

Allegheny West Magazine

Volume 15, No. 85
August/September 2013

FREE Direct Mail
Community Publication

WEST ALLEGHENY
EDITION

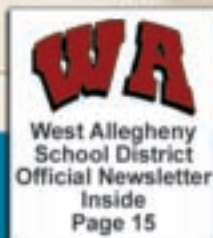


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Image is Power: Trust in Your Barber

There's something outside Pizer's Barbershop in Imperial that you just won't find at the chain salon in the mall. It's called a barber's pole, and that pole means that, when you walk into a shop displaying it, you're going to get a professional-looking haircut from a highly trained expert every single time.

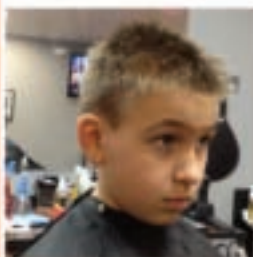
Purveyors of shops displaying that pole are required to have dedicated over a thousand hours to training just to get licensed, and hundreds more to various skills, including the use of a straight razor.

At Pizer's, though, you not only have the confidence of knowing that you are going to get a great haircut, but that you're also going to get a classic barbershop experience; one that customers are driving miles to get.

"At other places, you feel just like a number," says Garrett, a returning customer who drives all the way from Ohio to visit Pizer's.

Located along Route 60 in between The Inn Place and Don's Pizza, and owned by West Allegheny alum Eric Pizer, the shop now sports three barbers on staff, all ready to serve customers of any age. Get a classic trim, a flat top, a mustache trim, clippers, or designs, all while enjoying the social atmosphere of a classic barbershop with an upscale feel.

Enjoy sports and movies on the high-definition televisions, and walk out feeling confident that the next first impression you make will be the right one.



**On Steubenville Pike in
North Fayette Next to the
Inn Place**

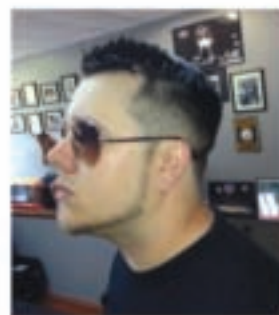
Barber Shop Price List

Men's Haircut	\$12
Haircut & Mustache	\$13
Haircut & Beard	\$15
Specialty Haircut (Mohawk, Afro, etc.) Includes Designs	\$15
Senior / Military Haircut	\$11
Men's Head Shave (Straight Razor)	\$13
Boys' Haircut	\$11
Beard Trim / Shape Up	\$5
Hot Lather Shave	\$14
Shampoo Wash	\$4

**BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIAL:
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MEET OUR STAFF

**Jordan Boyd, Bill DeForte, Eric Pizer
(not pictured: Nicholas Turturro)**



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As with every issue, your community businesses are the reason for the publication of Allegheny West Magazine. Please support these businesses. Their support allows us to mail this magazine, free, into the households of Findlay, North Fayette, Oakdale, Sturgeon, and portions of McDonald as a community service.

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MONDAYS

	DANCE		GYM
5:00-6:00	Recreational Intermediate/Advanced Ballet	4:30-5:30	Team Practice (Per Coaches Request)
6:00-6:45	Intermediate Tap	5:30-6:30	Beginner Gymnastics (Ages 6-11)
6:45-7:45	Jazz/Contemporary Intermediate	6:30-7:30	Intermediate Gymnastics (Ages 6-11)

TUESDAYS

	DANCE		GYM
4:30-5:15	Youth Jazz/Contemporary (Ages 9-11)	4:30-5:15	Intermediate Cheer Tumbling
5:15-6:00	Youth Hip Hop (Ages 9-11)	5:15-7:15	Pro Power Cheer
6:00	Competitive Dance (Ages 11 & Under)	7:15-8:30	Pre-Team Gymnastics (Per Coaches Request)

WEDNESDAYS

	DANCE		GYM
4:30-5:30	Tap/Ballet (Ages 6-8)	4:30-5:30	Intermediate Gymnastics (Ages 9 & Up)
5:30-6:15	Jazz/Hip Hop (Ages 6-8)	5:30-6:30	Beginner Gymnastics (Ages 7-12)
6:15	Jr/Sr. Hip Hop (Ages 12 & Up)		

THURSDAYS

	DANCE		GYM
4:30-5:30	Ballet/ Tap (Ages 3-6)	4:30-5:30	Pre-Team Gymnastics (Per Coaches Request)
5:30-7:30	Ballet Company (By Auditions Only)	5:30-6:15	Pre-School Beginner Gymnastics (Ages 3-6)
		6:15-8:15	Team Practice (Per Coaches Request)

SATURDAYS

	DANCE		GYM
9:30-10:30	Ballet Company Jr.	9:30-10:30	Advanced Gym/Tumbling (Ages 12 & Up) Must have a back tuck
10:30-11:30	Ballet Company Sr.	10:30-11:30	Inter/Adv Gym (Ages 8 & Up) Must have a backhandsping
11:30	Advanced Tap & Competitive Dance (Ages 12 & Up)	11:30-1:30	Pre-Team Practice (Per Coaches Request)
		11:30-2:30	Team Practice (Per Coaches Request)
		2:30	Pro Power Cheer

contents

Allegheny West Magazine

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

Allegheny West Magazine - West Allegheny Edition, is an all positive, good news publication mailed free into the homes and businesses of the West Allegheny School District communities of Findlay, North Fayette, Oakdale, Sturgeon, and McDonald to connect communities, promote people, heighten awareness about the richness of the airport region, and build pride in the western suburbs of Allegheny County.

West Allegheny Edition

VOL. 15, NO. 85, ISSUE 1

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2013

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(Again) Above the Flood**
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and Fall Sports Calendars



ABOUT THE COVER

Students in the first class at the American Academy of Culinary Arts at Pittsburgh Technical Institute try out a new recipe.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY PTI

MORE INFO

Allegheny West Magazine-West Allegheny Edition is published in February, April, June, August, October, and December, 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 Findlay, North Fayette, Oakdale, Sturgeon, a portion of McDonald, 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. Announcements are limited to 30 words and must include a contact phone number. Reproduction of any artwork, photographs, or copy prepared by Allegheny West Magazine is strictly prohibited without written consent of Jennette Communications Group. Copyright 1999-2013 Allegheny West Magazine. All rights reserved. Views and opinions expressed by contributors and/or advertisers are the responsibility of the contributors and not those of the publisher of Allegheny West Magazine.

DID YOU
KNOW



The current West Allegheny High School has had numerous renovations over the years since it was built in 1962. Prior to its construction, the high school and football field were located on the property now utilized by Shop n' Save, First Commonwealth Bank, Kings, and adjacent stores.

TO REACH US

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

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From the PUBLISHER & EDITORS

We're Turning 15, and Yet Always Something New!



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

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

For example, this month the Western Allegheny Community Library opens up in the former Amcom office building on Bateman Road, providing much needed space for its continued growth.

Findlay Township is building a new, state-of-the-art picnic pavilion at the Sports and Recreation Complex, complete with a kitchen,

to meet growing community needs.

North Fayette has a new community center in the works, with changes to its facilities for maintenance, the fire department, and more.

Pittsburgh Technical Institute proudly debuts its new facility featuring both its Electronics Program and home of the American Academy of Culinary Arts.

Community College of Allegheny County introduces its Mechatronics Program, another educational plus to our hometown.

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

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



Pat Jennette, Publisher & Editor

Continuing to Honor the 911th as it Celebrates its 50th

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the 911th Airlift Wing in Moon, and in response, the Pennsylvania State Senate recently passed a resolution sponsored by State Senator Matt Smith to celebrate it.

If you are reading this magazine, chances are that you are familiar with the federal government's attempts to close the 911th Airlift Wing, the public outcry that has occasioned it, and the significance of celebrating such a milestone. Opened in the years leading up to World War II to protect Pittsburgh's vital steel industry, the base has outlasted the circumstances prompting its construction, and multiple attempts now to close it.

Last year, we ran a lengthy piece about the 911th that focused largely on the unique economic value of the base, both to the federal government and our local community. We also touched on some of the ways that reservists serve our community directly in an official capacity.

In the last issue of *Allegheny West Magazine*, we profiled John Lee, a 911th reservist who started an organization with his fellow 911th airmen. Called Heroes Helping Heroes, they volunteer their free time to help fellow area veterans. These individuals know all about the trials and hardships that come with being a deployed serviceperson, and then having to reintegrate into civilian life. Deployment, however, affects not only military personnel, but also their families. Realizing as much, these individuals have been doing everything from fixing cars to patching roofs for the families of deployed local military personnel, and they'd eventually like to offer their services to those in need across the community. They are currently accepting donations and volunteers.

Many quality individuals serve at the 911th and 131st Refueling Wing, and in part because of the outcry from both the public and elected officials, including the likes of Congressman Tim Murphy, Representative Mark Mustio, Senator Matt Smith, Governor Tom Corbett, and others, those individuals still call our community home.

It is our honor and privilege at *Allegheny West Magazine* to be able to continue to write about them.



Doug Hughey, Assistant Editor

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On the Horizon

Ongoing

Imperial Volunteer Fire Department Super Bingo,

first Monday monthly, **September 9, October 7, November 11, and December 2**, Findlay Township Activity Center, 310 Main Street in Imperial. Doors open **5:30 p.m.**, kitchen opens **6 p.m.**, bingo starts **7 p.m.**, throwaway cards used, bring a bingo dauber. **Western PA Kidney Support Group**, second Sunday monthly, **2:30-4:30 p.m.**, King's Restaurant, Imperial, (724) 796-1603.

Findlay Republican Committee Meeting, first Tuesday monthly, **7 p.m.**, Findlay Township Municipal Building, Clinton, guest speakers monthly, (412) 860-4331.

Stroke Group, second and fourth Wednesdays, **10 a.m.-1 p.m.**, St. Stephens Church, Sewickley, coffee/tea, bring lunch, Louise, (412) 741-7771.

Yoga

Classes available on lower level of the Findlay Township Activity Center, call Julia for schedule and information, (724) 695-1976.

Women's Business Network meeting, 7:30

a.m., Giant Eagle Market District, upstairs meeting room, second and fourth Tuesday monthly, Bernadette Collis, (412) 200-4676.

August 16-17

Findlay Township Fair in the Woodlands

Clinton Park, Clinton, (724) 695-0500, Friday, **6-10 p.m.**, Saturday, **11 a.m.-10:30 p.m.**, see page 14 for details, www.findlaytwp.org.

August 17

Oakdale's 8th Annual Luau

5 p.m., Tuika's Polynesian Isle and Magic, hula and fire dancers, music, food, children's activities, dolphin bounce house, and Oakdale's largest sandbox, (724) 693-9740.

August 18

Don Obusek's Tribute to the Magic of Elvis

Latitude 40, **3 p.m.**, portion of proceeds benefit Little Sisters of the Poor, purchase tickets at Latitude 40 or visit www.magicofelvis.com.

August 23 and 24

Rock the Quarry

Panhandle Trail in Collier Township, **5:30 p.m. on Friday and noon on Saturday**, 10 live bands between two days, food vendors, Chinese auction, kids' games, rubber ducky race, science demos, benefits Panhandle Trail, (724) 693-0870, kayclarke@comcast.net, www.panhandletrail.org.

August 24

(Rain date Sat. Sept 7)

Second Annual Bike Run for Motorcyclist Enthusiasts

leaves West Allegheny High School lower lot **10 a.m.**, returns to "Orioles" Pavilion at Clinton Park, Route 30, Clinton. Bikers will travel through several small towns and counties, then picnic afterwards with silent, 50/50, and basket auctions, benefits WAHS Speech Drama & Debate and Wounded Warrior Regiment, pre-registration: \$20 rider/\$15 passenger at westaacu.com, on location registration: \$30 rider/ \$20 passenger, picnic only: \$10, deadline: August 22, (724) 695-7269, e-mail: leasurewwjd@gmail.com.

Nobletown United Presbyterian Church Flea Market and Peach Festival

August 24, **8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**, at the church, bake sale, food, gently used treasures, (724) 693-8250. **Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team (WWAST) game**, August 24, double-header against SCI Green and Pittsburgh softball teams, **12 p.m. and 3 p.m.**, Lew Hays Pony Field in Washington, Honor Guard detail at **11:45 a.m.**, nationally traveling team comprised of athletic veterans and active duty soldiers who lost limbs post-9/11 while

serving their country, benefits veteran amputees, \$10 for adults, free for children 12 and under, www.ffop.org.

August 25

Blessing of the Backpacks Worship and Apple Fest

Youthtowne in Clinton, in conjunction with the West Allegheny Ministerial Association, call for time, (724) 693-8950.

August 31

Civil War Reenactment

10 a.m.-4 p.m., Heritage Public Library, (724) 926-8400, www.heritagepublib.org.

Bag a Bunch of Books

Book Sale, August 31, McDonald Heritage Public Library, **10 a.m.-4 p.m.**, \$5 per bag of books and other great deals, proceeds benefit new roof fund, (724) 926-8400.

September 7

Findlay Township Outdoor Parking Lot Flea Market

Clinton Park parking lot, **9 a.m.-1 p.m.**, parking spots \$5 each, due day of event, set up a table, sell out of your trunk, or lay out a blanket, Darlene, (724) 695-0500 x246, dlarson@findlaytwp.org.

Jacob Ferree Chapter DAR Meeting

September 7, **11 a.m.**, Montour Heights Country Club, program will be "The Constitution," \$20, RSVP by September 1, Bonnie Kappert, (412) 771-7526, kkandcompany@msn.com.

September 10

Walk Live Class

6 p.m., Findlay Township Activity Center, instructor Donna Kuzio leads and motivates others to make walking a part of their daily lives, register for free, kuziofjr@gmail.com.

September 14

Craft and Vendor Party

9 a.m.-2 p.m., St. Columbkille Parish Hall, shop local crafters and home party vendors, free admission, food and refreshments available, sponsored by and benefits Christian

FLEA MARKET

2 SATURDAYS, AUG. 24 & 31

8:30 a.m. - NOON



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Mothers' Guild, Elaine Tuite, (724) 695-8171, 4tuites@comcast.net.

September 21

11th Annual Tour the Montour Trail Ride,

registration
starts 7:15 a.m.,

62-mile riders depart

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

Jacob Ferree Chapter DAR Benefit Luncheon, September 21, Montour Heights Country Club, **11 a.m.**, \$25, Chinese auction, entertainment by harpist Suzanne Hershey, register by September 7, Julia Vogel, (412) 931-4309.

West Allegheny Class of '78 Reunion, September 21, 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.

September 24

Little Prestos Music and Movement Class, Findlay Township Activity Center, **10 a.m.** for 2 and 3-year-olds, **10:45 a.m.** for 4 and 5-year-olds, children play instruments and sing along to music for 30 minutes, instructor

certified K-12 music teacher Dan Morrow of "Mind Your Music," (412) 680-0450, mindyourmusic.net, danmorrow1@yahoo.com.

September 28

Truck Touch Library Benefit, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.,

Clinton Park, Route 30, Clinton, with a no horn time between 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. for children frightened of sirens. Findlay Township has partnered with Macaroni Kid/Robinson and the Western Allegheny Community Library for this event. Kids can climb and explore a variety of trucks from fire engines and school buses to construction vehicles and a bucket truck, food and drinks available for purchase, admission free, donations benefit Western Allegheny Community Library, (724) 695-0500, <http://robinson.macaronikid.com>.

October 5

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

October 6

West Allegheny Foundation Golf Outing, Quicksilver Golf Club, details: www.wafoundation.net.

November 9

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

North Fayette Activities Coming Up

Hankey Farms Pool, North Fayette Police free family swim on **August 12**.

Monday through Friday, Water Walking, **11 a.m. to noon** while the **Silver Sneakers splash program** is every **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday** from **11 a.m. to noon**.

The seniors will **bowl at Latitude 40** on **Monday, August 12**, starting at **1 p.m.**

The Hankey Farms Pool closes on Labor Day. That evening, from **7-8:30 p.m.**, the pool celebrates its **second Dog Days**. Residents can come to the pool with their pets for an evening swim. The event is free.

The P.A.L.S. organization sponsors its **fourth annual picnic** on **Saturday, September 21** at the township park starting at **2 p.m.** The picnic is open to special needs children and their families and is free.

Future Stars flag football starts on **Sunday, September 8** at **11 a.m.** at Donaldson Community Park for boys and girls ages 4 through 9.

The **Future Stars basketball program** begins **November 2**.

The township will once again sponsor an **adult 4 on 4 flag football league** starting **October 5**.

The department will also offer a **CPR/First Aid class** in October.

The **sixth annual Senior Citizen Picnic** will be held on **Sunday, September 15** at the Brindle pavilion in Donaldson Park.

For more information or to register for programs, call (412) 788-4888, extension 118 or (724) 693-3118. Or, e-mail rbrozovich@north-fayette.com. Check out the Facebook page, North Fayette Parks and Recreation. Information is also available online at www.north-fayette.com.

Raccoon Creek Park Happenings

Shrub Hike

Sunday, August 11, 2-3:30 p.m.

Meet at Wildflower Reserve Interpretive Center on U.S. Route 30. Discover the group of plants too small to be a tree and too big to be a wildflower. On this guided hike, participants will learn about the folklore, history, uses, and how to identify common shrubs. Free program.

Moss Walk

Sunday, August 18, 2-3:30 p.m.

Meet at Wildflower Reserve Interpretive Center on U.S. Route 30. Discover the world of mosses and small plants, their strange lives and interesting uses. A good magnifying glass is suggested. Free program.

Raccoon Lake Evening Nature Paddle

Wednesday, August 21, 6-7:30 p.m.

Meet at the boat launch by the boat concession at 5:45 p.m. Join park educators for a guided evening nature paddle exploring the shoreline and wetlands areas of Raccoon Lake. To learn about kayak and canoe rental rates, call (724) 513-6740. For program information, call (724) 899-3611.

For municipal activities/programs, contact the Findlay Township Recreation Department, (724) 695-0500, ext. 246 or e-mail: dlarson@findlaytownship.com, North Fayette Township Recreation Department at (412) 788-4888 or (724) 695-3118 or e-mail: rbrozovich@north-fayette.com, or Oakdale Borough, (724) 693-9740



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"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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CLEARVIEW AWARDS TEN STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Clearview Federal Credit Union awarded ten students with its 2013 Ralph B. Canterbury Scholarship at Clearview's annual meeting and 60th anniversary member appreciation event.

Each of these winners were awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to be used toward their college education: Anthony Aloisi of Central Valley High School; Kara DiNofrio of Moon Area High School; Nickolas Halbedl of West Allegheny High School; Tierra Jackson of Aliquippa Junior/Senior High School; Dominic Montemurro of Highlands High School; Melissa Pintar of Youngstown State University; Daniel Pratt of Franklin Area High School; Steven Smith of Penn State University, Beaver Campus; Ian Stewart of Montour High School; and Mia Vinciguerra of New York University.

This year marks the fourteenth annual awarding of the scholarship, which honors Ralph Canterbury's outstanding service and loyalty to Clearview during his 34-year tenure. Ralph was onsite for the event to hand out certificates to scholarship winners.

Applicants were judged based on academic performance, community involvement, a statement of personal goals, and an essay on why they chose to belong to Clearview.

"BACK TO SCHOOL CLOTHING SALE" DONATIONS NEEDED; GET CLOTHING AT DISCOUNT DURING SALE

Findlay Township and the West Allegheny Food Pantry have partnered to bring a "Back to School Clothing Sale" to Imperial on Thursday, August 22 at the Findlay Activity Center, Main Street in Imperial from 4-8 p.m. Drop off like-new designer and name-brand clothing for children ages 3-18 at the Findlay Township Activity Center on Monday, August 19 between 6 and 8 p.m. or Tuesday, August 20 between 9 and 11 a.m. Donations will also be accepted at Allegheny West Eye Care, 236 West Allegheny Road, Imperial during normal business hours. Sale proceeds benefit the West Allegheny Food Pantry. For more information, e-mail Cindy Quinn at quinnmom@verizon.net.

SHOP AT THE WA THRIFT SHOP FOR BACK TO SCHOOL

In addition to the back to school sale, above, that benefits the West Allegheny Food Pantry on Route 30 in Imperial, located inside the pantry building is the Thrift Shop.

Notes Carole Messner, "ANYONE can shop here. When you shop here, you help the food pantry, because all proceeds go to the food bank."

Shoppers will find clothing, toys, houseware items, and more.

Hours are every Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon, the second and fourth Tuesdays monthly, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and the second and fourth Wednesdays monthly, 5 to 6:30 p.m.



Beaver County Humane Society
Tails on the Trails Pet Walk
Sunday, September 29, 2013
11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Rain or Shine
Brady's Run Park Shelter #7

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


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DAVE CRAWLEY
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Games,
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and a
whole lotta
fun
Come out,
join us and
help the
animals




The New Library is Opening!

Starting on Saturday, August 10, the Western Allegheny Community Library will officially celebrate the grand opening with a ceremonial pass-the-book event. One child, chosen from the summer reading participants, will ride with the last book in the North Fayette Township fire truck accompanied by the North Fayette police. Upon reaching the new library, the book will be given to a line of waiting participants and passed through the line to Library Director Marianne Sforza, who will be the final recipient to receive it at the new home of the Western Allegheny Community Library. If interested in participating in the event, please register online at the library's web site.

Following the pass-the-book event, there will be a short ribbon cutting ceremony with remarks by Senator Matt Smith, library representatives from the board and staff, and a few youth and teen patrons. The day will continue with tours of the new building, character visits, children's and teen crafts, face painting, music by a local jazz ensemble, refreshments, a WAFEL-sponsored book sale, and give-a-ways, including the opportunity to win a Kindle.

During that week, the library has planned additional activities for children, teens, adults, and the whole family together

On Monday August 12, families will enjoy a guest storytime featuring Donaldson Elementary School Librarian Beth Schultz at 7 p.m. More information announced closer to the date regarding other guest readers.

The entire family is eligible to participate in a library scavenger hunt on Wednesday, August 14 at 7 p.m..

On Thursday, August 15, at 7 p.m. the library will host Thomas White, writer of *Witches of Pennsylvania* for a talk and book signing.

**M-Th 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Fri 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sat 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sundays, 1-5 p.m.
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www.westernalleghenylibrary.org

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munity Library**



Western Allegheny Community Library | A NEW CHAPTER

YOU'RE INVITED!

JOIN US FOR OUR GRAND OPENING

CELEBRATION!

Saturday, August 10, 10 a.m.

The Grand Opening Celebration will kick off with a ceremonial book pass from the old to the new library starting at 10 a.m. Following the pass-the-book event, there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony, character visits, children's and teens' crafts, book sale, giveaways, and other activities at the new library at 181 Bateman Road.

See you there!

724.695.8150

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38th ANNUAL Findlay Township FAIR IN THE WOODLANDS August 16&17, 2013

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

1-7 pm Registration of Crafts, Needlework, Flowers, Vegetables, Fruits, Canned Goods, Hay & Grain, Antique Farm Equipment

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

2-5 pm Baked Goods Registration
5:30-6:45 pm Registration for Semi-Great Race/Fun Walk
6 pm Opening Ceremonies
6:15-7 pm "Camp Cordle Rock School" (local youth bands)
7 pm START OF SEMI-GREAT RACE/FUN WALK
7:15 pm Seed Spitting Contest (Ages 8-18)
7:30 pm Bake Sale in Falcon Pavilion
7:45 pm Hula Hoop Contest (Ages 5-16)
8:15 pm Presentation of Race Awards
8:30-10 pm Good Brother Earl (American Rock)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

10:30 am PARADE / ROUTE 30
11:30 am - Imperial Dragon Tang Soo Do Karate School
12 pm
12-12:30 pm West Allegheny Little Indians Cheerleaders
12:30-1:30 pm Kelsey Friday & Rick Witkowski (kids & family entertainment)
1:30 pm Needle in the Haystack (ages 2-6)
1:30 pm Youth Hay Bale Toss (ages 5-12)
2-2:30 pm White Viper Martial Arts
2:30-3:30 pm Luanne's School of Dance
3-5 pm Pedal Pull (Ages 3 to Adult)
5-6 pm Jack and the Tady Bears (Polka)
6:15-6:45 pm Pie Eating Contest (ages 8-18)
7-8 pm Hay Bale Toss (ages 13 and up)
8:15-10 pm Occasional Reign (Dance Band)
10:15 pm FIREWORKS - (Ballfield)

FOR MORE INFO: (724) 695-0500

Alcoholic Beverages Not Permitted in Fairgrounds

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FREE ATTRACTIONS

Rainbow Express Train
Friday 6-9 pm and Saturday 11:30 am-8 pm

Mike the Balloon Guy & Co.
(Balloons, Air Brush Tattoos)
Saturday 12-4 pm

Petting Zoo, Contests, Pedal Pull

Inflatables by
ELF Entertainment
(6-10 pm Friday & 12-9 pm Sat.)

OTHER ATTRACTIONS

Pony Rides

EXHIBIT PICKUP

Saturday, August 17, 8-9 pm
Sunday, August 18, 12-2 pm

FEATURED PERFORMERS:

"GOOD
BROTHER
EARL"



"KELSEY
FRIDAY"



"OCCASIONAL
REIGN"

Class of 2013 Receives Poignant Farewell

Friday, May 31, was a night of mixed emotions for the class of 2013 as the new graduates said farewell to West Allegheny and embarked on futures brimming with possibilities. Surrounded by family, friends, teachers and administrators, 255 seniors received their diplomas at the West Allegheny High School Commencement ceremony.

Recognized with distinguished honors as the top ten percent of the class, with a 4.0 or higher GPA and summa cum laude, were: Michael Behme, Kayla Dunhoff, Wyatt Gardner, Nickolas Halbedl, Allie Hamilton, Anthony Hartzog, Eric Jackson, Kristi Kubatka, Joseph Kvederis, Kaylee Lewis, Shannon Mance, Zechariah Medved, Brent Perry, Max Prokopovich, Melissa Radovich, Brendan Scanlon, Erica Schweinsberg, Kathryn Scruppi, Joseph Sible, Carlee Stefanski, Brian Thompson, Nadiya Wahl, Eryne Wiethorn, Xinyan Ye, Jacob Yockel and Jennifer Zysk.

Graduates processed into the gymnasium led by senior class officers Michael Shields, president, Michael Behme, vice president, Katie Hutton, secretary and Xinyan Ye, treasurer. The colors were then presented by the West Allegheny Marine Corps JROTC. The evening commenced with Michael Shields leading the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the senior address given by distinguished honors recipient Michael Behme. School Board President

Debbie Mirich presented the welcoming notes and Dr. John S. DiSanti, superintendent, offered the Keynote Address. High school principal Daniel P. Smith announced Roll Call as Debbie Mirich led the Presentation of Diplomas.

The evening's music was provided by the Senior Chorus, under the direction



of Earl Wiechelt, Jr., high school music teacher, and the Brass Ensemble, under the direction of Steven Groba, middle school music teacher. Senior Joseph Bandi was the piano accompanist.

Clockwise, starting top left: Ibrahim Bitar, Daniel Hensler, Darion Feist, Jose Alisasis, Zachary Simmen, Eric Wasek and Joshua Gatchell prepare to process into the ceremonies; distinguished honors graduate Mike Behme delivers the senior student address; members of the West Allegheny Marine Corps JROTC present the colors during commencement; graduates Kelsey Bahr, Sydney Young, Danielle Juzwick, Milena Donne, and Jennifer Alfieri enjoy a moment together before the ceremonies.

WA Student Nominated for Gene Kelly Award

West Allegheny High School junior Ryan Borgo was nominated for a 2013 Gene Kelly Award for Excellence in High School Musical Theater. Based on his memorable portrayal of Freddy in the District's spring musical, "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," Ryan's nomination was captured in the best actor category.

The annual ceremony was held at the Benedum Center for the Performing Arts on May 25, 2013. Best actor nominees performed solos from their respective musicals and Ryan chose the piece "Great Big Stuff."

"It has been a privilege to be involved

with all 22 WA musicals," states Tom Snyder, West Allegheny arts coordinator. "Ryan certainly ranks among the most talented to ever perform on the WA stage. He is a true 'three-tool' artist, displaying tremendous talents in singing, acting and dancing. What sets Ryan apart is his sheer passion for musical theatre, as he constantly seeks additional training and performing opportunities throughout the region."

The Gene Kelly Awards recognize and encourage student achievement and focus attention on the importance of musical theater and arts education.



Junior Ryan Borgo takes on the role of Freddy in "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels."

Summer Reading and Math Academies Offered to Elementary Age Students

West Allegheny School District again offered a Summer Reading Academy and a Summer Math Academy for elementary age students enrolled in the District. Both academies were designed to bridge the summer gap in academic preparedness in an engaging and creative atmosphere.



In its third year, the reading academy was designed for students to improve comprehension for multiple purposes through extensive reading in a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts in order to become fluent, lifelong readers. It also promoted retention of the literacy skills and concepts students learned during the school year so that they do not lose ground over the summer months. Strategies, resources, and helpful hints were shared with the parents of participating students in order to provide support and reinforcement. The Academy was organized into a two-week session held June 18-20 and 25-27, and focused on varied themes, which included *Up in the Sky and Beyond*; *Animals, Insects, and Reptiles Across the Globe*; *Wonders of Mother Nature*; and *Deep Sea Diving*. During each unit, students were engaged in a discovery process that involved activities, crafts, experiments, journal writing, and collaborative learning.

Summer Math Academy participant Mason Schubenski poses with Louise Lukan and her horse Catmandu.

In its second year, the math academy was offered to students interested in focusing on math skills related to numbers and operations, measurement, geometry, algebra, and data analysis within the context of reading and writing. All activities followed a western theme as students read stories and solved mathematical problems related to the plots. Students also applied writing skills as they provided written explanations related to how problems are solved. A sampling of activities included *OK Computer Corral*, *Mining for Math*, *Cowboy McCoy's Math Fact Emporium*, *Home on the Range*, and *Wild Wild Wii*. Louise Lukan, from food services, brought a lesson to life when she brought her horse to camp. Students learned to measure by "hand," the traditional equine measurement. The two-week math session was held July 9-11 and 16-18.

The Elementary Summer Reading Academy (with 129 student participants) and the Elementary Summer Math Academy (with 143 student participants) were taught by District teachers and held at Wilson Elementary School.

Superintendent's Message

Every summer, someone will inevitably ask me, "what's it like to have three months off?" That's when I smile, before pausing to explain that while I and all of the administrators in our school district will find some time to vacation for a week, most of our summer is devoted to job responsibilities associated with closing out the previous year, and preparing for the next one.

Our work includes completing and submitting numerous state and federal reports, evaluating current programs and services, developing new strategies to improve any identified deficiencies, scheduling teachers and students, and filling personnel vacancies. Unlike many businesses whose financial year runs from January through December, a school district's fiscal calendar begins on July 1st and ends on June 30th. Reconciliation of the previous budget occurs in June and full implementation of the new budget commences with the acquisition of necessary resources (supplies, books, equipment, etc.) for the upcoming school term. The summer hiatus also provides much needed time for our custodial maintenance department to thoroughly clean the buildings/campus and perform necessary preventative maintenance. Food Services complete commodity orders, plan menus, and make certain that food preparation and storage equipment is in compliance with health code

"...the 2013-14 school year will bring additional staff and the introduction of several new, exciting, and innovative programs."

requirements. The transportation staff is in the middle of assigning routes and getting buses to pass state inspection. The technology department replaces outdated technology, loads new software, and installs upgrades to the infrastructure. The professional, support, and administrative staffs will also participate in various training sessions. Recently, new regulations regarding evaluation, testing, curriculum, and staff development have made the education profession more demanding than ever.

The good news is that after a few years of budget cuts and curtailments of some of our programs and staff, the 2013-14 school year will bring additional staff and the introduction of several new, exciting, and innovative programs. At the high school, we will be offering a biomedical program for students who are planning a career in a medical field. West Allegheny will be one of a small number of schools in the tri-state region to provide our students with this career focused opportunity. In addition, we have partnered with the educational gaming company, Zulama, in conjunction with the Entertainment Technology Center at Carnegie Mellon University, to offer an innovative program that encompasses the development of state-of-the-art skills to prepare students for careers in web design/programming, animated and 3D films, mobile app creation and video games. The first two courses, *Games through the Ages* and *Game Design*, will be offered in 2013-14, with a plan to roll out additional courses over the next three years. Only a small number of schools in the country can boast about providing this educational opportunity. Our middle school students and staff will also be the beneficiaries of a new and creative technological learning center called the Situated Multimedia Arts Learning Lab (SMALLab). SMALLab will provide a dynamic technological environment where learning becomes a physical experience as students interact with motion-capture technology that allows them to immerse themselves in the content that they are learning. After years of research and design, Dr. David Birchfield, along with nine co-inventors from Arizona

"As you can see, we are not going to rest on our accomplishments, but rather are continually striving to raise the bar!"

State University, created a holistic learning approach that integrates kinesthetic, collaborative and multimodal components. The District was awarded a \$20,000 STEAM Grant from the Grable Foundation to support implementation of this initiative. Again, West Allegheny will be among only a small number of schools in the nation to offer the SMALLab to its students and teachers.

The District is in the process of preparing for extensive renovations of the Wilson and McKee Elementary Schools. Design has begun with construction to begin at Wilson Elementary in the Spring of 2014. The District Administrative Offices will be relocated to Wilson, capturing classroom space in the Donaldson Elementary School for additional enrollment and program growth. Infrastructure upgrades, along with cost saving energy retrofits and cosmetic improvements, will result in a modernized educational environment and climate for students, staff, and the community. Wilson is expected to be completed by September of 2015 and McKee one year later.

As you can see, we are not going to rest on our accomplishments, but rather are continually striving to raise the bar! Once again, thank you for making West Allegheny such a special place.

Dr. John S. DiSanti
Superintendent

McKee State Fair Spurs Good Deed

In its second year, the fourth grade students at McKee Elementary School celebrated a long-standing American institution: the state fair. Following a year-long study of U.S. regions, students were assigned a state to research and gather notable facts to be presented in a state fair atmosphere on May 24. When fourth grader Anthony Ross was assigned tornado-ravaged Oklahoma, his school project grew into a life-long lesson.

Soon after hearing of the devastation that hit Oklahoma, Anthony knew he wanted to do something to assist those in need. With the help of his mother, Melissa, he drafted a flyer requesting donations for the organization SAFE (Stuffed Animals for Emergencies). Donations of gently used comfort toys such as stuffed animals, blankets and books poured in, and several bags were sent to the children of Oklahoma.

The state fair project also spurred learning though creativity. Students drew from their research of state facts to present a tri-fold display, costumes and indigenous foods.



Left to right: Fourth grader Jamie Collins serves ice cream from her chosen state of Vermont; fourth grader Anthony Ross collects donations for tornado victims in Oklahoma.

Classmates, teachers and parents were invited to visit the fair, ask questions and sample the treats.



Fourth grade teachers Susie Dorman, Jan Schade, Debbie Stockhausen and Tammy Chiccarello organized the event.

Graduating Class Receives Words of Wisdom from Father Scott

Father Scott Seethaler returned to West Allegheny High School on Thursday, May 23, to speak to seniors and their parents about the newfound freedoms of college. Father Scott's secular presentation "Life after High School... Making a Smooth Transition," highlighted how they will be held responsible and accountable for their choices.

A Capuchin friar and native of Pittsburgh, Father Scott drew on his extensive experiences as Director of Freshmen Programs for Duquesne University. Students were captivated by his humorous and witty tales of collegiate challenges and potential pitfalls.

Father Scott is best known for his preaching ministry. He has spoken all over the country using his unique gifts of storytelling and humor to instill inspiration and joy in his audiences. In honor of his mother, Father Scott founded the Anna Seethaler Hospital in Oaxaca,



Seniors (l to r) Collin Charlebois, Melissa Radovich, Sarah Wiernik, and Sheila Lemashane talk with Father Scott following his presentation on new-found freedoms after graduation.

Mexico. The hospital provides medical services to needy children and their families. Among his numerous awards, Father Scott has most recently earned the Communication and Leadership Award by Toastmasters International.

"Out of the Box" Workshop Opens World of Literacy

"Out of the Box" is a unique literacy workshop designed to highlight the key elements that help foster a confident and successful young reader. Both morning and evening sessions were offered to West Allegheny parents, grandparents and caregivers of pre-kindergarten students, and was held on June 4, 2013 at Wilson Elementary School.

The workshop provided a multi-faceted focus with caregivers learning about the importance of early literacy, literacy terms, and reading and model strategies. Attendees were provided guidelines for working with phonemic devices, magnetic letters, Elkonin boxes and blending techniques, while helpful tips included the import of positive feedback, the need to keep work sessions short, and the value of practice.

Dr. Chris Assetta, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, provided the blueprint for the "Out of the Box" workshop, which was developed and implemented by the Primary Intervention teachers Kristalyn Preziosi, Tina Seybold, and Karen Tracy. The District plans to offer the workshop during the 2013-2014 school year.

Art Abounded Around the Schools this Spring

The West Allegheny art department was on full display this spring as each building recognized the creativity and imaginations of its students through a variety of art shows.

The **high school** art show, "Renaissance 2 Revival," celebrated its 40th year April 25-27. In addition to the yearly art installations and displays created by 49 seniors, artworks related to the Renaissance masters were featured as this year's theme. Portrait profiles, coin designs and illuminated letter designs were created by students. Over 800 student works were on display and judges selected 200 entries for best of show, award of excellence and honorable mention. High school art teachers Carol DeWitt and Mike Short organized the show.

Approximately 500 pieces were on display at this year's **middle school** show May 21 and 22. Featured mediums ranged from watercolors and pastels to sculptures and mosaics. Students and visitors voted on their choices for best in show. Middle school art teacher Sharon Harn coordinated the event.

All three elementary schools hosted art shows with unique and varied themes. **McKee Elementary** celebrated Arts Alive on April 24. The works of art included paintings, drawings and paper cut-outs that were created in art class under the guidance of McKee art teacher Claire March. Students in kindergarten through fifth grade also showcased musical performances under the direction of music teacher Terisa Sharlow. Performances included dance, drama, singing and instrumental ensembles. **Wilson and Donaldson Elementary Schools** hosted *Celebrate the HeART of America* on March 21 and April 4 respectively. The art and activities celebrated the heritage, culture and beauty of America. The halls



displayed American eagle artwork, personal paper quilt collages, and stories that reflected the African American artist Faith Ringgold.

Elementary art teachers Debbie Turici and Claire March organized the evenings' activities.

These events were offered in conjunction with the West Allegheny arts curriculum, and is an integral part of the school's efforts to promote the exploration of self-expression in students.



Clockwise, from top right: Middle school art show winners (front left to right) Maura Castelluci (sixth grade, third place), Lauren Bayer (sixth grade, first place), Ornuma Punsopa (seventh grade, first place), Claire Shemon (eighth grade, third place), Sydney Saunders (eighth grade, first place), Kayla Campbell (eighth grade, honorable mention), (back) Emily Fullard (sixth grade, honorable mention), Julia Hazel (sixth grade, second place), Stephen Grebosky (seventh grade, second place), Miala Palaima (seventh grade, honorable mention), Megan Ye (seventh grade, third place), Jeremy Ellis (eighth grade, second place); senior Katie Hutton prepares her installation for opening night of "Renaissance 2 Revival;" McKenzie Zeigler and Merrin Prevade display items from the McKee Elementary art show.

Students Place in Animal Friends Poster Contest

Three West Allegheny Middle School Students placed in the "Be Kind to Animals" poster contest sponsored by Animal Friends. Eighth grader Alec Ferretti claimed first place and sixth grader Nicole Argent and eighth grader Amanda Beauchat received honorable mentions. All

three students were invited to attend an open house reception on May 8. Their award-winning posters will be on display at Animal Friends through the end of the year.

All middle school art students were invited to participate in the contest and

used a variety of media to convey the message of this year's theme. There were a total of 375 contest submissions with only eight first place winners and 33 honorable mentions awarded.

Sharon Harn, middle school art teacher, coordinated the contest entries.

Holocaust Survivor Shares Harrowing Memories



When asked: "If you could go back and change one thing, what would it be?", Holocaust survivor Sam Weinreb noted, "I would like to see my family again." Weinreb answered several poignant questions in this vein following his presentation on May 22 to the sixth grade students and staff from the West Allegheny Middle School.

Weinreb's simply-stated talk detailed the disappearance of his family, his imprisonment in Auschwitz and his eventual escape. He also shared his experiences following World War II, including his

marriage to a childhood friend and relocation to America.

Sixth grade reading teacher Gabrielle Monti arranged Weinreb's visit through the Holocaust Center of Greater Pittsburgh, in conjunction with the presentation of a unit on the Holocaust. During reading class, the students had discussed the fate of the Jewish people under Nazi rule and read the historical fiction novel *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry. Besides bringing history to life for the students, Weinreb's presentation commemorated the lives of all Holocaust victims.

Holocaust survivor Sam Weinreb is presented with flowers following his presentation to sixth grade students.

India Presentation Educates Sixth Graders



West Allegheny Middle School students experienced the culture of India through the eyes and experiences of staff member Vimala Hari. Born and raised in the culture-rich country, Hari presented a detailed slide show from recent visits, along with an in-depth narrative that highlighted climate, attire, food, religion, family, transportation and traditions. Following the discussion, students were able to ask Hari questions relevant to her travels and memories.

Hari presented to sixth-grade students in Valerie Meehan and Nancy Watkin's social studies classes May 28 and 29 as a culmination of the classroom study of South Asia.

Hari is an instructional aide at Donaldson Elementary School.

Vimala Hari, instructional aide at Donaldson Elementary School, shares history and traditions from her native India with sixth grade students.

Cultural Diversity on Display at Wilson Elementary

Students at Wilson Elementary School experienced the cultures of the world during *A Celebration of Diversity* on May 17. Sessions were broken into 30-minute rotations with presentations by parents, staff and community members. All grades participated in the activities, which ranged from Asian art and Mexican songs to Irish dancing and Italian food.

Fourth grader Luke Boni proudly displays his multicultural artwork; Wilson Elementary parent Beth Yarowenko shared Polish traditions with students.



Donaldson Library Benefits from WA Foundation Grant

The Donaldson Elementary School leveled library section recently received a West Allegheny Foundation grant for the purchase of 177 books. Securing multiple copies of these books completed 58 book sets for all first grade level reading.

The leveled library contains book sets, typically in groupings of six, at levels that span from beginning readers through fifth grade. Teachers use these leveled book sets for small group instruction and have found the com-



Donaldson students (top to bottom) Kaidence McArdle, Brody Thompson, Brianna Rosinsky, Brayden Frost and Kieran Stoker read newly acquired library books with kindergarten teacher Denise Cartisser.

pleted book sets easier to accommodate their differentiated, small-group teaching. Students matched to their appropriate level are able to read text more fluently, which strengthens their comprehension skills and strategies. Ultimately, the feeling of accomplishment spurs a higher interest in reading.

The grant was arranged by Donaldson reading specialist Ruth Bouwers.

Jazz Was in the Air at Latitude 40



Middle School Jazz Band performs at Latitude 40 under the direction of music teacher Steve Groba; a jazz ensemble takes to the stage with (L to R) Rick Matt (guest soloist), Meagan Bruno, Mark Hoffman, T.J. Fox and Terisa Sharlow (West Allegheny music teachers). Photos courtesy of Rick Finkelstein Photography

It was an evening of jazz as the West Allegheny Middle School Jazz Band, and the high school Jazz Band and Jazz Choir entertained the crowd at Latitude

40 in Robinson Township. The concert was held on April 23 and featured students, teachers and professional

musicians, as well as superintendent Dr. John S. DiSanti, who joined in the performance on keyboard.

Title I/Special Reading Events Benefit District Families

The West Allegheny Title I/special reading program reaches students and their caregivers by sponsoring quarterly events designed to enhance comprehensive reading skills. The 2012-2013 schedule included an introductory meeting, Game Night, Bingo for Books and a breakfast session.

The schedule kicked off in October with an information gathering session for parents and caregivers. Presenters outlined the program's mission and objectives for differentiated ages and

reading levels. Game Night was an engaging event held in November with educational games provided for the whole family. Prizes were awarded and served as incentives for the evening's challenges. In April, Bingo for Books proved to be a family favorite with students and family members joining in the games. Special bingo cards featured book titles, reading strategies, characters and sight words and age appropriate books were awarded as prizes. The schedule wrapped up in May

with a family breakfast session that encouraged ongoing reading strategies and a summary of the year's programs.

The annual events are hosted by the Title I/special reading department led by Dr. Chris Assetta, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, Kathy Denniston, Leda Niccolai, Ruth Bouwers, Amberleigh Werling, Debbie Hamilton and Tammy Rink. Additional programs are slated for the 2013-2014 school year.

Environment and Budget Gain Boost from Propane-Fueled Buses

When West Allegheny students board their buses on the first day of school, they most likely won't realize their transportation is benefiting the environment as well as the District's bottom line. With the start of the 2013-2014 school year, Monark Student Transportation Corporation will begin incorporating propane-fueled buses into its fleet, making West Allegheny the first district in Allegheny County to utilize this green technology.

The transition from diesel to the non-toxic propane will take place in stages by adding two newly outfitted buses a year.

This will further the District's commitment to green energy by reducing emissions and eliminating ground and water contamination. Considered a clean fuel by the Clean Air Act, 90 percent of propane gas is produced domestically.

The use of propane buses also supports the District's continued cost-saving efforts. In addition to the reduced price of fuel, federal tax incentives are offered for the conversion as well. "The projected savings over the next five years, when we will have 12 propane buses, is estimated to be \$143,000," stated George Safin,

business manager for the District.

As to the safety of propane, "It is non-poisonous and has a very narrow range of flammability," states Mark Schmitt, CEO of Monark. "The tanks used for storing propane are tested to four times operating pressure and are manufactured to be twenty times stronger than conventional fuel tanks."

Although students likely view their bus as a simple means of transportation, this newly implemented technology will provide far-reaching benefits to the District and the community.

Food Services Prepare for New School Year

The West Allegheny School District Food Services department is preparing to welcome back students with healthy and affordable choices. Slight price increases will go into effect, however, at the start of the 2013-2014 school year.

The elementary schools will see an increase from \$1.00 to \$1.10 for breakfast and \$2.50 to \$2.75 for lunch. Secondary schools will increase from \$1.10 to \$1.25 for breakfast and \$2.60 to \$2.85 for lunch.

These price modifications are a reflection of the District's required adherence to new USDA guidelines that have directly increased the



overall operating expenses within the Food Services department. With that in mind, the new guidelines reinforce the commitment to providing healthy choices for our students.

Parents may register at the web site, www.mylunchmoney.com to view student purchases and see account balances. A seven-day account purchase history is available at this site where parents may also deposit money directly into their child's account. They may also choose to send money to school with their child. Menus are available online at www.westasd.org under the Food Services tab along with wellness and nutritional information.

The Free & Reduced Meal Application is available on the West Allegheny website as well. A new application must be submitted for each school year to continue receiving meals at a free or reduced rate.

First Day of School is August 26.
Visit the school district Web site at
www.westasd.org
for additional information.

Middle School Art Club Welcomes Guest Painter



Students from the middle school art club didn't need to look far to find a guest artist, as school secretary and accomplished watercolorist Barb Martincic expertly filled the role. Martincic's lessons spanned several art club meetings, and focused on a basic overview of watercolor painting and techniques. She also worked individually with each student while sharing secrets of her artistic craft.

Barb Martincic demonstrates painting techniques with seventh grader Stephanie Berhosky.

Teacher Participates in Oakdale History Series



West Allegheny High School teacher Dan Prevade participated in the Hometown History Series hosted by Oakdale Borough. His presentation and tour focused on the Aetna chemical explosion, which rocked the small community in 1918. Prevade kicked off the series on May 18, 2013 at the ROCK Youth and Family Center.

In an effort to keep Oakdale's rich history alive, the series highlights the events that helped to build the 120-year-old town.

High School social studies teacher Dan Prevade.

Teacher Co-Facilitates Common Core Project at Pitt

West Allegheny High School English teacher Beth Voltz was recently selected to co-facilitate a series of workshops for the University of Pittsburgh's 2013 Western Pennsylvania Writing Project (WPWP) Advanced Institute. The project focused on the exploration and integration of the Common Core Standards with the initiative of sharing emerging expertise with fellow educators.

The four-session series included timely topics that ranged from a comparison of other state standards and the utilization of resources to development of action plans for integrating the new guidelines in schools. The collaborative workshops

allowed for in-depth inquiry and exploration of the standards that will also guide curriculum development at West Allegheny.

Voltz has served as the co-director of the Western Pennsylvania Writing Project, housed at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Education, and as the director of the Young Writers Institute at the WPWP. Through the Young Writers Institute, Voltz was instrumental in growing the program from a two-week summer event serving approximately 60 students to a variety of city-wide programs that operate year-round serving nearly 400 students.



High School English teacher Beth Voltz.

Substitutes Needed

The West Allegheny School District is in need of substitutes for the following positions:

teachers and nurses; support staff positions, including custodians, instructional paraprofessionals, clerical workers, and cafeteria workers. To apply as a substitute teacher or nurse, please visit the district Web site at www.westasd.org. Select Employment - Professional Openings

To apply as a substitute for a support staff position, please visit the district Web site at www.westasd.org. Select Employment - Support Openings.

West Allegheny's Key Club Has "Key" for Cancer



Key Club members participate in Relay for Life.

West Allegheny High School's Key Club participated in the Relay For Life on May 18 to raise funds for cancer awareness and research. In addition to walking the high school track for 24 hours, the team also reached the Rising Star Level, raising \$2,400 for the American Cancer Society.

The "Key" for Cancer co-captains, Shannon Ye and Allie Hamilton, led the 30-member team on a year-long competition to fundraise the most money. Efforts included a basket raffle, spirit night at the Robinson Chick-fil-A, and the sale of purple bracelets and hair ribbons in recognition of the Relay For Life and cancer awareness. At the top of the fundraising leader board was club member Zach Tarasenkov, who raised \$540. Other noteworthy contributions were made by co-captain Shannon Ye, who raised \$274; and team member Jenna Reilly, who raised \$120 for the team. Both co-captain Allie Hamilton and team member Shannon Mance raised \$105.

The largest contribution, however, came from the high school National Honor Society (NHS). Every spring, NHS hosts the Mr. West Allegheny Pageant to raise funds for a charity chosen by the winner. This year's pageant winner, Mike Shields, chose Relay For Life to receive the \$900 raised by NHS.

The Key Club is proud of its fundraising efforts and the commitment of its members who worked together to make this event a success. Diane Boustead is the Key Club's faculty advisor.

New Gold Card Club Members Welcomed!

The West Allegheny School District continues to welcome new members into its Gold Card Club. Residents who are at least age 60 and live in the West Allegheny School District may pick up a gold card at the district office located at Donaldson Elementary School, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. A driver's license or other proof of age and residence is required.

The Gold Card entitles members to attend all school district-sponsored activities for which there is normally a charge. These events include a variety of concerts, plays, science fairs, art shows, and athletic activities. Special events, including a December holiday breakfast and a luncheon in conjunction with the spring musical production, are also included in member benefits. Membership does not, however, provide free admission to fund-raising events or other activities sponsored by booster organizations.

Visit the West Allegheny School District Web site at www.westasd.org for the District calendar, and a wide variety of both school and community information.

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Dr. Kathleen Sites, Wilson Elementary Principal
Mrs. Toni Baldanzi, Supervisor of Ancillary Programs

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and delays.

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Oakdale and McDonald Rise (Again) Above the Flood

Craig and Ann Hennemuth have a plaque hanging about two feet from the ceiling of their metal fabrication shop on Noblestown Road in Oakdale.

It marks where the water rose to on September 17, 2004, when downtown Oakdale was flooded by a weakened category 5 hurricane named Ivan.

The Hennemuths make ductwork and other components for HVAC companies. Craig's

father started the business in 1954. The kind of stuff that their shop makes, says Craig, isn't easily cleaned once tainted by floodwaters. It often ends up ruined.

Just like other businesses in Oakdale and across the region, the Hennemuths were allowed to apply for a low-interest loan through the Small Business Administration to help them recover. They didn't have flood insurance then, and still don't now.

The phrase batted around town back then was, "a hundred year flood."

The Hennemuths didn't take that loan. Craig says they got part way through the process of filling out the paperwork at an office in Carnegie before they got frustrated and left, the interest rate being just below what they could get through a bank on their own. Instead, they got by and persevered with what Ann calls a combination of "blood, sweat, and tears."

On July 10, less than nine years after Ivan, the Hennemuths and the rest of downtown Oakdale again found themselves cleaning up after another flood. Pockets of heavy rain pounded an area saturated by previous rainfalls, and though flood levels never reached those of Ivan, businesses and homes across the region felt the brunt.

In downtown Oakdale, water rose to about five feet, and seeped through doorways and into basements. Water destroyed equipment at Moore's Hardware and donations stored at the Rock Community Center meant for its annual flea market fundraiser. Floodwaters ruined office interiors around the town's central intersection and pooled for about twelve hours in a plaza off Seminary Avenue, decimating the contents of numerous businesses.

Upstream, just a few miles away in McDonald, floodwaters consumed ten businesses and caused sewers to back up into 25 homes, says McDonald VFD Fire Chief Terry Kerr. There, Robinson Run picked up Coke machines and empty propane tanks, depositing them in other parts of town and other towns.

In Sturgeon, Robinson Run flooded additional homes, while North Branch turned the North Fayette Township Park into a flood plain. Water covered two entire

baseball diamonds and a soccer field before cresting not far from the municipal building. North Fayette and Findlay townships both issued emergency declarations, and police and volunteer firefighters scrambled to respond to reports of dozens of flooded homes and to block roads affected by high water and downed trees.

"It has never come up that fast," says PJ Simonds, who moved into her house in the heart of downtown Oakdale in 2007, after her husband, Mark, accepted the pastor position at Oakdale United Presbyterian Church.

Robinson Run flows just feet from their home.

Like a number of homeowners who moved to Oakdale post-Ivan, PJ and Mark had heard accounts. They moved into the house to be close to their church, and insisted on buying flood insurance, even though their mortgage company tried to convince them otherwise.

They say their lender didn't consider their house to be in a flood zone.

"The previous owner was an elderly lady who had to be rescued from her second floor window," says PJ. "We insisted on getting flood insurance."

Since then, she says they've been flooded four times, two of which she describes as "major." She was home during this most recent and severe one, which left over five feet of water in their basement.

"My five-year-old looked out the window and said, 'Mommy, there's seaweed on the street,'" she says.

Now, heavy rains are cause for concern, as are flood warnings.

"Your ears perk up," says Craig.

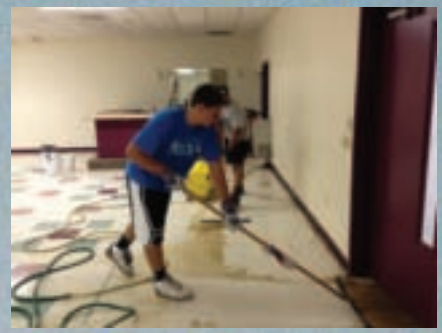
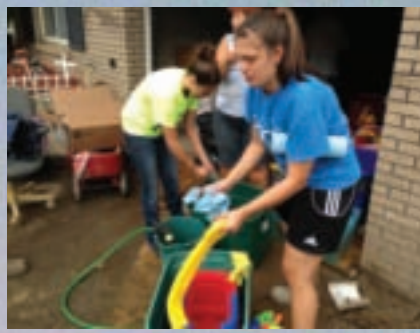
The same goes for Patrick Konieczny, owner and proprietor of Thomas-Little Funeral Service in Oakdale. In 2004, Patrick was setting off on his first year of running the business solo when Ivan hit. Like many other businesses in downtown Oakdale, he lost everything on his first two floors and ended up having to gut his building. His insurance carrier eventually covered the renovation costs, but none of the building's contents.

This time, Patrick says the damage was minimal. After Ivan, he stopped using the basement for storage. He also installed automatic sump pumps, and moved his air



TOP AND CENTER: Scenes of the flooding in Oakdale show much of the central part of the downtown area under water once again.

BOTTOM: The ballfields and tennis court in Heritage Park, McDonald, were submersed in the flooding waters.



LEFT TO RIGHT: The shopping plaza and Heritage Park in McDonald filled with water; Crossroads members Heather Amoer and Chelsea Gaab help a family clean their belongings; Mike Ross and Darien Feist from Crossroads assist with the cleanup. **BACKDROP:** A double rainbow appeared in the sky after the floods, and was widely captured by residents across the region as if to signify a ray of hope for a successful cleanup.

conditioning and heating equipment three feet off the floor.

Still, the frequency and fear of what will happen next time linger.

"When it rains hard, I'm just waiting for that phone call," he says.

Following this most recent flood, the community showed that they, too, were paying attention. The day of, residents responded. Members of Crossroads United Methodist Church posted signs in downtown Oakdale asking those who needed help to call. While some church members put together bagged lunches and handed them out to weary workers, others helped rip out carpeting and shovel silt.

Crossroads Executive Pastor Dale Roddy estimates that about 75 members responded on the ground, and that another 75 made donations.

"People just get shell-shocked," says Dale, who has led mission trips to disaster areas like post-Katrina Mississippi. "Sometimes they just need someone to offer help and give them a place to start."

Oakdale United Presbyterian Church members, some of whom were returning from a mission trip to Copperhill, Tennessee, passed out sandwiches, cleared debris from homes and businesses, and spread lime to sterilize yards.

Ron Watters of Ron Watters Automotive says that no less than 20 people called to see if he needed help, many of them customers.

Craig and Ann, too, had customers responding in force, along with members of Oakdale U.P. and Crossroads. Unlike last time, they managed to salvage their computers and financial records, along with a forklift, which helped them clean. For days, they tossed ruined inventory into two large dumpsters, but by Monday were at least back up and running.

By that time, yellow caution tape surrounding the McDonald Plaza had also come down, after a number of businesses ripped out carpeting and removed about six inches of drywall, electrical wire, and insulation from their walls. Ted Ersek says it could have been worse at his beer distributor, Colonial Beer, were it not for a good Samaritan who pulled a trailer up behind the store just as floodwaters were rising and helped him move inventory to higher ground.

"I don't even know who he was," says Ted, who managed to fill his weekend bar orders.

The next day he had twenty people show up to help.

For a number of businesses there, it was the second time dealing with a flood. Kristy Fuller says that after Ivan, she lost everything in her childcare center, Kristy's Kiddie Care Learning Center, and that it took five months to reopen. This time, she says flooding caused about \$10,000 worth of uninsured damage, but that she was at least back open by Monday.

She applauded her employees for ushering children to safety.

"Our staff did a great job of getting the kids out," says Kristy, who made arrangements for them to stay at McDonald Heritage Library until parents could arrive.

Throughout the week's end, Oakdale volunteer firefighters put in long hours, some taking time off work to pump out basements and hose down streets covered in silt after their own station flooded. Oakdale VFD Chief Bill Hartman says that the water rose very quickly, from one to several feet, as they responded to the day's first call off Seminary Avenue. There, firefighters evacuated seven children and two adults from a daycare

center, and then scrambled to assist others as people came to them asking for help.

Calling 911, says Bill, would have saved precious time by letting operators assess calls.

He says 15 businesses and 52 homes were affected, and expressed appreciation for the North Fayette, Rennerdale, Kirwan Heights, and Oak Ridge fire departments for responding and helping them clean their own station.

A number of Oakdale residents commended municipal workers for making numerous trips and clearing piles of debris dumped on sidewalks.

In one of the hardest hit parts of town off Seminary Avenue, Oakdale residents and members of the West Allegheny Football Team helped pull equipment and drywall out of Tom Burke's pizzeria and pub, Pepperoncini's.

"We had people there day and night from Thursday to Sunday," says Tom, a West Allegheny teacher and member of the football boosters' club.

He says that people brought sandwiches, and that Brendan Martin at Firehouse Subs in The Pointe at North Fayette sent them hoagies.

"You're working all day, you don't think to eat," he says.

For Tom, too, it was the second time experiencing a flood. He plans to reopen on September 1. Unlike last time, Tom and his wife had insurance on their contents, as was required by an SBA loan they were awarded after Ivan. He says the loan helped then, as will the insurance now, but he still describes the process of applying for it as arduous.

In the aftermath, residents and business owners have continued to look for answers. At an Oakdale borough council meeting the following week, several people complained that little had been done since Ivan to prevent flooding. Some suggested dredging the two streams that converge in town, a measure Oakdale Borough President Huck Gamble said has long been prohibited by Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection.

DEP Community Relations Coordinator John Poister explains that dredging not only destroys the ecology of a stream, but also is not a good long-term solution. He says that clearing obstructions from culverts, or bottlenecks, is much more effective. DEP Wetlands and Water Management Program Manager Rita Coleman says that dredging, "merely sends the water downstream faster causing problems for downstream neighbors."

She instead suggests looking into Growing Greener grants to retrofit sidewalks and parking lots with porous concrete and better drainage systems.

John says that Oakdale's flooding problems have also had much to do with a combination of unusually heavy rains and its bowl-like terrain.

For Craig and Ann, they say that even after two floods, they're not looking to blame anyone for what they call "an act of God."

"We just want someone to be looking for answers," says Ann.

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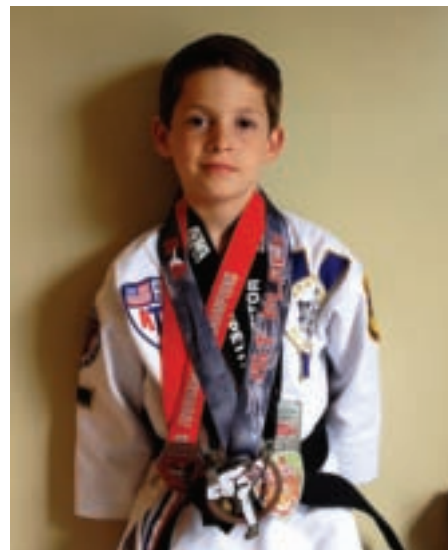
Adam Mitchell, 8, of North Fayette Township, has been studying ATA Taekwondo karate since he was four years old at the Steel City Black Belt Academy in Bridgeville under third-degree black belt Bob Arent.

In January, Adam earned his first-degree black belt at the midpoint of his tournament season. He had previously been competing as a color belt in the eight-year-old and under division, and was ranked within the top ten in the state.

After earning his black belt, Adam moved into the eight-year-old and under first, second, and third degree black belt division. Adam was determined to rebuild his rank within the state in his new division. He worked very hard learning his new forms, especially focusing on his weapon form with his Ssahng Jeol Bong (num chucks).

Adam had a very successful ending to his tournament season, earning the title of 2013 Pennsylvania Traditional Weapons State Champion. He also finished second in the state with his traditional form, sparring, and combat sparring.

Adam's perseverance, determination, positive attitude, and amazing sportsmanship helped him reach his end goal of state champion.



ST. CLAIR HOSPITAL AMONG 2013 MOST WIRED

For the second consecutive year, *Hospitals & Health Networks Magazine* has named St. Clair Hospital one of its Most Wired Hospitals and Health Systems in the United States.

Hospitals & Health Networks makes its selection based on four focus areas: infrastructure, business and administrative management, clinical quality and safety, and clinical integration.

According to the magazine, Most Wired hospitals have implemented systems to ensure quality patient care. Among them, 69 percent reported that medication orders were entered electronically by physicians, up from 27 percent in 2004. Seventy-one percent have an electronic disease registry to identify and manage gaps in care across a population, and sixty-six percent share patient discharge data with affiliated hospitals.

"At St. Clair Hospital, information technology, or IT, performs an integral role in fostering patient engagement and enhancing the patient's experience," said Richard Schaeffer, Chief Information Officer at St. Clair Hospital.

EAT'N PARK AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP TO LOCAL STUDENT

Eat'n Park Hospitality Group has awarded Eryne Wiethorn, from West Allegheny High School, a scholarship as part of its annual scholarship program. Eryne works at the restaurant chain's Robinson location. The scholarship program, which provides more than \$50,000 in scholarships each year, is designed to reward employees for their work within the company and the local community. This year, 19 local high school students were awarded scholarships.

According to Jeff Broadhurst, President and CEO of Eat'n Park Hospitality Group, the scholarship program creates opportunities for young adults who might not otherwise be able to receive a higher education.



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Over 700 Attend First Community Harvest Wine Festival

Threats of rainy weather didn't dampen the spirits of over 700 attendees who took part in the first community Harvest Wine Festival at Janoski's Farm in Clinton on July 20. The weather threat dissipated, allowing the wineries, vendors and musicians to go on as planned.

Hosted by Janoski's Farm, and its owners, Sonny and JoAnn Janoski (pictured, below, far left), and co-sponsored by Volant Mill Winery (pictured, below, top right) and *Allegheny West Magazine*, the event was planned to bring to the community the richness of the area's wines and provide an opportunity for wine aficionados to enjoy tastings in a beautiful farm setting.

Mark your calendar for the second annual event, tentatively scheduled for July 19, 2014.

To view all of the pictures and a short video of the festival, visit the *Allegheny West Magazine* Facebook page.



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Owned by Nicole and Jamie Orlando, the business opened on April 25. Nicole is a former accountant, and manages the day-to-day business. She has a background working for non-profits, and worked for organizations such as Animal Friends and the National Aviary. Jamie is a project manager for a German engineering company located in North Fayette. They live in Moon Township with their two daughters, Isabella, 8, and Samantha, 5. They are also very passionate about giving back to the local community, which is why Painting with a Twist fit into their lives very well.

So, how does it work? Explains Nicole, "One of the studio's talented artists will be with each guest every step of the way as you eat, drink, and paint your way to a finished work of art. Bring a favorite bottle of wine or other beverage, some favorite food, and your favorite people. We do the rest. We also do ANY type of party, birthdays for adults and youths, bachelorette, corporate teambuilding, girls or guys night out, scouts, and more."

Follow them on Facebook to hear about studio events, get sneak previews of new art and the monthly calendar, participate in promotions exclusive to Facebook fans, and more.

They supply the canvas, paint, brushes, and aprons. From landscapes to abstracts and cityscapes, to creative renderings of animals, iconic buildings, and florals, at the end of the class each guest will have created a one-of-a-kind work of art!

Painting with a Twist® is the original and largest paint and sip studio in the country, and the nation's largest employer of aspiring artists. Go to <http://www.paintingwithatwist.com/pittsburgh-west> to view our calendar.

To get started, simply: 1) Find a class on the calendar that fits your taste and your schedule; 2) Click on the "Reserve Online" link under the painting, and then fill in the blanks, or reserve a seat by calling (412) 787-PWAT(7928), or email to: pittsburgh-west@paintingwithatwist.com; 3) Bring your favorite people,

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Around Your Town



HONORING FORMER LEADERS

Clearview Federal Credit Union celebrated its 60th anniversary at the Robert Morris University Island Sports Center in Pittsburgh, on June 22 by honoring the three men who helped build the credit union from five members and \$5,000 in assets in 1953 to 83,292 members and nearly \$815 million in assets in 2013.

Current president and CEO of Clearview FCU, Mark S. Brennan, recognized former leaders, above, left to right: Ralph B. Canterbury, George J. Lostetter, and Joseph C. Cirelli. George Lostetter served the credit union since its original establishment in 1953 for ten years. Ralph B. Canterbury was President/CEO from 1965 through December 1999. Joseph C. Cirelli served the credit union for 35 years and was President/CEO from January 2000 through 2004. Mark handed out certificates in recognition of their hard work and dedication over their combined years of service of 79 years with the credit union.

Patrick Konieczny is the owner of Thomas~Little Funeral Service, Inc. with locations in the McDonald, Midway, Imperial and Oakdale communities. He and his wife, Kristen, live in McDonald, North Fayette Township, with their two daughters, Mya and Allie.

Patrick is a graduate of Thiel College and Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science. He is a member of the West Allegheny Foundation, St. Alphonsus R.C. Church, McDonald Lions Club, Oakdale Merchants Association, and Oakdale F&AM Lodge #609. He is a former member of the West Allegheny School Board, served as vice-president and is present superintendent of the Oakdale Cemetery Association.

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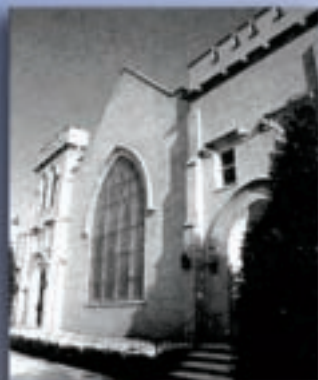
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Around Your Town

STATE HOUSE, SENATE RECOGNIZE NORTH FAYETTE



ABOVE: Left to right, State Representative Mark Mustio, North Fayette Township Supervisor Jim Morosetti, North Fayette Township Manager Bob Grimm, and State Senator Matt Smith.

State Representative Mark Mustio and State Senator Matt Smith presented proclamations to North Fayette Township in recognition of the municipality being chosen one of the state's banner communities for 2013.

During the presentation, Rep. Mustio stated, "I live in the township and I see the progress you are making. I am impressed with the recent partnership you established with the new library."

Sen. Smith added, "From the staff to the board to the management, North Fayette is to be commended for its outstanding work and forward thinking."

The township was named a 2013 Banner Community by the Allegheny League of Municipalities for providing effective, efficient, and accountable services to its residents and businesses.

"The Banner Community Program recognizes municipalities that implement best practices in all aspects of their operations and that govern in an inclusive, collaborative manner," said Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, who is also chairman of the Allegheny League of Municipalities. "These are cities, boroughs, and townships that understand fiscal accountability, customer service, and civic responsibility."

NORTH FAYETTE CAR CRUISE CHAMPS

Several winners of the car cruise held at North Fayette this summer display their trophies, far right, after the event. The "People's Choice Award" went to the vehicle pictured, right.





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NINETIES USHER IN NEW MILLENNIUM

In 1992, West Allegheny dedicated its stadium to the man known throughout the Western Pennsylvania athletic community as Mr. West Allegheny. They christened the newly renovated facility Joe P. DeMichela Stadium.

He was also known as Joe D. by his legion of friends and colleagues. His brief statement at the dedication ceremonies conjured up echoes of his favorite greeting, which was humbly, "Thank you for being my friend."

Teacher, assistant coach in four different sports, athletic director, and administrator -- Joe D. was all of these at one time or another.

He's gone now but a glance at the scoreboard reminds us of the impact he had on West Allegheny athletics.

The renovation of Joe DeMichela stadium was the initial step in West A's upward trek that led to a golden era of athletics up on the hill overlooking Imperial in the new millennium.

Another giant step was taken when the 1993 football team went undefeated in the regular season and was seeded number one in the playoffs. They made it to the WPIAL Class AA semi-finals before losing in overtime to Washington. Tony Cherico was the quarterback, and Bryan Cornell, the current baseball coach at WA, was an all-state defensive back and running back on the team coached by Terry George.

No WA team in any sport, however, had gone as far as the 1992 girls cross country team that featured the Buzon sisters, Michelle and Jessica, who later were to run at Robert Morris University. The girls reached the regional semi-finals that year.

The next step taken was a huge one by the 1994 baseball team that won the WPIAL championship and was the PIAA state runners-up. Bryan Cornell was the acknowledged super star on the team and became one of those rare athletes named to an All-star team in two or more sports.

The Bob Palko era began in 1995 and is still a highly successful work in progress.

Senior Tony Cherico was the quarterback on Palko's first team in 1995. In 1996, senior Ben Karcz was the Indian signal caller. In 1997, in his third year at the helm, Bob Palko had a decision to make after the graduation of Karcz. There was this can't miss quarterback prospect down in the junior high; he was only in eighth grade. Palko and his staff moved 5'6" running back Jim Capazolli over to the quarterback position.

Capazolli led the Indians to their first WPIAL football championship in the school's history. But the Indians' faithful fans, decked out in red and gray, would have to wait four more years for the dream of a state title to become a reality.

In 1998, Tyler Palko, the quarterback and son of the head coach, took over the signal calling duties as a freshman. His four-year high school career reads like something from a best-selling paperback novel.

The Indians, with Tyler under center, celebrated the new millennium by winning the Class AAA football state championship in 2001.

The excellent showing of the Indians in team sports continued with two more WPIAL football titles in 2009 and 2012, WPIAL basketball and baseball championships in 2007, and the baseball team again in 2008.

The girls volleyball team won the state tournament in 2006 and were back-to-back WPIAL champions in 2009 and 2010.

The Indian hockey team, after being in the finals in 2010 and 2012, won its first WPIHL Penguin Cup this past March.

Since the turn of the century, a number of individuals have won championships inswimming, track and field, cross country, wrestling, and golf.

Now in the third year of the second decade of the millennium and counting, it has come to pass that West Allegheny is among the top sports schools anywhere.



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TOP TO BOTTOM:

The Hairbiz team was joined by Chamber Ambassadors on July 16 for an official ribbon cutting ceremony.

Last month, Chamber Ambassadors and Latitude staff were on hand for the ribbon cutting of Latitude Lit, the facility's new cigar bar area.

Coming Up . . .

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Sunny Skies and Smiles!



PICTURED: FarLeft, Marissa displays all of her winnings upon being named the 2013 Weather Kid. Left, Marissa visits with Mike Harvey from WTAE-TV.

Smiling has always come natural to 10-year-old Marissa Collins, daughter of Mike and Patti Collins of Clinton. What is surprising is not only her smile, but also her gift of speech and outgoing personality that help make her a remarkable young girl. Now, Marissa has something new to smile about: being named the 2013 WTAE Weather Kid.

WTAE Channel 4 News and King's Family Restaurant joined together to hold the Weather Kid contest for children ages seven to 12 in the Pittsburgh area. The contest is a chance for children who have a passion for getting in front of the camera and an interest in meteorology to showcase their skills. The contest started a year ago when thousands of children auditioned to be the 2013 Weather Kid. After a series of auditions, 20 finalists were chosen and appeared in WTAE Weather Fun Fact sponsored by King's Restaurant. The finalists were chosen this summer, and helped WTAE's Chief Meteorologist, Mike Harvey, with a Weather Watch 4 Broadcast on July 13 at King's Family Restaurant.

Marissa explained that she and her family were eating at King's when her mom, Patti, saw the contest advertised. "We decided to enter her name," Patti explained. Before they knew it, Marissa was auditioning to be one of the 20 finalists to compete for the spot. It took memorization skills, warming up to the camera, and a gift for public speaking to help Marissa in her audition. Once her personality came across on the screen, Marissa and her family were hopeful that she would become the Weather Kid.

"She's not a shy person," said Patti. As a mother, she has always seen the talent that her daughter shares with her family and friends. "Before we go to bed, Marissa reads out loud and it's just very entertaining. She has a real talent."

Marissa added that at school, her Wilson Elementary teachers ask her to read out loud to the class often because of the inflection in her voice. "I think her talent helps her fellow students better understand the stories," said Patti.

Marissa is excited to know that her talent is being recognized, and she isn't afraid to take the steps, practice, and determination to get where she wants to go. "I just like being in front of people,"

she said. She explained that she dreams of one day having a career in television.

That dream, and her routine of watching the morning news with mom, are what sparked her interest in entering the Weather Kid contest. "We watch the news and the weather together in the morning before school and work," Patti explained. "We talk about what is going on in the world... Marissa is a lot more in tune with the news than a lot of kids her age." Morning after morning, Marissa began to think about how she would enjoy working in front of people – yet never did she dream that she would be the lucky child picked as the Weather Kid.

"I practiced a lot," she said, "but it didn't take long to catch on." Marissa said that even though she was nervous at first, she wanted her performance for the audition to be perfect. With the encouragement of her family, she was able to accomplish her goal. "My family and school supported me, and I think that helped a lot."

The Collins' explained that not only was the Weather Kid audition a chance for Marissa to learn more about what a career in television would be like, but it was also an educational opportunity to learn more about broadcasting and meteorology. The winner of the contest received a weather alert radio – something that has come in handy for the family during the recent storms.

"I have been learning a lot," said Marissa.

"She has a lot of time to figure out what she wants to do," said Patti. "She can be anything she wants." The contest was a good start to developing her talents.

"I had a good time," said Marissa. "It gave me the chance to do something I really wanted to do, and I enjoyed it."

This winter, Mike Harvey will appear at Wilson Elementary School to present at Weather Watch Assembly. Marissa's live broadcast can be viewed on YouTube or WTAE.com by searching "Marissa Collins WTAE Live Weather Kid Broadcast."

Regardless of the weather, with a title of 2013 Weather Kid to jumpstart her future, Marissa's forecast looks bright.

During the week of next June 22-28, 2014, the West Allegheny community will be a sea of volunteers who will spread out across the neighborhoods to help those who need it, such as the elderly, the disabled, and those facing low-income difficulties. Share or complete the application, below, with those who need it.



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Your name: _____ Daytime phone: _____

Your address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____ Do you own your home? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Is your home within a 30-minute drive from **West Allegheny Middle School** ☐ Yes ☐ No

Directions to your home from **West Allegheny Middle School** (please be as specific as possible): _____

Describe the work you would like to have done: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Brought to you by **West Allegheny Workcamp**, affiliated with West Allegheny Ministerial Association (a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization)

News from the

PITTSBURGH BOTANIC GARDEN

Peek & Preview Tours!

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

Learn about the history of the area, our current work, and our future plans!

Upcoming tours are August 12, 14, 18, 22, and 31. Times vary. Contact the Botanic Garden office for details.

Storybook House Installed



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

Help Us at "Grow the Garden Days!"

Our next "Grow The Garden Day" is Saturday, August 10 from 9 a.m. until noon. We will be happy to give you a tour of the site when you are done with the volunteer work!

Next dates are September 7 and October 10.

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

Conceived in 1988 and now in the development stages, Pittsburgh Botanic Garden will be a world class garden & one of a kind regional attraction.

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

Around Your Town

BASEBALL TEAM HEADS TO WORLD SERIES



ABOVE: The 2013 Allegheny Hustlers Palomino Baseball Team, kneeling: Dan Hoss, Stefan Mrkonja; standing: Coach Ken Vance, Jake Horew, Frank Vance, Matt Mulvihill, Shane Conley, Andrew Wheeler, Tyler Amedure, Luke Horew, Shea Beaumont, Justin Zak, Austin Logan, Coach Tom Horew, Randy Dobnak, Manager Ron Beaumont; missing: Cole Horew.

The 2013 edition of the Allegheny Hustlers baseball witnessed the program in its fourth year of existence being competitive in the Quad County South Palomino League. The squad is comprised of players as young as 16 years old from West Allegheny, Montour, Alderdice, Hopewell, Beaver, South Park, Char-Valley, and Upper St. Clair. The team also has college players representing Wooster College, Point Park University, and Motlow Junior College. The team's record this year of 23-1 placed them in the Palomino World Series as the league co-winner.

The league was created to showcase players, from high school to college, looking to advance their craft and play at the collegiate level.

The team recently won the Super Regional at Highfield Park in Butler. This will advance them to the final zone tournament in Cranberry. The site will play host to six different states. The team won the tournament, and is one of eight teams nationwide (three international and five U.S. teams). They now advance to the Palomino Championship in Compton, California this month.

And, they are now qualified as the number one team among 18 states on the Eastern Seaboard.

The team, under the direction of head coach Ron Beaumont, has been in existence for four seasons and has comprised an overall record of 90-13. Beaumont is a 1974 West Allegheny High School alumnus. Assisting Beaumont are Tom Horew and Kenny Vance.

ROCK ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR FLEA MARKET IN SEPTEMBER

The ROCK Youth and Family Center, located at 150 West State Street in Oakdale (across from Sil's), is now accepting household donations for its annual fund raiser flea market in September. They lost much of their previous donations in the July flood.

Call (412) 999-0590 to drop off items or ask questions. This event helps fund the many programs for children and families of the area.

The ROCK welcomes the following items: furniture, glassware, small kitchen appliances, kitchen ware, knick knacks, lamps, jewelry, books, records, DVDs, CDs, tools, musical instruments, sporting goods, Steeler, Penguin, Pitt, Penn State, and WVU items, hunting and sports gear, electronics, antiques, collectables, bicycles, children's toys, baby items, Christmas and other holiday items. The ROCK will NOT accept clothing.

JOIN US! Valley Summer Nights!
August 12-15, 6-8 p.m.

Evening Meal
Children's Activities
Adult Discussions
with Speakers on
Relevant Life Topics
Brief Song & Worship

**Visit Us at the
Findlay Fair**
August 16-17
See The Seeds We're Planting
for Our Community!



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WEST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL CALENDAR 2013-2014

2013

August 21, 22, 23	Teacher In-service/clerical - No Students
August 26	First Day - Students
September 2	Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
October 28	In-Service/Clerical Day - No Students
November 7, 8	CONFERENCE DAYS (No School K-8)
November 28 - December 2	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break
December 23 - December 31	NO SCHOOL - Winter Break

2014

January 1	NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
January 2	Classes Resume
January 20	In-service/Clerical Day - No Students
February 17	In-service Day - No Students
March 24	In-service/Clerical Day - No Students

April 11	CONFERENCE DAY (No School K-8)
April 17 - 21	NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
May 5	In-service Day - No Students
May 26	NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
June 6	Last Day - Students/COMMENCEMENT*
June 9	Last Day - Teachers*
June 12	Kennywood

* - Dependent upon snow make-up days

SNOW MAKE-UP DAYS

Thursday, April 17, 2014
Monday, April 21, 2014
Remainder at year end



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WEST ALLEGHENY INDIANS VARSITY FALL SPORTS

Varsity Cross Country (Boys/Girls)

Aug. 20	Baldwin High School	at West Allegheny	10 a.m.
Aug. 27	Tri-scrimmage	at Greensburg Salem	4 p.m.
Aug. 31	Gateway Invitational	at Gateway	9 a.m.
Sept. 03	Tri-Meet	at Brady's Run Park	4 p.m.
Sept. 07	R,W,B Classic	at Schenley Park	8:50 a.m.
Sept. 14	Slippery Rock Inv.	at Cooper's Lake	11 a.m.
Sept. 17	Tri-Meet	at West Allegheny	3:45 p.m.
Sept. 24	New Castle	at New Castle	4 p.m.
Oct. 01	Tri-Meet	at Moon Area	4 p.m.
Oct. 07	Tri-Meet	at Ambridge	4 p.m.
Oct. 10	MAC Championship	at Brush Creek	3 p.m.
Oct. 24	WPIAL Finals	at Cooper's Lake	12 p.m.
Nov. 02	PIAA Finals	at Hershey	TBA

Varsity Soccer (Boys)

Aug. 19	Central Valley HS	at Central Valley	TBA
Aug. 27	Beaver Area	at DeMichela Stadium	6 p.m.
Aug. 31-	Ambridge Kickoff	at Ambridge	TBA
Sept. 1	Tournament	at Ambridge	TBA
Sept. 3	Obama HS	at DeMichela Stadium	6 p.m.
Sept. 5	Carrick HS	at DeMichela Stadium (varsity only)	6 p.m.
Sept. 7	Shaler	at Shaler	TBA
Sept. 10	Montour	at DeMichela Stadium	6 p.m.
Sept. 17	Keystone Oaks	at Keystone Oaks	6 p.m.
Sept. 19	Quaker Valley	at DeMichela Stadium	6 p.m.
Sept. 21	South Fayette	at South Fayette	10 a.m.
Sept. 24	Obama HS	at Obama HS (varsity only)	7 p.m.
Sept. 26	Carrick HS	at Carrick HS (varsity only)	5:30 p.m.
Oct. 1	Montour	at Montour	6 p.m.
Oct. 3	Keystone Oaks	at DeMichela Stadium	6 p.m.
Oct. 5	Seneca Valley	at Seneca Valley	6 p.m.
Oct. 8	Quaker Valley	at Quaker Valley	6 p.m.
Oct. 10	South Fayette	at DeMichela Stadium (Senior Night)	6 p.m.

Varsity Football (Boys)

Aug. 17	Mt. Lebanon	at Mt. Lebanon	10 a.m.
Aug. 23	Belle Vernon Area	at Belle Vernon HS	6 p.m.
Aug. 30	Blackhawk	at Blackhawk	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 6	Ambridge	at Ambridge	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 13	Moon Area	at DiMichela Stadium (Homecoming)	7 p.m.
Sept. 20	Hopewell	at Hopewell	7 p.m.
Sept. 27	Central Valley	at DeMichela Stadium	7 p.m.
Oct. 4	Steel Valley	at DiMichela Stadium (Youth Night Recognition)	7 p.m.
Oct. 11	New Castle	at New Castle	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 18	Montour	at DeMichela Stadium	7 p.m.
Oct. 25	Chartiers Valley	at DiMichela Stadium (Senior Night)	7 p.m.

Varsity Tennis (Girls)

Aug. 20	Blackhawk	at Blackhawk	10 a.m.
Aug. 23	Upper St. Clair	at West Allegheny	3:30 p.m.
Aug. 26	Mt. Lebanon	at Keystone Oaks	5:30 p.m.
Aug. 28	Baldwin	at Baldwin	3:30 p.m.
Aug. 29	Chartiers Valley	at West Allegheny	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 4	Allderdice	at Schenley Park	3 p.m.
Sept. 5	Oakland Catholic	at Green Oaks CC	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 9	Montour	at West Allegheny	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 10	Moon Area	at Moon Area MS	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 11	Section Singles	at Baldwin	12:30 p.m.
Sept. 12	Section Singles	at Baldwin	TBA
Sept. 16	Mt. Lebanon	at West Allegheny	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 17	MAC Championship	at Brady's Run Park	8:30 a.m.
Sept. 19	Baldwin High School	at West Allegheny	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 23	Chartiers Valley	at Chartiers Valley	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 24	Upper St. Clair	at Upper St. Clair	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 25	Section Doubles	TBA	TBA
Sept. 30	Oakland Catholic	at West Allegheny	3:30 p.m.
Oct. 1	Allderdice	at West Allegheny	3:30 p.m.
Oct. 3	Montour	at Clever Park	3:30 p.m.

Varsity Volleyball (Girls)

Aug. 17	Tri-Scrimmage	at West Allegheny	10 a.m.
Aug. 24	Ambridge Multi-Team	at Ambridge	9 a.m.
Aug. 31	Blackhawk	at Blackhawk	TBA
Aug. 31	Butler Spikefest	at Butler HS	8:30 a.m.
Sept. 3	Baldwin	at Baldwin	6 p.m.
Sept. 5	Mt. Lebanon	at West Allegheny	6 p.m.
Sept. 10	Bethel Park	at Bethel Park	6 p.m.
Sept. 17	Montour	at West Allegheny	6 p.m.
Sept. 19	Moon Area	at Moon Area	6 p.m.
Sept. 21	MAC Championship	at Moon Area	TBA
Sept. 24	Chartiers Valley	at West Allegheny	6 p.m.
Sept. 26	Baldwin	at West Allegheny	6 p.m.
Sept. 28	S. F. Varsity Tourn.	at South Fayette	TBA
Oct. 1	Mt. Lebanon	at Mt. Lebanon	6 p.m.
Oct. 3	Bethel Park	at West Allegheny (Dig Pink Night)	6 p.m.
Oct. 10	Montour	at Montour	6 p.m.
Oct. 12	KO Varsity Rally Fest	at Keystone Oaks	9 a.m.
Oct. 15	Moon Area	at West Allegheny (Senior Night)	6 p.m.
Oct. 17	Chartiers Valley	at Chartiers Valley	6 p.m.

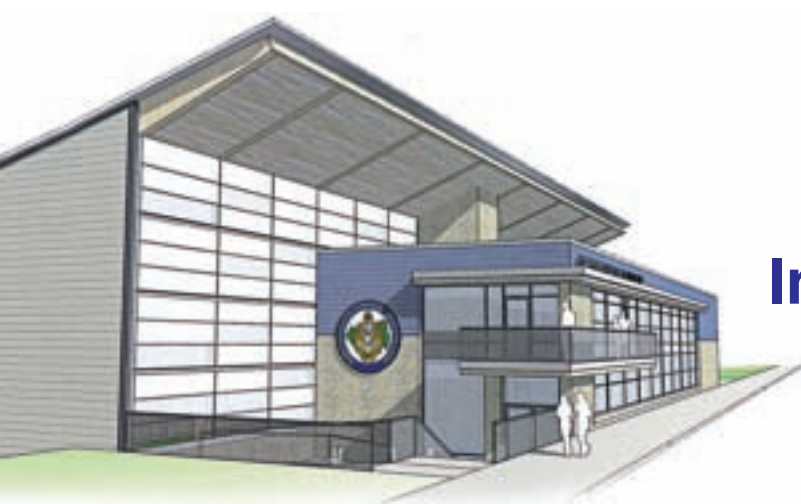
Varsity Soccer (Girls)

Aug. 21	Bethel Park	at DeMichela Stadium	6 p.m.
Aug. 27	Penn. Trafford	at Penn-Trafford	6 p.m.
Aug. 31-	Ambridge Kickoff	at Ambridge	TBA
Sept. 1	Tournament	at Ambridge	TBA
Sept. 4	Obama HS	at Cupples Stadium	5:30 p.m.
Sept. 9	Moon Area	at DeMichela Stadium	6 p.m.
Sept. 11	Carrick	at Cupples Stadium	5:30 p.m.
Sept. 16	Montour	at DeMichela Stadium	6 p.m.
Sept. 18	Keystone Oaks	at Keystone Oaks	6 p.m.
Sept. 21	Quaker Valley	at DiMichela Stadium	12:30 p.m.
Sept. 23	South Fayette	at South Fayette	6 p.m.
Sept. 25	Obama HS	at DeMichela Stadium	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 26	Moon Area	at Moon Area	6 p.m.
Sept. 30	Carrick	at DiMichela Stadium	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 2	Montour	at Montour	6 p.m.
Oct. 5	Keystone Oaks	at DiMichela Stadium	1:30 p.m.
Oct. 7	Quaker Valley	at Quaker Valley	6 p.m.
Oct. 9	South Fayette	at DiMichela Stadium (Senior Night)	6 p.m.

Varsity Golf (Boys)

Aug. 15	Ambridge	at WA (Quicksilver)	3 p.m.
Aug. 19	Upper St. Clair	at Upper St. Clair CC	2:45 p.m.
Aug. 20	Canon McMillan	at WA (Quicksilver)	3 p.m.
Aug. 27	Chartiers Valley	at Nevillewood GC	3:30 p.m.
Aug. 28	South Fayette	at WA (Quicksilver)	3 p.m.
Sept. 4	Trinity	at WA (Quicksilver)	3 p.m.
Sept. 5	Upper St. Clair	at WA (Quicksilver)	3 p.m.
Sept. 12	Canon McMillan	at Lindenwood Golf Club	3 p.m.
Sept. 16	Boys Individual Qualifier	TBA	TBA
Sept. 17	Chartiers Valley	at WA (Quicksilver)	3 p.m.
Sept. 18	MAC Championship	at Fox Run Golf Course	11 a.m.
Sept. 19	Peters Township	at WA (Quicksilver)	3 p.m.
Sept. 23	South Fayette	at Hickory Heights GC	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 25	Peters Township	at Rolling Hills GC	3 p.m.
Oct. 1	Trinity	at Golf Club of Washington	2:45 p.m.





In Findlay and North Fayette ...

Plans to Expand Community and Recreation Services Take Shape

Findlay

Findlay residents will soon have access to a brand new pavilion, complete with a working kitchen, for their events and gatherings.

Findlay Supervisors have approved the construction of a pavilion with kitchen and restrooms and an expanded parking area at the Sports and Recreation complex on Route 30 adjacent to Leopold Lake.

Once complete, it will be the largest pavilion in the township. The new facility will provide opportunities for hosting graduation parties, family reunions, church picnics, and community fundraisers, to name a few.

Gary Klingman, Findlay Township manager, said the cost estimate for the entire project will range between \$300,000 and \$400,000. While some of the site work will be done by outside contractors, much of the construction will be undertaken by the township's public works employees. Through a cooperative purchasing program, the township is buying a package of the materials that include a steel structure base, stonework, plexiglass windows, and a split roof to allow for light and ventilation.

By doing much of the work in-house, Gary explained, the township will save significant money overall.

The pavilion, which will be 30 by 84 feet, will provide seating for up to 165 people. It will include picnic tables and grills. The kitchen will be part of the pavilion, with complete facilities for food preparation.

Township officials anticipate that the project will be completed this fall. Reservations will most likely be accepted starting in February 2014 for next year.

North Fayette

North Fayette Supervisors recently approved architectural designs for a new community center that is set to be built in Donaldson Park. Construction is expected to begin sometime in the coming year, and the facility is tentatively scheduled to open on July 15, 2015, just weeks before the township's annual

Community Days event at the park.

The glass and steel-accented structure will look out on the park's baseball fields and have three levels. The first will house a basketball court and locker rooms with a hotel-like exercise room. The second will feature an education center, indoor track, and an indoor playground with attached lounge. The third will have multi-purpose rooms for meetings, banquets, or programming, along with a prep kitchen and wrap-around terrace.

Supervisors approved the designs after what was described as an impressive presentation from Pittsburgh-based DRS Architects.

"When they put that up on the screen, we said, that's it," says North Fayette Township Manager Bob Grimm.

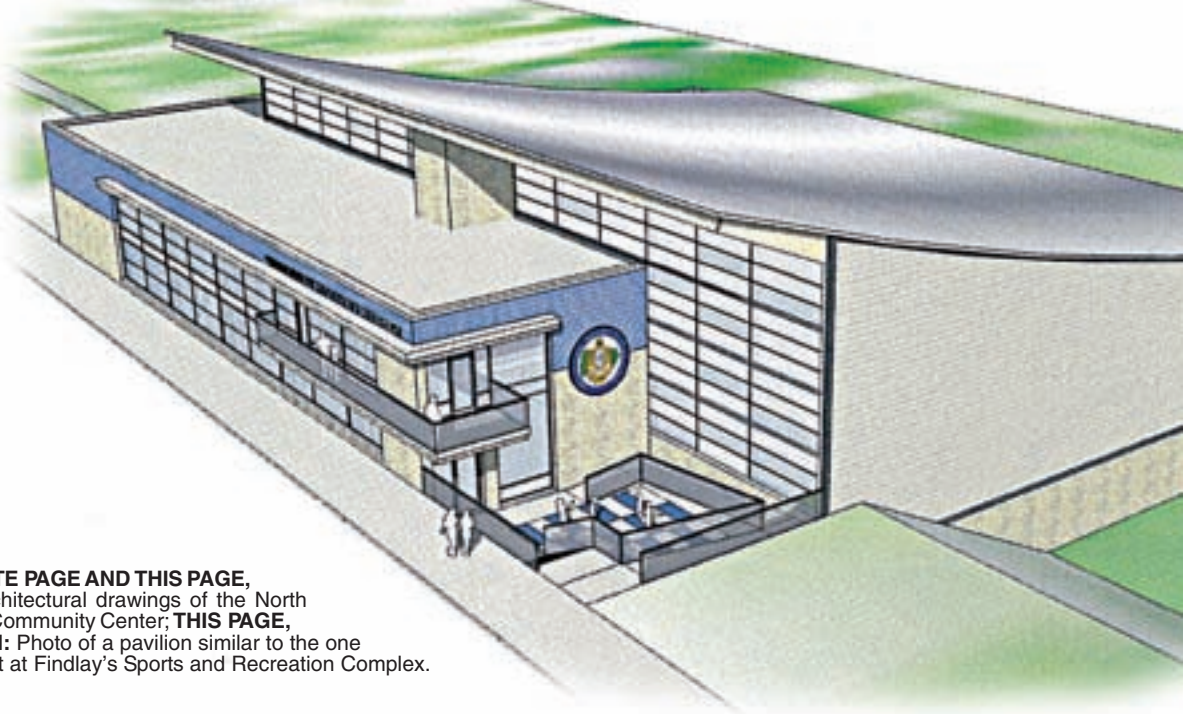
On its web site, DRS lists a number of buildings in Pittsburgh that the company has designed, including the PNC YMCA near Market Square. North Fayette's designs indicate its facility will have plenty of windows, and an open, loft-like scope with the second and third floors looking down onto the gymnasium floor. Plans were initially to make the gymnasium floor large enough for two, side-by-side basketball courts, but supervisors downsized those plans as a cost-saving measure, says North Fayette Parks and Recreation Director Bob Brozovich. He says the new floor will still be much larger than the township's current one at the community center in the old Western Allegheny Community Library, and allow for plenty of cross-court play.

Brozovich says the township plans to open the center to afterschool programs for children through grades five, and possibly offer babysitting so that parents can enjoy programs. He envisions adults using the facility in the morning, and getting ready for work using the locker rooms. Parents will also be able to relax in the center's lounge while their children enjoy the indoor playground year round.

Brozovich says he hopes to expand the township's senior programs as well.

"I hope to have something every day for seniors," he says, such as dance classes and luncheons.

Brozovich says that the township has been planning the center for some time, and that the bond to build the facility was taken



OPPOSITE PAGE AND THIS PAGE,
TOP: Architectural drawings of the North
 Fayette Community Center; **THIS PAGE,**
BOTTOM: Photo of a pavilion similar to the one
 to be built at Findlay's Sports and Recreation Complex.

out to lock in low interest rates.

"It made much more sense to lock in a bond while the interest rates were low," says North Fayette Director of Fiscal and Administrative Services David Lodovico. "If you're going to build, now is the time."

Brozovich says that the next step is to begin listening to contract offers from construction companies, and to look for additional ways to finance the \$4.5 million structure. Along with grants, he says the township is looking into sponsorship opportunities such as engraving bricks and naming rooms.

Once the facility is up and running, the township plans to

cover operating costs by charging a small membership fee to residents using the facility, and to rent out its banquet space. Brozovich says that the upstairs, with its prep kitchen, will be perfect for catered events, and that each of the facility's three banquet rooms will be able to accommodate 58 people. The rooms will also be able to convert into one giant room capable of holding 174 people.

"Donaldson Park is nice," says Brozovich about the hilltop park that was built in 2010 adjacent to Donaldson Elementary School, "but this will be a showpiece."



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PTI Rolls Out New

Pittsburgh Technical Institute will host the official ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremony of the American Academy of Culinary Arts (AACA) on Wednesday, August 14.

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

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

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

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

In 2007, Chef Hart was named National Educator of the Year by the American Culinary Federation. He is a Certified Executive Chef, a Certified Culinary Educator, a member of the American Academy of Chefs, and the recipient of countless industry awards and achievements.

Chef instructor is Chef Amanda Flesch, CC.

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

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



Culinary Academy

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

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

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

"PTI has a great location, a beautiful campus, and students dedicated to their careers, many of whom I've called on to support our food and beverage operations with great success," said Drue Vitter, Executive Chef of the Hyatt Regency Pittsburgh International Airport, and a member of the ACAA culinary arts advisory board. "I am very excited about the AACA. The curriculum is well-rounded, in both theory and hands-on education."

According to President DeFeo, AACA students will benefit from the established success of PTI's School of Hospitality graduates,

"PTI already is well known and respected within the hospitality industry for preparing travel, restaurant, and hotel management degree graduates who are ready to work in an industry that continues to lead the region in job growth."



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

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

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

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



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Church of The Living Christ

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(724) 695-7188, www.cotlc.com

Church of the Nazarene

(moved to Clinton)
(724) 947-9223, www.nazarene.org

Clinton UP Church

25 Wilson Road, Clinton, PA 15026
(724) 695-7993

Clinton Wesleyan Church

1022 Clinton Road, Clinton, PA 15026
(724) 695-7076

Covenant Family Church

P. O. Box 15533, Pittsburgh, PA 15244
(724) 263-7147, www.covfamchurch.org
(meets at Courtyard Pgh. Airport)

Crossroads Methodist Church

1000 Crossroads Drive, Oakdale, PA 15071
(412) 494-9999, www.crossroadsumc.org

First Baptist Church

141 N. McDonald Street, McDonald, PA 15057
(724) 926-4216

Hebron Presbyterian Church

1767 Route 30, Clinton, PA 15026
(725) 899-2276

Independent Bible Presbyterian Church

112 Dempe Street, McDonald, PA 15057
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Montours Presbyterian Church

3151 Montour Church Road, Oakdale, PA 15071
(412) 787-1050, www.montourschurch.org

Noblestown United Methodist Church

7313 Noblestown Road, Oakdale, PA 15071
(724) 693-2755

Noblestown United Presbyterian Church

7427 Noblestown Road, Oakdale, PA 15071
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Oakdale United Presbyterian Church

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Rivers of Living Waters Church

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St. Patrick's Church

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The Church of Jesus Christ

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Valley Presbyterian Church

237 Main Street, Imperial, PA 15126
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West Ridge Christian Community Church

100 Gorwood Drive, Coraopolis, PA 15108
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American Legion Post 171 Oakdale, (724) 693-8759

American Legion Post 335 Imperial, (724) 695-0491

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Faith in Action, (724) 921-0027

Findlay Athletic Assn., (412) 874-9348

Girl Scouts WPA, (724) 774-3553

Heritage Public Library-McDonald, (724) 926-8400

Kiwanis Club #1571, (724) 899-3695

Lions Club Imperial, (724) 513-7616

Masonic Lodge #669, (724) 693-8274

McDonald Area Redevelopment Assn., (724) 926-4617

Meals on Wheels-W.A., (724) 695-0634

Montour Run Watershed Assn., www.mrwa.info

Montour Trail Council, (412) 257-3011

Montour Valley Grange, (724) 695-0481

Mothers of Preschoolers-Crossroads, (412) 494-9999

Mothers of Preschoolers-Hebron, (724) 899-2276

North Fayette Athletic Assn., (412) 580-0655

North Fayette Garden Club, (724) 693-8413

Oakdale Youth League, (724) 693-8951

Rotary - Parkway West, (412) 787-5280

Senior Citizen Groups:

- **Findlay Township,** (724) 695-0500

- **North Fayette Township,** (724) 693-3118

- **St. Columbkille,** (724) 695-7325

SNPJ Lodge 106, (724) 695-1411

Sturgeon Athletic Association, (724) 926-2150

The ROCK Community Center, (724) 693-2777

VFW Ladies Auxiliary, (412) 788-4674

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VFW Post #7714 Imperial, (724) 695-8866

West Allegheny Food Pantry & Thrift Shop, (724) 695-1305

West Allegheny Foundation, inquiries@wafoundation.org

West Allegheny Friends to Enhance the Library (WAFEL), (724) 695-8150

West Allegheny Ministerium, (724) 693-8950

West Allegheny Booster & PTA Groups, visit www.westasd.org

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West Allegheny Aqua Club, (412) 608-4583

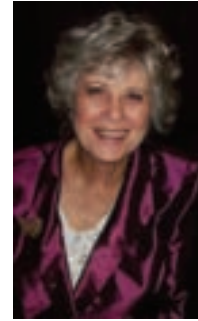
West Allegheny Arts Advocacy, TBA

West Allegheny Inline Hockey, (412) 334-2640

West Allegheny Youth Assn., www.westayouth.net

West Allegheny Youth Soccer Assn., (724) 693-8073

West Allegheny Youth Wrestling, (724) 695-8132



By
Erma Dodd
North Fayette Township
resident

Honor Your Father and Mother

When Bill Bane dresses up in black pants and white shirt, something is up. Bill's mom, retired nurse Sarah Louise, 90, wondered, "What's up?"

Bill told his mom, "There is someone I want you to meet. I am going to pick her up and bring her home to meet you."

"You will have to come outside to meet her," he added.

"Why?" asked Sarah Louise.

"I don't think she will fit through the front door," her bachelor son answered.

Now mom's mind went whirling. What? A date that is 500 pounds, seven feet tall?

Growing up, weekends were always special at the Bane farm in Collier Township.

Bill's dad, Herb, was a car salesman at Dormont Oldsmobile. Each weekend, dad brought home an Oldsmobile.

The Bane family would "go for a ride" or two and run errands before dad took the car back to work on Monday morning.

Bill often heard the story when Bill's Uncle Howard and Bill's dad were excited about driving an experimental 1955 Olds '98 Holiday. GM was experimenting in an effort to increase Olds horsepower.

Needless to say, the brothers-in-law were anxious to "see what she could do." They cut her loose down West Liberty Avenue and through the Liberty Tunnel.

These amateur test drivers would only say "she made 100 mph through the tunnel."

Herb Bane died suddenly when Bill was only 11. The Oldsmobile weekends ended. Happy memories live on.

As Bill became an adult, he became aware of his dream to have a 1955 Olds in his driveway.

Thirty years later, Bill knew it was time, because his dream also included taking his mom for a ride in that dream car. He subscribed to a classic car magazine. His first issue arrived in the mail. At home with his mom and his Great Dane, Bill opened the magazine. On that exact page he saw the picture, a 1955 Olds '88 for sale in Colorado. He made the call. The owner sent pictures and sounded trustworthy. Bill sent him a check. And the seller put the Olds on a truck for delivery to Bill Bane c/o Thomas Auto Shop. When the truck arrived, Bill was waiting with his can of premium gas. He put the gas into his classic Olds and drove her out of the trailer.

Bill took her for a ride; no power steering or power brakes. She still had "lots of juice left."

Bill named her "Sarah" after his mother. The no-hurry restoration took all winter. Spring arrived. It was finally time for Sarah's debut and time to surprise Sarah Louise.

Dressed-up, Bill drove Sarah to his family farm in Collier Township.

He found his mother was locked in her room. She was Irish and upset. She refused to

come out to meet Sarah. He finally convinced his mom to come meet her. She was not in the yard by the door, Bill told his mom. "She may be looking at your flowers." Mom reminded him, "They are MY flowers!"

They rounded the corner. There sat Sarah. She was beautiful in her shiny original colors of turquoise and white, white-wall tires, chrome shining.

It was a very, very exciting moment. Then, "You're a SNOT," said 90-year-old mom to her 50-year-old prankster son.

Mom couldn't wait to get in and take a ride. "Oh, this is just wonderful. It brings back so many memories," she said.

Two dreams had come true.

Dream three. Sarah Louise had a lifelong dream, to go to her ancestral homeland, Ireland, where her mother lived before coming to America in 1910 at age 12.

Bill surprised his mom with a 90th birthday party and announced he was sending mom and sister, Sally, to Ireland. Sarah got to kiss the Blarney Stone.

Then another '55 Olds came into Bill's life. She was named Louise.

Two years later, Bill was third in line and drove Sarah. A family friend, John, was fourth in line and drove Louise in the procession to and from the funeral service of Sarah Louise Bane, age 92. Mom had just one more destination.

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