

West Allegheny Edition

# Allegheny West

# Magazine

Volume 18, Issue 107  
June/July 2017

FREE Direct Mail Community Publication

Cleanup Day gets assist from WA hockey

WACL awarded state grant to upgrade library

WA teachers inspired television producer Dustin Fitzharris

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Oakdale centenarian gets final wish

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Inside Page 27

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# Allegheny West Magazine

P. O. Box 220, McDonald, PA 15057  
Phone: 724.673.3161  
E-Mail: info@awmagazine.com  
www.awmagazine.com

## PUBLISHER AND EDITOR

Doug Hughey

## WRITERS

Jill Bordo

Jocelyn Grecko

Carolyn Morrison

Pat Jennette

Rebecca Ferraro

## GRAPHIC DESIGN

Sarah Hughey

## WEBMASTER

www.ddswebdesign.com

## CONTRIBUTORS

Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of Commerce,  
Findlay Township, North Fayette Township  
Oakdale Borough, McDonald Borough, West  
Allegheny School District, Western Allegheny  
Community Library, Erma Dodd, Barb Kleyman

Jesse Forquer, George Lostetter

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## From the Publisher

Dear Readers,

Thank you for picking up our June West Allegheny edition of Allegheny West Magazine. As usual, we've packed this edition with useful information about the western Allegheny County communities.

Starting on page 38, you'll find our 2017 Summer Fun Guide, with a comprehensive list of fun things to do right in and around the area this summer. In this year's guide, you'll find fairs, cookouts, concerts, cruises, day camps and more. Peruse our guide now so you know what's coming up then keep this edition handy throughout the summer so you'll always know what's going on as the weather continues to improve.

In this edition as well, we've brought you our latest alumni profile. This month, our publisher emeritus Pat Jennette writes about Dustin Fitzharris, a 1999 graduate who is now a television producer for ABC-TV. Read more on page 20.

Starting on page 6, we've brought you stories submitted by our readers, including a piece about this year's joint Cleanup Day between Findlay and North Fayette townships. The effort, which has left a considerable impact on the area over the past 15 years, got a boost this year

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### ABOUT THE COVER

Findlay Township Parks and Recreation's first-ever color run last year ended with a blowout where participants blasted each other with cornstarch-based pigments. Findlay is again hosting a color run this year on July 30. See page 49 for details. For more fun things to do around the area this summer, see our 2017 Summer Fun Guide, starting on page 38. PHOTO BY DOUG HUGHEY

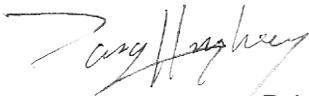
West Allegheny AP art students directed by art teacher Mike Short (at left) work on a mural for the Imperial VFD in May after finishing their portfolios. Students painted two murals - one of the department's official shield and another of its logo - inside the bay of the department's new station on Pine Street (see inset photos at left). This project was just the latest in a series of murals Short's students have completed around the area the past couple of years. To see these murals, stop by during the Imperial VFD's annual fair June 17. For details on that, see the listing on page 38 in our 2017 Summer Fun Guide. Students who worked on this project were: Ciara Terrabasso, Lexie Dudeck, Alaina White, Gabrielle Prevade, Nicole Kadlecik, Moira Gibson, Jeremy Ellis, Claire Shemen, Marina Maropis, Macy Cain, Alisha Bieber, Abby McLean and Katie Berg. PHOTOS BY DOUG HUGHEY

from West Allegheny volunteers. The story heads up our Locally Sourced section this month.

On page 21, we're bringing you the latest West Allegheny School District newsletter, WA Today. Read about the district's new budget - which includes no new taxes - this year's PMEA participants, a program to improve self-esteem among students and more. Then, starting on page 22, we bring you a couple of sad stories that have positive aspects to them.

On page 25, read about the economics of the region's natural gas boom, as discussed by a recent Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of Commerce panel.

Look for our next edition in August, which will be back-to-school themed and again have our back-to-school calendars. In the meantime, I hope you have a great summer.



Doug Hughey,  
Publisher and Editor



## Cleanup Day gets assist from WA hockey

Anyone who has played or spent time around an ice hockey team or organization recognizes that one of the foundations for success is the willingness of its players to give back.

This upcoming scholastic hockey season that starts in October will mark the West Allegheny team's 25th. On April 22 - on Earth Day - a group of players from the 2017-2018 team honored those players, coaches and fans who came before them by giving back to the WA community. More than a dozen varsity and JV players joined local police, fire department members and parent supervisors from North Fayette and Findlay townships to collect more than 70 bags of trash along Mahoney and Cliff Mine roads.

North Fayette Township Manager Bob Grimm says that the players were among about 50 volunteers from the two townships who helped collect three dump trucks full of garbage left by the townships' roadways that day. At the same time, each township hosted a bulk collection program that allowed residents to drop off appliances, electronics, furniture and other items without being assessed the normal fee for such items. According to a township report from North Fayette - which hosted the bulk dropoff for the first time this year - the effort resulted in the collection of about 35 tons of garbage and 500 pounds of recyclable materials. The report states that at times as many as 20 cars waited in line to drop off bulk materials.

Findlay Township Parks and Recreation Director Darlene Larson Howell, who first started spearheading the Cleanup Day effort about 15 years ago, says that the annual program has left a significant impact on both townships. She says she was glad to see members of the hockey team stepping up this year, along with a few students from WA's honors biology class and National Honor Society, both of which annually draw volunteers.

Efforts were also aided by District Judge Anthony Saveikis, who assigned residents charged with minor offenses to help.

"From Joe's Barbershop to Janoski's Farm, from McClaren Road to McKee, our goal is to beautify the landscape by cleaning the roadsides and streambeds," said Saveikis.

He says, though, that he would like to see more participation from community groups and school clubs that are concerned about the environment in the future.

West Allegheny Hockey Association President Mike Vidmar says that he saw the Cleanup Day as an opportunity for players to connect with the community.

"The West Allegheny Hockey Association's Board of Directors encouraged players to join the cleanup effort as a way to thank both those who take care of our community and directly support our hockey program, including the West Allegheny School District, our association sponsors and hockey fans throughout the area," said Vidmar. "We felt players from next season's teams, giving their time and energy back to the community right now, was a great way to recognize the many players who pulled on a WA jersey over the past 24 years."

Second year varsity player and soon-to-be junior player Kellen Almaday said that the team's volunteer efforts helped build a culture of success, both on the ice and off of it.

"Cleanup Day provided a good opportunity to spend time with teammates away from hockey, have some fun as a group and, most



Coaches and players on this coming season's West Allegheny ice hockey team honored the program's 25th season by helping with Cleanup Day on April 22.

importantly, give back to the West Allegheny community," said Almaday.

Second year varsity head coach Brian Boehm characterized the opportunity to give back as priceless.

"These guys continue to impress me," he said.

Over the coming months and into the 2017/2018 season, a number of activities are planned to commemorate West Allegheny ice hockey's 25th anniversary. The team and organization will also be hard at work with spring/summer workouts to help build skill, strength, teamwork and culture, with their sights set on raising a championship banner at the varsity, JV and middle school levels.

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# Army Veteran Makes Remarkable Recovery while Making the Rounds at Ohio Valley Hospital

Edward J. Krall Sr., a Veteran of the U.S. Army, spends most of his days traveling with his wife and visiting fellow veterans at the local V.A. office. Remaining active has been a big part of his post-military life. While a recent health scare led to some physical changes for Edward, his doctors at Ohio Valley Hospital helped ensure he wouldn't have to give up his on-the-go lifestyle.

## Health Woes

According to Edward, he underwent two knee replacement surgeries in the mid-2000s. Unfortunately, they did not bring him relief from his constant pain.

"It got so bad that I couldn't walk with a walker and I was in a lot of pain. I couldn't sleep, either. So I decided to move forward with an amputation."

## A True Team Effort

Many OVH departments, including Surgery, the Acute Rehabilitation Unit, and Outpatient Rehabilitation worked together to make sure Edward received the best possible care before, during, and after his amputation.

Edward first visited OVH's Acute Rehabilitation Unit (ARU) to receive pre-prosthetic training in August of 2016. This way, he could begin readying himself for the changes his body was about to undertake. After OVH Surgeon Dr. Phillip Georgevich performed the above-the-knee amputation on his right knee, Edward returned home. After he received his prosthetic from De La Torre Orthotics and Prosthetics, Edward headed back to the ARU to

be taught how to walk with an artificial limb in place and learn how to use and live with his prosthesis.

During his stay, ARU staff members worked with Edward on various adaptive techniques and activities to help him become used to his new prosthesis. This included OVH Physical Therapists working with Edward on walking - including up and down ramps with a walker - and working on safe movements from various surfaces, such as beds, chairs, and the commode. Occupational therapy worked on Activities of Daily Living which includes bathing, dressing, and grooming, as well as light homemaking activities and safety with car transfers.

Dr. Karin Greenberg, the medical director of OVH's ARU, called Edward one of the most motivated amputees they had ever seen.

"[He] did incredibly well after his above-knee amputation with regards to his quick wound healing, lack of pain, and functional mobility...the whole rehabilitation team was happily surprised at how quickly Edward was able to utilize his prosthesis with little-to-no assistance."



As a result of his stay in Ohio Valley Hospital's Acute Rehabilitation Unit, Edward gained back a large part of his life: his ability to walk. He says he couldn't have done it without the Acute Rehabilitation Unit and Ohio Valley Hospital.

"I would recommend Ohio Valley Hospital to anyone, 100%. [All of the staff] are dedicated to their patients and give their whole hearts."

Now that he's feeling better, Edward plans to get back to frequently visiting his fellow veterans, some of whom are also amputees, as well as traveling with his wife.

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SUBMITTED BY STEUBENVILLE PIKE AUTO

## SPARC announces spring recipient of semi-annual vehicle giveaway



Steubenville Pike Auto Repair Charity announced the recipient of its third car giveaway on May 31 as Dorothy Long. She is pictured at left with Steubenville Pike Auto president Jason Pottle, Linda Pottle, Scott Robertson and Russ Pottle. PHOTO BY PHOUG HUGHEY

Steubenville Pike Auto in Robinson Township donated a car for the third time under its Steubenville Pike Auto Repair Charity program in May. SPARC's selection committee chose Dorothy Long of Coraopolis as its first recipient of 2017. Dorothy, a widow on a fixed income, has been without a vehicle for over two years. She has been relying on friends and family for transportation.

Long was presented with a Ford Focus on May 31. She said she is overjoyed that she will be able to visit her grandchildren and drive herself to her doctor's appointments and the pharmacy.

"We learned that Dorothy was walking to Walmart to get prescriptions and depending on others to get her to important doctor's appointments," said Jason Pottle, owner of Steubenville Pike Auto. "Now, Dorothy can easily get to her appointments and get the medication she needs, plus visit her grandchildren as much as possible. She hopes to use her new freedom to help others in a similar situation."

Last year, Steubenville Pike Auto donated the first two vehicles under SPARC. As with those vehicles, Heroes Supporting Heroes again graciously paid the taxes and state transfer fees for Long's vehicle. HSH is a not-for-profit organization that supports stable and safe housing for military members and their families as well as veterans and senior citizens. HSH also provides a variety of support services for service members' families during times of deployment.

For more about HSH, visit [www.heroessupportingheroes.org](http://www.heroessupportingheroes.org).

Steubenville Pike Auto will be giving away another vehicle to a deserving individual or family in December. Nominations will be accepted starting in November. To nominate, click on the SPARC logo at [www.steubenvillepike.com](http://www.steubenvillepike.com).

Steubenville Pike Auto is a five-acre, full service auto business located at 6112 Steubenville Pike in Robinson Township. The business was named the seventh Fastest Growing Business in Pittsburgh by the Pittsburgh Business Times and one of the 5,000 fastest growing companies in the U.S. by INC magazine.

STORIES SUBMITTED

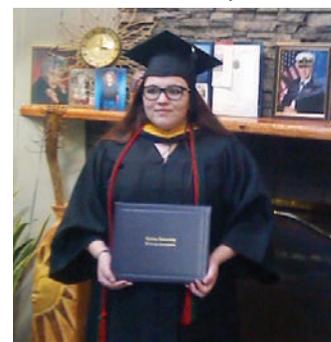
## College graduation announcements

Stephen C. Abel graduated from LECOM in Bradenton, Florida on June 4. He has accepted a residency in the field of radiation oncology at Allegheny General Hospital and will begin that residency July 1. Abel is a 2013 graduate of Robert Morris University and a 2009 graduate of West Allegheny High School. He plans to reside in Findlay Township during his residency.



Stephen C. Abel

Rachel Marzzarella, a West Allegheny graduate of 2013, graduated from Carlow University on May 13. She received Bachelor of Science degrees in chemistry and biology. She is currently employed part-time and hoping to find a position that will help her utilize both of her degrees. Marzzarella plans to enter graduate school next spring.



Rachel Marzzarella

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Sources: *Comparion Medical Analytics; The Leapfrog Group; Press Ganey; CMS*



STORY SUBMITTED BY WEIRTON MEDICAL CENTER  
PHOTO BY DOUG HUGHEY

## Imperial pediatrician named among region's best

Elizabeth Massella, MD, a Weirton Medical Center pediatrician who operates a practice in Imperial, is one of the Pittsburgh region's best doctors, according to Pittsburgh Magazine. The publication lists Massella in the Best Doctors section of its May edition. The list includes physicians from across the region compiled by the company Best Doctors, which annually uses a polling method and other metrics to select doctors earning top marks across the country.

From this year's selections, Pittsburgh Magazine lists 668 doctors across 75 specialties in the Pittsburgh region, naming Massella among the best in the pediatrics/general category.

Massella is a graduate of Yale University and Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. She completed her residency in pediatrics at University Hospitals Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital in Cleveland. She is board certified in pediatrics and serves as assistant clinical professor of pediatrics at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

WMC Primary Care, under Massella's direction, uses the Family Centered Medical Home model. That means Massella's office serves as a central resource for childcare needs. Massella takes care of children, whether they are sick or well, while planning each child's care and setting goals for the future with parents. She and her devoted staff discuss any testing or treatments for each child. She also works closely with parents and each child's other care providers to coordinate care for the best possible outcome.

If needed, Massella and her staff also help connect families with the best pediatric specialists.

In addition to this latest honor from Pittsburgh Magazine, Massella was also recently selected as the Lee Bass Community Preceptor of the Year for 2017 by residents and faculty of Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Massella's office offers same-day appointments if a child is sick or a parent's concerns are urgent. Her office is located adjacent to Shop 'n Save in Imperial at 400 Market Place Drive. Her office staff, including resident nurse Michelle Burda and office assistant Lori Stickley, are ready to help.

To schedule an appointment, call (724) 218-1931.



Elizabeth Massella, MD

## West Allegheny Athletic Hall of Fame inducts sixth class

STORY SUBMITTED  
PHOTO BY DOUG HUGHEY



This year's West Allegheny Athletic Hall of Fame inductees pose for a picture following a banquet held in their honor in May at Celebrations.

The West Allegheny Athletic Hall of Fame hosted its 2017 inductees at a banquet held at Celebrations in Imperial on May 20. Four individuals and one team were honored. This year's class marked the hall of fame's sixth that it has inducted.

For the second time, a swimmer whose contributions proved vital to the formation of WA's current swim program was inducted. Like swimmer Bill Glas, who was inducted in 2015, Augie Beyer was among the first members of WA's Aqua Club. A standout athlete for WA, Beyer was the first swimmer in school history to reach PIAA and WPIAL meets. Beyer went on to swim for Grove City College, where he became an all-American.

Two individuals who made significant contributions to WA's wrestling program were also honored. Coach Pat Rheam, who coached seven teams to the WPIAL tournament and is considered one of the most successful wrestling coaches in WA history, was inducted alongside one of his former wrestlers, Rocky McGeary. Under Rheam, McGeary became the first wrestler in school history to reach the PIAA finals. That same year, McGeary won the WPIAL title.

McGeary has since followed in his coach's footsteps, coaching youth football and wrestling. Many of the 125 attendees at this year's banquet came to honor McGeary. During his speech, McGeary's players presented their coach with a signed, commemorative wrestling singlet from the era when McGeary wrestled at WA.

The West Allegheny Athletic Hall of Fame Board of Directors also inducted Christopher McGough with this class. While introducing McGough, WA head football coach Bob Palko pointed out that McGough had been a part of numerous championship-winning teams. A mainstay in the WA athletics program, McGough's nomination letters cited his tremendous impact on players and coaches. In remarks, McGough thanked his family for supporting him.

Among those championship-winning teams McGough was a part of was the 2006-2007 boys' varsity basketball team, which was also inducted this year. The season the team won that championship, it entered the WPIAL tournament as an unlikely 16th seed. In remarks, that team's head coach, Josh Bears, attributed their playoff run to players' tenacity and team chemistry. Many of those players remain close to this day.

The West Allegheny Hall of Fame will be evaluating new inductees in early 2018. To nominate an athlete, patron/contributor, team or administrator, fill out a form online at awmagazine.com. Paper forms can also be picked up at the North Fayette Township Community Center, Findlay Township Municipal Building and Oakdale Borough Building.



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## OVH and Kennedy host 36th annual 5K race



Runners cross the starting line of a 5K hosted by Kennedy Township and Ohio Valley Hospital in May. This was the 36th year for the race.

Ohio Valley Hospital and Kennedy Township hosted their 36th annual 5K race May 13. From start to finish, it was a true community event complemented by perfect running weather that made for one of the race's largest turnouts in years. The race attracted 260 participants while 60 volunteers made up of hospital staff and township residents worked together to make the day a success.

Twelve-year-old Matthew Puleio, who came in second place in 2016, finished the hilly course first overall with a time of 16:54. Mac Polny finished second with a time of 18:22 and Ken Midgley Jr. finished third with a time of 18:30. Natalie Finnerty finished first among female racers with a time of 19:39 and Erika Suhly finished second with a time of 19:59. Kathryn Jarocki finished third with a time of 20:32. An OVH security guard and his pet rabbit wrapped up the race by finishing last.

Also participating were elementary school running groups from Seneca Valley and Propel Montour Charter School. Racers also represented various local organizations and businesses, including Focus on Renewal, Bobby D's and PT Unlimited. Rep. Anita Kulik once again manned the day-of registration table. Sponsors included Rohrich Automotive Group, Clearview Federal Credit Union and OVH board member Mark Brennan. Robinson EMS hosted a packet-pick-up the day prior.

Without this large group of community support, the race would not have happened.

## Decorated Army veteran and WA grad retires

Frank Weible, a 1996 graduate of West Allegheny High School, retired recently as a master sergeant from the U.S. Army after 20 years of service.

Weible enlisted in the Army in May of 1997 and completed his basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia in September of 1997. Following basic training, Weible attended airborne school and, upon completion, was stationed with Bravo Company 2nd Battalion 327th Infantry Regiment. He was also stationed with Echo Company 51st Long Range Surveillance (airborne) in Darmstadt, Germany, where he deployed with Task Force Falcon to Kosovo from June 1, 2000 to November 1, 2000.

Following his overseas tour, Weible was stationed with the 101st Airborne Division, where he deployed for the invasion of Iraq as an infantry squad leader from March 1, 2003 to April 1, 2004. Weible then became a platoon sergeant and deployed to Iraq from June 1, 2004 to Aug. 4, 2005.

Weible began a special forces qualification course June 9, 2006. Upon completion, he was awarded the Military Occupational Specialty of 18E. Weible was then assigned to the Fifth Special Forces Group (airborne) on Oct. 9, 2007. His key deployments include: Kuwait, Albania, Kosovo, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, Lebanon and Jordan. His awards and decorations include: Bronze Star Medal (2OLC), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (3OLC), Army Achievement Medal (4OLC), Army Good Conduct Medal (sixth award), National Defense Service Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal (CS), Afghanistan Campaign Medal (CS), Iraq Campaign Medal (2CS), Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon (Numeral 3), Army Service Ribbon, NATO Medal (second award) Overseas Ribbon (fifth award), Meritorious Unit Commendation, Special Forces Tab, Ranger Tab, Combat Infantryman Badge, Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge and Air Assault Badge.

Weible currently resides in Tennessee with his wife, Jennifer, and their three children, Mia, Luke and Ava.

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SUBMITTED BY  
STATE SEN. GUY RESCHENTHALER

## WACL awarded state grant to upgrade facility

State Senator Guy Reschenthaler and state Representative Mark Mustio have announced that Western Allegheny Community Library and North Fayette Township have been awarded a state grant to make much-needed improvements to the library and its infrastructure.

The grant will help the library replace its roof; update its Youth Services space to create a larger and more open area; and create a designated family/child play space.

“Western Allegheny Community Library promotes kindergarten readiness, lifelong learning, workforce development, and opportunities to be creative and learn new skills,” Reschenthaler said. “These improvements will make this outstanding community resource even better and allow more area residents to take advantage of the many programs and services that it offers, particularly for young people. I am pleased that local officials and community leaders worked so effectively together to ensure that this project received state funding.”

“It is always great partnering with Senator Reschenthaler to help bring back funds for community assets,” Mustio said. “There is no better community asset in West Allegheny than the public library.”

Pam Perry, WACL board president, says the funds will help the WACL continue to adapt to the needs of the community.

“We were fortunate in being able to live in this space for a while, because the needs of our community became clearer with time,” she says. “Use of the library has been expanding steadily every year we have been here, which gives us the ‘good’ problem of

needing more space. Luckily, we have it for the taking - and we can grow again.”

Amanda Kirby, library director, expressed gratitude that Reschenthaler and Mustio helped the library secure the funds.

“We are thrilled to be the recipient of this Keystone Grant and are extremely thankful to Senator Reschenthaler and Rep. Mustio for their role in acquiring the funds,” she said. “This grant will help us continue to move the library forward and better serve the needs of our community.”

The Department of Education, through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, Bureau of Library Development, administers the public library portion of this program, which is funded by a portion of realty transfer tax dollars. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis and pay up to 50 percent of eligible costs in planning, acquisition, construction and

rehabilitation of public libraries.

The mission of the WACL is to inspire, engage and educate the community through high quality, fun, creative, and informative programming and services. The library currently serves over 20,000 residents with a 45,000 item collection and offers over 900 programs a year. Its signature mobile library, the Book Bus, has been facilitated by a partnership between West Allegheny School District, WACL and Monark Student Transportation. The program allows the WACL to extend its programs and services throughout the community.

For more about WACL, visit [www.westernalleghenylibrary.org](http://www.westernalleghenylibrary.org).



State Sen. Guy Reschenthaler is pictured with Western Allegheny County Library Director Amanda Kirby and former library director Marianne Sforza.

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## Thomas-Little opens new lot in downtown Oakdale

Last year, Thomas-Little Funeral Service opened a new parking lot in downtown Oakdale. The large lot, which has room for 30 cars, sits just across the street from the funeral service's Oakdale location, at the corner of Union Avenue and Noblestown Road.

Owner and operator Patrick Konieczny says that he purchased the property last year and built the lot in order to better serve those visiting grieving family and friends at his funeral service. In the past, visitors to the establishment had to rely on street parking along Noblestown Road in downtown Oakdale. This not only could be inconvenient for his patrons, but also for other area businesses that rely on street parking for their own customers.

"We've always tried to be a good neighbor," says Konieczny. "Plus, the last thing we want people having to worry about when they visit our establishment is parking."

Of the four locations operated locally by Konieczny, Oakdale was the only one without a parking lot. Thomas-Little Funeral Service also operates funeral services in Midway, Imperial and McDonald. He says that the lack of parking outside his Oakdale location has long been a problem he's wanted to solve, ever since he started managing the business over 22 years ago.

Konieczny, who holds a degree from Thiel College and graduated from the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science, assumed the business 12 years ago from William Slater II. Konieczny and his wife, Kristen, now live in McDonald in North



STORY SUBMITTED BY  
THOMAS-LITTLE FUNERAL SERVICE  
PHOTO BY DOUG HUGHEY

Fayette Township with their two daughters, Mya and Allie. In addition to the funeral service, the family also operates an ice cream parlor in downtown McDonald called M.A.'s Ice Cream.

Being a good neighbor and contributor to the community has long been a central tenet of Thomas-Little Funeral Service. As such, Konieczny has served as a member of a number of local organizations. He is a member of the West Allegheny Foundation,

the McDonald Lions Club, Oakdale F&AM Lodge #669 and the American Board of Funeral Service Education. He is a former member of the West Allegheny School Board and serves as superintendent of the Oakdale Cemetery Association. He is also the president of the Southwest Funeral Directors Association in Washington County and a board member of the Allegheny County Funeral Directors Association.

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**Patrick Konieczny**  
Owner/Supervisor

Thomas-Little Funeral Service, Inc. is locally owned and operated.

Owner Patrick Konieczny and his wife, Kristen, live in McDonald, North Fayette Township, with their two daughters, Mya and Allie. Patrick is a graduate of Thiel College and Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science. He serves the community through numerous local organizations.

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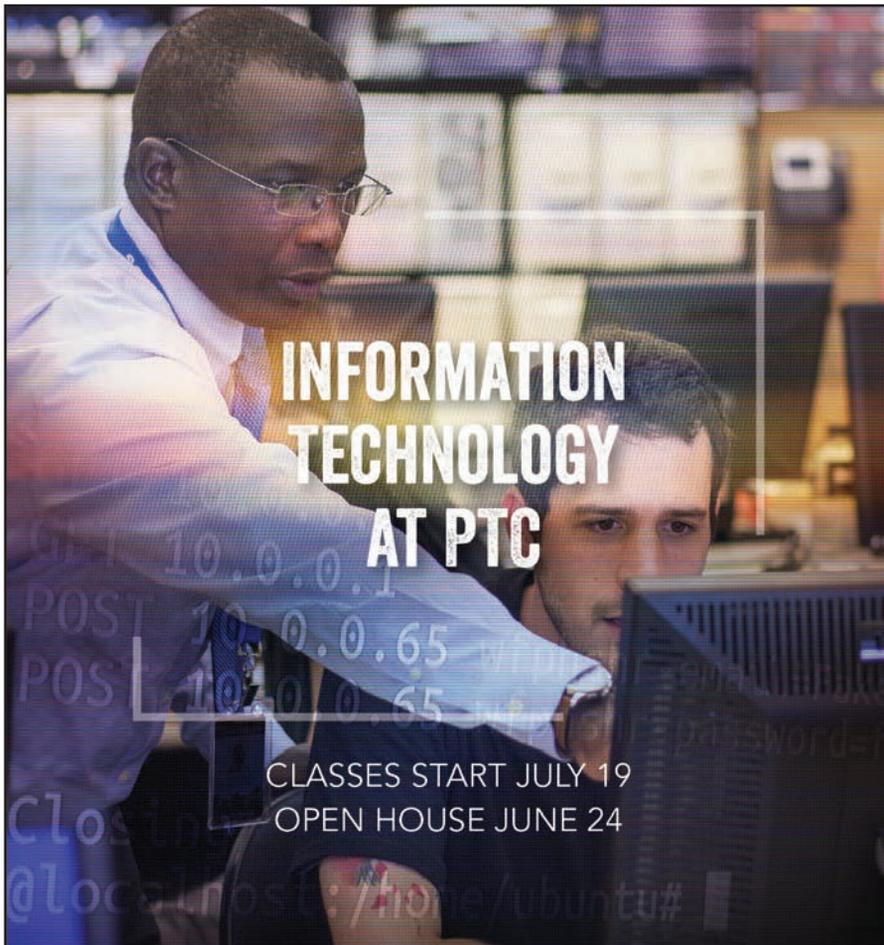
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SUBMITTED BY SCOTT MCCRACKEN

## The importance of driver education

Why is driver education so important? It is crucial because traffic accidents are the leading cause of death among teenagers in the U.S. An effective, behind-the-wheel driver education training program teaches new and inexperienced drivers the advanced skills needed for defensive driving. These skills include proper scanning; maintaining attention; speed management in different conditions; hazard detection and anticipation; and quick evaluation of possible safe driving maneuvers.

Student drivers who work with me receive formal instruction and gain actual driving experience from 25 vital driving skill categories. The course consists of four, one-and-a-half hour lessons. Each lesson focuses on a different driving environment: rural, suburban/city, multiple lanes - such as on Route 19 - and interstate driving. Lessons also include instruction and practice to successfully complete parallel parking maneuvers, which

students are required to demonstrate during the actual Pennsylvania state driver's license road test.

Parents and guardians also play a very important role in developing safe young drivers. By modeling safe driving habits and skills - as well as providing the opportunity for their child to gain as much experience and confidence behind the wheel as possible - parents can help their children become safe and secure drivers.

Most auto insurance companies offer young drivers a safety discount that requires a minimum of six hours of behind-the-wheel training. This discount usually remains effective until the driver reaches the age of 21. The auto insurance safety discount offsets the cost of the driver education training program relatively quickly. Each insurance company's rules and requirements can vary, so contact an agent for details.

*Scott McCracken is a certified Pennsylvania driver education instructor. He has taught science at West Allegheny Middle School since 2000.*

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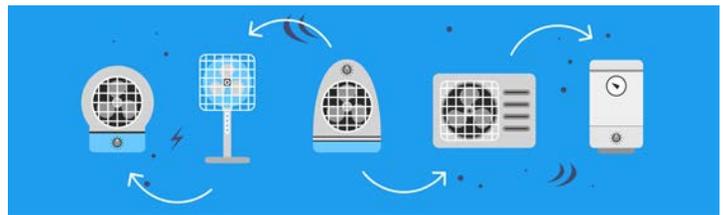
An air conditioner checkup is an important way to make sure you get long lasting and efficient performance from your air conditioner.

The biggest threat to a piece of machinery - especially one as big and complex as your air conditioning system - is buildup of dirt and grime. Cleaning is one of the most essential functions of an annual maintenance check since dirt tends to accumulate most on the blower components and evaporator condenser coils. Also, an undercharged system can increase your utility bill by 20 percent.

There are two main reasons to schedule annual air conditioner maintenance:

- **Saving money** - A maintenance visit greatly increases the chances that your air-conditioning technician will catch small problems before they become big ones. You will also be ensuring that your air-conditioning system is working at optimal efficiency. When your air conditioner is running well, it uses less energy to cool your house and lowers energy use. That translates into bigger savings for your monthly utility bills.
- **Avoid the hassle** - Don't wait for a hot day to find out that your air conditioner isn't working properly. Sure, life is busy, but is it worth letting the inevitable occur? An air-conditioner checkup will not only provide you with peace of mind and potentially a lower electric bill, but also ensure comfort during the hot summer days ahead.

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STORY SUBMITTED BY MOON DIAMOND DENTAL  
PHOTO BY DOUG HUGHEY

## Dr. Neha Kumar assumes Fedorchak practice in Moon Township

A well-known Moon Township dental practice changed hands at the end of 2016. The practice of Dr. Rodney Fedorchak, located at the intersection of Beaver Grade Road and Thorn Run Road Extension, is now Moon Diamond Dental, which is operated by Dr. Neha A. Kumar, DDS. Area residents may know Kumar from her time working for another Pittsburgh area practice. She and her husband, Adam Tarovisky, live in Moon Township with their five-month-old son, Ari.



Dr. Neha Kumar (at center) recently opened Moon Diamond Dental in Moon Township. She's pictured here with associates Lorie Geary and Patty Wagner.

Kumar earned both her undergraduate and doctorate degrees from West Virginia University. Upon graduating, she worked in the pediatrics department at WVU. She has been living in Moon Township for the past five years and practicing dentistry for the past six years.

Fedorchak, who established his practice at the location 25 years ago, says he and Kumar operate on similar philosophies. He calls her an “asset” to Moon Township.

“Our philosophies on TLC and treatment care are very similar,” says Fedorchak. “Probably the key is we’re not running a business, we’re providing a service.”

Fedorchak calls Kumar’s resume “impeccable,” saying that he believes she has more talents than he does. Fedorchak retires after practicing dentistry for 46 years. Patients of Moon Diamond Dental, though, will likely recognize familiar faces, as Fedorchak’s staff have stayed on with the new practice.

Kumar says that she is now in the process of updating the practice’s equipment and materials to better serve patients and minimize its environmental impact. Those upgrades include digital x-rays, paperless charting and the newest dental materials, such as composite fillings, non-metal crowns and fluoride varnish. The new x-rays, says Kumar, provide a number of benefits. Not only do they eliminate the need for developing chemicals, but they also allow x-rays to be enlarged on a digital screen so patients can see them better.

The goal of the practice, says Kumar, is to create flawless smiles. To that end, Moon Diamond Dental offers restorative and cosmetic services, such as whitening, tooth color restorations, veneers and crowns to help patients achieve their smile goals. They also offer one-hour dental hygiene appointments.

Kumar says that the best way to help patients create a healthy smile, however, is through preventative care.

“We believe prevention is the best medicine,” says Kumar. “We want to teach families how to maintain a healthy smile

through nutritional counseling, oral hygiene instruction and preventative measures. We want the little ones to go from cradle to adulthood cavity free.”

Kumar says she and her staff take the time to listen to patients’ concerns and answer questions so they can accurately diagnose and tailor a treatment plan to meet expectations and needs.

*Moon Diamond Dental is located at 995 Beaver Grade Road, Suite A2 in Moon Township. They can be reached at (412) 262-3707. Visit them online at [MoonDiamondDental.com](http://MoonDiamondDental.com).*

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## Pool & Spa Outlet continuing to make Pittsburgh more beautiful, one backyard at a time

A world-class showroom for spas and pools opened in North Fayette Township last year. Owned by Fred and Jan Cerminara, the latest location of their business Pool & Spa Outlet off Route 22/30 near the Tonidale Exit next to Montours Church marks the business' third. The Cerminaras also operate locations in Peters Township and Castle Shannon.

Family-owned and operated, Pool & Spa Outlet was founded in 1988. The Cerminaras' son, Fred Cerminara III, is now the company's vice president and manages operations at the new location. A full-service swimming and spa company, Pool & Spa Outlet's services include sales, service, and installation of both aboveground and in-ground swimming pools and hot tubs. The company also offers pool opening and winterization services. They are open seven days a week year-round for their customers' convenience.

Pool & Spa Outlet stocks all pool and spa-related products, including equipment, chemicals, maintenance supplies, inflatables and pool toys and games. They are experts in water chemistry and balance, and can provide free computerized water analysis to help pool owners keep their spas and pools running at top efficiency.

All of Pool & Spa Outlet's showrooms feature some of the most innovative, luxurious and therapeutic hot tubs in the industry at competitive pricing. Each spa they sell also comes with a comprehensive warranty. Many of their showroom spas are heated and filled with water so customers can take a "test soak" if they desire. Select Marquis Spas feature a unique MICROSILK option, which introduces thousands of oxygen bubbles into the water to moisturize the skin, reduce fine lines and wrinkles, detoxify, and provide relief from many skin conditions, including eczema and psoriasis.

"It's like getting an oxygen facial on the entire body - every



ABOVE: Fred and Jan Cerminara are pictured with the rest of their team at Pool & Spa Outlet.

day," says Jan.

Customers can also try out an Aquatic Training Vessel Swim Spa at the North Fayette showroom. The swim spa is designed to promote fitness, weight loss, strength training and aerobic exercise. It features an adjustable current to accommodate swimmers of all ages and abilities. As well, the swim spa is portable and appropriate for indoor use, which allows swimmers to keep swimming all year long.

"These versatile swim spas are unmatched in terms of power,

performance and value," Jan says.

Over the years, Pool & Spa Outlet has earned awards for their sales performance. The company specializes in Viking Fiberglass Pools and has received numerous Dealer Excellence and Sales awards from the manufacturer. They are one of the tri-state

area's largest fiberglass pool builders.

The company also stocks a huge inventory of luxurious Marquis Spas, starting at \$3,999. Pool & Spa Outlet is one of the largest Marquis Spas dealers on the East Coast and in 2017 was appointed to the prestigious Marquis Spas Dealer Advisory Board for excellence in customer service and sales.

Pool & Spa Outlet's aboveground pool inventory features a range of options, from compact, 12-foot round models to huge thirty-foot round and 33-foot oval options.

Over the years, Pool & Spa Outlet has created thousands of backyard escapes for customers. For pictures, find Pool & Spa Outlet on Facebook or visit [www.pool-spaoutlet.com](http://www.pool-spaoutlet.com).



TOP: Pool & Spa Outlet has a large showroom at its new North Fayette location. MIDDLE: The Aquatic Training Vessel Swim Spa promotes fitness year-round. BOTTOM: Pool & Spa Outlet has designed thousands of backyard escapes for clients, including this one.



STORY AND PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY PARAGON HOMES

## Paragon breaks ground on new Collier Township community

Custom homebuilder Paragon Homes recently broke ground on Parkside Meadows, a new community adjacent to Collier Community Park. Plans call for just 23 lots in this small, walkable community with tree-lined streets and two cul-de-sacs nestled in pastoral, rolling hills and farm fields. Paragon plans to have a road paved and begin welcoming clients by early summer.

Located in Chartiers Valley School District near other Paragon homes in Walkers Ridge and Nevillewood, Parkside Meadows' home plans have plenty of potential for large backyards and porches with bucolic views. The site also sits just minutes from busy shopping and dining areas in Bridgeville, Robinson Township and South Fayette Township. Greater Pittsburgh International Airport and downtown Pittsburgh are just a short, 20-minute drive away each.

Unlike the one-size-fits-all homes built by some companies, Paragon designs homes around the needs of each homeowner. Many of the amenities that other builders consider upgrades are standard to Paragon's homes, which have won 30 awards from the Builders and Realtors Association of Greater Pittsburgh and the Washington

County Builders Association. The company has won multiple Single Family Home of the Year awards for homes ranging from \$500,000 to \$1 million. Paragon prides itself on crafting quality homes designed around each customer through a process that is easy and enjoyable for clients.

Parkside Meadows' plan is formulated around the idea of bringing the walkable, tree-lined streets of Shadyside and Sewickley to Collier Township. Each of community's home plans already call for unique custom designs, including front porches, gorgeous indoor and outdoor entertaining spaces, gourmet kitchens, and true master retreats with sitting rooms, private balconies, and spa-style baths. With plans just in the beginning phases, prospective homebuyers have the added benefit of getting in early before construction costs rise.

The site for Parkside Meadows is located at 4069 Thoms Run Road, Oakdale, PA, 15057. For more, visit Paragon online at [VisitParagonHomes.com](http://VisitParagonHomes.com) or call them at (412) 787-8807.



Serving the Pittsburgh area since 1987, Paragon Homes proudly handcrafts custom, high quality homes like the one seen here. The company is dedicated to delivering the home of each client's dreams through an enjoyable experience that leaves them with a well built home that will last a lifetime.



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## WA teachers inspired ABC-TV producer Dustin Fitzharris

Among West Allegheny's many talented graduates who have gone on to a myriad of careers, changing course as their dreams and aspirations motivated them, is Dustin Fitzharris.

Energetic, enthusiastic and easy to talk with, this 1999 alumnus' journey started with performing in WA's musicals. Today, Fitzharris works as a producer for ABC-TV. He's produced shows for "20/20" and recently worked with People Magazine to produce a special called "People Love Stories." His writing credits include the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Essence, Out, The Advocate and Redbook.

Fitzharris said he owes much of his motivation to those teachers at WA who supported him when he was a student. His entertainment "career" started in eighth grade, playing a snow child in the school musical "Carousel."

He says, "I had to choose between being in the musical or going on the eighth grade field trip to Washington, D.C. I had no regrets with my choice."

In ninth grade, he participated in WA's production of "Bye Bye Birdie." From there, he took a detour to perform in community theatre at the Jewish Community Center in Squirrel Hill. He also performed outside of school with the Pittsburgh Opera in the ensemble and in a regional production of "Jesus Christ Superstar" alongside fellow WA alumni Miguel Ortiz and Andrea (Czyzewicz) von Halle. Both also went on to pursue careers in the performing arts.

Fitzharris said his teachers also inspired him to consider teaching as a career.

"I loved my teachers, they were heroes to me," he reflects. "Some of them really stand out in my heart."

One of those teachers was retired Wilson Elementary art teacher Debbie Turici. He says she was always available when he needed to talk.

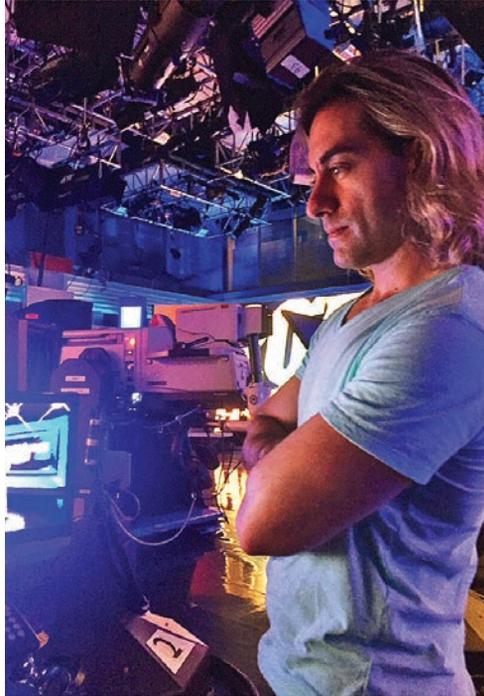
"I wasn't an artist, but I loved her class," he notes.

Turici calls Fitzharris her all-time favorite student.

"Dustin is a multi-talented young man," she says. "In a treasured letter that I have from him, he stated, 'I want to be heard and inspire others with things I write.' He is living his dream in NYC. I am so proud of him, his accomplishments, and cherish his friendship."

Another WA educator who impacted Fitzharris was former middle school principal Janet (Walsh) MGee, who says she was equally fond of Fitzharris. A couple of years ago, the two met for coffee in New York City. She calls it an emotional moment.

"The young boy I knew in eighth grade that was always wanting to write, be praised, seeking acceptance while maintaining his own identity but always smiling was now an amazing young man," she says. "He is a seeker of information, notoriety, knowledge and dreams. I have no doubt that we will hear and see more and more



West Allegheny alumnus Dustin Fitzharris, now a television producer with ABC-TV, is pictured behind the scenes on the show "20/20"

of Dustin Fitzharris...I was happy that I might have played a small part in his life."

His senior year, Fitzharris worked closely with teacher Beth Voltz, who helped him write a Christmas play for a teacher's fourth grade class whose child studied at the CLO Theatre, where Fitzharris was studying and later worked.

"I was surprised someone would want me to do that for them, writing a play; and Dr. Hughey made the trip out to Laurel Highlands School District to see the play performed. I would never have expected so much support," he stresses.

He still visits some of his teachers and former classmates, including his home economics teacher Bonnie Trucco.

"I was very lucky to have teachers who believed in me and supported me," he says.

After graduation, Fitzharris pursued a bachelor's degree in elementary education at Point Park University. He then student taught at Quaker Valley School District and worked as a substitute teacher. Yet his passion to be part of the world of television,

primarily writing for it, kept tugging at him. When he was not able to find a permanent job teaching, he took the leap and moved to the Big Apple.

"I loved teaching, but felt drawn to television, particularly in the daytime soaps genre," he explains.

While in between his studies at Point Park, he had gone to New York City for a summer to intern on the show of his childhood dreams, "All My Children." As a youngster, he says he would hurry home from school every day to watch it.

Fitzharris continues, "I very much wanted to work in the soaps, but learned they were difficult to get into because they were slowly dying."

By then, daytime television soaps were becoming a genre past its prime.

As fate would have it, Fitzharris was fortunate to end up working as an associate producer for the show when it moved off the network and tried a run on Hulu. When the show ended, he found work with ABC-TV. He also enrolled in the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, graduating with his master's degree in 10 months.

His job at ABC-TV then morphed into producing shows for 20/20 that focused on homicides and murders.

"I didn't think I'd like that type of storytelling, but found out I enjoyed it," he adds.

Most recently, his division partnered with People Magazine to produce "People Love Stories."

Now a veteran of ABC's team, Fitzharris recently was assigned to write an article for ABC News about Agnes Nixon, creator of "All My Children" and "One Life to Live." Her memoir, "My Life to Live," hit bookstands in March.

"So, imagine this...everything comes back full circle for me

with this opportunity," he says incredulously. "I always wanted to work on that show and now here I am writing about its creator."

Nixon passed away peacefully in her sleep last September, days after writing the final words to her memoir. Fitzharris said writing about Nixon will remain one of his personal career achievements.

"I also interviewed Susan Lucci for the piece, who acted in 'All My Children,' which gave me another perspective on this wonderful woman," he says.

Fitzharris says he sees himself down the road pursuing more opportunities as an entertainment writer but that he doesn't intend to leave New York City, where he's lived for the past 13 years. He resides in Greenwich Village.

"I don't know if Hollywood is on the horizon. I love this city; where else can you go without a car to get places, walk outside and feel instant energy, and be somewhere that is convenient to everything?" he says.

Besides the Big Apple, he still calls the WA area, where his mom, Bernadette, and brother, Cory, still live, "home."

When asked what he does for fun, Fitzharris muses, "Well, everyone who knows me knows that I am a huge Diana Ross fan, if attending 200+ of her shows is an indicator."

He's been known to fly to see her perform at a moment's notice. While attending her shows over the years, he's gotten to know Ross and her extended family.

As for the future, he says, "I'm happy where I am right now, yet I am always thinking of what's next. I like to dream big!"

His advice for young students?

"I was always a worrier and always putting pressure on myself," he says. "I realized that life is a series of steps and events that lead to other opportunities. So, dream big! Stay the course, have a goal, and focus on the journey... Make connections, keep contacts and maintain relationships, because you never know where a connection will lead you."

Above all, he says, "And don't stop believing in yourself."

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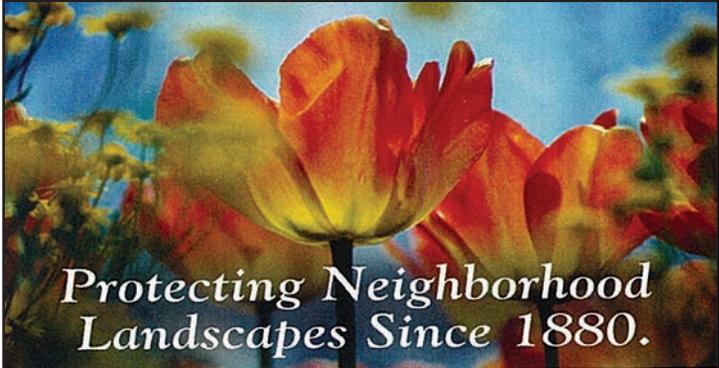
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STORY BY DOUG HUGHEY  
PHOTO SUBMITTED

## Oakdale centenarian gets final wish

Shortly before Oakdale centenarian Theresia Brandl passed away on May 24 at the age of 105, she said there was one thing she regretted never doing: getting her high school diploma.

Brandl dropped out of school in the 1920s to take care of her sick mother and, despite continuing her education once she was older, never was able to earn that degree.

"I started at West Park school when I was about 7 years old," Brandl said one week before she passed away, "and then my mom got sick and I quit to help my mother."

Brandl attended school in Stowe Township, decades before Stowe and McKees Rocks merged to become Sto-Rox School District. She said she also attended school in McKees Rocks before her parents moved to West Park when she was about 7. Brandl's granddaughter, Norene Ruggiero, says her grandmother completed eighth grade and tried going back to school at night but found it difficult, particularly once she and her husband separated.

Ruggiero said that during World War II her grandmother began working for the local shipbuilding company Dravo on Neville Island, in the company's shipyards. Ruggiero said that after the war, her grandmother found work as a waitress at two Pittsburgh restaurants before going back to work for Dravo in the company's cafeteria. Brandl remained with the company until she retired at age 62, after 25 years of working there.

Not long before Brandl passed away, Cathy Krise, who operates Victoria Manor in Oakdale - where Brandl lived for the past nine years - asked Brandl if there was anything that she would like to have.

"We were talking and I just said to her, what would you want?" said Krise. "Her first answer was, 'Good health for all her family.' And I had to ask a little bit more, 'No, what do you want?'"



Theresia Brandl (pictured above) celebrates being awarded an honorary high school diploma while wearing her commencement gown and enjoying some cake May 17.

Anything that you could have? If I could get you anything, what would you want?" She said, "I'd really like my high school diploma."

With that in mind, Krise reached out to the Allegheny County chapter of the Twilight Foundation, a national nonprofit that fulfills wishes for seniors. The foundation then reached out to Sto-Rox School District, which drafted an honorary diploma for Brandl. Representatives of the Twilight Foundation presented the diploma to Brandl on May 17 in front of a host of news media, including television cameras. The story quickly made its way around social media.

Ruggiero says the family never expected the attention or for her grandmother to "go viral." "It was amazing," said Ruggiero. "She's earned it over the years. It was beautiful."

Ruggiero says that, all throughout her life, her grandmother devoted herself to other people. That hadn't changed at Victoria Manor, where Krise says she regularly knitted scarves and

kitchen towels for residents. Krise says she was happy she could help fulfill a wish for someone who had sacrificed so much for others her entire life.

"She was always taking care of somebody," said Ruggiero. "She was good for that."

FOOT FACTS

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For more information about bunions and their treatment, visit the American Podiatric Medical Association Web site at: [www.apma.org](http://www.apma.org).

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Reliable Technology, LLC  
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The Savvy Group  
Zihmer Law Firm

### Upcoming Events

June 27th | **Breakfast Briefing**  
Pittsburgh Airport Marriott  
7:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

July 13th | **SummerGala**  
Roselea Farm  
5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

July 20th | **BizBlast@Noon**  
Hobby Prodigy at the Mall at Robinson (1st Floor)  
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

## Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies



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## PAACC panel discusses outlook on natural gas' economic impact on region

Though the market value of natural gas has suffered a downturn since the Marcellus Shale boom started almost a decade ago, opportunities in the region as a result of it have not.

That was the message delivered by a panel hosted by the Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of Commerce on May 19 at the DoubleTree by Hilton hotel in Green Tree. The event, entitled The Nexus Between Energy, Opportunity and Jobs, featured a discussion on

a range of regional energy production-related economic issues, from infrastructure and global markets to the impact on local workforces and manufacturing.

Stephanie Wissman, executive director of the Associated Petroleum Industries of Pennsylvania - which operates under the American Petroleum Institute - said that as natural gas prices have dropped, drillers operating in the Marcellus region have increased the efficiency of their drilling rigs. Wissman said that in 2011, an average well produced two million cubic feet of gas per day. She said today, rigs average 14 million cubic feet per day. Wissman pointed to a U.S. Energy Information Administration report that said gas produced from the Marcellus and Utica is expected to drive total U.S. dry gas reserves in the years to come.

However, getting all that gas to market continues to be a challenge and is hurting natural gas values, said Wissman. She called for fewer government regulations, which can drive up costs for drillers and drive away investment dollars that are vital to building the necessary infrastructure to bring gas to more U.S. and foreign markets.

"That is significant to think about," said Wissman, "that there is competition out there for investment dollars."

Christopher Guith, senior vice president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Institute for 21st Century Energy, also called for fewer government regulations and more infrastructure to deliver gas to market, in particular to the Northeastern U.S. Guith said that giving those states access to natural gas could prove vital to economies that are already experiencing higher energy costs as compared to states like Pennsylvania.

Southwestern Pennsylvania, however, is already seeing billions of dollars invested in projects that are creating both jobs and a more localized market for natural gas. Lou Gilberti, who has been a member of the Keystone Mountain Lakes Regional Council of Carpenters for 44 years - and who also spoke during the event - said union carpenters and millwrights are working on 10 different energy-related projects worth over \$5 billion in investments. Nine of those projects are natural gas-powered power plants that are either being built or in the planning phases. Seven of those plants are in Pennsylvania, where several coal-burning plants have closed



Christopher Guith, senior vice president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Institute for 21st Century Energy, talks about the potential economic impact of Pennsylvania-produced natural gas on neighboring regions. Also speaking on the panel was Kathryn Klaber, Lou Gilberti, Stephanie Wissman and George Stark.

in recent years. Most have an output of 1,100 megawatts - enough to power one million homes - each.

Gilberti said that union millwrights are constructing natural gas-fired turbines for the plants while carpenters are pouring concrete pads and constructing scaffolding. He said that those projects, combined with an uptick in other sectors, have converged to create a boom that is unprecedented for the union - at least during his tenure.

"I've been in since 1973, building chemical plants and steel mills," said Gilberti. "Come 1980 that stuff went away due to the downturn in steel...I've never seen it where we're busy across the board. We're building hospitals, universities, retail centers...we're seeing it all peaking at the same time."

Gilberti said that union workers are also constructing a turbine for Shell Chemicals' ethane cracker plant in Beaver County. He said there are 90 carpenters currently working on the plant. By year end, another crew will head there to build scaffolding for union millwrights, who will then piece together the plant's massive turbine. He said Shell will utilize the turbine to power its operations and sell what it doesn't use back to the grid.

George Stark, director of external affairs for Cabot Oil and Gas, said that the Jeannette-based company Elliott Group won the contract to construct that turbine and others.

"The owner of this company said that at one point he wasn't sure what the future of his grandchildren would be," Stark, who led the panel discussion, said. "They now know they will be busy for years to come."

He said the company is responsible for contracts worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

Once completed, Shell's ethane cracker will begin processing ethane from raw natural gas into ethylene, a feedstock for polyethylene pellets. Those pellets can then be used to produce everything from plastic bottles to the plastic that covers dry cleaning. According to Kathryn Klaber, who heads the Klaber Group and previously led the Marcellus Shale Coalition, that could be good news for about 800 manufacturers in the tri-state region that rely on plastics. Klaber shared statistics showing that ethylene, despite the downturn in oil prices, continues to be a cheaper alternative than oil-based naphtha.

Shell would seem to agree. Despite depressed oil prices, the company has continued with its planning and site prep over the past couple of years until finally committing to the project last year. The plant is expected to employ about 600 people and create a total regional economic impact of about \$6 billion.

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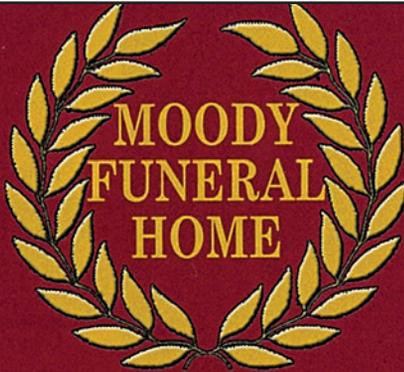
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## Creativity and Innovation Showcase features student work

West Allegheny was proud to present the District's second annual Creativity and Innovation Showcase, which gave students an opportunity to spotlight the incredible projects they produced this school year. The event was held May 18 in the middle school gymnasium and included nearly 20 interactive stations hosted by students, teachers and exhibitors from area businesses.

As the District continues its STEM focus, students in grades K-12 are exposed to an extensive innovation and design curriculum to help prepare them for 21<sup>st</sup> century careers. To further enhance student learning, the District has formed strategic partnerships with the Carnegie Science Center, Project Lead The Way, Real World Projects and Zulama. Student projects on display included robotics, programming/coding, biomedical studies, engineering, fabrication, 3D printing, laser engraving, CADD, media arts technology, trigonometry and statistics, and family and consumer science projects.



Students demonstrate their innovation and design projects for showcase visitors.

# #WeAreInnovators&Designers

# Superintendent's Message

## 2017-2018 Proposed Final Budget Highlights

### NO TAX INCREASE FOR NINTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Through responsible and forward-thinking fiscal stewardship, the District maintains a strong budget forecast. While many Pennsylvania districts have been forced to dramatically cut programming and furlough staff, West Allegheny has enhanced and expanded its programming to include STEM education, career development, Advanced Placement, Project Lead the Way, anti-bullying and comprehensive curricular revisions.

Over the last three years, the District has not only balanced the budget while increasing the fund balance, but also significantly expanded programming options for students and provided them with state-of-the-art resources and facilities, including:

- Completion of two major elementary school renovation projects totaling over \$28 million on time and under budget.
- Implementation of a full-day kindergarten program and increased resources to support early literacy.
- Maintained average or lower class sizes, based on historical data and Pennsylvania state averages.
- Maintained a low student-to-special-education-teacher ratio.
- Expanded West Allegheny Virtual Academy enrollment, saving the District nearly \$650,000 in out-of-district cyber charter tuition.
- Expanded offerings and focus on AP programming, resulting in West Allegheny ranking first in the nation for percent increase in qualifying scores in math and science, with a jump of 544 percent. A total of \$43,600 was awarded to our students and teachers for their extraordinary results in the fall of 2016.
- Improved technology connectivity and equipment/devices.
- Increased salaries and benefits for all employees while absorbing employee retirement costs with a net increase of \$3.5 million over the last seven years.
- Implementation of the Rachel's Challenge anti-bullying program and commitment to enhanced school safety and emergency operations.

### COST-SAVING MEASURES

Total cost savings estimated to be \$20.3 million from 2015-2016 to 2021-2022, saving taxpayers 1.25 mills per year.

- Over the last three fiscal years, the District successfully balanced the budget while preserving and increasing the fund balance (district savings account) to \$14.8 million.
- Refinancing of existing construction bond debt resulting in cost avoidance of \$910,000 and interest rate drop from 3.3 percent to 1.7 percent, helping offset the High School Athletic Complex Renovation Project.
- Implementation of District's Energy Conservation Program in 2014-2015, which resulted in a \$200,000 annual cost avoidance and almost \$1 million in cost avoidance since its inception.
- Securance of external grant funding totaling \$900,000 to support innovation and academic enrichment.
- Pursuance of state reimbursement for construction projects, resulting in \$985,000 of additional revenue.

***"We are proud to be able to maintain strong fiscal health and stability while we continue to advance the District, offering our students the best programming and resources to ensure they are career and/or college ready. Our strategic cost saving measures have afforded us increased fiscal flexibility. We pride ourselves on fiduciary stewardship, offering the best to our staff and students without placing the burden on our taxpayers."***

***~ Dr. Jerri Lynn Lippert, Superintendent***

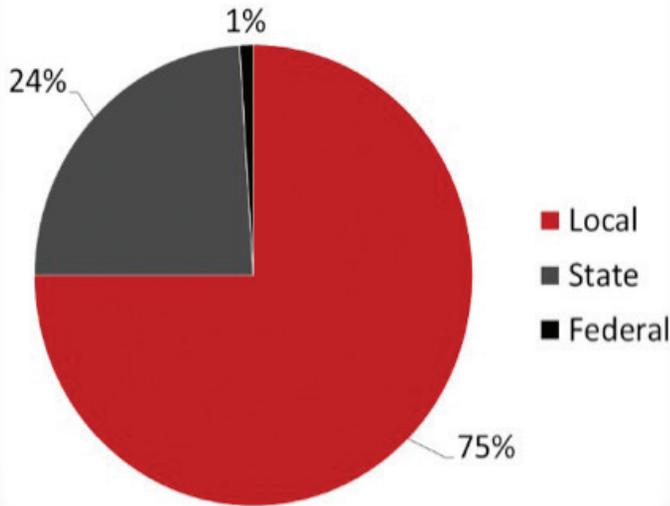
***"Continuing to spend within our means, with no tax payer burden, is a source of pride for the District. For the ninth year in a row, we have had no tax increase despite two major building renovations, comprehensive academic program enhancements, full-day kindergarten, and salary and retirement increases."***

***~ Debbie Mirich, School Board President***

# #WeAreWestA

## Summary of Revenues

Percentages of Total Revenue  
\$61,912,290



### Local Tax Sources:

Real Estate, Earned Income, Airport, Deed Transfer, Delinquent

### State Sources:

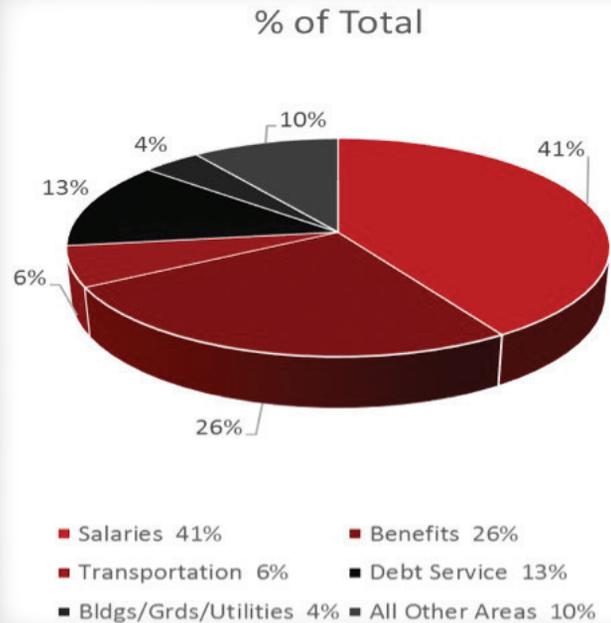
Basic Education Subsidy, Special Education Subsidy, Transportation Subsidy, PSERS Retirement Reimbursement, Debt Service Reimbursement

### Federal Sources:

Title I, Title II-A, ACCESS Funds

## Summary of Expenditures

Total Expenditures \$62,584,667



### Retirement Costs

Fiscal Year	Contribution Rate	Gross PSERS Cost
2015-16	25.84%	\$6,185,955
2016-17	30.03%	\$7,357,403
2017-18	32.57%	\$8,386,225
2018-19	31.18%	\$8,948,339

*Contributions shown do not include estimated 50% State reimbursement*

## District Millage Comparison as of 2016-2017

West Allegheny has the 10th lowest millage rate of 42 Allegheny County school districts.

More than 75 percent of Allegheny County school districts have raised taxes at least once over the last four years.

Rank	School District	Millage	Rank	School District	Millage
1	Chartiers Valley SD	16.6067	22	Deer Lakes SD	21.9530
2	McKeesport Area SD	16.7400	23	Elizabeth-Forward SD	22.0065
3	South Allegheny SD	17.2400	24	Steel Valley SD	22.0132
4	Duquesne City SD	17.5000	25	Cornell SD	22.3140
5	Quaker Valley SD	17.7389	26	Riverview SD	22.4462
6	North Hills SD	17.8000	27	Shaler Area SD	22.5600
7	Montour SD	17.9638	28	Bethel Park SD	22.8763
8	North Allegheny SD	18.0011	29	Sto-Rox SD	23.1900
9	Hampton Township SD	18.3900	30	Highlands SD	23.8000
10	<b>West Allegheny SD</b>	<b>18.5100</b>	31	South Park SD	23.8200
11	Avonworth SD	18.6700	32	Mount Lebanon SD	23.9300
12	Fox Chapel Area SD	18.9822	33	Upper Saint Clair SD	24.3388
13	Keystone Oaks SD	19.0771	34	West Mifflin Area SD	24.4965
14	Pine-Richland SD	19.2083	35	Northgate SD	24.7867
15	Baldwin-Whitehall SD	19.2500	36	Clairton City SD	25.2810
16	Gateway SD	19.3264	37	Woodland Hills SD	25.3500
17	Plum Borough SD	19.3770	38	Penn Hills SD	26.3061
18	Moon Area SD	19.5576	39	South Fayette SD	26.7000
19	West Jefferson Hills SD	19.6280	40	East Allegheny SD	26.9722
20	Allegheny Valley SD	20.3494	41	Brentwood Borough SD	31.0466
21	Carlynton SD	21.5640	42	Wilkinsburg Borough SD	32.6300

## Administrators mark professional milestone

Two West Allegheny administrators earned doctorate degrees in education from the University of Pittsburgh on April 30. Christopher Shattuck, assistant superintendent of schools, and Frank Hernandez, middle school principal, received this designation after successfully defending their doctoral dissertations.

Shattuck's dissertation topic focused on kindergarten readiness opportunities. Prior to serving as assistant superintendent, he served as Wilson Elementary School principal, assistant principal/dean of students at West Allegheny High School and teacher at Wilson. Shattuck received his master's in education from the University of Pittsburgh and his Bachelor of Arts from Grove City College. He is a 1993 West Allegheny alumnus.

Hernandez's dissertation area of concentration was cultural capital and academic engagement. Hernandez joined the District in August of 2016 after serving as principal of Freedom Area Middle School and assistant principal of Freedom Area High School. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Geneva College and his master's in education from the University of Pittsburgh.

**Dr. Frank Hernandez and Dr. Christopher Shattuck shake hands following commencement exercises at the University of Pittsburgh. Both earned their doctorate degrees.**



## District exceeds \$1 million in energy cost avoidance



**Ken Fibbi and Colleen Kartychak represent the District at the Keystone Energy Efficiency Fund awards ceremony in Harrisburg.**

As West Allegheny continues its commitment to energy conservation, the District has significantly cut energy use. In less than three years, the District has achieved a cost avoidance for utility consumption of over \$1 million. The conservation program aligns to the District's Framework for Academic Excellence Priority 3: financial responsibility and operational efficiency. The comprehensive program focuses on strategic usage through daily set-back of temperatures, installation of automated electrical systems and LED lighting, building shutdowns, and modified energy consumption behavior.

The District's efforts have not gone unnoticed, as McKee Elementary School was a third place winner of the Keystone Energy Efficiency Fund Moving to the Head of the Class Schools Award. Donaldson Elementary School claimed an honorable mention. District buildings and grounds director Ken Fibbi and energy specialist Colleen Kartychak received the award on behalf of the District at an awards ceremony in Harrisburg at the Capital Rotunda on May 17.

# #WeAreTeacherProud

## Senior has experience of a lifetime

Senior Kayla Campbell received an incredible surprise when she and her family were flown to New York City by “Madam Secretary” star Téa Leoni after the actress viewed a Facebook post of a bullying video Campbell produced for a West Allegheny class project.



Actress Téa Leoni and actor Matt Meinsen take a break from taping an episode of “Madam Secretary” to visit with Kayla Campbell and her brother, Luke.

Campbell, along with her brother, Luke, and mother, Lynn, were invited to sit in on an episode taping and met members of the cast and crew.

Campbell is often asked to speak at area schools about her experiences as a deaf student. When asked what she would like others to know about being deaf, she simply shares that she is no different than other students and that she can do everything that they can. That is evident in the fact that she will be attending New York’s Rochester Institute of Technology in the fall for 3D modeling and digital design.

## High school students take on the Energy Innovation Center’s Design Challenge



Students and teacher Amy Schweinsberg proudly display their Windstax design.

Several students from West Allegheny, Carlynton, and Parkway West Career and Technology Center came together at PWCTC to pitch their design idea for a Windstax. The Windstax, a type of windmill, will be constructed and erected at the Energy Innovation Center in Pittsburgh. The design idea met the EIC’s project challenge criteria of serving as a symbol of the commitment to innovative, sustainable energy and included functional, artistic and educational components.

Under the guidance of teacher Amy Schweinsberg, the West Allegheny students involved in the project were Samantha Cox, Wade Gunderson, Kira Powell, Aubrey Hanna, Gavin Chappel, Jeremiah Brosovic, Rachael Horstman, Anna Parker, Gillian Davis and Rachel Jak. This is the second year West Allegheny participated in the EIC challenge.



### Important Summer Building Schedules

Please be advised that all West Allegheny School Buildings and Facilities will be closed on the following Fridays:

June 16, July 14, 21 & 28, Aug. 4

and daily:

June 23 through July 9



The district has adopted a four-day summer work week as an energy and cost-saving measure.

Daily building hours will be extended Mondays through Thursdays from 6:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## Congressman Murphy shares civics lesson with students

Students enrolled in American Government classes at the high school had the opportunity to participate in an assembly with Congressman Tim Murphy of the 18th Congressional District. Murphy outlined his responsibilities as a U.S. Congressman and discussed the legislative process. The Congressman then opened the floor for discussion and students were able to ask questions. Teacher Kateri Meinert organized the visit.



## JROTC visits military sites in North Carolina



JROTC students visit the Army's Airborne and Special Operations Museum in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

The JROTC took its annual trip March 1 through 5, with this year's visits to points of interest in North Carolina. Stops included the Marine Corps Air Station in New River, the Army's Airborne and Special Operations Museum in Fayetteville, and a tour on board the USS North Carolina in Wilmington. More than 50 students made the trip and were accompanied by Sgt. Maj. Word.

## Two seniors recognized by SHASDA

Seniors Andrew Doehre and Michaela Sibbet were recognized April 29 at the South Hills Area School District Association Awards Banquet at the Hilton Garden Inn at Southpointe.



Andrew Doehre and Michaela Sibbet display their SHASDA awards.

The event was titled Hurdling Obstacles and Embracing Opportunities. Every year, SHASDA recognizes two students from each school who overcome personal obstacles and go on to experience great success in school.

## Peer 2 Peer Empowerment wraps up year

The high school Peer 2 Peer Empowerment group attended an annual banquet hosted by Crisis Center North on April 18 at The Chadwick in Wexford. Students presented on volunteer work and programs they coordinated throughout the 2016-2017 school year, such as volunteering at the West Allegheny Teachers' Cup, speaking at McKee and Donaldson Elementary Schools, and future plans for the second annual "Franks for Coming" hot dog event/eating contest at the baseball and softball games. They also shared their participation in the eighth grade transition to the high school program. The luncheon concluded with two keynote speakers and the presentation of the Jefferson Awards, which recognize students who make an impact on others within their community by performing various acts of public service.



West Allegheny Peer 2 Peer students attend an annual luncheon hosted by Crisis Center North.

## West Allegheny students excel at Parkway West Career and Technology Center

Several high school students were recognized by Parkway West Career and Technology Center throughout the school year for their academic achievements, technical skills and leadership.

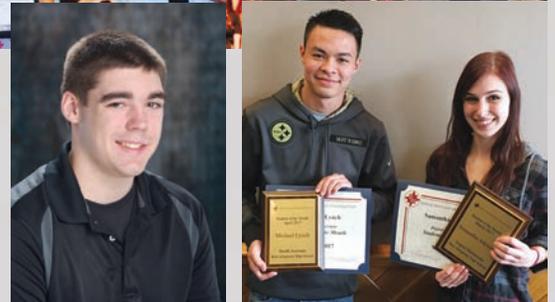
Students Jacob Bahr, Azure Book, Michael Lynch, Ryan Robison, Amanda Rubis and Brianna Waters were inducted into the PWCTC National Technical Honor Society.

Senior Alex Toth participated in the annual Skills USA Competition on January 18 and placed first in the firefighting category, which advanced him to a statewide competition that took place April 18 through 21 in Hershey.

Senior Samantha Atkinson and junior Michael Lynch were selected as Students of the Month for March and April, respectively, and received awards at the PWCTC awards banquet. Both students are members of PWCTC's National Technical Honor Society and Skills USA.



ABOVE: Students are inducted into Parkway West Career and Technology Center's National Technical Honor Society. RIGHT: Alex Toth qualified for the state Skills USA competition. FAR RIGHT: Michael Lynch and Samantha Atkinson are recognized as PWCTC Students of the Month.



## Students excel at regional musical festivals

West Allegheny was well represented at regional music festivals throughout the spring. On May 6, five middle school students performed at the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Jr. High District Chorus at Montour High School. Rain Greene, Nathan Presutti, Dylan Mersing, Cerina Wichryk and Andrew Martin were selected, along with over 100 students from around the Pittsburgh region.

On May 12, seven fifth- and sixth-graders were selected to participate in the PMEA District 1 West Elementary Band Festival. Owen Acitelli, Mary Muirhead, Averi Zdinak, Eden Schotting, Cassidy Thomas, Alexandria Booth and Kayla Hay attended the event at Carlynton High School.

On May 19, the middle school show choir traveled to Carnegie Mellon University for the annual High Note Festival, where they won the Superior Award for their performance.



**ABOVE RIGHT:** Andrew Martin, Dylan Mersing, Nathan Presutti, Rain Greene and Cerina Wichryk participate in the PMEA Chorus Festival.

**ABOVE LEFT:** Fifth- and sixth-graders participate in the District 1 PMEA Band Festival.

**LEFT:** The WAMS show choir proudly displays their Superior Award trophy.



# #WeAreStudentStrong

## Popular GOLD Program held at the middle school

Eighth grade girls were once again invited this year to participate in the ever-popular GOLD Program, an event that aims to educate girls about healthy relationships, leadership, body image, self-esteem and overall wellness. The overnight program was held May 12 and featured several guest speakers and activities.

With the help of several high school seniors, a session on Internet and social media safety addressed the challenges facing teens today. The seniors also presented one of the evening's highlights, a "What Not to Wear" fashion show that covered the "do's and don'ts" of various events such as interviews, honors night events, homecoming and much more.

Caitlin Burley, from the Duquesne University School of Pharmacy HEART program, spoke to the girls about the dangers of prescription and non-prescription drug abuse, along with the dangers of alcohol on the female body.

Long-term substitute teacher Angela Devereaux presented a session on healthy eating and related nutrition tips to various sports. Throughout the sessions, she stressed the importance of moderation and choosing foods that are healthier alternatives. Girls traded in their sugary morning cereals for avocado toast and their chemical-filled sodas for delicious fruit-infused water.

The program also featured a presentation titled Body Image and the Media, which was led by Dana McCaskey and Lauren Siciliano. The two middle school teachers encouraged the girls to recognize the influence that the media can have on self-esteem and to reflect on their own experiences in a round-table discussion. The girls spoke candidly and eloquently about their own experiences of battling self-esteem issues and supported one another in this discussion.

Teachers Katie Troup and Lea Hartzog transformed the science rooms into a peaceful DIY spa, where the girls made homemade body scrub and facial masks using common foods found in the kitchen. The girls and staff alike enjoyed taking a few minutes to pamper themselves and disconnect from their cell phones.

Susan Volkar taught a sunrise yoga session, during which the girls could de-stress from the excitement of the evening. She encouraged them to continue yoga practices as an activity to help them unwind during the school week.

The newest addition to the GOLD program was a cluster of presentations on careers.

The girls rotated through four sessions in which female professionals taught them about personal finance, engineering, robotics and fire fighting.

These women challenged the eighth-graders and seniors to find their passion and work hard.

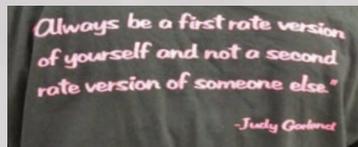
The GOLD program was coordinated by McCaskey, with the help of Troup, Devereaux and Siciliano. Additional staff volunteers included: Elizabeth Barron, Anita Berich, Adell Brown, Bobbi Jo Buggey, Krista Dapper, Julie Hahka, Jess Henry, Lea Hartzog, Pearl Hellmann, Megan Huchko, Lauren Petraglia, Erin Rakoci, Jackie Schmidt, Marcella Selestow and Bonnie Sikorski.

Senior volunteers were: Lily Anduaem, Katelynn Antoszeski, Sarah Behr, Madeline Bleil, Ava Collins, Victoria Costa, Kaylee Fields, Sydney Foy, Courtney Hayes, Allison Koester, Mya Konieczny, Madison Lockwich, Mackenzie Morgan, Ali Perry, Gabrielle Prevade, Danielle Rance, Kali Rossi, Hannah Salvucci, Sydney Saunders, Jordan Smith, Sonny Smith, Kacey Sturgeon, Kaylie Wallace, Kaitlin White and Sydney Welsh.

The GOLD Program was made possible in part through a grant from the WA Foundation.



**ABOVE:** Upon arrival at the GOLD Program, girls preview the night's activities. **BELOW:** Provided t-shirts espouse the theme of the evening.



## Kids of STEEL program running strong at Donaldson

Donaldson Elementary School recently completed its third year of Kids of STEEL, a youth exercise and nutrition program created by Pittsburgh Three Rivers Marathon. The program encourages kids to complete and document a marathon's worth of miles through various types of exercise and to try healthy foods. Donaldson students met on Tuesday mornings from 7:45 to 8:30 a.m. starting in January and participated in various activities such as running, stretching and playing at Donaldson Park. Many kids and parents culminated the program by running the one-mile Kids Marathon or UPMC Health Plan/UPMC Sports Medicine 5K Run on May 6. More than 90 students participated in the program this year and around 70 ran in the race. The program was coordinated by Kristen Tracy, Beth Schultz and Rebecca Claus, with other staff helping as they were available.



Over 90 Donaldson students participated in Kids of STEEL this year.

# #WeAreWestA

## McKee honors veterans with community service project

In honor of Memorial Day, McKee students and PTA collected donations of toiletries and miscellaneous personal items for the Shoeboxes for Soldiers program, which helps local veterans. George Coppola of the organization Vietnam Veterans Incorporated kicked off the event April 21 by visiting the school during lunch hour and talking to students about how important donations are for local veterans, many of whom do not have homes or nearby family. A total of 70 shoeboxes were packed and donated to the organization.



ABOVE: McKee students excitedly share their prepared donation boxes. RIGHT: George Coppola talks with students about the need for the Shoeboxes for Soldiers program.



# #WeAreStudentStrong

# Donaldson student council makes donations to community organizations

Donaldson student council welcomed North Fayette K-9 officer Nevo, Sgt. Todd Heufelder and Chief Mark O'Donnell on May 15 when students presented a \$1,500 donation to the K-9 fund, along with dog treats. Student council also donated \$500 to the Western Allegheny Community Library to purchase kid-friendly additions for the Backyard - the library's new outdoor space. Members of the student council are Dorian Baurle, Brendan Burke, Cheska Carla, Caleb Gnoth, Hope Halkias, Alexis Hammons, Rylie Kennedy, Abby Kizina, Turner Lutz, Amara Mangan, Nico Mowod, Luke Nicholson, Kennedy O'Connell, Max Psaros, Justin Rice, Joey Szyjko and Torri Zanella. Faculty advisor Tiffany Mangan helped arrange the visit and fundraiser.



Donaldson students present a donation check and dog treats to North Fayette K-9 officer Nevo, Sgt. Heufelder and Chief Mark O'Donnell.

## McKee team claims 2017 Battle of the Books title

The elementary schools hosted their annual Battle of the Books competition March 23 with a total of 33 teams participating. The teams of fourth and fifth grade students read eight books each from a selected list and came together at the tournament to face off by answering questions. The champions of the 2017 tournament were the Venomous Readers Revenge from McKee Elementary and included Ryan Dahmen, Hope Fronczek, Kaylee Hamrick, Noah Luffe and Ben Moore. The top team from Donaldson was the Academic Athletes. The Royale Readers and Storybook Stars tied for the top team at Wilson. The competition was organized by elementary school librarians Kathy Denniston, Denise Medwick and Beth Schultz.



McKee's Venomous Readers Revenge took first place at the 2017 Elementary Battle of the Books in March.



### Book Bus 2017 Summer Schedule

Wednesday: 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

June 14	Maronda Farms
June 21	Walden Woods
June 28	The Rock
July 2	Maronda Farms
July 12	Walden Woods
July 19	The Rock
July 26	Maronda Farms
August 2	Walden Woods
August 9	The Rock
August 16	Maronda Farms
August 23	Walden Woods
August 30	The Rock

The Book Bus is a mobile literacy resource made possible through a partnership between the West Allegheny School District, Western Allegheny Community Library and Monark Student Transportation. Please contact the Western Allegheny Community Library at 724.695.8150 for additional details.



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## History made in spring season of athletic play



Varsity softball proudly celebrates hoisting the WPIAL championship trophy.

The girls' varsity softball team wrapped up an incredible athletic year when they claimed the 5-A WPIAL softball title for the first time in school history. After coming out on top of Moon 12-2 in the championship game on June 1, they advanced to the first round of PIAA to play against Lower Dauphin on June 5. At the time of this writing, the game has yet to be played.

Varsity baseball also advanced to post-season play. After a loss in their semi-final 5-A WPIAL matchup with Mars, the team went on to win 12-5 against Chartiers Valley in the consolation game. At the time of this writing, the team is slated to play Erie Cathedral Prep on June 5 in the first round of PIAA play.

In track and field, Maddie Salek placed fifth in the 800 meter PIAA finals in Shippensburg University on Memorial Day weekend after taking first in the WPIAL meet.

The spring season culminated in a great year, with three WPIAL team titles and one individual title going to West Allegheny.

## Athletes recognized at Big 56 luncheon



Students recognized at the Big 56 luncheon were (back) Ashley Seamon, Brooke Wilson, Mackenzie Partyka; (front) Mike Starkman, Trey Zeroski, Stephen Twardy and Devin Donaldson.

Members of West Allegheny's baseball and softball teams were recognized on May 25 at the inaugural Big 56 luncheon. The event honored student athletes who achieved first team status during the 2017 season. The Big 56 represents all-conference and all-section teams.



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 Mr. George Safin, Business Manager  
 Mrs. Elaine Fitzgerald, Director of Student Services  
 Mr. Daniel Smith, High School Lead Principal  
 Mr. Kevin McKiernan, High School Academic Principal  
 Ms. Katharine McClelland, High School Assistant Principal for Instruction and Student Affairs

Dr. Frank Hernandez, Middle School Principal  
 Ms. Megan Huchko, Middle School Assistant Principal  
 Mrs. Toni Baldanzi, Supervisor of Ancillary Programs  
 Mrs. Patricia Nolan, Donaldson Elementary Principal  
 Mr. Thomas Orr, McKee Elementary Principal  
 Mrs. Rachel Gray, Wilson Elementary Principal  
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 Mr. David McBain, Director of Athletics

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All material has been prepared,  
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# Summer Fun Guide

The lowdown on fun summer happenings in and around the area.

## Festivals and cookouts

### See the Imperial VFD's new station during its fair, June 17

The Imperial VFD's annual fair used to take place on Main Street in Imperial but moved to the department's new station at the end of Pine Street after it was completed in 2015. If you haven't seen the new station yet, this is the perfect opportunity. Stop in for games of chance, including keno and the big 6 wheel. Food and refreshments will be on sale. Rock band Ruff Creek starts playing at 8 p.m. The department's bay will be open so bring the kids to check out the fire trucks and admire two recent murals painted by West Allegheny AP art students.

The fair kicks off with a **parade at 6 p.m.** **Lineup starts at 4 p.m.** For more, follow the Imperial VFD on Facebook.

### Celebrate July 4 all week long at McSummerfest, July 1-8

Can't wait to celebrate Independence Day? Then head to McSummerfest on **July 3** to enjoy a Zambelli Fireworks show a day early. Show up before dusk to grab a spot on the hillside overlooking Heritage Park or head down into the festival to enjoy carnival rides, games, fair food, beer and more.

Bucking the trend of celebrating July 4 on a day other than the holiday has long been a tradition of this regional celebration, which helps the McDonald VFD avoid competing with other area July 4 festivities and draw its largest crowd of the weeklong event. Throughout the week, it's been estimated that McSummerfest attracts around 20,000 people, which helps the department raise a big portion of its annual operating budget by selling fried Oreos, fried Twinkies, fry buckets, beer and more. Check it out throughout the week for the attractions mentioned above, including nightly live entertainment. See page 41 for a complete schedule and stay tuned to [www.mcdonaldfire.com](http://www.mcdonaldfire.com).

### Sip local wines by the water at

### Janoski's Harvest Wine Festival, July 15, 3-8 p.m.

Local wine aficionados will be able to again sample wines from premier regional wineries at the fifth annual Harvest Wine Festival at Janoski's Farm in Clinton in July. This open-air wine tasting regularly features over a half dozen wineries pouring around 100 varietals ranging from riesling-style chocolate sweet wines, to crisp, un-oaked chardonnays, to robust merlots.

Janoski's also serves a buffet of fresh food for the event, much of it grown on the farm. For \$39 (or \$49 at the gate) attendees get a souvenir wine glass for unlimited tastings, unlimited access to a home-cooked food buffet, and a chance to win a basket donated by the wineries. Once you find a wine you like, buy a bottle, grab a spot on the deck by the pond and enjoy some live music.

Tickets can be purchased in advance at Janoski's Farm and on Eventbrite.com by searching Janoski Farms Harvest Wine Festival. This adult-only event takes place rain or shine and is sponsored by Janoski's and Volant Mill Winery. Visit the Facebook page Harvest Wine Festival and search #harvestwinepgh on Twitter for updates.



McSummerfest in McDonald annually draws a nice crowd by holding fireworks around July 4, but on a night other than the holiday.  
PHOTO BY ELMO CECCHETTI

### Satisfy your fair food craving at Holy Trinity Festival, Aug. 9-12

Family fun, food and games return this year at the Holy Trinity Festival during the second week of August. The fair will once again take place nightly at Holy Trinity Catholic School in Robinson Township. Count on festival staples like ethnic food booths, carnival games, rides and live entertainment.

The fair benefits Holy Trinity Catholic School. Stay up to date at [www.holy-trinity-school.org](http://www.holy-trinity-school.org).

### Catch live music, fireworks and more at this year's Ingram Days Celebration, July 15-16

This annual community event will once again take place in Ingram Park at the corner of Ingram and Foster Avenues across from the Crafton-Ingram Shopping Center. Expect a variety of food, games, crafters, vendors and performances by local bands. Both nights, there will be free face painting and airbrush tattoos from **5-7 p.m.** and a balloon artist from **6-8 p.m.** Bands start around **7:30 p.m.** Sunday night will be capped off with a stunning Zambelli fireworks display, starting at **9:30 p.m.**

For more, visit [www.facebook.com/IngramDays](http://www.facebook.com/IngramDays).

### Food trucks and soul music return for Feastival, Aug. 26, 3-9 p.m.

This hip and family-friendly urban festival returns in August for its fifth year to downtown McKees Rocks. Once again, there will be food trucks and live music, with beer for the adults and fun activities for the kids. On the entertainment schedule for this year is a soul concert featuring Leftover Salmon, TheCause featuring Jeff Mattson of Dark Star Orchestra, Starship Mantis, and Lyndsey Smith & The Soul Distribution. Feastival takes place on the municipal lot behind Hollowood Music from **2:30-9:30 p.m.** Bring a blanket and chairs. Stay up to date at [www.pghfeastival.com](http://www.pghfeastival.com).



Janoski's Harvest Wine Festival serves up local wines and food in a bucolic setting on the farm.

## Township Fairs

**Moon Township Parks and Recreation's 50th Anniversary Celebration, July 4 weekend**, kicks off with Firecracker 5K Friday (see 5Ks listing), Community Day celebration **July 2, noon start**, classic car cruise coincides, live music by Jaggerz, **July 3** battle of the bands, **July 4** festivities, music, food, children's activities, fireworks, vendor spaces available for social organizations and businesses, (412) 262-1703, [bbrozovich@moontwp.us](mailto:bbrozovich@moontwp.us).

**Kennedy Township Community Days, Aug. 9-12, Aug. 9-10, 6-10 p.m., Aug. 11-12, 5-11 p.m.**, lower fields in Fairhaven Park, **West Hills Symphonic Band concert Thursday, 7 p.m., Saturday evening fireman's parade followed by fireworks at 10 p.m.**, (412) 771-2321.

**North Fayette Township Community Days, Aug. 5, starts 1 p.m.**, live music throughout the day, fair food vendors, beer tent, inflatables, pony rides, petting zoo, dunk tank, clowns, games, Zambelli fireworks show, **kickoff parade Aug. 4, car cruise Aug. 6**, organizations wishing to participate should contact the North Fayette Parks and Recreation Department, (412) 788-4888, [www.north-fayette.com/199/Recreation](http://www.north-fayette.com/199/Recreation), see page 45.



Inflatables are part of the fun at North Fayette Township Community Days.

**Findlay Township Fair in the Woodlands, Aug. 18-19, 6-10 p.m. Friday, 10:30 a.m. parade Saturday, fair opens 11:30 a.m., 10:15 p.m. fireworks show**, community booths, fair food, live entertainment, art and agricultural contests, dunk tank, petting zoo, pony rides, live music, pie eating and hoola hoop contests, Darlene Larson, (724) 695-0500 x 246, [www.findlaytp.org/184/Parks-Recreation](http://www.findlaytp.org/184/Parks-Recreation).

**Robinson Township's 15th Annual Autumn Festival, Sept. 9, noon-11 p.m.**, Burkett Sports and Recreation

Complex on Daniel P. Tallon Memorial Field, closes with **Pyrotecnico Fireworks show at 10 p.m.**, vendors, food, beer tent, games, rides, live entertainment throughout the day, [www.townshipofrobinson.com](http://www.townshipofrobinson.com).

## Tour Area Log Homes

### Third Annual Historical Log Homes Tour, Sept. 16

In 2015, the Pioneers West Historical Society, Boy Scout Troop 248, the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden, West Allegheny School District and the Moon Township Historical Society teamed up to host the area's first-ever Historical Log Homes Tour. For one day only, each of these organizations opened the doors to historic log cabins that they manage to the general public - the idea being that curiosity seekers could drive to each log home and learn more about them from interpreters. The tour again took place last year, with most of the cabins on the list open for it.

This year, though, all five cabins will be open. **The tour takes place Sept. 16.** Count on interpreters but keep in mind **times will likely vary for each stop** so stay tuned to [www.pioneerswesthistoricalsociety.org](http://www.pioneerswesthistoricalsociety.org), which will be posting a schedule and map as details are finalized.

Can't make the tour but still want to see the interiors of these homes? Then you might be out of luck. The Walker-Ewing Log House in Collier Township - a highlight on the tour - is only otherwise open to Pioneers West Historical Society members during their regular meetings. Visit the website listed above for times. Coventry Log Cabin in Robin Hill Park in Moon Township is only open during special Moon Parks and Recreation events, such as on Earth Day and during the Moon Garden Club's Greens and Things sale in December. The McAdow-McAdams Wilson Log House on the Wilson Elementary School campus is only open to the public during special events, and to students for educational programs throughout the year. The same goes for the Walker-Ewing-Glass Log House at the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden, which is only open for special events and educational programs.

Killbuck Lodge, home of Boy Scout Troop 248, is also usually only open to the general public during special events and regular meetings. **On June 24 at 3 p.m., though, the troop is inviting the general public to a special rededication event**, which will include tours, displays, a Dutch oven cooking demonstration and more. The lodge was torn down and rebuilt with its original logs in 2015, with help from the cast of the television show "Barnwood Builders" and area volunteers. Work has continued since. For more, follow Boy Scout Troop 248 on Facebook.

## More festivals and cookouts

**McDonald Lions Club Rib Cookout, June 24, July 29, Aug. 26, Sept. 30**, pickup at McDonald Trail Station, 161 South McDonald St., **starts selling at 9 a.m.** and sells until all are sold, \$9 one-pound boat, call to pre-order, Caryll, (724) 926-9541, benefits McDonald Lions Club charities.

**Oakdale Hose Company Street Carnival, July 22-29**, downtown Oakdale, **parade July 28**, [www.oakdaleborough.com](http://www.oakdaleborough.com).

**Crafton-Ingram Rotary Rib and Chicken Fest, Aug. 3, 4-7 p.m.**, Crafton Park, raffles, auctions, llamas, door prizes, \$20 baby back ribs dinner, \$18 chicken dinner, includes corn, baked beans, coleslaw, hot dog, dessert, beverage, \$20 llama plop tickets, \$1,000 prize, (412) 922-8824.

**54th Annual Moon Township Rotary Club Corn Roast, Aug. 15**, Rotary Shelter in Moon Park, **5-8 p.m.**, \$20 at door, corn on the cob, burgers, hot dogs, sweet and hot sausage, potato salad, baked beans, desserts, beer, soft drinks, benefits West Hills Food Bank, Robert Morris University Scholarship Fund and other Rotary charities, Andy Keppel, (412) 264-8072.



The SNPJ Button Box Group performs at the Moon Township Rotary Club Corn Roast last year.



The Walker-Ewing-Glass Log House (top) and the Walker-Ewing Log House (bottom) are among five log homes that will be open to the public during this year's Historical Log Homes Tour on Sept. 16. Interpreters like Theresa Locke and Amy Lawrence (pictured below) will be on hand.



## Farmers' Markets

**Robinson Farmers' Market**, through Oct. 2, Mondays, 4-8 p.m. through August, 5-8 p.m. after Aug. 21, Holy Trinity Church parking lot off Steubenville Pike, assortment of vendors, Simmons Farm, produce, food truck, live music, farmersmarket@holyltrinityrobinson.org.

**Moon Township Farmers' Market**, Wednesdays, June-September, 3-6 p.m., Municipal Building, 1000 Beaver Grade Road, prepared foods, veggies, meats, herbs, dog treats, art vendors, accepts credit cards and SNAP benefits, (412) 262-1703.

**St. James Farmers' Market**, St. James Catholic Church in Sewickley, 200 Walnut St., Saturdays through November, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., vegetables, organic farm products, meats, honey, pierogies, pasta, more, (412) 741-6650, www.saintjames-church.com.



**The Original Farmers' Market**, starts 5:30 p.m.; open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, June-November; Bridgeville area; take left on Route 50 off Bridgeville I-79 South Exit; www.theoriginalfarmersmarket.net.

**McDonald Trail Station Farmers' Market**, Saturdays, July 8 through late September, 9 a.m.-noon, McDonald Trail Station parking lot in McDonald, 161 South McDonald St., fresh local vegetables, fruits, local honey, home-made baked goods, jams, jellies, fresh farm eggs, preordering of locally raised and butchered beef, specialty animal treats, local crafts, (724) 926-4617.

## Free Concerts

**Findlay Township Free Summer Concert Series**, see page 50.

**Free lunchtime concerts at Robin Hill Park**, Moon Township, concerts start at noon, moonparks.org.

Brother Rick and the Doo-Wop All Stars - **June 21**

RML Jazz - **July 19**

Steven Vance Electric Guitar - **Aug. 16**

Frank Viera - **Sept. 20**

Peruse our listing of fairs and festivals for more free concerts. Check websites listed and ads on pages 41 and 45.

The Blue Bombers perform at Robinson Township's Autumn Festival last year.



## Area 5Ks

Running on one of the area's rail trails can get lonely over the summer, so sign up for these area 5Ks for a little competition and community atmosphere. They're also great for motivation and goal setting. Cheering provided with registration fee.

**Township of Moon Firecracker 5K Run and Walk**, July 1, 7 a.m. registration, 8:30 a.m. start, looped course featuring challenging hills and gently rolling roads, giveaways and prizes following the event, runners \$25, walkers \$15, www.moonparks.org.

**North Fayette Township Community Days 5K**, Aug. 5, begins and ends by the North Fayette Community Center in Donaldson Park, out and back course with large climb up Donaldson Road to finish, prizes for top male and female finishers as well as age groups, \$10 entry fee, **race starts 9 a.m.**, one-mile kids' run and family fun walk coincides, register at community center, (724) 307-3725

**Findlay Township Semi-Great Race**, Aug. 18, starts and finishes at Findlay Township Community Park, **race starts 7 p.m.**, hilly course, \$10 entry fee, awards for top male and female finishers as well as age groups and top finishing Findlay Township resident, two-mile fun walk coincides, dlarrison@findlaytwp.org, (724) 695-0500.

**Friends of the Poor 5K Walk/Run**, Sept. 30, 8:30 a.m. registration at Harmon Thomas Pavilion at Fairhaven Park, Kennedy Township, sponsored by St. Malachy and St. Vincent de Paul Society, walkers, runners, sponsors welcome, benefits needy families in parish community, LWR7139@outlook.com.

## Plein Air Classical Music

### West Hills Symphonic Band

The West Hills Symphonic Band is made up of local musicians of all ages who play because they love music. This summer, they'll again be playing several plein air events. Count on hearing some familiar, and maybe some not so familiar, scores and adaptations. Though details are still in the works, a tribute to the last days of Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus could be included.



The West Hills Symphonic Band performs in Oakdale last summer.

### WHSB upcoming shows:

**June 16**, Moon Park, 7:30 p.m.

**June 23**, Oakdale Business District, 7 p.m.

**July 16**, Mellon Park in Shadyside, 10:30 a.m.

**Aug. 10**, Fairhaven Park, 7 p.m., Kennedy Township Community Day

**Pittsburgh Philharmonic Concert**, July 14, 6 p.m., Robin Hill Park in Moon Township, moonparks.org.

# McSummerfest



25th Annual McSummerfest 2017

At Heritage Park - McDonald, PA

July 1<sup>st</sup> - July 8<sup>th</sup>

Closed Sunday

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SHARE THE  
ENERGY  
Washington County, PA

Great  
Family  
Fun!

Saturday, July 1st

McSummerfest Parade at 5pm

**The Stickers**

Monday, July 3rd

Fireworks at Dusk

**Hedgg Band**

Tuesday, July 4th

**Lucky Me**

Wednesday, July 5th

**The Lava Game**

Thursday, July 6th

**Dancing Queen**

Friday, July 7th

**Hillbilly Way**

Saturday, July 8th

**Tongue "N" Cheek**

McDonald Volunteer Fire Department • McDonald, PA

FOR MORE INFORMATION 724-926-9190 • [www.McDonaldfire.com](http://www.McDonaldfire.com)

# Camps

**North Fayette Township Sports Camps**, see Youth Programs on page 52.

**The Rock Summer Day Camp, June 19-Aug. 11**, see ad below for details.

**Moon Township Camps**, open to residents and non-residents, Western PA Baseball Camp, **June 26-29**, ages 6-12, Summer Playground Program, **through Aug. 18**, Bitty Ballet, ages 3-6, **June 26-29, July 24-27**, Papier-Mache Animal Art Camp, ages 6-11, **July 10, 11, 12, 14**, Mad Science, "Eureka! The Inventors Camp," **July 31-Aug. 4**, moonparks.org

**Gadgets and Gizmos, July 9-13**, Crossroads Church, see ad on next page for details.

**Allegheny Count Dek Hockey Camp, July 24-27**, see ad on page 44 for details.

# Join a community band

The Ohio Valley Community Band, sponsored by Keith-Holmes VFW Post 402, kicked off its summer season in May. Throughout the summer, the band will be playing concerts and parades throughout the Pittsburgh region. The band has members of all ages. Members need be at least a sophomore in high school to join. There are no auditions.

Those interested can email [info@OhioValleyBand.org](mailto:info@OhioValleyBand.org). Practices take place at the VFW Post 402 in Coraopolis.

# Racing

## Take in a race at Pittsburgh's Pennsylvania Motor Speedway and check out Lantern Fest on July 8

Since the late 1970s, souped-up racecars have been entertaining families on Pittsburgh's Pennsylvania Motor Speedway's half-mile, oval dirt racetrack in Imperial. Once located in Heidelberg, the track moved to the area after its former site was sold and destined to become the site of a shopping mall. The Miley family started operating the track in the mid-1980s and continues to do so today. PPMS, meanwhile, continues to be a destination for racecar drivers and enthusiasts, as well as families looking for some affordable fun on Saturday nights **through October 7**. Check out the upcoming schedule below and visit [ppms.com](http://ppms.com) for future events.

Be sure also to check out **Lantern Fest** at PPMS on **July 8**. Thousands of revelers are expected to show up to witness this dramatic lantern release. Gates open at **5 p.m.** and parking is \$10. Enjoy food trucks and concessions. Be sure to bring a blanket or chair. There will also be live music, face painters, s'mores, balloon artists and more leading up to the big moment. Purchase tickets at [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com).



DIEHL Auto Super Late Models race around the track at Pittsburgh's Pennsylvania Motor Speedway. PHOTO BY FRANK WILSON

**ROCK SUMMER DAY CAMP**

**JUNE 19<sup>TH</sup> – AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup>**

**Build on the Foundation of Faith & Family**

Come join us this summer for our extended eight-week day camp!! Your child will grow deeper in faith, friendships and have lots of FUN! Participate in games, science projects, cooking, crafts, reading projects, Bible lessons, a talent show & much more!

**FOR:**

- Kids who completed K-5<sup>th</sup>
- **\*NEW\*** limited spots available for children going into Kindergarten
- Counselor in Training Program 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

**HOURS:**

9 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Friday  
With Extended Hours 7:30 am – 5:30 pm

\$90/week – ROCK members  
\$110/week – non-ROCK members  
\$25/week per family – Extended Hours

**CONTACT:** Kevin Hancock ~ 724-825-3101  
Email: [rockdaycamp\\_oakdale@yahoo.com](mailto:rockdaycamp_oakdale@yahoo.com)  
ROCK Youth & Family Center ~ 150 W State St. Oakdale

**PITTSBURGH'S**

**Affordable Family Fun**

**Every Saturday Night**  
**May through September**  
**in 2017**

**Log on to [www.ppms.com](http://www.ppms.com)**  
**for 2017 racing schedules and special offers!**

**June 17 - ULMS VS UFO DIEHL SUPERS Herb Scott Memorial, Big Block MODIFIEDS, RUSH Modifieds, RLM, LMS, NO HS, YG, Open4.**  
**June 24 - NO RACING, PPMS EMPLOYEES JUNE SUMMER VACATION!**  
**July 1 - BOSS OUTLAW SPRINTS + Berks/Nickles \$1 Dogs, RLM, LMS, HS, YG, Open4. Twin State Night.**  
**July 8 - LANTERN FEST!** Lanterns symbolize good fortune, families and friends can dance to the music, roast marshmallows for their s'mores, munch on snacks & send off their lanterns and watch them float away in a spectacular release. NO Racing.  
**July 15 - UFO Championship SLM, PLUS RLM, LMS, & Big Block MODIFIEDS, plus RUSH Modifieds, No HS, YG, Open4.**  
**July 22 - Tony Stewart's Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions Sprint Cars presented by Falconi's Moon Township Automotive with RUSH LM Sizzler, RUSH MODS. No SLM, LMS, HS, YG, Open4.**  
**July 29 - AE, Alternative Power Sources Allegheny Sprint Tour, Precise RUSH Dirt LM Sizzler, SLM, LMS, HS, YG, Open4.**  
**Aug 5 - AE, Wee Willie White Memorial PENN/OHIO Pro Stock Series SLM, RLM, HS, YG, Open4.**  
**Aug 12 - Jook George 28th annual STEEL CITY Classic for RUSH LM. SLM, LMS NO HS, YG, Open4.**  
**Aug 19 - NO RACING, PPMS Employee August Vacation**  
**Aug 26 - UFO Championship SLM, PLUS RLM, LMS, HS, YG, Open4.**  
**Sept 2 - 410 Outlaw Winged Sprints, Alternative Power Sources Allegheny Sprint Tour, RLM, LMS, HS, YG, Open4.**  
**Sept 9 - AE, AAA KIDS BIKE RACES! RLM, LMS, HS, YG, Open4, CarSmile Wiperblades 'Thunder on the Dirt' Vintage Racing Series.**

**170 Kelso Road, Imperial, PA 15126**  
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**724-695-3363 or 0393**

## Cruises and Rides

### Show off your ride at these cruises, or just show up to drool

Whether you restore classic cars, tune imports or just like gawking at custom rides, these car cruises are for you. Awards entitle winners to bragging rights, but the real fun is getting up close to these great cars and talking with customizers. Cruises are free to spectators and usually free for car owners. Many benefit good causes.

**SNPJ Lodge 106 Car Cruises, noon,** with live entertainment, food, drinks, 50/50, level paved parking, door prizes, air-conditioned clubroom, bikes welcome, dash plaques for first 50 cars, **July 16**, The Messengers, **Aug. 13**, Elvis Lives: A Tribute to the King, **Sept. 10**, Renewed Memories II, (724) 695-1411.

**Paradise Island Bowl, 5 p.m., Tuesdays,** Paradise Island Bowling on Neville Island, oldies from the 1950s and 1960s, (412) 537-7447.

**Pep Boys Summer Cruisin', June 25, 12-4 p.m.,** 50/50, giveaways, DJ Danny Brown, dash plaques for first 50 cars, (412) 279-6803, norbs40s@comcast.net.

**Wheels, Wings and Wishes 3, July 30, noon-6 p.m.,** The Hangar in Moon Township, \$10, includes food, soft drink, entertainment, proceeds benefit Make-A-Wish, music by Tuned Up, 50/50, Chinese auction, trophies.

**PALS North Fayette Annual Car Cruise, Aug. 6, noon-4 p.m.,** 580 Donaldson Park, dash plaques for first 100 cars, door prizes, 50/50, DJ, benefits PALS, provides recreational opportunities for children with disabilities, (412) 496-2540, bmg1160@gmail.com.

**Crescent Fire House Cruise, Aug. 10, 5-9 p.m.,** 79 McGovern Blvd., (412) 812-4152, glenkriger@comcast.net.



Wheels, Wings and Wishes takes place at The Hangar.

**CLC Old's Cool Hot Rod Showdown, Aug. 12, 4-7:30 p.m.,** Christ Church at Grove Farm, 249 Duff Rd. in Sewickley, benefits Christian Leadership Concepts, call for cost, (724) 935-0727, dparker@clchq.org.

**Robinson Township's Fourth Annual Car Cruise, Sept. 30,** Robinson Town Centre, jTallon@townshipofrobinson.com.

The Robinson Township Car Cruise regularly draws a nice turnout.



## Golf Outings

**Bob Pompeani Charity Golf Classic, June 19,** Chartiers Country Club, **9 a.m.-7 p.m.,** brunch, 18 holes, four-person scramble format, skills contests, prizes, four \$100,000 chance shots, \$1 million shot, Pebble Beach Golf Vacation prize, more, non-golfers invited to 19th hole reception on veranda, benefits Citizen Care/Partners for Quality, sponsorships available, pfq.org.

**St. Columbkille Annual Golf Outing, Aug. 7,** Ft. Cherry Golf Course, scramble format, foursomes, singles welcome, prizes, dinner to follow at St. Columbkille, 18 holes, \$75 by **June 23**, \$80 after, benefits West Allegheny Food Pantry, ww.saintcolumbkilleparish.org.

**Second Annual Fighting Fore Roman Golf Outing, Aug. 19,** Quicksilver Golf Club, **7 a.m.** registration, **8 a.m.** shotgun start, scramble format, beer served on course, buffet lunch, Chinese auction and raffle, sponsorships available, \$125 per golfer, benefits Children's Tumor Foundation, FightingForeRoman@gmail.com, register by **July 1**.

**Seventh Annual PALS Charity Golf Outing, Sept. 9,** Quicksilver Golf Club, **7 a.m. registration, 8 a.m. shotgun start, 1 p.m. lunch and awards,** hole-in-one, closest to the pin, skins, raffles, prizes, gift auction, lunch, \$125 per golfer, in conjunction with North Fayette Township, provides recreational opportunities for children with disabilities, sponsorships available, (724) 307-3725.





GADGETS  
& GIZMOS

KidzXP (Vacation Bible School at Crossroads) is exciting, crazy, fun, messy, wet, loud, and memorable where kids come together for the most amazing week of their summer!



Sunday-Thursday, July 9-13 • 6-9pm

For more information & registration:  
[www.kidzxp.com](http://www.kidzxp.com)



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EMAIL: DRPCZ@MSN.COM

WEBSITE: ONLINEDRZ.COM

## Get over the mid-week hump

Ten years ago, local entertainer Dan Fisher had a hand in creating a game show for a local production company that planned to pitch it to a television network. The idea never gained traction, but recently Fisher decided to get the idea going again in a local venue. **Starting July 26**, Fisher will be hosting his game show-style trivia program at the Fireside Inn in Robinson Township. Called Burst Your Bubble, the game pits teams of at least five against each other in a combination of trivia and silly - albeit fun - challenges to help players get over the mid-week hump. A twist at the end tests teams' sportsmanship, as the losers have the option to deny the winners their prize.

Burst Your Bubble kicks off **July 26 at 7 p.m.** with a Game Night To Do Right event to benefit the Bradley Center, which seeks to help improve the lives of children, youth and families affected by trauma, mental illness, and behavioral health challenges. Donations of \$20 from each team benefit the center. For more, call (412) 921-5566.

## Get Outdoors

### Fly with the Greater Pittsburgh Aero Radio Control Society

Since the mid-1970s, members of the Greater Pittsburgh Aero Radio Control Society have been making the trek out to a remote airfield in Hillman State Park to fly model airplanes.

Today, the Kirkland Leroy Irvis Radio Control Model Airport is still home to the group, which shows up there on **Thursdays at 5 p.m.** to fly everything from planes made out of Styrofoam to ones that run on jet fuel. Its remote location means there aren't any overhead power lines or buildings to obstruct flight paths, nor annoying neighbors to complain about the sound of gas-powered engines.

Model airplane enthusiasts have the airstrip's namesake, Kirkland Leroy Irvis, to thank for its construction. It was built with \$20,000 in funds secured by Irvis, who was not only the first African

GPARCS president Rick Grimes holds a radio-controlled airplane made out of Styrofoam board.

American to serve as speaker of the house in any state, but also a longtime aviation enthusiast.

Today, anyone can fly a radio-controlled plane at the airstrip, so long as they are a current member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics and follow the AMA National Safety Code. AMA membership requires pilots to purchase a special type of liability insurance.

GPARCS membership, however, has its own benefits, especially for beginners.

"The biggest advantage we offer is assistance to new pilots," says club member Paul Dunn. "You'd be surprised how many people come out here and have their controls reversed."

Club members describe the hobby as a great father-son bonding experience. Some have even watched their sons grow up to become commercial pilots. That's not to say, of course, that it doesn't also make for a great father-daughter hobby as well.

The airstrip is located at 80 Model Airport Road in Burgettstown. For more, visit [www.gparcs.org](http://www.gparcs.org).

## Catch some air at Findlay Township's massive skate park

- When Findlay Township constructed its sports complex at Leopold Lake, it didn't skimp on amenities. Its huge skate park is now a draw for skaters and stunt bikers from across the region.
- The park sports a quarter pipe, half pipe, flow bowl, pool, half pipe, quarter pipe, spine ramp, fun box, picnic table and more. The park is open **8 a.m.-11 p.m. daily through October** and located at 810 Route 30 in Imperial. For more, visit [www.findlaytp.org](http://www.findlaytp.org).

• **Jacob Pijar performs a stunt at the skate park in Findlay Township Park and Recreation Complex.**



**GPARCS**  
Greater Pittsburgh Aero Radio Control Society  
Come Fly With Us

Learn to build and fly remote control airplanes, an exciting hobby for all ages!  
Visit us on the web [Http://www.gparcs.org](http://www.gparcs.org)  
80 Model Airport Rd Hillman State Park Burgettstown Pa. 15021

**YOUTH**

**DEK HOCKEY**  
**-CAMP-**

**Settlers Cabin Park  
Dek Hockey Camp**  
**Monday-Thursday  
July 24-27, 9 am-12 noon**  
**Open to ages 6-15**

\$70 for county residents and \$88 for non-residents. Pre-registration required at [allegheycounty.us/parkprograms](http://allegheycounty.us/parkprograms)  
[ParksHockey@allegheycounty.us](mailto:ParksHockey@allegheycounty.us) for info

**FREE CLINIC FOR AGES 4-15 ON JULY 15**

# North Fayette Township Community Days

★ 2017 ★

Friday, August 4 - Sunday, August 6

## Friday, August 4, 2017

Kickoff Parade - Steubenville Pike at Logan Road  
to Hankey Farms Pool Parking Lot ..... 6:30pm

## Saturday, August 5, 2017 - Amphitheater Parking Lot at Donaldson Community Park

5k Race Registration - North Fayette Community Center ..... 7:30am  
5k Race - North Fayette Community Center ..... 9:00am  
Kids 1 Mile Run and 1 Mile Family Walk - North Fayette Community Center ..... 9:05am  
Petting Zoo, Kids' Inflatables, Delicious Food, and Vendor Booths & Games  
(Must purchase \$5.00 Wristbands for Kids' Play Area) ..... 2:00pm - 9:45pm  
Entertainment Provided by Froggy Radio ..... 2:00pm - 5pm  
Family Fun Zone Entertainment - Face Painting, Airbrush Tattoos,  
and Balloon Artist ..... 3:30pm - 6:30pm  
Barnyard Petting Zoo and Pony Rides at the Dog Park ..... 5:00pm - 7:00pm  
Township Roads Band at the Amphitheater ..... 5:00pm - 7:00pm  
North Fayette Police Department Demonstration with K-9 Nevo  
at the Brindle Baseball Field ..... 7:00pm  
Totally 80s Band at the Amphitheater ..... 8:00pm - 10:00pm  
Fireworks by Pyrotechnico ..... 10:15pm

## Sunday, August 6, 2017

Annual PALS Fundraiser Car Cruise at Donaldson Park ..... 12:00pm - 4:00pm  
Featuring DJ Dan, 50/50 raffle, People's Choice 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies, Dash Plaques  
for the first 100 participants, and food available for purchase from Smokin' Jack's Rib Shack.



## 2017 Community Day Sponsors



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Imperial Shop 'n Save

*Events hosted by the North Fayette Township Parks and Recreation Board*

Going outdoors to enjoy the weather is at the top of everyone's summer list. For many, that means visiting one of the region's many campsites (see next page for a list of campsites within a one- to two-hour drive of the airport region).

For a purely outdoor "in the woods" experience, choose a campsite at a state or national park. For a park with more amenities - say a pool, playground, activities and events - consider a private campground. Depending upon the amenities and facilities, campgrounds vary widely in price. If you're not the "tenting" type, some campgrounds offer cabins or yurts. This pares down the items you need to bring but also costs more. Visit campground websites to see what fits your needs.

If you're interested in introducing your children to the outdoors experience, the Pennsylvania State Parks system offers a program called DiscoverE. Programs are designed for youngsters ages 4 through 17, with age and developmental levels in mind, and are provided by trained educators and interpreters. Ask when booking a reservation at a state park if they offer DiscoverE.

Whether you're new to camping or a veteran camper, the mantra is, "Be prepared." There's nothing like getting out into the woods and discovering you forgot something. Unless your campground is near stores, which is not always the case, you will be left to your own creativity and devices. So, make a list!

### Choosing your tent

Choose a tent that's durable, weatherproof, and easy to set up and tear down. How many people will be camping? Are you going solo, as a couple or as a family? Each situation precipitates a different tent configuration. Tap the knowledge of helpful store associates like the ones at REI.

Don't forget a ground cover (tarp) to place under the tent to keep it dry and an extra tarp or canopy to place over the tent to keep moisture out and keep in heat. Bring sleeping bags and a sleeping pad. Consider an air mattress or cot for more comfort. Pack pillows and extra blankets. Keep a repair kit on hand for your tent, air mattress and tarps.

Folding camp chairs come in a variety of configurations and sizes, depending upon intended use. Choose what fits your needs best. Consider bringing a lightweight folding table for eating or other tasks, like a six-foot aluminum, 3-in-1 portable folding table with carrying handle, available on Amazon.

Bring flashlights and/or headlamps, lanterns (with fuel and/or batteries), candles and a lighter. Don't forget basic tools to set up the tent, and a broom and dustpan to keep your living area clean from dirt, dust or sand.

### Kitchenware

Cooking outdoors epitomizes the camping experience, though a portable camp stove or grill does make life easier. Bring fuel, fire starters, matches and a lighter. A small, portable fire extinguisher is always a good idea. A camp kitchen starts with a basic frying pan, pots/pans needed for meals planned, coffee and/or tea pots, and roasting sticks for marshmallows or hotdogs. Add in cooking utensils such as knives, spoons, spatulas and turners. A cutting board is helpful for food preparation, as well as a non-breakable bowl or two. Containers or plastic storage bags to store food, along with foil and plastic wrap, are handy. Don't forget paper towels and trash bags. At some campsites you are expected to carry out what you have carried in...that includes your garbage.

Bring a vinyl tablecloth if using the campsite's picnic table, along with paper plates, cups, napkins, and silverware, as well as cups or mugs for coffee, tea, or cocoa.

Clean up with dish detergent, a sponge, dishcloth, dishtowel and a plastic bin for washing dishes. A net bag hung from a tree or clothesline is an easy way to let dishes dry. Handy wipes also make cleanup easier.

Consider how to store your food. Bring a cooler to keep perishables and drinks cold, and to keep critters out of your supplies.

### Clothing

Dress in layers that you can peel off as you get warm and add as you get cold. Bring enough clothing to be prepared, but not so much that it becomes burdensome packing and sorting through a duffel bag or suitcase.

A basic wardrobe includes clothes for daytime, items appropriate to the activity (swimming, kayaking, hiking, etc.), and sleepwear. Bring wet weather gear such as a rain poncho and umbrella, and a pair of gloves in case it gets chilly. Hats are particularly important when enjoying the outdoors. They protect the skin, the eyes and even the hair. Don't forget the sunglasses, too

Pack the right types of footwear. Bring sturdy, supportive footwear for hiking, water shoes for kayaking and flip-flops for the shower. Pack comfortable shoes and plenty of clean socks. There's nothing like slipping into both after a long day of hiking.

A small sewing kit can take care of that hole in a sock, or tear in a shirt.

Bring a clothesline, clothespins or portable drying rack for drying damp clothes.

### Personal care

Being outdoors means the sun is front and center, as are the bugs. Bring suntan lotion and bug protectants. A first-aid kit is paramount. Consider a larger one to carry in the vehicle and a smaller one to keep handy in a backpack.

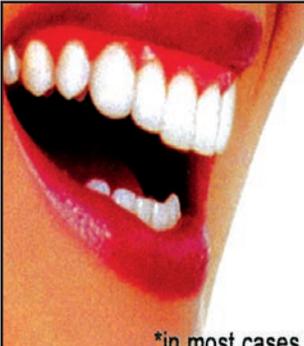
Check off personal items like prescription medicines, toothbrush and paste, washing and showering toiletries, washrag and towel, hairbrush/comb, hair dryer (if campground offers electricity), plastic bag for wet clothes and towels, and a tote or backpack to go to and from the showers.

### Stay organized

Keep all the information relevant to your camping plans readily available, including campground directions, contact information and campsite reservation information. There's nothing more aggravating than getting to a campground after the office closes, or in the dark, and not having the information handy to refer to upon arrival. Be prepared if you lose your phone's data service. A Rand McNally map with spiral binding serves as a good backup for a GPS.

Planning in advance saves time and gives you an idea of what's in the area you plan to visit. Take time before leaving on your trip to research the area. Save links to sites on your phone or print out information to carry in your camping folder. Planning is part of the fun, so take time to look up information in advance.

Consider other things to bring to make the most of your adventure, like bikes, water toys, kayaks/canoes, games, books or a Kindle.

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## Furry friends

Bringing your pet? Most campgrounds are pet friendly but always check with the facility to be sure. Some campgrounds have size and breed restrictions. Others allow one pet per campsite. There are some great articles online that will help you decide if camping with your pet is right for you (and safe for your pet). If you plan on hiking with your dog, check out REI's article at [www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/hiking.html](http://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/hiking.html). Though it's nice to have the whole family camping, sometimes boarding your pet or hiring a pet sitter is better than bringing them along. If you do decide to camp with your four-legged friend, bring what makes your pet comfortable and make sure they have their shots, including flea and tick medications. Have your pet's vaccination records with you in case you need to provide the information at the campground. Sometimes they will ask. Bring along a pet brush to brush him/her after spending time outdoors. This also provides an opportunity to check for any critters they may have picked up, or anything they may have gotten stuck in their paws.

*Pat Jennette is the founding publisher of Allegheny West Magazine. Now retired, she travels the country full time in a 31-foot recreational vehicle with her husband, John. The couple has spent the past several seasons as workcampers for the National Park Service and private campgrounds out west and most recently in Florida. Pat writes regularly about her travels and all things outdoors, especially the National Park System.*

### Nearby camping

Want to get away for a night or two of camping without driving too far? Check out these parks and campsites in the region, all of which are within an hour or two of the airport area:

**Raccoon Creek State Park,**  
Beaver County  
**Bear Run Campground,**  
Portersville  
**Buttercup Woodlands  
Campground,** Butler  
**Campers Paradise  
Campground,** New Castle  
**Coopers Lake Campground,**  
Slippery Rock  
**Crawford's Camping Park,**  
Darlington, Beaver County  
**Crooked Creek Horse Park,**  
Ford City  
**Rose Point Park,** New Castle  
**Ryerson Station State Park,**  
Greene County  
**Farma Family Campground,**  
Greenville  
**Shenango Valley RV Park,**  
Transfer  
**Grove City KOA,** Grove City  
**Moraine State Park,**  
Portersville  
**Pymatuning State Park,**  
Jamestown  
**Pine Cove Beach Club & RV  
Resort,** Charleroi  
**Breakneck Campground,**  
Portersville  
**Firehouse RV Park,** Jefferson  
**Four Seasons Resort,**  
West Finley  
**Harts Content Campground,**  
Beaver Falls

**Indian Brave Campground,**  
Harmony  
**Mountaintop Campground,**  
Tarentum  
**Washington KOA,**  
Washington  
**Butler North KOA aka  
Peaceful Valley Campground,**  
Sunbury  
**Wheel-In Campground,**  
Shelocta  
**Willow Farm Campground,**  
Marion Center  
**Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park  
at Kozy Rest,** Harrisville  
**In Ohio:**  
**Austin Lake Park &  
Campground,** Toronto  
**Salt Fork State Park,**  
Cambridge  
**A1-Twin Valley  
Campground,** Carrollton  
**In West Virginia:**  
**Tomlinson Run State Park,**  
New Manchester  
**Smith's Landing  
Campground,** Chester  
**Creekside Camping LLC,**  
Triadelphia  
**Friendship Park,** Smithfield  
**Chestnut Ridge Park,**  
Bruceton Mills  
**Sand Springs,** Morgantown  
**Cheat Canyon Campground,**  
Albright



## Go fishing along the Montour Trail, or bike its 36 continuous miles

Over the past 20 years, the condition of the Montour Run tributary, which follows the first 10 miles of the Montour Trail, has improved considerably. The Montour Run Watershed Association has attributed this to a number of factors, including the airport no longer using certain de-icing chemicals on aircraft. Now, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources even stocks the stream with trout - sometimes with the help of local high school students.

Cyclists, meanwhile, can now bike 36 continuous miles of trail, thanks to the Flyover Bridge in Cecil and the Valley Brook Bridge in Library. The two bridges, which opened in late 2015, circumvent busy intersections and roads from Groveton to Library. History abounds, so watch for interpretative signs by Bryan Seip, president of the Montour Railroad Historical Society. Enjoy 70 historic railroad bridges, including a dramatic ride over the McDonald Trestle, a 960-foot long bridge that hovers hundreds of feet above the Panhandle Trail, at Mile 17. At approximately Mile 29.5, there's the old Montour Railroad Rail-Mounted Maintenance Crane. The asphalt-paved Arrowhead section of trail starts around Mile 30.5 in Peters Township. There are also various places to eat along the trail, like the Tandem Connection around Mile 27 and the Simple Greek in Peters Township. For a detailed, interactive map, visit [www.montourtrail.org](http://www.montourtrail.org).



Longtime Coraopolis resident Joe Dubois displays a trout he caught near Mile 0 on the Montour Trail. PHOTO BY JESSE FORQUER

# FLEA MARKET

## 2 SATURDAYS, JULY 22 & 29



## MONTOURS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3151 Montour Church Road - 15071

For information call: 412-787-1050

## Take a stroll at the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden

Situated just under three miles outside of downtown Oakdale, the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden offers 3.1 miles of hiking trails that feel like a lot more since they traverse so many different settings in such close proximity. Trails meander through meadows, forests and over a Japanese-style bridge crossing a lotus pond that was at one time so polluted by acid mine drainage that nothing could live in it.

A passive treatment system, though, has revived the pond to the point that PBG staff are always counting new fowl and species making their way to it. The project received a national award when the PBG opened in 2015 and has since received some international visitors. One day, the PBG hopes to eventually convert all 460 acres of its property - much of it reclaimed strip mine - into a world-class botanic garden.

Until then, there's still plenty to see and do at the garden. Regular programs include tai chi and outdoor yoga. There are also educational workshops throughout the year. Regular admission starts at \$9 for adults but memberships and group rates are available, as is a discount for Allegheny County residents. Check the website for information about group scavenger hunts and geocaching challenges.



**PBG Summer Hours:**  
**Wednesday-Thursday,**  
**9 a.m.-7 p.m.**  
**Friday-Sunday,**  
**9 a.m.-5 p.m.**

Register for programs at:  
[pittsburghbotanicgarden.org](http://pittsburghbotanicgarden.org)  
or call (412) 444-4464

**Outdoor Tai Chi, Saturdays, June 24, July 29, Aug. 26, Sept 30; 10-11 a.m.,** ages 18+, \$7 members, \$17 non-members, register upon arrival, **come 15 minutes early.**

**Outdoor Yoga, morning and evening classes, May-September,** check website for dates and times, \$7 members, \$17 non-members, register upon arrival, **come 15 minutes early.**

**2017 Town & Country Tour, June 25, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.,** visit 14 beautiful private gardens in Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill, Regent Square, Edgewood and Churchill neighborhoods, tour books for each attendee, learn about garden design and plant selection first hand from garden owners and landscapers, lunch at at Edgewood Country Club, limited space, \$120 members/\$135 non-members (includes bus transportation), self-guided tour \$45 members/ \$55 non-members.

**Night Hike, July 13, 9-10:30 p.m.,** learn about creatures of the night during a one-mile hike through the garden, \$5 members/\$10 non-members.

**The Cloud and the Sky: Inside Outside Stories, July 22, 10-11:30 a.m.,** writing workshop, focuses on using images from and a connection to the natural world as a starting point for exploring perspective and theme in personal stories, with writer Karen Helene Lizon, MFA, registration required, \$25 members, \$35 non-members.

**Fallscaping: the Forgotten Season, Sept. 13, 5:30 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. lecture,** Davidson Events Center, get ideas for a fall garden, with Stephanie Cohen, registration required, \$25 lecture, \$25 reception (optional).

## Visit the National Aviary afterhours, July 8

Travel around the equator at the National Aviary's 15th Annual Night in the Tropics presented by BNY Mellon, Pittsburgh's hottest 21+ summer party. Indulge in the sights, sounds and flavors of summer while surrounded by the beauty of more than 500 birds. Enjoy global entertainment, including hula and exotic fire performers dancing under the stars to Latin beats and live music. Also explore the National Aviary's exhibits after dark and experience exclusive, up-close interactions with exotic birds, many of which are endangered in the wild. Drinks and bites from more than 30 of Pittsburgh's favorite restaurants and bakeries will be featured. Night in the Tropics is chaired by western Allegheny County resident Jane Dixon, with proceeds supporting the National Aviary's local and international conservation efforts.

This year's Night in the Tropics takes place **July 8, 7-11 p.m.** Order tickets at [www.aviary.org/Night-in-the-Tropics](http://www.aviary.org/Night-in-the-Tropics).

Adults and children of all ages will also want to set aside some days this summer to enjoy the National Aviary's new programming, including opportunities to hand feed penguins and toucans, fly like an eagle via a new virtual reality flight simulator called Birdly, and meet newly arrived baby flamingos. Daily events include free-flight demonstrations on the rooftop Sky Deck and the live bird show "Nature's Voice" in the Helen M. Schmidt FliteZone™ Theater. For more, visit [www.aviary.org](http://www.aviary.org) or call (412) 323-7235.



Jane Dixon, who chairs the National Aviary's Night in the Tropics event, is pictured with one of the aviary's critically endangered African penguins. Proceeds from the annual fundraiser benefit the aviary's conservation efforts.

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**255 West Allegheny Road**  
**Imperial, PA 15126**  
**(724) 695-1411**  
**snpj106@gmail.com**

## INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS CELEBRATION MONDAY, JULY 3, 2017

Findlay Township's Independence Day Celebration is back for its sixth year!  
Monday, July 3 (Raindate, Wednesday, July 5)

Recreation and Sports Complex on Route 30 in Imperial

DJ Dan Sheets kicks off the celebration with music at 7:30 p.m.

Food and refreshments by Bubbas Dawgs, Speedies Pizza, and Kona Ice.

Come early for freebies. Bring chairs and blankets.

Punch balloons by Farmer's Insurance.

Temporary tattoos and goodies by the Findlay Township Fair Board.

Fireworks by Pyrotechnico at dark (approximately 9:30-9:45 p.m.).

To date, this celebration has been made possible by the generous donations of the following sponsors:

**SILVER SPONSORS - \$2,000**  
**Imperial Land Corporation**

**BRONZE SPONSORS \$1000+**

**Chapman Westport**  
**Fast Eddie's Food and Fuel**  
**Republic Services Inc.**

**ADDITIONAL SPONSORS**

**Armstrong Telephone Company**  
**The Buncher Company**  
**Range Resources**  
**Amcom/Xerox**

THERE WILL BE NO PARKING ALONG ROUTE 30\*\*  
COME OUT AND ENJOY THE FUN!!

### Fireworks Shuttle

\*\* Monark Bus Company will be running a shuttle to the Recreation & Sports Complex from the Findlay Township Activity Center at 310 Main Street in Imperial and the Findlay Township Municipal Building on Route 30 in Clinton. The shuttles will run every half hour from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Pick up at the Activity Center is on the upper level (additional parking on the lower level and Valley Presbyterian Church) and in Clinton, in the parking lot behind the Municipal Building. Please consider riding the shuttle as the Rec and Sports lots fill quickly.

## Family Fun Color Run in Clinton Park

**July 30. Rain or Shine**

6-6:45 p.m. registration, 7 p.m. start,  
Clinton Park, all ages.

Last year was the first time for this FUN, FAMILY EVENT. We are excited to bring IT BACK FOR 2017. Grab your kids, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces - in fact just bring the whole family - for a ONE MILE FUN COLOR WALK/RUN in Clinton Park. Participants will walk (or run) the mile loop around Clinton Park while getting blasted with colors all along the way. At the end, participants will receive their own packet of color to throw for a GROUP BLAST!! Water and healthy snacks will be available in the pavilion after the walk/run. The cornstarch-based color is non-toxic and safe for both people and the environment, however WEAR OLD CLOTHES AND SHOES and bring a cover for your car, just to be safe. IF POSSIBLE, WEAR A WHITE T-SHIRT FOR BEST COLOR RESULTS!!

Pre-register by July 14 and get sunglasses for the event. Call Darlene or Stephanie at the recreation dept. 724-695-0500x246 or 240. After July 14, sunglasses given on a first come, first serve basis, while supplies last.

Payment and waiver due at registration, download from website. \$8, 3 and under free. Spectators welcome.



**The only thing missing is you.**

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\*New members only.



**BODY SYSTEMS  
FITNESS**

# Findlay Parks and Rec.

To register for a program, call (724) 695-0500 x 246 or email [dlarson@findlaytp.org](mailto:dlarson@findlaytp.org), unless otherwise indicated. Checks payable to Findlay Township, unless otherwise indicated.

**Independence Day Fireworks, July 3, 7:30-9:45 p.m.**, see ad on page 49 for details.

**Family Fun Color Run, July 30, race starts 7 p.m.**, see ad on page 49 for details.

**Imperial VFD Street Fair, June 17**, see page 38 for details.

**Free Summer Concert Series**, Steel City Harmonizers, **June 20 (June 21 rain date)**, 30-minute barbershop harmony show, Hedgg Band, **June 27 (rain date June 28)**, music from 1950s through today, bring canned good for food pantry donation.

**Semi-Super Morning Bingo, June 30, Sept. 29, doors open 9 a.m., bingo starts 10 a.m.**, \$10/packet, includes one triple card for each regular game and one triple card for each special, additional packets \$5, overall jackpots \$1, dobbers available for purchase, may cancel due to weather, call, \$20 regular game payouts, specials \$50 payout, jackpot 100 percent of what is sold.

**American Red Cross Babysitter's Training Class, June 20, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**, ages 11-15, learn how to be the best babysitter on the block, fast-paced class with hands on activities, exciting video, role plays, lively discussions, basic childcare, handling emergencies, bedtime and discipline issues, communicate with parents, finding and interviewing for babysitting jobs, certificate awarded upon completion, bring a sweater or jacket, bring lunch and drink, \$80.

**Time for Toddlers, Mondays: June 26, July 24, Aug. 7, Sept. 11, 25, Tuesdays: June 27, July 25, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, 26, 10:15-11:15 a.m.**, hour of movement, music, activities, snack, meet other families and toddlers, adult must stay with child, registration required, \$3/session.

**Rolling and Strolling in the Park, June 19, 26, July 10, 17, 31, 2 p.m. strolling, 3 p.m. story time**, meets at Rainbow's End Playground parking lot, walking program around Clinton Park for ages 5 and under with caregiver, story time at Rainbow's End follows, in conjunction with WACL, Story Walks with story boards along the trail **June 17**.

**Food Truck Thursdays, June 29, July 27, Aug. 31, 5-9 p.m.**, municipal building lot, eat in or dine out, revolving lineup, Gyros N'at, Bubbas Dawgs, Taters-N'at, Kona Ice.

**Little Sprouts Cooking Class, July 26, 10-11 a.m.**, ages 3-5, hands-on activities help get children involved in preparing healthy snacks, \$6/child, registration required.

**Summer Lunchtime Kids Cooking Class, July 26, 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.**, grades K-5, lunchtime version of afterschool cooking program, payment taken at the class, registration required, \$8/child.

**YOGA for Beginners and Beyond, Fridays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., no class June 16**, \$5/class, exercise, stretch, meditate, (724) 695-1976, [Info@idtsd.net](mailto:Info@idtsd.net).

**Senior Yoga and Qi Gong, Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.**, gentle stretches while seated and standing, mixed levels, great for seniors, (724) 695-1976, [Info@idtsd.net](mailto:Info@idtsd.net), free.

**Ice Cream For All, July 21, 6-8 p.m.**, Pavilion at Leopold Lake, cool off with some Sarris Ice Cream and a wide variety of favorite toppings, in celebration of National Ice Cream Month, with Mike the Balloon Guy, registration required.

**Farm to Table Dinner, Aug. 2, 6:30 p.m.**, pavilion at Sports and Recreation Complex, fresh produce and fruit from local farms, antibiotic- and hormone-free chicken, four-course meal prepared by chef James Strain, BYOB, seating limited, registration required, **payment due July 28**, ages 21+, roasted garlic eggplant bruschetta (pairs with dry or semi-dry pinot grigio or chardonnay), watermelon goat cheese salad with balsamic glaze (pairs with rosé), chicken Parmesan with Italian-style roasted potatoes (pairs with Chianti, pinot noir, shiraz, cabernet), fresh fruit with crème Anglaise (pairs with chilled Prosecco), \$30/person.



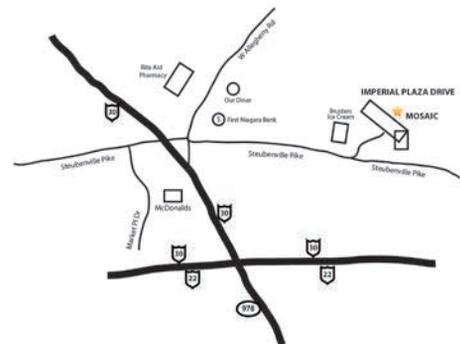
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# West Allegheny Youth Soccer Association

## Fall 2017 REGISTRATION

Season starts late August

**DEADLINE: July 7th**

(Registration for In-house players only will be accepted until July 21 with a \$25 late fee.)  
Travel players must register by July 7th.

**Child must turn 4 years old in 2017**

**NO EXCEPTIONS**

Visit [www.westasoccer.com](http://www.westasoccer.com)  
for age chart and more information

### BIRTH YEAR AGE GROUPS

Players born 2013 (U5) Academy Practices/no games (6 weeks/12 sessions)	Wednesday 6:00 – 7:00 pm	Saturday 10:00 – 11:00 am	\$80.00
Players born in 2012 (U6) Practices and Games			
Players born in 2011 & 2010* (U8)	Tuesday 6:00 – 7:00 pm	Saturday 11:15 – 12:15	\$80.00
Players born in 2009 & 2008* (U10)	Monday 6:15 – 7:15 pm	Saturday 8:30-9:30 am	\$80.00
2007 & 2008 Co-Ed Travel Team	See website for more information	Sunday afternoon games	\$85.00
* additional skills training (2008, 2009, 2010, 2011)	Thursday 6:15 - 7:45 pm	4 sessions	Included!
Travel (2007 & earlier)	TBD practice day and location	Sunday afternoon games	\$85.00

**PLEASE NOTE  
PROGRAM  
CHANGES TO  
CONFORM  
WITH U.S.  
SOCCER'S NEW  
BIRTH YEAR  
MANDATE**

## Ways to Register:

- Go to: [www.westasoccer.com](http://www.westasoccer.com)  
(Register on-line and SAVE \$10.00)  
No longer an additional fee for credit card payments

- Print registration form on website and mail to P.O. Box

- June 24th at WA Community Library from 10-12.

Questions Call Heather Chappel (724) 693-2536 OR Liz Pons (412) 716-8000

Email: [westasoccer1@gmail.com](mailto:westasoccer1@gmail.com)

Financial assistance may be available to those that qualify. Contact Heather at (724)693-2536 to inquire



## North Fayette Parks and Rec.

Ever since North Fayette Township's new community center opened last June, township parks and recreation staff have been developing new programs to utilize all of the amenities offered by both it and Donaldson Park. With an indoor running track, massive basketball courts, an indoor play area, party rooms and even meeting space wired for Ethernet on its top floor, new sports leagues and fitness programs are being created all the time. Be sure to stay tuned for the latest offerings at [www.north-fayette.com](http://www.north-fayette.com) and sign up for a membership.

Call (724) 307-3725 for more information about programs, memberships or anything else about the center. Here's what the township has planned over the summer:



**Community Yard Sale, June 24**, Community Center parking lot, \$10 for vendors.

**Community Days**, see page 45 for schedule.

### Adult/Senior Programs

**CPR Class, June 7, 6:30 p.m.**

**Variety of Fitness Classes**, offered Monday through Saturday, see [www.north-fayette.com](http://www.north-fayette.com) for schedule.

**Rock N Roll Kickboxing, Thursdays 7:30 p.m., Saturdays, 9 a.m.**

**Kettlebell Class, Wednesdays, 5 p.m.**

**Pound/Zumba, Tuesdays, 7 p.m.**

**Pickle Ball, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-10:30 a.m., evening Tuesday class, 7-9 p.m.**, free with membership.

**Water Walking, Monday-Thursday, 6-8 p.m.**, Donaldson Elementary, \$2/session, ages 18+.

**Water Aerobics, Tuesdays and Thursdays**, Donaldson Elementary, 5-6 p.m., \$2 or medical insurance card, ages 18+.

**Senior Picnic, June 17, 12-3 p.m.**, Valenti Pavilion, call to register.

### Youth Programs

**PALS**, contact [dhildebrand@north-fayette.com](mailto:dhildebrand@north-fayette.com) for upcoming events.

**Summer Camp, grades 1-8, through Aug. 18**, [nkreutzman@north-fayette.com](mailto:nkreutzman@north-fayette.com) for more.

**Kits Camp, ages 4-5, June 19-Aug. 11**, [nkreutzman@north-fayette.com](mailto:nkreutzman@north-fayette.com) for more.

**Tennis Lessons, ages 5-17, through July 27.**

**Super Kids Soccer, ages 3-5, through July 13.**

**Developmental Volleyball League, ages 9-15, through Aug. 9.**

**Summer Floor Hockey, ages 6-14, through July 17, 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.**

**Super Kids Floor Hockey, ages 3-5, July 27-Aug. 31, 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.**

**Youth Wiffleball, ages 6-11, through July 18.**

**Youth Volleyball Camp, ages 9-16, July 10-July 13.**

## LifeSpan Senior Resource Center

The LifeSpan Imperial Resource Center opened its doors at the beginning of 2016 in Penn Lincoln Plaza, and since then it's become a busy meeting place for area seniors. Operated by Allegheny County's Area Agency on Aging, the center serves up meals and offers activities that help seniors stay social and active. The center is located next to Imperial's post office. Drop in for lunch, bingo and some gentle exercise.

See below for what the center has coming up this summer. For more, call (724) 218-1669.

**Father's Day Brunch, June 15, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.**, registration required, scrambled eggs, ham, hash browns, fruit cup, juice, coffee.

**Super Bingo and Lunch, 9:30 a.m., doors open 8:30 a.m.**, 10 regular games, three specials, jackpot based on what is sold, \$4 lunch, **July 14**, create your own personal pizza, **Aug. 18**, sweet sausage on a roll with chips.

**Gentle Yoga, Mondays, 10:30-11:30 a.m.**, \$3.

**General Exercise, Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m.**, \$3.

**Tai Chi, Thursdays, 10-11 a.m.**, \$1.

**Walk Aerobics, Fridays, 10-10:30 a.m.**, \$1.

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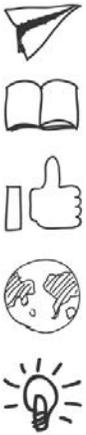
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### • CUSTODIANS WANTED •

The township of North Fayette is accepting applications for custodians. A full job description is listed on our web site at [www.north-fayette.com](http://www.north-fayette.com). Township residency preferred. Starting salary will be \$11.95/hr. This is a part-time position. Hours are 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. Applications can be picked up during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, at 400 North Branch Road, Oakdale, PA 15071 or call (412) 788-4888 or (724) 693-9601. Equal Opportunity Employer.



## LIBRARY PROGRAMS & SPECIAL EVENTS



### A WILD SUMMER BEGINS AT WACL

This Summer at the Western Allegheny Community Library is going to be WILD! Last year was our Summer Learning Program's inaugural year and it went fantastically well! In our second year, we're ramping up the fun to even higher levels. More camps. More mess! More art! More action! More opportunities to learn, have fun and discover! Of course, our 3-day summer camps are all free as well. Our big Summer Learning Kickoff is Friday June 2nd, and camps begin June 12th! Look for details about our awesome program lineup and cool camps in our Summer newsletter and on our website. We can't wait to see you and spend time with you this Summer! Sponsorship opportunities are still available; if you're interested in sponsoring one of our programs or camps, please contact Amy McDonald at [McDonalda@einetwork.net](mailto:McDonalda@einetwork.net).

### GROWING UP WITH BASEBALL IN PITTSBURGH

**Wednesday, June 14, 6:30 p.m.**

The Heinz History Center will visit the library for a fun and informative evening looking at baseball history from the city that created the first World Series. Ballpark snacks will be provided!

### GEOCACHING FOR BEGINNERS

**Saturday, June 24, 12:30 p.m.**

Join us in the new Backyard for an electronic excursion into Geocaching! Not sure what geocaching is? Styled as the "world's largest treasure hunt," geocaching is a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices. Participants navigate to a specific set of GPS coordinates and then attempt to find the geocache (container) hidden at that location. A husband and wife team of geocaching experts will show you how to get started, including how and where to find caches, and what equipment you will need. To cap off the event, we'll place a cache in the new Backyard for others to locate! Bring a "trinket" to swap and your GPS device or GPS-enabled mobile phone.

### GROWING YOUR FINANCIAL AWARENESS TO IMPROVE YOUR LIFESTYLE

**Tuesday, June 20, 6:00 pm: Budgeting and Savings**

**Tuesday, July 18, 6:00 pm: Managing Personal Accounts**

**Tuesday, August 8, 6:00 pm: Managing Personal Credit**

**Tuesday, September 19, 6:00 pm: First Time Homeownership**

Looking to save a little money to purchase a new camera? Need to adjust your finances so you can take a vacation or purchase your first home? Have a high schooler heading off to college who may need a better understanding of the importance of savings? Are you wondering what goes on with your credit score? If you answered yes to any of these, you won't want to miss this series. Attend one or attend them all! A Financial Workshop Series presented by Dollar Bank.



### IT'S TIME TO COMPOST!

**Saturday, July 8, 10:30 a.m.**

Not sure what to do with your kitchen scraps, leaves, and garden and yard debris? Would you like natural, home-made compost for your lawn and garden? This Backyard Composting workshop thoroughly covers the importance and benefits of composting, the process, setting up a compost pile, proper maintenance, and ways of using finished compost. Cost = \$70 single/\$75 couple and includes one FreeGarden EARTH compost bin, an eighty-two-gallon bin ideal for urban or suburban areas. Preregistration required. Presented by Pennsylvania Resources Council, Inc. (PRC).

For more information on all programs & events, visit [www.WesternAlleghenyLibrary.org](http://www.WesternAlleghenyLibrary.org) or call 724-695-8150.

## ONGOING PROGRAMS

*Please check our website for specific dates & to register for all programs.*

### ADULT

#### Bookworms

1st Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m.

#### Anime & Manga Club

4th Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m.

#### Pinterest Playground

4th Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m.

#### Cookbook Club

4th Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.

### TEEN

#### Teen D&D

Tuesdays, 4:00 p.m.

#### Geek Club

Wednesdays, 4:00 p.m.

### YOUTH & FAMILY

#### Baby Storytime

Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.

#### Littles Storytime

Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.

#### Rolling & Strolling @ Clinton Park

Mondays, 2:00 p.m.

#### Paws for Reading

Thursdays, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

### Location:

181 Bateman Road  
Oakdale, PA 15071

### Library Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday – Saturday: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

*Closed Sundays for the Summer*



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**Allegheny County/Youth Dek Hockey Camp**, p. 44, [alleghenycountyus/parkprograms](http://alleghenycountyus/parkprograms)  
**Allegheny Muscle and Massage**, p. 55, 724.695.5300,  
[www.alleghenymuscle.massagetherapy.com](http://www.alleghenymuscle.massagetherapy.com)  
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