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SERVING THE SLATE BELT, SOUTHERN POCONOS & NORTHERN N.J. **VOL. 29 NO. 47** DAILY ONLINE AT WWW.BLUEVALLEYTIMES.COM AND FACEBOOK

NOVEMBER 3, 2020

Special Olympics: Pen Argyl Raises the Bar

By: Zoee Edmonds / PAHS Green Echo Newspaper Writer

People of all ages love participating in athletics. Getting involved in groups and organizations can better yourself as well as affect the community as a whole. Young people specifically enjoy being a part of sports teams because of the fun environment and growth they can obtain through it. The Special Olympics organization is inclusive to those who never got the chance to be part of these groups due to their disabilities.

The Special Olympics Organization prides itself as "the world's largest sports organization for children and adults with intellectual disabilities and physical disabilities, providing year-round training and activities to 5 million participants and Unified Sports partners in 172 countries."

The Special Olympics has such a large outreach that it affects communities all over America. Amanda Sechrist is the Director of the Northampton County Special Olympics.

Sechrist said, "Special Olympics to me is friendship, socialization, sports, and excitement. I hope that the athletes gain confidence, friendships, and independence through sports. Winning is not the main goal for the Special Olympics. The athletes and their families are the most important aspect

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Drive Thru Trick or Treat in Upper Mt. Bethel

By Michael Ortoski

UMBT - The folks in Upper Mt. Bethel did it again! They gave the community a halo ween trick or treat event at their park on the hill on Saturday. They did it the correct way with social distancing, masks and event goers staying in their cars.

Fire companies Upper Mt. Bethel, East Bangor and Portland handed out tons of candy and treats to the children as they drove thru the maze of fire trucks, tractors, decorated cars and the live characters of the 'Addams Family' from Dotta Chrysler Jeep in Pen Argyl.

UMBT councilman John Bermingham and volunteers greeted everyone at the gate as they entered the park and thanked them as they exited. This is one of many events UMBT has put on during these enduring times, Thank you UMBT!

UMBT will hold their next event on Nov. 7th 5pm at the park for their Veterans Day Celebration honoring all who served and fireworks in the evening.

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Green Knights Beat Slaters In 101 Rivalry Classic Game

By Michael Ortoski

PEN ARGYL - The 101 meeting between the Pen Argyl and Bangor football teams was one for the books as it went back and forth as a rivalry should. Green Knights senior Collin McKeague scored on a 5-yard touchdown run with 17 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter to push Pen Argyl to a 28-21 home win over Bangor on Saturday afternoon.

The second half had three lead changes and a pair of ties as the two rivals battled it out .

Pen Argyl's final scoring drive was 72 yards and took 6:40 off the clock when McKeague finished off his sweep by touching the pylon with the ball.

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Annual Holiday Store Fine Artists/Craftsmen to Showcase Their Wares

By Susan Randall

Stroudsburg, PA - The Pocono Arts Council will host its annual Holiday Store at The Olde Engine Works located at 62 N. 3rd Street in Stroudsburg. The popular art



gift shop will be open throughout the holiday season, beginning Sunday, November 1, 2020 through Thursday, December 31, 2020. The artwork is located in Booth A100.

The Olde Engine Works is open daily from 10AM-5PM.

The Pocono Arts Council is a local arts service organization serving the Pocono region. The mission of the council is to build the community artistically and culturally by providing leadership, service and education - "Culture Builds Community." For further information visit www.poconoarts.org or call 570-476-4460.

PA SCHOOLS COVID-19 Health & Safety Grants **AVAILABLE SOON**

Additional Funding Approved to Help Schools Meet Health and Safety Needs

By Senator Scavello

PEN ARGYL - Local schools will be able to apply soon for additional grant funding to protect the health and safety of students, teachers and school employees during the COVID-19 pandemic. The grants were approved as part of the \$200 million COVID-19 Disaster Emergency School Health and Safety Grant program created by lawmakers in May as part of Act 30 of 2020.

Eligible uses of the funding include:

The purchase of cleaning and sanitizing products.

Training and professional development of staff on sanitation and infection prevention. Equipment purchases.

Modifying school facilities to support appropriate social distancing of students and staff. Mental health services and supports.

Educational technology for distance learning.

Other health and safety programs, items or services.

The grant program is expected to open no later than Monday, November 2. Grant applications can be submitted on the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency's Egrants website.

https://www.pccd.pa.gov/Funding/Pages/Egrants-Home.aspx



The Salvation Army of the Slate Belt is currently seeking individuals willing to stand kettles this Christmas season.

If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact Captain Barbara Cure at 610-863-6677

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