

## Board of Supervisors

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## Building Inspector

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## Zoning Code Enforcement

### Officer

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## Zoning Secretary

Melinda Thomas

## Sewage Enforcement Officer

George Van Brunt

## Newsletter Editor

William J. Wright

## Newsletter Co-Editor/Graphics

Melinda Thomas

## *From Your Supervisors...*

I am sure that many residents are aware of the fact that medical marijuana has been approved for manufacture and sale in Pennsylvania. Within Covington Township there are two separate companies hoping to receive a permit to grow and process marijuana. There will be two permits issued for Northeastern Pennsylvania with Lackawanna County being one of eight counties being considered. However, there is no assurance that any permit will be issued to the two companies considering Covington Township for the production facility. A final decision will likely be made by the end of June. In the meantime, both companies have met with the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors in an attempt to be prepared if they should be selected by the state.

The Board directed the Zoning Officer to develop an ordinance which will restrict the size of political signs within Covington Township.

The Easter Bunny visited the Moffat Mansion the week before Easter and the Recreation Committee assisted in providing pictures for all interested children.

The Annual Fishing Derby was held on Saturday, April 29th at the Moffat Pond. With the assistance of the Recreation Committee, fire company along with several other volunteer, it turned out to be a great day for a large number of youngsters.

Continued on page 2

## *Our Bicentennial*

Covington Township is in the midst of planning for our bicentennial. Covington was formed from Wilkes Barre in 1818 and we are trying to piece together an interesting overview of what life was like over the last 200 years. There have been several short histories done for the Township in various forms and publications. What the bicentennial committee would like to add to the body of works already in existence are the images and stories of our citizens. These are the things, in my opinion, that makes history interesting and, yes, even fun.

I have started a Facebook page called "Covington Township Bicentennial". I have been posting pictures which I have gathered and others that viewers have submitted. However, we need other people to submit photo's, diaries, letters, journals, as well as, information which may assist us with the project. Additionally, I am also writing down every story my grandfather ever told me about growing up in this area. A big mistake people make is to consider their information as

unimportant. This is far from true. It's the little everyday things that make history come alive and we need these little bits desperately.

Here's what you can do. If you have pictures of people, places or events, let us copy them. If you have old diaries let us look them over and harvest information that may be of general interest. The same is true of old scrapbooks, ledgers and journals. Photographs of local items or artifacts are also desirable. Stories that are told at the holiday table or something as simple as how holidays were spent, fishing or hunting in the area, personal adventures or favorite pastimes are all sources of these tales. What the bicentennial committee will do is help you get this information out to the community. We can scan or copy any of the paper items you submit and get them back to you. In short we will help those who are helping us.

I will continue to post pictures I have to Facebook and any that are submitted. I will also post the numerous obituaries, wedding announcements and general news articles from scrapbooks. If you wish to pitch in and provide any of the requested items please contact Ted Baird at 570-842-2708 or [tedbaird@verizon.net](mailto:tedbaird@verizon.net). You can also contact the township office and they will pass the information on to me.



## *Covington Township at your Service*

Board of Supervisors (570) 842-8336 ~ Chairman David J. Petrosky (Meeting 1st Tues. of the month @ 7pm; Work session last Tues of the month @ 7pm)

Building Inspector (570) 842-4607 David Lamm, 8am - 5pm

Dept. of Public Works (570) 842-8356 ~ Director Thomas M. Yerke

District Magistrate (570) 842-2111 ~ John Mercuri, Esquire

Fire Dept. (570) 842-4130 ~ Brad Jones, Fire Chief

Main Office (570) 842-8336 ~ Kate Tierney, Secretary; 9am-4pm Monday-Friday, Moffat Estate

Pavilion Rental (570) 842-7580 ~ Marlene Beavers

Planning Commission (570) 842-6548 ~ Denise Hokien, Secretary (Work Session 1st Wed. of the month @7pm, Meeting 3rd Wed. of the month @7pm)

Police Dept. (570) 842-6400 ~ Bernie Klocko, Chief

Real Estate Tax Collection (570) 842-8336 ~ Kate Tierney (Tues. 9am-12pm, 1-3pm; Wed. & Thurs. 9-11am, or by appointment)

Recreation Committee (570) 842-8336 (Meeting 3rd Thurs. of the month @7:00pm)

Senior Center (570) 843-6485

Sewage Enforcement Officer (570) 842-9333 ~ George Van Brunt

Sewer Authority Office (570) 842-0757 ~ Ann Bentler, Manager (10am-6pm Monday-Friday; Meeting 2nd Tues. of the month @7pm)

Township Engineer (570) 237-5254 ~ Mary Louise Butler, P.E., Engineering Surveying Consultants & Design, Inc.

Earned Income Tax & Local Service Tax Collector (866) 701-7206 ~ Berkheimer Assoc.

Zoning Office & Zoning Hearing Board Secretary (570) 842-0457 ~ Melinda Thomas (8am-4pm Mon.-Fri.)

Zoning Officer (570) 842-0457 ~ William J. Wright (9am-12pm Monday-Friday or by appointment)

Continued from page 1

## *From Your Supervisors*

Please keep in mind that the trout are put in the Moffat Pond for the benefit of our youngsters, NOT ADULTS.

Bids for the paving of Sanko Road have been received and subsequently awarded to E.R. Linde, Inc. for blacktopping in late spring or early summer.

Bochicchio Boulevard leading to North Pocono High School was damaged significantly during the late March blizzard. Hopefully work will begin on improvements over the summer.

PennDot has begun construction on the Park and Ride facility near the intersection of Route 307 and Interstate 380.

Land development applications have been submitted by BNT Movers regarding a building addition on Dorantown Road. Also, a sketch presentation on land development by B&B Realty on Drinker Turnpike was reviewed by the planners.

David Lamm, the township's building inspector has indicated to the Board of Supervisors that nine new homes were constructed in the township last year (2016) with actual construction costs of \$3,097,600.00.

## *Health Facts*

Fifteen percent (15%) of American adults smoke cigarettes. Fewer than eleven percent 11% of youth smoke them. That reflects 10 million quitters since 2009!

**2,544** number of calories the average American consumes per day - that's up from 2,039 calories in 1970.

Some 8.8% of older adults (over 65) have dementia. That's down from 11.1% in 2000. Researchers attribute the decline in part to better control of heart disease risks and an increase in the populations average education level. Studies suggest that education might help protect against dementia.

Since the 1980's, life expectancy has been climbing, but a new study in Nature suggests there is a limit on how long we can live, about 115 years. Not all scientists agree. Want to stretch your time on earth? Researchers at John Hopkins Medicine suggest making these healthy choices today: Don't smoke, stay at a healthy weight, exercise, stick to a healthy Mediterranean-style diet.

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## *Find Your Name Contest*

The hidden name from our last newsletter was Robert & Bonnie Abromavage. They won a gift certificate compliments of Kay's Pizza. Another name chosen randomly appears in this newsletter. Can you find your name? Call (570) 842-0457 to collect!

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## *Advertising*

Covington Corner is distributed quarterly to approximately 1,000 households and/or businesses and surrounding areas.

If you are interested in advertising in our newsletter, please call Melinda Thomas at (570) 842-0457.

The cost of a 2" x 2 1/2" ad is \$25.00.

## From Your Police Department...



## Bicycle Safety and Pennsylvania Laws

When you're commuting on your bike, you're likely to share the road with cars. If you know the laws, safety rules, and have the right attitude, you can be a confident, streetwise cyclist.

All bicycle riders should be aware of the following laws:

1. Bikes may be ridden on the shoulder of the road (in the same direction as the flow of traffic) but you are not required to do so.
2. Bikes may also be ridden on the right half of the roadway as follows:
  - \* On a multilane roadway, bikes may be ridden in the right-most travel lane.
  - \* On a two-lane roadway, a bike may be ridden in the right lane.
  - \* On a roadway with no center line, a bike may be ridden anywhere on the right side of the roadway.
3. Bikes may move from the right lane:
  - \* When overtaking another vehicle proceeding in the same direction.
  - \* When preparing to make a left turn.
  - \* When an obstruction exists that makes it necessary to change lanes or cross the center line with due care.
4. Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast (side-by-side), unless on paths or parts of a roadway set aside for exclusive use of bicycles.
5. If you use your bike between sunset and sunrise, it must be equipped with a front lamp and rear and side reflectors that are visible from at least 500 feet.
6. Pedestrians have the right-of-way on sidewalks and bicycle paths. You must give an audible signal as you approach and pass a pedestrian.
7. Automobiles are not required to yield to bicycles being ridden across a crosswalk.
8. You are not permitted to ride a bicycle on a sidewalk in a business district (except where permitted by official traffic control devices) or where there is a bicycle-only lane available
9. Anyone under the age of twelve (12) must wear a helmet when riding a bicycle. The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation strongly recommends that all bicyclists wear helmets whenever they ride.



## Neighborhood Events

Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 5207 Breakfast - 2nd Sunday of each month 9 am-noon (adults \$5 child 12 & under \$2)

NP Rotary Club—Meets at the Elmhurst Country Club on Thursdays 6 pm (at alternate NP sites January through March) (570)842-2547

Minisink Lions Club—meets 1st & 3rd Thursday at the VFW—contact Patrick Verrastro (570) 689-2843

Covington Fire Co. Women's Auxiliary— Meets the 1st Monday of each month at 7 pm call Betty for more information (570) 842-0448

NP Kids Closet - Supplies clothing to needy area children. In need of all sizes in socks and underwear. Also, gently used shoes & sneakers of any size. To make a donation or for an appointment, please call Sara Keating at (610)390-7961 or (570)689-4383.

NP Food Pantry— Bill's Plaza (next to Tasty Swirl) every Thursday noon -1 pm. Proof of North Pocono School District Full-time residency required. Dry goods donations appreciated. (570) 842-4741

Parish Buffet Breakfast—St. Eulalia's Church, Elmhurst, 3rd Sunday of every month 8:30 am -12:30 pm in church hall (65+ \$5) (12-64 \$6) (6-11 \$3) (5+ under free)

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS)—each Tuesday 6:30pm, Moscow Borough Building, Van Brunt St. Moscow

Jefferson Twp. Fire Co.—Station 29 All You Can Eat Breakfast first Sunday of every month 8 am—noon

NP Library - (all weekly events) Children's Story & Craft Hour on Tuesdays at 11 am; Bridge Club Fridays 12:30 pm; Family Game Night Thursdays 5 pm; Family Movie Night last Friday of each month 7 pm; Adult Book Club on the third Thursday 6 pm; Mexican Train Tuesdays 12:30 pm; Lap-sit Story Hour for children up to 2 years old on Fridays at 10 am; Third Saturday is Science Saturday 11 am (570) 842-4700 [www.lclshome.org/npocono](http://www.lclshome.org/npocono)

Business 2 Business—Meets every Thursday 8-9 am at Friendly's in Dunmore (570) 842-2808

Moscow Mason Lodge - Meets 2nd Thursday of each month, Lodge Hall, Green St., Moscow, Dinner 6:30, Meeting 7:30 (570) 842-6591

North Pocono Cultural Society - Meeting 2nd Monday of each month, 7 pm at the Moscow Borough Building 123 Van Brunt Street, Moscow (570) 357-1672.

NP LovinLife Ministries - meets every Wednesday 7pm Bible Study at the Swartz Residence, 21 Swartz Drive. New members are welcome. (570) 842-3205

The Lucky Horse Shoes 4H Club - meets the 1st Sunday of each month 1 pm at Woodlands Stables, Freytown Road call Carol (570) 842-3742.





# June 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Recycling 9-11am Cornhole Tournament Spring Brook Fire Co. 570-842-2311
4 11am - 5pm Chicken BBQ @ Moscow Fire Co. 570-842-7211	5	6 Board of Supervisors Meeting 7pm	7 Planning Commission Work Session 7pm	8 Jefferson Fire Company's Carnival on the Mountain 7pm parade	9 Tommy Guns Band	10 10pm Fireworks Corn & Clambake 5pm @ Gouldsboro Vol. F.D.
11 VFW Post 5207 Auxiliary Breakfast 9-11:30am Adults \$6 / Kids \$3	12	13 Sewer Authority Meeting 7pm	14  <i>Flag Day</i>	15 Only a man's character is the real criterion of worth. ~ Eleanor Roosevelt	16	17 Recycling 9-11am
18 <i>Father's Day</i>	19 It is not the magnitude of our actions but the amount of love that is put into them that matters. ~ Saint Teresa	20	21  Planning Commission Meeting 7pm	22 Recreation Committee Meeting 7pm	23	24
25 Our character is what we do when we think no one is looking ~ H. Jackson Brown, Jr.	26	27 Board of Supervisors Work Session 7pm	28 People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel. ~ Maya Angelou	29	30	

## Events around Lackawanna County

All applications can be found at [LackawannaCounty.org](http://LackawannaCounty.org) on the Parks & Recreation page.  
For inquiries call (570)963-6764.

### Bocce Tournament:

McDade Park; Sat. June 10th

### Junior Golf Clinic:

Scott Greens Golf Club

Four Friday sessions;

June 16, 23, 30 & July 7

- \* Ages 8-16 (\$60): 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- \* T-golf Ages 4-7 (\$50): 9:30-10:45 a.m.

### Summer Basketball Clinic:

McDade Park (\$40)

- \* Ages 7-10: June 19-22nd & June 26-29th
- \* Ages 11-14: July 10-13th

### Youth Soccer Clinics:

- \* Covington Park: June 19-22nd
- \* Merli-Sarnoski Park: June 26-29
- \* McDade Park: July 24-27

### Gymnastics Clinic:

United Sports Academy

- \* Tues, July 4, 11, 18, 25th; 4-5pm
- \* Tues, August 1, 8, 15, 22nd; 4-5pm

### Adult Tennis League:

McDade Park

- \* Tues & Thurs June 6-July 27th

### Boys & Girls Tennis Clinic:

2-3:30pm

North Pocono Middle School

- \* Tues. & Thurs., July 27-Aug 10th

### Golf Tournament:

- \* Junior: Friday, August 4th
- \* County Amateur: Saturday & Sunday, August 5-6th

*Take the Trolley to the game!!!*

**BASEBALL EXCURSION SCHEDULE**

May 7	v. Syracuse
May 21	v. Rochester
June 4	v. Toledo
June 25	v. Pawtucket
July 9	v. Lehigh Valley
July 23	v. Charlotte
Aug. 6	v. Pawtucket
Aug. 20	v. Durham
Aug. 27	v. Syracuse

The Trolley departs at 12:15 p.m. Game times are 1:05 p.m.



**ALL ABOARD!!!**  
On select Sundays in the summer of 2017, you can ride the rails of the Electric City Trolley from Downtown Scranton to PNC Field for an afternoon of picturesque sight-seeing and Triple-A Baseball. Cost is \$20 and includes your ride to and from the game, game-ticket and a \$2 voucher for the concession stand. If you already have your ticket, cost is \$11. Reservations are required.  
**For more information call 570-963-6590**



### Youth Tennis Clinic:

Clinic Site TBA

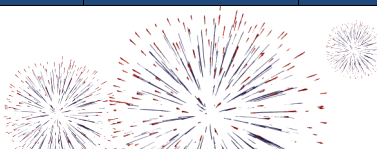
- \* June 19-August 17th

### County Commissioner's Cross

County Race: McDade Park

- \* Saturday, September 9th

# July 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>As you grow older you will discover that you have two hands. One for helping yourself, the other for helping others. ~ Audrey Hepburn</p>						1 Recycling 9-11am
2	3	4 <b>4th of July</b>	5 Planning Commission Work Session 7pm	6 Board of Supervisors Meeting 7pm	7	8
9 Breakfast 8-11:30am @ Gouldsboro Fire VFW Post 5207 Auxiliary Breakfast 9-11:30am	10	11 Sewer Authority Meeting 7pm	12	13	14	15 Recycling 9-11am
Covington Independent Fire Company's Annual Picnic						
			Parade		Antique parade & Fireworks	
16 You grow up the day you have your first real laugh - at yourself. ~ Ethel Barrymore	17	18	19 Planning Commission Meeting 7pm	20	21	22 Every year of my life I grow more convinced that it is wisest and best to fix our attention on the beautiful and the good, and dwell as little as possible on the evil and the false. ~ Richard Cecil
23 The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. ~ Eleanor Roosevelt	24	25 Board of Supervisors Work Session 7pm	26	27	28	29 A positive attitude may not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort. ~ Herm Albright
30	31	Rainbows and butterflies are themselves beautiful and highly symbolic, but they are also representative of all the small miracles of our life - the little things that are so easy to overlook, yet so awe inspiring when we take a moment to notice and to pay attention. ~ Jonathan Lockwood Huie				

## Things To Do in The Covington Township Area

1. Visit the Moffat Park and spend a quiet day enjoying nature. Bring the kids and they can enjoy the extensive playground and walking trails.
2. Visit Lackawanna County's Covington Park – swimming, walking trails, children's area, large all-purpose fields, baseball fields and a pavilion.
3. Rent the Moffat Park Pavilion for family, school or special occasions. For reservations, call Marlene Beavers at (570)842-7580.
4. Visit the North Pocono High School, located on Bochicchio Boulevard, for high school productions, athletic events, etc.
5. Sign up or sign your children up for one or more of the programs offered through the Lackawanna College Environmental Center on MacKenzie Road Edith Shaffer in Covington Township.
6. Sign up for a continuing education program offered by the North Pocono School District.
7. Explore the township either with your car or better yet take a walking tour of our pristine wilderness areas.
8. Visit one or more of our many restaurants:

- ◇ Kay's Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria (lunch & dinner)
- ◇ Mendicino's Pizza and Family Restaurant (lunch & dinner)
- ◇ Bill's Corner Café (light breakfast, lunch, & dinner)
- ◇ Dunkin Donuts
- ◇ FUDA Sushi, Hibachi, Chinese Restaurant (lunch & dinner)
- ◇ Subway

- ◇ McDonald's Restaurant (breakfast, lunch & dinner)
- ◇ Tasty Swirl
- ◇ S & S Diner (breakfast & lunch)
- ◇ The Mess Hall (breakfast, lunch, & dinner)
- ◇ Country Café (breakfast, lunch & dinner)
- ◇ Bricks Tavern (dinner)
- ◇ Wildflour Eatery & Desserts (breakfast & lunch)

# August 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Board of Supervisors Meeting 7pm	2 Planning Commission Work Session 7pm	3	4 Moscow Street Fair	5 Recycling 9-11am 3rd Annual Moscow Fire Run for the Hoses <a href="http://runsignup.com/moscowmile">http://runsignup.com/moscowmile</a>
6 Moscow Street Fair	7	8 Sewer Authority Meeting 7pm	9	10 Spring Brook Volunteer Fire Company's Annual Cow Flop Picnic	11	12
13 Kramer Car Show 9am-4pm VFW Post 5207 Auxiliary Breakfast 9-11:30am Adults \$6 / Kids \$3	14 The human race has one really effective weapon, and that is laughter. ~ Mark Twain	15	16 Planning Commission Meeting 7pm	17	18	19 Recycling 9-11am 9am Mad Mudder Mud Run Madisonville Fire Co <a href="http://www.madmudder.org">www.madmudder.org</a> Corn & Clambake 5pm @ Gouldsboro Vol. Fire
20 Kramer Car Show Rain date	21	22 We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. ~ Martin Luther King, Jr.	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Board of Supervisors Work Session 7pm	30	31		

## Moscow Country Street Fair

The Moscow Country Street Fair will be held on Main Street, Church Street and Van Brunt Street in Moscow, PA. There are no admission fees.

Binghamton Zoomobile  
Leggo Vatican Display  
Art, Quilt and Car Shows  
Pony Rides  
Steamtown Train  
50's Dance  
Anthracite Museum  
Helicopter Landing  
Touch a Truck  
Run for the Hoses  
Parade  
Local Food Vendors  
Arts and Crafts Vendors  
Walking Theatre Players  
And much more!

Entertainment by:  
Crimson Tears Band  
30 Pack Lite Band  
Mace in Dixon Band  
Barbershop Quartet  
Performers from  
Musical Dreams Studio  
Moscow Palooza  
The Fabulous Fortunes  
Local Dance Studios  
And many more!

Friday 8/4: 5pm - dusk  
Saturday 8/5: 11am - dusk  
Sunday 8-6: 12pm - 5pm

Check their Facebook page for updates:  
[Moscow Country Street Fair 2017](#)

or contact:

Lisa Duffy at (570)842-8501 or  
[moscowcountrystreetfair@gmail.com](mailto:moscowcountrystreetfair@gmail.com)



## 8th Annual William R. Kramer Car Show

Twenty seven years ago, the life of William R. Kramer tragically ended as the result of a fatal car accident. In the wake of this tragedy, family and friends rallied together to find a way to ease their pain. Thus, they sought solace by forming the William R. Kramer Scholarship Fund, a scholarship designed to help a North Pocono High School graduate further their education.

For the past eight years, the William R. Kramer Scholarship Fund has grown, due to the annual William R. Kramer Car Show. This year the car show will take place on August 13, 2017 at the Moffat Estate from 9am -4pm, with a rain date of August 20, 2017. There will be a \$10 registration fee for show cars and no charge for spectators. In addition to the Estate's many amenities, there will be music, delicious food, door prizes and raffles. Also the Pa. Mobile Veteran Service Van will be there. We hope you can join us for this fun filled event.



# Veteran's Corner

By Retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Renna

SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

## Good News for All Veterans

Any honorably discharged veteran will be allowed to shop online for discounted military exchange (PX) products starting Veteran's Day, November 11, 2017. This comes with a policy change announced by the Department of Defense. As many as sixteen (16) million veterans stand to benefit by this decision.

Several million veterans are already eligible to shop in exchanges, or online because they are active or reserve component retirees, 100% disable from service connected injuries or ailments, or Medal of Honor recipients.

Online shopping can be verified and you can register by going to [shopmyexchange.com](http://shopmyexchange.com)

The Veterans Online Shopping Benefit is a way to recognize the contributions of all who served.

Source: American Legion Magazine

## North Pocono Senior Center

OPEN Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9 am to 2 pm  
~ for adults 55 and over ~

Located directly behind the Covington Police Department  
on Route 435 in Daleville

If North Pocono School District is closed or delayed due to bad weather, the Senior Center will be closed.

Transportation and further information on our schedule of events can be obtained by calling (570) 843-6485

### Activities include:

Bingo  
Bingo dinner  
Pinochle tournaments  
Pinochle lessons  
Red Hat Meetings  
Dominoes and lessons  
Holiday parties  
Brunch



## Clothes Closet

**WHEN:** Last Thursday of every month  
**TIME:** 10am-4pm  
**WHERE:** Daleville United Methodist Church  
423 Dorantown Road, Covington Twp PA 18444  
**DETAILS:** Free clothing available for men, women, and children.  
\* Light snacks will be available.  
\* Donation accepted of new or gently used, clean clothing on Monday's & Thursday's 7am-12pm.  
\* Emergency clothing, leave a message at (570) 842-6776



## Pennsylvania Leads Nation in Lyme Disease Cases

Pennsylvania has led the nation in confirmed cases of Lyme disease for three straight years, and for the first time, deer ticks have been found in all of its 67 counties, the state Department of Health reports.

The number of Pennsylvanians diagnosed with the disease also continues to grow. Between 2013 - 2014, the cases of Lyme disease in the state jumped twenty five percent (25%), from 5,900 to 7,400, the Health Department says.

However, because diagnosing the disease can be difficult, many people who actually have it are misdiagnosed with other conditions. Therefore, many experts believe the true number of cases is much higher.

Most people get Lyme disease from the bite of a nymphal, or immature, tick. Nymphs are about the size of a poppy seed. Because they are so tiny and their bite is painless, many people do not even realize they have been bitten. Once a tick has attached, if undisturbed, it may feed for several days. The longer it stays attached, the more likely it will transmit Lyme and other pathogens into a person's bloodstream.

In the early stages, Lyme disease may feel like the flu, with the person experiencing fever, sore muscles, headache and fatigue

The CDC reports that rashes occur in sixty to eighty percent (60-80%) of cases. Most of the time, the rash is an ordinary red area. However, if it is a "bull's-eye" shape with a darker edge, this is a definite sign of Lyme disease and needs immediate treatment. Unfortunately, this distinctive rash occurs in less than ten percent (10%) of those who contract Lyme disease. If you develop a rash, take a photo of it and see a doctor as soon as possible.

Treatment should not be delayed pending a positive test result if the suspicion of Lyme disease is high. If Lyme disease is not diagnosed or treated early, the bacteria can spread and may go into hiding in different parts of the body. Untreated or undertreated Lyme can cause some people to develop severe symptoms that are hard to resolve.

Continued on page 8

## COMMONLY ASKED LEGAL QUESTIONS

By Attorney John J. Mercuri

In recent months the question that I am most commonly asked is: "Are you retiring?"

Although I retired as a full time Pennsylvania Magisterial District Judge, I continue to serve the North Pocono community as a Senior Judge working solely in the North Pocono District Court in Moscow. I still hear cases as usual and attend to all of the needs of the Court. I plan to continue in this fashion until my successor takes office in January of 2018. I will then continue to practice my profession as a full service attorney-at-law.

The citizens of the nine townships comprising the North Pocono area first elected me as District Magistrate in 1981. During my 36 years of service as your Magisterial District Judge, much has changed, but much remains the same. The jurisdictional limit for civil case filings has increased – people can now file cases before the Court involving up to \$12,000.00. In the area of criminal law, Central Court was established in Lackawanna County. All Magisterial District Judges share in the work of Central Court. However, the essential duties of a Magisterial Judge remain unchanged. That is, to give every case the importance it deserves, to treat every party fairly, and to rule upon every case based upon the facts and the law.

I have fully enjoyed all of these duties during my years as a Magisterial District Judge. However, what has given me the most satisfaction, and what I will miss the most, is the opportunity to adjudicate disagreements between members of the public who seek the assistance of the Court. Although parties to a dispute do not always leave the courtroom shaking hands, I would like to think that I have had a pretty good track record of settling disputes in that way.

And so, I leave the Court with somewhat mixed feelings. I will miss the daily interaction with the public in the Court and, as my duties have sometimes required, in our school system. However, I believe that the time was right for me to devote time to other activities, including my own law practice. I extend my deepest thanks to the people of the North Pocono community. It has been, and continues to be, an honor to serve you as Magisterial District Judge.

**ATTORNEY  
JOHN J. MERCURI**  
570-842-4574

EXPERIENCE IN ALL TYPES  
OF LEGAL ISSUES

personal injury claims, trials, family  
law, business law, real estate, title  
insurance, wills and estates

### Lyme Disease - Continued from page 7

What can we do to protect ourselves? When it's not possible to avoid contact with ticks, take the following steps:

1. Know where ticks live - Ticks tend to be near the ground, in leaf litter, grasses, bushes, and fallen logs. When you hike, stay on cleared trails instead of walking across grassy fields.
2. Dress defensively - Wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long sleeves. Tie back long hair and wear a hat. Light-colored clothing can help you spot ticks. You can purchase clothing that has been pretreated with the repellent permethrin at outdoor recreation stores. (Protection lasts through seventy washings.) Or you can purchase permethrin and treat your own clothing. (Protection lasts through five to six washings.)
3. Use repellent on exposed skin - Studies show that repellents with DEET, picaridin, or lemon eucalyptus oil are the most effective.
4. Check for ticks - When outdoors, periodically inspect your clothing and skin for ticks. Brush off those that aren't attached and remove any that are.
5. Take a shower - Once home, take a shower right away. This will wash away unattached ticks and allow you to thoroughly inspect your self. Pay careful attention to hidden places, including groin, armpits, back of knees, belly button and scalp.
6. Put your clothes in the dryer - Running your clothes in a hot dryer for ten minutes before you wash them will kill any ticks that may be there.
7. Protect your pets - Their fur can act like a "tick magnet" carrying ticks inside your home. Consult with your veterinarian about tick protection for your pets.

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# Fireworks Displays

## ***Minisink Lions Annual Fireworks Extravaganza***

The Annual Minisink Lions Club Fireworks Extravaganza will be held on Saturday, July 1st (rain date July 2nd) at the North Pocono Football Stadium, behind the North Pocono Middle School.

Enjoy fabulous food, great fireworks and music by the Poets!

All proceeds go to the Lions' projects which benefit the  
North Pocono Community!

Gates open at 5:30 p.m.

## ***Other Fireworks Displays***

Scrantastic Spectacular: July 3rd Philharmonic (7:30pm) & Fireworks

Central Park, Honesdale: July 2nd; Raindate July 3rd

PNC Field: July 4th after RailRiders vs. Buffalo Bisons game

Lake Wallenpaupack: July 4th; Raindate July 5th

Kirby Park: July 4th Philharmonic & Fireworks