



SCAN ME

TUSCARORA

Christmas Marketplace

BRING YOUR LOVED ONES, BROWSE FOR UNIQUE GIFTS, AND SAVOR THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 13

10 AM - 3 PM

3300 RIVER ROAD MT. BETHEL, PA 18343



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

ATTENTION



OUR MAILING ADDRESS IS

The Free Weekly Press

PO Box 606, Bangor, PA, 18013

FIND THIS PAPER ON

FACEBOOK & Online at

www.thepressnewsonline.com



Pen Argyl Wins Over Notre Dame East Stroudsburg in Boys Basketball



Pen Argyl went head to head with Notre Dame East Stroudsburg during the Don Moyer Memorial Classic held at Moravian Academy on December 5th. Pen Argyl won, 40 to 33. Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

Bangor Girls Basketball Team Honors Bangor Girls Youth Teams At Recent Game



Bangor took on Catasauqua on December 3rd during their girls basketball Youth appreciation Night. Bangor was defeated, 32 to 44. Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

Warren County Public Works Project Honored by State Group

A Warren County drainage project was honored as the County Public Works Project of the Year by the New Jersey Chapter of the American Public Works Association.

Representatives of the Warren County Department of Public Works, Division of Bridges and Roads received a plaque recognizing the project at the state association's annual holiday and awards luncheon.

The award recognizes excellence in the management and administration of an innovative public works project, which was completed utilizing in-house staff.

County staff finished the project in November 2024, in response to a critical need for improved drainage infrastructure in Harmony Township to protect local businesses, residents, and farming operations from the threat of flood

damage.

The project was a response to July 2023 storms with a foot of rain over the course of three days, resulting in significant destruction to more than 100 lane miles of roadways and damage to or failure of 33 of Warren County's bridge structures. "The infrastructure devastation was sudden, profound and put the safety of tens of thousands of County

Warren cont'd on page 2

Santa Spreads Holiday Cheer in Wind Gap,PA



Santa took a break from his busy schedule overseeing the elves in the workshop to spread holiday cheer in Wind Gap, PA, on December 6th, at the Annual Tree Lighting. Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

New Traffic Pattern Coming to I-80 East Stroudsburg



As part of the ongoing improvements at Exit 308 in East Stroudsburg, drivers should be aware of a key traffic shift beginning in December. This change is necessary to allow crews to safely set the beams for the new Prospect Street bridge and construct west bound roadway of Interstate 80. Here's what to expect:

- Eastbound traffic will be shifted onto the newly constructed lanes.

- Westbound traffic will temporarily cross over and use the original east-bound lanes.

- Exit 308 (East Stroudsburg) will remain

fully accessible in both directions.

This traffic adjustment marks an important milestone in a multi-year infrastructure project aimed at modernizing and enhancing the safety and flow of one of Monroe County's busiest interchanges.

Originally constructed in 1970 as part of the Eisenhower Interstate System, the I-80 corridor in Stroudsburg was built to outdated standards that no longer meet today's traffic demands. Short on- and off-ramps, narrow lanes, and limited

I-80 cont'd on pg 3

New in the Bangor Public Library

Adult Fiction:
King Sorrow: A Novel by Joe Hill; Best Offer Wins: A Novel by Marisa Kashino; A Curse of Shadows and Ice by Catharina Maura; Murder at Holly House by Denzil Meyrick; Your Knife, My Heart by K. M. Moronova; Secret Nights and Northern Lights by Megan Oliver; A Case of Life and Limb by Sally Smith; Date Night in December by Jaqueline Snowe

Adult Non Fiction:
Guinness World Records 2026; Dog Show: Poems by Billy Collins; The Uncool: A Memoir by Cameron Crowe; Simply More: A Book for Anyone Who Has Been Told They're Too Much by Cynthia Erivo; Star of the Show: My Life on Stage by Dolly Parton; The American Revolution: An Intimate History by Geoffrey C. Ward

Easy Fiction:
An Untold Story of the Christmas Fairy by Diane Alber; Chicka Chicka Ho Ho Ho by William Boniface; When Santa Wrote Back! By Nathan Christopher; Why We Need Aunts by Gregory E. Lang

Junior Fiction:
The Palace of Dreams by Jodi Lynn Anderson; Danger Down the Nile by James Patterson; Peril at the Top of the World by James Patterson; Quest for the City of Gold by James Patterson; The Dust Bowl, 1935 by Lauren Tarshis

WARREN

Continued from page 1

residents in jeopardy as a network of once-quiet streams and creeks became raging rivers tumbling debris downstream,” according to the project nomination.

One of the hardest-hit areas was County Route 519 at the intersection of Roxburg Hill Road and Roxburg Station Road, where bridge structure #10007 became clogged with debris, leading to the deck failing and closure of a major arterial county route. After initial work to repair structures and reopen the road, the County developed a plan to upgrade the area to prevent a recurrence.

The project consisted of installation of 1,538 feet of 24” pipe; 120 linear feet of curb; and four inlets, three manholes and a yard inlet along County Route 519 and Roxburg Station Road. The drainage system effectively diverts heavy stormwater flow during rain events around and away from local businesses and residential properties.



Under the direction of Warren County DPW’s Construction Crew Supervisor Ross Jean, a team of 12 Public Works staffers completed the project in just six weeks. Some 1,733 hours of County employee labor was used for the project, avoiding the use of costly outside construction labor.

Accepting the award from NJ Chapter Vice President South Kevin Bucceroni were Crew Supervisor Ross Jean, along with Warren County Public Works employees Stephen Buckholtz and Richard Mantoni, Assistant Supervisor of Bridges and Roads Glen Matlock, and Supervisor of Bridges and Roads Calvin Inscho.

“This award reflects the resilience of Warren County,” Commissioner Director Jason J. Sarnoski remarked. “The storms of 2023 caused unprecedented destruction, but our Public Works team refused to let that damage get the better of us. I’m proud of the dedicated professionals who turned a crisis into an opportunity to build better infrastructure for our residents.”

Sarnoski, who commissioner liaison for Public Works, added, “I want to thank Crew Supervisor Ross Jean and the entire team for their outstanding work. This award is well-deserved, and we are fortunate to have such capable professionals working for Warren County.”

Get \$500 Off a Complete Roof Replacement!

Visit www.kangarooofpa.com for an instant roof quote, or call today to schedule your appointment.

Don't miss this limited-time offer!

SCAN ME

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

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

Advertising inquiries can be sent to
thepressads@gmail.com

Call Us 484-988-0969
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!

Pen Argyl Lookout Fire Co. No1 Holiday Market

Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press



I-80

Continued from page 1

capacity have created challenges for local commuters and travelers alike. The Exit 308 project directly addresses these concerns with:

- Widened and lengthened ramps for safer merging and exiting;
- New stone-finished roundabouts to improve traffic flow and create a welcoming gateway into East Stroudsburg;
- Expanded lanes on both I-80 and Prospect and Brown Streets, improving access to East Stroudsburg University and Lehigh Valley Hospital-Pocono;
- Upgraded water, sewer,

and utility infrastructure; - New drainage systems, retaining walls, and sound barriers.

With more than half the project already completed, this update includes the Prospect Street bridge and over 10,000 feet of new drainage installed. The next phase will focus on finalizing the bridge, widening the remaining lanes, and constructing the roundabouts.

The project remains on schedule and is expected to be completed by late 2027.

I want to thank residents, commuters, and businesses for their continued patience as PennDOT, and its partners work toward delivering a more efficient transportation corridor for our region.

Look Out for Scams, Fraud and Theft During the Holiday Season

The holiday shopping season is prime opportunity for scams, fraud and theft. Some of the most common scams to be on the lookout for include bait-and-switch scams, skimming devices and fraudulent “cybersquatting” websites.

Pennsylvania Attorney General Dave Sunday offered several tips to prevent scammers from taking advantage when shopping online:

Watch out for bait-and-switch scams, where a retailer lures customers with a low price — but then substitutes a product that either costs more or is less desirable. Also be alert for scammers, known as cyber-squat-



ters, who use fraudulent internet domains that look and sound like legitimate brands or stores to trick unsuspecting customers. Be especially careful when paying for ser-

vices or items with wire transfers, cryptocurrency or money orders. Scammers may also ask for payment for things like bills, parking tickets, etc. via a gift card, which is a big red flag — a gift card

is not a normal payment method for these items. Do not provide your Social Security number or bank account information and be wary of emails and texts you didn’t request. Read the fine print. “Buy Now, Pay Later” services could have hidden fees or penalties in their agreements. The Attorney General’s Office has set up a Scams Complaint Form residents can fill out should they encounter any scams. The FBI also provides tips on how to avoid holiday scams and identify skimming devices, which are estimated to cost consumers and financial institutions more than \$1 billion per year.



TREE SERVICE, Inc.

- Tree Trimming
 - Tree Removal
 - Stump Grinding
 - Bucket Truck Service
 - Portable Saw Mill
 - Crane Service
 - Saw Sharpening
- Commercial
Lawn Mowing & Mulching
garyeagle.com

FULLY INSURED
610-588-1034



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 publics view.

Email us your news today at thepressmail@gmail.com

BANGOR (32) VS CATASAUQUA (44) GIRLS BASKETBALL YOUTH NIGHT



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

Monday-Thursday
2 Large Plain Pizza
\$25.95*

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



Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

PROUDLY SERVING ALL OF
WARREN, SUSSEX, MONROE,
AND NORTHAMPTON COUNTIES.

**CUSTOM
DESIGNED
FUNERALS AND
CREMATIONS**

PREMIER AND PERSONALIZED SERVICES AT AFFORDABLE PRICES

ERIK J. SCHNEIDER, OWNER/MANAGER, NJ LIC 4928



200 RT. 94 BLAIRSTOWN



Upper Mt Bethel Annual Tree Lighting

Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press





**FAMILY-OWNED
BREWERY & RESTAURANT**

570-897-5900 690 Allegheny Rd
AlleghenyCreekBC.com Mount Bethel PA

**THURSDAY-SATURDAY 12-9
SUNDAY BRUNCH 11-5**

16 CRAFT BEERS
ON TAP

FRIED CHICKEN
THURSDAYS
STARTING AT 4PM



**HOLIDAY GIFT
CARD DEAL**

**FREE PINT GLASS
WITH EVERY \$25
GIFT CARD
PURCHASE**



AVAILABLE 11/28-12/24

Paint & Sip



December 12

Brunch with
Santa



December 14

HOLIDAY TRIVIA



DECEMBER 18

Elsa's Surprise Party



January 10

PEN ARGYL VS NOTRE DAME EAST STROUDSBURG BOYS BASKETBALL

JOHN DON MOYER MEMORIAL CLASSIC



Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press

RoSal Jewelers

Best Jewelers in the Area!



4 Market Street, Belvidere, NJ
• 908-475-8866 •

Happy Holidays from
RoSal Jewelers



See Our **BEAUTIFUL**
New Line of Diamond
& Gemstone Pendants,
Earrings, & Rings

**ALL IN-STOCK MERCHANDISE
ON SALE NOW THRU DEC. 24TH**

Layaway Now for Christmas!
**We Guarantee That You
Will Be Completely Satisfied**
All Jewelry Repairs Are Done On Premise!

Hours: Wed-Fri. 9:30am-3pm; Sat. 9:30am-2pm
Christmas Week: 12/17-12/24, 9:30am-3pm
Open Black Friday 9:30am-3pm



SECURE PRIVATE
LOCATION

"FAMILY OWNED
& OPERATED"



STORAGE DISCOVERIES

**FINDER'S COLLECTION &
STORAGE DISCOVERIES**



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!**

NOW AT OUR NEW LOCATION!
128 RT. 94, BLAIRSTOWN, NJ
NEXT TO THE TRACTOR SUPPLY!
EXPERTS@FINDERSCOLLECTION.COM
908-535-4064
PRIVATE APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE
We Do House Clean Outs!

PEN ARGYL VS NOTRE DAME EAST STROUDSBURG GIRLS BASKETBALL
JOHN DON MOYER MEMORIAL CLASSIC



Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press



The Fountain House Pub & Dining



973-317-8802 610-888-6613

439 RT 94, Fredon, NJ

Dust Off
Your Boots
For Line Dancing
EVERY THURSDAY
7-10pm



\$10 at
the Door

Live Music
This Saturday
Decmeber 13th
The Treblemakers



Now Serving Food!
Stop In To Try Our
New & Delicious Menu!



Like us on
Facebook

908-549-6877

141 B Rt. 94
Blairstown, NJ

BLAIRSTOWN
EBIKES

Blairstownebikes@gmail.com
www.blairstownebikes.com

Wind Gap's Annual Tree Lighting



Christ Church Presents Nine Lessons & Carols



The choirs of Christ Church Newton will offer the Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols.

Christ Episcopal Church in Newton will present the Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, on Sunday, December 21st, 7:00 p.m. The worship service includes nine Bible stories interspersed with Christmas carols which depict the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus. The renowned Christ Church Senior Choir and Youth Choir will perform accompanied by organ, piano, and a string quintet under the direction of Choirmaster, Joseph Mello, and Youth Choir Director, Deborah Mello. Works by Hector Berlioz, Bob Chilcott, Dan Forrest, Rhonda Polay, John Rutter, Natalie Sleeth, Peter Warlock, David Willcocks, and Ralph Vaughan Williams will be presented along with settings of traditional carols and anthems.

There will be several opportunities for the public to sing carols. A reception will follow. The format for the service was based on an Order drawn up by Edward White Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for Christmas Eve, 1880 in Truro, Cornwall. It has since been adapted and used by other churches all over the world. The Reverend Chris Streeter will preside. Piano and organ accompaniment will be provided by Diana Greene. The event is free and open to the public, although a free will offering will be taken. Christ Church is located at 62 Main Street in Newton. For more information about the Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, call Christ Episcopal Church at 973-383-2245 or visit www.christchurchnewton.org.

Photo by Dale Young/
The Free Weekly Press



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

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

Portland Hook & Ladder Co. #1
William Pensyl Social Hall
111 State Street
Portland PA 18351



Breakfast with Santa

ALL YOU CAN EAT
Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Bacon and
Breakfast potatoes.
Coffee, tea and juice.

\$12 per person
*children under 5 yrs eat free
Cash or Credit excepted

Sunday, December 21, 2025
7:30am to 11:30am

If you want
Santa to hand
out a special
gift while you
are at break-
fast, please
drop off a
wrapped la-
beled gift with
first and last
name Tues-
day's at the bin-
go hall from
6:30pm to 9pm.
Please include
contact name
and phone.

Pen Argyl's Annual Tree Lighting



Photo by Dale Young/The Free Weekly Press



Visit Us at Our
New Location:
141B Rt. 94
Blairstown, NJ

908-362-6666 • VillageSundaes@gmail.com

Craig's Window Cleaning

Residential & Commercial
Senior Citizen & Veteran Discounts
FREE ESTIMATES
Formerly Woody's Window Cleaning

CALL TODAY: 484-837-6206
Serving Northampton, Lehigh, Monroe & Carbon Counties

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

GRAY'S RECYCLING

MULCH • TOP SOIL • STONE • DYED MULCH

Pick Up Or Delivered To Your Location

Fall Hours:
Open Mon-Fri:
7am-4pm
Closed Saturday & Sunday

Commercial & Residential Sales!

MULCH AVAILABLE

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

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 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

STORM DAMAGE CLEAN-UP, DEMOLITION & LOWBOY MOVES

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

CASH & ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Garden Dilemmas? Ask Mary!




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

Hello fellow readers,
What a joy it was to visit my sister in Virginia during Thanksgiving. While I was away, a long-overdue, long-dreamed-of project continued at home. My associate installer, Charles Fabel, created a magnificent work of art by replacing the rotting retaining walls in front of the house with boulders harvested from the property. The previous owner had used telephone poles as retaining walls—not so pretty, never mind the smell of creosote, a preservative that only intensifies when they bake in the sun, to the point that I’d opt not to be on the screen porch on hot summer days.
Before my trip, I rallied to dig up the perennials I cherish—many given to me by my dear friend and design colleague, Marty Carson, who recently passed away—cuttings from her garden. I carefully heeled them into the compost pile, where they could have stayed safely until spring.


Charles did a meticulous job digging out the large shrubs with his backhoe after protectively lassoing the branches. Their roots were exposed for about five days during construction, which is precisely why transplanting woody plants while dormant is best.
Masterfully, he moved the large boulders from the woodland, staged them, and artfully set them into place. The Saturday morning before I left, he came to dig the shrubs back in before building the walkway, knowing how important it was to me to get them settled into the ground.
We chose irregular pieces of thick, tumbled bluestone for the walkway and beefy garden steps to complement the indigenous stone. When I returned home, I was awestruck by the final transformation.
The very next day, I planted the perennials. A light snow was falling, but the ground was still soft and moist. I also tucked two flats of assorted sedum liner plugs into the nooks and crannies. It’s one of my trade secrets—starter plants are a cost-effective way to cover large areas. You get 32 plants in a single flat, typically used by growers to produce retail plants. Yet their roots are substantial enough to go right into the ground. Shhh... let’s keep that our little secret (smile).
Then, just as last week’s snowstorm began, I hauled out five-gallon buckets of water mixed with a potion called Stress X from North Country Organics—a seaweed extract Marty introduced me to years ago. We’ve transplanted perennials in full summer bloom using Stress X, and the plants never missed a beat. I lugged about fifteen five-gallon buckets from the basement so the warm water could penetrate the crusting soil. Jolee stayed close by my side, clearly puzzled by my determination. It was quite the workout. Did you know five gallons of water weigh about 42 pounds? Still, it felt comforting to know the roots would be quietly active and healing through winter.
Harvesting boulders brings to mind a past topic of mine, The Etiquette of Pilfering Rocks (archived on AskMaryStone.com), where I explained why taking stones from public lands or stacking them in natural areas amounts to pilfering and littering. But using rocks from your own property—responsibly—is another matter altogether. One must be careful not to remove stones that stabilize slopes, for example. And indeed, boulders should never be taken from wetlands or streams, where they influence water flow and protect shorelines.
Rocks and boulders are part of the ecosystem. They provide habitat for small animals, insects, and plants, and removing too many can upset the balance. We harvested across a broad swath of the terrain, and whenever tree roots were exposed, we replaced the soil as best we could.
As I replanted the cherished plants, I paused to reflect on how gardens and plants carry the love we leave behind—how they continue to grow and spread long after we’re gone. And with that thought comes great comfort and the promise of the unfolding beauty that never really ends.
Garden Dilemmas? AskMaryStone.com and your favorite podcast app.





Merry Christmas

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT



Buck Hill

BREWERY & RESTAURANT

45 STATE RT. 94 – BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

908-854-5300

Classes
begin
January 20
2026!

MAKE A
DIFFERENCE
IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Become a
RUTGERS ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARD



Join our expert-led course and make a lasting impact.

Course Features:

- 17 Weekly Classes with Environmental Experts
- Tuesdays, 5:30-8 PM | 13 Online Sessions + 4 In-Person Sessions to Key Environmental Sites
- Complete a project in your community
- No previous experience needed
- Annual ½ day conference in fall

Topics Covered:

- Climate Change, Invasive Species, Recycling, Soil Health, Renewable Energy, Water Quality, Habitat Conservation, Pollinator Protection, Food Waste, Environmental Justice

Program Fee:

- \$325

Registration is OPEN!

To learn more visit:
envirostewards.rutgers.edu



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Environmental Stewards
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station



Slate Belt Heritage Center & Museum Seeks Annual Preservation Awards Nominees



The Slate Belt Heritage Center & Museum is seeking nominations for its' 2026 Preservation Awards. Categories are as follows:

Initiative Award goes to an individual who has shown exemplary actions in promoting and preserving the history and culture of the Slate Belt or any Slate Belt municipality through "In-Kind" actions (acts where they receive no compensation/pay-

ment). Architectural Award goes to an individual who is saving or conserving a historic building, place or artifact, within the Slate Belt, where restoration is 90 % authentic to original state of construction. Special Focus Award goes to an individual who is saving or conserving a tradition or a body of knowledge and may be contributing to educational information via exhibits, documentation, internet, archival, etc. concerning the Slate Belt. Applications are available at the Center located at 30 North 1st Street, Bangor, PA 18013 or by just sending in the information to the Center. Applicants may also contact: Karen Brewer at 484-894-5661 for additional information.

There's A "Little Buzz" Happening in Washington Borough, NJ

There's a "Little" buzz in Washington Borough, and its gaining momentum. As the new year takes hold, the Washington Business Improvement District, in an effort to focus more on supporting businesses in town with its residents and positive attributes, is rebranding with a new name - Little Washington.

"The goal behind the Little Washington branding is to highlight and celebrate the charm of our historic town while creating a distinct, memorable identity that attracts visitors, supports local businesses, and strengthens community pride," said Kristy Romanowski, the organization's Executive Director. "By unifying signage, marketing, events, and beautification efforts under a cohesive brand, the WBID is able to tell

a consistent story about who we are—a small, historic town with character, creativity, a welcoming downtown and a great place to do business throughout the Borough."

Further, Romanowski stated, "This branding helps differentiate us from surrounding communities, will offer more tourism appeal, and create a sense of belonging for residents and business owners alike, ultimately contributing to a stronger and more vibrant local economy."

Restaurants, retail businesses and professional service providers will benefit from the new branding as well.



"We've got a lot of new and unique events and promotional ideas we are working on," said Nicole Kries, the President of the WBID's Board of Directors. "From our businesses to our residents, Little Washington will be a win-win all around. So stay tuned for more exciting news down the line!"

For more about the Washington Business Improvement District and Little Washington, visit washingtonbid.org or check out the Washington BID Facebook page.



Journey back in time for an unforgettable Christmas Nativity experience!

Saturday, Dec. 13th, 3-5pm
Sunday, Dec. 14th, 3-5 p.m.

East Bangor United Methodist Community Church
136 W. Central Ave, East Bangor, PA 18013

Ready to take your family back in time? Come to "ONE STARRY NIGHT" at the East Bangor United Methodist Community Church and experience Christmas like never before! You'll taste, see, and even smell what life was like when Jesus was born. This walk through Biblical Bethlehem will take you through the city gate, register for the census, visit the inn, see the stable, and more. It's a living nativity experience for all ages, so bring the whole family! "ONE STARRY NIGHT" takes place on Saturday and Sunday, December 13 and 14 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at 136 W. Central Ave. (Rt. 512), East Bangor, PA 610-588-4453; www.ebumc.org

Advertising at your Finger tips!

Get an Online Ad For as little as \$15 to \$25 per week.

Contact Melissa for details at: thepressads@gmail.com



ATT: ALL WBID MEMBERS

OFFICIAL ELECTION MEETING NOTICE

DATE: January 8, 2026	TIME: 7:00 pm
---------------------------------	-------------------------

LOCATION:
Washington Borough Business Improvement District Office
21 Belvidere Ave.
Washington, NJ 07882
908-689-4800

Ballots will be mailed on or about Dec. 10, 2025. Results will be read at the Jan. 8, 2026 meeting.



*Merry Christmas to all,
May your homes be filled with peace, your lives with hope, and your hearts with faith!*

*From Our Family To Yours,
Merry Christmas*

Craig Wickett
Tree Work
(610) 599-6882
(610) 442-2996

HUNTER'S LODGE RESTAURANT & MOTEL

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

Motel Rooms:
\$105/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!



Serving Breakfast at 11am **Steamed Clams** **Martini Monday! \$5 Wells** **Taco Tuesday! \$7.99**



TRY OUR LEGENDARY STEAKS!

Now Booking Holiday Party Reservations!
Call 610-888-6613 To Book Your Date!

GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE!



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



From Your Friends at

RE/MAX
TOWN & VALLEY

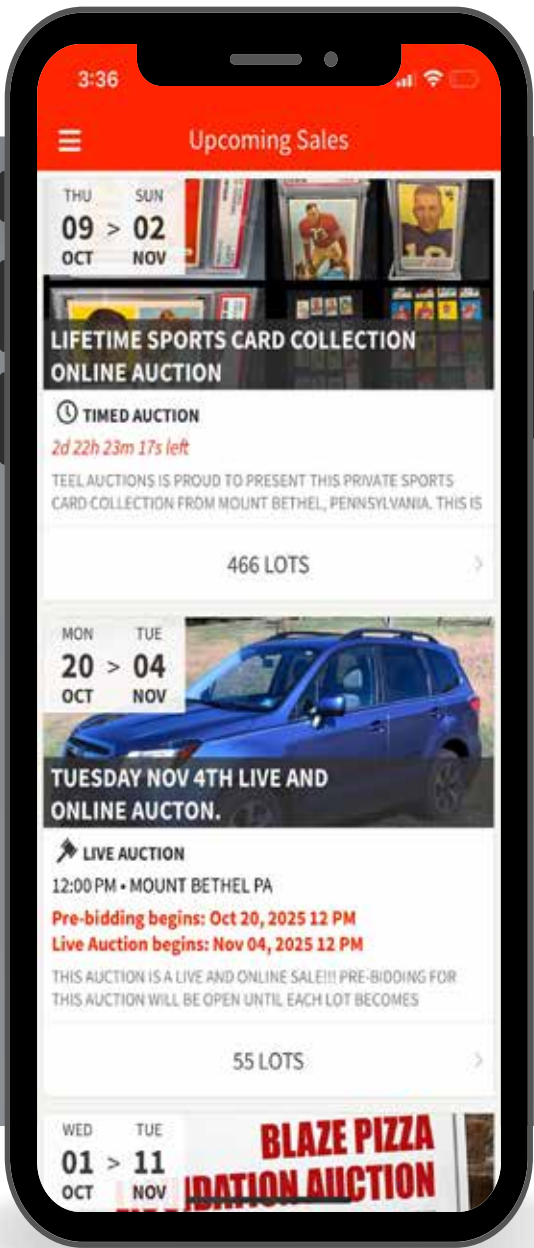
Hackettstown Office: 908-852-1333
1605 Rt. 517, (Panter Valley Mall), Hackettstown, NJ 07840

Hope Office: 908-459-9888, 329 High Street, Hope, NJ 07844

Roxbury Office: 908-459-9888, 211 Rt 10 East, Succasunna, NJ 07876

Now Licensed in PA & NJ **www.TownAndValley.com**

Teel Auctions



Your Convenient App for Furniture, Collectibles, Equipment, and More

FIND OUR APP HERE

- 1 Download the app by scanning the QR code.
- 2 Sign up to bid virtually through the app.
- 3 Browse upcoming auctions, bid live, or leave a bid.
- 4 Pay online and pick up your goods at our auction gallery!



For Androids



For iPhones



teelauctions.com



(570)-897-8335

1101 Allegheny Road
Mt. Bethel, Pa. 18343



Discover Brook Hollow Winery & Event Center



Nestled in the heart of Columbia, New Jersey, Brook Hollow Winery and Event Center offers a breathtaking blend of rustic charm and modern elegance—perfect for life’s most meaningful celebrations. Whether you’re planning a dream wedding, an unforgettable private party, or a milestone event, our venue provides a warm and inviting setting surrounded by the natural beauty of a vineyard.

At the center of our 15-acre property sits a stunning 4,000 sq/ft custom rustic-chic event room, designed to complement any style or theme. With hand-crafted details, soaring ceilings, and picturesque views of the surrounding landscape, this space transforms



seamlessly from intimate gatherings to large, vibrant celebrations. Just across the street, our working winery and a 15,000-grapevine vineyard help create a scenic backdrop unlike any other. Guests can enjoy some of the best NJ wines, crafted onsite and served to elevate every moment of your special day. Both vine-

yards also provide endless photo opportunities, from golden-hour portraits to romantic strolls between the vines. Proudly recognized as one of the Top 10 Event Facilities in New Jersey, Brook Hollow has earned a reputation for service, style, and exceptional guest experiences. A key part of that experience is Jessica, the



incredible event planner, whose expertise, creativity, and dedication ensure your planning process is smooth, stress-free, and enjoyable. From the first conversation to the final toast, Jessica works closely with every client to bring their vision to life. We specialize in hosting, Weddings of all sizes and styles, Birth-

day celebrations, Bridal showers, Baby showers, Private parties and Special events. One of the many features that sets Brook Hollow apart is our exclusive-use policy. Unlike other venues, the entire property is yours alone during your event. We never double-book or share the space with other parties. Your cel-

ebration gets our full attention—guaranteeing privacy, comfort, and a truly personalized experience. Whether you’re imagining a rustic vineyard wedding, a lively birthday celebration, or an elegant shower surrounded by family and friends, Brook Hollow Winery and Event Center provides the perfect canvas. Beautiful scenery, handcrafted wines, and exceptional service come together to create events that guests will remember long after the day is done. To start planning or to receive a custom quote, visit: brookhollowwinery.com Brook Hollow Winery & Event Center Where unforgettable events happen.

BROOK HOLLOW

WINERY & EVENT FACILITY

2026 EVENTS

An Evening with PSYCHIC MEDIUM Anthony Mrocka

at Brook Hollow Winery

February 21st Starts at 7PM

Reserve a table of 8+ and enjoy an automatic \$5/person
Bring your own snacks, wine available for purchase by the glass
21+ years only please

THINK YOU'VE GOT BRAINS TO OUTSMART THE MASSES?

PROVE IT!

Gather your dream team (or fly solo!) and join us for a **FREE Trivia Afternoon** at Brook Hollow Winery!

JANUARY 4th | STARTS at 2 PM

What to Expect:

- Fun mix of categories
- BYO food
- Wine available for purchase by the glass or bottle
- Teams of 1-8
- Prizes + bragging rights

Register now, add your team name in the notes,

Limited to the first 100 guests!

Brook Hollow Winery's ULTIMATE COOKING AND BAKING SHOWDOWN!

JANUARY 24TH

FREE CUSTOMER TASTING - 12:00PM-3:00PM
WINNERS ANNOUNCED - 3:30PM

WINNER DETERMINED BY CUSTOMER VOTE!

-PRIZES WORTH COOKING FOR-

Entrée Champion:
Farberware 15-Piece
Stainless Steel
Cookware Set
(\$360 retail value)

Dessert Champion:
Recheal Ray
10-Piece Non-Stick
Bakeware Set
(\$220 retail value)

COMPETITORS MUST PREREGISTER

- Entrée Competition - Max 12 contestants
- Baking/Dessert Competition - Max 12 contestants

ANNUAL WINTER LUAU

FEBRUARY 7TH, 5PM - 8PM

Join us for the warmest night of the year
tropical fun - limbo contests, hula hoops,
coconut games, island vibes,
and nonstop entertainment!

- Tender Island Pork
- Pineapple-Glazed Chicken Breast
- Polynesian Ribs
- Polynesian Meatballs
- Hawaiian Fried Rice
- Honolulu Honey Beans
- Rainbow Slaw
- Hawaiian Rolls

COFFEE, TEA, AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES INCLUDED

RESERVE A TABLE OF 8 OR MORE AND RECEIVE AN AUTOMATIC \$5 PER PERSON

594 State Highway 94 • Columbia, NJ 07832 • (908) 496 8200

Purchase tickets or view more events at www.brookhollowwinery.com

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



Washington Borough (NJ) Celebrates Gnometown Holiday





GLENVIEW FARM

Choose & Cut Christmas Trees

Concolor Fir • Canaan Fir • Fraser Fir
Douglas Fir • Norway Spruce
Colorado Blue Spruce

Wreaths & Grave Blankets

Opening Day is Nov. 28th!
Hours Fri - Sun: 8:00 am-4:30 pm

Visit: GlenviewFarm.com for more info
2 Glenview Lane, Blairstown, NJ 908-362-6904





Santa and Mrs. Claus were joined by gnomes and elves as Washington Borough celebrated Gnometown Holiday on Dec. 5. Lots of happy children and families were on hand for the annual tree lighting at Veterans Park, ice sculptures, Menorah lighting, arts and crafts activities for kids, live music, the Warren County Community Singers, DJ Rupe, and of course, high fives and photos with Santa! (Photos by Cathy Miller)

Local Business Directory

Promote Your Business in the Business Directory for ONLY \$230 for 12 Weeks
Call 610-599-1952 or email thepressads@gmail.com to get started Today!

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE!

ONLY \$230 For 12 Weeks!

HANDY MAN

TIM VICARIO'S Handy Man Service

GENERAL HOME REPAIRS
Painting • Carpentry
Minor Plumbing • Decks
Bathroom & Kitchen Remodeling

INSURED FREE ESTIMATES

Call Tim Vicario
610-588-1620

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

Give The Gift of Gardens

Ask Mary!

Stone Associates
Landscape Design & Consulting

908-362-6617

SEPTIC SERVICE

YESKA SEPTIC SERVICE
484-764-6351

Call Henry Today!

Septic Tank Pumping & Repairs

STUMP GRINDING

RICHIE'S "STUMP GRINDER"

908-203-1200
Low Price | Fast Service
Your Local "Mom & Pop" Shop
Since: Before You Were Born

Veteran Owned and Operated

Classifieds

Help Wanted

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

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

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

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

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.** TS

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

Home For Sale

307 Oak St., Roseto Pa 4 Bedrooms 2 Full Baths New Hi-Efficient Gas Fired Boiler New Gas Water Heater. New Washer & Dryer On First Floor. CALL Agent: Mckayla O'Connell 484-264-5534

Rentals

Office & Lot for Rent - Rt. 512, Pen Argyl. \$1,600/mo includes utilities. Text 484-542-8579 with Name, Address & Business Use. Will Respond to Text

Roofing, Siding & Windows

PA & NJ Roofing, Siding, & Pella Windows. Free Estimates, Licensed & Insured. PA: 610-716-0533, PA199715. NJ: 908-531-2486, NJ13VHO0857300

Vehicle For Sale

1955 Chevy Belair 2 Door Hardtop 307 V8 automatic, runs & drives good. Turquoise green and white. No air, or power steering. Asking \$37,000. Located in Pen Argyl Text 484-523-7422 for more info/photos.

NOW HIRING SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS
CDL Class B
P & S Endorsments
Will Train.
Call 973-383-2786
stockerbus@gmail.com



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



Merry Christmas

From All of Us at
Capitol Ace Hardware
438 Blue Valley Dr. Bangor, PA
(610) 863-2700

ACE
The helpful place.

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: _____

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 Classifieds may be submitted by mail: The PRESS Classifieds 106 Kline, St. 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

Would You Like To **HEAR** For The Holidays?

Sleigh bells ring...can you hear them?



How well will you hear the sweet holiday sounds at this year’s choir concert? When your family and friends gather for a festive dinner, will you be able to follow the lively dinner-table conversation?

We understand how challenging hearing problems can be for people. Every day we see people leaning forward, heads cocked and even cupping their ears – struggling to hear. As hearing care professionals, we help people find solutions for better hearing so they don’t miss out on the joy of the holiday season. (Or the rest of the year!) The best way to reassure yourself that you are not missing special moments this season is to get a comprehensive hearing exam and consultation at Miracle-Ear.

Celebrate the Joy of Better Hearing this Holiday Season!
Offer Expires: *December 31st, 2025*

Holiday Offers You Don't Want to Miss!

buy one,
get one
50% off

On ME-5 or ME-4 Solutions

Buy One Fully Digital
Miracle-Ear Hearing Aid and
Get the Second One 50% Off!



Good only from participating Miracle-Ear® locations. One coupon per purchase. No other offers or discounts apply. Discount does not apply to prior sales. Offer valid on ME-5 or ME-4 Solutions. Cannot combine with any other offers. Cash value 1/20 cent. Offer expires 12/31/25

100% INVISIBLE
MIRACLE-EAR MIRAGEI

 So Little Can
Do So Much!



*Getting Started.
It's Free and Easy.*

At Miracle-Ear, we make our process comfortable and convenient. We also offer you a variety of valuable services at no charge.

FREE Ear Canal Inspections†

A miniature camera “tours” your ear canal. You may not have a hearing loss, it may be nothing more than earwax.

FREE Hearing Test†

A complete hearing test that reveals where you need hearing help. Recommended annually.



If you suffer from hearing loss, now is the time to take the next step and improve your hearing with a Miracle-Ear hearing aid. They are remarkably small and discreet...no one will know you’re wearing them except you!

Ask About Our Special Financing Offers

Visit Us at:
Miracle Ear Center
1343 Blue Valley Drive
Pen Argyl, PA 18072
610-588-3383

Miracle Ear
at Brodheadsville Chiropractic
134 Pilgrim Way Brodheadsville, PA 18322
570-476-9949

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

Miracle Ear Center
Strykers Crossing Shopping Center
201 Strykers Rd.,
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865
908-505-1053

*Audiotone Pro ® not included **Hearing aids do not restore natural hearing. Individual experiences vary depending on severity of hearing loss, accuracy of evaluation, proper fit and ability to adapt to amplification.†Our hearing test and video otoscopic inspection are always free. Hearing test is an audiometric test to determine proper amplification needs only. These are not medical exams or diagnoses nor are they intended to replace a physician's care. If you suspect a medical problem, please seek treatment from your doctor.

Dr. Albert Shrive, AuD. NJ Hearing Aid Dispenser #662, Supervising Licensee

©2013 Miracle-Ear, Inc. 15116ROPA/HP4C

 **Miracle-Ear®**