

The
Free
Weekly
Take One!

*Serving the Slate Belt in Pennsylvania and Warren,
Sussex and Hunterdon Counties in New Jersey*

PRESS



LLC

July 4, 2024

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

Vol. 51, No. 50



1043 S. BROADWAY
WIND GAP, PA



We Have
THE BEST
Selection
of Trucks!

Check out ALL of Our Inventory at 199Chevy.com or call 610-863-6100

 This Banner
Could Be
Yours!
Contact
Melissa at
thepressads@
gmail.com

ATTENTION



**OUR
MAILING
ADDRESS IS**

**FIND THIS PAPER ON
FACEBOOK & Online at
www.thepressnewsonline.com**



**"THIS NATION WILL REMAIN
THE LAND OF THE FREE ONLY
SO LONG AS IT IS THE HOME
OF THE BRAVE.**

- ELMER DAVIS

Capitol Ace Hardware Celebrates Ace Hardware's 100 Years of Helpful



Photos by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

Serving the Slate Belt & Surrounding Areas in PA, and Warren, Sussex & Hunterdon Co. in NJ

The PRESS

We Welcome Your News!

Please send your news articles, photographs, announcements and other information to us!

Email: thepressmail@gmail.com

Mailing Address:

PO Box 606, Bangor, PA 18013

Fax: 610-599-1185

Deadline for submissions is noon on Thursdays prior to publication date.

Advertising inquiries can be sent to thepressads@gmail.com

610.599.1952

www.thepressnewsonline.com

Like us on Facebook!
The PRESS News Online

Please take the time to support the businesses who advertise in this newspaper. Shop Local!



Visit our website for a list of drop-off locations!



A.R.M. AUTOMOTIVE

911 Lower S Main St, Bangor **610-588-2761**

Safety & Emission Inspection
Repair & Waiver Facility
Factory Trained



ALL MAKES & MODELS
VW • Audi • Porsche



Additions • Basements
Kitchens • Bathrooms
Sunrooms • Patios
New Garages Built
Decks • Flooring

PA041139

David A. Hawk
Builder/Remodeler

484-330-0093
Mt. Bethel

40 Years of Experience • Fully Insured • Free Estimates

Stone Work • Siding
Roofing • Gutters
Soffits • Windows
Trim • Shutters



OYER EXCAVATING

484-221-1221
PH-38922384

Locally Owned & Operated for over 25 years, Oyer Excavating is a leader in the excavation industry in the Poconos & Lehigh Valley. Our experienced staff will help you with your next project offering you the most cost effective solution while providing you with a finished project that your neighbors will envy. Our president oversees all projects are done on time & correctly.

Let us help with your next project!

We Specialize In:

Boulder Walls | Excavating | Driveway Installations
Grading | Foundations | Septic Systems Installed
French Drains/Drainage Work | Utility Trenching & Repairs
Waterproofing | New Lawn Installations & Hydroseeding
Land Clearing | Hauling

Experienced • Licensed • Insured • **FREE ESTIMATES**
PHOTOS & MORE INFO AT: WWW.OYEREXCAVATING.COM

Serving Northampton & Monroe Counties in PA



Tom Ahearn Electric
& Home Improvement

Residential/Commercial Electric
Electric Generator Installation

Light Carpentry - Painting - Home Repairs

610-588-6790
C: 484-515-1134

PA Reg. #PA058650 Fully Insured & Licensed

Norwescap's NorwesFest Shines Bright In Its Fourth Year, Featuring Family Fun Day and Sunset Soirée



Norwescap, a leading nonprofit organization committed to empowering individuals and strengthening communities, hosted its highly anticipated fourth annual NorwesFest Family Fun Day on June 22, along with their signature Sunset Soirée.

The "double" event, held at Ort Farms in Long Valley, brought together community members of all ages for a day filled with excitement and entertainment, raising vital funds to support the programs and services at Norwescap.

The day began on a very warm note, however, despite the heat, there was a steady stream of families over the next few hours opting for some fun on the farm. Family Fun Day offered an abundance of activities, including

classic summer favorites like volleyball and face-painting, alongside unique experiences such as the hand-crafted solar carousel, the "Egg-plosion" hunt, OMGBubbles, 'faux' axe-throwing, plenty of arts and crafts, as well as face painting and balloon animals. The apple cannon and the cow train, perennial favorites, did not disappoint. Welcome additions were a misting tent and a kiddie pool filled with cool water and big sponges to provide a break from the heat.

Live music with a country flair by the Honky Tonk Scoundrels filled the air, while attendees happily participated in a myriad of activities including a "Balloon Pop" fundraiser guaranteeing prizes such as tickets to Six Flags



Great Adventure, Wild West City, and Adventure Aquarium.

The success of Family Fun Day was made possible by the efforts of dozens of volunteers who graciously offered their time and support.

The setting for the adults-only Sunset Soirée, Part 2 of NorwesFest, was Ort Farms' big red barn. The barn was beautifully transformed with hundreds of little lights strung

along the ceiling. Blue tablecloths with burlap runners, wildflower bouquets, and votive candles graced the tables.

Music for the Soirée was provided by the 18-piece

Summer Swing Orchestra with lead vocalist Kevin Grey. Their masterful renditions of timeless classics and popular hits had folks clapping, toe-tapping, smiling, and dancing.

Norwescap's CEO Mark Valli welcomed the crowd and spoke about Norwescap and its mission of empowerment. Board of Trustees President Jim Buehler discussed the long history of Norwescap.

While this unique, all-day festival provided great entertainment for guests of all ages, it also remained true to the mission of raising crucial funds to support Norwescap programs that positively impact tens of thousands of individuals and families each year.

Norwescap extended its gratitude to all NorwesFest's sponsors, including NJM Insurance, Shoprite, Valley National Bank, Capital One, PNC Bank, Arctic Foods, Miers Insurance, Sentinel Group,

and media partner WRNJ Radio. Their backing helped raise funds to support Norwescap's mission of empowering individuals and families in need and providing pathways towards a brighter future.

For more information about Norwescap and its initiatives, visit norwescap.org.

Norwescap, a leading Community Action Agency founded in 1965, is dedicated to empowering families and individuals in New Jersey. Through a comprehensive array of services, Norwescap guides individuals through crises and challenges, helping them move toward a thriving future. Our programs address immediate needs and build long-term success strategies in education, employment, financial empowerment, health and nutrition, housing and community development, and volunteerism, embodying the spirit of community empowerment and self-sufficiency.



Capitol Ace Hardware, located at 438 Blue Valley Dr., in Bangor, PA, celebrated Ace Hardware's 100th Anniversary on June 29th with a Block Party. Pictured above is Tammy Pichard and Erik Borgh. Erik is the President of Capitol Ace Hardware. Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

SBRPD INVITES YOU :

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2024

QR CODE: MORE INFO SCAN ME

- FOOD TRUCKS
- K9 DEMO
- DUNK TANK
- MUSIC & FUN!

MUSIC BY: **ROCKIN' RAMALEY**

AUGUST 6TH FROM 4PM-8PM
WIND GAP PARK - FREE TO ATTEND

WE WANT YOU...TO SEND US YOUR LOCAL NEWS!

LOCAL NEWS IS OUR MOST TRUSTED SOURCE OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE WORLD AROUND US. IT PROVIDES A SHARED UNDERSTANDING ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR TOWN HALLS, SCHOOLS, & BUSINESSES.

BUT LOCAL NEWS SEEMS TO BE DISAPPEARING!

A Decline In Original Reporting Leads To A Less Informed Public. A Less Informed Public Equals Voter & Civic Engagement Decline, Which Leads To Government Waste Increase, & Public Polarization Increases.

HELP KEEP LOCAL NEWS ALIVE

Local News Connects Us To Our Community & Our Neighbors. It Uplifts Voices That Would Otherwise Go Unheard! Local news demands accountability of community businesses & local governmental bodies, and it forces decision making structures to operate within the public's view.

Email us your news today at thepressmail@gmail.com



Welcome Slate Belt Regional Police Department's newest Police Officers, Officer Austin "AJ" Vlasaty and Officer Shemar Petrie. The hiring of Police Officers in the Commonwealth, and nationwide, has become quite difficult. Many departments have adapted by sponsoring qualified applicants through police academy training. Officer Petrie and Officer Vlasaty were two of 27 applicants chosen after a rigorous hiring process to attend Allentown Police Academy sponsored by SBRPD. As cadets, both officers demonstrated dedication to the Department and to the profession and graduated with their ACT120 in June. At the Slate Belt Regional Police Commission meeting on June 20th, Officer Petrie and Officer Vlasaty were sworn in. SBRPD wishes Officer Vlasaty and Officer Petrie a long and SAFE career in law enforcement. Welcome to the Slate Belt Officers. Pictured (L-R) Chief Jonathon Hoadley, Officer Austin "AJ" Vlasaty and Officer Shemar Petrie. Courtesy SBRPD

Warren County Commissioners Honor Two Local BID Directors



The directors of the two local Business Improvement Districts in Warren County were honored by the Warren County Board of County Commissioners during a meeting held in the community that one of them serves.

The Commissioners held the second of three traveling meetings scheduled for 2024 at the Washington Borough Municipal Building, where they presented Certificates of Merit to Washington BID Executive Director Melanie Thiel and Hackettstown BID Executive Director Laurie Rapisardi.

Earlier this month, Thiel was named the Mount Olive Area Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the Year and Rapisardi received Centenary University's Gold Dome Award for the generous contributions to both the university and the Hackettstown community.

"I'm so hopeful that other communities in Warren County can see the work that's happening" in Hackettstown

and Washington, Commissioner Director James R. Kern III said. "You've turned your main streets into attractions" with breweries, restaurants, and other activities that attract people, Kern said to Rapisardi and Thiel.

As Executive Directors of their respective Business Improvement District (BID), both Thiel and Rapisardi contribute significantly to the growth and vitality of local businesses in Washington Borough, Hackettstown, and the larger area as a whole.

Between the BIDs they host nearly two dozen large events every year that are aimed at raising awareness and drawing attention to the local businesses and downtowns, including Northwest New Jersey's largest music and street festival, the Festival in the Borough.

The BIDs also work to bring new businesses to their respective municipalities, encourage visitors to support shopping at small and local businesses, and work to provide clean,

safe, and aesthetic downtowns.

Both women serve on the Warren County Economic Development Committee, while Rapisardi also chairs the Warren County Bicentennial, Cultural and Heritage Advisory Board.

"These two ladies are the hardest working people in Warren County when it comes to economic development and businesses," Commissioner Jason J. Sarnoski said, adding, "You can see it in the downtowns, and how vibrant and successful they've been."

"You've brought attention to this town" and "really brought it back," Commissioner Lori Ciesla said to Thiel, before praising Rapisardi for her efforts both locally and spearheading the volunteer committee working on the county's bicentennial celebration.

"It's a joy working with Mel, collaborating with Mel," Rapisardi said, before thanking the commissioners for their support "for all of our towns."

"FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED"

SECURE PRIVATE LOCATION

FINDERS COLLECTION

WE ARE CURRENTLY BUYING:

GOLD & SILVER BULLION • COINS
 CURRENCY • ESTATES • ANTIQUES
 COLLECTIBLES • SPORTS CARDS
 ONE ITEM OR ENTIRE ESTATES

HONEST & TRANSPARENT PRICING YOU CAN TRUST

17 Main Street, Blairstown, NJ
 EXPERTS@FINDERSCOLLECTION.COM
 570-460-0362 • 570-242-1737

PRIVATE APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE
We Do House Clean Outs!

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

GARY EAGLE

TREE SERVICE, Inc.

- Tree Trimming
- Tree Removal
- Stump Grinding
- Bucket Truck Service
- Portable Saw Mill
- Saw Sharpening

Mowing, Overgrown Brush, Saplings, & Weeds!

garyeagle.com

FULLY INSURED
610-588-1034

CRISS' Nazareth, PA
Hauling & Landscape Construction

Stone • Topsoil • Mulch • Retaining Walls
 Landscaping • Field Mowing • Rototilling
 Patios (Concrete Or Pavers) • New Lawns
 Post Hole Auging • Trenching • Grading
 Drainage • Brush Removal/Tamed

If We Can't Do It - You Don't Need It!

Criss5151@yahoo.com 610-217-7059

Barry Lobb
Free Estimates

LOBB'S ROOFING & SIDING
LOW COST ROOFING SYSTEM

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
 SLATE • METAL • SHINGLES
 GOODYEAR RUBBER ROOFS
 5" & 6" ALUMINUM
 SEAMLESS GUTTERS

P: 610-588-7452 C: 610-533-9454 F: 610-588-9192

Summer Sounds Presents "JOYOUS" at Weona Park



Photos by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press



VBS
 PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH
 AUGUST 2-4 2024 | 10 AM - 1:30 PM
 908-852-5444
 \$20 PER CHILD OR \$30 PER FAMILY
 JOIN US AS WE LEARN HOW JESUS CARES FOR US!

- LUNCH PROVIDED
- GAMES
- MUSIC
- CRAFTS
- SUNDAY CELEBRATION

PETS UNLEASHED
 WHERE JESUS CARES FOR YOU

Pen Argyl Pizzeria
 We Are Open 11am-10pm Daily!

Dine-In • Take-Out • Delivery • Catering Available
(95¢ Delivery Fee)...Call for Delivery Range

Monday-Thursday
2 Large Plain Pizza
\$21.95*
 Pick-Up or Delivery ONLY. Toppings Extra.

\$5 OFF
\$30*
 *Cannot combine with any other offers. Must present coupons.

610-863-6670 | 510 E. Main St., Pen Argyl

Henry Yeska & Son Inc.

821 Georgetown Road, Nazareth, PA
 610-759-3290 • www.yeskasepticservice.com
 In Business for Over 100 Years!

Industrial, Commercial, & Residential
Cleaning • Pumping • Repairs • Installations

- Septic Tanks
- Grease Traps
- Cesspools
- Fish Ponds
- Swimming Pools
- Sand Mounds
- Sewer Pumps
- Sewer Alarms
- Aerators
- Drain Field Restoration
- Septic Tank Repair
- Tank Replacement

RECEIVE \$10 OFF
 Your Next Septic Pumping

Project Self-Sufficiency Programs Educate Public, Support Trauma Survivors, Promote Prevention

Project Self-Sufficiency will offer three workshops during July regarding adverse childhood experiences with the goal of educating the public, supporting trauma survivors, and offering tips for prevention and healing within the community. The workshop and discussion series, "Connections Matter", which facilitates the conversation about issues surrounding childhood trauma, will be offered virtually over Zoom in English, Tuesday, July 16th, 2:00 p.m., and in Spanish, Wednesday, July 17th, 2:00 p.m. A virtual "Understanding ACEs: Building Self-Healing Communities" presentation on Wednesday, July 31st, 2:00 p.m., will address the neurological and biological effects of adversity on development and its corresponding impact on the health of the overall population. Tips for protection, prevention, and promoting resilience within the community will also be discussed. All workshops are free and open to the public; interested participants are invited to call 973-940-3500 to receive log-in details.



ons to improve resiliency. Discussion during the workshops will focus on understanding adverse childhood experiences and demonstrating how caring connections can serve as a primary buffer in the negative effects of trauma. The training is appropriate for parents and providers raising and teaching school aged children.

During the Understanding ACEs workshop, parents, caregivers, and other community providers will learn how childhood trauma impacts physical and neurological development and discuss methods for improving health and well-being across the lifespan. All

three workshops are funded by the New Jersey Department of Children and Families and led by Prevent Child Abuse New Jersey.

Speakers will address the impact of adverse childhood experiences on social, emotional, and cognitive development, and offer tips and strategies for building resiliency. Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are widely recognized as falling into three distinct categories, abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction. Examples of negative behavior said to result from ACEs include smoking, alcoholism, drug use, absenteeism, and lack of physical activity. These

behaviors can cause a cascade of physical and mental health problems, from diabetes to cancer to suicidal thoughts. It is estimated that approximately 67% of the population has experienced at least one adverse childhood experience.

Project Self-Sufficiency is bringing together professionals, providers, and parents who are committed to increasing awareness of the impact of childhood trauma on juvenile development, future violence victimization and perpetration, and lifelong health and opportunity. "Our goal is to help make our community a place in which every child can thrive by providing education and training on adverse childhood experiences and assuring safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments," explains Project Self-Sufficiency Executive Director Deborah Berry-Toon. "Protection, prevention, and resilience promotion can profoundly improve health according to recent discoveries in neuroscience, epigenetics, and epidemiology. The tools identified in these workshops can positively impact public health, safety, and productivity, and reduce public and private costs now and for future generations."

Brown's Legislation to Advance Alzheimer's Support in Pennsylvania Passes Senate



After two years of dedicated work, my legislation to advance support for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (ADRD) has been passed by the Senate.

This marks a significant step forward in supporting the many Pennsylvania families affected by Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders. These families have shown unwavering dedication to their loved ones, and now it's time for our state to do the same.

Senate Bill 840 aims to improve Pennsylvania's response to the growing ADRD crisis by establishing a permanent ADRD Division and an ADRD Advisory Committee within the Department of Aging. These entities will collaborate to bring stakeholders together, advocate for effective policies, and secure federal funding.

Our current approach lacks the necessary coordination, leading to inefficiencies and missed opportunities for comprehensive care and support. While we have a state plan, progress has stalled. It is time to recognize the effort and coordination required.

The creation of the ADRD Division and Advisory Committee will enhance coordination and improve Pennsylvania's ability to secure federal funding and im-

plement effective policies for those affected by Alzheimer's and related disorders. We must break down bureaucratic barriers and foster collaboration across government agencies. This is more than just policy – it is a commitment to protect our loved ones and ensure Pennsylvania leads the way in Alzheimer's care and support.

Currently, 280,000 seniors in Pennsylvania live with Alzheimer's, a number expected to rise to 320,000 by 2025. In 2020, the state spent nearly \$3.7 billion on Medicaid costs for Alzheimer's care, with projections indicating more than a 10% increase in the coming years. Pennsylvania families cover 70% of the total lifetime cost of caring for someone with dementia, including out-of-pocket health expenses and the substantial value of unpaid care. In 2022, more than 404,000 unpaid caregivers in Pennsylvania provided care worth more than \$10.7 billion.

Senate Bill 840 is about ensuring that our loved ones receive the best possible care, support, and guidance. By streamlining our efforts and fostering collaboration, we can make a real difference in the lives of those affected by ADRD.

Now, the bill moves to the House of Representatives for consideration

GRAY'S RECYCLING

MULCH • TOP SOIL • STONE • DYED MULCH

Pick Up Or Delivered To Your Location

**NEW
SPRING
HOURS**



**Open Mon-Fri:
7am-5pm
Open Sat:
7am-Noon**

Commercial & Residential Sales!

MULCH AVAILABLE

Hardwood, Dyed, Black, Brown, Red, & Cedar Mulches, Topsoil, Clean Fill, & Wood Chips

WE ACCEPT YARD DEBRIS

Dumping for Brush, Logs, Wood Chips, & Bales of Straw!
YOU CAN HAUL IT IN OR WE WILL PICK IT UP!
Roll-Off Boxes Available: 10, 20 or 30yds

STONE AVAILABLE

River Stone: 3/8", 3/4", 1" to 3"
Red Stone 3/4"

ALSO AVAILABLE:

3/4" Gravel, 3/8" Crushed Gravel, QP Stone, & Stone Dust

**We Also Offer
Heavy & Light Land Clearing**

STORM DAMAGE CLEAN-UP, DEMOLITION & LOWBOY MOVES

908-475-3797 **Gray's Recycling Mulch**

CASH & ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

**Because There's
No Place Like Home**

Our trained caregivers are responsible for providing clients with the best in home care to make your day to day life as simple as possible. Call us today and find out what we can do to help you.

Our Services Include:

- Meal Preparation
- Transportation
- Lt. Housekeeping
- Personal Grooming & Dressing
- Overnight Supervision
- Companionship

Keeping Seniors Independent

101 Timberlane Dr., Bangor, PA 18013
www.keepingseiniorsindependent.com

LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED

Brenda Dotta Office: 610-881-4500
Fax: 610-863-6048
Home: 610-588-6000

Proprietor
brenda@keepingseiniorsindependent.com **EOE**

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.

Wind Gap Fire Co Carnival



Photos by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

Douglas F. Turtzo, M.D., F.A.C.P.
Anita Rohatgi, M. D.
 A Division of
 Medical Associates of The Lehigh Valley
 WWW.MATLV.COM
 Board Certified Internal Medicine

New Location
 6534 Sullivan Trail
 Wind Gap, PA 18091

New Patients Welcome
 Call 610-863-9059
 for Appointment

State Farm™
 Providing Insurance & Financial Services

Debbie Pettinari
 Agent

106 S. Broadway
Wind Gap, PA 18091

Bus: 610-881-4433
 Fax: 610-881-4432
 Cell: 484-695-8070

Bangor Tire and Auto
 610-588-TIRE (8473)

Certified State Inspection
 All Makes of Tires
 Front End Alignment
 Auto Repair

411 South 1st Street., Bangor
 Family Owned & Operated • ASE Master Technician •

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

Miracle-Ear
 You and ME

FREE Amplifit hearing test,
Only at Miracle-Ear.

Miracle Ear
 1343 Blue Valley Drive,
 Pen Argyl, PA 18072
 610-588-3383

Miracle Ear Center
 Stroud Commons (Rear of Building)
 1619 N. Ninth Street,
 Stroudsburg, PA 18360
 570-476-9949

WERNER TRANSMISSION
 "Full Service Shop - Transmissions and more"

Racing and Domestic
 PA State Inspections / Emissions
 Brakes - Oil Changes - Exhaust - Much More

259 E. Central Ave.,
 East Bangor, PA

Open Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm
610-599-1605

House Democrats Continue to Stall on Holocaust Education in Pennsylvania

House Republican Leader Bryan Cutler (R-Lancaster) on Monday said a discharge petition is needed to advance House Bill 1986, legislation requiring curriculum transparency in Holocaust education, as House Democrats continue to stall in advancing the measure.

“As antisemitism continues to grab hold of institutions of higher education, it is clear from our work in combatting this form of invidious hate in all levels of education that ignorance of the past is a leading factor in the troubles of today. While many of Pennsylvania’s schools offer some form of education on the Holocaust, students are graduating with an insufficient understanding of the Holocaust and the dangers of antisemitism and hate,” Cutler said.

“Providing transparen-



cy in Holocaust education curriculums will help students, families, and policymakers know where weaknesses in Holocaust education exist and what can be done better to ensure the horrors of the past are not repeated in the future.”

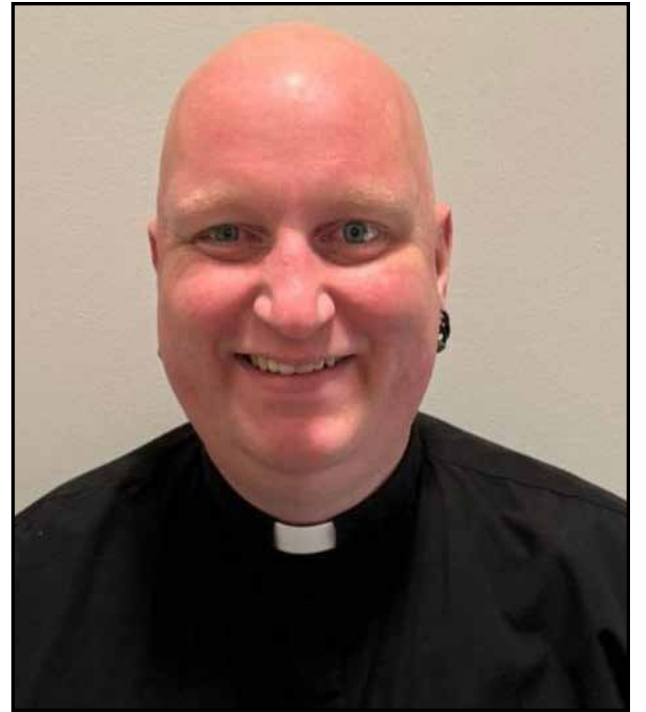
A 2023 study by The Economist shows that one in five young Americans believe the Holo-

caust is a myth.

The legislation providing for curriculum transparency in Holocaust education was referred to the House Education Committee on Jan. 31, but has not received a vote.

“While the dangers of continued ignorance of the Holocaust and antisemitism continue on college campuses across

the country, House Democrats have failed to advance this important legislation that can aid in ending misperceptions of one of the most horrific periods of human existence,” Cutler said. “I encourage all members to sign on to this discharge petition so we can have a fair vote and debate about this important issue.”



The East Bangor United Methodist Community Church welcomes The Rev. Todd Lattig as their new pastor. Todd is a writer, an artist and a musician. He and his wife, Bernadette, have two daughters, Katie and Lorien. Todd is passionate about liturgy, worship, mission and community building and has a profound interest in Christian history, as well as dynamic Christian education. Rev. Todd’s first Sunday in the pulpit will be July 7th and we invite your presence as a sign of welcoming him to the church and community. For more information, go to www.ebumc.org.

Statement From New Jersey Commissioner of Environmental Protection Shawn M. Latourette on U.S. Supreme Court Decision In Loper Bright V. Raimondo

U.S. Supreme Court decision overturning Chevron v. NRDC irresponsibly threatens national efforts to improve and protect public health and the environment. Turning its back on decades of precedent, the majority decision in Loper Bright v. Raimondo disrespects and undermines the scientists, technical

experts, and other public servants responsible for reducing pollution and improving the quality of the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the land we live upon.

For 40 years, the Chevron doctrine has supported federal environmental and other agencies in accomplishing important work assigned to them

precisely because of their expertise in their fields. Where those statutes have left open some questions, our federal courts have rightfully deferred to the expertise of responsible agencies in implementing the law. This sensible balance recognized that judges, like legislators, cannot also be expected

to serve as our climate scientists, environmental engineers, or myriad other experts who serve the public from within the executive branch of our federal government. Today’s majority decision upends this balance on the federal level, which needlessly casts doubt on subject matter experts and could delay

or jeopardize public health and environmental protections that all of our fellow Americans deserve.

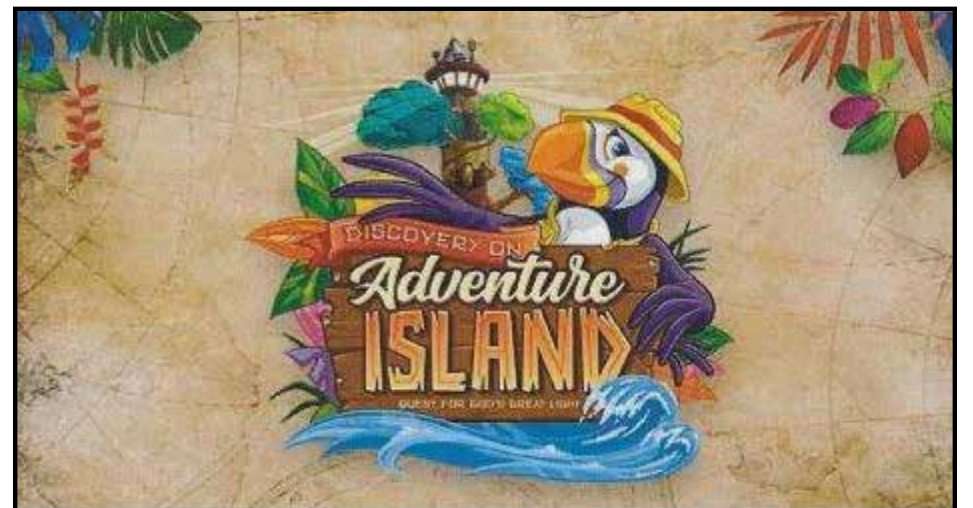
Despite this federal decision, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection remains steadfast in its commitment to improve and protect public health and the environment we

all share. New Jersey is home to nation-leading environmental laws and leaders who respect the scientific judgment and technical expertise that have proved crucial to protecting public health, improving our standard of living, and conserving our natural resources. And our important work continues.

DID YOU KNOW?

Community Newspapers are rated as the most trusted source of information about candidates running for public office - topping ALL OTHER MEDIA!

YOU CAN COUNT ON US!



Vacation Bible School

July 8 - 12, Monday – Friday, 6 – 8 PM

Closing Program Friday with Ice Cream Party

Age 4 to grade 6

Songs & Games

Mission Project

Crafts & Snacks

FUN!



Grace Church

404 E Mountain Avenue, Pen Argyl

610-863-4811

Volunteers Needed To Count Pennsylvania's Birds

Those birds you see in the backyard, around camp, while hiking or otherwise outside? They're more important than you think.

Reporting your observations of them is, too.

The Game Commission, together with Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, is conducting the third Pennsylvania Bird Atlas in state history. Between now and February 2029, it will document what birds live in Pennsylvania, where and in what numbers.

"The atlas will provide a snapshot of the population status and distribution of birds in the Commonwealth," said Game Commission Ornithologist Sean Murphy. "No other bird surveys are as comprehensive, and for that reason, the results are critical to the establishment of conservation priorities for Pennsylvania birds."

But getting those results takes people. Lots and lots of them in lots and lots of places.

So, the Game Commission and Hawk Mountain are asking volunteers to look for birds, note those they see and report those details at eBird ([https://ebird.org/atlaspaOpens In A New Window](https://ebird.org/atlaspaOpens%20In%20A%20New%20Window)). Step one to getting started is visiting the site and creating an account. Then, volunteers can access all the necessary information and tools to participate, including a volunteer handbook and other printable handouts, and track what others are seeing in real time (click the "explore" tab).

There's no particular level of expertise needed.

The atlas has a full-

time coordinator, Amber Wiewel of Hawk Mountain. There are paid bird counters, as well.

But most atlas data come from volunteers ranging from hard-core birders to more casual lovers of wildlife. Without them – all of them – no atlas can succeed, said Stefan Karkuff, the Game Commission's Avian Recovery Biologist.

"The results of this atlas are only useful if the data is robust, meaning the more checklists the better," he said. "So it's really an all-hands-on-deck kind of situation. We need contributors from all corners of the state, especially people who live in the more remote parts where there are fewer birders. Their data is valuable because it helps fill in holes on the map where birds would otherwise go unreported."

The state's northern tier is one such place, Murphy said. With its big chunks of public land, portions of it sometimes get comparatively less attention than urban and suburban areas. The interior portions of state game lands in particular can be hard to access and so sometimes are a challenge to survey.

But anyone anywhere can participate. That's the power of the atlas, Murphy said. Every observation recorded helps lay the groundwork for bird conservation now and in the future.

History shows that Pennsylvania did its first bird atlas in the 1980s. The second followed in the early 2000s. Those revealed news good and bad.

On the plus side, Murphy said they sho-

wed catbirds are doing well – 12% of the world's population lives in Pennsylvania – as are woodpeckers of all sorts, likely due to the recovery of Pennsylvania's forests and appropriate management. On the negative, they revealed the extent to which American goshawks and northern harriers are struggling. The former has since been listed as a state-endangered species, the latter as a state-threatened one.

This latest atlas could – and likely will – similarly highlight areas of promise and concern, which in turn could lead to new or changing wildlife management strategies.

Breeding birds are again a focus of the atlas, to allow for historical, apples-to-apples comparisons in population trends and range use for individual species. But unlike the first two atlases, this third one also involves looking for birds overwintering in the state.

"I contend that we have much to learn about the distribution and abundance of birds in Pennsylvania in winter, and that a winter atlas effort, as part of a third Pennsylvania Bird Atlas, could set an important baseline for repeating winter atlas efforts in decades to come," Murphy said. "It will be a new type of survey that will come with challenges, but the added value will be worth the work."

This atlas also features some other innovations.

Special surveys meant to focus attention on hard-to-detect species including marsh birds like bitterns and rails, nightjars including com-

mon nighthawks and whip-poor-wills, and owls and other nocturnal species is one. Expanded "point counts," or tallies of birds detected at fixed positions during a specified time, are another.

"First-generation atlases focused primarily on distribution, where a species exists," Murphy added. "Over time the value of abundance – how many individuals there are – has become increasingly important, so second-generation atlases and beyond have often included standardized surveys, such as point counts."

Add everything up and there's a lot of information to collect, Murphy said. That's why the atlas requires an army of volunteers.

"Whether an observer submits data for one nesting species or 100, it all goes toward the atlas," Murphy said. "If you get on eBird, whether the smartphone app or the desktop version, and enter a record with breeding codes, you're an official atlaser!"

Fantasia's Five-Farm Preservation Bill Goes to NJ Governor's Desk



Recently, the Assembly unanimously passed Assemblywoman Dawn Fantasia's bill funding preservation efforts at five farms in northwestern New Jersey.

The bill (S2793/A3698) reallocates \$1.723 million from corporate tax revenue and a 2009 farmland preservation fund to the State Agriculture Development Committee, which oversees the state's Farmland Preservation Program. The committee will use the money for grants to help farmers pay for approved preservation projects.

"Preserving farmland

throughout New Jersey, and especially in the northwestern part of the state, ensures that generations of residents will know where their food comes from, how livestock is cared for, and the permanent value of our agricultural communities. We have to help farmers if we want to live up to our Garden State slogan and preserve a way of life that is cherished in New Jersey," Fantasia (R-Sussex) said. "I know these farms will put the funds to good use and they deserve this support."

The grants will go toward preservation efforts at two farms in Stillwater and Wantage townships in Sussex County, two farms in Delaware and Union townships in Hunterdon County, and a farm in Blairstown Township in Warren County.

The Senate passed the bill by a vote of 37-0 in May. The bill becomes law immediately when signed by the governor.

Morgan Manor
Hours By Appointment
Please Call:
610-888-6613

Antiques & Curiosities
112 RT. 94
BLAIRSTOWN, NJ
Watch Facebook for Details!

*Have you Recently
 Lost a Loved One?*

We run obituaries to help spread the word to the community about the services for your beloved family members.

Contact Us at
thePressads@gmail.com

NJDEP Fish & Wildlife Launches Summer of CHANJ Campaign To Highlight Importance of Enhancing Habitat Connectivity

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection today launched Summer of CHANJ, a multi-platform public outreach campaign that highlights the importance of protecting habitat connectivity for wildlife.

Summer of CHANJ-CHANJ – or Connecting Habitat Across New Jersey – is a longstanding project administered by NJDEP Fish & Wildlife’s Endangered and Non-game Species Program that works to make the landscape easier for a wide variety of wildlife – from bobcats and bears to salamanders and turtles, to name just a few – to move through as they seek food and shelter, mate, and meet other habitat and biological needs. CHANJ accomplishes this by protecting important habitats, restoring movement corridors, and making roads safer for animals to cross.

“Urbanization and roads have fragmented many of our natural lands, putting the connectedness of habitats and wildlife populations in jeopardy. Without the ability to move, healthy populations simply will not persist over the long term,” Environmental

Protection Commissioner Shawn M. LaTourette said. “Making matters even more challenging, the impacts of climate change are further degrading critical wetland and forest habitats. The goal of Summer of CHANJ is to help the public better understand the importance of habitat connectivity and to take steps, whenever possible, to support and enhance connectivity in their own communities.”

The Campaign: The Summer of CHANJ campaign features a series of social media posts, online materials and email blasts about various facets of habitat protection and species needs that will be issued throughout the summer to the public, stakeholders, local officials, planning agencies and others.

Messages will spotlight featured species that are highly dependent on habitat connectivity such as swallows, bobcats, bog turtles, river otters, monarch butterflies and spotted salamanders.

These spotlighted species will help members of the public better appreciate the diversity of wildlife New Jersey supports while helping

them understand how diverse habitats provide essential services to these animals.

The campaign will be supported by Facebook and Instagram posts tailored to the public, NGOs, land protection managers, and transportation planners.

Summer of CHANJ-Building Upon a Solid Open Space Foundation:

New Jersey has a good foundation for achieving measurable success in habitat connectivity by protecting open space for people and nature. More than 1.5 million acres – more than a third of the state’s land mass – is now permanently preserved as a result of proactive local governments and land trusts, the state Green Acres program, farmland preservation programs – and residents who have consistently voted in favor of open space funding.

“New Jersey has done an excellent job protecting and preserving natural spaces thanks to strong conservation partnerships and steadfast public support.” NJDEP Fish & Wildlife Assistant Commissioner Dave Golden said. “CHANJ gives us a roadmap for focusing our efforts moving



forward, filling in the gaps, and securing a legacy of healthy, connected ecosystems for the future.”

To maximize investments for wildlife and ecosystems, it is important to make sure that preserved lands aren’t isolated and that they are instead part of a functionally connected network of habitats. The state is working to be strategic about future open space acquisitions, considering how each piece of land fits into the broader landscape context, as well as being cognizant of how roads may be fragmenting or limiting wildlife access to protected lands. The challenge is great because New Jersey is the most densely populated state and has a very dense network of roads.

Tools for CHANJ: Summer of CHANJ-An important aspect of CHANJ over the years has been to work with various partners to provide safe ways for animals to move about in their habitats, such as construction of tunnels and bridges to facilitate wildlife cross-

sings. The DEP and its partners are also strategic about purchases of open space to establish protected corridors between larger pieces of open space.

CHANJ offers tools and resources to the public and to land and transportation managers to make New Jersey’s landscape and roadways friendlier to wildlife movement. An interactive map and guidance document shows where and how to best support habitat connectivity in our highly fragmented state. The NJ Wildlife Tracker allows the public to report wildlife sightings to help NJDEP Fish and Wildlife biologists map and monitor populations, manage rare wildlife species, and inform habitat connectivity projects.

In a highly urbanized state like New Jersey, healthy “backyard” habitats can make a big difference for wildlife living in or traveling through neighborhoods. Residents can support the CHANJ initiative at home by: - Adding native plants

and trees to the home landscape

- Maintaining wide natural buffers around streams

- Encouraging local towns to consider habitat connectivity in their planning

- Using the NJ Wildlife Tracker to report sightings of rare wildlife species, or wildlife (of any kind) on roadways

For More Information: Look for information and updates about the CHANJ program on NJDEP Fish & Wildlife’s website, Facebook and Instagram pages. Learn more about CHANJ and its related tools such as the CHANJ mapping and guidance documents and the NJ Wildlife Tracker at CHANJ.nj.gov. Sign up to receive email updates about the CHANJ project at <https://dep.nj.gov/njfw/education/email-lists/>. Like NJDEP Fish & Wildlife’s Facebook page at facebook.com/NewJerseyFishandWildlife

Follow NJDEP Fish & Wildlife on Instagram @newjerseyfishandwildlife.

IMPORTANT MAILING INFORMATION!
Our New Mailing Address is:
PO Box 606, Bangor, PA 18013

Bono 610-588-3299
Pizza
Eat In or Take Out
New Hours - Open 7 Days A Week - 11am to 10pm!
We Deliver on Door Dash & Slice
EVERYDAY SPECIALS
2 Large Cheese Pizzas \$22.99+ tax
1 Large Cheese Pizza 8 Wings & a 2 Liter Soda \$22.99+ tax
Gift Certificates Available
VISA Find Us on Facebook
1436 Bangor Rd., Pen Argyl (RT. 191)

75ft BUCKET TRUCK
Free Estimates | Fully Insured
TREE WORK
TRIMMING - REMOVAL - STORM DAMAGE - FIREWOOD
STUMP GRINDING - CHIPPING - WE DO SLATE REPAIRS!
24 Hr. Emergency Storm Damage Service Call for Discount
For Fast Service, Call: H: 610-599-6882 C: 610-442-2996
Craig Wickett
CraigWickettTreeWork.com

DID YOU KNOW: YOU CAN FIND OUR LATEST, AND MULTIPLE PAST EDITIONS ONLINE VIA YOUR COMPUTER, TABLET, OR SMARTPHONE! WE ARE JUST A CLICK AWAY
Visit Us Online Today at:
WWW.THEPRESSNEWSONLINE.COM & On Facebook

Pennsylvania Receives an Additional \$28.6 Million to Restore Abandoned Mine Land for Economic Development Projects

The Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization (AMLER) Program will fund sustainable economic and community development projects – protecting homes and businesses, while improving the health and safety of Pennsylvania communities With the largest inventory of abandoned coal mines in the nation, Pennsylvania has already received \$244 million this year from the federal government to clean up abandoned coal mines

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has received \$28.6 million in federal funding for the 2024 Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization (AMLER) Program, which will put abandoned mine lands across the Commonwealth to good use by funding economic and community development projects on reclaimed sites. Previous AMLER projects include public parks, public waterlines to ensure clean and safe water, recreational trails for fishing and biking, and more. Pennsylvania has more abandoned coal mines than any other state in the country. With the support of federal and state funding, Pennsylvania has already rehabilitated 150,000 acres of abandoned mine lands. “Remediation of

abandoned mine lands is critical for the health, safety, and well-being of communities across Pennsylvania,” said DEP Acting Secretary Jessica Shirley. “With this federal funding, we will be able to continue this vital work that protects public health and safety, and put reclaimed land to good use with eligible economic development initiatives.” Pennsylvania has a roughly \$5 billion need for reclamation and stream restoration. More than 5,000 miles of streams in Pennsylvania are impacted by acid mine drainage from abandoned mining sites – these toxic chemicals can harm our water sources and result in issues like erosion. In April, Lieutenant Governor Austin Davis and U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Deb Haal-

and announced a \$244 million investment into restoring and reclaiming abandoned mine lands in Pennsylvania. The funding is part of the \$725 million for abandoned mine cleanup nationwide this year under the Infrastructure, Investment, and Jobs Act (IIJA). The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation will receive \$244 million for projects to clean up abandoned mine lands and protect Pennsylvania communities – removing waste piles, re-grading dangerous highwalls that can result in loose dirt, trees, and other hazards, treating abandoned mine drainage that effect streams and rivers, and preventing and treating mine subsidence underneath homes and businesses across the Commonwealth.

Millions of structures in Pennsylvania are located over old, abandoned underground coal and clay mines. That’s why DEP offers mine subsidence insurance for Pennsylvania homeowners that may have abandoned mines beneath their homes. Damage due to mine subsidence or mine water breakouts is usually not covered by your homeowner’s insurance policy. Residential Coverage of \$150,000 through DEP costs just \$41.25 a year. Since 1961, the Mine Subsidence Insurance program has paid out over \$36 million in homeowner claims. On June 3, 2024, DEP received the FY 2024 AMLER Program funding administered by The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE). OSMRE used the Department of the Interior’s



Financial & Business Management System (FBMS) Standard Treasury for payment allocation. This is the ninth year Pennsylvania has received funding from the AMLER Program. AMLER was established in 2016 to accelerate abandoned mine land remediation for long-term sustainable use through economic and community development. Eligible projects will need to comply with the OSMRE FY 2024

AMLER guidance document. Example projects can include outdoor recreation/conservation plans and industrial improvements. Interested applicants can apply on DEP’s Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) and Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) Grant Program page. For more information on the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, please visit the website, or follow DEP on Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn.

The Overlook

4285 N. Delaware Dr., Mt. Bethel 570-897-0169

Hours: Wed-Sun, 2:30pm to Close  LIKE US ON facebook



Looking For Live Music This Saturday?

Visit Us At Our Sister Location: Hunter's Lodge 64 Rt. 46, Columbia, NJ

Where ELECTRIC SHADOWS will be playing This Saturday, JULY 6TH at 5:30pm RAIN OR SHINE

(Indoors if Raining)



Music on the Lawn - Please Bring Your Lawnchair!

Frelinghuysen Land Use Board Meeting Faces Angry Crowd



Frelinghuysen Land Use Board hearing for an Industrial Cannabis Factory applicant was opened up to an angry crowd, which armed themselves with legal representation. The meeting was very well attended by more than 200 people. Esquire Mr. Roger Thomas of Dolan and Dolan spoke on behalf of the opposition. He opened up the hearing by announcing deficiencies within the applicants filing and the deficiencies with the details of the Land Use Board. This brought the hearing to a screeching halt, and the crowd went wild. Cheering on their ESQ., similar to a sporting event. The next scheduled hearing will be held on August 5th, at 7pm, at 139 Lincoln Laurel Rd., in Blairstown, NJ, for the applicants deficiencies to be aired. Photo and caption submitted by Wynona Long.

The 8th Annual TRI Mountain Lake Sprint Triathlon with DASH Multisport July 13th, 8am - 2pm Prices Range from \$60 – \$115

The “Hidden Gem” of TRIATHLONS!
1/4 Mile Swim ~ 15 Mile Bike ~ 3 Mile Run
RELAY team of 3 option
AND NOW WITH A 3 MILE RUN ONLY OPTION
AS WELL ON SATURDAY JULY 15TH!

This sprint triathlon has been called “the hidden gem” of NJ races. It tours the surrounding area of Mountain Lake in Liberty Township, New Jersey. After a 1/4 mile swim in the pristine lake, get ready for some ups and downs in the 15 mile bike ride. Then finish off on the 3 mile run giving a view from each angle of the lake. This race can be done as an individual or as relay team of 3. And new to the race day events is a 3 mile run that will start just after the triathlon and follow the same course for the run as the triathlon does!

DO NOT MISS THIS UNIQUE CHALLENGE!!
To Sign Up Visit:
WWW.RUNSIGNUP.COM/RACE/NJ/LIBERTYTOWNSHIP/TRIMOUNTAINLAKE



PA Rep. Susan Wild Introduces Bipartisan Bill to Improve IVF Access and Affordability



Rep. Susan Wild (PA-07) joined Reps. Lori Chavez-DeRemer (OR-05), Zach Nunn (IA-03), Debbie Wasserman Shultz (FL-25) in introducing the Helping to Optimize Patients' Experience (HOPE) with Fertility Services Act, which aims to improve access to infertility treatments like in vitro fertilization (IVF). Specifically, the bipartisan proposal would require private health insurance plans to cover infertility treatment – helping alleviate this enormous financial burden for women.

“I’ve seen firsthand the heartbreak, fear, and anger individuals experience while dealing with infertility, and I firmly believe as legislators we need to be doing everything in our power to ease that burden,” said Rep. Wild. “By treating infertility like any other medical condition, therefore requiring insurance to cover fertility treatments, the HOPE with Fertility Services Act will lower the costs associated with IVF and help more hopeful parents achieve their dreams of having a child. I’m proud to co-lead this bipartisan legislation, and I’m pushing for its swift consideration on the House floor.”

“Every year, thousands of babies are born in the United States thanks to IVF. Unfortunately, there are many more couples out there struggling with infertility who want to have children but can’t afford the procedure. I’ve been working on legislation to address this issue since last year, gathering feedback from my colleagues to build a strong coalition of bipartisan support. I’m proud to officially introduce the HOPE with Fertility Services Act, which will help more Americans start or grow their families and experience one of the greatest gifts and joys in life,” Rep. Chavez-DeRemer said. “As a proud mother of twin daughters, I’ll keep working across the aisle to improve health care

access and affordability for women.”

“As a father of six, I’ll never have a more important title than ‘Dad.’ It breaks my heart that some folks struggle to start their families. Infertility used to be the end of the story, but now we have tools, like IVF and other fertility treatments, to help families grow,” said Rep. Nunn. “The common-sense HOPE with Fertility Services Act will ensure anyone struggling with infertility can start or expand their family.”

“Infertility is a disease that impacts millions of Americans – and one that crosses all gender, racial, religious, or socioeconomic lines. I personally struggled with infertility and felt the life changing impact of IVF firsthand when it helped me become a mom for the first time, to two beautiful twins,” said Rep. Wasserman-Schultz. “I am proud to co-lead the HOPE with Fertility Services Act. This bipartisan legislation to expand access to infertility treatments through private insurance plans will give hope to and remove worry for women who struggle with infertility. As a breast cancer survivor, I know the difficult realities that come with a diagnosis and necessary treatments, and how that impacts the ability to conceive. And for many survivors with genetic mutations, access to IVF is a godsend as it can end the genetic cycle of generational increased cancer risk.”

The HOPE with Fertility Services Act amends the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) to ensure three causes of infertility are covered by private insurance plans, including:

- Infertility due to a diagnosed disease or physical ailment that prevents the bringing of a child to full-term live birth;

- Unexplained infertility, such as a couple who cannot conceive after trying for at least 12 consecutive months; and

- Infertility or anticipated infertility due to a course of treatment for another ailment such as undergoing chemotherapy for cancer.

“As the largest patient advocacy organization focused on increasing access to family building options, we know that the number one barrier for people who struggle to build their family is lack of comprehensive insurance coverage for medical treatments like IUI and IVF. The HOPE with Fertility Services Act will remedy this barrier by amending ERISA plans, which covers most private insurance in the U.S. We applaud this bi-partisan legislation and urge the House of Representatives to show their support for our community by passing this pro-family legislation,” said Barbara Collura, President/CEO, RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association.

“In an era of political polarization, we are thrilled to see bi-partisan legislation to enhance access to fertility care. We are grateful to Representatives Chavez-DeRemer, Nunn, Wild, and Wasserman Shultz for being able to find common ground on this important topic. We hope their example will inspire their colleagues to move this bill quickly to final passage,” said Elizabeth Ginsburg MD, President-Elect of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine.

“Americans for IVF fully and enthusiastically supports the HOPE with Fertility Services Act. This pro-family and life-affirming legislation will correct an injustice that has gone on for far too long of insurance companies failing to cover infertility treatment for Americans whose bodies do not allow them to have children at no fault of their own. Infertility is a disease like any other disease and should be covered by insurance just as they cover other diseases. At a time when the birth rate in America is at an alarming decline, we need legislation like this that will bring more babies into the world, now more than ever,” said Dr. Kaylen Silverberg, M.D., Advisory Board Chair.

Full Text of the bill is available at: <https://chavez-deremer.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/chavez-deremer.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/HOPE%20with%20Fertility%20Services%20Act%20-%20Bill%20Text.pdf>

SLATE BELT REGIONAL JR. POLICE ACADEMY HOSTS THEIR 21ST CLASS OF CADETS



Slate Belt Regional Jr. Police Academy hosted their 21st class of cadets, over the course of 5 days, from June 17th and ending on June 23rd. During the course, cadets had an opportunity to visit Lehigh University Police Department, learn about police investigations, learn about fire fighting from Lookout #1 and Plainfield Twp. fire companies, compete for fastest time in the obstacle course, shoot a .22 rifle, speak with undercover drug officers and had the chance to check out a body bag that the Northampton County Coroner's use. They took a trip to the Lehigh Valley International Airport, observed a taser exposure, pepper spray exposure, and defensive tactics. They met with the Bethlehem City Bomb Squad, learned how to use a tourniquet, do CPR and help someone who might be choking. The cadets also met the flight crew from LVHN MedEva. They also took a tour of the Monroe County Corrections Facility, watch K9 demonstration from the Slate Belt Regional Police K9 Zorro and Officer Lowe along with the Bushkill Twp. K9 Dark and Officer Miller, and learned about effects of alcohol, and were put through some tests wearing the Fatal Vision Goggles. They ended the course on June 23rd with the class of 2024 graduation and final dismissal. Courtesy Slate Belt Regional Jr Police Academy



Relax

Let us handle your advertising needs, so you can spend more time doing the things you love!
 Quick, Easy, and Effective - Contact Melissa Today

thepressads@gmail.com

Special Pricing Now - Aug 24th

NEW AD SPECIALS

1/4pg Ads ONLY \$125
Reg. Starting Price - \$225

3x5 Ads ONLY \$95
Reg. Starting Price - \$137

3x3 Ads ONLY \$68
Reg. Starting Price - \$83

Regular Advertisers May Size Up For Special Pricing Just Ask!

Garden Dilemmas? Ask Mary!



Mary E. Stone
Stone Associates
Landscape Design
& Consulting,
Blairstown

Hello, fellow readers,
Our public gardens are a sure way to get a garden and nature "fix" with no cost of admission. Bruce Crawford, Morris County Park Commission's

Manager of Horticulture, invited me to tour the Frelinghuysen Arboretum in Morristown, NJ. The tour came with an extraordinary surprise—the arrival of the gift of a giant Umbrella Pine, with insights from those involved, including a two-year-old boy.

Kristin Prommel, Superintendent of Horticulture at Frelinghuysen Arboretum, explained Lorenz Fasano of Mendham, NJ, who grows Umbrella Pines, donated the 28-foot tree.

The tree arrived in a truck with an enormous tree spade encasing the root ball. Maybe that's why Jack, less than two years old, was enthralled with the tree. He had a front-row seat with his Mom steering his stroller, following



the truck from the garden entrance through the Long Meadow to its new home in the Conifer Garden.

I enjoyed a front-row spot, too, and had the privilege of interviewing those involved, including the moving man. With East Coast Landscape Contractors, Mark Adelle specializes in transplanting large trees. They started tying up the limbs and digging the tree at the nursery that donated it at 7 AM; it was in the ground by noon. Watching Mark and his crew was like watching a perfectly choreographed dance, ensuring the giant would thrive in its new home.

Its botanical name, Sciadopitys verticillata, sounds like a dinosaur. And it is! It's known as the Japanese Umbrella Pine because of its origin—fossils of the plant date back 230 million years from when dinosaurs walked our world.

While all the excitement

was going on, Jack patiently watched. His Mom said he loves to be outdoors and is curious about plants and animals. Perhaps he'll be the next horticulturist to run the Arboretum.

I had never realized the depth of Umbrella Pine cultivars, some of which you can see at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, along with many other treasures.

A Needle Juniper greets you when entering the Conifer Garden like a giant Cousin Itt from the old Addams Family. Juniperus rigida is also known as Temple Juniper because it originates in Japan and is often planted on sacred grounds. I adore its graceful weeping branches and have one planted along the rear foundation overlooking the stone patio. Looking at their monster, about thirty feet at forty years old, mine will eventually have to be moved.

We wrapped up the

conifer tour with the history of the Arboretum.

"It was the home of the Frelinghuysen family, an influential family in New Jersey politics and industry. Built in the 1800s, it was their summer home. In the 50s, it was bequeathed to the park commission by Matilda Frelinghuysen, the last daughter who lived here," Kristen said.

Speaking of history, it was a delight that Lori Janssen, Executive Director of the NJ Nursery and Landscape Association (NJNLA), joined the tour and shared tidbits about the over 100-year-old association.

"Our members are everybody in the green industry." Garden centers, landscapers, greenhouse operators, growers, designers, and community gardens. "We support them by providing education, advocacy, and networking."

The NJNLA also helps

consumers by providing information and the benefits of hiring a pro. "We like to say, do it right the first time; hire a pro," Lori said.

Bruce added that the NJNLA supports "public gardens and members of educational horticulture. I've always enjoyed education and sharing. Because I think a lot of people walk around and look at plants and don't appreciate how they operate, how old they are, or how they grew or developed with pollinators. Or maybe there weren't pollinators around when they started, like that Umbrella Pine we watched go in the ground."

And what a treat it was. No matter our age, if we encounter unexpected things, take time to watch and marvel, as young Jack did, because wonder is the beginning of wisdom.

Garden Dilemmas? Ask Mary! Stone Associates.com and for favorite Podcast Apps.

J.A.T.A.
Lots Available **CONSTRUCTION** Lots Available
Custom Build & Home Improvement Contractor
Specializing in New Custom Built Homes Since 1987
Locally, Family Owned and Operated
Taking Care of Your Home Improvement Needs
LOTS AVAILABLE: We Build On Your Lot or Ours!
Fully Insured - Free Estimates
Residential, Commercial, Industrial
Renovations, Additions, Finished Basements
Garages & Out-Buildings - Kitchens & Baths
Electrical - Decks, Windows, Doors & More
610-863-7228

Local Business Directory

Promote Your Business in the Business Directory for ONLY \$210 for 12 Weeks
Call 610-599-1952 or email thepressads@gmail.com to get started Today!

ADVERTISING
MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCK!
We Work With YOUR Budget! Contact Us Today
We Also Do CUSTOM INVITATION DESIGN Just Ask!

CLEAN UP
DENNY'S
CLEAN UP DEMOLITION & HAULING
ATTICS • BASEMENTS YARDS • GARAGES
Free Estimates Fully Insured You Name It...We Haul It! Senior Citizen Discounts!
One Call Hauls It All: **610-923-7346**
7 Days A Week
Easton, PA

GUTTERS
JNJ
Seamless Gutters
"50 Years of Combined Service"
Proudly Serving The Lehigh Valley, Poconos, & Surrounding Areas!
INSTALLATION REPAIRS SIDING GUTTER CLEANING -Free Estimates-
570-629-0735
Kunkletown, PA

JEWELER
Rosal Jewelers
Sal & Rosemarie
We Buy Gold & Diamonds Repairs Done on Premises
14K Gold • Platinum • Silver Diamonds & Gemstones
4 Market St., Belvidere, NJ 908-475-8866
W-F, 9:30-4:30; Sat, 9:30-2

Landscape Makeovers
Gardens need TLC?
Ask Mary!
Stone Associates
Landscape Design & Consulting
908-362-6617

MASONRY
Thomas R Sabatine, Jr.
Masonry
Pavers • Sidewalks • Patios
Chimneys • Stone • Stucco
Block • Concrete • Bilco Doors
570-460-2778
Free Estimates Fully Licensed & Insured

PET CARE
Furry Tailz
Pet Sitter
DOG OR CAT SITTING
Dog Walking/Boarding In A Home Setting
Up to 2 Medium Size Dogs
CALL: 484-544-1909

PLUMBING
DE-CLOG
The Clogged Pipe Specialist!
Sink Drains | Shower Drains
Washer Lines | Toilets | Sewer Lines
Servicing the Area for 30+ Years!
610-588-3297

SEPTIC SERVICE
YESKA
SEPTIC SERVICE
484-764-6351
Call Henry Today!
Septic Tank Pumping & Repairs

TREE SERVICE
Hawk Mountain
Tree Service
570-807-7746
Serving the Slate Belt, Blairstown, Sussex & Warren Counties
Tree Trimming/Removal
Stump Grinding • Firewood
60' Bucket Truck • Lot Clearing
Brush Chipping
NJTC777857
Fully Insured Free Estimates

ADVERTISE
YOUR BUSINESS
HERE!
ONLY \$210
For 12 Weeks!

Classifieds

Help Wanted

Tree Company Seeks, FT, PT Worker. Must Have Valid DL. jensentreeexperts@gmail.com or call 908-459-4005 Warren & Morris Co., NJ TS

Siding, Roofer, and Window Installer. Experienced only. Must have drivers license. Work available immediately. Call Comunale Construction at 610-588-6715 TS

Caregivers Needed. Weekends & Nights Some Lifting Required Call 610-588-6000 TS

Breakfast Cook Wanted Mornings 6am to 2pm Apply in Person Mt. Bethel Diner 2600 N Delaware Dr., Mt Bethel

CDL & LABORERS WANTED

Henry Yeska & Son Septic Service Hiring CDL Drivers Class A & B and Laborers. Full time & part time available. Experience preferred but not required. Will train on the job. Please call the office at 610-759-3290. TS

TRUCK DRIVER WANTED

MUST HAVE Class A Or B CDL License
Dump Truck Experience Needed! Loader Experience Helpful. Delivering Stone, Mulch, and Topsoil **\$\$ TOP PAY \$\$** (Based on Experience)
Call 732-684-2302 for an interview, ask for Lenny

Saturday & Day Shift Servers Wanted At Hunter's Lodge in New Jersey Please Call 610-888-6613

Part Time Tree Helper Wanted! Must Have Valid DL. Call 610-588-1034 TS

Help Wanted Must Have Taken CDL Endorsment Class A or B Benefits Offered & Vacation Time Apply by Calling 610-759-3290

NOW HIRING FOR 2024 SEASON!
Ground Men, Climbers & CDL Drivers Needed Call Us at 570-807-7746

HELP WANTED PART TIME FIREWOOD SPLITTER
Call Today: 610-588-1034

Safety Positions Needed
• Construction Safety Manager
• Forklift Instructor
• Crane & Rigging Instructor Part Time Local Travel Ideal for retired professionals! Reply to: billie0125@gmail.com

Firewood
Seasoned Firewood \$190/cord \$95/half cord 570-202-6902

Firewood for Sale. \$120 pick up truck load. Call Craig Wickett at 610-599-6882. Pick Up Only No Delivery!

Firewood Cut-Split-Delivered \$210 a Cord 570-202-6902

Firewood for sale \$200 a cord All different sizes 14, 16 or 18 inches long. Call 610-588-7513

Firewood for Sale. Mixed Seasoned Hardwoods, \$450 per dump truck load, aprox 1 3/4 cord, Free Delivery within a 10mi. radius. Call Craig Wickett at 610-442-2996 or 610-599-6882.

For Sale
Vintage Craftsman 100 Table Saw with Stand. Complete. Works. Fence & Miter Incl. 1HP Motor. All Original. \$300/obo Call Dan at 973-670-7826

Rentals

Office/Retail Space for Rent Heat, AC, Water, Sewer, & Garbage Included. \$550/mo. William St., Pen Argyl. Call 484-330-0093

10 x 20 Garage for Rent! Electric Overhead Door w/ Concrete Floor. \$125/mo. William St., Pen Argyl. Call 484-330-0093

Vehicle

2018 Chevrolet Colorado Pick-Up 4WD LT Ext. Cab V6 8-Spd. Auto Tran. \$24,000 Miles. Original Owner, PRISTINE CONDITION! Asking \$29,000 OBO. Call: 610-588-0196

Free

Bi-Fold Futon, wooden frame. Red & Black Cushion. Lightly Used in Great Condition. FREE for Pickup! 610-573-6257

Classified Ad Order Form

Non-commercial classified ads (Misc., Vehicles, Recreation, Wanted, Pets, Yard Sales) are \$5 per week, per inch (1.8" W x 1" H). There is no charge for Free items. Services, Rentals, Real Estate, Homes For Sale and Help Wanted ads are \$15 per week, per inch. Please specify the category in which your ad should appear, the size your ad should be (boxes on right), and how many weeks your ad will run. Please PRINT ad information.

Ads with Photos! \$18

NAME: _____
PHONE: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CATEGORY: _____

One inch (actual size shown here)

WEEKS RUNNING: _____ AMOUNT PAID: _____

Please PRINT Your Ad Information Below

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.
Make Checks Payable to: The Free Weekly Press, LLC

Have you Recently Lost a Loved One?
We run obituaries to help spread the word to the community about the services for your beloved family members.
Contact Us at thepressads@gmail.com

Washington, New Jersey, Gets Green

With dozens of vendors, kids activities, live music and the kickoff of the Washington Farmers Market the Borough highlighted all things green on June 15 when it held its annual Sustainably Green Music & Arts Festival downtown.

The Sustainably Green Music & Arts Fest, presented by the Washington Business Improvement District, featured eco-friendly vendors, artisan displays, Dove Environmental, and plenty of music.

For the third year in a row, the day will also included a celebration of Juneteenth with activities and displays at Bricks Bots and Beakers.

The musical line up included Avoiding Foreclosure, Gypsy Funk Squad and the reggae band, Verdict.

During the course of the day, numerous services were offered. They included:

- Paper shredding at Se-



rendipity

- Used electronics collection by Abilities of Northwest Jersey
- KN Butterfly Garden clothing drive

- Project Medicine Drop to safely discard unused & expired medications (Warren County Sheriff's Department)
- Rossi Auto Group's

EV vehicle on display. Sponsors of the fest included Schembre & Gannon Accountants, Good Impressions Print Communications, Get A Grip & More, New Jersey American Water, Visions Federal Credit Union, Swift Print Solutions, Abilities of Northwest Jersey, West Washington Family Dental. Washington Borough Green Team. Explore Warren, and the Washington Women's Club. The fest was also made possibly by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment of the Arts.

The event also served as the kickoff to the season-long Downtown Farmers Market, held every Saturday from 10-2 by Veterans Park (formerly the Pocket Park).

For more information about the Farmers Market, vendor opportunities, and other WBID news, visit washingtonbid.org or LIKE the Washington BID Facebook page.

PA Rep. Leader Bryan Cutler Statement on Passage of Biomarker Testing Legislation



House Republican Leader Bryan Cutler (R-Lancaster) on Thursday applauded the passage in the Senate of legislation he co-prime sponsored with Rep. Kyle Mullins (D-Lackawanna) that would require insurance coverage of biomarker testing in Pennsylvania.

"Today marks a significant milestone for health care in Pennsylvania. This crucial legislation will pave the way for improved diagnostics and personalized treatment options for Pennsylvanians dealing with complex diseases," Cutler

said.

"By ensuring biomarker tests are covered, we are advancing patient care and empowering health care providers to deliver more targeted treatments. I commend my colleagues for their dedication to advancing this important initiative, which will undoubtedly make a positive impact on the health and well-being of Pennsylvanians for years to come."

House Bill 1754 passed the Pennsylvania Senate unanimously on Tuesday. It now heads to Gov. Josh Shapiro's desk.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL & OUTDOOR CONCERT
Saturday, July 13th, 7pm
 Yellow Frame Church, 1 Yellow Frame Road, Fredon, NJ
 Bring a Lawn Chair!
 Local Ice Cream On Sale From Windy Brow Farms
 Music By The Hontz Family Band

HUNTER'S LODGE RESTAURANT & MOTEL

64 Rt. 46, Columbia, NJ • 908-475-0060 • We Are Open 11am-11pm • 7 Days a Week

LEGENDARY STEAKS!

Martini Monday!
\$5 Wells

Taco Tuesday!
\$7.99

Serving Breakfast at 11am

Steamed Clams

LIVE MUSIC THIS SATURDAY!
ELECTRIC SHADOWS
 Sat., July 6th - 5:30pm
 Rain or Shine!
MUSIC OUTSIDE BRING A LAWN CHAIR!
 (Music Will Be Indoors if Raining!)

Motel Rooms:
\$95/Night | \$500/Week | \$1,150/Mo.
 Includes: A/C & Heat, WiFi, Dish Network, Trash, Parking, Small Fridge & Microwave.
Call 610-888-6613 For Motel Rooms!

NO COVER CHARGE!

Like Us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/HuntersLodgeNJ