COMMUNITY

OBITUARIES

GERARD J. DISTASIO

A guitarist, he had been president of the **Musicians** Union

Gerard J. Distasio, age 73, of Sweet Valley, died June 25, 2005, at the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. Mr. Distasio was born in Nanticoke, February 29, 1932, and was the son of the late C. Joseph and Emma Gregorio Distasio. He has resided in Sweet Valley for the last 25 years.

graduated He from Hughestown High School and was employed by Kintner Trucking, Tunkhannock; Matlock Trucking, Woodbridge, N.J.; and then was an independent truck driver, retiring 28 years ago.

Mr. Distasio was a past president of the Center Moreland Lions Club and the Musicians Union, having played in numerous area country and western bands.

He was preceded in death by sons; infant Joseph and John. He is survived by his loving wife of 22 years, the former Patricia (Bogdon) Bagdziunas; children from a previous marriage: Gerald, Joseph, Andrew, Michael and Theodore and Norma Excel; brother; Joseph, Coplay, Pa.; sisters Virginia Graham, Walnutport; and Antoinette Hall, Pittston; uncle, Anthony Gregorio, West Pittston; numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

He especially loved and was especially loved by Dorothy Reese and her husband, Robert, of Barnegat, N.J., and their children, and his grandchildren, Joseph, Tamilynn and Robert, all serving in the U.S. Air Force. Interment, Maple Grove

Cemetery, Pikes Creek. The family requests that memorial contributions be sent the American Heart to Association, 71 N. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701, the **Diabetes** American Association, 63 N. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701 or the charity of the donor's choice.

As a guitar player, he had a special love for music. After years of illness, he is finally at peace.

PAULINE M. SANDS

1946 graduate of Tunkhannock **High School**

Pauline M. Sands of Tioga Terrace, Tunkhannock died at her home on June 26, 2005. She was born in Luzerne on June 1, 1928, daughter of the late John and Mary Partilla Wyda. She was a 1946 graduate of Tunkhannock High School and was a member of the Tunkhannock Pilgrim Holiness Church.

She was preceded in death by a son, William H. Sands III. Surviving is her husband, William H. Sands Jr.; son, Sands, Gregory of Collingswood, N.J.; brothers, Albert Wyda of Harveys Lake and Thomas Wyda of Dallas; two grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Interment, R.H. Jones Crematory.

THOMAS F. PITCAVAGE

Franklin Township man

Thomas F. Pitcavage, 61, of Franklin Township died June 23, 2005, at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. He was born in Swoyersville Jan. 7, 1944, the son of Josephine (Daniels) Pitcavage and the late Frank Pitcavage. He was a member of St. Frances Cabrini Roman Catholic Church, Carverton, and was employed as a machinist.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Karen Vojtko Pitcavage; son, Tommy; and a sister, Bernadine Latoski. Surviving in addition to his mother are his wife, the former Joyce Filipski; daughters, Melissa Bretzius of Michigan, and Lynn Adams of Virginia Beach; son, David Serino of Michigan; five grandchildren, Lauren, Kyle, Hailey, Anna and Gretchen.

Mt. Olivet Interment, Cemetery, Carverton.

Donations may be made to the National Organization of Vascular Anomalies, P.O. Box 0358, Findlay, OH 45839-0358.

JEAN JOHNSON

Worked at Tyler **Memorial Hospital**

Jean Johnson of Lemon Township, Tunkhannock, died June 18, 2005, at Geisinger Wyoming Valley. She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Smith Franklin Johnson. She was born in Girardville, Pa., on August 10, 1930, a daughter of the late William and Anna (Hanlon) Walsh. She was a graduate of Mt. Carmel High School, class of 1949, and attended nursing school at Temple University.

She was employed in the billing department of the business office at Tyler Memorial Hospital. She was a member of the Lemon United Methodist Church. She was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother, and Jean or "JJ" was also loved by all the employees at Tyler Memorial Hospital.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Leona McGeehan. Surviving are sons, Searle Johnson, Tunkhannock; James Johnson, Alexandria, Va.; daughter, Anne Knopf, of Palm Beach, Fla.; grandchildren, Staff Sgt. Kelly Johnson, U.S. Air Force, Germany, Amy and Michael Johnson, both of Tunkhannock, Matthew and Joel Johnson, both of Alexandria, Va., Charles, Kristofer and Ashley Knopf, all of Palm Beach, Fla.

Sunnyside Interment, Cemetery, Tunkhannock.

Those wishing may make memorial contributions to the American Diabetics Association, 63 N. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

The Post publishes obituaries of local residents. natives or those who have a long connection to the area. Send obituaries to:

> THE POST 15 N. Main St. Wilkes-Barre PA 18711

HAROLD E. KITTLE

Lehman graduate. WWII veteran

Harold E. Kittle, 84, of Chase, Shavertown, died June 25, 2005, at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center. He was born November 26, 1920, in Mooretown, a son of the late Fred and Elizabeth (Piatt) Kittle.

Harold graduated from Lehman High School, class of 1938, and was a veteran of World War II. He served in Africa, Italy and France. He was a partner in Stroud & Kittle Construction Company, retiring in 1982. Surviving are his wife of 57 years, the former Lois Cadwalader; daughters, Sharon Stogoski, Dallas; Cathy Verdekal, Wilkes-Barre; Laurie Kittle, Alexandria, Va., son, Craig, Chase; five grandchildren, Eric and Bobbi Stogoski, Amy Mercurio, Andrew and Ryan Verdekal; two great-grandchildren, Luke Stogoski and Isabella Mercurio; sister, Freda Coolbaugh, Tunkhannock; brother, Allen, Shavertown. He was preceded in death by his son Douglas and brother Robert.

Memorial contributions may be made to the United Huntsville Methodist Church, c/o Mrs. Shirley Nicely, 9 Warren Drive, Dallas, PA 18612

Luzerne High alumni picnic

The fifth annual Luzerne will be served at 1 p.m. A late High All Alumni Picnic will be held July 9 at Dragon's Grove, Harveys Lake. The picnic is open to all who attended Luzerne High School during its existence. The invitation also includes spouse or guest. Individuals who feel they cannot handle the driving, etc., are encouraged to have a relative or friend accompany them to this affair. No reservations are necessary and there is plenty of parking.

Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish to share. If this is out www.LuzerneHigh.com or not possible, a small donation call Pete Dragon. 639-5477; Joe will be accepted. The picnic will begin at noon and lunch

afternoon snack will also be available. Guests are asked to bring their own beverages. Coffee, ice, and some soda will be available.

Directions to Dragon's Grove: Travel Dallas Highway to Sandy Bottom Beach, Harvey's Lake. The road across from the beach is Schoolhouse Road. Turn onto Schoolhouse Road and continue straight for three miles. Dragon's Grove is on the right.

For more information check Petrasek, 287-5690; or Joanne Evanoski Skrip, 735-8696.

Kingston Township Rec. Commission has opening

Board of Supervisors is accepting applications or letters of interest for a vacancy on the **Kingston Township Recreation** Commission.

The commission is responsible for recommendations pertaining to the development, supervision, maintenance and regulation of public park and recreation areas and facilities located in the township, and to develop and conduct a recreation program for the residents of Kingston Township.

The commission consists of five members that are sched-

The Kingston Township uled to meet monthly. Kingston Township residency is required and members are appointed to serve terms of three years.

> Interested Kingston Township residents should send a letter to:

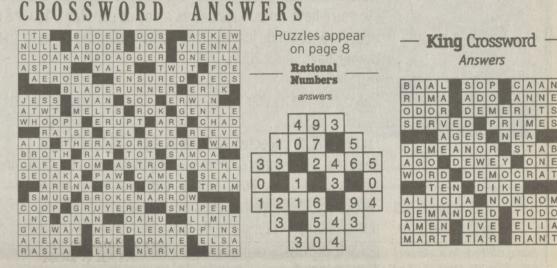
> Kingston Township Board of Supervisors

c/o Township Manager Edmund J. O'Neill

180 East Center Street

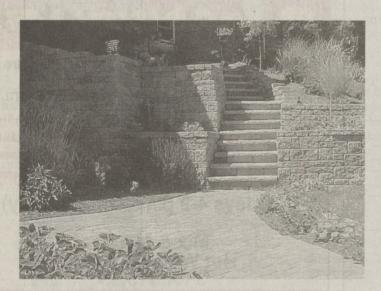
Shavertown, PA 18708 Residents with questions about the vacancy may call the

Township Manager Eddie O'Neill at 696-3809.



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