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PRESS LLC

May 23, 2024

HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY!

Vol. 51, No. 44



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North Warren Takes On Belvidere High School For Senior Night Softball Game



North Warren went head to head against Belvidere High School in their Senior Night Softball Game on May 13th. North Warren won 10 to 5. Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

Blue Mountain Antique Gas Engine & Steam Association Hosts 38th Annual Swap Meet



The Blue Mountain Antique Gas Engine & Steam Association held their 38th Annual Swap Meet on May 18th and 19th. Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

Breast Cancer Survivors Invited to Celebration

Breast cancer survivors are invited to a unique celebration of life at Project Self-Sufficiency on Saturday, June 8th, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The Survivor Celebration will feature a keynote presentation by author, life strategist and motivational speaker Diana Perez, along with break-out sessions, lunch, music by Sue Polcer, and interactive exhibits. Martin Kessler, Sussex County Community College Culinary Institute, will give a cooking demonstration. A Question-and-Answer session will be facilitated by medical oncologist Dr. May Abdo-Matkiwsky, and a panel of medical experts. Raffles and other prizes will be awarded throughout the event. Numerous vendors will be available to offer tips on health, wellness, fashion, and exercise. The free celebration is open to breast cancer survivors. Interested participants must call Project Self-Sufficiency at 973-940-3500 to register.



“We are delighted to gather to applaud the lives of these remarkable breast cancer survivors,” noted Project Self-Sufficiency Executive Director Deborah Berry-Toon. “This ce-

lebration teaches women how to maintain their well-being, gives them the opportunity to get the latest facts about breast cancer, and most importantly, invites them to relax and have

some fun. We are grateful to all the individuals and organizations who have agreed to join in this special celebration of life.”

Additional breakout sessions will featu-

re master certified life coach, Laura Ferri, and Alina Hedaya, Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation. Therapy dogs will be in attendance under the watchful eye of handler Jackie Wagner.

In addition to Project Self-Sufficiency, attendees will be invited to peruse exhibits from Idiomatic Wellness, Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation/ReVital Cancer Rehab Program; La Roche Posay; Mary Kay Cosmetics and Skin Care, Newton Medical Center, NJCEED, Regional Cancer Care Associates, Sparta Cancer Center, and the Sussex County Office of Public Health Nursing.

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MEMORIAL DAY

REMEMBER AND HONOR

This Memorial Day, take a moment of silence to remember the brave men and women who gave their all to protect the freedoms of this great Nation. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank those who have served, those who continue to serve, and honor those who have passed.

God Bless America!

NORTH WARREN (10) VS BELVIDERE (5) SENIOR NIGHT SOFTBALL



Jennifer Duran with her parents, Laura and Darwin, and brother, Darwin Jr.



Gianna Bryson with her parents, Rebecca and John, and brother, Owen



Melanie Newport with her parents, Allison and Nick



Jaida Masker with her mother, Kasey, and Step-Father, Scott



Nyah King with her mother, Jocelyn
Photos by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press



Megan Galante with her parents, Mike and Stacy, and sister, Katelyn



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Photos by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

FIREFIIGHTERS WANTED
 Second Ward Fire Company of the Bangor Fire Department is seeking new volunteers of good moral character to join the ranks. Training is provided both in-house and through classes provided by Northampton County Fire School. If you are interested in joining to help serve the community or have any questions please call or message Captain Tom Betzler at 610-393-0654.
 You may also stop by the station during our weekly drills on Mondays at 7pm. Our station is located at 517 S. Northampton St. Bangor, PA.



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Moving Resources For Military Families

(NAPSI)—Military families and veterans know that relocating loved ones when PCS orders arrive can be stressful—but there are steps you can take to make things easier.

Keeping Military Families Connected: Internet and TV services typically come at the cost of being bound to a contract for a specific amount of time. This can make Internet changes, TV upgrades, and beyond even more difficult for military families.

What You Can Do? To ensure a seamless trans-

service or to find new providers when relocating, consider these tips:

Plan Ahead: Research Internet and TV service providers in your new location well before your move. Check if your current provider is available there and what the terms are for transferring service. If you need to find a new provider, compare plans, costs, and reviews to make an informed decision. To help, Smart-Move has compiled the resources you need to stay connected during your move—from Service Members Civil Re-



military offers by specific providers.

Keep Important Documents Handy: Have copies of orders and other military documents readily available, as these may be required to terminate current contracts or to take advantage of military-specific offers.

Schedule Disconnection and Installation Dates: Coordinate the disconnection of your current service close to your moving date and schedule installation at

your new home as early as possible. This reduces the risk of being without service when you need it most.

Check Equipment Requirements: If you're transferring service, ensure your current equipment (modems, routers, set-top boxes) is compatible with your new location's requirements. If you're switching providers, confirm whether you need to purchase or rent new equipment.

Backup Important Con-

tacts and Information: Before disconnecting your current service, make sure to back up any important contacts or documents that may be stored with your current Internet or TV provider.

Ask About Temporary Solutions: If there will be a gap between moving out and getting new services installed, ask about temporary Internet solutions. Some providers may offer portable WiFi devices or other short-term options.

Discounts and Support: Several Internet service providers (ISPs) offer military discounts and may provide flexible contracts or assistance tailored to the unique needs of military families. For instance, the Lifeline Program is an FCC program that offers Internet and phone discounts of up to \$9.25/month for eligible customers.

What's more, several support current and former military members and their families

through employment opportunities and military-to-civilian transition programs.

Additionally, the Armed Forces Network recently launched AFN NOW—its very own streaming app—to make it easier than ever for service members to stream shows, sports, news, and movies. Plus, some streaming services may also offer subscription discounts on Veterans Day.

The experts at Smart-Move make it easy to switch your services to the same provider in a new location, or find a new provider that meets your household's needs. They provide easy-to-use tools and resources to connect you with the best Internet, TV, and technologies to keep your life in sync while you serve your country.

For more tips on getting ahead of your next move with your military family, visit www.smart-move.us/military-internet.



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WBID Executive Director, Lower Mt. Bethel Township resident, to be Recognized by NJ Chamber

The Mount Olive Area Chamber of Commerce in New Jersey is recognizing Washington Business Improvement District Executive Director Melanie Thiel as its Business Person of the Year.



Thiel, a resident of Lower Mount Bethel Township, will be honored at the chamber's annual Business Person of the Year event on Wed. June 12 at The Chandelier at Flanders Valley in Mount Olive Township.

The Business Person of the Year is presented to a chamber member business person who has demonstrated outstanding professionalism in service to the business community.

In a statement from the chamber, "As Executive Director of the Washington Business Improvement District (BID), Melanie Thiel has significantly contributed to the growth and vitality of local busi-

nesses in Washington, NJ and has also helped many of the local chamber businesses as well. Through offering essential resources and grants, Melanie has played a pivotal role in enabling businesses to flourish. Her constant dedication to the business community by coordinating and running numerous events annually, including Northwest New Jersey's largest music and street festival, the Festival in the Borough, ultimately aimed at raising awareness and drawing attention to the businesses in Washington Borough."

"This is a great honor," said Thiel. "I am humbled that I have been chosen. I feel that this is an award not just for me, but for the entire Washington business community."

The WBID joined the chamber several years ago and through the membership, Thiel actively promotes Washington events to a wide ranging audience in the region.

"The relationship with the Mount Olive Chamber has been extremely beneficial to Washington," said Thiel. "Not only is it an avenue for us to reach a different crowd for our events, but many times it also translates into sponsorships that help fund these events."

Thiel started with the WBID in May 2018 after a long tenure as the Station Manager at WNTI Radio. She was named the Executive Director of the WBID in March 2019.

Workshops & Discussion Groups Address Common Parenting Challenges, Anger Management

Parents and caregivers are invited to attend free in-person or virtual workshops and discussion groups hosted by Project Self-Sufficiency which are designed to offer practical strategies for common parenting challenges. On Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m., Project Self-Sufficiency will offer in-person discussion groups which target specific parenting issues, including "Hassle Free Shopping with Children," June 5th; "Developing Good Bedtime Routines," June 12th; "Dealing with Disobedience," June 19th; and "Hassle Free Mealtimes with Children," June 26th.

For those unable to attend in-person workshops, "Raising Safe Kids" will be offered via Zoom on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., beginning June 18th. A certificate of completion is available for the virtual series.

Pizza and childcare will



be available to attendees at all in-person sessions. Those who attend two of the in-person workshops will receive a \$25 gift card; attendees at three events will receive a \$50 gift card.

The in-person workshops will help participants identify their parenting goals, address behavioral problems, and promote healthy child development by using the Triple P Positive Parenting Program,

a comprehensive education initiative targeted to parents, healthcare professionals, educators, and caregivers of infants, toddlers, and school-aged children. The virtual series uses the ACT Parents Raising Safe Kids curriculum developed by the American Psychological Association to develop effective parenting skills and prevent behavioral issues and violence.

"These programs will give parents, caregivers, and educators simple and practical strategies to help build strong, healthy relationships, confidently manage children's behavior, manage their own anger, and ultimately prevent problems from developing," explains Project Self-Sufficiency Executive Director Deborah Berry-Toon.

Interested participants are invited to call Project Self-Sufficiency, 973-940-3500, or register online, www.projectselfsufficiency.org.

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Parents and Kids Invited to Free Family Fun Nights - Project Self-Sufficiency Events are Open to the Public

Parents who are looking for affordable ways to entertain the kids are invited to check out the free Family Fun Nights hosted by Project Self-Sufficiency on Thursday evenings, June 6th, 20th, and 27th, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., 127 Mill Street, Newton. A special Father's Day event will be held on June 13th, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. During June, families are invited to enjoy games, activities, and crafts with a focus on the summer solstice and the national days commemorating yo-yo's and bingo; dinner will be provided for all participants. Advance registration is encouraged by calling Project Self-Sufficiency, 973-940-3500. Family Fun Nights are a program of the Journey Family Success Center at Project Self-Sufficiency.

"These weekly Family



Fun Nights offer parents and children a place to relax and have a good time together in a safe and supportive environment," explains Project Self-Sufficiency Executive Director Deborah Berry-Toon. "Children and parents or caregivers are invited to express themselves creatively through fun crafts and activities."

Project Self-Sufficiency has assisted low-in-

come individuals and families in northwestern New Jersey since 1986. Services offered at Project Self-Sufficiency include high school equivalency education, computer courses, employment skills training, job placement services, support groups, parenting classes, childcare and preschool, legal assistance and education, counseling and advocacy, referrals, and

help with emergency basic needs, like food and clothing. For more information about the programs and services offered by Project Self-Sufficiency, visit www.projectsselfsufficiency.org or call 973-940-3500.

The Journey Family Success Center at Project Self-Sufficiency is a program of support which includes parenting skills training, economic self-sufficiency services, family activities, legal education services, information about health and nutrition, referrals, advocacy, and other services. All activities are free and open to the public. Family Success Centers offer services to children, youth, families, individuals, and communities. Funding is provided by the New Jersey Department of Children & Families.

Owlett Bill Would Protect Public Fund Investments

Citing increasing instability across the world, Rep. Clint Owlett (R-Tioga/Bradford) has introduced legislation that would require an examination of geopolitical risk be conducted as part of the investment analysis when the state Treasury or Pennsylvania's public pension funds invest in the financial assets of foreign countries.

"As leaders of this Commonwealth, we have a responsibility to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars, and we cannot do that if we are investing assets in unstable or unfriendly foreign nations," Owlett said. "A geopolitical risk analysis is a necessary tool to protect the financial interests of all Pennsylvanians."

Pennsylvania Treasurer Stacy Garity supports the measure. "At Treasury, geopolitical risk is one of the important factors we analyze with all of our investments," Garity said. "World events can change rapidly, so it's important to be proactive and act decisively. Within hours of Vladimir Putin's illegal

and unjustified invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, Treasury began divesting from Russia and Belarus. We've also divested from China due to serious concerns about geopolitical risk, and this legislation is a smart way to ensure that all of Pennsylvania's public funds consider geopolitical risk when making investment decisions."

Combined, the state's Treasury and public pension funds total more than \$150 billion in taxpayer assets.

"Treasurer Garity and the Commonwealth as a whole have done the right thing in the past by divesting ourselves of assets in some of the most troubling areas of the world," Owlett said. "My bill would require the information we need to be even more forward looking in anticipating problems and protecting taxpayer assets."

House Bill 2280 would also require an annual report be compiled by the public investment funds and sent to the General Assembly outlining investments in foreign nations.

The Overlook

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Celebrate This Year's Memorial Day Events Around Northampton County, PA

The Northampton County Veterans Affairs office encourages residents to remember the importance of Memorial Day. Memorial Day is a time for remembering and honoring those who have died in our nation's wars and is a reminder to honor, respect, and remember the men and women who have served this incredible country and made the ultimate sacrifice. Below are ways the community can keep the memory of our fallen military service members alive.

The Northampton County Veterans Affairs office encourages residents to reflect on the significance of Memorial Day. It's a moment dedicated to honoring the memory of those who have fallen in service to our nation, reminding us to pay tribute, show respect, and cherish the

bravery of the men and women who have selflessly served our country and made the ultimate sacrifice. Here are some meaningful ways for the community to ensure the enduring memory of our fallen military heroes.

EVENTS AROUND THE COUNTY:

The Pen Argyl Area High School Memorial Day Assembly will occur at Alumni Stadium on Friday, May 24, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.. The student body will gather outside for the student-run assembly, where speakers will talk about the importance of Memorial Day and the history behind it. In coordination with the military branches, many traditions and services will be held throughout the assembly to honor fallen soldiers. The event will include a flag-folding ceremony, complete

with the playing of taps.

On Saturday, May 25, the American Legion Brown & Lynch Post No 9, in Palmer Township, will conduct Memorial Day ceremonies at 9:00 a.m. at the Veterans' section of the Northampton Memorial Shrine Cemetery, 3051 Green Pond Road, Easton, PA.

Williams Township Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony will take place on Sunday, May 26, at 6:00 p.m., at the Williams Township Municipal Building, 655 Cider Press Road, to honor fallen heroes, living veterans, and service persons on active duty.

Monday, May 27, the American Legion Post #9 Honor Guard will render prayers and honors at 9:00 a.m. at the Historic Easton Cemetery at the Grand Army of the Republic plot at the flag pole and cannon

area.

Bangor Borough will host a Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 27, from 10 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at St John's Cemetery.

The Easton Memorial Day Parade will start at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, May 27, from Sixth and Northampton Streets through Centre Square to the Northampton Street-free Bridge. Ceremonies will continue on the bridge, with the playing of the National Anthem, the Brown & Lynch Post #9 firing a volley from the south side of the bridge, the sounding of taps, and the tossing of the Memorial Day wreath onto the waters of the Delaware River. The public will not be allowed on the bridge.

For the 14th year, the SteelStacks Campus will hold the annual Memorial Day Commemoration,

transforming the campus into a living memorial honoring our hometown heroes from Saturday, May 25, until Sunday, July 14. ArtsQuest will honor men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our country in a community event on Monday, May 27, at 3:00 p.m. The event will feature speaker Northampton County Executive Lamont G. McClure at the Levitt Pavilion SteelStacks stage with "A Time to Remember" in honor of the Lehigh Valley's fallen soldiers from the Afghanistan and Iraq wars.

The Historic Fairview Cemetery in Northampton County invites the community to join their

Memorial Day observances. The event will take place on Monday, May 27, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. The two-hour event includes the formal rededication of the newly restored veteran burial areas, American Legion Section 1 and Section 2, and the Monument to the Unknown Dead. The ceremony will be held on the east side of the cemetery. Afterward, there will be a small reception. The Dukes of Albuquerque Band will play military music during the event. Additionally, Warren Brock Orleans American Legion Post 69 will hold a traditional Memorial Day service at the Fairview Cemetery Pavilion on the same day, starting promptly at 11:00 a.m.



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State Preserves Land Where Warehouses Were Proposed

Land in Warren County where a massive warehouse project was proposed will instead remain open for farming, after the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) closed on a purchase to buy and preserve 566 acres along Route 519.

"We are so, so excited to see this day come to fruition," Warren County Commissioner Director James R. Kern III said during an event immediately after stacks of documents were signed to officially complete the \$27 million purchase by the state. The \$48,000 per acre sale price is the most New Jersey has ever paid, but many at the closing said the price was worth it to preserve

the land and prevent large-scale development at the site situated between a two-lane county road and the Delaware River.

The closing occurred in the same meeting room at White Township's Municipal Building where contentious meetings took place over the past five years after Jaindl Land Co. purchased the property and announced plans for the warehouse development, sparking public opposition by residents from the township and beyond.

The fight came to an end last November when the SADC announced it had reached an agreement with Jaindl to buy the property and preserve it for agriculture. The state will strip the deve-

lopment rights and resell the land to keep it in farming in perpetuity.

"Warren County is a farming community," Kern said, noting more than 300 farms and close to 30,000 acres in the county already have been preserved, with Warren ranking 4th in the state in farmland preservation.

Kern said he was grateful that land owner David Jaindl was willing to sell and that the state put up the money, noting the county "would not be able to do this on our own." He also thanked the state and local officials, elected and appointed, as well as county staff who "put many hours in to make this happen."

NJ Agriculture Secreta-

ry Edward D. Wengryn and SADC Executive Director Susan Payne, as well as representatives of Jaindl Land Co. including President David Jaindl spoke at the announcement and later unveiled a "Preserved Farmland" sign erected on the property.

Wengryn remarked that in the 1970s and 1980s, the threat to farmland was from large-scale housing developments, but today large-scale warehouse projects are exerting development pressure. The state is getting ahead of the problem with this preservation purchase, he said.

"Warren County is one of the leaders in farmland protection," Payne commented, explaining



it is due to support from the county commissioners and the public, as well as the efforts of people like county Administrator Alex Lazorisak, Land Preservation Director Corey Tierney, and Agriculture Development Board Chairman Joel Schnetzer.

Payne and other speakers praised the efforts of the many volunteers on local land use boards, county agriculture development boards and the people who own the land, who for the most part are in the farming community, for the success of farmland preservation in New Jersey. Also recognized were the

members of the public who fought the development project, known for the bright orange shirts they wore to meetings as a visual reminder of their opposition. Kern saluted the large contingent who attended the property closing, quipping, "I'm going to miss seeing the orange shirts in our commission meetings," before adding, "Your work and effort will not be forgotten."

State Sen. Douglas Steinhardt also recognized "all of you folks sitting in the audience today," saying their perseverance showed "the power of people working together."

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Space Bill to Promote Local Business Development Advances In New Jersey

Bipartisan legislation sponsored by Senator Parker Space (R-24) that would establish an economic growth program to promote business development in less-populated municipalities was advanced by the Senate Economic Growth Committee.

“Many small towns in New Jersey struggle to create jobs and stimulate business growth because of barriers that prevent them from qualifying for certain assistance programs,” said Sen. Space. “This bill would address the unique challenges that less-populated municipalities face by establishing the Downtown Economic Growth Program. By providing access to critical resources that foster



business development and growth, we’ll be making a long-term investment in the prosperity of our smaller communities.”

Sen. Space’s bill, S-1435, would establish the Downtown Economic Growth

Program to provide financial and technical assistance to encourage the development of businesses located in small municipalities. Under the bill, a small municipality is defined as having a population under 11,000 residents; and is either:

Designated as a county seat;

Contains an opportunity zone; or

Is more than 70% developed, according to the Department of Environmental Protection.

The bill would authorize certain business and income tax credits for eligible businesses and would also establish a Downtown Economic Growth Assistance Fund.

The Economic Development Authority (EDA) would be res-

ponsible for creating this fund to provide loans and technical assistance to businesses within less-populated municipalities.

“Despite living and operating in well-developed areas, businesses in downtown areas are no stranger to the affordability crisis that is unfolding in New Jersey,” Sen. Space continued. “By offering certain tax credits and opening this assistance fund, we’ll ensure that businesses in less-populated municipalities remain vibrant for many years to come.”

To speak with Sen. Space about this bill, please contact Chris Sivel, SRO Deputy Director of Communications at csivel@njleg.org.



A Memorial Day service will be held on Monday, May 27th, at 1:00 p.m. at the East Bangor Cemetery, Park Rd., East Bangor, PA. The speaker will be Larry Rissmiller, a U.S. Army Veteran. Hunter Zeman will recite the “Gettysburg Address”. Amy Weaver will recite “In Flanders Fields”. A gun salute will be fired by the Martocci-Capobianco Post 750 American Legion, Roseto. Taps will be played by Hannah Confalone, who will also sing the National Anthem. Dustin Flyte will offer a musical selection. The East Bangor Fire Co. will be in attendance, as well as Boy Scout Troop 41. In case of rain, the service will be held at the East Bangor United Methodist Community Church, 136 W. Central Ave. (Rt. 512), East Bangor, PA. The church is sponsoring the service. For more info., call 610-588-4453 or visit www.ebumc.org.

We must dare to be great; and we must realize that greatness is the fruit of toil and sacrifice and high courage.” —Theodore Roosevelt



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Garden Dilemmas? Ask Mary!



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Hello, fellow readers,
When you visit Willowwood Arboretum, you feel like you're visiting someone's home. And you are, explained Bruce Crawford, Manager of Horticulture at the Morris County Park Commission. Located in Chester Township, NJ. Willowwood was the country residence of brothers Henry and Robert Tubbs, who purchased the property in 1908. Both were garden enthusiasts who went far and wide to gather plants.

Seeing the early spring colors on April Fool's Day was a joy. Bruce described how the carpet of yellow of Winter Aconite transformed into a carpet of purples and blue of Siberian

Squill and Grape Hyacinth.

"What's fun for people who come is what you see is not five years of growth, but nearly 100 years of growth since the Tubb brothers started to plant things. Some of the bulbs you see have self-seeded; it would be impossible to plant that many," Bruce said.

Siberian Squill is a compact dwarf plant with spikes of sky-blue blooms that is stunning in lawns, naturalizing easily and is a lovely edging in mixed borders.

Bruce shared a nifty gardening tip. They planted 2,000 Scilla bulbs in lawn areas in the Fall by merely lifting the sod, putting in the bulbs, and placing the sod back—a clever way to help our pollinators in early spring.

I'm not a fan of Grape Hyacinth, and Bruce admitted he once wasn't either. "It's quite formal," Bruce explained how the flower has a fascinating twirl that blends beautifully amongst other plants, making them less formal. Its clusters of tiny, cobalt-blue bell-shaped flowers resemble upside-down grapes, hence the common name. I



now have a new appreciation for Muscari. There's a life lesson in that.

A native woodland plant was new to me - Twinleaf (Jeffersonia diphylla). Bruce coined it "Lung Plant" because it looks like a dainty set of lungs that grows 12 to 18 inches and has white star-like flowers.

"There's only one other species, native to Asia. Somehow, when the world split, it ended up here." It's a small world, after all.

Amongst my favorite plants observed the day were the old trees, some in drastic decline.

I admire how they allow them to stay standing. There's a half-dead Taxus (Yew) in the front they decorated with Tillandsia (Air Plants) last year. This year, they plan to dress the old Yew with orchids, embracing the beauty of the plant's later years. There is beauty in aging, in the changes of lives well-lived. It's true of plants and people.

I admired a Kor-nus Dogwood (Japanese Dogwood) planted almost 80 years ago. Cor-nus Kousa displays white cartoon-like four-inch flowers of happiness in

late spring. As Bruce pointed out, «When it's young, Kousa doesn't have nearly the character."

As it ages, the trunk transforms to have gorgeously patchy brownish-grey bark. Willowwood's specimen has extra bumps and lumps on the trunk. Does this sound familiar (smile)?

"It's where old branches healed over," Bruce explained. Indeed, our scars are badges of growth as we age, and growth is beautiful.

Willowwood's enormous Dawn Redwood is a National Champion Tree.

"It's the only tree I know with armpits." Bruce points out where the branches connect to the trunk. I adored learning that the observation came from Bruce Hamilton, a legendary Plant Science instructor who taught at Rutgers University.

Bruce gave a captivating history of how Dawn Redwood Survived.

"Fossils were found in Germany's east coast, North America, Japan, and China. It wasn't until World War II that they found it in a valley in China. And so the National Arboretum, and the Arnold Arboretum went over in 1947 to harvest seeds. This tree was part of the original reintroduction. Seventy million years ago, this was your predominant tree species. And it almost went extinct."

Thank you, Bruce. Your knowledge is immeasurable, and you share it so graciously. Those privileged to know you catch a bit of your self-proclaimed plant geekiness. It's a glorious gift.

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