

RELIGION

Christmas Program Sideling Hill Christian Church, 10424 Sipes Mill Road, Needmore, will hold its annual Christmas program on Christmas Eve, December 24, at 7:00 p.m. There are recitations, a Christmas play entitled "Angel Alert," followed by a candlelight service. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Christmas Eve Program Dublin Mills Community Church, 2700 Dublin Mills Road, Hustontown, will be holding its annual Christmas Eve program on Wednesday, December 24, at 7:00 p.m. Also, a New Year's Eve service will be held on Wednesday, December 31, at 6:00 p.m. A film entitled "Flywheel" will be shown. Visitors are welcome to attend. More information may be obtained by calling 814-685-3910.

River Oaks Helpline A Christian crisis counseling/prayer phone line is now available. Caring and compassionate Christian volunteers are available from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily to listen, pray with you and help to find solutions for the challenges you are facing. Help is just a phone call away. Call 717-325-4200.

Christmas Eve Petting Zoo and Worship Encounter McConnellsburg United Methodist Church will be hosting an interactive children's worship experience entitled "Journey to Bethlehem" at 5:30 p.m. on December 24. The church is located across the street from the Fulton County Courthouse. The worship experience is designed for children ages 12 and under. Parents are invited to join their kids on the journey. The event begins with a petting zoo outside in the churchyard. Children will then proceed to a live nativity in a shed behind the church. Following the live nativity, children will head to the church basement for a time of crafts and snacks. The encounter will conclude in the church sanctuary with a time of singing and storytelling. For more information, call the church office at 485-4815.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services McConnellsburg United Methodist Church will hold its Christmas Eve Candlelight service at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, December 24. The service will feature special music, proclamation of the gospel and the celebration of Holy Communion. Cito United Methodist Church will hold its Christmas Eve candlelight service at 9:00 p.m. The service will also include special music, a message of hope and holy communion. The public is cordially invited to come and join in the worship gatherings as we share the reason for the season.

RECREATION

Line Dance Fulton County Line Dance Club will hold line dance sessions every Wednesday (except the first Wednesday of the month) beginning at 7:00 p.m. at VFW Post 655, Poplar Street, McConnellsburg. All are welcome. Come and learn some new steps. A \$2 donation is appreciated.

Hoop Shoot The Chambersburg Elks Lodge # 600 will hold its annual Hoop Shoot on January 10, 2009, at McConnellsburg Elementary School. The Hoop Shoot comprises 25 foul shots from each contestant. All 8-9-year-olds will shoot 11 feet from the foul line using a girl's basketball. Everyone else will shoot at the regular foul line 15 feet from the basket and use a regulation ball. This is open to all girls and boys from 8-13. Birthdate as of April 1. Registration times are as follows: 8-9-year-old - register from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Competition will start at 9:00 a.m., following the opening ceremonies. Ten-11-year-olds will register from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., with the 12-13-year-olds registering from 11:00 a.m. to noon. Any questions, please call Mrs. Kathy J. Kendall at 717-485-0221.

4-H Farm Show Trip The 4-H will take a trip to the Farm Show on January 13. Call the office to reserve a seat ASAP. Reservations will be accepted from the community after January 6. Cost is \$10 per person. The bus will leave McConnellsburg at 8 a.m. and will leave Harrisburg at 3 p.m. For more information and reservations call Lori at 485-4111 or email to lbh13@psu.edu.

THIS 'N THAT

Animal Shelter Donations Needed Donations for the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter are being accepted at Morton's Attic, 226 North Second Street, McConnellsburg during the month of December. The CVAS are in need of laundry detergent, bleach and trash bags. Also accepted are towels, blankets, sheets, pillowcases mattress pads, cleaning supplies (Windex, paper towels, brushes, etc.), buckets, tarps, office supplies (stamps, envelopes, etc.), dog harnesses, first-aid items, cat and kitten food, dog and puppy food, pet shampoo and conditioner, dog and cat toys, treats, instant rice, baby food (lamb and veal), aluminum cans and "PAWS" to recycle. Monetary donations are always welcomed and checks should be made out to CVAS. Morton's Attic hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Friday, 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m.; Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and closed on Wednesday. More information may be obtained by calling 717-485-3928.

Basket Weaving Class Fulton County Parks & Rec Commission will offer a basket weaving class on Saturday, January 31, at 9:00 a.m., at the Lions Club Community Building, McConnellsburg. Class instructor is Judy Appleby. Only 12 spots are available. Beginning and advanced weavers welcome. Call Chanan Mountz at 717-553-0017 to register or obtain more information. Registration deadline is January 16.

Catholic Mission Collection Items The Catholic Mission is collecting hats, gloves, scarves or stocking stuffers such as crayons, coloring books, storybooks, etc. It is also holding its regular Salvation Army kettle drive.

Tree Seedling Sale Fulton County Conservation District is having a tree seedling sale. Trees available are: fruit trees, berries, etc. - apple, peach, sour cherry, pear, Asian pear, plum, grapes, strawberries, blueberries and asparagus; nut trees - English walnut, American hazelnut, heartnut and American chestnut seedlings; tree seedlings - red pine, white pine, Douglas fir, red oak, chinkapin oak, white oak, shagbark hickory, Norway spruce, blue spruce, balsam fir, Fraser fir and American plum; landscaping trees - bur oak, pin oak, scarlet oak, American arborvitae, Douglas fir, Eastern hemlock, hand select blue spruce, chinkapin oak, Fraser fir, balsam fir, Norway spruce, white spruce and white pine. Tree seedlings and landscaping trees vary in size. Size is indicated on the order form. Deadline for all orders is March 6, 2009. Call or e-mail for an order form at 717-485-3547, ext. 116 or fecc@pa.net. All proceeds from the tree sale support conservation/environmental education.

Livestock Deadlines Any 4-H and FFA youths wishing to have livestock as a project for 2009 must be registered with the Fulton County Extension Office by December 31, 2008. Contact club leaders or FFA advisors for registration papers. Youths must be an active 4-H member or FFA member to participate. More information may be obtained by contacting Greg Strait at 717-485-4111.

"Tonoloway - If Its Walls Could Talk" Copies of the Friends of Tonoloway Primitive Baptist Church's recently published book, "Tonoloway - If Its Walls Could Talk," are still available for purchase. The 140-page book, written by John Mentzer, documents the 50 signatures of Union troops hospitalized at the church between mid-December 1861 and early March 1862 that were discovered during an

interior restoration. The 8 1/2-inch-x-11-inch soft cover book also includes 90 photographs, a history of the church and a record of its restoration. Makes a great Christmas gift for Civil War and local history buffs. Cost is \$25 plus \$3 postage. To order a copy, contact Marlin Douglas, 215 Meadow Lane, Chambersburg, PA 17201, telephone 717-263-9860 or e-mail at dougmar@yellowbananas.com. Proceeds from the sale of books support the ongoing restoration and maintenance of Tonoloway Primitive Baptist Church.

4-H Joe Corbi Fundraiser Joe Corbi forms are now available at the Penn State Cooperative Extension Office. The sale will run until February 13, with delivery on February 26.

4-H Leader Workshop A 4-H leader workshop for all leaders, new and returning will be held January 6 at 7:00 p.m., at the Fulton Theater. Call Lori at 485-4111 for more information.

Youth Involvement in Livestock Clubs It is a requirement to register market livestock by December 31 with the Penn State Cooperative Extension office. This is a requirement for all youths who want to exhibit market livestock at the 2009 Fulton County Fair. Please contact your organizational leader or FFA advisor for the registration materials. More information may be obtained by calling Greg Strait at the extension office at 717-485-4111.

Christmas Tree Dropoff Christmas tree dropoff will be available until January 12 at the Lions Club Park in front of the tennis court.

MEETINGS

PARSE Meeting Pennsylvania Association of Retired State Employees (PARSE) has a 9:00 a.m. breakfast meeting on the second Wednesday of every month at McConnellsburg FOVA (VFW). All retired state employees and spouses are invited to attend. For additional information, call 485-4763.

Republican Women's Council Meeting Fulton County Republican Women's Council will not meet in December. The next meeting is set for Thursday, January 8, at 4:45 p.m., at Johnnie's Diner.

4-H County Council The first meeting of the Fulton County 4-H County Council will be held January 8, at 7 p.m., at the Penn State Cooperative Extension Office. Call Lori at 485-4111 for more information.

Legion Meeting American Legion Post 561 active members regular meeting is the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Auxiliary members meet the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Members of both organizations are urged to attend.

BINGO

Bingo Bingo with the MMP&W Volunteer Fire Co. is held the first and third Fridays of each month at the Fire Station, 132 North Main Street, Mercersburg. Cost for basic package is \$25. Jackpot cards are extra. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and bingo begins at 7:00 p.m.

Bingo Needmore Fire Co. Auxiliary will be holding bingo every first Saturday night of each month and every Wednesday night at the firehall. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and games begin at 6:45 p.m. Featured caller is Lou. More information may be obtained by calling 717-573-4528.

Bingo Bingo is held at the Mercersburg Moose Club every Wednesday evening beginning at 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Kitchen will be open.

Bingo Bingo is held every Saturday at Mercersburg Sportsmen's Club. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., bingo starts at 7:00 p.m.

McChg. Bingo McConnellsburg Fire Co. will hold bingo every Monday and Friday of each week. Bingo starts at 7:00 p.m. and doors open at 5:30 p.m. A basket bingo will be held the first Sunday of each month. Bingo starts at 1:00 p.m. and doors open at 11:00 a.m. Forty games and meal plus snacks for \$25.

HEALTH

Nutrition Awareness Program Fulton County Nutrition Awareness centers are held every third Thursday of the month at the Senior Citizen Center in McConnellsburg, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. To register, call 717-485-5688, Monday to Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Free HIV Testing Free, confidential HIV testing and counseling is available at the Fulton County State Health Center, Penn's Village Shopping Center, McConnellsburg. Information or an appointment may be obtained by calling 485-5137.

Infant Loss Support Group Fulton County Medical Center Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support Group will meet December 30 at the home of Cherry Hale, at 2255 Plum Hollow Road, Fort Littleton. More information may be obtained by calling 485-6141.

TOPS Meeting TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. at Bedford-Fulton Head Start building. More information may be obtained by calling 717-485-4467 or 717-485-3874.

McConnellsburg AA Meetings The McConnellsburg Chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous will meet on Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. every week at Lions Club Community building.

Immunization Clinic Immunization clinic is held at the State Health Center in McConnellsburg on Thursdays. Call 485-5137 for information and appointment.

FOOD & DINING

Pork And Sauerkraut Dinner Fulton County Community Christian School, Needmore, will hold a pork and sauerkraut dinner Saturday, January 3, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The menu will consist of pork and sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, baked beans, muffins, dessert table and beverages. Eat in or carry out. There is no charge, but donations are gratefully accepted.

REUNION

MHS Class of 1984 Reunion If anyone would like to help plan the McConnellsburg High School Class of 1984 25-year reunion should attend a meeting on December 30 at 6:30 p.m. at Kendra's Kustard Kitchen. More information may be obtained by calling Annette Barnett at 485-4464.

Tips For Holiday Travelers

For families across the country, the holidays are synonymous with travel. With families seemingly more spread out geographically than ever before, a holiday without at least a little traveling is extremely rare.

For those likely to spend as much time on the road or in the airport as they do around the tree this holiday season, consider the following tips to lessen some of your traveling load.

Check flight status before leaving home: While it's imperative to arrive at the airport early, particularly during the busy holiday season, check your flight status online before leaving for the airport. Oftentimes, flights are delayed during the holiday season, sometimes for several hours. If you can avoid it, there's no reason to idle the time away in an airport, especially if you're traveling with children.

Don't wrap gifts before getting on a flight: With airport security tighter than ever, travelers can expect all baggage, be it

carry-on or checked, to be searched. While not every piece of luggage is searched, that discretion is left entirely to airport security personnel. That said, there's no point in wrapping gifts ahead of time if traveling by air. There's a chance you might have to re-wrap those gifts when you reach your final destination.

* Use a shuttle service to the airport: Holiday traveling is stressful enough without adding long-term airport parking fees and highway traffic to the mix. By using a shuttle service to get you to and from the airport, you're leaving the stress of traffic to someone else, and you're more likely to get out the door on time if someone is in your driveway waiting with the engine running.

* Pack some entertainment for the kids: Roadways are also full of holiday travelers. If the bulk of your traveling will be done in the car this holiday season, be sure to pack some entertainment for the kids. Consider renting a minivan with a DVD player if you don't already have one, and bring along enough movies to keep the kids occupied for the duration of the trip.

Forbes Road October Students Of The Month



Pictured above are Forbes Road October Students of the Month. First row: Madison Hoover, Codi Brown, Chelsey Downing, Trayben Strait, Shelby Harnish; second row: Matt Martz, Cora Wilt, Grace Ford, Denver Oakman, Breanna Waters, Grayson Hall; third row: Ashley Leis, Bridgette Ritchey, Brittany Truax, Rachel Waite, Dylan Deshong, Michael Black.

Needmore Teen Offers Advice For iPhone Generation



Today's teens have more choices to make than ever before, and it's easy for them to slip and stumble off the path and into alcohol, drugs, pornography and a future full of missed chances. For every teen out there struggling there's a second chance waiting. All they have to do is reach out and grab it. Youth minister Alex Sadowski reaches out to these teens in his new book, "Kissing the World Goodbye!"

"Kissing the World Goodbye!" is a tell-all, no-holds-barred look at a Christian teen's struggle to take the road less traveled. The true story of Alex's teenage years, "Kissing the World Goodbye!" offers a front-row look at the dangers teens face along the path of puberty and offers practical, truthful advice to help teens and parents get through these difficult years and keep their eyes on what really matters.

"My cry for help was silent," says Alex Sadowski of his teenage years. "Kissing the World Goodbye!" traces the steps I took through the transitions, adjustments and mistakes of my life while trying to find out who I was and where I was going."

Alex adds, "... every teenager feels like he or she is cool and knows everything about life. Trying to determine who one is does not promote inner peace and may produce confusion and frustration. The consolation ... is that God isn't finished with us yet!"

Sadowski is the son of a military man and his God-fearing wife, and he grew up in a warm, loving Christian home in Hershey. He attended Christian school, had Christian friends and went to church every Sunday and Wednesday. On the surface, he was the perfect Christian teen. But Alex had a secret.

"Looking for answers, I found questions," says Alex. "If God loved me ... why was everything falling apart?"

Falling into a relationship and what he believed was love at a young age, Alex quickly discovered that the world was full of traps for a young man trying to find out who he was and where he fit in the grand scheme of things. Over the next couple of years Alex would struggle with temptation, sliding into a physical relationship and suffering from an addiction to pornography that would eventually push him overboard into severe depression and three unsuccessful suicide attempts.

"For some reason I did not die. God had his hand on me ... He was there the whole time," says Alex. "God was pursuing me before I pursued him."

"Kissing the World Goodbye!" is Alex's story of how he faced these obstacles and how, through his growing relationship with God and the support of his friends and family, he overcame them to become a powerful leader and an inspiration to teens and young adults everywhere.

"Wherever you are in your journey, this book will empower you to embrace the process, keep climbing the mountain and be reassured that He is building character, faith and strength in you along the way," says Brian Lake, founder of Brian Lake Min-

istries in Needmore, PA, and one of the driving forces guiding Alex toward his second chance.

It's never too late for a second chance to kiss the world goodbye. For more information, visit www.kissingtheworldgoodbye.com.

Senior Center Lunch Menu

Fulton County Senior Center lunch menu for the week is as follows:

Monday: meatloaf, baked sweet potato, peas, wheat bread, applesauce.

Tuesday: lemon pepper fish, scalloped potatoes, spinach, pumpkin custard, wheat bread.

Wednesday: pork loin, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, wheat bread, peaches.

Thursday: center closed.

Friday: beef barbecue, tater tots, coleslaw, bun, mixed fruit.

To reserve a dinner, write name on the sheet at the appropriate center or call before 1:30 p.m. on the day before: McConnellsburg - 485-5613; Hustontown - 987-3770; Warfordsburg - 294-6020. Suggested donation is \$2.

Did You Know?

If, like the famed singer Bing Crosby, you've been dreaming of a white Christmas, you might want to move to a handful of cities that seem to be able to provide just that year after year. In a report on the probability of a white Christmas in the United States by meteorologists Neal Lott, Tom Ross and Matthew Sittel of the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC), five locations had a perfect track record with respect to providing the white stuff on December 25. The study examined climate normals from 1961 to 1990. Over that period, the cities of Marquette and Sault Ste. Marie in Michigan, Hibbing and International Falls in Minnesota, and Stampede Pass in Washington all produced a white Christmas every year. Not surprisingly, those who live further north have a much greater chance of experiencing a white Christmas, but not as much as one might think. For example, films are fond of depicting New York City as a place that frequently sees a white Christmas. However, according to the aforementioned study, New York has just a 10 percent chance of a white Christmas. To put that into better perspective, the city of Richmond, Virginia, has a 7 percent chance of having a white Christmas. Despite the fact that Richmond is in the southern United States, its chances of having a white Christmas are not all that much different from New York's. What's more, Richmond and Seattle share the same probability, despite the fact that Seattle is located in the Pacific Northwest, a region many are quick to associate with wintery weather. Perhaps most surprising was the likelihood of Flagstaff, Arizona, having a white Christmas. With a probability at 56 percent, Flagstaff is one of the best bets a snow aficionado can make if they're hoping to experience a white Christmas.



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