



LARRY DEKLINSKI/STAFF PHOTO

## Practicing for powder puff

Shamokin Area High School sophomores prepare to run a play during a powder puff practice Thursday afternoon at Kemp Memorial Stadium. The Wellness Club will hold power puff games Tuesday, starting with the freshmen versus sophomores at 5 p.m. followed by the juniors versus the seniors. Donations of \$1 or more accepted.



LARRY DEKLINSKI/STAFF PHOTO

## Veterans honored during Mahoney Brothers show

Veterans are honored during intermission of Sunday's Mahoney Brothers show in the Richard F. Beierschmitt Auditorium at Mount Carmel Area Junior/Senior High School. The event, which featured a two-plus hour set by the band, was sponsored by the Kulpmont Cruise Association.

## Budget

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climate change by mid-November.

House progressives had threatened to hold up the infrastructure bill without a firm commitment of immediate action on the broader package.

House centrists say they will vote for the package as early as this week if an upcoming Congressional Budget Office analysis affirms White House estimates that the bill is fully paid for. The measure would be covered with changes to corporate taxes, such as a new corporate

minimum tax, while raising taxes on higher-income people.

On Friday, Pelosi wrote Democratic members reaffirming her plan to push ahead soon, noting that CBO estimates released so far on pieces of the plan have been consistent with White House projections. "We are on a path to be further fortified with numbers from the Congressional Budget Office," she said.

Rep. Fred Upton, R-Mich., one of 13 House Republicans who voted for the infrastructure bill, said

he's not convinced that the broader package will get House approval this week.

"I don't think the votes are there yet," he said. "A good number of Democrats had demanded and are going to receive a CBO report as to whether is, it really paid for? What does it do when you expand Medicare? What does that do to the solvency?"

"Somehow, I don't think we're going to get these answers ... for Pelosi to get the votes set before the end of the week."

The bill is expected to face changes in the Senate.

With Republican opposition and an evenly split 50-50 Senate, Biden has no votes to spare.

Manchin in particular has been vocal about the risk of aggravating budget shortfalls and already has managed to bring the bill down from Biden's original \$3.5 trillion price tag. Last week, Manchin again sounded the alarm over "the threat posed by record inflation."

Deese appeared on CNN's "State of the Union" and ABC's "This Week" and Upton spoke on CNN.

## Towers

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Rhoades explained his work as a project manager for the Tunnel to Towers Foundation's Smart Home program, which builds mortgage-free homes for the country's most catastrophically injured veterans and first responders. The homes, he explained, have a myriad of features, such as automated doors and lighting, wider halls and doorways, special showers to accommodate wheelchairs and automatic door openers.

"I don't call what I do a job—I call it a position of helping disabled veterans," Rhoades said. "The day these homes are given to these veterans is one of the most rewarding days of my life."

Rhoades went on to describe the foundation's Gold Star Family Home Program, which honors the legacy of those who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving the country by providing assistance to widows and their families, and the annual 5K run and walk that retraces Siller's footsteps on that fateful day.

"Let us do good," Rhoades stated, continues to serve as the motto of the foundation in recognition of Siller's ultimate sacrifice.

Prior to introducing Rhoades, parishioner Dave Sage, who is also a Coal Township patrolman, explained that the monument, along with a nearly identical piece, were gift to Coal Township and the City of Shamokin

by the Tunnel to Towers Foundation at the 20th anniversary remembrance march and program at Claude Kehler Community Park in Shamokin.

"Artifacts, like this, are gifted to various groups, such as municipalities, schools, etcetera," Sage said. "They're a reminder to all of us about what occurred on Sept. 11, 2001."

Sage said the monument is in memory of those who died on 9/11, the first responders who have suffered from the effects of the attack and service members who lost their lives in the subsequent wars.

"Please look at this artifact, and be reminded of those people who have died because of the attack on the World Trade Center that day," Sage said. "The memory of those people will live through artifacts like this."

The Rev. Dean Luther, pastor of Zion's Reformed United Church of Christ, thanked the Tunnel to Towers Foundation and similar organizations for continuing to help those who were impacted by the terror attacks.

He remarked, "Let us never forget what happened. Let us not take for granted the freedom that we have: freedom that we have in Christ, freedom that we have in our nation (and) freedom to come here and worship you as we desire."

Sage previously said that Shamokin Area Middle/High School students, under the direction of industrial arts

teacher Tony Leshar, are constructing housing units for the monument that was gifted to Coal Township.

According to Leshar, there are three separate pieces being built: A permanent display case, which will be housed at the Coal Township municipal building, a transport case and a cart for the transport case.

The primary material for all three pieces will be cabinet-grade red oak lumber, which has been donated by Leshar's grandfather, Ernest Heim. The transport case will have four handles on the sides to allow multiple people to help carry it due to the weight of the monument. The base of the transport case will be felt lined in order to protect the monument from scratches while loading and unloading it for transport.

Leshar said the cart will be a more simple design as its sole purpose is to place the transport case into so that the heavy monument can be rolled while safely inside the transport case.

The permanent display case for housing the memorial at the municipal building will be approximately 6 feet tall. There will be glass on three sides along with LED lighting internally for viewing the monument while it is on permanent display. The base of the permanent display is being built in such a way that it will be able to house the transport case underneath the memorial.

## Revue

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was a fundraiser for local theaters to perform live between Nov. 12 and 15.

The Northumberland Theatre League presented this exclusive musical revue Saturday night and Sunday afternoon at the Northumberland County Career and Arts Center, 2 E. Arch St.

Other nearby productions included Reading Senior High School, Ham-

ilton-Gibson Productions in Wellsboro, Minersville Junior/Senior High School, Midd-West High School in Middleburg, Community Theatre League in Williamsport and Pottsville Area High School.

Upcoming Northumberland Theatre League shows include an Anthracite Symphonic Band concert on Dec. 9 and Re-Creations Christmas show on Dec. 17.



LARRY DEKLINSKI/STAFF PHOTOS

Russ Wynn Jr. sings "Pure Imagination" during "All Together Now!" a global event celebrating theatre that was held locally Sunday by the Northumberland Theatre League. Music Theatre International (MTI) provided schools and theatres around the globe with this exclusive musical revue featuring songs from MTI's shows.



Connor Elio sings "Empty Chairs and Empty Tables" during "All Together Now!" a global event celebrating theatre that was held locally Sunday by the The Northumberland Theatre League.

## Trees

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Future Innovators of Shamokin.

A number of people representing environmental groups also participated, including Suann Leighow, master gardener coordinator from Penn State Extension of Columbia, Montour and Northumberland counties; and Tina Martin, of Shamokin Community Gardens.

The tree planting and beautification project began at 8 a.m. Most of the trees, which measure several feet, were planted in select locations around the park before the start of a downpour shortly before noon. During a morning break, volunteers were treated to a hot lunch in a picnic pavilion.

Protective plastic tarps, provided by Knoebels Amusement Resort, were utilized because of the rainy weather.

"Everyone worked hard to complete the project," Cotrone said. "Some of the volunteers were assigned to dig holes for the new trees while others wheeled fertilizer and mulch to selected locations where the trees were being planted. It was a great job by all the volunteers and environmental people involved."

Participating environmental representatives said the area will enjoy the full benefit of the project in the spring when all 15 trees are full of colorful blossoms.

According to Cotrone, funding for the project was underwritten by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The event was also conducted with the environment in mind, with mulch being taken from decaying leaves that were collected throughout the city.

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