

Jan (Barnum) Krupinski Announces Candidacy for Susquehanna County Prothonotary & Clerk of Courts

At this time, I would like to announce my candidacy for the office of Susquehanna County Prothonotary & Clerk of Courts.

A little about me; I was born December 20, 1970, in an Army hospital, in Frankfurt, Germany. My parents, Charles & Joyce Barnum returned to Little Meadows with me when I was just two months old.

I have lived in Susquehanna County ever since. I was the oldest of three, a proud big sister to my siblings Lori and Chip. I met my husband Jim, we married and I moved to Montrose where we reside with our daughters, Hayleigh and Makenzie as well as our furry son, Murphy.

My husband Jim is the Operations Manager for the Montrose Minute Men and my daughters attend Lathrop Street Elementary. After working in the Prothonotary & Clerk of Courts Office for 11 years, I transferred to my current position as a Susquehanna County Deputy Coroner/Administrative Assistant for Coroner, Tony Conarton in 2013.

What duties are done in the office of Prothonotary & Clerk of Courts?

The Prothonotary & Clerk of Courts are the keeper of records for the Court of Common Pleas and are responsible for the docketing, service to parties and preserving original Court Orders.

In simple terms, the office is divided into two divisions. The Clerk of Courts Division is responsible for criminal, juvenile, and dependency actions along with miscellaneous cases and filings. Generally, for example, you would see cases that are titled Commonwealth vs. John Doe. The Prothonotary (Civil Division) is responsible for such actions as divorce, custody, liens, judgments,

Managing Diabetes at Wayne Memorial Weekly Course

If you are one of the 29 million Americans living with diabetes or have a loved one with the disease, it's important to work together to manage diabetes, to stay healthy and prevent complication. According to the American Diabetes Association, there is no cure for diabetes, but it can be managed.

Studies show balancing the food you eat with exercise and medicine (if prescribed) will help you control your weight and can keep your blood glucose in the healthy range. This can help prevent or delay complications and help you live a long and healthy life.

Once again Certified Diabetes Educator Carol Kneier, MS, RD, LDN, who has been teaching diabetes management for more than a decade, is offering her "Living Well with Diabetes" classes over the course of three consecutive Wednesday evenings, beginning February 1st. The course will cover a basic understanding of the disease, the benefits of exercise and the role of food in diabetes management, menu planning, label reading, glucose monitoring and good care from head to toe.

The classes will take place at Wayne Memorial Hospital on Wednesdays from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm on February 1, 8 and 15. The cost is \$50 for a participant and a support person. Financial assistance is available. Registration is required by Monday, January 30. For information or to register, call (570) 253-8149.



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protection from abuse, child support and many other cases and filings. These would generally have case captions of two people opposing each other such as John Doe vs. Robert Doe.

Why am I humbly requesting your vote?

I am respectfully requesting your consideration to support me in my bid for election of Prothonotary & Clerk of Courts. My 11 years of service as a Deputy Prothonotary & Clerk of Courts, allowed me to excel in not only the procedure of the daily duties but the ability to decipher the Pennsylvania Rules of Court that govern the office.

Having working use and knowledge of both the INFOCON System, used by the Prothonotary's Office, and the Common Pleas Case Management System (CP-CMS), used in the Clerk of Court's Office, I was able to train new employees within both offices. This knowledge also allowed me to efficiently manage financial actions in both offices as well as docket Court orders, filings, dispositions, and to assess the court costs associated with the Court orders.

Shortly after the implementation of CPCMS, I was assigned the duty of collecting criminal costs, fines, and restitution for the Clerk of Courts. I implemented many new policies that raised the annual collection rate by over \$240,000.00. This enabled the victims of a crime to receive their Court ordered restitution in a more timely manner. With the responsibility of collections came the task of the monthly financial reporting, as required by the

Pennsylvania Department of Revenue as well as all Court ordered adjustments and financial transactions. During this time I was selected as a "super user" by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts to attend further training and provide my assessment of the efficiency of the system and recommendations for improvements.

I believe that I have the qualities necessary to provide a seamless transition in office leadership while continuing to raise the standards within the office of Prothonotary & Clerk of Courts. I would be honored to serve the citizens of Susquehanna County while operating in a department that I thoroughly enjoyed. Each day brought new challenges and along with it, new lessons learned.

Working within the Court system enabled me to build relationships with colleagues that have continued throughout the years. I believe that developing a positive working relationship with those with whom you interact on a daily basis is invaluable. I take pride in my courteous professionalism and my willingness to help others.

As an elected official serving Susquehanna County, my knowledge and personality, will make me an outstanding team leader. I respectfully request your support in the primary election on May 16th and would be honored to receive your vote of confidence for the position of Prothonotary & Clerk of Courts.

2017 calendar contest winners announced

Sen. Lisa Baker has announced the winning photographers in her third annual "Scenes From the 20th Senatorial District" photo contest. The winning pictures were chosen from more than 100 entries submitted of images from throughout Luzerne, Pike, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming counties. Nearly 6,800 votes were cast.

"I continue to be impressed with the quality of the photographs submitted and appreciate people taking the time to share their talents," said Baker. "We are

Senator Baker Seeking Public Input

The Senate Majority Policy Committee, Democratic Policy Committee and Judiciary Committee will hold a joint public hearing on Jan. 23 at 9:30 a.m. in Hearing Room 1 of the North Office Building in Harrisburg to review the Wolf administration's decision to potentially close two state prisons.

Sen. Lisa Baker, R-20th, has created a public comment page -- www.senatorbakerc.com/proposed-prison-closings -- for community members, prison employees, businesses, elected officials and others impacted by such closings to express concerns, provide information and to add their voice to the conversation.

"To give area residents easier access to the process, I have placed a comment page on our website so individuals and groups can submit material and perspective for the record," Baker said. "Local officials and residents can be assured we are not leaving the fate of the region's prisons up to the whims of the Wolf Administration."

On January 6, the Department of Corrections announced that it would close two state prisons in June. Five locations are currently under consideration, including SCI Waymart, SCI Retreat and SCI Frackville in northeastern Pennsylvania, and SCI Mercer and SCI Pittsburgh in the west.

The Wolf Administration is scheduled to make its final decision as to which two prisons will close on January 26. The committee's goal is to look at various aspects of the proposed closings including cost to taxpayers, public safety, transparency, prison overpopulation and the impact on local communities.

"Any decision to close state prisons has substantial consequences for public safety and community welfare. It is far more involved than just weighing cost implications," Baker said. "This bipartisan committee review provides an effective means for us to collect information and receive community input needed for analyzing the administration's plan."

Penn State deer study reveals what happens when hunting season begins

Deer "know" when hunting season starts and react accordingly, disappearing into nooks and crannies of the landscape where they become almost invisible.

Every hunter has heard that tale. It turns out there's truth to it.

Researchers from Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences are entering Year 2 of a five-year deer and forest study. It's being carried out on four sites, each measuring 25 to 40 square miles, in Bald Eagle, Rothrock and Susquehannock state forests.

The study has several goals, including:

- Examining deer impacts on forest health and the effectiveness of the measures to monitor it.

- Determining how hunters use the deer management assistance program and how they react to changes in the deer population.

But something else is proving interesting.

As part of their work, researchers have put collars on deer — including bucks that have survived two hunting seasons — and tracked their movements. GPS collars transmit data about deer locations. That occurs every five to six hours in winter, spring and summer and every three hours during archery season. It increases to every 20 minutes during the two-week firearms gun season.

Information collected thus far shows deer react — and not in a small way — to the orange army of hunters nearly 800,000 strong each gun season.

"Their behaviors in archery season, there's nothing to suggest these deer are being impacted by the hunting that's going on to any great extent," said Duane Diefenbach, leader of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, and one of the study's leaders. "But once the rifle season begins, we see some pretty dramatic differences. Some of these bucks will leave their home range and go places we've never seen them in the previous 10 months. It's pretty amazing."

Equally so is how sensitive those collared whitetails are to pressure, Diefenbach said. They change their patterns almost immediately on the Sunday before the opening day of deer season — when hunters enter the woods to check on their stands, make a last scouting trip or burn off the energy of anticipation — and then go back to their normal routine within a day of the season ending, he said.

"It's like flipping a switch," Diefenbach said.

And where do all those savvy bucks and does go?

Wherever hunters can't, don't or won't, said Chris Rosenberry, head of the deer and elk section for the Pennsylvania Game Commission and a biologist involved in the study.

He cited the example of one savvy buck. It climbed about 400 feet higher in elevation once hunting season started than it had before and moved further into the woods, so it was about 1,000 yards from the nearest road.

That kind of reaction was typical of deer that survived the

season, he said.

"These animals were in areas that are not readily accessible. They went beyond where the hunters were," Rosenberry said.

It's not true that they become largely nocturnal, Diefenbach said. That commonly held notion appears to be "a lot of bunk," he said.

Rather, Rosenberry said, deer retreat to places hunters aren't.

"Every one of these animals, if they survive two hunting seasons, have places that either no one goes or that are just so thick. Unless you did a drive, they're just going to walk circles around you," he said.

Diefenbach said he hopes to send people to walk the ground where these deer hide to see what those spots look like.

In the meantime, the deer are making good use of them. Hunters killed only about 10 percent of collared does and 20 to 25 percent of collared bucks in Year 1 of the study, Diefenbach said.

That so many deer survived is not surprising, at least when it comes to does, Rosenberry said. Multiple studies have shown 85 to 90 percent of does survive hunting season no matter how long the season.

The low buck harvest rate was a little more unexpected, he said. But, he added, as the study is revealing, perhaps they shouldn't be.

"The odds are stacked against the hunter," Rosenberry said. "These deer are not nearly as predictable as hunters would like them to be."

Wayne libraries secure grant

The Wayne Library Alliance (WLA) secured a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the PA Dept. of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries to provide computer class.

Topics to include: computer basics and troubleshooting; your iPhone, Smartphone, or Mobile Device; Our Apple, Android or Windows Tablets; How to download e-books, e-audio and e-magazines; How to search &, apply for jobs on line; writing and submitting a resume, How to email; Microsoft Word, Excel, or PowerPoint; Quickbooks; Browsers & searching online. All Wayne County libraries have these services.

The local Wayne Libraries are: Bethany (570) 253-4349 Fridays from 4-6 Walk-ins welcome; Honesdale (570) 253-1220 Mondays 4-6, Wednesday 10 to Noon and Friday's 10 to Noon; Lakewood (570) 798-2444 Wednesday's 4-6 Walk-ins welcome; and Pleasant Mount (570) 448-2573. Go to www.waynelibraries.org for more information.

Susq. County Transportation Available

Do you need a ride to get your groceries? Call Susquehanna County Transportation at 570-278-6140 to schedule your ride! Reduced fares are available for seniors (age 65+) and persons with disabilities. There is a four (4) grocery bag maximum per person. You must be a resident of Susquehanna County to qualify for this service.

FCR Pre-K Registration April 27 & 28

The Forest City Regional School District has scheduled K4-Pre-Kindergarten Registration for Thursday & Friday, April 27 & 28, 2017. Appointments will begin at 9:00a.m.

Parents are required to phone the elementary office (570)785-2410 to schedule an appointment. The registration process will take approximately 45 minutes. The child's medical/health information will also be recorded.

District policy requires K4-Pre-Kindergarten students to be 4 years of age on or before September 1, 2017.

Parents/guardians must bring the following items to registration:

- child's birth certificate,
- proof of residency
- proof of income,
- child's social security number; and
- child's immunization records.

Immunizations should include:

- 3 DpT
- 3 Polio
- 1 MMR
- 3 Hepatitis
- 2 Varicella or history of Chicken Pox disease

We look forward to meeting the students and parents of the Class of 2031!

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES AND ADVERTISING NO LATER THAN 9 A.M. OF THE MONDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION

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