

Roosevelt's great-grandson is commencement speaker

Tweed Roosevelt, great-grandson of Theodore Roosevelt, will be the guest speaker at College Misericordia's 81st annual commencement ceremony at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 19 in the Anderson Sports and Health Center. A baccalaureate mass will precede the ceremony at 10:30 a.m.

Roosevelt has written and lectured extensively about his great-grandfather, the 26th President of the United States, who led a group of recruits called the "Rough Riders" during the Spanish-American War. He also settled the Great Anthracite Coal Strike in the Wyoming Valley and Pennsylvania and earned the Nobel Peace Prize in 1906 for brokering a peace accord between Russia and Japan.

Roosevelt, chairman of Roosevelt China Capital, Inc. and managing partner of The Roosevelt Investment Group, Inc., also inherited a fondness for history, adventure and travel from his great-grandfather. In 1992, he represented the Roosevelt family in a re-enactment of Teddy's 1914 adventure into the unexplored Amazon jungle.

The Greater Wyoming Valley also holds a special place in the Roosevelt family because of Teddy's role in ending Pennsylvania's historic anthracite coal strike of 1902. The 160-day strike marked the first time a president personally intervened in a labor dispute and the "Square Deal" became the motto of the president's administration. In 2005, Tweed Roosevelt was the featured speaker during the annual Fourth of July observance of The Battle of Wyoming at the Wyoming Monument in Exeter.

Robert Aben, a member of the Back Mountain Historical Association and MacDonald Art Gal-

lery at College Misericordia, is the retired chief executive officer of Unigraphic Color Corp. in Plymouth. Aben and Roosevelt will receive honorary doctor of humane letters degrees during the commencement.

The Mary Kintz Bevevino Library at College Misericordia and any students, faculty and visitors have been the benefactors of Aben's donations. The walls of the state-of-the-art library are adorned with the colorful paintings of internationally-known artist Yankel Ginzburg, which Aben donated to the institution.



Tweed Roosevelt, great-grandson of Teddy Roosevelt will speak at College Misericordia on May 19.

New organization will provide rides

Reaching Independently Disabled and Elderly, a non-profit organization, is offering free transportation to elderly residents and people with disabilities. RIDE is looking for donations to help provide vehicles, drivers and adequate transportation for those who cannot drive themselves.

RIDE is an organization located in Dallas created in response to North-eastern Pennsylvania's growing need to take care of the disabled and by driving them to cultural, sporting, gaming, and recreational events in the area.

A ride will be provided from a designated pick-up and drop-off location,

where sponsored vehicles will transport them to area events and locations in a timely manner. There is no charge to those who use RIDE services. Donations and sponsorships are imperative to help free the disabled and elderly from limitations. At the same time, a sponsor will be given acknowledgement on RIDE vehicles to spotlight their contribution to the community.

For information about making a donation - or if you're someone who needs a ride - send an e-mail to cwachim@epix.net. The phone number, which will be available after noon Monday, April 2 is 674-RIDE (7433).

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BACK MOUNTAIN

Dining Guide

RIDGEWAY'S at IREM

Irem's 3 Chefs

Brian Kravitz, Laurie Knauer, Michael Wysocke

Irem's 3 chefs bring a variety of experience, backgrounds and taste to the menu of Ridgeway's at Irem.

Brian Kravitz ran all aspects of food operations in the Officers Club for the past 20 years from Maine, N. Carolina, S. Carolina, and Nebraska. Brian also gained international experience while residing in Belgium for three years. Laurie Knauer, formerly Drury worked with her father Jim Drury at Drury's Deli & Restaurant in Harvey's Lake. Then in 2002 Laurie opened her own restaurant, Brunch Express in the Twin Stacks Center, specializing in breakfast and lunch fare. She closed Brunch Express in 2004 to spend more time with her family and joined the team at Irem. Michael Wysocke has previously worked as the owner/operator of the Lake Carey Inn, chef at Hotel Jeremiah in Aspen, CO, Sous Chef at Casa Marina Resort and Key West, FL, and Matri d Hotel at the Hilton International in Albany, NY.

Ridgeway's at Irem features all you can eat breakfast buffet every Sunday (except holidays) and daily lunch and dinner specials.

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