

## OBITUARIES

**BANKS** - John F. "Jack" Banks, 82, of Dallas, died Sunday, Nov. 29, 2009 at his residence.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, Jack was a Navy veteran specializing in underwater demolition. He was a 1952 graduate of Penn State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering.

After graduation, he was part of a joint venture to build an air base in Greenland. Upon completion, he returned to the area and, in 1954, formed Banks and Schiel Paving Company. In 1961, at the request of his father, he became president of American Asphalt Paving and made building Pennsylvania's roads his life's work.

He had served as president of APC (Associated Pennsylvania Constructors).

Surviving are his wife, Jean; children, Jack Jr., Oakland, Calif.; Jeffrey, Kingston; Laurie, Swyersville; Bernard S., New City, N.Y.; Susan, Amherst, N.Y.; and Janet, Ashburn, Va.; 13 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; sisters, Florence Reilly, Hohokus, N.J., and Elizabeth (Beth) Reilly, York; and a brother, Bernard, Trucksville.

Memorial donations to Gate of Heaven Church, 40 Machel Ave., Dallas, PA 18612.

**BARNA** - Bernadine Johanna, 85, of Fairless Hills, died Saturday, Nov. 28, 2009 in St. Mary Medical Center, Middletown Township.

Born in Trucksville, she had been a resident of Fairless Hills for over 55 years, moving there from Swyersville. She was a veteran of the U.S. Navy where she received the World War II Victory Medal and the American Campaign Medal.

Surviving are her children, Richard Nelson Barna, of Peach Tree City, Ga.; Bruce Earl Sr., of Langhorne; Russell M. and Mary Frances Hughes, both of Fairless Hills; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; brothers, John Prushko, of Florida and Vermont; Eugene Prushko, of Wyoming.

**BEGGS** - Mary T., 68, of Nevel Hollow Road, Ross Township, and formerly of Pine Street, Hanover section of Nanticoke, died Monday, Nov. 30, 2009 at Hospice Community Care, Inpatient Unit at Geisinger South Wilkes-Barre.

Born on Dec. 31, 1940 in Schenectady, N.Y., she graduated from Mt. Pleasant High School, and early in life was employed as a nurse's aide at St. Claire Hospital, Schenectady.

She resided in Texas for many years and was a sawyer at Maywood Sawmill, Amarillo. She was last employed as a waitress at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge in Pittsburgh where she resided before moving to Nanticoke in the early 1980s.

She was a member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, Lake Silkworth, and the United Citizens Club, Nanticoke.

Surviving are her daughters, Carolyn Barker, with whom she resided for the past eight years; Katherine Drury, Hunlock Creek; Margaret Vanderhoff, Ashley; son, Daniel Drury, Florida; stepson, James Beggs Jr., Nanticoke; stepdaughter, Marge Griffith, Wampanoag; 13 grandchildren; three

great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews.

**FRANKLIN** - Marion, 81, of Shavertown, died Sunday, Nov. 29, 2009 in the Meadows Nursing Center, Dallas.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, she was a graduate of Coughlin High School, Class of 1946. Prior to retiring, she worked at Pioneer Dress Factory.

She was a member of St. Therese's Church, Shavertown.

Surviving are her husband of 54 years, Ben Franklin; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Memorial donations to Saint Therese's Building Fund, in care of St. Therese's Church, 64 Davis St., Shavertown, PA 18708.

**HALL** - Robert L., 82, formerly of Tunkhannock, died Saturday, November 28, 2009 at Long Island Jewish Hospital, Long Island, N.Y. He had moved to Bayside, N.Y., four days earlier.

He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II.

Surviving are his wife, Felicia (Florence) Takarewski; son, Daniel; four granddaughters; two great-grandsons.

**HILL** - Timothy C., 40, of Noxen, died Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009 at his home following an illness.

Born in Wilkes-Barre on June 21, 1969, he was employed as a boiler maker.

He was a member of the South Mountain Land Association, 20 Limited Hunting Club, Camp Felton and the National Wild Turkey Federation.

Surviving are his mother, former Peggy J. Patton, of Noxen; daughter, Brittney, and a brother, Scott, both at home.

Memorial donations to Emmanuel Assembly of God Church, 239 Church Rd., Harvey's Lake, PA 18618.

**JOHNSON** - Mildred Gyle, 82, of Tunkhannock, died Sun-

day, December 6, 2009 at the Golden Living Center Nursing Home, Tunkhannock.

Born on March 27, 1927 in Auburn Township, Susquehanna County, she worked alongside her husband, "Dick," for many years in the Johnson Mobile Feed Grinding Service. She also worked at Shadowbrook Dairy Bar and the Starlight Drive Inn.

Surviving are her husband of 64 years, Richard C. Johnson; daughters, Linda Johnson Rose, of Springville; Nancy Johnson Stevens; son Mark E.; sister, Catherine Gyle, of Meshoppen; nine grandchildren, three great-grandsons, and one great-great-grandson.

Memorial donations to the Triton Hose Company, 116 W. Tioga St., Tunkhannock, PA 18657 or the Tunkhannock United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 447, Tunkhannock, PA 18657.

**SHOLTS** - Paul "Butch," died Monday, Nov. 30, 2009 at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center, Plains Township.

Born in Wilkes-Barre on Feb. 10, 1954, he was a graduate of Dallas High School.

He was the owner of Sholts Plumbing and Heating.

Surviving are his son, Jacob, Hanover Township; sister, Barbara Jurosky, Dallas; brother, Andrew, Shavertown; nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

**YOST** - Kathryn, of Forty Fort, died Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009 at her home after a three-year battle with cancer.

Born in Albuquerque, N.M., on Jan. 31, 1945, she was a graduate of Forty Fort High School and received her bachelor's and master's of education degrees from Bloomsburg State College. She was an elementary teacher at the Lake-Lehman School District for 36 years, retiring in 2002.

Surviving are her beloved, Ty Russell; three grandchildren; aunts, uncles and cousins.



Nicole Clemson, of Dallas, was the guest speaker at the recent dinner meeting of the Wyoming Valley Lower Eye Bank held at Harvey's Lake. From left, are Bob Shaffer, president, Dallas Lions; Clemson, 2009 PA State Fair Queen; Tom Shina, president, Harvey's Lake Lions; and Ed Kelly, vice-president, EyeBank.

## Clemson speaks at Eye Bank meeting

Nicole Clemson, of Dallas, was the guest speaker at the recent dinner meeting of the Wyoming Valley Lower Eye Bank held at Harvey's Lake.

She shared her experiences of Lions members from various regions in the Wyoming Valley regarding volunteerism in her com-

munity and across the state which she has toured during this year as the 2009 Pennsylvania State Fair Queen.

Most recently, Clemson was recognized by Acting Secretary of the Department of Agriculture Russell Redding for helping to make history in Philadelphia in

November for its first-ever Farm City Day celebration at City Hall.

Currently a student at The University of Scranton where she is studying pre-veterinary medicine, Clemson will attend the Farm Show in Harrisburg in January before relinquishing her title at the end of January.

## CHURCH BRIEFS

### LIUM volunteer will serve homeless

Members of the Outreach Committee of the Lehman-Idetown United Methodist Church will volunteer to serve a meal to VISION's homeless men at Camp Orchard Hill at 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 14.

### Sweet Valley church plans holiday program

The Sweet Valley Church of Christ, 5439 Main Rd., Sweet Valley, will have a free Christmas drama presentation titled "House of Holidays" at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 18

and 19. Refreshments will be available after each presentation.

For more information, call 477-2320.

### Christmas program presented in Orange

"Home for Christmas" will be presented live on stage at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 19, at the Apostolic Faith Tabernacle, 536 Village Rd., Orange. Snow date is Saturday, Dec. 26.

Admission is free and refreshments will be served.

For more information, call 333-5172.

### Candlelight service set

A candlelight vesper service with special music will be presented by the church choir at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 20, at the Lehman-Idetown United Methodist Church.

Youth members of the church will carol following the service and will also hold their Christmas party.

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Service set

A Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Holy Communion will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 24, at the Lehman-Idetown United Methodist Church.

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**Michael Mathews**  
October 19, 2005  
We miss you always.  
Love,  
Mom and Dad

**Pauline Thomas**  
January 27, 2003  
We miss you so much and wish you were here to spend the holidays with us.  
Everyday we think of you and know you are with us in our hearts.  
Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Your children & grand children

This tribute will publish on Christmas Day, Friday, Dec. 25 and will also appear on timesleader.com  
Send your photo to arrive by Tuesday, Dec. 15 at 4:00 p.m.

Drop off or return this completed form with your photo and a \$35 or \$55 check to: The Times Leader, Special Angels, 15 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope to have your photo returned or pick it up at our office after Dec. 29, 2009. On the back of the photo, please print your angel's name and your mailing address. Or e-mail your photo and the information below to [classifieds@timesleader.com](mailto:classifieds@timesleader.com). All entries must include phone number.

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