

# WARWICK JOURNAL

O'ROURKE MEDIA GROUP

Late April 2025  
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## Warwick Celebrates Art!

A first grade student at Warwick Elementary School proudly displays his multi-media landscape featuring crayon, watercolor, and tempera paints at the school's first student art show. See story on page 2.

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**SPRING  
HOME &  
GARDEN 2  
EDITION**



# Warwick Elementary School hosts first-ever art show, celebrating student creativity



A sixth grader presents her pop art cartoon drawing created using a drawing grid, and an abstract painted background.



A third grader displays her 2D geode drawing featuring concentric shapes, contour lines, and a textured, pastel background.

by June Portnoy

On April 3, Warwick Elementary School was transformed into a celebration of creativity as the school held its first-ever student art show. From 6 to 8 pm, hallways were lined with colorful works of art, families filled the building, and the spirit of artistic expression was front and center.

The show featured one piece of 2-dimensional artwork from every student in grades 1 through 6. These ranged from pencil and marker drawings to vivid acrylic and tempera paintings. Approximately 150 to 160 students attended with their families, each proudly showcasing their artistic talents.

"It was a great turnout,"

said Marc West, an elementary art teacher at both Warwick and Buckingham Elementary Schools. "Each student had one piece on display, and they were really proud of their work. It was a big deal for them to see it up on the wall and share it with their families." West works alongside Olivia Servidio, also an art teacher at Warwick who splits her time between this school and Doyle Elementary School.

The show was carefully curated with separate gallery spaces for grades 1-3 and 4-6. Special ceiling-hung displays helped fill the space, creating a dynamic viewing route that guided visitors through the entire exhibit. Families, grandparents included, were

encouraged to drop in at any time during the two-hour window. Many parents could be seen snapping photos of their children proudly standing next to their artwork.

West shared that students were deeply engaged in the lead-up to the show. "I usually hang the work a few days prior, and every day the kids were enthusiastically walking through the hallways trying to find their piece. They were so excited."

A highlight of the evening for students was watching painter and TV personality Bob Ross on a large projector screen located in the school cafeteria, while kids and families worked together on activity and coloring sheets. "Bob Ross has really

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# Village Improvement Association

49th Bucks County Designer House and Gardens now open!

The 49th Bucks County Designer House & Gardens, Hidden Trail Farm, located in Ivyland, will be open for tours from April 27 through May 25.

The centerpiece of Hidden Trail Farm is a 5,000-square-foot farmhouse featuring a welcoming porch, three fireplaces, six bedrooms and numerous gathering and entertaining spaces. The property also includes an impressive custom-designed chalet built in 1992 with an open, multi-story living area, loft and two additional bedrooms.

A recently renovated pool and patio area includes a large screened-in gazebo and stun-



ning Koi pond with waterfall, while a large barn has space for multiple boutiques and an on-site cafe serving lunch and light fare. Old York Cellars will provide wine.

"We are thrilled to have this very special, historic property as our 2025 Designer House, and are looking forward to sharing it with the public," said Monica Mosley, chair of the 2025 Designer House Commit-

tee.

This is the largest fundraiser held by the Village Improvement Association of Doylestown (VIA), a non-profit women's organization that founded Doylestown Hospital in 1923. Funds from the 2025 Designer House will benefit community mental health well-being and enhancement of the Doylestown Hospital

Emergency Department mental health unit.

Monies raised also support the work of numerous VIA committees that assist veterans and those in need and provide academic scholarships to teens and women seeking to re-enter the workforce. Funds are also allocated for maintenance of the James-Lorah Memorial Home in Doylestown, which serves as the VIA headquarters and is a museum listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Add a visit to Hidden Trail Farm to your spring calendar! For additional information and to purchase House tour tickets, please visit the Designer House website at [www.BucksCountyDesignerHouse.org](http://www.BucksCountyDesignerHouse.org).

# Master Gardener plant sale set for May 3, rain or shine



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

Penn State Master Gardeners of Bucks County will hold its annual plant sale on Saturday, May 3, from 9 am to 1 pm at the Middletown Grange Fairgrounds located at 576 Penns Park Rd. in Newtown.

This highly anticipated sale will include donated plants

from Master Gardeners, unusual perennials, annuals, vegetables and herbs, pollinator and butterfly plants, native plants, houseplants, shade plants, deer-resistant plants, container plants, and a beautiful selection of hanging baskets

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# Bucks Beautiful *Community roots, blossoming results*



Bucks Beautiful is a grass roots non-profit that coordinates events, community

projects and educational programs to develop sustainable and attractive landscapes that

foster a healthier environment. Since 1990 we have worked to enhance the landscape for residents and visitors alike by beautifying towns, schools, parks, roadsides and pathways throughout Bucks County.

## Beautification

For over three decades we have been providing grants for the development of community gardens throughout Bucks County. These include plantings at hospitals, war memorials, public parks, gateway gardens and town centers. We also

award grants to area garden clubs who sponsor uplifting planters at nursing homes and long-term care facilities.

## Replant Bucks

We're leading the way in local reforestation. Damage from storms, disease and insects on the tree canopy has been devastating. With support from community partners we plant native trees county-wide at parks, historical sites, schools, and non-profit facilities. Donations are welcome to help us plant more trees for future generations.

## Educational Offerings

School planting projects are sponsored annually, and horticulture topics are shared through our newsletter and social media.

## Bulbs for Bucks Daffodil Tour - April through May

Over 1.6 million daffodil bulbs have been planted in public spaces county-wide. Over the years we've sponsored several elementary school planting programs featuring these springtime bloomers.

## Kitchen & Garden Tour - June 8, 2025

This event showcases an exciting mix of properties around historic Central Bucks County. Funds raised bolster community garden grants, horticultural scholarships and educational programs. Tickets on sale now!

## Membership

Join a special network of neighbors, nonprofits, and businesses committed to enhancing Bucks County. Members receive free Kitchen & Garden Tour tickets, early admission, and select discounts!

To become a member, or contribute to the cause, contact Bucks Beautiful by calling 215-340-3639 or visit [www.bucksbeautiful.org](http://www.bucksbeautiful.org).

# C&C Family Roofing and Siding

## How weather impacts the roof of your home

Severe weather events can cause a significant amount of damage to your roof. The cost of that damage can put a tremendous amount of strain on your finances. There are five weather events that homeowners should be cautious of.

**Wind:** Strong winds can lift or tear off shingles, cause things to break loose and damage your roofing material causing punctures and scrapes. Strong wind can also lift loose items like patio furniture, bikes or even trampolines to become projectiles.



**Rain and Water:** Heavy rains can find gaps that normal rain showers wouldn't find and cause rot, mold and interior leaks. Standing water on flat roofing can add significant weight to your roof which may promote a cave in. Water in the winter freezes causing cracks or gaps that expand and create further damage.

**Hail:** Hail can damage your shingles, allowing leaks to occur. Hail can also dent gutters

and down spouts.

**Snow and Ice:** Heavy snow can strain poorly constructed roof structures. Ice dams at the base of the roof restrict melting snow and water from getting off the roof.

That back up can cause major leaks, weaken roofing fasteners and prevent proper ventilation.

**Extreme Heat:** Excessive heat causes shingles to prematurely crack or become brittle leading to roof system failures. Extreme fluctuations in temperature can promote stress on roofing material leading to leaks.

These 5 factors should be monitored regularly to prevent roof and structural damage to your home. Other factors that

contribute to poor roof performance are:

**Aging Shingles:** Every homeowner should know when their roof was installed and what the manufacturer's suggested life expectancy for that shingle type is.

**Poor Maintenance:** Regular gutter and roof cleanings prevent damage and will allow you to inspect the condition of your roof.

**Improper Installation:** Finding a reputable roofing contractor will prevent fly-by-night roofs from doing improper work for a quick buck.

Be smart and proactive to protect your most expensive asset – your home. Trust C&C Family Roofing & Siding for all your siding and roofing needs. Call us at 215-999-6248.

## 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](http://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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## Wild Birds Unlimited, Buckingham

Hummingbirds are here! Spring is upon us and that means the return of the hummingbirds; one of nature's jewels! The Ruby Throated Hummingbird generally spends the winter in Central America, Mexico and Florida. They migrate to Canada and other parts of Eastern North America for the summer to breed.

Hummingbirds can fly up to 60 miles an hour, but typically about 30-45 mph. Did you know they are the only birds that can fly backwards and upside down? They lay the smallest bird egg in the world in a golf ball size nest, usually producing two broods a year.

Hummingbirds eat about every 10 minutes. They drink nectar from plants and sugar water from feeders, lapping up the nectar with their long tongues. You can provide sugar water in a nectar feeder by



Lisa Mergen with Hummingbird Feeders in full display at Wild Birds Unlimited, Buckingham

combining four parts water to one part white sugar. They eat insects and insect eggs on the ground and in trees.

Their choice of preferred flowers are salvia, trumpet creeper, bee balm, thistle petunia and jewelweed.

Wild Birds Unlimited is fully

stocked with a wide variety of Nectar Feeders in all shapes and sizes, glass and plastic, hanging, staked, and window mounted. We also offer ant moats (although some are already built-in), nectar brushes/sponges and nectar concentrate/powder.

Not sure where or how to start? FeederScaping services are available.

Bird Walks are held the third Sunday of every month; just email Lisa for more information at wbu-buckingham@gmail.com.

Online ordering is available at mywbu.com/Buckingham – all orders over \$75 ship free within 150 miles. Local delivery is available on our 20# bags.

Just email your order above for the freshest and finest bird seed available, or stop in the store. We are located on Route

202 between Doylestown and Peddlers Village.

### Master Gardener

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for Mother's Day.

Penn State Extension Master Gardeners develop their horticultural expertise through participation in educational training classes. In exchange for their training, Master Gardeners serve as volunteers for extension horticulture programs, including teaching, community demonstration gardens, and answering questions on county garden hotlines.

More than 80 knowledgeable Master Gardeners will be on hand during the sale to answer your home gardening questions.

Your plant sale purchases will support community outreach, local demonstration gardens, and gardening education.

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.

## 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](http://www.americanchimney.net).

## 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 men-



SCORE mentor meets with a client.

toring 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 men-

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TRANE



# Warminster Food Bank ribbon cutting for new location

Warminster Food Bank will cut the ribbon at its new location, 495 E. County Line Rd. in Hatboro on Thursday, May 1 at 10 am. The new site, situated in the Town & Country Shopping Center in Warminster Township, is conveniently located, offers free parking, and with 1,778 square feet of space, the food bank will be able to better serve clients who are dealing with food insecurity, as well as accept of donations of non-perishable food items. There will be tours of the facility and refreshments will be provided. Donations of nonperishable food items will be accepted after the ribbon cutting.

While the new site has been operational since the beginning of April, the food bank board members and volunteers wanted to be situated in new space before hosting a formal ribbon cutting ceremony. The move was made possible by a grant from the John A. Powell



Warminster Food Bank will be cutting the ribbon on their new location at 495 E. County Line Road in Hatboro, Pa., on Thursday, May 1 at 10 am. The new site, situated in the Town & Country Shopping Center in Warminster Township, offers free parking, and is conveniently located for residents in the Warminster area. With 1,778 square feet of space, Warminster Food Bank will be able to better serve clients who are dealing with food insecurity, as well as accept donations of nonperishable food items. photo courtesy of Warminster Food Bank

Family Foundation of Naples, FL, which will allow the food bank to pay for the lease of the new space for five years, with an option to fund the lease for an additional five years. While

this move was in the works for several months, it was hastened by the Warminster Heights board, which voted to discontinue the food bank's use of their 75 Downey Drive space after 67 years.

"While it was difficult to leave the Downey Drive location, we needed a larger space to better serve our growing client base," said Mike Cerino, Executive Director, Warminster Food Bank. "Thankfully, the grant from the John A. Powell Family Foundation was finalized at the right time and we were able to secure our new space. We are confident that this new location will give us the opportunity to further our mission of providing services to meet the needs of those experiencing food insecurity in our community."

This event is co-hosted by The Warminster Rotary Club which supports the Warminster Food Bank. One of the missions of Rotary International is to address food insecurity on many levels, locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally by raising awareness and partnering with organizations who work tirelessly for the cause.

**About Warminster Food Bank**  
The Warminster Food Bank is a 501c3 organization that provides food to people in need in the Bucks and Montgomery Counties. Currently, more than 650 families receive food donated by individuals and businesses. Donations and volunteers are always welcome. To learn more, visit [www.warminsterfoodbank.org](http://www.warminsterfoodbank.org).

spot  
light

## Kenderdine's Heating Oil & HVAC

*Breathe easy this spring:  
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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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SCORE

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toring 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 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](http://www.score.org) to learn more about local volunteer opportunities or to request a mentor for your small business.

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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



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 Piascecki 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 Zennick; Claire Titus, Central Bucks West volunteer and Past President Kathy Meyer.

with the presentation of the Violet Richardson Award to Clare 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 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 Dis-

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## Soroptimists

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trict 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 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

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SPRING HOME & GARDEN

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



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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.

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



NEXT EDITION

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May 27th

spot  
light

ECI Comfort

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

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#### Schedule a Professional Tune-Up

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#### 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?

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IAQ. Our team is here to help you enjoy a worry-free, energy-efficient cooling season.

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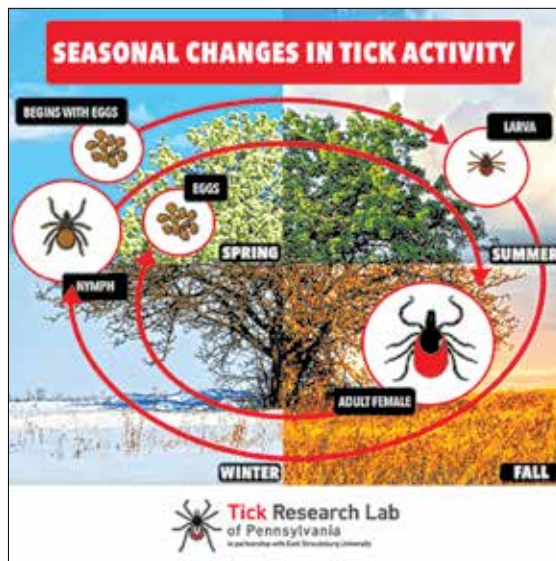


# Andrew's Lawn Ranger

Turf Care: We are currently applying our second round of crabgrass control. This is crucial for pre/post emergent suppression. This round includes broad-leaf weed control, micronutrients as well as a balanced slow-release fertilizer.

## Flea, Tick and Mosquito Suppression:

Warmer temperatures are coming, bringing out all our springtime pests. We have begun our applications to suppress flea, ticks, and mosquitos, which is made by fogging the perimeter of the property as well as spraying nesting areas. Plant material around the house (patio, deck, pool, swing set wood lines if



applicable) will also be treated. Adult ticks are present now, laying eggs, and active any day when temperatures are above freezing. Eggs hatch in the spring. Larvae are present during late summer and nymphs during late spring and throughout the summer. Ticks "hang out" on the ends of

storing water makes a great "nursery". Eggs hatch after water (from rain or a sprinkler) covers the eggs. Larvae can be seen in the water. They are very active and are often called "wigglers". They become pupae, which live in the water. An adult mosquito emerges from the pupae and flies away.

branches and tall grass leaves. Any animal or human brushing up against the plant runs the risk of picking up a tick hitchhiker.

Being "bugged" by mosquitos? Adult female mosquitos lay eggs in anything holding water. Eggs survive drying out up to eight months. Mosquitos only need a small amount of water to lay eggs.

The entire egg to adult cycle takes 7-10 days!

Enjoy your time outdoors. Let us treat your property so you won't be chased back indoors.

Contact our office to set up a consultation at 215-968-8535 or [AndrewsLawnRanger@aol.com](mailto:AndrewsLawnRanger@aol.com). For more information, visit our website at [www.andrewslawnranger.com](http://www.andrewslawnranger.com).

## Sauers Cares evolves into Drive and Thrive:

*A new chapter in community transportation support*

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 efforts, the organization has supported a wide range of causes, from housing and food security to mental health initiatives. Over the years, one

continued on pg. 15

## Sauers Cares

continued from pg. 14

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."

continued on pg. 16

# PA Cyber Charter School

*Elementary student inspires family to start flavored ice business*



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

"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 Everette 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 Everette 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 Everette. "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 Everette 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 flexibil-

continued on pg. 16

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## Bucks County Community College's Kids on Campus

### Summer camp program

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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](https://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](https://bucks.edu/kidsoncampus) or call 215-968-8409 to secure a spot.

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### PA Cyber

*continued from pg. 15*

ity 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.

"We're really proud of him, and we're glad that we have the option to do school a lil' differently," says Lauren.

Learn more about personalizing your child's education at [pacyber.org](https://pacyber.org).

### Sauers Cares

*continued from pg. 15*

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](https://www.comedriveandthrive.org).

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## Max's Electric Bikes

*Join the e-bike revolution at Max's!*

At Max's, we get excited about the constant evolution of e-bike innovation and design. We eagerly await the news coming from our manufacturer partners about the newest models and latest technologies. Just one of the newest offerings from our partner Velotric® is quickly becoming a shop favorite, the all-new Breeze 1.

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3; Mokwheel's powerhouse 1,000 watt motor Obsidian now in a step through model; or the Segway Xyber, a cutting-edge design that redefines what an e-bike can be, Max's has whatever you are looking for in a new ride.

So come on down to Max's and test out your new ride! Max's Electric Bikes is located in Barnaby's Plaza at 707 N. Easton Road in

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Opening Night June 6 | 6:30-9:30p  
Crafts in the Meadow — October 18th & 19th

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10:00am-1:00pm  
(painting & drawing only, no clay)

**Young Artists:**  
5-8yrs • July 14, 16, 18

**Teen Watercolor Workshop:**  
July 21, 23, 25

**Art Around the World** — July 28-Aug 1

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— August 11-15

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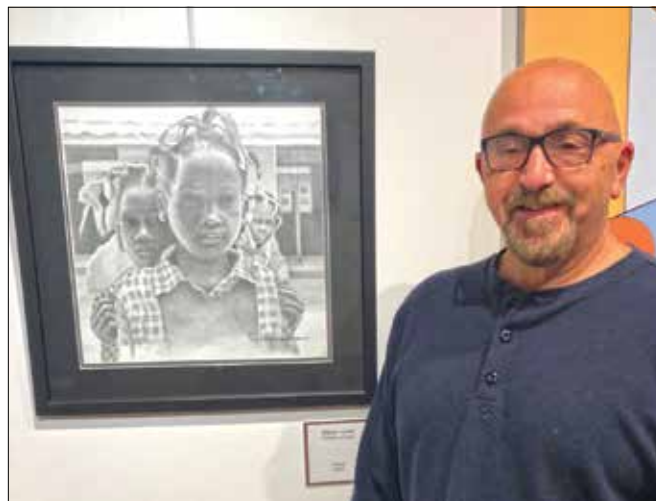


## Tyler Park Center for the Arts

### 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



William Lessa, TPCA Members Show participant with "Children of Haiti".

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

Learn more at [TylerParkArts.org](http://TylerParkArts.org), follow @TylerParkArts on Facebook and Instagram, or call 267-218-0290.

## 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 and the Bucks County

*continued on pg. 20*

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## Tri-State Stairlifts

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Everyone has their own unique set of considerations based on health issues but if getting up and down the stairs is the primary problem, installing a stairlift could be the best solution for many reasons.

Moving is expensive and can cost thousands of dollars (often upwards of \$8k).

Cleaning out the home you have lived in for 30-50 years is an arduous task.

Trying to find that "perfect" retirement community and plunking down a huge portion of your life savings is a little sobering!

Finding an affordable home in a "55 and Older" community in the real estate market is a challenge.

Leaving the home and the community that you know and love is not easy - neighbors, place of worship, familiar grocery store, restaurants, etc.

Most importantly, the doctors and healthcare team that you have come to trust for many years may be further away or have to change completely.

If the stairs in your home have become too challenging, it's time for a no cost, no obligation evaluation by the local professionals at Tri-State Stairlifts.

All stairlifts are in stock and can usually be installed within a few days – new, used and rental stairlifts are available. Pre-owned stairlifts start at \$1,750

including installation with a full 1-year warranty on parts and labor.

Tri-State Stairlifts is an authorized dealer for Harmar and Brooks stairlifts. It is important to buy a stairlift from a company that has factory trained employees and uses only original factory parts.

Owner Don Pasquarella has lived in this area his entire life and prides himself on the top-notch sales and service they provide along with their FIVE Star rating by the Better Business Bureau.

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

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



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

high-quality education to residents from every community of 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 leadership team and the deans in fulfilling our strategic plan."

"I am thrilled and deeply grateful to be joining Bucks County Community College," said O'Donnell. "This opportunity brings me back home to Bucks County, where I am honored to serve my neighbors and friends in a respected institution dedicated to excellence and community impact. I look forward to advancing the mission of BCCC and helping to shape a bright future for our students and the region."

O'Donnell is a lifelong resident of Bucks County and has served in advancement roles in several institutions including Conwell-Egan High School, St. Mary Medical Center, The College of New Jersey, and most recently, Rosemont College. She is a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) and a Conwell-Egan Catholic High School

Wall of Fame inductee.

O'Donnell has a master's degree in arts administration from Drexel University and a bachelor's degree in studio art from The Catholic University of America.

For more information about Bucks County Community College, visit [bucks.edu](http://bucks.edu).

## United Way

continued from pg. 18

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

continued on pg. 25

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- ZUCCHINI FRITTI** - \$7.95 + tax  
Parmesan crusted zucchini, lightly fried and served with our classic marinara
- SHRIMP BISQUE** - \$5.95 + tax

**ENTREES**

- SALMON DELLA CASA** - \$29.95 + tax  
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Two jumbo crab cakes seared with our special sauce, broiled with lemon and white wine, served with smashed potatoes and green beans

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## Warwick Elementary School

*continued from pg. 2*

become important with the students over the past few years,” West explained. “It’s always a fan favorite.”

In addition to enjoying the artwork and activities, students who attended the show received a raffle ticket for a chance to win a basket full of art supplies. This small touch added extra excitement and encouraged students to be part of the event.

West, who has been teaching at Warwick for four years, spearheaded the idea for the show. “When I came to the school, I said we should have an art show. It’s a big part of being an artist, displaying your work and having conversations about your process. That’s why I started it, and families were so appreciative.”

The show also plays a crucial

role in encouraging students’ future interest in art. “For our older students in fifth and sixth grades, this might be their last formal art class if they choose not to take art in middle school,” said West. “So it’s a special chance for them to reflect on how far they’ve come and decide whether they want to continue.”

At the same time, younger students get inspired by seeing the advanced projects created by older grades. “They’ll ask, ‘When are we going to do that project?’” West said. “It gets them excited for what’s ahead.”

The art curriculum at Warwick emphasizes both foundational and technical skills. “For grades 1–3, we focus on elements like color families, line, shape, and pattern. In upper grades, we get into things like one-point perspective and drawing with a grid to recreate cartoon characters



Artwork is displayed throughout the hallways at Warwick Elementary School.

accurately,” explained West.

Although this year’s show featured only 2D work, West hopes to build on the event in the future. “At Buckingham, we turn the hallway into a black light gallery with neon projects. That’s something I’d love to bring to Warwick next time,” he said. The plan is to alternate shows between the two schools, making Warwick’s art show a biennial event.

West is passionate about the broader value of art education. “I believe we should be teaching the whole child, not just academics. Creativity is a big part of that,” he said. “For some students, art is when they shine. If you take that away, it affects their motivation across the board.”

He emphasized that art is about more than the final product. “When you break it down, the process of creating is very intelligent and thorough. It teaches problem solving, collaboration, and planning; skills that are useful in every area of life.”

Warwick Elementary’s debut art show marks a new tradition, one that not only celebrates student creativity but also

strengthens the school community. As West put it, “If you foster that artistic and creative mind from the time kids are in elementary school, by the time they leave high school, some of them have an unbelievable set of skills and ideas. It’s important to start that young.”

Warwick Elementary School is part of the Central Bucks School District, the third largest school district in the state outside of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Central Bucks will host its district-wide art show at Central Bucks High School South, 1100 Folly Rd. in Warrenton, where student artwork from grades 1 through 12 will be on display for the public. The art show will take place Friday, May 30, (Show Opening) 6 pm–8 pm; Saturday, May 31, 10 am–3 pm; and Sunday, June 1: 10 am–3 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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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](http://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](mailto: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.hilltown-history.org](http://www.hilltown-history.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 Home-grown 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](http://www.boroughofnewtown.com/contact-us).

**Friday, May 9, at Twining Hall, 4900 Street Rd. in Trevoise, Feaster-ville 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:LMTPoolswimdive@gmail.com) or visit [www.gomotionapp.com/team/reclblmtd/page/home](http://www.gomotionapp.com/team/reclblmtd/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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Kathleen.Lenoir@FoxRoach.com), Susan Koch at [Susan.Koch@FoxRoach.com](mailto:Susan.Koch@FoxRoach.com), and Kim Whitlock at [Kim.Witlock@FoxRoach.com](mailto: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 Trevoise 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,

#### United Way

*continued from pg. 20*

Sheri Ratner, Impact Director for 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 mile-

stone 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

please contact 856-866-9163, visit [www.trevosegardeners.org](http://www.trevosegardeners.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](mailto: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](http://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](http://baorchestra.org) or at the door.

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](http://www.uwbucks.org/help-center).

#### Soroptimists

*continued from pg. 11*

Fresh Start Pantry and Closet at seven district schools that provides food and clothing to kids in need, and presents the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (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 proj-

ects. 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](http://investindreams.org).



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