

**OBITUARIES**

**ANTANAITIS** - Helen M., 91, of Harveys Lake, died Monday, Dec. 28, 2009 at the Mercy Center, Dallas.

Born in Nicholson, she was a graduate of Hanover Township High School. In association with her late husband, John, she was the proprietor of Antanaitis Cafe, Swoyersville.

She was a member of Our Lady of Victory Church, Harveys Lake, first president of the Ladies of Assumpta, Luzerne, and a longtime member and past president of the Lithuanian Women's Club of Wyoming Valley.

Surviving are her daughter, Beverly Connolly, Harveys Lake; son, Robert J., Cherry Hill, N.J.; five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Memorial donations to Our Lady of Victory Church or Mercy Center Skilled Care Nursing Unit.

**DARLING** - Gary S. "Buck," 56, of Shavertown, died Monday, Dec. 28, 2009 at his home.

Born in Meshoppen, he graduated from West Side Vocational Technical High School, Pringle and had been employed as a machine operator by Cascade Tissue Group, Pittston.

He was a member of the National Sportsman Club.

Surviving are his mother, Joyce Youells Shafer, Shavertown; his wife of 37 years, Debra Pugh Darling; children, Jason M., Shavertown; Melissa E. Yeager, Wapwallopen; William G., Plymouth; Rebecca G., Shavertown; brothers, Willard G., Luzerne; Floyd G., Black Walnut; Alan W., Glasgow, Ky.; David E., Belgium; sisters, Barbara Hatcher, Kingston; Joyce Field, Dallas; step-mother, Josephine Darling, Glasgow, Ky.; and eight grandchildren.

Memorial donations to the Medical Oncology Prescription Fund, c/o Dr. David Greenwald, 382 Pierce St., Kingston, PA 18704.

**HAMLETT** - Steven, 36, of Tunkhannock, died Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2009 at Tyler Memorial

Hospital, Tunkhannock.

Born in Newark, N.J., he was a graduate of Crestwood High School.

Surviving are his mother, Mary E. Weber Hamlett; son, Steven, Jr.; daughters, Alexis, Julliss Schoonerver and Brooke L.; brother, Arthur; sisters, Linda Adams, Florence Myers and Catherine Socci.

**HILL** - Rita Proeller, 90, formerly of North Washington Street in Wilkes-Barre, died Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2009 at the Meadows Manor in Dallas.

Born Dec. 5, 1919 in Wilkes-Barre, she was a graduate of Saint Nicholas High School and Mercy Hospital School of Nursing. She was a registered nurse at Mercy Hospital in Wilkes-Barre for many years before retiring and had also taken an active role, with her late husband, Frank E. Hill, in the daily operation of their family-run business, the Kew-Tee Bar on North Washington Street in Wilkes-Barre.

She was a life member of the Parish of Saint Nicholas.

Surviving are her children, Frank, of Kingston; George J., of Edwardsville; and Mary Ruth Answini, of Allentown; 10 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; sister, Mary Halter, of Wilkes-Barre; and a brother, Joseph Proeller, of Wilkes-Barre.

Memorial donations to the Saint Nicholas Building Fund, 226 S. Washington St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-2897.

**SCHNEIDER** - Darleen F., 54, of Harveys Lake, died Saturday, Jan. 2, 2010 at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Born in Brunswick, Maine, on Dec. 31, 1955, she was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Post No. 655, Larksville.

Surviving are her mother, Beverly Jarvis Murphy, Virginia; companion, David Barber, at home; daughter, Beverly Heinrich, Kingston; sons, Raymond Cahoon Jr., Mountain Top; Ryan Cahoon, Harveys Lake; five grandchildren; sisters, Kathleen

Davis, Marleen Hagan, Sandra Garrish, Ann Look; several nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations can be made to assist the family in caring for her son who is stricken with ALS.

**SCRANTA** - Theodore J., 79, of Tunkhannock, died on Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2009 after a brief illness.

Born in Tunkhannock on August 2, 1930, he served in the U.S. Army and worked as a laborer.

Surviving are his wife, Geraldine Kingston Scranta; a son, Theodore Scranta, of Tunkhannock; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

**WILSON** - Howard Saxon, of London, Ohio, formerly of Tunkhannock, died Friday, Dec. 25, 2009 in the Grant Memorial Hospital, Columbus, Ohio.

Born in Meshoppen on August 24, 1962, he was a 1980 graduate of Tunkhannock High School. He was formerly employed by Walters Bus Transportation in the Tunkhannock Area School District, Pary Trucking in Clark Summit and Campo Trucking of Tunkhannock.

Surviving are his father, Saxon Wilson, of Tunkhannock; step-mother, Thelma Sturdevant Wilson; a daughter, Kristen, of Scranton; brothers, David, of Rome; Thomas, of West Wyoming; Bill, of Meshoppen; sisters, Kathy Wilson and Virginia Hawk, both of Springville; numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

**TOYS COLLECTED AT MEADOWS CENTER**



Staff members and friends of the Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Dallas, collected an array of toys for children of all ages and donated them to the "Toys for Tots" campaign sponsored by the United States Marines Corps. Shown here during the toy pickup are, from left, Corporal Jose Pepin and staff Melissa Neishell, Brenda Ayers, Cristina Tarbox, Meadows administrator; Linda Myslinskik, Nancy Space and Private First Class Claude Hashagen.

**CHURCH BRIEFS**

**Youth group plans lasagna dinner**

The youth group of the Trucksville United Methodist Church will hold a lasagna dinner from 4:30 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 16, at the Dickson Educational Facility, Church Road, Trucksville.

Dinner will be eat-in or take out

with take-outs starting at 4:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children and can be purchased from any youth group member or by calling the church office at 696-3897 Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Blood drive slated**

A blood drive in memory of Judy Panagakos will be held from 7:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 31, at the Gate of Heaven gymnasium.

Donors at this drive will help to meet the needs of pediatric and neonatal babies undergoing surgery.

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Loved and Deeply Missed,  
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Sons Tom Jr. & Ron,  
Granddaughters Jackie, Brittany & Caylee,  
Grandsons Bobby & Joey,  
Great-grandson Connor

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**For Information and Reservations**

AUDITIONS: "Annie" Jan. 9 - 1pm (Girls 8-13)  
Jan 10 - 7pm (Adults 16+)

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