Special Olympics Pennsylvania Announces New Regional Executive Director

By Micky Rourk

Norristown, PA, – Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) recently announced that Julie L. Benjamin will serve as the Regional Executive Director for SOPA's newly formed regional area covering Berks, Bethlehem, Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton and Schuylkill counties.

As Regional Executive Director, Benjamin will be responsible for developing and implementing strategies that align with SOPA's Strategic Plan, overseeing all region staff and volunteers serving on leadership teams, building strategic partnerships with local schools, universities and colleges and organizations to support volunteer needs, enhancing the athlete experience and

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increasing athlete participation, and heightening the visibility of SOPA as a whole within the region.

Benjamin has extensive experience in strategic leadership, fundraising, project management and relationship building in the community. Prior to being named Regional Executive Director, Benjamin served as the Director of Communications for the Allentown School distric.

She has also previously served as the Vice President of Community Partnerships for ArtsQuest, Executive Director of Levitt Pavilion SteelStacks, and the Senior Vice President of Development & Community Partnerships for PBS 39/WLVT.

"We are thrilled to welcome Julie to our Special Olympics Pennsylvania team," said Matt Aaron, President & CEO, Special Olympics Pennsylvania. "Her leadership experience, knowledge of the local area and ability to forge lasting community and corporate partnerships will be instrumental as we launch our first region.

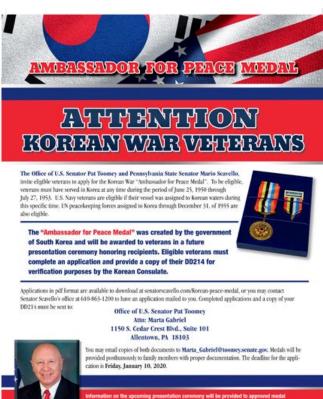
The newly formed region is the first to be launched as part of SOPA's statewide reorganization of its 54 local programs into nine regions that will help the local programs work together to provide more and better opportunities for athletes. In addition to the regional executive director, each region will have a leadership team made up of staff and volunteers in order to meet the goals and fulfill each region's strategies. The local programs in Region 5 currently serve nearly 3,500 athletes and 1,000 volunteers and give athletes the opportunity to compete in 20 different sports year round.

Scavello and Toomey Partner to Recognize Korean War Veterans

By Senator Mario Scavello
PEN ARGYL - I want to make you
aware of the Korean Ambassador for
Peace medal which is available to
veterans who serviced served in Korea
from June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953. The
Medal was created by the Korean Consul
General to recognize and thank our veterans for serving in what is often called
"the forgotten war."

U.S. Senator Toomey has been able to secure these medals and is asking my office to help Korean War veterans apply for and receive this honor. An eligible veteran must have served in Korea at some time during the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953. Members of the US Navy are eligible if they served aboard a naval vessel that was assigned to Korean waters during the aforementioned timeframe. Veterans who participated in UN peacekeeping efforts in Korea until the end of 1955 are also eligible for this award. Applications for the Peace Medal are available in all of my offices and on my website. We are happy to help any eligible veteran fill out

the application and submit it. The dead-











December 30

Portland Fire Co Starts 7pm

December 31

Bushkill Twp Fire Co Doors 5pm Starts 7pm

December 27

Wind Gap Fire Co Doors 5pm; Starts 6:45pm Immaculate Conception Doors 11am; Starts 1pm

December 28

December 29

St. Elizabeth Church Starts 1pm

December 26

Kunkletown Fire Co Progressive Jackpot - 7pm

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line for applications is January 10, 2020. Please help us spread the word so that we may honor as many veterans as possible!

PAGE 12 <u>CHURCH LISTINGS</u> <u>BLUE VALLEY TIMES</u> **DECEMBER 24, 2019**

NOTICE ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE **EMAILED ONLY TO BVTIMES@RCN.COM** BY FRIDAYS NOON

Ackermanville United Methodist 1410 Ackermanville Road, Bangor Sun 10am Worship. Rev. Sukja Bang (610) 588-7818, www.ackermanvilleumc.org

Bangor Church of the Nazarene 150 Bunny Trail, Bangor Sun 9:30am SS, 10:40am Worship

(Children's Church to grade 2), 5pm Powerhouse Praice Practice, 6pm Teen Straight Talk & Small Groups. Kenneth L. Bean, Pastor (610) 588-6929

483 Belfast Rd., Belfast Sunday School (all ages) 9:30am, Wor-

ship 10:45am, Evening Service 7pm. Pastor Michael Yaworski.

Belfast Bible

Belfast Wesley United Methodist 607 School St., Belfast

Children's SS & Adult SS 9am, Worship 10am, coffee fellowship following worship. Pastor Paul Milligan. (610) 746-3652.

Benders Mennonite Church 975 Benders Church Rd., Pen Argyl

Sun Worship service every Sunday at 10:10am: Food Bank 3rd Saturday of the month 9-11am. 610-863-9114.

Bethel Bible Church of Mt. Zion 7742 N. Delaware Dr. (Rt. 611), **Martins Creek**

Free Bread Every Saturday, 3eryone welcome, questions 908-483-8231; Sunday School 9am, Sunday Morning Worship 10am. Pastor Rick Tunis, 610-250-9890. Learn about us online www.bethelbiblechurchofmtzion.org.

Christ Ev. Lutheran Church 703 South Delaware Drive

Mt Bethel. PA 18343 610-588-7056 The Rev. Larry Laine Worship at 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM

Clearfield Bible Holiness Church 1502 Bushkill Ctr Rd, Wind Gap

Sun- SS 10:15am, Worship 11:15am & 3pm. Pastor Donald Herrick. (812) 653-3975.

Community Baptist Weona Park Center, Pen Argyl

Sun - Bible study 7pm. Separate class for age 10 & under.

Community Presbyterian 1755 S Delaware Drive, Mt. Bethel

Sun. - SS 9:15am, Worship service 10:30am, Coffee hour on last sunday of every month following service. www. mtbethelpresbyterian.org, (570) 897-6766.

Cross Road Baptist Church 201 Second St., Bangor Sun-9:15am Praise Sing, 9:30am SS,

10:45am Worship; Wed-7pm Prayer/ Bible Study. Rev. Jay VanHorn, Pastor (610) 588-3966, www.crossroadbaptistbangor.org

The Lady's Guild of Our Lady of Victory R.C. Church, Tannersville will hold a Chicken Cordon Blue Dinner on April 28th. We would appreciate your help in advertising this year's event without cost to the church.

The East Bangor United Methodist **Community Church**

Sat., Dec. 28 -8:00 p.m. AA Meeting Sun., Dec. 29 -8:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal -9:15 a.m. Worship Service w/Children's Church -10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour Pastor Dave Goss (610) 588-4453 Dial-A-Message (610) 588-3896 www.ebumc.org

Faith Alive Community Church 10 Mechanic St, Wind Gap

Tues- 6pm Ladies Prayer Meeting (2nd Tues); Wed- 6:30pm Revival Prayer, 7:15pm Adult Bible Study; Sat- 10-2pm Prayer Stop (1st Sat); Sun- 9:15am Family Fellowship, 9:30am Intercessory Prayer, 10am Worship, 10:45am Children's Church, Communion at 10:30am (1st Sun). Pastor Matthew Whistler. (610) 863-6911, www.faccpa.org

Faith United Presbyterian Penna & Heller Aves., Pen Argyl

Sun.- 9am Choir, 10am Worship/ Communion/Food Bank/Church School. (610) 836-4447

Family Life Community Church 1115 Richmond Rd, Bangor

Wed- Kidz Night Out at The Hub 6:30-8pm (kids 6 thru 6th gr.); Thurs- Teen Night Out at The Hub 6:30-8pm (gr. 7-9); Sun- 10am Celebration Service. Pastor Mike Poppa. 610-588-3736, www.flccbangor.com.

First United Evangelical 25 S 2nd St., Bangor

Sun. - 7pm Prayer Meeting & Bible Study; Jan 20- 9am Prayer Meeting, 9:30am Church School, 10:30am Worship. Pastor Ronald Shipman at (610) 588-3226

First United Methodist Church 55 N. Third St., Bangor

Worship every Sunday at 11am, Adult and Children Sunday Schools 9:45am, Communion first Sunday of month, Wednesday evening Bible Study 6:30pm. Pastor Chris Hardy (610) 588-4673.

First United Methodist 19 West & Water St., Wind Gap

Sun.- 9am SS, 10am Worship/Communion, 11am Fellowship on 1st Sunday of each month. Pastor John Vidal (570) 426-0645

Flicksville United Church of Christ 1337 Lower South Main Street

Bangor, PA 18013 Pastor Ken Hess

610-588-4648 www.flicksvilleucc.com Sunday School at 9:30 AM Worship at 10:45 AM All are welcome!

God's Missionary Church of Northampton 4965 Nor. Bath Blvd (Rt 329), Northampton, PA Sun- SS 9:30am, Service 10:30 & 7pm,

Youth Service 6:30pm; Wed- Prayer Meeting 7:30pm. Rev. Rodney Keister. (610) 262-4412. http://GMC-N.com

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2904 Church Rd. Martins Creek PA

Sunday Worship Service 9:00 am. Adult Bible Study Following Worship. Pastor Louise Williams. www.goodshepherdmc.com

Grace Lutheran Church 5907 Sullivan Trail. Nazareth

Tue. - 6:30pm Choir; Jan 20- 9am Service/Communion, 10:15am SS, 10:30am Confirmation/Adult Forum. (610) 759-9080, www.gracebelfast.org

Grace United Methodist 404 Mountain Ave., Pen Argyl

Sun.- 8:30am Contemporary, 10am Blended, 10am SS. Rev. J. Timothy Fisher. (610) 863-4811. www.worshipatgrace.org

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church 1501 Trinity Court, Stroudsburg Divine Liturgy Sundays 9:30 AM;

Vespers Saturday 6:30 PM. (570) 421-4455, www.holytrinitypoconos.org.

Hopesprings Community of Faith 301 Market Street, Bangor

Sun-Services 10am. Jonathan Almanzar, Lead Pastor. 855-INFO-HOPE. www.hopespringscommunity.org.

Hope UCC 2nd & Cherry St., Wind Gap

Sun- 10:30am Worship (Communion 1st Sunday of the month). All are welcome! SS 9:30 Sunday Morning. Pastor Emily B. Hall. (610) 863-4474

Living Waters Christian Church 396 Sterling Rd. Unit D, Tobyhanna

Thurs- 6pm Christian Edu Sun- 9:15am Christian Edu, 10:30am Worship. Rev. Dr. Jacqueline R. Walters 570-350-4710

Mt. Bethel Church A Church of the Lutheran Brethren 1270 Belvidere Cr. Rd. Mt. Bethel

Sun.- 8:30am Traditional Service, 11am Contemporary Service Visit our website www.mountbethelchurch.org or call (570) 897-7142 for info.

Our Lady of Good Counsel 436 South 2nd Street

Bangor, PA 18013 Rectory (610) 588-5445 Parish Webside: www.ourladystvincent. com Mass Schedule Weekdays 8AM excluding Thursdays

(See Church Website)

Saturday 4 PM Sunday 8:30 AM Holy Days (See Church Website) Saturday Confessions 3:25-3:45 PM

Tannersville, PA will hold a Free Community Dinner on Sunday, July 21st from 3pm to 4pm. They would appreci-

Our Lady of Victory R.C. Church,

ate your assistance in advertising this dinner without cost to the Church. **Portland Baptist Church**

601 Delaware Ave., Portland Sun-Sunday School 9am, Service

10:30am; Wed-Bible Study 10:30 with Prayer Meeting to follow. Elevator and rampsWe are handicap accessible with automatic doors, elevator and restroom. (570) 897-6866

www.portlandbaptistchurch.com

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 2445 Lake Minsi Dr., Bangor Saturday Worship: 1st & 3rd 5:30 pm.

Sunday School starts at 8:30am (September-May) Sunday Service- 9:45am Holy Communion is served weekly. All are welcome!

Christ Presbyterian Church of the Slate Belt 332 Kennedy Dr., Bangor

Sun.-Worship 10:30 a.m. Rev Albert Martin (610)588-4864 e mail - presbyterianbr@frontiernet.net www.facebook.com/Presbyterybr

Richmond United Methodist Church 8538 Delaware Dr, Bangor

Sun.- Service 10am; 4th Sunday Fellowship Hour; Christmas Eve Candlelight Services 4pm and 7pm. Pastor Ed Van Arsdale. (610) 588-7317

The Roseto Independent **Presbyterian Church** 210 Garibaldi Ave, Roseto

Sunday Worship Services 9:15am Greeting/Welcoming, 9:30am Service. All Welcome. Rev. Barry Eng. (610) 599-9949, www.RIPC-OnlineToday.org.

Slate Belt - Nazareth Baptist 1620 Church Rd, Pen Argyl

Sun.- 9:30am SS, 10:30am Worship & Children's Church (nursery provided), 5:30pm Bible Study. Pastor Scott J. Davis. (570) 664-4603.

St. Brigid's Episcopal Church, Nazareth.

Delete Sunday school Holy Eucharist @ 9:30 a.m. St. Brigid's Episcopal Church 310 Madison Avenue Nazareth, PA 18064 Phone: 610-746-3910 Fax: 610-746-4515

St. Elizabeth's Parish 300 West Babbitt Ave., Pen Argyl Sun - Masses 8am 9:30am & 11am

Rev. Msgr. Vincent P. York. 610-863-4777

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran 12 N. Westbrook, Pen Argyl

Sun.- 8:45am SS, 10am Worship/Holy Communion. (610) 863-4332

St. Joseph's Episcopal 1440 Verona Dr., W. Bangor

Jan 20- Eucharist 11am; Christmas Eve Service 4pm. Rev Joel Atkinson. Coffee hour after service.

St. Luke's U.C.C. Belfast 471 Belfast Rd., Nazareth (Belfast)

SS 9am, Worship 10:30am. Rev. Cecelia Baxter and Rev. Jameson Baxter. 610-759-0244. www.stlukesuccbelfast.com

St. Mary's Episcopal 340 Lehigh St., Wind Gap

Sun.- service 9am. Coffee hour follows service. Rev. Joel Atkinson. Maundy Thursday Service will be held at St. Mary's Episcopal Church Wind Gap at 5:30 P.M. Easter Morning Service will be held at St. Mary's Episcopal Church Wind Gap at 9:00 a.m.

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran 1422 Church Rd, Pen Argyl

Sun.- Bible Study 11am, Praise Band 7pm; Jan 19- Youth Choir 6pm, Adult Choir 7:30pm; Jan 20- Services 8am and 10:15am, 9am SS. (610) 863-6859

St. Vincent dePaul

720 Delaware Avenue Portland, PA 18351 Rectory (610) 588-5445 Mass Schedule Weekdays (at OLGC) Saturday 6 PM Sunday 10:30 AM Holy Days (See Church Website) Saturday Confessions 5:40-5:50 PM

The Pentecostal Christian **Church the Truth** (Iglesia Pentecostal La Verdad) 4 Jory Ave Pen Argyl

Sun.- Prayer 14- Sunday School (Escuela Dominical) 12 noon, Praise & Worrship (Cuho Evanglistico) 1pm.

Temple Israel of the Poconos **Egalitarian Conservative Synagogue** 660 Wallace Street, Stroudsburg

Sabbath Services: Friday evening 7pm followed by a Traditional Oneg Shabbat. Saturday morning 9:30am followed by a traditional Kiddush. Dr. Sandra Alfonsi 570-223-7062.

Trinity United Church of Christ

632 S Delaware Dr. Mt Bethel Pa 18343 Sunday Worship 10:30 am SS and Confirmation 9:00 am Rev. Rodney Wells pastor

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran 404 Broadway, Bangor

Thur - Christian Ed 6:30pm, Choir 7:30pm; Jan 20- SS 9am, Worship/ Communion 10am. Pastor Laine. (610) 588-2023, www.tlcbangor.com.

Zion Presbyterian Church Water St., Wind Gap

Sun.- Rev. Albert Martin will be speaking at the 9:30am service. Children SS during the service. Visitors welcome. (610) 863-8896.