Fr. Michael Selepe has been an inspiration to Rylan. She started as an altar server at the age of five, and volunteers to help with various church functions. She sings in the youth choir under the instruction of choir director, David Condeluci.

Rylan has attended Karen Prunzik's Broadway Dance Studio for five years, where she takes dance, voice, musical theater, and piano lessons. She was a member of Pittsburgh Broadway Stars performing at events all over the Pittsburgh area. This past summer, she earned a leading part in the Pittsburgh CLO Academy's camp performance of "Hair Spray."

Rylan has sung the National Anthem for Kennedy Township baseball, Montour Little Spartans football, and the opening of Montour High School's new gymnasium.

MONTOUR JUDO STUDENTS TAKE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

This year, for the first time, the Junior National Judo Championships were held in Pittsburgh, at Robert Morris University in July.

Over 500 Judo students from countries including Iceland, Greece, Spain, Canada, and the U.S. competed. Of them, Tyler Kim, a 2013 graduate of Montour High School, took gold in the 17-20 age group. Salvatore Desimone, a Montour junior, took a silver medal in the 15-16 age group.

Tyler has been training for 13 years, and Salvatore has trained for 10 years.

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(412) 771-2321
www.kennedytwp.com

Pennsbury Village

1043 Pennsbury Boulevard
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 279-7876
www.pennsburyvillageboro.com

Robinson Township

1000 Church Hill Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 788-8120
www.townshipofrobinson.com

Thornburg

545 Hamilton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 921-3713
www.thornburg-pa.gov

Char-West Council of Govts.

1 Veterans Way, Ste. 202
Carnegie, PA 15106
(412) 279-3333

PUBLIC & PRIVATE SCHOOLS K-12

Holy Trinity School

5720 Steubenville Pike
McKees Rocks, PA 15136
(412) 787-2656
www.holy-trinity-school.org

Montour School District

223 Clever Road
McKees Rocks, PA 15136
(412) 490-6500
www.montourschools.com

Parkway West Career & Technology Center

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www.rtcsonline.org

St. Malachy School

343 Forest Grove Road
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<http://stmalachyschool.net>

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CHURCHES

Ascension Lutheran Church

1290 Silver Lane, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
(412) 859-3711
www.ascensionlutheranchurchofpa.com

Ascension Roman Cath. Church

114 Berry Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 921-1230
<http://www.ascensiondiopitt.org>

Church of Jesus Christ

227 Herbst Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108
(412) 771-1335

Church of the Nativity Episcopal

33 Alice Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 921-4103

Covenant Family Church

P.O. Box 15533, Pittsburgh, PA 15244
(724) 263-7147, www.covfamchurch.org

Crafton Hts. 1st UP Church

50 Stratmore Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 921-9024, www.chup.org

Crafton United Methodist Church

43 Belvidere Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 921-3381, <http://www.gbgn-umc.org/craftonumc/>

Crafton UP Church

80 Bradford Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 921-2293, <http://craftonup.com>

First Baptist Church of Crafton

1 Oregon Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 922-5382

Forest Grove Community Presbyterian Church

20 Williams Drive, Coraopolis, PA 15108
(412) 788-1081, www.forestgrovecommunitychurch.org

Hawthorne Avenue Presbyterian Church

90 Hawthorne Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 921-2504

Hillside Christian Community

1050 Campbells Run Road, Carnegie, PA 15106
(412) 279-2996, www.hillsidechristiancommunity.com

His Disciples Outreach Ministries

1 Crafton Square, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(724) 498-6326

Holy Trinity PNC Church

200 Grace Street, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
(412) 331-6459

Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church

5718 Steubenville Pike, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
(412) 787-2140
www.holytrinityrobinson.org

Ingram United Presbyterian Church

30 West Prospect Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15205, (412) 921-2323

Ken Mawr UP Church

1760 Pine Hollow Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
(412) 331-2863, <http://www.kenmawrchurch.org>

Kennedy First Alliance Church

941 McCoy Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
(412) 331-6145

Moon Run UP Church

2358 McKees Rocks Road, McKees Rocks, PA 15136, (412) 787-1076

Mosaic Anglican Fellowship

5720 Steubenville Pike, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
www.mosaicpgh.org

Providence Presbyterian Church

77 Phillips Lane, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
(412) 788-6100, <http://www.providence-pca.net>

Restoration Church

1040 E. Windhaven Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 921-3231, www.restorationchurchofchrist.org

Solid Rock Christian Church

33 Alice Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 922-5502, (412) 572-7016

St. Malachy Church

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(412) 771-5483, <http://www.stmalachypgh.org>

St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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(412) 921-1125

St. Philip RC Church

50 West Crafton Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 922-6300
<http://www.saintphilipchurch.org/info.php>

The Bible Chapel

@ Pittsburgh Technical Institute
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www.robinson.biblechapel.org

Union Presbyterian Church

6165 Steubenville Pike, McKees Rocks, PA 15136
(412) 787-1818, www.unionpresbychurch.org

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American Legion Post 618 Sto-Rox, (412) 331-9083
American Legion Post 862 Robinson, (412) 787-1113
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DAR Coraopolis, www.dar.org
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Hollow Oak Land Trust, (412) 264-5354

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Montour Youth Soccer Assn., www.montoursoccer.com
Montour Trail Council, (412) 257-3011

Robinson Lions Club, (412) 264-9234
Robinson Twp. Basketball, www.robinsonbasketball.com
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Robinson Twp. Library, (412) 787-3906
Rotary - Crafton-Ingram, <http://www.craftoningramrotary.org>
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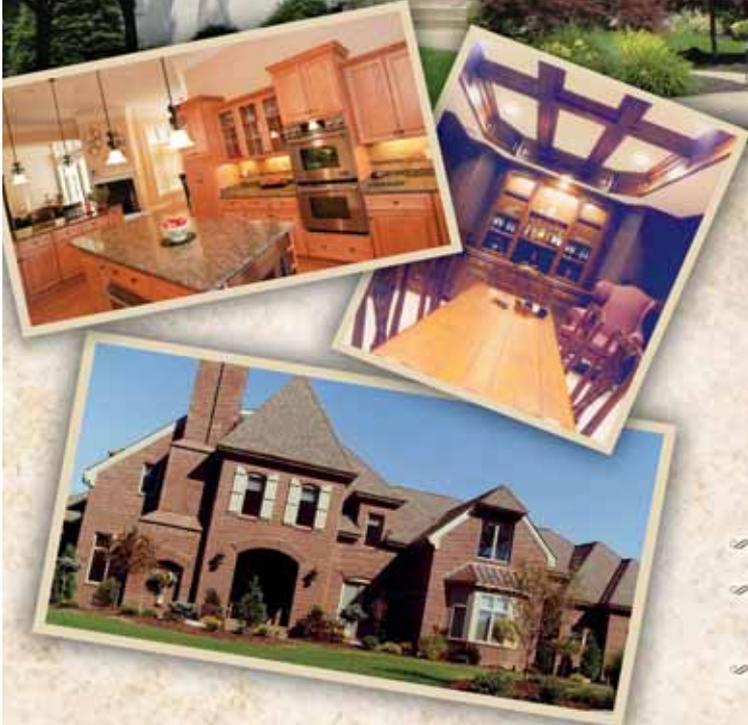


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