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thecourierexpress.com

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2013

Vol. 133 - No. 221

MORE INSIDE



Two killed, 16 hurt at party

Police in Texas are looking for the gunmen who killed two people and wounded 16 Saturday night at birthday party. A6

Dog saves lives

A barking dog is being credited with waking up two people in a central Pennsylvania home and saving them from a massive fire. A9



Steelers win

Pittsburgh Steelers' Antonio Brown dives for more yards against the Buffalo Bills during Sunday's game. Brown had six catches for 104 yards and also had two punt returns for 74 yards in the Steelers' 23-10 victory. B1

Online

Speculation has already begun on potential presidential candidates in 2016. This week's poll asks who the Republican front runner is? The poll is on the homepage at www.thecourierexpress.com

Obituaries

A9

- Carolmarie Blair, 51
- George Haupricht Jr., 82
- Henry F. Pisoni, 89

Tomorrow's Forecast



Mostly cloudy with scattered snow showers in the morning. Colder with highs in the mid-30s. Chance of snow 50 percent. Full report, A2

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Five men injured in accident

BIG RUN — Five people were injured in a one-vehicle accident at 2:35 a.m. Sunday on Route 119, near Biggie's Meats in Henderson Township, Jefferson County.

State police in Punxsutawney said Steven J. Cressley, 24, Punxsutawney, was driving a 2004 Toyota 4 Runner south on Route 119 at a very high rate of speed

Jefferson Co.

and failed to negotiate a left curve. The vehicle traveled off the west berm before the driver counter-steered back onto the road, causing the vehicle to travel back across both lanes of Route 119. The vehicle then traveled off the east berm and overturned

multiple times before landing on its wheels, facing west in a ditch.

The police said four of the five occupants were thrown from the vehicle but did not indicate which ones. A passenger, Robert A. Wingert, 24, Big Run, sustained serious injuries. Passengers Joel T. Cressley, 22, and Alex J. Cressley, 24, both of Punx-

sutawney, sustained moderate injuries. The driver and passenger Dylan C. Blose, 22, Punxsutawney, sustained minor injuries.

Four of the occupants were flown to Altoona Regional Medical Center but the police did not say which occupants.

None of the occupants were wearing their seat-

belts, the police said.

The vehicle was towed from the scene by Brosius Towing Service.

The Big Run and Sykesville volunteer fire departments and Jefferson County EMS assisted at the scene.

The driver was charged with a summary traffic violation. Investigation continues.

Christmas trees help food pantry



Christa Peterson, left, and Beth Taylor, co-owners of the Gourmet Kitchen are coordinating the "Trees of Giving" project at the DuBois Mall. They are standing in front of the tree decorated by the Barnyard Buddies 4-H Club. (Photo by A.J. Sylvis)



The DuBois Volunteer Fire Department tree is decorated in a fire-fighters theme. Firemen's gear and a hose complete the decorations with a fireman's helmet topping the tree. (Photo by A.J. Sylvis)



The tree decorated by S&T Bank is appropriately decorated as a money tree. (Photo by A.J. Sylvis)

'Trees of Giving' project begins

By A.J. Sylvis

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DuBOIS — There are some unusual Christmas trees at the DuBois Mall.

Approximately 18 trees are on display throughout the mall. The brightly colored and decorated trees are not just nice to look at — they are doing double-duty by helping an area food pantry and being a part of the second annual "Trees of Giving" project.

Christa Peterson and Beth Taylor, co-owners of the Gourmet Kitchen store in the mall, are coordinating the effort again this year.

Peterson said the women volunteer to do the project because they have the time needed to do it.

Taylor said this project started last year when she heard the food pantry was in need of food and the tree project was very successful.

Taylor said the program involves organizations or businesses putting up a tree in the mall and decorating it.

The public then votes for their favorite tree by placing canned goods or non-perishable items in a box by that particular tree. The food is then collected and donated to the DuBois Ministerium.

Voting with the canned goods will end Dec. 10, allowing enough time for the food pantry to use the food for the holidays.

She said monetary donations for the food pantry will be accepted at the Gourmet Kitchen for individuals who wish to give money. A donation can will be available for that purpose.

She said food will continue to be collected after the Dec. 10 tree voting ends and will be donated to the food pantry.

See Trees, Page A9



The Mothers Day Out Christian Preschool decorated a colorful tree for display in the 'Trees of Giving.' (Photo by A.J. Sylvis)



The Tri-County Church tree is decorated with coffee cups and spoons. The decorated trees at the mall will be on display through the holidays. People can vote for their favorite tree by placing a canned good item in the box next to the tree. The food will be donated to the food pantry. (Photo by A.J. Sylvis)

Three local projects receive grant money

Three local projects in the 25th Senatorial District will receive grants totaling \$371,509 to be used for conversion or purchase of vehicles to run on natural gas, according to state Sen. Joe Scarnati, R-Brockway.

Scarnati said that the grants are

part of the Alternative Fuels Incentive Grant Program and are administered by the state Department of Environmental Protection.

"These grants provide a significant investment in area businesses and a local organization, which provide needed services within our re-

gion," Scarnati said. "Converting vehicles to operate on natural gas will help us further the effort to use environmentally friendly energy made here in the United States, while also keeping jobs in our community."

The following projects in the 25th Senatorial District were awarded

grants:

• Business Coalition of Clarion County will receive a \$208,800 grant to be used for 20 local businesses to convert 37 light and medium duty vehicles to run on compressed natural gas. Upon completion, the project

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