

Dunmorean of the Month

Asher Jones



By Steve Svetovich

Dunmore's Asher Jones has been involved with scouting since the third grade. Son of Jerry and Rebecca Jones, Asher, 18, has climbed the ranks in scouting and last month attained the highest rank as an Eagle Scout for Troop 66 at the Dunmore Presbyterian Church.

The 2025 Dunmore High School graduate is a freshman pre-engineering student at the local Penn State Worthington campus. "I will go two years here and then two years at the Penn State main campus," he said.

Asher said he had to work very hard to earn the rank of Eagle Scout. "I was ecstatic," he said. "There was a lot to do to get there. "Some of the merit badge requirements were very challenging. There was a lot of reaching out to do, but it was very rewarding. It was a great feeling to receive Scout's highest honor."

Asher said his Eagle Scout project was to renovate and paint

(Please turn to Page 2)

Dunmore student featured in 50th anniversary Nutcracker productions

Ballet Theatre of Scranton, under the artistic direction of Joanne Arduino, will kick off the holiday season with its 50th anniversary annual performances of The Nutcracker at the Theater at North over Thanksgiving weekend on Friday Nov 28; Saturday Nov 29, and Sunday, Nov 30, at noon and 5:30 p.m. each day.

This traditional gift to the community has offered free public performances since 1976. Free tickets can be picked up at the box office at the Theater at North on the day of the specific performance, two hours prior to curtain.

A sensory friendly performance is offered to an invited audience as well as the traditional educational performances for area school children.

A Jubilee Performance will be held on Saturday, November 29, at The Theatre at North. Alumni are invited to arrive at 4 p.m. for check-in, with a commemorative photo on stage at 4:30 p.m., followed by the performance at 5:30 p.m.

This milestone performance will be a joyful reunion of past and present cast members, honoring the legacy of Ballet Theatre of Scranton and the generations of dancers who have brought The Nutcracker to life.

Over 100 local dancers from ages 9- adult will perform and will feature alumna Laura



Mya Harry, a senior at Dunmore High School, will dance of the role of the Snow Queen when Ballet Theatre of Scranton, under the artistic direction of Joanne Arduino, kicks off the holiday season with its 50th anniversary performances of The Nutcracker at the Theater at North over Thanksgiving weekend on Friday November 28; Saturday November 29, and Sunday, November 30, at noon and 5:30 p.m. each day. She is shown here with Brennan Connor as the Snow King.

Durkin as the Sugarplum Fairy and professional guest artists Sanford Placide (previously of Dance Theater of Harlem, NYC), and Philadelphia Ballet principal dancers Arian Molina

Soca and Dayesi Torriente. All performances are free and open to the public.



Scoutmasters Dominic Pace and Mary Ann Hoban pose with new Eagle Scout Asher Jones at the ceremony.

Dunmorean

(Continued from Page 1)

a church, including full interior renovations. "It was a very fulfilling project," he said. "It was very challenging, but a success. I was able to help the younger scouts advance in rank by giving them direction throughout the project."

"It taught me how to organize, communicate and be a better leader. There was a lot of organization and planning involved. I was able to incorporate a lot of my trade knowledge."

Asher was a member of the National Honor Society at Dunmore. He played freshman football at Dunmore and was part of the career technology center program where he learned job skills and attained a 99 academic average in his building mechanics trades shop class.

"I was able to develop a nice group of friends at Dunmore. I loved my shop classes at the technology center."

The distinguished Eagle Scout said he learned a lot from his parents. "They tell me to never



Eagle Scout Asher Jones is pictured with his mother, Rebecca Jones, and father Jerry Jones at the ceremony.

quit. Finish what you start. Build on your commitment and motivation. Push yourself and don't take the easy way out."

Multi-talented, Asher currently works in a co-op program for C. Scartelli General Contracting and Management of Jefferson Township. He recently joined the local 445 Carpenter's Union.

"I would like to become an

engineer in the future," Asher said. "I'm not sure which path I will choose, but maybe civil engineering."

Asher said he thoroughly enjoys scouting. "I love being a part of it," he said. "It teaches you to be kind, to work with people, and to be a good leader."

(More Photos on Page 17)

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Two Holy Cross HS teachers receive Saint John Paul II award

With deep gratitude for their decades of faithful service, three long-time educators in the Diocese of Scranton Catholic School System were recognized recently with the Saint John Paul II Award during the Diocesan Teachers' Institute Mass.

This year's recipients are Colleen Gatrone and Kimberly Kanuik of Holy Cross High School in Dunmore, and Barbara Greenway of Saint John Neumann Elementary School in Williamsport.

The Saint John Paul II Award is given annually to educators who have dedicated 25 years of service to Catholic education in the Diocese of Scranton. The award honors the legacy of Saint John Paul II, who inspired generations with his unwavering faith, commitment to young people, and deep love for the Church.

For Gatrone, the award is a milestone in a vocation that has spanned far more than the 25 years she has been in the Diocese of Scranton. In total, she has spent a total of 40 years in Catholic education.

"I appreciate the Diocese, I appreciate the students with whom I've worked. I've taught at a number of schools in our

Diocese, and I really do appreciate the support that we get," Gatrone said.

Prior to her current position at Holy Cross High School, Gatrone also served at Bishop O'Reilly, Bishop Hoban, and Holy Redeemer. She says the secret to her longevity is simple. "It's the students, it's the parents, it's the families, and it's the atmosphere," she said.

"I absolutely love coming in every single day. They make me feel young and it is the important part of my day – coming in and seeing their faces. It is all the motivation I need for the day."

For Kanuik, who also teaches at Holy Cross, the award is a humbling reminder of how far her journey has come since first being hired at Bishop Hannan High School.

"It means a lot. As a child, I always knew I wanted to be a teacher," Kanuik said. "Being at Holy Cross – I know I'm blessed. My students have been fantastic."

Kanuik teaches freshman history, AP History, and AP Government, a schedule she has held for the past decade.

She proudly pointed out that one of her former students, Father Tom Dzwonczyk, read the Gospel at the Diocesan Teach-



Three Catholic school educators recently received the Saint John Paul II Award for 25 years of dedicated service during the Diocesan Teachers' Institute Mass at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre. Present for the award presentation were, from left: Kristen Donohue, Diocesan Secretary for Catholic Education/Superintendent of Catholic Schools; Christopher Tighe, Assistant Superintendent; Kimberly Kanuik, Holy Cross High School; Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton; Barbara Greenway, Saint John Neumann Elementary School; Colleen Gatrone, Holy Cross High School; and Charlene Haggerty, Assistant Superintendent.

ers' Institute Mass.

Reflecting on her decision to stay in Catholic schools, Kanuik said, "I have many friends who teach in public schools and their experiences aren't the same. They're counting the days to retirement, whereas I'm blessed

to go to work every day."

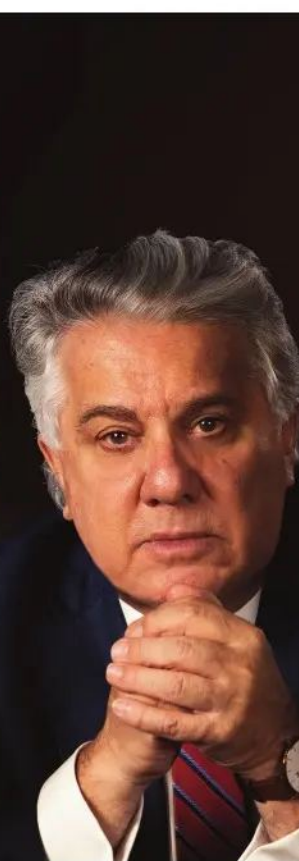
Greenway's journey into Catholic education was born out of personal conversion. "Saint John Paul II is the reason why I'm Catholic," she explained.

Greenway, who has worked primarily with elementary stu-

dents and taught art, is currently serving in Saint John Neumann's Champions After-Care Program. She said she is inspired daily by all her colleagues. "I respect all of them," she said. "I may get this honor, but it is for everybody."



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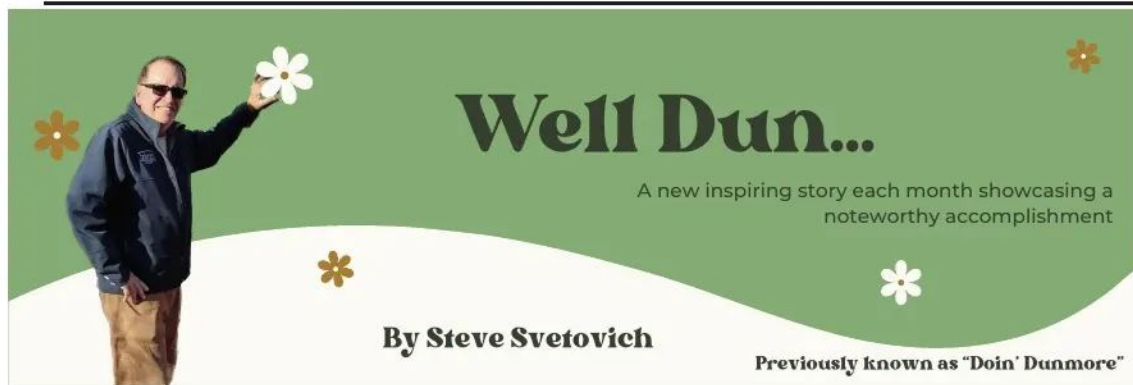
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Ten standouts inducted into NEPA Sports Hall of Fame

Late Scranton Tech baseball standout Paul Marchwat and former Scranton Prep baseball great Stephen Arcure were among 10 inducted into the Northeast Chapter of the PA Sports Hall of Fame on Sunday, October 5, at Fiorelli's Banquet Center, Peckville.

The event marked the NE Chapter of the PA Sports Hall of Fame's 41st annual induction ceremony. Dunmore's Bob Walsh is chapter president. Mid Valley baseball product Jerry Valonis is vice president. Judy Igoe Carr is chapter secretary. She provided the remarks. Dunmore coaching legend Tom "Doc" Dougherty is chapter treasurer.

Other members of the executive committee include Jerry Dempsey, Terry Greene, John Davies, Dunmore's Rich Revta and this scribe.

Local broadcasting legend Phil

Schoener served as toastmaster for the annual ceremony. The Marine Corps provided Presentation of the Colors.

The late Marchwat was represented by his sister, Carol. Green Ridge baseball legend Buddy James came up from Arizona to speak for his late baseball colleague.

Marchwat was a catcher and team baseball captain for Scranton Tech in 1976-77. He was the Southern Division Lackawanna Baseball League all-star catcher in 1977.

At Keystone College, he was catcher and Tri-Captain in 1978-79 and NJCAA District 19 All Regional all-star in 1979. At Quinipiac College, he was co-captain in 1980-81 and New Haven Regional all-star in 1981. He was Greater New Haven Diamond Club College all-star in 1981.

He was a two-year starting catcher for the Scranton Red Sox of the

ACBL where he was the league's home run champ with 10 in 1979 and championship team catcher in 1980. He was Lackawanna County Athlete of the Year in 1979 and played in the ACBL all-star game at Fenway Park that same year.

Arcure was a southpaw pitcher-outfielder at Scranton Prep where he was twice Lackawanna League MVP, four times a Lackawanna League all-star and twice an All Regional selection with a .423 career batting average. He holds school records in career strikeouts with 265, season strikeouts with 129 and season wins with eight.

He holds school records in career wins with 20, career hits with 80 and career RBIs with 58.

He led Prep to a Lackawanna League title in 2006 and threw a no-hitter with 16 strikeouts against Lake Lehman in the district playoffs.

He was a four-year starter at the College of William and Mary where he hit .283. An all-star selection, he set the school's fielding percentage record at .999 with only one error in four seasons. He played in the New England Summer Collegiate

League where he was an all-star and holds the season record with a 100 percent fielding percentage.

The other eight inductees were Tony Blaisure, Mark Bucklaw, Trina Carito Collins, Mark Lesko, Nick Parlanti, J.C. Show, Stanley (Mike) Nycz, Jr. for the Service Award and Steve Lloyd for the Media Award.

Blaisure was recipient of the Michael "Red" Wallace basketball award in 1979 at Elk Lake. At Lackawanna College, he was the basketball team MVP in 1982. He was a football PIAA official for 29 years, a basketball PIAA official for 38 years and officiated the 2015 State Basketball Championship game. He is also a women's college basketball official for 25 years.

As Elk Lake girls' basketball coach he had 199 wins, two league titles and six district championships. As Elk Lake girls' softball coach, he has 627 wins, 17 league titles and 15 district championships.

Bucklaw was a cross country and track and field standout at Lakeland. For cross country, he was a first place finisher in numerous 5K runs and member of three PIAA District 2 title teams.

He was named Scranton Times Cross Country Runner of the Year in 2006 and was All Regional four times. He was selected All Regional twice for track and field winning numerous gold medals. He was also a standout in cross country and track and field at Duquesne University.

Carito Collins was a six-time district track and field champion at Lakeland. She was a PIAA state

champion in the high jump. She was a three-time Lackawanna League all-star and twice All Regional.

At East Stroudsburg University, she was a three-time NCAA National Championship qualifier. She is the Women's track and field All-Time Conference Championship point scorer and ranks in the top five all-time at ESU in four indoor track events and in six outdoor events.

Lesko was a Lackawanna Southern Division second team basketball all-star at West Scranton. He received the Schimelfenig Award as Most Outstanding Player at Muhlenberg College when he averaged 15.4 points per game.

A four-year letter winner at Muhlenberg, he averaged 19.3 points, 9.8 rebounds, 4.3 assists and a 61.8 field goal percentage for his career.

He was first-team All Centennial Conference for three years and Centennial Conference Player of the Year in 2002. He was ECAC Southern Men's Basketball Player of the Year in 2002. He is the only Muhlenberg basketball player to average 20 points a game in a season since 1971 and is in the Muhlenberg Athletic Hall of Fame.

Parlanti was a three letter winner as a linebacker-fullback for the Mid Valley football team. He was All Regional at fullback in 1997 and the last back to back 1,000 yard rusher in Suburban Conference history. He was a Fiore Cesare finalist.

He played four years at Mans-
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THE DUNMOREAN

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Recent inductees into the NEPA Sports Hall of Fame include, seated from left: M. Stephen Arcure, Mark Bucklaw, Carole Cader (on behalf of the late Paul Marchwat), Trina Carito Collins, and Steve Lloyd. Standing, from left: Robert Walsh, President; Tony Blaisure, J.C. Show, Nick Parlanti, Mark Lesko, Mike Nycz, and Jerry Valonis, Vice President. ---Photo by Trista Carpenter Photography

"The basis of our governments being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right, and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

- Thomas Jefferson, 1787

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Stella-Corbin Family McDonald's supports Allied mission

Allied Services has announced the continued partnership and generous support of the Stella-Corbin Family McDonald's restaurants, by contributing \$15,000 to support Allied Services' mission of providing life-changing rehabilitation and support for individuals at every stage of life across Northeastern and Central Pennsylvania.

This year's \$15,000 donation from the Stella-Corbin Family McDonald's represents their ongoing commitment as a major sponsor of Team Allied Services and its mission. "Community partnerships like this make all the difference," said Jim Brogna, Vice

President of Strategic Partnerships at Allied Services.

"The generosity and commitment of the Stella-Corbin McDonald's team and their customers help us continue our mission to restore function, foster independence, and bring hope to individuals and families facing the challenges of illness, disability, and recovery."

Rich Corbin, co-owner of the Stella-Corbin McDonald's, recently met with Brogna and Team Allied Services runner Lindsey Bullaro to present the \$15,000 check. "We're honored to support the incredible work

Allied Services does for this community," said Corbin.

"From children receiving therapy to veterans and seniors regaining independence, their care touches lives in ways that truly matter."

Funds raised through this initiative directly benefit Allied Services' specialized programs, ensuring individuals of all ages and abilities continue to receive the compassionate, expert care they deserve.



Allied Services is proud to announce the continued partnership and generous support of the Stella-Corbin Family McDonald's restaurants, contributing \$15,000 to support Allied Services' mission of providing life-changing rehabilitation and support for individuals at every stage of life across Northeastern and Central Pennsylvania. Shown at the check presentation are, from left: Lindsey Bullaro, marathon runner, Team Allied Services; Rich Corbin, co-owner, Stella Corbin McDonalds; Marissa Jounghblood, store manager, Dunmore McDonalds, and Jim Brogna, Vice President, Allied Services.



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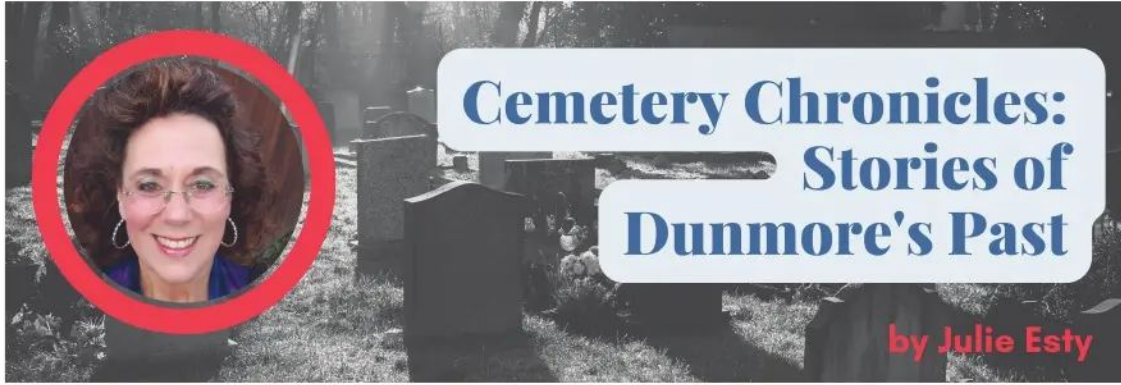


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Tragic explosion caused tragedy 85 years ago

"We never know we go, - when we are going. We jest and shut the door. Fate following behind us bolts it, and we accost no more." (Emily Dickinson)

At almost 8:30 p.m. on November 7, 1940, Scranton's Hill Section was rocked by an explosion which occurred in the 900 block of North Webster Avenue.

The force of the blast was so powerful it was heard and felt by Dr. Earl Rebhorn who was Assistant Chief Surgeon at Moses Taylor Hospital.

Rebhorn was attending a meeting at that hospital and thought the blast could have come from the Moosic powder works.

Unfortunately, Dr. Rebhorn later learned that an explosion from a car bomb had claimed

the lives of two of his children.

On the evening of the explosion, Lois Rebhorn, aged 17, her brother William, aged 19, and the family dog left their home at 920 North Webster Avenue.

The teenagers planned to drive to a local store near Petersburg corners to purchase a greeting card. Lois put the dog in the back seat of the car. Possibly, an explosive device connected to the handle of the driver's door of the

Rebhorn automobile was wired and detonated when the handle was pulled to enter the car. This set off a horrific explosion.

William, a student at the University of Scranton, died instantly. Lois, a senior at Scranton Central High School, survived a few minutes.

Both teens died from fatal, catastrophic injuries to their bodies. Amazingly, the Rebhorn's dog survived the blast.

Since it was unlikely that the bomb was meant for the Rebhorn children, theories suggested that Dr. Rebhorn was the intended target. Rebhorn was Public Health Director for the city of Scranton and had attempted to establish regular examinations of the city prostitutes for sexually transmitted diseases. This could have cut into the business operations of organized crime, causing them to seek revenge. A disgruntled patient of the physician who was seeking retaliation for what they deemed poor care was also proposed.

Other bombings had taken place throughout the Hill Section within the prior decade.

Perhaps the Rebhorn vehicle was the incorrect target.

Sizeable rewards were offered for information leading to the arrest of the person or persons who murdered the teens. At least one confession was made following the killings, but guilt was never established.

This year will mark the 85th anniversary of the bombing on North Webster Avenue and the death of the Rebhorn children. As of this writing, the murders remain unsolved.

Interestingly, *The Scranton Times* reported in the November 8, 1940 edition of the newspaper that at the time of his death William was carrying a volume of poetry as a portion of a book was found in tatters nearby. The reported page found contained the lines from the Emily Dickinson poem *We Never Know When We Go When We are Going*. This poem was followed in the volume by Dickinson's *Eternity*.

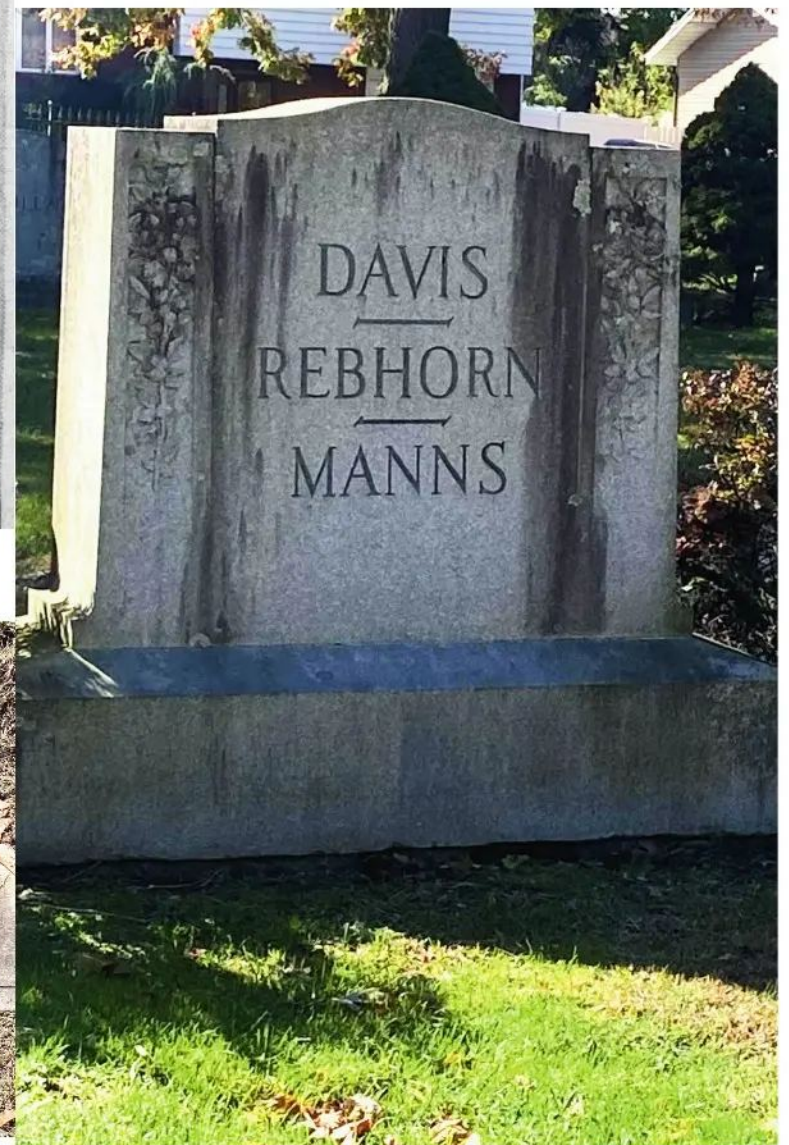
Following a double funeral service, the Rebhorn children were buried in Section 24 of the Dunmore Cemetery.



Lois and William Rebhorn as their photos appeared in the Scranton Times, November 8 edition of the newspaper on Page 1.



Siblings Lois and William Rebhorn were buried side by side in Section 24 of the Dunmore Cemetery.



The Rebhorn family plot and marker are pictured at Dunmore Cemetery.

Dearly Departed Players cemetery tour successful



The Dearly Departed Players recently held its annual Dunmore Cemetery Tour. Shown in the front row, from left: Laura Doyle, Jon Snow, Chrissy Grunza, Carissima Hodovanec, Julie Esty, Roger Mattes, S. Robert Powell, Joseph Ziemba, Robert Dommes, and Nelson Wood. Top row, same order: Charlie Siebert, Christine McGeachie, Luz Cabrales, Dave Byers, and Meggie Roche.

The Dearly Departed Players returned to the Dunmore Cemetery for their annual Dunmore Cemetery Tour on October 5 and 12. Both tours were well attended, with audience numbers reaching almost seven hundred.

This year, the Players were joined by five local Masonic Lodges. Members from the lodges portrayed cemetery denizens that were significant to local Masonic History.

Scranton Rocks joined the tour by blanketing the cemetery with their beautiful artwork. Their rocks were hidden, and cemetery visitors who found the tiny works of art were allowed to keep or re-hide the rocks in the cemetery or somewhere in their travels.

Mausoleums were decorated in a harvest theme by the Lackawanna Historical Society, Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority, Scranton Films, Carlucci-Golden-DeSantis Funeral Home, Dunmore Senior Center, the Masonic fraternity, Katherine William Mullin, Kim Rosar Bochicchio and tour director, Julie Esty.

A "wind phone" was also left on the cemetery Receiving Vault by the Dearly Departed Players. The concept of the phone is to help those who are grieving the loss of loved ones. In the two weeks the phone was in the cemetery it was used by numerous people and registered as a temporary Wind Phone with an international Wind Phone directory.

Tour Director Julie Esty said the 12 vignettes depicted on the tour addressed a wide range of subjects and a 100-year time span through the lives of those at rest in the cemetery.

One tour high point was the singing of the Dunmore High School Alma Mater by a music teacher from the past, Harriet Marriott Robertson portrayed by Chrissy Grunza. Former students of Dunmore High School joined in, and it was noted that it brought a tear to the eyes of a few in attendance.

The Players are very pleased to have completed another successful tour season. Director Esty reports they will be in the cemetery the first two Sundays of October 2026 with an all-new tour.

For more information about tours in the cemetery contact Julie Esty at 570-344-3819 or follow the Dearly Departed Players at the Dunmore Cemetery Tour on Facebook.

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If you've followed local headlines lately, you've probably heard talk about "data centers" being proposed across Northeastern Pennsylvania. Some are excited, others cautious — and many are simply wondering what a data center actually is and why companies want to build them here.

Let's start with the basics.

What Exactly Is a Data Center?

A data center is essentially the physical home of the internet. It's where the digital world lives — vast, climate-controlled buildings filled with rows of servers and networking equipment that store, process, and transmit the information we use every day.

Every photo you upload to the cloud, every email sent, every movie streamed, every AI tool that answers a question or generates an image — all of it passes through one or more data centers somewhere in the world.

Readers of *Hart of the Issue* may recall that I've written before about artificial intelligence and

how rapidly it's becoming part of our daily lives. The growth of AI has only accelerated the need for computing power, which in turn has made data centers more essential than ever. That's a big reason why this conversation seems to have appeared "overnight" in our region — the demand is real, and companies are moving quickly to meet it.

Why Are Companies Looking at Northeastern Pennsylvania?

Our region has caught the attention of large companies for several reasons:

1. **Location:** NEPA sits between major metro areas like New York City, Philadelphia, and the data hub of Northern Virginia — an ideal midpoint for storing and transferring data efficiently.
2. **Available Land:** Compared to coastal markets, our area has more open, affordable land suitable for large facilities.
3. **Infrastructure:** Access to existing power grids, substations, and water supplies supports energy-intensive operations.

4. **Climate:** Cooler average temperatures help reduce cooling costs for servers.

5. **Economic Incentives:** Local and state programs sometimes offer grants or tax advantages for technology development.

Of course, these same benefits also spark important discussions about sustainability, community character, and resource management.

The Legal Framework — Simplified

From a legal perspective, data centers are treated much like other large commercial or industrial developments. They must comply with local zoning, land development, and state environmental rules.

In Pennsylvania, these decisions happen at the municipal level, meaning each township, borough, or city determines if and where a data center may be built. Typical steps include:

Zoning approval — verifying that the proposed site allows such use.
Land development approval

— engineering plans, stormwater management, and traffic studies.
State permits — through the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for stormwater, erosion control, and emissions from backup generators.

While the county's planning commission often reviews plans, it's the local governing body that makes the final call. Public hearings are part of the process, giving residents an opportunity to weigh in before approval.

How Might Data Centers Impact the Outdoors?

I'd be remiss not to address this question, given how deeply Hart Law is interconnected with the outdoors as part of our mission and community identity.

On one hand, data centers are enclosed, low-traffic facilities — they don't typically bring heavy truck activity or daily visitors. But they do require large amounts of electricity and water to operate and keep equipment cool. When several centers operate in close proximity, that demand can affect local utilities and natural resources.

There's also the matter of land use. Building on previously undeveloped property can affect drainage patterns, ecosystems, and green space visibility — especially in rural areas where residents value the region's natural beauty.

However, modern design approaches can help minimize these effects. Some companies are adopting renewable energy, recycling wastewater for cooling, and green building standards to offset their footprint.

As someone who values both responsible development and environmental preservation, I believe NEPA's future depends on finding balance — encouraging innovation while protecting the outdoor spaces that define our home.

Potential Benefits

1. **Economic Growth:** Construction jobs, local tax revenue, and potential for support industries (maintenance, security, utilities).
2. **Infrastructure Investment:** Utility upgrades and broadband expansion that can benefit surrounding communities.
3. **Modernization:** Positions NEPA as part of a growing national tech corridor, attracting other technology investments.

Potential Concerns

1. **Energy and Water Use:** Large, continuous demand on local utilities.
2. **Environmental Footprint:** Noise, heat, and stormwater im-

pacts if not carefully managed.
3. Land Use Conflicts: Potential conversion of green space or farmland into industrial zones. None of these are unique to our area, but they underscore why public participation and transparent planning are so important.

Where to Learn More

If you'd like to explore this topic from a fact-based, neutral perspective, these are excellent starting points:

U.S. Department of Energy — Data Centers & Energy Efficiency — explains how data centers operate and their energy impact.

— Data Center Trends Reports — industry data on growth, sustainability, and design.

EPA ENERGY STAR for Data Centers — information on efficiency and environmental best practices.

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) — permits, stormwater management, and environmental review processes.

Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (Act 247) — outlines how zoning and land development decisions are made.

These resources provide reliable, nonpartisan background for residents who want to understand the broader context before forming opinions.

Why It Matters

Before taking a stance on this issue, I encourage everyone to **educate themselves** on the facts. Don't rely solely on headlines, social media posts, or someone else's opinion. Explore the verified sources listed above, understand how these projects work, and learn what oversight already exists.

And while you're at it, take a little time to get outside. Visit the areas being discussed for potential development. Walk the trails, drive the roads, and take in the views that make our region unique.

Then — with that first-hand perspective and a bit of research — arrive at **your own informed decision** about what's best for our community.

Because whether the topic is growth, preservation, or progress, the best answers always start with an informed and engaged public.

At HART LAW, we believe in informed community conversations — ones that respect progress while protecting the natural and cultural fabric of our region.

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DEC hosts Literacy Under the Lights at stadium



The Dunmore Elementary Center held Literacy Under the Lights on October 14 as students and their families gathered on the high school football field and took part in literacy activities such as creating a bookmark, listening to read alouds, a book swap, and reading with Archie the therapy dog. This event was held to foster a love of learning throughout the school community.



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Learn the art of the perfect bird: Roasted, smoked, fried, spatchcocked

Thanksgiving dinner—whether it's served at 2 p.m. sharp, 6 p.m. after the game, or when Uncle Joe finally shows up—is more than a meal. It's a performance. The turkey is the main act, the supporting cast is plentiful, and the audience expects a standing ovation. So, let's talk turkey—literally—and the techniques that separate a good bird from a great one.

The Main Event: Cooking the Turkey Three Ways

1. Traditional Oven-Roasted Turkey

The classic. The one you can smell from the driveway. Roasting is simple, but perfecting it is an art. The most common mistake? Basting with chicken broth. While it sounds logical (and every can of broth in America gets dusted off this time of year), it actually creates steam inside your oven, which leads to rubbery meat and

limp skin.

Instead, baste with **turkey drippings only**. Those golden juices are mostly fat—the same reason butter gives bread that irresistible sheen. Fat equals flavor and that coveted, deep golden brown skin. Every 30 minutes or so, use a ladle or baster to drizzle those drippings right back over the bird.

Want to impress your guests further? For a twist, roast just the **breast** and wrap it in a **bacon basket weave**. It looks stunning, bastes itself as it cooks, and you'll never hear anyone complain about “dry white meat” again.

2. The Smoked Turkey

Smoking transforms turkey from a holiday bird into something primal—deep, rich, and layered with woodsy notes. Hickory, apple, or pecan wood works beautifully. Keep the smoker temperature low and slow (225–250°F) and

maintain steady smoke throughout the cook.

This method gives you an irresistible mahogany skin and meat that melts off the bone. Bonus: it frees up your oven for all those sides jockeying for rack space.

And if you're feeling creative, try smoking just the breast or even going full **turducken**—a chicken inside a duck inside a turkey—for the ultimate showstopper that makes even seasoned cooks raise an eyebrow.

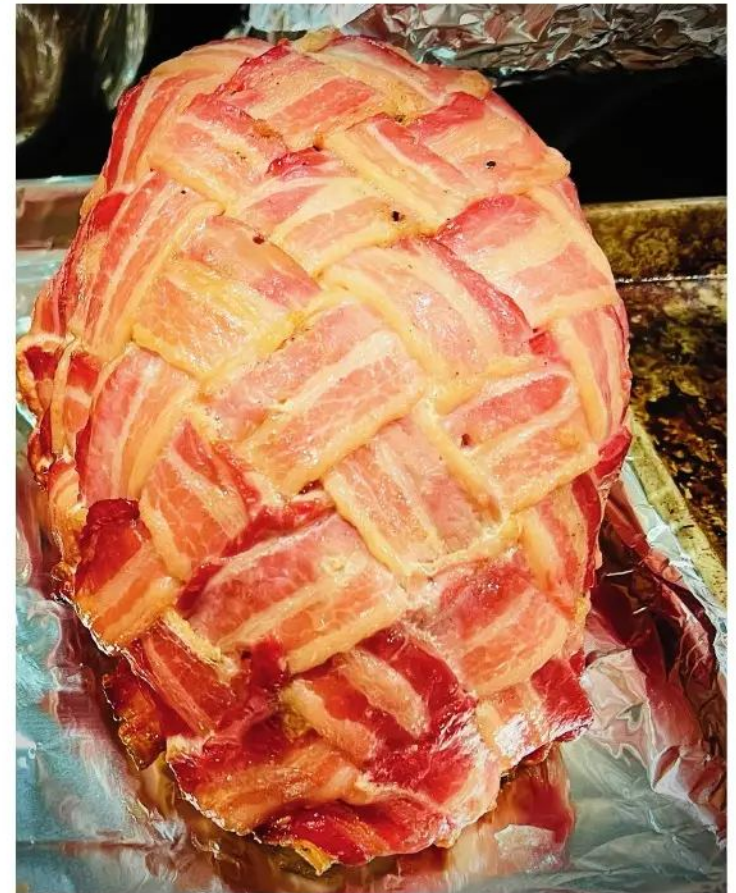
3. The Deep-Fried Turkey: Dangerously Delicious

Ah yes, the legend itself. A crisp-skinned, juicy miracle that cooks a 12-pound bird in under an hour. But it demands respect—this isn't your weeknight stir-fry.

Rule number one:

Never fry a frozen bird.

Oil and ice are natural enemies,



Impress your Thanksgiving guests with a twist—roast just the turkey breast and wrap it in a bacon basket weave!

and when they meet, the reaction is explosive. Make sure your turkey is completely thawed and dry.

Rule number two:

Do it outside in a cleared area.

Grab the rake or the leaf blower—seriously—and make sure **not a single leaf** is nearby. Set up far from your house, garage, or deck. The driveway works great (just beware of oil stains if you're particular about appearances).

Deep-frying doesn't technically “fry” the turkey in the way you might imagine. The hot oil instantly vaporizes moisture on the surface, creating a **vapor barrier** that steams the inside while sealing in juices. The result? A crisp crust and succulent meat.

For the engineers out there, check out **Alton Brown's “Turkey Der-rick”**—a pulley-and-tripod system for safely lowering your bird into the oil. It's pure genius and a fun project to build before the big day.

Pro Tip:

The Spatchcock Shortcut

Did your cook time calculations get messed up and now it's 10 a.m. with dinner planned for 2? Don't panic—just **spatchcock** your turkey.

Spatchcocking (or butterflying)

is the best kept secret of Thanksgiving efficiency. All you need is a **good, strong pair of kitchen shears**. Place the turkey breast side down, then cut along both sides of the backbone to remove it completely. Flip the bird over and press down firmly on the breastbone to flatten it. That's it—you've just turned your full-sized bird into a quick-roasting powerhouse. (See photo on Page 11)

By flattening the turkey, you increase its surface area and allow the dark and white meat to cook more evenly. Air circulates better, and heat penetrates faster, cutting total cook time by nearly **30–40%**.

A 14-pound turkey that might take 3½ to 4 hours can be perfectly roasted in about **2 to 2½ hours**.

Plus, you'll get beautifully even browning and crisp skin across the entire bird—no flipping, no guessing, no “why is the breast dry but the legs raw?”

A Toast to the Season:

The Autumn Orchard Cocktail

After the bird comes out and everyone's milling around the kitchen, you'll want something festive in hand.

(Please Turn to Page 11)

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DUNMORE DINING: A TASTE OF HOME

Sponsored by: *Schiel's Family Markets*

Your Source for Bucktown Cuisine

(Continued from Page 4)

Try this **Autumn Orchard Cocktail**, a drink that tastes like a walk through falling leaves.

Ingredients:

2 oz. bourbon
1 oz. apple cider
½ oz. maple syrup
½ oz. lemon juice
Dash of cinnamon or a cinnamon stick garnish

Shake over ice, strain into a rocks glass, and garnish with a thin apple slice. Smooth, warm, and autumn in a glass.

Wine Pairing:

The One Exception

I'll admit it—I'm not usually a fan of white wines, and I generally prefer reds. I also tend to favor wines from California or abroad over those from the Finger Lakes.

But there's one exception: **Hermann J. Wiemer Vineyard's Gewürztraminer**. And no, unfortunately they didn't pay me to say that. Alas, they don't know me. I wish they did, and I wouldn't mind making some side cash from pushing their product!

It's bright, floral, and just slightly spicy—perfectly balancing the richness of turkey and gravy. It's the only white wine I keep on standby for Thanksgiving dinner. Try a bottle, and you may understand why even a red wine loyalist like me makes an exception.

"Dinner" or "Linner"?

We call it Thanksgiving *dinner*, but does anyone actually eat at dinnertime anymore? In my family, we gather around 2 or 3 p.m.—somewhere between lunch and dinner—leaving enough time for a second round of stuffing later that night.

How about you? Do you sit down at noon sharp or wait until the sun sets? Tell us in the comments when your family breaks bread for Thanksgiving.

In the spirit of the season, may your turkey be juicy, your pie crust flaky, and your wine glass never empty.

This is Bernie G from *Classic Cuisine by Modern Means*, wishing you all a happy Thanksgiving—and remember, great cooking starts with curiosity, not perfection.



Spatchcocking (or butterflying) is the best kept secret of Thanksgiving efficiency. All you need is a good, strong pair of kitchen shears.—See instructions on Page 10



The Greater Scranton YMCA has received a grant award of \$2,000 from the BK5K Youth Fund of the Winona Community Foundation. Funds will support the continued development of youth programs at our Y. Shown from left are Marcelo DeSousa, Regional Operations Manager, Fastenal; Rich Surridge, President & CEO, Greater Scranton YMCA; Meghan Carnevale, Mission Advancement & Marketing Director, Greater Scranton YMCA, and Whitney McDonald, SHUB Help Desk Manager, Fastenal

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HOSPICE OF THE
SACRED HEART



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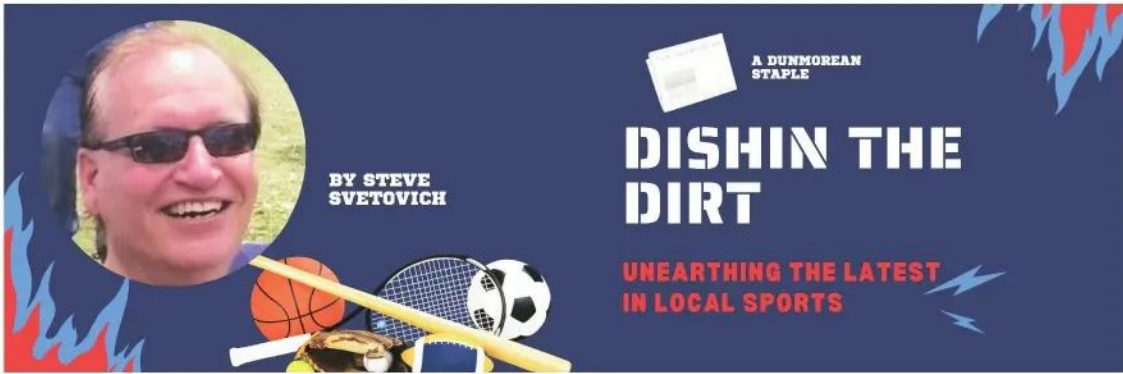
*Courageous
Conversation*

Third graders participate in countywide project



Mrs. Laura Panusky's third grade students participated in the countywide project "Shelter for All". The Shelter for All project was organized by the ARTS Engage! Task Force to promote the arts, environmental stewardship, and have participants reflect on what home means to them. Students painted birdhouses that were part of the Shelter for All exhibit at the Everhart Museum. Meghan Gabello, Program Manager for Lackawanna County Arts and Culture, and Skylar Conway, project facilitator,





Naismith Hall of Fame former basketball coach **George Raveling**, who died at 88 recently due to cancer, attended St. Michael's School for Boys, a Catholic boarding school in Hoban Heights, PA, during his high school years...Raveling attended the school after difficult period in childhood that included the death of his father and his mother's institutionalization...

Raveling coached basketball at Washington State, Iowa and Southern California Universities leading teams to multiple trips to NCAA tournaments despite initial losing seasons...He compiled 335-293 college coaching record from 1972 through 1994...He played role in Michael Jordan gaining landmark endorsement deal with Nike...

Raveling once owned original copy of late **Martin Luther King's** legendary "I Have a Dream" speech...King handed him the speech after the event, while Raveling was working security at the Washington D.C. event in 1963...Raveling later donated it to his alma mater, Villanova University, in 2021...

Kaden Locker was the only senior on Dunmore Bucks cross country team this season.. **Ben Boyanoski**, Dunmore, reached first place as individual District champion for Class 2A as member of Scranton Prep golf team at Fox Hill Country Club shooting 72... This qualified him to play in state championship at State College last month...

Congratulations to late **Paul Marchwat**, **M. Stephen Arcure**, **Tony Blaisure**, **Mark Bucklaw**, **Trina Carito Collins**, **Nick Parlanti**, **J.C. Show** and **Mark Lesko**, who were inducted last month into Northeastern Chapter of PA Sports Hall of Fame at Fiorelli's, Peckville...**Stanley "Mike" Nycz Jr.** received annual Service Award...**Steve Lloyd** of

WNEP-TV 16 received annual Media Award.

Local sportscaster **Phil Schoener** was toastmaster for annual ceremony...**Bob Walsh**, Dunmore, is president of NE Chapter of PA Sports Hall of Fame...Mid Valley baseball product **Jerry Valonis** is vice president...**Judy Igoe Carr** is secretary. Dunmore coaching legend **Tom "Doc" Dougherty** is treasurer. Dunmore's **Rich Revta**, **Jerry Dempsey**, **Terry Greene** and **John Davies** are among other committee members...

Scranton Prep doubles team of **Lily Lengyel** and **Emma Cuck** advanced in PIAA Class 2A girls tennis quarterfinals Friday, October 31, at Hershey Racquet Club... How about that 18-inning World Series baseball game between LA Dodgers and Toronto Blue Jays?... That's old school baseball at its best, a rarity these days...

Shelby Hartland netted clinching goal as No. 2 Holy Cross defeated No. 7 Forest City in penalty kicks, 1-0 (4-2), to advance to District 2 Class 1A girls soccer semifinals. **Alaina Scassellatti**, who had eight saves, **Natalya Musto** and **Liz Froncek** added penalty kicks for Lady Crusaders...

Dunmore's **Johnley Jean** scored winning goal in overtime in District 2 Class 2A soccer quarterfinals in No. 4 Bucks 2-1 win over No. 5 Western Wayne at Dunmore's Veterans Memorial Stadium...It was 10 years ago when 1-2 finish by **Lexi Walsh** and **Mackenzie Greenfield** helped give Holy Cross third straight Class A title at District 2 Cross Country championships...

Xavier Burke rushed for 69 yards and returned interception for touchdown, **Ryan Mecca** ran for 44 yards and touchdown and **Brandon Mecca** scored two touchdowns in Dunmore's 35-14 win over Western Wayne to finish regular season 7-3 and trip to

District 2 Class 2A playoffs as No. 3 seed against No. 2 Riverside...

Adam Badyrka had two goals to lead No. 3 Holy Cross to 2-1 win over Blue Ridge in District 2 Class 1A boys soccer quarterfinals at Dunmore's Schautz Stadium... At Scott Greens, **Grady Grill** shot a 36 to lead Holy Cross to Division II golf win over Scranton Prep...It was 30 years ago when Dunmore's **Brian Forgione** scored three touchdowns for fifth straight week as Bucks beat West Scranton, 22-15, in Big 11 football contest. Forgione rushed for 133 yards on 30 carries...Do you remember Blakely Bears football standout **Ricky Ruby**?...

Dunmore Bucks senior **Amanda Dempsey** looking forward to Lady Bucks basketball after outstanding volleyball season..She also plans on studying pre-med in college next year with aspirations to become a doctor...

World Series rookie pitching hero **Trey Yesavage** of Toronto Blue Jays is Pottstown native. Do you remember **Paul Patterson**?... Whatever became of Steve "Lefty" Carlton?...

Sports Update:

The Dunmore Bucks football team defeated Riverside 27-7 on Friday, October 31, at Riverside Veterans Memorial Stadium to advance to the District 2 Class AA championship game to be played on Friday, November 7, at No. 1 seed Lakeland.

Dunmore quarterback **Weston Yanonne** rushed for 92 yards and two touchdowns and threw for 81 more yards.

Dunmore tailback **Ryan Mecca** rushed for 95 yards and added another touchdown.



Dunmorean Sports editor Steve Svetovich is shown with Carole Marchwat Cader, who represented her late brother, Paul Marchwat, at his recent induction into the Northeast Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame. Svetovich and Marchwat were baseball teammates in the Green Ridge Teener League.

Well Dun...

(Continued from Page 4)

field University as a running back-linebacker. He had a long, successful semi pro football career playing for the Scranton Eagles, Wilkes Barre Vipers and NEPA Shock. He received the Ironman Award while playing for the Scranton Eagles. He is in the Minor League Football Hall of Fame and Great Eastern Football Association Hall of Fame.

Show is Abington Heights all-time leading basketball scorer with 1,950 points. He was named PA Gatorade Player of the Year and PA Mr. Basketball in 2014. He was Times-Tribune Player of the Year in 2014. He was the third leading scorer on Bucknell University's championship team in the Patriot League.

He was a three-year captain at Binghamton University where he was twice American East All-American. He played for several professional basketball teams following his college career.

The well-liked Nycz, from 1974 to the present, has been the Scranton Central/Scranton High basketball scorekeeper. From 1978 to 2020, he was the school's track scorekeeper.

He has been a football statistician for the school for the past 40 plus years. Highly industrious and prolific in his craft, Nycz has been a Scranton School District scorekeeper for the past 51 years.

Lloyd, the WNEP-TV sports director, oversees sports coverage in a 19-county area in Northeast and Central PA. He was formerly a photographer/reporter/producer at WNEP. He was also a news video coordinator and satellite truck operator at WNEP early in his career. He has a bachelor of science degree in Telecommunications from Kutztown University with a minor in Public Relations.

Lloyd has interviewed a long list of well known professional and local athletes throughout his lengthy broadcast sports reporting career and is well respected in the region.



Dunmore senior Amanda Dempsey gets 500 kills

By Steve Svetovich

Dunmore senior Amanda Dempsey is known for her basketball skills, but the cage standout also excels on the volleyball team.

Daughter of Jennifer and Jack Dempsey, Amanda is a four-year member and starting guard on the Dunmore Lady Bucks basketball team. She was a key member of the 2023 Lady Bucks State championship team.

An opposite hitter on the Dunmore Lady Bucks volleyball team, she recorded a major milestone last month with her 500th kill against Western Wayne.

Amanda is a four year member of the Dunmore volleyball team. Her older sister Allie, now a sophomore at Penn State, also played basketball and volleyball at Dunmore.

Basketball was always Amanda's number one sport, but with the encouragement of her sister Allie and classmates she joined the Dunmore volleyball team as a freshman and developed a love for the game.

Amanda not only learned the game, but she excels at it. She led Dunmore to the top of the league standings before a loss in the first round of district playoffs.

She joined former all-state standouts Izzy Cooper, Jillian Korgeski,

and Courtney Murray as Dunmore volleyball players with at least 500 career kills.

"My older sister Allie encouraged me to play," she said. "Once I started, I eventually loved it. I am very happy to stick with it."

"The coaches here are incredible. My sister was a huge help drilling the rules into my head."

As a freshman, Amanda recorded 82 kills, 74 service points, 23 aces and 14 digs. As a sophomore, she had 108 kills, 92 service points, 17 aces and 19 digs.

She really came on strong as a junior recording 218 kills, 123 service points, 46 aces and 102 digs. She was a first-team Lackawanna League all-star.

This season Amanda had nine kills in huge wins over both Western Wayne and Mountain View.

Multi-talented, she is a member of the TACT Club, French Club and AVDBIUM Club and the Quiz Bowl team at Dunmore. She made the All-Defensive team as a junior member of the Lady Bucks basketball team last season.

The senior scholar-athlete has a highly impressive 97 academic average at Dunmore. Her best subject is science.

Amanda enjoys listening to music in her spare time. She would like to see Rhianna in concert.

The talented and well-spoken

senior said she credits Dunmore volleyball coach Sue Dempsey and her staff and teammates for her volleyball success.

"I just am very thankful to Coach Dempsey and all of the coaching staff and my teammates for the continued support and for helping me to develop."

"Coach Dempsey teaches us about determination. She believes in us and says we can rise to the occasion."

Amanda also gave lots of credit to her parents. "They tell me to work hard. They taught me about respect and determination. They tell me to give my all, because you get back as much as you give. Be better for my team and teammates."

The hard-working, personable senior talked about what it takes to excel as an opposite hitter in volleyball.

"You need to work with your setters and get the chemistry to put the ball down," she said.

The Dunmore volleyball team finished with an 11-5 record. "We had a good year," Amanda said. "We played together as a team right to the end. It was tough to go out with a loss, but we have no regrets."

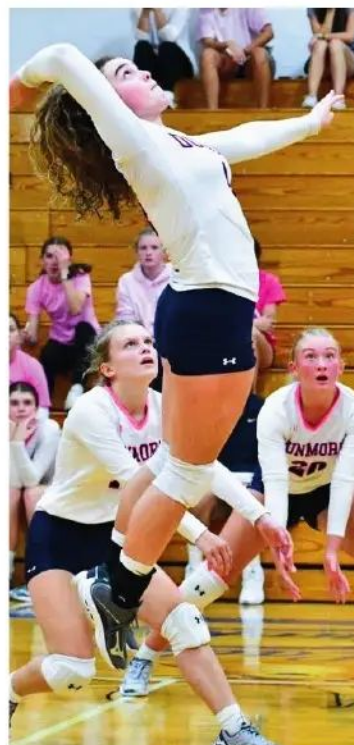
Amanda said she is not sure where she will attend college yet, but wants to major in biology pre-med with aspirations to go to medical school and become a doctor.

As a senior, Amanda looks back at her Dunmore High School years. "There is no better place to go to school and play sports," she said. "There is so much support in this community. I have made so many great friends at Dunmore."

"Dunmore is such a great place and community. I had great support from my sister. I'm very thankful to grow up here."

ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

AMANDA DEMPSEY



Dunmore senior Ryan Mecca explosive at tailback

By Steve Svetovich

Dunmore senior tailback Ryan Mecca set some lofty goals entering this football season.

"I want to be an all-state tailback," he said. "And I want our team to go as far as possible."

Son of Charles and Michelle Mecca, Ryan, 18, rushed for over 700 yards in the regular season. He scored 14 touchdowns and averaged a highly impressive 10.7 yards per carry.

Dunmore finished 7-3 during the regular season entering the district playoffs.

The senior stalwart rushed for 44 yards, including a three yard touchdown burst, in Dunmore's 35-14 win over Western Wayne in the final regular season contest Friday, October 24.

He scored three touchdowns on runs of six, 35 and 57 yards in Dunmore's 50-8 route over Honesdale Friday, October 17.

He rushed for 108 yards on five carries and caught one pass for 13 yards in the win over Honesdale.

A four-year member of Dunmore's football team, Ryan plays cornerback on defense. He is also a four-year member of Dunmore's track and field team where he is a sprinter.

The shifty tailback is a member of the French Club at Dunmore. He has a 3.2 grade point average. He has learned a lot from his parents. "My parents always teach me nothing is free. You need to work for what you want in life."

He said Dunmore veter-

an football coach Kevin McHale teaches him similar lessons. "He tells us we need to work hard to reach a goal. He teaches us life lessons."

Ryan said he is setting a goal this year to make it to states in the 100 meters for track and field.

He is unsure where he will attend college, but wants to continue his football and track and field careers at a division II or III college and study to become a physical therapist.

He attributes the Dunmore offensive line for his success as a tailback this season. "I give all the credit to the line," he said. "They have been grinding in the weight room since the beginning of the off season. Their work in the weight room is awesome."

"Ever since we lost in the district final last year, our team has been putting extra work in the weight room. We are a determined, hard-working group."

Humble and well-spoken, Ryan talked about what it takes to excel at the tailback position.

"You need speed, vision and a great line. I've also been very lucky to watch and learn from the great tailbacks who came before me here at Dunmore."

Ryan said he likes listening to music in his spare time and would like to see Travis Scott or Future, a rap artist, in concert. The polite, multi-talented scholar-athlete said he has enjoyed his experience at Dunmore.

"It's just an awesome atmosphere," he said. "The borough just comes together as one. It's such a special place. I couldn't imagine going anywhere else."

"I want to stay in Dunmore after I graduate from college, get married and have kids. I want my kids to experience what I did. I want to raise a family in Dunmore and watch my kids go through this too. That would really be special."



Keystone Chapter UNICO National holds coat drive

The October meeting of Keystone Chapter UNICO National featuring its annual Winter Coat Drive was conducted at Mendicino's Restaurant in Daleville. This Coat Drive is done to supplement the annual Winter Coat Give Away at Elm Park United Methodist Church, 712 Linden Street, Scranton.

Those in need can come on November 13 and 14 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and on November 15 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. and enter Elm Park on the Madison Avenue side to receive a new or gently used winter coat, other

winter clothing and accessories at no charge.

Visitors are asked how many members are in their family, so the number of winter coats taken does not exceed the number of family members. The winter clothing is collected throughout the year from yard sales and donations of both new and gently used clothing from other churches, generous groups like Keystone Chapter UNICO National, businesses like Colbert and Grebas, and with purchases made from sales of passes from Boscov's Friends Helping Friends.



Keystone UNICO Members are shown displaying winter coat donations at their Keystone UNICO October Meeting. Pictured from left are Michele McDade, Gloria Rizzo, Holly Cappellini, Michaelene Merrill, Frank Cicci, Cathy Gerard, Kevin Cicci, Elm Park United Methodist Church Winter Coat Drive cochairmen Karen and Joe Sadowski; Sylvia Tagert, Sandy Graziano, Sarah Bendowski, President Jim Mack, PA II District Governor Nanine Gramigna, Mark McDade, Tina Haas, Sandy and Bob Collins, and Louise Ligi.



At the Keystone UNICO October Meeting, an induction ceremony was conducted for two new members. Shown from left are co-sponsors Michaelene Merrill and Michele McDade and new member Stephanie Grudis-Wisner, and co-sponsors Phil and Mary Marrara, and new member John D'Elia; President Jim Mack, and inducing officer Mark McDade.



Some of the Keystone UNICO attendees at the October meeting are seen during President Jim Mack's presentation.

Keystone UNICO joins other groups at flag-raising



All attendees of the 14th Annual Italian Flag Raising in downtown Scranton at the Lackawanna County Courthouse joined in for a group shot at the Italian flag raising.



The presenters of the Italian organizations at the October Italian flag raising were, from left Mike Linko, President of Scranton UNICO; Dr. Stephanie Longo, local author and Italian historian; James Mack Jr., President of Keystone UNICO; Carlo Pisa, of Saint Rocco's Church, Bunker Hill; Alfredo Pisa, President of the San Cataldo Society; Gene Barrett, Member of the Victor Alfieri Society; Mark McDade, Keystone UNICO Charter President and flag raising coordinator; and James Colangelo, Past President of the Columbus Day Association of Lackawanna County.

Dunmorean of the Month

(Continued from Page 2)



Family members attending the Eagle Scout event included, front row, from left: grandmother Patricia Jones, grandmother, and great aunt Sandra Graziano. Back row, same order: Adeline Jones, sister, Asher Jones, and great aunt Nettie Muldoon.



Members of Dunmore's Keystone Chapter UNICO who attended the Italian flag-raising kneeling from left are: Michele McDade, Toni DiVizio, and Mary Ann Coviello. Standing from left: Louise Ligi, Mark McDade, Marie Merkel, Cathy Gerard, Terese Pellegrino, Nancy Malone Dot Mariani, Tina Haas, Mike Gramigna, Val Riggi, Nan Gramigna, Diane Beckage, Holly Cappellini, Bob Tagert, Eileen Kovatch, Frank Coviello, President James Mack Jr., Sylvia Tagert, Cesira Berardelli, Marge Ruggiero, and Cathy Bianchi.



Asher Jones, at left, is shown working on his Eagle Scout renovation project with Luke Kalinowski.



Library Book Sale

Scranton Public Library will host its December book sale at the Marketplace at Steamtown, 300 Lackawanna Ave, Scranton, on the second floor outside of the Crunch Fitness Center. The book sale will be held from Tuesday, December 2, to Saturday December 6,

The hours are Tuesday through Friday 10am to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. On Saturday, teachers and non-profits are not charged for books.

Actors Circle plays

Actors Circle will presents "Holiday One Acts" on November 20, 21, 22, and 23., on Thursday-Saturday at 7 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. at Providence Playhouse, 1256 Providence Road, Scranton.

Buy tickets online via www.actorscircle.com, or pay cash or check at the door. Tickets: \$15 general, \$12 senior, \$10 student. For reservations, call 570-342-9707.

Dunmore PTA Market

Celebrate the holidays season at the Dunmore PTA Holiday Shopping Vendor Market at the Dunmore Community Center on Sunday, November 16, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Explore a wide variety of local vendors offering unique gifts, handmade crafts, holiday décor, and more.

Enjoy a delicious bake sale featuring homemade treats and enter the exciting raffles for a chance to win great prizes.

The Market is a fun and family-friendly event.

Holy Cross Career Fair

Steve Svetovich, reporter, columnist, and sports editor for The Dunmorean, will participate in a Career Fair to be hosted by Holy Cross High School on November 14 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. featuring local professionals in various fields. Joseph DeGrazia, 9th and 10th grade counselor and career development coordinator at Holy Cross High, is organizer of the event.

Peppa Pig Concert

The North American tour of *Peppa Pig: My First Concert* comes to the Scranton Cultural Center on March 31 at 6 p.m. Tickets start at \$35.85 (includes fees) and are available for purchase at the Fidelity Bank Box Office at the SCC in person or by calling (570) 344-1111, or via Ticketmaster.

This fun and interactive classical music experience introduces children 18 months of age and older to the magic of a live orchestra concert. Families will see Peppa Pig, along with Mummy Pig, Daddy Pig, George and baby sister Evie, learn all about the different sounds that instruments make together.

The concert includes orchestral renditions of popular songs from the animated TV series, such as "The PEPPA PIG Theme" and "The Bing Bong Song," along with classical pieces like "In the Hall of the Mountain King," a selection from *The Nutcracker*, and other selections by composers such as Beethoven and Mozart.

Sandlot Hitting League

The Sandlot Winter Hitting League hosted by West Scranton head varsity coach Brian Minich will be held for four weeks beginning the week of December 1.

Pick two times a week for 8 sessions, including Mondays 6 or 7 p.m.; Thursdays 6 or 7 p.m., or Saturdays 9 or 10 a.m. Cost is \$125 for 8 hitting sessions. Groups of boys and girls ages 5-18 will be

kept small and include instruction and hitting games. Groups will be split by age.

Contact 570-445-1155 or CDD027@aol.com to register or with questions.

Social Justice Day

Marywood University will highlight the theme "Raise Your Voice, Shape Your Future" during events at this year's Advocacy and Social Justice Day, Wednesday, November 5, on Marywood's campus. Co-organizers of the event are Amy Fotta, director of community service and social justice, and Monica Law, Ph.D., director of the School of Business and Global Innovation.

There will be a Feed a Friend Food Drive challenge kick-off held on campus, as well as a social justice art display in the Kresge Gallery at the Insalaco Center for Studio Arts.

Throughout the day, the campus community can participate in social justice discussion circles and tours of the campus green house and flex farm hydroponics system. A clothing swap also will be held.

Kirby Center events

Comedian Jim Jefferies brings his Son of A Carpenter Tour to the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts in Wilkes-Barre, PA, on Saturday, May 30th, 2026. Jefferies has released a total of 10 stand-up specials since Contraband in 2008, including his

most recent 2025 special Two Limb Policy on Netflix.

Currently, he can be seen hosting FOX's reality show, *The Snake*, where contestants must use their training, charm, and powers of persuasion as they face fear-inducing challenges designed to showcase their true colors. He will also be starring in Jordan Peele's newest production, *Him*, alongside Tyriq Withers, Marlon Wayans, and Julia Fox which releases in September 2025.

Comedian Josh Johnson, stand-up comedian, Emmy-nominated writer, and on-screen personality for Comedy Central's "The Daily Show" he brings his FLOWERS TOUR to the F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts in Wilkes-Barre, PA, on Friday, January 9, 2026.

With over 7 million followers across his social media, Johnson is an Emmy-nominated writer, stand-up comedian, actor, and NAACP award-winner. He is also a former writer and performer on NBC's *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*, where he made his late-night debut in 2017.

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens will bring the classic tale of Christmas spirit on Monday, December 15. Tickets are \$25, \$35, and \$45 plus fees.

The 2025 tour is written and directed by award-winning theatre artist Scott H. Severance. as Uncle Scrooge.

(Please turn to Page 19)



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Note: Dunmore Activity Hub, or Dunmore Senior Center, has seen a resurgence in interest in its painting class. Each month, *The Dunmorean* will introduce you to these talented artists and their artwork.

Meet Lucy Farina:

November 2025 Artist of the Month

By Dolly Michalczyk

Lucy Farina, of Archbald, is a woman of many interests, who is “doing” retirement well! Retiring in 2019, she looked forward to the many things she always wanted to do but didn’t have time.

In the summer, she golfs at least twice a week and takes aerobics classes, plays piano, and started learning Italian. She considers the painting class “a bonus” with “a great group of people with varied interests and talents.”

Painting runs in Lucy’s artistic family. She always loved to draw as a child. Her dad was an oil painter for years and painted many nature scenes of his favorite places, especially Italian landscapes. He also painted portraits of family. He never finished one of her son, and Lucy aspires to someday completing it.

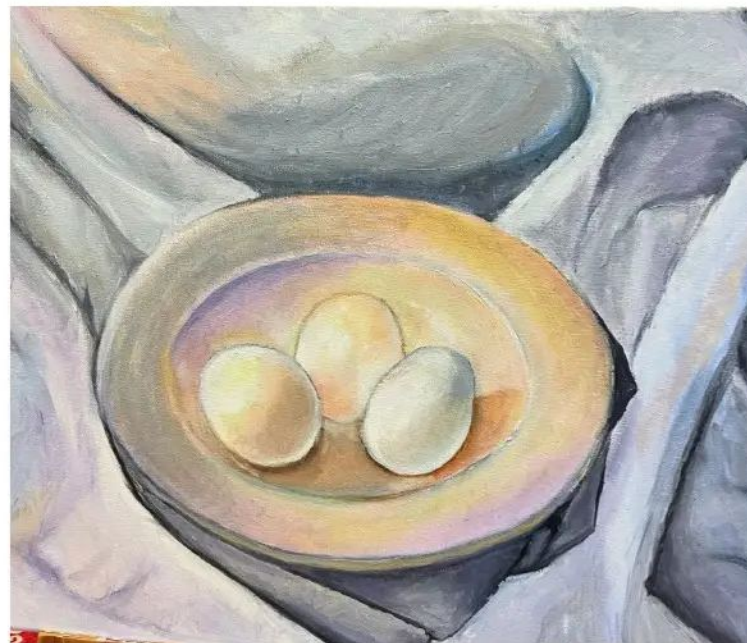
Her sister Joanne Jezerski has been painting for many years. When Joanne started going to the Dunmore class in February 2024, she suggested that her sister Cathy Siddons and Lucy join her, with cousin Mary Hubbard soon following.

Lucy loves observing others in the class, to watch as their paintings come to life, and getting much inspiration from them. She cites art teacher, Jill Swersie, for her assistance in choosing subjects to paint, her experience and expertise in shapes, colors, and themes. Jill’s patience and help, during her one-on-one sessions in class, are most valued.

The Dunmore Activity Hub has many diverse activities including her yoga and geri-fit classes, which improve strength, balance and flexibility. Lucy feels that it is important to get involved in different areas to expand interests and experiences, at any age.



Lucy Farina is shown with her favorite painting of her grandsons from a



Eggs in a Bowl - a study in shapes, colors, and shading.



Italy- a painting inspired by the breathtaking architecture seen on a trip.



Lucy’s daughter’s home is shown with a perfectly placed rainbow.

COMING EVENTS

(Continued from Page 18)

Phil Rosenthal show

Award-winning WNEP anchor and reporter Melissa Steinger will act as moderator for *An Evening With Phil Rosenthal* at the F.M. Kirby Center on Sunday, November 9, at 6 p.m.

Steinger will guide an in-depth and entertaining conversation with Phil Rosenthal, the creator and host of Netflix’s hit series *Somebody Feed Phil*. Together, they’ll explore Rosenthal’s life, career, travels, and love of food, followed by an audience Q&A.

TICKETS for all shows are available for purchase online at kirbycenter.org and ticketmaster.com, in person at the F.M. Kirby Center Box Office during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.),

AARP Bus Trip

Looking for the perfect Holiday gift? AARP NEPA Chapter 3731 will be hosting a bus trip to the premiere showing of “Joshua” at the Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster County on May 29, 2026. Front Center seats allow patrons to experience one of the most redemptive biblical stories of the bible.

After Moses’s passing, God selected Joshua to lead his followers as they navigate the many hardships of the unforgiving wilderness on their journey to the Promised Land. Dinner afterwards at the Bird-in-Hand Smorgasbord is included,

This trip is open to the public. For reservations, call David @ (570)-892-1619 or Eileen @ (570)-328-3359.

Marywood raises curtain on fall, winter musical season

Marywood University's Music, Theatre, and Dance Department is raising the curtain on its fall/winter 2025 performance season, which highlights both student artistry and faculty mentorship.

Featured concerts include:

The Percussion Ensemble Concert (November 9, 7:30 p.m., Sette-LaVerghetta Auditorium) is a concert of chamber

music performed by the Marywood University Percussion Ensemble, under the direction of Steven Mathiesen, including works by Nathan Daughtrey, Joel Smales, and an arrangement of music by Aaron Copland. The concert is free and open to the public.

The Faculty Recital (November 15, 7 p.m., Marian Chapel) will feature professional performers as

the faculty of the Department of Music, Theatre, and Dance share the stage in a recital of instrumental and vocal solos and ensembles.

The Tutti Concert (November 16, 2 p.m., Sette LaVerghetta Auditorium) founded at Marywood University in 2016, is an innovative adaptive program that combines music therapy and music education to create an enrich-

ing musical journey for individuals with unique learning styles. Our free concert celebrates the achievements of our students who have learned new instruments, developed musicianship skills, and formed lasting friendships.

The Wind Symphony Concert (November 16, 4:30 p.m., Sette LaVerghetta Auditorium) continues the tradition of presenting classic, yet entertaining, works for the wind

band. This season's concert features transcriptions for band by Piazzolla, Verdi and Elgar as well as Ralph Vaughn Williams and Clifton Williams.

The Jazz Ambassadors Concert (November 21, 8 p.m., Marian Chapel) will feature an evening of iconic blues, funk, and swing.

The String Ensemble Concert (November 24, 7 p.m., Marian Chapel) will feature a program featuring Christopher Wilson's rarely heard *Suite for Strings*, paired with an arrangement of Gershwin's tender *Lullaby* in this free performance.

The Opera Workshop Performance (December 1, 7 p.m., Sette-LaVerghetta Center) will be a culmination of a semester-long study of excerpts from various operas, 17 students in fully staged renditions of ensembles by Handel, Mozart, Rossini, Verdi, Copland, and others.

The Evening of Strings Concert (December 3, 7:30 p.m., Marian Chapel) Marywood string students take center stage in this end-of-semester showcase, performing a wide range of solo works.

The Guitar Ensemble Concert (December 4, 5 p.m., Marian Chapel) will present its *Holiday Concert – Meditating, Grooving, and Celebrating!* This year's program offers a festive journey through different moods and styles with Gabriel Fauré's graceful *Pavane*, a vibrant Brazilian minimalist work by Paulo Porto Alegre, and traditional holiday songs.

The Chamber Singers Christmas Concert (December 7, 2 p.m., Marian Chapel) will feature sacred and secular music by Cipriano de Rore, Josef Rheinberger, Michael Joncas, René Clausen, Jonathan Rathbone, and others. The performance will include several familiar and original carols.

The String Project Concert (December 8, 6:30 p.m., Sette-LaVerghetta Center) rings in the season with a festive Holiday Gala Concert, showcasing students ages 4–18 performing in string orchestras and class ensembles.

For additional information about the Chamber Series and other performances at Marywood University visit marywood.edu/mtd/events, or call (570) 348-6268.



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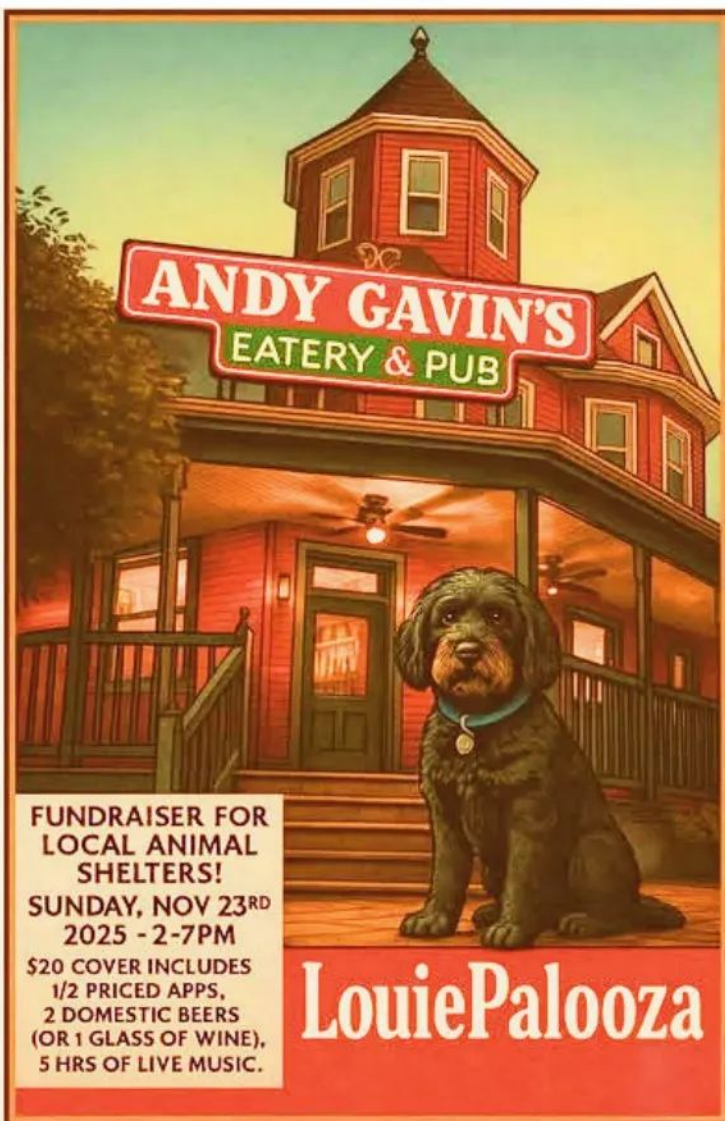
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LouiePalooza



Committee members and staff of Andy Gavin's met recently to plan LouiePalooza, a fundraiser for local animal shelters scheduled for Sunday, November 23, from 2-7 p.m. at Andy Gavin's Pub and Eatery, Scranton. Shown in the front row, seated from left: Bonnie Bowers, Lynne Opsasnick, and Frank Regan. Second row, same order: Keith Onyshczak, Joe Regan, Don Surace, Maeve Gleason, Ned Cullen, and Todd Lavelle. Third Row: Len Carlucci, Cassidy Kalejta, Kathleen Gleason, Benny Teranova, and Mark Benginia. This event celebrates the memory of Louie, a devoted patron of Andy Gavin's, and the love and care we share with all animals.



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YMCA gets \$5,000 grant for fencing

The Greater Scranton YMCA recently was awarded a \$5,000 Community Needs Grant from the Scranton Area Community Foundation. The grant supported the replacement of the outdoor fence at the Y's Early Learning Center in Olyphant.

The Olyphant Early Learning Center opened in April, 2024 and currently has 102 children ages zero through five enrolled.

The center is located on a busy street and was in need of added security and privacy. Before the new fence was installed, a chain link fence covered 90 percent of the outdoor playground, with the remaining ten percent vinyl.

Grant funding has allowed the Greater Scranton YMCA to replace the chain link fencing with a vinyl option.

"The safety and security of the children in our care and of our staff is our top priority," said Rich Surridge, President & CEO, Greater Scranton YMCA. "This grant award has enabled our Y to replace the old chain link fence around the outdoor playground at the Olyphant center with a vinyl one, enhancing both the safety and privacy of the children we serve."

For more information about early childhood education at the Greater Scranton YMCA, contact Tressa Capoccia, Senior Director of Education, at tcapoccia@gsymca.org or visit the Y online at www.greaterscrantonymca.org.



Greater Scranton YMCA was awarded a \$5,000 Community Needs Grant from the Scranton Area Community Foundation. The grant supported the replacement of the outdoor fence at the Y's Early Learning Center in Olyphant. Frank Caputo, Grants & Communications Coordinator, Scranton Area Community Foundation; Rich Surridge, President & CEO, Greater Scranton YMCA; Tressa Capoccia, Senior Education Director, Greater Scranton YMCA; Cathy Fitzpatrick, Director of Grants and Scholarships, Scranton Area Community Foundation.



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Jingle Bell Jog slated December 13 at YMCA

The Greater Scranton YMCA invites runners, walkers, families, and holiday enthusiasts to join the fun at the 2025 Jingle Bell Jog, taking place on Saturday, December 13, with a 9 a.m. start time at the Y.

The second annual Jingle Bell Jog features a 5K Run and 1-Mile Walk, offering something for participants of all ages and fitness levels. Runners and walkers are encouraged to embrace the holiday spirit by wearing their favorite festive attire. The first 50 registrants will receive a free t-shirt.

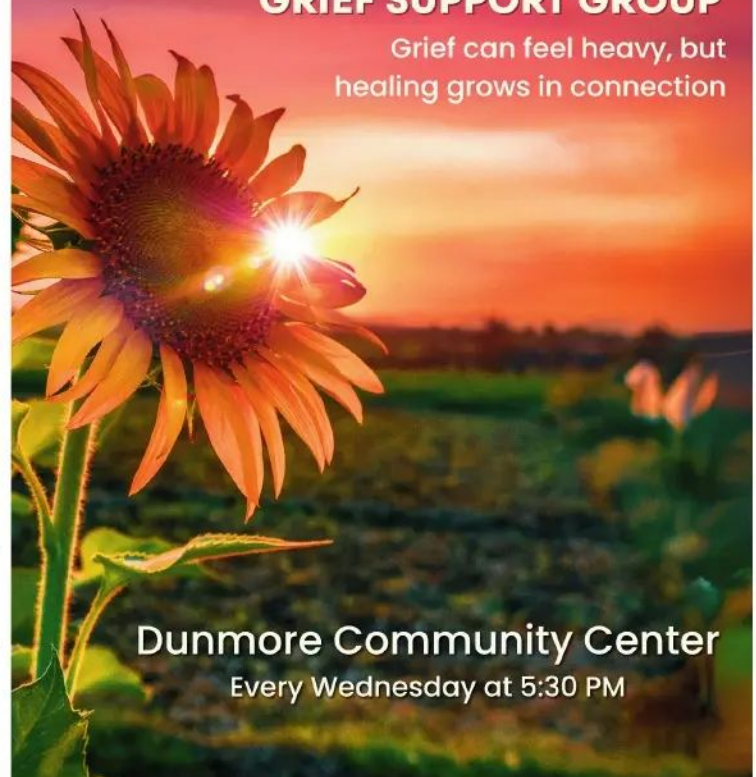
Proceeds will benefit the Y's Financial Assistance Program. Participants can register online at <https://runsignup.com/scrantonymcajinglebelljog> or at the YWCA.

The cost for participants over the age of 12 is \$25 and there is no charge for participants 12-years-old and under. Same day registration is available for \$35. Day of race check-in and packet pick-up will be open from 8:00-8:45 a.m. and an awards ceremony will take place at approximately 10 a.m.

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