

CIVIC BRIEFS

Blood drives set for this week

The American Red Cross will conduct three blood drives in the Back Mountain this week. The first drive will be a special type "O" drive from 1-6 p.m. Monday, April 17 in the Fellowship Hall at the Trucksville United Methodist Church. The church is located on Church Road, off Route 309 in Trucksville.

Type O blood is special because it can be given to anyone regardless of their blood type. Therefore, it is essential that a sufficient supply always be on hand.

The second drive will be held from 1-6 p.m. Tuesday, April 18 at the Irem Temple Country Club. The Irem Temple sponsors six drives a year. The third drive will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 19 at College Misericordia. The annual drive is held in memory of Cindy Cave. While the drive is on campus, the public is welcome.

A pre-scheduled appointment can be made to reduce the time needed for your donation. To schedule an appointment call 823-7164, extension 2150. The Red Cross requests that all donors bring identification and a Red Cross Blood card. Anyone 17 years of age, weighing a minimum of 110 pounds and in good health may donate. First-time donors are encouraged.

Film Festival in Tunkhannock

The Dietrich Theater will hold its annual Spring Film Festival on April 21 through May 4 at the theater in downtown Tunkhannock. The event features 14 days of foreign, independent and art films. The cost is \$5 for matinees and \$6 for evenings. For a list of films, visit the Web site www.dietrichtheater.com.

Medicare Part D to be discussed

Masonic Village at Dallas will offer a free informational session about Medicare Part D at 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 25 at the Irem Country Club. Medicare Part D is the new Medicare prescription drug benefit available to anyone with Medicare Part A and/or Part B.

Enrollment for Medicare recipients is in effect through May 15. For more information about the event, call administrator Colleen Burns at 1-866-851-4243 or visit the Web site www.pa-grandlodge.org for directions.

Political signs require permit

Dallas Borough reminds all candidates for political office that a permit is required for temporary political signs posted within the borough limits. The Dallas Borough Zoning Ordinance requires all candidates to submit a required \$30 permit fee that will be returned when all political signs have been removed following the election. Payment may be forwarded to the Dallas Borough Zoning Officer, 25 Main Street, Dallas, 18612.

Many of the candidates for office in the May primary election have complied with the regulations, but others have failed to submit the required permit fee. The Zoning Enforcement Officer will be forwarding violation notices to candidates who are not in compliance with the regulations.

Baskets for sale at BMT library

The Back Mountain Memorial Library has baskets for sale the Holiday Corner. The library is located at 93 Huntsville Road in Dallas and is open from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

The baskets range in various sizes, are decorated and undecorated, and are priced from 50 cents to \$5. Also for sale are flower arrangements, Easter and spring novelties, stuffed animals, a variety of Easter tins and cook books. The Slightly Used Book-

shop is also open for business with many books for sale at reasonable prices. For the hours of operation, call the library at 675-1182.

Families needed for Fresh Air kids

The Fresh Air Fund's Luzerne/Wyoming committee has begun its annual campaign to find local families who are interested in helping provide free summer vacations to New York City children. Since 1877, the Fresh Air Fund, an independent, not-for-profit agency has provided free summer vacations to more than 1.7 million New York City youngsters from low-income neighborhoods.

For more information about how you can host a Fresh Air child, call Kim Sorber at 639-5972 or the Fresh Air Fund at 1-800-367-0003. You can also visit The Fund online at www.freshair.org.

Spaghetti dinner being held April 22

The Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Co. will hold an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner from 4-7 p.m. Saturday April 22 at the fire hall on Orange Road. The diners will include spaghetti, meatballs, salad, bread and butter, beverage and dessert. The cost is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children ages 7-12. Proceeds from the event will help support the company, including equipment and training.

Babysitting course offered by Red Cross

An American Red Cross Babysitting course will be offered from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 22 at the Back Mountain Memorial Library on Huntsville Road in Dallas. Youth between the ages of 11-15 are welcome to

register.

Interested participants must register in advance at the main desk of the library by presenting the \$40 program fee in cash or check made payable to the American Red Cross. Registrations will not be accepted on the day of the class.

Participants will learn to perform first aid and how to get professional medical help fast, identify common safety hazards and prevent injuries, perform basic care routines like diapering, feeding and dressing, handle bedtime issues and more.

A babysitter's handbook will be included and distributed at the program. Participants are asked to bring a bag lunch. For more information, call the library at 675-1182.

Speakers series at Misericordia

The inaugural Spring Speakers Series at College Misericordia will feature four faculty lecturers discussing topics ranging from the arts to the sciences. The lectures are held at 7 p.m. in the Bevevino Library's third floor McGowan Room on the campus of College Misericordia through Wednesday, April 25. There is no admission charge and the public is invited.

A schedule and brief outline of the topics each lecturer will discuss during the Speakers Series can be found by visiting the Web site www.misericordia.edu.

Co-sponsored by the Friends of the Mary Kintz Bevevino Library and faculty, the series is designed to welcome the community onto campus to share in College Misericordia's wealth of resources. The talks span the arts and sciences and will outline faculty member's current research, library resources available to the public and what students can expect in terms of course work and possible careers.

SPRING GARDENING EVENT AT PSU W-B



Spring Into Gardening, a home gardener's educational event featuring six presentations, will be held at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 29 in the Science Building at the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus in Lehman Township. A registration will be held from 8:30-9 a.m. The event is being hosted by Penn State Extension Master Gardeners Luzerne County and the Luzerne Conservation District. Some of the topics to be discussed are the affect animals in your back yard may have on the landscape, weeds and wildflowers, cutting trees, compost, plant nutrients, and the affect droughts may have on the landscape. The registration fee is \$15, which includes a box lunch. Registrations and fees must be received no later than April 20. To register for the event, or for more information, call 825-1701. The guest speakers at the event, from left, are Mary Pat Appel, Luzerne County Master Gardener coordinator; and Vince Sweeney and Roberta Troy, Luzerne County Master Gardeners.

Historical Assoc. meeting April 26

The bi-annual meeting of the Back Mountain Historical Association will discuss the "Amusements of the Back Mountain" at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 26 in the Banks Student Center's Kennedy Lounge at College Misericordia.

Local historian Charles Petrillo, author of "Harveys Lake" will be the feature speaker. The discussion will focus on the attractions at Harveys Lake - such as Hanson's Amusement Park - steamboats, hotels and other activities at the state's largest natural lake.

The Back Mountain Historical Association collects history of the Back Mountain and works in conjunction with College Misericordia and the Luzerne County Historical Society to collect photographs and oral history interviews. To review the photograph database, log on to www.backmountain.org.

If anyone is interested in donating photographs to the database, contact Harrison Wick, College Misericordia archivist, at 674-6420.

The association holds meetings twice a year, usually in April and October. The last meeting attracted more than 170 people, who listened to Harry Owens Jr., discuss the Back Mountain Railroad. For more information about the Back Mountain Historical Association, call Marion Rogers at 674-3341.

Former reporter, editor to speak at Luncheon with a Special Author

The Friends of the Back Mountain Memorial Library will host its 18th annual Luncheon with a Special Author at 11 a.m. on April 27 at Appletree Terrace, Newberry Estate in Dallas.

The guest speaker will be northeastern Pennsylvania resident Suzanne Fisher Staples, a former news reporter, editor and author of six award-winning books. She is appearing by special invitation from author committee chairperson Susan Kent. Staples was born in Philadel-



Staples

phia and grew up at Chapman Lake. She graduated from Lakeland High School, Keystone College, and Cedar Crest Col-

lege. She has worked for United Press International, The Washington Post, and the United States Agency for International Development. Her books include "The Green Dog," "Under

the Persimmon Tree," "Shabanu Daughter of the Wind," "Haveli," "Dangerous Skies," and "Shiva's Fire."

Lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. The cost is \$22 a person, with all proceeds benefiting the Back Mountain Memorial Library. Tables of eight are encouraged and may be reserved. Checks should be made payable to the Back Mountain Memorial Library and must be received at the library, 96 Huntsville Road in Dallas no later than April 17.

Dallas begins enforcing property code

Dallas officials recently began the enforcement of the borough's Property Maintenance Code. Inspections have been scheduled for all property owners in violation of the code and the borough will prosecute all offenders.

Recent routine property inspections in neighborhoods throughout the borough revealed numerous violations, including exterior property violations for property owners failing to maintain their premises in a clean, safe and sanitary condition. The borough will require property owners to remove all vehicles not properly registered and inspected, inoperable motor vehicles, appliances littering yards, debris, rubbish or other inappropriate materials littering yard areas.

Borough officials urge all of property owners to respect their neighborhoods and quality of life residents enjoy. Residents should note that the annual spring cleanup will be held May 1-6. Regulations governing the cleanup drop-off program will be finalized by the council during its regular meeting April 19.

For more information, call borough

manager and zoning enforcement officer Joe Moskovitz at 675-1389.

Street sweeping

The borough road department annual spring street sweeping program will continue until all roads have been swept clean. The road department requests residents follow a few instructions to assist the staff in the collection of road cinders and winter materials deposited during the winter. Residents are asked to rake all cinders to the side of the road in even layers, avoiding large piles. Cinders must not be swept into the storm water catch basins.

Property owners should not fill containers with cinders in excess of 20-25 pounds. Rocks, tree limbs and yard waste should not be included for pick-up with the street cinders. Green recycling containers should not be placed near the road, as the curbside yard waste recycling pick-up is not scheduled to begin until the week of May 8.

For more information, call the road department at 674-5362.

GROUP WORKING TO PRESERVE CIVIL WAR SITE

Members of the Wyoming Valley Civil War Round Table have made several trips to Gettysburg to help with the battlefield preservation projects. The group will be helping preserve the Daniel Lady Farm on Hanover Street in Gettysburg at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 29. There is an exit for Hanover Street off Route 15. Bear right at the end of the exit and the farm is approximately one mile down the road. The farm was used during the Civil War as headquarters for a Confederate cavalry unit and the location of several artillery batteries. The home was also used as a medical ward for Confederate officers while the barn was used in the care of the enlisted. Members of the group will be sifting through dirt looking for artifacts. The Wyoming Valley Civil War Round Table will also be sponsoring a bus trip to the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle on June 10. The cost of the trip is \$20. For more information about either event, call Steve Leonardo at 675-0468 or Maureen 256-4413.



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