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Volume 119 - No. 102

Thursday, May 13, 2021

75¢ Newsstand

New Alex council remembers late mayor Dottie Bacher

New Alex, Bradenville volunteer fire departments considering partnership

BY ZACH D'AMICO
Bulletin Staff Writer

New Alexandria Borough Council held a moment of silence at the start of Wednesday's meeting to remember beloved Mayor Dottie Bacher, who passed

away Friday. "I think it would be a sign of respect for her and everything she's done for the borough, not only as mayor, but in all the years she has been here," said council president Tim Ruane. Bacher, a longtime New

Alexandria resident, was the borough's mayor for more than 11 years. Last month, council dedicated Dorothea A. "Dottie" Bacher Playground at the corner of School and Church streets.

Ruane said Bacher got to see her namesake playground before she died when her husband Randy drove her to see it. "She loved that," Ruane said.

The borough has 30 days to fill the mayoral vacancy. New Alexandria residents who have lived in the borough for at least one year and who are registered voters can submit a letter of interest to the borough office for the open position.

(See **New Alex** on Page A3)



Submitted photo

Pictured is one of the 48 new street signs which will be installed in New Alexandria.

Rabies clinic at Loydsville VFD



Submitted photo

Simba and Nala are reminding residents to mark their calendars as the Loydsville Volunteer Fire Department is holding its 2021 rabies clinic 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 15, at its Dickens Street station. Shots are \$10 for both dogs and cats. Dr. Constance Donovan of Ligonier will be administering the doses. Participants are asked to be respectful and social distance. Dogs are to be on a leash and cats in a carrier.

With Wolford out, 2 challengers face off in Latrobe mayoral race

BY ZACH D'AMICO
Bulletin Staff Writer

Two challengers are vying for Latrobe mayor in the May 18 primary election.

Eric Bartels is running as a Republican, while Sandra McCune is the Democratic candidate. Current Mayor Rosie Wolford is not seeking a third term.

Bartels is a current five-year city council member, where he currently serves as deputy mayor.

"Mayor Wolford has done well for Latrobe and it is (my) hope to continue the progress she has made to keep Latrobe a welcoming city that families will enjoy living in and in which businesses will be able to successfully operate," he



ERIC BARTELS

said of his plans.

Bartels has lived in Latrobe for 13 years with his wife, Melissa, a 1992 graduate of Greater Latrobe Senior High

School. She currently works at Latrobe Elementary School.

Bartels has two sons, Nolan, a ninth-grader, and Simon, a seventh-grader, who both attend Greater Latrobe schools.

Bartels grew up in Hobart, Indiana — part of the Chicago metropolitan area. He graduated from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana.

A social studies teacher at Norwin High School, Bartels also teaches as an adjunct professor at St. Vincent College. He is a member of Greensburg Alliance Church.

Bartels is currently serving in his second term as a city council member, first elected in 2015.

(See **With Wolford** on Page A3)

Three seats up for grabs on Latrobe City Council

BY ZACH D'AMICO
Bulletin Staff Writer

Only one candidate is on the ballot for three Latrobe City Council seats, but two residents are running as write-ins.

Jim Kelley is seeking re-election on the Democratic ticket, while Bridget DiVittis and Ann M. Amatucci said they are running as write-in candidates.

Kelley was elected to council in 2017 and is seeking another four-year term. He resides in Latrobe, where he previously practiced law from 1977 until his retirement in 2016.

Kelley said he is proud of his 42 years of service as assistant city solicitor, solicitor and member of council. He especially is privileged to have been a part of the city's growth and development for more than four decades.

"If re-elected, I promise to continue the collaborative efforts of council to do all that we can to help the city emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic and to help restore prosperity to Latrobe and its citizens," he said.

Kelley believes he can continue to bring significant background and experience to council.

He said he will continue to focus on the development of our business district and to seek ideas from various resources in helping guide Latrobe into the future.

Kelley has a broad zoning background, representing zoning hearing boards in Latrobe and other communities. For over 30 years, he was a part-time instructor, teaching law related courses at the Westmoreland County Community College, Penn State University and Seton Hill University.

Kelley is married to the former Kathleen Cignetto, a retired school superintendent, and has one daughter, Nicole.

DiVittis and her husband Marc raise three children, ages 16, 15 and 11, in Latrobe. Her children attend Greater Latrobe, where DiVittis has been involved in the past as PTO president, school volunteer and substitute teacher.

(See **Three seats** on Page A3)

Homicide charge challenged in slaying at mistaken location

DERRY, Pa. (AP) — A defense attorney says a homicide charge should be dismissed against a man accused of killing a sleeping woman by firing several shots into a western Pennsylvania home in the mistaken belief that someone inside was part of a botched drug deal.

Nathan Quidetto, 21, of Unity, is charged in Westmoreland County with criminal homicide, reckless endangerment and weapons offenses in the July 20 death of 52-year-old Tracy Marie Squibb.

State police allege that Quidetto wanted to

scare someone involved in the botched drug deal but drove to the wrong house — "not even close to being at the right house," a police spokesman said — and fired several shots at the home around 4 a.m., hitting Squibb, who was sleeping inside along with her husband and two children.

Defense attorney Emily Smarto argues in court documents that prosecutors haven't presented sufficient evidence for the homicide charge, the Tribune-Review reported.

(See **Homicide** on Page A3)



ANN AMATUCCI



BRIDGET DIVITTIS



JIM KELLEY

Challengers, incumbents dot crowded Derry Area School Board race

BY NICK CAMMUSO
Bulletin Staff Writer

Several longtime incumbents on the Derry Area School Board are facing a slew of challengers in the May 18 primary election.

Current board members David Krinock, Gerald Hughes and Mark Maloy each cross-filed and are vying for new four-year terms. Also running for four open board seats include challengers Joshua Campbell, Ricardo Campbell, Alan Davis, Nancy Findish, Steve Frye, Ralph E. Neiman III and Daniel Schall. All but Ricardo Campbell and Davis, who are on the Republican ticket, cross-filed.

Krinock, a current four-term board member, has served nine years as president and two as vice president.

He touted the board and district's many accomplishments during his time as a school director, also noting that Derry Area's graduation rate is consistently in the high 90s.

He said consistent leadership and experience is needed on a school board, saying that "school districts don't need term limits. They need consistent strong leadership. Along with that, they let their leaders lead."

Maloy has served on the school board for eight years, including as vice president for two years. He has also served on the building and grounds committee, athletic committee and the Trojan Spear committee.

(See **Challengers** on Page A3)



RALPH E. NEIMAN III



NANCY FINDISH



DAVID KRINOCK



GERALD HUGHES

Three vying for Derry mayoral post

BY NICK CAMMUSO
Bulletin Staff Writer

Three candidates, including the current interim mayor, are vying for a four-year term as Derry Borough mayor.

Interim Mayor Grant Nicely and Jasen Lentz are on the Republican ballot for the May 18 primary election, while Kevin Liberoni is the lone candidate on the Democratic ticket.

Nicely, who is handling mayoral duties following the recent resignation of former mayor Alanna DeRito-Gaudiello, has 30-plus years of law enforcement experience. Nicely has previously served as Derry Borough Council president and is the current chairman of the Derry Borough Municipal Authority.

A borough resident for a large portion of his life, Lentz is employed as a systems administrator for a small business in Greensburg. Lentz is the co-founder of Cat's Twilight cat rescue in Stahlstown, which was founded in 2009. He said



JASEN LENTZ

tentative plans are in place to construct a building and move the rescue to Derry in the future.

Liberoni earned four-year seats on the Derry Area School Board in the 2019 and 2015 general elections, respectively. Before that, he had served consecutive terms until 2001. When he first joined the board, Liberoni became the youngest elected school director in Derry Area history at the age of 23.

TODAY'S WEATHER
Mostly Sunny

HIGH 63° LOW 39°

Classified A11
 Comics A10
 Crossword/Sudoku A10
 Entertainment A12
 Editorial A4
 Lifestyles A6

Local News A1, A3, A5
 Lottery Results A3
 Obituaries A2
 Sports A7-A9
 TV A12
 Dear Abby A10



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