



THE PUNXSUTAWNEY SPIRIT

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2014

TODAY'S WEATHER

Mostly sunny, with a high near 82.



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THE SHOOT FOR A CURE TRAILER SERVES AS A MOBILE OFFICE FOR MAKING ON-THE-GO ADJUSTMENTS FOR EVENTS

LOCAL NATIVE GAGLIARDI MAKING A DIFFERENCE WITH SHOOT FOR A CURE

By Destiny Pifer
Of The Spirit

PUNXSUTAWNEY — Cancer is a disease that has continued to affect many over the years. It is a disease that strikes without warning and affects those of all ages. Sadly, there is no cure, but those at the cancer research centers are determined to find one.

Wanting to make a difference for

those fighting cancer, local native Mark Gagliardi decided to use his passion for shooting to help raise money not only for cancer research, but also for other charitable organizations.

It began in 2003, when Gagliardi was pheasant hunting in California, alongside some union representatives.

The topic of fundraisers soon came up, with one of the reps suggesting a

charity pheasant hunt.

Gagliardi, however, felt that it wouldn't work and suggested a sporting clays tournament.

"It started as a dare, and we ended up doing one event in California," he said, adding that it soon caught on.

Shoot For A Cure was created by Gagliardi, who said that it is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to raising money for the (See **Shoot** on Page 3)

FAMILIAR FACES FRIDAY! BRENDA SCARANTINE

(Editor's note: This piece is one in a series of "Familiar Faces Friday" features to be written by Spirit reporter Destiny Pifer. The point of the project will be to highlight a member of the community who may be recognizable to many and tell his or her story. Today's familiar face is Brenda Scarantine.)

By Destiny Pifer
Of The Spirit

ANITA — Brenda Scarantine is a familiar face. You may recognize her as the treasurer for the American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 62 who recently helped her organization sell poppies. Or perhaps you have seen her throughout the community.

Scarantine was born in Buffalo, New York, and raised in Punxsutawney. She is a 1970 graduate of Punxsutawney Area High School.

After graduation, she married her husband, Jim, and was a stay-at-home mother until 1977.

In 1977, Scarantine joined the workforce and obtained a position at the former Murphy Mart, which later became the former Ames store.

She stayed on when the store became Ames and worked as the personnel director/trainer.

"I did a little bit of everything. I went out to other stores and trained people. I was the district trainer for Ames," she said.

In 1999, Scarantine traveled to Pittsburgh and helped convert the former Hills store into an Ames.

Much to her dismay, in 2002, Ames closed its doors for good.



BRENDA SCARANTINE

"I really enjoyed working for Ames. I really miss the people I met, and I just loved working with the associates," she added.

After Ames closed, her sister opened a quilt shop in Reynoldsville, which Scarantine helped run.

It was around that time that she was asked by the Democratic commissioner to run for the county auditor seat. She took a chance, ran for the seat and won.

Scarantine explained that as county auditor, she does auditing and checks and settles the accounts of the row offices.

"I check the accounts each month, then do the three district justices in the area's audits," (See **Scarantine** on Page 3)

JOC hears parent's complaints, approves various different items

By Larry McGuire
Of The Spirit

WINSLOW TOWNSHIP — At Monday's meeting, a former Jeff Tech instructor and the mother of a former student shared with the Joint Operating Committee (JOC) her concerns regarding the way that the school was being run.

Janice McGee, after relaying her concerns on how certain situations were handled, told the JOC members that she would be available to discuss these issues at their convenience.

Shelly Caine, JOC chairperson from the Brockway Area School District, thanked McGee for her input.

There were no comments from the committee regarding her complaints.

Also, at Monday's meeting the committee approved:

- A motion to allow the administration to be authorized to complete the forms necessary with School Claims Service to allow United Concordia to administer the school's

dental program.

- A motion that Jeff Tech renew the liability insurance coverage and workers' compensation insurance through the Charles P. Leach Agency and PSBA Insurance in the amount of \$104,175 for the 2014-2015 school year.

- A motion to renew the VMware Server and Desktop License agreements with Dell for a three-year term, beginning July 2014 and running through June 2017 at the cost of \$18,239.76.

- A 60-month lease agreement with Xerox on the PEPPM contract for a D95CP copier/printer machine to replace the 4595CP for \$1,282.11 per month.

- A motion for the LPN program to apply for a Perkins Grant in the 2014-2015. The amount will be determined in July.

- The resignation of Nancy Roseman, Practical Nursing instructor, effective July 11, 2014.

- To terminate an employee from the cook's position in the cafeteria, effective June 30, and permit the administration to (See **JOC** on Page 3)

VOLUNTEERS MAKE TAX SEASON LESS TAXING, STRESSFUL



Community Action, Inc. and The Jefferson County Area Agency on Aging honored volunteers who served over 2,000 hours as Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) preparers in Clarion and Jefferson counties. This tax season, 1,387 returns were successfully e-filed, bringing federal refunds and Earned Income Tax Credits totaling \$1,050,213 into local communities. The VITA Program offered free tax help to families earning \$52,000 or less. All volunteers received free training and were certified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). If you are interested in volunteering for the VITA Program next year, contact Janeen Love, Senior Corps-RSVP project director, at 814-938-3302, ext. 236; toll-free at 1-800-648-3381; or via e-mail at volunteer@jccap.org. Volunteer tax preparers who contributed to this year's success included (back row, from left) Pat Thompson, John Mester, Gene Beer, Bob Ciano, Ken Hogue; (middle row) Tom Ransel, Merlena Collins, Donna Maines, Rosalee Steele, Dennis Kinol, Sally Ringland, Will Barris, Howard Beezer; (front row) Chris Kolodish, Barb McGee, Melva McGranor, Renee Vowinkel and Carol Zerbe. Not pictured are Judy Brady, Barb Holcombe, Paulette Ochs, Nancy Houser, Chris Duncan, Mona Jane Wenner, Terry Bouch, Kayla Miller and Lauren Hollobaugh. (Photo submitted)

TRAVIS HONORED BY SYKESVILLE LIONS WITH SCHOLARSHIP



The Sykesville Lions Club recently presented its annual college scholarships to two local high school graduating seniors. Punxsutawney Area High School's Emily Travis was awarded one of the two scholarships and was honored at the May Lions dinner meeting, where she and her family were introduced to the club members. Emily will be attending Allegheny Community College in the fall, majoring in radiation technology. Pictured are (front, from left) Judy Simmons, Michele Travis, Emily Travis, Jim Travis, Don Zimmerman; (back) Wendy Perry, Lee Foulkrod, Bill Hilliard, Alan Towns and Ron Muth. (Photo submitted)

Maintenance building remains hot topic for school board

By Destiny Pifer
Of The Spirit

PUNXSUTAWNEY — At Wednesday night's school board meeting, one of the major topics of discussion was the maintenance building.

With the proposal from KTH not being approved, board member Jim Baun presented a set of blueprints from another company for the board to take a look at.

Baun stated that the building would cost less money than what KTH wants to charge.

He went on to discuss the figures and estimates for how much the building materials would cost, coming up with the following: All materials, he estimated, would cost \$78,555; labor would cost

\$86,000; and if they choose to go with in-floor heat, that will cost \$20,000.

In his opinion, Baun believes that a building can be constructed for \$170,000.

He went on to add that the building in the blueprint he presented was constructed for \$200,000.

A motion was made to approve the blueprints, with it being approved in a 5-2 vote.

Voting no were board President Bob Pascuzzo and board member Ed McGinnis.

Pascuzzo and board solicitor Dave Young expressed their opinions that it is not a wise decision.

Pascuzzo reminded Baun that he is just a board member and can not oversee the construction of the building. (See **Board** on Page 3)

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Good morning to
Monica Whitfield of Anita
and have a great day!

