

### Girl Scouts visit PA Ballet

Members of Junior Girl Scout troop 654 from Shavertown United Methodist Church recently attended a performance of the Pennsylvania Ballet at the Academy of Music in Philadelphia. Pictured in front row from left are: Melissa Allabaugh, Lauren Murgitroyde, Molly Gilligan, Amanda Banks, Rebecca Yanuzzi, Meghan Peitraccini. Second row: Lauren Parrish, Briann Bolton, Kaylie Lumley, Amelia Pietraccini. In rear: Kristine O'Donnell, Alyssa Cybulski, Hannah Bestwick, Arika Whittle, Michelle Witherow, Katlyn Moran, Rebecca Banks, Hillary Pratz, Lindsey Davenport, and Kyla Halsor. Marge Banks is the troop leader and assistant leader is Karen Pietraccini.



### Luzerne County Agricultural Preservation Program receives \$627,000 allocation

The State Department of Agriculture recently notified the Luzerne County Board of Commissioners and the Luzerne County Agricultural Preservation Board that a total of \$626,955 has been allocated to the County's Agricultural Preservation Program for the 2001/2002 round. This represents an increase of \$68,576 from the 2000/2001 allocation.

The Agricultural Preservation Board will have until December 31, 2002 to appropriate these funds to purchase development rights on eligible farms within the County. The purpose of the program is to promote and protect the continued use of valuable farmland via the acquisition of conservation easements. These easements prevent the development or improvement of the land for any purposes other than agricultural production and related agricultural activities.

The board received four applications during the 2001 round for farms located in Hunlock Township, Union Township, Nescopeck Township, and Butler Township. Residual funds from the original 2000/2001 allocation as well as the new 2001/2002 funds will be used to purchase the development rights of the farms designated by the board.

Applications for the 2002 round can be submitted at any time between now and February 1, 2002. Eligible farms will be part of a 500-acre Agricultural Security Area (ASA) and will consist of at least 50 acres. Any questions regarding the program can be directed to Nancy Snee, Board Administrator at 825-1560. Applications can be submitted to the Luzerne County Planning Commission, Luzerne County Courthouse, 200 N. River Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711.

### MOVERS AND SHAKERS

#### Skurkis named Branch Manager of Pennstar Bank, Orloski's, Dallas



David E. Raven, President and Chief Operating Officer of Pennstar Bank recently announced the following appointments

in the Luzerne County market. Debra Skurkis has been named Branch Manager of the bank's newest branch office located at 300 Memorial Highway inside Orloski's Quik Mart in Dallas. Michael T. Mondy, Assistant Vice President, will serve as Business Development Officer for the Luzerne County area. Skurkis began her career in 1977 with another area institution before joining Pennstar Bank (formerly LA Bank) in 1998. She is a graduate of Bishop O' Reilly High School and attended Luzerne County

Community College. Active in the community she is a member of the Executive Women's Council of the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce, Edwardsville-Larksville Girls Softball Association, Woodward Hill Hose Company Auxiliary, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and is a volunteer for College Misericordia Annual Fund Drive. She resides in Edwardsville with her husband Joe, and children, Joseph and Lori.

Mondy, a graduate of Bishop O' Reilly High School, attended Luzerne County Community College. He has over 20 years in the banking industry. He is a 3rd Degree member of the Knights of Columbus and a member of Robert Morris Associates, American Bankers Association, and Pennsylvania Bankers Association. He resides in Kingston with his wife Nancy.

#### Metz & Associates, Ltd. announces Solomon promotion

Metz & Associates, Ltd., Dallas, has announced the promotion of Craig Solomon to the position of district manager, Northeast region. Solomon's duties will include managing all accounts in the healthcare sector in addition to a number of business and industry accounts in the Northeastern United States. Solomon began his career with Metz & Associates in 1996 in the position of food service director for Mercy Hospital, Wilkes-Barre. He was named senior area manager in 1999 and given additional responsibilities for Mercy Hospital, Scranton and Mercy Center, Dallas. Prior to joining Metz & Associates, Solomon was the operations director and district marketing coordinator for Marriott Management Services. Metz & Associates, Ltd., which is one of the fastest growing regional food service companies in the nation, provides dining management

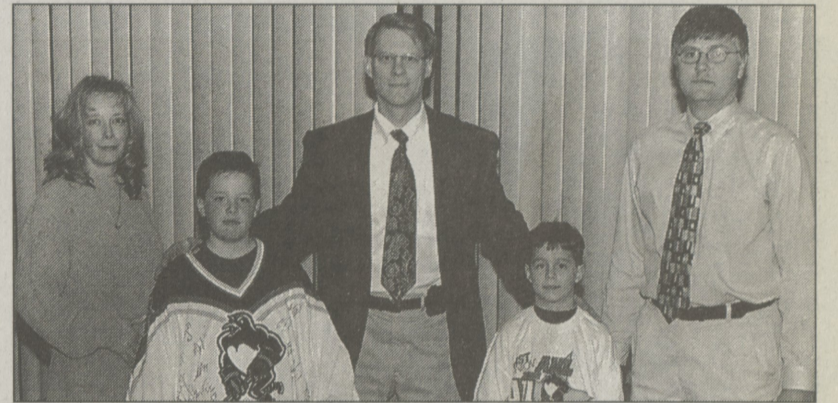
and support services to clients such as hospitals, nursing homes, school districts, colleges, and corporate offices.

#### Jeannette Luce of Century 21 Ruth K. Smith Achieves Master Program Status

Century 21 Real Estate Corporation, franchiser of the world's largest residential real estate sales organization, has recognized the achievement of Jeannette Luce of Century 21 Ruth K. Smith for attaining masters level status.

Master Level status is awarded to an agent who has met minimum adjusted gross commissions or unit requirements during their first year of the Masters Program.

Jeannette Luce has 13 years of experience in the real estate industry and has been with the Century 21 System for 13 years.



#### Scafidi wins grand prize

Door Prize winners were recently announced from the Youth Hockey Day event sponsored by the Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center Human Motion Institute. The event, which was held at The Ice Box in Pittston Township, included training and stretching tips, an assessment by members of the Geisinger sports medicine and physical therapy departments, assessments by Geisinger orthopedic surgeons William Krywicki, MD, and David Kolessar, MD, and an opportunity to skate with and receive hockey tips.

Shown are, from left: Patricia Scafidi, Dallas, John Scafidi, grand prize winner of a signed Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins jersey; David Kolessar, MD, Geisinger orthopaedic surgeon; Tommy Kempinski, winner of a Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins All-Star Game T-Shirt; and John Kempinski, Mountaintop.

# A History of Caring



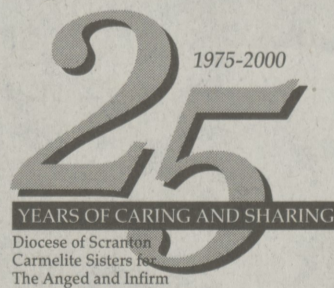
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