

## OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED



Two Republican members of the Pennsylvania State Legislature from the Back Mountain who work closely together in Harrisburg are State Senator Lisa Baker and State Representative Karen Boback. Senator Baker represents the 20th Senatorial District that includes parts of Luzerne, Monroe, Susquehanna Counties and all of Pike, Wayne and Wyoming Counties. Representative Boback serves the 117th Legislative District that includes parts of Columbia, Luzerne and Wyoming Counties. Pictured at the State Capitol on the convening day of the 2013-14 legislative session, Jan. 1 are, from left, Representative Karen Boback, Harveys Lake; Reverend Charles Gommer, Dallas; and Senator Lisa Baker, Dallas.



The Lettermen, from left, Tony Butala, Donovan Tea and Bobby Poynton, will perform their timeless love songs at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 22 in Misericordia University's Lemmond Theater at Walsh Hall.

## The Lettermen come to Lemmond Theater

The timeless songs of The Lettermen will fill the air of Lemmond Theater at Walsh Hall at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 22 when the group performs many of its timeless hits, such as "Put Your Head On My Shoulder," "When I Fall In Love," "Traces/Memories," "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You," "Hurt So Bad" and "Theme From A Summer

Palace."

The group's signature sound of romantic standards scored more than 25 hit singles in the 1960s and 70s. At the same time, The Lettermen toured with George Burns, Jack Benny, Bob Hope and Bill Cosby; performed on bills with Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra, Jackie Gleason, Jerry Lewis, Dean Martin, Jimmy Durante, Debbie Reynolds, Sam Cooke and Sammy Davis, Jr.

The group also appeared several times on television's "The Ed Sullivan Show" and was a regular on "The Red Skelton

Overall, The Lettermen have made more than 200 appearances on television shows, such as Dick Clark's "American Bandstand" series and various talk shows with Johnny Carson, Mike Douglas, Merv Griffin, Jack Paar, Milton Berle and many others.

During their more than 50-year career, The Lettermen have averaged at least one album a year. The trio has gone through a few personnel changes over the years. Today, the band is comprised of Tony Butala, an original and founding member, Donovan Tea and Bobby Poynton.

Tickets for the show are available exclusively through the MU Box Office at 674-6719. Premium House Center tickets are \$35 per person and general admission seats are \$20 per person.

For more information, call 674-6400.

## Rep. Boback hosts vets assistance hours Jan. 15

Rep. Karen Boback (R-Luzerne/Wyoming/Columbia) will host her veterans' assistance hours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 15 at her Sweet Valley district office, 5929 Main Road, located off Route 118.

During this event, Boback hosts a claims consultant from the Wilkes-Barre Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) to address questions and concerns of local veterans and their families.

While appointments for these hours are not necessary, it is suggested that a courtesy call be made to 477-3752 as weather conditions will impact attendance.

Some of the services provided at the center for veterans and their dependents include individual, group, family and bereavement counseling, medical referrals, assistance in applying for Veterans Affairs benefits, employment counseling, guidance and referrals and alcohol and drug assessments.

The mobile veterans center features a 38-foot mobile counseling center, two private offices, satellite communication and Internet service with the VA Medical Centers, video conferencing and tele-health capabilities, and is wheelchair accessible.

# Sweet Valley woman loves challenge

Danielle Yurko, who is expecting twins, just months away from second degree.

It is the love of a challenge that has drawn Misericordia senior Danielle Monelli Yurko '06, '13, of Sweet Valley, toward a career in biochemistry research.

The 30-year-old, who is expecting twins in July, is also just months away from finishing her second undergraduate degree at Misericordia. Her perseverance and dedication to her new field have already brought her honors.

Yurko is the first Misericordia student to present at an annual meeting of the American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB), the largest gathering of experts in that particular field of science. The 52nd annual ASCB meeting was held in San Francisco, Calif., in December and drew more than 6,000 participants, including esteemed researchers from around the world.

Accompanied to San Francisco by her research mentor Angela Asirvatham, Ph.D., associate professor of biology, Yurko was one of 300 scientists to present at the undergraduate session and one of 3,000 presenters at the graduate, postdoctoral and faculty level. Dr. Asirvatham also presented at the event, as she has for the past seven years.

The research the pair is doing is ultimately dedicated to finding a faster way to repair nerve



Dr. Angela Asirvatham, left, and student researcher Danielle Yurko, of Sweet Valley, retrieve frozen Schwann cells from a liquid nitrogen storage container for use in their biomedical research on nerve regeneration.

cells damaged by spinal cord injury and multiple sclerosis.

Yurko admits her career path has been much like a science experiment, full of stops and starts and changed directions. She earned her first undergraduate degree in communications at Misericordia in 2006 as a non-traditional student, taking classes at night and on weekends

while working full time.

An interest in medicine and health care – and in particular the new physician assistant program – drew her back to campus in 2009. Yet, it was in her first organic chemistry class where she found a passion for lab experimentation.

Her interest in medical research led her to Dr. Asirvatham,

whose doctoral research involved autoimmune disease. The two have been working on a particular portion of Schwann cell research since January 2012.

Yurko hopes to earn a Ph.D. in biochemistry and molecular genetics and plans a career in biomedical research specializing in autoimmune and multi-drug resistant diseases.



Dr. Anthony Mussari, far left, and his wife Kitch, far right, are shown with the students who appear in their new documentary, "Walking Into The Light at Gettysburg."

## Documentary offers insight and emotion

By ALAN STOUT  
Special to The Dallas Post

"Walking Into The Light At Gettysburg," a new documentary produced by Dr. Anthony J. Mussari, of Dallas, offers more than just a remarkable history lesson on what remains the most intense military battle on American soil. It also offers a lesson in self-discovery.

The film is part of Mussari's ongoing "Face of America" project, which he has developed with his wife, Kitch.

For "Walking Into The Light At Gettysburg," the two bring 10

students from the North Plainfield High School in New Jersey to the Gettysburg National Military Park. And not only does the group find the visit to be educational and enlightening, but in some ways, life-altering.

And why wouldn't it be?

Standing on the grounds and amid the monuments where there were more than 51,000 casualties and where more than 7,000 fell to their death, the students – and those who view the film – are provided with not only staggering statistics on the battle of Gettysburg, but also poignant human stories that made the battle even more heart wrenching.

The group also receives "visits," courtesy of gifted actors, from General Robert E. Lee and Abraham Lincoln, who offer thoughtful perspective on the Civil War.

Throughout the documentary, Mussari – who was recently invited to show the film at the Gettysburg National Military Park – continuously paints the perfect backdrop to the tour. Quotes from Lincoln and Lee frequently appear on the screen, as do time-piece photographs, paintings and video re-enactments. There is also appropriate music and, most importantly, appropriate sentiment.

When the students offer

thoughts on their time at Gettysburg during the film's final moments, important lessons are revealed. And as one young teen recites a poem she had written inspired by her visit, there are also a few tears.

Perhaps that is the greatest triumph of "Walking Into The Light At Gettysburg." It teaches. It inspires. It captures the emotions one might feel while standing at one of America's most hallowed grounds exactly 150 years after it became such a landmark.

For schools unable to take such a memorable field trip, the film in many ways, can take them there.

### PROPERTY TRANSFERS

The following Back Mountain real estate transactions were recorded in the Luzerne County Office of the Recorder of Deeds for the week of Dec. 31, 2012 to Jan. 4, 2013:  
David E. and Hollie A. Pursel to Matthew P. and Heather A. Kukosky, Lot 1 and p/o Lot 2, Lehman Township; \$123,500  
United States, Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary of Veterans Affairs to Clinton McCormick, Franklin Township; 464,000

Claire Futch, Kathy S. Millington and Bonnie S. Adams to UGI Energy Services, Inc., 1.07 acres, Franklin Township; \$53,000  
Bank of America to Leo and Mary Landau, 17 Manor Drive, Kingston Twp.; \$61,000  
Holden A. Newell III to Jan. S. Valick, Lehman Township; \$14,100  
Michael G. and Shannon Dolon Panisak to Aaron Mishoe, 25 Marina Drive, Harveys Lake Borough; \$198,000  
Hi-Pines Inc. to Marguerite E.

Deweese, Unit 220, Hillside, Dallas Borough; \$130,000  
Louise M. and Thomas Thomas to Brian O'Keefe, Lot 1, Kyt-tle Subdivision, Lake Township; \$60,000  
Gary R. Crompton and Jill Sandutch (co-executors), Amelia H. Crompton (estate) to Carla V. Calvo, 3 parcels, Kingston Township; \$203,000  
Carole Rothbell to Kathleen H. Drialo, Lot 2, Lehman Township; \$9,000  
Carmella Kunis to John D. McDermott and Michael P. Gil-

hooley, 299 Swamp Road, Hunklock Township; \$1  
Nicholas Colangelo (trustee), Avalon Trust, Irene Santarelli Trust, Madeline Kropp, Alexis Kropp, Alexis Kwon, Caroline Kropp to CAM Consulting Group, LLC, 67 S. Pioneer Ave., Kingston Township; \$1  
Lori A. Kulp to Richard Racusin, 1144 Highland Drive, Jackson Township; \$1  
Arthur J. Prutzman to Woodland Springs Bird Sanctuary, Lots 74, 75, Dallas Heights, Dallas Borough; \$2,000

## Community Cares for Kids Seventh Annual Carnivale is Jan. 19

Community Cares for Kids (CCK) will hold its seventh annual fundraiser, a Carnivale party, at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 19 at the Westmoreland Club in Wilkes Barre.

The event funds CCK's yearly medical mission to the children of Ecuador who suffer from disfiguring injuries or

birth defects. CCK is an all-volunteer organization that also donates to area charities and communities in crisis.

This year's event features a five-hour open bar, hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dessert, along with dancing and live music by The Uptown Band. The event includes a silent

auction with items ranging from fine art from David Green and Marquis Art and Frame, antiques, jewelry from Valentine's, a scooter from Pride Mobility and a fur piece from RK Furs to spa packages from Age of Innocence and more.

Guests will also enjoy a 50/

50 raffle, a palm reader, caricaturist and photographer. Attire is "Blue, Black or Beads" which means attendees can dress up in tux and mask or down in blue jeans and beads.

Tickets at \$145 per person or \$275 per couple are available by emailing jeans@colli-ni.com or by calling 674-6525.