**American Legion Post 365 donates to VA Medical Center**

Representatives of American Legion Post 365 of Corry presented the Erie Veterans Affairs Medical Center with two checks. The first, for $1,000, was to pay for activities for the fifth-floor residents. The second, for $1,400, is the final installment needed to acquire a new wheelchair lift to replace two vans that were not repairable. From left, Past Vice Commander Phil Barnes presented the checks to VA Medical Center Acting Director Dorene Sommers. They were joined by Auxiliary Vice President Kim Cambra, Mary Barnes and Post member Joe Steen.

**St. Luke School students win Playhouse contest**

St. Luke School’s sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade English teacher attended all six of her English classes in a contest from the Erie Playhouse and Newspapers in Education. The students had to submit either a five-paragraph or a six-paragraph essay. The artwork prompt was to draw a flag that represented themselves. The writing prompt was to explain why bullying should not happen in schools and what they could do to help stop it. Thirteen St. Luke students won a four-pack of tickets to the Erie Playhouse’s production of “Honk.” From left, English teacher Zuckie Shaffer, joined by Carl Hatlack, seventh grade, Alexandra Vahly, sixth grade, who won in the artwork category, and Linda Bats, eighth grade, who won in the writing category.

**Students raise funds for Make-A-Wish**

Students from the Erie County Technical School recently raised more than $9,400 for the Walk-For-Wishes Foundation, a school/community fundraiser to support the Make-A-Wish Foundation and to help grant a wish for two Erie County residents. The walk raised $8,419, which equates to granting 2.1 wishes. On hand for the check presentation were, from left, Chandler Flak, a culinary arts student from Fort LeBoeuf High School and Shelby Parmerter, a drafting and design student from McDowell High School and the president of the SkillsUSA student organization.

**Woman receives special commendation from PASR Board**

At the November meeting of the Erie County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees, Judith Newlin, president of the Erie County Chapter of PASR, left, presented Barbara Nitchko with a special commendation from the state PASR board of directors for her many years of service to PASR at the local, regional and state levels. Nitchko has served as president of the Erie Chapter, regional director of Region IX, covering PASR chapters in Crawford, Erie, Forest, Venango and Warren counties; and as chairwoman of a number of committees at all levels of the organization. In 2012 she served as chairwoman of PASR’s State Convention, which was held at the Ambassador Conference Center in Erie, and she currently serves as PASR’s assistant treasurer.

**PNC Bank donates to United Way**

PNC Bank contributed a corporate gift of $66,000 to United Way of Erie County during the 2015 campaign to help reduce poverty and improve community conditions. PNC Bank Senior Vice President Jim Stevenson, left, presented the check to United Way of Erie County President Bill Jackson.

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