

Type or write up your information. Include a name and daytime phone number. Information can be mailed to Altoona Mirror, P.O. Box 2008, Altoona, PA 16603-2008, faxed to 946-7540; emailed to community@altoonamirror.com or submitted through the Virtual Newsroom at www.altoonamirror.com.



COMMUNITY B9

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2020

Altoona Mirror

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Altoona native twirling her way to Miss PA

LEWISTOWN — Altoona native Meghan Sinisi was crowned Miss Central Pennsylvania 2020 Jan. 18 at Mifflin County Middle School, earning her ticket to the Miss Pennsylvania Scholarship Competition in June.

Sinisi performed a dazzling baton twirling routine to, "Defying Gravity" from "WICKED the musical," which also awarded her the honors of the Shannon Lloyd Memorial Scholarship in Dance Award and the Overall Talent Award.

Sinisi began twirling baton at the age of 3, which led her to achieve the "Orange Girl" Feature Twirler position at Syracuse University in 2013, and also to perform in the pregame show at Super Bowl XLVIII.

She enjoys giving back to the sport by assisting as a baton twirling instructor to Debbie Bernhart at Carol's School of Baton in Altoona.

Although twirling is her passion, her mission is to advocate for autism acceptance, as well as other causes that affect communities across Pennsylvania.

Sinisi inspires acceptance through a program she designed titled "From a New Perspective."

Her social impact initiative educates people about autism-spectrum disorders and equips members of the community with the opportunity to join her movement. She is also an active member of the Central PA Autism Community.

Sinisi said she is proud and eager to represent her hometown as Miss Central PA and hopes to bring home the Miss Pennsylvania crown in June. Winning Miss PA would allow her to represent the



Commonwealth at the Miss America competition.

She has been involved in the Miss America Organization since 2015, and most recently placed fourth runner-up to Miss Pennsylvania 2018.

This will be Sinisi's last year of eligibility in the program. She said that the Miss America Organization is "so much more than just a competition," and that she would not be who she is today without the valuable skills it has helped her develop.

Sinisi is a graduate of Altoona Area High School, where she was a homecoming queen and is pursuing her master's degree in speech, language and hearing sciences at the University of Missouri.

She is the daughter of Tony and Lori Sinisi.

She invites you to follow her journey as Miss Central PA by following her on Instagram/Twitter @MissCentralPA and on Facebook at "Miss Central Pennsylvania 2020 Meghan Sinisi."

Learn more about her mission by visiting www.meghansinisi.com and contact her to book an appearance by emailing MissCentralPA@gmail.com.

Prince Gallitzin State Park to hold Winter Blast Feb. 8

PATTON — Prince Gallitzin State Park will hold Winter Blast from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 8 at the Prince Gallitzin Marina.

Participants can go sledding, try cross-country skiing or snowshoeing, play Winter BINGO or partake in the 5K Fun Run/Walk.

The first 75 participants in the fun run/walk will receive a free winter beanie. There is no fee or pre-registration to participate. This is a non-timed event (just for fun).

Exhibits will be set up talking about ice fishing, geocaching, local wildlife and more.

Equipment for all activities will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis, but attendees may wish to take their own sled and ice skates.

Hot dogs and drinks will be provided by the Friends of Prince Gallitzin State Park.

Activities include a 5K Fun Run/Walk at 10 a.m.

and a guided hike at noon.

Depending on the snow/ice conditions, there may be snowmobile demonstrations by the Glendale Lake Snowmobile Club, cross-country ski and snowshoe loaners, ice skating and sledding (take your own skates and sleds).

There will be an alpaca wool spinning demonstration, geocaching, with GPS loaners, an introduction to basics to disc golf, Broom-ball, an educational station, mountain pie making and a bonfire.

These park programs are free of charge and open to the public.

For more information, contact Tony DeSantis, environmental education specialist, at 674-1000, ext. 105, or princeprogramssp@pa.gov.

An online calendar of events with information on all upcoming programs can also be found at www.visitPAparks.com.



Courtesy photo

The 2020 officers for the Altoona Horseshoe Chorus are (from left): Bob Yeager, board member at large; Bruce Brower, treasurer; Daryl White, assistant treasurer; vice president of chapter development and show ads chairman; Rick Tully, chapter secretary; Harry Bailor, president; Mike Kuzio, vice president of marketing and public relations and webmaster; Dean McKnight, vice president of membership; and John Tate, board member at large. Missing from the photo are Harris Layton, vice president of music and performance; Barry Halbritter, social chairman; and Ken Fry, board member at large.

Horseshoe Chorus installs officers

Group looking for interested male singers

The Altoona Horseshoe Chorus held its annual officer installment dinner Jan. 25 at Marzoni's restaurant in Greenwood.

The event is held each year to swear in chorus officers for the coming year.

James Decker, chapter adviser, offi-

ciated, with Dean McKnight as master of ceremonies.

The chorus is affiliated with the Barbershop Harmony Society of Nashville, Tenn. Its main purpose is to preserve and promote four-part harmony singing in this area.

Joseph Malafarina is chorus director.

The Horseshoe Chorus performs music from many different genres in the four-part harmony style that is so

popular today. Its upcoming show "Harmony 2020" will be performed at 7 p.m. May 2 at Calvary Baptist Church, Altoona.

The chorus meets Tuesday evenings at Zion Lutheran Church, 500 Allegheny St., Hollidaysburg.

Men who would like to perform with the chorus are encouraged to visit www.youcansingtoo.net or call 942-4920 for more information.

Altoona library sets activities for Feb.

The Altoona Area Public Library, 1600 Fifth Ave., has announced its February activities.

For more information, call 946-0417 or visit www.altoonapubliclibrary.org.

■ The library will host an All-Day Knit-In from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday in the board room. Come for a few hours or stay all day. Enjoy the company of others who enjoy doing handiwork. Teachers will be available. Beginners should take size 8 needles, and some light-colored yarn. This is a free program.

■ Calling all History Buffs and Fallout Fans ages 13 to 18. "What a Disaster!" will be held at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 3, 10 and 24. This hands-on history series will continue to explore some of the worst disasters experienced by mankind. These sessions will focus on disasters of the Revolutionary Era. Call 946-0417, ext. 123, to register.

■ Learn how to make paper beads and finish with a necklace at 6 p.m. Feb. 6. The cost for materials is \$3. This is a teen/adult class. Call 946-0417, ext. 125, to register.

■ The free family movie: "Dumbo" (Rated G, 2019) will be shown at 1 p.m. Feb. 8 in the library theater.

■ Join others at 9:30 a.m. Feb. 11 and 25 for a Waldorf-inspired time of storytelling, fingerplays, movement and songs, art and creative play celebrating nature and the seasons during "A Magical Garden." Call 946-0417, ext. 123, to register.

■ Children ages 2 to 4 can Full STEAM Ahead in a free program at 9:30 a.m. Feb. 18. Little learners will have fun exploring basic STEAM concepts through simple experiments, projects and play. Registration is required by calling 946-0417, ext. 123.

■ Children ages 6 to 13 are invited to join a Lego Club at the library. Registration is required by calling 946-0417, ext. 123.

■ The Altoona Area Public Library Book Club

will meet at 6:45 p.m. Feb. 10 in the alumni room. February's selection is "Flight Behavior" by Barbara Kingsolver.

■ Come and swap Pokemon cards at 6 p.m. Feb. 10. Get a chance to meet some new people. Kids/adults of all ages are welcome to come.

■ Office classes will provide a primer to get started on Office and learning how to use Word (Feb. 13), Excel (Feb. 20) and PowerPoint (Feb. 27) at 2 p.m. Choose to attend one or all. There is a \$5 registration fee for each class. Call 946-0417 ext 125 to register.

■ The Lakemont Lions Club will offer free walk-in vision screenings for children ages 2 to 8 at 2:30 p.m. Feb. 14. A photo will be taken of the eyes to screen for vision concerns.

■ Homeschool Hub will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Feb. 14 at the library. Meet with other homeschool families for fun educational and social opportunities. Participants will be doing Valentine's Day-themed games, crafts and activities. Call 946-0417, ext. 123, to register. All ages are welcome.

■ An informative evening with Kindred Hospice will be held at 6 p.m. Feb. 20 at the library. Team members from Kindred will present information on hospice care, dispel common myths about hospice and answer questions. Volunteer opportunities with Kindred will also be presented. Light refreshments will be provided. To register, call 946-0417, ext. 125.

■ Whether they want to

be an architect or just love building things, children ages 8 and older are invited to 3Dux Design Awesome Architecture at 10:30 a.m. Feb. 22. Design a tiny house, Mongolian yurt or a space station. Call 946-0417, ext. 123, to register.

■ Fired Up Ceramics will hold a ceramics class at 6 p.m. Feb. 24. Cost is \$6 for small items and \$17 for large. Children are welcome with adult supervision. To register, call 946-0417, ext. 125.

■ Join Carol Scarbro at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 24 at the library for "Essential Oils for Cardiovascular Health." Learn all about healthy heart-oils for cardiovascular health and ways to make a perfume for your health. Call 946-0417, ext. 125, to register.

■ Kirby, the lovable golden retriever, and Kristen will be at the library from 5 to 6 p.m. Feb. 27 for Read with Kirby. Call the Youth Room to sign up for a 10-minute time slot to read with Kirby. Take a favorite book from home or choose one from the library. Kristen Gill is owner of the pet service Live, Love, Bark in Central PA. Registration is required by calling 946-0417, ext. 123.

■ Families of young children are invited to check out the library's free educational story time programs for caregiver and child to enjoy together. Developmentally appropriate and enjoyable programs for children ages 1 to 6 are offered weekly. Registration is required. Call the library at 946-0417, ext. 123, to register.

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IN THE NEWS ON THIS DATE: JAN. 30

LOCAL HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO
1970

Altoona Postmaster Robert W. Anthony reported that all 81 mail routes had to be changed because of Altoona Redevelopment. The 81 postal clerks had to take a yearly test on addresses and even customer names.

25 YEARS AGO
1995

Butterick Co. in Altoona, a long-time sewing pattern business employing about 300, was to merge with a similar company called McCall's of Manhattan, Kan., and it was not known what effect this would have on the Altoona facility.

10 YEARS AGO
2010

The Biava String Quartet of New York City was in Altoona to teach master classes in music to students at Altoona Area Junior and Senior High Schools.

— Compiled by Tim Doyle

WORLD HISTORY

Today is the 30th day of 2020. There are 336 days left in the year.

On this date:

■ In 1962, two members of "The Flying Wallendas" high-wire act were killed when their seven-person pyramid collapsed during a performance at the State Fair Coliseum, Detroit.

■ In 1968, the Tet Offensive began during the Vietnam War as Communist forces launched surprise attacks against South Vietnamese towns and cities; although the Communists were beaten back, the offensive was seen as a major setback for the U.S. and its allies.

■ In 1969, The Beatles staged an impromptu concert atop Apple headquarters in London; it was the group's last public performance.

■ In 1972, 13 Roman Catholic civil rights marchers were shot to death by British soldiers in Northern Ireland on what became known as "Bloody Sunday."

— The Associated Press

CORRECTION



This Mirror Images photo on Page G1 Sunday misidentified this insect as a praying mantis.

St. Patrick School sets open house

NEWRY — St. Patrick School will hold an open house from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday.

Next year will be the 100th anniversary of the parish school. It offers pre-kindergarten through eighth grade, as well as before- and after-school care.

For more information, call 695-3819.



GRADUATES

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, Lincoln, Neb. — Julianna Rose Lusk, Altoona, B.S., education and human sciences from the College of Education and Human Sciences.

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY, Harrisonburg, Va. — Haley Crawford, Port Matilda, B.S., sport and recreation management.

CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA — Winter graduates: Brianna Hughes, Osceola Mills, A.S., allied health; Hope Zimmerman, Roaring Spring, M.S., speech language pathology.

LOCK HAVEN UNIVERSITY — Cole Marshall Kephart, Woodland, B.S., criminal justice.

BRADLEY UNIVERSITY, Peoria, Ill. — William

Brenneman, Petersburg, M.S., nursing/family nurse practitioner.

WILKES UNIVERSITY, Wilkes-Barre — Anita Park, Mapleton Depot, M.S., education; Nicholas Caminiti, Altoona, doctorate, educational leadership/educational technology.

NORTHAMPTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Bethlehem — Robin McGary, Clearfield, specialized diploma in early childhood education; Juanna Lanzendorfer, East Freedom, specialized diploma in early childhood education; Ashley Feathers, New Enterprise, specialized diploma in early childhood education; Brianna Wellwood, Sidman, associate of applied science in veterinary technician.