

Blue Mountain Lake Club **Happenings**

Volume 17 Issue 1

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The Blue Mountain Lake 2013 Fall Safety Day Festival can be described in one simple word - spectacular! Over 250-plus residents and guests came out to enjoy the mild fall weather, making this the largest participation in recent years. An energetic group of community volunteers, donors and area service providers contributed their expertise, labor, services, prizes and money to provide a family oriented event for all to enjoy.

Stroud Area Regional Police Officer Brandon Bingler (the 2013 Officer of the Year) and Detective Sue Charles provided finger printing kits, allowed community members to get behind the wheel of the squad car for picture opportunities and provided information on the Monroe County Children's Advocacy Center, slated to open in 2014. Additionally, SARPD provided their SWAT tank which community



members of all ages enjoyed. Community member Herb Dougherty was assigned "Tank Supervisor" a task we all know he thoroughly enjoyed!

The BML children were full of energy! Perhaps it was all the chocolate covered treats made by PMA's Brianna Halterman, or the pumpkin decorating and dancing on the Gazebo. Or, maybe it was the Bounce Castle provided by community members Dave and

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Blue Mountain Lake Club Board and Committees

2013 Club Board

John Gumina - President

Roger Stennett - Vice President

Antoinette "Chip" Callori - Secretary

Ernie Hayfield - Treasurer

Mike Blanchard

Vincent Ricci

Robert Temple

Mary Ann Freeby - Administrative Support

Finance Committee

John Gumina

Ernie Hayfield - Chair

Patrick Briegel

BML Adult Event Committee

Jackie Blanchard

Linda Neal

BML "BINGO" Committee

Antoinette (Chip) Callori - Chair

Jill Kulesa

Jennifer Dougherty

Muriel Tittle

Sandy Vedus

BML Craft Club

Antoinette (Chip) Callori - Chair

Lucia Baena

Alice Fredholm

Katie McNulty

Maryann Milewski

Angeline Murphy

Muriel Tittle

Nancy Volsario

Sandy Vedus

BML Gardening Club

Ed Cron

Michelle Durand

Iliana Lao

Melissa Lao

Veronica Litras

Mark Sowers

Patrick Briegel

BML Kids Club

Michelle Harper

Janine Nieman

Bernadette Schussler

BML Safety Committee

Antoinette (Chip) Callori - Chair

Michelle Harper

Steve Harper

Jennifer Dougherty

Mary Ann Freeby

BML Website Committee

Mark Sowers

Mike Blanchard

Patrick Briegel

Blue Mountain Lake Club Is On Line!

Log on to the Blue Mountain Lake Club website at www.bluemountainlakeclub.com. You can find community forms such as Design Review Applications and Owner Registration, Budget, Board Meeting highlights, Governing documents, newsletters and links to local, state and federal services and representation, and information on what is happening in the community now and in the future.

The website also provided information on upcoming events, activities, and community volunteer opportunities. See the list of community committees and clubs always looking for participants.

Community member and volunteer, Mark Sowers is the Webmaster and has done a wonderful job of putting together a site packed with valuable owner information. Log on to www.bluemountainlakeclub.com.



PET OWNERS PLEASE -

- Please remember to pick up after your pet. Pet waste carries bacteria.
- Do not take pets into the recreation areas (Gazebo area, Club House, recreation field and play areas.)
- Always leash your pet. Even small dogs should not be outside the residence unless they are leashed or within a fenced in area.
- Pets must not be left unattended outside the home.
- "Leash Your Pet Every Time, Because You Love Them"

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Cynthia Lopez, owners of Hop Til U Drop. Whatever the reason, there was plenty of fun for all.

Safety Committee Chair Chip Callori handed out post cards entitled "What to Do in An Emergency", providing valuable information created in cooperation with the Safety Committee, with help from Steve and Michelle Harper, community members and owners of Strategic Crisis Solutions . Children received glow in the dark bracelets and necklaces along with goodie bags from PMA

staffers Candy and Gigi Elsayed.

The Hayrides are a favorite Blue Mountain Lake Club annual activity that gets everybody out of their homes. The fall is a special time, with the community draped in a colorful shawl of autumn splendor. Hayride passengers were treated to a first hand look at the sights and smells distinctly associated with autumn in the Poconos.

Community members Jenny Dougherty and Patricia Bradley kept the grill burning and the

hot dogs coming. Larry and Dr. Nora Green provided all the cider and Pennsylvania American Water Company provided labor to work with PMA staff decorating the grounds, in addition to cases of water and a monetary donation toward the event.

Safety Chair, Chip Callori donated prizes for the costume contest and made beautiful embroidered tote bags for the raffle winners that all included Fall and Halloween themed story books.

A to Z Equipment Rental donated tables, chairs and tents. Always



generous, Dr. John Gumina, got out his checkbook to donate the cost for one additional tent that was needed. NEPA Credit Union provided a Plinko Game, prizes and information on Identity Theft and Document Protection. Their

mascot, Superhero Big Buck, was a big hit with all the

kids! Of course community member Nick Revella can always be counted on when it comes to the kids, providing a truck load of pumpkins for decorating and a bushel plus of apples for the hand dipped chocolate treats.

Michelle Pinnock-Harper and her team of "BML Kids Club" parents offered a first time fireside story hour. Blue Mountain Lake Club children sat around the Gazebo Fireplace with members of their families young and old, listening to stories and ending the day with hot chocolate and S'mores.



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Other BML Happenings...

Kids Club - Kids Club is responsible for planning and executing social, recreational, cultural, and educational events aimed at engaging BML youth in positive, constructive, and safe activities. The Kids Club is designed to foster a sense of community among BML families; deepening their commitment to preserving a high quality of life here within the community. The Fireside



Story Hour was a great event! Kids Club also held a Winter Holiday Celebration that was very well attended with over 20-plus children, crafts, goodies and Santa making an early surprise visit. Kids Club is planning a New Years Eve Kids Day Party for 12/31/2013. Stay tuned to the Blue Mountain Lake Club website at www.bluemountainlakeclub.com to find out more on this and other upcoming community events. Also, for more information, to share ideas and/or to volunteer, please join Kids Club on Facebook under Blue Mountain Lake Kids Club or contact the BML Club Operations Office at 570-421-2129.

Walking Trails - Patrick Briegel, community manager, and community member Mark Sowers worked together this past year to improve and identify the walking trails. Community trail maps and signage were created. The trails offer excellent opportunites for residents young and old to enjoy the flora and fauna and while getting exercise as well.

BML Club Website - The Blue Mountain Lake Club Website is up and running at www.bluemountainlakeclub.com! Mark Sowers has been providing the Webmaster duties, posting important community information and updates to keep community members abreast of what is happening here at Blue Mountain Lake Club. The website makes it easy for residents to access community documents such as the Declaration, By-laws, Rules and Regulations, DRC Applications, Owner Registration Forms, Landlord/Rental Registration and much more. You can also find community committee and volunteer information, "What's Happening" information for events, budget and monthly board meeting highlights, along with links to local township and county information.

BML Club Adult Event Committee - Another exciting new committee is the Adult Event Committee, Co-Chaired by homeowners Jackie Blanchard and Linda Neal. These two energetic and fun-loving ladies have organized a game night, a social dance, movie night and most recently, a very well attended Masquerade party.

Their intent is to provide adult community members opportunities to socialize and get to know their neighbors, while building a sense of community. Look for upcoming events on the BML Club website at www.bluemountainlakeclub.com and postings at the mail pod. Come join everyone and be a part of the fun!



Toys for Tots was Huge Success!

Pocono Management Associates, LLC, sponsor of the Toys For Tots drive sponsored would like to offer heartfelt thanks to all the community members for their support and contributions to those in need. We wish you all a blessed and safe holiday season and a Happy New Year!





The Bookmobile Is Here!

Michelle Pinnock-Harper has made arrangements for the Bookmobile to make regular visits to the BML Club House. No library card is required. You can register for you library card while browsing the reading material. The Bookmobile is on site at the Clubhouse parking area every Monday from 4:00 PM to 4:30 PM. Community members of all ages are encouraged to use the Bookmobile; it is wonderful service that comes to you!





Security Tips

By Officer Shelly, BML/SARPD Liaison

Officer Shelly from Stroud Area Regional Police Department offers Blue Mountain Lake the following advice:

The three biggest deterrents to home breaks-ins:

- Having a dog and posting a sign "Beware of Dog" on the home.
- Having and using an alarm system and posting the sign and/or sticker to identify your alarm company.
- Homes that appear occupied (music, light and or television).



Other deterrents include:

- Notifying security when you will be away.
- Secure your vehicle at all times, removing valuables (GPS, Cell phones, chargers and or loose change).
- Having a house sitter and/or neighbor check on your home.
- Talk to your children about protecting their house keys and not sharing information with others about being out of town.
- Report suspicious activity around your home, such as strange cars, open windows on neighbors' homes that would not be typically open.
- Call 911 and security if you think something is out of the ordinary such as an open garage door or window.

Everyone can do their part in making for a safe community by keeping your eyes open reporting all suspicious behavior as it occurs.

Blue Mt. Lake Club Security Information

Please remember to call **911** for all police, fire and medical emergencies. BML Security is equipped with an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for cardiac related emergencies. Security schedules will vary throughout the seasons, and will be affected by holidays, and impacted by weather conditions.

Additionally Stroud Area Regional Police Department (SARPD) provides Quality of Life patrols periodically.

Emergency Phone Numbers

- Police, Fire and Medical 911
- Guard House 570-420-9507
- Security Cell Phone 570-242-4504
- Operations Office 570-421-2129



Stay Connected...The Pocono Record Offers Text Alerts

Pocono Record Text Alerts reach you immediately on your mobile device with breaking news, traffic alerts, weather updates and school closings and early dismissals. You pick the category of news and they will send you an instant message when something happens. Please note: Most alerts are delivered regularly Monday through Friday and on weekends only when there is a major news event. However, severe weather advisories and warnings are delivered instantly 24/7 when issued by the National Weather Service.

Sign-up is fast and easy! Go to www.poconorecord.com, in the header click on Text Alerts

Step 1: Enter your mobile contact information and select the information categories you want to receive.

Step 2: Pocono Record will send you a text message authorization code. Enter this code to authenticate yourself. This validates that you have signed up and it ensures your wireless device is text-enabled.

NOTE: The Pocono Record Text Alert program is a free service provided by the Pocono Record and is FCC Can-Spam compliant. Check your wireless provider for any additional text messages fees they may charge. The Pocono Record will not sell or otherwise distribute the information you provide. Please read their privacy policy and terms of use for more information.



Friendly Reminder

General information about Blue Mountain Lake and/or the local community of Monroe County is just a phone call away.

Call the Operations Office at 570-421-2129 and we will be happy to assist you. Or log on to www.bluemountainlakeclub.com.

Operating hours are Monday thru Friday 9:00 AM until 4:30 PM.

BML Recipe Corner

We are asking residents to submit their favorite recipe to share with their neighbors. Please email or drop off your favorite family recipe at the Operations Office, or, one you simply believe everyone might enjoy. We will be posting them periodically in the newsletter or on the website.



Keep Off the Ice

Winter is right around the corner - Remember

Blue Mountain Lake is a man made lake and due to the numerous springs and the currents from the pre-existing stream that was dammed to create the lake, the ice may not be as safe as it appears. It is because of this that we do not permit skating or any other activity on the lake or ponds within Blue Mountain Lake Club.

There are, however, alternative skating opportunities only a few miles down the road. There is a new skating rink next to the Stroud Township Municipal Building. It is part of Albertson park, and as residents of Stroud Township, Blue Mountain Lake residents are welcome to enjoy the facilities.

Thank you for observing the BML policy of no skating on the ice. It is for your own safety that this policy is in effect. Enjoy a SAFE and wonderful winter!!

ATTENTION NEW OWNERS

Welcome to the community! Don't hesitate to contact the Operations Office if you need assistance, simply call **570-421-2129** Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM until 4:30 PM.

- Please ensure you furnish the Operations Office with an Owner Registration Form. It is important to provide updated vehicle information, your mailing address and emergency contacts. Upon completing the form, you will receive a welcome package, safety manual, parking permits and required amenity passes.
- Security is on site during School Bus Operating Hours and after 4:30 PM Monday through Friday until 1:00AM. Saturday and Sunday Security is available from 8:00 AM until 1:00 AM. Security can be reached by calling 570-420-9507 at the Guard House or by cell phone by dialing 570-242-4504.
 For any police, ambulance or fire emergency always dial 911 first.
- Before having any exterior contract work performed, please contact the
 Operations Office for an Accessory Building Application Permit. This form
 provides the community guidelines governing any home or property
 modifications such as sheds, grading, driveway paving, in ground pools,
 additions, etc. There are associated fees with property improvements and these
 fees are indicated on the form. Some improvements made require township
 permitting.
- Please note there is no tree cutting permitted within the community without prior authorization. Please contact the Operations Office at 570-421-2129, for inspection prior to any cutting of trees that are more than 2 inches in diameter at breast height.
- Please ensure your 911 house number is displayed on your home and in accordance with 911 instructions so it is visible from the street. If you have questions or need clarification please contact the Stroud Township 570-421-3362
- Information on community events is posted at the Mail Pod bulletin boards and/ or at the Operations Office and on the Blue Mountain Lake Club website at www.bluemountainlakeclub.com.



Winter Storm Response Guidelines

For a better understanding of what services are provided during winter storm events please read the following guidelines.

- Main Roads (Township) are plowed once accumulation reaches approximately 2 inches, or as determined by Stroud Township in accordance with predicted snowfall amounts. Cinders, salt or other ice melting materials are applied as deemed necessary by the Township. BML Club does not maintain these roads.
- Community roads are plowed and cindered after accumulated snowfall. The order of
 plowing for each phase is periodically rotated to ensure fair service to all areas of the
 community. Bus routes and main roads (BML Drive, BML X-ing, etc) always receive
 priority. Final cleanup of shoulders and cul-de-sacs will not occur until after the storm
 ends.
- The Mail Center area will be shoveled and plowed prior to mail delivery and school bus service, unless storm timing, duration or intensity prevents it.
- Manorhome and Patio Home Owners Driveways and walkways will be plowed and shoveled after the storm ends, if occurring during normal operating hours. Initial treatment should be expected during the first full eight hours of normal operating hours (8:30 A.M. until 5:00 P.M.) following a snow event. (Final clean up may take longer.) During storm events with significant snow amounts, every effort will be made to keep Manorhome and Patio home driveways accessible and navigable. Vehicles must be moved when snow removal crews and plows are working in your area. Failure to remove vehicles will result in poor and delayed service and possible default assessments (fines). Owners are responsible for spot treatment of slippery areas keep a bag of Quik Joe or similar material on hand.
- Cinders and ice-melting applications will be applied to community roadways, mail center, and common areas as required.
- Failure to remove vehicles from community roadways presents a hazard to other motorists and may result in poor and delayed service to all community members. Vehicles parked on community roadways may be subject to towing and/or default assessments (fines).
- Privately owned and/or contracted snowplows are not permitted to plow snow onto Club maintained roadways. Homeowners are responsible to advise their contractors of this, and are responsible for the actions of their private contractors.

Dealing with winter storm events is a daunting task. Snow and ice treatment can only mitigate dangerous conditions created by bad weather. There is no magic cure for snow and sleet, and despite the greatest of efforts, roads will become slippery and dangerous. Those who choose to drive in the community do so at their own risk, and should exercise extreme caution. The community speed limit under normal conditions is 25 MPH. As road conditions deteriorate, speeds should be reduced accordingly. Ensure your vehicle is equipped for winter driving, including snow tires with good tread, proper tire pressure and extra weight if necessary. When possible, avoid travel until final cleanup measures have been performed. Listen to local radio and weather stations for road conditions, business and school closings.

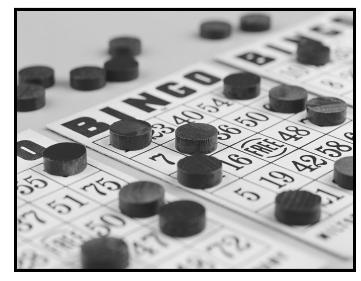
Most importantly keep safe and thank you for your cooperation and patience in dealing with difficult winter conditions that occur this time of year.

Blue Mountain Lake Club Bingo

Blue Mountain Lake Club is Sponsoring BINGO Night at the Clubhouse! There have been several games played over the past two months and many happy winners! This is a great way for residents to get out and meet, and enjoy some time together.

All BML homeowners (in goodstanding) and their guests are invited to attend.

The cost is \$10 per person, which includes two sets of Bingo sheets,



ten games each, plus specials will be available at an additional cost. There will be a total of 15 games with a 15 minutes intermission.

Blue Mountain Lake Club Owner and Guests passes must be presented at the door. No one under the age of 18 will be admitted. Refreshments will be available, donations gratefully accepted.

Come out and support your community and have fun at the same time! Keep your eyes on the mail pod bulletin board or check the Blue Mountain Lake Club website at www.bluemountainlakeclub.com for upcoming dates and times.



Be sure to use the Blue Mountain Lake Operations Office new address!

Please mail all correspondence and payments to:

Blue Mountain Lake Club 121 Pocahontas Road Suite #3 East Stroudsburg, PA 18301



In The Spotlight Blue Mountain Lake Student Alexa Vaghenas

by Mary Ann Freeby



Blue Mountain Lake Club's featured "Spotlight" Community Member is Stroudsburg High School Sophomore, Alexa Vaghenas. This young lady has an exceptional amount of energy and talent. She has a smile that brightens the room and she exudes pure joy. Alexa would like to be a Nurse or a Teacher. She shared that her favorite class is Language Arts, and she is excited about trying out for this year's school musical, *Hairspray*.

Alexa is an honor student, volunteers at Pocono Medical Center and works one day a week. Alexa's school record reflects teacher comments about her character and student ethics and they are very telling. To excerpt just a few, "Alexa is insightful, motivated and a delight to teach, and of eternal good cheer." Another states, "because she is who she is, Alexa challenges herself to do better and to grow", and "Alexa is also an extremely thoughtful and considerate

person, she never belittles others or their ideas. She presents her ideas in a positive manner that refutes an idea, not a person" and "She exhibits a strong work ethic, and she is a model for other students to follow."

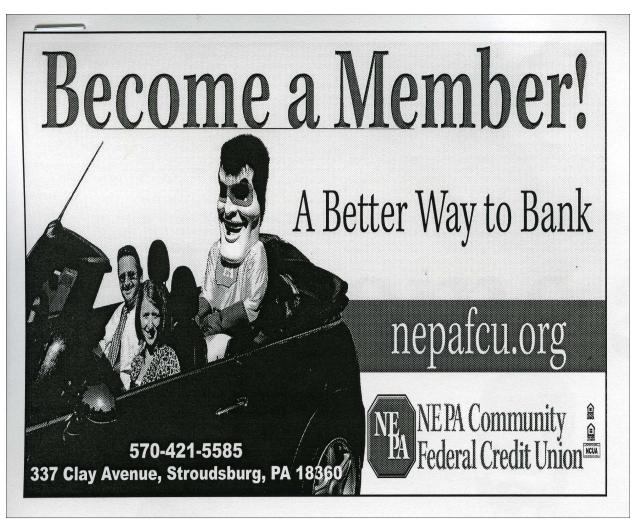
Alexa competes in both cross country and track and field for Stroudsburg High School and explained that the team lost a number of graduating seniors, so they are a young team with a great deal of desire and dedication. While competing in track last year, Alexa achieved her personal best time of 6:06 in the mile on April 29, 2013, against East Stroudsburg South.

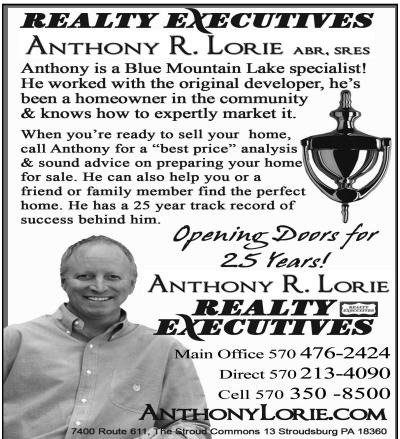
She is a member of the Stroudsburg Show Choir, Chorale, and plays violin in the Chamber Orchestra. She recently auditioned for District Choir and was chosen as one of 25 second sopranos, in the District, that will perform in a concert next spring. This past year Alexa participated in the Future Business Leaders of America, State Chapter Event, at the 2013 State Leadership Conference Open Competitive Events Program at Hershey Convention Center, placing seventh in FBLA Creed/Code of Ethics. She also participated in the New Jersey Aids Walk in Morristown and the Stroudsburg Building Buddy Program.

In May of 2013, Alexa was selected to perform at Walt Disney World, this upcoming Spring of 2014, with the Show Choir, Chorale and Chamber Orchestra. Alexa and her mother Kerry O'Laughlin, have been doing all types of fund raising this past summer and fall to ensure Alexa has the opportunity to participate in this special event. Blue Mountain Lake Board President Dr. John Gumina, personally contributed to the fund raising efforts, by offering a cash donation to help support a young person in the community that exemplifies such dedication to her academics, sports and the arts, all while demonstrating an outstanding record of community service. Owners Herb and Jenny Dougherty, Stroud Area Regional Police Department and Management are all contributing to ensure this outstanding young lady is there to represent the community at the Walt Disney World performance.

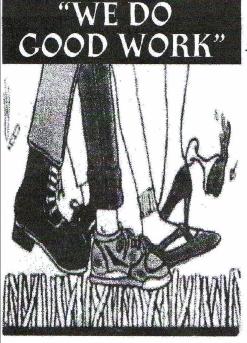
Community members wishing to contribute to the fund raising efforts for Alexa to perform at Walt Disney World, should contact the Operations Office at 421-2129. Alexa is already a star that shines brightly, and I am sure we will be hearing more about her in the future!

(If you know of a member of the community who would make a good "spotlight" candidate, please contact the operations Office with information, at 570-421-2129.)









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To place an advertisement in the Blue Mountain Lake Newsletter please contact the Operations Office at 570-421-2129.

The ads must comply with the following:

- Quarter page ads only
- Black and white only
- Print readv
- Ads must be emailed to <u>pma4@ptd.net</u> in subject line please indicate "Newsletter Ad"
- ♦ \$75.00 is due when you submit your ad
- ♦ \$24.00 for BML residents
- Checks are made payable to 'Blue Mountain Lake Club'
- Please call for ad deadlines.
- All contractors must present proof of PA Contractor Registration

Our mailing address is: 121 Pocahontas Road Suite 3 East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 www.bluemountainlakeclub.com

