

BACK MOUNTAIN BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: DYMOND'S FARM

# This farm is a fun place to visit

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Whether it's the hayrides, the pick-up-own pumpkin experience, the promise of fresh produce and homemade baked goods or the rustic atmosphere that draws them in, people packed the parking lot at Dymond's Farm, 352 Brace Road, Dallas on a recently Saturday afternoon, testimony that the farm is a fun place to visit.

"A lot of it is just getting out on the farm, letting their kids see what a farm is like, how things grow," said Ted Dymond, co-owner. "It's the fresh air, the roominess of it."

Ted's nephew, Mike Dymond said it also has a lot to do with the diverse selection of produce and other goods grown and sold there, from blueberries to pumpkins, and seasonal decorations to baked goods.

"It's all the fruit that really sells the best," Mike Dymond said.

Dymond's Farm, now owned by brothers Ted and Tim Dymond, was established in 1953 by Fred Dymond Jr. and Gerald Dymond. At first, it primarily grew tomatoes. Over time, the farm expanded its crops, and it now grows just about anything that will take seed in local soil.

Ted Dymond grew up on the farm and has many fond memories there.

"When I was a kid," he said, "my grandfather had the cows, horses, chickens...everything was sustainable. Those were the good days, there's no doubt about it."

Although the Dallas area changed a lot since he went to school here, Ted appreciates the fact that "it's still the Back Mountain."

Mike, who also grew up on the farm, enjoys the life of raising and harvesting food and eating it fresh. He said he believes that's also what attracts custom-

## MEET TED DYMOND

Dymond's Farm is owned and operated by brothers and business partners, Ted and Tim Dymond, and their families. Hobbies/interests: Hunting, fishing, travelling and Civil War-era history. Dream vacation: "A nice cabin, nice lake, nice fishing and relaxation." Favorite holiday: Christmas. Sports teams: Phillies and Pirates. When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?: "A farmer. I never even thought of leaving it."

ers: the freshness of the food and the fact that it is locally grown.

"That's what people enjoy the most," he said.

One aspect of the business which makes it unique, he said, is the high tunnels, greenhouse-like shelters which are used with certain crops to extend the harvest season.

Ted said the high tunnels are just one of many improvements made by the family throughout the years. The farm also allows customers to pick their own pumpkins, strawberries and blueberries in season. In the fall, a hayride transports them to the pumpkin patch where they can search for just the right pumpkins to take home. The business also sells its products at three local farmers markets in Dallas, Wilkes-Barre and Pittston.

Dymond's Bakery, an extension of the business, offers a variety of baked goods, jellies and gift items at its location at 750 Main Road in Shavertown. Ted said the baker has an especially good reputation for its pies, which are all homemade with fresh or frozen fresh ingredients—nothing from a can.

"When you get a cherry pie," he said, "it's loaded with cherries. When you get a blueberry pie, it's loaded with blueberries."



Elizabeth Baumeister photos | The Dallas Post  
Jacob and Logan Valkenburg, of Harveys Lake, hunt for the perfect pumpkins to take home from Dymond's Farm, Dallas. Logan, 6, said his favorite part of visiting the farm is picking pumpkins. Jacob, 8, had a hard time choosing between that and the hayride, but eventually agreed with his brother - pumpkin picking holds the most fun.



Adeley Warren, 5, of Dallas, visits Dymond's Farm. The best part about visiting the farm, she said, is "to carve pumpkins."



Currently owned by brothers Ted and Tim Dymond, Dymond's Farm, Dallas, has been a family owned and operated business since 1953. From left, are Tim, Chris, Mike and Ted Dymond.

## Pumpkin carving in Harveys Lake

Participants from ages 1-99 were invited to carve their own pumpkins during a Halloween Pumpkin Carving Contest sponsored by the Harveys Lake Borough Homecoming Committree and held at HL Powersports on Lakeside Drive in the borough. Participants brought their own pumpkins, carving utensils were supplied and the committee provided refreshments.



Bill Tarutis photos | FOR THE DALLAS POST  
Trish DuBeau, left, of Harveys Lake, watches her twin sons Connor and Chris carve their pumpkin at HL Powersports at Harveys Lake.



Some of the decorated pumpkins on display at HL Powersports pumpkin carving contest at Harveys Lake.



Christina Rogers, right, of Tunkhannock, looks over carved pumpkins with her relatives Krista Scoblick, of Harveys Lake, Zack Borgeson, of Beaumont and Corinna Scoblick, of Harveys Lake.



The Grim Reaper (Isaac Serhan, of Harveys Lake) makes an appearance.



HL Powersports co-owner Paul Adamshick gets ready to start a hayride.

## Boback lists outreach hours

### Veterans invited to program

Rep. Karen Boback (R-Columbia/Luzerne/Wyoming) has announced her legislative and veterans outreach hours for the month of November.

Patrick Rogan, a case-worker for Rep. Lou Barletta, will be available from 10 a.m. to noon on Monday, Nov. 18 at Boback's Sweet Valley office, and then from 1 to 3 p.m. at her Tunkhannock office. He will be available to help constituents having problems with federal agencies and programs. Constituents are encouraged to bring documents they have received from federal agencies related to their issues.

The Department of Veterans Affairs' Mobile Veterans Center will visit Boback's Tunkhannock district office from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 4. It will also visit the Dallas Shopping Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Appointments for the mobile center can be made by contact-

ing570-344-2676.

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.

Boback will also hold veterans assistance hours, in cooperation with the American Legion, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 6 at her Tunkhannock office, 608 Hunter Highway, Suite 110, Tunkhannock.

A claims consultant from the American Legion will provide the assistance. Area veterans may seek assistance and information pertaining to specific benefits and programs. Additional meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of every month.

In an effort to reach out to veterans and their families in the 117th Legislative District,

Boback will host her veterans' assistance hours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 19 at her Sweet Valley district office.

Veterans are invited to this year's Veterans Recognition Event, scheduled for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 9 at Misericordia University's Insalaco Hall and featuring several local veterans' organizations.

The event will be held in conjunction with the university, Metz Culinary Management and Dallas Area High School.

It will begin with a breakfast from 9 to 10 a.m., followed by a recognition event and the Veterans Expo. The events are open to all veterans. Shuttle service will be available, leaving Boback's Tunkhannock district office at 8 a.m. and returning at noon.

Those who wish to use the shuttle, or participate in the breakfast portion of the program should call 570-836-4777.

For more legislative information, visit Boback's website at RepBoback.com.

## Career

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as undeclared and 50 percent of students take six years to finish a four-year degree.

This, combined with the fact that public college tuition has risen faster than the rate of inflation, a better insight into careers and educational opportunities is invaluable.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, between 2000-2001 and 2010-2011, prices for undergraduate tuition and living expenses at public institutions rose 42 percent.

Some students may find a trade school or

technical training is a better route for what they want to achieve, Darling said.

"Others may opt for a four-year degree, depending on the career choice," she said.

The job shadowing aspect gives students real-life experience in the profession of their choice.

"We did a pilot last April," Darling said. "We had some students go to John Heinz, another with a neurosurgery physician's assistant with Gesinger. It was very successful but it was too late in the school year to build it into the curriculum."

Senior Emma Niznik, of Wyoming, was given the opportunity to shad-

ow Mark Lacey, a neurosurgery physician's assistant at Geisinger Medical Center in Plains Township, over the summer.

"It was just one day," Niznik said.

Her day on the job ran from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. where she observed Lacey with patients and had a chance to ask questions.

"It gave me a good feeling on what it is all about," she said. "It was really cool."

The experience gave Niznik the foundation to build her career.

She said she plans to attend Rutgers to become a neurosurgery physician's assistant.

## Winter parking ordinance in effect in Kingston Twp.

Kingston Township Police Chief James Balavage reminds residents that the Township Winter Parking Ordinance went into effect on Nov. 1 and runs through March 31, 2014. Under this ordinance residents are prohibited from parking vehicles on township streets between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

daily. Chief Balavage also reminds residents that vehicles are not permitted to be parked on township streets during snowstorms or for eight hours after the end of a storm.

The ordinance is designed to keep township streets open and clear so that snow removal mea-

asures can be effectively undertaken by the public works department.

The chief urges all township residents to cooperate by complying with the township ordinance to avoid enforcement measures.

Residents with questions about the ordinance may contact Chief Balavage at 570-696-1175.