

St. Luke's Physician Pursues Skydiving World Record

By Sam Kennedy, Corporate Communications Director,

Photo from The global canopy formation record of 100 skydivers set in 2007.

BETHLEHEM - When he isn't taking care of patients at St. Luke's Walbert Avenue Primary Care in Allentown, Dr. Frank Matrone enjoys jumping out of airplanes.

Next week he hopes to secure a new spot in the skydiving record books.

Dr. Matrone and his son, Dominic, will fly to Lake Wales, Fla., on Friday to begin final preparations for a global canopy formation skydiving world-record attempt next week. Skydivers from 19 countries will team with the Matrones to try to complete a parachute formation of 107-plus skydivers.

Dr. Matrone is part of the current global canopy formation record of 100 skydivers. That record was set in 2007, when Dominic was 9 years old.

Dr. Matrone is one of 25 people from the 2007 team returning to try to establish a new mark. For someone who started skydiving as a 17-year-old in the late 1970s in Hazleton, this could be his last chance to participate in a record leap.

"As soon as we leave the airplane, we open our parachutes," Dr. Matrone said of

how canopy formation skydiving works. "We fly our parachutes together to make formations. So, it's a different aspect of the sport.

"A lot of my freefall friends won't get close to it. They don't like to get close to another canopy."

Born and raised in Hazelton, PA, Dr. Matrone has been a family physician at St. Luke's since 2010. He credits skydiving with teaching him how to stay calm under pressure, communicate clearly and solve problems—skills he brings to every patient interaction.

Dr. Matrone said the group assembling in Florida would spend a few days practicing before starting to try for the record starting Tuesday, Nov. 18. Team members have trained together across the world over the last few years to prepare for next week's attempt.

Dr. Matrone gave the group a 50-50 chance of breaking the record because of how many pieces need to fall into place. Good weather is a must. They also need every plane and jumper to perform as expected.

"If you launch eight airplanes and one of them has a problem, they all have to come down," Dr. Matrone said. "Then every pilot of those airplanes has to be on their game and be in the right spot. And then every jumper has to have a good jump on the same jump.

"So, there's a lot that goes into it."

For more information on the record attempt, visit <https://www.crwworldrecord.org/>.



Bangor Women's Club

As the holidays draw near, the Bangor Women's Club invites the public to select a beautifully-decorated evergreen wreath at the Bangor Library November 28th and November 29th from 10AM to 3PM. Call Heidi Bates at 610-599-8815 if you wish a customized wreath.

This year we lost two of our long-time members, Eleanor Waters and Lois Stopp. Books will be donated to the Bangor Public Library in their memory. Along with our five new members, we encourage folks to donate to their local food banks, as we do every meeting. And this month we are also collecting children's hats, scarves, gloves, and socks for the Slater Family Network. Thank you, everyone, for your support and generosity.

"The Annual Report for the non-profit organization Recovery Revolution, Inc.,

a Department of Health licensed Drug and Alcohol treatment provider, is available for review at our main office located at 109 Broadway, Bangor, PA, 18013. Effective November 15, 2025 this report can be reviewed during normal business hours 9am-5pm Monday-Friday."

America250PA Will Be Awarding \$250,000 In Scholarships

By America 250PA

PA - In commemoration of America's 250th anniversary and to honor the legacy of Pennsylvania's strong commitment to education, America250PA will be awarding \$250,000 in scholarships to deserving Pennsylvania students attending Pennsylvania colleges and universities in the 2026/2027 academic school year.

Pennsylvania High School Seniors who are planning to attend an accredited Pennsylvania college or university for the 2026/2027 academic school year

Twenty-five \$10,000 Scholarships will be awarded throughout America250PA's six designated regions.

Any Pennsylvania College or University

- Up to 12 to any Pennsylvania Community College

- Up to 13 to any Pennsylvania Post-Secondary College or University

Application: September 16, 2025 – January 31, 2026.

Review: February 1 – March 15, 2026

Notifications: By March 30, 2026

Public Announcements: Scholarships will be awarded in April 2026 for the 2026/2027 academic year.

Luncheon Honoring Awardees: Late April in Harrisburg



Debbie Pettinari
Agent

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