



Submitted photo

The Lackawanna State Park surrounds a 198-acre lake, which helps draw more than 360,000 visitors annually.

## Lehman grad named manager of Lackawanna State Park

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The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) appointed a new manager of the Lackawanna State Park Complex in Lackawanna, Wayne and Susquehanna counties in October, replacing Dustin Drew, who was appointed manager of the Moraine State Park Complex in Butler and Lawrence counties.

Kevin Koflanovich, 41, a native of Shavertown, currently resides in Lehigh, where, for almost three years he worked as manager of Beltzville State Park. He, along with his wife Amanda and two children, ages three and four, plans to soon move to Dalton, to take on the new position.

As manager of the Lackawanna State Park Complex, Koflanovich's responsibilities include general oversight of park operations, hiring and employee issues, budget, customer service, public

relations and more. He described it as a "very diverse job with ever-changing duties."

"With prior experience at Beltzville and Delaware Canal state parks, Kevin has a keen appreciation of water-based resources and recreation," said DCNR Acting Secretary Ellen Ferretti in a news release. "His field experience and public relations skills are a perfect match for Lackawanna, where a 198-acre lake helps draw more than 360,000 visitors annually."

Koflanovich will oversee Lackawanna's 1,411 acres, as well as the other state parks within the complex, including Prompton, 972 acres; Archbald Pothole, 153 acres and Salt Spring, 400 acres, Susquehanna County.

Koflanovich's career path began in his teen years, working at Luzerne County's Moon Lake Park. "Moon Lake was a great place to work and I really enjoyed it there," he said, "so I decided to pursue a degree in park management so that I might be

able to oversee such an operation."

He graduated from Lake-Lehman High School and earned a bachelor's degree in recreation and park management from Pennsylvania State University. He began working with the Bureau of State Parks six years ago as a park management trainee and assistant park manager at Delaware Canal State Park.

He especially appreciates the day-to-day variety his job provides and the aspect of working with the

public in an outdoor setting. His family also enjoys visiting state parks, and he said they have fun hiking, swimming and exploring nature together.

"I found it interesting," he said, "that there are so many different recreational opportunities offered in PA State Parks, from rock and ice climbing to white water kayaking and rafting. Also that there are natural wonders like a glacial pothole and boulder field, stunning waterfalls and ancient forests — all right here in PA."

## CHURCH BRIEFS

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE SET

Christmas Eve service will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 24 at the Cross Creek Community Church, 370 Carverton Road.

Sunday morning services are at 9 and 10:45 a.m. and Wednesday Family Night is at 6:30 p.m. A fully-staffed nursery and Junior Church are provided on Sunday mornings.

For more information, call the church office at 570-696-0399.

### CHRISTMAS EVE MUSICAL

A Christmas Eve musical, entitled "Fear Not!" will be presented by the Sweet Valley Church of Christ Jr. Choir at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 24 at Sweet Valley Church of Christ, 5439 Main Road, Sweet Valley.

For directions, call 570-477-2320.

## CIVIC BRIEFS

### CLOTHES CLOSET SALE

Noxen Clothes Closet will have a buck a bag sale from 1 to 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 27 at the Noxen School, School Street Noxen. For information, call 570-298-2211.

## PEOPLE BRIEFS

### TWO GRADUATE

Timothy Dymond and John Giampietro, both of Dallas, were members of the first graduating class of the Misericordia university entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

### LYNN GRADUATES

Samantha Lynn, of Tunkhannock, recently graduated from the Savannah College of Art and Design with a double major. Lynn earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Industrial Design and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Service Design.

## Hillside Farms is perfect learning venue for Graham Academy students

The cold temperatures provided the perfect conditions for Graham Academy students to do science experiments on Friday, Dec. 13 at The Lands at Hillside Farms in Shavertown.

Each class of students worked together to build weather stations that included thermometers, anemometers and wind vanes to measure temperature, precipitation and wind. Once the stations were completed, students posted them in different areas throughout Hillside Farms. Some classes posted their weather stations near the farm's greenhouse while some placed them by barns or the education center.

The day's project followed weeks of studying by students of different aspects of weather such as types of clouds, temperature, precipitation and how people and animals are affected by these conditions.

Each month, students from the special education school travel to The Lands at Hillside Farms to learn about farm life, farm animals and the tools and equipment used by farmers for planting and harvesting. This recent trip focused on measuring weather conditions to collect data and learn how the livestock adapt to survive the elements.

The school visits the farm as part of its science enrichment curriculum that works in conjunction with Hillside's agricultural education programs. Graham Academy teachers and Hillside Farms staff work together to devise experiential education lesson plans for the students which are presented before each trip so that classes can study it, discuss it and be prepared when they arrive at the farm. Although



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Graham Academy student Jacob Williams posts a weather station as teacher assistants Jim Fedor and Matt Manganiello and classmate Dimitri Brown assist him. Each class of students from the special education school built weather stations which they all posted on Friday, Dec. 13 at The Lands at Hillside Farms in Shavertown. The project was part of the school's science enrichment curriculum which involves a collaboration with Hillside Farms to devise experiential agricultural lessons plans for monthly field trips.

the Graham Academy has been visiting Hillside Farms for several years,

this is the first year in which students and staff have collaborated with

The Lands at Hillside Farms on experiential farm curriculum.

## Valley Forge Military scholarships available

A single \$12,000 annual scholarship to Valley Forge Military College is available for students.

Students seeking participation in the Valley Forge Military College Legislative Appointment Initiative for the 2014-15 school year must have a minimum SAT score of 1,000 or a 21 on the ACT and an overall grade point average of 2.5. Extracurricular activities, community service and leadership will also be considered.

The selection process will be conducted by a committee gathered for

this purpose.

Candidates who have questions about the program, the college or the completion of the application should contact Captain George Anderson at the Valley Forge Military College by calling 610-989-1302. Deadline for students to apply is Feb. 15, 2014.

The scholarship is funded by the college and no state allocations are made to the program. Any student is eligible for the scholarship, not just those with previous affiliation with the Armed Forces.



## Meadows participates in 'Toys for Tots' project

During the holiday season, the United States Marine Corp. sponsors a "Toys for Tots" campaign that makes the season brighter for more than 50,000 children. Staff and friends of the Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Dallas, joined in this "feel good project" and collected an array of toys for children of all ages. From left, are Sgt. Hale, Gary Kirk, Joann Wright, Joan Krispin, Zach Gruver, Nancy Space, Diane Brink, Bob O'Neill, Brenda Balinski, Lisa Matschat, Sgt. Carter (kneeling) and Laytison Padilla.

## Service

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vided by the association are anchored to the floor and allow officers to secure and handcuff prisoners while they wait to appear before a judge.

He said the group has used its golf tournament to raise funds to provide body armor to officers.

"Over the last several years, we have more interest in community projects — helping in the community in ways we didn't do before," Piazza said.

The group recently completed its Coats for Kids project which provides warm clothing to needy area

children. The group also sponsors a golf tournament and has an "Ident-a-Child" kit which allows groups to fingerprint and photograph children to provide a permanent record.

Maransky said the group is always happy to add officers.

## DEATH NOTICES

**NAGLE TUNKHANNOCK** — Philip Nagle, 75, died at his home on Dec. 8, 2013, after an illness. Services were private at the convenience of the family.

**AYMEN HARLEYSVILLE** — Romaine Aymen, 77, a loving sister and aunt, passed away Dec. 9, 2013. She had family in Dallas. Services were provided by R. L. Williams Jr. Funeral Home Inc., 3440 Skippack Pike, at Cedars Road, Skippack, with a funeral Mass in the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, 654 Ferry Road, Doylestown.

**SULT SHICKSHINNY** — Jordan Michael Sult, 18, a beloved son, brother, uncle and friend, will be missed by many. He had family in Harveys Lake. Services were held Dec. 12 at Clarke Piatt Funeral Home Inc., 6 Sunset Lake Road, Hunlock Creek.

**HITCHINGS TRUCKSVILLE** — Phillip G. Hitchings, 78, of Trucksville, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2013, at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. A memorial service was held Dec. 13 in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 474 Yalick Road, off Route 118, Dallas.

**KING DALLAS** — Irving Calvin King, 91, of Dallas, passed away Dec. 6, 2013, at St. Luke's Villa, Wilkes-Barre. A private graveside service was held at Chapel Lawn Memorial Park, Dallas, with arrangements by the Curtis L. Swanson Funeral Home Inc.

**DEL GAUDIO DALLAS** — Dr. Walter Del Gaudio Sr., of Dallas, passed away Dec. 11, 2013, in the Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center, Plains Township. A blessing service was held Dec. 14 at Metcalfe-Shaver-Kopcz Funeral Home Inc., 504

Wyoming Ave., Wyoming.

**KLOSS DALLAS** — Patricia A. Kloss, 68, of Dallas, passed away Dec. 11, 2013. Private services were held from the S.J. Grontkowski Funeral Home, Plymouth.

**DELMAR TUNKHANNOCK** — John "Jack" Delmar Jr. passed away Dec. 12, 2013. He was surrounded by his family in the comfort of his home. Jack and his wife, Mary Catherine, celebrated 52 years of marriage on Dec. 2. Funeral services were held Dec. 17 at Sheldon-Kukuchka Funeral Home, 73 W. Tioga St., Tunkhannock,

with a Mass of Christian Burial in the Church of the Nativity BVM, 99 E. Tioga St., Tunkhannock.

**BARTLEY BEAR CREEK** — Daniel L. Bartley, 84, of Bear Creek and a longtime resident of the East End section of Wilkes-Barre, died Dec. 13, 2013. He had relatives in Harveys Lake. Celebration of Daniel's life was held Dec. 10 at McLaughlin's — The Family Funeral Service, 142 S. Washington St., Wilkes-Barre, with funeral Mass in the Church of Saint Nicholas, Wilkes-Barre.

**SESSON TUNKHANNOCK** —

William "Bill" E. Sesson, 52, of Tunkhannock, passed away unexpectedly Dec. 15, 2013 at the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. He had relatives in Dallas. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Dec. 19 in St. Mary's Polish National Catholic Church, 200 Stephenson St., Duryea.

**KARDELL SHAVERTOWN** — Frank William Kardell Jr., 88, of Shavertown, passed away peacefully at home on Dec. 12, 2013, with his loving family by his side. Funeral services were held Dec. 18 at the Simon S. Russin Funeral Home, 136

Maffett St., Plains.

**ANDERSON HUGHESTOWN** — William J. Anderson, Jr., 89, of Hughestown, passed away Dec. 15, 2013, at home. He had relatives in Dallas. A private blessing service and interment were held at the convenience of the family.

**FEDOCK TUNKHANNOCK** — Danette Fedock, 64, of Tunkhannock, passed away at her home Dec. 13, 2013. A public memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Dallas Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, Hildebrandt Road, Dallas.