

Local Residents Earn Degree from WGU

By Joan Mitchell

SALT LAKE CITY – The following local residents have received their degree from Western Governors University (WGU). The online, nonprofit university held its 64th (Orlando, Florida); 65th (Seattle, Washington); and 66th (Las Vegas, Nevada) commencement ceremonies earlier this year to celebrate the recent graduation of more than 15,000 students from across the country.

Gergoty Barthelus of Roseto (18013) has received her Master of Science in Nursing - Leadership and Management (RN to MSN) degree.

Michael Scarpantonio of Wind Gap (18091) has received his Bachelor of Science in Business - Information Technology Management degree.

WGU has recognized 8,938 undergraduate and 6,734 graduate degree recipi-

ents, who have completed their degrees since January 1, 2018. Their areas of study include business, K-12 education, information technology, and health professions, including nursing. The average time to graduation for those earning a bachelor's degree was 2 years, 4 months, while the average time to degree for graduate programs was 1 year, 7 months. The average age for those who graduated is 38 years old.

WGU pioneered competency-based education, which measures learning rather than time spent in class. Designed to meet the needs of working adults, students study and learn on their own schedules with individualized, one-to-one faculty support. They complete courses as soon as they demonstrate that they have mastered the subject matter, enabling them to move quickly through material they already know and spend more time on what they still need to learn. As a result, many WGU students are able to accelerate their studies, saving both time and money.

ESSA Bank & Trust Adding New Board Member



By Jim Gillen

STROUDSBURG- ESSA Bancorp, Inc. (NASDAQ: ESSA), the holding company for ESSA Bank & Trust, a \$1.8 billion asset institution providing full-service commercial and retail banking, financial, and investment services, announced the re-appointment of Philip H. Hosbach, IV to its board of directors.

Hosbach rejoins the board following his initial term from 2014-2016. Mr. Hosbach resigned as a director of ESSA in 2016 following his acceptance of a career assignment overseas. This increases the size of ESSA's board to 11 directors.

Hosbach recently retired from Sanofi Pasteur as Vice President,

Global Public Affairs for Vaccines where he was based in Lyon, France. His prior roles in the U.S. included Vice President, New Products and Immunization Policy and Vice President, Global Vaccine Public Affairs for the Swiftwater, Pennsylvania-based multi-billion dollar global healthcare company. He was also a member of Sanofi Pasteur's board of directors and a member of the company's executive committee.

Hosbach is a respected senior leader with over 31 years of experience, holding executive positions in clinical research, research and development, advocacy, government relations, and commercial operations, including marketing and sales. His interdisciplinary expertise ranges in public affairs, global corporate governance, public policy, and U.S. federal and state government relations.

"We are pleased to welcome Phil back to our organization, bringing with him a wealth of business leadership and philanthropic experience," said Gary S. Olson, President and CEO of ESSA Bancorp. "As a longtime Eastern Pennsylvania resident Phil knows the market that ESSA serves and will help further our position as a leading service-oriented community financial institution in the region."

Mr. Hosbach was previously appointed by the U.S. Assistant Secretary of Health to the National Vaccine Advisory Committee

(NVAC) for a term that ran from October 2012 through February 2017, where his work was widely published and cited.

Hosbach was also a director at Pocono Health System and Pocono Medical Center from 2001 to 2014 where he served on the governance committee and chaired the compensation committee and quality committee. His leadership was instrumental in the development of the Dale and Frances Hughes Cancer Center, a state-of-the-art center with world-class technology, protocols, physicians, and staff that opened in 2013.

He holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania.

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Mission of Love Food Bank
Every Tuesday- Food Bank Program 555 North Main St., Bangor, 10am-12pm. Looking for a used 10'-14' box truck. Call 570-807-7794. All are invited Bilingual Services. Pastor Frank Pons. (570) 807-7794

Slate Belt Rising Grants
Are you looking to enhance the appearance of your home or commercial property? Grants for residential and commercial facade improvements are available through Slate Belt Rising. Go to www.slatebeltrising.org or call the Slate Belt Rising Director, Stephen Reider, at 484-523-0900 for additional information.

Mission of Love Kid's Summer Lunch Program
Mission of Love Kid's summer lunch program will take place Thursdays July 12-August 23 from 11am-1pm at 555 North Main St., Bangor.

PAHS Class of '78 Reunion
The Pen Argyl Class of 1978 is having a reunion on 9/1/18 to celebrate their 40th class reunion. Interested class members can access our Facebook page for details: Pen Argyl Class of 1978 Reunion.

Nature Adventure
A free hour-long program hosted by Grand Central Landfill, The Blue Mountain Community Library and The Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania invites children entering Kindergarten through 4th Grade to join us for story time and outdoor activities. All programs will begin at 10am. Grand Central Environmental Center, 891 Grand Central Road, Pen Argyl. Friday, August 3- Recycling Education. All participants should dress to explore. For more information, contact Adrienne at afors1@wm.com or 585-472-2075. Visit www.facebook.com/wastemanagementsgrandcentraleducationcenter

Bangor Park Board Summer Events
Friday Night, July 20th: Family Luau. 7 pm to 9:30 pm \$3 per adult (18+), 2 per child (3-17) includes pool admission, DJ,

games and contests with prizes and 1 family luau souvenir photo) Food and drinks will be available for purchase. August 11th: Party @ the Pool! 1 pm to 4 pm. Spend the afternoon at Bangor Memorial Park Pool with a D.J., fun & games with prizes. Cost to enter the pool during event hours is \$3.00 per person (Admission is free if you have a Pool Pass). August 18th (tentative): Pooch Plunge at Pool. The last day of the pool season is one for our furry friends. Come out with man's (or women's) best friend and enjoy one of the last days of summer with a doggie swim day! Anyone interested in volunteering for the Park Board or any of these events can contact Debbie Smith at bangorparkboard@gmail.com or 610-751-7692

Christmas in July Open House
The Carbon Model Railroad Society will hold a Christmas in July Open House at 529 Ore Street in Bowmanstown on Saturday and Sunday, July 21st & 22nd from 1pm-4pm and Thursday July 19th from 7pm-9pm. The main HO scale display is in various stages of completion and is an excellent learning tool. The clubs portable HO and N scale displays will also be in operation on the second floor along with new and pre-owned trains and accessories for sale. Admission is free; donations are welcome. The building is air-conditioned. For more info call Garry @ 610-826-6636.

Liberty-Water Gap Trail
The Liberty-Water Gap Trail, PA Extension Alliance would like to invite the public to their quarterly meeting. The meeting will be Wednesday, July 18th at 5:30 pm at the Borough of Portland Municipal Building, 206 Division Street in the Council Chamber. If you have any questions regarding the trail extension that will run from Portland to Delaware Water Gap please attend the public meeting.

Children's Gardening Workshop
The Monroe County Garden Club and Master Gardeners

are hosting a Children's Gardening Workshop for ages 5-10 on July 18 from 10-12 at Bryant Park, Corner of Bryant Street and Park Avenue, South Stroudsburg. Children will learn gardening basics while having fun! Activities include a Scavenger Hunt, Rock Painting, Transplanting, Deadheading, Weeding, Planting Seeds and Seedlings. Adults must stay with their children. Registration starts at 9:45. Donations accepted. Contact for questions: Ellen Phraner 570-352-2472.

Annual Duck Race
The Friends of the Bangor Public Library will hold their "Annual Duck Race" on Saturday, July 21st in conjunction with the "Bangor Block Party" in downtown Bangor. Cash prizes will be given. Watch your duck race from the Pennsylvania Avenue bridge to the Bangor Library. You do not have to be present to win. Tickets are available for \$5.00 at the Bangor Library. For additional information please contact: Karen Brewer @ 484-894-5661

Kunkletown Vol Fire Carnival
Wed., July 18 thru Sat., July 21 Kunkletown Volunteer Fire Company Carnival, St. Matthews Church Grove, Grove Road, Kunkletown, Pa. Carnival hours are: weeknights 6-11pm and Sat. 5-11pm. Scheduled free nightly entertainment: Wednesday "Cramer Brothers"; Thursday "Steel Creek"; Friday "Last One Standing" and 10:30pm Fireworks (rain date Sat.); and Saturday "Jesse Wade". Wednesday and Saturday family nights ride special with arm band and Thursday \$2 per ride per rider. Food, games, fire company kitchen open, rides, parking by donation, free admission, free entertainment, plus so much more! Proceeds benefit: Kunkletown Volunteer Fire Company.

Vacation Bible School
Vacation Bible School is coming to East Bangor United Methodist Community Church on July 22nd - 26th from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. The theme is a nativity-based "Christmas in July". Ages 4 and up are welcomed.

An adult class will be offered and dinner will be served nightly. The church is located at 136 W. Central Ave. (Rt. 512), East Bangor, PA. To pre-register visit www.ebumc.org or call 610-588-4453.

Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club Meeting
Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club will hold its monthly meeting August 2, 7:30 p.m. in the Bethlehem Township Community Center, 2900 Farmersville Road, Bethlehem. Program: "Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab" - Presenter: Tom Frankenfield. Hams and others interested always are welcome. Directions: <http://goo.gl/maps/qKUJC>. FMI: www.dlarc.org. 610.432.8286.

Annual Homecoming Bazaar
Friday, August 3rd and Saturday, August 4th at Our Lady Of Victory R. C. Church, Tannersville. Bazaar Grounds will open at 5:00pm each evening. Event is rain or shine. FMI 570-629-4572.

American Legion Riders Post 927 Meeting
The American Legion Riders have their monthly meeting on Sunday, August 12 at 10:30 AM at the American Legion Post 927, Route 209 and Fairgrounds Road, Gilbert. For more information, contact President Everett Shaver, 570-977-8208 or everett.shaver@yahoo.com. Visit www.ampost927.org and Join us on Facebook

Used Book Sale
The East Bangor United Methodist Community Church is holding a "Used Book Sale" on Friday, August 17th from 4-8p.m. and Saturday, August 18th from 9a.m.-4p.m. Remaining books will be \$5.00 per bagful on Monday, August 20th from 4-8p.m. There will be books for children and adults, all at bargain prices. Baked goods will also be for sale on Friday and Saturday. Donations will be accepted from August 6th-August 14th. To donate, call Sandy Barnes @ 973-903-1244. The church is located at 136 W. Central Ave. (Rt. 512), East Bangor, PA. For more info., visit www.ebumc.org.

United Dream Ride
Want a great family get away day to Knoebels Amusement Resort and Support a great cause while you do? Now is your chance! The Annual United Dream Ride benefiting Dream Come True is here! Sunday, August 26th, 2018. Registration 8:30-10:45 am at American Legion Post 927, 646 Fairgrounds Road, Gilbert. Kickstands up 11:00 am. Motorcycles and cars welcome, scenic ride. Rain or Shine. Complimentary ticket Book available to military members. Go to www.knoebels.com/plan-your-Visit/military-policy for military ride ticket details. Benefits Dream Come True, Blue Ridge Chapter. Come join the fun. For more information, contact President Everett Shaver, 570-977-8208 or everett.shaver@yahoo.com.

Monroe Animal League Meeting
The monthly meeting of the Monroe Animal League will be on Tuesday, August 28 at 7:00 PM at the Eastern Monroe County Library, Rt. 611/N. 9th Street, Stroudsburg. For more information, visit www.monroe-animals.org, join us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/MonroeAnimalLeague, email monroeanimalleague@gmail.com, or call 570-421-7775.

Submit your upcoming events, fundraisers, banquets, reunions and more to the Blue Valley Times! Email bvtimes@rcn.com