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DELAWARE RIVER TOLL BRIDGE COMMISSION

Milestone across the Delaware

The Scudder Falls Bridge Replacement Project along I-295 in New Jersey and Pennsylvania is on the cusp of reaching the 90-percent-completed mark by the end of March and achieving substantial completion in December. A major construction milestone was reached on March 16, when the last of 98 steel support girders for the second parallel span was lifted and secured into place. See page C7.

Coveting Henry Mercer's legacy, historians want a share in Tile Works lease decision

Bridget Wingert

With the Bucks County commissioners on the verge of approving a lease for use and maintenance of the National Landmark Moravian Tile Works, local historical organizations are asking for an opportunity to address the issue.

The county commissioners are expected to vote on a reported 30-year lease April 7.

The Bucks County Historical Society, which has a traditional stake in the building, says the decision on the lease has come too quickly. It is asking the commissioners to hold off on the decision, claiming it has not been given an opportunity to weigh in on the proposal.

The historical society, owner of the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle, believes the Tile Works should be under its umbrella, since it is the principal custodian of Henry Mercer's legacy. The Tile Works rounds out Henry Mercer's major contributions to building construction in the early 20th century.

The proposed lease would go to The Tileworks of Bucks County, a new nonprofit founded by local tile artist Katia McGuirk, recognized locally for her murals in Doylestown – the Star Garden Pocket Park and Freedom Square, and in the Neshaminy Manor garden.

According to the Katia Tiles website, "The Tileworks of Bucks County is a Pennsylvania nonprofit

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Katia McGuirk, here in a photograph from her website, has founded the nonprofit Tileworks of Bucks County.

County Theater hopes for April completion

Opening day "a moving target," maybe May, maybe June

Freda R. Savana

Doylestown's much-loved County Theater is nearing completion of its multimillion dollar expansion and renovation project, said John Toner, the arthouse cinema's founding director.

"We hope to see completion by April 15," Toner said, on Tuesday. "As to when we open, that's a moving target."

A number of factors will influence the reopening decision, the director said. "There aren't that many arthouse film distributors distributing films right now,

so there's not a lot to show. And, everyone is waiting to see when people will feel comfortable coming back into theaters.

"It's possible it could be May, but maybe, June. It's just hard to say," explained Toner. And, he noted, "as a nonprofit, once we reopen our expenses substantially increase, so we need to know people will be coming in."

The iconic theater on East State Street has installed new, larger seats in the existing theaters – one has 110 seats, the other has 86 – and, the third theater has 180 seats, Toner said. Screen frames have been placed

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Palisades mourns board member's loss, reappoints superintendent

Cliff Lebowitz

Shaken by the passing of a long-serving former member, the Palisades School Board moved forward with its March 17 public meeting agenda, including the reappointment of Superintendent Bridget O'Connell.

At the outset of the meeting, board President Bob Musantry called for a moment of silence in honor of Bob de Groot, who he noted had served the board long term, in two separate stints. De Groot served for over 25 years, ending in 2017, including many years as board treasurer. Since retiring from the board, he continued to attend and participate in some board and committee meetings.

Continued on page C6

Hilltown neighbors oppose Ag Area

Chris Ruvo

The owner of a nursery on Hilltown Pike in Hilltown wants to place the land into the township's Agricultural Security Area (ASA), but neighbors have objections.

The topic came up at the Hilltown Board of Supervisors Monday, March 22 meeting. Ultimately, property owner Thomas Linke will need approval from supervisors to have the property entered into the ASA.

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Solebury anticipates new 202 traffic patterns

Recent land purchase allows for safety measures

Birgitta Wolfe

Solebury Township plans to improve traffic conditions near its recently acquired 12-acre open space-recreation project along Route 202 by buying an adjacent 1-acre tract at Lower York Road (Route 202) and Shire Drive for \$210,000.

The agreement to buy the property, appraised at \$300,000, was approved unanimously by the board of supervisors on Tuesday, March 16, with final settlement planned for mid-June.

According to the township's traffic consultant it

would provide a safe and efficient signalized exit from the acquired flea market property (through Shire Drive) to Route 202, by reducing the number of uncontrolled entrances along Route 202, explained Supervisor Chair Mark Baum Baicker.

"It would thus enhance the recent open space acquisition and further the township's long-term goals of providing a safer and more efficient Route 202 corridor.

"Our engineer added that the acquisition would provide a potential driveway connection to Logan Square; potential trail connections at Logan Square – possibly

Continued on page C6

Delaware Valley President Gallo announces she is leaving

Delaware Valley University President Maria Gallo has announced that she is leaving her position at the end of this semester.

"Since the start of my presidency in July 2016, I have been honored to serve Delaware Valley University," she said. "It has been truly rewarding. At the end of this semester, however, I will be moving on to pursue other

opportunities and fulfill different dreams."

"We are extremely grateful for her dedicated service and success over the past five years, particularly in the face of challenging circumstances during the pandemic," said Majid Alsayegh, chair of the board of trustees.

She will be formally recognized at graduation in May. Dr. Ben Rusiloski, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty, has agreed to serve as interim president until a new president has been named.



Happy hour with stars C9

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

ryoung@buckscountyherald.com

New Hope's drag community gives back

Sequins, feathers, high heels and bright lights are not only what makes a drag show in New Hope. In New Hope a drag show is the coming together of a community to celebrate when times are good and to lend a hand when times are difficult.

Throughout the years, New Hope's local bars have been holding drag shows donating all proceeds to local charities or to someone who is in need. The need has been greater for the community during the pandemic, especially for those out of work in the food service industry.

Shows have been hosted by New Hope's finest divas to raise money during the pandemic. Miss Pumpkin and Summer Clearance with a bevy of their special performers have hosted shows at Martine's Riverhouse.



Berrie Lyndon, left, and Ginger Alley.

Those seeing the show are asked to bring a donation of canned food to be donated to a local food pantry. Miss Pumpkin will resume host-

ing her monthly shows at John & Peter's for a different charity each month.

New Hope's own Berrie Lyndon



New Hope Celebrates History logo.

and Ginger Alley have been performing and hosting drag shows at the Greenhouse in New Hope to continue giving back to the community. They have raised money for St. Philip's Episcopal Church's Food Pantry in New Hope and the Delaware Valley Food Pantry in Lambertville, N.J., among others. They will also be doing a show to benefit local pets. All drag performances follow COVID safety with performers wearing face shields and are contactless.

Ginger Alley, who has been doing drag since 1991, said, "Our stage is

our platform. It makes you feel good inside putting food on people's table." Ginger Alley expressed how welcoming and inclusive New Hope is adding, "New Hope is the best place to be." A former Miss Gay Pride South Jersey 2016 and 2017 and Miss Gay Philadelphia 2014, Ginger Alley said she puts something behind her good following by giving back to the community.

Judging by their large turnouts, not only is drag here to stay in New Hope, but the giving spirit of this community lives on.

Camille Granito Mancuso: Chatterbox

Over the past couple of days, I have been reminded more than once about the heart of a home. As signs often do, they came to me out of the blue and in a few different ways.

Our impact on each other, whether we are family, friends or strangers, can't be ignored. It happens every day, in ways we may not ever even know. As we spoke of on April 15, 2018, here at Chatterbox, we can leave a mark anytime, even if it's only a moment of attention paid to a small child on the grocery line.

These days, of course, we can't ignore the elephant in the room: the virus. It's all around us, for sure. We have all been tested to the limits with this quarantine, social abstinence and all the precautionary measures we are

subjected to – most certainly, all very smart investments, but annoying nonetheless.

Like millions of others, I just celebrated a birthday in quarantine for the second time. Also like millions of others, mine was for a very special age, as well. Last year, the world thought, "Oh well, a birthday in quarantine. We'll Zoom instead, and this will all be over in a few months." (We can all roll our eyes now). Still, we must be grateful for every day we and our loved ones remain safe. We all understand it will be this way for us over the next few months, perhaps longer.

So, once again, we were hardly partying in quarantine. Without half my children and most of my grandchildren, as well as all of my closest relatives and dearest

friends, it was tough for anyone to make this celebration special. Somehow my loved ones managed it, but the words I was gifted about being the heart of the home were the best part of it.

While still basking in the glow of those words and the celebration, I stumbled on another sign: cards from Mother's Day, 2019, celebrated before these socially limited times. The old cards' hand written additions were so very genuine and loving. They made me grateful, but one, specifically, brought to my attention something that had long eluded me ... something that should be obvious to so many of us.

We've talked before about how Sunday, the day long reserved for most religious practices and for family, went on America's

auction block decades ago, and it's often said that, as family elders pass away, families don't gather in the same way as the old traditions pass with them. However, when that inevitability occurs, as my handwritten notes reminded me, the next generation's members become the new elders, the cog in that wheel. While we reminisce about our own "hiraeth," we may not realize it or think of ourselves that way, but we do, and I just never noticed it.

Every generation will have a different past to yearn for, so we can keep the old traditions or create new ones. For our adult children, they'll blend with their childhood memories. For the little ones, they will become their childhood memories, their

youthful part of what they reflect upon when they are adults. Either way, those traditions will be remembered. That, in and of itself, is enough to inspire us.

Some of us will never be parents. Others may not be parents or grandparents yet, but our home holds its memories for anyone we make traditions for or with. In this way, we create what they'll reminisce about and tell tales about to their own kids. Generation after generation, we grow and, eventually, become the cog. Then, whether we replicate old traditions or create new ones, there is always a hiraeth for the little ones to come of age with. We each create it. Eventually, it's in our control and up to us.

Most often, we make it happen without even realizing it, always creating memories, even without planning them, but it's wonderful to realize that we have, somehow, become the new hinge pin. We become that warmth and familiarity, that comfort and safety ... or even just that reminiscence which comes with a certain aroma on a Sunday morning.

Generation after generation we are all always blessed to be solid part of someone's memories. Down through all generations, entire courses are charted by these mere moments.

Now in these difficult days, these moments mean even more, but it's always a wonderment to realize we've become the heart of any home and the home in any heart.

Stay well.



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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
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Living life and looking ahead

Supervisors don't oppose greenhouse

Chris Ruvo

The Pineville Tavern wants to add a new outside dining option, but the historic establishment in Wrightstown may have to take care of some issues first.

The Pineville, whose history dates back to before the Revolutionary War, wants to build a greenhouse with open sides on its patio where patrons can dine during the warmer months. The tavern needs approval from the

Wrightstown Board of Supervisors, along with a certificate of occupancy from the township, to build and utilize the planned greenhouse.

Supervisors don't oppose the project, provided certain conditions that are in line to be articulated in a resolution are met. Those include limitations on noise and lighting to ensure the operation isn't intrusive to neighbors.

At a March 22 work session, supervisors also expressed interest in having a condition of the Pineville's

greenhouse approval be that the tavern address issues related to its second floor dining area.

Supervisor Jane Magne explained that the township zoning officer/fire marshal has indicated that the Pineville doesn't have a permit for second floor dining. Among other issues, the upstairs area also requires a permit for its sprinkler system to ensure it meets required standards.

"There is also a lack of exit lights," said Magne. "Moreover, the fire mar-

shal is awaiting fire load calculations, including certification from a fire protection engineer, that the narrow stairs leading downstairs to the outside door, which acts as the secondary egress, is adequate."

Supervisors are now looking to require that Pineville submit a permit application and plan for addressing the various issues before the establishment can receive a certificate of use and occupancy for the greenhouse.

"Use of the second-floor dining

room will not be allowed until a certificate of occupancy is issued for its use," Magne told the Herald. "And, a certificate of occupancy for the greenhouse will not be issued until one for the second-floor dining room has been issued."

However, the existing patio can continue to be used for outdoor dining."

Further discussion on the situation could occur at the supervisors Monday, April 5 meeting.

Bucks DA's Office demotes attorney for moonlighting on county time

Jodi Spiegel Arthur

The Bucks County District Attorney has demoted his first assistant for moonlighting for a food delivery service, at times while on duty for the county.

District Attorney Matt Weintraub announced Thursday, March 18, that Jennifer M. Schorn was being promoted to serve as the office's First Assistant District Attorney, replacing Gregg Shore who takes on a role as a Deputy District Attorney,

effective March 17.

"What he has done is indefensible, thoughtless, selfish and so stupid. It's senseless," Weintraub said in a video posted on the DA's YouTube site. "He has Door Dashed during hours when he's supposed to be working exclusively for the Bucks County District Attorney's Office and the citizens that we serve. I don't know why he did this; only he has the answer."

"I'm very angry and I'm upset. This shows a clear lack of leadership."

Using his accrued vacation time, Shore has repaid the county the money he earned working the side job during normal business hours, Weintraub said.

The DA said he had demoted rather than fired Shore because of his more than 20 years working in public service.

Shore worked for the Bucks County District Attorney's Office from 1996 until 2000, then returned in 2015. During his time in Bucks, Shore started the Insurance

Fraud Unit and prosecuted Cosmo DiNardo and Sean Kratz for the 2017 murders of four young men.

Prior to his return to the Bucks DA's Office in 2015, Shore worked at the Lehigh County Prosecutor's Office and the Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General.

"I preach second chances. I preach redemption, that people can learn from their mistakes and become better. I preach proportionality, that the punishment must fit the infraction. Now I must practice what I preach or my credibility will be gone as well," Weintraub said.

"Will he be able to come back from this? Will he be able to regain our trust? Will he be able to withstand the pressure and the scrutiny and the shame he's brought on

himself? I don't know, but for now I'm giving him that chance. He has a shot at redemption."

Schorn is the Chief of Trials and Chief of the Grand Jury Division in the Bucks DA's office. Weintraub called her one of the office's "most talented and dedicated attorneys, who has faithfully dedicated her service to our mission for over two decades."

A lifelong Bucks County resident, Schorn graduated from Widener University School of Law before joining the DA's office in 1999.

She was instrumental in bringing to justice multiple defendants in cold case homicides and has prosecuted numerous sexual offenders responsible for victimizing children throughout Bucks County.

jarthur@buckscountyherald.com

Officers credited with key contribution to major interagency drug bust

Cliff Lebowitz

Two local police officers have been awarded special Commendations of Merit for their traffic safety diligence and thoroughness that recently keyed a major interagency drug bust. The presentations were made to Bedminster Officer James Zukow and Dublin Borough Officer Nicholas Swinehart by Bedminster Police Chief Matt Phelan at the March 10 Bedminster Township public board of supervisors meeting.

"We all know too well the pain that the drug scourge and opiate crisis has created in this country," Phelan noted. "It tears apart families and ruins lives. Anytime we can interrupt the flow of this poison we doing our residents a service."

"The Commendation for Merit is awarded when the performance of an outstanding act of police work results in an important apprehension. Officers Zukow and Swinehart did an excellent job picking up on the clues during a routine traffic stop, which led to this interdiction."

Phelan explained that the subsequent investigation, "that took nearly \$5.7 million worth of cocaine, heroin, fentanyl, Xanax, and methamphetamine off the streets," was performed with the assistance of "excellent teamwork among detectives from the Bucks County District Attorney's

Office Drug Task Force, Dublin Borough Police, Pennsylvania State Police, Doylestown Township Police, Hilltown Township, Upper Macungie Township Police, Central Bucks Regional Police, Tincum Township Police Department, the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security, and the Lehigh County District Attorney's Office."

He recalled that what started as a possible DUI investigation, after a stop of a vehicle that was swerving over the

line in the area of Route 313 (Swamp Road) and Branch Road, "led to the seizure of the largest amount of narcotics ever seized in our community. That seizure turned into a large interagency investigation that led to a search of a tractor-trailer the following week at a truck stop in Lehigh County, where investigators found another large quantity of drugs, as well as \$43,000 in cash; a handgun, and six cellphones."



CLIFF LEBOWITZ

Bedminster Township Police Chief Matt Phelan presented special Commendations for Merit to Bedminster Officer James Zukow and Dublin Borough Officer Nicholas Swinehart at the March 10 Bedminster Board of Supervisors meeting, in recognition of their traffic safety diligence and thoroughness that led to a major interagency drug bust. The presentation was made outdoors to accommodate over a dozen socially distanced attendees.

Doylestown Borough considers relaxing pot laws

Freda R. Savana

Doylestown Borough is considering relaxing penalties for possession of small amounts of marijuana, taking the same course as many communities across the state and country. If adopted, it would be the first such measure in Bucks County.

Members of the town's public safety commission recently discussed the matter, where Central Bucks Regional Police Chief Karl Knott said conviction of a marijuana possession charge under state law can cause serious problems for young people.

Pennsylvania law requires a misdemeanor charge for possession of 30 grams or less of pot. If convicted, that record can follow someone throughout life, interfering with future plans, including college, employment and military service, Knott said.

Instead, the chief said, a local ordinance could reduce the misdemeanor charge to a non-traffic ci-

tation and a fine. "That's the very, very lowest level in the criminal justice system. There's a fine and then it's done and over with. I think it's a good alternative for us."

While the matter is in the "exploratory stage," Knott said, "as laws change, policing should change with it."

A borough ordinance could be established, Knott said, as Pennsylvania continues plans to decriminalize recreational marijuana. A misdemeanor charge would still be available to authorities if the pot found is part of a larger crime, he noted.

Central Bucks Regional Police Department is also comprised of New Britain Borough and Chalfont. Each community would need to adopt the same ordinance in order for the change to take effect.

Similar ordinances are in effect in Bethlehem, Norristown and East Norriton, as well as Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, State College and York.

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Andrew Bunting: In the Garden The majestic pine

There is no more widely planted conifer in the Delaware Valley than the white pine, *Pinus strobus*. A popular conifer as communities were being developed over the last hundred years, white pines are dotted across the landscape throughout the region.

The white pine is native throughout the northeastern states and the Upper Midwest, as well as along the Appalachian mountains south to Georgia. In my opinion, there is no tree more majestic and iconically Northeastern than the white pine.

My neighbors have a towering white pine that was probably planted 75 years ago. It is nearly 100 feet tall and provides a stunning architectural backdrop to my garden. By nature, white pines are brittle and vulnerable to strong winds and, especially, to wet, heavy snows. These can smash branches to the ground, leaving the pines twisted, distorted, and amazingly picturesque.

From infancy to maturity, this soft-needled pine, with five

needles per cluster, provides a delicate yet masculine statement in the garden. For its first several decades, it is upright and pyramidal. After losing branches, it takes on a weathered appearance, with flat-topped tiers.

A myriad of pines grow well in the Delaware Valley. Although the white pine is arguably the most common, dozens of pine species — and many interesting cultivars and selections — offer winter interest in the home garden.

The Austrian pine, *Pinus nigra*, has been planted frequently in recent decades. It is common as a commercial planting at malls and other businesses. With its beautiful furrowed, alabaster bark, this pine can be strikingly picturesque. But it can also suffer from tip blight, or dieback, which can take a toll on its health and ultimately kill it.

Just last weekend, I visited Wallingford's Taylor Memorial Arboretum, now part of Widener University, for the first time a



ANDREW BUNTING
Pinus bungeana, the laced bark pine, at the Taylor Memorial Arboretum in Wallingford.

long time. Right at the entrance is a stunning specimen of the laced bark pine, *Pinus bungeana*. This pine is native to northwestern China but performs exceedingly well around here. It can be either single- or multi-trunked in infancy, and its mottled bark

is pink, white, and army-green. As the tree matures, the pink fades, leaving white and green. Eventually, the green fades too. Several years ago, traveling in Korea, I saw a specimen that was several hundred years old, and its bark was nearly pure white.

Another pine that performs very well in our part of Pennsylvania is the limber pine, *Pinus flexilis*, which is native to the western U. S. With long, relatively soft needles, it is similar to eastern white pine, *Pinus strobus*. One selection, 'Vanderwolf's Pyramid,' reaches 20-30 feet in height with an equal spread. With blue-green needles, it is a beautiful and robust specimen that does not require much space in the garden.

The U.S. is home to several other native pines as well. In the South, the loblolly pine, *Pinus taeda*, is ubiquitous. The loblolly has a coarse texture. In its youth, this single-trunked pine grows fast and erect like a bean pole, later developing a broad,

spreading canopy. Though rare in the north, there are a few reasonably sized specimens dotted throughout the local region.

The longleaf pine, *Pinus palustris*, is probably even rarer, but can be cultivated if given a bit of winter protection. Just across the Delaware River, in New Jersey's Pine Barrens, you can find two more natives: pitch pine, *Pinus rigida*, and the Virginia pine, *Pinus virginiana*. Both of these heat- and drought-tolerant species are shorter in stature than most pines and have a more rugged architectural appearance. Both are good options for local native habitats and plantings.

This article first appeared in The Swarthmorean (swarthmorean.com). Andrew Bunting is the vice president of public horticulture for the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHSOnline.org) which uses horticulture to advance the health and well-being of the Greater Philadelphia region.

Falls supervisors advance first phase of U.S. Steel redevelopment

Theresa Katalinas

The Falls Township Supervisors during Monday's virtual meeting moved forward with a massive redevelopment project aimed at bringing thousands of new jobs and millions of square feet of new industry to the township.

By July, shell construction is expected to be underway on the first 1 million square feet of the large-scale warehouse project consisting of more than 1,800 acres at the former U.S. Steel site.

The initial phase will be constructed on 100 acres situated on the eastern side of River Road, south of Biles Creek on the eastern portion of the development. Plans call for a 49-foot-high warehouse with 196 doors, 475

parking stalls, including 18 handicapped parking spaces. Trucks would enter the site primarily via Tyburn Road and Route 13.

In unanimously granting preliminary and final land development approval to NorthPoint Development, the board set the wheels in motion for the buildout of up to 15 million square feet of warehousing, which is expected to create between 5,000 and 10,000 new light industry jobs.

"One down, 14 to go," Supervisor Chairman Jeff Dence said following the board vote.

NorthPoint plans to carry out the multiple phase warehouse project with 20 or more state-of-the-art industrial warehouse buildings for various Fortune 500 companies.

NorthPoint will invest \$1.5

billion into the transformation of the site, which it renamed The Keystone Trade Center. In all, the developer will spend an estimated \$40 million to \$45 million to remediate the site.

Falls officials are working to ensure that NorthPoint contributes its fair share to police and fire service, and road maintenance too. Falls officials, along with Pennsbury School Board and the Bucks County Commissioners last year approved designating the site a Keystone Opportunity Investment Zone, which exempts NorthPoint Development from taxes for a 15-year period through Dec. 31, 2035.

While NorthPoint would not be required to pay real estate taxes as part of the KOIZ designation, the Falls Supervisors approved a pay-

ment in lieu of tax agreement requiring the developer to pay 110 percent of taxes owed.

In response to a suggestion in the Bucks County Planning Commission's report, Supervisor John Palmer asked NorthPoint officials about the prospect of incorporating solar energy into the project, especially given the flat roofs, which officials said is ideal for solar panels.

NorthPoint Development Manager Matt Gaston said green energy is not planned for the first phase, but it will continue to be evaluated in subsequent phases. Warehouses are built to suit, and solar power tends to be driven by tenants' decisions, officials said. Most of the markets where green energy makes the most sense are on the West Coast, where sun-

shine and warm weather are more constant year-round.

In addition to advancing the warehouse project, the Falls Supervisors Monday also granted approval for a minor subdivision for a 54-acre parcel situated in the southwest corner of the site where a wastewater treatment facility is located.

Morrisville Municipal Authority, the provider of the site's water and sewer-related utilities, will construct its new state-of-the-art wastewater treatment facility on the site. The plant is expected to be operational within the next four years.

"This is a good thing for Falls Township residents," Dence said, noting that the Township of Falls Authority will receive compensation as a result of the project.

Five local religious organizations receive security improvement grants

A total of \$98,000 in funding from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) that will help local religious schools and houses of worship make security improvements has been awarded through the commission's Non-Profit Security Grant Program.

The following local nonprofits receiving funding are: St. Mark A.M.E. Zion in Newtown, \$24,995; Abrams Hebrew Academy in Yardley, \$24,975; Temple Judea of Bucks County in Furlong, \$21,847; St. Andrew's Evangeli-

cal Lutheran Church in Perkasio, \$13,346; and Jewish Center of Eastern Bucks/Chabad Lubavitch of Yardley: \$12,838.

Announcements about the grants were made by state Sen. Steve Santarsiero (D-10), in whose district all are located, and state Rep. Perry Warren, D-31, in whose district three are located.

"As Pennsylvanians, we have a right to be able to safely gather in our places of worship, our institutions of education, and in any of our community spaces," Warren said. "These funds will ensure

people can safely practice their religion and pursue an education here in the 31st. Hate has absolutely no place in our community."

Grants awarded from the program are to be used by nonprofit organizations that serve people or groups often targeted by hate crimes because of race, religion, sexual orientation, disability and gender.

The awards can be used for safety or security improvements, including training and planning, the purchase of technology or equipment, or the improvement of the

nonprofit's facilities.

"Freedom of religion means no one should fear for his or her safety while observing their faith," said Santarsiero. "Unfortunately,

that is not always the case, which is why these funds are so important to our community."

For information, visit the PCCD website.

Penndot to widen and improve 1.5 miles of U.S. 1

PennDOT began construction this week to widen and improve a 1.5-mile section of U.S. 1 between the Neshaminy and Pennel/Business U.S. 1 interchanges in Bensalem and Middletown townships, Bucks County.

From 8 p.m. to 5 a.m., March 22 through March 24, U.S. 1 was reduced to one lane in each direction while crews set construction barriers along the northbound and southbound shoulders. Barriers began at the ramps on the north side of the Neshaminy Interchange through the Pennel/Business U.S. 1 split.

Barrier placement also took place along the ramp from southbound Business U.S. 1

(Old Lincoln Highway) at the Pennel/Business U.S. 1 exit, reducing the ramp to a single lane.

During the initial stage of the section RC2 project, crews will begin clearing operations and installation of environmental controls before starting large-scale excavation of the northbound and southbound embankments.

In addition to the new lane restrictions, periodic nighttime lane closures will be in place on northbound and southbound U.S. 1 for the ongoing construction to widen and improve U.S. 1 between the Old Lincoln Highway interchange and the Neshaminy Interchange.

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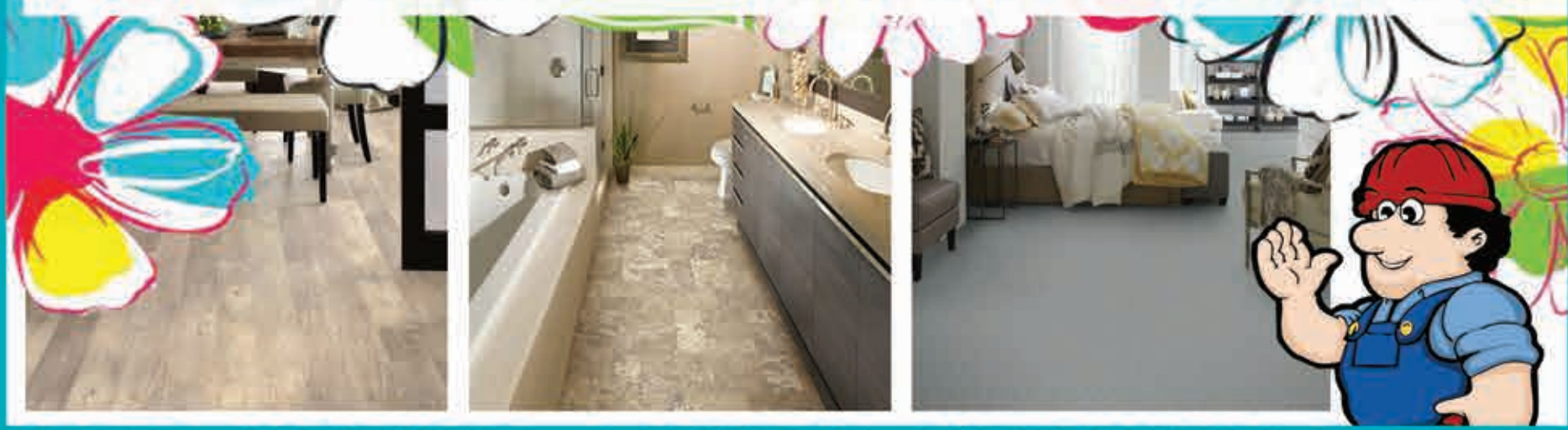
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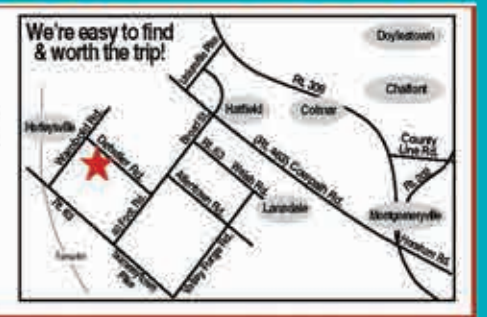
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Two Bucks residents re-invent radio show as podcast

After seven years on Philadelphia radio – including Talk Radio 1210 – “Your Valuable Home” becomes a podcast, beginning March 25.

Distribution is through the Trenton, N.J.-based New Pod City Podcast Network to Apple Podcasts and all other popular podcast directories.

“Your Valuable Home” came about when Washington Crossing resident and former New York advertising and promotion executive and consumer advocate Ron Melk was introduced to contractor and Richboro resident Kevin Kennedy.

“Your Valuable Home” began on 920 Fox Sports (aka 920 The Jersey) and after three years moved to Philadelphia’s 610 ESPN and Talk Radio 860. After completing one year on Talk Radio 1210 WPHT, Melk and Kennedy decided to flip the switch to podcasting, because of the huge and growing popularity of the genre.

“With its emphasis on more

content and fewer commercials – and the fact that listeners today prefer not to be tied to broadcast schedules – podcasting was the perfect next step for “Your Valuable Home.” Studies show that podcast listeners prefer educational content,” Melk said. “We are all about education for our audience of homeowners and residential real estate investors, so they can make informed decisions about buying and improving real estate to build wealth,” Kennedy added.

“Your Valuable Home” is not about DIY or about flipping. “We are about buying smart and holding to build wealth, choosing the right contractor to do the right job at the right price – creating great communities,” Kennedy explained.

“Your Valuable Home,” which will be distributed every Thursday beginning March 25, has three segments. “Our Home Improvement Replay can spark ideas for projects listeners have in mind. Our Horror Stories can

prevent one from happening to you,” Kennedy said.

“In our weekly feature, we interview experts from across the country on subjects as varied as multiple ways of leveraging equity in a home, making a property appealing to renters without spending a fortune, new building products, how states oversee the contracting industry, etc.,” Melk explained.

“We also offer insights into how to spot quality installation – from windows to roofing, siding and more. Some of our interviews focus on how to read and compare estimates,” Kennedy added.

“We are delighted to welcome Your Valuable Home to our Network,” said Frank Sasso, a veteran podcaster and head of the New Pod City Podcast Network. “The educational content Kevin and Ron generate will be very popular.”

Learn more about “Your Valuable Home” and the hosts at yourvaluablehome.net.



Kevin Kennedy and Ron Melk have turned their radio show into a podcast.

Wawa celebrates 700th fuel store with grand opening in Doylestown

Wawa opened its 700th fuel store today, Thursday, March 25 with a grand opening of the new store located at 425 S. Main St., Doylestown.

To mark the occasion, Wawa is hosting a socially distanced ribbon-cutting ceremony featuring select VIP customers, charitable contributions and recognition of local heroes.

The new Doylestown store will offer customers the latest Wawa innovations such as curbside and delivery, as well as its all-new menu items, including

its new burger, which officially launched across 900 stores in February.

The ribbon-cutting event is set for 7:30 to 8:10 a.m. today,

Thursday, March 25, at 425 S. Main St. The store is a relocation from 339 S. Main St.

Wawa is enhancing its convenience beyond the store’s four

walls and meeting customers where they live, on their terms – with more options and more access.

The new Doylestown store will

not only have all of Wawa’s customer favorites, but also new innovations in convenience including mobile ordering, curbside pickup, and delivery options.

The new Doylestown store will

Police: Beware ‘Grandparent Scams’

Chris Ruvo

Local senior citizens need to be leery about would-be scammers keen to swindle them out of money through schemes commonly referred to as “grandparent scams.”

That’s the message Lt. Jason Harris of the Newtown Township Police Department shared at the Monday, March 15 meeting of the Wrightstown Board of Supervisors. Newtown Township Police provide law enforcement protection for Wrightstown.

Harris said that there’ve been efforts locally and nationally to educate folks about – and protect them from – the so-called grand-

parent scams, but unfortunately area residents continue to fall prey.

“It’s scary,” said Chester Pogonowski, chairman of the Wrightstown Board of Supervisors. “Seniors in Wrightstown and Newtown are being taken for sizeable amounts of cash. It’s happening in our own communities.”

Pogonowski encouraged locals to help educate family members, friends and neighbors about the scams.

While the precise particulars of a grandparent scam can vary, the Federal Trade Commission’s Division of Consumer & Business Education reports that the

schemes often involve scammers posing as grandchildren.

They either call or message their senior citizen victims, purporting to be in a panic because of some feigned desperate scenario, such as being in a hospital, stuck overseas or even incarcerated. They then urge the seniors to wire money and/or send gift cards to help them out of their trouble.

“They pull at your heartstrings so they can trick you into sending money before you realize it’s a scam,” the FTC says. “In these days of coronavirus concerns, their lies can be particularly compelling.”

Harris noted that a request for

gift cards is a significant tip off that someone is trying to scam you.

To avoid getting ripped off, the FTC recommends that one resist the urge to act immediately. Also, try to verify the caller’s identity.

“Ask questions that a stranger couldn’t possibly answer,” the FTC says. “Call a phone number for your family member or friend that you know to be genuine. Check the story out with someone else in your family or circle of friends, even if you’ve been told to keep it a secret.”

Above all, don’t send cash, gift cards or money transfers. “Once the scammer gets the money, it’s gone,” the FTC notes.

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Community activist group wants to acquire members

The nonprofit Race for Peace Committee wants to share information and gain members in Bucks County.

The organization has already partnered with Bensalem Township, including the Bensalem Township Police Department and the Bensalem Township Mayors Office.

And Alim Howell has reached out to inform a few political leaders like District 18 state Rep. Kathleen Tomlinson, state Senator Tommy Tomlinson of District 6, County



ALIM HOWELL

Commissioner Vice Chair Bob Harvie and staff members of all the offices.

Community activist Howell also held a meeting via Zoom with state Rep. Craig Staats serving Bucks County’s 145th Legislative District. Meeting topics where Race for Peace Committee’s efforts to spread the word of its group to all Bucks County residents.

The Race for Peace Committee’s

purpose, Howell said, “is to strive to create enthusiasm in communities, see through their eyes understand their needs, and deliver more than they expect. They do this by delivering reachable goals and solutions that support peace through communities.”

Find out more about Race for Peace by contacting @RFPCSocialMedia and facebook.com/RFPCSocialMedia.

\$3 million lottery ticket sold in Montgomery County

A Pennsylvania Lottery retailer in Montgomery County sold a \$3 million-winning \$3 Million Extravaganza Scratch-Off. JK Petro LLC, 3401 W. Moreland Road, Willow Grove, receives a \$10,000 bonus for selling the winning ticket.

As a reminder, scratch-off prizes expire one year from the game’s end-sale date posted at palottery.com. Winners should immediately sign the back of their ticket and call the PA Lottery at 1-800-692-7481.

Redefining What Is, and Is Not, Investment Advice

Since the inception of the Rockwood Wealth Management, we have been at the forefront of a revolution in which “investment advice” is being redefined. By this we mean that our clients are educated to ignore the “noise” and instead focus on proven investment principles that stand the test of time.

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| <p>What Is NOT Investment Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media noise and Wall Street prognostications • The hot stock tip, the hot sector, the hot mutual fund • Anyone professing to possess a crystal ball • Selling of an investment product • Excessive turnover • High concentrations in a stock or sector • Uncompensated risk | <p>What Is Investment Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic asset allocation based upon individual goals, objectives and time frames • A written investment plan • Designing portfolios for tax efficiency • Diversifying by using uncorrelated asset classes • Rebalancing the portfolio • Focusing on proven theories, not hunches • Concentrating on compensated risk |
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We encourage our clients to ignore the persistent drone of the financial media and Wall Street prognosticators, who tend to focus on the hot stock, mutual fund or sector. Too often a stock, sector or fund is recommended only *after* it has done well. Chasing returns rarely, if ever, leads to good long-term investment results.

Instead, we apply leading academic research to systematically remove the sources of uncompensated (i.e., unnecessary) risks in our clients’ investment portfolios. As a result, our clients’ investment portfolios are built not on sales and marketing hype, but rather on careful research and close attention to proven principles. These principles include asset class and individual security diversification; a careful consideration of *risk factor allocations*; and carefully selected strategies designed to keep taxes, fees and costs far below those encountered by most individual investors today.

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Undaunted Girl Scouts deliver their cookies



Tianna Silvestri, a member of Bucks County Girl Scout Troop 2309 brought a load of Girl Scout cookies in her dad's SUV to distribute to those who ordered online.

This year the Girl Scouts are unable to have cookie booths. Instead, they take orders online and distribute cookies by car or in places like the parking lot of the American Legion Edgar H. Denson Post 79 in New Hope.

With help from her father, Tianna Silvestri gave cookies out on March 6.

Photographs by Gordon H. Nieburg

Bernard Wiley of Buckingham was the first to pick up his order of Girl Scout Cookies in the New Hope American Legion parking lot.



Local residents fear environmental impact of airport expansion

Unfolding expansion plans of Trenton-Mercer Airport are taking on an environmental and public health dimension that could impact the entire Central New Jersey region with contamination to local groundwater, wetlands and the Delaware River Watershed.

A new lawsuit against the United States Government for contamination at the EPA Superfund Site listed Naval Air Warfare Center Trenton, which adjoins and is partially owned by Trenton Mercer Airport, sheds light on the situation.

The State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has sued the federal government for highly toxic PFOA and PFOS used and stored at the Naval Air Warfare Center Trenton facilities.

The suit alleges that Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF) fire-fighting agent used at the military facilities caused contamination, which presents a threat to clean water supplies in New Jersey.

PFOA and PFOS agents used for aircraft fire suppression are "forever chemicals," which do not break down in nature, slowly accumulate in the body.

The Trenton Threatened Skies organization (TTS) is following prevailing science that suggests contamination at the Naval Air Warfare Center may have already spread into the airport land and that further airport expansion projects could facilitate the migration of toxins into regional groundwater, wetlands and waterways.

TTS believes that Trenton-Mercer Airport's practice of breaking up the project into more than 25 separate and segmented approvals, effectively skirts environmental regulatory oversight.

For years, residents of Mercer and Bucks County have demanded a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to understand the cumulative impact of all the airport's many expansion projects but the FAA and Mercer County officials have refused to authorize the funding to produce the documentation required by law.

Citizens have turned to the courts to force the FAA and Mercer County to evaluate and acknowledge how airport expansion plans will affect the area. The citizens were embroiled in a vigorous and costly legal fight mount-

ed by Mercer County and funded by the taxpayers.

With the Trenton-Mercer Airport accepting millions in FAA Airport improvement and expansion funds, matched by a big investment of Mercer County bond issue, plans are emerging to turn the small regional airport into a major feeder and backup facility for Newark, JFK, and Philadelphia airports. By FAA classification, it is listed in the "International Airport" category.

The airport management shows no intention of accounting for the impact of their plans on surrounding fragile environments or air, water and noise pollution, Trenton Threatened Skies says. "Local residents believe the FAA is pursuing its own mission without any consideration for the citi-

zens of the surrounding region."

The organization believes there is danger that inadequately evaluated site work and construction of a larger terminal and new taxiways, could trigger an environmental disaster poisoning the local groundwater and threatening nearby farming, wetlands and the Delaware River Watershed.

According to TTS, the bond-issue financed a \$142 million new terminal and 900-car parking garage expected to be paid back by Passenger Facilities Charges (PFC) generated by increased travel volume. In 2019, the record year for traffic through the Trenton-Mercer Airport, PFC charges totaled only \$1.9 million.

TTS is circulating a petition to demand the Environmental Impact Study at trentonthreatenedskies.com.

Midway Volunteer Fire Company selected as Girl Scouts' Hometown Heroes

Midway Volunteer Fire Company was chosen by Girl Scout Troop #2315 of Cold Spring Elementary School as their local Hometown Heroes. The designation is part of the organization's outreach for first responders during the pandemic.

Girl Scouts Brynn Finelli, Claire

Coleman and Paige Donaldson, fifth graders at Cold Spring, presented boxes of cookies and treats to firefighters, then toured the station and learned about the trucks and equipment used when saving lives.

Bill Rowe, a firefighter and en-



MARK SMITH

A firefighting equipment demonstration for the Girl Scouts.



MARK SMITH

Firefighters Sean Hurst, Lucas Rosenthal and Garred Rankin-Wamler accept the Girl Scouts' Hometown Heroes cookie donation.

gineer at Midway, emphasized the company's gratitude.

"We had a great time giving them a tour of the station and a look at the

tools and equipment that we use to do our job," said Rowe. "As these young women start their journey of community service in the Girl

Scouts, we have applications ready and waiting for them when they turn 16 — we would love to have them in our Junior's program!"

NOVA photo contest seeks to raise support for program

April is Child Sexual Assault Awareness month, and Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA), Bucks County's comprehensive service agency for victims of sexual assault and other serious crimes, has an ambitious goal of training 25,000 adults in Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) Awareness and prevention via its Not On My Watch education program.

In order to meet that goal, NOVA has placed ads for the program on mini-buses that travel through Bucks County during the month of March.

NOVA hopes to raise awareness of this through a photo contest that runs through March 31. In order to participate, individuals who live, work or worship in the county should safely take a photo if they spot a CSA Stoppers mini-bus during their travels and share it at <http://bit.ly/3dK3dRG>.

The contest winner will be chosen in April at random from all submissions. The winner will receive a thank you gift package including a #NotOnMyWatch T-shirt, a reusable shopping tote, a \$10 NOVA Thrift

Shop gift certificate, and a Hope bracelet. (retail value \$50).

"Not on My Watch" is part of the Safe and Healthy Communities Initiative, a joint effort by Bucks County, NOVA, Penn State University, and other local organizations to reduce rates of child sexual abuse. The project is funded by the Penn-

sylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), and educates the public on Child Sexual Abuse prevention through a two-hour evidence-based program titled "Darkness to Light: Stewards of Children."

NOVA aims to train 5% of adults in Bucks County by 2021. This program is available to all adults in

Bucks County and CE credits are available for many licensed or certified professions.

To become one of the many adults who have joined a growing group of CSA Stoppers in Bucks County, visit novabucks.org/csastoppers to learn more and sign up for the free two-hour training.



At God's Mountain Recovery Center, we offer faith-based/spiritual recovery. Our treatment program caters to the unique needs of women struggling with substance abuse. We offer a safe, nurturing, and distraction-free environment for women to begin their road to recovery. Our staff will assess the spiritual goals and needs of each client living at the House of Hope. Our residential facility has 24-hour supervision and is fully staffed with masters-level clinicians to meet the needs of our clients.

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Wreaths Across America Radio hosts roundtable on veteran healing

Wreaths Across America Radio (WAAR) is set to broadcast its first in a series of four roundtable discussions focused on veteran healing through sharing stories of resilience, purpose and success.

The live discussion will take place on Thursday, March 25, at 7 p.m. and can be heard exclusively on WAAR.

The goal of the roundtable series is to help reduce barriers for veterans by: supporting generational bonds between service veterans through stories of service and success; destigmatizing issues faced by veterans and asking for help; combating inaccurate perceptions of veterans by discussing the diverse experiences, challeng-

es, and success of service members, veterans, and their families; and connecting veterans with valuable resources.

This first round table titled "Service, Resilience, Success," will include guest panelists Major Gen. Peter (Pete) Aylward, U.S. Army, retired, the director of The United States of America Vietnam

War Commemoration, and Edward (Ed) McEvoy, the national outreach program specialist with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Readjustment Counseling Service (RCS).

Guest panelists will be interviewed by retired United States Army Capt. Joe Reagan and Wreaths Across America Execu-

tive Director Karen Worcester.

Listen to Wreaths Across America Radio's 24/7 stream anywhere at wreathscrossamerica.org/radio, and most recently, via the iHeart Radio app, or download it at the App Store or on Google.

Subsequent broadcasts will be held on Thursdays, June 24, Sept. 23 and Dec. 23.

Penn State Extension sets webinar for home gardeners

Bucks County Penn State Extension Master Gardeners offer a free live gardening webinar – "Anticipating What's Coming Next to Your Garden Using 'Growing Degree Days' and Soil Temperature" – from noon

to 1 p.m. Friday, March 26.

GDD is short for "growing degree days" – and when combined with soil temperature, offers a simple, scientific way for Bucks County home gardeners to predict the perfect time to

start seeds outdoors, plant outdoors, and know exactly when to expect garden pests like insects and weeds.

GDDs allow home gardeners to manage their gardens, lawns and trees less expensively and with

less damage to the environment. GDDs can help gardeners get ahead of insect pests like azalea lacebug, Japanese beetle, spotted lanternfly, bagworm, and grubs, as well as summer annual weeds, crabgrass, Japanese stiltgrass,

nutsedge and more.

The webinar includes an opportunity to ask questions. Register by Thursday, March 25. For information and registration, visit extension.psu.edu/gdd-bucks.

Audubon plans virtual frog, amphibian presentation

Discover the world of frogs and amphibians during a virtual presentation by the Bucks County Audubon Society, where participants can learn about the frogs that call Bucks Audubon home. Attendees will discover the sounds they make

and how to identify them virtually at 7 p.m. on March 25.

Registration for the event is free; however, donations are appreciated and support environmental education programming. Upon registration, participants will be emailed

the Zoom link.

Participants are then welcome to attend "Croaks, Trills and Splashes! An Evening Frog Walk" at 7 p.m. on March 27. Get up close and personal with spring peepers, Leopard frogs, Green frogs and

many other local amphibians.

Spring evenings are filled with the sounds of these animals, so grab some boots and a flashlight and join Bucks County Audubon Society naturalists for a frog journey.

Bucks Audubon members pay \$5 per person and non-members pay \$10 per person. For registration and further information, call the Bucks County Audubon Society at 215-297-5880 or email dianesmith@bcas.org.

Mark Your Calendar

Arts

The Eyes of March, featuring 100 paintings by Brian Gormley, at J.B. Kline Gallery, 25 Bridge St., Lambertville, N.J., open through April 30. Paintings are representational, expressionistic landscapes. Call 609-397-7026 or email jbklineson@yahoo.com for details.

Machines of Interest: The Selected Works of Stephen Mallon, a photography exhibit from the National Museum of Industrial History, will be on display through Aug. 29. It highlights Mallon's projects that celebrate the intersection of beauty and function in the natural world. More info at nmih.org.

2021 Phillips' Mill Youth Art Exhibition

now online, featuring 153 pieces of fine art from 22 local high schools. To view the exhibition visit phillipsmill.artspan.com.

Dance

Rennie Harris Puremovement and the Annenberg Center present a live performance at 7 p.m. on April 1. Evening of works includes two that directly reflect on current tragedies, performance will be streamed online and includes an interactive Q&A with the performers. Visit annenbergcenter.org for details.

Festivals

45th Annual Alpaca & Llama Shearing Fest at WoodsEdge Farm, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 27. Event is rain or shine, appropriate dress and face coverings required. Event is free, no registration required, email info@woodsedge.com for details.

Games/Sports

Bingo with Tylersport Fire Co. every Tuesday night, includes \$1,000 jackpot. Doors open 4:30 p.m., dinner served at 5 p.m., game begins at 6:30 p.m. Call 215-257-5900 ext. 171 for details.

Holidays

45th Annual Easter Egg Hunt with Quakertown Farmers Market on March 28. Age groups hunt at different times: 0 to 3-year-olds at 1 p.m., 4 to 6-year-olds at 2 p.m., 7 to 9-year-olds at 3 p.m. Details at quakertownfarmersmkt.com.

Lectures/Seminars

BCFA Cooking Live! Sweet Dreams are Made of Cheese, virtual cooking event featuring fondue and raclette with Bucks County Foodshed Alliance, 6 p.m. on March 25 via Facebook Live. RSVP on bucksfoodshed.org, on Facebook or by emailing info@bucksfoodshed.org.

Henry Chapman Mercer: A Legacy Built in Concrete, a one-hour presentation on Henry Mercer and his concrete castles, live discussion to follow. 6 p.m. on March 31, advance registration required, visit mercermuseum.org/legacybuiltinconcrete for more info.

Movies

ACME Screening Room, virtual screenings. New releases include "F.T.A." "Long Live Rock" and "Stray." For details and tickets visit acmescreeningroom.org.

ACME Film Club, watch the film on your schedule and join the Zoom meeting for discussion. Family event film for Earth Day: "Wings of Life" from DisneyNature, 10 a.m. on April 3. Visit acmescreeningroom.org for details.

Museums

Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site is open for tours Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tours include new offerings to explore,

timed tickets must be purchased online in advance at easternstate.org.

Historic Nazareth walking tours, hosted by Moravian Historical Society, 4 p.m. every second Saturday from March through September. Tours last 45 minutes to 1 hour, more info at moravianhistory.org/walking-tour or call 610-759-5070.

Virtual tours of Fonthill Castle and Central Court at the Mercer Museum, 45-minute virtual experiences feature a 30-minute recorded guided journey followed by a live Q&A conversation with experienced tour guides. Tours run through March and April, various dates and times, visit mercermuseum.org/virtualprograms for details.

Meet the Makers: Batering in Colonial Times, a virtual presentation from the Mercer Museum, 1 to 2 p.m. April 16. Join a Colonial shoemaker and the owner of a general store and learn how people in early America bartered for the household objects they needed to survive. Visit mercermuseum.org/virtualprograms for info.

Music

Ulysses Quartet, through March 26, part of the Zoellner Arts Center at Lehigh University's "On Stage at Home" series. Information: zoellnerartscenter.org, inzactix@lehigh.edu or 610-758-2787 x0.

Sourland Mountain Happy Hours, hosted by the Sourland Conservancy, held via Zoom from 6 to 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month through June 3. Local artist performances, bespoke cocktail and other happy hour deals. Ticket holders will receive a link via email, proceeds benefit the musicians and the conservancy. Information and tickets: sourland.org.

Princeton Symphony Orchestra presents the Buskaid Soweto String Ensemble concert, "A Lark and Diverse Dances." Virtual performance, available March 26 through 28. Tickets include digital program and

on-demand access, visit princetonsymphony.org or call 609-497-0020 for details.

Craig Thatcher and Cliff Starkey, blues/rock legends, will play in Bucks County Playhouse's Spring Concert Series, 8 p.m. on April 2 and 3. For tickets visit buckscountyplyhouse.org or call 215-862-2121.

Nature

Saturday morning bird walks at Silver Lake Nature Center, offered at 7:30 a.m. March through May. Meet outside of the SLNC Visitors' Center at the Welcome Kiosk near the parking area. Free, email pacutter@buckscountyplayhouse.org or call 215-862-2121.

The Natural Web: Who Needs Plants? with Pennsylvania Master Naturalist Mary Ann Borge, virtual presentation at 7 p.m. on March 25. Look at specific plant species and their importance to all forms of life with Tinicum Conservancy. To register email kbudd3030@gmail.com or call 610-294-9069.

Shofuso Japanese Cultural Center in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, opens March 20, in time for Cherry Blossom season (estimated early April). The site will be open for visitation 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday, through Dec. 12. For information on in-person and virtual events: japanphilly.org.

Easter Flower Sale with Trumbauersville Volunteer Fire Company, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. March 31, April 1 and 2; 8 a.m. until sold out April 3. Decorate your home for spring with bulbs, bedding plants, baskets; pre-order and curbside service available. More info: contact Kim at 215-536-1998 or visit bucks-58fire.com.

Morven in May plant sale from Morven Museum and Garden, shop new, unusual and distinct varieties that thrive in N.J. Limited quantities on many plants and products, online sale ends April 12, pickups and on-site plant sale April 30, May 1 and 2. Visit morven.org/plantsale or call 609-924-8144 (ext. 103) for details.

Sales

Book sale at Milford Public Library in Milford, N.J. Sale is open during business hours through the end of March. Book genres include history, biography, art, short story collections and National Geographic magazines from 1915 to the present. For more

information visit milfordnjlibrary.org.

Schools

The Bucks County Parent's Guide to Schools Open House Calendar is accepting submissions from advertisers. Advertisers in the Bucks County Parent's Guide to Schools receive a free listing in the calendar. Forms must be submitted to a Herald advertising representative by Aug. 6.

Support Groups

Virtual Parent & Caregiver Support Groups, offered weekly in English and Spanish by The Family Support Organization of Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren counties. Information and Zoom link at 908-223-1191 or FSO-HSW.org.

Virtual Memory Care Support Group for caregivers and families of those with dementia and Alzheimer's, noon to 1 p.m., first Thursday of each month via Zoom. Facilitated by Brienne Gerhard, provided by Artis Senior Living of Yardley. Contact charris@artismgmt.com or 267-392-5945 for the Zoom invite. Attendees are welcome to eat lunch during the meeting.

Theater

George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, N.J., presents "Fully Committed," the hit comedy written by Becky Mode and directed by David Saint, starring Maulik Pancholy, known for his roles on "30 Rock" and "Weeds." The virtual production is available to stream through April 11. Tickets: GeorgeStreetPlayhouse.org.

Town and Country Players announces Signature Series Sundays, featuring free Zoom plays. "Miss Woodhouse Presents" by Kayla Hambek, 1 p.m. on March 28. Request link via tandplayersonline@gmail.com.

Villanova Theater presents "The Scar Test" by Hannah Khalil, a virtual production directed by Claire Moyer focusing on themes of emigration and detention. Available March 25 through April 4, details at villanovatheatre.org/scar-test.

"Surely Goodness and Mercy," a virtual production from Passage Theatre Company, will be available to stream from March 25 to 28. Join the Company for a group screening and post-show discussion at 7 p.m. March 27. Tickets and more info at passagetheatre.org.

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Rugby players pick colleges
B2

SCHOOLS SPORTS

HEALTH & FITNESS

“Fight of Century” sculpture unveiled at Bucks gym
B4



SECTION B

March 25, 2021



DREXEL ATHLETICS/SIDELINE PHOTOS

Drexel's Melissa Lyon, right, ranks second on the team in minutes this spring.

A spring to their step: Pennridge soccer stars play season like no other

Don Leypoldt

In the 16th minute of University of Maryland, Baltimore County's second game, senior Erin Stevenson turned a cross into the Retrievers' first goal of the season.

After seeing significant playing time in Drexel's first two matches, Dragon senior Melissa Lyon started game No. 3 and launched a shot on goal against LaSalle.

It was business as usual for Stevenson and Lyon, classmates and standouts at Pennridge.

And it still couldn't be weirder for Stevenson and Lyon, who played this spring instead of their normal fall. They are two of many student-athletes completing what Lyon called "an emotionally draining ... wild ride" by playing their sport out of season.

The unpredictability, inability to play in front of fans and disruption of a Division I student-athlete's life cycle thrust unexpected mental and physical challenges on Lyon, Stevenson and

their peers. Drexel and UMBC have each already postponed at least one match, reminding the women of the fragility of this spring's schedule.

Lyon and Stevenson, who both were playing soccer by age 5, led Pennridge to the PIAA elite eight as seniors. Stevenson started every game in her UMBC career. As a junior, Lyon's eight points ranked second on Drexel. When both were in the middle of training in early March 2020, neither had any idea how weird their senior season was about to get.

"We'd lift three times a week, practice every weekday and have weekends off. You're working out heavily in the spring to prep yourself so when you go home in the summer, you aren't just starting from scratch," Stevenson described.

"Last February, I started going to training every day after practice. I was pretty much full throttle," Lyon echoed. "All of the seniors decided we were going to work as hard as possible, turn around our season and have

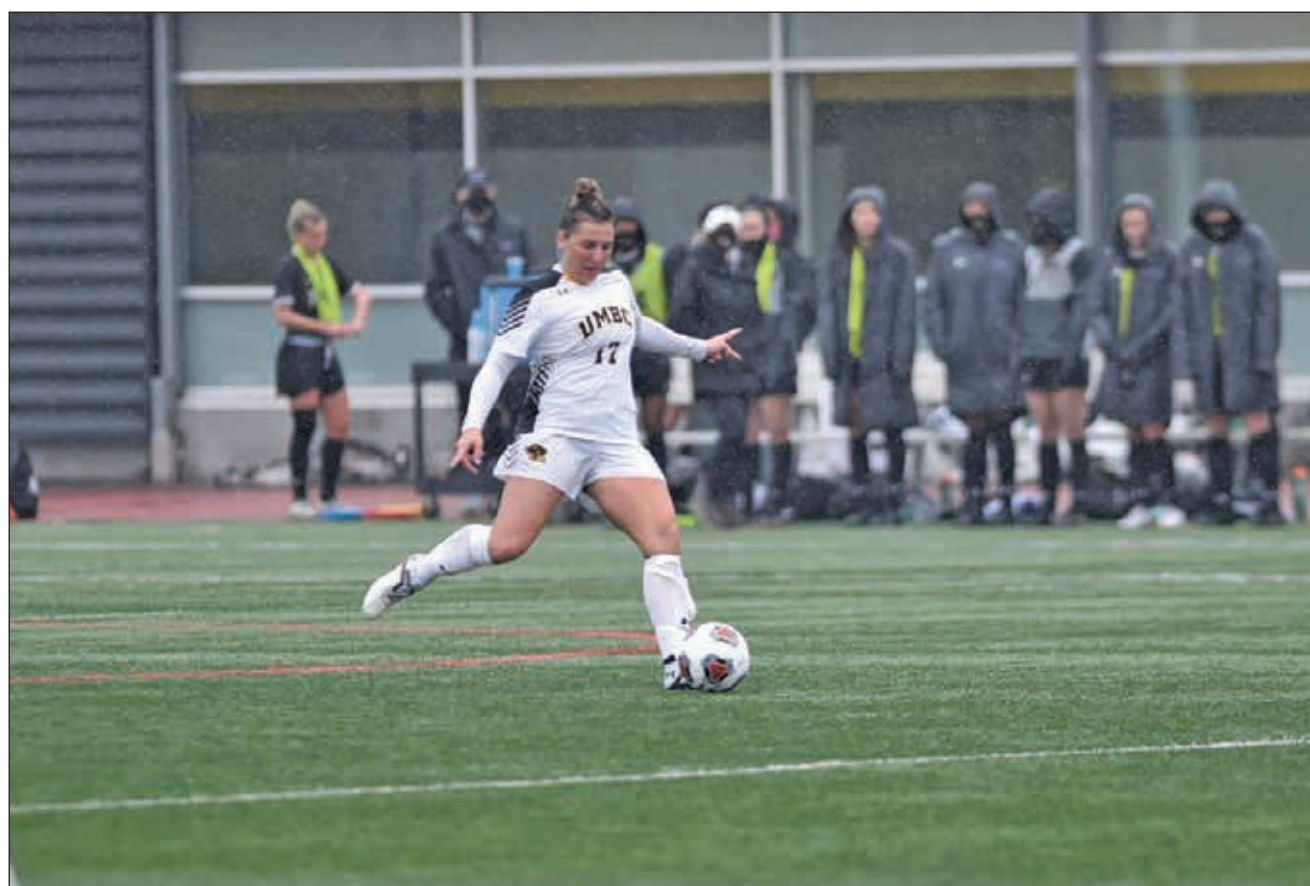
an awesome year. Then the pandemic hit."

Both Stevenson and Lyon thought that the COVID pandemic would keep them home from college for two weeks. A new reality of canceled seasons and school soon shattered that belief.

"Obviously no one knew what was going to happen, but we were training like we were going to be back for fall. Everyone was putting 100% on their bodies for six-plus months ... and then the season keeps getting pushed back. We're going 100%, 100%, 100%," Lyon emphasized, "and as a college athlete, your body can't take that for that much time. It's not a sustainable training plan.

"Everyone was home saying they were putting in their work," Lyon continued. "You had to have faith in your team that everyone was going to come back ready to play."

Continued on page B3



IAN FELDMANN

UMBC's Erin Stevenson has eight goals in her college career.

On the move

Newtown native Brett Manney's pro lacrosse career takes him to Albany

Karen Sangillo

Brett Manney can't wait to get back to playing lacrosse.

And while he doesn't yet know the name of the team he'll be playing for he at least has a location.

Albany, N.Y.

Manney's team, the New England Black Wolves of the National Lacrosse League, and his teammates will be playing their next season in that city, as the NLL approved a sale of the Black Wolves to an investor group that has relocated the franchise.

The team will play at the Times Union Center for the 2021-22 season and be known as Albany NLL until a contest determines a new name, which will be unveiled in April.

"The move was a little bit of a surprise, but not totally," said Manney, a defenseman. "There were rumors that Mohegan (Mohegan Sun, a casino and resort) was going to sell the team and there was speculation about some of the destinations it might be. When I finally got the call, I told them I wasn't shocked.

"I was disappointed because we had a really good thing in Connecticut, but at the same time sports is a business. I've been a part of two of these franchise moves already so I know how it is.

"I'm optimistic. The owners said great things about it. We would be the leading program in the building so we'll have our own locker room, our own weight room. Everything will be dedicated to the effort that we're the main attraction.

"Albany has a great history with this sport with the University of Albany, Siena and the (Albany) Attack (another NLL team) back in the day, so I hope it goes well. I'm trying to be as optimistic as I can. This is where the chips fell. Let's make the best of it."

As the captain, Manney tries to lead by example while being honest with his teammates.

"That's my duty," he said. "I just told them that this might be the case, we might be moving. That's my job; encourage them, lead them, and do the best I can to be the voice of reason as well."

Continued on page B2



NATIONAL LACROSSE LEAGUE

BRETT MANNEY

New Hope's Devaney brings home pair of PIAA bronze medals

Karen Sangillo

John Devaney wanted to make up for lost time.

Devaney, now a senior at New Hope-Solebury, didn't get a chance to swim at last year's state championships because of the statewide COVID shutdown was enacted the day before his meet began.

This year, Devaney and his peers finally got their chance to compete at the PIAA Class 2A boys swimming championships, held at Cumberland Valley High School on Friday. Devaney closed out his high

school career with a pair of bronze medals, tying for third in the 50 freestyle with Patrick Hemingway of Bishop McDevitt (District Three) with a time of 20.79 and finishing third in the 100 free (46.95).

"I'm kind of disappointed with my swims," Devaney said. "I trained really hard and I thought I'd go faster, especially in the 100. I didn't really drop that much time. The 50 was better but as I was going I messed up my second breakout (transition from underwater to the surface).

"I'll take a look at it (on video) but I watch all of my races afterwards just to see what I need to correct."

Like everyone else on the deck, Devaney was pleased there was even a meet to attend. He hadn't even arrived at the 2020 championships when a friend texted him that it had been canceled.

"I didn't even get to Bucknell," he said. "We were about five minutes away when we got the news so we just turned around. So, I'm happy they had the meet this year, and Cumberland Valley was definitely a fast pool."

Because New Hope doesn't have a swim team, Devaney competed as an independent. "I'm used to that," he said. "This year my brother (Teddy) was at districts with me but

that was the first time I had another person at the meet with me."

There were no spectators but the PIAA sold cardboard cutouts, which were set up in the stands.

"The crowd cheering does get my adrenaline going, but the cutouts were cool," he said. "We got one of our Doberman, Victor."

Devaney will swim at Franklin & Marshall next year, where he is undecided on a major but leaning toward business.

"I'm excited for college because I'll actually have a team," he said. "That makes a huge difference, being able to talk to teammates."

The Class 3A meet was held

on Saturday.

Marcus Papanikolaou of Central Bucks East made a splash in his first state appearance. The freshman reached the podium in both of his individual events, finishing third in the 50 freestyle (20.57) and sixth in the 100 butterfly (50.40).

"I'm not really happy with how I swam," Papanikolaou said. "I think maybe my start could have been a little faster. "But I still think it was a good achievement to get here as a freshman. It's good experience for me and I think it will give me an advantage looking ahead."

Continued on page B3

SPORTS

Quakertown, CR South wrestlers take final bows at district duals Golden Hawks finish third, Panthers fourth

Jeff Moeller

up and see them in the stands, which made it even better.”

Freshman 113-pounder (wrestled at 120 for duals) Mason Ziegler – a seventh-place finisher at states – sophomore 120-pounder (wrestled at 132 for duals) Zach Borzio and junior 285-pounder Frederick Retter each recorded a pair of victories on the afternoon.

Host Spring-Ford downed West Chester Henderson for the title, and Council Rock South, who defeated Quakertown, 35-27, finished third.

DeFalco had his dream of medaling at states ended prematurely, but he shared a teammate’s joy.

“While I worked my tail off to become a state medalist, I ultimately fell short,” he stated. “As I walked over to my coaches, I began to shed a tear as did my coaches. Every step of the way, they were there for me. It really hit me that it was all over, and I made my way to the wrestling room.

“As I gathered myself, I went back out into the gym and was in the corner of Mason Ziegler, who asked me to be there. It was the biggest match of his career to date, and I am proud of him.

“I can’t thank my coaches, teammates, family and the

entire Quakertown community for their support of me and the team over the years.”

Council Rock South head coach Brad Silimperi was grateful for the overall opportunity this season. Juniors Matt Colajezzi (160) and Anthony Cerulli (172) along with freshman Luke Reitter (106) all recorded a pair of wins for the Golden Hawks.

“I couldn’t be prouder of these guys,” gushed Silimperi. “There was no textbook 101 handbook for this season.

“We’re hoping something like this never happens again, but these kids worked so hard and were so dedicated.

“These matches were very exciting, and this was a good way to end this kind of year.”

Quakertown head coach Kurt Handel was pleased with his team’s final performance.

“Our two seniors in the lineup, Dom DeFalco and Patrick McCoy, wrestled very well,” he said. “Spring-Ford and Council Rock South are two deep teams with a great tradition of excellent wrestling.

“We were very happy with our team’s performance, especially those team members who practiced a whole extra month to support their team in team duals.”

Wrestling

Domenic DeFalco recorded a pair of pins in each of his final wrestling matches at the PIAA District One Class 3A wrestling duals four-team championship at Spring-Ford High School March 20.

However, the 138-pound (wrestled at 145 for duals) senior’s finish and his team’s fourth-place showing took a backseat to him and others who realized a sense of finality at the conclusion of an unusual wrestling season on Saturday.

“Wrestling my final high school match was a really tough thing to do,” said DeFalco, who comprised an overall 132-42 slate with 73 falls. “I knew it was going to be the last time I put on a Quakertown singlet and represent the Quakertown community.

“Ending my high school career with a pin is the best possible way to end it, especially in this season. The match was away and I was worried my parents couldn’t see it with the new guidelines. But they were able to be there, and that was special. I was able to look

Brett Manney headed to Albany

Continued from page B1

The franchise is the original Philadelphia Wings, playing in Philadelphia for 28 years before moving to Uncasville, Conn., in 2014. The current Philadelphia Wings franchise was established in 2018.

The Black Wolves were in first place in the 2019-20 season before the coronavirus pandemic halted the season.

“That was frustrating, but there was nothing we could do,” he said.

He managed to keep busy during the break, getting married in September. His wife, Gracia, is an interior designer. The couple married in Stone Harbor, N.J., at Manney’s parents’ summer home.

“It was small, but great,” he said. He is still in playing form.

“It hasn’t been hard to stay in shape,” he said. I’m extremely motivated. I work out all the time. My best, my favorite workout is playing basketball. That’s one of the joys of my life and I haven’t been able to do that.”

He has taken up a new sport, skiing.

“My wife loves to snowboard,” he said. “My first time skiing was in Aspen, then we went to Park City. I really enjoy it and it will give me something to do when I retire.

“I’m not trying to be Lindsey Vonn. As I always say, beer tastes the same at 12 o’clock as it does at 12:05, so I’m not in a hurry to get down the hill. I get there

when I get there.”

It’s been a good career so far. In 2015, Manney played on Team USA and was the assistant captain. The team took the bronze medal at the Federation of International Lacrosse Indoor championships.

He grew up in Newtown and played lacrosse, soccer and basketball for Holy Ghost Prep, graduating in 2004. He is a member of the Holy Ghost Prep Hall of Fame.

A 2008 graduate of the University of Delaware, he played on the Blue Hens’ NCAA Final Four team in 2007.

He was drafted by the Washington (now Chesapeake) Bayhawks of Major League Lacrosse in the college supplemental draft, but was released. He was picked up by the San Jose Stealth (which moved to Washington the next season) of the NLL, playing two seasons for the Stealth before being traded to the Wings prior to the 2011 season. In 2014, the Stealth moved again and are now the Vancouver Warriors.

At 36, he is one of the oldest players in the league.

“Father Time waits for no one,” he said. “Of course, I love playing but I am getting older and I don’t know how much longer my playing career is going to last. That used to be a ‘me’ decision but now it’s a ‘we’ decision. There’s a lot of travel involved.

“I’m going to play it by year. After the way last season ended, there’s no way that I could close

out my career like that. From here on out, I’ll evaluate it after every season. I don’t know how many guys in the league are older than me. Maybe about six to 10, but no more.”

In addition to his playing career, Manney is the vice president of event sales and recruiting and director of showcase lacrosse for NXT Sports in Conshohocken, where he also coaches. In the spring and summer, he also does broadcasting work for the MLL.

He is also entering his second year as the assistant coach at Haverford School.

“Coaching has been a great outlet for me,” he said. “It’s very rewarding. Last year we only got a couple of weeks in before COVID hit. We actually got a game in before that happened. “It’s fun to get back into it. I used to coach at Episcopal Academy but I haven’t coached high school in four or five years.

“I’m not the head coach so I can do my own thing and try to help them any way possible. The head coach (Brendan Dawson) is very understanding. I told him I can’t be there all the time and he was fine with that. So far this year, I’ve only missed one practice, which is great.”

As a defenseman, scoring is not his primary role. He has 13 goals and 50 assists in a career that has spanned 180 games to date.

The NLL season will begin the weekend of Dec. 3-4.



COURTESY OF BETSY TOMLINSON

High school rugby players Sophia Linder, left, and Nina Mason, right, with their Doylestown Rugby coach Stacy Mancuso, center, announce their college choices.

Four rugby players choose colleges

Four local high school rugby players, Sophia Linder, Nina Mason, Chris Cleland and Ford Rubel, have made their college selections.

All four of these high school seniors have played both 7s and 15s rugby at a high level

Linder is a senior at Westtown School, and will be furthering her academic and athletic careers at the United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y.

Linder first began playing rugby for Whitehorse Rugby in eighth grade and when she was in 10th grade, she continued with her high school rugby career by playing for the Doylestown Rugby high school girls team. She has played on numerous elite 7s and 15s rugby teams, including RugbyPA All-State, Atlantis, and USA Rugby Stars and Stripes. In high school, Linder played varsity soccer for four years.

She chose to go to West Point because of the academic opportunities available there, and because of the stellar women’s rugby program at West Point.

Mason is a senior at Neshaminy High School, and will be furthering her academic and athletic careers at Life University in Marietta, Ga. Mason began playing rugby for Doylestown Rugby high school girls team when she was in eighth grade. She has been a member of several elite 7s and 15s teams, including RugbyPA All-State, Atlantis, and USA Rugby Stars and Stripes. In Neshaminy, Mason played varsity soccer for four years and was the kicker for the Neshaminy football team her senior year.

She chose Life University because of the overall feel of the school and because the women’s

rugby program there will help her to develop the skills required to play rugby at the national level.

Cleland is a senior at Central Bucks High School West, and will be furthering his academic and athletic careers at Mount St. Mary’s University in Emmitsburg, Md. He began playing rugby at 6 years of age in the Doylestown Flag Rugby Program and has been playing rugby ever since then, with Doylestown Rugby (15s), Berks County Rugby (7s), and Atlantis (7s). He has also been a RugbyPA All-State selection in each year of eligibility. At Central Bucks West, Cleland was a four-time regional qualifier and one-time state qualifier in wrestling, finishing his high school wrestling career with 109 wins.

He chose The Mount because it is a great school, feels like home, and has a strong rugby program.

Rubel is a senior at Central Bucks West, and will also be furthering his academic and athletic careers at Mount St. Mary’s. Ford first began playing rugby seven years ago, and he has played with Doylestown Rugby (15s), Berks County Rugby (7s), and Atlantis (7s). Ford was also selected to the RugbyPA All-State Team. At Central Bucks West, Ford is a member of the National Honor Society, and has been a volunteer for Mini-thon and the Adopt-a-Road Program. He was selected to participate in the West Point Society of Philadelphia (WPSOP) Leadership and Ethics Conference.

Ford chose The Mount because of the great environment surrounding the academic, rugby and ROTC programs.



COURTESY OF BETSY TOMLINSON

High school rugby players, Ford Rubel, left, and Chris Cleland, right, announce their college choices.

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SPORTS



CB East's campaign ends in District One semifinals

Jeff Moeller

Fellows senior point guard and four-year varsity starter Mia Salvati averaged 11.6 points, 4.4 assists, and 2.1 steals per game.

Both players were first-team SOL selections. Seniors Emily Barry (5.3 points per game) and Devon Burns (2.3 points per game) were second-team and honorable mention league choices respectively.

Salvati was optimistic that her team's exit won't overshadow the highlights of their season.

"Coach told us that we gave it our all," Salvati said. "We accomplished a lot this year and hope people don't forget that we did."

"This group was pretty amazing. We brought everybody back from last year's team. The two shutouts we had hit us hard, but we put in the work both inside and outside. It was a shorter season, and it's hard to believe it is over."

"From the start, we knew our potential. We kept getting better throughout the season."

"We will lose a lot with those four," noted Potash. "They were all very impactful and logged a lot of minutes. They were very instrumental in our success."

Despite the challenges of the coronavirus, Potash was impressed with her team's dedication and perseverance.

"During the five-week shut-

down, we sent them workouts, and we saw them with hats, scarfs and gloves on working out," she said. "They really stuck to our plan, and they were very determined."

"When we told them there would only be one team moving on to states this year instead of 11, they responded in a positive way, and they were ready to get to work," she noted. "That's the type of attitude they had the whole year, and it produced this type of year."

"It was a credit to them to get to the semifinals. They didn't have spring or summer ball to play together, and we weren't able to do as much as we normally do in the fall."

Potash is confident her graduating seniors can be replaced with budding JV players next season.

"We have some girls who will need some varsity experience," she stated. "We had a couple of girls off the bench who had some significant varsity minutes."

"But we have a group of girls who have an extensive AAU schedule, and we're hoping to get back to summer leagues and workouts."

Yet, the memories of this season will linger.

"We had a lot of challenges with an unbelievable non-league schedule," she stressed. "We went out and did what we needed to do."

Stevenson, Lyon play season like no other

Continued from page B1

In mid-July, both women learned that their fall schedules were canceled, with an attempt to play a spring season. "We weren't blindsided. I had to set myself up knowing that there was a high chance we weren't going to be in season or have a season. But it was your senior year and you want to accomplish so much in your fall season. Yeah," Stevenson paused, "it was tough."

"At first, it was just our fall season was getting pushed back," Lyon said. "Then the Big 10 canceled and we said, 'Uhh, we're screwed. We're CAA! If the Big 10 is canceling ...'"

Stevenson remained in Bucks County for her fall semester where she worked out and coached the JV Pennridge girls in between virtual classes. "Two weeks without touching a ball and I'm going crazy," Stevenson shared.

UMBC head coach Vanessa Mann called her seniors together to announce the spring slate. "We were going to have seven games. It was really upsetting to hear because usually you get to play 17 games. At that moment I was thinking very selfishly. My coach said, 'Erin, what are your thoughts? You're really quiet' and I broke down," Stevenson shared. "This was not how I want my senior year to end. During my four years at UMBC, my classmates and I have been through a lot of adversity. For our senior year, we wanted it to be our year. One more thing gets in our way again."

Lyon returned to campus where Drexel performed its fall practice in pods: The Dragons started training in four groups, gradually merging into fewer and fewer until the whole team could train together.

"At some point, everyone on the team had that day of thinking 'What are we doing here?'"

Lyon candidly admits. "We're not playing games or competing. We don't really know if we're going to have a spring season. Why are we doing this? Then you look around and see your best friends on the field with you and you remember, 'This is why we're doing it.' We've all been playing this sport since we were 5 years old. This is who we are and this is our life. The people on the field are our family."

"I have a great group of girls around me who were able to change my mindset," Stevenson credited. "OK, we get the opportunity to play. At least we can play. It was seven games to make the most of it. Yes, I'm coming to the final games of my college career. What can I do to focus on the

things that will matter in five years when I look back on this experience?"

"When you're running around at 12 years old, you're not competing for a championship. But you still love it and it was always the best part of your day," Lyon mused. "We had to get back to that mindset of 'Let's enjoy this, play well and work on what we can.' The entirety of the pandemic was out of our control. Are we going to sit around and be sad about it? Or are we going to fix what we can fix? There are obviously days where it was really hard to stay in that mindset but as a team, I think we had a really good response."

Despite the mental shift that Lyon, Stevenson and just about everyone struggled with, late February brought opening day for both teams. Ready or not. "We were picked to finish in the bottom (of America East) but that fuels us," Stevenson stated. "It's been blizzarding during some practices and we're still getting after it. Our team motto this year is Every Day. Every day, can we go out there and get better. It's not like we have to do it. We get to do it. The energy since we've gotten back has been really high."

"Before each game, I've brought up 'We didn't play with each for 486 days. We waited this long and at any moment, even in the middle of this game, we could get a call and immediately stop the game.' Every second we get on the field together needs 100% full effort," Stevenson continued. "I definitely see that on the field in the games that we've played. People are going after each other. I missed the sport so much and now we have it so let's make the most of it."

"You especially see it in upperclassmen," Lyon agreed. "Everyone is very cutthroat on the field right now because we're like 'This is not going to be taken away from us again.'"

UMBC's regular season is slated to end on April 9, one day before Drexel's. The COVID lemons produced the lemonade of Stevenson and Lyon almost certainly being on a soccer field next fall as every NCAA student-athlete gets an extra year of eligibility.

"I've had options of playing overseas or coaching because I loved every second of coaching Pennridge," Stevenson relayed. "I thought about grad school and using my fifth year there."

Lyon was already in a five-year academic program at Drexel. "A lot of people aren't as fortunate as me," Lyon pointed out. "I'm 99.9% sure I'll be here playing my last year, which is cool. I am really, really lucky to have that opportunity."

PIAA swimming championships

Continued from page B1

"It was really nice that we could have this meet. I'm glad I had the chance to swim and I'm looking forward to next year. This year it was just timed finals so I only got to swim the event once. I think I could have done better if I'd been able to come back and swim again, and hopefully they'll do that next year."

He led off the 400 freestyle relay for Zachary LeMay, Gabe Miksa and Tommy Krystkiewicz. The foursome ended the meet with a flourish. The 14th seed in the event, they moved all the way up to a medal, capturing seventh place (3:09.87).

The Patriots finished 11th in team scoring with 53 points. Joseph Hong closed out his standout career at Pennridge with a fourth-place finish in the 100 breaststroke (56.38), lowering his own school record.

"I'm a little disappointed," Hong said. "I think I could have gone a little faster, but I had a lot of fun with that race. I could see Jacob (McCarran of North Allegheny, the fifth-place finisher) right next to me the entire time. We've been racing since my sophomore year so it was a good race. It's really nice to finish on the podium my senior year."

"My pull-downs felt pretty powerful but I know my breakouts weren't what I'd have liked and I cut two or three turns pretty short and small details like that add up to a lot, especially in a shorter distance like the 100."

At last year's state meet, Hong swam what he thought

was a preliminary race, but became a timed final because of the state mandated shutdown for COVID.

"This year at least I knew I was swimming a timed final before the race," he said. "That definitely changed how I approached the race. It was just all go, all go right from the beginning. My front end speed wasn't there this time, but hopefully it will be the next time I race. I think I brought it home pretty well."

"After everything that happened this year, I feel like I'm ending on a positive note. I'm proud to represent the Rams and I've had a great time."

Hong will swim next year at Virginia Tech.

Dom Edwards of Council Rock North also earned a medal in his final high school race, placing fifth in the 200 individual medley (1:52.72).

"It's always good to get a medal at states," he said. "I'm happy with that. It's rough to not go your best time, but with the circumstances I can't be too upset. This season has been difficult, so I'll take it."

"Swimming timed finals is definitely a change. Now you're not swimming at night so there's no time to adjust. That was definitely something different."

Edwards won his heat, but had to sweat it out until the second heat finished to see if he would get a medal.

"That was tough," he said. "I knew I was going to be waiting here until it was over. Honestly, it went a little better than I thought it would with the time I put up."

"This was the fastest state meet ever as far as the amount of time we're here. In another

year we'd be at the meet for a couple of days and now, I've hardly been here and I'm done. But I feel like I'm leaving on a good note. This is a fast state, and I came out of here with a medal."

Edwards will continue swimming next year at Cornell.

The girls competition was held earlier in the day.

Central Bucks South's Haley Scholer ended her high school career with a pair of individual medals.

She finished fifth in both the 200 individual medley (2:04.37) and 100 backstroke (55.99).

"I'm so happy to be here," Scholer said. "I loved swimming high school so much. I can't believe I'm a senior and it's over."

"My strategy was to just go out and race as fast as I could, and I'm really very excited about how well I swam."

She also led off the 200 freestyle relay for fellow seniors Julia Riegel, Kaylin Goodling and Chloe Matsick. They finished 12th (1:37.33).

"We're so happy about the relay," Scholer said. "It was our last time swimming together. It's really sad. After the backstroke I realized it was over and it's kind of a shock."

She plans to swim at Duquesne next year, where she will major in marketing and get a pre-law certificate.

"I don't know what I would have done without high school swimming," she said. "I think it's completely changed me as a swimmer. It was an honor to have (Jeff) Lake and (Kevin) Whalen as my coaches. They were really great, and this whole experience was great."

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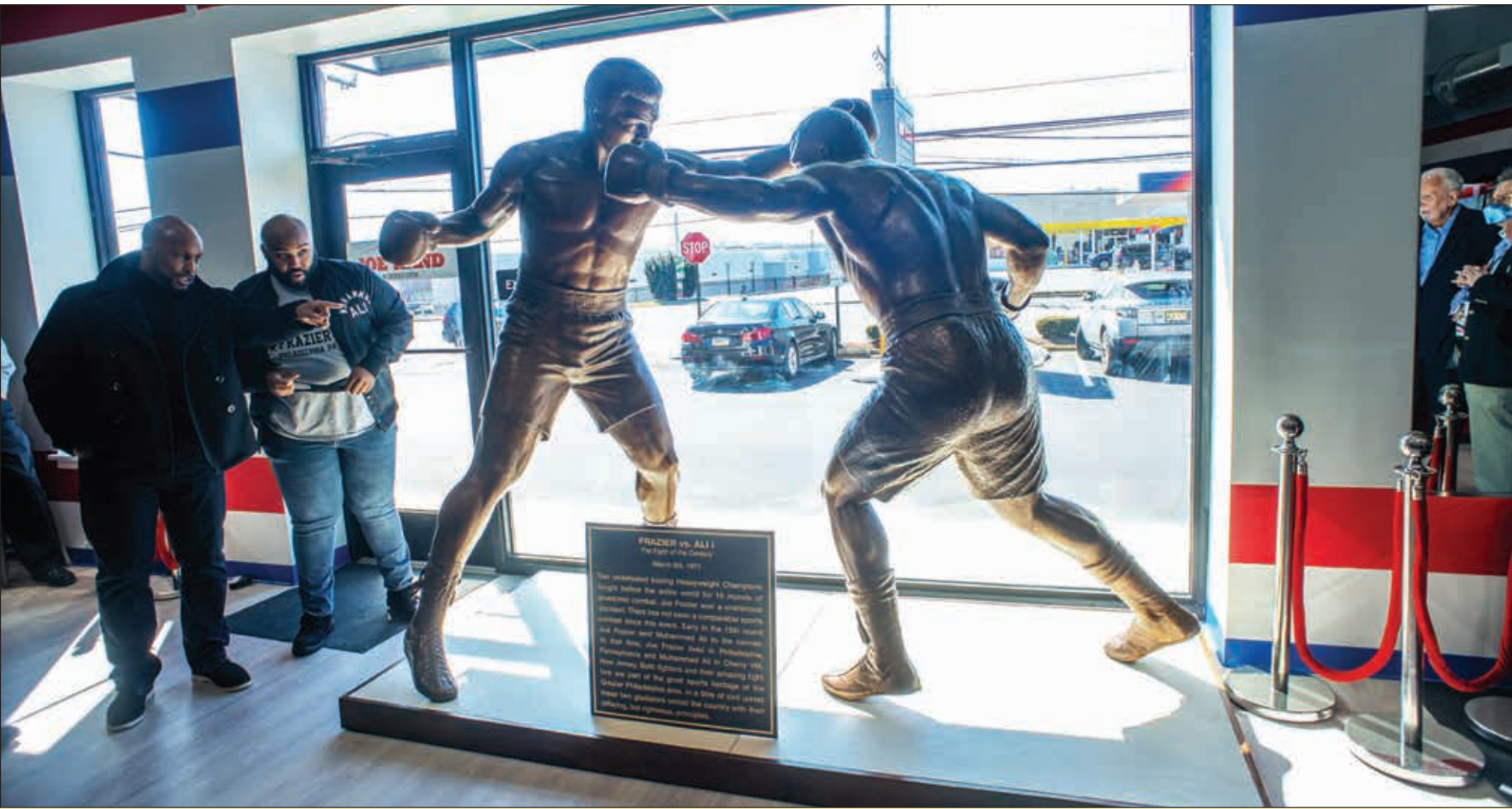
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The Joe Frazier-Muhammad Ali sculpture stands in the window of Joe Hand Productions.

“FIGHT OF THE CENTURY”

has a place in Bucks County

Giant sculpture installed in Feasterville

Bridget Wingert

ing the larger-than-life statue of Frazier and Ali in action.

A gym in Feasterville has erected a sculpture of the legendary “Smokin’ Joe” Frazer fighting Muhammad Ali to mark the 50th anniversary of what was called “The Fight of the Century.” Media from around the world attended the unveiling.

Artist Chris Collins created the 9-foot sculpture. It stands in the window of the Joe Hand gym on Street Road, Lower Bucks County. The gym is slated to open to the public at 213 W. Street Road within the next two months.

Two of the greatest heavy-weight boxers in history entered the ring at Madison Square Garden, on March 8, 1971. After 15 rounds, “Smokin’ Frazer defeated Ali, gaining the world championship. The fight attracted more than 20,000 spectators including celebrities from Frank Sinatra to Hubert Humphrey.

The sculpture was inspired by the sports memorabilia collection of Dr. Nicholas DePace, a cardiologist in South Jersey. Frazer was one of his patients. DePace is in the process of opening up the Philadelphia-based Museum of Sports, where the statue will be permanently housed.

Sports fans gathered at Joe Hand Productions’ headquarters and gym in Feasterville. They waited while a massive sheet was pulled back, reveal-

ing the larger-than-life statue of Frazier and Ali in action.

Photographs by William Thomas Cain



Derek Dennis Frazier speaks to the sports fans gathered in Feasterville.



Joe Frazier Jr., left, and Derek Dennis Frazier, back right, sons of former World Heavyweight Champion Joe Frazier, with friends and family.



A boxing fan’s shirt.



The scene during a press conference at Joe Hand’s gym.

EDUCATION

ryoung@buckscountyherald.com



Pennridge sixth grader finishes second in regional Spelling Bee

Priana Khant, a sixth grader from Pennridge Middle School, finished second in the Bucks/Mont Regional Spelling Bee.

The winners were announced in a March 22 Facebook Live celebration that honored all the region's champion spellers.

The winner, Montgomery County's Jonathan Xi, a sixth grader at Keith Valley Middle School, advances to the virtual qualifying rounds for the 2021 Scripps National Spelling Bee, with a chance to represent the region on July 8 at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex at Walt

Disney World Resort.

Jonathan received the most points in the spelling bee, the official regional speller for students who live and attend school in Bucks and Montgomery counties. The spelling bee was held online this year to ensure that all our 24 school champions could participate.

The regional bee is sponsored by the Mideastern Region of the Pennsylvania State Education Association (MER/PSEA) and the Council for the Advancement of Public Schools (CAPS), along with community volunteers, Per-

kasie Rotary and Pennridge Community Education Foundation.

"PSEA CAPS is excited to work alongside our community partners to provide this amazing enrichment opportunity for students," said Bill Senavaitis, president of PSEA-Mideastern Region. "We are thankful to have so many great individuals working to make this event a success under the unique circumstances of this school year."

CAPS is an initiative of MER/PSEA, founded to promote the success of Bucks and Montgomery county public schools.

AAA's School Safety Patrol Program celebrates centennial

For 100 years, AAA School Safety Patrollers around the world have provided school-aged children an extra sense of safety and security when going to and from school.

As the COVID-19 pandemic spread across the Delaware Valley, patrollers and their advisors had to pivot quickly to keep those programs going.

"The pandemic took many aspects of daily life away from students this year," said Jana L. Tidwell, manager of Public and Government Affairs for AAA Mid-Atlantic. "As it has through the past 100 years, the AAA School Safety Patrol program, along with its patrollers and advisors, adapted and came up with new ways to make the program a success."

Created to make schoolchildren safer while walking to school, the program has grown-up and matured with the times while remaining steadfast to its mission to provide a safer environment and leadership opportunities for millions of schoolchildren. Started as a boys-only initiative when horses and buggies were still a transportation mode, the program evolved to include girls. The training that patrollers receive instills safety sense beyond street crossings, including bus and car drop-offs, monitoring hallway congestion, and teaching Patrollers invaluable leadership skills. The fa-

mous patroller belt has seen change, too, going from white to neon orange to today's fluorescent green called 'Lectric Lime.'

The program and its more than 440 Lifesaving Award recipients have contributed to the steady decline of U.S. student pedestrian (ages 5-14) deaths — a 24% decrease since 2010.

At Groveland Elementary School, AAA School Safety Patrol advisor Matt Alderfer made the most of not only technology to keep his Safety Patrollers committed, but also the students' enthusiasm to keep the program active.

"We 'COVID-ized' things with our patrol this year in making posts more stagnant and stationed rather than having students move with students throughout the building," said Alderfer. "We hold our monthly meetings through a video call and utilize email and a Microsoft TEAMS page to communicate important information to our patrol. We also have our virtual students working on different types of projects that they can do from home, from creating bus driver appreciation videos to filming read-alouds for Read Across America Day."

Groveland Elementary Safety Patrol committee members, along with one of the Safety Patrol captains and a few Safety Patrol mem-

bers, put a video together for the 100th anniversary.

View it at <https://www.wevideo.com/view/2055882676>.

As AAA celebrates the AAA School Safety Patrol's 100th anniversary, it is looking for stories from former patrollers. Visit surveymonkey.com/r/N95T9Y7.

Former patroller and AAA insurance counselor Tim Swartz remembers his time as a patroller at 7th Street Elementary (now Guth Elementary) in Perkasie.

"The most vivid memories I have of safety patrol was the disappointment of having a minimally trafficked corner for which I was responsible as a safety patroller. I yearned for a 'hot corner' where I could help many others," said Swartz. "As a child I never knew the relationship between the safety patrol and AAA. Almost 40 years later, I'm working with AAA where there is a focus on traffic safety and I'm also focused on financial safety providing customers with smart insurance guidance to protect their financial future."

Notable patrollers include former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton, astronauts, governors, members of Congress, Supreme Court justices, Olympic medalists, and authors. President Joe Biden was also a patroller while he was a student in Scranton.

CB South team advances to state mock trial finals

Sixteen Pennsylvania high schools, including Central Bucks South, are advancing to the 38th annual Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) Statewide High School Mock Trial Competition finals, which will be held virtually this Friday, March 26, Saturday, March 27 and Tuesday, March 30.

The competition is coordinated and sponsored by the PBA Young Lawyers Division.

This year, 232 teams from 199 high schools competed in district and regional levels of Pennsylvania's mock trial competition in hopes of gaining one of the 16 spots at the statewide competition that was held virtually for the first time. Pennsylvania's competition is one of the largest in the nation.

The winning team of the state championship will represent Pennsylvania in the national mock trial finals to be held virtually, May 13-15, Evansville, Ind.

On March 26, all 16 teams will participate in two rounds of com-

petition, one at 1:30 p.m. and one at 5:30 p.m. Up to eight teams that have won their first two rounds of competition will advance to an 8:30 a.m. round of competition on March 27. The two winners of this round (or the two highest-ranking teams) will advance to the state final on March 30 at 4:30 p.m. President Judge Kimberly Berkeley Clark, Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania, will serve as the presiding judge.

This year's hypothetical case, Estate of George Romero v. Ashley Williams, is a criminal trial to determine whether the defendant is guilty of murdering George Romero with a chemical the defendant prepared.

The case was written by Jonathan A. Grode and Paul W. Kaufman, both of Philadelphia. Grode and Kaufman have been involved in the drafting of these materials for the past seven years.



PRIANA KHANT

Northampton Community College launches initiative in support of educators

Northampton Community College (NCC) has launched a new online initiative supporting K-12 educators teaching online or in the classroom.

The initiative, which features professional learning content from Discovery Education — a global leader in standards-aligned digital curriculum resources, engaging content, and professional learning for K-12 classrooms — is comprised of seven online learning modules. Through these modules, which will be available on-demand, educators will learn strategies for engaging all students wherever learning is taking place.

Educators can take any or all of the modules, allowing them to learn on their own time and at their own pace. These modules focus on helping current educators develop the skills needed to feel confident and successfully navigate the fully online or hybrid learning environment. Topics such as online assessments, digital citizenship, fostering learner engagement, creating a sense of community and using technology

to help meet individual learner needs are all addressed in NCC's online learning modules.

To support K-12 educators implement evidence-based, high-yield instructional strategies, improve student achievement, and propel their careers forward, Discovery Education has collaborated with institutes of higher learning for more than a decade. These collaborations have created immersive online professional learning and graduate-level coursework delivered through advanced degree programs that help K-12 educators develop their instructional practice, improve students' academic achievement, and further their careers.

Included in the partnership are no-cost professional learning resources from TGR EDU: Explore, an educational initiative from the TGR Foundation, a Tiger Woods Charity, and Discovery Education. These resources are available at tgreduexplore.org and through Discovery Education's flexible K-12 learning platform.

MBIT students win SkillsUSA medals

The 2021 SkillsUSA District 2 Competitions were held virtually in February with Middle Bucks Institute of Technology students participating in 27 competitions (32 MBIT competitors).

MBIT placed in 16 events, earning five bronze medals, two silver medals, and 12 gold medals. Some competitions are individual events, and others are team events. MBIT had 19 students receive medals.

The students earning gold medals will compete in the Skill-

sUSA state competition.

Bronze medal winners are: Brandon Fenstermacher, Trey Robinson, Jackson Spradlin, An Bihn Tran, Keith Valenti.

Silver medal winners are Shane Loughlin and Jackson Thomas.

Gold medal winners are: Adriana Bova, Michael Christian, Enrique DeLeon, Joseph Kloss, Patrick Lafferty, Jacob Linch, Hadyn Minnigh, Brynna Rosavec, Nick Riddell, Samantha Posavski, Jenson Rudderow and Eric Spektor.

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Doylestown Lions Club joins GoFundMe

2020 came in with enthusiasm and high expectations. That excitement was snuffed out almost immediately when COVID-19 arrived early into the new year. The pandemic has turned lives upside down impacting families, friends, businesses, places of worship and charitable organizations. Due to the many restrictions, special events have been halted creating a shortfall of funds needed for nonprofit organizations. The Doylestown Lions Club is one of those nonprofit organi-

zations. Its income comes from fundraisers and donations. The annual Spring and Fall Bingo Bonanza events were its primary source of raising funds. Due to the pandemic, those two events were canceled last year and unfortunately this year's Spring Bingo has been canceled as well. For 75 years, The Doylestown Lions Club has become entrenched within the community. Along with always being there to help individuals with sight and hearing impairments, the club continues to support nu-

merous charitable organizations including The Bucks County Association for the Blind, Delaware Valley Eye Bank, Habitat for Humanity, Leader Dog, Diabetes Awareness, Special Olympics and Quality of Life and White Cane. In addition, during the holiday season the club assisted a local food pantry and A Woman's Place. However, due to COVID-19, the Doylestown Lions Club has been restricted from having social fundraisers. In hopes of offsetting the financial hardship,

the club has developed a GoFundMe page, <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/lions-club-of-doylestown-pennsylvania2>. All donations made to the Doylestown Lions Club go back into hardship assistance and different projects within the community it serves. If one cannot access the GoFundMe page, donations can be mailed to the club at The Doylestown Lions Club, P.O. Box 1475 Doylestown, Pa. 18901.

Young adult novel features strong female

Bearly Tolerable Publications in Perkasié has released "Kiku's Quest," a young adult novel featuring a strong female protagonist. After 40 picture and chapter books, author William G. Bentrim has written his first Science Fiction novel. The book is available in both Kindle and paperback format at Amazon.com and can be ordered from your favorite local book store. Details on the book can be found at bentrim.info. The Kindle version of the book will be offered at Amazon for free on Thursday, April 7. Visit Amazon online and search on the book title for a free Kindle version on that date.

health fitness & Wellness

ryoung@buckscountyherald.com

Presentation set on impact of mental health, addiction on Perkasié community

Penn Foundation and Perkasié Borough will offer an important update about the impact of mental health and addiction on the Perkasié community via Zoom from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on April 13. This event will offer citizens the opportunity to learn more about the current mental health and substance abuse challenges in our community and understand the role they play in bringing positive change. Presenters at the seminar will include Matt Weintraub, Bucks County district attorney; Donna Duffy-Bell, Bucks County Behavioral Health administrator; Gordon Hornig, Penn Foundation addiction professional; Robert Schurr, Perkasié Borough police chief and the Rev. Dr. Jennifer Phelps, Pennridge Ministerium.

"COVID-19 has had an extensive impact on the Pennridge community," says Scott Bomboy, chair of the Perkasié Borough Public Safety Committee. "Although the pandemic has taken center stage for the past year, mental health and addiction continue to rage behind the curtain. Talking about these issues is more important than ever. We hope that this event will help us all better understand the role we play in helping to instill hope for our loved ones and neighbors who are struggling with these issues and this historic situation." This project is made possible with support from the Pennridge Community Recovery Fund, Pennridge Ministerium, and Today, Inc. To register for this free event, visit pennfoundation.org.

Blood donations needed

The American Red Cross is calling for donors of all blood types, especially those with type O blood, to race to give blood and help refuel the blood supply. This spring, the Red Cross is teaming up with INDYCAR to urge people to help keep the blood supply on track by donating blood or platelets. Schedule a donation appointment by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-

2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device. As a thank you, those who come to give blood or platelets April 1 to 15 will automatically be entered to win a VIP trip for four to the 2022 Indianapolis 500. The Red Cross will also automatically enter all who come to give in April for a chance to win one of five \$1,000 e-gift cards to a merchant of choice. Additional details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/Indy500.

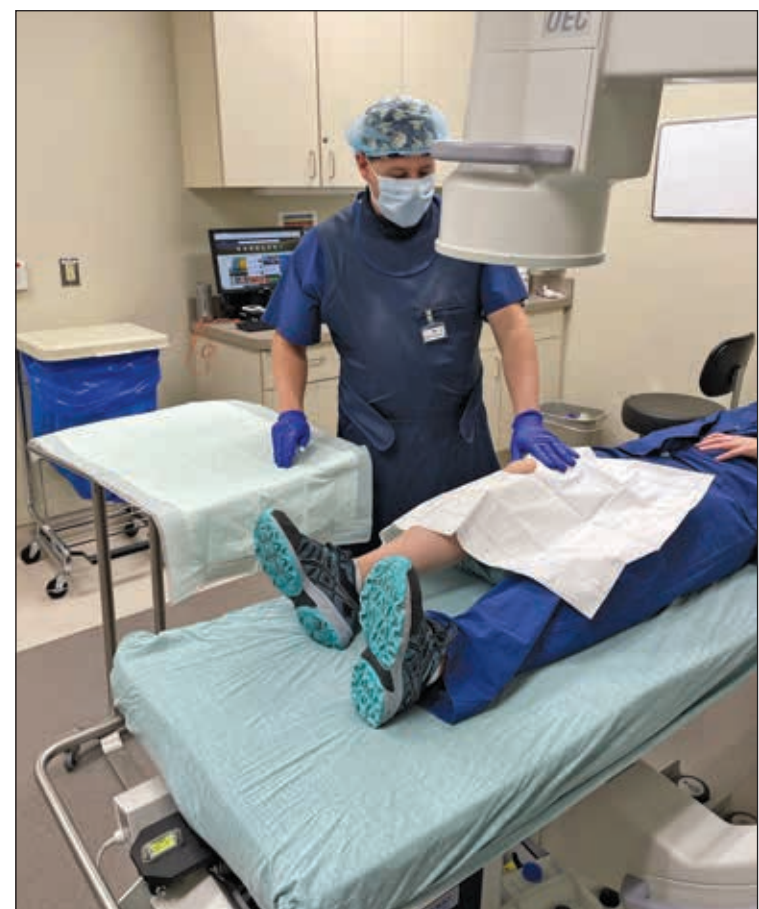
Redeemer Health hosts webinar on radiation oncology therapy

Redeemer Health will host a free, open-to-the-community webinar to provide information about radiation oncology therapy and the treatment process 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. March 25. Presented by Dr. Andrew Hollander and Dr. Sheena Jain, radiation oncologists at Redeemer Health Cancer Center, Holy Redeemer Hospital, the webinar also will educate participants on radiation delivery methods,

what is involved in planning a radiation treatment and what to expect before, during and after treatment. The virtual Zoom presentation will be followed by a question-and-answer session. Registration is required. To register, visit <http://bit.ly/38SsC8I>. For more information on Redeemer Health Cancer program, visit holyredeemer.com/CancerCare.

Bucks County Orthopedic Specialists offers new chronic knee pain treatment

An innovative new treatment providing long-term relief of chronic knee pain is changing the game for patients at Bucks County Orthopedic Specialists (BCOS). "I want people to know that just because they've tried other treatments for knee pain doesn't mean they're out of options. A genicular nerve block and ablation may be the answer," said BCOS' director of regenerative medicine, Dr. Sean P. Butler, who is a pain management and interventional specialist, and one of the first doctors in the area to utilize this procedure to relieve chronic knee pain. The genicular nerve block and ablation are performed via injection and work by disrupting the pain signal from the nerves around the knee. This nonsurgical procedure can provide pain relief that lasts anywhere from six months to a year or longer, and the treatment can be repeated every six months if necessary. While the procedure itself is fairly new, the technique is not. "It is a technique we've already been using for many years for back pain," explained Butler. "So, it's time tested from a procedural and safety standpoint."



Dr. Sean P. Butler, Bucks County Orthopedic Specialists director of regenerative medicine, is one of the first doctors in the area to utilize a genicular nerve block and ablation to relieve chronic knee pain.

Woods Services invites community to join virtual 5K, 1-mile fun run

Woods Services in Langhorne invites runners, walkers and rollers of all abilities to participate in the 2021 Virtual Run for Woods 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run presented by Faulkner-Ciocca Dealerships. A live broadcast stream at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 1 will kick off the festivities and can be viewed at runforwoods.org. The event supports Woods Services programs that benefit individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and acquired brain injury. This is the second year the an-

nual Run for Woods will be held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Last year's event raised more than \$147,000 from participants and sponsors, and helped fund technology to assist virtual learning and therapeutics, as well as additions to the Woods campus to enhance recreational activities that provided fresh air and exercise while observing pandemic safety protocols. This year Woods Services aims to raise \$200,000, and with the generous support from sponsors and race fundraising teams, is over halfway to its goal.

Interested Run for Woods participants can register at runforwoods.org. A \$25 fee includes an official race T-shirt, which will be mailed in advance of the event for those who sign up by March 31. Participants, community members and businesses are also invited to underwrite participation for a Woods resident and his/her support staff member with a donation of \$90. They are encouraged to share photos and videos with the Woods community and family and friends using #R4W on social media. Along with presenting sponsor Faulkner-Ciocca Dealerships, the 2021 virtual Run for Woods is sponsored by Homestead Smart Health Plans; Johnson, Kendall & Johnson; Parx Casino; Conner Strong & Buckelew; Ethos Group; Hangley Aronchick Segal Pudlin & Schiller; Allies, Inc.; Barry & Michelle Sharer; Colours Inc.; the First National Bank of Newtown; The Kimmelman Family; Bayada; Boyle; cars.com; Crown Brand-Building Packaging; Fenningham, Dempster & Coval LLP; GM, Ridge Policy Group; Rob's; Roscommon International; and Top to Bottom Home Improvements.

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Angelo Ratini DO and Melinda Ratini, DO, MS are accepting new patients at 501 Bath Road, Suite 209A, Bristol, PA, 19007. Call to schedule an appointment for yourself or a loved one at (215)785-9830.

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BUCKS COUNTY HERALD
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March 25, 2021



JODI SPIEGEL ARTHUR
 "Manicure," taken in Levittown, is a chromogenic print by J. Sara Klatchko.



JODI SPIEGEL ARTHUR
 "Emergency Department, Evan Preparing for Sutures," is a gelatin silver print from the Doylestown Hospital Series by Edmund Eckstein.



COURTESY MICHENER ART MUSEUM
 "Painting Christina's, Penn del, Pennsylvania" by David Graham is a dye coupler print on paper.

"Through the Lens" at Michener Museum

IS A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPLORATION

Jodi Spiegel Arthur

The James A. Michener Art Museum in Doylestown has opened a new major exhibition of 100 works by nearly 40 photographers that draws mostly from its own collection of local photography.

On view through Aug. 15, "Through the Lens: Modern Photography in the Delaware Valley" explores nearly 70 years of "artistic experimentations with photographic processes and subject matter."

The exhibition includes many works in the Michener's collection that have never before been on view, including late prints by the modernist Charles Sheeler – "whose time in Doylestown cemented his dedication to the medium" – and aerial views of industrial sites by Newtown-based photographer Emmett Gowin. It also includes loans from contemporary photographers of color.

"The Michener has had a deep relationship with photography since its inception," said the Michener's Curator of American Art Laura Turner Igoe, who curated this exhibition with Curatorial Assistant Tara Kaufman.

Former museum directors include photographers Bruce Katsiff and Brian Peterson, who each have two pieces included in the show.

The exhibition is organized through the themes of form, figure, landscape, community, and social and political activism.

In addition to Sheeler and Gowin, the exhibition includes works by Tom Baril, Paula Chamlee, Edmund Eckstein, Susan Fenton, David Graham, Diane Levell, Martha Madigan, Ray Metzger, Tim Portlock, Jack Rosen, Thomas Shillea, and Michael A. Smith.

"All have ties to the area," Igoe said, including some who only passed through it.

Exhibition curators have also borrowed works by Donald E. Camp, Maria Dumlao, Ada Trillo and William Earle Williams that explore issues of race, identity, and social and environmental justice in order to connect the museum's historic images with contemporary concerns.

For information, visit MichenerArt-Museum.org or call 215-340-9800.

jarthur@buckscountyherald.com



JODI SPIEGEL ARTHUR
 "Lares" is a solar photograph by Martha Madigan.



JODI SPIEGEL ARTHUR
 "Capitol Policeman," taken in Washington, D.C., in 1971, is a gelatin silver print by Edmund Eckstein.



JODI SPIEGEL ARTHUR
 "Congressman John Lewis" by Donald E. Camp, is a casein and raw earth pigment on archival rag paper, photographic casein monoprint.



JODI SPIEGEL ARTHUR
 "Unloading Coal at Lumberville" is by Hal H. Clark.



COURTESY MICHENER ART MUSEUM
 "Lovers, New Hope, PA" by Jack Rosen (1923-2006) is a selenium toned print on paper.



JODI SPIEGEL ARTHUR
 Curator Laura Turner Igoe talks about "A Wild Boar Attacked By A Boa-Constrictor," an archival pigment print by Maria Dumlao.

Dining

Susan S. Yeske: Recipe of the Week

Time to highlight fresh spinach

Plans for Jim Gannon's second organic grocery store and first café were well underway when the pandemic hit and work came to an abrupt halt.

Eventually work resumed, and the second Organnons Natural Market opened in November in New Britain Borough with shelves full of organic meats, produce and other products.

Gannon chose the site at The Gathering at University Village after months of searching. The original market is in Wrightstown's Carousel Village at Indian Walk; it opened after Gannon's wife, Danielle, became pregnant with their first child.

The couple wanted to eat the best food they could find, but became frustrated when they searched for organic and natural foods and had to visit multiple stores to get everything they needed.

They assumed that other families felt the same way, and their wish for one-stop shopping for

organic and non-GMO foods led them to open the first Organnons market. Immediately popular, they found that many customers were coming from around the region to shop there. Now they have the option of traveling to the store just outside Doylestown as well.

Jim Gannon says that one of the draws is his competitive pricing. Organic products often are more expensive than non-organic but he belongs to a group of organic purchasers who buy together to keep costs down. "Pound for pound, we are competitive with organics," he said, adding that "all of our products are the cleanest and best the industry has to offer."

Located across the street from Delaware Valley University with student housing above them in the new multi-use building, the Gannons are already drawing local residents as well as students. A large parking lot behind the building accommodates all visitors.

The café offers organic smooth-



ORGANNONS.COM

All products sold at the two Organnons Natural Markets are organic or non-GMO. The new store also has a café.

ies, juices, coffee, bowls, soups, kombucha, and "quick bites" such as avocado toast, bagels and sandwiches. It opens the same time as the store but closes an hour earlier each day.

Curbside pickup is available

from both stores, and delivery is available within a limited radius. See the website for more information.

Spring is here, so it's time to indulge in spinach, a favorite spring vegetable. This recipe is from cookinglight.com.

One-Pot Pasta with Spinach and Tomatoes

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 6 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 1 (14.5-ounce) can unsalted petite diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1½ cups unsalted chicken stock
- ½ teaspoon dried oregano
- 8 ounces whole-grain spaghetti or linguine
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 10 ounces fresh spinach
- 1 ounce Parmesan cheese, grated (about ¼ cup)

Step 1. Heat a Dutch oven or large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add oil; swirl to coat.

Step 2. Add onion and garlic to pan; sauté 3 minutes or until onion starts to brown.

Organnons Natural Market & Cafe
409 E. Butler Ave., Doylestown 267-491-5591, organnons.com

Hours: 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Café closes one hour earlier than store.

Food: Casual fare including smoothies, avocado toast, bagels and soups.

Step 3. Add tomatoes, stock, oregano, and pasta, in that order. Bring to a boil. Stir to submerge in liquid.

Step 4. Cover, reduce heat to medium-low, and cook 7 minutes or until pasta is almost done.

Step 5. Uncover; stir in salt. Add spinach in batches, stirring until spinach wilts. Remove from heat; let stand 5 minutes. Sprinkle with cheese and serve.

Ernest Valtri: On Wine

Call the winery

I recently had a Pinot Noir Blanc from Holloran Vineyard Wines in Oregon. Not to be confused with the Pinot Blanc grape, Pinot Noir Blanc is a white wine made from the familiar, red Pinot Noir grape.

How do you get white wine from a red grape? More on that shortly.

I called Holloran to learn more and was pleasantly surprised when I was connected with Mark La Gasse, the winemaker. We discussed a lot in 15 minutes and from that simple courtesy extended me, I'll soon be looking for other Holloran wines.

It's not the first time I've done this. I've called many wineries over the years and usually have had exceptionally interesting talks. I heartily suggest that when you have a question, complaint or compliment about a wine, give the winery a call. Most tasting room hosts have the answers, though you may get shuffled around until you find someone else in the know.

If you're lucky, you may get the winemaker.

If she or he is not busy (don't call during harvest season), most winemakers and vineyard managers very much enjoy discussing



their craft, their experience, and their products.

All grapes, red or white, have white juice. You can check this out yourself. Buy some red grapes at the grocery store and gently squeeze one (after you get home). You'll see white juice run from it.

The red color in red wines comes from the red grape skins. After pressing the grapes, the juice is left on the skins for anywhere from just a few hours (to yield very pale rosés) to 3 or 4 weeks, producing deep, dark red wines.

It's very time intensive, and thus expensive, to make a truly

white wine from a red grape. Typically, once the grapes are lightly pressed, many workers are needed to prematurely remove the grapes to ensure the juice doesn't come in contact with the skins.

Holloran does it differently. La Gasse explained they simply capture the juice from the sorting tables as the grapes head to the press. Just tumbling around on the conveyer is enough to release a very small amount of "free run juice," which is then captured before pressing. That juice, as you'd expect, is produced in very small amounts. It's worth it.

If you can find it, try Holloran's Pinot Noir Blanc. Or any winery's white wine made from a red grape, just for the new experience. And definitely get in the habit of calling a winery once in a while. You never know where it might lead or what you might learn!

Ernest Valtri of Buckingham is a sculptor, graphic designer, and a former member of the PLCB's Wine Advisory Council. Please contact Erno at ObjectDesign@verizon.net.

Bucks Foodshed hosts virtual fondue and raclette cooking class

Bucks County Foodshed Alliance and Buy Fresh Buy Local Bucks County continues its virtual program series including cooking workshops, film viewings, educational programs and more.

The series continues with BCFA Cooking Live!, a cooking workshop with Chef Kelly Unger and Joni Garcia via Facebook Live at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 25, titled "Sweet Dreams Are Made of Cheese."

They will demonstrate how fun and easy it is to make fondue and raclette with local cheeses and wine.

The BCFA Cooking Live! Series features healthy, seasonal recipes using ingredients from farmers in Bucks County. During each mini cooking class, Garcia focuses on highlighting the health benefits of the ingredients, while Unger

guides participants through every step of the recipe.

The event will be 30 to 45 minutes long. Cook along and enjoy dinner at the conclusion.

Unger is a BCFA board member, chair of the Doylestown Farmers Market Committee and owner and chef of The Rooster & The Carrot Cooking Studio. Garcia is a BCFA board member and Registered Dietician.

Visit BucksFoodshed.org for the full recipes included in the cooking demonstrations and grab the ingredients and supplies ahead of time to cook along with Unger and Garcia during the live stream. Tune into the BCFA Facebook page to access the live stream. RSVP on the event page on the BCFA website, via the Facebook event, or by emailing info@bucksfoodshed.org.

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Judges announced for second annual Spark Bowl

The celebrity, entrepreneur judges for the second annual Spark Bowl, to be held April 15, at the Delaware Valley University Life Sciences building, have been announced.

They are: Sue Lonergan, director, Middle Market & Specialized Commercial Banking Fulton Bank; Donna Marie De Carolis, Ph.D., dean of the Drexel University Charles D. Close School of Entrepreneurship; Michael Araten, president and CEO of Sterling Drive Ventures; and William R. Schutt, founder and former owner of MATCOR, Inc.

Five businesses will compete in the Spark Bowl for awards and prize money. The selected businesses have 15 minutes to "pitch" their business or product to the judges, all entrepreneurs who have started or run very successful businesses.

The top three businesses and the student teams working with them will win substantial prize money. The Spark Bowl is made possible because of sponsorships from Bucks County businesses and individuals.

As director of Middle Market and Specialized Banking for Fulton Bank's commercial sales and lending teams across five states, Lonergan oversees the bank's commercial real estate, health care, agricultural, dealer services and middle market commercial teams.

Lonergan previously was regional president of Fulton Bank's Southeastern Pennsylvania Division, where she led the commercial sales and lending teams. Under her leadership, Fulton Bank opened its first Philadelphia regional headquarters within the city, its first consumer financial centers in the city's underserved neighborhoods, as well as its first mortgage loan office.

Lonergan has more than 30 years of banking experience, with nearly 10 years as a commercial relationship manager for CoreStates Bank. Immediately prior to joining Fulton Bank, she was managing director and small business strategy and planning executive for Bank of America. Lonergan also regularly shares small business owners' outlook on business and the economy on Bloomberg, MSNBC, WSJ and The Street.com.

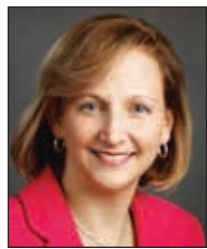
She graduated Summa Cum Laude from DeSales University with a B.S. in accounting. This is Lonergan's second year as a Shark.

De Carolis, is the founding dean of the Charles D. Close School of Entrepreneurship and the Silverman Family Professor of Entrepreneurial Leadership and she initiated a pioneering approach to entrepreneurship education.

Her vision is to empower all university students with the mindset that they can be entrepreneurs - by broadly defining entrepreneurship as "an attitude that incorporates innovative thinking and doing in all facets of life, career and profession."

De Carolis has championed entrepreneurship education in her various roles as associate dean, the Management Department head at Drexel's LeBow College of Business, and as associate vice-provost for Entrepreneurship Education at Drexel University.

Her research has appeared in



SUE LONERGAN

professional journals and she has won numerous awards as a distinguished educator. De Carolis has contributed weekly commentaries to KYW Newsradio with commentaries appearing in the Philadelphia Inquirer, the Philadelphia Business Journal, and Forbes Online.



DONNA MARIE DE CAROLIS

A member of Drexel University's Biomedical Engineering Community Advisory Board of the School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems, De Carolis also is a board member of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Exchange (EIX) and sits on the boards of the Bara Foundation, Faith In the Future Foundation, and the AIM Academy.

She earned her doctoral degree in strategic management from Temple University and holds an MBA from Villanova University.

As the former president and CEO of the popular K'NEX Brands construction toys, Araten has a strong background in advanced manufacturing, global competition, entrepreneurship, joint ventures and land development.

Currently as president and CEO of Sterling Drive Ventures, Araten is responsible for all strategic and day-to-day operations of the company, which owns The Rodon Group, a highly automated injection molder supplying small parts used in over 100 industries, and SillDry, a precision engineering firm supplying flashing materials to residential and



MICHAEL ARATEN

commercial customers. A member of The Rodon Group board of directors, Araten speaks regularly on a variety of topics including advanced manufacturing, the toy industry, and more. He's appeared on CNBC, CNN, ABC World News, Bloomberg News, Fox Business, and numerous local and regional television and radio shows.

Prior to joining K'NEX and Rodon, Araten was chief litigation counsel to Toll Brothers, Inc. as well as senior vice president and corporate counsel to O'Neill Properties Group. He serves on several corporate and nonprofit boards and chairs the Central Bucks County Chamber of Commerce.

Araten holds a B.A. in Political Science from Stanford University, and a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. This is Araten's second year as a "Shark."

Schutt is the founder, former owner and chairman of MATCOR, Inc., a 40-year-old engineering and manufacturing company serving the worldwide oil, gas, infrastructure industries and governments. A Drexel University graduate, Schutt holds seven U.S. patents and several foreign patents.

He's been recognized by the U.S. government as one of the top experts in infrastructure corrosion and

was part of a White House delegation to the Soviet Union. Schutt is certified as a NACE International corrosion specialist and is an ICORR Fellow of the United Kingdom Corrosion Society.



WILLIAM R. SCHUTT

In addition to numerous technical papers and lectures in more than 25 countries, Schutt has been featured in Time Magazine, the New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, the Philadelphia Inquirer. He's appeared on national radio and television and has received numerous awards for his philanthropy, work and worldwide projects. In 2016 he received an Honorary Doctor of Letters from Delaware Valley University in Doylestown.

Schutt spends much of his time with nonprofit organizations and serves or has served on the board of several organizations. A mentor to business owners, he is a talented woodworker, cartoonist and saxophone player.

For over 10 years Schutt has played in the Delaware Valley University symphonic and jazz bands and is founder of the Delaware Valley Saxophone Quartet.

Schutt is the organizer of the Spark Bowl and is serving his second year as a "Shark."

The Spark Bowl will have a limited audience and will be live streamed. For information and the live stream connection, visit delval.edu/community-members/spark-bowl.

Ask SCORE: Richard Kroger

What do I need to know for my business tax filing?

Tax season is upon us. If you are filing a tax return for your business, there are some things you may want to consider.

The first of which is to think about hiring a professional. With so many tax credits in the wake of the pandemic and near constant updates to various aspects of income tax filing each year, a bookkeeper or accountant is essential. A bookkeeper can help keep all necessary paperwork and records in order. An accountant will know how to apply for all available tax credits best suited for your business.

Whether you opt to file your own tax returns, or hire someone to help you, it is a good idea to keep separate books and records for your business and personal expenses. Perhaps consider storing each in separate files or drawers in your filing cabinet or desk. That way there are no surprises when you review expenditures months or even a year later as part of the tax filing process.

The IRS has postponed tax filing and payment due dates for individual taxpayers (e.g. Form 1040) until May 17. Not affected by the automatic extension are businesses, employment tax filings, trusts, or nonprofits, which will follow their original tax filing due dates. Taxpayers can file Form 4868 to receive an automatic six-month extension to submit a tax return.

Rather than procrastinating, I suggest filing tax returns promptly to take advantage of loss carryback.

Given the pandemic and its financial impacts, this could help businesses recoup taxes overpaid previously. Under a provision of the CARES Act, businesses that generated a net tax loss during 2018, 2019 or 2020 are eligible to carry the loss back to offset taxable income during the previous five tax years. This would result in a refund of taxes paid from earlier years.

For 2020 taxes, the Employee Retention Tax Credit and the Work Opportunity Credit can help qualified businesses lessen the amount of taxes owed. The Employee Retention Tax Credit encourages businesses to keep employees on their payroll. The refundable credit is 50 percent up to \$10,000 in wages paid by an eligible employer whose business was financially impacted by COVID-19. The Work Opportunity Tax Credit has been extended through Dec. 31, 2025. The federal tax credit provides incentives for workplace diversity. More information about both of these credits can be found online.

In terms of personal taxes, a new \$300 charitable contribution deduction is available whether or not deductions are itemized.

For taxpayers who do not itemize, a \$2,000 credit is available for a child born in



RICHARD KROGER

2020. The childcare credit is still available as well.

A credit for college tuition and a deduction for student loan interest paid for eligible dependents are both available for 2020.

Homeowners can deduct mortgage interest (within limits) and the real estate tax deduction is capped at \$10,000.

Cash contributions are now deductible up to 100 percent of the adjusted gross income. In addition, the CARES Act permits early withdrawal from 401K and IRA accounts without the typical 10 percent penalty charged to people under age 59 and ½.

Sources for this article include, Gene Marks, CPA and Kiplinger Personal Finance Magazine, March 2021. The content of this article is for general informational purposes only and should not be used as a substitute for accounting, tax, or legal advice from qualified professionals in those fields.

For more guidance related to business taxes, consult with a SCORE Bucks County mentor. Learn more and get started here: buckscounty.score.org/.

Richard Kroger has been a member of the SCORE Bucks County chapter since 2017. He is a member of the chapter's Executive Committee and serves as its Treasurer. Prior to joining SCORE, he worked for more than 30 years in the banking and commercial finance industries, including 10 years selling SBA and USDA guaranteed loans in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

SCORE offers three free business-related webinars in April

SCORE Bucks County, a nonprofit organization focused on providing free mentoring services and information sessions to local business owners and entrepreneurs, is offering three free webinars in April.

On April 7, "Digital Content: 30 Minutes, 30 Media Posts, 30 Days" will be offered from 11 a.m. to noon.

Kelsey Jordan, founder and creative director of KGD Films, will lead the session, which will provide attendees with 30 easy-to-develop, ready-to-execute content ideas for various digital marketing platforms.

On April 13, "The Mindset of a Successful Business Owner" will be offered from 11 a.m. to noon.

Led by Patrick Donohue, a franchise consultant, career transition expert and business coach, the session will offer insight on what entrepreneurs need to succeed.

This webinar will cover: the role of a business owner; the five levels of business ownership; the four types of intelligence for business ownership success; why a franchise thrives; and wealth building.

On April 20, "How to Obtain Bank Financing" will be offered from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

SCORE Bucks certified mentor

Richard Kroger will lead the session along with Steve Sabel, senior account relationship manager, The Payroll Factory. This webinar will shed light on how entrepreneurs and business owners can obtain bank financing.

This webinar will: explain the type of information bank credit officers seek; review the different sources of funds for a capital contribution; describe the usual components of a business plan; and discuss traditional banking and alternative sources of business funding

To learn more or to register for these webinars, visit: buckscounty.score.org.

Noteworthy

Frank Furgiuele, managing director - Investments of Wells Fargo Advisors in Doylestown, has been recognized on the Best-In-State Wealth Advisor list by Forbes.

This accolade represents a list of professionals that come to work with one goal on their mind - helping their clients succeed.

"It's an honor to be recognized by Forbes as one of the Best-In-State Wealth Advisors," said Furgiuele. "As investment planning has become more complex, my top priority is to work with my clients to develop strategies to help give them confidence around all facets of their financial lives and achieve their short- and long-term investment goals."

Furgiuele has more than 40 years of experience in the financial services industry. He is a graduate of Marietta College and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics.

The Forbes Best-In-State Wealth Advisor ranking algorithm is based on industry experience, interviews, compliance records, assets under management, revenue and other criteria by SHOOK Research, which does not receive compensation from the advisors or their firms in exchange for placement on a ranking. Investment performance is not a criterion.

The board of trustees of Dunwoody Village in Newtown Square has unanimously approved the appointment of Bucks County resident Maureen P. Casey as its new president and chief executive officer.

She will begin her new role in April, following the retirement of Sherry Smyth, who has served as president and CEO for 16 years.

Most recently, Casey was executive director for several campuses of Wesley Enhanced Living. She previously served as chief operating officer at Chandler Hall Health Services and held leadership positions with the Einstein Institute for Heart and Vascular Health at Einstein Medical Center.

Casey earned a MA in Gerontology at the University of Pennsylvania and a BS in Biology at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. She possesses a Pennsylvania Nursing Home Administrator License.



MAUREEN CASEY



HUGH J. ALGEO

Hugh J. Algeo, IV, Esq., of Eastburn and Gray in Doylestown, served as a panelist at a CLE to the Bucks County Bar Association's Family Law Section on March 16.

The seminar, "Family Law Case Law & Rule Updates," covered recent family law decisions and case law related to divorce, equitable distribution, support and other areas that will impact individuals going forward from the Pennsylvania Supreme and Superior Courts.

Algeo handles a wide variety of complex family law and domestic relations issues including divorce, custody, child and spousal support, protection from abuse, alimony and equitable distribution. He works with clients throughout all phases of the legal process, from negotiation to trial.

Perkasie-based Penn Community Bank has been honored as a 2021 Faces of Philanthropy award winner by the Philadelphia Business Journal.

The award recognizes the bank's work with the United Way of Bucks County on the Bucks County COVID-19 Recovery Fund as a "difference-making partnership" between a local business and a nonprofit organization.

"At Penn Community Bank, we believe in the power of Greater Good Banking. That means more than just being a financial services provider, it means stepping up when our communities need it the most," said Jeane M. Vidoni, president and CEO of Penn Community Bank.

The Bucks County COVID-19 Recovery Fund - seeded with \$25,000 from each organization, and with donations from local businesses has provided more than 80 grants totaling more than \$480,000 to more than 40 organizations. These grants have helped more than 40,000 county residents, including 13,000 children and 6,000 seniors.

The fund has no administrative expenses; all money raised goes directly to help people with short-term and long-term financial recovery.

Save the date for Bucks Audubon Earth Day Festival



Bucks Audubon's Earth Day festival returns to Honey Hollow.

Join Bucks County Audubon Society at Honey Hollow for its free annual Earth Day Festival from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 10.

Learn more about native birds, purchase gifts from one or more of the many local artisan vendors, discover the environmental programs and organizations in the area, explore wildlife up close and personal with BCAS's own Animal Ambassadors, get wet in a Creek Explorations, take a guided bird walk and venture out into different habitats to search for the local insect life.

The sixth annual event is open to all and perfect for any age. Masks are required and vendors will be

spaced to ensure social distancing. A percentage of all proceeds from this event will go to support the high-quality, environmental education programs of Bucks County Audubon Society.

Visit BCAS.org for event details and a schedule of events for the day.

Eco-friendly artisans or organizations can register for a table or sponsor the festival by visiting bcas.org/event/earth-day-festival-3/.

Bucks Audubon is located at 2877 Creamery Road, in Solebury Township, two miles east of Peddler's Village. For information about other programs and events, visit BCAS.org.

OBITUARIES

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

Jean L. Greenwood



Jean L. Greenwood of New Hope, Pa., died on Saturday, March 20, 2021, at her home. She was 98 years old.

Born and raised in Wyndmoor,

Pa., Jean had been a Bucks County resident since 1968. She lived in Point Pleasant, Pa., for over 20 years and in New Hope since 1999. After her 1940 graduation from the Germantown Friends School, she attended Wheaton College for two years and earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1944. In 1946 she married Richard Yarnall. Together they started their family. Jean later married Richard Greenwood.

A woman of many interests, Jean enjoyed playing tennis, reading, collecting art and fine music, opera being a favorite. An avid gardener, she attended the Barnes Foundation's Horticultural School. Jean was a volunteer at the New Hope-Solebury Public Library.

Jean is survived by her children and their spouses Jonathan R. and Mira Nakashima Yarnall of Solebury, Pa.; George A. and Anne W. Yarnall of Carversville, Pa.; and

Barbara L. Welch of Bensalem, Pa.; her grandchildren Nicholas Yarnall and William Yarnall of Austin, Texas; and Whitney Yarnall of San Diego, Calif. She was predeceased by her husband Richard Greenwood; her parents Franklin and Ella May Harris Landenberger, her sister Nancy L. Webster and her son-in-law David Welch.

Funeral services will be private. Arrangements are under the direction of the Van Horn-McDonough Funeral Home, 21 York St., Lambertville, NJ 08530 (vhm-fh.com).

Scott Maddux



Scott Maddux, 81, died Monday (March 22) at his home in Solebury, Pa. A man with a powerful life force, it is hard to imagine him gone. He had a natural charm derived from a genuine interest in people.

Scott was an early advocate of civil rights and justice, whose social work jobs included running a shelter for homeless families for many years. He was also an award winning photographer, a craft quality carpenter, a great surfer, a terrific dancer who loved all kinds of

music and a bit of a car nut. He was an avid reader, with interests ranging from philosophical books in his younger days to mysteries more recently.

Scott grew up in Philadelphia and on a farm in Chester County. He attended Hoosac Preparatory School and Ursinus College and later did graduate studies in social work at Lincoln University. He served in Naval Air during the Cold War.

Scott is survived by his wife and partner in life, Wilma Caffentzis; his brother, John Maddux of Weaverville, N.C.; his son, Scott Lynn Maddux, daughter-in-law Susanne Pierce Maddux and grandsons Cosmo and Zane of San Francisco; and his stepson, Joseph Caffentzis, daughter-in-law Sarah Creider and granddaughter Anna of Brooklyn.

Jean Rozalia Matulis Fitzgerald Collins



Curiosity tempered by kindness was how Jean Rozalia Matulis Fitzgerald Collins approached life and quickly turned strangers into lifelong friends.

During the last 20 years, she was still communicating with the primary school nuns who taught her,

the woman with whom she shared a maternity ward room in 1959, her first boss at Bell of Canada, as well as Union League wait-staff. From Montreal to Philadelphia and eventually Central Bucks County, Jean's impact on family, friends and neighbors was deep and heartfelt.

Jean passed away on March 9, 2021 in hospice care surrounded physically and virtually by her loving family, husband of 17 years, Francis A. Collins, and children Jean O. Fitzgerald M.D. (William Weiner); Lois F. Downey (Michael); William A. Fitzgerald (Ann); and Sean S. Fitzgerald (Claire) and grandchildren William C. Fitzgerald (Terri and great-grandson William); Ryan M. Fitzgerald (Kaitlin); Genevieve L. Downey; Victoria J. Downey; Evan R. Fitzgerald (Samantha and great-grandchildren Adelaide and Theodore); Juliana F. Downey; Casey C. Fitzgerald (Alison); Caroline S. Fitzgerald; and Elise B. Fitzgerald, Cousin Joe Matulis (Jaqueline); Cousin Rose Tahara (Carlos); cousin Helena Azoullus, in addition to four step-children Eric Collins (Ingrid); Allan Collins (Vicky); Nicola Collins and Doug Collins (Theresa) and their many children and grandchildren in England and Canada and dozens of loving nieces and nephews.

Jean was born to Lithuanian immigrants in Montreal, Canada on April 5, 1930. Her parents, Antanas and Ona Matulis raised Jean and her brother Stanley in Ville LaSalle along the Saint Lawrence River. Jean married William Robert Fitzgerald (dec'd Sept 1989) of Philadelphia, Pa., on July 27, 1957 and settled in Philadelphia working for Bell Telephone. While pregnant with their fourth child, they moved to Warrington, Pa., and she engaged in a life spent attending Mass at and volunteering for St. Robert Bellarmine Roman Catholic Church, volunteering for the Warrington Athletic Association, hosting students for Lions Club International, sitting as Judge of Elections in Palomino Farms, working for local newspapers as office support staff, and being first in line to help neighbors. Jean became an American citizen in 1976 on the lawn of Independence Hall.

Jean made each of her children, their spouses, her grandchildren, her nieces and nephews and her dozens of cousins all over the world feel loved and important in her life. For decades, Jean's home was the place where memories were made with Brazilian, Lithuanian, Canadian and American cousins. Many of them will remember her as the aunt or cousin who wanted as much information about their families as possible to help her complete a voluminous family history project that she was working on for 50 years until her diagnosis with lung cancer, which ultimately metastasized to her brain.

Jean would be the first to tell you that she was incredibly lucky to have been able to have found true love with two wonderful men. Francis (Frank) and Jean met in October 2001 at the Montreal wedding of her goddaughter Theresa Matulis and his son Doug. After a nearly two-year courtship that spanned the Atlantic Ocean, Frank flew to America from England to propose to Jean. Her marriage to Frank in August 2003 was performed by the late Honorable Charles W. Weiner at the U.S. Court House in Philadelphia. Their love affair found them traveling a great deal in the U.K., North America and Central America and visiting many of their friends and relatives. Jean loved Frank's inquisitive nature which matched her own and they spent many afternoons visiting area museums, landmarks and places of interest like the self-guided tour of the Philadelphia Mural Project.

She will be greatly missed by those who loved her and those who knew her, those who she lived near, and those who she helped.

Due to the pandemic, there will only be a private memorial service with immediate family later this year.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you remember Jean with a donation to the Doylestown Health Foundation (website: doylestownhealthfoundation.org) by calling 215.345.2009 or giving directly at gifts@dh.org.

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Doylestown church sets Holy Week observances

Doylestown Presbyterian Church invites the community to join in for several online and in-person opportunities to observe Holy Week.

Each service will be available to view at the listed times and any time after at downtownpc.org/worship/watch-us-live/. Social distancing will be in place and masks will be required for in-person gatherings.

On Maundy Thursday, April 1, a virtual service will be posted to the church's website at 8 a.m. Communion will be offered any time from noon to 1 p.m. and 5 to 6 p.m. in the Narthex of the Sanctuary building. Enter through the red doors at the front of the building.

Visitors may take some time to pray and meditate in the Sanctuary while listening to a brief musical offering, which will be repeated every 15 minutes during these designated times. Social distancing will be in place and masks are required.

On Good Friday, April 2, a virtual service with a focus on the Seven Last Words of Jesus will be

shared on the church's website at 8 a.m. The Sanctuary will be open for a time of prayer from noon to 3 p.m. Bring a mask and enter through the doors on Mechanics Street.

On Easter Sunday, April 4, all are invited to join in for Easter in the Park, at Central Park, 425 Wells Road in Doylestown Township, at 9:30 a.m. for a celebration featuring song, prayer and opportunities to make memories with friends and family – including a fun photo station.

Participants also will learn how they can be a part of the church's growing effort to fight against hunger in the community and beyond.

Bring your own Communion elements (bread or crackers and juice) to share in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Prepackaged elements will also be available. Lawn chairs are recommended and masks are required.

In the event of inclement weather, the church will offer its usual Livestream service at 9:30 a.m. and all are invited to tune in from home.



COURTESY OF AMY PUJOLS

Doylestown Presbyterian Church invites the community to attend an outdoor Easter Sunday service, weather permitting. The service is planned for the same location as an earlier service, shown above, in Central Park in Doylestown Township.

Gift of gratitude

Barb Petrone, the retiring president of president the Ladies of Mount Carmel, receives a gift of gratitude from Vice President Yvonne Lorenz at the Ladies' monthly meeting for March.



St. Philip's New Hope Church again brings Stations of the Cross outdoors

The Rev. Michael Ruk, pastor of St. Philip's Episcopal Church, New Hope, invites the public to his reimagined Stations of the Cross.

"Jesus was out among the people. That is where we should be," he said.

In the time of COVID, the Church is forced to think in new ways that are creative and safer for present times. Ruk's reimagined Stations of the Cross makes this Lenten tradition much more relevant to today and it reflects the area, the church said.

"The Stations of the Cross not only recount the suffering of Jesus' last hours, but also connect

us to the sufferings of our present time," Ruk said.

"We have all experienced so much grief and loss this last year. We all need a place to share that grief in community. So if you look at it that way, we see we need to do work on the environment, on hunger, on homelessness, on immigrants, on prejudice ... These are the areas of concern we should pray over and act on, in our journey."

Ruk will conduct Stations of the Cross on Bridge Street at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 30. He will begin in Lambertville, N.J., at the north corner of Bridge and Main streets, then stop at loca-

tions along the way, including the bridge itself so he can say a prayer for the river's ecological health and people's safety in living near it. He will end his procession on the New Hope side of the bridge.

The procession is free of charge and open to the public. You do not need to be a member of the parish, or a Christian, to participate. All COVID-19 precautions will be followed, including the wearing of masks and physical distancing. This quiet, reflective experience is intended to bring new meaning to preparing for Easter.

For information, visit stphilips-newhope.org or email info@st-philipsnewhope.org.



Saying a prayer

Parishioners and the Rev. Matthew Guckin, pastor of Our Lady of the Planned Parenthood Clinic in Doylestown, witness during 40 Days for Life, held twice a year.

NINE-DAYS NOVENA TO ST. JOSEPH

Say this prayer for nine days for anything you may desire. Then let go and let God. Trust that whatever is the outcome of your novena is truly what is best for you in accordance with the will of God.)

O Saint Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

O Saint Joseph, assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, Our Lord; so that having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

O Saint Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss

Thank you St. Joseph, N.B.

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Historians want a share in Tile Works lease decision

Continued from page A1
 corporation formed specifically for the purpose of continuing and advancing the mission of the Moravian Pottery & Tile Works as a working history museum. Bucks County will continue to own the entire facility and all of the historical artifacts.

"The county will exercise robust oversight at all times, and it will appoint one of the trustees of the non-profit organization. ... The nonprofit will have a license to operate the museum consistent with its historical purposes and as a National Historic Landmark. The museum will remain open to the public for tours, classes, and educational workshops for pub-

lic use and enjoyment, and the museum's historic tiles will continued to be made in the arts and crafts tradition, using the approved historical processes and molds."

Mercer was an archaeologist, anthropologist, ceramicist and scholar, who enjoyed experimenting with materials. His legacy of three sites is cherished by local residents – the Bucks County Historical Society's Mercer Museum to house his collection of more than 50,000 pre-industrial tools, Fonhill as a home, and the Tileworks to manufacture ceramics as part of the Arts and Crafts movement in America. Mercer's buildings were among the first reinforced con-

crete buildings in America.

"The Bucks County Historical Society (BCHS) understands that the County of Bucks wishes to divest itself of the Moravian Pottery and Tile Works," the society said in a letter to the commissioners. "It is our position that the Tile Works would be best served operating under the umbrella of the BCHS, a professionally-staffed organization that is experienced and eminently capable of managing historic sites and museum collections.

"There is efficiency in having all three Mercer sites operating under one administration. It would enable better coordination of programming,

preservation, public access, communication, marketing and many other activities."

The letter was signed by Kyle McCoy, president and executive director, and Heather Cevasco, chair of the board of trustees.

McKoy stressed the importance of the Mercer Museum and Fonhill as an accredited museum and the value of its administration of Mercer's legacy. It is a Smithsonian Affiliate, in operating the Mercer Museum and Fonhill Castle, and it has over many years, created revenue streams to ensure the future of the historical buildings, and the nationally significant collections that they house.

Having all three sites operating under one administration would reunite all three of Henry Mercer's National Landmark buildings for the first time since Mercer's death in 1930. "And, as a result, such an arrangement would best serve the people of Doylestown and Bucks County, who are stakeholders in making these three sites nationally and internationally prominent attractions," McCoy said.

McGuirk, who has worked as production manager at the Tile Works has been a mural artist with Artists in Residence and a teacher of ceramics in local schools. Her work is known internationally.

Palisades mourns board member's loss

Continued from page A1

Known especially for his fierce dedication to fiscal responsibility, and leading the way on preparing for new expenses such as the pension spike, without raising taxes anywhere nearly as much as many other school districts were forced to do, de Groot was particularly active in the last decade insisting on the need for reform, through

the state Legislature, of charter school funding and oversight.

Later in the meeting, the board unanimously approved the reappointment of Dr. O'Connell for a third five-year term, from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026. When she was approved for her second term, officials noted the average tenure for a school superintendent in the United States was

2.5 years.

Most recently, she has been lauded for her leadership during the pandemic crisis, moving the district forward with rigorous attention to health and safety, while maintaining both in-person and online curricula, and also keeping extracurricular activity going, including plays and concerts as well as various sports programs, at a

level considerably above that of neighboring districts.

In 2014, O'Connell was one of 200 superintendents invited to the White House to sign the Future Ready Pledge, a computerization initiative launched by the U.S. Dept. of Education. The district has received further recognition since then for being "future ready," and for its "one-to-one"

commitment to have all students have access to hardware and software.

While receiving a variety of other honors and recognitions, the district has also developed several career "pathway" programs that allow students to learn offsite at appropriate workplaces, as well as in the classroom, laboratory, and online.

Solebury anticipates new 202 traffic patterns

Continued from page A1

to Kitchens Lane – as well as at Reeder Road; a potential off-road trail link to Aquetong Spring Park; and compared to development of the parcel, a reduction in future water withdrawal and sewage," Baum Baicker added.

The board also approved a minor lot line adjustment there to move the driveway, existing sewer line and five parking spaces currently used by New Hope Star Diner at 6522 Lower York Road, from the flea market property acquired by the township, to the New Hope Star Diner.

"The proposed purchase is a strategic acquisition to enhance the existing 12 acres in the 202 Corridor that the township purchased last year," said Supervisor Kevin Morrissey.

"We all know it is not possible to insert a traffic light every 25 yards along 202 to enhance pedestrian crossing and vehicle turns. Consequently it is extremely important to use the existing traffic lights in as many ways as possible. The purchase of this 1-acre property enables a safer and more efficient exit and entrance to the 12-acre property along 202," he

added.

Morrissey said he, Supervisor Noel Barrett and Township Manager Dennis Carney are working on a township survey of residents to develop a consensus as to what is the preferred community use of this 12-acre township property. Since the property was purchased with Land Preservation funds, the property can only be used for passive recreation, active recreation or cultural purposes.

In other matters, Jim Mansfield of the township Environmental Ad-

visory Council and John Francis, its supervisor liaison, presented a draft of its Energy Transition Plan.

The aim is to achieve carbon-free electricity by 2035 and carbon-free energy by 2050. Efforts involve electric vehicles, electric charging stations, solar energy pollution reduction, renewable energy, public education.

The board also revised its Historical Architectural Review Board's certificate of appropriateness process. The expiration date for building permits and certificates of ap-

propriateness will now both expire after 180 days. Previously there was no time limit on certificates of appropriateness, meaning a project could linger for years.

In other business, the supervisors:

- awarded a \$82,644 contract to Barwis Construction LLC for the Aquetong Spring Park Entrance project;
- agreed to the purchase of a Laurel Park scoreboard at a cost of about \$11,000 for the girls softball team, with a possible private donation for part of the cost.

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Scudder Falls Bridge hits 90% completion milestone

Final girder installed on second span

The Scudder Falls Bridge Replacement Project along I-295 in New Jersey and Pennsylvania is on the cusp of reaching the 90-percent-completed mark by the end of March and achieving substantial completion in December, the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission (DRJTBC) announced.

A major construction milestone was reached on March 16, when the last of 98 steel support girders for the second parallel span was lifted and secured into place. The second span is immediately downstream of the first bridge span that opened to traffic in July 2019. When fully completed, the upstream span will carry Pennsylvania-bound traffic and the downstream span will carry New Jersey-bound traffic.

The bridge project, which started construction in 2017, also includes highway widening on the Pennsylvania side, reconstructed or realigned interchanges near both ends of the bridge, and an array of other improvements across a 4.4-mile-long project area along I-295 in Ewing, N.J. and Lower Makefield, Pa. The project now has reached the point of being approximately 88 percent completed.

The completion of the girder installations on the new bridge's second span is a pivotal milestone because it ends a complex logistical task of shipping girders to the construction site and then installing them into place.

Girder erection for the second bridge span started on New Jersey side, taking place from late May to late June 2020. With the completion of supporting substructures on the Pennsylvania side later in the year, girder erection resumed in early December and continued, with brief interruptions, until mid-March.

The girder sizes averaged 10-foot high and 135-foot long, and weighed

approximately 60 tons. Like the already-operational upstream bridge, a total of 98 individual girders were used in the construction of the adjacent downstream span. The girders were fabricated in Williamsport and then trucked on pre-assigned routes to the respective work site on the New Jersey or Pennsylvania side.

Each of the dual bridges (they will not be identical twins) have seven continuous steel-beam lines made up of 14 individual girder sections that were lifted by crane and bolted together atop the supporting masonry substructures (piers or abutments). The utilization of multiple steel beam lines provide "redundancy," a critical strength and structural safety feature missing in the former 59-year-old, functionally obsolete Scudder Falls Bridge – now completely dismantled down to the river bottom.

All totaled, 196 steel girders were used to construct the two dual spans – a total of approximately 11,760 tons of steel.

Now that the girder installations are completed on the second span's superstructure, the project contractor can now focus on the next phases of bridge construction. The large crane used to lift the individual girders into place was removed from the project area last Wednesday. Work also has begun on converting a nearby staging area at the corner of Woodside and River roads into a commission-owned wetlands buffer.

On the bridge itself, crews will complete bolting together the lines of installed girders. Workers will then install cross-bracing between the girders followed by galvanized-steel corrugated deck pans (form work), steel rebar, and deck joints through the spring. These preparations will allow for the pouring of the concrete deck slabs and a driv-

ing-surface layer of polyester-polymer concrete in the summer.

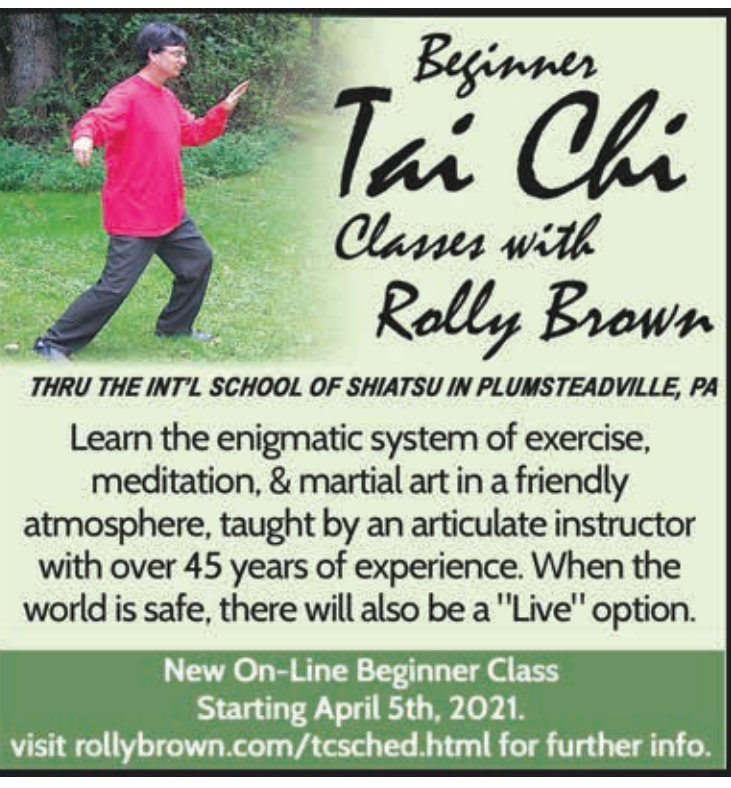
If the current schedule holds, the downstream span would be completed and opened only to New Jersey-bound traffic in late August. At that point, a widened and reconstructed I-295 EB approach roadway in Pennsylvania and a widened and reconstructed I-295 SB lanes off the bridge on the New Jersey side also would be opened to traffic.

The project would then enter Stage III with traffic moved to the outside lanes on the two side-by-side bridges. This will allow construction crews to make final transitional improvements on the approach roadways and the exit entry ramps at both ends of the bridge. Work also will take place in completing the highway median on the New Jersey side.

Stage III work is expected to be completed in mid-December, at which point the two bridge spans will be able to carry their respective full capacities of traffic. The current upstream span would carry three through lanes of Pennsylvania-bound traffic along with an additional auxiliary lane between the on ramp from Route 29 in New Jersey and the off ramp to Taylorsville Road in Pennsylvania. The new downstream span would carry three through lanes of New Jersey-bound traffic along with two auxiliary lanes that would facilitate safe traffic merging from the I-295/Taylorsville Road interchange in Pennsylvania to the I-295/Route 29 and I-295/CR-579 interchanges in New Jersey.

The contractor is expected to then conduct punch-list work to fully complete the project in the spring of 2022.

Detour maps and more information on the Scudder Falls Bridge Replacement Project is available at scudderfallsbridge.com.



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- Across**
- Spectate
 - Dynamism
 - Word with "bar" or "building"
 - Mont Blanc, e.g.
 - Labor bill unit
 - Part of a nerve cell
 - Earth core?
 - Paris play part
 - City known for its beef
 - Don _ de la Vega
 - Homeowner's monthly pymt.
 - First name in architecture
 - Place for stragglers
 - Low-risk investments (abbr.)
 - Sound of a plucked string
 - Tickle
 - Head cases?
 - Shows contempt, in a way
 - Dispatch vessel
 - Lab dish eponym
 - Popular ISP option
 - Challenge for a future ABA member
 - Drenches
 - Diving position
 - Greek storyteller
 - _ Romeo
 - Holly
 - UN advocate for workers' rights
 - Cut down
 - Cold sheet
 - WBA decision
 - The good earth, truly
 - Ballpark figures
 - Prattle

- Down**
- Fictional falcon seeker
 - Like a David Lynch project
 - Wine and dine, say
 - 2021 Golden Globes best director winner Chloe _
 - Tokyo 2020/2021 org.
 - Mace source
 - Environmental activist Thunberg
 - Baba or Babka
 - Kitchenware brand
 - Driver's license stat
 - Trenton-to-Newark dir.
 - They may come with trains
 - Research funding source
 - Nucleic compound, briefly
 - Mars rover before Perseverance
 - "Spring ahead" abbr.
 - Selenium symbols
 - French dip
 - Colin Dexter's inspector
 - Device on some drones, in short
 - Sights at many nat'l. parks
 - Second contact, in volleyball
 - Saffron-infused rice dish
 - Watercraft for one
 - Lively Bohemian dance
 - Shake up, so to speak
 - Where to get dates
 - Gets rid of
 - _CIO
 - It's a sign
 - MLB spring training site
 - Pig chaser?

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Puzzle by Linda Dunn of Furlong.



Doylestown's County Theater is nearing completion of its expansion and renovation project. The interior of the existing two theaters have new, larger seating with more leg room.

County Theater hopes for April completion

Continued from page A1
in all three auditoriums. The new theater's screen is "gigantic," theater officials said on social media. New projection booth equipment is expected to arrive by the end of

March. Earlier this month, the theater's iconic neon sign was rehung after being repainted and preserved with a clear coat that's expected to last 20 years.

The ambitious project began in January 2020, and, except for the five weeks when Pennsylvania shut down all construction due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the \$5.3 million project has continued, said Toner.

Hilltown neighbors oppose Ag Area

Continued from page A1
Before supervisors vote, Linke's application will be reviewed by entities that include the Hilltown Township Planning Commission and Bucks County Planning Commission. It's not yet known when a vote from supervisors may occur, but the vote would take place at a public township meeting.

tation controls. Officials said that both the Bucks County Conservation District and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection have investigated the property and not issued violations. Hilltown code enforcement has issued a noise citation, according to the township.

Family-owned and operated, the businesses have been in operation for years, but neighbors claim in their change.org petition that heavy industrial activities have expanded recently and become "intolerable." L&M Paving has been in operation since 1991, according to the company.

Since seating is limited at supervisors' meetings due to COVID-related social distancing practices, it's recommended that residents with input submit comments in writing to the township, officials said. Supervisors will weigh those comments, along with other input, as they decide whether to approve the Linke land for inclusion in the township ASA.

Agricultural Security Areas are zones that aim to protect farms and farmland from non-agricultural uses. By having one's property part of an ag security area, an owner receives protection from certain local ordinances and nuisance lawsuits that affect normal farming activities.

Some neighbors don't think the land, home to Linke Nursery, should be allowed in the ASA and thus able to get those protections. They've started a change.org petition opposing the designation. Early during the week of March 22, it had nearly 140 signatures.

Residents opposing the ag designation argue that the land isn't a farm or true agricultural use. For instance, they say that, in addition to the nursery, there's a non-ag business, L&M Paving and Excavation, that operates out of the site.


The property has been the subject of complaints, ranging from alleged noise ordinance violations to claims that piles of soil, concrete and more are piled high while lacking proper visual buffers and erosion/sedimen-

Spring has arrived!

10 Cool Things to Do This Spring

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ARTS & Galleries

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In-person exhibitions return to Stover Mill Gallery

Bucks County artists Shirley Mersky and Denise Callanan-Kline are pleased to open the 2021 season at Stover Mill Gallery with "In Search of Luminance."

Closed for the entire 2020 season, The mill will reopen with this show, following safe COVID-19 practices so people can view the art in person. The show will be on view every Saturday and Sunday in April at 852 River Road (Route 32), Erwinna.

As the title "In Search of Luminance" suggests, both artists focus on light and the poetry it creates in their work. Because of this, many of their landscape paintings are begun on location where the effects of light can be observed first hand. Both artists also work in their studios where the studies can be refined or expanded.

Mersky has a large north win-



"Stella's Back Porch" is by Denise Callanan-Kline.

dow in her studio so that even still life paintings can be done with natural light. Trained in painting at Dickinson College and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, she will show landscape and still life in oil.

Callanan-Kline studied art at Temple University and Acadia University and taught in the public schools and at Holy Family University. She will exhibit landscape in both oil and gouache.

Both artists live and work in



"Behind Golden Pheasant" is an oil painting by Shirley Mersky.

Bucks County, and have exhibited in many juried shows, including the Philadelphia Sketch Club and the Phillips' Mill Art

Exhibition.

For information, visit the artists online, or visit the gallery at stovermillgallery.org.

Raritan Valley faculty members win arts fellowships

Two professors from Raritan Valley Community College's Arts & Design Department have been honored for their creative work, receiving 2021 Individual Artist Fellowships from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

Dennis Russo of Wayne, professor of theater, was awarded a \$4,100 fellowship for screenwriting and playwriting for his play, "Yellow with Grey Edges."

Adjunct professor William Macholdt of Raritan Borough, Somerset County, who teaches ceramics at the college, received a \$6,000 fellowship for crafts.

Russo has been teaching at RVCC for 20 years, 17 years as a full-time faculty member. "Yellow With Grey Edges" cen-



DENNIS RUSSO

ters around a children's book author-illustrator who decides to write a play in response to Elizabeth Kubler Ross's "Stages of Dying," which later became known as the "Stages of Grief." The play includes Russo's at-

tempt to offer his own "Styles of Grief" based on painting styles such as Cubism, Expressionism, Surrealism and Impressionism.

Macholdt has been a faculty member at RVCC for close to 20 years. The ceramic pieces he submitted for the fellowship are from a group of works titled the "Lever and Fulcrum Series."

The title was initially conceived as a fairly literal translation of the visual appearance of several of these works. However, it also came to embody what the pieces represent metaphorically.

William Macholdt with artwork from his "Lever and Fulcrum Series."



"Our Towns Through Artists' Eyes" calls for artists

This spring AOY Art Center is celebrating the Historic Towns of Yardley and Newtown with a community-wide plein air event titled

"Our Towns Through Artists' Eyes."

Interested local and regional plein air artists looking to "paint our towns" are invited to register now to

be a part of this event. Registrations are not juried, but the show is limited to 45 registrants. Register online at aoyartcenter.org. The registration

fee is \$30.

The plein air painting window is from May 14 to 28 and culminates in a unique exhibition from May 29 to June 13 in AOY Art Center's Gallery, showcasing "the best of the best in our towns."

The first place prize will be \$500 as judged by nationally known plein air artist Joseph Gyurcsak.

Interested artists should go to aoy-

artcenter.org and read all the details in the prospectus.

This is going to be a community-wide event and AOY Art Center is delighted to have the early support of business and community organizations in both Newtown and Yardley, including Countryside Gallery, Experience Yardley, Newtown Mercantile Group and Friends of Washington Crossing Park.

Prallsville Mills Spring Arts and Crafts Show crafters wanted

Prallsville Mills calls for crafters for its Spring Arts & Crafts Show, scheduled for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, May 1 and 2.

The weekend-long event will showcase artists from up and down the Delaware River and throughout the state, embracing local talent and artisan skills. A perfect excuse to enjoy the Delaware and Raritan Canal in the spring sunshine, the Arts & Crafts Showcase also features a daily

wine and cheese reception.

Dozens of artisans, jewelers and artists will fill the Grist Mill and Silo with their wares, adorning the space with spring cheer and creativity. There is a \$5 donation for admission, which goes to supporting the Delaware River Mill Society and maintaining the Prallsville Mills Complex at 33 Risler St., Stockton, N.J., for community events such as this.

Visit the events page at prallsvillemills.org for information.

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Spark Bowl, a local "Shark-Tank"-like competition organized by Delaware Valley University's School of Business and Humanities and the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce, will be livestreamed this year for the public. Watch real businesses pitch their ideas and compete for funding!



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PSO's Buskaid Soweto String Ensemble virtual concerts continue

Princeton Symphony Orchestra (PSO) presents the third installment of its "Buskaid - A Musical Miracle" series showcasing South Africa's Buskaid Soweto String Ensemble, on demand Friday, March 26 to Sunday, March 28.

The concert, "A Lark and Diverse Dances," features Buskaid-trained violinist Kabelo Monnathebe performing Ralph Vaughan Williams' "The Lark Ascending" on a dance-infused program including Georg Muffat's "Passacaglia" from Armonico Tributo, the first and final movements of Edvard Grieg's "Holberg Suite, Op. 40," and an arrangement of "Modest Mussorgsky's Hopak" by Michael Pilkington.

There are also buoyant pop and kwela songs. Buskaid founder and Music Director Rosemary Nalden conducts.

PSO Executive Director Marc Uys said, "People have been watching from around the world. Partnering with Buskaid during the pandemic has enabled us to broadly share the sheer joy of performance exhibited by this amazing ensemble."

Each Buskaid soloist and all the musicians making up the Buskaid Soweto String Ensemble received rigorous, multi-year training at the Buskaid Music School in Soweto before joining Buskaid's touring ensemble.

Monnathebe is a Soweto-born violinist whose uncles were founding members of the Soweto String Quartet. He is a freelance violinist and violin teacher in Johannesburg, playing for the Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra and the Johannesburg Festival Orchestra. He is also a member of the Resonance String Quartet, Kamva Quartet, and Urban Strings.

Access to each concert in the series is \$5 per unique device link, and includes on-demand viewing of the concert over the course of a three-day weekend. Look for a new Buskaid on-demand concert each month. To purchase, call 609-497-0020 or visit princetonsymphony.org.



Cecelia Manyama, Tumi Mapholo and Mathapelo Matabane sing kwela.

Register to participate in NBA Father's Day Car Cruise

The Newtown Business Association is bringing the Antique & Classic Car Cruise to the people again this year on Saturday, June 20, in the form of a caravan of classic and antique cars and trucks, model years up through 1996, in Newtown Borough and Township.

The event should be a welcome diversion during this seemingly endless time of limited gathering and social distancing and will al-

low people to watch the parade of "Cool Cars" from the comfort and safety of their front lawns.

In previous years, the NBA Classic & Antique Car Show was typically held on State Street in Newtown Borough.

Vehicles will assemble at a staging area, where a panel of judges will award winners of "Best in Class" in five categories: Pre-1959, 1960-1969, 1970-1979, 1980-1996, Foreign cars up

through 1996, and Special Interest through 1996 (as approved by the event chairs.)

After judging is complete, at approximately 2 p.m., participating cars and trucks will "take the show to the people" in downtown Newtown and through a few larger neighborhoods nearby, including Newtown Place, Newtown Crossing and Newtown Grant.

The route will be publicized and available on the website so

that people will know when and where to watch for the cruise. The event will also be live on the NBA Facebook page.

Interested car owners must pre-register online at NewtownBA.org; no walk-ins will be admitted the day of the event. Registration will open online on April 1. Participants will be limited to the first 100 registered cars and trucks.

Registration per vehicle is a

minimum \$10 donation, with an option for a \$25 or \$50 contribution, with all proceeds going to the Wrightstown Food Cupboard, a local food pantry located at Penns Park United Methodist Church.

The deadline to register online is June 11, or until spaces are filled, at NewtownBA.org. Questions can be directed to event co-chair Joe Tryon at jtryon@quaintoak.com.

D&R Greenway plans virtual astrophotography happy hour

D&R Greenway begins its new offerings educational Virtual Happy Hours with "The Sky's the Limit," from 5 to 6 p.m. Wednesday March 31, providing opportunities to view vast arrays of stars and constellations literally found overhead.

Experience the photography achieved with a telescope and special photographic equipment over St. Michaels Farm Preserve with physicist Taylor Blanchard. He chose the Hopewell preserve because "The skies over St. Michaels Farm Preserve are about as good as

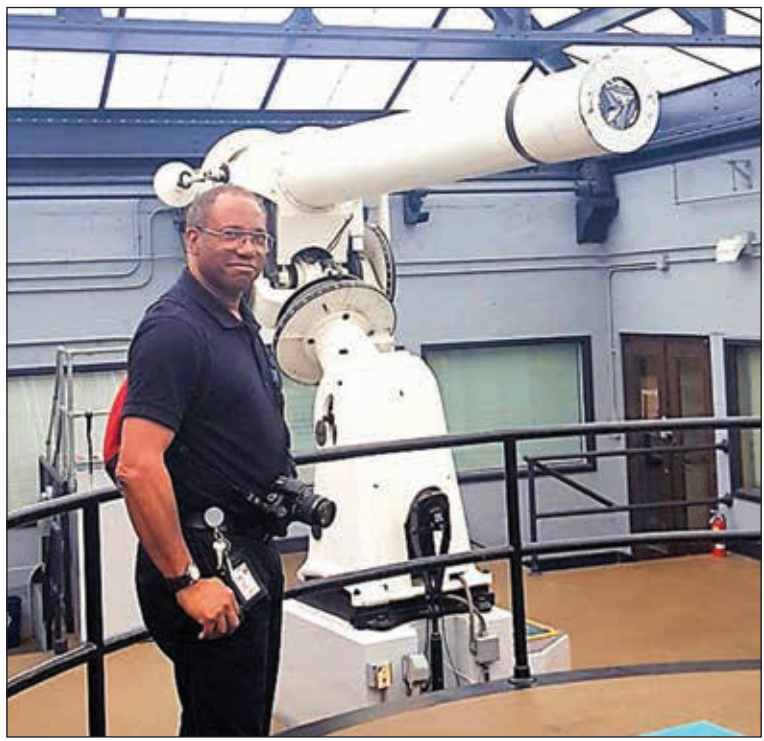
it gets in New Jersey!"

Local skies have been rich in "star" phenomena lately. Key events commenced with the July arrival of Comet NEOWISE, brightest in decades, in the Northern Hemisphere. Scientists are still buzzing over the "Christmas Star" conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn, visible in the night sky for the first time in 800 years.

Blanchard views the preserve as the perfect location for astrophotography, with some of the darkest skies in New Jersey, said D&R

Greenway President and CEO Linda Mead. "He will share advice on techniques and equipment for taking memorable deep-sky photographs, including how to track stars and planets in their journeys."

To receive the free link to the program, which is limited to 100 participants, register at rsvp@drgreenway.org. For those who are unable to attend, a recording will be made available to all who register their email address with D&R Greenway Land Trust. Information is available at drgreenway.org



COURTESY OF TAYLOR BLANCHARD

Taylor Blanchard at Franklin Institute.

John & Peter's hosts FACT Bucks April Fools bingo livestream

FACT Bucks County presents "April Fools BINGO Show" a little comedy relief for spring.

Join in on FACT's YouTube channel for the third episode of the FACT Variety Show at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 1, sponsored by John & Peter's with host Miss Pumpkin and friends, and a surprise cohort.

The show will include special appearances and a cameo by Julia Scotti and other comedians, games and prizes.

Participants must be 18 and older; proceeds benefit FACT Bucks County, serving Bucks, Hunterdon and Mercer counties since 1992 "Fighting AIDS Continuously Together."

The suggested donation is \$15 to play along, or pay what you can. Being a spectator is free, but donations are welcome. For information and registration, visit factbucks-county.org.

FACT provides emergency financial assistance to those in need who

are living with HIV/AIDS, and work to increase public awareness, educate and assist in the reduction of new cases of HIV.

FACT provides grants to local nonprofit health and human services organizations that provide direct HIV services, prevention and educational programming.

Music Mountain debuts Broadway 60s concert

Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, N.J., will begin its 2021 Spring Season with "Broadway a Go-Go: a 60s Revue," premiering March 26.

The show will run for six performances ending on April 4. The theater will continue at 50% indoor capacity while also offering the option to stream at home. For the safety of patrons, the theater blocks off seats to allow for social distancing between groups.

The second in a series of decades revues, "Broadway a Go-Go" will include popular hits from the 1960s, as well as Broadway music from

60s-style musicals. The cast of singers will take listeners on a trip back to the 60s, where the hair was higher, the skirts were shorter, and the times they were a changin'.

Show times are 8 p.m. Friday and 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

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. For information on our safety protocols or to purchase a ticket, visit musicmountaintheatre.org or call 609-397-3337.

Tri-Municipal 4th of July Parade scheduled for July 3

The 2021 Tri-Municipal 4th of July Parade will be held at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, July 3.

The parade starts at Town Center on Route 202 in New Britain Borough, follows Route 202 South to Route 152 North and ends at North

Branch Park, 207 Park Ave., in New Britain Township.

Visit the links at chalfontborough.com/4th-of-july-parade/ for parade details, the registration form and regulations if your organization plans to participate in the parade this year.

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Town and Country Players kills it again with "Cozy Murder"

John Dwyer

The Signature Series from Town and Country Players is one of the highlights of its season for a theater lover, as it allows new playwrights to try out their plays and improve on their product.

The chance to get actors to flesh out the words of the writer, often for the first time, is a great chance for the writer to hear the interplay of his creations and make sure they have divergent voices and tone. It is a great opportunity for both the author, the actors to be the first to play a character and the audience to see the evolution of creativity.

The latest play reading was "Cozy Murder" by Judy Klass, professor at Vanderbilt University. She is best known for her murder mystery "Cell," available through the country's best known theater script publisher, Samuel French. That play premiered at The International Murder Mystery Writer's Festival in Owensboro, Ky.

Zev Buffman, creator of the festival, is quoted as saying: "Cell is the best new play I have presented since the Mystery Festival began." And I mention that high praise, so that you can see the high quality of writing that Town & Country is able to elicit. Many of them, like Klass, have had other successes and it is a treat for the sophisticated Bucks County theatergoer to be able to see a new

work-in-progress.

Only the first 30 minutes of "A Cozy Murder" have been previously performed. This is the first production in its entirety.

Klass weaves a tale with well-defined characters, a la Agatha Christie and a dash of "Murder, She Wrote," but also integrates into the next very diverting two hours a discussion of the "Me Too" movement, political correctness, the changing culture and cancel culture.

The murder occurs during something Klass is very much aware of...a mystery play festival. It occurs at a bed and breakfast in small town in Maine.

The chief draw is a well-known Broadway actor, Foster Connelly (played by David Swartz). Connelly has been around for years. He is a great actor. He is charming. But he is also manipulative womanizer who preys on the vulnerable and exploits his power and fame. And by the end of act one, he is dead.

Though the police chief (Jason Tolbert) says it could be from natural causes, there was a suspicious tea cozy left on top of his face when he was found by his friend/manager Morris King (Sheldon Bruce Zeff).

Connelly was to perform in a young woman's new play. Emma Taylor (Dana Joy Carducci), as a writer of murder mysteries, is well versed in poisons but is earnest and seems well adjusted, though

Connelly wants to make major changes to her script. Seems unlikely to have killed him but she is a suspect.

The owner of the B&B, Rowena Althorpe (Val Sharper) has no apparent reason for murder and neither does her daughter Lily (Roseann Enwright) to kill the actor. Nor does Sandy Hickenlooper (Florence Taylor), who is at this lodging for the festival and considers Foster Connelly a charming man who she was thrilled to have met.

All fingers seem to point to fellow-lodger Geraldine Wilcox (Meg Waldowski) who is about to write an expose on Connelly and his use of power over women. She admits she is glad he is dead.

What makes this play remarkable is its insight into the current fashion of giving no ground on any particular issue. It addresses measured passion, with an emphasis on "measured."

There is discussion about how values have changed. Morris King talks of a sea change over

what was acceptable to say back in the 80s and what is not now. Geraldine Wilcox talks of lines being crossed with no malice versus others who are manipulative, demeaning and are purposefully using their power.

In the talkback with the audience, the playwright said she added the character of Sandy Hickenlooper to bring more humor to the play, which she saw was needed after early drafts. That character is given extra texture, in this production, by being black and by being played delightfully by Taylor with exuberance. All the acting is top notch and kudos to director, Jim Moore.

Though this is a reading, I will not divulge the murderer as, hopefully, you will get to see a future production of this play, which should be fully produced. There is a fine speech by the murderer about why the person did it, that brings the issues of power and privilege over others full circle.

One interesting aside playwright Klass made was that often

the best subject matter for a play is one where you have some ambivalence to the matter, one where you can understand both sides of the issue. Uneasiness with going full throttle one way is a reason to take on that discussion for a play. It gives the work more of a true voice, as well as aids in delineating diverse characters.

Bucks County has always been nurturing to artists. I urge you to support efforts like this one by Town and Country Players as they help develop new plays. The next reading of a new work is "Miss Woodhouse Presents" by Kayla Hambek at 1 p.m. March 28. This is the last in the Signature Series by T&C Players for new work development. You can secure a free ticket by going online to townandcountryplayers.org/signature-series.html#new.

If you want to donate to their efforts in doing this kind of work, which is vital for the theater and for our reputation as a community dedicated to creativity and art, you can do so at that site as well.

New Hope Historical presents four speakers online in April

The New Hope Historical Society's 18th annual Speaker Series will begin Monday, April 5, and continue every Monday in April.

The series, to be presented on Zoom, can be accessed by contacting the society at newhopehistory@gmail.com. Admission is free and open to all. Each talk will begin at 7 p.m.

The series, originated in 2003 by longtime board member Lynn Stoner, will feature talks by two historians, Roy Ziegler and Kevin Joy; a playwright, Susan Sandor; and the President and Executive Director of the new African American Museum of Bucks County, Linda Salley.

On April 5, Ziegler presents "Meet the Randolphs," a talk on Ziegler's recently released book, "Unflinching Trust," the story about the Fitz Randolph family.

They were the in-laws of the Parry family and descendants of Pilgrim Edward Fitz Randolph Jr., whose descendants helped build America over the past four centuries.

Ziegler is past president of the New Hope Historical Society and currently serves as a member of the board of directors. "Unflinching Trust" is his third book about early American history.

On April 12, Joy presents "The Chief Logan Weather Vane," a talk on the "Logan Indian" weather vane, which has stood watch over the Parry Mansion since 1990. Originally installed on the



ROY ZIEGLER



KEVIN JOY



SUSAN SANDOR



LINDA SALLEY

grounds of the Logan Inn in 1828, the sculpture has been an iconic figure representing the history of the Inn and New Hope. As stewards of this important resource, the Historical Society is in the process of restoring and conserving it with the assistance of the greater New Hope community.

Joy, executive vice president of the New Hope Historical Society, is a retired music business executive, past president of the Trent House Association in Trenton, N.J., and a historic preservation consultant and architectural historian.

On April 19, Sandor presents "Three monologue shorts from the pandemic."

After participating in classes at Bucks County Playhouse, Sandor formed Playmate Playwrights, a group of five local playwrights. She was a student at Master Playwriting Class with Janet Neipris at Cherry Lane Theater New York. She collaborated in a full-length play performed in Lambertville, N.J.,

and has written and produced plays staged in New Hope and Hopewell, N.J.

Classes in documentary playwriting with Emily Mann at McCarter Theater in Princeton led her to another group of documentary playwrights, Fly Eyes, whose two productions have been aired on Princeton TV this past year.

On April 26, Linda Salley presents "The Untold Stories of Bucks County." She will discuss the history and mission of Bucks County's newest cultural institution.

Salley, a founding member, is president and executive director of the new African-American Museum of Bucks County. She retired from the New York City Board of Education after a long career as an educator and administrator.

A member of First Baptist Church of Langhorne; she serves as church financial secretary, and a member of the church choir. An expert quilter, her work was recently displayed at the Mercer Museum.

The North Pennsmen seek male singers

The North Pennsmen invite guys who sing to join them on Zoom.

The group meets virtually each Tuesday at 7 p.m. Visit north-pennsmen.org for details. Click the link in the pop-up box, message the director, and then explore away.

The dedicated group of singers offers all of the fun, creativity and fellowship that a cappella can bring. In fact, they're developing a virtual concert, and want more singers to be a part of it. Live performances are on the horizon, and when that happens, they'll be ready.

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HAPPY EASTER

First Saturday aims to bring shoppers into downtown Quakertown

Melinda Rizzo

Across the nation Small Business Saturday has been around since 2010 as a Thanksgiving side to Black Friday and Cyber Monday. The national event aims to showcase shop local efforts and kick off the Christmas holiday season.

But in Quakertown, once a year isn't enough. So a small group of woman-owned businesses decided to create First Saturday monthly shopping days, with discounts and special promotions, to attract visitors and residents to spend local.

The goal is to offer First Saturday every month of the year. The initiative began in December.

"Our objective is to encourage people to come downtown and sup-



An Easter basket raffle will be offered by Jenn Bubba at Eco Chic Consignment Boutique for Quakertown's First Saturday shopping event April 3.

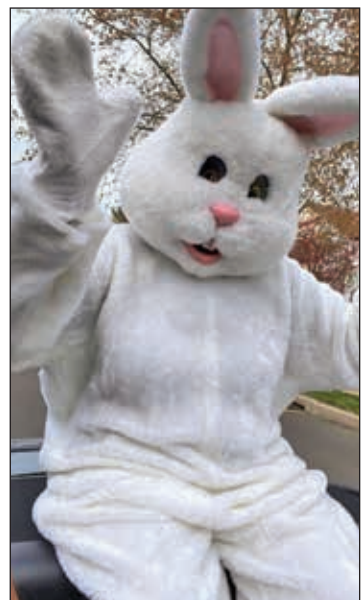
NBA brings Easter Bunny to Newtown

The Easter Bunny is coming to Newtown on Saturday, April 3.

The second annual Easter Bunny Cruise is sponsored by the Newtown Business Association and will bring the popular children's character to downtown Newtown Borough as well as some of the biggest residential communities in Newtown Township, where families can watch from the comfort and safety of their neighborhood.

The Easter Bunny will travel in style in the convertible "Bunny-Mobile" provided by The Payroll Factory. The Bunny Cruise begins at 10 a.m. and will be streamed live on the NBA Facebook page at facebook.com/NewtownBusinessAssociation, courtesy of Bridgetown Sound.

For details and to see the cruise route, go to NewtownBA.org. The event is co-sponsored by Solutions for Transition, LLC.



The Easter Bunny is set to visit Newtown.

port the community. Almost all of the people who own businesses in Quakertown live here, or very near here," said Jenn Bubba, owner of Eco Chic Consignment Boutique and informal First Saturday spokeswoman.

Just in time for Easter celebrations and gift-giving Quakertown's next First Saturday shopping day will be held April 3.

Bubba said First Saturdays offer discounts and promotions.

For Easter, shoppers can expect discounts, free items and other enticements aligned with the annual spring Christian holiday.

"Sometimes we do gift cards to each other, with additional promotions," Bubba said of other First Saturday ideas.

She is offering an Easter basket raffle that might include imported chocolates, a coffee mug and a local bottle of wine.

How it works: Promotions are announced on the group's Facebook page, 1stSaturdayQuakertown, prior to the First Saturday shopping day.

Each participating business offers a promotion from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bubba said. Businesses will cross market First Saturday promotions on

their websites and social media platforms.

Because the group does not have a dedicated website, it relies on its Facebook page, and Bubba recognizes Facebook listings might miss some potential shoppers.

While the initiative isn't limited to woman-owned businesses, Bubba said the idea first came together from about six of the downtown's 19 women business owners last December, and it grew.

She said Quakertown is a great walking town with reasonable business rents and a friendly, solid community.

"The women are easy to work with. Everybody steps in and steps up. We're respectful of each other's space, time and thoughts, and no idea is a bad idea," Bubba said.

A First Saturday sneak peak for April 3:

Complete Wellness Quakertown will offer "mini-versions of two to three services" which allows people

to sample reflexology, therapeutic and relaxation massage or its premiere full session without committing to a full session.

A 20-minute treatment costs \$25; available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and advance registration is highly recommended.

Retail Therapy offers local artists' creations and unique finds for self or gift-giving.

Joy Boutique will offer 15% discounts off all things Easter.

Willow & Grace will offer 15% discounts off table linens.

Always Beautiful, a floral and gift shop, is offering \$10 off a \$35 or more purchase of fresh flowers.

Eco Chic Consignment Boutique will enter a raffle ticket for a chance to win an Easter Basket with each purchase of \$20 or more from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"I think women business owners are attracted to the downtown, and I want to see the area grow," Bubba said.




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Cindy Woodall: Meandering with My Mutt

Late winter hike

The promise of spring is a whisper in the air. The day is balmy, the sun bestowing its radiance and warmth, but a brisk breeze serves as a reminder that it is March after all.

Jesse and I scramble from the car, eager to hike the trails at Frenchtown Preserve in Hunterdon County, N.J. I exclaim with delight when I see that the plastic bin attached to the information board has been replenished with trail maps (it doesn't take much to make me happy), a godsend for those of my ilk – the directionally impaired. The preserve encompasses 150 acres and, while the trails are color-coded and fairly well-marked, they can be a bit

convoluted; I have found myself going in circles on more than one occasion.

Islands of snow remain tucked away in places untouched by the rays of the sun; patches of tender young grass sprout in areas blessed by the sun. I search for other splashes of color against the somber late winter terrain: A few red berries of barberry and bittersweet that have yet to be gobbled up by the birds, mosses, Christmas ferns, and leathery mahogany leaves of the semi-evergreen honeysuckle vine entwined through shrub and cedar.

Jesse and I hike a wooded trail that opens up to fields that reveal a sweeping vista of the hills and

bluffs of Bucks County in the distance. Trekking the perimeter of a field, we play leap frog with a bluebird, our feathered friend jumping from tree to tree above, us skipping along below. This is the time of year when love quickens the hearts of birds, the bluebird being no exception. The male entices the female to his nest site by presenting her with bits of nesting materials, but after that it's up her to actually take on the home building. Both, however, are attentive parents, and the dad makes it up on the back end, usually taking over instruction of the fledglings as the female begins preparing for the next brood. The family will likely remain together through the

season.

High up in the bare branches of a tree I spy another bird flitting from branch to branch. Eager to identify the bird, I gaze upward, shifting my position with each of its movements in an attempt to get a better view. Jesse, who has been out in front, doubles back, standing by my side with a patient look, but after a bit he's itching to move on. Had he the power of speech, he might just be tapping his paw and enquiring, "So why are we standing here?"

Taking a circuitous route back, we follow along a trail that looks down upon the Nishisakwick Creek (can't say that one time fast, never mind three). Evidence

exists that the Lenni Lenape occupied this place, and it's easy to imagine them fishing in the stream and hunting in the woods and fields.

As Jesse and I approach the end of the trail, our path converges with that of several folks accompanied by their dogs. It's a doggy convention, and woofs of greeting are sent around. Watching the dogs frolic about, sniffing this and exploring that – doing what dogs love to do – I contemplate how beneficial it is for our canine buddies to have these opportunities to be outdoors and active, contributing to sound mind, body and spirit.

Cindy Woodall resides in Upper Black Eddy.



Tabby's Cat of the Week

Pluto is as dark and mysterious as his namesake. This handsome boy is about as big as a dwarf planet — he's not chunky, he's just a big cat. Pluto loves his personal space; he can get overstimulated if too much is going on. While he's okay with other cats, he can be a bit grouchy toward people. Pluto is learning behavior modifications, and he would do well in a quiet home where he can have space to himself and adopters who understand that he needs to be in charge of the attention that he receives. Pluto has many long, healthy years ahead. He just needs an adopter who will work with him on healthy interactions and boundaries. If you'd like to join Pluto's orbit, submit an online application. Tabby's Place staff will contact potential adopters to schedule a video meet-and-greet. Send questions about virtual adoptions to adoptions@tabbys-place.org.

4-H club collects goods for Pennridge FISH

Justin Lizana

Scales and Tails, a Bucks County 4-H reptile club, recently held a meeting at a local park.

The members collected goods as a community service for Pennridge FISH. Members enjoyed a presentation on quality animal management, which covered zoonotic diseases as related to reptiles, they learned the best practice ways for giving reptiles medication if sick, talked about safe traveling arrangements for a reptile and much more.

One member did a presentation on crested geckos and how the tail dropping process, why these reptiles drop their tails as well if it regrows. Members enjoyed the park and had fun playing group games.



A Scales and Tails member conducts a presentation on crested geckos.

Bagel shop brings community together through virtual benefit for ASPCA

In an effort to give back and bring people together amid the global pandemic, Manhattan Bagel of Chalfont, along with their marketing team at the ZAP Group, held their annual Super Bowl Sunday "Puppy Bowl."

The Puppy Bowl allowed community members to come together virtually, share their fuzzy friends enjoying an all natural beef doggie bagel (not for human consumption,) win prizes, and give to charity all-

in-one. Community members shared their pups with their special puppy bagels on Facebook and the dogs that received the most likes took home gift cards of \$100, \$50 and \$25.

Additionally, for every photo submitted, the bagel shop's owners, Don and Stephanie Bradley, donated to the ASPCA. Inspired by the good work of her clients, Rachel Schwartz, owner of the ZAP Group, has also donated.



Zoe enjoys a beef doggie bagel from Manhattan Bagel of Chalfont.

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Bucks County Heroes Scholarship Fund slates gala

The Bucks County Heroes Scholarship Fund provides full four-year scholarships for the post-high school education to the children of police officers, firefighters, corrections officers, rescue squads, and emergency service personnel who are killed or

permanently disabled in the line of duty.

In celebration of 30 years of scholarships and meeting its \$1 million goal, the non-profit will hold a gala from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. May 15 at the Spring Mill Manor, 171 Jacksonville

Road, Ivyland.

Event tickets are \$100 each or can be included in event sponsorship levels.

The event will feature an open bar, dinner, short program, music provided by a DJ, and a silent auction. All

attendees will receive a special gift in recognition of their support.

Every effort will be made to broadcast the gala via Zoom for those who cannot attend. The event is following all COVID-19 guidelines as laid out by the Bucks County Department of

Health.

Event sponsorship opportunities are available.

For information visit buckscountyheroes.com, call 215-340-8410 or email policetraining@buckscounty.org.

Police News

Buckingham

Buckingham Police are asking victims of thefts from cars to view the evidence recovered during a local law enforcement task force investigation to see if they can identify any of it.

The investigation resulted in the arrest earlier this month of Keith Johnson, for entering unlocked vehicles and garages in attempts to steal anything of value, police said. He is believed to have entered over 1,000 automobiles in Bucks and Montgomery counties, and New Jersey, between September 2019 and December 2020, they said.

Items removed from victims' vehicles included handbags, cash/coins, gift cards, credit cards, sunglasses, wallets, identification information, and a hand gun.

To view the stolen items, visit bucks.crimewatchpa.com/buckinghamtwppd. Go to the dropdown menu under the Crime tab. If you can identify a piece of evidence as stolen during one of the thefts from autos, contact Detective Johnson at tjohnson@buckinghampa.org or submit a tip on CrimeWatch.

Perkasie

Arrested: Rebecca E. Carper, March 16, on charges stemming from a July 31 incident.

Carper was charged by borough police with felony accidents involving death or personal injury while not properly licensed, reckless endangerment, and driving with a suspended license following a traffic accident during which the vehicle she was driving struck a pedestrian on South 9th Street, resulting in several injuries to the victim.

Following the investigation, a warrant was issued for Carper. After she failed to turn herself in to Perkasie Police on the warrant, assistance in locating Carper was rendered by the United States Marshals Service in Philadelphia.

U.S. Marshals took Carper into custody on March 16, in Montgomery County. Carper was arraigned by District Judge Lisa Gaier and transported to Bucks County Prison after failing to post \$150,000 bail.

Springfield

Charged: Carly P. Maclaughlin, of Perkasie, with driving under the

influence of alcohol or controlled substance - highest rate - and careless driving, subsequent to a Jan. 23 crash investigation on Old Bethlehem Pike near Cherry Road in Springfield Township.

Further investigation and analysis revealed Maclaughlin's blood alcohol concentration was 4.5 times the legal limit at the time of the crash, police said March 16.

Richland

Charged: Jerold Alan Horst, 66, of Pen Argyl, with driving under the influence and failure to drive within the lane following a single vehicle accident on California Road March 11.

Charged: Timothy James Strain, 43, of South Old Bethlehem Pike, with simple assault and harassment, March 12, after police responded to a domestic disturbance.

Warminster

Bank robbery: reported at approximately 11:45 a.m. March 20, at the Key Bank in the 200 block of Veterans Way. Upon arrival,

witness reported a white man, approximately 40 years old, wearing a blue bandanna, and dark jacket and pants stated it was a robbery and made threats of a gun. The man fled with an undermined amount of

cash. Anyone who can identify the man or has any information is asked to call the Warminster Police Detective division at 215-672-1000 or leave a tip on CrimeWatch.

Bucks DA'S office renews call for information in case of former New Hope-Solebury teacher

The Bucks County District Attorney's Office is renewing calls for victims in the case of a former New Hope-Solebury High School teacher who is accused of sexually abusing a female student in 2005.

Kevin A. Elvey II, 42, of Yardley, was charged in September 2019 on a first-degree misdemeanor count of corruption of minors and is currently awaiting trial in the case. Elvey has been suspended from the school since June 2019.

The abuse occurred during the spring of 2005 while the victim, then 17, was a senior at the high school, according to an affidavit of probable cause filed by Bucks County Detectives. The victim said the sexual acts took place at

Elvey's home on multiple occasions.

During a hearing Wednesday, March 17, 2021, the victim testified she came forward after hearing Elvey was continuing to have inappropriate contact with students. The District Attorney's Office believes additional victims could exist in this case and asks that anyone with information contact Bucks County Detective David Hanks at 215-348-6344.

"If you have been victimized by this man, we have the resources to help you," Bucks County District Attorney Matt Weintraub said. "Whether you were a victim or have information about other victims, please do not hesitate to call."

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Bucks County Children's Museum plans phased reopening

The Bucks County Children's Museum board of directors has unanimously voted to move forward with a phased reopening of The Bucks County Children's Museum beginning April 6.

In a letter to the Friends of the museum, Kelly Krumenacker, president and executive director, outlined those plans. The museum has been closed for a year because of the pandemic.

"In consultation with our pediatric advisors and local health officials, museum leadership

has crafted the reopening plan – Pathway to Play. This detailed document outlines a responsible reopening of the museum including new staff protocols, enhanced cleaning procedures, exhibit modifications, and the

guest pre-registration process."

The plan, which was provided in the email, will be updated as needed based upon the progress the community makes over the months ahead, the letter stated.

Phase I will begin on April 6, with the reopening of the museum to members only Tuesdays through Fridays. Members will be able to pre-register for timed admission blocks on these days. "Based upon the success of

Phase I, we hope to move into Phase II and open to the public Tuesdays through Sundays beginning in May, gradually reintroducing special event rentals and field trips," the letter added.

Williams Township Historical offers virtual program

Williams Township Historical Society offers its members and other viewers a virtual spring program on "A Parade of Pandemics: Dutch Therapies for Pandemics," a video featuring Ned Heindel as Der Hexemeister.

To access the program, visit youtu.be/k78iLREqHPY.

The society's 2021 Passport to History program will focus on the people and events of Stouts Valley and will meet outdoors in the township's new Stouts Valley park on

Aug. 15. WTHS is one of 36 Lehigh Valley partners in the Passport effort.

The WTHS publishing efforts have continued with the third edition of Ned Heindel's "Hexenkopf: History, Healing, and Hexerei," avail-

able for purchase with the society's other publications.

New members are always welcome. For membership at \$10 per year, and purchase of publications, contact Linda Heindel at LHH2@lehigh.edu or 610-253-8951.

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lawn, nothing should slow you down. Cut & Sewn Comfortable Seats + LED Lighting for Low Light Conditions. Z700 SERIES ~ WHEN YOU WANT EVERYTHING FROM A ZERO-TURN MOWER. Perfect your lawn with ease using our heavy-duty zero-turn mowers. With 23-25 horsepower* and three different High-capacity PRO mower decks, the Z700 mowers guarantee you spend less time working on your property and more time relaxing in it. Strong Welded Frame, Large Fuel Tank, Fast Speed, Commercial Grade Engine, High Capacity PRO Mower Decks, (available in 48", 54", 60") Roll-Over Protective Bar (folds down to

fit in storage shed), Integrated Park Brake, Canopy Available, Rear Bumper, String Trimmer Rack WE ARE RIGHT WITH YOU ~ CALL "LITTLE'S" YOUR JOHN DEERE DEALER! Committed turf experts dig into what you need. Factory-trained service and parts professionals ensure that your equipment keeps working as hard as you do. So, let's get to work, together. For More Information visit www.relittle.com or visit our showrooms in Silverdale, Hatboro or Zieglerville, Pa.

Submitted by Robert E. Little Inc.



Run with Us ~ See the "Z track" series of Zero Turn Mowers (Z300, Z500, and Z700 Series)R



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Bucks County Furniture Restoration New life for your furniture



Furniture, especially well-built furniture, is meant to stand the test of time. Not only is it beautiful, often offering expertly-interlocking, hand-carved wood, custom stitching, and artistic accents, but it serves a purpose in your home. Furniture provides rest when you need it, conversation with friends and a space to create what you love.

Why would you give that all up because its exterior looks a little worn?

At Bucks County Furniture Restoration, we provide a better alternative. Our local, family-owned company serves all the repair, restoration and furniture revitalization needs for our customers in Bucks, Montgomery and Hunterdon counties. Our professionals work with all types of furniture pieces to give them a new look, new life and the former place

that they held in your home.

Bucks County Furniture Restoration uses a mix of time-honored refinishing methods and the most modern technology to provide you with services our competitors can't match. We have experience and expertise in: stripping, reupholstery, glass bending, marble and metal polishing, furniture repair and finishing, refinishing, lamp and seat repair, conversions and knife sharpening.

We invite you to visit our showroom and take advantage of more than 30 years of professional experience and see our difference for yourself. Using our outstanding attention to detail, we can work with both new and antique items to give them a country feel that you will love.

Submitted by Bucks County Furniture Restoration

Just listed in Solebury, a majestic residence with a very special offer for the buyer

Tucked away in the desirable Rockwood enclave, one of Solebury Township's best-kept secrets for luxe living, this very special residence comes with a delightful bonus for the buyer: a \$100,000 credit for the design and installation of a swimming pool, or for the purchaser to use at their discretion, with an acceptable agreement of sale by May 1, 2021.

Set on 4.2 acres, a perfect size for those who wish to enjoy a bit of gardening or a pool/spa area, this Zaveta-built home is designed for maximum natural light with high ceilings and an abundance of windows with views to the grounds. Two sets of French doors lead to existing patio spaces. Cherry floors, a chef's kitchen with Wolf and Sub-Zero, an elevator and many special touches throughout – extensive mill-work, special fireplace surrounds, a finished daylight walk-out, lower level with full bath, sauna, media room and kitchen – this is an appealing option for buyers moving into or moving up in Bucks County.

For more information or to schedule a showing, please contact listing agent Lisa Frushone of Kurfiss Sotheby's International Realty, lfrushone@kurfiss.com or 908-413-0156. Or visit lisafrushone.kurfiss.com.

Submitted by Kurfiss Real Estate



A timeless French Normandy design at this Rockwood home in Solebury creates a light-filled interior. Built in 2007, it showcases quality finishes throughout.



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¹Offer valid on qualifying purchases made between 02 February 2021 to 31 March 2021. Subject to approved installment credit with John Deere Financial, for consumer or commercial use only. Down payment may be required. Average down payment is 10%. \$229 monthly payment based on Sales Price of \$15,008 for a new John Deere 3025E Compact Utility Tractor, \$5,306 for a John Deere 300E factory-installed loader and \$897 for a Frontier RB2072 Rear Blade with \$2,121 down payment or trade-in, 84 months at 0% APR. Additional implements, attachments, taxes, freight, setup and delivery charges could increase monthly payment. Available at participating U.S. dealers. Prices and models may vary by dealer. Offer available on new equipment and in the U.S. only. Prices and savings in U.S. dollars.
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High demand for homes continues according to realtor report

“As we prepare for the traditional spring real estate market, the current data and activity indicates an active spring market,” remarks Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices (BHHS) Fox & Roach President Joan Docktor. According to BHHS Fox & Roach’s February HomExpert report, the number of homes sold have increased compared to this time last year.

“The average sale price has increased because of the continued high demand and the lack of homes for sale, and homes for sale are continuing to move quickly. In this fast paced market, we are confident that the number of homes under contract will increase as well,” Docktor adds.

The number of properties sold overall in February 2021 in the 12-county Greater Philadelphia region was up 5.5 percent from this time last year, according to the HomExpert report. There were 5,503 homes sold in February 2021 compared to 5,216 sold in February 2020.

The number of homes for sale overall in the same region is down by 37.4 percent, with 17,573 homes on the market in February 2021 compared to 28,059 for sale in February 2020.

The average days a house stayed on the market overall in the region has decreased by 41.9 percent compared to February 2020, with 36 average days on market currently

and 62 average days on market in February 2020.

The average sale price in the region is up by 12.4 percent compared to February 2020, from \$281,529 to \$316,534 in February 2021.

The number of properties under contract overall in the region is slightly down by 3.3 percent, with 6,901 homes under contract now compared to 7,139 homes under contract in February 2020.



BHHS Fox & Roach President
Joan Docktor.

Derek Jeter lowers price on family castle

It’s more unique than almost anything else on the real estate market today and expansive enough for family, extended family, teammates and favorite friends.

Retired New York Yankees star and first-ballot MLB Hall of Famer, Derek Jeter, has dropped the price on his castle-like resort home on Greenwood Lake in New York by \$2 million. Previously listed in 2018 at \$14.75 million, it is now back on the market at \$12.75 million.

Known locally as “The Castle” and originally built in 1903 by New York Doctor Rudolph Gudewill for his wife, the estate is actually two castles – the master castle with a connected tower and a guest castle. After Gudewill died, John and Julia Tiedemann bought the castle, where they lived with their 13 children including an adopted son, William Connors. Connors was later

to become Jeter’s maternal grandfather.

Jeter spent many of his childhood summers at the castle swimming, playing sports and chores. The Tiedemanns sold the estate in 1996, but when it came back on the market in 2002, Jeter bought it and began a long and expensive restoration.

Greenwood Lake, where the borders of New Jersey and New York join and just 50 miles from New York City, has been a popular tourist destination since the late 1800s attracting wealthy vacationers and celebrities such as Greta Garbo and Babe Ruth. Ruth had a home in Greenwood and spent his free time speeding around the lake in his boat and stopping at Maplewood Inn for a drink or two or three.

Always known as a place to spot celebrities, the lake has attracted its share of New York Yankee players and fans. The

seven-mile lake, restaurants and rural atmosphere attract frequent weekend visitors from New York City, New Jersey and Philadelphia.

Encompassing 12,590 square feet of living space between the main and guest castles, the Jeter compound includes four indoor kitchens, one outside kitchen and an extra-large, infinity-edged pool. Living areas include six bedrooms, seven full and five half baths, great room, four kitchens, multiple stone fireplaces including one on the terrace, dens, game room, sunroom, formal dining room, office, gym and family room with a bar.

The turret opens out to a widow’s walk, which is duplicated on the guest house, providing beautiful lake and wood views. There are extensive gardens, a Statue of Liberty replica and a four-car garage. Even

with a large number of guests, there is always a quiet place to spend some alone time.

With his busy schedule as part owner and CEO of the Miami Marlins, Derek oversees the day-to-day operations of the team that surprised most baseball experts by making the MLB playoffs in 2020 and then knocked out the Chicago Cubs in the first round.

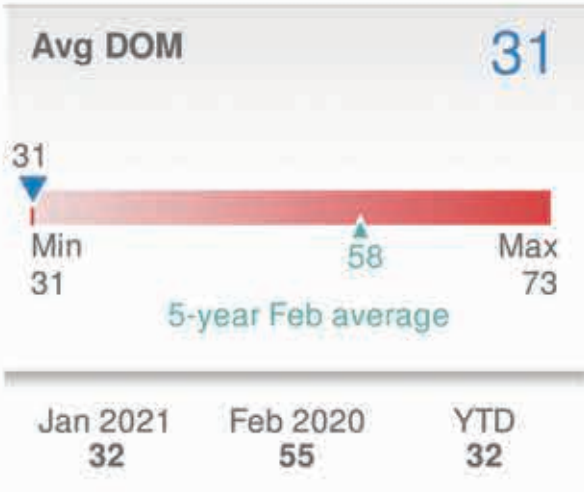
Jeter also manages a plethora of other business interests and since his marriage to model Hannah Davis in 2016, is also a family man helping to raise their two young children. Unable to spend time in his castle on the lake, it makes sense to pass it on to a family who will enjoy it as much as his own family has over the years.

The listing agent is Mary Lovera with Wright Real Estate, Nyack, New York.



Local Market Insight: Bucks County, Pa.

February 2021



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Our team consists of top-quality members who truly enjoy and care about their work. They take pride in each job, are respectful to homeowners, other contractors, and anyone else they come into contact with. The tradesmen on staff keep their work area organized throughout the building process so their job is done efficiently and correctly.

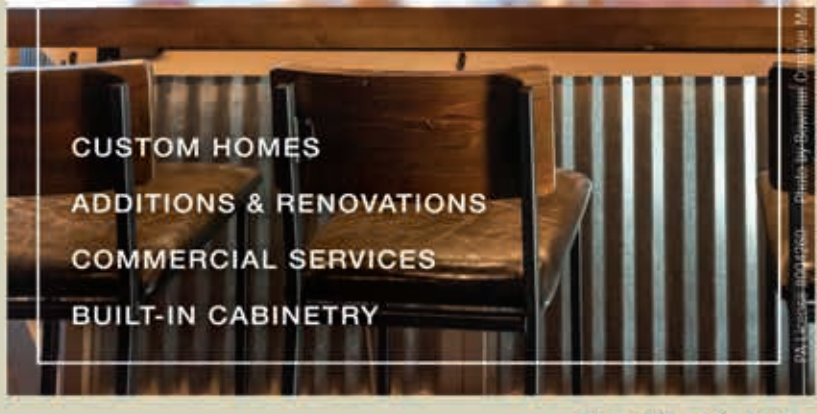
Whether your project is large or small, located in a town, city or rural area, or you need customized service, J.R. Maxwell Builders is up to the task. Our attention to detail doesn't stop when the building is done. We are always available to go over any details about your job, even after construction. J.R. Maxwell is a family-run custom building company, winner of multiple home building accolades, and our quality work cannot be matched.

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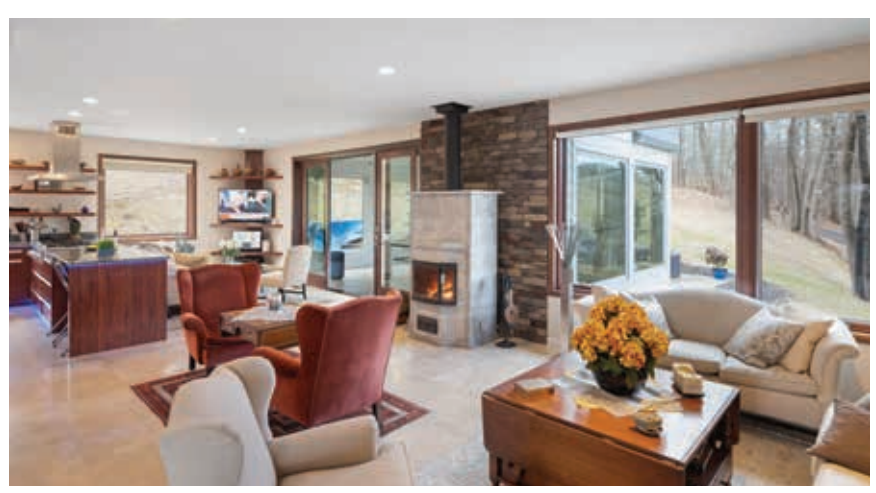
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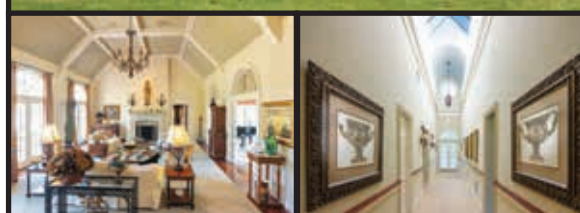


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- Thomas Jefferson



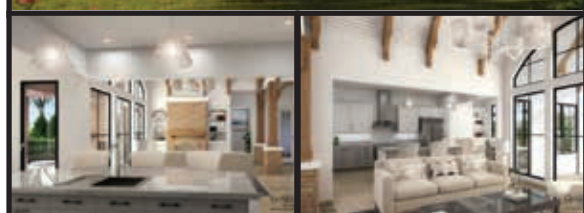
BIRDWELL \$998,000

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.



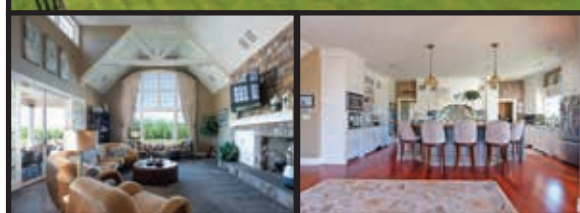
AUTUMN TRACE \$2,499,000

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



SOPHISTICATED COUNTRY \$1,875,000

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



STONE BRIDGE FARMS \$3,450,000

This custom home is situated on 60+ private acres in Bedminster Twp. A long paved driveway leads to this estate; perfectly positioned to enjoy 360 degrees breathtaking long distance views of rolling hills and fields. Daniela DeLuca 267.614.4345



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 CROSSING \$1,175,000

Beautiful 4BR, 4.5 bath estate home, approximately 6550 finished square feet on a 1.36 acre manicured lot just a few minutes outside of New Hope Borough and equidistant to NYC and Phila. Jay Ginsberg 215.431.1199



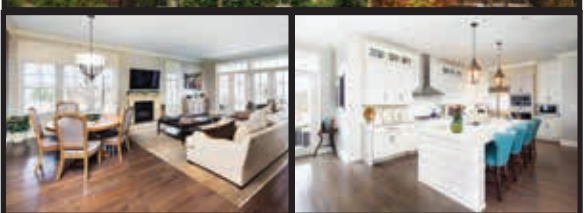
HESSIAN WATERS \$495,000

This rare 13 acre building parcel is a hidden gem. The parcel has it's own private entry bridge that traverses the Lockatong Creek. The property has a well, underground electric and septic permit. Kingwood Twp, NJ. Sharon Pratt 215.820.6301



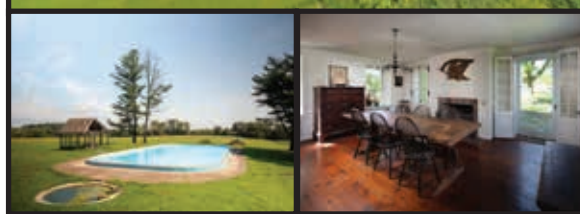
ANDERSON ACRES \$770,000

First time available since 1941. 22 acres of level farmland in the center of Buckingham township. Possible Sub-division. Check zoning for all possible uses. Can be sold with additional 49 acres. Jennifer Cecilian 908.963.6293



THE RESIDENCES AT RABBIT RUN \$1,695,000

Walk to town and don't worry about parking. Includes high-end kitchen including Wolf appliances, custom closet built-ins, storage, custom cabinetry, private electronic elevator, stone patios, and a full house gas generator. Nick Esser 646.745.5460



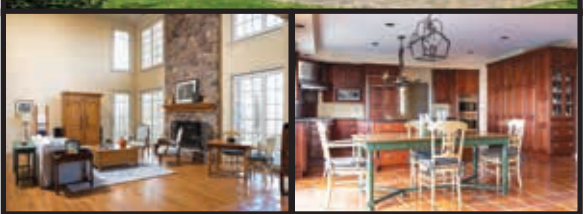
THE DUANE HOMESTEAD \$1,795,000

Sited at an elevated location amidst 67 fertile farmland acres. The Bedminster countryside moves in all directions and the open land provides ample opportunity for agrarian pursuits and/or a serious equestrian facility. Greg Dwornikowski 215.534.7347



CANAL-SIDE COLONIAL \$699,900

New construction opportunity in Palisades school district. Sited on a canal front, 2 acre lot in the quaint borough of Riegelsville. Walking distance to restaurants, and the Delaware river. Call for details and floor plans. Megan Waits 215.264.9144



HILLTOP ACRES \$1,500,000

Custom built 7,000 plus square foot home sited on 5.08 hilltop acres. This sprawling estate boasts 5+ bedrooms, five full baths and one half bath. Four wood burning fireplaces are strategically arranged throughout the home. Laurie Madaus 203.948.5157

For additional information or a private tour contact the listing agent directly
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