

## OBITUARIES

**ALLARDYCE** - Martha Bogdon, of Shavertown, died Monday, October 10, 2011, after an illness.

She was a graduate of Plymouth High School, and was employed at Bell Telephone Company until her retirement. She enjoyed a second career in later life as a home health aide and caregiver to seriously ill people. She was a member of Gate of Heaven Church, Dallas.

Surviving are her son, Robert, Dallas; daughters, Lisa Mack, Wyoming; Amy, Shavertown; four grandchildren; sister Ruth Lacey, Plymouth; brother, John Bogdon, Maryland; and her dog, Freckles.

Memorial donations to Older Child Adoption Initiative, 335 S. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702, or to the Osterhout Free Library, 71 S. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

**CHRISTIAN** - Bruce, of Kunkle, died Monday, October 3, 2011, at home.

He was born December 21, 1946, in Kingston, and was a self-employed flooring engineer. He was the founder of the Apple Acres Rod and Gun Club and was a member of the Dallas Legion and also the NASCAR Club.

Surviving are his wife, Lyn Updyke Christian; his former wife and mother of his children, Suzanne Sposto Christian; daughters, Gia Christian Mehm, of Kingston; Shannon Jones, of Ashley; and Suzette, of Laguna Beach, Calif.; sons, Bruce Jr., of Kingston; Adam, of Swoyersville; Eric, of Anchorage, Alaska; and Marco, of Anchorage, Alaska; seven grandchildren; a brother, John Allen, of Kingston; nephews and cousins.

**LEISER** - Robert G. (Doc), of Ethel Park Lane, Tunkhannock, died Tuesday, September 27, 2011, in Grandview, Mo.

He was born in Binghamton, N.Y., on February 7, 1950, had been employed at the Procter & Gamble Plant in Mehoopany for 26 years and currently at the Pump and Pantry on Mile Hill in Tunkhannock.

Surviving are his wife of 15 years, Sally Pius Leiser; son, Steven, Pittston; daughters, Kathy Filer, Tunkhannock; Susan Huff, Rush; Bonnie Goulding, Tunkhannock; 10 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

**MARTIN** - Layiah, 87, of Beaumont, died Tuesday, October 4, 2011, at the Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Dallas.

She was born April 20, 1924, in Chester, was employed for many years by the former Commonwealth Telephone Co., Dallas, and was later employed by the Rural Health Corporation, Noxen.

She was actively involved in both the Northmoreland Baptist Church in Center Moreland and the Cross Creek Community Church in Trucksville.

Surviving are sons, Elwood E. "Skip" Jr., of Beaumont; Pastor David, of Sweet Valley; and James L., of Coon Valley, Wis.; nine grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews; and a special friend, Bill

Bradbury, of Trucksville.

Memorial donations to the Northmoreland Baptist Church, 21 Ripple Brook Rd., Tunkhannock, PA 18657; or the Cross Creek Community Church, 370 Carverton Rd., Trucksville, PA 18708.

**NEWHART** - James, 55, of Shavertown, died Tuesday, October 4, 2011, at his residence.

He was born in Kingston, he attended the Lake-Lehman schools and had worked in the construction industry for some time. He had worked at UGL, Scranton, as a forklift operator for the last two years.

He was a member of St. Theresa's Church, Shavertown, and also a social member of the Larksville American Legion.

Surviving are his mother, Frances Pesetski Newhart, Shavertown; son, James Jr., Shavertown; daughter, Shauna Newhart, West Pittston; two granddaughters; brothers, Michael, Shavertown; and Paul, West Pittston; nieces and nephews.

**PETRILLO** - Lucy Carolyn, 87, formerly of Whitehall Manor, Bethlehem, Dallas and Bear Creek, died September 17, 2011, at St. Luke's Hospice Center in Bethlehem.

She was born in Wilkes-Barre, was a graduate of St. Leo's High School in Ashley and the Mercy Hospital School of Nursing.

She was employed for many years as a head nurse on the third floor, East Wing, of the Mercy Hospital in Wilkes-Barre, until her retirement in 1985. She later served as a volunteer in the medical records department at the hospital.

She was a member of Gate of Heaven Church in Dallas and active in parish activities.

Surviving are her children, Dr. Michael A, Bethlehem; Dr. Ronald G., San Diego, Calif.; Dona M., Dallas; Dr. Charles J., Washington Crossing; and Dr. Ann B. DiPietro, Shavertown; 16 grandchildren; a sister, Victoria Rosetti, Daytona Beach, Fla.

## Hundreds attend church tea

More than 230 guests attended the Annual Birthday Tea hosted by the Altar and Rosary Society at Gate of Heaven Church in Dallas.

Highlights included tables decorated for each month of the year, two birthday tables and a table for the autumn season.

The Rev. Deacon Tom Cesarini started the festivities with a blessing. Altar and Rosary president Renee Benedetti welcomed the crowd and introduced this year's entertainment, "Dedra & Al," singers and entertainers.

Following the entertainment, refreshments were served and a raffle and door prizes were awarded.

Chairwomen for the event were Renee Benedetti, Judy Adams, Dede Scafella, Nancy Restaino, Sharon Lumbis and Rose Schmid.



Some of those in attendance at the Annual Birthday Tea hosted by the Altar and Rosary Society at Gate of Heaven Church in Dallas are, from left, first row, Renee Benedetti, Kathy Selner, Sunny Cesarini and the Rev. Tom Cesarini, Deacon. Second row, Malak Khoudary, Jane Brennan, Sue Clouse and Marianne Cogan. Third row, Trish Strazdus, Margaret Kopko, Peg Canfield and Sharon Lumbis. Fourth row, Joan Strazdus, Debbie Konnick, Sheryl Gardner and Ann Marie Gries. Fifth row, Valerie Aiello, Mary Ann Roberts, Angie Murray, Linda Scholl and Karen DeCesaris. Sixth row, Carol Carroll, Bette Gillespie and Catherine Leonard-Nixon.

## CHURCH BRIEFS

### 'Friend Day' at Cross Creek

Cross Creek Community Church, 370 Carverton Rd., Trucksville will celebrate "Friend Day" at 9 and 10:45 a.m. today, Oct. 16. Pastor Dave Martin will speak on "Essential Gear 4 Life."

A fully-staffed nursery and children's church are provided. For more information, call 696-0399 or log onto [www.cross-creekcc.org](http://www.cross-creekcc.org).

### 'Trunk or treat' at SMC

The Shavertown United Methodist Church will hold "trick or treating" without the

door knocking from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 23 in the church parking lot. Rain date is October 30.

Participants should dress in costumes and collect treats from decorated trunks.

### Ham dinner slated

A ham dinner will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 29 at Alderson United Methodist Church, Pole 108, Harveys Lake.

Cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children with takeouts available. For tickets, call 333-4218 or 639-5688.

### Program addresses memory changes

Clay Jacobs from the Alzheimer's Association will present a program entitled "Aging and Memory Changes" at 1 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 4 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Dallas.

The free presentation, which runs approximately an hour, will be followed by a question and answer period.

### Election Day Café planned

Members of Trucksville United Methodist Church will operate an Election Day Café from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 8 at the church, 40 Knob Hill Rd.

The menu will include hot and cold beverages; donuts, sticky buns, brownies and cookies; sandwiches, homemade soups and chili; hot dogs and wimpies. A freshly-prepared

Lunch-to-Go can be ready in just minutes any time during the day.

Proceeds will benefit Mother Teresa's Haven, previously known as V.I.S.I.O.N.

### Election Day meals benefit youth group

Election Day meals will be served from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 8 at the Center Moreland United Methodist Church.

Breakfast and lunch will be made to order and dinner will be chicken and biscuits with dessert.

All proceeds will benefit the "Soldiers of Christ" youth group.

A bake sale will also be held at the Northmoreland Township Fire Hall to benefit Christmas Mission projects.

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