

PEOPLE BRIEFS

THREE RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

Three local students have been awarded scholarships to attend Alvernia University this fall.

Leah Benedetti, of Dallas, has been granted the Veronica Founder's Scholarship to study Occupational Therapy at. She is a senior at Dallas Senior High School.

Cheyenne Hunsinger, of Tunkhannock, has been granted the Trustees' Scholarship to study Nursing. She is a senior at Tunkhannock High School.

Meghan O'Brien, of Dallas, has been granted the Trustees' Scholarship to study Middle School Education. She is a senior at Dallas Senior High School.

PSU STUDENTS VISIT NEVADA

Penn State Wilkes-Barre honors students finished academic coursework in Nevada and Arizona over the recent spring break.

The course, which dealt with the culture and music of indigenous peoples of the American southwest, included on-site experiences of the Colorado River, the engineering and workings of Hoover Dam, the west rim of the Grand Canyon and native folklore and culture of the Hualapai Americans on their nearly million-acre reservation in Arizona.

Back Mountain students who took part in that program include Lee Kozokas, Trucksville; Randy Thompson, Tunkhannock; Kiley Foley, Dallas; Sydney Doyle, Sweet Valley; Christina Pino, Dallas; and Randall Welsh, Hunlock Creek.

MU STUDENTS RECOGNIZED

Christina L. Harrison, of Tunkhannock, and Sara J. Scott, of Hunlock Creek, were among Misericordia University students recently recognized as members of the ninth graduating class from the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Certificate Program during the annual certificate presentation ceremony in Sandy and Marlene Insalaco Hall on campus.

LL DIVERS COMPETE AT STATES

Matthew Edkins, a sophomore at Lake-Lehman, recently competed in the 2013 PIAA State Championships in Diving at Bucknell University, finishing third overall and earning a bronze medal with a score of 407.35. Last year, he finished in sixth place.

Also competing at the state tournament from Lake-Lehman was senior, Dustin Zeiler who made his first trip to the state contest in his 2-year diving career.

The Lake-Lehman divers are coached by Erin Yurko, an All-American diver at Clarion University and a special education teacher with the Lake-Lehman School District.

DOLMAN SERVES ON MENTORING PROGRAM

Alyssa Dolman, of Trucksville, is among 41 students serving as mentors this semester in the Luzerne County Juvenile Justice College Mentoring Program. She is a student at King's College.

Coordinated by King's criminal justice and sociology departments, the program involves students mentoring first-time, non-violent juvenile offenders from Luzerne County. The offenders meet with mentors on campus for two supervised 90-minute sessions a week for four weeks.

A sophomore history and secondary education major, Dolman is a member of the King's College Theatre, the History Society and the Education Club. She assisted in teaching the Junior Achievement curriculum to local high school students.

She is the daughter of Frank and Pam Dolman.

# Bloomers plan annual Tour of Back Mountain Gardens

The Back Mountain Bloomers Garden Club announces the Sixth Biannual Tour of Back Mountain Gardens will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 29. Six private gardens, four in Dallas and two in Harveys Lake, plus the Shakespeare Garden at Misericordia University are included on this tour.

The selected gardens display a diversity of landscape designs, styles and themes. From the small individually tended garden to an extensive expanse of gardens to the award-winning themed knot garden at Misericordia, all offer a feast for your eyes and wonderment at the beauty of landscaping.

Flowers in beds, garden swaths and pots decorating decks and extensive manicured walkways featuring a fountain,

a pond and a pool with pool house, a gazebo, eclectic garden sculptures, a lovely open paddock for horses and gorgeous views of Harveys Lake await those who participate in the one-day tour of gardens in the Back Mountain.

Garden, nature and landscaping workshops will be offered by some of the area's most recognized master gardeners, professional landscapers and arborists. Members of the Wyoming Valley Art League will paint en plein air in the gardens.

All proceeds from the day's events will benefit the Anthracite Scenic Trails Association (ASTA), an organization developing and maintaining the Back Mountain Trail, a former railroad bed that has been transformed into a recreational

trail for hiking and biking from Luzerne Borough in the Wyoming Valley to eventually reach Ricketts Glen State Park.

To date, the Bloomers' Garden Tours in 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009 and 2011 attracted more than 2,300 people and raised over \$38,000 for ASTA.

Tickets for the Tour of Back Mountain Gardens are \$20 per person if purchased on or before June 22. Ticket price after June 22 is \$25.

To request a Garden Tour brochure and registration form, contact Julie McMonagle at 696-5082 or e-mail [jjmcom@frontiernet.net](mailto:jjmcom@frontiernet.net).

The completed registration form and payment should then be mailed to Anthracite Scenic Trails Association, P.O. Box 212, Dallas, PA 18612.



This delightful fountain surrounded by beautiful landscaping and expansive vistas will be one of six private gardens featured during the Back Mountain Bloomers Tour of Back Mountain Gardens on Saturday, June 29.



BILL TARUTIS/FOR THE DALLAS POST

The sign leads 'Brave Souls' into 39-degree water at Harveys Lake for the Polar Bear Plunge.

## PLUNGE

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This year, Lake-Lehman juniors Rene Rismondo and Amy Williams were at the helm, shepherding plungers through the registration line, down to the lake and encouraging them into the water - all before they took the plunge themselves.

The 63-year-old Finnerty, of Harveys Lake, is a cancer survivor himself, having beaten throat cancer seven years ago. He has taken the plunge all eight years of the event.

"Jumping into a lake in the winter was always on my bucket list," he laughed.

Kathy Pajor, 54, of Luzerne, sporting 1920s swimming garb, said "Why not?" when asked why she participates every year. Pajor went on to admit that she's known several people affected by cancer and respects the event because it helps those afflicted with the disease.

Her daughter, 18-year-old Gil-



Lake-Lehman juniors Rene Rismondo, left, of Lehman Township, and Amy Williams, of Sweet Valley, organizers of the 2013 Polar Bear Plunge, give instructions before sounding the horn to start the first wave of plungers.

lian, remained on shore, all bundled up as her mother made her way to the water.

"She has a braver soul," Gillian said of her mother, almost admiringly.

Russ Keeler, of Kingston, always wanted to jump in a frozen lake and got involved in the Polar Bear Plunge a few years ago after

participating in an American Cancer Society Relay for Life. Once in the water, Keeler, dressed in a frilly pink tutu with plastic pink glasses on his head, remained in the water for the allowed three minutes.

Fourteen-year-old Connor Switzer, of Harding, admitted to being "cold already" long before he got

near the water while his friend, Nick Hall, 14, of Shavertown, participated in the event, "cuz I'm awesome."

Both boys are students at Wyoming Seminary.

Joseph Sharon, 15, of Shavertown, plunged last year but admitted it wasn't as cold then. Reports indicated the air temperature was in the 40s for last year's event.

Sharon's friend, 15-year-old J.P. Natishan, of Shavertown, stood among a group of boys with his pants down around his ankles and a towel wrapped around his shoulders.

From behind, his father, Jerry, admitted, "That's my kid!" but sees J.P. and his buddies as "a good bunch of boys."

Lake-Lehman Superintendent Jim McGovern looked a little less excited about plunging than the younger boys but did it, nonetheless.

"The girls organizing this came to me on Thursday and asked if I'd do it," he said. "I couldn't say no."

After being helped out of the lake, McGovern couldn't get to his wife, Maureen, and a waiting towel fast enough.

## Staffing changes in Kingston Twp.

Kingston Township announces the appointment of Laura Slocum as the township's new tax collector and Karen Rose as new assistant township manager.

Slocum is a lifelong resident of Kingston Township. She and her husband, Bartt, currently reside in Shavertown. She attended Bloomsburg University and LCCC, graduating with an Associate degree in Business. Slocum also possesses a real estate license and has a background in banking.

The tax collector's hours are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays.

Rose served as tax collector



Slocum



Rose

for approximately 13 years and, for the last year, has taken on the added responsibilities of assistant township manager. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Management from Bloomsburg University and has an extensive background in accounting and real estate.

## PUZZLE ANSWERS

Continued from Page 2

Go Figure!  
answers

6	-	1	x	2	10
÷		x		x	
2	x	9	-	4	14
+		+		÷	
7	x	3	-	8	13
10		12		1	

## King Crossword

Answers  
Solution time: 25 mins.

BAD	FANS	HAMS
AVA	ABIT	OGRE
NET	CALABOOSE	
GRANT	GOT	
	AIDA	PERSE
BURN	OOSE	REED
IRE	NOTRE	DAG
AGAR	MONGOOSE	
SEPIA	REGS	
	OWN	HOWDY
FOOT	LOOSE	ROE
COVE	ARIA	ALL
CHAR	HERD	PEP

## Super Crossword

Answers

TRUST	ALDA	KEBAB	ERLE
WAKE	ISLAND	URICH	NAIR
OPEN	MICHAEL	NIGHT	LYNN
	SOLO	ITCHY	EAMES
ROBERT	ANDWEAVE	ATCOST	
IDID	IIII	AACHEN	
GET	CURTAIN	RODNEY	DRE
ITEMISE	TASE	LOGES	
DOROTHY	COMMER	MASHUPS	
BEE	ALEE	KID	ONEA
VIC	DRIVER	SEDWARD	SLV
ONUS	INE	ILIA	ION
LAPLAND	BUT	SITAR	ARTHUR
GLOOM	ODOM	INSHAPE	
ALF	STOOD	PATRICIA	NOH
	JETHRO	COAT	GONE
GNOME	FOOT	THEWILLIAM	
EASEL	TURBO	ECHO	
EADEN	LESTER	MISERABLE	
NYPD	OREOS	POPPYSEEDS	
AAHS	AINSNE	GUYS	ASOUR