

Allegheny West Magazine

MONTOUR EDITION

Vol. 10, No. 59
May/June 2013

FREE Direct Mail
Community Publication



Pittsburgh's PA Motor Speedway Celebrates 25 Years
Montour Opens New Athletic Center
Firefighters: Teaching and Learning
Heading to Rwanda to Help Others

Montour School
District News



Pg. 14

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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.

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Kennedy Township volunteer firefighter/EMT Dom Santucci helps Cub Scout member Evan Wyncop try on firefighter's gear. PHOTO BY LYNETTE CASTELUCCI

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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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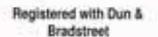
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OUR OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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

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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 current location for the Bronze Hood restaurant once served as the community's roller skating rink. The original rink floor still remains in the restaurant. In August 1963, a tornado came through Robinson and blew the roof off the roller rink. (from: Robinson Township Historical Association records)

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ABOVE: The community came out in force on the day before Easter to welcome home the members of the 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary). The soldiers returned home to Pittsburgh after a year away, nine months of which was in Kuwait. PHOTO BY SARAH HUGHEY

Community Celebrates 911th Decision



Pat

Pat Jennette,
Publisher &
Editor

Shortly after the Air Force announced in March that it would continue operating the 911th Airlift Wing in Moon at least through 2014, State Representative Mark Mustio sent out a press release via e-mail with an apt title: “We Did It!”

The announcement came just months before the Air Force was set to begin closing the base in September, and after fierce combined opposition from state representatives, journalists, and the community, all citing not only the economic importance of the base to the region, but also the unique advantages the 911th offers the federal government.

As has been reported by a number of sources, including this magazine, a relationship with Pittsburgh International Airport allows the base to shed operating costs by utilizing the airport’s runways and emergency services. It also operates one of, if not the most, efficient ISO shops in the

Air Force, a necessity given that it has been saddled with some of the oldest C-130’s in the country.

The Air Force’s decision marks the third time the base has survived the Base Realignment and Closure process. The base was nearly excluded from the process this time around when the Pentagon initially and erroneously insisted that the base employed fewer than 300 people; a statistic that would have allowed the Air Force to close the base without a careful cost-benefit analysis.

The 911th will likely go through another BRAC next year, meaning the work isn’t done yet. As Representative Mustio wrote in his press release, “...the more than 1,220 members of the 911th and the more than 300 family-sustaining civilian jobs this unit provides are too important not to fight for.”



Doug Hughey

Doug Hughey,
Assistant Editor

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On the Horizon

Ongoing

Kennedy Garden Club, second Tuesday each month, 11 a.m., Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church, guest speakers, demos, crafts, hosted luncheons, (412) 331-6175, www.kennedygardenclub.com.
Women's Business Network, Robinson Chapter, meets **second and fourth Tuesdays monthly, 7:30 a.m.,** Giant Eagle Market District, second floor, area business women and owners welcome, Laura Grunert, (412) 512-0973, www.wbninc.com.

Lifetree Café, Wednesday evenings, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church, Pine Hollow Road, Kennedy, local talk show exploring life and faith, everything from politics to prayer will be featured at a new weekly experience called Lifetree Café, (412) 331-2863, www.LifetreeCafe.com.

May 16

West Hills Symphony Concert, 3 p.m., David E. Williams Middle School, "Best of the American Songbook III with piano/arranger Kevin Clark presenting a medley of tunes by American music legend, Cole Porter, (412) 788-4713, www.whsb.org.

May 18

Robinson Township Community Flea Market, 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Burkett Sports and Recreation Complex, benefits Robinson Township Autumn Festival, \$15, deadline May 15, (412) 788-2822 or (412) 859-0902.

Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community, Stage AE, **Saturday, May 18, 9 a.m.** start, registration at 7:45 a.m., benefits 68 local health and human service agencies, to register go to www.highmarkwalkforahealthy

community.org.

Union Presbyterian Church Indoor Garage Sale, Saturday, May 18, 6165 Steubenville Pike, Robinson Township, benefits church projects and charitable distributions, (412) 787-2687.

The Ohio Valley General Hospital & Kennedy Township 5K Community Run-Walk, Saturday May 18, 7:45-10 a.m., (412) 777-6313.

May 22

Dementia Care - A Family Perspective, 6-7:30 p.m., Valley Care Adult Day Services, a workshop for families taking care of loved ones with dementia, with Kay Lynne Ege, B.S., ACC, CMC, to register, (412) 259-5064, ADS@valleycareassociation.org.

Teal II Heal Concert, May 22, 7 p.m., Crossroads Church, 100 Crossroads Drive, North Fayette, praise music performances by groups from Crossroads Methodist, Carnegie Presbyterian, McDonald UP, Oakdale UP, Valley Presbyterian, and West Alexander Presbyterian, bake sale and Teal to Heal bracelet sale, suggested donation, \$10. This is the second such concert for Julie Hanczar and her family, to assist with costs related to her rehabilitation following injuries sustained in an automobile accident, (924) 693-8241.

May 23

Moon Area AARP #3451 Annual Covered Dish Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Sharon Presbyterian Church, 522 Carnot Road, Moon, bring a favorite covered dish (no desserts) and table setting, desserts provided, meeting follows luncheon, new members and guests welcome, (412) 264-6810.

May - June

BSA Troop 198 Sale of hand-crafted, pressure-treated, six or eight-foot picnic tables, \$150 each. Invest in years of family

backyard fun, help send scouts to camp, (724) 457-2852, bobgaylik1@verizon.net.

June 1&2

Carnegie Performing Arts Center Spring Recital, Saturday, June 1, 8 p.m., and Sunday, June 2, 2 p.m., "Spectacular, Spectacular" will be held at the Andrew Carnegie Music Hall, Carnegie, \$15 adults, \$12 students, (412) 279-8887, www.carnegieperformingartscenter.com.
Arthritis Foundation Let's Move Together Spring Walk, June 1, 10 a.m., registration, wellness expo, and walk activities at 8 a.m., South Side Works, 3 to 1 mile walk along Three Rivers Heritage Trail, donations encouraged, benefits Pennsylvanians with arthritis, kwaltman@arthritis.org, (412) 250-3342.

June 2

SNPJ Car Cruise, Lodge 106 in Imperial, **afternoon,** live music by George Suhon and Silver Sky, buffet, beverages, door prizes, motorcycles welcome, Kevin Richards, (724) 695-1411, kevinrichards22@gmail.com.

June 7

Cruisin' in the Woodlands, 5-9 p.m., 12th Annual Findlay Township Car Cruise, food for sale, 50/50 raffle, DJ, assorted vendors, dash plaque given out to first 100 classic cars, **rain date is June 14,** (724) 695-1976, www.findlaytp.org.

June 11-August 6

McDonald Borough Summer Tennis Program at Harry Collins Courts, Heritage Park, June 11 through August 6, register by **May 27,** forms available at McDonald Pharmacy, Heritage Library, Chinese Dragon Restaurant, and McDonald Borough office, children ages 5-17 and adults, lessons Tuesdays and Thursdays, adult lessons Monday

evenings, eight weeks/16 lessons \$40 children, eight weeks/eight lessons \$60 adults, (724) 926-4617.

June 17

The Early Learning Institute Summer Camp, June 17-21, June 24-28, July 22-26, July 29-August 2, August 5-9, age 2-5, 90 Grant Street, Kennedy Township, 8:30-11 a.m., 12-2:30 p.m., or 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., \$90/week half day, \$160/week full day, educationally themed weeks, age-appropriate socialization, professional, caring staff, (412) 331-3560, e-mail: kristinau@telipa.org.

July 20

Janoski's Farm Harvest Wine Festival, 3-8 p.m., sponsored by Janoski's, co-sponsored by Volant Mill Winery and Allegheny West Magazine, six wineries, \$25 in advance, \$30 at gate, admission includes farm fresh foods, wine sampling, entertainment, food sampling from vendors, tractor and car display, and more, rain or shine, (724) 899-3438, ext. 6.

August 14-17

Annual Kennedy Township Community Days, 6-11 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, 5-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Firemen's Parade on Pine Hollow Road, Saturday at 7 p.m., fireworks Saturday at 10 p.m., to reserve a booth or get more info, (412) 787-5422, (412) 771-2321.

September 21

West Allegheny Class of '78 Reunion, J & D Cellars Winery, Eighty Four, (owned by a classmate), "Like" on Facebook: West Allegheny "78" Reunion Planner; e-mail Sam.Scarfone@hswa-pa.org.

"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.

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News from the

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Volunteers Needed

We are also looking for volunteers for our June 23 Town & Country Garden Tour. These events raise much-needed funds to advance the Botanic Garden and are not possible without many helping hands.

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Golf Outings



Montour Valley VFW Post 7714 Golf Outing, June 8, Rolling Green Golf Course, 1 p.m., 4-person scramble best ball, includes lunch, dinner, beer and soda. Hole-in-one, longest putt, closest to pin and most accurate drive prizes. Benefits Sharing & Caring nonprofit working with disabled vets, Nancy, (412) 496-1475, nbeyerbach@gmail.com.

Ohio Valley General Hospital 28th Annual Golf Fundrive, June 10, Allegheny Country Club, 10 a.m. start with brunch on the club's veranda followed by a shotgun start at noon, 18 holes, cocktail reception and dinner, silent auction, benefits the hospital's advancement of medical information technology, Ann Hrabik, (412) 777-6359, ahrabik@ohiovalleyhospital.org.

9th Annual TC House Golf Outing, June 21, Quicksilver Golf Club, to benefit the establishment of a group home for young adults with disabilities, (412) 736-5783, www.tchouse.org.

Montour Boys Basketball Golf Outing, June 29, Quicksilver Golf Club, shotgun start at 1 p.m., Daren Tielsch, (412) 780-6844

Herb and Harold Heinlein Golf Outing, July 21, Ponderosa Golf Course, two-person scramble, \$200 per team, Don, (412) 216-4200.

Raccoon Creek Park Happenings



Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Tour, Monday, May 27, 10-11:30

a.m. This year marks the 80th anniversary of the creation of the C.C.C. program in the United States. Join us as we celebrate this milestone and discuss its history and significance in

establishing Raccoon Creek State Park and projects nationwide. Following the indoor presentation, take a short walking tour of one of the camps built by the C.C.C in the 1930s. Meet at the park office on State Route 18 promptly at 10 a.m. Free program. For details, call (724) 899-3611.



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What if you could prevent even one family member from hearing the words, 'You have cancer?' The American Cancer Society is seeking cancer fighters in the Heritage Valley Health System service area and Greater Pittsburgh region who are interested in joining Cancer Prevention Study-3 (CPS-3), a historic nationwide study to help researchers better understand the genetic, environmental, and lifestyle factors that cause or prevent cancer.

"This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for Americans to participate in lifesaving cancer research," said Sharon Stalter, Health Initiatives Representative, American Cancer Society Pittsburgh office. "We are excited to offer an opportunity for residents to make an appointment and enroll in the study at their convenience now through June."

Men and women who are willing to commit to the study must be between the ages of 30 and 65 and never have been diagnosed with cancer. The study will enroll a diverse population of 300,000 people across the United States. To enroll, individuals provide a waist measurement, give a small blood sample, and complete a comprehensive survey online or at the enrollment site. Over the course of the study, participants will be asked to fill out follow-up surveys every few years.

For more information about CPS-3 or to schedule your appointment, visit www.greaterpittsburghcps3.org or call toll-free 1-888-604-5888, or locally, (412) 919-1100.



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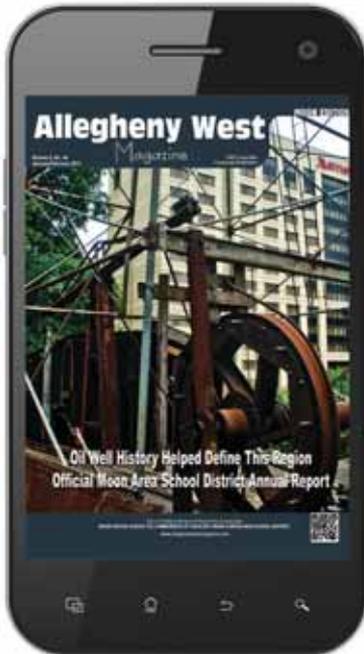
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SINCE 1999

Around Your Town



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BDS STUDENT NAMED KEAN QUEST FINALIST

Shane Treloar of North Fayette, a student at Broadway Dance Studio, was named a finalist in the Kean Quest Talent Search competition on April 5.

He received the Audience Choice Award, and was awarded the grand prize of a recording studio time and photo package. Pictured with Shane, right, is Jackie Evancho and Shane's teacher, Karen Prunzik, of Broadway Dance Studio. BDS was recently noted as one of the top five studios in the Pittsburgh region by CBS Local for voice instruction, led by Etta Cox, well-known Pittsburgh area vocalist and performer.

ROBINSON WELCOMES NEW TOWNSHIP MANAGER



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Robinson Township welcomed a new manager, Jeff Silka.

He is a graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 1992, with a Master of Arts in Public Affairs

(MAPA) and University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, 1989, Bachelors of Arts, Political Science. His professional certification include Economic Developer (CEcD) - International Economic Development Council. Mr. Silka has an extensive management background which includes municipal manager, Municipality of

Monroeville; executive director, Somerset County Economic Development Council; city manager, Johnstown; township manager, Londonderry Township in Middletown, Pennsylvania; city manager, Shinnston, West Virginia; and boro manager, Indian Lake Boro.

Silka is affiliated with International Economic Development Council, International City Managers Association, and the Association for Pennsylvania Municipal Management.

PTI PRESIDENT HONORED WITH PBT AWARD

Robinson Township resident Greg DeFeo, president of Pittsburgh Technical Institute, was honored as one of four individuals for the Pittsburgh Business Times' 2013 Diamond Awards in the Large Company category. The award recognizes top CEOs and Presidents for outstanding business leadership, customer focus and community service



PHOTO SUBMITTED

in the Pittsburgh region. Honorees were announced at an awards program at the Duquesne Club on April 18.

DeFeo considers his most notable achievements to be PTI's transition from a commuter college to a complete residential campus and PTI's reputation of excellence and connection with regional employers who turn to PTI for qualified graduates.

CPAC DANCERS TAKE AWARDS AT COMPETITION



ABOVE: Students from the Carnegie Performing Arts Center received recognition at the recent Showstoppers competition. Left to right: Stephanie Hrabar, Adrienne Elion, Gabrielle Prevade, and Kathleen Walter. PHOTO SUBMITTED

In Pittsburgh earlier this year, Carnegie Performing Arts Center competed against dozens of dance studios for prestigious top honors at Showstopper, the largest Dance Competition in the country. Their entries placed as follows: "Blue" received ninth place overall in Teen Advanced Duet/Trio; "Ricky" received fifth place overall in Senior Advanced Small; and Carnegie Performing Arts Center received one platinum award and two gold awards. This qualifies them to go to the Showstopper National Finals in either Sandusky, Myrtle Beach, Anaheim, or Galveston this summer.


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News from Montour High School



WRITING FOR A REASON:

English Students Nominate a Favorite Teacher

On April 16, members of the Montour community gathered at Barnes and Noble in Settler's Ridge for a very unique celebration. Within her English 10 classes, Ms. Ligouri engaged her students in a writing project to nominate their "favorite teacher." This annual contest is sponsored by Barnes and Noble Booksellers. The tenth grade students were asked to write a poem, essay, or song which described their favorite teachers. The students spent time writing about their teachers - explaining their classes, personalities, and even traits which make each teacher and classroom unique and meaningful to each student in his or her own way.

Tenth grade student Mary Irwin's heartfelt essay nomination won high school teacher Mrs. Tobin this year's Robinson Barnes and Noble "My Favorite



Teacher Award"! Mary celebrated with Mrs. Tobin at Barnes and Noble, sharing her essay with all in attendance. Mary's essay will move on to the regional contest.

Montour High School teachers Mr. Byrom, Mrs. Benson, and Mrs. Foxwell received honorable mentions for their essays written by Aryana Jones, Madison King, and Megan Cook, respectively. Additional tenth grade nominations for honorable mentions were written by Sarah Maslakowski, Ashley Farnen, Jamie Johnston, and Malysa Thompson.

Mrs. Marsico and the art students of MHS also provided art displays to make the evening even more special. In addition, the cast and crew of "Legally Blonde" also performed at Barnes and Noble to close out a wonderful evening of celebration for the Montour community.

M.A.M.A. and Friends' Record Year of Giving

This school year, the Marketing and Advertising Montour Association once again showed their support for the community and those in need by raising record dollars for a range of worthy causes. As of April, M.A.M.A. had raised \$5,989.72.

"And we aren't done yet," says Montour Marketing and Advertising instructor April Fisher.

The dollar amounts and beneficiaries of M.A.M.A.'s efforts are as follows:

- \$1,200 to the March of Dimes for World Prematurity Day - The March for Babies campaign seeks to raise awareness and financial support for research into the causes and treatment of prematurely born babies. M.A.M.A. has been holding a walk to support the cause ever since their instructor, April, gave birth to premature twins, Ella and Nora. Since then, the organization has donated \$6,500 to the cause.

- \$1,789.72 to the Newtown Memorial Fund - Following the tragedy in Newtown in December, the period 1 Marketing and Advertising class donated money raised during a number of holiday-themed fundraisers, which also provided students with experience in event planning. For Halloween, students held a costume contest. For Christmas, they held the X-Mas Factor Talent Show, and for Thanksgiving, students hosted a viewing of the movie "The Blind Side." The fund provides support to the

families of the victims of the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, where 26 children and teachers were killed in a mass shooting.

- \$1,000 to the Nucci and Finny Scholarship - The WPIAL basketball world was hit hard by the deaths of Brian Finnegan and Brandon Chiarelli, who died on a car crash on the way to a game. Twelve years later, Montour is continuing to remember Nucci and Finny, as they were known among friends and family. M.A.M.A. contributed to the scholarship set up in their names by hosting a two-on-two basketball tournament. Teams donated \$10 apiece and the organization sold baked goods and held a half court shot contest at halftime of the Chartiers Valley varsity game.

- \$1,000 to Project Purple - Partnering with the Future Business Leaders of America, M.A.M.A. raised money by designing and selling purple t-shirts with the Montour and Project Purple logos. Project Purple is a nonprofit associated with The Chris Herren Project. Chris is a former NBA player who now tours the country speaking to students about how drugs ended his promising basketball career and nearly his life. In February, he visited Montour. For more on the event, see page 21.

- \$1,000 to the family of Ryan Heitzenrater - As the Heitzenrater family continues to deal with the sudden loss of their youngest son, April got the idea that if every student donated just \$1, that the combined show of support could send a significant message.



Business Students Compete in “Titan Challenge”

On March 5, 12 upperclassmen from Montour High School competed in the Junior Achievement “Titan Business Challenge” against many other schools from the Southwestern Pennsylvania area. The Titan Business Challenge is a business strategy tournament using the JA Titan Program – an online business simulation. The competition is uniquely designed to unleash student creativity, test leadership skills, and demonstrate the competitive nature of the free enterprise system.

Under the direction and guidance of Montour High School business teacher, Mr. Nate Galiyas, the team made up of Ryan McDonough and Roland Ganley did exceptionally well. By making a series of key management decisions in running their business, the students finished in second place. Each student won \$100 in prizes, and now move on in May to compete in the Titan Grand Championship against teams from across the state.



Boys Basketball Team Wins WPIAL AAA District 7 Championship!

Congratulations!



Congratulations!

On The Calendar . . .

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| May 24 | Teacher In-Service/No Students |
| May 27 | Memorial Day/No School |
| June 7 | Last Day for Students |
| June 10 | Teacher Clerical/Last Day |

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Montour School District

News from David E. Williams Middle School

Students Finish Third in America Bowl Competition

Students from David E. Williams Middle School participated in the America Bowl competition, which was held at Baldwin High School. The students were required to answer individual and team questions about Pittsburgh history, presidents, and geography. Congratulations to Liam Gallagher, Evan Gallagher, Ryan Gallagher, and Peter Rauch, below, who finished third out of 40 teams.



The Dynamic Dischner Duo



What is the product of 9 and 16, the quotient of that product divided by 12, then the product of that quotient multiplied by two? Ask any fifth or sixth grade accelerated math student and they will tell you, "24." And, of course, this will be without a pencil and paper or a calculator!

"24" is a mathematical card game, with the objective to find a way to manipulate four integers so that the end result is 24. Any of the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division) may be used to make the four numbers equal 24. Students play with single- and double-digit cards.

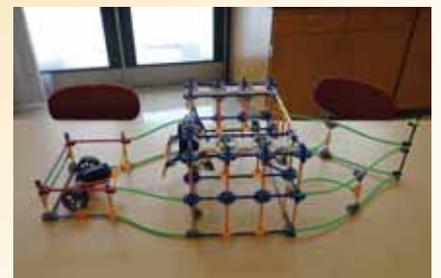
Friday, April 19 was the culmination of months of practice and competition, with the goal to choose a grade-level winner. In fifth grade, starting strong and finishing even stronger was Emma Dischner. Emma represented DEW in the Allegheny County 24 competition on April 26. Finishing strong in grade sixth was Caroline Dischner. She represented the sixth grade in the county tournament. Yes, Caroline and Emma are sisters and what we refer to around DEW as the Dischner Dynamic Duo.

K'Nexperts at DEW Sweep Competition

Students from David E. Williams Middle School participated in the STEM Design Challenge featuring K'Nex, held at Duquesne University on March 5. The challenge, sponsored by Fisher Scientific and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, was to create the most innovative, creative, and advanced robot to come out of the Pittsburgh area. The robot had to solve a real-world issue that created a healthier, safer, and cleaner environment.

There were a total of 71 teams that competed in grades three through eight.

Congratulations to the K'Nexions, Brett Gossard, David Pan, Aaron Crist, and John Dukewich, for winning Honorable Mention with their piece the ROBOaT, which was a boat that filtered water. Also, congratulations to the K'Nexperts, Mitchell Bentley, Brian Duggan, Makayla Miller, and Nicholas Nazak, for placing first in the sixth through eighth grade division with their piece, the Spartan Sweep, which collected trash and placed it in a storage bin. The K'Nexperts swept the competition!



TOP: First Place Team K'Nexperts picture – Brian Duggan, Mitchell Bentley, Nicholas Nazak, and Makayla Miller, with their Spartan Sweep, right.

BOTTOM: K'Nexions Honorable Mention picture – David Pan, Aaron Crist, John Dukewich, and Brett Gossard, with their ROBOaT, right.



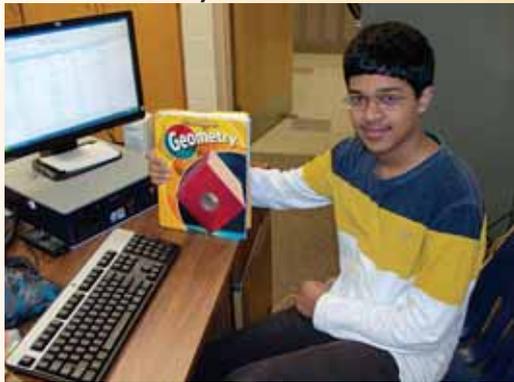
DEW Teacher Named Local B&N Winner

Barnes & Noble, Inc. announced that Michele Hutter from David E. Williams Middle School has been named the local winner of the "Barnes & Noble My Favorite Teacher Contest." Ms. Hutter was chosen from 57 entries at the Barnes & Noble South Hills Village location. Ms. Hutter was nominated by Kennedi Stevenson.

Students were invited to nominate their teachers by writing essays, poems, or thank you letters that shared how a teacher has influenced their life and why they appreciate and admire their teacher. Entries were judged on the compelling nature of the teacher's qualities, the sincerity of the student's appreciation, and the quality of expression and writing.



Excellence, Rosh Bharthi



BY STUDENT WRITER ALEX MANNINO

Congratulations to eighth grade student Rosh Bharthi, whose intelligence and math expertise have brought renown to the David E. Williams Middle School community. Rosh, now 13 years of age, was 12 years old when he was invited to become a member of the Julian C. Stanley Study of Exceptional Talents (SET), a program sponsored by Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth (CTY).

To qualify for this exclusive group, Rosh, as an eighth grader, before the age of 13, had to have an SAT score of at least 700 in math and/or verbal critical reading. Rosh scored a 710 in math.

Rosh was invited and attended the grand ceremony held this past fall at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. He joined other students from around the world who were also invited to be honored at

the university. Students received special recognition and received an honorary medal. We are so very proud to have a talented student such as Rosh represent the Montour School District and David E. Williams Middle School.

Rosh is the son of Mr. Vijay and Mrs. Shantha Bharthi and the older brother to three-year-old Rithik. The family resides in Robinson Township.

Student Places Third at Phipps Fairfield Challenge Event

The gifted students at David E. Williams are participating in the Phipps Conservatory Fairchild Challenge, "a free, multidisciplinary, standards-based, environmental education outreach program designed to give students an opportunity to shine by appealing to their innate sense of creativity and curiosity about the world around them."

There are six parts to the challenge. Challenge five required the students to either choose to write a letter to the editor or create an environmental cartoon. Congratulations to eighth grader John Dukewich, who received third place for his letter to the editor about energy production in Pittsburgh. The requirement was to pick an environmental issue that affects Western Pennsylvania and express his personal opinion. He stated the problem, his concerns, and any

suggested solutions or calls to action.

John backed up his opinion with a minimum of three facts that he found through researching the topic.

John is listed on the Fairchild Challenge website as a winner, and he will receive a certificate at the May 28 Awards Ceremony. He also was asked to be interviewed by Liz Adams from Saturday Light Brigade radio, who regularly interviews the top placing Fairchild Challenge winners. To read John's letter to the editor, please visit the "Spotlight" section on the David E. Williams Middle School website.



Montour School District

Burkett Elementary News

Battle of the Books!

Congratulations to all 28 readers who participated in the Battle of the Books. First place honors go to "MW5" - Brock Martindale, Domenic Hoffman, Cole Marshall, Dean Straight, and Jake Bonato.

There was a tie for second and third place, which resulted in a tiebreaker round between "The Slushies" - Abbey Fisher, Jenna Caliguiri, Sydnee Gyory, Jamie Lanuka, and Ava Scrabis, and "The 5 Rockin' Readers" - Courtney Slesinger, Audrey Schultz, Brenda Rea, Emily Essel, and Reese Garrett. The Slushies came in second and The 5 Rockin' Readers landed in third place.

The other teams that participated were "Book Jammerz" - Josh Knapp, Rachel Ditzenberger, Natalie Dixon, Kelsey Molitoris, and Charles Trimer, "The Four Montour Readers" - Katie Liu, Vanessa Rodgers, Zach Nichie, and AJ Manges, and "The Book Binders" - Joshua Narehood, Andrew Rathway, Jon Tokarczyk, and RJ Stetz.

Special thanks to Mr. DiDesiderio, who served as emcee for the event and who also served as judge, along with Ms. Ewonce, who served as timekeeper and judge, and to Mrs. Black for judging, organizing the event, and assembling the Battle questions.

Thanks also to team managers Diana Knapp, Marla Slesinger, April Fisher, Liang Chen, Shannon Martindale, and Colleen Tokarczyk, and all of the parents that helped the kids prepare for "The Battle."



Burkett Students Participate in Science Fair

Thirty-eight third and fourth graders participated in the 2013 Science Fair on March 22.

"The Science Fair challenges the students to be scientists and not only observe, but explore and think deeply about the world around us," organizer Jeannette Ditzenberger explains.

The students use the scientific method to ask a question, state their hypothesis, conduct an experiment numerous times changing their control variable, observe and measure the results, draw a conclusion, and present their work.

Topics included gravity, animal prey, electrical circuits, yeast production of carbon dioxide, liquid evaporation, cleaning pennies, sound waves, egg drop physics, air pressure, solar system, mold, propulsion, and carbonation.

The evening also included ten hands-on adventure stations, "Ion Jones and the Lost Castle of Chemistry," presented by the Carnegie Science Center.



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Forest Grove Elementary News



Students “Weather” the Storm

On March 5, students were engaged in many weather related activities. This was the day that the school participated in the countywide severe weather drill, to ensure that all students and staff members would be prepared in case of a weather emergency. The staff and students quickly and efficiently moved into the hallways and assumed the crouching position with their heads covered. All members of the Forest Grove community now know exactly what to do in the event of a weather emergency.

On the same day, students were engaged in weather related lessons and activities in their classrooms to prepare for an afternoon visit from KDKA-TV weather-

man, Dennis Bowman. Mr. Bowman engaged the entire student body in an hour-long assembly where he covered topics such as dressing appropriately for the weather, how to prepare for severe weather, and how tornados form. Students were called upon to volunteer to respond to questions, demonstrate how to dress for the weather, and help with the tornado machine.

The students were excited to learn from Mr. Bowman and his puppet, Chester Drawers, as they told weather stories. At the end of the assembly, Mr. Bowman quizzed students on the important information he had shared and was surprised at how much the kindergarten, first, and second grade students knew!

Former Student a Published Author

Jamie Faith Sheppard is an 11-year-old fifth grader who attended Forest Grove Elementary as a third grade student before her family moved to West Allegheny. She has a passion for writing, and constantly has a note pad and pencil writing stories.

Recently, she completed her own book, titled, *What are Stanley and Milo Up to Now?* The story is about two, 11-year-old boys, Stanley and Milo, who are best friends and constantly attracted to mischief and mishaps. They start off their summer vacation by being grounded for weeks. Stanley is sent to summer camp, which he despises, and Milo is sent to his grandparents for weeks. When they are both back home, they spend a few weeks hanging out together, and just when they are able salvage what's left of their vacation, they mess up again and are grounded for the rest of summer.

Jamie's mother, Densie Sheppard, explains that it is a fun story with a bit of humor for girls and boys ages 8-13. Densie added that the book's illustrations were done by her and Jamie.

Students at Forest Grove Elementary had the opportunity to purchase Jamie's book. Jamie's family generously donated the proceeds of these sales to the Montour Elementary PTA. Jamie also participated in a book signing at The Mall at Robinson in March. Jamie's book signing was part of the mall's Kid's Club event. Jamie's family plans to donate the proceeds of the event to Children's Hospital.

Jamie's success serves as an inspiration to the young writers at Forest Grove Elementary. She has shown them that hard work and following your dreams and interests leads to success, even at such a young age.

The ten chapter, 89-page soft cover book costs \$10. It is being sold on barnesandnoble.com, amazon.com, and bookstandpublishing.com. It will also be available on Kindle and Nook.



Montour School District

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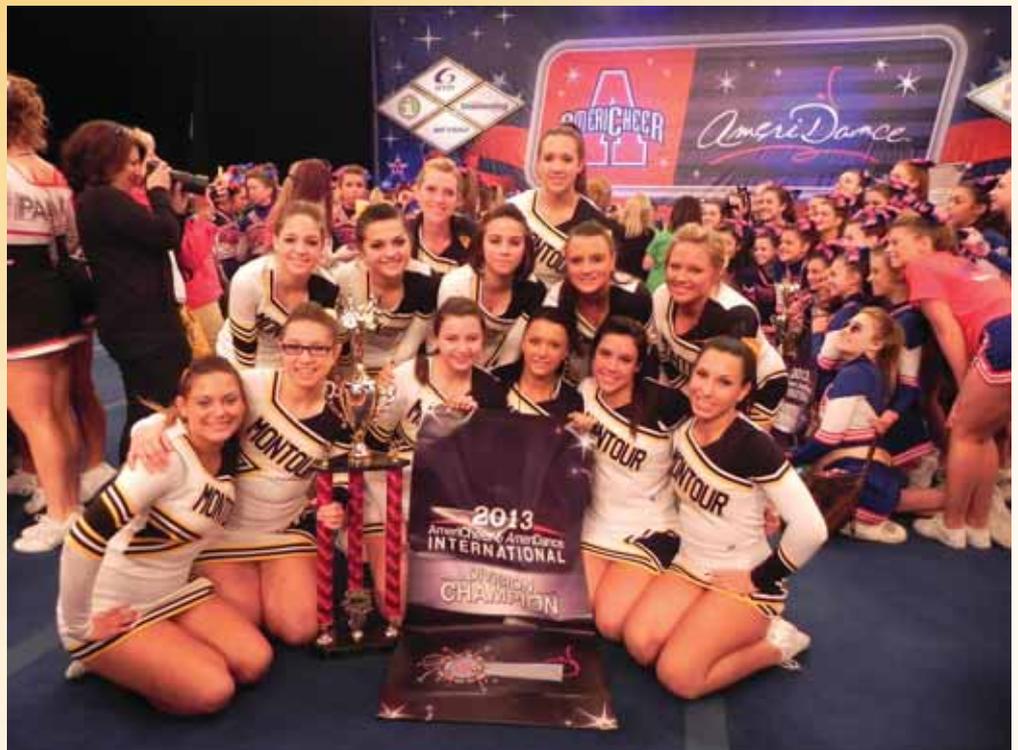
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Montour's McMurtrie Signs with PPU



LEFT: Congratulations to Montour senior outfielder Alyssa McMurtrie as she signed her letter of intent to play college softball next year at Point Park University. Pictured, sitting: Alyssa McMurtrie and Michelle Coultas, Point Park coach; standing: Coach Chuck Lind, Montour Athletic Director Mitch Galiyas; Dean Caliguire, Montour school board member; and Mike Conlon, Montour head softball coach.

Cheerleaders Take Nationals Again



ABOVE: Congratulations to the Montour High School cheerleaders upon winning the first place title at the AmeriCheer National Cheerleading Competition in Disney World, Florida. The team traveled to Disney World in March, where they competed in two days of competition. This is the seventh time that the team has won the AmeriCheer title, having also won two national titles for Universal Cheerleaders Association and one for U.S. Spirit Nationals. Team members are, Row 1: Nikki Richiutto, Lex Samber, Courtney Bosetti, Alyse Tonda, Shayna Eisel, and Megan Arndt; Row 2: Madi Davis, Makenna Carlin, Crystal Miller, Amber Castleveter, and Marla Young; Row 3: Melissa Kokocinski and Alyssa McCune. The team is coached by Cyndi Hadfield and her assistant, Sheri Sumpter.



Chris Herren performed on plenty of basketball courts during his time as a high school and college basketball star. He played on plenty more during a short stint in the NBA, and while bouncing around between seven different overseas professional teams.

On March 20, he took to the floor in the newly renovated athletic center at Montour High School, where he gave an intense, soul-bearing presentation to students from the sixth grade up on how drug addiction robbed him of it all.

"I had no idea at 22 years old when I took one little pill, that ten years later I'd be found overdosed in my vehicle and pronounced dead," Chris told a room packed with students and teachers who absorbed his story for 45 minutes in dramatic silence.

A Fall River, Massachusetts native, and subject of an ESPN 30 for 30, Emmy-nominated documentary entitled "Unguarded," Chris now tours the country talking to schools and groups about an addiction that cost him not just a promising career, but nearly his life.

At Montour, the presentation marked the reopening of the school's athletic facility following a yearlong renovation project. The center now sports a waveless pool and new, 1,600-seat basketball court surrounded by a rubberized indoor track. Thirteen trophy cases were installed to show off the school's athletic achievements, along with an interactive touch screen that lets users peruse a digitized version of Montour's hall of fame. A mirrored cardio room packed with equipment overlooks the court, and downstairs, students will be able to practice their golf swing on a new golf simulator. LED screens installed around the basketball floor, which can be repurposed into a volleyball court, are capable of playing video, but are also being used to generate advertising revenue.

The project marks Montour Superintendent Dr. Donald E. Boyer's 29th in the state of Pennsylvania, and his second at Montour.

Before Chris spoke, students took advantage of another of the center's amenities by watching an edited version of the "Unguarded" documentary on the center's new, theater-quality projection system. They also honored the men's basketball team for handing head coach Adam Kaufman his second WPIAL AAA title in three years, and for making their third consecutive appearance in the PIAA semi-finals.

Students then listened to an intense, unapologetic presentation

about how even the best athletes can be prone to drug addiction and poor self esteem, and how in many ways the spotlight, winning, and raw talent can hide or even facilitate a substance abuse problem.

"In 1994 I walked into a room like this and said, 'my daddy's a politician, I'm ranked ninth in the United States in basketball, I'm not going to listen to this'," Chris said. "It took me until 2008 before I finally got another chance."

Once a highly touted recruit for Boston College profiled by Sports Illustrated and Rolling Stone, Chris was drafted in the second round of the 1999 NBA draft by the Denver Nuggets. Two failed drugs tests had gotten him expelled from Boston College, but redeeming performances at Fresno State, some of which he put on while under the influence, helped make him a prospective first round draft pick. While a third failed drug test pushed him to the second round, Chris remained sober under the watchful eye of Denver team management, and excelled during his rookie season.

The following season, he was traded to his hometown team, the Boston Celtics. It was a team he'd grown up idolizing, but one that also played mere miles from where he knew he could get drugs.

By that time, Chris had also developed an addiction to the powerful new painkiller OxyCotin. Initially sold and marketed in 1996 as having minimal risk of addiction, OxyCotin's maker, Purdue Pharma, later paid \$600 million in 2007 to settle lawsuits claiming the company had grossly understated its addictiveness. Three of the company's top executives were charged with felonies, even as sales of the drug climbed to \$2.5 billion.

"I had no idea that one little yellow pill would turn into seven felonies, four overdoses, and a million dollars on the street," Chris said.

That addiction, he said, began as a teen, with smoking weed and drinking at parties.



"All I do is drink and smoke," he repeated time and again throughout the assembly, echoing the sentiment that kept him from listening to messages about harder drugs when he was younger.

That early behavior he says was motivated by poor self-esteem, a problem he said he didn't realize he had until a year of he'd gotten sober, lost everything he'd made as a professional athlete, and

gone from earning \$50,000 a month in cash to repossessing cars.

The plain-faced honesty of Chris' message contrasted with the sensationalism and scare tactics of the anti-drug public service announcements of yesteryear - to analogies like the fried egg. Recent research suggests that anti-drug messages like these have not only been blunted by their own tactics, but might have even created an allure for some thrill-seeking teens. In recent years, The Office of National Drug Policy has adjusted its anti-drug message with its "Above the Influence" campaign, with PSA's that depict the positive aspects of a drug-free lifestyle, which can be reinforced by athletics.

ABOVE: Herren hugs a brave student during an assembly.

BELOW: Visitors at the grand opening of the athletic facility look on as others shoot hoops on the new basketball court.

Chris' own blunt message at times had students dropping their heads at the mention of uncomfortable issues, including bullying, peer pressure, and cutting. By the end, though, some were also finding the courage to stand up to share their own stories. During a question and answer session, one student spoke about early experiences with alcohol, while another shared personal details about a complicated relationship with a parent with a substance abuse problem.

Afterwards, says Montour's Assistant to the Superintendent, Jason Burik, Twitter was buzzing with students talking about a new perspective on drug use.

"Chris has an incredible ability to connect with audiences and tell his compelling story," he says. "Obviously, he was a very talented basketball player, but I believe his true purpose in life is to teach kids about the dangers of drugs."

Jason says he contacted Chris after seeing the documentary about him on ESPN, which shows the former player talking to a number of groups, including students, athletes, military personnel, and others.

Leading up to the assembly, the Marketing and Advertising Montour Association, led by instructor April Fisher, in conjunction with the Future Business Leaders of America, held a fundraiser for a subsection of Chris' nonprofit, Project Purple. Students raised \$1,000 by selling a t-shirt they designed using the Montour and Project Purple logos. It was one of a number of causes MAMA helped support this year. For a complete list, see page 14.

The night before the assembly, residents were also invited to hear Chris speak for themselves. A little over a month later on May





4, the school invited the community back for the center's grand opening, where residents were allowed to take full advantage of all the new amenities. Following a barbecue and basketball game between students and faculty, members of the Pittsburgh Steelers showed up to take on the men's basketball team. Montour won, 76 to 71.

Jason says the school is hoping to attract the University of Pittsburgh's pro am summer league, though nothing is settled yet. He also says the school is hoping to open up the facility regularly to the public, possibly sometime next year.

Director of Curriculum and Development Dr. Chris Stone says that the school is planning to encourage students to stay active and take advantage of the center by taking a less traditional approach to physical education; by ditching the dodge ball sessions for an open setting that allows students to pursue their interests. In some cases, students can even pursue skills that can be used outside of school, such as qualifying for a lifeguard certificate. For some, it

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Pool with new waveless feature; Montour Hall of Fame jerseys; lobby of athletic facility; school board members cut the ribbon at the official unveiling of the new athletic facility.



could be the vehicle that helps develop healthy lifestyles and learn intangibles from leadership to self-esteem that let them feel fulfilled without the use of drugs.

For more on Chris Herren's nonprofit, please visit: www.projectpurple.com.



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Around Your Town

KENNEDY RECOGNIZES MONTOUR ATHLETES



ABOVE: On April 9, the Kennedy Township Commissioners hosted several Montour champions. Pictured, front: Montour swimming coach, Kathy Lopez, swim team athletes Matt Kwalick and Jarod Kehl; back: Board of Commissioners, Township Manager Jerry Orsini, and Township Treasurer Mel Weinstein. The commissioners gave the boys proclamations and certificates of merit to recognize them for going on to the state championships. PHOTO SUBMITTED



ABOVE: On April 9, the Kennedy Township Commissioners recognized the boys' basketball team for their AAA Section championship. Pictured, team members, Kennedy Township Commissioners, Township Manager Jerry Orsini, and Township Treasurer Mel Weinstein. The commissioners gave the boys proclamations and certificates of merit. PHOTO SUBMITTED

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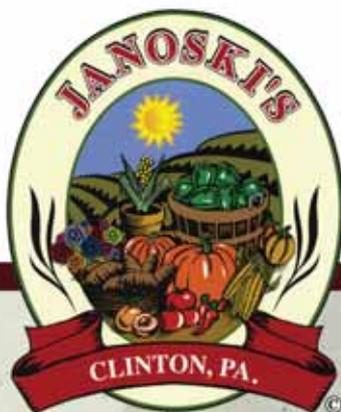
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Retired School Counselor Still Making a Difference for Students

When Leon Strimel retired as the guidance counselor at West Allegheny High School after 35 years in education, he wasn't quite sure what he would do with his free time. He knew one thing, however. It would be helping young people.

During his career at West Allegheny, he spent much of his time interacting, one-on-one, with students, helping them decide their career paths after high school, coordinating their class schedules, supporting their efforts to apply for scholarships, or simply being a sounding board when a student needed someone to talk to regarding their classes or future. He also served some of that time as a classroom teacher and sports coach.

"As I reflect on my experiences during my career, I believe the issue that had the most dramatic influence on students' lives was how they had to cope with their own, sometimes abusive relationships," Leon explains.

He resolved to find a way to help students develop the skills needed to develop healthy relationships with themselves and others, and knew, from his experience, that teachers and counselors simply did not have enough time to address these issues as part of their day.

Today, Leon spends his retired time working with Crisis Center North as its prevention educator.

CCN is a nonprofit organization that provides direction to victims of domestic violence, making available a 24-hour hotline, counseling, legal and medical advocacy, and prevention education programs. CCN is known around Allegheny County as a premier domestic violence counseling and education resource center.

Leon works with more than a dozen area high schools, including Montour, reaching out to meet and speak with students through the Peer to Peer program that he coordinates for the center.

He explains, "Peer to Peer is a school-based, interactive and informational program to help prevent relationship violence and promote healthy dating relationships."

Leon travels from school to school around the northern and western regions of Allegheny County, speaking to teenagers about how to resolve conflicts with their relationships, how to make healthy and safe decisions in their daily lives, and how to ask for help when they find themselves in an unsafe situation. Those circumstances could range from peer pressure regarding drugs and alcohol, sex, or suicide.

"We involve the students in our efforts as well, by hosting our Peer to Peer Empowerment Program in their home schools," he explains.

Designed to help young people develop the skills needed to prevent problems during adolescence through leadership and community service, the program focuses on building assets in students as they work in teams to make social change through positive projects.



LEFT: Montour's Peer to Peer Empowerment group presented its project during the annual Crisis Center North spring luncheon, a runway show that highlighted the positive qualities of the participants.



ABOVE: Leon Strimel of Crisis Center North meets with West Allegheny High School students Allie Hamilton, and Samara Monaco at the Peer Empowerment presentation last year.

Leon guides the teams of students as they develop programs centering around social justice issues such as bullying, safe dating, self respect, and healthy/unhealthy relationships.

Leon points to a growing need for, and acceptance of, such programs.

He notes, "During last year, the Crisis Center North Prevention Education Department saw great growth. We conducted over 300 presentations for over 10,000 students. With the addition of our Peer to Peer Empowerment Program and Coaching Boys into Men Program, we are getting daily requests from schools to schedule our presentations, programs, and services."

Besides helping students with these issues, Leon said he works through CCN to offer transitional workshops for seniors who will soon enter the college environment.

"We share with them information regarding what dangerous situations to look out for and how best to avoid them," he says.

When he's not in the classroom, Leon is speaking with schools to reach out and build CCN's network, or writing grants to fund the program's growth, or writing presentations for one of the programs. He also schedules in-service programs for teachers, something he said has been an enormous help to CCN as the organization works to build bridges between students and those adults in their lives.

He explains that the in-service programs provide information to teachers on conflict resolution and relationships. He also guides teachers through scenarios to learn how to de-escalate conflicts in a non-violent way when students are faced with such situations. He talks about how students' unhealthy relationships have an impact on their classroom performance.

He shared one example of why he does what he does.

"After one of my lessons, all of the students left the classroom except for one girl who stayed behind. Shyly, she approached me and said, 'What you were talking about has been happening to me; I did not realize I was in an abusive relationship and if I continued, it could possibly escalate to the point that my boyfriend may cause me serious injury that could be fatal.' She thanked me for giving her information and the tools she needed to change her situation and possibly even save her life," he shares.

Says Leon, "I enjoy what I am doing; I save lives, I teach!"



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ABOVE: On Saturday, April 20, the members of the Crafton-Ingram Rotary conducted a highway cleanup at I-79 and Route 60. Though the morning started out with snow, President Dr. Charles Sakai, kneeling, and six others braved the cold conditions to beautify the eastern ramps, collecting 31 bags of garbage. PHOTO SUBMITTED

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Teaching: Scouts Visit the Fire Department

On April 3, Kennedy Township volunteer firefighters welcomed Cub Scout Pack 306 from St. Malachy's for a tour of fire and rescue vehicles and special equipment. The firefighters explained their many duties as firefighters.

The Cub Scouts learned how the firefighters and EMTs store, transport, and use their firefighting and emergency equipment. They were excited to try on the special firefighter's clothing and learned about the special protective gear that firefighters must use to stay safe while fighting fires and helping in any emergency situation.

The boys, ages 7-10, enjoyed the very informative presentation by firefighter/EMT Dom Santucci, junior firefighters Rob Smith, James Murphy, and Nick Konopka, firefighter Braidy Schmidt, Assistant Chief George Plutto, and Chief Engineer/EMT Justin Gutt.

Attending from the pack were Cub Scouts Nico Castelucci, Franco Smiegel, Joey Cole, Evan Wyncop, and Danny Ditzenberger, Scout Master Jason Ditzenberger, Den Leaders Tim Cole and Lynette Castelucci, and special pack assistant, Frank Smiegel.



ABOVE:
Kennedy firefighters team up with Cub Scout Pack 306 for an evening of learning.

RIGHT, TOP TO BOTTOM:
Scouts watch Dom Santucci; Rob Smith and Dom Santucci help the scouts try out the fire gear;

CE CENTER:
Scout Evan Wyncop tries on gear;

FAR RIGHT:
Cub Scout Joey Cole in firefighter gear.



Learning: Controlled Burn Plays Vital Training Role

It took months to plan a training exercise between over a half dozen different western Allegheny volunteer fire departments, emergency personnel, and agencies in March, but just minutes for a down jacket tossed carelessly onto a kerosene heater to ignite into a devastating blaze.

Not long after, flames were spreading to an adjacent recliner, and soon a fire was ripping through a doublewide trailer off a rural road in Coraopolis. As volunteer fire fighters circled, flames shot out the door and windows while a woman ran towards them, shrieking, and cameras from Pittsburgh news stations rolled.

If it felt like the real thing, that was the point, Groveton Fire Chief Ken Kisow told reporters beforehand. To start the blaze, fire department members even set up a kind of experimental fire lab, complete with what he called realistic “multiple points of ignition,” to see which would “fail” first. They buried a curling iron under a pile of clothes and left a drier running in such a way that it could ignite, among others.

In the end, though, the culprit proved to be the jacket on the heater. No other accelerants were used or needed, said Ken.

The exercise, hosted by the Groveton Fire Department, involved departments from almost a half dozen other communities, including Robinson, Forest Grove, Neville Island, Coraopolis, and Kennedy Township. It was organized to train fire marshals and interns with the Allegheny County Forensics Unit, said Ken. However, he said it also provided vital training to VFD members. A little over a month later, as a fire consumed a Ventana



ABOVE: Before and after images of the space heater that was the origin of the fire.

THIS apartment complex in Robinson, Ken found himself sending in firemen who, up until March, had yet to experience a fire.

Prior to the exercise, investigators also staged a crime scene by firing a bullet into a dishwasher, and hiding the spent shell casing in a shoe. Both the casing and bullet were later recovered from the decimated interior, and their conditions evaluated. Such clues could prove vital to determining if a homicide had taken place, and maybe even catch a killer.

Throughout the week, investigators experimented with

a number of different scenarios. In one, they used perfume as an accelerant, just weeks after a well-publicized incident in which a man was charged with dousing his girlfriend in the same perfume and lighting her on fire. Investigators experimented with the perfume to see how it would burn. Chief Deputy Fire Marshall and K-9 handler Donald A. Brucker, while overseeing interns, also used the exercise to introduce one of the department’s newest K-9’s in training to the chaotic situation. In the future, Donald said, the dog will sniff out accelerants, but for now he just wanted to acclimate it to the sites, smells, and sounds of an emergency situation.

Afterwards, participants congregated at the nearby Coraopolis Sportsmen’s Association, which also donated the trailer used in the exercise, for a steak dinner and debriefing. Among them was an Allegheny County dispatcher who fielded calls from the exercise while watching the action.

“She was amazed by what all actually happens during a fire,” Ken said.



ABOVE left: Volunteer firefighters participate in extinguishing a controlled burn of a mobile home.



ABOVE right: Firefighters from the Montour area are briefed before the controlled burn exercise.

A Dalmatian Hits the Spot!

PHOTO BY STUDIO TEN
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Every so often, I get lucky, and one of the readers of this column will suggest a topic of discussion. Recently, we hosted another fundraiser breakfast at the Kennedy Fire Hall, and one of our firefighters brought his beautiful Dalmatian puppy to the event. Everyone loved seeing the dog. One little girl even asked where our Dalmatian slept at night, and wanted to see its dog house! I thought

this issue would be a good topic of discussion!

We often do see Dalmatians at a firehouse, or even riding on fire trucks, or attending parades.

I remember my great uncles, who belonged to the Moon Run Volunteer Fire Department, always felt a special fondness for Dalmatians. They told me that Dalmatians were good dogs, and kept rats away! They said that Dalmatians were not only good hunters, but also good guard dogs, and that this made them the perfect companion around the firehouse.

I decided to do some more research, since we also see Dalmatians riding along with the Clydesdale horses of a large beer company. As it turns out, the association actually goes way back, due to the special connection that Dalmatians have with horses! Throughout the years, this breed was seen as a perfect companion for horses, and a perfect breed to accompany horses as they ran. This breed of dog is very muscular and athletic, and could run for great distances, something that they actually enjoy doing. Dalmatians are a breed that like to exercise, yet are calm and could aid in controlling the horses, especially as they had to maneuver down small, crowded streets. The horses also were able to easily distinguish the unique colors of the Dalmatians from any other dogs that ran near the carriages. Apparently, in Great Britain, Dalmatians are still referred to as "English coach dogs."

Of course, many years ago, the fire apparatus sitting in the local firehouse had to be pulled by a horse. Since the Dalmatians had shown that they had a special connection with horses, and could be used to help guide carriages, it was only natural that they would help with the "fire carriages." They helped keep other dogs and animals away from the horse-drawn fire apparatus.

I also found several discussions about the overall calming effect that Dalmatians have on horses. Horses could not just be left alone, since they themselves are fairly gregarious. However, they too often had to be left alone in firehouses, or carriage houses and stables, so it was discovered that the Dalmatians were perfect "pets," or companions, for the horses. The dogs were also very alert, and thus were good protectors, not only of the horses, but also of the fire equipment itself. The dogs would guard the firehouses, the horses and equipment in the firehouses, and then be ready to run, run, run alongside the horses when it was time to answer a call.

Admittedly, today there is probably little need for a Dalmatian in most firehouses. Hopefully, there are not problems with rats, and I have yet to see a firehouse with horses to pull any of the equipment. But, tradition and loyalty have kept Dalmatians associated with fire houses, firefighters, and fire trucks.





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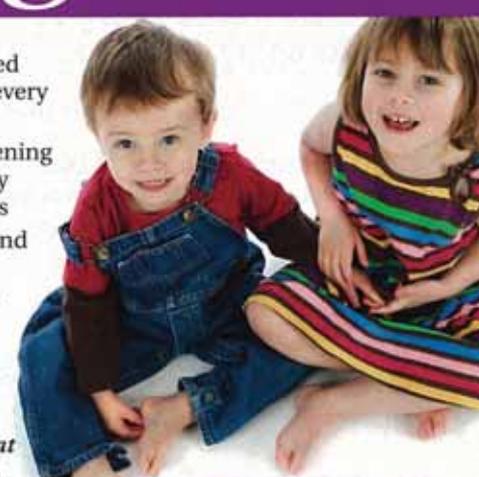


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Your Schools

Rosedale Technical Institute

Training Center Receives Grant for Veterans

Rosedale Technical Institute has received a grant for \$50,000 from the Shivley Family Foundation to be used for education and job placement for veterans. This grant will be used by active students who have achieved veteran status who may need financial assistance for equipment, tools, uniforms, or tuition-related services.

Rosedale Technical Institute's (RTI) initiative fills a critical role in workforce development for veterans by responding proactively to the needs of workers and businesses. RTI has operated similar programs in the past, and has the capacity and career-building experience to train and place veterans into a variety of high demand jobs and occupations.

Currently, there is a growing demand for skilled labor in the Marcellus Shale drilling industry, with estimates of 5,000 to 10,000 new employees needed over the next several years.

"We are grateful that the Shivley Foundation has chosen us to help with our veterans population as they seek training and job placement," said RTI President, Dennis Wilke. "We are proud of the work we have done to make the transition for veterans entering the work place easier, and I am pleased the Foundation is helping us..."

Local, state, and federal elected officials were on hand to participate in the ceremony, along with members of local veterans and labor organizations.



ABOVE: RTI president, Dennis Wilke, members of the Shivley Foundation, U.S. Representative Tim Murphy, RTI staff members, and student members who are military veterans, accept the donation from the Shivley Foundation. PHOTO SUBMITTED

Holy Trinity School

Students are Forensics Winners

Meredith Flanagan, Brooke Gallagher, Paris Morinville, and Daniel Shaw were chosen to represent Holy Trinity Catholic School at the Forensics All-Star Meet. Students from 17 schools attended the event. Meredith Flanagan placed first in the category of drama, and Daniel Shaw placed first in the category of declamation.

The Holy Trinity Forensics team is made up of 18 students in grades 6-8. Forensics is a competitive speech program where students compete in one of six categories: drama, prose, poetry, declamation, impromptu, and multiple reading. The students are judged on their abilities in verbal skills, vocal performance, pacing, eye contact, facial expression, understanding of mood, and poise.

B&N Honors Students and Teacher

Two Holy Trinity teachers and students were recognized recently by Barnes and Noble Book Store.

Former Holy Trinity student Sarah Maslakowski, now a student at Montour High School, was asked to write an essay about her favorite teacher for the Barnes and Noble Favorite Teacher Contest. Sarah wrote about Holy Trinity teacher, Miss Codori. Her essay was awarded an honorable mention.

Madeline McClain submitted an essay about her Holy Trinity kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Moore. Her essay was also awarded an honorable mention.

St. Malachy School

Learning through Junior Achievement

St. Malachy School second graders are learning important lessons about running a business through their Junior Achievement class. The instruction comes from a parent volunteer, Kellie Cibrone, mother of second grade student Robert Cibrone. The lessons focus on the community, helpers in the community, and businesses. There are five total lessons. The children are currently learning about businesses that produce products, such as a bakery. The students are working on making donuts. Some are working on making their products individually, and some of the children are working on an assembly line. The students then compared the number of products they made. They had a fun time working together. Upon completion of their lessons, the students were rewarded with a pizza party by Mrs. Cibrone.



ABOVE: Jannah Berecky, left; Colin Dhanse, Giovanni Merola, right.

St. Philip School

Golden Apple Honoree



The Diocese of Pittsburgh has announced that St. Philip kindergarten teacher, Sharon Shipley, has been selected to receive the prestigious Golden Apple Award, which symbolizes excellent performance in the classroom, church, and community. Mrs. Shipley has been dedicated to St. Philip School for nearly 30 years and, in addition to shepherding the kindergarten and preschool programs, began and manages the afterschool program and summer camp. She and her husband, Wayne, are tireless volunteers at both St Philip School and their parish, St. Columbkille. Mrs. Shipley is the fifth St. Philip teacher to receive this honor, along with St. Philip Principal, Sr. Geri Marr, S.C.

Pittsburgh Technical Institute

Associate in Science in Nursing Degree Program Offered Beginning in July

Pittsburgh Technical Institute (PTI) announced approval from the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing and the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) to offer an Associate in Science in Nursing program beginning in July 2013.

The seven-quarter program is designed to enroll students into a cohort model, an advantage of PTI's program, which streamlines course availability and guarantees that ASN students will take nursing courses

Robinson Township Christian School School Adopts the Classical Methodology in Education

The Board of Directors of Robinson Township Christian School (RTCS) has voted to adopt the classical methodology of education. Classical education is known for an emphasis on the three primary stages of learning in a child's development: the Grammar Stage (grades K-5), the Logic Stage (grades 6-8), and the Rhetoric Stage (grades 9-12). A classical school adapts its teaching methodology to take advantage of these stages.

The Grammar Stage emphasizes the learning of facts (or the grammar of a subject) at a stage in a child's development when information can be easily memorized. During this time, students will learn a lot of rules—the rules of grammar, phonics, math, and spelling, as well as historical and scientific facts. During this stage, students are introduced to the study of Latin.

The Logic Stage is the "why" stage of a child's development. At this stage, a child is more interested in how the facts they learned in the grammar stage will fit together logically. During this stage we introduce the student to the study of logic as well as algebra and geometry. Students begin to apply logic to all of their academic studies.

Finally, the Rhetoric Stage builds on the foundation of the other two stages. The rhetoric student will organize grammar facts in a logical manner and present his or her conclusions in a way that is clear, convincing, and elegantly written or spoken. We want presentations to be not only technically sound, but also interesting to the reader or listener. At this stage, students will begin to specialize in a particular area of study. At the conclusion of their education, these students are required to present and defend, in written and oral forms, a senior thesis.

RTCS will be transitioning to the classical model over the next two to three years.

Heading to Rwanda to Help Others

Kennedy Township resident and 2011 Montour High School graduate Lindsay Demblowski is getting set to embark on the experience of a lifetime with one goal in mind: to help others. Lindsay and a group of students from across the country are leaving in May for a two-month stay in Rwanda to provide assistance with medical equipment.

Lindsay is in her second year of a five-year biomedical engineering program at the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York. Part of her program requirements include participating in co-ops. When presented with the opportunity to apply for admission to the Summer Institute sponsored by Engineering World Health, Lindsay knew it was something she wanted to do.

Engineering World Health (EWH) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of healthcare in hospitals in developing nations. As part of their work, EWH provides biomedical engineering students the opportunity to spend two months of their summer break in a developing nation working on their medical equipment. Lindsay went through a rigorous application process that included multiple essays and interviews before being selected to participate in the program in Rwanda.

The first month of Lindsay's trip to Rwanda will include intensive studying to learn the language. She will be in class Monday through Thursday, first learning French and then learning to speak the native language of Rwanda, Kinyarwanda. Fridays will be spent doing field work at local hospitals learning how to fix medical equipment.

During the second half of the trip, Lindsay will be on site daily in a Rwandan hospital from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., working on medical equipment, helping to improve hospital processes, and translating manuals for medical equipment. A lot of medical equipment in Rwanda hospitals are donated, Lindsay said and the operating manuals are not written in Kinyarwanda. In addition, they will be training hospital workers as biomedical engineering technicians, so they will be able to fix the equipment after the students leave.

Lindsay will also have secondary duties that she will be required to perform, including painting, collecting books, and helping to furnish hospital waiting rooms.

Lindsay's trip to Africa will take her 20 hours by plane. She'll leave May 24 from Washington, D.C. and fly to the Netherlands before reaching her final destination in Rwanda. During the trip, Lindsay will be paired up with a student "buddy" who will be an almost constant companion. The two will stay together with a middle class, Rwandan family.

Lindsay has no reservations and no fear about traveling halfway around the world to a developing country.

"The scariest part for me was getting the vaccines," she said.

"I have a fear of needles."

"Making the decision to go was an easy one, she said. "I feel that I'm so blessed to have the ability to pursue the major I am pursuing that I feel I should donate my time to help others," she said.

Lindsay's parents, Joe and Jeannine Demblowski, had reservations at first, but she said they support her trip 100 percent. Ironically, Lindsay is not the only member of her family traveling to Africa this summer. Her older sister, Lauren Demblowski, a 2005 Montour High School graduate and a registered nurse at New York Medical Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, is traveling to Kenya for two weeks on a medical mission.

Lindsay's trip to Rwanda goes beyond the cost of her regular school tuition. She expects it to cost approximately \$8,000. To help raise funds, Lindsay is selling baked goods at school once a week and is asking companies for donations to help fund the trip. Lindsay is also accepting donations through the website, www.gofundme.com/demblowski.

Lindsay plans to keep in touch with her family and friends here at home through Skype. She'll also be blogging about her experiences. Follow Lindsay's trip through her blog site, lademblowski.tumblr.com.



CHILDREN AND TEENS

Summer Reading for all ages begins June 10 at Robinson Library. *Have Books, Will Travel* is this year's theme, encouraging everyone to keep track of time spent reading to win great prizes! See www.robinsonlibrary.org for further details.

Morning Family Storytime – Mondays at 11 a.m. Ongoing program of stories, songs, rhymes, and crafts for children six and under.

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

Mother Goose and Toddler Too Storytime – Wednesdays, 10:15–10:45 a.m. Resumes June 12: Babies birth to age three with a caregiver. Rhymes, songs, and fingerplays.

Preschool Storytime – Wednesdays, 11-11:30 a.m. Ages three to five. Resumes June 12: Stories, songs, and fingerplays.

Open Playtime – Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m. Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to stop in and play for as long or as little as you like with the puzzles, tunnel, and more.

Romp and Play – Thursdays, 11 a.m.–1 p.m. For children under 24 months and their caregivers. Stop in and play for as long or as little as you like. We've got puzzles, activity tables, and even a tunnel!

Family Fun Night – First Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m.; May 2 – book bingo; June 6 – board games.

Lego Club – Second Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m.; May 9, June 13. Children are invited to bring their own Legos or use the library's collection. All ages are welcome!

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

Escape into a Great Story – Thursday, June 13, 6 p.m. and Saturday, June 15, 1 p.m. Librarians will be suggesting books to escape with this summer for readers of all ages! Refreshments will be served as we give you lists of books to "take you away"!!

The Little Engine That Could – Monday, June 17, 11 a.m. A Books Come Alive production featuring live actors singing and dancing about one of the most famous trains of all time!!

That Guy with the Birds – Thursday, June 20, 6 p.m. Back by popular demand, John Lege will be bringing his basketball playing parrot and other feathered friends for a great show!!

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!

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

Niko's Coffee House/Steubenville Pike – Mondays, 7 p.m.; May 6, *The Tiger's Wife* by Tea Obreht; June 3, *Dreams of Joy* by Lisa See.

Robinson Library Mystery – Second Tuesday, 2 p.m.; May 14, *Iron Lake* by William Kent Krueger; June 11, *Sworn to Silence* by Lisa Castillo.

Morning Book Club – Third Wednesday, 10 a.m.; May 15, *Home Front* by Kristin Hannah; June 19, check www.robinsonlibrary.org for title.

Historical Fiction – Third Thursday, 6:30pm.; May 16, *The Irish Princess* by Karen Harper; June 20, check www.robinsonlibrary.org for title.

Winery at Wilcox/Settlers Ridge – Second to Last Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; May 22, *The Almost Moon* by Alice Sebold; June 19, *A Breath of Eyre* by Eve Marie Mont.

Robinson Library Fiction – Last Tuesday, 7 p.m.; May 28, *Sutton* by J.R. Moehringer; June 25, check www.robinsonlibrary.org for title.

Cookbook Club – Monday, May 20, 6:30 p.m. *Deceptively Delicious: Simple Secrets to Get your Kids Eating Good Food.* At each meeting we will discuss what we liked and disliked about the book. Members are also asked to make one recipe to share with the group. Don't worry about duplicate recipes we'll just have more to taste and eat!

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RIGHT: USA Special Services enjoyed an official ribbon cutting ceremony with Chamber Ambassadors at their new offices located on Steubenville Pike in Imperial.



Coming Up . . .

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Breakfast Briefing: Economic Impact of Marcellus (and Utica) Shale on our Region
Embassy Suites, 7:30 a.m.

June 7

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Soft tissue injuries occur very often, either by a simple fall during an athletic event or through daily wear and tear through everyday activity. Soft tissue dysfunction can occur after surgery when an incision is in the healing process. Most causes of soft tissue injuries occur through overuse or chronic repetitive motions. Some people don't even know that this is happening.

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simply finding the cause of the symptoms, shortening the muscle or structure, applying a firm tension, and stretching the area within patient tolerance through a range of motion to break up scar tissue or adhesions. Combined with A.R.T. treatment, range of motion and strengthening exercises can be implemented to assist in the healing process.

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This information is provided courtesy of Daniel Haas, P.T.A., L.M.T., and he is A.R.T. certified. He can be reached at either clinic location: Kennedy Township: 566 Pine Hollow Rd. McKees Rocks, PA. 15136 phone: 412-771-1055 or Crafton: 37 Foster Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15205 phone: 412-458-3445, www.hesspt.com.

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Talented Youths Make Their Individual Marks in Music

Katie Liu, a fourth grade gifted education student at Burkett Elementary, won first prize in the piano solo, ages 10 to 12 division, at the Duquesne Young Artist National Competition. The competition was held in March at City Music Center of Duquesne University's Mary Pappert School of Music.



Katie started learning to play the piano in a group class at City Music Center of Duquesne University's Mary Pappert School of Music when she was four and a half years old. She started taking private lessons with Natasha Snitkovsky at City Music Center when she was five and has been studying piano with Mrs. Snitkovsky ever since. Katie is now 10 and has been playing for five and a half years. She takes one private lesson every week and practices about one hour a day, six days a week, and even more when there is a competition.

Katie started competing in 2010 when she was seven years old. In her first competition, she won first prize in the Duquesne Young Artist National Competition (DYANC), piano solo division, ages 6-9. Katie has participated in the Duquesne Young Artist National Competition every year since. In 2012, Katie won second prize in piano solo division, ages 10 to 12. Last year, Katie also auditioned for the Steinway Young Artist Program hosted by Steinway Society of Western Pennsylvania, and was selected to play at one of the Heinz Hall pre-concert recitals at the Heinz Hall lobby this past October.

In addition, she competes as a synchronized skater, plays violin, and practices a form of traditional Chinese dance. She is also a straight A student, and has earned advanced scores on the PSSA.

Ingram resident **Hannah Kwiecinski**, 12, a seventh grader at The Campus School of Carlow University, has been chosen as the winning vocalist from kids around the country in Camp Jam's "I'm In The Band Contest."

Grammy award-winning, producer Darryl Swann, will mix the final performance tracks of the winning vocals, guitar, bass, keyboards, and drums. In addition to the mixed and autographed CD by Swann, winners will also receive a free week at any Camp Jam Camp (18 national sites), a phone call from one of the Rock Star panel judges, and a prize package tailored to their instrument.

Camp Jam is the nation's largest rock 'n' roll summer camp. It was founded in Atlanta in 2004 by Jeff Carlisi, a lead guitarist/song writer for the group 38 Special, and business partner Dan Lipson, the founder/CEO of the official NASCAR catalog. The contest ran from February 1 through March 18 and was open to young musicians in six categories -- guitar, bass, drums, keyboards, vocals, beat makers/DJ's -- between the ages of 9 and 17.

Contestants videotaped themselves playing along to a track of "Come Together" and uploaded it to YouTube. Finalists were chosen based on overall talent, originality, and fan support. They had until April 10 to complete a second video and recording using audio recording gear they were mailed to record themselves via computer. Winners were chosen by a panel of judges that included: Carlisi, Swann, and Liberty DeVitto, a drummer with 30+ years experience playing for Billy Joel.



Hannah is no stranger to Pittsburgh's entertainment scene. For the past four summers she has been on The Benedum stage in Pittsburgh CLO productions, including "The Sound of Music" (2011; Brigitta) and "Annie" (2012; July). She was most recently seen in Pittsburgh Musical Theater's "Garden of Eden" at the Byham Theater in March. Hannah is a 2011 Kean Idol finalist and nourishes her love of rock 'n' roll by singing lead vocals for her band, Purple Maze.

To view Hannah's winning video, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=kDeZnJm-h8.

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PICTURED, LEFT TO RIGHT: Ben Miley in 1976; the Mileys: Ben, Red, cousin Scott, and Matt in 1972.

Pittsburgh's Pennsylvania Motor Speedway Celebrates

25 Years



“You’re crazy,” was how Matt Miley put it to his brother Red when he came to him in 1988 with an idea to lease a racetrack in Imperial.

For as long as either brother could remember, racing had been a part of their lives, and at the center of it was their brother Ben, who had wracked up hundreds of wins and numerous championships with his three brothers working around him. It had all started when they were children, with their parents taking them and their other brother, Jerry, and sister, Ty, to the Heidelberg Raceway, and with Ben racing himself as soon as he turned the requisite age of 18.

Yet not once during those 20 years had any of the siblings ever entertained any notions about the sport being anything more than a hobby, not even when a healthy flow of sponsorship dollars and winnings started coming in each summer. Each had pursued careers or businesses outside racing. While Matt had gone on to work for AT&T, and Ben for the insurance wing of The Hartford, Jerry and Red’s lines of work more closely complimented the sport. Jerry went on to own and operate Broughers Machine Shop in Pleasant Hills, and learn how to fabricate everything from a car body to an engine, while Red opened his own garage and eventually a truck rental company in Carnegie.

One of the tracks that the brothers had become accustomed to was Pittsburgh’s Pennsylvania Motor Speedway in Imperial. Not only was the speedway close by, but it sported an oval, half-mile dirt track favored by higher-end racers. Owned and operated by Nick and Emma Garin, the track had been in existence since 1979, built with parts from the same Heidelberg racetrack that the Miley siblings went to as children.

“Nick was a racer and a car owner and had a dream to open a speedway,” says Matt.

After the track was sold and destined to be the site of a shopping mall, the Garins began buying and moving the Heidelberg Raceways’ assets to Imperial in 1973. For a decade, the couple pursued Nick’s dream, until Nick fell ill in the late 1980s. That was when Red got the idea to approach Emma about buying the speedway.

“For whatever reason,” says Matt, “she never wanted to sell it.”

She did, however, offer to lease it, and that same idea Red took to Matt, who today fills a role similar to the one that Red went on to hold at PPMS for the next two decades.



This summer, the Mileys will celebrate their 25th anniversary of operating PPMS, and much as they always have, each sibling plays a vital role in the family's stake in the sport. Ty handles the concessions, which Matt boasts are top notch, and ticketing staff. Jerry runs the race teams for Ben and his son, Jared. Ben, at 62, still races, and is one of the most winningest active drivers in Pennsylvania. After a long career with The Hartford, Ben also handles the track's insurance obligations and grounds. Matt took on promotions after retiring, and after Red passed away in 2007.

Each year, the Mileys honor Red with a race, which for awhile they called the Red Miley Memorial, until they decided that wasn't really fitting for a brother who used everything from fireworks to guys jumping through flaming hoops on motorcycles to promote their track.

"We call it the Red Miley Rumble," says Matt. "It's one of our biggest and best events of the year."

* * * * *

In the 20 years leading up to 1988, the Mileys might never have entertained any lofty notions about racing, but that doesn't mean they didn't treat it as a business.

"There was too much money not to," says Ben.

Any money that ever came in, though, went right back into maintain-

* * * * *

When Nick and Emma Garin first opened their speedway in 1979, and the Mileys began leasing it in 1988, racing had yet to capture the public's attention in the way it has since. Now, racing has a growing national audience thanks to NASCAR's television contracts with ESPN, and a marketing campaign that's taken a lesson from Tiger Woods and utilized Danica Patrick to reach out to an ever wider and more diverse fan base.

Though numerous raceways have always operated in the Pittsburgh region, that has less to do with money than a raw passion for the sport, says Ben.

"The people you see who own raceways," he says, "you know those are people who are passionate about racing."

That could explain why Emma never wanted to sell the racetrack that she and her husband built, or why Red had the inkling he did. Once the Mileys were in it, though, the business savvy and connections they'd made became essential.

"I don't know if we would have survived if we didn't have the business experience we did with racing," says Ben.

A marketing campaign that Red concocted included getting licensed to set off his own fireworks and booking monster trucks and daredevil



PICTURED, LEFT TO RIGHT: Red and Jared Miley with Red's #99 car in 2004; Ben with his mother, Bertha Miley; the Miley family; Red's last victory lap with his team in 2006.

ing, upgrading, transporting, and running their racecar.

"During the week you come home at night and work on your car," says Ben, "and then on the weekend you go and race."

It had been like that since day one, when Red bought a 1960 Chevy in 1969 at the gas station where he was earning about \$.80 per hour. Sinking every penny they had into it, the brothers rebuilt the car in their parents' garage into what is commonly referred to as a figure eight car, which newbie drivers get their wings by racing on a figure eight track. The Mileys' first race was on such a track at the Greater Pittsburgh Speedway in Imperial, not far from where they operate today.

A year later, the brothers bought a 1962 Chevy and graduated to an oval dirt track in the North Hills. By 1973, they were racing a souped-up, 1964 Chevy Chevelle in the Late Model division, which is the same division they race in today.

By that time, the brothers were also competing in four races per week, almost exclusively on dirt tracks, and landing sponsorship deals. One with Colussy Chevrolet in Bridgeville, says Ben, is among their most significant and longest lasting. Networking was key to many of those deals, says Ben, and right in the middle of that was Red.

"Red always got us money to race," says Ben.

By the time Red got the idea to lease PPMS, he and Ben were in the middle of building onto Red's garage to accommodate a new truck rental business. It was February, and their contractor had abandoned them in the middle of the job. To make a realistic go at running PPMS, they would need to start holding races in two months.

"The first thing I asked him was which racetrack," says Ben. "The second thing I asked him was, why?"

motorcyclists. Ben points out that he set up the track's website long before any of them had thought about the necessity of such a thing, and brokered numerous deals, including one with Toyota, that got them a service truck and lead car.

After a decade of running PPMS, and Emma still not wanting to sell, Red went off on his own and bought the Motordrome speedway in Smithton. A few years later, Emma passed away, and the Garin family sold PPMS to the Mileys. By that time, Red was in the midst of a losing battle against melanoma. He passed away the following year.

It was not how the Miley siblings had envisioned their first year of finally owning the track they had run together for so many years. The following season dealt them another blow when the stock market crashed, but PPMS survived.

Now, the Mileys are competing for entertainment dollars by offering what Matt calls affordable family fun, which gets families spending Saturday nights together much in the same way his family did when they were kids. Matt says PPMS' races feature everything from 13-year-olds racing figure eight cars to sprint cars that can reach 160 miles per hour, and championship races with a \$25,000 payout. They even incorporate public service with events like Autism night, and notes they're seeing an influx of female drivers in recent years in just about every division. As they gear up for this season, PPMS has events scheduled for every Saturday through October.

"Red got this thing going," says Matt, "but he didn't leave us anything we couldn't handle."

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your house and senate

The State House, reported **State Rep. Mark Mustio**, took a major step forward to protect Pennsylvania taxpayers by unanimously passing sweeping unemployment compensation reform legislation that would increase penalties on individuals who commit willful fraud to obtain unemployment compensation benefits, including cases of fraud perpetuated by incarcerated individuals. If enacted, House Bill 403 would require the Department of Labor and Industry to cross-check databases to make sure prison inmates are not collecting unemployment compensation. This legislation would also impose an additional 52-week penalty for claimants who illegally apply for benefits while in prison. This penalty would apply to these same individuals in the future should they become eligible and attempt to apply for unemployment benefits again. In addition to barring unemployment compensation fraud by prisoners, House Bill 403 also addresses other types of fraud. It would increase the monetary penalty from its current range of \$100 to \$1,000 to \$500 to \$1,500 for claimants who knowingly make false statements to obtain unemployment benefits. It would also increase the minimum number of penalty weeks from two to 10 and remove the current four-year statute of limitations. The bill also would allow for penalties to be collected through liens, civil action, or any other means available by law for up to 12 years after the end of the benefit year. House Bill 403 now heads to

the Senate for consideration.

State Rep. Dan Deasy is warning residents of predatory solicitations that unnecessarily request a fee for processing the state's Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program application.

"A resident received a letter from the Senior Advisory Center that included her previous year's rebate amount and implied that she used this company's service," Deasy said. "The fact is this constituent, and hundreds of others, had their rebate completed by my office for free. I am very concerned about the misrepresentation by this company. Of greater concern to me is how this outside company obtained her personal, private information and details on her rebate amount from a prior year. Other residents have also reported they received letters from this company.

"If you or someone you know receives a letter like this, please bring it to my attention. I am working to raise awareness about this organization and put a stop to what I believe is an unethical practice of preying on our citizens," Deasy added.

Also, **State Rep. Daniel Deasy** is seeking support from Attorney General Kathleen Kane to put an end to the gross misrepresentation by the Senior Advisory Center, a California-based company that is targeting seniors in their solicitation. In a letter to Kane, he requested a formal investigation of the Senior Advisory Center.



**STATE REP.
NICK KOTIK**

1004 Fifth Ave.
Coraopolis PA 15108
(412) 264-4260



**STATE REP.
DANIEL DEASY**

436 South Main Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15220
(412) 928-9514
www.pahouse.com/Deasy



**STATE REP.
MARK MUSTIO**

1009 Beaver Grade Road
Moon Township, PA 15108
(412) 262-3780
www.repmustio.com



**STATE SENATOR
MATTHEW SMITH**

319 Castle Shannon Blvd.
Pittsburgh PA 15234
(412) 571-2169



**STATE SEN.
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MUNICIPALITIES

Ingram Borough
40 West Prospect Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 921-3625
www.ingramborough.org

Kennedy Township
340 Forest Grove Road
Coraopolis, PA 15108
(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
7101 Steubenville Pike
Oakdale, PA 15071
(412) 923-1772
www.parkwaywest.org

Propel-MONTOUR
340 Bilmar Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 539-0100
http://montour.propelschools.org

Robinson Township Christian School
77 Phillips Lane
McKees Rocks, PA 15136
(412) 787-5919
www.rtcsonline.org

St. Malachy School
343 Forest Grove Road
Coraopolis, PA 15108
(412) 771-4545
http://stmalachyschool.net

This list includes only those public and private schools located within the municipalities served by the Montour Edition of Allegheny West Magazine.

CHURCHES

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

Ascension Parish
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.gbpm-umc.org/craftonumcl

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
343 Forest Grove Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108
(412) 771-5483, http://www.stmalachypgh.org

St. Matthew's Church
45 East Steuben Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(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
(724) 941-8990, x 124,
www.robinson.biblechapel.org

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

EMERGENCIES: Dial 911

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER, SOCIAL, YOUTH & CIVIC GROUPS

AARP 2203 McKees Rocks, (412) 771-5183
AARP Robinson, (724) 622-2430
American Legion Post 464 Kennedy, (412) 331-0260
American Legion Post 145 Crafton, (412) 921-9307
American Legion Post 618 Sto-Rox, (412) 331-9083
American Legion Post 862 Robinson, (412) 787-1113
Boy Scouts, Grtr. Pgh. Council-Frontier, (412) 325-7995
Boys & Girls Club, (412) 771-0428
C.I.T. Baseball & Softball, (412) 922-7808
Coraopolis Dist. Sportsmen's Assn., (412) 264-9920
Daughters of the American Revolution, www.dar.org
Forest Grove Sportsmen, (412) 269-0942
Girl Scouts, WPA, (724) 774-3553
Hilltop Seniors, (412) 331-2752

Hollow Oak Land Trust, (412) 264-5354
Ingram Girls Softball, (412) 922-6931
Ingram Historical Society, (412) 919-0779
Ingram Women's Civic Club, (412) 937-9737
Kennedy Baseball, (412) 298-9710
Kenmawr Seniors, (412) 771-0867
Kennedy Twp. Firemen's Club, (412) 331-5031
Kennedy Garden Club, (412) 331-6175
Kennedy Twp. Horseshoe League, (412) 269-7257
Kiwanis, (412) 264-8862
Meals on Wheels (Crafton-Ingram-Robinson),
(412) 922-0909
Meals on Wheels (Sto-Ken-Rox), (412) 771-4304
Montour Run Watershed Assn., (412) 956-0230

Montour Youth Soccer Assn., www.montoursoccer.com
Montour Trail Council, (412) 257-3011
Robinson Lions Club, (412) 859-0209
Robinson Township Basketball, TBA
Robinson Township Girls Softball, (412) 788-6990
Robinson Township Library, (412) 787-3906
Rotary - Crafton-Ingram, (412) 849-0640
Rotary - McKees Rocks, (412) 771-0900
Rotary - Parkway West, (412) 287-9273
Ruffed Grouse, (412) 262-4044
Sounds of Pittsburgh Sweet Adelines, (412) 279-6062
Thornburg Community Club, (412) 920-5870
FWW Vesle Post 418, (412) 771-7034

This list includes those nonprofit organizations which are all-volunteer and are located within the municipalities served by the Montour Edition of Allegheny West Magazine.

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