

LANGHORNE LEDGER

O'ROURKE MEDIA GROUP

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State Champs!

The Langhorne Spiders proudly display their championship trophy. Winning team members are (top row, from left): Coach Fran Costello, Grace Miraski, Emersen Akright, Nicole Trespalacios, Lauren Smith, and Coach Jason Trespalacios, and (bottom row, from left): Isla Diviny, Tori Smith, and Haley Costello. See story on page 2.

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Check out the Camps & Education Section inside!



**SPRING
HOME &
GARDEN 2**
EDITION

Langhorne Spiders win Inter-County Basketball Association's Pennsylvania State Championship

By Maryanna Savage Phinn

Congratulations to the Langhorne Spiders 8th grade girls travel basketball team for winning the Inter-County Basketball Association (ICBA) state championship in mid-March. Langhorne's hometown heroes beat the Bustleton Bengals of Northeast Philadelphia in a dramatic win in overtime by one point. The final score was 41-40. The tournament was held at Penn State University in State College.

The Langhorne Spiders are part of the Langhorne Athletic Association (LAA) and compete in the ICBA. The seventh annual invitational tournament featured approximately 350 teams of middle school-aged students from fourth through eighth grades that qualify for the tournament throughout Pennsylvania. The eight-member Langhorne Spiders team won the 8th grade division which included 14 teams. They beat multiple teams from various parts of the state to reach the championship.

“This year we had a really good season,” noted team coach Jason Trespalacios of Langhorne, who has coached the team since they were in third grade. The state championship was the final time Jason coached the team in the ICBA as the eighth graders will move on to high school next year. The team only lost two games during the regular season which begins in November and runs through March.

“This year we actually beat the team that beat us three years ago in the championship. This is the first time the

Langhorne Athletic Association has ever won it," Jason said. The Langhorne Spiders are also coached by Mark Hoyas and Fran Costello, both of Langhorne. The team roster includes: Nicole Trespalacios of Langhorne, Grace Miraski of Langhorne, Isla Diviny of Langhorne, Falyon Savage of Bensalem, Emersen Akright of Newtown, Haley Costello of Langhorne, Lauren Smith of Newtown and Tori Smith of Newtown.

"We played some really good teams out there. We played a Pittsburgh team that we actually beat when we were in fifth grade, but we lost to the year before in the states," Jason said. "So, we really had to go through the gauntlet of some really good teams while we were out there. And, we ended up coming away with a great championship game."

During the regular season, the team plays travel teams from all over Bucks, Delaware and Montgomery counties and surrounding areas. Most of the girls on the team have played competitively for their schools, such as Maple Point Middle School in Langhorne or St. Andrew Catholic School in Newtown or in spring or summer basketball leagues such as AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) or CYO (Catholic Youth Organization.)

"Every girl on this team will more than likely play high school basketball next year. They are a pretty solid group of girls," Jason noted, adding that the ICBA teams in the Philadelphia area are always highly competitive versus other teams throughout the state.

"For the final four teams in the state championship, three were from the ICBA Philadelphia division, and one team was from Pittsburgh. There are good competitive teams in Bucks, Delco, and the surrounding Philadelphia areas."

The Langhorne Spiders played teams from Cumberland Valley, South Fayette, Huntingdon Valley and Bustleton.

‘We beat Cumberland Valley in the first game. Then we beat South Fayette. Next we beat Huntingdon Valley, and then Bustleton. We were down by 10 in the last three games. In all three games, we came back when we were down by at least 10. Then the girls kept fighting and plugging away. All of our last three games were close against the Pittsburgh team, the South Fayette team, and Huntingdon Valley then Bustleton team.”

Jason recounted the last few seconds of the game: “The way it ended, we were down by two points with 1.5 seconds left, and we had the ball on the sideline. We ran an inbound play and my daughter, Nicole Trespalacios, caught it and shot a three pointer; it missed, and she got fouled. So there was no time left on the clock. She had three foul shots and we were down two. She made the first, then she made the second, but she missed the third. Then we went into overtime. In overtime, it only took one foul shot because the teams were playing very well defensively. One of our girls, Haley Costello got fouled, but she made one of two free throws and we played defense for the next seven

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light**

WTB Woodworking

*New product lines,
Giveaway and
Festool Fridays!*

We are excited to announce some additional new product lines that we are now carrying at the store - Daniel Dunlap Woodworks, Kreg, Mafell, Wagner Meters, and Whiteside Router Bits. Be sure to come in on a regular basis as we continue to expand our offerings.

Our newest giveaway features a Mag-switch package valued at \$1,029.82!

Magswitch is a brand of woodworking tools and products that use magnetic technology to make woodworking projects safer, easier, and faster. Magswitch's pat-



ented technology uses switchable magnets that can be turned on and off to attach jigs and fixtures to metal surfaces.

Magswitch products can be used on a variety of power tools and machines, including table saws, router tables, joiners, planers, band saws, and shapers.

You can register at wtbwoodworking.com.

com/giveaway now through June 20. The winner will be pulled at 10 am EST live on Instagram!

Interested in learning more about the Festool line of power tools and accessories? Join for Festool Watch Parties every Friday from 11:45 am–12:45 pm to view Sedge and Festool team on YouTube. Hotdogs will be served! It's a great time to learn something new and exchange ideas with fellow woodworkers.

Not sure what to buy for Father's Day?
eGift Cards are available for purchase
online and physical gift cards available
in-store!

WTB Woodworking is located at 390 Pike Road, Unit 2 in Huntingdon Valley. For more information, call 215-768-1117 or visit www.WTBWoodworking.com.

Annual Memorial Day Ceremonies and Parade

Jesse W. Soby Post #148, of the American Legion will be holding its 106th annual Memorial Day Ceremonies and Parade on Monday, May 26. The ceremony will begin at 9 am on the lawn of the Post Home at 115 W. Richardson Ave., with the parade commencing through the streets of Langhorne

immediately afterward.

Musical guests will include the Avalon String Band, the Tri-County Band, the Avenue Brass, the Ceol Naemh Pipe Band, and the Goodwin Combo String Band.

There will be complimentary hot dogs and beverages served at the Post Home immediately following the parade, and all

are welcome.

If you would like to contribute to help with the parade, please send your donation to Jesse W. Soby Post #148, 115 W. Richardson Avenue, Langhorne, PA 19047.

We also need convertibles to transport veterans and dignitaries in the parade, so if you have a convertible, or

know someone who does, and would like to volunteer your car for use in the parade, please contact Walt Davidson, at the number below.

Any group interested in marching in the parade should contact Walt Davidson at 267-463-3357 or send an email to wjddavidson2@msn.com.



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Flowers by Jennie Lynne

Owner and designers at Flowers by Jennie Lynne recognized for excellence in floral design

Flowers by Jennie Lynne continues to bloom with success as owner and floral designer Heather Towne AIFD recently received the prestigious honor of being selected for the 24-member design team for the First Lady's Luncheon in Washington, D.C. This highly anticipated annual event, now in its 112th year, is hosted by the 117-year-old bipartisan Congressional Club, which fosters friendship through service. Heather's involvement highlights her remarkable talent and dedication to the floral industry.

Designers were selected through Certified American Grown, an organization

dedicated to promoting U.S.-grown flowers and foliage. Every bloom used in the event was donated by flower farms across all 50 states, making it a true reflection of national beauty and collaboration. A proud advocate of supporting local and American growers, Heather designed with Certified American Grown Flowers for the luncheon, emphasizing her commitment to sustainability and homegrown beauty, bringing national recognition to Flowers by Jennie Lynne.

The accolades don't stop there. Two of the shop's talented designers, Linda Bogarde and Lisa McDermott, have recently achieved CFD

(Certified Floral Designer) status, a significant milestone in the floral design profession. This certification, awarded by the American Institute of Floral Designers (AIFD), recognizes their technical skills, creativity, and professionalism.

The dedication of Heather, Linda, and Lisa exemplifies the high standards Flowers by Jennie Lynne maintains. Their collective achievements showcase the shop's commitment to ongoing education, excellence in design, and leadership in the floral

community.

From stunning arrangements to national recognition, Flowers by Jennie Lynne continues to grow not only beautiful blooms, but also a team of outstanding designers. Whether creating pieces for local events or national celebrations, their work is rooted in passion, skill, and a deep love for flowers.



Tucker Chiropractic Center hosting free workshop

The Tucker Chiropractic and Wellness Center, located at 402 Middletown Blvd, Suite 210 in Langhorne, hosts a free virtual trigger point workshop.

Online attendees will learn how to apply these techniques in the comfort of their own home.

Have a partner ready if you'd like, as this application is interactive. According to Dr. Tucker, the trigger point technique is great for achy joints and muscles.

Visit the link:

continued on pg. 5

spot
light

Franklin Investment Realty: The Scannapieco Team

Spring update

The local real estate market continues to perform at an impressive pace. With limited inventory and sustained buyer demand, home values are still on the rise. If you're considering selling, now is an opportune time to get started.

One of the primary drivers behind this robust market is our exceptional school districts—an important factor for many buyers currently planning for the next academic year. Our team understands the intricacies of timing, pricing, and positioning, and we consistently deliver top-dollar results for our clients. With the right strategy and resources in place, we are proud to have achieved record-breaking sales for those we represent.

At the core of our service is a commitment to seeing the bigger picture—ensuring peace of mind and a smooth, rewarding experience from start to finish. Buying or selling a home can be complex, but with over 30 years of brokerage experience, we are fully equipped to navigate every detail with expertise and care. As a family-owned business, we offer a personal touch that sets us apart while delivering industry-leading results.

Our dedication to clients goes beyond the transaction itself. We're here before, during,



Current Holland listing under contract WAY ABOVE the highest neighborhood sale after 92 scheduled tours.

and long after the sale to serve as your trusted real estate resource. Whether you're buying, selling, renting, or investing, we bring the perfect combination of availability, knowledge, energy, and proven success.

In 2024 alone, our team surpassed \$22 million in transaction volume—a testament to the results we deliver and the trust our clients place in us.

If you're looking to buy, sell, or rent in Bucks County or the surrounding areas, we'd be honored to guide you. Contact us today at 215-398-6998 to start the conversation.

Tucker Chiropractic

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www.DrDavidTucker.com/TriggerPointWorkshop.

Anyone with further questions should call 215-750-8006 to register for a free consultation.

The Center is located right behind the United Artists Movie Theater in Penns Square, at Oxford Valley Mall. Plenty of free parking is available.

Directions can be found on the website, www.DrDavidTucker.com.

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RD's Total Lawn

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When it comes to supporting a local family business, look no further than RD's Total Lawn.

Growing up Lindsay graduated from Neshaminy High School and Ryan from Bucks County Technical High School. Initially Ryan started the family business just mowing a handful of lawns on the side so his wife could take an extended maternity leave with their second child. Over the years, the company has been blessed with awesome customers and employees. Lindsay is now at home with the three kids. The family lives and operates the business right out of Langhorne.

You don't have to do much research to see what customers

are saying about this company and what sets them apart. They have hundreds of glowing reviews online reflecting their honesty and professionalism and an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau

When it comes to services RD's Total Lawn prefers to do a short list of services and do them very well instead of offering a long list of items, but not deliver strong results on each one. Communication is the foundation of the way they go to business. From the time you first reach out until the job gets completed, RD's Total Lawn strives to keep constant communication with customers.

Services Offered:

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The Dittes Family

annually which includes fertilizer, weed control, insect, and lime application for a healthy and green lawn!

Lawn Mowing: Weekly lawn service which includes trimming, edging, and blowing off property.

Mulch Installs: Annual cleanup of beds and install of

fresh mulch.

The family appreciates your business and support! They encourage you to check out their reputation online and would love the opportunity to work with you!

Call RD's at 215-688-1622 or visit them on the web at www.RDTotalLawn.com

Langhorne Memorial Day

Homeless Veteran Parade Collection Monday May 26

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit #148 will be working in conjunction with local homeless veterans groups this year. We would like to support their mission to

honor homeless Veterans.

Donations may be dropped in a bin outside Jesse W. Soby American Legion Post 148, 115 West Richardson Ave. in Langhorne May 20 to 30.

There will be no collection truck in the parade.

Seeking donations of full-size personal care items; shampoo, deodorant, soap, toothpaste, as well as adult hats and gloves, hand warmers, socks, small hand sanitizers, combs, razors, small pocket packs of tissues, and throw blankets size 50X60.

American Chimney

Spring cleaning: Make sure to include your chimney!

There are many benefits to tackling a top-to-bottom house-cleaning project, but what good does it do to clean the entire house and fail to get the chimney and fireplace cleaned?

As a major focal point in any room, a fireplace can be a pleasure in any season, or it can be an eyesore.

Just in case you've never

been sold on the idea of spring cleaning, consider this: Life can feel less stressful when your home environment is clean and clutter-free. Feeling less stress can mean better health.

Anytime you use your fireplace, some amount of creosote is deposited in your chimney flue.

When it gets hot outside,



particularly if moisture has made its way into your chimney, the deposits in the liner can emit a sour odor, which makes its way into your home's interior. Your home will smell fresher when you have a clean fireplace and chimney.

There could be damage to your chimney or flue liner. All moisture damage should be repaired quickly and efficiently, to cut down on the cost of repairs and the extent of resulting deterioration.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends

an annual cleaning of your chimney.

By scheduling your chimney cleaning and inspection in warm seasons, you beat the typical fall and winter rush.

When you hire American Chimney, you will have a licensed, reputable chimney sweep to clean your chimney and fireplace.

Include your chimney as part of your spring cleaning and book your chimney inspection and cleaning today! Call us at 215-364-0881 or visit www.americanchimney.net.

2025 Poppy Girls



Walt Davidson, Post Commander, sits between Miss Poppy 2025 (left) and Little Miss Poppy 2025.

Jesse W. Soby American Legion Auxiliary Unit #148 of Langhorne will crown the 2025 Poppy Girls at the ceremony prior to the Langhorne Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 26.

Miss Poppy 2025 is Leona Stout who is eight years old and a 2nd grade student at Hola School in Hoboken, NJ.

Little Miss Poppy 2025 is June Stout who is a four-year-old preschooler.

June and Leona are the daughters of Gary and Jill Stout of Hoboken, NJ. They are eligible for junior membership in the American Legion Auxiliary under the service of their grandfather, William (Bill) Stout of Langhorne.

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Spring into comfort: Your AC maintenance checklist for a healthier home

As spring arrives in full bloom and the days get warmer, now is the ideal time to prepare your HVAC system for the season ahead. At ECI Comfort, we know that early spring maintenance not only improves comfort and air quality but also

helps you avoid unexpected breakdowns when summer hits. Here's your go-to checklist to freshen up your HVAC system and breathe easier all season long:

Clean or Replace Air Filters

Clogged or dirty filters restrict airflow and reduce your system's efficiency. Replace disposable filters or gently rinse and dry reusable ones. This simple step helps trap dust, pollen, and other allergens—keeping your indoor air cleaner and healthier.



Schedule a Professional Tune-Up

Spring is the best time to schedule your annual HVAC

maintenance. Our certified technicians will inspect your system, check refrigerant levels, test components, and catch any small issues before they become costly repairs. Regular maintenance keeps your AC running efficiently and extends its life.

Reprogram Your Thermostat

Optimize energy use by setting temperatures higher when you're away and cooler when you're home. If you haven't already, consider upgrading to a smart thermostat for automated energy savings and comfort control from anywhere.

Boost Indoor Air Quality (IAQ)

Spring allergies are no joke—so it's a great time to enhance the air you breathe indoors. Invest in a high-quality air purifier or add indoor plants like Peace Lilies or Spider Plants that naturally clean the air. And don't forget regular cleaning to reduce dust and allergens.

Ready to Breathe Easier and Stay Cool?

Call ECI Comfort today to schedule your spring HVAC maintenance & learn more about ways to improve your IAQ. Our team is here to help you enjoy a worry-free, energy-efficient cooling season.

Call us at 267-227-0995 or visit www.ecicomfort.com/schedule-ac-tuneup-2025 to get started.

Happy Spring from all of us at ECI Comfort!

Plant sale

continued from pg. 8
hand during the sale to answer your home gardening questions.

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Please note: No dogs are allowed. This event will be held rain or shine. Shoppers are encouraged to bring wagons or carts for easy carrying. The sale will accept cash, checks, and credit cards. For more information, call 267-483-2020.



2024 plant sale. Photo courtesy of Kathleen Kimbel, Penn State Master Gardener, Bucks County.

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As Rosenello's Windows, Siding and Roofing celebrates 40 years in business, the company continues to lead the way in exterior home improvements throughout the region. Known for top-tier service and lasting results, Rosenello's is proud to spotlight one of the most transformative services they offer: siding replacement.

While many know Rosenello's for their expert window installations, siding has become one of the most impactful ways the team helps homeowners refresh and protect their homes. Offering a wide range of high-performance siding options—from classic vinyl to beautiful cedar impressions—Rosenello's combines curb appeal with long-term durability.



ity. Their experienced installers ensure every panel is placed with precision, enhancing energy efficiency, moisture protection, and the overall value of the home.

"Siding is more than just an exterior finish," says the Rosenello's team. "It's your home's first defense against the elements, and one of the biggest ways to boost its appearance." Whether it's a full-home replacement or a customized update, Rosenello's works with each client to find

the perfect style and material for their needs and budget.

Although windows may be what brought many homeowners through their doors, and roofing is how it all began, siding has become a standout service that perfectly reflects the company's dedication to quality, innovation, and customer satisfaction.

After 40 years, Rosenello's remains a family-run business built on strong values, skilled craftsmanship, and a genuine passion for improving homes

across the community.

For more information, call 215-244-3993 or visit rosenelloswindows.com.

Sauers Cares evolves into Drive and Thrive:

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Sauers Cares, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of individuals and families in need, is proud to announce its transition to Drive and Thrive. This new name reflects the organization's sharpened focus on addressing transportation barriers that impact self-sufficiency and quality of life.

Since its founding in 2019, Sauers Cares has been committed to identifying and fulfilling the needs of local nonprofits and community members. By leveraging partnerships, resources, and volunteer

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spot light

Joe McIlvaine Tree & Lawn

The spring season is a crucial time for rejuvenation and growth. As an arborist I am excited to share some essential spring tree care tips to ensure the health and vitality of your landscape.

Pruning with Precision: Begin the season by inspecting your trees for dead or damaged branches. Pruning during spring promotes healthy growth and enhances the tree's overall structure. However, it is essential to prune with precision, as improper cuts can lead to disease or pest infestations.

Mulching Matters: Applying a layer of organic mulch around the base of your trees helps retain moisture, suppress weeds, and regulate soil temperature. Be sure to keep the mulch away from the trunk to prevent rot and promote aeration. A well-mulched tree is better equipped to withstand the challenges of the upcoming summer months.

Fertilize Thoughtfully: Assess your trees'



Be sure to use proper mulching techniques to keep your trees healthy.

nutritional needs and consider a balanced fertilizer to provide essential nutrients. Spring is an opportune time to replenish soil fertility, supporting robust growth and development. Consulting with a local arborist can help determine the specific requirements for your tree species.

Check for Pests and Diseases: Inspect your trees for any signs of infestation, such as unusual spots on leaves or the presence of pests. Timely intervention can prevent the spread of diseases and protect the overall health of your trees.

Water Wisely: Adequate hydration is crucial for trees during the growing season. Monitor soil moisture levels and water accordingly, especially during dry spells. Proper watering ensures that your trees can absorb nutrients efficiently and thrive in the spring sunshine.

These spring tree care tips can contribute to the well-being and longevity of your trees. A healthy tree canopy enhances the beauty of your surroundings while offering numerous environmental benefits for generations to come.

If you have any concerns or would like a quote for tree and landscape maintenance call 215-322-8394 or visit us online at mcilvainetree.com.

Fireplace Shop

continued from pg. 15

ready to rest through summer or serve as a gathering spot for cool spring nights.

Inside the showroom, customers can browse new outdoor fire features, perfect for backyard get-togethers. The gentle hiss of gas logs and scent of cedar samples fill the air, reminding everyone that a fireplace wasn't just for winter.

Newtown Fireplace Shop has become more than a service

provider—it is a seasonal partner, helping locals protect and enjoy their fireplaces year-round. And as tulips bloom and birds sing above, the hearths of Newtown stand clean, safe, and ready for whatever comes next.

For more information about Newtown Fireplace Shop, located at 434 Penn St. in Newtown, visit newtownfireplaceshop.com or call 215-968-3981.



Bucks IU Fab Lab invites partners to expand STEAM education programs and inspire future innovators

STEAM education—blending Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math—ignites curiosity and prepares students for the future. The Bucks County Intermediate Unit (Bucks IU) Fab Lab recently invited Corporate Partners to its Warminster-based Center to experience firsthand how their support is fueling growth in STEAM education. In today's fast-paced world, these STEAM disciplines are fundamental

in helping children and youth develop critical thinking skills, solve real-world challenges, and make informed decisions.

This recent networking event marked the launch of the Fab Lab Corporate Partners Program, which creates opportunities for companies to invest directly in the Fab Lab and its programs.

Dr. Lindsey Rutherford Sides, Bucks IU Supervisor of STEAM disciplines are fundamental

continued on pg. 29

spot light

Newtown Fireplace Shop

As spring sunlight warms the town of Newtown and the last patches of snow have melted into memory, homeowners should now turn their attention from cozy fires to fresh air and blooming gardens. But

at Newtown Fireplace Shop, spring means something else entirely—it is time for fireplace maintenance.

For the dedicated team, this is the season to service what kept Newtown and the sur-

rounding area warm all winter. Gas and wood-burning fireplaces need cleaning, inspection, and tune-ups. Chimneys require sweeping after months of steady use. Even outdoor fireplaces, now ready to roar again for spring evenings, need a touch of expert care.

The shop's lead technician knows the importance of off-season upkeep. "Spring's

the best time to get ahead," he'd tell customers as he rolled up to their homes. "Fix it now, and you won't be scrambling when the cold comes back."

From cracked chimney caps to soot buildup and worn seals, no detail is too small. The shop's vans crisscross the town, ensuring every fireplace and chimney are in top shape—

continued on pg. 15

Langhorne Spiders

continued from pg. 2 seconds. Then, we ended up winning 41 to 40 in overtime. That's the way it ended."

The Langhorne Spiders received a championship trophy after the game and each team member and the coaches received a faux-diamond encrusted championship ring. They were also honored by the

Middletown Township Board of Supervisors at their regular meeting in early April.

"My heart is still pounding away!" Jason said after recounting the big victory. "It was a nice way to win," he added.

For more information on the Langhorne Athletic Association and its youth sporting leagues and programs, visit langhorneaa.org.

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This event will be taking place virtually using Zoom. Register online at capitalhealth.org/events and be sure to include your email address. Zoom meeting details will be provided via email 2–3 days before the program date. Registration ends 24 hours before the program date.



SPRING HOME & GARDEN

spot light

Kathleen Layton, BHHS Fox & Roach, Realtors

Want to boost your home's value? Start here!



If you're a homeowner with resale in mind, you've got to be strategic. Not all upgrades are created equal. Some make your home more livable; others actually boost your sale price. If top dollar's the goal, start here:

1. Kitchens Sell Homes

A dated kitchen screams "project," and most buyers are paying *not* to do projects. If you're staying put for a while, go ahead and splurge. If a sale's on the horizon, let's talk first—no sense dropping cash on upgrades that won't pay off.

2. Bathrooms Are a Close Second

Buyers judge your home's upkeep by your bathrooms. A mid-range update—think new vanity, lighting, fixtures, maybe tile—can bring solid ROI. Bonus points for ditching glass blocks or squeezing in a double vanity.

3. Curb Appeal Sets the Tone

First impressions matter. Tidy landscaping, mulch, a painted front door, and

decent lighting? Instant upgrade. If the outside looks tired, buyers assume the inside is worse.

4. Floors, Baby

Scratched hardwood? Stained carpet? Fix it. Refinish what you can, replace what you must. Buyers want turnkey, and mystery stains kill the vibe.

5. Energy Efficiency = Value

New windows, better insulation, updated HVAC—these may not be sexy, but they sell. Savvy buyers notice, and they'll pay more for a home that doesn't cost \$700/

month to heat.

6. Open It Up—Smartly

Buyers love open spaces. Taking out a non-load-bearing wall between kitchen and living room can do wonders. Just don't go swinging unless you've checked the structure and your budget.

Final Word?

Before you swipe the card or grab a sledgehammer, call me. I've seen too many sellers spend big on the wrong stuff. Smart upgrades win. Shiny distractions don't. Questions? Email Kathleen@KathleenLayton.com or call 215-801-2019.

Sauers Cares

continued from pg. 12
efforts, the organization has supported a wide range of causes, from housing and food security to mental health initiatives. Over the years, one recurring challenge stood out, the critical need for reliable transportation. Whether it was helping individuals get to work, medical appointments, or other essential services, the lack of accessible and affordable transportation programs created significant barriers for many in our community.

In response to this growing need, Sauers Cares has evolved into Drive and Thrive, a non-profit organization solely dedicated to providing transportation programs that empower individuals to achieve independence and stability. Through this transformation, Drive and Thrive will continue to build upon its strong foundation while focusing on three core programs:

Empower Wheels Free Car Clinic: A free car clinic offering general maintenance to underprivileged adults, ensuring their vehicles remain safe and reliable.

Critical Repair Program: A

program providing essential vehicle repairs and inspections to individuals facing financial hardships, ensuring they have safe and dependable transportation.

Fuel Assistance Program:

A support initiative that helps individuals cover fuel costs, enabling them to access employment, medical care, and other vital services.

"Transportation is a fundamental need that directly impacts an individual's ability to thrive," said Stephanie Sauers Boyd, Founder and Executive Director of Drive and Thrive. "By refining our mission and programs, we are committed to breaking down these barriers and helping our community move forward literally and figuratively."

Drive and Thrive remains deeply rooted in its commitment to Bucks and Montgomery counties and looks forward to expanding its impact with the support of donors, volunteers, and community partners.

To learn more about Drive and Thrive, apply for services, or find out how you can support our mission, please visit www.comedriveandthrive.org.

spot light

Kenderdine's Heating Oil & HVAC

Breathe easy this spring: Don't forget your AC filter during spring cleaning

As the days grow longer and signs of spring fill the air, like birds chirping, warm breezes, and blooming flowers, it's the perfect time to refresh your space. While you're tidying

up and clearing out clutter, don't overlook one of the most important and often forgotten parts of your home: your AC unit's filter.

A clean filter is essential for maintaining good indoor air quality, especially during spring when allergens like pollen are at their peak. Depending on the type of filter your system uses, upkeep can be simple but impactful.

Know Your Filter Type

Throw-away filters should be replaced every month if you have pets or allergy concerns. Otherwise, swapping them out every three months will do the trick. Before installing a new filter, take a moment to clean the filter rack using a dust rag or vacuum.

Washable filters should be removed and cleaned every three months. After vacuuming the filter rack, rinse the filter thoroughly and let it dry completely before putting it back in place.

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task on a long to-do list. That's why Kenderdine's Heating Oil & HVAC offers annual AC and heat pump cleanings and tune-ups so you can enjoy comfort and peace of mind all season long.

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CAMPS & EDUCATION

spot light

Bucks County Community College's Kids on Campus

Summer camp program

Bucks County Community College offers exciting, hands-on specialized Kids on Campus summer camp experiences with new options available each week. Campers can pick which camp suits their interest and with a flexible weekly schedule, parents and guardians can select the camp session that best fits their summer plans. Camp offerings include arts and crafts, science and STEAM, theatre, sports,



and more—each led by certified teachers or highly skilled professionals in their respective fields.

Kids on Campus runs from June 16 to August 8, 2025, with camps held Monday through Friday, from 9 am to 3:30 pm.

Please note that there is no camp on June 19 and July 4. To view the full camp schedule and additional details, visit bucks.edu/kidsoncampus.

Campers need to bring a bagged lunch daily, along with extra water, hat, and sunscreen for self-application. If rain is in the forecast, please have campers bring appropriate rain gear.

Enrollment is limited, and registration remains open until each camp reaches capacity. Sign up online at bucks.edu/kidsoncampus or call 215-968-8409 to secure a spot.

Local news has a new home on the web!

Our 11 newspapers are now in one place online



O'Rourke Media Group is pleased to announce its brand-new website—OMGLocalLife.com is now live! We will continue to spotlight local businesses as we always have, we will also have an expanded community news section that will be updated daily with local noteworthy stories from the region, we will also have 'web-exclusive' stories that can only be found online. O'Rourke Media Group has always been proud to report on hyperlocal news, we are happy to bring these stories to you on the web. Please check-in daily!

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NEXT EDITION DEADLINE
week of May 12th

CAMPS & EDUCATION

spot light

PA Cyber Charter School

Elementary student inspires family to start flavored ice business

"He's the brains and inspiration, and we're the grownups who have to do all the stuff," Lauren laughs while speaking of her son Everett who attends PA Cyber.

A few summers ago, the Wilson family test-tasted a lot of shaved ice while on vacation. It was an easy choice for dessert because gluten and dairy-containing foods make Everett sick. Once back home in Ellwood City, they researched ice-shaving machines and flavorings. They opened Ellwood Ice in early 2023 and have since expanded the shop to accommodate indoor seating and private party space.

"We have 30 flavors," says Everett. "And we have all different kinds of ice cream and toppings. My favorite kind of ice cream is the dairy-free vanilla." At the shop, he restocks supplies and takes orders and payments. The whole Wilson family plays a part in the shop.

PA Cyber held a field trip at Ellwood Ice in 2023 where Everett showed fellow students the process of making icy treats and talked about owning a business. Everyone got their own treat, and many chose the flavor of the day, "The Archie," named after PA Cyber's owl mascot.

Everette enrolled at PA Cyber amid the pandemic, but stayed because he enjoyed the flexibility of taking classes from home. "Our schedule has a million things in a week," he says. "We go somewhere every day." He belongs to Cub Scouts and plays soccer and piano. As a gifted student, he is able to accelerate his learning. He aims to be an engineer when he is older.



Everette's goal for Ellwood Ice is to "make people happy."

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Tailor Made Film & Video Transfers

People have been filming events and excerpts from daily life for about 100 years. In 1923, 16mm film arrived on the market and was the first film format that was intended to be used by an amateur. Regular 8mm film became available in 1932, followed in 1965 by Eastman Kodak when they came out with Super 8mm film.

Then in the late 1970s, Betamax and VHS camcorders were introduced which gradually replaced the movie film

market with video, a much cheaper way to capture the family memories. Fewer and fewer people still have the capability to view VCR tapes and the videotapes themselves are quickly deteriorating. With videotapes holding precious memories, it's definitely time to transfer them to a digital format such as DVD and .MP4 files.

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they try it in several decks until they can capture the best picture. They add a professional menu to the beginning and "intelligent" chapter points which make navigating through your DVD a breeze. Clean edits at the beginning and end of your program, eliminating annoying "snow," add to the professional transfer.

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Fostering Hope Lower Bucks: Bringing comfort and dignity to foster youth

by June Portnoy

As National Foster Care Month approaches this May, the dedicated volunteers of Fostering Hope Lower Bucks are working tirelessly to support children and families impacted by the foster care system. With a mission to provide essential resources and restore dignity to children in foster care, Fos-

tering Hope has expanded to 11 chapters, with Lower Bucks being the 9th, established in 2023.

Jenae Travia, Chapter Coordinator, explains, "Our main goal is to serve any of the youth whether they are experiencing foster care or kinship placement. We also help children being reunited with their biological families, children aging

out of the system—anyone who has been touched by foster care—to relieve the burden of being able to get what they need and to give children the dignity they deserve."

Fostering Hope Lower Bucks

was born from a simple act of generosity. Administrator Sarah Burstein recalls, "Jenae and I go way back. One day, I had a basement full of little kids' clothes and baby gear

continued on pg. 30



Carina and Arianna Lee volunteer at the Foster-Share Closet by sorting clothes, organizing diaper donations, and writing happy notes to the families on the diaper boxes.



(top row, from left) Brian Bovasso, Volunteer Consultant; Sarah Burstein, Administrator; Jenae Travia, Chapter Coordinator; Anne Munoz-Furlong, Volunteer Consultant; and (bottom row, from left) Amanda Collier, Program Support Coordinator; and Sandy Lee, Fundraising Coordinator, gather at the Lower Bucks Foster-Share Closet in Newtown.

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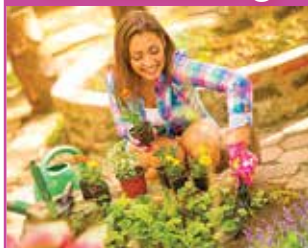
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Tyler Park Center for the Arts

Celebrate creativity

With spring in full swing, Tyler Park Center for the Arts invites the community to its annual Members Art Show, held June 6 – 8. This dynamic exhibition showcases the talents of both emerging and professional artists, and features live music, refreshments, artist meet-and-greets, and awards for excellence in several categories.

Among this year's featured artists is Barbara Neale, who has spent the past 17 years working with fused glass. Also known as warm glass, this art form involves cutting and layering pieces of glass that are then melted in a kiln to create a unified piece. Barbara has attended many workshops of warm glass artists and is a member of The Glass Underground Studio in Warren, NJ. Since retiring, she has displayed her work at local fairs and juried shows, and now teaches fused glass workshops at TPCA.

Also exhibiting is William Lessa, a longtime public school administrator whose artwork draws on his travels in Africa, his passion for Philadelphia sports, and his unique view of life's quirky moments. Working primarily in graphite and colored pencils, William donates much of his art sale proceeds to regional charities supporting children and families.

Looking ahead, TPCA's Creative Summer Camps are open for registration! Young artists ages 8–16 can explore themed art intensives like "Art Around the World" and "Under the Sea", while younger children can enjoy mini camps tailored to their age group.

Members of TPCA receive special perks, including dis-



counted workshops and entry into the annual Crafts in the Meadow festival, returning October 18–19.

Learn more at TylerParkArts.org, follow @TylerParkArts on Facebook and Instagram, or call 267-218-0290.

William Lessa,
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drivers. It also gives parents peace of mind, knowing their child has a reliable ride home.

Beyond safety, a limousine enhances the prom experience. Arriving in a sleek vehicle makes your child feel special. Riding with friends in a luxurious setting adds to

the excitement, with features like music, mood lighting, and refreshments creating a party atmosphere before the event even begins.

Group travel is another advantage. Instead of coordinating multiple cars, a limo allows everyone to enjoy the

night together. It's cost-effective when shared among friends and eliminates parking hassles.

Moreover, a limousine offers reliability and ease. It ensures punctual pick-ups and drop-offs, making transportation stress-free. Plus, it provides the perfect backdrop for memorable prom photos.

Ultimately, hiring a limo ensures a safe, stylish, and unforgettable prom night. It's an investment in your child's special evening, allowing them to have the time of their life while you enjoy peace of mind.

Call Advanced Limousine Services at 215-504-0800 to book your prom reservation today. For more information on our wide selection of vehicles visit www.advancedlimos.com

United Way's HELP Center celebrates 5 years of serving Bucks County

United Way of Bucks County's HELP Center is celebrating its 5th anniversary, marking five years of providing brand-new essential items – completely free of charge – to local families in need. This milestone coincides with National Volunteer Month, making it the perfect time for community members and businesses to get involved.

The HELP Center (a Healthy Eating and Living Partnership) opened in 2020 as a collaboration between United Way of Bucks

County, Bucks County Opportunity Council, and St. Mary Medical Center, with generous support from Penn Community Bank.

Since then, it has become a lifeline for thousands of Bucks County residents and over 120 community partners – including schools, faith-based groups, and nonprofits – by providing essential items like hygiene products, home goods, clothing, and food.

Many of the HELP Center's shoppers are ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed), meaning they work, but still struggle to afford the basics. Among these shoppers, 58% work in essential, front-line sectors like healthcare, education, and human services.

In 2024 alone, walk-in visits for emergency services like the emergency food pantry surged by 110%, with more than 6,700 visits.

Volunteers play a crucial role in the HELP Center's efforts, sorting and stocking goods, assisting shoppers, and ensuring resources reach those who need them most.

"We are incredibly proud of how the HELP Center has grown over the past five years," says Sheri Ratner, Impact Director for

continued on pg. 28

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Martha Washington Garden Club Celebrates 90th Anniversary



Standing is Arlene Gordon, MWGC Program Chairperson and Acting Vice President; with (from left) MWGC member Ann Eidson; and luncheon guests Barbara O'Brien with Renee Ifkovitz.

story and photos by June Portnoy

The Martha Washington Garden Club (MWGC) recently marked its 90th anniversary with a gala held on March 26 at the Newtown American Legion Hall. One of the many highlights of the day was when Martha Washington (portrayed by Alisa Dupuy) along with her husband, George Washington, presented a special program that delighted the audience with stories about their lives.

The gala was a beautiful blend of tradition, creativity, and community spirit, celebrating the club's rich history while reinforcing its commitment to education, horticulture, and civic engagement.

MWGC President Anne Edwards warmly welcomed the more than 100 members and guests in attendance, expressing her gratitude for the overwhelming participation of club members and the stunning display of 30 raffle baskets.

The gala's theme, "Black and White," was interpreted uniquely at each of the 15 tables, where garden club



From left: Betsy Satterthwaite, MWGC member; Dawn Getz, guest and co-tabletop designer; and Anne Edwards, MWGC President and co-tabletop designer host for this table, enjoy lunch together.

members created elaborate tablescapes. They were permitted to include one accent color to these floral displays, resulting in a dazzling variety of artistic expressions.

Arlene Gordon, MWGC Acting Vice President and Program Chairperson, shared her excitement about this tradition: "Since I started coming to the Martha Washington Garden Club, this gala has really become one of my favorite events, and one of my favorite

parts (of this gala) is the table decorations; it gives everyone the opportunity to use their imagination. We all follow the same theme, yet each table is so different, showcasing the creativity of our members."

MWGC member, Jeremy Parry, was instrumental in planning and organizing the gala, which also provided an opportunity to reflect on the club's evolution over the decades. Gordon highlighted the contrast between the club's

early years and today's more relaxed atmosphere. "It used to be much more formal. Life in general was more formal back then. Members would wear hats and gloves, and meetings included coffee and tea service presented on silver trays," she recounted. "To become a member, you had to be nominated and have two letters of recommendation. But while some things have changed, our love for gardening, houseplants,

continued on pg. 29



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Soroptimists present Annual Community Service Awards

Soroptimist International of Indian Rock, Inc. (SIIR) celebrated National Women's History Month with its annual presentation of Making a Difference for Women Awards last month at the Spring Mill Country Club in Ivyland. The awards honor women leaders, and organizations for their tireless, inspiring efforts to bring positive change, education, and empowerment to the lives of women, girls, and others living in our county and beyond.

The evening's program began with the presentation of the Violet Richardson Award to Claire Titus. Claire is a sophomore at Central Bucks West who recently earned the United States Congressional Bronze Medal for dedicating over 100 hours to community service, driven by her passion for helping others. She developed



Past Presidents of Soroptimist International of Indian Rock present their annual Making a Difference for Women Awards. From left: Rosemarie McGee, Program Manager of The Women Veterans Program and Past President Chris Fluehr; Past President Marlene Piasecki and Melissa Robison, Middletown Township Police Officer; Past Presidents Patti Cullen and Eileen Connor; Kristin McElroy, Bucks County Deputy District Attorney and Past President Carol Zemnick; Claire Titus, Central Bucks West volunteer and Past President Kathy Meyer.

a two-hour curriculum for children ages 9 to 12 that focused on everyday manners, including greetings, dining etiquette, and social courtesies. After earning

her Girl Scout Silver Award, Claire expanded her program across multiple Pennsylvania counties, teaching over 120 children and equipping them with essential life skills. Claire has also been a dedicated volunteer at the Doylestown Library since the age of 12, accumulating hundreds of hours of service and earning her multiple President's Volunteer Service recognition.

The Organization Advancing the Status of Women Award was presented to The Veteran's Multi-Service Center, which created The Women Veterans Program to address the growing and unique needs of Women Veterans throughout the tri-state area. Rosemarie McGee, Program Manager, accepted the award for the program, whose mission is to provide community driven space exclusively for Women Veterans and give them access to programs that offer comprehensive resources in a trauma-informed space tailored to their unique needs. In addition, the program offers a clothing closet, open computer lab, lending library, children's play area, and a full calendar of

wellness and fellowship events.

The evening's next award—the Women Helping Women Award—was presented to Kristin McElroy, the Deputy District Attorney for Bucks County. Kristin joined the District Attorney's office in 2012 and is the 2018 Rosner Award recipient for exceptional public service, professionalism, and integrity. She has been a member of the Bucks County Special Victims Division since joining the office, and currently is the Chief of Adult Sex Crimes. In addition, she serves on the Bucks Coalition Against Trafficking (BCAT), a NOVA project whose mission is to eradicate human trafficking in Bucks County through victim identification, community education, enhancement of arrests and prosecution of traffickers, legislative advocacy, and a coordinated response of survivor services.

The final award of the evening—The Woman of Distinction Award—went to Melissa Robison, a Middletown Township police officer and the township's community relations officer. Melissa oversees

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Student journalists make headlines with armful of accolades

Bucks County Community College's "Centurion" newspaper won 16 awards in the Keystone Student Media Awards Contest, bringing the tally to 200+.

Bucks County Community College's student newspaper, "The Centurion," which has been launching journalism careers for more than 60 years, has won 16 awards in the 2025 Keystone Student Media Awards contest, including first place in ongoing news coverage, public service reporting, feature writing, and website.

Since 2010, "The Centurion" has won more than 200 awards in the contest run by the Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association. It competes in Division III, which represents community colleges across Pennsylvania.

"The Centurion" won awards for, among other things, coverage of the 2024 presidential

election, the search for a new president at the college, a series of articles about the challenges facing working students, a solar eclipse that dazzled millions of Americans, and a visit to the campus by a group of Tibetan monks.

In addition to written works, the paper won first place in the Cartoon-Graphic Illustration category for a comic strip called "Dog Life," first in feature photos for pictures of the visiting monks, first in layout and design, and first in the video story category for a report about the hidden underground history of Tyler Hall, the historic mansion located in the heart of the Newtown campus.



Editor-in-chief Cassandra Castillo (right) and former staff writer Christian Grosso traveled to Harrisburg to bring home 16 Keystone Student Media Awards for "The Centurion." The Centurion also won the contest's sweepstakes honor, given to the paper that wins the most awards in its division.

"The Centurion" also won the contest's sweepstakes honor, given to the paper that wins the most awards in its division.

Tony Rogers, the college's journalism professor and faculty advisor to the student newspaper, said he couldn't be

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Paint Our River Towns

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AOY Art Center

"Paint Our River Towns" exhibition opens May 17

The AOY Art Center/ Art Gallery is delighted to announce the opening of the highly anticipated 2025 Plein Air Exhibition, featuring outdoor artworks created by some 50 talented artists from the greater Bucks County region and within a 35-mile radius of Yardley.

For the past two weeks, local artists have been "painting the towns" as part of the "Paint Our River Towns" Plein Air Open. Artists have captured scenes throughout the Delaware Valley including Tyler State Park, Lake Anton, Core Creek, Washington Crossing State Park, Historic Newtown, Yardley, Historic Fallsington, Langhorne, and many other picturesque locations throughout the area. The results of their work will be on exhibition at AOY Art Center beginning Saturday, May 17 from 12 - 5 pm and then Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays through June 1. Interested individuals can also view and purchase artwork at the online gallery 24/7 at aoyarts.org.

Plein air painting, a French term meaning "in the open," refers to the practice of creating art outdoors, capturing the essence and beauty of natural landscapes. This exhibition celebrates the tradition and artistry of plein air painting, showcasing a diverse range of styles and techniques that highlight the artists' connection to the environment.

Each artist can submit up to three of their best works to the exhibition. Those works will be judged and awarded prizes by renowned and award-winning plein air artist Beth Bathe of Lancaster. Ms. Bathe has primarily been painting in oil en plein air since 2013. She participates in high profile competitions from Maine to Washington state, including Plein Air Easton, Door County WI, Cape Ann MA, Lighthouse Art Center FL, Paint Annapolis, MD, and others.

The exhibition features over 120 original artworks that will inspire and engage art enthusiasts of all ages. From picturesque landscapes to scenes of our communities, boroughs, and parks, the collection captures the splendor of nature, architecture, and human inter-



action with the surroundings.

AOY Art Center is located at 949 Mirror Lake Rd. in Lower Makefield on the Patterson

Farm. The gallery is open to the public at no cost and is hosted by the participating artists.

United Way

continued from pg. 24
the HELP Center. "What started as a response to a clear need in our community has become a vital resource for thousands of Bucks County residents. But we can't do it alone – volunteers and community partners make this work possible."

The HELP Center invites the public to celebrate this milestone by getting involved:

Volunteer: Individuals, businesses, and community groups can volunteer for a hands-on experience helping their neighbors.

Host a Collection Drive: Gather essential items like hygiene products, household supplies, and non-perishable food to keep the HELP Center stocked.

Attend an Open House: See the HELP Center in action and learn how you can make a

difference. Join us on Tuesday, April 22 from 5 – 7 pm for a tour, or Saturday, April 26 from 12–2 pm for a tour and volunteer opportunity.

Julie Frantz, a Bucks County resident who has been volunteering since 2021, shares, "Volunteering at the HELP Center is a great way to assist and connect with the community. In uncertain times, it is important to be there for our neighbors who are struggling, and the HELP Center does so much."

As the HELP Center celebrates this milestone, United Way of Bucks County urges the community to step up, get involved, and continue making a difference. To sign up to volunteer, host a collection, or learn more about the HELP Center, visit www.uwbucks.org/help-center.

Garden Club

continued from pg. 25

and the outdoors has remained strong."

Long-time members were recognized for their dedication, with bouquets of flowers presented to those who had been part of the club ranging from 26 years all the way up to 52 years. Scrapbooks and memorabilia showcased the club's history, allowing attendees to reminisce about past events and initiatives.

Ruth Logan, a long-time MWGC member, reflected on the club's transformation. "It started with just eight women near Doylestown who displayed what they grew, so the club's emphasis was initially on



From left: Long-term MWGC member Regina McHugh; MWGC member, Lisa Tenney; and Regina's daughter, Ellen McHugh

horticulture. Over the years, we've grown significantly,

now with nearly 90 members throughout Bucks County. She

Fab Lab

continued from pg. 15

Education, stated, "Investments in the Fab Lab are making a real, tangible difference in the lives of students and educators across our community. Support is not just an investment in the Fab Lab—it's an investment in the next generation of problem-solvers, creators, and innovators. When students are in this space, they are not just learning—they're becoming engineers, designers, and innovators right before our eyes."

The Fab Lab makes STEAM learning interactive, engaging, and hands-on. Through immersive experiences and cutting-edge tools, students develop creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving skills that prepare them for success. During the event, current and future partners experienced the Fab Lab's latest technology, including the new Immersive Reality (IR) room where they piloted a fighter jet, explored the ocean depths, and marveled at the northern lights. Others tested their skills flying drones—learning firsthand that



Participants enjoyed the experience of being a jet fighter pilot in the new Immersive Reality (IR) room at the Fab Lab Center."

it's harder than it looks!

Alice Colyar, Manager for Bucks County Workforce and Economic Development, stated, "We invest in programs that prepare young people for the workforce of tomorrow. The Fab Lab does exactly that—providing meaningful educational experiences to students throughout Bucks County."

Lindsay Pikovsky attended the event to express how much the Fab Lab programs can make a difference. Her child is a regular participant at the Fab Lab Center, loves STEAM activities, and benefits from access to equipment that supports diverse interests and advanc-

noted that for a long time, their meetings took place in Yardley before recently moving to the Newtown American Legion Hall where they continue to be held today.

Regina McHugh, a 26-year member, reminisced about the elegant silver tea set that could be over a century old, which has become a cherished piece of MWGC's history. The tea set remains a symbol of the club's longstanding traditions.

"It's incredible to think that the same teapot and serving pieces that our founding members used are still part of our events today," Edwards remarked. "Every time we bring it out, it feels

the child's 10th birthday at the Fab Lab. Pikovsky shared, "The kids absolutely loved it! They had so much fun immersed in the activities that they didn't even realize they were learning STEAM skills."

Deanna Boyer and Meghan Leinhauser, representatives from Dow, attended the event to reinforce the company's commitment to the Fab Lab and to developing a skilled future workforce. "Dow is dedicated to

continued on pg. 33

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Soroptimists

continued from pg. 26

several community projects that link the community with the Department. She leads the county's largest Shop With A Cop program, National Night Out, Back-to-School supply collection and distribution, Coffee with a Cop, and assists college students in securing internships. Melissa was the school resource for Neshaminy

school district offering a parent presentation on "Navigating Internet Safety: Guardians of the Digital Realm." She is certified by the National Association of School Resource Officers, teaches and trains active shooter protocols, runs the Fresh Start Pantry and Closet at seven district schools that provides food and clothing to kids in need, and presents the Drug Abuse Resistance Educa-

tion (DARE) program in schools. She is the vice-president of the Middletown Community Foundation which supports all these projects and many scholarship opportunities for community service-minded students. SIIR is one of 1,000 Soroptimist clubs in 20 countries and territories in the Americas and Pacific Rim that empower women and girls through a variety of volunteer projects.

Efforts include cash grants for education, hands-on efforts to end domestic violence, career mentoring for girls, women's health initiatives, and many other community-based projects. Our federation is one of five federations that make up Soroptimist International, which operates in more than 120 countries throughout the world. For more information, visit investindreams.org.

Fostering Hope

continued from pg. 21

that I wanted to donate. Jenae helped me clean it out, and we stumbled upon the Upper Bucks Chapter of Fostering Hope. They mentioned how families and caseworkers in Lower Bucks needed more accessible support. And just like that, our chapter was born." The organization is entirely volunteer-run and donation-led, making the community's support critical in sustaining its mission.

Fostering Hope Lower Bucks operates through four primary initiatives:

1. Foster-Share Closet. Located in the Newtown Depot Shopping Center, the Foster-Share Closet provides children in foster care with clothing, toi-

lettries, baby gear, school supplies, and more. "Caseworkers, foster parents, or the youth themselves can come in and shop by appointment," explains Travia. "We want to ensure they have access to essential items in a welcoming space."

2. Dignity Duffles. Far too often, children in foster care are handed a trash bag to carry their belongings when moving between homes. Fostering Hope seeks to change that by providing duffle bags instead. "These kids deserve dignity," Travia states. "Instead of carrying their possessions in a trash bag, they have something sturdy and reliable."

3. Bags of Hope. Each child entering foster care receives

a string bag filled with full-size toiletries, personal hygiene products, and comforting items. "Imagine being removed from your home with no time to grab essentials," says Anne Munoz-Furlong, Volunteer Consultant. "We take for granted things like shampoo, toothbrushes, and deodorant, but these kids need them."

4. Fostering Phones. The newest initiative, Fostering Phones, provides teens (ages 14 and up) with a cell phone, a year of service, and a protective case. "A phone is a lifeline," Burstein explains. "It helps them apply for jobs, stay in touch with siblings, and communicate with their foster families or caseworkers."

Donations are the backbone of Fostering Hope Lower Bucks. While clothing donations are always needed, toiletries, duffle bags, and financial contributions are just as vital. "If readers want to help but don't have clothing to donate, they can purchase duffle bags, toiletries, or other needed items from our Amazon Wishlist," Munoz-Furlong suggests.

Beyond material support, the organization is always looking for volunteers. "We have over 100 volunteers, but not all are active," Travia notes. "We'd love more people to join us in making a difference."

For Burstein, the impact of

their work is personal. "This experience has opened up a whole new world of incredible, generous people in our community. Seeing how much people are willing to give—whether it's time, donations, or support—has been truly inspiring."

Fostering Hope Lower Bucks is more than a donation center; it's a place of comfort and support for children and families navigating the challenges of the foster care system. "When teens come in, they often expect a thrift store experience," says Travia. "But when they see name-brand items like Nike and Adidas, their faces light up. It means so much to them."

Munoz-Furlong emphasizes the heart behind the organization. "There is no other group that works with so much heart. They make sure the clothes are there, the space is welcoming, and the kids feel valued. The message is clear: 'We are here to help you so that you can help the children.'"

As National Foster Care Month shines a light on the needs of foster youth, organizations like Fostering Hope Lower Bucks remind us of the power of community and compassion. To donate, volunteer, or learn more, visit fosteringhopepa.com/chapter/lower-bucks-county/ or follow their Facebook page at facebook.com/fosteringhopelowerbucks.

spot
light

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Kona Compost was founded by Heather Guidice in 2019 with a mission to make composting easy, accessible and fun all while giving back to our planet and keeping our environment healthy.

Kona Compost collects food scraps which are then turned into compost and returned back to customers to use in their own gardens or they can elect to donate their compost share to a community garden instead.

Why should you compost? The answer is quite simple, food waste doesn't belong in the landfill It's a resource that can be turned into a nutrient dense amendment for gardens helping to build soil and reduce the need to use fertilizer. When food waste is thrown out, it does not break down and instead creates the greenhouse

gas, methane, which is harmful to the environment.

Rooted in community, Kona Compost helps reduce your carbon footprint and creates a sustainable future one bucket of food scraps at a time.

Join the hundreds of households on the journey to a greener future by signing up to begin composting. It's easy, convenient and supports a local business. If you're a business in the area, office or school, composting is a valuable way to lead the charge on sustainability.

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Makefield Women's Association awards \$24,000 to local non-profit organizations

by Karen Sangillo

The April meeting of the Makefield Women's Association (MWA) is the organization's most exciting gathering of the year. Each year, through a nominating and voting process, MWA members select a group of local nonprofits as annual beneficiaries. The MWA hosts fundraising events and collects donations for the year and each April, the proceeds are distributed to the beneficiaries to support their continued service to the community. This year, they awarded \$24,000 to these local organizations.

The 2025 recipients are A Woman's Place; Family Service Association, Bucks County Homeless Shelter; Bucks County Housing Group; Pennel Community Food Pantry and Yardley-Makefield Fire Company.

In addition, Pennsbury students Gauri Barot and Rosemarie Reeves received scholarships.

A Woman's Place is Bucks County's only domestic violence shelter. "Some of the things that we offer is shelter, so people can stay there and they



From left: Laura Malick-Glaudel (A Woman's Place), Steven Keller (Pennel Community Pantry), Larry Newman (Yardley-Makefield Fire Co.), MacKennzie Crain (Yardley-Makefield Fire Co.), Anne Marie Richards (FSA-Bucks County Emergency Shelter), Gauri Barot (Pennsbury scholarship recipient).

are provided with clothing, food, toiletries and anything else that's needed," said Laura Malick-Glaudel, who represented A Woman's Place at the meeting. "We help them find new housing and we have many clients who need other services such as counseling for adults and children, legal services, and we provide education and outreach programs. "We absolutely could not serve the community without the community, and we're so grateful for groups like

this one who chose us from all of the other really worthy causes, and we really appreciate this."

Family Service Association (FSA), Bucks County Homeless Shelter is based in Levittown and provides homeless families with critical services. In addition to the homeless shelter, the FSA has an office in Langhorne which provides outpatient mental health and substance abuse services, as well as outpatient counseling. There is also a food pantry, a pet pantry, and a diaper pantry. "We are one of the only 24/7 emergency homeless shelters in the county and we've been able to restructure so we are now able to have up to 90 people at a time," said Anne Marie Richards, the community relations and development manager for the FSA. "The sad part of that is that about half of those people are children. "The fact that we have groups like the Makefield Women's Association who are willing to step in and support us really makes a difference."

Bucks County Housing Group; Pennel Community Food

Pantry serves our most vulnerable population. "We want to thank the association for this generous donation," said Steven Keller, who represented the organization. "Without organizations like this one, without private donations, we would never be able to do what we do. "It's a very humbling experience to be working here and I'm very happy and grateful to be serving the community."

He added, "We have two food pantries in Bucks County; one is in Pennel and one in Doylestown. We serve about 300 families, which translates into about 1,000 people. We also have low income housing all over Bucks County."

The Yardley-Makefield Fire Company is the sole provider of fire protection for the businesses and residents of Lower Makefield and Yardley Borough and is completely composed of volunteers. The company was represented by president Larry Newman and firefighter/EMT Lt. MacKennzie Crain. "This organization has been so good to us, and we are very grateful,"

continued on pg. 38

spot light

Burritos



If you're in the mood for a delicious taste of Mexico right in Yardley, look no further than Burritos at 15 S. Main Street. This cozy spot promises an authentic Mexican-style dining experience that will leave your taste buds dancing. And on Monday, May 5, they're making Cinco de Mayo even more special by serving up their scrumptious offerings for the holiday. What better way to celebrate Cinco de Mayo than with a hearty burrito bursting with flavor?

At Burritos, you can expect nothing but the best when it comes to Mexican cuisine. From savory carne asada to tangy al pastor, they've got a variety of fillings to satisfy every craving. And let's not forget their fresh

salsa and guacamole, the perfect accompaniments to any dish.

For those looking to celebrate at home or with friends, Burritos offers convenient online ordering for pickup.

Simply visit their website and place your order ahead of time; then swing by to grab your feast.

No need to worry about cooking for your Cinco de Mayoparty - Burritos has you covered with their mouthwatering options.

Have a question or want to make sure your order is just right? Give them a call at 215-493-2424, and their friendly staff will be more than happy to assist you. Whether you're a regular or it's your first time trying their fare, Burritos is sure to become your go-to spot for authentic Mexican cuisine in Yardley.

So, mark your calendars for May 5th, and get ready to indulge in a fiesta of flavors!

Fab Lab

continued from pg. 29

creating educational pipelines for highly trained professionals. Supporting the Fab Lab aligns perfectly with our mission—we hope to inspire and educate future Dow employees," they stated.

Become a partner with the Fab Lab and help shape the future of STEAM education in Bucks County! Individuals and families are invited to donate to the Fab Lab, and businesses are encouraged to join the new Corporate Partners Program. No contribution is too small—every dollar helps fund vital programs, provide hands-on learning experiences, and empower the next generation

of innovators, creators, and STEAM leaders. Learn more or donate at: www.BucksIU.org/FabLab/Get-Involved.

ABOUT THE BUCKS COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT FAB LAB:

Launched in 2019, the Mobile Fab Lab program began as a single unit bringing STEAM education directly to students across Bucks County. Today, with two fully equipped Mobile Fab Labs, the program reaches 18,000 students annually. The Fab Lab Center, which opened in December 2021, has grown from serving just over 1,000 children in its first year to now, four years later, engaging more than 5,700 students with 11 unique programs. Learn more at www.BucksIU.org/FabLab.

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Peppe's Mexican Grill

Come out and celebrate Cinco de Mayo

On Monday, May 5, Peppe's will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo with special offers! Enjoy your traditional Mexican favorites and enjoy 10% off all day long!

Peppe's is a BYOB so feel free to bring your favorite beverage of choice to pair with your Mexican cuisine. Happy Hour from 3 pm – 5 pm will offer an unbeatable 20% OFF!

Catering orders of \$500 or more will receive an exclusive gift card.

Exclusive Peppe's merch will be on hand for purchase so you can rep your favorite local Mexican restaurant in style.

Cinco de Mayo commemorates Mexi-

co's victory over the French at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. While this isn't Mexico's Independence Day, it symbolizes resistance and resilience.

In the United States, it has grown into a broader celebration of Mexican culture and heritage and honors Mexican identity and pride. Be sure to come out and celebrate on this special holiday!

Peppe's Mexican Grill is located at 3501 Brownsville Rd. in Trevose. You can call the restaurant at 215-357-3773 to place an order or to make a reservation. For more information, visit www.peppesmexicangrill.online.



Bucks County Community College hires new vice president for advancement & alumni relations

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Bucks County Community College (BCCC) officials are pleased to announce that Karen O'Donnell has joined the College as Vice President for Advancement & Alumni Relations and Executive Director of the BCCC Foundation.

In this role, O'Donnell will be responsible for advancing the mission of Bucks County Community College through increasing philanthropic support from alumni, philanthropists, donors, foundations, workforce partners, and friends of the College throughout Bucks County and beyond. She will lead a team of advancement professionals and facilitate the work of dedicated volunteers on the Alumni Council and the BCCC Foundation board who, working together, engage friends and supporters of the College in support of the institutional mission of providing affordable high-quality education to residents from every community of



Karen O'Donnell is the new Vice President for Advancement & Alumni Relations, Executive Director of the Foundation at Bucks County Community College.

Bucks County.

BCCC President & CEO Patrick M. Jones said, "Karen's expertise in fundraising, corporate and foundation relations, leadership, and team building is impressive. I am confident she will help to position the College for long-term success by working closely with the

continued on pg. 47

Wild Fork

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If you haven't experienced Wild Fork yet, now is the perfect time. With locations right in Neshaminy and Horsham, Wild Fork is redefining the way people shop for meat and seafood—offering premium quality at unbeatable prices.

Wild Fork specializes in high-quality meat, seafood, and poultry, all blast frozen at the peak of freshness to lock in flavor, texture, and nutrients. From everyday essentials like chicken breasts, steaks, and ground beef to chef-inspired cuts, ready-to-cook meals, and globally inspired flavors, Wild Fork's selection is as impressive as it is affordable.

The best part? You can shop your way. Visit Wild Fork stores for a hands-on experience, where friendly team members can guide you through the selection. Prefer to shop from the comfort of home? Wild Fork offers same-day delivery and convenient online ordering at wildforkfoods.com. Just a few clicks and your order is on the way—expertly packed and temperature-controlled to ensure everything arrives frozen and fresh.

Wild Fork makes it easy to stock your freezer with restaurant-quality ingredients at grocery store prices. Whether you're planning for weeknight dinners, hosting a backyard barbecue, or prepping for the holidays, Wild Fork has everything you need to serve something memorable.

Stop by the Horsham or Neshaminy locations today and taste the Wild Fork difference for yourself. High-quality food, smart prices, and a more convenient way to shop—that's what makes Wild Fork your #1 option for meat and seafood.



For more information about Wild Fork, located in 600 Rockhill Dr. in Bensalem, call 215-494-1048, and for more information about Wild Fork, located at 1536 Easton Rd. in Horsham, call 267-769-6496.

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Graduation season is here, and there's no better way to celebrate your graduate's big accomplishment than with a delicious spread from PrimoHoagies in Langhorne. Whether you're planning a backyard gathering, a party in the park, or an indoor celebration, PrimoHoagies Catering makes it easy to feed a crowd with bold, unforgettable flavor.

Known for our gourmet hoagies made with only the highest quality meats, cheeses, and signature seeded rolls, PrimoHoagies offers a variety of

customizable catering options perfect for any graduation event. From our famous Italian and turkey Schwartzie to our vegetarian-friendly options and trays of fresh antipasti, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Planning your catering with PrimoHoagies is simple and stress-free. Choose from hoagie trays, mini hoagie boxes, and sides like potato salad, pasta salad, and pepper shooters to build the perfect party spread. We also offer gluten-free options to ensure all your guests feel included.

Located conveniently in Langhorne, our team is ready to help you make this celebration one to remember. Whether you're hosting 10 people or 100, PrimoHoagies delivers quality, flavor, and service



that make every bite worth celebrating.

Don't wait until the last minute—graduation season gets busy! Contact PrimoHoagies in Langhorne today to schedule your catering and let us take the hassle out of party planning. Your grad deserves the best. So do your

guests.

PrimoHoagies Langhorne: Not Just a Hoagie: A PrimoHoagie.

PrimoHoagies Langhorne is located at 360 Oxford Valley Rd. in Langhorne. For more information, call 215-946-2400 or visit www.primohoagies.com/location/Langhorne-PA.

SCORE Bucks County mentors support small business community

National Volunteer Month: SCORE gives back and makes a difference.

This National Volunteer Month, SCORE Bucks County is proud to announce the positive impact of its volunteers, who donate their time and expertise to help entrepreneurs start and grow small businesses, guide them in achieving new levels of success, and ultimately creating jobs and strengthening the local economy.

In fiscal year 2024, SCORE Bucks County volunteers helped 950 entrepreneurs, providing them with 2,789 mentoring sessions.

"SCORE is the most effective

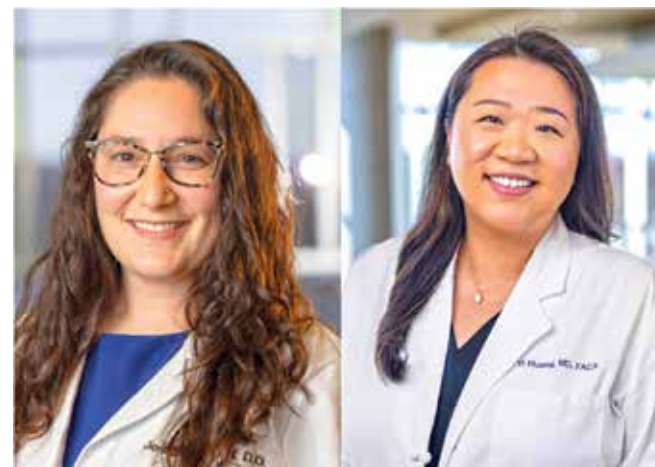
source of small business mentoring in the U.S.," said Charlie Morris, SCORE Bucks County co-chair. "We are proud to be making a positive difference right here in our local community."

SCORE data shows that entrepreneurs who receive three or more hours of mentoring report higher revenues and increased business growth. In addition, SCORE Bucks County offers a wealth of resources to guide entrepreneurs in every phase of their small business

continued on pg. 37

Capital Health

*Accomplished breast surgeons join cancer specialists at Capital Health
Available for appointments in Newtown*



Jenna L. Mancinelli, DO, MS

Yi Huang, MD.

Dr. Yi Huang and Dr. Jenna Mancinelli, fellowship trained breast surgeons who specialize in surgical care for benign and malignant breast diseases, have joined Capital Health as part of its Cancer Center and Center for Comprehensive Breast Care. As part of Capital Health Cancer Center and Capital Health Surgical Group – Breast Surgery, they offer office appointments in Newtown and offer advanced treatments for breast cancer, skin-sparing/nipple-sparing mastectomies, and oncoplastic and hidden scar procedures.

Before joining Capital Health, Dr. Huang was a breast surgeon and director of the breast program at Jefferson Health – Northeast in Philadelphia. After finishing her general surgery residency at Northwell North Shore – Long Island Jewish Medical Center in Manhasset, New York, where she served as Chief Resident, Dr. Huang completed her fellowship in breast surgical oncology at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, where she trained with national leaders in the

field of breast surgery. As medical director of Capital Health Center for Comprehensive Breast Care, she leads a multidisciplinary team to create

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SCORE

continued from pg. 36

journey.

"We are grateful to the more than 10,000 SCORE volunteers nationwide who selflessly dedicate their time and business expertise to help entrepreneurs achieve their dreams," said SCORE CEO Bridget Weston.

Held in April every year, National Volunteer Month

recognizes the contributions of volunteers and is an opportunity to join the impact of volunteerism and encourage more people to get involved in their communities.

Visit www.score.org to learn more about local volunteer opportunities or to request a mentor for your small business.



SCORE mentor meets with a client.

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Pets Furst

Pets Furst Urgent Care, located at 502 Oxford Valley Rd. in Langhorne, is a walk-in veterinary clinic dedicated to providing high-quality urgent and wellness care for pets. Open daily from 8 am to 8 pm, the clinic offers extended hours to accommodate pet owners' schedules.

Services Offered:

- **Urgent Care:** Pets Furst addresses non-life-threatening conditions such as ear infections, minor injuries, allergic reactions, and gastrointestinal issues. Their experienced veterinarians provide prompt attention without the need for an appointment.
- **Wellness Exams:** Regular check-ups are essential for

monitoring pets' health. The clinic offers comprehensive physical exams, vaccinations, and preventive care tailored to each pet's life stage.

- **Diagnostics:** Equipped with in-house laboratory services and digital radiography, Pets Furst can quickly diagnose conditions affecting your pet's internal health, facilitating timely and effective treatment.
- **Microchipping:** To enhance the chances of reuniting lost pets with their owners, the clinic provides microchipping services, ensuring your pet's safety and your peace of mind. Clients commend Pets Furst for their compassionate care and efficient service. One pet



owner shared, "From start to finish, everybody was exceptional."

For more information or to inquire about services,

contact Pets Furst Urgent Care at 215-755-1000. No appointment is necessary; walk-ins are welcome during operating hours.

Makefield Women

continued from pg. 32 Newman said.

The fire company recently acquired a high water rescue truck which is capable of driving in standing water up to four feet high. "The money that we receive is going to help us equip this rescue truck," Newman said. "This will help us to save

lives and we just can't thank you enough."

Scholarship recipient, Gauri Barot, will be attending Rutgers University next year and plans to pursue a PharmD degree. She is the co-founder of Falcons for Homeless, organizing fundraisers and essential care packages for the homeless in Philadelphia. She has also been

involved in helping Pennsbury students obtain prom attire through Cinderella's Closet; participating in Falcons for Orphans, a club that brings care to orphans; and through Futures for Families she has helped families find homes.

In addition, during COVID, she co-founded the All Smiles Club, a program that provided

activities to entertain youth. Since that time, they have shifted to in-person activities such as swim lessons and tennis. "I love helping the community and I'm very honored to receive this scholarship, and very grateful," she said.

Rosemarie Reeves, also a scholarship recipient, was unable to attend the event but is described by teachers and peers as determined, kind and focused. She has a passion for musical theatre and acting and has been a board historian for the drama club, and a concert choir representative on the Choir Council. She is also active in her community youth group.

MWA meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7 pm at the Lower Makefield Community Center, 1550 Oxford Valley Rd. in Yardley, and invites any woman in the area to join them in serving the community. To attend a meeting or for more information, email them at president@makefieldwomensassociation.org.

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Juniper Village at Bucks County

A vibrant community for active seniors

In the heart of Bucks County, Juniper Village offers a warm and welcoming environment designed to nurture the spirit of life. This senior living community provides a range of lifestyle options, including independent living, assisted living, memory care, and skilled nursing.

Juniper Communities is

known for its award-winning care, fostering an atmosphere where residents thrive throughout all seasons of life. Juniper's *Connect4Life* program integrates on-site services of primary care, therapy, pharmacy, and personal assistance to streamline healthcare and enhance quality of life.

Residents enjoy a rich calendar of events, from fitness classes and art workshops to social outings and lifelong learning opportunities. The

vibrant programs encourage connection and engagement, while the beautifully landscaped grounds and cozy shared spaces make it easy to relax or catch up with friends and family.

Juniper Village at Bucks County offers multiple dining venues. With fresh, chef-prepared meals served daily, residents can savor nutritious and delicious food in a restaurant-style setting that caters to individual preferences and

dietary needs.

Whether you or a loved one is looking for an active, worry-free lifestyle or specialized care support, Juniper Village at Bucks County stands out as a trusted choice for senior living.

For more information or to schedule a tour, visit JuniperVillage.com or call their local Bucks County location at 215-752-2370.

SSAAM announces Juneteenth 2025: Stories of Freedom



- The SSAAM Heritage Singers and Band
- Keith Spencer, Vocalist & Storyteller
- Luna Stage's *The Ground On Which We Stand* Theatrical Performance
- Mr. Boom Boom: Drum Circle for All Ages
- Beverly Mills & Elaine Buck,

Authors & SSAAM Founders
• Featured Exhibition: "The Head that Wears the Crown" – Explore the past, present, and future of African American women's headwear. Featuring selections from SSAAM's museum collection and photo portraits of

continued on pg. 40

The Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum (SSAAM), Central New Jersey's only museum sharing the history of African Americans in our region since the trans-Atlantic Slave trade, will hold its fourth annual Juneteenth celebration on Saturday, June 21, from 12 pm to 4 pm (rain or shine).

Event Highlights:

- Location: National Historic Register-listed Mt. Zion AME Church and historic Reasoner/True House in Skillman, NJ
- Features: Live music, spoken word and theatrical performances, drum circle, local artisans, storytelling workshops and museum activities for all ages, and delicious cuisine

Featured Performances, Activities, and Exhibitions:

Walk In Wednesdays

Stop by between 10AM and 2PM - No appointment necessary.
Enjoy a quick tour and leave with a signature gift!

If you have questions or would like to schedule a virtual tour please call 215.929.5716

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Whether you are retired or are just looking for an opportunity to give back, we are what you are looking for. Come join our team of caregivers to help seniors remain in their homes where they are proven to be their happiest.

Caregiver testimonial, “Being a caregiver means bringing new life into a senior’s heart, who is

Juneteenth

continued from pg. 39

community members across generations modeling early-to late-20th century church hats.

- Guided tours of Mt. Zion AME Church and SSAAM’s Heritage Garden
- Plus ...
 - Spoken Word Performances
 - Read-Aloud Story Corner
 - Museum Scavenger Hunts
 - Launch of SSAAM’s Little

Free Library of Banned Books
▪ “Story Booth” to record memories and reflections

▪ And more!
Join the Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum for a day steeped in history and community connection. Our family-friendly Juneteenth celebration invites visitors to feel the full range of emotions in our liberation stories, from jubilation to sorrow, from defiance to hope. Freedom has always

been hard won. We invite you to answer its call with us.

SSAAM creates community programming to educate and inspire. Our event ticket prices, inclusive of food, reflect our commitment to accessibility. If you have the capacity to make an additional donation, or if you work for an employer who may be interested in sponsoring our event, we welcome your generous support! At a moment when our federal

funding opportunities are in jeopardy, we rely on the continued investment of our local community.

Thank you to our event sponsor, the Princeton University Art Museum, for making this event possible.

For more information about SSAAM’s Juneteenth celebration and to book tickets, donate, sponsor, or volunteer, please visit www.ssaamuseum.org/juneteenth-2025.



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Friends Village

Celebrating the month of May: Honoring our older Americans

The month of May is a time of celebration, reflection, and gratitude. As spring reaches its full bloom, this month offers us meaningful opportunities to honor some of the most important people in our lives — the older adults in our communities.

May is recognized as Older Americans Month (OAM), a national observance led by the Administration for Community Living (ACL). It’s a time set aside to honor, recognize, and celebrate the contributions, resilience, and achievements of older adults. For 2025, the theme is “Flip the Script on Aging.” This empowering message challenges outdated stereotypes about growing older and celebrates the rich opportunities, wisdom, and purpose that come with age.

“Flip the Script on Aging” encourages everyone to reconsider what it means to age in today’s world. Older adults are business owners, volunteers, caregivers, mentors, and community leaders. By embracing their talents, experience, and potential, we can reshape societal perceptions and create more inclusive, supportive communities for people of all ages.

Throughout May, Friends Village will choose an activity and participate in events and activities that celebrate older Americans. From senior games to storytelling events, these activities foster meaningful connections and honor the diverse experiences of older adults.

This May, Friends Village will continue with our Yoga for Seniors classes that run twice a week, along with our Senior

Planet classes that will be covering everything from Cloud Storage, Google Workspace, Google Drive, Google photos, and Smartphone Photography. On May 13 we are also running a very special presentation by Linda Polgar that explores the unique beauty, craftsmanship, and cultural appreciation of Japanese Textiles.

As we celebrate Older Americans Month this May, let’s remember that aging is



not just about adding years to life — it’s about adding life to

years. By honoring the wisdom, *continued on pg. 42*

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Eye Associates Of Bucks County

When Rick Heater went in for a regular checkup with his optometrist, Dr. Bonnie Eldredge, he didn't expect anything out of the ordinary. Once at his appointment he was informed that due to glaucoma he was experiencing an emergency in his left eye and was referred to Dr. Bing Chiu at Eye Associates of Bucks County (EABC). The team at EABC handled the emergency quickly and professionally, and Rick was really impressed with the care he received. Once that was taken care of, it was time to focus on another issue that had been bothering him—his cataracts.

Following a thorough examination, Dr. Chiu determined

that having cataract surgery would greatly increase Rick's quality of life. Given the outstanding glaucoma care he received and the recommendation from his trusted optometrist, Dr. Eldredge, Rick was excited to take the next step and undergo cataract surgery.

Together, Rick and Dr. Chiu went over all the options and decided on a monofocal lens, which made the most sense based on Rick's glaucoma, his recent emergency, and what he hoped to get out of the surgery. According to Rick, Dr. Chiu explained everything clearly, made him feel completely comfortable, and the staff was just as great. The whole process was seamless, making scheduling the surgery a breeze.

Rick noted that all went extremely well from the initial consultation to the post-surgery care. He described Dr. Chiu as an incredibly skilled, compassionate, and dedicated professional. When asked for his closing thoughts Rick said, "Dr. Chiu is easily the best surgeon in Bucks County."

Dr. Chiu and his fellow physicians at Eye Associates of Bucks County believe that every decision should be personal and informed to empower you to take control of your eye health. As a leader in cataract surgery, EABC has been serving the Langhorne area for over 40 years, utilizing the latest tech-



Dr. Bing Chiu, Comprehensive Ophthalmology, Cataracts, Glaucoma

nology and lenses to improve and preserve sight.

If you're ready to improve not only your vision but your quality of life, EABC looks forward to hearing from you. Call Eye Associates of Bucks County at 833-921-6200 or visit www.centerforeyes.com to schedule an appointment.

Friends Village

continued from pg. 41

resilience, and contributions of older adults, we affirm the vital role they play in shaping our communities, families, and futures. Together, let's flip the script on aging, embrace new perspectives, and continue creating spaces where people of all ages feel valued, connected, and empowered.

Here's to a month of celebration, meaningful connection, and gratitude for the incredible older adults who enrich our lives in countless ways. For more information about Friends Village, please visit www.friends-village.org, call 215-968-3346 or attend our upcoming open house on May 21 from 2-4pm at Friends Village, Styer Campus, 331 Lower Dolington Road in Newtown.

Pickering Manor

Looking to make a difference in your community? Do you have a special skill or talent you'd love to share?

Volunteers play an invaluable role in every community, bringing joy, kindness, and support to those in need. Whether it's sharing your talents through music, art, or dance, or simply offering time and conversation, volunteers create meaningful connections that touch lives. Pet therapy, especially, is a favorite among our residents, and we're always excited to welcome new furry friends!

At Pickering Manor, volunteers do more than brighten our residents' days—they help create a sense of belonging and warmth that enriches our community.

Whether you're looking to gain experience,

develop new skills, or make new friends, volunteering here is an opportunity for personal growth and fulfillment. Many of our volunteers say hearing the life stories of our residents is one of the most rewarding parts of their time with us.

Located in the heart of historic Newtown, Pickering Manor is home to a variety of living neighborhoods—from independent living cottages and apartments to personal care, memory care, and skilled nursing and rehabilitation. It's a place where everyone finds a sense of family, friendship, and connection.

We are proud to hold a 5-star overall quality rating from the Centers for Medi-



Bringing Generations Together! 5th grader Charlotte Carver from Quarry Hill Elementary School joined our residents for a joyful afternoon of flower arranging—spreading smiles, creativity, and spring cheer one bloom at a time

care and Medicaid Services—an honor we've received for over a decade.

April was Volunteer Appreciation Month, and we want to extend our deepest thanks to volunteers everywhere. Your kindness, generosity, and time have a profound

impact on communities around the world. A special thank you to our Pickering volunteers for your continued dedication. Your efforts bring so much joy to our residents, and we are incredibly grateful for all that you do!

Interested in joining us?

Call Volunteer Coordinator Tamar Morad at 215-968-3878 to learn more and become part of something meaningful. For more information, visit www.pickeringmanor.org.

Capital Health

continued from pg. 37

personalized care plans for each patient.

Dr. Jenna Mancinelli completed her general surgery residency at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) in Philadelphia, where she served as Chief Resident. She completed breast surgical

oncology fellowship training at MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper University Hospital in Camden, New Jersey.

Outside the clinical setting, Dr. Mancinelli was Academic Chief Resident for General Surgery at PCOM, where she developed a new curriculum for the general surgery residency program that incorporated the fundamentals

of surgical training, simulation, wellness, professional development, and research education.

To make an office appointment with Dr. Huang or Dr. Mancinelli in Newtown, call 609-537-6700 or visit capitalhealthcancer.org/appointment.

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Friday, May 2, 1–3 pm, join the Bucks County Community College's 18th Annual Salute to Mothers Scholarship at the Tyler Formal Gardens, Bucks County Community College, 275 Swamp Rd. in Newtown. Attendees are encouraged to wear their best Kentucky Derby themed hats; the more fanciful, the better! To order tickets or to make a donation in support of the Solute to Mothers Scholarship, visit interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E15010&id=251

Saturday May 3, 10 am, at Memorial Park, 1950 Woodside Rd. in Newtown, come to AARK in the Park. The highly respected AARK Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center will present a hands-on exhibition on hawks and other birds. They have delighted people all over Bucks County with this amazing presentation. This FREE event is sponsored by the LMT Environmental Advisory Council and LMT Birdtown. For more information, contact: Dominique Mitchell at eacbucks@gmail.com.

Sunday, May 4, 1:30–4 pm (with speaker at 2 pm), to be held at the Strassburger Farmstead, 407 Keystone Dr. in Sellersville, The Historical Society of Hilltown Township presents "History Lives On: Celebrating Plumstead Township's 300th Anniversary." Tom Upton of the Plumstead Historical Society, will show his documentary "History Lives On" with historical facts and photos of Plumstead Township, including the Quaker Meetinghouse, Plumsteadville Inn, carriage maker Aaron Kratz, the Doan Gang, the canal, the trolley line and much more. The event is free; Donations appreciated. For more information, visit www.hilltownhistory.org.

Thursday, May 8, 7–9 pm at the Chancellor Center, 30 N Chancellor St. in Newtown, Newtown Borough and Newtown Township will sponsor, "Native Plants, Thriving Habitats: How You Can Help." Krista McCook from Homegrown National Park will share how anyone—whether they have acres of land or just a few potted plants—can contribute to ecological restoration. (Krista will be joining via Zoom.). Also, Diane Smith from Bucks County Audubon Society at Honey Hollow will speak in person about native flowers that you can grow and protect to keep pollinators happy and healthy. Plus, Gino's Native Nursery will be raffling off a \$50 gift certificate! Reserve your spot at www.boroughofnewtown.com/contact-us.

Friday, May 9, at Twining Hall, 4900 Street Rd. in Trevose, Feasterville Rotary Club will be holding its 15th Annual Designer Handbag Bingo. Doors open at 5:30 pm and games start at 7pm. Tickets are \$35.00 each, and include 10 games of bingo. There will be additional game boards, raffles, and 50/50 available for purchase. Bring a non-perishable item or make a monetary donation, and you will receive a ticket for a thank you drawing. MEI Caterers has a menu of food items made to order at reasonable prices as well as drinks at the bar. For tickets, please contact Kathy Doran at 215-593-4656 or email Katherine.a.doran@gmail.com.

Saturday, May 10, 1 pm, Middletown Senior Citizens Association holds its Cash Bingo fundraiser at Middletown Senior Center, 2142 Trenton Rd. in Levittown. Doors open at noon. \$30 in advance; \$35 at the door if available. Limited to 100 players. Fee includes 10 games

of Bingo (3 cards per sheet) and 4 specials. Extra cards on sale. Cash prizes, raffle baskets, 50/50 tickets, and beverages and snacks will also be available. Tickets on sale now. For more information, call 215-945-2920.

Saturday, May 10, 7 am–12 pm (rain date Saturday, May 10) come to Hunger Helpers Community Yard Sale to "find deals and fuel hope" at Heritage Oak Drive in Yardley. Sale will benefit the Interfaith Food Alliance. Every penny will help families facing hunger. For more information, email Communityyardsale9@gmail.com.

Tuesday May 13, 6–7:30 pm at Makefield Elementary School in Yardley, the Lower Makefield Township Swim & Dive Team invites you to its 2025 LMT Swim & Dive Team Open House. For more information, email LMTPoolswimdive@gmail.com or visit www.gomotionapp.com/team/reclblmts/page/home.

Thursday, May 15, 11:30 to 2 pm, the Women's Club of Huntingdon Valley will present their Annual Scholarship Achievement Award, as it does every May, to a deserving graduating female student from Lower Moreland High School. At a fabulous luncheon held at the Huntingdon Valley Country Club, Dr. Marcia Gutowicz, Chairwoman of the Scholarship Committee, will present this year's winner of the scholarship and the winner herself will speak at this event. See our Facebook page at Women's Club of Huntingdon Valley for all our community events and for further information, email us at wchv1951@gmail.com.

Saturday, May 17, 9:30 am–12:30 pm, Annual flea market at Oxford Village, 290 E Winchester Ave. in Langhorne at Independent Living Building. Hot dogs and desserts available for sale. Proceeds to benefit the residents of the retirement home. For more information, call 215-750-9424 or email pgh51@aol.com.

Saturday, May 17, come see the World Famous Mark Reno "Elvis", two-time national champion, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church Hall, 89 Pinewood Dr. in Levittown. Doors open at 6 pm; dinner begins at 6:30 pm; and the show starts at 7:30 pm. The \$35 cost includes dinner. For ticket information, call 267-980-9336.

Saturday, May 17, 9 am–12 pm, Clothing & Shoe Drive Drive-Thru drop off at Berkshire Hathaway Fox & Roach, Realtors office, 796 Newtown-Yardley Rd. in Newtown. Place your gently used/unwanted items in tightly tied bags. All items must be bagged. Electronics (anything with a plug, except TVs and monitors) will also be accepted. Give your items a second chance to be worn/used again! Hosted by Kathleen Lenoir at Kathleen.Lenoir@FoxRoach.com, Susan Koch at Susan.Koch@FoxRoach.com, and Kim Whitlock at Kim.Witlock@FoxRoach.com.

Saturday, May 17, 4:30–7:30 pm, The Episcopal Church Women will sponsor A County Buffet at Grace Episcopal Church, 313 Main St. in Hulmeville, featuring baked ham, roast chicken, sausage with peppers and onions, scalloped potatoes, pineapple stuffing, a salad bar, and homemade desserts. The cost is \$15 for adults, \$6 for children six to ten; and children under five are free. A raffle will be held for two

tickets to Sight and Sound Theaters' production of "NOAH", which runs through December 31. For more information, call 215-757-6025.

Tuesday, May 20, at 7 pm at the Bensalem Senior Center, 1850 Byberry Rd in Bensalem, the Trevoze Horticultural Society will present "Meeting the Mushrooms: An Intro to the Fascinating World of Fungi" during its monthly meeting. Guest speaker, Christian Kustra will cover the basics of mycology, the study of fungi. He will explain how mushrooms grow, how to identify wild mushrooms and what purpose they serve in nature. All meetings are open to the public; all are welcome, \$5 to observe. For further information, please contact 856-866-9163, visit www.trevozegardeners.org or follow us on Facebook.

Saturday, May 31, 10 am, at the LMT Administrative building, 1100 Edgewood Rd. in Yardley, Mike Weilbacher, noted naturalist, environmentalist, educator and author will present "Microplastics, The Invisible Pollutant". He will discuss microplastics, found everywhere from the bottom of the sea to our blood. Learn the surprising ways they spread through our environment and what we can do about it. This free FREE event is sponsored by the LMT Environmental Advisory Council with the participation of the Yardley Refillery. For more information, contact: Dominique Mitchell at eacbucks@gmail.com.

Saturday, June 7, 7:30 pm, Centennial Singers Spring Concert, "Singers Arise in Song" at Log College Middle School, 730 Norristown Rd. in Warminster. Come join us for a variety of music including classical, folk, jazz, choral, spiritual, show tunes, and of course, patriotic numbers. Free cookie buffet and awesome raffle baskets. The concert is free, but donations are welcome. For more information, visit www.centennialsingerswarminster.com and on Facebook @centennialsingerswarminster.

Sunday, June 8, 3 pm, the Bryn Athyn Orchestra will present its Spring Concert at the Mitchell Performing Arts Center in Bryn Athyn. The program features Mahler's Symphony No. 1; Mozart's Overture to Don Giovanni and Symphony No. 38. Tickets \$27/advance, \$30/door. Students: \$15 (buy one get one free). Children under 12 are free. Seniors over 60: \$25. Tickets can be purchased online at baorchestra.org or at the door.

Student journalists

continued from pg. 27
more proud of his students.

"Most of the students on "The Centurion" take a full load of classes and work jobs outside school, yet still manage to do award-winning journalism," said Rogers. "Even after 27 years as a professor here, I'm still amazed by their seemingly boundless energy, creativity and dedication."

The students received their awards at the Student Keystone Media Awards Luncheon on Thursday, April 3, at WITF's Public Media Center in Harrisburg.

For more information on the journalism program at Bucks County Community College, go to www.bucks.edu/journalism. The website for the award-winning Centurion is at www.bucks-news.com.

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continued from pg. 34
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She is a Certified Fund Raising
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Wall of Fame inductee.
O'Donnell has a master's
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