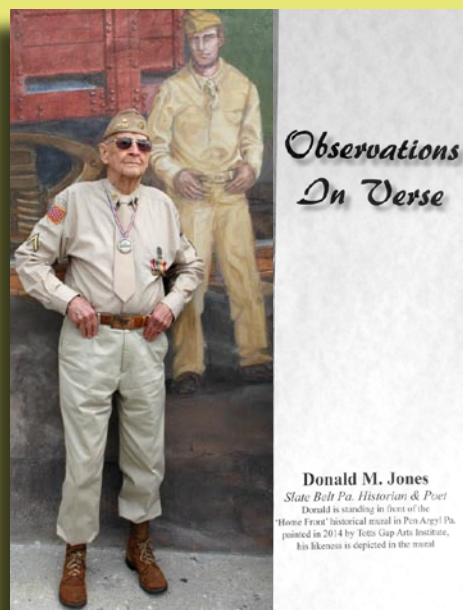


# A Poem from the Archives of Donald Jones

*Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times*



*Observations  
In Verse*

**Donald M. Jones**  
*Slate Belt Pa. Historian & Poet*  
Donald is standing in front of the  
"Home Front" historical mural in Pen Argyl Pa.  
painted in 2014 by Teds Gap Arts Institute.  
His likeness is depicted in the mural.

## LAKE MINSI

It's a very pleasant afternoon  
Walking along Lake Minsi's dike.  
Swans reflected on a mirror lake  
Makes it more than just a hike.

It's a place to enjoy the great outdoors  
There's open spaces and lots of fresh air.  
You may have the time to spend all day  
And forget for a while those daily cares.

But when the season changes in a few weeks  
Minsi walking may be a little too cold.  
But like the Lake, I'll make a change  
The ice skating is great, I'm told.

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**Portland/UMBT Annual Fourth of July Parade**



Saturday July 4<sup>th</sup> 2020 - beginning at 11:00 am

**THE PARADE ROUTE IS CHANGED FOR THIS YEAR**

The parade begins at the William Pensyl Social Hall on State Street, Portland, PA.

The parade route is as follows:  
From the Dunkin Donuts on Route 611 Portland turning left onto Delaware Avenue. Turning left onto Turkey Ridge Road. Turning left onto Saddle Creek Drive. Turning left onto Million Dollar Hwy. Turning right onto Ramblewood. Turning left onto Totts Gap Road. Going straight onto Johnsonville Road. Crosses Route 512 onto Orchard Road. Turning left onto Evergreen Road. Turning right onto Independence Road into Evergreen Village. Turning left onto Flintlock passing the clubhouse. Turning left on Revolutionary. Turning left onto Powderhorn. Turning right on Independence exiting Evergreen Village. Turning right onto Evergreen Road to Route 611. Parade ends at Route 611

**Please observe the Governors orders for COVID 19.**

- Limit crowds to no more than 25 people.
- Wear masks and practice social distancing.
- Stay in cars along the parade route.

Please be respectful of the properties along the parade route and fellow parade watchers.

Bring snacks, the parade will be moving at parade speed

If you are along the parade route, join the celebration by decorating your house/property, cars, bikes, kids, dogs and grandparents!!!

Please remember to help us celebrate safely!!!!

**Blue Valley Times**

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## SCAVENGER HUNT: Fun at Ice Lake

By BWA

POCONOS - Brodhead Watershed Association offers an adventure to young people wanting to get outside for a while: a scavenger hunt at Ice Lake in Monroe County, Pa.

Ice Lake is a little jewel of a preserve in Barrett Township - 70+ acres perfect for outdoor fun for families.

Armed with a checklist of natural features to find (see [brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos](http://brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos) for a printable list), kids can "collect" the scavenger items by snapping a picture. The hunt will include a huge old oak tree, hay-scented fern, lichen, a baby hemlock tree, wintergreen, barberry, witch hazel, and a very notable boulder.

It's not just the scavenger hunt that will interest kids. There is a lot to see at the lake: fish jumping for insects, pollywogs basking on sunny underwater branches, and the deep "galoom-galoom" of bullfrogs. A log bridge spans Hardytown Run, and a dam provides a selfie background at the mossy waterfall where the creek leaves the lake, picks up speed and bubbles downstream.

A great way - and a great place - for a fun family getaway

IF YOU GO: SCAVENGER HUNT

The scavenger hunt is fun for adults and elementary-age children.

- Ice Lake is off Route 390 in Cresco, Pa. GPS coordinates: 41.147435, -75.289393

- The trail is mixed: wide and well-groomed in some places, rocky and narrow in others. A hiking stick is helpful for balance. Stay on trails - poison ivy is abundant.

- Go to [brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos](http://brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos) for information on Ice Lake as well as other hikes in the Get Outdoors Poconos series. The series is administered by Brodhead Watershed Association and supported by a grant from the William Penn Foundation.

- Special thanks to Tom Gregory of Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau for the videography.

## Can it be recycled?

### Clamshell Packages

#### Answer: No

The plastic "to go" containers or containers holding berries, apples, bakery items, etc., are not consistently made of high-value plastic, are difficult to recycle and are usually contaminated with food when disposed.



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