

# Graduates unite again

Graduates of the old Laketon and Noxen High schools gathered for the seventh consecutive year to celebrate their high school days. This year, 93 participants enjoyed a day of reminiscing at the Harveys Lake Beach Club picnic pavilion (formerly Old Sandy Bottom Beach.) Sisters Tanya Kocher Christ, '57, and Carlene Kocher McCafrey, '56, have been organizing the all-school reunion for the past seven years. Each year, members of the graduating class of 50 years ago are given special recognition.



Old friends from the Laketon and Noxen High Schools look over old photos from their childhood days. From left, are Paul Taylor, Harold Smith, Bob McGovern and Jack Rauch.



Clyde Martin, '57 and Don Kocher, '59, old friends from the Laketon and Noxen High Schools, meet up at their annual reunion.



Barbara Strazdus, left, Betty Spencer, center, and Louisa Clark, old friends from the Laketon and Noxen High Schools, look over some photos during the annual reunion of the Laketon and Noxen High Schools.

## BIRDS

Continued from Page 1

tifically proven that cockatoos can acquire intelligence equivalent to a 5-year-old child."

One bird in particular, "Moses," the last proven blue-eyed cockatoo in the United States, has been with DeOliverra since 2003 and is the driving force behind her determination to stop this particular species from becoming extinct within the country.

Brown, a martial arts instructor and chef, has also acquired a shared passion for his companion's project.

"It's exciting!" he said. "Watching the property grow and having the opportunity to be involved in a project like this is exciting."

Because the cost of this project could soar into the millions of dollars, DeOliverra is working with grant-writing resources like Wilkes and Lehigh Universities to gain as much funding as possi-

ble.

The "Woody Acres Avian Conservation Eco-Center" will not only work with endangered birds but also with other animals considered to be "people fascinat-ors." The center's main focus is on rare birds but will also include custom-built observation trails, tour lodging, seminars and a gift shop, as well as other captivating creatures such as fancy chickens, peacocks, emus, water fowl, pheasants and kookaburra.

Among all this momentum, the center is moving forward at its attempt to gain the accreditation of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA).

"We will conform to the laws of a zoo and will not be a roadside attraction," emphasized DeOliverra. "It is our mission to help sustain rare population through captive breeding management."

"People may not remember me after I'm gone," DeOliverra added, "but when my birds wind up somewhere else and are protected here in the United States - that will be my legacy."

**Our Great Humanitarian**  
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**Nick Colangelo**  
 ▶ HUSBAND, FATHER OF TWO  
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 ▶ OUTDOOR ENTHUSIAST  
 ▶ TEACHER AND COACH  
 ▶ ADDICTION COUNSELOR EXTRAORDINAIRE

When people come to Nick Colangelo for help, they are all on a course of being imprisoned, close to death or extremely ill, with their lives in a complete mess. That's what a crisis counselor deals with on a daily basis. But to Nick, CEO of Clearbrook Adult and Adolescent Treatment Centers, getting people on the road to recovery is more than a job. It's a calling. One he has lived, 24 hours a day, for nearly three decades.

Tens of thousands of "good people with a bad disease" have been taught by Nick and his team how to deal with the opportunities and difficulties life throws at them. And lead healthy, productive lives. That team includes his family who selflessly help other families in a program they developed themselves. "Families Helping Families" is given as a gift to hundreds in Scranton, Dallas, Tunkhannock and Drums weekly.

Anyone else would say they've seen it all, but not Nick. He optimistically awaits the next challenge. "The vast majority of people I deal with get better and move on to a sober life," he says. "It's like living in the most beautiful garden in the world."

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## Joan Harris Dancers will perform at Knoebel's

The Joan Harris Dancers will appear in two productions at Knoebel's Amusement Park this week. Nearly 100 dancers from the Back Mountain Communities will pool their talents with 200 other dancers from across the region to produce a fun-filled, fast-paced dance review at 4 and 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 19.

This is the 20th consecutive year the studio will perform at the park in Elysburg. This week's shows include a wide

variety of ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical and modern dance arranged to music with a summertime theme. The productions mark the end of the center's eight-week summer program.

Back Mountain students participating in the show include Aubrielle Smith, Kristen Justice and Kelsey Hall, all of Dallas; Maryssa Lewko, of Shavertown; and Maria Zurla and Tashara Teart, both of Wyoming.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Southern rock legend, 'Abilene,' will headline the Fifth Annual Dallas Days Dance on Friday, Sept. 12, at the Shadowbrook Pavilion in Tunkhannock. 'Just Us,' a soft rock/folk trio, will open the event from 7 to 8 p.m. followed by 'Abilene.'

## Dallas Days Dance is Sept. 12

Dallas Days Weekend festivities will once again get off to a "rocking start" at 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 12, with the Fifth Annual Dallas Days Dance at the Shadowbrook Pavilion in Tunkhannock. Back by popular demand, this year's musical entertainment will feature the soft rock/folk sounds of the ever-popular trio "Just Us" from 7 to 8 p.m. followed by southern rock legends, "Abilene" from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Both bands were popular in the '70s and '80s throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania. The evening's headline performers, "Abilene," formed during the U.S. Bicentennial of 1976, melding the genres of rock, country, bluegrass, blues and cajun music with a hard-driving stage performance that electrified audiences throughout Pennsylvania and New Jersey for three decades.

Their rise to notoriety began when they were the opening act for piano man Billy Joel in Scranton. The outstanding reaction they received that night from the standing-room only crowd

launched "Abilene" into the media spotlight and to a position of prominence among regional bands. Today, 30 years later, "Abilene" has stage performance that once again sets the standard for high-energy, good-time music!

A special door prize and numerous giveaways will take place throughout the evening. Winning ticket holders must be present to win.

Tickets are \$25 per person (advance sales only) and are now available at Joe Nardone's Gallery of Sound locations in Dallas, Kingston, Wilkes-Barre (Mundy Street), and Dickson City; Dallas Borough Municipal Office, 25 Main St. (675-1389); Ochman's Coins and Jewelry, 18 Church St., Dallas (675-5872); and Wisnosky Jewelers, 230 W. Tioga St. (SR 6), in Tunkhannock (836-5754). Ticket price includes beer soda, and light refreshments. A cash bar will also be available.

For information on sponsoring this event, call the Dallas Harvest Festival Hotline at 675-1950.

**Arts At Hayfield**  
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**ENTERTAINMENT**  
 11:00-11:30/1-1:30: Irish Step Dancing  
 11:30-12:30: Anthracite Jazz Combo-Dixieland  
 12:00-12:30/2:30-3:00: Theatre: Folk Tales from Around the World  
 12:30-1:30: Native American Dance  
 1:00-2:30: Juggler Bob Smith Walkabout  
 1:30-2:30: Jay Smar-One Man String Band  
 2:30-4:00: Pat Ward Magician/Balloon Art Walkabout  
 3:30-4:30: "Just Us" Folk Music

FRIEDMAN OBSERVATORY & BOOKSTORE OPEN  
 HAYFIELD HOUSE TOURS: 11 a.m., 12:30 & 2 p.m.  
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