

A Message from the Secretary

By **Cindy Adams Dunn, Secretary, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**

HARRISBURG- As I reflect on my travels around “Penn’s Woods” throughout 2017, I am reminded anew about the stunning state parks, forests, mountains, rivers, and trails we have.

It certainly is our “common wealth” as Pennsylvanians, and our constitutional right to have and enjoy these spectacular assets.

During the course of the year, there were many accomplishments -- too varied to prioritize -- and grouped together, they are the reason I am proud of DCNR’s service to the commonwealth and all that we have been able to accomplish during the past year.

Some highlights:

- Our Bureau of State Parks launched “Penn’s Parks for All -- Planning for the State Parks of Tomorrow,” an intensive, statewide effort to seek public input to help guide its national award-winning state park system into the future.

- Our Bureau of Forestry continued to advance work on the recommendations to Governor Wolf to improve forest conservation, jobs, and forest products.

- Our Bureau of Recreation and Conservation was the driving force behind DCNR’s December 5th announcement that 266 grants totaling \$44 million would be distributed in annual investments across the state.

- Our staff in the Bureau of Facility Design and Construction, long tasked with assuring safety and comfort of our state park and forest visitors, are focused on energy efficiency with promotion of energy efficient buildings,

landscapes, and designs, including green certification programs.

- Nearly 7,500 records of new water wells were gathered directly from drillers in the WebDriller database, and our Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey staff and interns added 18,000 water well records to an online information system that provides an important source of groundwater, water well, and springs data.

- Collectively, we are all proud of the excellent job of the Pennsylvania Outdoors Corps. In just its second year, this innovative, new program is putting young people to work in our parks and forests, while helping many of the workers chart future career paths in the outdoors and conservation.

I join our dedicated staff in taking pride in some of the notable accomplishments of 2017. They reflect DCNR’s six strategic initiatives -- youth, recreation, forest conservation, climate, water, and sustainability.

Since 2016, these initiatives have made great strides as they grow from, and build on, the core work our bureaus and staff perform every day.

These efforts also adhere to DCNR’s five strategic goals; you can select the goals below to learn more about what we did this year: Enhance Stewardship and Management of State Park and Forest Lands; Promote Responsible Stewardship of the Commonwealth’s Natural Resources; Benefit Communities and Citizens Through Investments in Conservation and Recreational Resources; Operate Effectively and Efficiently; Ensure the Future of Conservation.

I have no doubt 2018 will continue to be marked by outstanding DCNR employee efforts and continued valuable interaction with our neighbors, visitors, and partners.

Veterans Organizations

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“Implementation of this tax exemption will be especially beneficial to the many smaller social clubs affiliated with veterans organizations. For them, the Realty Transfer Tax is a costly impediment to performing a simple transfer of real estate,” said Rafferty. “These organizations tend to operate on very thin financial margins, and now they can spend more of their funds on matters important to veterans, rather than this on tax bill.”

Despite the change in tax status, the home association is still dependent on the national veterans organization post, and the post continues to have the authority to disband the home association at any time.

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[www.bluevalleytimes.com!](http://www.bluevalleytimes.com)**



TGAI TTS GAP ARTS

1494 TOTT'S GAP ROAD | BANGOR, PENNSYLVANIA 18013
(610) 588-5817 | arts@TottsGap.org | TottsGap.org

Spring Classes Begin January 24, 2018



Left- TGAI New Art Instructor **Loren Roman** with some of her students works

Above - TGAI New Dance Instructor **Joey Ambrosia** with some of his students. Ambrosia teaches Tap and Musical Theater Dance and is also an award winning director and choreographer for local theatre.

- Art**
- Acrylic Painting
 - Clayworks
 - Intro to Watercolor
 - Perspective Drawing
 - Life Drawing (Figure Drawing)
 - Painting for Beginners
 - Traditional Oil Painting
 - Private Lessons

- Theater & Film**
- Theater for Kids

- Dance**
- Jazz
 - Tap
 - Ballet
 - Modern

- Adults & Advanced Teens**
- Dance & Fitness

- Workshops & Intensives**
- Plein Air Workshops
 - Scagliola

*We have LaNTA for transportation to Totts Gap Arts
Call us for more information*

Scholarship Information

Totts Gap Arts Institute is a Charitable Organization organized under the Federal 501(C)(3) statutes. In order to serve our students better we provide tuition remission to qualifying families. A scholarship fund was created to give students of all ages the opportunity to participate in the arts regardless of their ability to pay. Our Annual Scholarship Dinner and Fund Drive directly impacts this scholarship fund. Feel free to call us for more information and to fill out an application at (610)588-5817.

Call for Student Artists

4th Annual Juried Student Exhibition

By Susan Randall

STROUDSBURG - The Pocono Arts Council announces a call for student artists to participate in the 24th Annual Juried Student Exhibition 2018. The exhibition is open to students through grade 12 in the four Monroe County school districts, as well as local private schools. A prospectus and Entry Form are available at <http://poconoarts.org/artspace-gallery/exhibitions/>. Drop off of artwork is scheduled for Monday, January 22, 1-6 PM, with the exhibition opening on Friday, February 2 and running through February 17. An artists' reception and awards ceremony is scheduled for Friday, February 2, 4-6PM.

Categories for submission include 2-D Works, 3-D Works (Sculpture/Non-Functional), Fine Crafts (Functional) and Photography. Cash awards are available for Best of Show; Senior Awards (3 per category); and Junior Awards through Grade 8 (3 per category).

Trauma Processing Yoga Group

By Lauren Vlot

LEHIGH VALLEY- Are you or a loved one experiencing trauma from interpersonal violence? Don't suffer in silence – the Crime Victims Council is here to help! A new trauma processing yoga group is now forming for female adolescent survivors of interpersonal violence. In addition to counseling, physical activity- like yoga

can help a survivor heal their mind, body, and spirit. Trauma-sensitive yoga is not about exercise, flexibility, or perfect posture. Instead this program will focus on breathing, movement, and mindfulness to help heal the mind and body. All classes will be held at Kula Heart Yoga and Wellness located at 3400 Bath Pike Suite 201, Bethlehem PA. The group will meet every Tuesday at 6pm beginning on February 6, 2018. To join this group, contact Lauren Vlot at 610-437-6610 ext. 318 or by e-mail at lvlot@cvclv.org.

Crime Victims Council (CVC) of the Lehigh Valley is a non-profit, comprehensive victim service and rape

The Pocono Arts Council seeks Sponsors to support the many participating students, as well as underwriting prizes for the winners. Studies continue to prove that the arts are an important component of every child's education; teaching many skills and values that cannot be found in academics alone. Students who study the arts are well rounded, successful and better equipped to enter the work force of tomorrow. The public is encouraged to support these aspiring young artists by attending the artists' reception on February 2, 4-6PM, and visiting the show in the gallery, February 2-17.

The Pocono Arts Council is a local arts service organization serving Monroe, Pike, Wayne, Lackawanna, and Luzerne counties. The mission of the council is to build the community artistically and culturally by providing leadership, service and education - "Culture Builds Community." Further information can be found by visiting its website, www.poconoarts.org. Anyone interested in participating in next year's exhibition should contact the Pocono Arts Council, 570-476-4460, to be put on a mailing list.

For further information about the Pocono Arts Council, please visit <http://poconoarts.org/>, email info@poconoarts.org or call 570-476-4460.

crisis center serving Lehigh and Northampton counties. Confidential services are available to all victims of crime at no cost, including private counseling for people of all ages, a 24/7 hotline (610-437-6611), crisis intervention, victim rights advocacy, and accompaniment to police stations, hospitals, and court. Violence and sexual assault prevention education programs for all age groups, as well as training programs for professionals, are also available at no cost. For more information about CVC services, please call 610-437-6610, visit our web site cvclv.org, or find us on Facebook.



1987-2017
Natalie Keel Frey

MY BELOVED DAUGHTER HAS GONE TO HEAVEN. SHE IS IN PARADISE NOW, WITH GOD & ANGELS
She will always be with me.

Natalie left us on May 15th, 2017 She left behind her son Giovanni and her daughter Gemma, as well as her mother Janet Frey and Jim, her father Dr. Richard Frey and Gail, and her brother Alexander Frey. Her high energy, talent, and friendliness will be missed, but not forgotten.

Don't let Heroin tear your family apart. GET HELP.
Carbon-Monroe-Pike Drug and Alcohol Commission's Mission: "To promote a community where recovery matters and strength and dignity is given to those affected by drug and alcohol use."

GET HELP NOW

After hours 24/7 number: **Carbon Monroe Pike Referral Center** at 1-866-824-3578. During regular business hours call: **Carbon County Referral Center Toll Free: (866) 824-3578. Monroe County Catholic Social Services: (570) 517-0892**

Pyramid Healthcare Bartonsville Outpatient: (888) 694-9996. Pike County Catholic Social Services: (570) 296-1054

Carbon County Provider: PA Treatment and Healing (PATH), 335 N. Fourth Street, 2nd Floor, Lehigh, PA. 18235. (610) 377-8870.

Northampton County Drug & Alcohol Division - Located at 2801 Emrick Blvd, Bethlehem, PA 18020. 610-829-4725. A case manager is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm to provide you with assistance on accessing services for substance abuse. If you do not have health insurance and are in financial need, this office may also help you get the funding for the services that are necessary.