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North Warren Regional Marching Band Brings Home 6th Regional 1A National Championship



Congratulations to the North Warren Regional High School Marching Band on winning their 6th Regional 1A National Championship. Photo courtesy Blairstown Hose Company #1 Facebook

Girl Scouts Spearhead Washington Borough's 12th Annual Operation Jersey Cares

Girl Scouts Warren Hills Service Unit 90 is now spearheading one of Washington Borough's most successful annual events, Operation Jersey Cares.

The Operation Jersey Cares campaign, which was supported by the Washington Business Improvement District through last year, is now in its 12th year in the Borough. Operation Jersey Cares benefits service men and women from New Jersey deployed around the globe.

The drive, which kicked off on Veterans day, has annually drawn hundreds of boxes of products collected through generous donations from businesses and the community at-large, not just in the Borough, but throughout the region. Over the past 11 years, thousands of items have been collected. Collection boxes can be found around the area at local businesses.



Girls Scouts Unit 90 includes scouts from Washington Borough, Washington Township, Mansfield Township, **CARES cont'd on pg 5**

The Mikey L Racciato Foundation Hosts 2nd Annual 5k/10k and Fun Walk To Raise Funds For Mikey's Place





On Saturday, November 14th, the Mikey L Racciato Foundation held their 2nd Annual 5K/10K and Fun Walk. Congratulations to the overall winners: 5K - Christian Smith (M) and Katherine Reilly (F); 10K - Caden Metzgar (M) and Carolyn Katz (F). The mission of the Mikey L. Racciato Foundation is to fund and build Mikey's Place, an inclusive playground in the Slate Belt where children of all abilities can play side by side, connect, and create lasting memories. "Our vision is simple: a place where every child belongs and no one is left behind." See page 2 for more information on the playground and to donate.

Marcel Guadagnini Celebrates His 100th Birthday



Marcel Guadagnini celebrated his 100th Birthday recently at the North Warren Senior Center on Rt. 94 in Knowlton, NJ. Marcel was born in New York and moved to Blairstown in 1972 where he has continued to reside. He was an avid golfer until 90 years old. He's a fan of the Yankees and the Cleveland guardians. He was a manager for US radium. He has one son, Glenn, and his sister Mary is 102! Happy Birthday! Courtesy Margie Kelly

Help Raise Funds for Mikey's Place, An Inclusive Playground in Memory of Pen Argyl's Mikey Racciato



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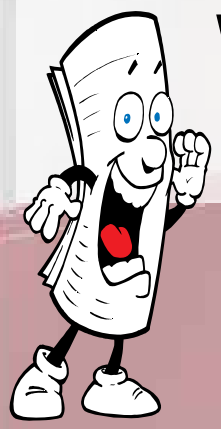
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Pennsylvania Game Commission Reminds Hunters To Safely Prepare for Rifle Season



If you have a date with a tree stand the morning of November 28, then now is a good time to start thinking about sighting in your rifle!

Before you set out hunting in firearms season, you should sight in your rifle and even practice shooting. By zeroing in your rifle, you will not only improve your accuracy but also have confidence in your abilities. And if you have a youth hunter who will be potentially taking their first shots, it's a good practice for them to be comfortable with what they'll be shooting.

Ideally, you want to be zeroed in at 100 yards, but often, new shooters start at 25 yards and then gradually move out. You can very easily do this at many of our state game lands ranges across PA too!

Here some reminders of equipment that will be handy when sighting in your rifle:

- Ear and eye protection
- Ammunition (SAME ammo you will use to hunt and one or two boxes depending on if you're practicing or just sighting in)
- Rest or sandbags
- Paper targets with grid (grids allow you to calculate scope adjustments)
- Spotting scope or binoculars
- Staple gun for targets
- Small tool kit (if needed to adjust sights)

Remember to take your time, breathe, and don't allow yourself to get frustrated! This time of the year, public ranges can become busier, so please have patience and consideration for others. And remember, users of state game lands ranges must have a hunting license or range permit to use facilities. Licensed or permitted shooters are allowed one guest.

To find a state game lands range near you, visit: https://bit.ly/PGCRanges.







PA Senator, Lisa M. Boscola, Elected Senate Majority Caucus Chair

State Senator Lisa M. Boscola (D-Lehigh/Northampton) was elected today by her Democratic colleagues to serve as Majority Caucus Chair of the Pennsylvania Senate for the 2027-28 legislative session. Boscola will join the Senate Democratic leadership team as the caucus prepares to assume majority control of the chamber for the first time in more than three decades.

As Majority Caucus Chair, Boscola will play a key role in conducting caucus meetings, facilitating discussions on legislation and policy priorities, and working with fellow members of the majority leadership team to advance the caucus's legislative agenda.



"I am honored to have earned the trust and confidence of my colleagues to serve in this leadership role," said Boscola. "For the first time in more than 30 years, Senate Democrats have the opportunity to lead the chamber and deliver on priorities that have been stalled for far too long. With that opportunity comes a tremendous responsibility to deliver meaningful results for the people of Pennsylvania. I am excited to be part of a leadership team that is ready to get to work."

Boscola emphasized the importance of working collaboratively with Governor Josh Shapiro, the House of Representatives, and colleagues across the Senate to advance a shared legislative agenda focused on delivering meaningful results for Pennsylvanians.

"Pennsylvanians expect their elected leaders to work together and get things done," Boscola continued. "I look forward to working with our majority leadership team to build consensus, advance good legislation, and ensure every member of our caucus has a voice in shaping our priorities. We have a tremendous opportunity before us, and I intend to make the most of it."

Boscola's election as Majority Chair also comes as the Lehigh Valley and Northeast Pennsylvania gain a greater presence within the incoming Senate Democratic majority. Senator Nick Miller (D-Lehigh/Northampton) was elected Majority Policy Committee Chair, while Senator Marty Flynn (D-Lackawanna/Luzerne) was elected Majority Caucus Administrator. Their leadership roles, coupled with the election of incoming Senators Mark Pinsley and Brian Wrightson, strengthen the region's representation in Harrisburg.

"Our region has a strong and growing delegation, and I am excited about the opportunity to work together to ensure the needs and perspectives of the Lehigh Valley and Northeast Pennsylvania are part of the broader conversation," Boscola said. "We each bring different experiences to the table, but we share a commitment to delivering results, not just for our region, but for communities across the Commonwealth."

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Adult Fiction:
All in by David Baldacci; Dead before tea time by M.C. Beaton; Numb were the beadsman's fingers by Alan Bradley; She will end this by Colleen Coble; Sweet pea by Kit De Waal; Split-second: thirty-two switcheroo by Jane Evanovich; Royal witch by Philippa Gregory; Chain reaction by Lee Child; Bad company by Sara Paretsky; The heights by Ian Rankin

Adult Non Fiction:
Into the quiet: following Jesus in a world of noise by John Mark Comer; Nature's last dance: tales of wonder in an age of extinction by Natalie Kyriacou; Heal your cells: reversing the irreversible-a proven plan to heal faster, reclaim energy, and unlock longevity by Josh Axe; Simply Ina: barely cooking, shortcut, make ahead, really fast by Ina Garten; Kiki's Delivery Service: the official cookbook by Studio Ghibli; Today we are cooking: recipes that teach you to think like a chef by Tini Younger; Abandoning a cat: a personal story by Haruki Murakami

Large Print Adult Fiction:
The Thoroughbreds by Elin Hiderband

Easy Fiction:
Bluey. What games should we play? By Tallulah May; Can you find it?:bedtime with The Very Hungry Caterpillar; Happy Halloween from the Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle; EXTRAordinary!: a little extra to reach big dreams by Caitlin Clark; The pout-pout fish in the big-big dark by Deborah Diesen; 123s of kindness by Patricia Hegarty; ABCs of kindness by Patricia Hegarty; The toast of the town by John Jory; It's fun to be a furmaid by Stuart Lynch

Easy Non Fiction:
Alice's adventures in Wonderland by Jessica Courtney-Tickle; Balloons over Broadway: the true story of the puppeteer of Macy's Parade by Melissa Sweet; Salvador Dali by Ma Isabel Sanches Vegara; Hayao Miyazaki by Ma Isabel Sanches Vegara; Little People, big dreams: Pablo Picasso by Ma Isabel Sanches Vegara; Tchaikovsky by Ma Isabel Sanches Vegara

Junior Fiction:
School for woodland creatures by Lauren Castillo; Winnie-the-Pooh: the graphic novel by Kevan Chandler; Unicorn diaries. The glitter bug 9 by Rebecca Elliott; Dog Man. A sprinkle in time by Dav Pilkey; Georgie Summers and the scribes of Scatterplot by Isaac Rudansky

Junior Non Fiction:
Who was accused in the Salem witch trials?: Tituba by Insha Fitzpatrick; A year full of celebrations and festivals by Claire Grace; Let's learn to fish!: everything you need to know to start freshwater fishing by Dan Armitage; A is for Abigail: an almanac of amazing American women by Lynne V. Cheney

Young Adult Fiction:
Devoured by Jordan Gray; Akira failing in love 5 by Shinta Harekawa

DVDs:
K-pop demon hunters; The lord of the rings: the rings of power. Season 1

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McGuckin, Fantasia Bill Giving Parents of Multiples More Say in Preschool Placements Becomes Law

Starting next school year, New Jersey parents of twins or higher-order multiples will have more control over the placement of their children in public preschool programs. Gov. Mikie Sherrill signed the legislation, sponsored by Assemblyman Greg McGuckin and Assemblywoman Dawn Fantasia, Thursday.

"This is a win for parental rights," McGuckin (R-Ocean) said. "This new law supports parents' right to make the educational decisions that are in the bests interests of their children starting with preschool."



McGuckin's constituent and a Brick Township mother of identical twin girls, Jackie Anderson, has been advocating for a legislative fix after one of her twins was accepted through her district's preschool lottery while the other was not.

"A random lottery outcome had the power to make a significant developmental decision for two three-year-old twins. A lottery should determine whether a seat is available. It should not determine whether young multiples are separated. Separation should be an individualized developmental decision, not one made by chance," Anderson told the Senate Education Committee.

McGuckin and Fantasia's bill (A5218/S4349) expands the state law that allows a parent or guardian of twins or higher-order multiples enrolled at the same public school in kindergarten through eighth grade to direct the school to place the children in the same classroom or separately. Now parents of multiples enrolling in public preschool programs have those same classroom placement rights and the option to request that the children be treated as a single unit in a preschool lottery system or during open enrollment.

"The Legislature in 2008 wisely afforded parents the right to have a say in how public schools placed twins. By including public preschools under the law, we are creating a statewide standard ensuring all families of multiples have the chance to choose what works best for their children and all schools have one set of rules for admission," Fantasia (R-Sussex, Morris, Warren) said.

The law applies to public preschool programs operated by a school district, Head Start programs, and licensed child care providers.

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FRIDAY THE 13TH, A BLAIRSTOWN TRADITION THAT'S TO DIE FOR











Jason wasn't the only one celebrating Friday the 13th this month, in Blairstown, NJ. This time there was a special birthday, and a KILLER cake for a patron celbrating her birthday! If you haven't had the chance to visit Blairstown, NJ during on of their Friday the 13th events, be sure to mark you calender for August 13th, 2027. Looking for something less spooky? Check the paper for Local Christmas events in Blairstown, and the surrounding areas. Photos by Bob Halberstadt/The Free Weekly Press



CARES

Continued from page 1

Oxford and Franklin Township.

"The girls are very excited to be taking on this important community project," said Karin Burd, the group's Service Unit Manager. "They are very aware of its signifance and what it means for our troops. Our troops deserve our support in any way we can and we know that this effort has always resonated throughout the community, with businesses and residents alike."

"The Girl Scouts are an integral part of our community and we are thrilled that they want to take on the responsibility of Operation Jersey Cares this year and in the future," said Kristy Romanowski, Ph.D. "We know that they have the full support of the community."

The list of items that are typically collected include toiletries including razors, toothbrushes, shampoo, shaving cream and female hygiene products.

The Washington-based campaign is always among the state's top collectors for Operation Jersey Cares, which has recognized Washington numerous times for its efforts.

For more information about the program here in Washington, or if you would like to have a box placed at a business, email girlscoutsu90events@gmail.com.

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Operation Toy Train Returning To Hackettstown For Third Annual Toy Collection

Article by Jay Edwards

Operation Toy Train will return to Hackettstown for the third consecutive year on Saturday, Dec. 5, collecting new, unwrapped toys to benefit the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation and children across northern New Jersey.

The annual holiday toy collection will take place from 9:15 to 10 a.m. at Hoff's Automotive, located at 700 Grand Ave. in Hackettstown.

Last year's collection brought in 1,005 toys and two bicycles, thanks to donations from the community. Organizers are hoping to surpass that total this year as they continue supporting children and families during the holiday season.





Toys collected through the event will benefit children in Bergen, Essex, Morris, Sussex and Warren counties.

In addition to the toy collection, several local organizations will participate in the festivities, offering entertainment and refreshments for those attending.

Marley's Gotham Grill Food Truck will provide free breakfast sandwiches, coffee and hot chocolate to visitors during the event.

The New Jersey Civic Youth Ballet will also participate, bringing The Nutcracker to the celebration.

The Hackettstown Community Band is scheduled to perform Christmas music from 8:45 to 10 a.m., providing holiday entertainment before and during the toy collection.

Residents who cannot attend the Dec. 5 event can donate toys in advance at three locations throughout Hackettstown.

Donation drop-off locations include the Hackettstown Municipal Building and Hackettstown Police Department, both located at 215 West Stiger St., and the Hackettstown Business Improvement District office at 219 Main St.

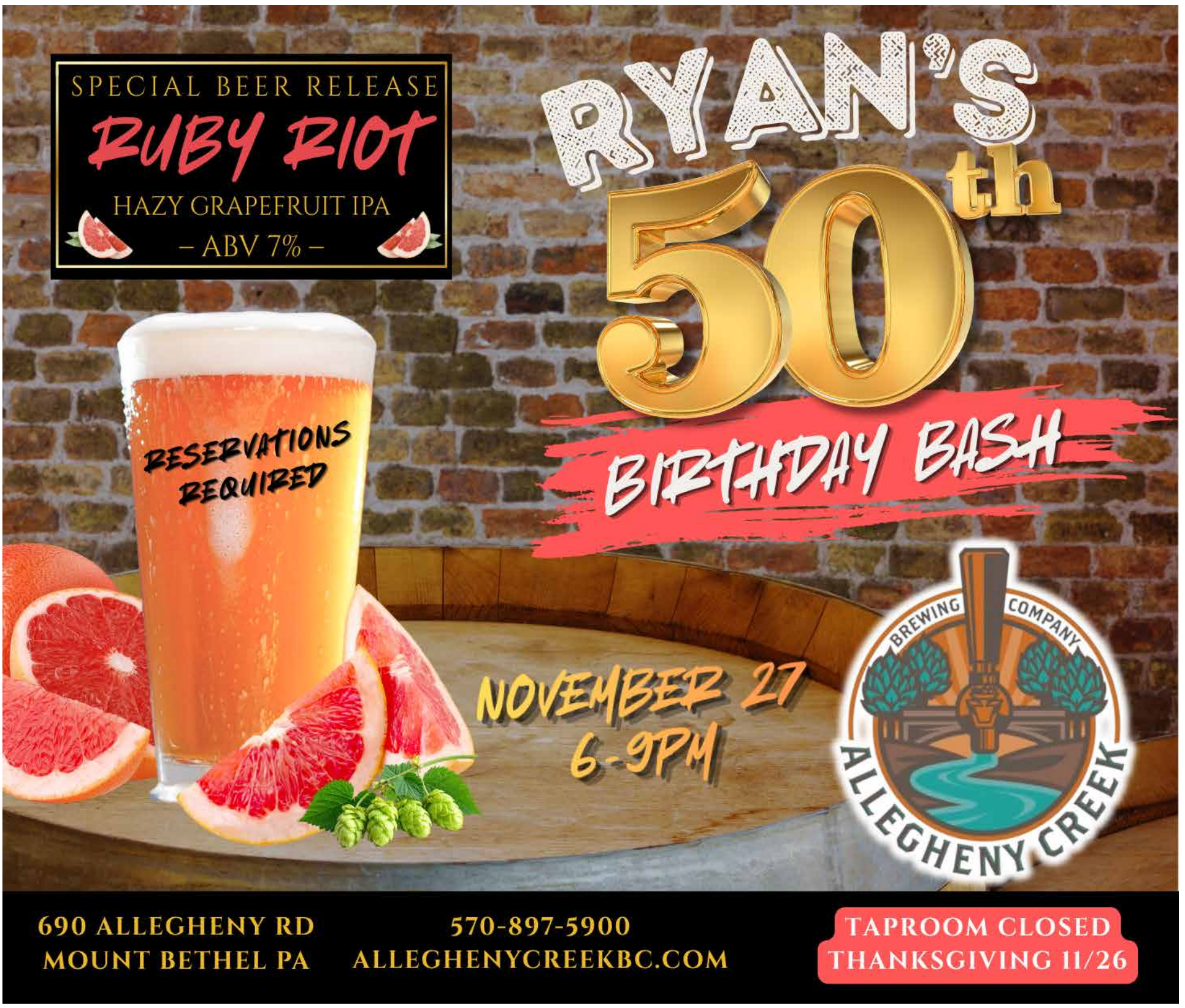
All donated toys must be new and unwrapped. Organizers are asking residents not to wrap gifts before donating them.

The annual event brings together local residents, businesses and community organizations to support the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation's mission of providing holiday gifts to children in need.

For more information about Operation Toy Train or to learn how to participate, visit www.OperationToyTrain.org.

(Full Article can be found online at: wrnjradio.com/operation-toy-train-returning-to-hackettstown-dec-5-for-third-annual-toy-collection/)





Habitat For Humanity, Northwest NJ, Honors Local Veterans













November 11, 2026, Habitat for Humanity Northwest New Jersey honored our local Veterans with an afternoon of fun including brunch, Veterans information from the County of Warren, a presentation about Project Horses for Forces and the reading of a proclamation from Warren County read by Commissioner James Kern, III. This is an annual event held at the Habitat for Humanity Community Center in Washington Borough, NJ. Sixteen Veterans were in attendance as well as Washington Borough and Warren County dignitaries and Habitat for Humanity NWNJ employees. Artwork created by Port Colden Elementary School students was on display and thank you cards made by Memorial School students were presented to the Veterans. Habitat for Humanity Northwest New Jersey is a merged affiliate of Habitat for Humanity, International, combining the efforts of the Warren and Sussex County Habitat for Humanity affiliates. Having merged officially in 2025, they have served Sussex County since 1993 and Warren County since 1999. An accredited 501 (c)(3) charitable organization, Habitat's mission is: Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope. You can learn more about Habitat NWNJ at habitatnwnj.org.



Shapiro Administration Unveils New Plan to Protect PA's Parks and Forests from the Impacts of Climate Change

The Shapiro Administration is taking new steps to protect Pennsylvania's state parks, forests, and outdoor recreation areas from the growing impacts of climate change, while reducing the greenhouse gas emissions generated by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). Today, DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn



unveiled a new Climate Action Plan at the Mira Lloyd Dock Resource Conservation Center, establishing measurable goals and actions to make the Commonwealth's public lands and DCNR operations more sustainable and resilient through 2050.

Pennsylvania is already experiencing the effects of a changing climate, including increased flooding, more extreme heat days, harmful algal blooms, and shifting seasonal patterns. These changes can threaten public safety, harm natural resources, and affect the places Pennsylvanians and visitors enjoy for outdoor recreation. The plan builds on work already underway and sets goals for making DCNR's operations and public lands more sustainable and resilient for future generations.

Governor Josh Shapiro and his Administration are committed to protecting Pennsylvania's environment and ensuring that future generations can enjoy the Commonwealth's natural resources and outdoor spaces, including upholding Pennsylvanians' constitutional right to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the environment.

"Pennsylvania's state parks and forests are among our greatest natural resources, and we have a responsibility to protect them for generations to come," said DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn. "This plan builds on the work DCNR is already doing to prepare our public lands for the impacts of climate change, protect the natural resources Pennsylvanians depend on, and reduce our own emissions. We're setting clear goals and taking practical steps to ensure these special places remain safe, healthy, and accessible for everyone."

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Hackettstown Business Recognized for "Excellence in Accessibility"

A long-time local business is this year's recipient of Warren County's annual Thomas M. Kennedy "Excellence in Accessibility" award.

B&R Uniform Services, which provides police, fire, and EMS services in Northwest NJ with top-quality uniforms, printing, and embroidery, received the award November 13, 2026 from Warren County Commissioner Director Lori Ciesla and other officials in a visit to their location at 147 Main St., Hackettstown.



B&R Uniform Services has demonstrated a sustained commitment to improving accessibility within a privately owned, family-operated business. The owner, Justin Weiss, has invested personal resources in modernizing the facility and improving accessibility without the use of grant funding, while also attempting to preserve the historic character of the building.

The facility provides accessible routes through the primary areas of the business, accessible restroom facilities, clear pathways, an accessible customer service area, appropriate lighting and signage, and an environment designed to accommodate individuals with varying accessibility needs.

Beyond the physical improvements, the company's approach to customer service is an important component of the nomination. Weiss demonstrated a welcoming attitude during the site visit and expressed a clear commitment to treating all customers with dignity and respect.

Commissioner Director Ciesla joined Warren County Division of Aging & Disability Services Executive Director Steve Unger, Division staff member Lorraine Johnson, and Warren County Advisory Council on Disabilities members Lorraine D'Sylva-Lee and Jennifer Beetar-Speth to present Weiss with the 2026 Thomas M. Kennedy "Excellence in Accessibility" award.

The award is named for Thomas M. Kennedy, a relentless advocate for people with disabilities who also served on the county Department of Human Services' Advisory Council on Disabilities. The award was established after Kennedy's death in 2008 to recognize individuals, businesses, organizations and service groups that are user-friendly and accessible to all, and/or have initiated notable efforts and improvements that facilitated accessibility.

Santa Is Ice Skating To Washington In An Early Visit On Small Business Saturday

Psst! Santa and Mrs. Claus will be making an early visit to Washington Borough, and if he remembers his ice skates, he can enjoy some ice time. Yes, you heard right. As part of Washington's Small Business Saturday celebration on Nov. 28, there will be an ice skating rink for all to enjoy that will be set up by Veterans Park.

Small Business Saturday, celebrated the Saturday after Thanksgiving each year, has always been a lot of fun in Washington Borough. The day features a DJ, holiday shopping opportunities, a chance to win prizes, Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus making their rounds at various businesses, and an ice skating rink! It'll be free to skate as long as a family makes a minimum purchase - any purchase - of $5 or more at a business in the Borough that day. Just bring that receipt to the rink and skating is free from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Skate time may be limited based on number of participants at one time. Skaters must bring their own skates.

The full Downtown activities take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"Very excited to bring some extra excitement to Small Business Saturday with the ice skating rink," said Kristy Romanowski, Phd., the Executive Director of the Washington Business Improvement District.

Several businesses offer sales and other incentives to customers on that day, and of course, you can enjoy a variety of dining options. Throughout the day the North Pole visitors will go to many shops with early holiday greetings, and if shoppers are lucky enough, have a chance to mingle with Santa and Mrs. Claus as well.

"Small Business Saturday brings attention to the thousands and thousands of small businesses around the country, including right here in Washington Borough," said Romanowski. "Small businesses are at the heart of our economy. In Washington we are mostly made up of small businesses and we need to support them not just on Small Business Saturday, but every day. Small Business Saturday is a day that we can highlight them in a big way."

Romanowski added, "Shop local. Support small and celebrate our local business community!"







Garden Dilemmas? Ask Mary?



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Hello fellow readers,

A few weeks ago, I shared my dilemma about not mowing the lawn before winter. It began with the early leaf drop of the sugar maple during a dry spell shortly after my last mow in early October. Then came the rains and an avalanche of leaves, too thick to mow over.

Several rounds of leaf gathering followed, each lasting two to three hours, during which I clocked as many as five miles carting leaves to their leaf mold-making stations. Quite a workout!

Over the weekend, with more leaves to move, I found myself stressing over not giving the lawn its final cut to about three inches to help prevent snow mold, a fungal disease that can develop under snow. Then I giggled. Best to heed my own advice about The Beauty of Leaving Things Be (archived on AskMaryStone.com).

Most of the lawn is fine, but in damper areas, particularly near an underground spring, the grass is well over six inches tall and lying on its side. As I gazed upon it, the stress lifted. How beautiful it is, flowing in waves much like the Carex (sedges) I adore and use as lawn alternatives. Amongst the feathery fescue are clover, plantain, and other goodies. If it's green, it's good!

Besides, mowing soggy ground can do more harm than good, and most lawns recover from snow mold. My first season of tending the property on my own has been a learning curve. But as I often say, Mother Nature is forgiving.

I'm also learning how to care for my lawn tractor, now awaiting its annual service. I'm wondering whether it warrants the five hundred and fifty bucks I was quoted. Perhaps an oil change, blade sharpening, and an overall checkup will suffice.

Speaking of bucks…

While strolling with Jolee down to Johnsonburg Creek, I visited the baby tuliptree I transplanted last November while building the boulder wall. I nearly gave up on the dear thing after a season of no leaves, only to discover tiny leaves emerging near its base.

Sadly, it lay on the ground, snapped in two and torn from its roots, bearing the telltale signs of buck rub. What a swing of emotions, from the elation of witnessing the little tree's stunning comeback to the sadness of losing it.

Male deer rub their antlers against trees in late summer to remove shedding velvet and continue rubbing during the fall mating season to communicate their presence. Young trees are especially vulnerable, as damaged bark impairs the transport of water and nutrients. Rigid plastic mesh guards or cylinders of wire fencing around trunks, allowing several inches of clearance, help prevent damage.

Last fall, Miss Ellie Mae's memorial holly also suffered buck rub, losing a quarter of its lower branches. The sight brought tears to my eyes. With the holly on its way to recovery, I'm grateful I remembered to stake and net it before this fall's mating season. I'll keep the protection in place through winter.

Strolling up the hill, I watched the wind lift the fallen leaves, swirling them about before depositing them in the woods. I smiled at my urge to gather more leaves when Mother Nature was doing the work for me.

Then Jolee dropped to the ground, rolling with abandon in the sunshine. Of course, I stopped to give her belly rubs. "May we all take time to roll!" I said with delight.

It's interesting how deer leave their mark on the landscape, and how we, too, wish to leave ours. I believe leaving our mark is less about what we accomplish and more about what we nurture. Sharing kindness, encouraging growth, and helping others feel a sense of belonging.

The changing seasons invite reflection. Soon comes winter, when we think the world sleeps. Yet beneath the fallen leaves, preparations are already underway for our next season of growth.

May the marks we leave on this world be rooted in love, nurturing generations of people, plants, and wildlife to come.

Garden Dilemmas? AskMaryStone.com or tune in on your favorite Podcast App.





Local Businesses and First Responders Join Forces to Stuff a Boat Full of Toys - Initiative Benefits Project Self-Sufficiency's Season of Hope Toy Drive



The thirteenth annual "Stuff the Boat" toy collection coordinated by Branchville business Off Shore Marine to benefit Project Self-Sufficiency's Season of Hope Toy Drive has been launched. Area residents are encouraged to bring gift cards and new, unwrapped toys to fill a 24' boat at the dealership, which is located at 357 Route 206 in Branchville. In addition to customer donations, Off Shore Marine has created a collection team encompassing a wide range of first responders, area businesses, and organizations to gather toys to Stuff the Boat on behalf of the Season of Hope Toy Drive. Contributors to the Stuff the Boat include members of the Branchville Hose Company, the Blue Ridge Rescue Squad, Frankford Township Fire Department, Sussex Fire and Emergency Medical Service, and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Sussex Fire Department, along with the Wanderers Car Club, Kiwanis Club of Sussex, and Royal Buick GMC of Sussex.

New and unwrapped toys can be contributed to the Stuff the Boat initiative in a variety of ways. Off Shore Marine will be participating in the Branchville Fire Department Christmas Parade of Lights on Saturday, November 28th. Toys can be placed in the boat parked at the Branchville Fire House prior to the parade line-up from noon – 5:00 p.m. In addition, donors are invited to visit Off Shore Marine to place a toy in the boat through December 8th, or stop by the dealership's Community Drop Off Day on Saturday, December 5th, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Besides stuffing the boat with toys, the festive event will include refreshments and photos with Santa and firetrucks. Guests are invited to arrive prior to 11:00 a.m. to spot Santa arriving on his sleigh.

"This marks the thirteenth annual Stuff the Boat collection for Project Self-Sufficiency's Season of Hope Toy Drive," remarked Off Shore Marine owner Sherri Cecchini, who was inspired to launch the effort after dropping off a bag of toys and touring the non-profit agency years ago. "I was blown away by the toy shop which was being set up at the time, and knew that I needed to be a part of it! We are invested in our community; we have built our business and raised our family here. Putting goodness into the world is the right thing to do, and if we each contribute where and what we can, together we can make a real difference."

"This unique collaboration between local businesses and area first responders perfectly demonstrates the true spirit of giving during this holiday season," commented Deborah Berry-Toon, Chief Executive Officer, Project Self-Sufficiency. "Now more than ever, we are grateful for this community's steadfast commitment to our neighbors in need. Thousands of families will be helped by this initiative."

The Season of Hope Toy Drive is coordinated by Project Self-Sufficiency to benefit thousands of children in Sussex, Warren, and Northern Morris counties. Toys, gift cards, and monetary donations will also be gratefully received at Project Self-Sufficiency, 127 Mill Street in Newton, Monday – Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. or Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. To donate online, or for more information, visit www.projectselfsufficiency.org or call 973-940-3500.



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7am-4pm
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Hardwood, Dyed, Black, Brown, Red, & Cedar Mulches, Topsoil, Clean Fill, & Wood Chips
We Now Sell Mushroom Soil!
STONE AVAILABLE
River Stone: 3/8", 3/4", 1" to 3"
Red Stone 3/4"
ALSO AVAILABLE:
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WE ACCEPT YARD DEBRIS
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Buck Hill
BREWERY AND RESTAURANT

45 STATE RT 94 BLAIRSTOWN NJ

Thanksgiving Dinner

November 26th
Seatings at 12:30pm; 3:30pm & 6:30pm

$55 4 Course Adult Meal

$30 3 Course Children's Meal

Children's Menu is 12 and Under. Meal price is plus tax and gratuity - *Ala Carte Not Available on Children's Meal

4 Course Adult Menu:

Ala Carte Available

First Course

Choice of House Salad or Cup of Soup

House Salad $10.50
Mixed Greens | Cucumbers | Onion
Tomato | Carrot | Balsamic Vinaigrette

Soup $9.50
Butternut Squash
Beef Barley

Second Course

Appetizers:
Choose One

Clams Casino $16
Sausage | Spinach

Stuffed Mushrooms $14
Sausage | Spinach

Jumbo Shrimp Cocktail $21
Cocktail Sauce

Swedish Meatballs $17
Garlic Cream Sauce

Gorgonzola Bruschetta $14
Crostini's | Tomato Bruschetta | Gorgonzola Sauce

Crispy Brussd Sprouts $16
Bacon Honey Drizzle | Fig Crostini

Third Course

Entrees:
Choose One

Butternut Squash Ravioli $26
Sundried Tomatoes | Pecans | Spinach | Sage | Olive Oil

Thanksgiving Ham $26
Sliced Virginia Ham | Pineapple Glaze | Baked Sweet Potatoes & Stuffing | Mixed Vegetables

Young Tom Turkey $30
Mashed Potatoes & Stuffing | Green Beans | Gravy | Cranberry Sauce

Jail Island Salmon $34
Gratin Potatoes | Sautéed Spinach | Grainy Lemon Aioli

Oven Roasted Prime Rib $55
** add $12 to per person charge **
Baked Potato | Vegetable | Au Jus Sauce

Fourth Course

Dessert:
Choose One

Apple Pie $10
Pumpkin Pie $10

Call For Reservations
908-854-5300

3 Course Children's Menu:

FIRST COURSE
Appetizers
CHOOSE ONE

Cup of Soup
Butternut Squash
or
Beef Barley

Mozzarella Luna
Marinara Sauce

SECOND COURSE
Entrées
CHOOSE ONE

Cheeseburger
Fries | Choice of Cheese

Chicken Fingers
Fries | Honey Mustard

Grilled Cheese
American Cheese | Fries

Young Tom Turkey
Mashed Potatoes & Stuffing | Green Beans | Gravy | Cranberry Sauce

THIRD COURSE
Dessert
CHOOSE ONE

Apple Pie

Pumpkin Pie

Ice Cream
Chocolate or Vanilla

THANKSGIVING RESERVATION CREDIT CARD HOLD
***Credit Cards are required to make reservations.
Cancellations will be accepted 24 hours in advance with no charge.
Failure to cancel on time or no show will result in a $15 per person charge.

Support Local This Holiday Season

Buck Hill
BREWERY AND RESTAURANT
BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

Great Food Good Drinks Even Better Times

IT'S BETTER TO Give THAN RECEIVE...
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PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFT!

OFFER GOOD THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST
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BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

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Letter to the Editor: Summary of November 9th Knowlton Township Committee Meeting

Department of Public Works (DPW) Report: Tree Lighting and an Appearance by Santa Claus.

Tom Steckel, head of the DPW, said the department is finishing up cold patching Township roads and is concentrating on vehicle maintenance to prepare for winter. Mr. Steckel also mentioned that the speed bumps were removed from the County portion of Decatur Street. According to the County, they will be replaced.

The department is working to get estimates to fix the damage to the fence on Tunnel Field that was the result of a collision on Route 94.

Christmas Tree Lighting

Knowlton's tree lighting will take place on December 6 at Tunnel Field at about 5:00 p.m. Santa will be escorted through town on a fire truck starting around 4:00 and will arrive at Tunnel Field at around 5:30. Complimentary hot beverages and hot dogs will available for everyone to enjoy.

I-80/611/Amtrak Delaware Water Gap (DWG) Area Update

Township volunteer liaison Tara Mezzanotte reported that PennDot will hold a meeting with towns in the Delaware Water Gap area to discuss issues concerning Interstate 80 and Route 611 on November 17. Ms. Mezzanotte complimented PennDot for their continued efforts to maintain communication with towns in the DWG area.

The New Jersey Department of Transportation will also host a meeting this week to update area officials on their plans to install a rock wall along Route 80 through the Delaware Water Gap. Committeewoman Starrs will attend. Ms. Mezzanotte is hopeful that the NJDOT will present some new ideas on the rock wall project and other issues at the meeting.

Ordinances

The Committee unanimously adopted an ordinance to increase licensing fees for dogs. The new fee will be $15 for neutered dogs and $20 for non-neutered dogs.

An ordinance mandated by the State updating and amending the Township's stormwater management ordinance was unanimously approved by the Committee. If the Township had neglected to adopt the ordinance, Township residents could become ineligible for flood insurance.

– Rene Mathez, Adele Starrs.

**Please note the summaries are intended only to inform residents of issues that might be of interest to them. The summaries are not the official minutes and have not been approved by the Township Committee. They reflect the views of the author only.*





Classifieds

Rentals

OFFICE SUITE WITH PRIVATE BATHROOM. 2ND FLOOR, INCLUDES HEAT AND ELECTRIC. IN UPPER MT. BETHEL, $575/MO. CALL: 570-977-7495 FOR AN APPOINTMENT

Help Wanted

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

Position for oil burner service tech! Must have experience in oil burner cleanings, service, and air conditioning. Blairstown & Belvidere areas. Call: 908-362-8910

CDL DRIVERS & LABORERS WANTED
Henry Yeska & Son Septic Service Is Now Hiring CDL Drivers Class A & B and Laborers. Full Time & Part Time positions available. Experience preferred but not required. Will train on the job.
Please call the office at 610-759-3290

Part Time Tree Helper Wanted! Must Have Valid Driver Lic. Call 610-588-1034

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

Ground Person Needed for Local Tree Service Call 610-588-1034

WANTED:
CDL Driver for Tri-Axel Dump Trucks. Hourly Pay, Local Work. Mainly Day Work, Nights on Occasion. Must Have Clean Driving Record and Drug Free. Trucks parked in Belvidere, NJ. Call or Text Mike at 201-841-3864

Bus Person Wanted!
Mt. Bethel Diner, Apply In Person. 2600 North Delaware Dr., Mt. Bethel

Full time/ Part time HVAC technician
IMMEDIATE OPENING!
salary based on experience
Please email resume to:
ashplumbing17@gmail.com

NEED RIDES TO LOCAL SHOPPING, BANGOR. DOCTOR IN WIND GAP. WILL PAY $10/HR. 484-957-6095

Immigration Paralegal Manager Wanted
(Oxford, NJ)
Maybelle Francisco Law: Manage assigned immigration matters from client intake through completion under attorney supervision & final review.

Reqs: Bachelor's in Criminal Justice, Business Mgmt, or rltd field; 3 yrs exp in case or product mgmt & direct client support; Must be fluent in Filipino (Tagalog or Bisaya). $92,955 / yr.

Send Resume to:
maybelle@maybellefranciscolaw.com

Bucket Truck Operator Needed For Tree Service Call: 610-588-1034





Classified Ad Order Form

All Classified ads are $15 per week, per inch, with the exception of Yard Sale ads, which are $5. There is no charge for items being listed as FREE. Please specify the category in which you would like you ad to appear (ex: Help Wanted, Real Estate, Rentals, Vehicle...Etc.)
Please specify which size ad, and how many weeks you wish to run.
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.

Ads with Photos! $20

NAME:

PHONE:

ADDRESS:

CATEGORY:

WEEKS RUNNING: AMOUNT PAID:

Please PRINT Your Ad Information Below

One inch
(actual size shown here)

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
CLASSIFIED ADS CAN BE SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL TO: THEPRESSADS@GMAIL.COM OR BY MAIL TO: THE FREE WEEKLY PRESS, PO BOX 606, BANGOR, PA 18013
Help Wanted ads are free for current advertisers. Classifieds are NOT accepted by phone
Make Checks Payable to: The Free Weekly Press, LLC



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Brodheadsville, PA
570-476-9949

Miracle Ear Center
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Stroud Commons
(Rear of building)
Stroudsburg, PA
570-476-9949

Miracle Ear Center
Strykers Crossing Shopping Center
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Phillipsburg, NJ
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