



Development of former Intelligencer site advances

Freda R. Savana

Plans for an apartment and retail complex at the former site of The Intelligencer newspaper at 333 N. Broad St. in Doylestown Borough have moved a step closer to fruition.

The borough's planning commission recommended approval of the ambitious development that includes 224 one- and two-bedroom apartments and 10,700-square-feet of office or retail space on the ground floor of the project's three buildings. Parking space will be underneath.

Borough council is expected to review the project in April.

Support for Villanova-based developer, Cornerstone Tracy's plan was not unanimous, with planning commission member Heather Mahaley opposing it. While saying she liked the plan, Mahaley objected to the density and questioned the affordability of the rents, which, developers said, will be determined by the market.

The borough's deputy manager, Phil Ehlinger, said in earlier comments, that the issues of affordability and density are on the minds of many in the borough, including planners.

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FREDA SAVANA

Landmark refurbished

The nonprofit County Theater in Doylestown, which has been closed for a year during construction, raised its restored sign aloft last week as renovations and expansion close in on the finish.

Planning board okays property investigations

Stockton Inn, school, park proposed for redevelopment

Kathryn Finegan Clark

The Stockton Borough Planning Board on Tuesday directed its consultant to take a first step in a redevelopment process that could radically change the face of the tiny riverside town.

It could turn the centuries-old Stockton Inn, Rodgers and Hart's "small hotel with a wishing well," into a huge entertainment conglomerate.

Joanna Slagle, the board's professional planner, will prepare a preliminary investigation report (PIR) of three properties Avon Road Partners LP wants to buy and transform into what could be a tourist mecca.

In a recent letter to residents the New York-based organization promised to enhance the town and provided a video promising "a rebirth of Stockton." Some residents viewed the video as a done deal when it is merely the developer's vision of the final outcome of the project. So far, the developer has asked borough council only to consider redevelopment as a planning tool for the site.

Avon Road Partners is intending to buy the fabled and historic Stockton Inn built in 1710, restore and expand it to include a 100-seat restaurant, build a connecting three-story hotel and a 1,000-seat tented amphitheater for the performing arts.

In addition, a wellness center would be added later, according to the intended buyers, a family firm involved in gaming, technology, media and real estate projects. The partners are JB Berman and her brother, Alan Berman.

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Hilltown's Wawa set for opening soon

Chris Ruvo

A long-awaited new "Super Wawa" could soon be opening its doors in Hilltown, according to township officials.

Complications related to COVID-19 paused construction on the project at the bustling intersection of Route 113 and Route 313, which caused some locals to wonder if the project would ever be built.

The answer came in the autumn of 2020, when construction resumed. Now, with spring on the horizon, the Wawa could be just weeks from welcoming customers, said Hilltown Township Manager Lorraine Leslie.

"We understand that construction at Wawa is moving along quite nicely," Leslie said. "It's our understanding that they are hoping to be open in late March or early April."

That timeline isn't set in stone, though. And, Wawa will need an occupancy permit to get business going, something that has not been

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Helping hand from strangers can make all the difference

Freda R. Savana

As Jared Della Ratta navigated his way along a sliver of icy ground on the edge of a snow-covered Route 313 last month, he could never have imagined how his life was about to change.

The 25-year-old's only goal that frigid day was to make it to his job, some 10 miles away.

His harrowing walk ended though when the kindness of a stranger intervened. David Curle, a Doylestown

man known for offering rides to folks he sees walking in dangerous situations, came to Ratta's rescue.

"I pulled over and asked him where he was going, and he said, to work. I told him to hop in and I'd give him a ride. I assumed I would be taking him into Doylestown somewhere." But, it turned out Ratta was walking to Peddler's Village, at least 10 miles away, where he works as a cook. His car had broken down and he was saving all he

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With his car repaired, Jared Della Ratta no longer has to walk 10 miles to his job.

Pineville Tavern petitions for greenhouse dining area

Chris Ruvo

With roots dating back to pre-Revolutionary War times, the Pineville Tavern has managed to evolve while maintaining its historic character.

Now, the Wrightstown restaurant is looking to do so again to give would-be visitors more in-person dining options in the age of COVID-19 and beyond.

Proprietors of the Pineville want to construct what Wrightstown Supervi-

sor Jane Magne described as a greenhouse with open sides on the establishment's patio.

"The purpose is to allow for more outside seating," Magne said.

Representatives for the Pineville are expected to discuss their plan with the board of supervisors at the board's Monday, March 8 work session meeting. That meeting will occur virtually, and the public can stream it

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Book explores years from 1683 through World War II "American Hometown" focuses on Perkasio

A new book about Perkasio Borough combines original research, first hand accounts, and primary sources in the first narrative account of one of Bucks County's most iconic towns.

"An American Hometown (1683-1945)," researched and written by historian Scott Bomboy, looks at how Perkasio was created by the cigar boom in the Victorian age, and how it survived losing its main business to remain a vital town through World War II.

The project, he said, started in a Bucks County Community College Historic Preservation program in 2015 and continued through a graduate program at Arizona State University. While other books had been written about Perkasio, the academic research used facts and data to supplement the borough's story of growth and survival.

"Census data showed Perkasio was the fifth-fastest growing town in Pennsylvania between 1890 and 1910," Bomboy said, noting that nearly half of its workers were in the cigar industry at one time. "Like other towns in the North Penn Railroad valley region, the cigar business

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Expenses pile up for snow clearing Springfield Township sees \$120,000 cost

Barrie-John Murphy


Springfield will have to dig deep into its savings following a succession of sizable, middling and nuisance snow events.

More than 10 winter events have struck the township since January, costing taxpayers nearly \$120,000 for material and labor costs. Township

Manager Jason Wager also told the Feb. 26 supervisors' meeting that the road department has spent 384 hours prepping and cleaning up the more than 60 miles of roads.

Roadmaster Richard W. Pursell Jr. reported that the road crew had the most trouble navigating Springfield, specifically Church, Center and Chapel

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Shamrock Count is back for 2021

It's time again for the Herald's annual "Count the Shamrocks" contest.

To celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 17, seven shamrocks are hidden in photographs in this issue of the Herald. Count the shamrocks to be eligible for a raffle of prizes donated by the following local businesses:

Wild Birds Unlimited Buckingham; Doylestown Historical Society; Cut to Perfection; New Hope Photo; Little's; Peddler's Village restaurants; author Roy Ziegler; Bergin's Chocolates; Ten Thousand Villages; Basil Bandwagon and Iron Bound Cider Farm. More prizes will be added before the drawing.

To enter, readers can send the page numbers where shamrocks are located with name and contact information to contest@buckscountyherald.com, call 215-794-2802 or mail to the Herald, 5761 Lower York Road, P.O. Box 685, Lahaska 18931.

Winners will be announced in the March 11 edition.

Environmental groups applaud Basin Commission action

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Looking forward to May, local candidates announce entries

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

ryoung@buckscountyherald.com

Pa. Horticultural Society hires associate director for Meadowbrook Farm

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) has hired Daniel Scott as the new associate director of its PHS Meadowbrook Farm public garden in Jenkintown.

PHS Meadowbrook Farm is a 25-acre property bequeathed to the organization in 2004 by the late J. Liddon Pennock Jr. Pennock, an avid gardener, lived with his wife at the property through the 1900s, and was a PHS fixture as both judge and participant at the Philadelphia Flower Show.

In his role at Meadowbrook Farm, Scott will lead a team of devoted public horticulture professionals committed to sharing the property's beauty with all people, guided by PHS's belief that gardening, and horticulture belong to everyone. He will manage and lead operations including strategic planning; garden and grounds management; community outreach; and activation of educational programming and events.

The public garden is free and open to the public April to October.

The 19 distinct gardens at Meadowbrook Farm are reimagined each year, highlighting seasonal interest, and serving as a natural habitat for bees, hummingbirds, butterflies, and other pollinators.

TruMark employees spread kindness

In a world of social distancing, wearing masks and uncertainty small gestures can make a difference.

To celebrate Random Acts of Kindness Week, Feb. 14 through Feb. 20, TruMark Financial Credit Union employees voted and made donations to nine local organizations that help individuals and families experiencing difficulties including Family Service Association of Bucks County.

"Simple acts of kindness can make a difference, especially when people are searching for connection and hope. TruMark Financial employees recognized the great work these organizations do and wanted to help further their mission," said Richard F. Stipa, TruMark financial chief executive officer.



Pine Run celebrates health care heroes

Pine Run Retirement Community has erected a large sign on its campus on Ferry Road in Doylestown Township to celebrate the daily commitment and dedication of their health care heroes. Here, some of Pine Run's housekeeping staff show off the sign.

Camille Granito Mancuso: Chatterbox

Life is so full. Most of us are busier than ever now just trying to keep up with the changes and stay safe – and not just from the virus. Though we're all struggling with its impact – physical, financial, practical, emotional and psychological, we're also struggling with the ordinary and daily things we've always had to deal with.

Our hands are full, and our hearts may get heavy. Yet, we who still struggle with these things are the lucky ones because we survive, and while we survive our hope lives. Today, despite this

world's hazards and most people also dealing with increasing difficulty in achieving financial stability, we all just keep on trucking. It demonstrates the best of what's great about the human spirit around the world, and it's also what creates our wonderful Americans' quilt.

Today, I learned a new word: hireath. It's a Welsh word that, when pronounced correctly, even sounds like wisdom. It translates to the longing for that which comes from our past and is no longer part of the world; it's our life's memories. Also, today,

some of my family posted pictures of Christmases past. They talked about their longing to be with each other, to enjoy our family's traditions and embrace the family's newest baby. Our family, in total, hasn't gathered in person, in over a year.

Next week, America marks a year of quarantine. Since then, many American hugs have been virtual, many parties have been Zoomed, and too much has been sacrificed to the virus. Still, we are the lucky ones, because millions of us have lost far more than moments; we've lost loved

ones. Yet, we're blessed to still be here to wrangle with today's challenges. We hurt and wait and may feel discouraged, but we're here. We'll beat this malaise and yearning if we remain smart, true and tough. Our visits may be distanced, masked and brief, but we know just being here is a gift and the perfect reason to remain steadfast.

We also have to accept those who defy sensibility. Recently, I went into a public restaurant for take-out; it's something we've done only six times in the last year. A tall, older gentleman

entered without a mask and stood next to me. I overtly turned my full back to him, then removed myself to the back corner of the pickup area. He proceeded to lean his unmasked face over the counter full of pizza, asking the cashier to repeat his total. No employee asked him to cover up. We wonder if these people are making a statement, are oblivious, or simply in denial. Perhaps, the poor chap just forgot his mask in the car. Yet, he made no attempt to cover his face in any way. For anyone who struggles to keep the quarantine rules, it's disheartening to see what may be apathy or merely the lack of habit.

Whatever the reason, we are over 500,000 dead to date. Of course, we all understand that number may be slightly skewed, and that totally accurate data can't possibly be assembled on any national scale. Still, we know it's somewhere in the ballpark, so each of us should continue, if not improve, our self-defense activities because, it does save lives.

With all good intentions and despite everything, we move forward. It's imperative. It's all we can do. We steel ourselves and handle all obstacles even while we're still surrounded by high level stress every day. We rally ourselves, and distraction is vital to survival. We're phoning friends, and reading and cooking more. We watch more television as it's fairly innocuous, and programming streams at the continual ready. Of course, Zen is tough to find on the tube as we search for anything that isn't war, murder, or people behaving badly for cash on reality programming. Thank goodness, there's public television and a few stations airing programming from America's past, helping to satisfy our "hireath." Whatever it takes, we've got to do it.

It's tough for those of us still standing – we all get that, but we are still here. We still work, pick up any scattered pieces, dream on and carry on. We, who still have that blessing called hope ... we are the lucky ones.

The best and only way to honor everything that so many have sacrificed so much for is to do all the hard things we must do and survive to dance again.

Hang in there.

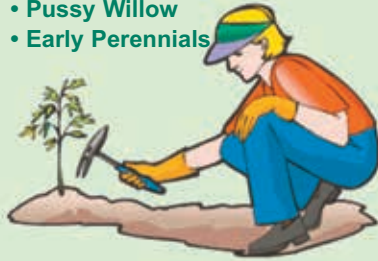
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11 Things You Need to Know to Pass a Home Inspection

BUCKS/MONTGOMERY COUNTIES
According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your home is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the most common of these problems, and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an old home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could cost your dearly in terms of repair. That's why it's critical that you read this report before your list your home. If you wait until the home inspector flags these issues for you, you will almost certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or, worse, turn prospective

buyers away altogether.

In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspection yourself if you know what you're looking for. And knowing what you're looking for can help you prevent little problems from growing into costly and unmanageable ones.

To help home sellers deal with this issue before their home is listed, a free report entitled, "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass a Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your free copy of this report, call 1-800-798-2497 and enter ID# 1001. You can call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call NOW to learn about how to ensure a home inspection doesn't cost you the sale of your home.

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How to reach editorial staff
215-794-1096

Bridget Wingert,
Editor, x101
bridget@buckscountyherald.com
Government, Opinion and Editorial,
Real Estate, Food, Photo Features

Regina Young,
News Editor, x103
ryoung@buckscountyherald.com
Sports, Education, Health and Beauty,
Pets, People in the News

Jodi Spiegel Arthur,
News Editor, x104
jarthur@buckscountyherald.com
Events and Entertainment, Galleries,
Religious News, Business

Obituaries
obits@buckscountyherald.com

Calendar
calendar@buckscountyherald.com

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Environmental advocates applaud DRBC ruling

Bridget Wingert

Local environmental organizations could not contain their pleasure learning that the Delaware River Basin Commission had ruled against hydrofracking in the Delaware River Basin. The action took place Feb. 25. “PennFuture applauds the historic and necessary step taken today by the Delaware River Basin Commission to ban fracking within the basin,” said PennFuture President and CEO Jacquelyn Bonomo. “As the agency responsible for managing the water supply for 13 million people, the DRBC today acted responsibly, within its authority, and in the best interests of both public health and the environment.”

Bonomo regretted that DRBC withdrew its proposed regulations regarding interbasin water transfers and fracking wastewater treatment within the basin. DRBC will issue

new regulations for public comment by September.

Food & Water Watch Executive Director Wenonah Hauter issued the following statement: “A decade ago, we saw the dirty energy industry was eager to exploit a region that supplies drinking water to millions of people across four states – and we took action. Grassroots activists stopped a plan to frack the Delaware, and never stopped fighting until today’s victory was assured.”

The National Audubon Society noted that the ruling sends a message that the Delaware River Watershed is vitally important for drinking water, bird habitat and communities, all of which face the increasing negative impacts of climate change.

“Beloved waterfowl like American Black Ducks rely on a healthy Delaware River Watershed ecosystem to survive – just as communities do across the four watershed states.

Today’s final regulations highlight the critical role of the Delaware River Basin Commission in managing shared water resources across political boundaries and protecting the watershed’s surface water, forest and groundwater resources,” said Beth Brown, director of Audubon’s Delaware River Watershed Program.

“Audubon commends the DRBC and its role in taking a science-based approach to managing water quality and quantity in the basin – through programs like Special Protection Waters, robust monitoring programs and technical modeling – to ensure drinking water reliability and quality,” said Suzanne Biemiller, executive director of Audubon Mid-Atlantic.

The Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry opposed the action. President and CEO Gene Barr said, “We are extremely disappointed to see Gov. Wolf vote in

lock step with the other states in the Delaware River Basin Commission to ban drilling and activities related to natural gas development in the basin. ... The science is clear: as both the EPA and other water quality regulators, including the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, have noted, there is no support to any claim that drilling results in widespread impacts to drinking water, rivers or groundwater.”

Barr said, “This was a political decision uninformed by science.”

Coalition to Wolf: “How Much More Evidence for a Statewide Ban on Fracking Do You Need?”

The Better Patch Coalition objected that not enough is being done in Pennsylvania. “Environmental Health News released the findings of its two-year investigation into exposures of families in southwestern Pennsylvania to fracking chemicals called ‘Fractured: The Body Burden

of Living near Fracking.” Karen Feridun wrote in an email message. “The chilling results show that families living near fracking operations have alarming levels of chemicals like xylene, ethylbenzene, styrene, toluene, and others in their bodies, in their air, and in their water.”

Protesting that the Delaware River Basin ruling was not enough, Feridun wrote, “How much more evidence does Gov. Wolf need to provide the same protection to Pennsylvanians in the shale fields he was prepared to provide to people in the Delaware River Basin four years ago?”

The Better Path Coalition, according to its website, is a statewide coalition “forging a path to a clean, renewable energy future for Pennsylvania and a government that puts the people’s interests before those of the fossil fuel and petrochemical industries.”

DRBC votes to prohibit hydraulic fracturing in basin

The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) has approved a final rule prohibiting high volume hydraulic fracturing (HVHF) in the basin.

The action was adopted with the four Basin state commissioners voting in the affirmative and the federal commissioner, representing the Army Corps of Engineers, abstaining.

In a separate action, the commissioners directed the executive director to propose amendments to update rules concerning importation of wastewater from outside the basin and exportation of basin waters. The second action was adopted by unanimous vote of the commissioners.

Both actions were taken at a public meeting Feb. 25. Resolution No. 2021-01 amends the commission’s Comprehensive Plan and Water Code to prohibit

HVHF in the Delaware River Basin in order to control future pollution, protect the public health and preserve the waters of the basin for uses in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan.

By a separate Resolution for the Minutes, the commissioners directed DRBC Executive Director Steve Tambini no later than September 30, to develop and formally propose amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and DRBC Water Code to update regulations concerning interbasin transfers of water and wastewater.

“As DRBC chair, I welcome this opportunity to provide the fullest protection to the more than 13 million people who rely upon the Delaware River Basin’s waters for their drinking water. This collaborative multi-state [and federal] action through the DRBC also complements the goals of

the Delaware River Basin Conservation Act, a bill I introduced and which was passed by Congress in 2016, by helping to ensure that the watershed and water resources of the basin will be protected from these potential sources of pollution,” said Delaware Gov. John Carney.

“As the federal commissioner, I represent the different missions of the many federal agencies with responsibility in the Delaware Basin. As part of the voting process, we solicit input from a team of federal agencies and the White House. Due to the recent administration transition, this coordination has not been completed and we thus abstained from today’s vote,” said Brigadier Gen. Thomas J. Tickner, commander, North Atlantic Division, United States Army Corps of Engineers. (Tickner serves as the commission’s current vice chair.)

“After careful analysis and consideration of the unique geographic, geologic and hydrologic characteristics of the Delaware River Basin, DRBC Commissioners acted today under the authority of the Delaware River Basin Compact to protect the water resources of the basin, the source of drinking water for millions of Pennsylvanians. Having supported this effort since I was a candidate for governor of Pennsylvania, I am proud to join with other DRBC Commissioners in preserving the water resources of this unique region for generations to come,” said Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf.

New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy said, “Fracking poses significant risks to the water resources of the Delaware River Basin, and prohibiting high volume hydraulic fracturing in the Basin is vital to preserving our

region’s recreational and natural resources and ecology.”

“DRBC received tens of thousands of comments, letters, and petitions from a diverse cross section of the public from within the basin and beyond, Tambini said. “These comments, along with additional scientific and technical literature and reports, studies, findings and conclusions of other government agencies on the impacts of HVHF on water resources, were reviewed and evaluated by the DRBC staff and the commissioners.”

The DRBC is an interstate-federal government agency created in 1961 by concurrent compact legislation, marking the first time that the federal government and a group of states joined as equal partners in a river basin planning, development, and regulatory agency.

Old Easton Road Bridge wins award

The Old Easton Road Bridge over Pine Run in Plumstead Township has won a Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute 2021 Design Award.

Each year, a jury of architects, engineers, and construction experts honors the best precast concrete projects in the nation. This project was honored for Best Bridge with a Main Span up to 75 Feet.

A luxury multi-family community, a major league baseball stadium, and world famous causeway highlight this year’s awards. Judges awarded

26 projects and 12 honorable mentions for design excellence in building and transportation categories.

“Once again, the precast concrete industry has put its best foot forward and has delivered many inspiring and impressive projects,” said PCI President and CEO Bob Risser, “Each

year, the PCI Design Awards program demonstrates that precast concrete is not only a practical solution to many construction challenges, but also a head-turning aesthetic solution.”

All winning projects will be showcased at the 2021 PCI Convention in New Orleans, La., with an event on May 21. They also will be highlighted in PCI publications, including PCI Journal, Ascent, and ASPIRE magazines.

Energy professionals to convene at ninth annual briefing

As Pennsylvania’s legislative session takes on key measures affecting energy consumption and emissions, businesses from 13 counties are preparing to gather for the Chester County Economic Development Council’s ninth annual energy briefing.

Attendees of the annual energy briefing include a network of energy professionals from 13 counties who gather regularly to promote the growth of the smart energy industry in the region.

Presented virtually on Tuesday, Feb. 23 by CCEDC’s Smart Energy Initiative, the briefing will forecast 2021 energy markets,

policies and opportunities at the state and national level, including the status of alternative energy incentives.

“This is always a must-attend event for business leaders looking to get a leg up on energy trends in Pennsylvania,” says CCEDC Chief Operating Officer Michael

Grigalonis. The Commonwealth’s key energy players will interact with facilities managers, energy professionals, building owners, developers, municipality managers and sanitation managers as they tackle key issues. Speakers will share their perspectives on strong

investments into renewable energy and greenhouse gas reductions. Paul Spiegel, chair of CCEDC’s Smart Energy Initiative, said, “Everyone that uses energy can benefit from learning more about how to transition to renewable energy.”



ELECTION 2021



Local candidates declare for May 18 Primary Election

John Burke announces bid for Newtown Borough mayor

Constable and former Borough Councilman John S. Burke, 52, has announced his candidacy for mayor of Newtown Borough in the upcoming municipal elections.

"My wife and I are so fortunate to have lived in Newtown Borough for nearly a quarter of a century. We raised our children here, involved ourselves in local activities, and give our time to local civic groups working to make our community stronger," Burke said. "Newtown Borough is the epitome of small-town America – a place where people put aside politics and partisan bickering to address issues that affect every res-



JOHN BURKE

ident. That is what I did as a council member and constable, and what I promise to do as mayor."

John and Marybeth Burke have two daughters, Erin, graduated from Council Rock North and pursuing a degree in early education, and Bridget, also a Council Rock North graduate who is pursuing her degree in communications.

Burke, a manager with Novartis Pharmaceuticals, is a youth sports coach for St. Andrews Cross Country and Track and Field teams and has been a supporter of "Shop with a Cop" Newtown and the Lone Survivor Foundation.

Pennsbury School Board candidates join the race

The Falls Township and Lower Makefield/Yardley Democratic Committees have announced their candidates for the Pennsbury School Board in this year's May 18 Primary Election.

Local elected Democratic committeepersons endorsed this full slate of candidates for the two seats in Region 1, one seat in Region 2, and three seats in Region 3.

"These candidates are highly qualified and experienced, and they are personally invested in and dedicated to making Pennsbury the absolute best it can be for our communities," said Lower Makefield/Yardley Democratic Committee Chair Karen Vander Laan

Jeff Rocco, chair of the Falls Township Democrats, added "This diverse group will add fresh perspectives to the board so we can build on the progress the district has achieved over the past several years.

"Nearly all of our candidates are parents of children who are attending or have graduated from Pennsbury schools," Rocco said. "Two are Pennsbury graduates themselves. They will also represent the concerns of residents without children or with children in private school or past school age."

Both chairpersons stated that these candidates are seeking Democratic and Republican voters' support in the Primary Election.

Region 1:
Lois Lambing, Lower Makefield,

a Pennsbury graduate, is assistant principal of the Pen Ryn School. She earned her M.A.Ed. at LaSalle University. Her two children are current and former Pennsbury students.

Joshua Waldorf, a 23-year resident of Lower Makefield, is a local small business owner. He earned his M.S.B. at Johns Hopkins University and is vice president of the Pennsbury School Board. His two children are Pennsbury graduates.

Region 2:
Justine Wallace, Falls Township, a Pennsbury High graduate, earned her B.S. at NYU and her M.S.Ed. in education policy at the University of Pennsylvania, and has taught in New York City schools.

Region 3:
Jeannine Delwiche, Falls Township, earned her Ph.D. in psychology at Cornell University, was formerly a tenured professor at the Ohio State University and is currently a medical writer.

Linda Palsky, Lower Makefield, a registered nurse, was previously a Pennsbury School Board director from 1999 to 2011 and was appointed to fill a vacancy on the board in 2020. Her three children are Pennsbury graduates.

Dr. Joanna Steere, Falls Township, formerly served as a pathologist at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, and is a lifelong literacy advocate. Her two children are Pennsbury students.

Attorney Dianne Magee running for Bucks judgeship

Attorney Dianne C. Magee has announced her candidacy for the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas.

Magee has more than 36 years of professional and community service in Bucks County.

A graduate of Stanford University and Duke Law School, Magee, a resident of Plumstead Township, has spent her career serving the Bucks County community, both personally and professionally.

Magee is an attorney with Grim, Biehn & Thatcher, emphasizing in estate and trust administration, estate planning, elder law, and Orphans' Court litigation and adoptions.

After serving for almost 20 years



DIANNE MAGEE

Woman of the Year for Advocacy and Civic Engagement, Magee serves on the board for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bucks County and is the president of the Bucks County SPCA, among many other community service involvements.

With a goal of improving justice in Bucks County, Magee said she looks to take her lifelong endeavor of service to the bench so that she may better serve the community.

"As a respected authority on elder issues," Magee said, "she would be the first judge in Bucks County with this longstanding knowledge and understanding of the growing challenges faced by our most vulnerable citizens."

for the Bucks County Area Agency on Aging, she now is the solicitor for the Bucks County Recorder of Deeds office.
The Bucks County YWCA 2019

Magisterial District Judge Petrucci will seek reelection

Magisterial District Judge Michael W. "Mick" Petrucci will seek reelection to the bench one day after the fifth anniversary of his original swearing-in. Petrucci is serving in his first term after winning election to fill the seat left vacant by the passing of District Judge Donald Nasshorn.

"I am proud that during my first term I have kept the promises I made five years ago by running a fair and efficient court, putting the safety of our families first, and coming down from the bench to make our local court an active part of our community," Petrucci said.

Petrucci's court has handled nearly 20,000 docket cases with Petrucci presiding over approximately 5,000 hearings.

He has performed over 500 wedding ceremonies for local couples;



MICHAEL PETRUCCI

that brings all fifth-grade students in Council Rock School District into the courtroom. Working with local police, Petrucci also brought the national "Shop With A Cop" program to the local community.

A successful local businessman who founded Petrucci's Ice Cream while still in high school, he built it into a 65-store franchise in 12 states.

Petrucci, 46, is married to Karen, a registered nurse. They have a son, Anthony, who is pursuing a degree in business management from Bucks County Community College and a daughter, Angela, who is pursuing a degree in early childhood education from West Chester University

Magisterial District Court 07-2-07 covers the Borough of Newtown and the townships of Newtown, Upper Makefield and Wrightstown.

taken part in continuing education and training in areas such as medical marijuana, DUI, mental health, and prescription drug abuse; and, participated in D.A.R.E. graduation ceremonies, the Bucks County Mock Trial competition, and the education tour

David Applebaum bids for Yardley mayor

David Appelbaum, an IT professional and president of the nonprofit Experience Yardley, announced he is running for mayor of Yardley Borough. As mayor, his top priority will be to create a partnership between local leaders and government continuing to find ways to elevate Yardley.

"My mission is to improve the quality of life for the residents, to attract visitors through our events so that we become another destination for tourists to discover great things about Bucks County," Appelbaum said.

As president of Experience Yardley, he organizes local events including "Music on Main" and "Canal-O-Ween." Most recently he put together the Greetings From Yardley mural.

As the current president of Experience Yardley, Appelbaum has worked with local business owners to help Yardley navigate the unique challenges posed by the pandemic. In October he teamed up with The Spearhead Group, a local design and manufacturing company, to distrib-



CINDY FATSIOS

DAVID APPLEBAUM

ute 20,000 masks to local businesses so people could shop safely. At a time when masks were sometimes hard to find, the partnership delivered masks to local police, fire, and medical emergency personnel as well.

Appelbaum, 56, and his wife, Larisa, a biochemist with Merck, have lived in Yardley since 2008. Two children, Emily and Isaac, are Pennsbury graduates now taking gap years from college. Stepdaughter Vera is an ER doctor in Atlantic City.

Corr vies for judicial post

Stephen A. Corr has announced his candidacy for judge on the Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County.

A partner at Begley, Carlin & Mandio in Langhorne, Corr is a lifelong Republican who intends to cross-file and seek both the Republican and Democrat nominations in the May 18 primary.

As an undergraduate at the University of Notre Dame (1989, B.A. History), Corr earned a scholarship as a student manager in the athletic department. At Villanova University

School of Law (1992, J.D.), Corr was a member of the Moot Court Board and was the 1992 champion of the Domenick L. Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition held annually at Albany Law School.

Corr's practice focuses on civil litigation in both state and federal courts. As lead trial counsel in more than 70 jury trials, Corr has tried cases to juries throughout southeastern Pennsylvania, including Bucks County, as well as in New Jersey,

Ohio and Florida.

Since 2001, Corr has represented victims of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

Corr has served on the board of the Bucks County Bar Association, and he was elected three times to serve on the Central Bucks School Board. He has also served on Warrington Township committees.

Corr and his wife, Lisa, of 28 years, have three daughters. Lisa is a guidance counselor in the Central Bucks School District.



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Church plans controlled burn of field

Part of native grass and wildlife protection project

One day between now and March 31, those in the vicinity of Oak Summit Road and Route 519 in Kingwood Township, N.J., are likely to see smoke billowing from a field as part of a forest management tool called a prescribed burn.

The New Jersey Forest Fires Service (NJFFS) will be conducting the "prescribed burn" for one hour on about 9 acres near the historic Old Stone Church, the home of the First Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Hunterdon County, to help encourage the growth of native warm-season grasses.

According to NJFFS, the choice of what day to do the burn is dependent on factors including weather and ground conditions but would be completed before the end of burn season on March 31.

Volunteers from the FUUFHC planted the native grasses in the summer of 2019 with the help of a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service under its Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) program. The fellowship owns the land and, as part of a commitment to environmental stewardship, the congregation voted to transform the 10 acres into a habitat for native wildlife and pollinators.

The church volunteers planted a small grove of native trees and shrubs on a woodlot beside Route 519, behind the historic church. Just under 1 acre will become a native wildflower meadow, which will eventually be a place for congregants and the public to enjoy. The acreage continues to be nurtured and maintained – irrigated, mowed, weeded, mulched and pruned – by fellowship volunteers.

"One of our denomination's Seven Principles includes 'respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part,'" said the Rev. Seth Fisher, fellowship minister. "The members of our community see this restoration project as a way of putting that principle into action."

Like other faith communities, the Hunterdon County fellowship is holding services online and has curtailed in-person activities.



Members of the First UU Fellowship of Hunterdon, Liz Johnson (foreground) and George Knoedl (background), prepare soil for planting as part of a multi-year project aimed at transforming 10 acres along Oak Summit Road in Kingwood Township into a habitat for native wildlife and pollinators.



The First Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Hunterdon County, located in Kingwood Township, is transforming 10 acres beside its historic home, the Old Stone Church, into a habitat for native wildlife and pollinators.



The Old Stone Church in Kingwood Township, which dates back to the early 1800s, features stately, two-story Gothic windows and two "winder" staircases. It is home to the First UU Fellowship of Hunterdon County, which is working to preserve the beauty of the church and the 10 acres adjoining it.

ities. During this pause, a small and dedicated group of masked and socially distanced volunteers is painting and renovating the church interior.

"When we are able to hold in-person services again, hopefully later this year, our congregants will be welcomed back with a spruced up worship space," said Val Marks, president of the fellowship's board of trustees.

The fellowship purchased the acreage more than 15 years ago, planning to build on it. That expansion has since been shelved. The farmer who had been farming the land prior to the purchase continued farming the land under informal agreement with the church until the restoration project began.

The Old Stone Church, as well as the land around it, is a labor of love for the small congregation. The fellowship successfully obtained a place for the church on both the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. The designation helps ensure the building's protection in the future.

To taste of the rich history of the Old Stone Church, a visitor need only peek into a small clos-

et under one of its two "winder" staircases. There, on the wall, is a handwritten note signed in 1838 by the church's first minister. A visitor might also sit in a pew and gaze out of the two-story Gothic windows or survey its venerable plaster walls.

The Old Stone Church was originally built by Presbyterians, but was purchased and restored by the First Unitarian Fellowship in the late 1980s. A member of the congregation did extensive research into the building's history and completed the submissions that earned the Old Stone Church the historic designations.

The congregation also won a preservation planning grant from the New Jersey Historic Trust,

which will help the congregation prioritize repair work. The project was one of the last grants awarded before the New Jersey Supreme Court ruled in April 2018 that state preservation grants could not be provided to churches. Connolly and Hickey Historic Architects completed the preservation plan in 2019.

Visit hunterdonuu.org.

County Line Road construction begins March 8

Construction will begin on Monday, March 8, on a project to reconstruct and improve a 3-mile section of County Line Road from Kulp Road to Route 611 (Easton Road) in Warrington Township, Bucks County and Horsham Township, Montgomery County, PennDOT has announced.

Improvements to be made under this County Line Road improvement project include widening the highway to provide a uniformed pattern of two 11-foot travel lanes and 5-foot shoulders; replacing the bridge that carries County Line Road over the branch of Little Neshaminy Creek; upgrading traffic signals, ADA curb ramps and guide rail; performing drainage improvements; resurfacing County Line Road; and performing additional work items to enhance safety and travel for the motoring public.

Through Friday, April 2, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., weekday lane closures are scheduled for tree clearing operations.

Following tree clearing operations, motorists can expect periodic weekday lane closures in the project area from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., beginning on Monday, April 5, through November, for utility relocation work in advance of project construction, which is expected to begin next year.

As construction progresses, westbound County Line Road will close between Kulp Road and Fairmount Avenue for approximately one year. In later construction stages, County Line Road will close in both directions between Fairmount Avenue and Park Road for approximately eight months. During these closures, County Line Road motorists will be detoured over Route 611 (Easton Road), Route 132 (Street Road) and Lower State Road.

James D. Morrissey Inc., of Philadelphia, is the general contractor on the \$11,073,443 project, which is financed with 80 percent federal and 20 percent state funds. The entire project is expected to finish in 2026.

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OPINION & Editorial

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State legislators introduce bills that limit gerrymandering

Last week, important bills were introduced in the Pennsylvania House and Senate to help end gerrymandering of our state's voting districts. I'd like to applaud the leadership of state Rep. Wendi Thomas, District 178, who introduced House Bill 22, known as LACRA - the Legislative and Congressional Redistricting Act. This legislation was also introduced in the Senate as Senate Bill 222 - Sen Tommy Tomlinson is a co-sponsor.

Many voters of all political parties will recall signing petitions over the past few years calling for an end to gerrymandering. The bills that have just been introduced contain important steps to achieve that goal. There would be much greater transparency to the redistricting process, so anyone in the state can contribute to the

process and observe the meetings. It also adds clear and measurable redistricting criteria that puts limits on splitting counties and communities in ways designed to get a certain candidate elected. There are more things in the bill to make sure the process is fair.

Rep Thomas' bill already has 22 cosponsors and many more are expected to sign on. Now that the bills have been introduced officially, there is renewed hope that voters will have what we expect ... fair voting districts.

For more information about gerrymandering and redistricting reform visit Fair Districts PA website. Fair Districts PA is a nonpartisan, volunteer lead statewide organization.

Ardith Talbott, Solebury Fair Districts PA - Bucks County

Campaign advertising relied on hate, fear and racism

By voting to strip Marjorie Taylor Greene of her committee assignments in the House of Representatives, Brian Fitzpatrick undoubtedly thinks he has reinforced his credentials as the most independently minded Republican in that legislative body. But I refuse to be fooled.

Fitzpatrick won his seat in the 117th Congress by relying on the same hate, fear, and racism that animates Trumpism.

His campaign advertising drove home the shrill warning that a vote for Christina Finello

was a vote for defunding the police - as if the House of Representatives has any real control over what municipalities and counties spend on law enforcement.

One television ad included footage from the riots that coincided with some Black Lives Matters protests last summer, which transmitted the unmistakable message that Fitzpatrick was all that stood between bucolic Bucks County and mobs of rampaging Blacks.

Gregory J.W. Urwin Doylestown Borough

1967: Committee gathers to plan Frenchtown Borough's Centennial

Jim Gano sent this vintage photograph of Frenchtown community leaders in 1967. The Frenchtown Centennial Advisory Committee members were, from left: Front, Paul Cronce, Glen Pursell, Chairman Max Seiden, Treasurer William Slack, William Pershyn; Standing, William Eddy, Bertram Light, Chester Weatherford, Mayor Benjamin Cooley, Fred Deremer, and Anthony Capra.



Have we lost sight of what we have?

Is there anyone else as upset as I am to see what they want to do to the Stockton Inn? Are they crazy or what?

Just what we need around here, an amphitheater, more traffic and more noise. Furthermore, we have The Bucks County Playhouse with professional Broadway actors and the Riverside Symphonia with 40 professional musicians. and lots cultural events to keep us entertained. We need to support them.

What happened to life in the country, hiking, riding bikes, farmers markets, romantic inns, quaint restaurants with outdoor dining, and BnBs, antique shops, art galleries? That's what people come here for.

New Hope has lost its charm and the character of the town with all the out of scale additions to what were landmark buildings and do we really need more hotels near New Hope? At least Lambertville has preserved it's character and sadly taken all the

quality shops from New Hope.

And now they want to destroy another beautiful historic town and its historic inn in Stockton. All the inn needs is a good chef and someone with some know how to run a country inn. The Stockton Inn has atmosphere that no other inn has and when it was run right, it was the best place to go any night of the week. You don't turn all of the locals away to have a successful inn and restaurant.

Have we all lost sight of what we have here to offer that is so special? Such scenic beauty and so much history?

When it's gone, it's gone forever. All the money in the world can't replace what we have (or had) here. At least Solebury has saved most of the farms with preservation, but who's looking after the historic towns? If New Hope has a historic review board, you'd never know it.

Eleanor B. Miller Solebury Township

Longer days

Snow still on the ground as March begins. On Thursday, March 4, sunrise is at 6:30 a.m. Sunset is at 5:55 p.m. On Wednesday, March 10, sunrise is at 6:20 a.m. Sunset is at 6:01 p.m. Daylight Saving Time begins March 14.

Letters to the Herald

Send letters to P.O. Box 685, Lahaska 18931, or bridget@buckscountyherald.com or fax to 215-794-1109. The Herald is a nonpartisan publication that aims to print only factual accounts. Letters are readers' opinions.

LETTERS TO THE HERALD

Apology to hard-working Palisades teachers

Palisades School District's reopening - There was one, and I missed it. I couldn't have been more surprised to see Mr. Keliman's letter (Feb. 25) and learn Palisades had bucked the nationwide trend by being fully open. As soon as I read his letter, I called my friend, school board member Scott Freeman to learn more. What Scott told me was further verified by Dr. Bridget O'Connell's letter I had not yet read.

Scott told me the decision to open and the governing pandemic conditions were approved in August 2020 and school started September with full five-day-a-week in-school instruction. I told him I had gone by the High School in September 2020 and again in January 2021 and found the parking lot empty. I saw no one either time.

He told me the high school actually started school in October due to a construction delay. With further discussion, I learned that my fly-by in January probably happened on one of the days added to the holiday vacation period as a de facto quarantine extension as a precaution.

I get my news through my friends, acquaintances, the Herald and a monthly magazine (National Review). I very rarely miss reading the Herald (during the pandemic it has been my peek outside), and if this great news was reported, I, and probably everyone I know, missed

it. School tax is pretty much the only portion of my federal, state, and local taxes I see as overwhelmingly meaningful. I will pay my taxes early as normal, and my organization will continue to coordinate the Bridgeton Township Sportsman's Association's Environmental/Ecology college scholarship with Mrs. Scoggins, Palisades secretary, to award our seventh scholarship to another graduate.

My apologies to the hard-working leaders of our school district. I meant to push, not to insult. See you at the Senior Honors Night.

*Terry Kuntz
Bridgeton Township
Editor's Note: Notice of Palisades schools' being open for classes were printed in August and October.*

Some should be giving stimulus checks to others who need them

Most of us will soon receive stimulus checks for up to \$1,400. Some of us will receive the checks though we are fine, we are fortunate, we count our blessings. Others have more immediate and greater financial needs and for them, the check will be a lifeline.

Suppose the more fortunate among us could help those with the greatest needs. We "adopt" families at the holidays with clothes and toys and gifts. How do I "adopt" a family shattered by the pandemic? How can I use my stimulus check to pay their utili-

ty bill or car payment or provide groceries?

If there is an organization, an agency and/or a school club with the necessary structure, please reach out through the Herald. I am hopeful there are many who want to help.

*Candace H. Souweine
New Hope*

Best wishes to Allen Black and Canal 21

Thank you for the wonderful article in your Feb. 25 issue on Delaware Canal 21.

About 10 years ago, then Commissioner Charley Martin introduced me to Allen Black.

Having represented several large law firms in Philadelphia as a public relations consultant, I asked some attorneys there about Black.

They all told me the same thing: "He's an outstanding lawyer, who also has a great love for Bucks County."

So it came as no surprise that the Delaware Canal 21 board named him to the newly created position of chairman emeritus.

The newly named chairman, Richard Henriques, explained that an avid supporter of the canal said Black remains "inspiring-in-chief."

Truer words were never spoken. May Black enjoy many more years as someone who always puts the canal and Bucks County first.

*Ken Mugler
Buckingham Township*

Losing over 60 court cases but he persists

As I watched Sunday evening's news coverage of CPAC and listened to our last/previous/former (thank God) president allude to the possibility of running again in 2024 and "beating them a third time," I have to wonder.

Having lost over 60 court challenges and with absolutely no proof that he won a "second" time one has to wonder, is he delusional, stupid, an outright liar or all of the above. Moreover, for all of those that still coddle him, it brings to mind the old saying of "the blind leading the blind" and the movie "Dumb and Dumber."

Bob Valimont, Holicong

"For the People Act" updates voting rights

The 2020 presidential election revealed the many cruel and unnecessary barriers that far too many Americans still face in order to vote. From confusing voter registration instructions to long lines outside of too few polling places, there are still so many hurdles to participating in our democracy.

It doesn't have to be this way - not if Congress can pass the "For the People Act."

The act is so comprehensive that it would take on the numerous barriers to voting and representation, like stopping partisan gerrymandering, overturning racist voter ID laws, and ending felony disenfranchisement.

It would also register millions of new voters. Many of these barriers are Jim Crow relics that continue to disproportionately impact Black and Brown Americans across the country.

Amy Tomlo, Langhorne

HISTORY LIVES

Jean Rollo, Doylestown Historical Society



Home for Aged and Infirm Deaf and Blind. In the early 20th century, the Pennsylvania Society for the Advancement of the Deaf opened a "retreat" for infirm and aged deaf persons. The location was 181 E. Court St. in Doylestown, the former Shellenberger mansion built in 1886.

Dedicated in August 1902, the building opened to residents on Dec. 3, and the first residents arrived the next week. The annual report of 1903 listed 19 "inmates" average age 70 years. The home never received assistance from the state; voluntary contributions, gifts, legacies, holiday events, charity sales all contributed to its upkeep.

Endorsed by Henry Chapman Mercer and other prominent citizens, the home was supported by local churches and a Ladies Committee. The community at large donated groceries, canned fruit, and vegetables. Merchants, local and statewide,

provided "benevolences and warm sympathy manifested in the cause of ameliorating the condition of defective and dependent members of the human family."

Admission was regulated by a board of trustees. Those able to pay made a contribution; those without financial resources were exempted from payment. Women residents assisted in household duties and in making clothing for fellow residents as well as useful and fancy articles for sale. Men assisted in outdoor work, laundering, housecleaning and other duties.

The home had only two counterparts in the United States: one in Ohio and the other in New York State. The Pennsylvania facility was so successful that by 1925 there was a need for more space, and the home moved to Torresdale (Philadelphia).

Today, 181 East Court St. is the Charles F. Freeman Hall of the Salem United Church of Christ.

OPINION & Editorial



Bridget Wingert: Happy to Be Here The kitchen clock

My family lived for many years in Langhorne Borough, a pretty town then and still full of charm. It was built around the crossing of two Indian paths and was first known to settlers as Four Lanes End. During the Revolution, the home of Joseph Richardson at the crossroads became a military hospital and soldiers' graves are nearby. The lanes later became known as Maple and Bellevue avenues. Our house, built in 1891, was on North Bellevue Avenue, near today's Middletown Country Club. When we bought the house it needed work – there was no kitchen to speak of; plumbing and power were far outdated. But the house had good bones – the original chestnut molding and doors, large windows, some framed with stained glass, large rooms, an entrance hall, lots of light. The floor, however, was old, dry and splintering pine. We had lived in the house a few years when my husband's uncle, Thomas P. Carney, a building contractor, was renovating a school in Quakertown. Joe, my late husband, had worked in the family construction businesses from the time he was about 12 years old. When Tom offered Joe the flooring from the school's gym he jumped at the offer – all he had to do was tear out the floor and take it away. Joe was quite able to dismantle the beautiful maple flooring. He rented a truck to take to Quakertown and pulled up the floor planks. I was carrier-in-chief and a couple of our children – I think the oldest was 12 – helped with the carrying. We loaded the truck and carried the piles of maple strips to Langhorne. We stored the wood in the carriage house on an alley behind the house. Over many months, Joe installed the flooring in our old house, giving us hardwood floors that shone along the long hallway, through the parlor, the living room, the dining room and into the kitchen. There was plenty of wood so the second floor, too, acquired lovely light colored maple floors, a kind of gymnasium look throughout the main part of the house. We salvaged a few other things from the school, among them a couple of big Landis schoolroom clocks that were wired to the walls. Joe changed the works to battery power and it was easy to hand one clock in our kitchen. It hung

there for almost 20 years, witnessing all of the laughter and tears that went on at that kitchen table. We took that clock with us from house to house as we moved. The clock's metal frame had turned black over its lifetime so a few years ago, I had it polished to its bright copper base. It was a real showpiece, I thought. Around this new year, the clock started to slow down so I took it off the wall and installed a new battery. My daughter Kate hung it for me – I could take it down but not reach to put it back. But the clock was still losing time. I took it down again, tried another new battery and got my son Joe to hang it. But it was not well anchored to the wall. One day from upstairs I heard a loud crash. The clock had fallen, glass all over the kitchen floor. The soft copper frame was bent. I took the clock to a repair shop and was told it would take \$400 to take out the dents and replace the glass. I didn't leave the clock there. My sons, and daughters too, like their father, are adept at reusing things and making them work. Son Joe offered to take the clock home to fix it. I gave it to him and thought I would never see the clock again but I misjudged him. On Valentine's Day, he brought the clock back, dents hammered out, new glass he had ordered online, and new battery-operated works. And then, he hung the clock securely on the wall. Now ... Here is the reason for writing about the kitchen clock. On this page, Robert L. Leight, a former Quakertown School District administrator, teacher and school board member, mentions the renovation of the old Quakertown High School when it became an elementary school. That was the school where we went to tear up its floor. That was the school that had the clocks, probably installed in 1929, when the school was built. I've moved from the house with the lovely floors but I still have the clock. If I were to take it to Antiques Roadshow, I would probably end up in the booth where people tell their reject stories. I would be chided for polishing the clock and taking away its black patina. The impeccable provenance would not be enough to redeem it. But to me it's priceless.

Robert L. Leight: Around Upper Bucks Redistricting

For some of us, schools are special places. For those who attended the present Quakertown Elementary School it was especially gratifying to hear the report of a redistricting committee, which recommended to the QCSD School Board that the school should be renovated to continue its mission as an elementary school. Quakertown Elementary School, on Seventh Street near its high school neighbor on Park Avenue, is a special place and deserves to continue to serve elementary school students. The redistricting committee was composed of two parents from each of the school buildings in their study. They met mostly virtually, and did a comprehensive study of the five schools, which serve from kindergarten to the sixth grade. The committee confirmed the educational value of the present school configuration. Quakertown Elementary School has served local school children since 1929 when it was built just before the Great Depression. It was originally a junior-senior high school for grades seven to 12. It was considered the most advanced public school building in Bucks County at the time.

The school building was a junior high school for grades seven to nine from 1956 to 1968 and has been an elementary school since 1968. It was built to last. When I was a member of the Quakertown School Board in the 1980s, I was told by the facilities director, Michael Butryn, that Quakertown Elementary was the best built schoolhouse in the school district. Modifications were made to the building when it was converted into an elementary school. The floor of the auditorium was leveled and made into a cafeteria and all-purpose room. A small classroom addition was made to the back of the building. Unfortunately, QE has been the victim of a lack of preventive maintenance. QE is unique in Quakertown Community School District as it is a true neighborhood school where few children are bused. Neighborhood schools have many advantages. One of them is financial. Students walk to school or are transported by their parents. The school district surely saves money. Students benefit from the exercise and the chance to socialize with families and peers on the walks from home to school. QE is a small school, within the range of recommendations of the

National Association of Elementary School Principals, which recommends the optimal size of an elementary school as 300-500 students. There are educational advantages to small elementary schools. Students in small school have better attitudes to school and better attendance rates. With a location close to Quakertown Community High School there is a "value added" factor. For at least four decades, students from the high school have walked across the street to QE as interns to mentor and tutor QE students. The extra value is that adolescents from the high school improve their own self-esteem and gain insights into their own future education and career. If Quakertown Elementary School is closed as a school building, as it seemed at one time in the deliberations of the redistricting committee, it would cancel options for improvement in educational opportunities in the district, such as improving the early education program. We need to monitor the deliberations of the school board to ensure that Quakertown Elementary School continues to serve. *Robert L. Leight is a graduate of Quakertown High School and a long-time resident of Upper Bucks.*

Free Library of New Hope and Solebury is part of Bucks County system

The Free Library of New Hope and Solebury would like to address statements made in the Feb. 25 letter to the editor entitled "Local Library should be part of county system." The Free Library of New Hope and Solebury is indeed part of the Bucks County Library System. The system is comprised of 18 public libraries in Bucks County that agree to share their collections and services as a convenience to the public. This is why all county cardholders can use any services, borrow any item and attend any program freely at any library, regardless of where they live. To qualify as a public library in Pennsylvania, a library must maintain specific standards as stipulated in the Pennsylvania Public Library Code. These standards include hours of operation, professional degrees held by staff, size of collection and others. The Free Library of New Hope and Solebury exceeds these standards. It is a Gold Star Library in the Pennsylvania Library Association's PA Forward initiative. The 18 libraries in Bucks County are as unique as the communities they serve. The majority were started by members of their respective communities who understood the value of a public library. As the population of Bucks County expanded during the 1950s, the county government created a branch system which strategically placed libraries in emerging locations

to ensure that every resident had access to a public library. The Free Library of New Hope and Solebury was incorporated in 1918 and was already well-established in its community. There was and is no need to create a branch library in a location already being served by a library. The structure of government in Pennsylvania is such that it is not feasible for a library to function as both a department of a county and a department of a municipality. Additionally, any change to the library's governance structure by establishing it as a department of a municipality or a county branch would require a major financial commitment. The 2020 pandemic challenged all organizations and businesses to not only continue to operate under adverse conditions, but to do so in such a way that protects public health. I am proud that public libraries in Bucks County never fully closed at any time in 2020. Even during the mandated spring closure, libraries continued to serve their patrons through e-books, remote assistance and virtual programming. Once Bucks County moved into the Yellow Phase, the Free Library of New Hope and Solebury immediately began curbside delivery service as public building access was not yet permitted under the state mandate. When Bucks County was moved into the Green Phase, the library immediately opened to modified public access.

Following the governor's recommendation this past November, half of the libraries in the Bucks County System returned to curbside service only and remained so until the number of COVID-19 cases started to decline. We continue to monitor health conditions in our area, adjust our operations in accordance with state and CDC guidelines, and take great care to keep the library a clean, safe environment for all. As difficult as the circumstances of the past year were, the library did its part to sustain the fabric of the community, conducting over 308 virtual programs attended by nearly 5,000 people. In addition to public access hours, the library continues to provide curbside and home delivery service to patrons who request it. The collection is updated regularly to provide users with the newest bestsellers. Patrons may visit our website at nhslibrary.org for the latest information on programs and services. It is not easy for any agency to function during a pandemic. There is no playbook for these unprecedented times. I am thankful to all of our patrons for their support and to our board of trustees who places the health and safety of our staff and the community first as we move toward better days. *Constance C. Hillman is Library Director of The Free Library of New Hope and Solebury.*

Doreen Stratton: From the Underground Black dreams matter

Part One

We grew up in a Doylestown household where the radio carried sounds of baseball games – especially after 1947 when Jackie Robinson signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Before we got our first television in the mid-'50s, Daddy's ear was always glued to the radio listening to Dodger games. Like many African-Americans at that time, a "Negro" playing Major League Baseball was big. After Willy Mays was signed by the NY Giants in 1951, Daddy's baseball allegiance split between the Dodgers and the Giants. My brother John was an exceptional pitcher for the Central Bucks High School Baseball Team. After graduating in 1958 he played semi-pro baseball in the Perkiomen Valley League, when scouts from the Phillies, Pirates, Dodgers, Cincinnati Reds and Cardinals came to watch him pitch. A few years ago John and one of this high school buddies sat in our living room reminiscing about the "old days." I had joined them as we shared a bottle of wine. When the conversation turned to a tryout, there was a regretful tone in John's voice. I realized there were parts of this story I had never known. I asked him to write it down for me. It was 1959 when a letter arrived from the Pittsburgh Pirates inviting John to try out for their all-rookie minor league team in Salem, Va. Daddy was ecstatic. The scout sat in our living room and discussed the proposal with my father and John, recommending that John ask for \$600 a month, a customary figure for new players. Within a week Daddy drove John to Philadelphia's 30th Street Station where he met another potential player

also on his way to Virginia. Ray – an Italian-American – was an outfielder from Norristown who had played in the same league as my brother and was recruited by the same scout as John. With tickets in hand both headed to Virginia dreaming of a professional baseball career. They changed trains in Washington, D.C., for a local that would take them into Salem. A segregated train, the conductor must've thought John with his "tan" skin was white, and the two took their seats. Some children about age 8 or 9 were running up and down the aisles when one of them stopped where Ray and John sat, looked at them and hollered, "We have a ghost on the train!" John got nervous because he suspected "ghost" was another word for "colored." It was morning when they arrived at the Salem depot to be met by two cab drivers: one White, the other Black. When the Black cabbie, with John as his passenger, drove over the railroad tracks and Ray's cab drove in a different direction, John discovered his destination was a boarding house. A middle-aged warm and friendly Black woman, showed him to his room, which he shared with another African-American. John was one of seven players of different ethnic backgrounds: Latino, South American or Black. After a good meal the same Black cab driver returned and drove the players to the ball park. At the park while the players changed into uniforms, John and Ray compared their temporary living conditions – Ray at his hotel and John his boarding house. Ray said, "This isn't right." **To be continued**
This story was posted on The Bucks Underground Railroad website, June 17, 2020.

The Night of February 27th rerun

Rick Herbert

Last year I experienced my first published writing piece, "The Night of February 27th." It was printed in the Bucks County Herald. Coincidentally the publishing date for that week's issue was also Feb. 27. When I submitted the piece the editor replied, "This piece begs to be printed in this week's edition." Not until I read her words did I realize the date connection. The piece I wrote was about the spreading of my friend Greg Fellows' ashes over the Delaware River, which he requested for me to do in his will. It took me 10 years to finally do it back in 2019. At that time, I made a self-promise that I would go back to that same spot each year on the same date – February 27th. Mission accomplished! However I was a "semi-wuss." I didn't walk the whole way – which is walking down the front hill where I live to downtown New Hope, then walking to the main traffic-light intersection and crossing the New Hope-Lambertville Bridge over into New Jersey. The walk takes you across state lines. Once you're in New Jersey,

look for the first access to the towpath which is sandwiched between the Delaware & Raritan Canal and the Delaware River. Continue walking along the towpath for 15-20 minutes until you reach the wing dam, which is where I spread Greg's ashes. I didn't walk the whole way this year. I drove in my car over to Lambertville, N.J., and parked a way's down near the end of Union Street. At that dead-end, turning to your right, there's a parking lot that's usually empty. From the lot, there's easy access to the canal towpath. I had some concerns about the condition of the towpath – ice and snow. Thus in preparation, I was wearing my sister Arlene's winter boots. Arlene passed only three months after Greg and I was devastated. The ice and snow covering the towpath were packed down firmly after the recent snow melt and refreezes. Thus, it wasn't very treacherous to navigate. There was another coincidence – it was a full moon night except the view was partially obstructed by clouds. Once I arrived at the wing dam, I realized my intent to walk on it out to the middle of the river wasn't going to hap-

pen. There was some water overflow going on – nothing like back in 2019 – that was a rapid. That night, I almost fell in the river just trying to get down to the riverbank. I practiced caution this time. I was able to get down the steep drop from the towpath to the riverbank without breaking my neck. There was a small portion of the wing dam near the bank that had no flowing water. So, at least I was able to get partially out onto the dam. I just stood there for about a half hour. There's absolutely no one out there at that time of night. All there is, is some beautiful nighttime river views – the sound of the rushing water, the lights on the New Hope Lambertville Bridge (with almost no traffic), some nice lighting across the river in New Hope, and the sounds of the quacks (ducks apparently do not sleep). It was peaceful and it was sad. I chose not to go with the promised Jaegermeister shot, down by the river, this time. Maybe the drinking and driving thing? Perhaps that will be my inspiration to walk the whole way next year.

George Point: Book Talk!

With more and more of us spending time meandering the canals, parks and nature preserves we're so fortunate to have in our area, here are a few of my favorite books that I'm sure will enhance your enjoyment and appreciation of Mother Nature.

"The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Trees: Eastern Region" (Knopf), is probably the most comprehensive field guide available to the trees of North America's eastern region. Nearly 700 species of trees are detailed in beautiful, full-color photographs of leaf shape, bark, flowers, fruit, and fall leaves, accompanied by informative text. Both compact and comprehensive and the go-to reference source for over 18 million nature lovers, this is the ideal companion for beginner and advanced tree-peepers alike and a must-have for any nature lover's home library and day pack.

For intrepid trekkers venturing out in fall and winter, identifying

leafless trees can be a challenge to even the most experienced among us. Here are two texts aimed at helping you meet the challenge. The first is the Eastern U.S. edition of "Winter Tree Finder: A Manual for Identifying Deciduous Trees in Winter" (Nature Study Guild). Author and ecologist May Theilgaard Watts helps cold weather walkers enjoy getting to know trees when the leaves have fallen from the branches. By looking closely at twigs, buds, fruits, and other features of deciduous specimens, Watts promises you'll be able to identify the trees around you in no time.

Another option, and a favorite of mine, is "Bark: A Field Guide to Trees of the Northeast" (Brandeis University Press). "What kind of tree is that?" Whatever the season, you'll never be without an answer to that question, thanks to this handy companion by author Michael Wojtech, who includes detailed information and illustrations covering each



phase of a tree's life-cycle, and explains how to identify trees by their bark alone. Chapters on the structure and ecology of tree bark, descriptions of bark appearance, an easy-to-use identification key, and supplemental information on non-bark characteristics show you how to distinguish the textures, shapes, and colors of bark to recog-

nize various tree species, and also understand why these traits evolved.

And while you're gazing at the trees, don't forget to appreciate our feathered friends. "The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Eastern North America" (Knopf) from renowned birder, illustrator, and New York Times best selling author David Sibley, is arguably the most authoritative guide to the birds of the East, in a portable format that is perfect for the field. The guide features 650 bird species found east of the Rocky

Nature guides Mountains. It includes more than 4,600 illustrations with descriptive captions pointing out the most important field marks, information on migration, nesting, behavior, food and feeding, voice description, and other key identification features.

Special thanks to the folks at Doylestown Bookshop (doylestown-bookshop.com) in Doylestown for their assistance in preparing this edition of Book Talk!

Stay safe, keep warm, and remember that "It's always better with a book!"

Video about William Trent's youngest son premieres

The Trent House Association presents the premiere of a video on the life of William Trent, Jr., who served with George Washington in the French and Indian War.

Jason Cherry, Trent reenactor from the Pittsburgh area and au-

thor of "Pittsburgh's Lost Outpost: Captain Trent's Fort," will describe his research on the Trent family and his upcoming biography of Trent's youngest son.

The program will begin at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 13, via Zoom at bit.ly/3dxCI7B. A pay-as-you-wish donation of \$10 is suggested and can be made by PayPal at williamtrenthouse.org/donation.html.

The younger William Trent was still a child when his father died suddenly on Christmas Day 1724. After a mercantile apprenticeship in Philadelphia, Trent followed in his father's footsteps as a man of business, trading with Native Americans for furs. But unlike his father he was also a military man.

For information, visit williamtrenthouse.org.

Nonprofit earns grant for sexual violence outreach

The Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA), a non-profit that supports, counsels and empowers victims of sexual assault and other serious crimes, announced that the organization received a \$10,000 grant from the Windmill Foundation.

The grant will be used to fund education and training for public health workers, first responders, and the medical community on the needs of sexual assault and interpersonal violence victims. This outreach will work to advocate for assault victims' medical

rights. Director of Client Services at NOVA, Tarah Sellers, said, "This grant will allow us to build upon our work to assist and counsel victims of sexual assault."

It is NOVA's hope that direct outreach and increased awareness education will lead to the early identification of survivors and increase the likelihood of earlier treatment, subsequently preventing chronic health issues that may arise after a sexual assault takes place.



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Two women's apparel stores in Doylestown are closing

Freda R. Savana
 Doylestown is losing two, woman-owned small businesses this month.
 Lotus Apparel & Home at 8 E. State St. is closing its doors at the end of March, and Head Over Heels, just a short distance away, at 17 W. State St., will be closing March 13, the owners recently announced.
 Elizabeth Hirschmann, cited the pandemic as a driving force in

her decision to close the women's boutique that she's owned since 2004 with her 85-year-old mother, Dorothy Darrah. The virus, said Hirschmann, has also caused her to close her Head Over Heels stores in Skippack and North Wales. Her shops in Warrington and Newtown will remain open, she said.
 "When I'm at the store, the ladies who walk in are just sad. We all cry. It's very emotional," said Hirschmann. "But, I can't keep

sinking money in because it's emotional."
 As COVID-19 continues to disrupt lives and the economy in historic ways, Hirschmann said, shoppers either see "no reason to buy new clothes because they have nowhere to go," or they shop online. Many think, "let's put the brakes on everything," she added.
 Deciding to close three of her stores was difficult, but, Hirschmann said, "it's like a rose bush, you have

to trim it back so it will bloom again."
 The home décor business, C. Ferry Home, will be moving from its East State Street location into Head Over Heels this spring, said Hirschmann.
 Lotus owner, Erin McLaughlin, said on social media that while she is "sad and nervous" about shuttering her popular clothing and home décor boutique, she feels it's best, as her lease expires.
 "All good things must come to an end to start a new chapter," said McLaughlin. "This is the right decision for now." She's owned the store,

well-loved for its striking window displays, for eight years.
 She thanked her loyal customers "for your years of support and friendship. We really do have a great community."
 Many posted messages on Facebook, saying how sad they were to learn of the closing and wishing McLaughlin the best of luck.
 "Oh noooo! Whatever your next chapter is, we support you," wrote one.
 "I loved your store and beautiful window displays," wrote another.
 Deep discounts are being offered on all items at the store.

EdTech company helps create family engagement platform

The Community Education Building in Wilmington, Del., and Backpack, an EdTech start-up based in Lambertville, N.J., are partnering to build a family engagement platform that delivers the services and support of the physical Community Education Building, but in a virtual setting. Users will be provided with a computer and engage in parent-centered solutions to ensure that every family has a reliable device, feels empowered in computer literacy and remains

connected.
 "The Community Education Building's (CEB) mission is to build the best educational support system possible that allows every student who walks through our doors an equitable opportunity to be successful," said CEO Linda Jennings.
 The United States is experiencing an unacceptable gap in student achievement which disproportionately impacts children of color and underserved communities. This family

engagement platform, entitled "CEB Connects," aims to provide opportunity and access to existing community services to minimize that gap.
 Research shows that higher family engagement positively impacts student outcomes. Targeting the welfare of the whole family while providing information and resources to parents is a formula that CEB and Backpack believe will increase engagement and positively impact every facet of family life.

D&R Greenway announces officers and board members

As D&R Greenway celebrates its 315th property preserved since its founding in 1989, Peter J. Dawson of Pennington, owner of Leigh Visual Imaging Solutions, is taking the reins as the new chair of the board of trustees.
 Michael R. Bramnick, senior vice president of NRG Energy, joins the land trust's executive committee as assistant secretary of the board of trustees. He is chief of staff and chief compliance officer of a Fortune 250 integrated energy company.
 Three counties – Hunterdon, Mercer and Somerset – and six communities are represented in the residences of D&R Greenway's new officers.

Rounding out the land trust's officers are Vice Chair Adrian Huns of East Amwell, Co-Vice Chair James Fiorentino of Flemington, Treasurer Michael Kunst of Franklin Township in Somerset County, and Secretary Johan Firmenich of Montgomery.
 Over the past year, D&R Greenway's leadership was expanded with seven new trustees: Heather Eshelman McCusker, as co-head, NJ Estates and Trusts Practice, at Stevens & Lee; Alanna Jameson Papetti, assistant director of communications, NJ Board of Public Utilities; Wil-

liam C. Martin, chairman and chief investment officer, Raging Capital Management; Patrick L. McDonnell, syndicated cartoonist, author and playwright, best known for his daily comic strip, Mutts; Laura Napoli, retired environmental scientist, ExxonMobil; Ian Snyder, a former Princeton resident who now lives in New York City and works for J.P. Morgan; and Peter Tucci, the impetus for D&R Greenway's recent preservation of Point Breeze in Bordentown, the former estate of Joseph Napoleon Bonaparte.

Solebury authorizes bidding for road projects

Birgitta Wolfe
 The Solebury Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, March 2, to authorize bidding for the costs of tarring and chipping the following township roads:
 – Street Road from Route 263 to South Bend,
 – Pidcock Creek Road from Windy Bush Road to Covered Bridge Road;
 – Pidcock Creek Road from Street Road to Windy Bush Road;
 – Great Oaks Loop.
 Paving bids were authorized for Peddlers View on the Street Road side and for Centerbridge Road.
 A bid was also solicited on Muncibid for a 1997 John Deere tractor.
 In other matters, the township is conducting a deer population survey via aerial drones through March 15.
 Drones with infrared cameras will be operated 7 to 10 p.m. by scientists from the Raritan Valley Community College Center for Environmental Studies. The operation was canceled earlier due to bad weather.
 The data will be used to determine if the township is meeting its goals in controlling the deer population.
 Supreme Court will hear PennEast Pipeline case

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Wishing you a Joyful Passover Season!

New Hope Celebrates History launches documentary film fundraising campaign

In keeping with its mission to honor the people, places and moments that made New Hope one of the most vibrant LGBTQ communities in America, New Hope Celebrates History announces a campaign to raise \$10,000 to complete the funding for a new documentary film with the working title "Nowhere but HERE."

"Nowhere but HERE" chronicles the lives, loves, parties, artists, authors, entrepreneurs, entertainers and community activists who made New Hope their home," said Daniel Brooks, director of New Hope Celebrates History and founder of New Hope Celebrates. "It's also import-

ant that we preserve and celebrate how the New Hope community embraced lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer individuals. It happened nowhere but here, which is why this film has to be made."

The film, written and directed by local filmmaker Sara Scully and local award-winning videographer Bob Krist, will include lively interviews, dazzling digitalized artifacts and articles, fun club clips and priceless photos spanning over 50 years.

According to Brooks, much of the film production to date has been funded through donations, but the producers are \$10,000 shy of their pre-production goal. "We hope

to get at least seven donations of \$1,000 or more. Those donors will be called The Magnificent Seven and be credited as producers," Brooks said.

To make any size contribution, send a check payable to New Hope

Celebrates at NHCH Film, P.O. Box 266, New Hope, Pa. 18938. To make an online donation go newhopecelebrateshistory.org.

For further information or if you can be part of The Magnificent Seven contact Brooks at 215-431-6674

or email dbrooks@newhopecelebrates.com.

The Bucks County Herald and River Towns Magazine are official media sponsors of "Nowhere but HERE" and New Hope Celebrates History.

Spring Cleaning Collection Drive set to help those in need

Good Stuff Thrift invites you to the Ann Silverman Community Health Clinic Spring Cleaning Collection Drive, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 20,

with a snow date of March 27.

Donate your gently used clothing, shoes, household goods, toys, baby, furniture, jewelry and more. For a complete list of items accepted items, visit goodstuffthrift.org.

Your donations make a direct impact in bettering the lives of hundreds of children in need in our community.

There will be a contactless drop-off location at the parking lot of C&N Bank, 60 N. Main St.,

Doylestown. A Good Stuff Thrift truck will be in the parking lot behind the bank to accept donations.

Good Stuff Thrift is running the event on behalf of the clinic and C&N has partnered to offer its parking lot for the collection.

The mission of the Ann Silverman Community Health Clinic is to provide free medical care, dental care and social services to low-income, uninsured members of the community.

Senators reintroduce legislation to expand health coverage for children

State senators Steve Santarsiero (D-10) and Michele Brooks (R-50) will be reintroducing legislation that allows children to remain on their parent's health insurance until age 26. Under current Pennsylvania law, a child can stay on their parent's insurance until reaching age 19. Senate Bill 53 seeks to increase that age to bring the Commonwealth in line with federal law.

"Access to quality, affordable health insurance is a critical right for all individuals," said Sen. Santarsiero. "We have seen during the pandemic that medical treatment can be the difference between life and death, and that insurance through an employer is not a guarantee. After years of attacks on the Affordable

Care Act, we must act at the state level to ensure no young Pennsylvanian must choose between health-care and financial hardship."

"In this difficult economic climate, it is important that young adults in Pennsylvania can remain on their parents' health insurance until the age of 26, as the current Affordable Care Act provides," said Sen. Brooks. "Pennsylvania is taking a proactive approach to ensure coverage for young adults if the Affordable Care Act is repealed at the federal level."

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Insurance, 89,000 young adults have insurance coverage because they are able to remain on their parent's insurance.

Tour for Life national pet adoption event kicks off

The Pennsylvania SPCA is teaming up with North Shore Animal League America for Tour for Life 2021 – the world's largest national cooperative, life-saving pet adoption event – in partnership with Purina, for a weeklong celebration in Philadelphia.

Through Sunday, March 7, adoption fees for felines will be 50% off and all approved adopters will receive giveaways provided by Purina.

Pennsylvania SPCA is conducting adoptions by appointment only at this time. Those interested in adopting are asked to visit the website, pspca.org, to see profiles of the animals available and fill out an adoption application online. Adoption staff will contact interested adopters directly to

schedule in-person appointments at their Philadelphia headquarters.

This year's events have been reimagined to accommodate COVID-19 health and safety protocols. Tour for Life remains committed to its mission of generating awareness of the plight of homeless animals. Tour for Life 2021 will run throughout March and April with weeklong events in 53 cities/towns in 37 states, spotlighting local shelter partners/rescue groups dedicated to finding homes for the animals in their care.

For more information about Tour for Life and a list of shelter partners participating nationwide, visit animalleague.org/TourForLife.

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CB South defeats Neshaminy
B3

SCHOOLS SPORTS HEALTH & FITNESS

Quakertown student continues family tradition
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SECTION B

March 4, 2021

New Hope's Devaney brings home district gold

Karen Sangillo

It was pretty much business as usual for John Devaney.

The New Hope-Solebury senior scored impressive victories in two events at Saturday's District One Class 2A boys swimming championships, held at the York YMCA's Graham Aquatic Center.

Devaney captured the 50-yard freestyle in 20.98 and the 100 freestyle in 46.98 to successfully defend the titles he won last year.

Boys swimming

"This year there was definitely more pressure to win because there's only one automatic spot," said Devaney, a senior. "Last year I didn't taper for this meet but this year I tapered a little. I made this meet more of a priority."

"My times are OK. I was really trying to get the district records and I just missed the 50 (21.91, set on March 4, 2011 by Daniel Gosek of Holy Ghost Prep) so I was a little disappointed with that one. As for the 100, I think it'll come along at states. I think I'll be more prepared then."

He will continue his swimming career at Franklin & Marshall, where he is undecided on a major.

In addition to his two gold medals, Devaney received the B.J. Howat award as the meet's outstanding swimmer. It is the second consecutive year he has earned this honor.

"That isn't really a goal but it's very nice," he said. "I'm very honored."

The Class 2A competition was canceled by the PIAA last year due to COVID, so Devaney didn't get a chance to compete at the state level.

"I'm looking forward to states and I'm really excited for this year," Devaney said. "I've got a lot less pressure on me. I'm trying to have fun and I'm really thankful they had this meet and that they're having states. It was taken away last year so I'm really hoping they don't cancel it."

Teammate and brother Teddy Devaney finished fourth in the 100 breaststroke (1:05.06) and fifth in the 200 freestyle (1:51.66).

"I was happy they had the meet," said the younger Devaney, a sophomore. "It was hard for us to even find a place to practice. John and I have been training on our own and with the Upper Dublin Aquatics program."

"I'm happy with how I finished here. I'm glad that I dropped a lot of time. I'm not quite at my goals yet but I feel like I'm finally dropping time as I go through every meet."

Continued on page B3

CB South's Scholer claims district bronze

Karen Sangillo

It was a District One swim meet like no other. Due to COVID, the meet was much smaller than it usually is as the number of participants was significantly lower. There were no spectators.

The meet wasn't even held locally. For the first time, the District One girls swim competition was held in the heart of District Three, at the York YMCA's Graham Aquatic Center on Friday.

Girls swimming

Also unique to this year is that only event winners receive automatic bids to the PIAA meet, slated for March 19-20 at Cumberland Valley High School. Other swimmers may receive at-large bids based on statewide time comparisons, but area swimmers will have to wait to see if they will be receiving berths as other districts have scheduled their competitions as late as Sunday.

Again, this is to lessen the number of competitors at the state level in order to comply with COVID regulations.

In spite of it all, area swimmers put in good performances.

Haley Scholer of Central Bucks South was the area's top finisher, earning the bronze medal for her third-place time of 2:05.29 in the Class 3A 200-yard individual medley.

She was also fourth in the 100 backstroke (56.48).

"I was just so happy to be here, and I'm happy with the way I swam," said Scholer, a senior. "There were some things that I'm nitpicking about myself that are frustrating but overall I swam pretty well."

"The unfortunate thing is that normally I'd already know that I was going to states but now I have to wait and see and that's a little nerve wracking, especially because we're hoping to get a relay spot. I'm hopeful that I can get a good seed at states, but we'll have to wait and see."

Continued on page B3



MICHAEL A. APICE

CB East's Jack Hamilton slams home an emphatic dunk to seal the victory over CB West.

CB East completes season sweep of West Patriots earn first league title since '14

Karen Sangillo

Even without COVID, this will be a season to remember for the players on the Central Bucks East boys basketball team.

The Patriots celebrated winning the Suburban One League Colonial Division with a 74-50 win at home on Tuesday night against Central Bucks West.

CB East jumped out to an early lead while CB West's shots weren't falling. The Patriots put 14 points on the board before CB West earned its first of the evening with 3:34 remaining in the quarter.

"To finish off against West is exciting," said CB East senior Joe Jackman. "We've always gotten beat up by them so this year we got them twice and we're happy about that."

CB East's last league title came in the 2013-14 season, when the Patriots won the SOL Continental Conference.

The Patriots end the regular season 8-2 in conference play and 12-3 overall.

"I think coming into the season we felt really confident that we'd be in this position," said Jackman, who's hit 128 career 3s, surpassing the previous school record set

by Class of 2016 graduate Tommy Strasburger (119). "We always thought about winning the league when we became seniors and we're happy that we were able to do it together. We came into this season with a positive mentality and we were ready."

The Patriots had back-to-back losses to Central Bucks South and New Hope-Solebury before ending the regular season with victories over Souderton and the Bucks.

"We had a couple of losses late in the year but then we got back on track and it felt amazing," CB East junior Liam Cummissey said. "It was great to end the regular season at home with CB West, and we had some fans here. After those two losses, we got our energy back. I'm sure we're going to be lifting each other up in the playoffs."

"Winning the league was something I've been thinking about for a while, since the beginning of the season. I never imagined in my freshman year that it was going to be like this, how good our team was going to be. I was a little nervous that there wouldn't be a season but once we got the gym open and the practices running, then I felt good about it. We had a few setbacks, but we got through it."

His brother Jacob is in his first season with the program.

Continued on page B2



MICHAEL A. APICE

CB East coach Erik Henrysen celebrates winning the Suburban One League Colonial Division crown by cutting down the net.



MICHAEL A. APICE

CB West's Ted Spratt tries to get around the defense of CB East's Brett Young.

Hot Faith rolls into districts

Don Leypoldt

Is the third time the charm? The Faith Christian Lions (11-4, 7-2 Bicentennial) head to Jenkintown for the March 9 District One/12 Class A semifinal.

Jenkintown, arguably the best Class A program in Pennsylvania, topped Faith in two regular season meetings.

Yet Faith stayed with the Drakes in both games. Jenkintown needed overtime to escape Faith 62-59 on Jan. 21, and the Lions led at halftime in the rematch four weeks later.

"Two of our four losses this year were overtime and it takes a lot of energy and focus to go into overtime," pointed out Faith senior co-captain Sydney Heller. "Sometimes we try to hold on to the lead instead of win. I think our best way to get to winning these games is to continually attack and go at it."

The Lions' core four is paced by Heller and senior co-captain Abby Bowersock. Heller tallied her 1,000th point in Faith's penultimate 2020 regular season game and broke the school scoring record earlier this season.

Junior Joy Hissner scored in double figures 10 times last winter. Sophomore Bella Forker is on track to join her siblings Ashley (Central Connecticut) and Josh (Cairn) as college players.

"A lot of us have been playing for four or five years together, so it's helping us to play a lot better, especially since we're all close and we're all friends," Bowersock pointed out.

"The starters and team we have now is the team we had last year. It's not like we had to come together and figure out who each other is," Heller added. "We already had that connection before the games even started."

Until Faith's 41-38 victory over 3A MaST Charter, the Lions had played just two types of games all season: close losses to strong teams and blow out wins. Faith closed the regular season with four straight Bicentennial victories (Wednesday's Calvary Christian match was a late game). Three of the "W"s were by at least 12 points.

"It's been a different year. Lower Moreland and New Hope moved on to Suburban One and teams like Collegium Charter didn't play because of COVID," Faith coach Dave Forker deflected. "COVID affected some teams that we've played who didn't get to practice that much or were missing players. A lot of it too is we are a team that is able to get up and down and when we find a team's weakness, we can usually find a way to exploit it."

This is Faith's second convincing four-game win streak in 2021. If the Lions had scored one more basket against Salem Christian on Feb. 13 and then Delco Christian on Feb. 16, Faith would have had four straight games where they doubled up their opponents.

Continued on page B2

Palisades' Haubert wins back-to-back regional titles

Jeff Moeller

Palisades' Ben Haubert always has viewed his older brother, Nathan, as a role model, state champion and an overall inspiration.

Just like his older brother, the younger Haubert captured a district and regional title last season. Still, aside from aiming for a state title, Ben had one goal in mind that Nathan didn't achieve – a two-time regional champion.

Last Saturday afternoon, the younger Haubert made his mark.

The senior won the 172-pound weight class with a 2-0 decision over Saucon Valley's Jacob Jones to repeat as a regional champion at the PIAA Class 2A South East Regional at Central Dauphin East High School. He won the bout by riding out Jones for the entire second period and gained a stalling point to move on to the Class 2A East Super Regional at Pottsville Saturday. The Pirates finished 12th as a team.

Faith Christian junior Eric Alderfer brought home the top medal in the 138-pound bout at the South East Regional. Junior Leo Muzika (second, 215), sophomore AJ Stayton (fifth, 126) and freshman Cody Wagner (fifth, 113) also moved on and helped their team finish sixth overall out of the 36-team field.

Quakertown freshman Mason Ziegler secured gold in the 106-pound weight class at Council Rock North/South during the Class 3A South East Regional last Saturday. Council Rock North senior Kyle Hauserman won the top spot at 138.

Continued on page B3

SPORTS



DON LEYPOLDT

The Faith Christian girls basketball team, which has amassed two, four-game win streaks this season, will open district playoffs against Jenkintown on Tuesday.

Faith ready to roar this postseason

Jeff Moeller

It's not about the present, it's about the future, according to Faith Christian head boys basketball coach Seth Brunner.

More precisely, it's about the immediate future.

The Lions have ended their regular season with an overall

Boys basketball record, and await the

final rankings in District One's Class 1A bracket to see if they are one of the four teams that will qualify. Faith Christian currently has the No. 3 seed.

Still, Brunner anticipates his team will get the nod, and their best basketball is yet to come.

"We had our whole team returning, and we knew we could compete," said the second-year head coach. "There were a couple of games we didn't win that we should have, and others that we pulled out."

"There were a lot of highs and lows, and tough battles that made us better. But I believe we will be in a good situation for districts, and we'll rise to the occasion."

The Lions were dealt a blow early in the season when sophomore forward Hank Thompson, who was viewed as an impact player this season after being a major contributor last year, was sidelined for the remainder of the season with unspecified physical ailments.

Brunner has looked to three seniors, guard Dylan Ziccardi,

forward/center Branko Stanic and forward Daniel Meeh, to help mold his team all season.

Ziccardi, who runs the point, is the team's leading scorer averaging just over 10 points per contest. Stanic has controlled the boards, grabbing roughly seven per game while averaging 9.8 points. Meeh has pulled down nearly six per game and has averaged roughly 8.5 points per game.

"We haven't had a dominant scorer and it hasn't been just one guy," added Brunner. "We have had a balanced effort all season. It really has been a team effort."

"Yet, Dylan has been our go-to scorer and Branko has been a force down low. Daniel has been invaluable because we can put him at all five positions."

The Lions also have been sparked by junior guard Chris Evans (9.3 points per game) and junior swingman Peyton Curry (7.4 points per game).

"Chris has come up huge for us in big spots," noted Brunner. "Peyton has done a nice job overall."

"They both have been steady contributors."

Brunner is optimistic his club's chemistry and versatility will lead them to a gold medal. The Lions won their first-ever district title in the 2017-18 season.

"Every kid has played well," stressed Brunner. "We are in a good situation right now."

"These guys believe we can make a strong challenge for a district title."

Faith Christian girls basketball

Continued from page B1

"We've done well getting to know how each other plays individually and we've been playing off of that," Bowersock said. "Our passing has gotten a lot better and our shots have been on."

"We're playing well as a unit," Dave Forker added. "We're a lot harder to defend than last year because the ball is moving a lot more and it lets a lot of different girls do things that they excel at."

The other two Lion losses were to Class 3A Executive Education Academy in overtime, and to 3A Palisades and Division I bound Trinity Williams. Faith trailed the Pirates by only four at the end of the third quarter.

"We really have to divide the game to look at it," Heller believes. "It should be: Win this quarter, win that quarter and if you win all four quarters, you win the game."

"We have to avoid that bad quarter, or that bad stretch of a quarter where, when you play a good team- that one quarter can do you in and cost you the whole game," Dave Forker echoed.

Whether or not Faith advances to states for the fifth time in seven seasons, the Lions don't take any game time opportunities for granted. "What sticks out the most is being thankful for every game that God gives us," Dave Forker concluded. "All glory to Him. We didn't know if we would have (a season) or not. The spirit of thankfulness and humbleness that we can even play consumes us more than anything."

Herald fetes senior Forker

This Friday, senior Ashley Forker will play her final home game for Central Connecticut State.

A three-year starter and two-year captain, Forker is on pace to graduate with over 600 career points and nearly 250 assists. At press time, Forker led the Blue Devils in minutes and assists, ranked second in rebounds and steals and averaged nine points per game.

Off the court, Forker made the NEC Commissioner's Honor Roll last April for having a GPA of 3.75 or better. She has also served on international mission trips.

Fan attendance policy prohibited the Forker family from attending Ashley's Senior Night. The Herald instead is hosting this "virtual" Senior Night for one of the area's most deserving players.



STEVE MCLAUGHLIN

Central Connecticut State's Ashley Forker is on pace to graduate with over 600 career points and nearly 250 assists.

Nyack's Wilson named to all-conference team

Nyack junior point guard Sarah Wilson was named to the CACC All-Conference team for her performances throughout the season.

A New Hope-Solebury graduate, Wilson was one of the leading point guards in the conference throughout this season. She is tied for first in the conference with 6.2 assists per game and is leading the league

in the assist to turnover ratio category with 2.95 and assists with a total of 62.

Her 6.2 assists per game also ranks her tied for seventh in the nation amongst all NCAA Division II schools, while the 2.95 assist to turnover ratio ranks her sixth in the national statistics.

The Herald profiled Wilson in its March 19, 2020 edition.

CB East defeats West, captures league crown



MICHAEL A. APICE

CB East's Joe Jackman pokes the ball free for a turnover against CB West's Donte Mancini.



MICHAEL A. APICE

CB East freshman Jacob Cummiskey splits the CB West defense for two of his 14 points.

Continued from page B1

"It was actually nothing like I thought it would be," said the younger Cummiskey, a freshman. "I wasn't expecting to play much. I came in and just started doing my thing and everything ended great."

"I absolutely feel like I'm a part of this team. In the beginning I was shy but as the season went along, I found my role and it felt like I really contributed to the team."

The Patriots can expect a bye

into the second round of the District One Class 6A tournament.

"We dropped down in the rankings," Liam Cummiskey said. "We used to be number one, but I still think whoever we play we're going to give a tough time to. We wanted a home game and we'll still get that."

Jackman led CB East with 17 points and five rebounds, while Jacob Cummiskey had 14 points, five assists and three steals and Liam Cummiskey poured in 12

points.

CB West ends the season 3-7 in league play and 3-14 overall.

The Bucks got off to a slow start, scoring just five points in the first quarter, and trailing at half-time, 42-18. But they had a solid third quarter, putting up 18 points, and outscored the Patriots in the final frame, 14-13.

"We're definitely grateful that we had the chance to play this season," CB West senior captain Ted Spratt said. "I was extremely nervous that I wouldn't be able to give it one last go and I'm really glad I got to."

"Playing for CB West was the best experience ever. The coaches, my teammates, everything about this program was great. It wasn't tough to lead this team because they were so awesome. I'm going to miss them next year but I'm looking forward to the next phase of my life."

Spratt, a shooting guard, will continue his playing career at Millersville, where he is undecided on a major.

Spratt led all scorers with 18 points. John Lee had 13 and Donte Mancini added 10 for the Bucks, who went 4-for-5 at the free throw line.

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Third Maceri makes the grade for West Point

Gary Weckselblatt

It was toward the end of her Advanced Placement biology class and Emily Maceri was checking her candidate portal with the United States Military Academy. When she saw the large green box that confirmed her appointment, a huge smile broke out on her face.

A good friend sitting next to her noticed and asked what was up. A buzz quickly circulated the class with the exciting news. Emily's fellow students offered congratulations on the offer to attend West Point. "I was so over the moon," she said. I was just in shock."

She called her mom, dad and older sister. "Word spread very fast," she said.

Emily, a Quakertown Community High School senior, worked extremely hard to achieve her appointment, awarded to only about 10 percent of applicants. She's taken 15 AP classes, has a 4.39 GPA and scored 1420 on the SAT. She's also had the advantage of familiarity with Army life.

Her father is an Army colonel and a 1996 West Point graduate. Col. Craig Maceri is brigade commander of the Rhode Island National Guard.



EMILY MACERI

Her older sister, Lizzie, a 2019 QCHS graduate, is a sophomore at West Point. Each has given her all the information about the USMA that she's needed.

"They helped me make sure it's what I want so I don't end up making the wrong decision," Emily said. "And it definitely is, especially after watching my dad."

Her mom, Mary Maceri, said "We've been there so much now. She's seen the good, the bad and

the ugly."

This is the third year in a row a QCHS graduate has received a "Certificate of Appointment" to West Point. Last year Tyler Einolf earned the honor. Emily also considered the coveted four-year Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps full scholarship. Those were earned by 2019 QCHS graduate Nathan Gruber of Lehigh University and 2018 grads Jared and Jason Susnoskie of Penn State. Another former Panther, 2016 grad Rudy Levinski, was honored last year with the Commandant's Distinguished Leadership Award, presented to the cadet who has provided exceptional leadership throughout the corps at Virginia Tech University.

QCHS Superintendent Dr. Bill Harner, who graduated from West Point and enjoyed a 20-year career in the Army, recommended each of these students for their appointments. He praised the students and their families for their commitment to service.

Mary Maceri said Harner would often attend the high school's cross country meets and speak with Emily, who competed on the varsity cross country and indoor and outdoor track teams. He likes to check in with students to make sure they're on track with their academics and service requirements.

Maceri also said QCHS teachers have been "phenomenal" to her daughters, including Grace, a QCHS freshman. Emily is quick to name Mr. Auger (AP physics), Mrs. Waddell (AP calculus and AP statistics), and Mrs. Eisenmann (AP psychology), as her favorite teachers. She said AP chemistry might have been her favorite class as it incorporates "the perfect combination" of science and math.

"Emily excels and carries herself with poise while juggling multiple extra-curricular activities with her extremely challenging academic curriculum," said Brenda Roth, her school counselor. "She is a student of integrity, academic excellence,

and has the drive to succeed in all areas of life. Emily works hard in and out of the classroom and should be very proud of her accomplishment."

In addition to becoming an Army officer, Emily plans to further her service in the medical field by becoming either a psychiatrist or an anesthesiologist. "I'm really family oriented and those professions will allow for family life, she said.

Craig and Mary Maceri couldn't be more proud of their children. "It's surreal," Mary Maceri said. "We can't believe we have two strong, independent women. We feel blessed."

Col. Maceri, a 24-year Army veteran, said, "Raising my right hand to support and defend the Constitution of the United States is something I strongly believe in. I couldn't be more proud that they have found a higher purpose than themselves."

Gary Weckselblatt is director of communications for Quakertown Community School District.

Creative teens sought for 4th annual High School Short-Fiction Contest

Bucks County Community College is seeking entries for its fourth annual Bucks County High School Short-Fiction Contest, college officials announced.

"The college has long played an active role in the creative writing community, through the High School Poet of the Year and Bucks County Poet Laureate contests," said Elizabeth Luciano, the language and literature professor who launched the contest in 2018. "This project adds to that synergy by encouraging high school fiction writers from throughout the county."

The contest is open to ninth, 10th, 11th and 12th graders who live

in or attend high school in Bucks County, including those who are home-schooled. Students can enter one original short story that's never been published, including in online blogs or online publications. Fan fiction – stories based on existing books, movies or other media – is not allowed. Stories may be six to 10 pages, or about 1,450 to 2,400 words, double-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font with one-inch margins.

Entries must be submitted electronically by noon Thursday, March 25. Complete contest rules and a link to the online entry form are at www.bucks.edu/ShortFictionContestHS

(the URL is case-sensitive).

There is no cost to enter the contest, and the winners will collect a \$200 honorarium for first place, \$100 for second place, and \$50 for third place. In addition, winners will be honored at a celebratory reading hosted virtually by Bucks County Community College at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 21, on the college's YouTube channel.

The Bucks County High School Short-Fiction Contest is supported by the language and literature department. For information, contact Luciano at Elizabeth.Luciano@bucks.edu or the department at langandlit@bucks.edu.

Palisades to livestream spring musical production

Palisades High School's spring musical, "High School Musical On Stage: One Act Edition" is set to livestream 7 p.m. Friday, March 5.

Patrons can purchase tickets and view the show through the online platform "ShowTix4U".

Adult tickets are \$8, and student/senior tickets are \$6; ticket money helps sponsor this production.

The production is based on the Disney Channel original movie.

The link to purchase tickets is <https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/43206>.

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Bear
APOTHECARY SHOPPE

Westrick Music Academy enrolling for virtual classes

Westrick Music Academy (WMA), home of Princeton Girlchoir and Princeton Boychoir, is currently enrolling students of all ages in a variety of music education classes, exploring new and engaging ways to build and strengthen musicianship skills.

For musicians in grades 3 to 12, the academy offers a variety of classes for all levels. Learn how to relax and strengthen muscles while focusing on the slow, deep breathing used in singing with Yoga for Singers. In Musical Theater Fun,

young artists will engage in activities focused on singing techniques, character development, acting skills, and dance/choreography in preparation for a final showcase performance. In the ukulele group class, students will build their musicianship while learning to play traditional songs on one of the most delightful instruments.

In a group setting, students enjoy social interaction and regular informal performance opportunities as their skills grow. Students can also take individual voice lessons to grow their singing and performance skills. WMA's teachers create a

fun, engaging environment that facilitates learning and encourages musical growth.

Adults will also find opportunities for musical growth with WMA. In group ukelele for adults, students learn basic chords and strumming techniques on one of the easiest and most fun instruments to play.

Westrick Music Academy also looks forward to hosting a Comedy Improv Workshop this term. The interactive, one-day class is open to anyone of any experience level.

For information or to register for a class, visit WestrickMusic.org/education.

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Kindergarten Registration for Full Day Program at Palisades School District

Resident children of the Palisades School District who will attain a chronological age of **five years before September 1, 2021** are eligible to be registered for the **2021-2022 school year. Beginning March 12th** parents/guardians are asked to visit www.palisd.org to start the online registration process. Click on "Our District" on the main page. Click on "**Kindergarten and New Student Registration 2021-2022**" and then click on the link. You must create an account before entering information. Please upload requested documents if you are able. You will be contacted via email with further information concerning kindergarten screenings, meeting a building counselor and school nurse, as well as other pertinent information. Our administrators are working closely to finalize registration procedures due to COVID-19.

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OBITUARIES

Deadline for Obituary submission - Wednesday, 2 p.m.

Rajie Cook

Rajie "Roger" Cook of Washington Crossing, Pa., passed away peacefully on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2021, in the presence of his daughters and the love of his life, Peggy.

Pioneer graphic designer, Middle East peace activist and beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, and friend, Rajie left a meaningful and lasting imprint on all those who were lucky enough to know him. Born in Newark, N.J., on July 6, 1930, to Palestinian immigrants, Najeeb and Jaleelie Cook, Rajie graduated from Bloomfield (N.J.) High School and the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, and he served our nation in the New Jersey National Guard from 1946 to 1955. With Don Shanosky, he founded

his own firm, Cook & Shanosky, Inc., in 1967. In 1974, Cook & Shanosky was selected by the American Institute of Graphic Design and the U.S. Department of Transportation to design "Symbol Signs," a collection of 52 pictograms — including the internationally recognizable men's and women's bathroom symbols, the no smoking and parking signs, and many more — which are used to this day. For his contributions, he was invited to the White House in 1985 to receive a Presidential Award for Design Excellence. In 2003, the project was accepted to the collections of Cooper Hewitt, the National Design Museum, and the Smithsonian Institution.

Rajie closed Cook & Shanosky in 2002, and turned his focus to his other very prolific career: as an artist-activist.

From 1981 on, Rajie created and exhibited three-dimensional sculptural assemblages (his "Boxes"), including many about the Middle East conflict and the Palestinian humanitarian crisis. His art was informed by his life story and his many fact-finding trips to Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza, Israel, Egypt, and Syria he took while serving on the Task Force for the Middle East, a group sponsored by the Presbyterian Church of the United States. The drive for a peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict became his life's mission and the focus of his art and activism, and his Boxes were featured in galleries across the United States and around the world. In 2018, after years of commitment, Rajie published his memoir, *A Vision for My Father: The Life and Work of Palestinian-American*

Artist and Designer Rajie Cook with Interlink Publishing Group.

Rajie is survived by his wife, Peggy; daughters, Cynthia (William) Rhodin and Cathryn Cook; grandchildren, Sara (Tyler Lechtenberg), Torin, and Amy Rhodin; great-grandson, Solomon Rajie Lechtenberg; and siblings Lillian, Wade (Pat), and Edward (Betsy) Cook. His sister, Julia (Woody) James, passed away in 2008.

An in-person memorial service will be planned for a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Palestinian Children's Relief Fund (www.pcrf.net) — gifts that can carry on Rajie's legacy of peace and hope.

Scott William Pursell



SCOTT WILLIAM PURSELL

Scott William Pursell, 57, of Milford, N.J., passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2021 at his home.

Born in Doylestown, Pa., Scott was a graduate of Delaware Valley Regional High school. He was an auto mechanic by trade and had been self-employed for many years.

Well-known as a fun-loving person with a clever sense of humor, Scott enjoyed listening to music, having played the drums in his youth, and he relished a tasty steak dinner. In addition, he was an avid San Francisco 49ers fan and was a great admirer of John Elway and Tom Brady. Scott prided himself on being an amazing giver and receiver of hugs and was a friend to all animals. He was a kind and caring man.

But his lifelong passion was auto

racing, and he became an accomplished, respected and successful race car driver, winning many races and capturing multiple track and state championships.

Scott began racing go-karts at the age of 14 and after a few successful years progressed to driving full-bodied stock cars at Nazareth Raceway at age 17. He was a fierce competitor and he devoted himself to improving his skills and meticulously maintaining his race cars, which led to consistency and victory.

He was crowned the Flemington Speedway Sportsman Champion in 1983 and 1984; the New Jersey State Sportsman Champion in 1984; the Nazareth Raceway Small Block Modified Champion in 1987; and the East Windsor Speedway Small Block Modified Champion in 1990 and 1991. He was also popular with the fans, being named Most Popular Driver at Flemington and East Windsor Speedways.

Later he competed in a sprint car with the United Racing Club, winning multiple feature events. He was particularly proud that his uniform and helmet are on display at the National Sprint Car Hall of Fame and Museum in Knoxville, Iowa.

Scott is survived by his sister Diane Pursell Tracy and her partner David Pratt; dear friend and former wife Dawn Cimpko Pursell; several cousins; friends and competitors; and his feline friends Action Jack and Mettalica (Mel). He was predeceased by his mother Barbara (Lines) and father, William.

The family will receive relatives and friends for a visitation on Friday, March 5, 2021 from 6 to 8 p.m., followed by words of remembrance at 8 p.m. at the Johnson-Walton Funeral Home, 24 Church Road, Holland Township, N.J. Graveside services will be held on Saturday, March 6, 2021 at 10 a.m. at the Milford Union Cemetery in Milford, N.J. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, face masks and social distancing will be enforced.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to your local animal shelter or to the Checkered Flag Fan Club Injured Drivers Fund, PO Box 79, Kutztown, PA 19530.

For more information or to send online condolences, please visit www.JohnsonWalton.com.

Continued on page C4

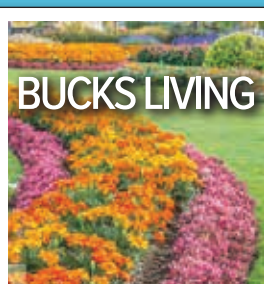
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BUCKS COUNTY HERALD LIVING ENTERTAINMENT - ART



View from a bedroom window.



Mearns Mill Manor.

NOT A BIG PARTY – BUT STILL AN EMPTY HOUSE A scaled-down Bucks County Designer House tradition

Many people in the area were delighted to hear that a long-running spring event, the Bucks County Designer House & Gardens, will be held this year, albeit with some Covid-related modifications.

The 2021 Designer House is Mearns Mill Manor, an 1870s mansion owned by the Heritage Conservancy, and located at 545 Almshouse Road in Ivyland.

Traditionally, late February is the time when the planning committee holds an Empty House Party so that guests can visit the house before designers and landscapers begin transforming the property. The event provides an opportunity to meet the designers and landscapers, view their design boards and hear about their plans while enjoying delicious food and wine.

Because of COVID-19, a gathering such as this isn't possible this year, however some wonderful "before" photographs of the house have been taken. They highlight the home's period charm, including original architectural details, hardware and numerous fireplaces.

Once the designers and landscapers complete their work, Mearns Mill Manor will be open for socially-distanced, timed entry tours every day from May 2 to May 30.

All Covid-related precautions will be taken.

Visit the Designer House website at buckscountyledesignerhouse.org. Tickets, which are priced at \$30, are available for purchase on the website.



Lisa Lazarus of Lisa Lazarus Interiors and Robert Belchic.



Kimberly Lux is in charge of transforming the entry foyer, stairwell and hallways.



The stately staircase.



Sky blue paint.



Kathleen Krick and Jacquelyn Kennedy.



This sunny bedroom will get a makeover.



The outdated kitchen.

Dining

Susan S. Yeske: Recipe of the Week Meatless meals for Lent and beyond

Five Fridays remain during Lent, a solemn time of sacrifice and contemplation before the arrival of Easter.

It also could be a time to learn new things such as creating meatless meals you like well enough to serve year-round.

Grilled cheese sandwiches, tuna casseroles, pierogies, egg dishes, peanut butter and meatless soups and stews are all good choices for the meatless Fridays of Lent. But how about adding something new such as pasta with shrimp or new ways to serve salmon?

Adding at least one meatless day to your week is good for the planet and your health according to the Meatless Monday movement. If everyone did it, it would reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions by 1.2 million tons of carbon dioxide, save water and reduce the risk of heart attack. If you skip meat for one meal each day, replacing it with a plant pro-

tein such as beans or tofu, you also can decrease your risk of getting type 2 diabetes according to mondycampaigns.org.

This sheet pan recipe from mccormick.com transforms the restaurant favorite fish and chips by baking it in the oven and providing enough food for a hungry family. It also doesn't hurt that these days, avoiding the oil used in frying and requiring minimal work.

Sheet Pan Fish and Chips

- ¼ cup buttermilk
- 5 teaspoons Old Bay Seasoning, divided
- 1 pound cod fillets, cut into 4x2-inch pieces
- 2 large russet potatoes, cut into wedges (about 1½ pounds)
- 1 tablespoon oil
- ¼ cup flour
- 1 egg
- 1 cup cornflake crumbs



MCCORMICK.COM

Fish and chips baked in a sheet pan is an easy and flavorful way to make a family-sized meal for Lent.

Tartar sauce

1. Preheat oven to 450°F. Mix buttermilk and 1 teaspoon of the Old Bay Seasoning in large resealable plastic bag. Add fish; seal bag. Refrigerate 20 minutes.
2. Toss potatoes and oil in large

bowl. Sprinkle with another 2 teaspoons of Old Bay; toss to coat evenly. Spread potatoes in single layer on foil-lined 15x10x1-inch baking pan sprayed with non-stick cooking spray. Bake 25 minutes, turning potatoes halfway through

cooking. Remove pan from oven. Push potatoes to outside edge of pan. Set aside.

3. Place flour in a shallow dish. Beat egg, another 1 teaspoon of Old Bay and 1 teaspoon water in a separate shallow dish. Mix cornflake crumbs and remaining 1 teaspoon Old Bay in another shallow dish. Remove fish from buttermilk mixture, allowing excess to drip off into bag. Coat fish in flour, shaking off excess flour. Dip in egg mixture, then press into cornflake mixture until evenly coated. Discard any remaining flour, egg and cornflake mixtures. Place fish on a wire rack in center of pan with the potatoes.

4. Bake 15 minutes or until fish is golden brown and flakes easily with a fork and potatoes are tender. Serve fish with potatoes and tartar sauce, if desired.

Low Larason: Thoughts from an Epicure Plan ahead for vegetables

In my Feb. 18 column, I wrote about making your own quick meals rather than using a heat-and-eat or frozen dinner. I forgot to mention Patti's favorite: chip beef gravy.

It's easy and quick, plus the recipe is on the package. It's good on smashed potatoes, toast or bread.

It's been brought to my attention that none of the dishes I

mentioned have any vegetables. I solve this in different ways. I enjoy eating a small carrot or two while cooking dinner. Also, it's easy to have a salad with your meal.

Plan ahead by chopping some veggies to keep in small closed containers in the crisper drawer of your fridge. Prepare two or three days' worth. That makes preparing a salad fast.

Although many vegetables have a message printed on the package that they're pre-washed, I wash everything anyway. Also, I often use small raw spinach leaves instead of lettuce. They're better for you.

The salad can have anything you like. I choose small carrots, celery, scallions, cherry tomatoes, cucumbers, and bell peppers in different colors. Also, many supermarkets have pre-packaged containers of mixed olives and peppers. These are good and are packed in flavorful oil. Add

some croutons. I make ours. But, they're available in the store.

As for dressing, I make my own, although there are several in supermarkets. I usually mix four parts olive oil to one part vinegar. To this add either crushed garlic or garlic powder. Unless you really love garlic, be careful when adding it to the oil mix. You want it to be there but not overwhelming.

The above works as long as you plan ahead. If you just don't like working in the kitchen, I don't know what to say, except to try it. It's creative and can be relaxing as long as you don't take it too seriously and don't overthink what you're doing.

Enjoy and stay safe!

If you have any questions or suggestions for this column, please contact me either through this newspaper at buckscountyherald.com or directly at guthrielatason@verizon.net.

ACME bag purchases will benefit Sunshine Foundation

Sunshine Foundation has been selected as a beneficiary of the ACME "Give Back Where It Counts" Reusable Bag Program for the month of March 2021.

The ACME program, which launched in August 2019, is a reusable bag project that facilitates community support with the goal to make a difference in the communities where shoppers live and work.

Sunshine Foundation was selected as the March beneficiary of the program by store leadership at the ACME located at 105 E. Street Road in Feasterville-Treose, Pa. Sunshine Foundation will receive a \$1 donation every time the \$3 reusable "Give Back Where It Counts" bag is purchased at this location during March, unless otherwise directed by the customer through the giving tag attached to the bag.



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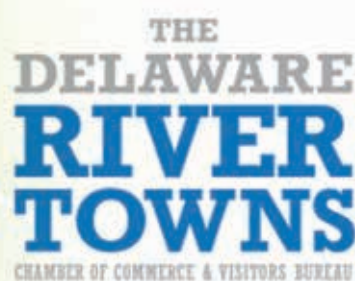
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March is Restaurant Month!

"Don't Let the Lights Go Out!"

Dine Out or Take Out!

March is Restaurant Month in greater Lambertville area!

With shutdowns, restrictions, and winter pausing outdoor dining, restaurants have been hit hard and they need your support!

Please Visit: www.lambertvillechamber.com/restaurant-month for a list of area restaurants.

'Dine Out' or get 'Take Out'+ ENTER to WIN (1 of 2) \$100 gift certificates to Odette's.

To enter the drawing, post a photo of your meal on Instagram, tag the restaurant you ate at (or got take out), and add #DineInLambertvilleArea.

Two posts will be chosen randomly April 1st The photos must be from one of the restaurants listed on our site and taken between April 1st to 31st Drawing sponsored by Odette's in New Hope, PA (<https://www.riverhousenewhope.com>).



Dining

Giant partners with Rodale Institute to support 'greener' farming



JOHNIE GALL

The Giant Company has partnered with Rodale Institute, to educate farmers in regenerative and organic farming.

transform farming for the better, and we're incredibly fortunate to have this resource just two hours from our home office," said Nicholas Bertram, president of The Giant Company. "Their important work complements our other environmental initiatives including offsetting our carbon footprint, creating pollinator habitats, and reducing food waste."

Rodale Institute's 333-acre experimental farm, which conducts research into regenerative organic agriculture as well as farmer training opportunities, is headquartered in Kutztown, Pa. As part of the partnership, The Giant Company will support three initiatives of Rodale Institute.

These initiatives include their Organic Crop Consulting Services, which support farmers who are transitioning to organic through mentorship with trained agronomists, Rodale Institute Farmer Training

program (RIFT), an internship that trains farmers for a career in regenerative organic agriculture, and one of Rodale's ongoing research studies connecting healthy soil with human health.

"Agriculture grows when we produce what consumers want," said Pennsylvania Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding. "Pennsylvania is a national leader in organic sales and we are investing in organic research at Rodale and in a new PA Preferred Organic program. These targeted investments grow opportunities for consumers to buy what they want and farmers and grocers to earn more. And investing in regenerative farming improves our soil and water so we can keep growing in the future. With this partnership, The Giant Company and Rodale Institute are cultivating that growth and joining us in promoting a healthier, greener Pennsylvania economy."

Lambertville Chamber slates Restaurant Month drawing

The Delaware River Towns Chamber of Commerce, now the Greater Lambertville Chamber of Commerce, is sponsoring its first event, "Don't let the Lights Go Out."

The dine in or take out event is Restaurant Month, running the entire month of March.

"With shutdowns, restrictions, and winter pausing outdoor dining, restaurants have been hit hard and need your support," said Cindy Kunnas, executive director.

Participants can enter to win one of two \$100 gift certificates to The River House at Odette's. Post a photo of your meal on Instagram, tag the Lambertville area restaurant where you dined (or got take out), and add #DineInLambertvilleArea to enter.

Two posts will be chosen randomly on April 1. The photos must be from one of the restaurants listed on the chamber site and taken between March 1 and March 31.

Visit lambertvillechamber.com/restaurant-month for a list of area restaurants with links to online menus.

Temple Judea hosts virtual talk with Israeli women in medical science

Temple Judea of Bucks County will host a free Lunch and Learn Zoom event focusing on advances Israeli women are making in medical science.

The event will take place at noon March 18.

During the event, Temple Judea's Rabbi Sigal will interview Israeli medical device company executive Debbie Garner and scientist Rivka Riven Kreitman. Garner and Kreitman, who has a Ph.D., will speak about advancements being made by women and for women. They'll also share how being women leaders informed their career paths.

The event is supported by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, Philadelphia-Israel Chamber of Commerce, Develop-

ment Corporation for Israel/Israel Bonds and Doylestown Hadassah. Additional sponsors are welcome.

Kreitman is a longtime Teva scientist who headed the company's Global Innovation Research and Development organization. Garner is a co-CEO of the women-led company FEMSelect. She has launched and built the market for innovative women's health-care products with Eli Lilly and Co. and iMDsoft in numerous international markets.

Sigal is the founding director of Rabbis Without Borders and the creator of Mendful - Live Connected. She has presented at TEDx, and was featured on CBS Sunday Morning and National Public Radio.

To register for the event or receive more information, visit templejudea.org/event/lunch-and-learn.html.



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Makers Alley opens art exhibition space in Frenchtown

The Makers Alley Artisan and Craft Collective supports artists and craft makers in the Delaware Valley, and its adjacent river towns, who are creating quality work across all artistic and craft disciplines and skill sets.

To continue the community building progress Makers Alley made with its First Annual Juried Artisan and Craft Exhibition last October, the member-based organization has established a rotating gallery space located in the windowed front area of the Frenchtown Home & Hardware store.

The space was donated by Makers Alley co-founder Mike Tyksinski, and is

located at 11 Kingwood Ave. in Frenchtown, N.J.

Created as an ongoing showcase for select local artists in the Delaware River Valley region, the exhibit will consist of artwork in a variety of mediums.

Each work will be presented for three weeks, and then replaced with new offerings on a staggered revolving basis so additional works can be added to the ever-changing exhibition. That means there is always something new to see and buy at the hardware store.

"While Makers Alley will remain an artisan-first, work-producing collective, it's supportive to afford our community

an opportunity to showcase new works to the public," said Peter Rosenthal, co-founder of Makers Alley.

Currently on view are works by Patrick Budd, Shawn Campbell, Haley Manchon, Chris Mundy, Robert Reid, Larry Ricci, Lorraine Ricci and Ivya Yavelow.

The Makers Alley curatorial committee chooses the works on view. Members and nonmembers are welcome to submit work for consideration. The opportunity to submit is free to members, and there is a fee of \$25 to nonmembers. For information, email info@makersalley.org.



The front window of Frenchtown Home & Hardware is the site of a new Makers Alley art exhibition space.

OBITUARIES

Deadline for Obituary submission - Wednesday, 2 p.m.

Continued from page B6
Jackson Bigler Alleger



JACKSON BIGLER ALLEGER

Jackson "Jack" Bigler Alleger, age 93, died Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021, at his home in Raritan Township, N.J. He was a lifelong Flemington area resident.

Jack was born the son of the late George Wesley and Luella Ritten-

house Alleger on Sept. 6, 1927 in his family home on Bonnell Street in Flemington — a house owned by the Alleger's since its construction in 1900. Jack's mother, Luella, was the organist for the Flemington Baptist Church for many years. Currently, Jack was the oldest living congregant of the church.

Jack began government work while in high school helping to guard German and Italian POWs at the Belle Mead Army Depot in New Jersey. Shortly after graduating from Flemington High School in 1945, Jack was drafted into the United States Army. His two brothers, George and Bill, preceded him into the service having been drafted directly from High School. Jack was trained at the U.S. Army Armor School, Disney Barracks, Fort Knox, Ky., where he learned to operate the ground breaking M26 Pershing tank. Jack's state side service as a Tank Crewman in the 70th Tank Battalion included duty where he "instructed men how to drive and operate tank." Jack was honorably discharged and separated from Fort Knox Kentucky the day after Christmas, Dec. 26, 1946.

Jack married Agnes Roth and they recently celebrated their 68th

wedding anniversary. Having built their own home on Thatchers Hill in Raritan Township in the 1950's, Agnes fondly remembers him sitting amongst an array of loose parts assembling the new home's oil furnace from a mail order kit.

For many years, he was the production manager of the Hunterdon County Democrat and manager of The Democrat Press. He was one of the founding members of the Hunterdon County Polytech and was awarded an Honorary Membership into the National Technical Honor Society for his service on its board of directors. Jack was a printer by trade; he was involved in the production of The Wall Street Journal for Dow Jones Inc. for over 20 years, retiring in October of 1987. He was also a former member and past president of the Flemington Kiwanis Club.

Jack and his beautiful wife, Agnes, were avid world travelers visiting such distant locales as Hawaii, Ireland, China, Russia, Finland, Denmark, Spain, Thailand, the Golden Triangle, Egypt, many European countries, including Greece, Turkey and France, and they voyaged on the Queen Mary 2 on her maiden trip.

Jack was a season ticket holder of the Rutgers University football team and he loved to attend games with his sons, Joel and Jackson. He particularly loved to watch the New York football Giants. Having been a printer for most of his life, it seemed that he could only read the written word by the column inch. He was therefore not terribly fond of books, but he read The Wall Street Journal religiously.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his three siblings, George Alleger, Charles Willard Alleger, and Jeanette Kroeger. He is survived by his wife, Agnes Roth Alleger, his two sons and daughters-in-law, Jackson Roth Alleger and his wife, Lynne of Flemington, N.J., and Joel Rittenhouse Alleger, and his wife Sueann of Frenchtown, N.J., his six grandchildren, Clinton, Sean, Gareth,

Keith, Colin, and Kyle, and his eight great-grandchildren, Jackson, Rylan, Mason, Isabel, Olivia, Avery, Evie and Giuliana.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 5, 2021 at the Flemington Baptist Church, 170 Main St., Flemington, N.J. Interment will follow in St. Magdalen Cemetery in Flemington. Calling hours will be on Thursday evening from 6 to 8 p.m. at Holcombe-Fisher Funeral Home, 147 Main Street, Flemington, N.J.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hunterdon Hospice, 215 Route 31, Flemington, NJ 08822.

For further information or to leave an online condolence, please visit www.holcombefisher.com.

She enjoyed gardening and was a lifelong Phillies fan.

She is survived by two daughters Patti Diane McCurdy of Slatington and Beverly Ann Foellner (Phillip) of Center Valley; two sons Steven Robert Chambers (Laurie) of Williams Township and Alan George Chambers (Patsy) of Upper Black Eddy; a sister Diane Pittetti of Hattboro; eight grandchildren Brian, Matthew, Amanda (Jeff), David, Justin, Kevin, Kyle and Jesse; and two great-grandchildren Victoria and Hayden. She was predeceased by seven brothers.

Services will be private and at the convenience of the family. Arrangements are in the care of the C. R. Strunk Funeral Home, Inc. (www.crstrunk.com) Quakertown.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions can be made to Shriners Hospital for Children-Philadelphia Attn: Development Office 3551 North Broad St. Philadelphia, PA 19140, or Disabled Veterans Chapter 84 c/o The American Legion 610 E. Broad St., Quakertown, PA 18951, or to the American Diabetes Foundation 150 Monument Road, Suite 100 Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004.

Vivian L. Chambers



VIVIAN L. CHAMBERS

Vivian L. Chambers, 91, of Coopersburg, Springfield Township died March 1, 2021 in her home. She was the wife of the late George Chambers.

Born in Elkins Park, Pa., she was the daughter of the late Edwin & Laura (Gill) Geissler.

John William Meyer



JOHN WILLIAM MEYER

John William Meyer, 81, of Tinicum Township, Upper Black Eddy, Pa., passed away on Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021 at his home.

Born June 11, 1939 in Plumsteadville, Pa., John grew up and lived most of his life in Tinicum Township. He was a driver for Brinker Fuels in Doylestown, Pa., for over 40 years. As a young man, John worked on commercial tomato farm in Plumsteadville, Pa. He was a fan of the Philadelphia Phillies. John was a lifetime member of the Del Val Fish and Game Club.

Son of the late John and Margaret (Warner) Meyer, John is survived by his son John "Bill" Meyer and his companion Karen Heimbach of Nazareth, Pa., his daughter Karen M. Yowell and her husband Keith of Flemington, N.J., and his beloved dog Mack.

A celebration of John's life was held Feb. 10 at the Johnson-Walton Funeral Home, 24 Church Road, Holland Township, N.J., with Ruthann Disotell officiating. Interment followed in the Upper Tinicum Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to SOS Beagles, 814 Judith Lane, Atco, NJ 08004 or to the Del Val Fish and Game Club, PO Box 17, Point Pleasant, PA 18950.

For more information or to send online condolences, please visit www.JohnsonWalton.com.

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C5

March 4, 2021

SCORE Bucks helps business owner amid pandemic

Lyne Walke felt unseen among the other retailers at Valley Square in Warrington.

Her lash and brow bar was situated at the end of the shopping center, resulting in little foot traffic and customers having difficulty finding her.

She tried marketing her business, creating packages and more to boost business.

Insight from her SCORE Bucks County mentor Nina De Rosa helped Walke realize that her business, LC Lash & Brow Bar, was not in its ideal location. On Oct. 1, Walke relocated her 4-year-old business to downtown Doylestown at 146 W. State St. LC Lash & Brow Bar specializes in eyelash extensions, microblading, facials, full body

waxing, makeup, and other beauty treatments.

"I've had more walk-in traffic and it's more visible," Walke said. "In Doylestown it's like a business community ... Everybody supports everybody. That is something that I did not have at my other location."

Working with De Rosa helped Walke in "not feeling alone" and gave her direction throughout the ever-changing business landscape in the wake of the pandemic. De Rosa, who has more than 40 years' experience in human resources, has enjoyed working with Walke and looks forward to seeing her business continue to grow.

"She is a positive and upbeat individual who sees the bright side of even the most negative things," De

Rosa said.

Walke, a Philadelphia native who now calls Bucks County home, said she would recommend SCORE "100 percent" to other business owners and entrepreneurs. Even when their mentoring session has concluded for the day, Walke said De Rosa is "always watching" and sends follow-up emails or reaches out with new ideas to share.

"You need the support, and you need to be able to bounce ideas off people," she said. "Nina's just amazing. She's so easy to talk to. I'm able to share all my ideas with her."

To stay up to date on news and happenings, join SCORE Bucks County's email list. Text SCORE-BUCKS to 22828.



Lyne Walke, at her LC Lash & Brow Bar in Doylestown.

Michener Art Museum names 2021 Corporate Partner Program Advisory Board

The Michener Art Museum in Doylestown shares its 2021 Corporate Business Partner (CBP) Program Advisory Board list.

For the second year in a row, Melissa Eiseman, president and owner of Eiseman Construction, Inc., will chair the group, which exemplifies a powerful collaboration between the arts and the business sector in Bucks County and Delaware River Valley region.

The Corporate Business Partner Program has been a critical part of the Michener's existence since it was first initiated in 1989 by Museum Founder Herman Silverman. CBP membership characterizes the significance of the alliance between hundreds of businesses and the art community through unique relationships that endorse the importance of intersecting business with culture.

"The Corporate Business Partner

Program at the Michener Art Museum encompasses a remarkable representation of honorable business leaders in our community," said Eiseman. "We are so fortunate



MELISSA BROOMALL
EISEMAN

to have the museum as a backdrop to connect with like-minded businesses who also want to further enrich our cultural community."

The 2021 Advisory Board includes: Melissa Broomall Eiseman, CBP chair | Eiseman Construction, Inc.; Rick Millham Jr., CBP vice chair | Millham Insurance Agency; Binny Silverman, CBP nominating chair | Silverman Family Partnerships; Paul Boger, CBP membership

chair | Mind Your Design; John S. Benson | Penglase & Benson, Inc.; Glenda Childs | The Doylestown Bookshop; Gavin Laboski | Laboski Law; Craig Morgenstern | Rockwood Wealth Management; Robert T. Repko | Repko Law LLC; Christine Hensel Triantos | Peddler's Village; Kristin Vogel | Trident Plastics, Inc.; Joseph Wingert | Bucks County Herald; and Jane Yeouroukis | Jane Yeouroukis, Inc.

Rick Welch: Dollars and \$ense What is bond duration?

As defined, bond duration "is the sensitivity of a bond's price to changes in interest rates."

Many investors confuse bond maturity with duration. In fact, maturity is just one factor that must be taken into account when considering bond duration. Other factors include coupon rate and frequency, bond yield and any call features written into the bond. Like maturity, duration is also expressed in years.

The owner of a bond is entitled to a series of cash flows. For coupon bonds, the cash flows start with the payment of the semiannual coupon for each remaining year of the bond's term. Coincident with the final coupon payment is the return of the face value of the bond.

In the case of coupon bonds, duration is always less than maturity. To calculate duration, we determine the present value of the bond's cash flows and divide that figure by the price of the bond. Considered in this context of cash flows, duration could also be defined "as the length of time before an asset is due to be repaid." I like to think of bond duration in more simple terms, as in when I get my money back.

In 2020, we saw the interest rate on the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury fall from 1.91% to as low as 0.50%. As the COVID-19 virus

is contained and vaccine distribution here in the U.S. accelerates, we expect that interest rates will start to rise as prospects for the domestic economy improve.

As of this writing, we have a 2021 year-end target for TNX of about 2.00%. As interest rates rise, the prices of fixed income securities, like bonds, fall.

Many investors look to the 1% rule which suggests that for every movement of 1% in interest rates, bond prices will change (in the opposite direction) in an amount roughly equal to their duration. For example, the price of a bond with a five-year duration will fall by about 5% if interest rates rise by 1%. It is important to note, however, that bond yields do not change uniformly across the yield curve in times of changing rates.

Duration then provides an easy way to compare bonds or evaluate a portfolio of bonds. Bonds with a longer maturity will have higher duration, which in periods of rising interest rates can translate into higher interest rate risk. A higher coupon bond will have lower duration than one with a lower coupon rate because the cash flows from the higher interest payments mean the face value of the bond is repaid sooner.

Low or moderate duration strategies are appropriate during periods

when we expect interest rates to rise. We are currently recommending a "low to the ground" approach for bond portfolio duration with a target duration in line with that of the Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index or just under six years.

This type of approach suggests a reduction in intermediate and long-term bond holdings, particularly U.S. Treasuries, is the way to go. Some alternative fixed income strategies like convertible bonds and floating rate bank loans may be appropriate for some investors. Adding some high yield bonds is another way to lower overall portfolio duration.

In general, during periods of rising interest rates, active management of fixed income assets is preferred over a more passive approach.

Let's test your understanding of duration. With a zero-coupon bond, is the duration less than, greater than or equal to maturity? The correct answer is that with a zero-coupon bond, duration is equal to maturity as the only cash flow from the bond is the one-time payment of principal and interest upon maturity.

Rick Welch is a Registered Investment Advisor (RIA) and chief investment officer of Academy Wealth Advisers. He can be reached at 215-603-2976 or rickwelch@academywealthadvisers.com.

First Bank names 15 promotions

First Bank (NASDAQ: FRBA) announced Feb. 8, that it has promoted 15 employees who played key roles helping the bank thrive and grow while supporting customers and communities throughout 2020.

Maria Mayshura of Belleplaine, N.J., and John Shepardson of Yardley were promoted to Executive Vice President; Thomas Fehn, Jr. of Carmel, N.Y., was promoted to First Senior Vice President; Paula Huergo of Pennington, N.J., and Larry Lee of Manasquan, N.J., were promoted to Senior Vice President.

In 2020, First Bank added \$324 million to its loan portfolio, which included \$187 million from non-Paycheck

Protection Program organic opportunities. At the same time, total deposits increased 16% with non-interest-bearing deposits surging 53.8%.

As a result, First Bank's net income for 2020 was \$19.4 million, or \$0.97 per diluted share, compared to \$13.4 million, or \$0.69 per diluted share in 2019.

Shepardson has been promoted to EVP/Chief Operating Officer. Mayshura has been promoted to EVP/Chief Risk Officer. Fehn has been promoted to FSVP/Retail Market Manager. Huergo has been promoted to SVP/Operations Manager. Lee, has been promoted to SVP/Loan Workout Manager.

Additional First Bank promotions include: Ruth Powell – VP/branch operations manager; Stacy Schwartz – VP/head of operations; Andaz Ali – AVP/senior IT support specialist; Samantha Dayton – AVP/loan accounting assistant manager; Renee Denton-Clarke – AVP/branch operations manager; Kelly Valenza – AVP/human resources coordinator; Julianne Silletti – assistant treasurer/human resources generalist; Carrie Walchko – assistant treasurer/BSA investigator; April Rivas – head teller; and Linda Rowe – senior loan administrator.

To learn more about First Bank, visit firstbanknj.com or firstbankpa.com.

Light industrial buildings sold in Newtown

Colliers announced the \$5,550,000 sale of a multi-tenant light industrial portfolio in Newtown, to Velocity Venture Partners.

The two buildings, located at 201-375 Pheasant Run and totaling 48,000 square feet, are presently home to five light industrial, pharmaceutical and technology companies. The property offers expansive parking, tailgate and drive-in loading, warehouse, office, and finished lab space.

Velocity will immediately commence a capital improvement campaign to improve the exterior aesthetics, demolish excess office areas and turn existing vacancies into multiple tenant-ready units of 5,000 to 20,000 square feet suitable for light industrial, pharma and technology-oriented occupiers.

"We are excited to welcome five new tenants to the Velocity family, and to inherit a handful of vacancies that can efficiently accommodate distribution or lab-style users given their current fit-out configurations," said Tony Grel-



Colliers recently sold two buildings on Pheasant Run in Newtown to Velocity Venture Partners.

li, Velocity's founding partner.

Immediate availabilities include a 10,000 square-foot flex unit and a turn-key 5,000 square-foot lab unit with supporting executive offices.

Jim Scott, a senior managing director with Colliers International represented the Seller in the transaction.

Noteworthy

Mid Penn Bancorp, Inc. ("Mid Penn") (NASDAQ: MPB), parent company of the wholly-owned subsidiaries Mid Penn Bank and MPB Financial Services, Inc., announced that Rob Jones has been promoted to southeast regional president of Mid Penn Bank.

In his role, Jones will provide oversight of the bank's loan and deposit activities throughout the Chester, Montgomery, and Bucks County regions.

Jones, who previously held the position of senior credit officer, has been with the bank since 2017. Before joining Mid Penn, he held a variety of executive positions with large community banks and served as director of Business Advisory and Development for a regional accounting firm.

He serves on the governance committee and is past board chair of his local United Way chapter, serves on the finance committee of a regional nonprofit health center, and is past board chair of the local YMCA.



ROB
JONES

Blue Bell law firm Wisler Pearlstone announced that attorneys Benjamin A. Andersen and Joseph M. Blackburn have been elected to partnership.



BENJAMIN A.
ANDERSEN

Andersen, of Lower Makefield Township, focuses his practice on business litigation. His experience includes: breach of contract cases; copyright and trademark infringement; disputes over rights in and ownership of residential and commercial real estate; creditors' rights; and disputes between co-owners/shareholders of businesses.

Andersen has been selected to the Super Lawyers Rising Stars list from 2012 to 2020. He is a member of the Pennsylvania and Montgomery Bar associations. A 2001 graduate of Lehigh University, Andersen earned his law degree from Washington University in St. Louis School of Law in 2005 (Order of the Coif).

Blackburn handles a broad range of real estate, zoning, and land use matters on behalf of corporate and individual clients.

He is a member of the Pennsylvania, Montgomery, and Bucks County Bar associations. A 2008 graduate of The Pennsylvania State University, Blackburn earned his law degree from The Pennsylvania State University Dickinson School of Law in 2012.

A leading insurance professional organization recently recognized Timothy Swartz, of AAA Club Alliance Insurance Agency, Warrington, for dedication and ongoing leadership in the insurance industry.

The Society of Certified Insurance Counselors (CIC) honored Swartz for five years of successfully maintaining the Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC) designation, denoting significant commitment to advanced knowledge and customer service.

"This honor is an acknowledgment of the priority Tim Swartz places on education and professional growth," said the Society's CEO and President, William J. Hold.

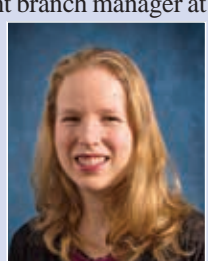
The CIC offers its nationally recognized nonprofit continuing education program for insurance professionals nationwide.

Karstie Burgess was recently named Assistant branch manager at QNB Bank's Upper Perkiomen Valley Office.

She is responsible for directing the workflow of the customer service area, including supervising, coaching and scheduling staff in order to ensure the efficient operation of the branch.

Burgess has been in banking for 10 years, previously serving as financial services representative supervisor at QNB's Upper Perkiomen Valley Office. She earned her high school diploma at Souderton Area High School and earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Arcadia University.

As an active member in the community, Burgess enjoys supporting various local community events such as American Cancer Society's annual Relay for Life fundraiser.



KARSTIE
BURGESS

Planning board okays property investigations

Continued from page A1

News of the concept and the spread of some misinformation has created a flurry of concern and suspicion among residents, and the planning board's ZOOM meeting Tuesday night was a bit tense, with 88 residents signed up to address the board. By the meeting's end, many had dropped out of the queue waiting to speak.

Board Chairman Stephen Giocondo made it clear at the beginning of the more than three-hour long meeting the planners had been ordered by council resolution to prepare a PIR to determine if the site meets eight criteria.

"This is a redevelopment process," he said, "separate from a developer's vision. Joanna will be evaluating the property itself to

see whether it qualifies."

When the report is completed, he noted, the board will not be making a recommendation but merely determining whether the properties meet the criteria or not. The three parcels are the inn property, the Stockton School and the park.

Giocondo noted, "There is no specific application. The planning board has not had any meeting with Avon or associates." Two members of the board, Tim Nemeth and Laura Lutton, temporarily recused themselves from the panel because they both live within 200 feet of one of the properties under consideration.

Several residents said they were concerned about openness and transparency and the right to

speak before action is taken.

Resident Eileen Foley urged the board to "pause and hold a public meeting. This is the biggest thing that's ever happened here. People deserve to have a chance to speak. There's a level of interest never seen before."

Trishka W. Cecil, the board's attorney, provided some calming information as she assured the residents they would have a chance to speak at the proper procedural time. She described the PIR as "a fact-finding mission - do the properties qualify or don't they."

Resident Richard Burkholder noted the park land is in a flood area. He also questioned "public drunkenness and the effect of having 1,000 people coming in on weekends."

Resident Peter Folz asked where the funds are coming from and was told the PIR would be done at the expense of the planning board.

Ken DeBleu, a past vice chair of the planners, said, "Get ready for the long haul," based on his previous planning experience.

Elaine Johnson said, "The first time we heard about the Stockton Inn we weren't allowed to comment until after the council voted. What is the hurry? I think you

should backtrack."

Alix Bacon said she was concerned about environmental effects the project might have.

One person questioned, "How is it ethical to have council members on the planning commission?" Cecil told her according to law the state requires two elected officials to serve on the planning board.

The board voted to move ahead with the PIR and, when it is ready, to schedule a public hearing.



VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING

Easton Road and New Britain Road Roundabout Intersection Improvement Project

MARCH 11, 2021 FROM 5:00 TO 6:30 PM

Email c-ggumas@pa.gov to register for the meeting

You're invited to participate in a Virtual Public Meeting to provide comments about the Easton Road (SR 1001) and New Britain Road Roundabout Improvement Project located in Doylestown Township, Bucks County.

During this Virtual Public Meeting, the community will have the opportunity to review preliminary intersection design plans, associated multi-use path modifications, the project's purpose and need, environmental features and anticipated schedule.



Advanced registration is required to receive the meeting link and sign-in instructions.
To register email c-ggumas@pa.gov

Should you require special assistance to participate in this meeting or need additional information, please call 610-757-1877 by Wednesday, March 3rd to coordinate arrangements.

Contact: George Gumas, Consultant PennDOT Project Manager, 610-757-1877, for more information. Follow local PennDOT information on Twitter at www.twitter.com/511PA Philly.



Pineville Tavern petitions for greenhouse dining area

Continued from page A1

at the township's website - wrightstownpa.org.

Magne noted that the Pineville will have to progress through the local land development approval process in order to build the greenhouse.

The tavern has already received zoning relief for an increase in impervious surface coverage and relief for the number of parking spaces required from Wrightstown's Zoning Hearing Board, she said.

Speaking to concerns about increased impervious surface creating more runoff water, Magne said: "When the Pineville in-

stalled an underground storm water facility during their patio construction a few years ago, it was oversized. They have represented that it will accommodate the increase in impervious surface runoff." The subject could be discussed at Monday's meeting.

Built in the 18th century, the Pineville has been a feed mill, general store, hotel and tavern. When liquor licenses became mandatory in the mid-1800s, the Pineville was one of the original 13 recipients of such a license in Bucks County. The Abruzzese family purchased the Pineville in 1989 and continue to operate it.



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Hilltown Wawa may be close to opening

Continued from page A1 applied for yet. "They won't apply for the occupancy permit until the project is complete," Leslie explained. Hilltown Supervisor Caleb Torrice wanted to assure residents that any perceived delays in the

opening of the Wawa "are not coming from the township." As part of the project, an older, smaller Wawa at the site was demolished in order to make way for the new larger "super" store, which is slated to be about 5,600 square feet. The destination is also expected to offer eight gas pumps for a total of 16 fueling stations. The old Wawa did not offer fueling services.

Hilltown officials also gave approval for a fast-food restaurant with a drive-through to be situated on the approximately 4-acre property.

Leslie said that the eatery will comprise "phase two" of the development project and is not expected to open when Wawa begins business. It's not yet known what fast-food chain could set up shop, but there's been talk of a Chick-fil-A. Still, it's not definite that will be the eatery.

The Super Wawa comes to a high-traffic intersection that includes a CVS, Exxon gas station and Weis Markets store.

Helping hand from strangers can make all the difference

Continued from page A1 could to get it fixed. When he learned Ratta sometimes made the treacherous trek back to Dublin at night, Curle gave him his business card and told him to "call me - never walk home at night."

So impressed with the young man's "grit" and how he "displayed an extreme amount of determination and dedication to get to work," Curle posted the story on social media.

The Doylestown Neighbors United Facebook page exploded with offers to help Ratta get his car repaired. Another Doylestown resident, Teri Michaels Ullmann, created a GoFundMe page to raise money for the effort.

"I have two teenage sons and I

just thought, if they were down on their luck like that I would want someone to help them if they could," said Ullmann in an email. "Then I thought 'why not me?'" Ullmann credited the "boundless caring and generosity" of the community for the successful fund drive. She also reached out to her work colleagues, who responded with donations from across the country.

When Ratta learned of the extraordinary gift, he was so touched, he was brought to tears, said Ullmann. "My heart was so happy to help a complete stranger get back on his feet. I think we need more of this in today's world!"

After just a week, \$4,500 was in the bank and a local

garage offered to not only fix Ratta's vehicle but to upgrade it, all at cost. Doylestown Tire and Auto Liberty Gas Station's Pete Hartkorn and Brian De Cesare, deserve the credit, Curle said.

For Ratta, the whole experience has been transformative.

"I cannot express my utter gratitude to all of those kind and generous souls who donated their time, efforts and money, all in the name of an unbelievable act of kindness," Ratta said, on Facebook.

"To be honest, I have never known such kindness. I am truly thankful and humbled by the whole event that has occurred."

The three now call themselves friends.



Expenses pile up for snow clearing

Continued from page A1 streets as well as the housing development outside of town on Woodbyne Road. Pursell said drivers were forced to go around numerous cars and trash cans, risking damage to township vehicles and leading to ice buildup. He questioned why people who were working from home were "leaving their cars just sit out there."

The township topped the county in snow totals, with more than 31 inches in spots following the Jan. 31 to Feb. 2 storm.

The winter storm report came as the township debates just how far it wants to go with its snow emergency ordinance, which would give it unprecedented power to tow vehicles blocking emergency routes and penalize residents for not clearing their sidewalks.

Pointing out that less than 1 per-

cent of township has sidewalks, Supervisor Jim Hopkins questioned the need to compel residents to clear the paths. Hopkins also expressed concern about liability. Legal counsel Scott MacNair observed that the township could only be sued in a slip-and-fall case where someone didn't clear his or her snow for a long period of time, and it went unenforced. "Legal immunity would go out the window in that scenario," he said.

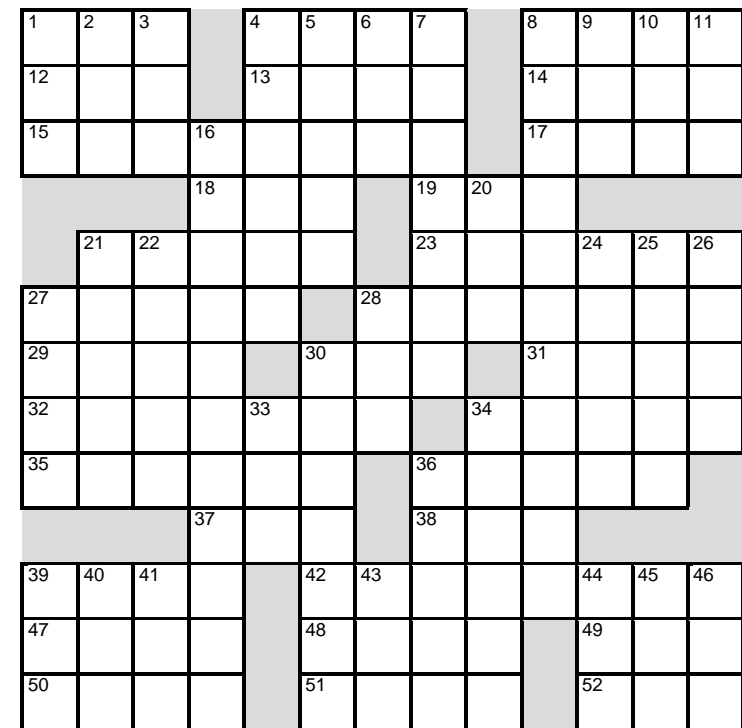
Supervisor Bill Ryker warned the township was legislating common sense. "We don't have a cop who has time on his hands to be writing tickets in a snowstorm. It's just not going to happen guys." There are state laws that govern abandoning a vehicle on a highway," added Police Chief Michael McDonald.

"This is about keeping our roads clear, so residents can get around when they want to get around," Wager said defensively. "A lot of municipalities have this, rural included. I can tell people every year to be cognizant when it snows, and you'll have people who don't care, and we got to deal with that somehow."

The board tabled the matter for more public discussion.

In other business, the township manager announced \$107,000 in state grants would be available for road repairs on School, Cooks Creek and Peppermint roads. "Does any of this money turn into a pumpkin?" asked Supervisor Tony Matzura. "It would have to be used this year," replied the roadmaster.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Advanced degree in mathematics?
4. Wet bar, often
8. Essen's river
12. Tourism center
13. Hard downpour
14. Isaac and Rebekah's eldest
15. Mali city near the Niger River
17. Vascular channel
18. Host Khan of "Cheap Eats"
19. Mrs. in Montreal
21. Photo finish choice
23. Karl or Moses of basketball
27. Strauss specialty
28. "Heartbreaker" singer Pat
29. Like many JFK flights
30. Charge leader?
31. Unsafe to skate on, say
32. Pittsburgh pro
34. Colander kin
35. Chanel No. 5 Eau de _
36. Sound asleep?
37. It's here in Haiti
38. Dark time for a poet
39. New member of la famille
42. First son, sometimes
47. Dog command
48. Where to find Snowflake, in brief
49. Two for Nadal
50. Initialed, say
51. Get ready to shine?
52. Elect

Down

1. Crunchy protein snack
2. Prefix with "age" or "via"
3. Finger-pointer's pronoun
4. Reagan's Secretary of State
5. "The Great Dictator" Oscar nominee Jack
6. Small island in the Thames
7. He portrayed Tolstoy in "The Last Station"
8. Epiphanies
9. Implement
10. Asian affirmative
11. Dash
16. Fight site
20. Uncle or Grandfather
21. Ray under water
22. Make a suit, suit
24. Survey choice
25. Like Little Red Riding Hood, maybe
26. Coastal eagle
27. Will-o' the- _
28. Botanical sticker
30. Training session
33. Starfleet's Jean- _ Picard
34. Blessing elicitor, usually
36. They come after quarters
39. GWB successor
40. Cartoon squeal
41. Queen's consort
43. Journalist Melber of MSNBC
44. Tumult
45. "Keystone" character
46. PHL clock setting

Book explores years from 1683 through World War II

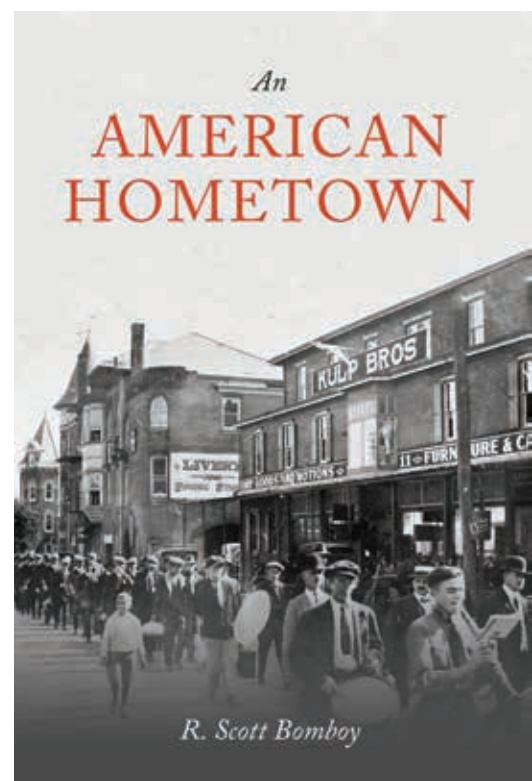
Continued from page A1 mostly disappeared by 1925 in Perkasia, just on the Great Depression's eve."

"An American Hometown" details how Perkasia found a way to survive the "cigar crash" by switching industries and remaining a vibrant community. "Cigars may have made Perkasia, but the pants business saved it. In both cases, it was the presence of women in the workforce that made Perkasia a successful place to do business," he said.

The town was made possible, Bomboy noted, by one of Bucks County's earliest construction projects, the Landis Ridge train tunnel. Built by Irish laborers and completed for the North Pennsylvania Railroad in early 1857, the tunnel later made the cigar trade possible in Perkasia and in neighboring Sellersville, Quakertown, and Souderton by enabling continuous train service from Philadelphia to Bethlehem.

Accenting "An American Hometown" are personal stories of the women and men who came to Perkasia from nearby farms or even Philadelphia to find success in the Victorian era.

Cornelius F. Hendricks arrived from Norristown to make cigars at a young age, went blind from glaucoma in his twenties, and then became a town leader. Katie Smith, another young cigar maker who came from Sellersville, lost most of her body movement at the age of 28. Still, she became Perkasia's most famous resident during her lifetime because Smith didn't let her illness define her. Charles W. Baum also came to Perkasia from Sellersville in his early twenties. He became a successful cigar factory supervisor, but Baum's doctor told him to change careers because of his health. He took over



R. Scott Bomboy's book, "An American Hometown" describes a community in its early days.

Perkasia's newspaper with no publishing experience and made it a trusted institution.

"An American Hometown" makes use of primary records such as population and business census data, state industrial reports, academic studies, and local newspaper articles to tell the story of Perkasia's survival through the ultimate test, World War II.

"World War II showed the best of Perkasia's character in the toughest of times, but its residents had survived challenges for decades, and were up for the task," Bomboy concluded.

He is currently at work on a companion book that covers Perkasia's postwar period until the late 1980s.

R. Scott Bomboy is a historian and preservationist who has written frequently about Bucks County's past. In his career, Bomboy has received national awards for his work in journalism, and he holds degrees in History from the Pennsylvania State University and Arizona State University. He is also the editor in chief of the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. He is also currently writing a detailed history of Bucks County's covered bridges.

"An American Hometown" is available on Shopify and at perkasiabook.com. A limited number of copies are at Chimayo Gallery and the Treasure Trove in Perkasia.

Development of former Intelligencer site advances

Continued from page A1 However, he noted at the time, "there has to be enough density to pay for quality architecture and design ... we have to find the sweet spot."

Ehlinger also said, the proposed project is an opportunity to attract millennials to move into the borough. "The American dream of home ownership has changed," he added.

Two of the apartment buildings will be four stories, although they will "present as three," with the third being seven stories, said the deputy manager, discussing the

project last year.

The higher building will be in the far corner of the site, near Center Square Towers, another apartment complex that sits along North Broad and Atkinson streets, the deputy manager said.

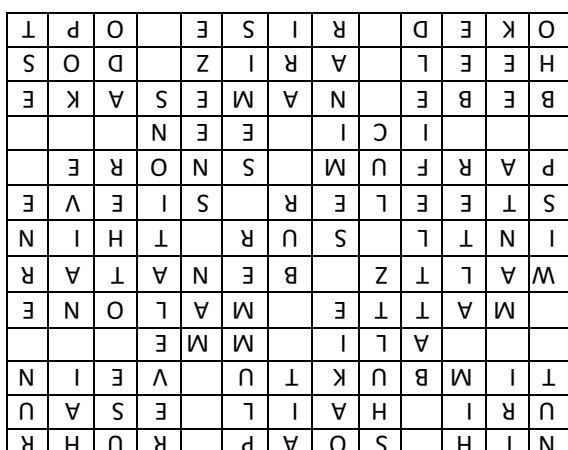
Plans call for 110, one-bedroom apartments, and 114, two-bedrooms on the 7½-acre property.

In order for the number of units for this project to be considered, it had to receive "density bonuses," Ehlinger said, in earlier comments. In the borough's Broad Street Gateway District, a project can be scored on a number of fac-

tors, including its proximity to a supermarket, mass transit and public parks. Called the "Green Points Program," it's been expanded into the proposed zoning for the Calkins site.

Among the amenities planned for the development are taxi dropoff and loading areas and indoor secure bicycle storage. Rooftop recreational space and shared community rooms are also envisioned, Ehlinger said, previously.

"This is one of the biggest developments we've seen or will see in the borough," he said.



Puzzle by Linda Dunn of Furlong.

ARTS & Galleries

iarthur@buckscountyherald.com

AOY Art Center plans Members Spotlight, in person and online

AOY Art Center invites visitors to part one of its new three-part Members Spotlight Series, featuring seven AOY member artists and artisans for the next three weeks.

See their art in the AOY Gallery and online from March 5 to 21.

Featured during part one will be Aida Birritteri, watercolors; Lynn Holl, watercolors; Nelly Kouzmina, hand felted wearable art; Noe LaFramboise, oils; George Olexa, oil paintings and etchings; John Slavin, photography; Julie Stell, iconography in

oils. Six member artists' work will be displayed April 2 to 18, followed by six more April 30 to May 16.

Visitors can also learn more about the artists through AOY Virtual Conversations. Aida Birritteri will host "Working in INK" at 7 p.m. March 6. She works in a variety of water-based medium, is an award-winning artist and was the juror for the Philadelphia Sketch Club's 2021 Works on Paper.

Go to the AOY Art Center website, at aoyartcenter.org, to

pre-register for this free program, and for show hours and information.

All art is for sale and proceeds benefits local artists and the AOY Art Center, a nonprofit local art organization, located at 949 Mirror Lake Road just off the Route 295 and 332 interchange in Lower Makefield/Yardley on the Patterson Farm.

Art purchases can be made online, and AOY will make appointments for buyers to pick up the art at the Center, curbside if desired. All art purchases need to be picked up by March 28.



"In Training" is by Lynn Holl.



"Violet Vase" is by Noe LaFramboise.



"The Eye of Creation" is an oil painting by Karen Trimble.

Artists, poets invited to join celebration of National Poetry Month

The Arts & Cultural Council of Bucks County invites poets and visual artists to share original work with the community in celebration of National Poetry Month for its "April: 30 Days of Inspiration" initiative.

The ACCBC seeks poems and artwork for a social media campaign that explores what inspires, strengthens, connects, calms, or revives — from the smallest, most ordinary moments to dramatic occasions and vistas, whether narrative, lyrical, abstract or concrete.

A new poem paired with a new artwork will be featured daily during the month of April on all ACCBC social media platforms, cu-

rated by the Arts & Cultural Council of Bucks County "30 Days" project committee.

Artists and poets do not have to be residents of Bucks County or members of the Arts & Cultural Council of Bucks County to participate. Submissions from new, emerging and established artist/poets are welcomed. The ACCBC encourages submissions from historically underrepresented voices in arts communities in celebration of the full expression of all identities.

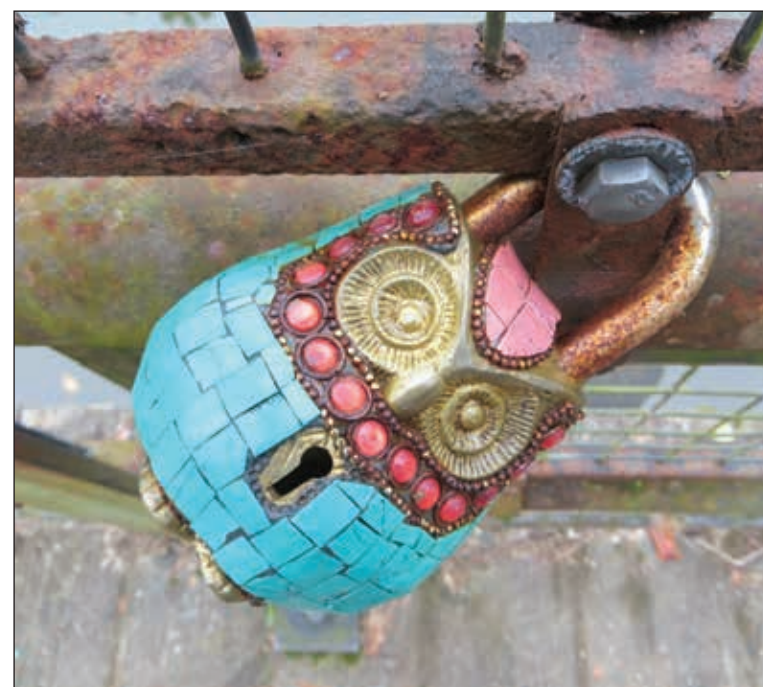
Poetry and artwork submissions that explore what inspires, strengthens, connects, calms, or revives will be accepted until March

15. Previously published poetry will be accepted; artists need not create new work to enter the show.

Contact information for artists and poets will be featured alongside published works to expand marketing reach of all participants. There is no submission fee for this project; donations to the ACCBC are welcome. Poets and artists are invited to learn more and submit their work at bucksarts.org/30Days.

It is the intention of the Arts & Cultural Council to use the social media campaign as a means of celebration and community-building during a challenging time while partnering poets with visual artists in evocative ways.

Joseph DeFay focuses on colors and textures



"Owl Lock" is a framed photographic image by Joseph DeFay.

"Locks on the Canal," an exhibit of creative photographic images by Joseph DeFay, presents "the simpler aspects of everyday life seen with renewed beauty in an exciting new perspective."

The images, which focus on the unique color and textures often overlooked, will be showcased at Bell's Tavern Dining Room,

183, N. Union St., Lambertville, N.J., March 10 through the end of April.

DeFay is an exhibiting member of Artists' Gallery at 18 Bridge St., Lambertville.

Bell's Tavern is open for dinner daily; call 609-397-2226 for reservations.

River House at Odette's plans new monthly art series

River House at Odette's hosts a new monthly art series celebrating local artists with curated exhibitions open to the public.

The boutique luxury hotel at 274 South River Road, New Hope, is on the site of the former Chez Odette, a boisterous cabaret founded by French-American actress Odette Myrtil.

To honor the spirit of Odette, as well as New Hope's highly acclaimed female artists in celebration of National Women's Month, the River House at Odette's Art Series will kick off with a showcase by New Hope artist Pearl

Mintzer from 5 to 9 p.m. March 16.

Mintzer will be on hand during the evening to share inspiration and method behind her work.

The second event in the series will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. April 20, celebrating works by Gordon Haas.

A portion of the proceeds from any works of art purchased during the event will benefit New Hope Arts, a nonprofit regional arts center dedicated to furthering the heritage of New Hope as a vital regional arts center.

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our stories may go untold.



Photo: Marissa Jacobs

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Lisa Lampanelli brings her new show to Bucks Playhouse

Grammy nominated comedian turned life coach Lisa Lampanelli comes to Bucks County Playhouse in New Hope for two performances only, at 2 and 8 pm March 13, with an all new show, "Losin' It!"

The performances will be held on the Playhouse stage for an extremely limited, socially distanced audience. Lampanelli appears at the Playhouse as part of the Visiting Artists Series.

"Losin' It" is a collection of Lampanelli's most outrageous observations and real-life stories. A depar-

ture from the insult comedy she's long been known for, Lampanelli has created a humorous and heartfelt theatrical evening sharing her struggles with dieting, body image, and "losin' it."

Lampanelli has been obsessed with food for as long as she can remember. As a kid, she ate butter by the stick, licked her plate clean to please her Italian mother, and has lost and gained more than 372 pounds over the course of her life.

Her career spans more than 30 years. With numerous tours, Gram-



BRANDON CAMPBELL

Lisa Lampanelli is dedicating her life to running transformational food and body-image workshops, performing in issue-oriented storytelling shows, and completing a rigorous life-coaching certification program.

my nominations, and national TV appearances and specials under her belt, Lampanelli made national headlines in 2012 when she lost more than 100 pounds with the help

of bariatric surgery. She went on to speak with unflinching honesty about her lifelong food and body-image issues and has since gone from insulter to inspirer.

Bucks County Playhouse has developed rigorous safety protocols, including mask requirements, frequent cleaning, Merv 15-rated HVAC filters, and restricted access backstage. A list of protocols can be found on the Playhouse website.

Tickets are \$40 each. Visit bucks-countyplayhouse.org, or call 215-862-2121.

PA Historical and Museum Commission celebrates commonwealth's birthday

The Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission (PHMC) will celebrate the commonwealth's 340th birthday on Charter Day, Sunday, March 7, with a virtual display of William Penn's original 1681 charter and other programming from the Pennsylvania State Archives, State Museum of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Trails of History.

Pennsylvania was created when England's King Charles II granted a charter to William Penn in 1681. Once each year, the Pennsylvania State Archives exhibits the original document for a limited time. The 340-year-old Charter is written on parchment using iron gall ink. The State Archives preserves the document in a high-security vault, shielding it from strong light and environmental fluctuations.

Beginning Sunday, March 7 and continuing through Friday,

March 12, virtual visitors to the Charter Day 2021 landing page will be able to view the charter and find out more about how the Charter ended up at PHMC and how the commission cares for it.

In addition, visitors can "tour" the Violet Oakley murals of William Penn, Pennsylvania's founder, featured in the Governor's Reception Room at the Capitol, explore Colonial-era documents or "virtually" page through more than 45 years of Pennsylvania Heritage magazine for articles exploring all aspects of Pennsylvania's 340-year history and much more.

Sites and museums along Pennsylvania's Trails of History will offer online programs throughout the week. Several sites will come together at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 9, for a special Zoom webinar as they present and discuss objects from their

collections that relate to the aptly chosen theme of "birthdays and other celebrations." Advance registration is required.

Participating sites include Cornwall Iron Furnace, Eckley Miners Village, Ephrata Cloister, Erie Maritime Museum, Hope Lodge, Joseph Priestley House, Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum, Pennsbury Manor, Pennsylvania Anthracite Heritage Museum, Pennsylvania Lumber Museum, Pennsylvania Military Museum and The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania.

Throughout the week PHMC will highlight featured programs via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or LinkedIn. Start following now so you don't miss a thing.

The Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission is the official history agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Learn more online.

Town and Country Players feature original works online

Town & Country Players will showcase four world premiere full-length plays as part of their 2021 Signature Series via Zoom every Sunday in March.

The Signature Series focuses on producing original works and this year the nationwide call went out for submissions of full-length original plays.

The theater received 106 submissions from playwrights across the country. The entries were read by the six members of the Signature Series Committee and the committee selected four plays to be presented by the theater as virtual readings.

On March 7: "The Sexton," written by David Rousculp, funeral director from New Haven, Ind., tells the story of frustrated souls trapped in their graves whose luck changes when the new sexton can see and hear them.

On March 14: "Backyard Fairytale," written by Michael John McGoldrick of Jersey City, N.J., is a romantic comedy about a writer who meets up with his former lover, now a famous New York actor, to reveal he's written a play about her.

On March 21: "Cozy Murder," written by Judy Klass, professor at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn., is a murder mystery set in a small-town Maine bed and breakfast during a summer mystery play festival.

On March 28: "Miss Woodhouse Presents," by Kayla Hambek of



From top left, clockwise, are playwrights David Rousculp, Kayla Hambek, Judy Klass and Michael John McGoldrick.

Minneapolis, Minn., is inspired by Emma Woodhouse, the main character in Jane Austen's 1815 novel "Emma." Set in modern day, Miss Woodhouse is the star of her own TV show where she gives opinions on the love lives of several other beloved Jane Austen characters.

The plays are being presented free of charge, but viewers must request an access link by emailing tandcplayersonline@gmail.com.

After each reading there will be a discussion held with the directors, performers and playwright (if present). The theater will accept donations to its "The Show Must Go On" fund at townandcountryplayers.org/donate.html#Show.

Town & Country on Route 263 in Buckingham, is currently in its 73rd season. Information about the theater and the Signature Series can be found at townandcountryplayers.org.

"Diary of Anne Frank" in person at Music Mountain

Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, N.J., will continue the 2021 season with "The Diary of Anne Frank" running March 5-21.

The theater will continue at 35% indoor capacity while also offering the options to stream at home. For the safety of patrons, the theater blocks off seats to allow for social distancing between groups.

"The Diary of Anne Frank" is one of the most famous and haunting stories to emerge from the 20th century. The memoirs of this young Jewish

girl, forced to hide for nearly two years to escape Nazi persecution, are an essential part of how we remember one of the darkest periods of our human history.

The script by Goodrich and Hackett draws from previously unpublished parts of Anne Frank's real-life diary, allowing the audience to experience Anne in a way that breathes life into this passionate, complex young woman.

Showtimes are 8 p.m. Friday, 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Music

Mountain Theatre has remained committed to the mission of enriching, educating, and entertaining the community through the appreciation of the arts during this difficult time.

The theater strives to provide a safe environment for all with rigorous cleaning procedures and more recently, the installation of state-of-the-art air scrubbers to increase indoor air quality and reduce contaminants.

Visit musicmountaintheatre.org or call 609-397-3337.



We want to say thank you to each of the over 1,000 donors who have contributed to the Playhouse Pandemic Campaign (60% giving for the first time). Through your generosity, we have reached our goal, allowing us to maintain and protect our professional staff, move our entertainment and educational programming online, and maintain a safe environment in the Playhouse and at the Deck for staff and guests. We have a summer schedule in formation; stand by for details!

In the meantime, please join us for our Visiting Artists programming, online events, classes and workshops. Visit our website for details. Plus, we continue to offer our community in-person dining, pickup and delivery at The Deck Restaurant. None of this would be possible without your support.

Lynn M. Breen
Lynn Breen
Campaign Co-Chair

Paul Muller
Paul Muller
Campaign Co-Chair



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Carl Moll (German, 1861-1945)
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The Area Guide to

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BUCKS COUNTY
HERALD

March 4, 2021

Your guide to Real Estate & Rentals,
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The success of Eiseman Construction is a reflection of Phil's integrity and his respect for customers, family, and community, which remain cornerstones of the company to this day. Currently owned and operated by Melissa Eiseman, wife of the late Phil Eiseman, Eiseman Construction continues to strive ahead as one of the tri-state's leading full-service roofing contractors specializing in asphalt,

slate, cedar, and metal roofing. From residential housing, multi-family townhouses, and condominium projects, to historic and commercial repairs and renovations, Eiseman Construction focuses their full attention on each project, large or small, with the same level of professionalism and care. With certifications as a GAF Master Elite Contractor, a CertainTeed Master Shingle Applicator, and an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau, the Eiseman Construction team comes fully prepared and educated to tackle any roofing project.

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*Submitted by
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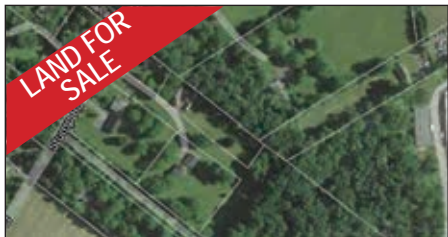
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- Thomas Edison

NEW LISTING



PRIMROSE CREEK FARM \$1,175,000

Primrose Creek Farm is a 5 acre premier property in the heart of Solebury. The stone farmhouse has been lovingly restored featuring a large chef's kitchen, 3-4 bedrooms and renovated bathrooms.

IN-GROUND POOL



HILLTOP MANOR \$795,000

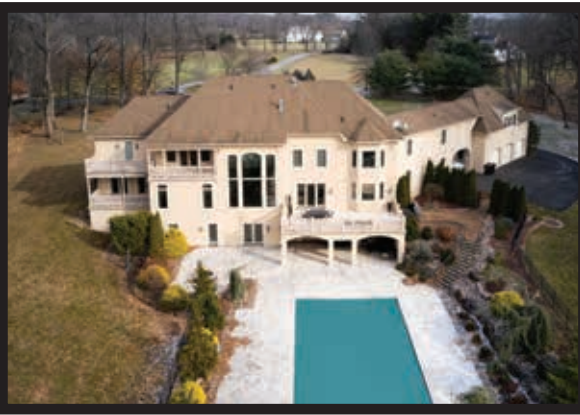
Spacious brick colonial with attached 2-car garage is located on 3.59 acres in Solebury! This 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home has been updated to today's standards. Located in the award-winning New Hope/Solebury School District. Donneta Crane 215.589.3681

CUSTOM BUILD



SOPHISTICATED COUNTRY \$1,695,000

Rare opportunity to own a new build in Solebury. This 3,700 sq ft home, sited on 2.1 acres, offers single floor living at its best. Features hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen w/granite counters, custom cabinetry, and a large center island. Evan Walton 215.327.4709 or Art Mazzei 610.428.4885



AUTUMN TRACE \$2,499,000

Custom Zaveta home on 4 acres in Solebury. This home features 6 beds, 6 baths, home theater, wine room and an in-law suite. Extensive hardscape, pool w/ travertine decking, and fire pit. Easy access to New Jersey, NYC and Philadelphia. Evan Walton 215.327.4709 or Christa Conte 215.962.5971

RIVER VIEWS



PIPERFALLS \$495,000

Piperfalls is an iconic Bucks County retreat perfect for weekend getaways or a fulltime residence. Located in desirable Tincum Township, just minutes from Frenchtown, N.J. and about 20 minutes to the vibrant Hamlet of New Hope.

PENDING



SOLEBURY MANOR \$764,900

Lovely custom home on just over an acre in the heart of Solebury Township. Conveniently located just outside of New Hope. Easy access to New Jersey, Philadelphia, and NYC and within minutes of restaurants and shopping. Karen Troester 215.460.3795



THE FIELDS AT BUCKINGHAM GREEN \$1,435,000

One of the last large parcels of land (57 acres) is now on the market. The zoning is R-1 and the geological study permits septic mounds and spray irrigation. Located on Route 202 in Buckingham, just minutes from Doylestown Proper and 15 minutes to New Hope. Explore the possibilities.



RIVER TRAILS \$550,000

Totally renovated Mid-Century Modern home with river front views, backed by Columbia trails. Served by Natural gas! Not in a flood zone! Transformed by present owner into the ultimate retreat. Located in Lebanon Twp, NJ. Daniela DeLuca 267.614.4345



BIRDWELL \$998,000

Set among the lush rolling topography of Upper Bucks County, is Birdwell. This amazing estate property is a commercially built home that exudes the style, sophistication and sensibility of the Hamptons.



GREENWICH FARM \$1,495,000

EQUINE ENTHUSIAST: Greenwich Farm is a rare find, combining 20 acres of pastures, a modern custom post-and-beam home, a 13+ stall barn with an indoor riding arena and spectacular panoramic views. Megan Waits 215.264.9144



STONE COURT FARM \$5,300/MO+Utilities

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RIEGELSVILLE LOT \$150,000

Fantastic 2 acre building site in quaint Riegelsville Borough and Palisades School District. Land backs to Delaware Canal, and walking distance to town. Palisades schools. Megan Waits 215.264.9144



FRENCH COUNTRY HOLLOW \$1,595,000

With a well executed design and superior craftsmanship this custom built French Country style home, by premium builder John Arrow, is located on a private cul-de-sac surrounded by Lookaway Golf Club. Laurie Madaus 203.948.5157



BELLE MEAD MANOR \$1,295,000

Nestled on 6.56 acres surrounded by protected woodlands. This 5900 sq ft, 4 bedroom 5.1 bathroom home with office and home gym is perfect for entertaining and enjoying your own private oasis. Located in Belle Mead, NJ. Nick Esser 646.745.5460



GLENSIDE CHARM \$252,000

Gorgeous 6BR, 2.5bth home in Glenside with gas FP, main floor laundry and extensive closet space. One block from shops and a 10 minute walk to the train. Stephanie Schade 215.534.3381

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