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## **Lackawanna State Park Swimming Pool Ready for Swimmers this Holiday Weekend**

**North Abington Township, Lackawanna County, PA** - Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn today joined other state officials and conservancy leaders in extending an invitation to visit the recently completed William W. Scranton Swimming Pool at Lackawanna State Park, Luzerne County.

The pool was dedicated in honor of Pennsylvania's late governor, William W. Scranton, who served from 1963 to 1967.

"As strong bonds often run between our elected officials and our state parks and state forests, this is such a natural and fitting legacy," said Dunn, speaking at dedication ceremonies today centered around the new pool. "The late governor and his family have been ardent supporters of Lackawanna State Park and the naming is testament to their longtime interest."

Construction on the pool began in late 2014. The goal was to replace an outdated pool facility with a modern, environmentally friendly complex that can accommodate up to 1,000 swimmers and visitors.

"Lackawanna is one of our more popular state parks, drawing more than 360,000 visitors a year who come to fish in Lackawanna Lake, hike the parks trails, and, of course, swim," said Dunn. "The swimming enthusiasts in this area have been most patient, and the end product certainly is worth the wait."

Dunn noted that the 2,784 square foot pool is equipped with a spray and splash play area that includes 29 water features. A river feature inspired by the North Branch of the Susquehanna River winds through the splash zone.

Guests can choose to eat under cover in the new pool building or in the improved picnic areas.

Dedication speakers joining Dunn included William Scranton III, son of the late governor; state senators John Blake (D-22<sup>nd</sup>, Scranton); and Lisa Baker (R-20<sup>th</sup>, Dallas); and the Keystone Conservancy's William Kern.

With a history of service to his country, beginning with service as an Air Transport Command pilot in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, the late Governor Scranton was discharged with the rank of captain, remaining active in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. He served as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Pennsylvania's 10<sup>th</sup> District from 1961 to 1963. He was a strong advocate for state parks and DCNR's predecessors -- the former Department of Forests and Waters and former Department of Environmental Resources (DER).

During his tenure, the late governor created the community college system; state board of education, and the Pa. Higher Education Assistance Agency. After his four-year term as governor, Gov. Scranton continued serving his nation as special envoy to the Middle East under President Richard Nixon. He later served served as chair to the President's Commission on Campus Unrest following the shooting deaths at Kent State in Ohio. In 1976 he was chosen by President Gerald Ford to become the United States Ambassador to the United Nations, serving until 1977.

For details on Lackawanna and the state's other 120 state parks, visit [www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov).

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