



Middle Smithfield Recognizes The Volunteers In Our Community

By Senator Mario Scavello

MIDDLE SMITHFIELD TWSP - Thank you Middle Smithfield Township (MST) for taking the time to recognize the volunteers in our community. Congratulations to George Vagelakos, Louis Santiago, and Dennis/Ronnie O'Leary for being named finalists for 2019 Person of the Year. In the end, George won the MST Person of The Year Award, and was recognized for his work with Meals on Wheels and the RSVP Building Committee which helps seniors stay in their homes. It is always a pleasure to recognize the great people we have in our community that give so much of their time and talents to help others!

CACLV Issues Report On The Distribution Of Aid To Fountain Street Disaster Survivors

By Jessica Reimert

BETHLEHM - The Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley today issued its report to the community on how this community's benevolence was distributed to the families who lost their homes to a multi-alarm fire on North Fountain Street in Allentown in October. The United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley collected just over \$130,000 for the Fountain Street Fire Fund; after the fundraising drive was over, another \$25,000 was given. That brought the total raised and fully distributed to \$155,613.

Fortunately, no one was harmed in the fire. However, eight families lost their homes to the fire. They each received support from the American Red Cross Lehigh Valley-Bucks Chapter during the fire and in its immediate aftermath. Once the emergency services were exhausted, the families each received a \$2,500 check from the Fountain Street Fire Fund within a week of the fire. Also, the American Red Cross was reimbursed for the funds it used so that it will be prepared for the inevitable next disaster.

Then, each family was interviewed by a CACLV volunteer. A system was established that ranked the needs of the families using the size of the family, including especially the presence of children, disabled or elderly individuals, and their incomes.

During the week of November 22, additional payments were made to the families as more money was raised. Seven families (CACLV staff temporarily lost contact with the eighth) received additional aid totaling \$23,058. CACLV staff connected the families to in-kind donations gathered by several neighborhood-based groups, including clothing, furniture, and food, assistance finding new housing and additional services.

Checks totaling \$58,816.75 were distributed to eight families (CACLV was able to re-establish communication with the family that was lost) during the week of December 9. A final distribution totaling \$41,469 was distributed the week of January 13.

The families who were displaced ranged in size from one person to six people. Six of the eight families had incomes below 200% of the federal poverty rate. The amount given to the families ranged from \$7,788 to \$24,975.

One family had homeowner's insurance; none had renters' insurance.

Five families have found suitable permanent housing while three are still in temporary arrangements, two of which are staying with family.

CACLV praised area landlords for their cooperation and willingness to help.

The United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley, the American Red Cross Lehigh Valley-Bucks Chapter and the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley thank each of the good people who were moved by the plight of their neighbors to act. We are lucky to live in a community that takes care of its own.

SILENT AUCTION

Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church
2445 Lake Minsi Drive, Bangor

Friday, Feb. 7th
Snow Date Feb. 8th

Doors open at 5:30pm
Bidding begins to close at 7pm and continues until all of the tables are completed.

Food will be available for purchase

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LIMITED TICKET SALES OF 250

Saturday Feb. 22nd 2pm

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Tickets are \$50 a person.

There will be food and drink for purchase.

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Tricky tray and 50/50 during bingo.

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Our Bar is Now 'SMOKE FREE'

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Hall Of Fame

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After 26 years, they and their teammates were enshrined together as a collective unit in the district's athletic hall of fame, all but 3 attended.

Mark Brown oversaw this historic group's entire high-school tenure. And while the basketball success was groundbreaking in ways, Brown reflects more on the people and bonds that were established.

"This Cavalier team broke the mold, proving the teams from Monroe County could compete with Lehigh Valley powerhouses, and win said Brown."

"These young men were able to put away their egos and shoot for common goals. And because of that, they were really respected and cherished by everyone really said Brown."

Stars from that year's record-setting team include starters Arthur Perryman, Kevin Smiley, Shyve Saunders, Kevin Gardner and Mike Long as well as sixth-man Hassan Beyah. The remaining roster and coaches: Andrew Reagan, Joe Carmella, Fred Davis, John Mazso, Dave DeLorenzo, Jared Predmore, Tom Meryweather, Rodney Hill, Karl Shrom, Adam Bunn, Head Coach Mark A. Brown, Greg Strunk, Joe Warnagiris, Assistant Coach P. William David, Assistant Coach Joseph Jacobs, Assistant Coach Frank Johnson, Assistant Coach Chuck Dailey, Aaron DeAngelo, Adam DeAngelo, Bill Swenson.

"When I think about that team, I think about a great group of young men. It was not about themselves. Obviously, there were some very skilled, very talented people. But with those guys, it was never about them. It was always about the team said Brown.

Perryman, the Cavalier point guard, was the team's leading scorer with 1,735 career points, then a Monroe County record.

But it was the unity, the sum of each of these pieces, that guided East Stroudsburg to its most successful season.

Everything came to fruition in the 1994 district final at Liberty High School in front of a crowd of over 3,500 people. Perryman sealed the victory in the final seconds off free throws and was hoisted off the court by his teammates.

Those bonds remain strong today. But they are still missing one brother.

One month after the season ended, Perryman was diagnosed with rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare cancer that attacked both his prostate and his spine. He died on April 21, 1995, at the age of 19.

The doubleheader game results: East Stroudsburg South's boys cruised to 75-38 win over East Stroudsburg North and in the girls game, Kaylan Davy scored 14 points and Lanitra Williams added 13 to lead the Cavaliers to a 39-38 win over the Lady Timberwolves.

Bios

Ray Gallagher is a graduate of East Stroudsburg Area High School, Class of 1965. During his senior year as a Cavalier, Ray served as Captain of the football and wrestling teams, while also being named Most Valuable Player of the baseball team. He also earned selection as a "Scholar Athlete," as well as being voted "Most Athletic" and "Most Spirited," while serving all four years as the President of the Class of 1965. Upon graduation from ESHS, Ray enlisted in the United States Navy, and, after serving for four years, he enrolled at East Stroudsburg State College. Ray graduated from ESSC in 1975, lettering in baseball for the Warriors. He served as an employee of the United States Postal Service for 31 years, retiring in 2005. Ray has served the children of his community for many, many years as well, as a volunteer coach of Stroudsburg midget wrestling, East Stroudsburg Youth Association wrestling, ESYA football, East Stroudsburg Little League baseball, and as a long-time member of the East Stroudsburg Varsity "E" Club.

Christopher Lynch is a graduate of East Stroudsburg Area High School-North, Class of 2004. He earned four varsity letters during his North football career, earning a role as the only 4-year starter beginning with the Timberwolves' very first varsity football game during the fall of 2000. During his T-Wolf football career, Chris was named Defensive MVP, Offensive MVP, and the winner of the "Hammer" and "Block" Awards. He was also named to the All-Mountain Valley Conference team as both a junior and a senior, also earning First-Team All-Area recognition as a senior, while rushing for 1,042 yards and being selected to participate in the McDonalds-Lehigh Valley Football Classic All-Star Game. At North, Chris was also a member of the National Honor Society, while being honored with being selected to receive both the "Board of Governor's" and the "Gifted Minority" Scholarships to Shippensburg University. While at Shippensburg, Chris played 3 years of football and 2 years of lacrosse, while earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing, with a minor in Coaching. Athletics continues to be a major focus in Chris' life, with the completion of a Master of Science degree in Sport Coaching from West Virginia University, while also having served as a high school and club coach for East Stroudsburg Area High School-North (freshman football), Nazareth Area High School (basketball), Bethlehem Catholic High School (basketball), and the Lehigh Valley Renegades (basketball). He currently resides in Nazareth, PA with his wife Tracy, his daughter Raya and son Christopher II.

Daniel Stout is a graduate of East Stroudsburg Area High School, Class of 1981. During his Cavalier athletic career, he earned 8 varsity letters, 4-each in both cross country and wrestling, while serving as team Captain for both sports during his senior year. In wrestling, Dan compiled a record of 77-wins, 17-losses, finishing first or second in the Centennial League tournament during all four years. As a junior, he finished second in both District XI and PIAA regional competition, then as a senior, earned league, district and regional championships, while finishing fourth in the PIAA State Tournament. As a senior, Dan also served as President of the ESHS student council, while academically ranking #4 in his class. Upon graduation from ESHS, Dan attended the United States Naval Academy, where he wrestled during his first three years and earned a varsity letter as part of the team ranked in the top ten nationally. During his senior year, he also competed in judo, winning the Eastern Championships and placing third at Nationals, while earning All American honors. Dan earned a BS degree in Oceanography from the U.S. Naval Academy, then served six years active duty in the submarine service and 15 years in the Naval Special Warfare community as a reservist, retiring as a Commander in 2007. He also earned a MS degree in Engineering Management in 1997. From 1996-2003, Dan started up a youth wrestling program and served as head coach of the youth team in Poolesville, Maryland, his team winning the Sportsmanship Award during several of those years. He currently works for the Tennessee Valley Authority, managing a project to license and potentially build a new nuclear reactor in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Prior to that, Dan served as a senior executive at the United States Department of Energy. He currently lives in Ooltewah, Tennessee near Chattanooga, with Karin, his wife of 34 years, and they have three grown children, Jeff, Jimmy and Julie. Dan also actively serves his church, and his roles have included youth group leader, summer camp counselor, mission team leader and various administrative and leadership positions.