

Slate Belt Veterans Assoc. Receives \$1,000 Donation from American Legion Post 927

By Michael Ortoski

GILBERT - Toni Lynch Treasure of the Slate Belt Veterans Assoc. accepted a check for \$1000 from members of the American Legion Post 927 located in Gilbert Pa. Legion Members Kevin Bush, Mathew O'Rourke and June Pepe presented the check.

Their were three presentations made in front of about 30 members before their monthly meeting.

The second was to Elizabeth Dole Foundation and the last one was to Battle Borne and Elks lodge #319.

Below is information about the three recipients:

The Slate Belt Veterans Association (SBVA) is a 501c3 not-for-profit foundation based out of Bangor, PA. The Board is mostly made up of Veterans and service-disabled Veterans. The board consists of, Leon Vanderpool, President, Tegwyn Hughes, Vice President, Toni E. Lynch, Treasurer, Terry DeGroot, Engineer, Brad Kennedy, Financial Adviser, Cindy Beck, Recording Secretary.

Our primary focus is to honor those who have served and to support and assist those who have returned home, particularly our disabled Veterans. Our present goal is to develop and build a housing facility for Veterans with service-connected, combat-related disabilities. SBVA has purchased a property situated at 428 Market Street (4th and Market) in Bangor, Pennsylvania for the future project.

The project would not have been possible had it not been for the generosity of Brian Perin. Brian passed away in 2017 and left an endowment of \$2.4 million to the Slate Belt Veterans Association. His generous gift is the cornerstone to move the project forward. Brian was co-owner of Grand Central Sanitation.

Michael Kovalevich, a Veteran himself, proposed the construction of housing for disabled Veterans. He saw firsthand how difficult it was for injured Veterans to find ADA-compliant accommodations.



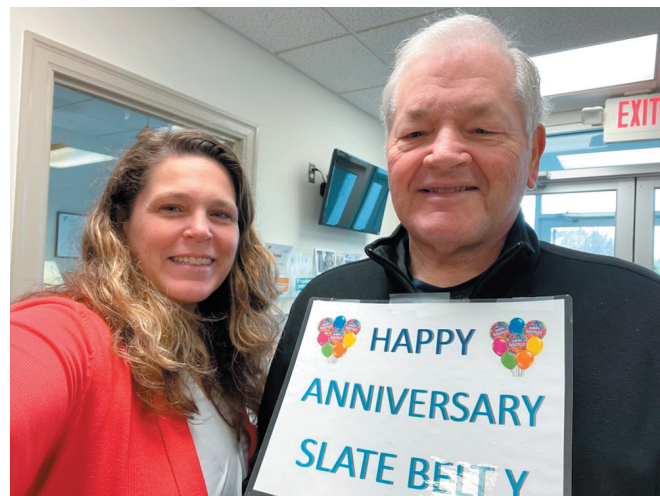
L-R Kevin Bush, TONI E. LYNCH (SBVA Treasurer), Mathew O'Rourke, June Pepe

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YMCA Slate Belt Branch Celebrates 8th Anniversary

By Kristen Fallon

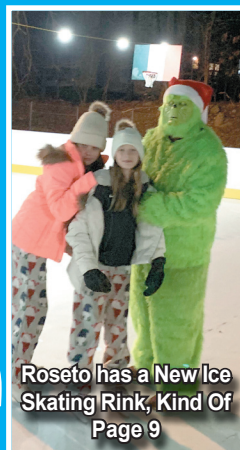
PEN ARGYL - The Greater Valley YMCA-Slate Belt Branch celebrated its 8th anniversary on Thursday, January 5, 2023. The Branch originally opened in 2015 with a Wellness Center and Studio. Over the past eight years, the Branch has expanded to feature a six-lane swimming pool, a gymnasium with a high school regulation-size basketball court and an Education Center for child care and preschool education. Since its inception, the Branch has hosted special community events such as the Enes Freedom Youth Basketball Clinics, Healthy Kids Day and the Slate Belt Sprint 5K Race and Kids Fun Run. The Slate Belt Y will continue to rise to the needs of the Slate Belt community now and for future generations. Stop in and see what we have to offer, take a tour and try the Y!



L-R Jennifer Delong, Branch Executive Director of the Greater Valley YMCA-Slate Belt Branch; Dick Smith, Member of the Founder's Committee and one of the first members of the Slate Belt Y



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