

THE JOURNAL

of the POCONO PLATEAU

Serving the communities of the Pocono Mountain School District and surrounding areas.

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VOLUME 16, NUMBER 4

Week of June 17, 2011

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HATT members recognized by Tobyhanna Township

by Jeanine Hofbauer

The meeting room was filled with members of the Historical Association of Tobyhanna Township on June 13 in support of three long-time colleagues set to receive recognition by the Tobyhanna Township supervisors for their years of service. Emily Carter, Theodore Suttmeier and Eugene Kerrick were awarded plaques commemorating their contributions.

Fredrika Kaltemthaler accepted Carter's award on her behalf, which described the Blakeslee native as "an excellent resource for historians." Kaltemthaler later commented, "She is a wonderful person."

Supervisor Heidi Pickard read Resolution 2011-016 as printed on Suttmeier's plaque, telling of his research on Lutherland and Pine Crest Resorts, along with his commitment to improving the area. Pickard then presented

Kerrick with his award, describing Kerrick as "Well-versed on the township folklore."

Pickard announced the completion of the Austin T. Blakeslee Natural Area Pavilion, inviting all to visit the site. She advised of the June 17 opening day for the township pool and July 9 Community Day Celebration at Blanche Price Park.

Solicitor Patrick Armstrong held the Future Land Use Map public hearing, advising of the Township and Monroe County Planning Commissions' recommendations to adopt the document. Supervisors concurred. Armstrong then proceeded with a public hearing for Refinancing Ordinance No 495. The refinancing, intended to decrease the annual monthly expense for the municipality, is not to exceed \$5.25 million at a fixed rate of

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Tobyhanna home in full bloom for 2011 Garden Tour

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Betty Kruk's Cape Cod property in Tobyhanna blossoms as one of nine homes on the Monroe County Garden Club Tour

planned for June 25. Kruk is preparing for her first year to welcome flower fans as they enjoy a leisurely stroll through

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Tobyhanna Supervisors congratulate Theodore Suttmeier.

2011-2012 lunches to increase in Pocono Mountain schools

by Jeanine Hofbauer

Mike Polash, District Manager for Chartwell's Food Service presented Pocono Mountain School District board members with a proposed pricing revision for the 2011-2012 school year at their meeting June 1. The representative of the district's food service provider discussed President Obama's recent act signing into law a pricing evaluation of school lunch reimbursement to close a gap. He advised, "The government is taking steps to make the price of a pay lunch equal the price of reimbursed effective July 1, 2011." As a result, Polash said, "This is the first time in 10 years Chartwell's budget has had a price increase."

Elementary, Intermediate and High School lunches will increase by 10¢ with the price of an adult meal increasing by 25¢. Breakfasts will increase by 25¢. The board approved the proposed increases resulting in the following rates:

Elementary lunches \$1.25
Intermediate lunches \$1.65
High Schools lunches \$1.65
Adult lunches \$3.25
All breakfasts \$1
Milk remains the same at 50¢

Business manager Joe Colazza concluded, "PMSD would still be well below the three other Monroe County school districts."

The board approved the adoption of the 2011-2012 Final Budget and noted that the state budget is expected by the end of July. Tim Brogan, an officer of the Pocono Mountain Education Association asked the board, "Why are you voting weeks before the deadline?" suggesting "Why not wait until the state numbers arrive?" Brogan asked the board to delay eliminating 90 plus positions until solid budgetary numbers are available. He continued by questioning the tuition reimbursement amount budgeted for 2011-2012 at \$1.5 million, as it remained similar to last year's at \$1.54 million. Brogan asked, "Shouldn't there be a larger reduction in the tuition reimbursement for next year?" referring to the effect of the anticipated furlough of teachers. He concluded, "I'm asking the board to table the vote."

Superintendent Dr. James Pfennig addressed concerns over anticipated extracurricular activity cuts throughout the dis

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Tobyhanna Twp. HATT honorees

"Since 1995, these individuals have given countless hours of dedication to establishing HATT as a driving force in the preservation of Tobyhanna Township's history. But they have gone beyond that by sharing this history through the entire community. Because of their efforts, HATT has reached over 135 members, operating an electronic archival system for preservation and community sharing, conducting research projects to add depth to this historic record, and has established pictorial and artifact displays within the community." — Rick Bodenschatz

•Ted Suttmeier, resident of Lake Naomi in Pocono Pines, Past Vice President and Past Acting-President of HATT, Charter Founding Member of HATT. Noted local historian and author of *Lutherland*.

•Gene Kerrick, resident of Stoddartsville area, Past President and Charter Founding Member of HATT. Active researcher and historian of numerous families within the township and of the Stoddartsville community.

•Emily Carter, resident of Locust Ridge, Past Secretary and Charter Founding Member of HATT. A staunch collector and preservationist of local township history and artifacts, she is a direct descendant of the Adam Smith family, original settlers of Locust Ridge.



Garden Tour...

Continued from page 1.

her various gardens.

To her delight, the MCGC committee notified Kruk of the honor last January and she has been planning ever since with the help of her family. Betty delegates duties of pole digging and grass/weed maintenance to her husband Jeff, while daughters Lindsay and Kelsey have been assigned "dog duty" for the day of the tour. Winston and Murphy, a pair of Pug mixes, require a close watch as they tend to rummage curiously through the neatly prepared gardens and fountain area.

Walk past the small sign reading "Garden Tours 25 cents," through the white picket fence into a bevy of botanical beauty to delight the senses at 378 Sharbaugh Road. Stella Dora day lillies bursting with bright orangey yellow flowers join a rainbow of colors from hostas, spirea and the purple spiderwort, Kruk's favorites. She proudly draws attention to the various recycled treasures complementing her garden—discovered at refuse sites and yard sales. Re-purposed fencing borders the property's woodland setting, with signs welcoming visitors to explore and relax on the cozy park bench.

Growing up in Pocono Summit among a "family of gardeners and stone masons" as Kruk describes led to her "green thumb." Kruk states, "It comes naturally," adding "It's in my genes." While she considers the invitation to participate an honor, Kruk emphasizes, "It's a lot of work."

While all participants welcome the nourishing recent rainfall in our area, they hope that the sun will prevail when the tour takes place June 25 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Tickets are available from 9 a.m. to noon in front of Price's Lumber Company in Cresco and Werkheiser's Garden Center in Tannersville at a cost of \$8 for Garden Club Members and \$10 for non-members.

Tobyhanna Twp...

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3.75% for 20 years. Public participation included an inquiry by Greg Hann as to the annual projected savings, which are approximately \$120,000 per year.

Chris McDermott of Riley Associates addressed the board on behalf of Arcadia Properties with an update on Arcadia lots 100 & 110. McDermott thanked the supervisors for township engineer Bob McHale's attendance at meetings throughout the process. He briefly reviewed comments on PennDOT's HOP Traffic Impact Statement. McDermott advised, "We're still in the running" regarding the Au-



Eugene Kerrick.



Fredrika Kaltemthaler accepts Emily Carter's award.

gust deadline date.

Jamie Keener spoke about his transition out of his supervisor position saying, "There is no date certain" for his departure. He plans on commuting to his new employment in Harrisburg for the time being.

Supervisors John Kerrick, Pickard, Keener, and Don Moyer; Atty. Armstrong, a stenographer and this reporter were joined by HATT supporters along with other members of the public.

The supervisors will meet next at 7 p.m. on July 12.

PMSD...

Continued from page 1.

trict. He advised, "We cut no sport; not one," adding "We cut coaches and it was tough."

The board approved the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion for 2011 enabling eligible parties to receive approximately \$388.25. Colazza advised of the Pa. Department of Revenue's April 15 approval

of gaming funds to the district of \$6.2 million up by \$2,250 from the prior year.

District high school students of the Digital Media and Graphics Design course presented their award winning projects from the Carlisle State Computer Fair. Third place winner Greg Falconi presented his Graphic Design piece along with Courtney Brennick's Computer Animation creation. The board viewed first place winner

of the Digital Movie category, Ray Mercado and Robbie Baldassar's "It's all at your fingertips." Dr. Pfennig commented, "Having taught filmmaking, I think what you've done is remarkable."

Amy Altomose provided a mathematics instruction report for the board. Altomose discussed the Marywood Math Competition recently attended by district students. Fifth graders Katie Ayres and Piper

Langon read a well-prepared statement regarding the event to the delight of board members.

Summer school board meetings have been planned for July 13 and 20 rather than previous reports of one planned meeting for the month. Members of the public planning on attending are advised to verify the location on the district's website at www.pmsd.org.

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