

# Helen Franklin notes 96th year with party

Family and friends helped Helen Franklin, of Jackson Township, celebrate her 96th birthday on Nov. 25 at Grotto Pizza, Harveys Lake.

Franklin was born on Nov. 25, 1916 in the family home on the farm where she now resides. She was the daughter of Maude Bulford Splitt and Gustav Robert Splitt. She also had a brother, Durwood.

Franklin's father worked in the mines and as a farmer. Before her parents were married, her mother taught in one-room schoolhouses in Jackson Township and Dallas Township.

Franklin attended the Cease-town one-room school and went

on to graduate from Dallas Township High School in 1935.

She and her husband, Norman, lived in Philadelphia and Hershams for many years. Their daughters, Kathleen and Carol May, were educated as trained nurses.

Although the Jackson United Methodist Church was Franklin's home church, she is now a member of the Huntsville United Methodist Church.

Franklin thanks all those who helped celebrated her birthday, including her grandchildren and great-grandchildren as well as her niece, Sandy, and her husband, Rev. Tom Morris, who live near her.



Helen Franklin, of Jackson Township, seated above, celebrated her 96th birthday with a party at Grotto Pizza, Harveys Lake, attended by family and friends.

## SENIOR CENTER MENU

Senior Citizens Centers sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging for Luzerne and Wyoming Counties offer hot noon meals Monday through Friday to people 60 years of age or older. Donations from participants are gratefully accepted and needed in order to expand this program.

The following is the menu for the week of Dec. 24:

**MONDAY:** Spaghetti (whole wheat pasta) and meatballs, Italian wedding soup, garden salad, Italian bread, crackers, parmesan cheese, lemon sorbet, margarine, milk and coffee.

**TUESDAY:** Centers closed for Christmas day.

**WEDNESDAY:** Baked ham, lima beans, roasted potatoes, whole wheat dinner roll, cheesecake with pineapple topping, margarine, milk and coffee.

**THURSDAY:** Meatloaf, gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, whole wheat dinner roll, pear bread pudding, margarine, milk and coffee.

**FRIDAY:** New Year's special lunch - Roast pork with gravy, sauerkraut, peas and pearl onions, bread stuffing, rye bread, orange juice, apple cobbler, margarine, milk and coffee.

## OBITUARIES

**ASHTON** - William J., 78, of Lehman Township, died Saturday, Dec. 15, 2012, at his home.

He was born in Chase and was a graduate of Lake-Lehman High School. He was formerly employed by Transco Gas Pipeline in the maintenance department.

Surviving are his wife, the former Alvertta Riczu, Lehman Township; sons, David, Lehman Township; James, Clarks Summit; daughters, Susan Napkora, Dallas; Laura Horvath, Lehman Township; four grandchildren; brother, Albert, Chase; sister, Audrey Nelson, Lancaster; nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations to Hospice of the Sacred Heart, 600 Baltimore Drive, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702 or the ALS Association "You Gehrig's Disease," Greater Philadelphia Chapter, 321 Norris-town Road, Suite 260, Ambler, PA 19002.

**CLARK** - Robert E. Jr., of Dover, Del., died on Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2012.

He was born in Wilmington, Del., and attended Friends School and Fork Union Military Academy before receiving his BS from Dickinson College and his law degree from GW University. He worked for E.I. Dupont Co., the Joseph W. Riley Co. and later owned and managed JB Clark's Fine Eatery in Dallas. After moving back to Delaware, in 2008, he volunteered for the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) and Faithful Friends.

Surviving are his wife of 19 years, Janice Brobyn Riley Clark; daughter, Kim McPetridge; son, Robert Lane; stepdaughter, Vivian Kessler; stepson, Gregory Riley; three grandchildren.

Memorial donations to Faithful Friends, 12 Germay Drive, Wilmington, DE 19804.

**FLYTE** - Rosemary, 69, of Lehman Township, died on Friday, Dec. 15, 2012, at the Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Dallas, following a lengthy illness.

She was born on April 4, 1943, in Hanover Township, attended and graduated from Hanover High School in 1960. She also graduated from the Empire School of Beauty, achieving licensure as a Beautician/Cosmetologist.

She had also been employed by Rifkin Manufacturing. For many years, along with her husband, Harold, she co-owned and operated Flyte's Licensed Personal Care Home in Huntsville. More recently, she was employed by both Fino's Pharmacy and RiteAid Pharmacy in Dallas.

She was a member of the Gate of Heaven Parish in Dallas.

Surviving are her husband of 41 years, Harold Flyte; a son, Brian, both of Huntsville; aunts, cousins, nieces and nephews.

**GERCHAK** - Eleanor (Ellie) Maroun died Thursday, Dec. 13, 2012.

She was born Sept. 15, 1932, in Danbury, Conn., was a graduate of Danbury High School and attended college. She worked for the Department of the Navy in Washington, D.C., prior to her marriage.

She was a member of ACBL (American Contract Bridge League), reaching the level of NABC. She was very active at duplicate bridge at the Jewish Community Center and ran a Marathon Bridge Tournament at Irem

Temple to benefit the Children's Research Hospital in Philadelphia. She was a member of the Red Hat Society of Dallas and the Sister Act.

She was a member of Gate of Heaven Church, Dallas, and its Altar and Rosary Society.

Surviving are her daughter, Trudy Clemson, Dallas; son, Joseph Gerchak Jr., West Wyoming; five grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

**GORDON** - Marie Gordon, 77, of Trucksville, died Friday, Dec. 14, 2012, at the River Street Manor, Wilkes-Barre.

She was born in Swoyersville and worked in the garment industry for 50 years, spending 40 of those years working at United Pants Factory, Swoyersville. She has resided in Trucksville for the past 47 years.

Surviving are her sisters, Roseann Waslick, also a resident of River Street Manor, Wilkes-Barre; Margaret Basinger, Lansing, Mich.; Claire Gulla, Swoyersville; brother, Joseph Lawrence, Swoyersville; nieces and nephews.

**JESSE** - Nina, 60, of Tunkhannock, died Thursday evening, Dec. 13, 2012, at home.

Surviving are her husband of 43 years, Edward Jesse Sr.; children, Edward Jr., Tunkhannock; April, Tunkhannock; and Billie Jo Opet, Hallstead; three grandchildren; siblings, George Yaskowich, Susquehanna; Marion Bolles, Montrose; and Gloria Penny, Hallstead.

Memorial services are scheduled for noon today, Dec. 23 at her son Edward's home, 162 Jenkins Lane, Tunkhannock. Her family asks that guests bring an ornament in her memory to the memorial.

**KAPPLER** - Charles F. III, 73, of Tunkhannock and Christiansted, St. Croix, died suddenly on Friday, Dec. 14, 2012.

He was born on Dec. 19, 1938, was a graduate of Kingston High School, class of 1956, and attend-

ed Wilkes College. He joined the Pennsylvania National Guard and was called to the regular Army during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

He graduated from Officers Training School, Fort Benning, Georgia and was stationed at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Attaining the rank of captain, he was Commanding Officer of the Plymouth National Guard Armory.

He was vice president and partner of Kingston Metal Specialties, Luzerne. In retirement, he was a gunsmith, owning and operating Auburn Gun Shop, Meshoppen.

He was a long-time member of the NRA and a member of the North Branch Land Trust.

He was a member and past Master of Kingston Lodge, No. 395, F & AM and a past Master of Factoryville Lodge, No. 341, F & AM; Caldwell Consistory, Bloomsburg; Chapter Council and Commandary, Wilkes-Barre; and Irem Temple.

Surviving are his wife of 54 years, Nell-Ann Romanansky Kappler; his sons, Charles F. IV, Dallas; Edward S., New Hampshire; Christopher T., New York; six grandchildren; sister, Barbara Romanansky, Mountain Top; a niece and an aunt.

Memorial donations to the North Branch Land Trust, 11 Carverton Road, Trucksville, PA 18708 or the American Diabetes

Association, 1701 N. Beaugard St., Alexandria, VA 22311.

**McHALE** - William John "Buddy" Sr., 82, of Shavertown, died on Dec. 16, 2012, at the home of his daughter Cathy Prater.

He was born Aug. 27, 1930, and was a graduate of Pittston Area High School, class of 1948.

He served two tours in the United States Naval Service during the Korean War as a radioman on the USS Cabot between the years 1948 and 1953.

He was employed by Owens Illinois as a plant engineer from 1968 through 1991.

He was a member of Gate of Heaven Church, Dallas.

Surviving are his children, William J. Jr., Ramsey, N.J.; Ann Ellen Krench, Seattle, Wash.; Sharon Resetar, Elizabethtown; Jeanne Rosengrant, Trucksville; Cathy Prater, Shavertown; sister, Jeanne Donahue, Allentown; 16 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

**NUSBAUM** - Joan (Powell) Flack, 81, of Naples, Fla. and Dallas, died on Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012, at the Bentley Village Care Center in Naples, Fla.

She was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1931, raised in Dallas and attended the Wilkes-Barre Institute and the Penn Hall Girls Preparatory School in Chambersburg.

She was a member of the West-

moreland Club, Huntsville Golf Club, Naples Yacht Club and the Hole in the Wall Golf Club, Naples, Fla.

She served for many years on the board of directors of Diamond Consolidated Industries of Wyoming. She also served on the board of The Boulevard Club Condominium Association, Naples, Fla.

Surviving are her daughter, Janet (Jefie) Flack; son, Harold (Hal); 14 grandchildren; stepdaughters, Heide Nusbaum; Jennifer Nusbaum Simmons; stepson, Howard Nusbaum Jr.

Memorial donations to The Rusty Flack Memorial Garden at Grace Episcopal Church, 30 Butler St., Kingston, PA 18704; The Charles D. Flack Memorial Scholarship Fund at Misericordia University, 301 Lake St., Dallas, PA 18612; or the Wyoming Seminary Fine Arts Program, c/o the Development Office, 201 N. Sprague Ave., Kingston, PA 18704.

**SICKLER** - Paul C., of Tunkhannock, died on Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2012, at the home of his

daughter in Middleburgh.

He was born on Corby Hill, Tunkhannock, and had worked on the Shamokin Dam Power Plant, as a logger and on his family farm. He retired from the Pennsylvania Department of Highway.

He was a charter member of the Tunkhannock Pilgrim Holiness Church. He served as a lay minister, taught the young adult Sunday school class and served on the church board as an advisory member.

He was a member of the NRA, Trappers Association and Republican National Committee.

Surviving are his wife of 63 years, Velma Payne Sickler, son, Rev. Paul J., Milmont; daughter, Bonita L. Musser, Middleburgh; foster son, Robert Sims, Philadelphia; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; brothers, Harold, Meshoppen; James, Centermoreland; Robert, Tunkhannock; sisters, Dorothy Shupp and Sara Greenly, Tunkhannock; nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations to the Pilgrim Holiness Church, 102 West St., Tunkhannock, PA 18657.

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