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October 17, 2024

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Vol. 52, No. 13



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Bangor and Pen Argyl Battle For Bragging Rights in Boys Soccer Senior Night



Bangor took on Pen Argyl in their Senior Night Boys Soccer on October 8th. Bangor won, 2 to 1. Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

North Warren Takes On Glen Ridge High School in Girl Soccer



North Warren took on Glen Ridge in their Senior Night Girls Soccer on October 9th, but they were defeated by Glen Ridge, 3 to 1. Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press



PA House Republicans Continue Fight Against Crime by Holding Violent Criminals Accountable

Members of the Pennsylvania House Republican Caucus unveiled a set of bills aimed at protecting Pennsylvanians by bringing accountability to violent criminals in the Commonwealth.

The legislation is part of a four-pillared package unveiled by House Republicans aimed at combatting crimes in Pennsylvania. Wednesday's press conference focused on the third and fourth pillars, which cover prosecution and punishment. Other measures in the package focused on prevention and policing.

The press conference featured legislation sponsored by Reps. Craig Williams (R-Delaware), Tim Bonner (R-Mercer/Butler) and Clint Owlett (R-Tioga/Bradford).

Williams' bill would address the application of sentencing guidelines. Citing the fact certain district attorneys and judges regularly depart from the guidelines, often with downward departures for serious offenses, Williams' bill



would create a presumption that the guidelines apply and thus limit the discretion of a sentencing court only to sentence within the applicable guideline ranges.

"Pennsylvania's sentencing guidelines are designed to ensure justice is applied consistently across the Commonwealth. However, when these guidelines are treated as mere suggestions, it undermines public safety and erodes trust in our legal system," said Williams. "My bill ensures that sentencing guidelines are followed,

and judges can only depart from them in specific, justified circumstances. We owe it to our communities to make sure serious criminals face the full weight of the law, and that justice is both fair and firm."

Legislation sponsored by Bonner aims to end the lack of statewide uniformity on the availability of bail, as his bill would expand the role of the Pennsylvania Sentencing Commission by charging it with publishing guidelines for the availability of bail and **CRIME cont'd on page 4**

Bangor Takes on Southern Lehigh in their 2024-2025 Homecoming Football Game



Bangor took on Southern Lehigh in their 2024-25 Homecoming Game October 11th. Bangor lost, 47 to 0. Pictured above are this year's Homecoming King and Queen, Jaleil Ameirward and Rachel Finkbinner. Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

PEN ARGYL HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR NIGHT FOOTBALL, CHEERING, FIELD HOCKEY, GOLF, CROSS COUNTRY & MARCHING BAND



Stephen Hines with his mother Gail



Cybil Bashoba with her mother, Asya



Hannah Fitch with her parents, Al and Lori



Adam Bartholomew with his parents, Kelly and AJ



Nuallan King with his parents, Kenneth and Melissa



Brayden Krasnopera with his parents, Bob and Stephanie

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Senior Night Photos are on Pages 2-5! Photos by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press



Lucas Lerch with his parents, Angela and Joe



Jack McLaughlin with his parents, Stephanie and Brian

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Jacob Oyer with his [aremts, Mark and Marissa



Ian Ryerson with his mother, Elizabeth and brother James



Anthony Sora with his parents, Kerri and Mike



Michael Thomas with his parents, Michael and Krisit



Emma Cimino is the daughter of Brenda and Carl



Gabriella Moyer with her mom, Suzanne



Addison Zeiner with her parents, Angela and Larry



Olivia Apostol with her parents, George and Lori



Syasia Reese is the daughter of Marissela
Photos by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

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Piper Davis with her parents, Ray and Candiee



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Grace Shenk with her parents, Seth and Mandy

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CRIME

Continued from page 1

conditions for pretrial release of defendants.

"Some of the most violent jurisdictions in our Commonwealth are granting bail very liberally. That is not only baffling but also potentially risky," Bonner said. "Clear guidelines provided by the Sentencing Commission will ensure much-needed transparency and uniformity in the bail process."

Owlett's legislation would ensure fair pun-

ishment of those who have committed crimes against multiple victims by requiring sentences for each crime to be served consecutively, rather than concurrently. Owlett has a second bill in the package that would create a specific offense for wearing a mask to disguise one's identity during the commission of a crime.

"Regardless of where you live in the Commonwealth, anyone can become a victim of a crime," Owlett said. "Each of the pillars of this anti-crime package

— from prevention and policing to prosecution and punishment — are vital to creating the kinds of safe communities we all deserve to call home."

House Republicans are leading with solutions to help communities combat crime and fix the core issues plaguing our Commonwealth. Co-sponsorship memos outlining each of the 11 proposals in the crime-fighting package are available at <https://tinyurl.com/3fvj45zb> and <https://tinyurl.com/3p-phn9yk>.

TRICK-ORTREAT

Portland Borough: Saturday, Oct. 26 from 4 to 6 pm; **Bangor Borough, East Bangor, Washington Twp:** Sunday, Oct. 27 from 2 to 5pm; **Upper Mount Bethel Township:** Sunday, Oct. 27 from 2 to 5pm; **Lower Mount Bethel Township:** Sunday, Oct. 27 from 4 to 6pm; **Plainfield Township:** Thursday, Oct. 31 from 5 to 7pm (rain or shine). **Bushkill Township, Easton, Forks, Nazareth, Pen Argyl, Stockertown & Wind Gap:** Thursday, Oct. 31 from 6 to 8pm.

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Josh Anthony with his parents, Davis and Stephanie



Wyatt Kenig with his parents, Andrew and Tamara



Madelyn Goiran with her parents, Heather and Michael

Washington's Veteran's Park (Washington, NJ) To Become Pumpkin Park On October 26th

Washington Borough's Veteran's Park will be turned into Pumpkin Park for one day as part of the Washington Business Improvement District's annual Hometown Halloween festivities on Saturday Oct. 26. From 3-5 p.m. children can visit participating downtown businesses for candy and other goodies. Soon after the park will be lit up with over 2000 pounds of carved pumpkins.

Washington area families are invited to Veterans Park in downtown Washington Borough to carve the pumpkins that will be lit up that evening. Pumpkins will be available free of charge for families that want to carve pumpkins for the display. Volunteers will gut the pumpkins that morning so that they are all ready to carve starting at 11 a.m. Carving tools will be available at the event.

Hometown Halloween

is an annual event sponsored by the Washington BID and the downtown businesses. Area children are encouraged to wear their costumes and trick or treat at the downtown businesses from 3-5 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for the best individual and family group costumes. Costumed pets are welcome, too, and are also eligible for prizes!

Pumpkin Park is a new addition to Hometown Halloween this year and is sponsored by Bob Valinski and friends. Valinski says that he has great pumpkin carving memories with his kids who are now grown, so he wants to pay it forward and help create memories for the young families of Washington.

While in Downtown Washington, be sure to check out the pumpkin carving competition entries at each of the local businesses....and check out the pumpkin

themed specials at the shops and eateries.

Schedule of events for Saturday October 26th:

· 11am until 3pm (or until pumpkins run out) – Family pumpkin carving at Pumpkin Park (Veterans Park)

· 3pm – 5pm – Trick or Treating at the downtown businesses. DJ Mitch Hess will be playing spooky tunes.

· 6pm to 9pm – PUMPKIN PARK ...bring the family down to check out all the pumpkins and other Halloween displays.

· 7:30pm – Tales of the Boro.... spooky ghost stories from Washington Boro. Come hear about who still haunts the Boro.

· 9pm – families can pick up their carved pumpkins to take home.

Frequently asked questions:

· Where is Pumpkin Park? Veteran's Park in Downtown Washington Borough at 44 E. Washington Ave, Washing-



ton Borough.

· Who can carve pumpkins? Families from the Washington area are invited to carve pumpkins....one per child while supplies last. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent who can sign a liability waiver.

· Can adults carve too? Yes.... adults can be kids too!

· Is it really free? YES! 2000 pounds of pumpkins will be delivered that day for carving. Pumpkin carving tools

will be available to use.

· Can I bring my own pumpkin? YES! If you have a special pumpkin that you'd like to display for the community, please bring it down to add to the display.

· Can I take my pumpkin home after carving? All carved pumpkins will be used for the light up display in Pumpkin Park from 6 – 9pm.... you're welcome to take it home after 9pm.

· What happens to all the pumpkin seeds? The volunteer pumpkin

gutters will carefully bag all the seeds which will provide a feast to the chickens and Dandy Lion Acres farm.

Sponsors for this year's Hometown Halloween include Michael F Yates & Co., Abilities of Northwest Jersey, Visions Federal Credit Union, Get A Grip & More, Warren Hills Memorial Home, Home Instead Senior Care, Good Impressions Print Communications, Swift Print Solutions, West Washington Family Dentistry, Arctic Foods/The Meat Shoppe, Schembre & Gannon CPA, Warren County Dental, Washington Car Wash, Mike's Auto Body, K & A Farms and Serendipity Gift Shop.

For more information about events in Washington Borough, visit washingtonbid.org or check out the Washington BID Facebook page.

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BANGOR VS PEN ARGYL SENIOR NIGHT BOYS SOCCER



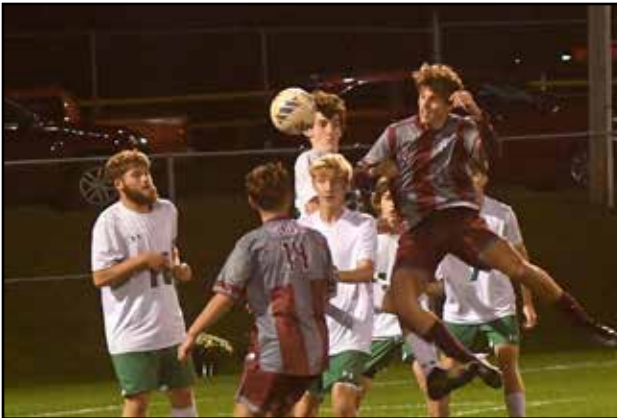
Jayden Goodwin with his mother, Tami



Aidan McNulty with his parents, Frances and Brian



Noah Stacknick with his parents, Melinda and Daniel



Bangor took on Pen Argyl in their Senior Night Boys Soccer Game on October 8th. Bangor won 2 to 1. Photos by Dale Young/ The Free Weekly Press

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NORTH WARREN (1) VS GLEN RIDGE (3) SENIOR NIGHT GIRLS SOCCER



Delia Voorhees with her parents, Melissa and Tom



Photos by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

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Kayleigh Dolinsky with her parents, Brian and Colleen



Julia Hawkswell with her parents, Kate and Brent, and her sibling



Kendall Perrone with her parents, Dawn and Mark, and Brother Justin



Alex Pohl with her father, Scott and her sister, Jordyn



Photos by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press



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BANGOR VS SOUTHERN LEHIGH FOOTBALL HOMECOMING

Photos by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press



This year's homecoming court consisted of: Hilary Goff, Eric Goffinet, Sarah Correll, TJ McLain, Jaleil Ameirward, Rachel Finkbeiner, Samantha Cook, David Sauders, Sophia Lanier, and John Cassagrande.

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Garden Dilemmas? Ask Mary!



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Hello Fellow Readers, It's a joy to walk the streets of Victorian architecture in Cape May, located at the very tip of New Jersey. It has attracted vacationers since the mid-18th century, designating Cape May as the country's oldest seaside resort. Glorious gardens and monarch butterflies abound, indicating a healthy habitat.

As I meandered by a fig tree that towered almost to the roof of a two-story home, I thought, that's a heck of a tree to wrap over winter. Fig trees are native to the tropics, with a few species considered semi-tropical, and will grow unprotected in zones 8 to 10. Cape May is in USDA zone 7b, one or two zones warmer than ours, but you can grow hardier figs with the proper winter protection.

Cultivars of the com-

mon fig (*Ficus carica*), such as Brown Turkey, Chicago, or Celeste, are best, and it's best to skip growing them in the ground north of zone 6. Instead, use containers and bring them to a protected area in the winter where temperatures won't dip below 20 degrees.

Fig trees like to be root-bound (tight in their pot) to produce the most fruit. Up-size the pot each year until your tree reaches the size you care to maneuver. Afterward, you'll need to root prune every three years and return Mr. Fig to the same pot. Yup, it's an effort.

So, as I walked closer to the beefy tree with its shiny course leaves, I noticed a sign: FREE FIGS in capital letters on a bright yellow board. Bulleted below are the rules.

Pick ripe ones (yellow and soft), and Please Take 2 Max per Person. Don't Be a Fig Pig! Donations appreciated.

While chuckling over, Don't be a Fig Pig, a car exits the driveway.

"Did you find any?" the gentlemen asked.

"I wasn't looking to pick, but I love your sign and admire the size of the fig tree. How do you wrap such a giant?"

"It's on the south side of the house, so there's no need to wrap it."

The idea of offering figs for free and in-



viting a donation came after learning that someone was coming uninvited and picking the figs clean. Talk about a Fig Pig. More like a fig thief! Taking things, picking flowers, or helping yourself to anything that is not yours astounds me. The culprit, Warren found out, is a neighbor who owns a restaurant in town. Seriously? It seems he would be more aware of the wrongs of pilfering food. Warren took it in stride, and now that he's retired, he can oversee his bounty.

"It was a banner year making \$183 for the local cub and boy scout troops."

I was given a baby fig tree as a rite of passage when I married into a family of Italian descent. I was outwardly appreciative but inwardly dreading the hassles of overwintering it. Never mind the parade of ants I recall seeing on the mother plant next to their pool.

Don't get me wrong,

I'm fond of figs. But I prefer the uncomplicated way of enjoying them, wrapped in the long-loved Fig Newton, rather than wrestling with wrapping a fig tree.

I religiously clothed my potted baby fig in old blankets from the bottom of the pot to the top of the tree, lassoing the garb with garden twine. Carpet, carpet foam, quilts, and pink insulation fiberglass work too. I was diligent for years, then missed the timeline. Bittersweet.

It wasn't that I didn't give a fig; I felt terrible for the baby that grew head high. I'd have given the fig away rather than kill the laborious tree. (Not giving a fig is an old-time idiom that means not caring at all, originating from the 15th-century English poem *The Court of Love*. Not that I knew that without a search, but now you have a G-rated option.)

Did you know the



first Fig Newton was baked in 1891? It's incredible how some things last forever and others, well, not so much. Though true, the husband that came with the fig lasted a decade longer. Garden Dilemmas? AskMaryStone.com and your favorite Podcast App.

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Your Eco-Friendly Landscaper

45TH ANNUAL FALL HARVEST & SAWMILL SHOW! **OCT 19 & 20**

Blue Mtn. Antique Gas & Steam Engine Assn., Inc.

Entertainment: **October 19th:** 1-4pm Midnight Special
October 20th: 1-4pm Better Off Now

October 20th - KID'S PEDAL PULL (Tractor Provided) | Church Service Oct. 20, 9am

American Sawmill & Wood Splitter, Case Steam Engine, Shinglemill in Operation, Applebutter, Apple Dumplings, Dragsaw, Cord Wood Sawing, Homwmade Soup, Tractors, 25 HP Messinger Stationary Steam Engine, Gas Engines, Feed Grinders, 110 HP Stationary Steam Engine, Home Crafts, Flea Market. **NEW ATTRACTIONS: Tannenwitz Chair Scooper In The Steam Shed!**

Grounds Open:
Fri & Sat: 7am-9pm
Sun: 7am-4pm

Antique Tractor Pull, Saturday 9am; Garden Tractor Pull Sunday, 10am (weather permitting)

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Bangor 2024 October Fest



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Ads with Photos! \$18

NAME: _____
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One inch (actual size shown here)

WEEKS RUNNING: _____ AMOUNT PAID: _____
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Two inches (actual size shown here)

CLASSIFIEDS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN NOON ON FRIDAY IN ORDER TO BE PRINTED IN THE UPCOMING EDITION.
All classified ads must be paid in full, in advance. Credit cards are NOT accepted for charges less than \$25 Classifieds may be submitted by mail **PO BOX 606, Bangor, PA 18013** email: thepressads@gmail.com or fax: 610-599-1185. Classifieds are NOT accepted by phone Help Wanted ads are free for current advertisers.
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Washington Borough Business Improvement District

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FOR MORE INFO GO TO: WWW.WASHINGTONBID.ORG

Washington Borough Business Improvement District

Hometown Halloween Presents:

PUMPKIN PARK

Saturday, October 26th

BRING YOUR OWN PUMPKIN TO ADD TO THE DISPLAY OR, STARTING AT 11AM, COME CARVE THE OVER 2000 POUNDS OF PUMPKINS WE WILL HAVE AVAILABLE. PUMPKINS CARVED ON SITE WILL BE ENTERED TO WIN A PRIZE! THEN, COME BACK AFTER DARK TO SEE THEM ALL LIT UP TOGETHER IN THE PARK!

11am-3pm: Free pumpkin carving in Veteran's Park (While supplies last!)

3pm-5pm: Hometown Halloween festivities including trick or treating downtown, costume contests and live DJ

5pm-9pm: Pumpkin Park open viewing!

6pm-8pm: M Poetry, Spooky Edition at M Galleries

7:30pm: Tales of the Borough

MORE INFO: WWW.WASHINGTONBID.ORG

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