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Thursday, November 14, 2019

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Back Mountain—20,40,60

A look back on the Back Mountain area—here's what you read in years past.

20 YEARS AGO — 1999

- Members of the Back Mountain Memorial Library Book Club shared more than a love of reading – their monthly discussions were spawned new perspectives and new friendships. The book club, which gathers the fourth Monday of each month, was started four years ago with the help of a state grant. Present at the initial fall meeting of the club were: Jean Rodda, Mae Rome, Elaine Cooper, Viola Gomer, Shirley Forney, Ja Ann Hall, Susan Levinson, Shanna Smith, Carol King, Kay Edgerton, Kay Meeks, Sharon Randolph, Sylvia Hughes, Shirley Moore, Andrea Payne, Marcie Jones, Gloria McCartney, Tina MacDowell, Jane Gritman, Irene Crawford, Jeanne Ellis and Dorene Rhoads.

- Members of the Dallas Middle School German Club participated in a program about modern Germany. Chris Belles, Kim Derhammer and Ashleigh Ide went on a tour of Germany, Austria and Switzerland with Mr. Arno Miller, Dallas Senior High School German teacher and other high school students. Each of the students brought in pictures he or she had taken on the trip. All three talked about the places they had sited and answered questions from club members.

30 YEARS AGO — 1989

- In special ceremonies Thursday afternoon at College Misericordia, two teachers from Dallas Elementary School were named “Outstanding Teachers of the Year” and presented awards for their outstanding education in the classroom. Mrs. Barbara Reilly, fourth grade teacher,

and Mrs. Shirley Breymeier, special education teacher, were honored for their contributions to education.

- Dallas High School will present “The Savage Dilemma” by John Patrick, November 17 and 18, in the high school auditorium. This lively comedy is a sequel to “The Curious Savage” presented five years ago at Dallas. All the zany characters from the original play are together again in a new set of adventures. Set in 1972, the play reflects the volatile times and yet also presents a heart-warming lesson in the essential goodness to be found even in the worst and sanest of us. The play is under the direction of faculty member Donald Hopkins, assisted by instructor Audrey Ide. The student staff includes Cindi Delinsky, Dave Crake, Dave Zachary, Lisa Davenport and Shelby Napersteck.

- Six students from Dallas Middle School have been selected to participate in the Marywood College Junior High Honors Band. The students are: Morgan Stair, flute; Holly Randolph, trumpet; Ryan Moss, trombone; Kris Kaleta, clarinet; Amy Beardworth, flute; and Valerie Prother, French horn. The students were selected on the basis of experience and director evaluation.

40 YEARS AGO — 1979

- Seven students from Dallas Area High School were among those who participated in a special drafting seminar held at Penn State Wilkes-Barre. The seminar is just one of many special services that Penn State-Wilkes-Barre provides to local high school students. Among the participants in the seminar

were: Thomas Wisnieski, Patrick Bartorillo, Dave Diefenderfer, Drew Fitch, Andy Krivak, Brad Gerstein and Richard Rollman.

- Trucksville Elementary student Jennifer Bryant was winner of the contest to name the Trucksville PTO's newsletter. Her selection was “Classroom Chatter.”

- Winners in the recent candy sale sponsored by the Gate of Heaven Parent-Teachers Guild recently were rewarded for their sales. April Petrosky, who sold the highest number of boxes of candy, received a 10-speed bicycle; Jackie Jones, second high, received a \$50 gift certificate donated by Tupper Sports Equipment; and third high salesman, John Spencer, received a \$25 savings bond.

50 YEARS AGO — 1969

- Mrs. Rutherford L. Cooper, neighborhood director of Dallas Girl Scouts, conducted a workshop for the new service team which will be assisting the 29 Dallas Girl Scout Troops. Training material was distributed and a summary of existing troops in Noxen, Kunkle, Chase, Lehman, Harveys Lake, Jackson and Dallas was reviewed. The troop consultants are: Mrs. Darrell Crispell, Mrs. Frank Kuehn, Mrs. Paul Kadda, Mrs. Regis Brice, Mrs. Thomas Stegner, Mrs. John Jones and Mrs. Welford Scouten.

- Mrs. Robert Rebennack, Jackson Township, and Mrs. Durland, Daron, Dallas, are in charge of reservations for

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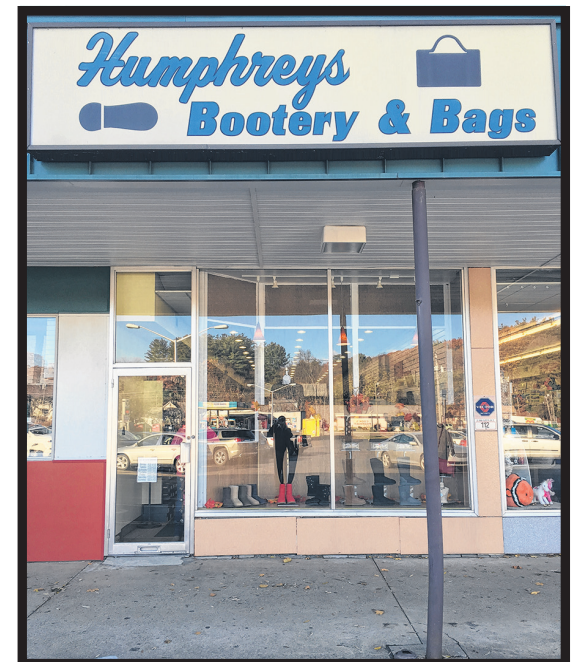
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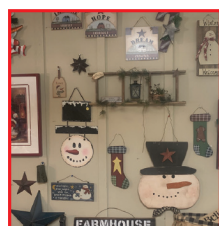
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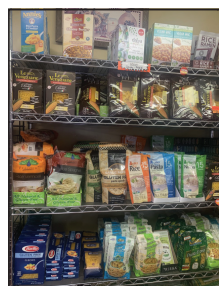
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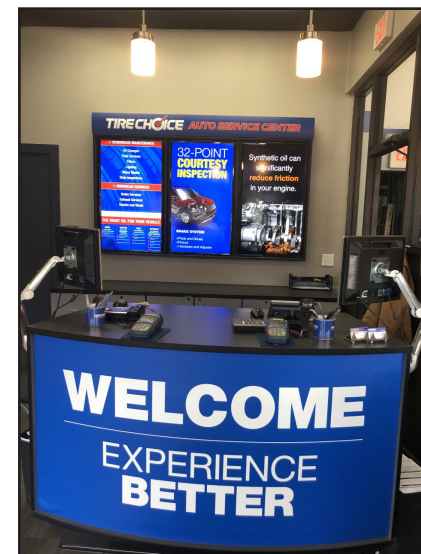
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Wild Birds Unlimited

50 1/2 Memorial Hwy, Dallas, PA 18612

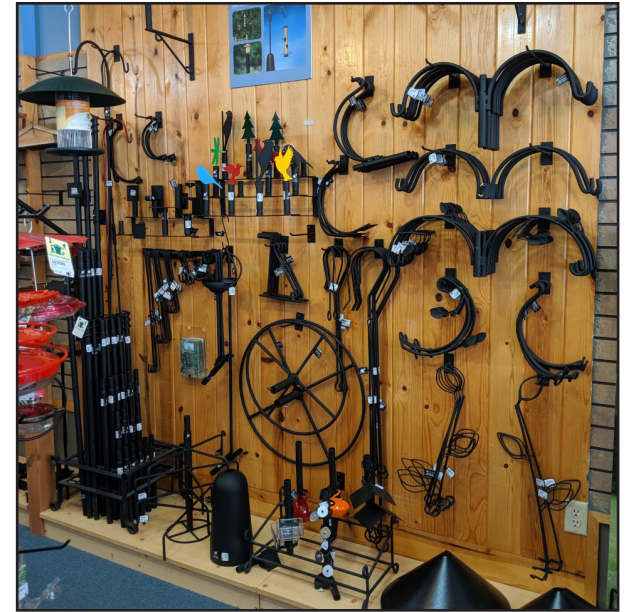
570-675-9900

Wild Birds Unlimited was recently named #1 retail franchise in America and #2 overall franchise. Joann and Gary Kostrobala have owned the Wild Birds Unlimited Dallas Township franchise since 2012, and aren't surprised by that news. "They're just a great organization to work with, from purchasing through marketing help, and everything in between," Gary said, while stocking a new shipment of seeds recently in their Dallas Shopping Center business.

Bird feeding is an inexpensive hobby to start, Kostrobala said, adding that, for \$15 to \$20, a novice can obtain a feeder, seed

and a bird identification book. And for those unsure of where to start, the knowledgeable, professional staff at Wild Birds Unlimited are happy to help customers narrow the choices and make the best purchase for their unique situation.

"Some people have to be concerned about bears coming to their feeders," said Kostrobala. "For those situations, we recommend bringing in your feeders at night." Others like to deter squirrels from taking over their feeders, so Kostrobala suggests using one of the various 'squirrel proof' feeders on



See 'BIRDS' | 9

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'BIRDS' from 8

the market, or using hot pepper products. "Squirrels don't like the 'heat' of the pepper, but it doesn't bother birds," he said.

Wild Birds Unlimited's region-specific, no-filler seed blends provide the nutrients birds need during all seasons. "Birds' nutrition needs in winter differ from those in spring and summer, so it's important to change seeds based on the birds' needs, along with the region they live in," Kostrobala said. "No filler in the seed blends means birds consume everything, so you won't find the cheap milo, that birds can't eat, under the feeder. And since the blends are designed for birds found in our area, you're providing exactly what is needed, at exactly the right time." New seed shipments arrive weekly, Kostrobala noted, meaning the seeds are fresher

and more appropriate to birds' nutritional needs at the specific time.

While birds are the focus at Wild Birds Unlimited, there are also items available to make your outdoor living area prettier and more functional. You'll find a selection of garden flags to add pops of color to your yard, solar lights to brighten the night, and doormats that bring a bit of personality to your home.

Kostrobala has no difficulty answering why he and his wife love owning the local Wild



Birds Unlimited franchise: We bring people and nature together, and we do it with excellence.

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Ochman's Coins & Jewelry

2607 Memorial Hwy, Dallas, PA 18612

570-675-5872

Our History

Ochman's Coins & Jewelry was established in 1979 by the late Tom Ochman. Prior to opening Ochman's, Tom spent twenty years in the local banking industry and earned the trust of people in the Wyoming Valley. Tom retained these high standards of trust and integrity as he retired from banking and opened Ochman's. Over the years, Ochman's has evolved into your local full service coin and jewelry store. Today, Ochman's continues under the direction of Tom's wife, Fran Ochman, and Tom's daughter, Maryann Ochman.

Not Just Another Store

Shopping Ochman's is a truly unique experience. You never know what you're going to find among the antique and estate jewelry. In addition, Ochman's offers new jewelry in age-old traditional designs as well as the newest fashion trends. Ochman's truly has something for everyone. Fran and

Maryann take the time to give each customer that special individual attention that seems to be lost today in a sea of monotone "Big Box" stores. Ochman's sells only the finest quality gold and silver jewelry that is full weight, full value, and full quality. Give a gift that will last for generations, give a gift from Ochman's.

Two Sides to Ochman's

On one side, Ochman's is your local full service jewelry store offering: fine quality gold and silver jewelry in the newest designs, a full line of diamond and gemstone jewelry, ladies and men's watches, and expert jewelry repair. In addition to the new jewelry, Ochman's offers a fine line of estate jewelry for sale and Ochman's is always interested in purchasing additional antique jewelry.

On the other side, Ochman's buys and sells gold coins, silver coins, and old US currency.



Ochman's offers gold and silver as an alternative investment to the stock market. Also, Ochman's carries a wide selection of gold and silver coins for collectors who may be looking to find that one special coin or others just starting coin collecting as a new hobby. Not sure what your old coins are worth, give Ochman's a call. Visit Ochman's and see for yourself the two sides of Ochman's!

'20,40,60' from 2

the annual dinner dance of the Home Builders Auxiliary Saturday night at Irem Temple Country Club, Dallas. They are arranging a seasonal motif for the Thanksgiving holiday event which is headed by Mrs. Angelo Costello, wife of the president of the Home Builders Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

60 YEARS AGO — 1959

- Two Back Mountain Police Officers,

Chief of Police Irwin Coolbaugh, of Dallas Township, and Asst. Chief Hebert Updyke of Kingston Township, graduated with honors Tuesday from the seven-week Major Crime School conducted by the F.B.I. at Plymouth High School. They were among twenty Northeastern Pennsylvania Police officers who attended the course which included the solution of a major crime and the presentation of evidence before Judge John Aponick at a Mock Trial.

- A Minstrel, "High Pockets and Cracker Jacks," will be presented

November 22, 23, in Gate of Heaven auditorium. Proceeds will go toward purchase of a car for transportation of sisters back and forth between College Misericordia and Gate of Heaven School. Back Mountain parishes are cooperating including St. Therese's, St. Francis of Cabrini, Our Lady of Victory, and Gate of Heaven. Committee in charge of the minstrel includes Rev. Michael Rafferty, moderator; Emmett Brislin, director; Nicholas Spagnolia, program; Francis J. Barry, Jr., publicity.

Bernie's Pizza

2941 Memorial Hwy, Dallas, PA 18612

570-675-9611

Bernie's Pizza has been a fixture in the Back Mountain since the 1950s. Bernard Ambrose opened the shop in the 1950s and current owner, Jill Marchakitus, continues serving the same thin crust, brick oven pizza recipe to our community. She has also expanded the menu to include specialty pizzas like the chicken wing and the feta cheese and spinach pizzas, among others. Bernie's also collaborates with Mary Dragon of The Barn Nutrition & Fitness to create healthier options like the cauliflower crust pizza and

the keto-friendly fathead pizza. Marchakitus said, "It's exciting how the local businesses in our community are coming together. It's great to have that support from one another." Bernie's has seen generations of families come through their doors. Marchakitus enjoys the personal relationships that have formed over the years and is excited about the future of our local community. Bernie's is open Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. They are a take out only establishment, and you can reach them at 570-675-9611.



570.675.9611

2941 memorial hwy. • dallas, pa 18612

tues. - sat.: 11am - 9pm | sunday-monday: closed

serving the same thin crust, brick oven pizza since the 1950s



*we collaborate with The Barn/Nutrition & Fitness to bring you
"Mary Dragon approved" cauliflower and keto-friendly fathead pizzas!*

The Barn Nutrition & Fitness

104 East Overbrook Rd., Shavertown, PA 18708

570-255-4175

Mary Dragon, owner of The Barn Nutrition and Fitness, was born and raised in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

“After school, I moved to Long Island and later settled in South Florida for 26 years,” Dragon says. “Throughout the last 30 years, I had the opportunity to study nutrition abroad. I also pursued a bodybuilding career which taught me nutrition on a whole new level.”

“When I came back home to Northeastern Pennsylvania, I felt there was a huge opportunity in this area to make a difference,” she says. “This area needed some help – some Mary love. It was time to share all of my learnings from the past 30 years.”

“Since I’ve been back, I’ve been working with hundreds of people who are passionate about health, wellness and fitness,” Dragon says. “I’ve partnered with local restaurants who are on board and are now serving up some healthier menu options – from cauliflower pizza crusts to zucchini noodles instead of pasta. I am honored to be part of a healthier community and excited to see where we go from here.”

With her focus on healthy eating and physical wellbeing, The Barn Nutrition and Fitness, a nutrition and fitness center located at 100 East Overbrook Road in Shavertown, was born.

“We operate classes on three different levels. Our first level is spinning. Our newly remodeled second floor houses our treadmills, rowers, and boxing bag along with our barre room. The third floor boasts camps TRX and muscle building circuit classes.”

The Barn’s classes are available for all fitness levels and abilities. Mary says that whatever your experience level is, there is a fitness class for you at The Barn.

“And because we are not your typical gym, no one feels intimidated,” she says. “It’s a fun atmosphere that allows you to work out at your own pace and ability.”

The Barn offers 48 fitness classes throughout the week, including a mix of cardio, strength and flexibility. All fitness levels and ages are welcome.

So, what sets The Barn Nutrition and Fitness apart from other gyms? They focus on nutrition first, a key component to getting on the right track to becoming (and staying) fit and healthy.

“Although we offer several fitness classes like spinning, barre, circuit classes and boot camps, one must attend a nutrition seminar before attending any class,” Dragon says.

“We’ve all heard of the expression ‘you can’t outrun a bad diet.’ We couldn’t agree more and that’s why at The Barn Nutrition and Fitness, we focus on nutrition first.” Along with having two floors of fitness, The Barn recently opened the Farmhouse, a General Store for all your nutritional needs to stay on the plan. The newbie classes are held in the classroom at the Farmhouse as well.

“Whether it’s KETO, Paleo or their own customized plan,”



Dragon says, “we offer protein powder, protein bars, healthy snack alternatives, multivitamins and supplements.”

“The Barn’s message is about providing nutrition, health and diet guidance based on individual needs and goals,” she says.

“Everybody is different, and every body is unique. At The Barn, we are empowering you to take charge of your health and encouraging you to make mindful food and lifestyle choices.”

Fitness Advice from Mary Dragon

“I place a big emphasis on the 3 macro-nutrients (proteins, carbohydrates/fats as I believe they are the backbone to achieving your weight loss and/or fitness goals.”

“In order for our bodies to function properly and stay healthy, it is important that we follow a balanced lifestyle that includes eating the right foods for you and incorporating some type of physical activity. If you fail to do these things, eventually your body (and mind) will break down. However, if the right steps are taken you will be well on your way to living a healthy lifestyle and realizing the benefits that come with it.”

Humphreys' Bootery & Bags

1900 Memorial Hwy, Shavertown, PA 18703

570-674-5300

SHAVERTOWN – A long time retailer this year marked a landmark anniversary.

Humphreys Bootery and Bags, which sells casual footwear, celebrated 60 years in 2018.

The store at 1900 Memorial Highway, Shavertown in the Back Mountain Shopping Center, opened in that location in 1958, and currently sells men's and women's casual footwear, children's UGG boots, handbags, jewelry and accessories.

"We're the old-fashioned, hometown comfort shoe store," said owner Jay Humphreys, who grew up in Kingston. "We're in a small community, and we've had customers – we've had families of customers – it's right around fourth generation with some families."

The store's longevity speaks to the quality of service it provides, Humphreys said.

"We're here for (the customers) every day, and I guess we've done a pretty good job if we've been here as long as we are," he said.

He added that the products chosen mean

consistent quality.

"It's great to sell the things that we do sell because we don't have a lot of problems with manufacturer defects and things like that. The few that we do (have) are easy to take care of," Humphreys explained.

Humphreys said that while the world of shopping seems to be moving online, the store isn't going anywhere anytime soon.

"In today's world we compete against the convenience of the Internet, and it's not about price as much as it's about convenience. So it's difficult. The world has changed in that respect. But we have a solid customer base," he said.

He said that Humphreys Bootery and Bags, and the brick-and-mortar experience, gives shoppers things they can't get online.

"The touch, the feel, the service... we're here to help you, we're here to explain the product, and we stand by the product." For more information, visit www.humphreysbooteryandbags.net on the web,



<https://www.facebook.com/HumphreysBB/> on Facebook. Call 570-674-5300 or see the store for yourself in the Back Mountain Shopping Center at 1900 Memorial Highway, Shavertown.

Leggio's Italian Ristorante

64 E Center Hill Rd, Dallas, PA 18612

570-675-4511

Leggio's Italian Ristorante offers delicious, authentic, Italian dishes, as well as many other American favorites. Leggio's features an inviting atmosphere featuring Tuscan and Mediterranean decor. Owners Salvatore and Lori Leggio enjoy providing their customers with excellent food and excellent service.



Back Mountain Jewelry and Rock Shop

Trucksville, PA

Back Mountain Jewelry & Rock Shop in Dallas offers one-of-a-kind, handmade crystal and gemstone jewelry, rocks, minerals and gems from around the world, fossils and carvings, and custom stone cutting.

The unique combination has enabled Back Mountain Jewelry & Rock Shop to expand into their new headquarters, just around the corner from their previous location. "We've moved from Suite 6 to Suite 1 at 2800 Memorial Highway in order to have better parking and more space to display our unique items," said owner Steve Shedlowski. He began the business a short distance away on Lake Street in 2011.

The business attracts local customers as well as patrons from New York and New Jersey. "The biggest draw is the variety of stones,"

Steve said. "There are rock hounds, Reiki practitioners and kids who are budding rock collectors that come in."

Shelves gleam with over 150 polished crystals and semi-precious stones. Deep shades of green in the African Malachite, soft aquamarine hues of Peruvian opals and the iridescent sheen of Labradorite capture the beauty of nature.

Each display has a little card explaining where the stone came from and its believed metaphysical properties.

Another section of the store features sharks' teeth, petrified wood, geodes and fossils. There is a mini-library of books about rock hunting, jewelry making and the metaphysical properties of the stones, sure to inform any curious reader.



No matter what you're looking for, you'll find that, plus much more, at Back Mountain Jewelry & Rock Shop. Hours vary, so please call 570-814-3704 for current hours.

Back Mountain Jewelry & Rock Shop



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OFF**

Any Purchase
of \$25
or More



We're known for our one-of-a-kind, handmade crystal and gemstone jewelry. We carry fossils and carvings, raw crystals, uncut gems and rare stones, PLUS the area's largest collection of metaphysical and spiritual books.

(570) 814-3704

2800 Memorial Highway, Suite 1, Dallas, PA,
12-7pm Thurs, Sat, Sun & Tues; 12-4pm Wed & Fri,
or call 570-814-3704 for current hours

Lonnn Dean Salon

120 N Main St Ste A2, Shavertown, PA 18708

570-696-4247

You know you're not in a typical hair salon as soon as you step into Lonnn Dean Salon in Shavertown. Absent is the noisy reception area, with multiple other appointments lingering until their stylist is ready. Instead, you're the only client, and Lonnn will warmly welcome you into his studio, make you feel at home, and give you his undivided attention during your entire appointment.

Lonnn is a second-generation hairstylist, following in his mother's footsteps. "My mother tried to discourage me from becoming a stylist, but it's all I've ever wanted to do," said Lonnn.

He began his career by assisting at hair shows. Soon after, Michael O'Rourke, founder of the Sexy Hair product line,

See 'SALON' | 17



Transform Your Image With

Lonnn Dean

Certified Balayage Artist | Structured Haircuts
Dazzling Hair Color

**Our independently operated establishment is
the go-to salon for exquisite cuts and colors.**

Have a great hair day by paying a visit to Lonnn Dean Salon!



570-696-HAIR (4247)
120 N. Main Street
Shavertown, PA 18708

LONNN DEAN

Komensky's Meat Market

23 Dallas Village, Dallas, PA 18612
570-675-1011

Located in the Dallas Shopping Center, Komensky's Market is now a full-service meat market with an on-site butcher. Not only do they sell their award-winning Kielbasi, but they now carry fresh cut meats, which can be cut to your liking.

Stop in and stock up on select cuts, perfect for grilling, slow cooking, or dinner-in-a-hurry meals. You'll find:

New York strip, Delmonico, and cowboy steaks, roasts, their own minute steaks, freshly ground beef and pork, braciole, burg-

ers, bacon cheddar burgers, beef cubes, cube steaks, London broil, tenderloins, pork chops, pork butt steaks, ribs, porketta, chicketta, chicken, smoked pork chops, stuffed chicken breast, thighs and pork chops. No matter what the occasion, quality meat from Komensky's will make the meal special.

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became Lonn's mentor. "Michael developed a technique to cut hair that is revolutionary, so I learned from the best," said Lonn.

Lonn ultimately became a Master Stylist for Sexy Hair. That was 19 years ago, and he's still using the cutting system designed by O'Rourke. "The way I cut hair allows me to give solutions for my clients' problems on an individual basis," said Lonn. "Each cut is designed for the client's face shape, hair density, thickness and texture."

But if you're thinking you'll need to take a half-day off work for such personalized treatment, think again. "Because of the unique system of cutting, I can shampoo, cut and style a client in 30 minutes or less," Lonn said. Need a cut AND color? That'll only require an hour.

Lonn's clients are loyal; most have been with him for 18 years, which is a testament to his talents. "I've been working in the Back Mountain for 20 years, including six at Lonn Dean Salon, and my clients are the best," he said. "When you're here, you're not a mother, father, teacher, or whatever you are 'out there.' Here, you're the focus, and your time is your own. You decide how you want to use it."

However you decide to use your time at Lonn Dean Salon, one thing's certain: You'll walk out feeling relaxed and looking amazing.



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NAPA Auto Parts – Dallas Auto Parts

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By Tony Callaio
For Dallas Post



Tony Callaio | For Dallas Post

Paul McCue, second generation owner of NAPA Auto Parts – Dallas Auto Parts, has been working his store for 40 years.

Dallas Auto Parts is back in the winner circle, taking home the award for the Best Auto Parts Store in the Best of the Back Mountain Readers' Contest for the third time in the last four years.

Located at 2960 Memorial Hwy. in Dallas, the family run business has been serving the community for 47 years.

Paul McCue, second-generation owner, has been working at the store for 40 years, starting when his father was the owner and now running the business for nearly 25 years.

"Getting the award means a lot; it means people care," McCue said. "It's nice to know people care and people appreciate it."

The store carries starting and charging products, filtration products, drivetrain products, brake system products, engine and emission products, steering and suspension products, engine cooling products, lubricant and chemical products, wiper and lighting products mainly under the NAPA name.

"We cover everything from cars to tractors to trucks," McCue said. "You name it, we cover everything mechanical, even boats."

Dallas Auto Parts offers monthly deals, tools and equipment deals, Triple-A deals, plus NAPA rebates and rewards.

Whether you own a machine shop, farm, boat, off-road or need parts for lawn and

garden equipment or are a weekend warrior mechanic who enjoys working on your own car, Dallas Auto Parts is your one stop shopping center.

"I'm thrilled to get the award," McCue added. "After 47 years, people are still coming to us."

If you have a question regarding your equipment, call Dallas Auto Parts at 570-675-2143 or stop by the store Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. or Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The business is closed on Sundays.

415 PRO Hardware

3101 Memorial Hwy, Dallas, PA 18612
570-415-1400

415 PRO Hardware is your local one stop shop home resource center for area residents.

415 hardware is proud to be a local Pro Hardware dealer. For over 60 years PRO Hardware has continued to provide do-it-yourselfers access to tools, building, electrical and plumbing supplies and much more for almost all of your home improvement and repair projects. Indoor, outdoor, large or small, PRO Hardware stores stock the items you need for seasonal

and everyday jobs around the house.

In addition to the PRO hardware line, we offer other home improvement products and services including Pittsburgh Paints featuring an interactive computer system that simulates your room in a variety of color schemes. In addition 415 PRO Hardware carries Nutrena horse, goat, pig, chicken and wildlife feeds.

In our Garden Center, we offer a selection of annual and bi-annual plants to make your yard a showcase throughout Spring and Summer. We feature trees from Bower & Branch based in Reading, PA, environmentally friendly garden products and a Bonide Plant diagnostic center to diagnose pest problems. Bonide provides a



complete line of pest controls, fertilizers, and plant disease solutions.

Our Pet Supply Center includes pet food from a variety of high-quality pet food brands that assures that your favorite family friends stay fit and healthy.

We're excited to be a new part of the Back Mountain community. If you or your family and friends have a need for Hardware, Garden or Pet Supplies we invite you to stop by, or just stop in to say hello!

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Your CBD store will host its grand opening on Saturday, November 23rd. What is CBD? Cannabidiol is a compound found in industrial hemp plants that offer numerous benefits that allow you to choose health, without the high. They carry only SUNMED products as they are the best quality available in the market today. The Dallas location, located at 3700 PA-118 (next to Lakeway Beverage) will be the 523rd location for the SUNMED franchise. Owner Tim Norconk does not hesitate to share his expertise in CBD and he has created a welcoming, pet friendly atmosphere that allows customers to explore different products. Recommendations are offered on an individual basis to suit the customers needs. Your CBD Store carries a wide variety of products including tinctures, topical relief creams, edibles, pet products and much more! Stop by the Grand Opening and receive Free Samples and 20% off of your purchase during the Grand Opening.



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Dymonds by Kate

Shavertown, PA

Kate Evans fondly holds on to childhood memories of walking into Dymonds Farm Market Bakery and the sweet smells and delicious sights of the selection of fresh-baked goods. When Dymonds closed the bakery in 2017, Kate decided to add her name to the Back Mountain staple, creating Dymonds by Kate. Now, Kate and her employees, including her mother, Cathie, offer seven to eight pies daily, plus sticky buns, a variety of fresh breads and cookies, and ready-to-eat soups and entrees.

Dymonds by Kate has even partnered with The Barn Fitness and Nutrition to offer desserts and entrees that are “Mary Dragon approved,” according to Kate.

Dymonds by Kate even offers specially decorated cookies for parties. Some of the recent cookies created were for bachelorette parties, birthdays, and a 70s themed party. “Nothing is too ‘out there’ for us,” Kate said.

Kate’s love of baking developed as a child when she spent countless hours in the kitchen baking with her mom.

“My mom is my partner,” she said. “We were always in the kitchen. Baking is a fun way to be creative.”

Kate pursued her interest and earned an associates degree in pastry arts from Luzerne County Community College in Nanticoke.

She worked as an assistant pastry chef at the Westmoreland Club in Wilkes-Barre and sold some of her baked goods at the Back Mountain and Tunkhannock farmers markets.

But owning her own bakery, and being able to offer just what the customer wants, has been a dream come true for Kate. “I love that I’m able to give people a little bit of happiness in their everyday lives. It makes the early hours and long days all worth it!” she said.



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