

Doylestown OBSERVER



Doylestown Block Parties Return!

Caitlin Hernandez (second from left), Director of Parks and Recreation Department at Doylestown Borough, enjoys outside dining with her family during a Doylestown Block Party, a popular weekend summer event taking place through September. See story on page 2.

Photo by Mimi Black

Summer nights come alive at Doylestown Block Parties

by June Portnoy

Doylestown Borough is once again transforming its streets into a lively outdoor dining experience along with outside shopping, live music and even games as the Borough Block Parties return for their fifth year. This popular weekend event, launched in 2020 as a creative response to the COVID-19 pandemic, has now become an annual summer tradition.

The first Block Party weekend of the year took place May 3 and 4 on N. Main Street (State to Court streets). From now through September the Block Parties will be held on alternating Fridays and Saturdays during which time different downtown streets will be closed creating pedestrian-only zones from 5 pm to 11 pm.

Restaurants spill out into

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(clockwise from top) Doylestown closes downtown streets for its Block Party. Anne and Ron Molatto from Doylestown (front), Pat and Donald Kane from Buckingham (back) enjoy eating outside. Kai Husenaj (left) and Ava Husenaj, both from Doylestown draw chalk art on the street. Tony Verbeck of The Love Handles plays music for people enjoying outdoor dining.

Photos by Mimi Black

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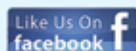
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spot
light

Wild Birds Unlimited, Buckingham

Feed the birds all summer long!

Now that the snowbirds have returned to Canada to find respite from the heat, what we have around us are year-round residents like Blue Jays and Cardinals, and summer residents like Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Buntings, and a number of other birds that are potential visitors to your feeders.

We are often asked at the store, "Should I stop feeding birds in the summer?" Our usual response is, "Do you like seeing birds at your feeder?" If the answer is yes, then while some birds might be less active or busy catering to juvenile birds, you can still yield the rewards by keeping seeds in your summer feeders all



summer long!

It's also important to provide a source of water, and our variety of bird baths are the perfect way to do so! Keep it in an area of part sun and add one of our copper purification disks to slow algae growth. If

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Historic farmhouse transformed for 49th Annual VIA Designer House & Gardens

by June Portnoy

Throughout the month of May, thousands of visitors experienced the transformation of a centuries-old Ivyland estate into the 49th annual Bucks County Designer House & Gardens. The featured property, Hidden Trail Farm at 636 Almshouse Rd., offered not just a showcase of elite interior design but a window into over 300 years of Bucks County history.

This year's event, organized by the Village Improvement Association (VIA) of Doylestown, spotlighted a 14.4-acre estate that includes two residences: a historic 18th-century farmhouse and a custom-built chalet from 1992. Both structures were meticulously renovated by a team of nearly 20 interior designers, each contributing time and creative vision to convert the property into a stunning display of modern and traditional aesthetics.

The roots of Hidden Trail Farm trace back to 1722, when Derrick Kroesen, a Dutch immigrant and early settler, was one of 21 people to sign the petition that established Northampton Township. At the time, he had already been farming the land for five years, having purchased 1,000 acres in stages from land originally granted to Arthur Cook by William Penn in 1684.

Kroesen and his descendants occupied



the land for roughly 140 years, and the original farmhouse, still standing today, was constructed in 1721, making it one of the region's oldest continuously used residences. Historical records reveal that the Kroesen family operated a plantation that, at its peak, spanned over 1,000 acres bounded by what are now Almshouse, Hatboro, Bristol, and Jacksonville Roads.

Ownership of the land changed hands multiple times throughout the 19th century. In 1830, Silas Yerkes purchased a portion of the property and doubled the size of the farmhouse through renovations that defined much of its current structure. John Scott acquired the estate in 1867, followed by Mahlon H. Stout in 1894, and eventually Harry Snellenburg, owner of the prominent Philadelphia department store,

in the early 20th century. The Snellenburgs restored the house, added the current library and primary bedroom suite, and renamed it Henny Penny Farm.

In 1978, Raymond and Roberta Trail became the next custodians. The Trail family removed stucco from the home's exterior to reveal the original stonework and modernized the

interior while preserving its colonial character. Mrs. Trail chronicled their hands-on restoration experience in a memoir, offering a unique perspective on life within such a storied structure.

A fire in 1984 destroyed a second historic homestead on Hatboro Road, once part of the larger estate. Before selling, the Trails expanded the property by acquiring adjacent land, ultimately creating the 14.4-acre estate that hosted this year's Designer House.

The chalet, added by subsequent owners in 1992, introduced a modern contrast to the original farmhouse. With soaring ceilings, a loft-style design, a spa, and a sauna, the space is now decorated in mid-century modern style, reflecting a design departure that delighted visitors.

"This year's Designer House was unique because of that blend of old and new," said Pat Urban, Vice Chair of the 2025 Designer House and a VIA board member. "The chalet is something we haven't really done before; it's midcentury modern, which is really trending right now, and it paired beautifully with the classic charm of the farmhouse."

Both homes were renovated by local designers, who volunteered their time and creativity. "Each designer was assigned their own room, or sometimes more, and they worked collaboratively so there was a sense of flow," Urban explained. "The result was breathtaking."

The Designer House is the VIA's largest annual fundraising event, and the proceeds from this year's event are primarily earmarked for enhancing the behavioral health unit at Doylestown Hospital's Emergency Department, a reflection of the community's growing mental health needs.

Shuttle buses ran regularly from Richboro Swim Club, and an estimated 5,000 visitors toured the property from April 27 through May 25. Guests also enjoyed shopping at on-site boutiques housed in the estate's large barn and dining at a café catered by McCaffrey's.

Currently listed for \$3.45 million with

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Kenderdine's Heating Oil & HVAC

Spring allergies got you down? Your AC filter might be to blame

Spring brings sunshine, fresh air, and for many of us, sniffles and sneezes. While you may be quick to blame blooming trees and high pollen counts, your indoor air could be part of the problem. If your AC filter hasn't been changed or cleaned recently, it might be circulating allergens instead of keeping them out.

Your HVAC system works hard to maintain a comfortable temperature, but it also plays a big role in your home's air quality. A dirty or clogged filter can't trap dust, pollen, and pet dander effectively, which means those particles stay in the air you breathe.

Don't Let a Dirty Filter Ruin Spring

How often should you check your AC filter? It depends on your filter type:

- **Disposable filters:** Swap them out every 1–3 months. Households with pets or allergy sufferers should lean toward the monthly mark.
- **Washable filters:** These should be cleaned every three months. After rinsing, make sure they're fully dry before putting them back in place.

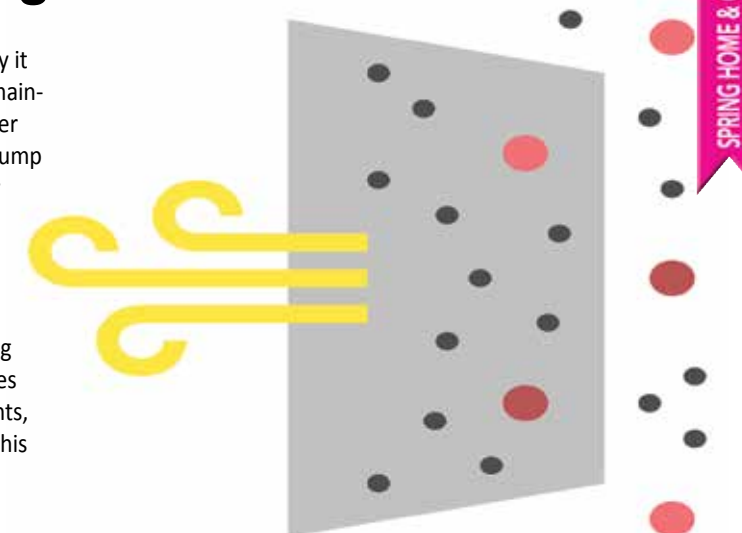
Pro tip: Always give the filter rack a quick vacuum or wipe-down when you change or clean the filter; it helps keep dust from blowing back into your system.

You may also consider upgrading your system with HEPA filters or UV lights. These additions to your system can further improve your home's air quality.

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Rosenello's Windows, Siding and Roofing

40 years of putting Bucks County homeowners first

In Bucks County, where pride in homeownership runs deep, Rosenello's Windows, Siding and Roofing has stood out for four decades—not just for high-quality work, but for its unwavering commitment to customer service.

Since opening their doors 40 years ago, Rosenello's has built its reputation by focusing on what matters most: the homeowner. From Newtown to Doylestown, Yardley to Bensalem, residents across Bucks County have come to rely on Rosenello's not just for exceptional windows, siding, and roofing—but for a service experience that's honest, attentive, and stress-free.

"At Rosenello's, we don't just install roofs or windows—we build relationships," says

the team. "Every project starts with listening, and every customer deserves respect, clear communication, and follow-through."

Whether you're replacing aging siding or exploring energy-efficient window options, Rosenello's takes the time to understand your goals and make recommendations that suit your needs and budget—never with pressure, always with integrity. Their crews treat each property as if it were their own, and the company stands behind every job long after it's complete.

This people-first approach is why so much of Rosenello's business comes from referrals and repeat customers throughout the county. Even as the company has grown



and kept pace with the latest products and technologies, one thing has never changed: their dedication to treating customers like neighbors—because they are.

As they celebrate 40 years in business, Rosenello's remains proud to serve Bucks County with the same values they started with: honesty, craftsmanship, and true customer care.

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

SCORE's small business mentoring, resources help military veterans succeed

During National Military Appreciation Month and beyond, SCORE mentors offer resources for veterans to start and grow their entrepreneurial enterprises.

Veterans' training, resolve and fortitude to overcome challenges make them the ideal entrepreneur.

They soar as small business owners. According to research, 80 percent of the 1.7 million

veteran-owned business owners consider themselves successful. The small business five-year survival rate for veterans is double that of the non-veteran population.

Data from the U.S. Small

Business Administration has shown that small business owners with an established mentor have twice the success rate—70 percent versus 35 percent—as those who do not have a mentor.

In conjunction with National Military Appreciation Month in May, SCORE, a national non-profit organization that assists small businesses, has developed specific resources for use

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ECI Comfort Energy-saving thermostat tips for spring



As the days warm up, your thermostat can help you stay comfortable while keeping energy bills in check. Here are simple adjustments that can make a big difference:

Raise the temperature when you're away
When no one is home, set your thermo-

stat 7–10 degrees higher. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, this can lower cooling costs by up to 10%.

Use a programmable or smart thermostat
Modern thermostats automatically adjust temperatures based on your schedule. This saves energy without the hassle of constant manual changes.

Use ceiling fans with your AC
Fans help circulate cool air, allowing you to set your thermostat about 4 degrees higher and still feel comfortable. Remember: fans cool people, not rooms, so turn them off when you leave.

Avoid placing heat-producing appliances near the thermostat

Lamps, TVs, and other electronics can cause the thermostat to register false heat readings, making your system run longer than necessary.

Get ahead of the heat

Spring is the perfect time to develop energy-saving habits before the full summer heat arrives. These small adjustments reduce wear on your system and lower utility bills.

Call ECI Comfort today to schedule your \$79 AC Tune-Up! Our technicians will ensure your system is running at peak efficiency before the summer heat sets in. Call us at 267-227-0995 or visit our website www.ecicomfort.com/ac-2025.

SCORE

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by its 10,000 mentors nationally in mentoring veterans.

The SCORE Veterans Small Business Resource Guide features veterans-specific resources to offer insight on developing a business plan, securing funding, starting a business, buying an existing business, buying a franchise, connecting with one of SCORE's volunteer mentors, and gaining a better understanding of business through webinars and workshops.

"Volunteering at SCORE is

my way of showing appreciation to those who helped and guided me during my career while sharing my background and experience to help entrepreneurs succeed," said SCORE Mid-Atlantic Regional Vice President Ed Coleman. "While I enjoy working with all SCORE clients, as a U.S. Army veteran, I particularly enjoy working with veterans to translate their military experience into entrepreneurship. Helping clients realize their dreams is very gratifying and the essence of the SCORE mission."

SCORE Bucks County Chapter

Co-Chair Leah Cianfrani said mentors continually expand their knowledge base to better assist veterans on their entrepreneurial journey.

"Military transitioning from active duty have different needs than civilians in terms of starting a business," said Cianfrani. "It's wonderful to have veterans' resources at our volunteers' fingertips to aid in mentoring our service men and women."

Veterans account for about 10 percent of SCORE's client base. Veterans own 10 percent of small businesses and 14 percent of franchises. Since

franchisors have a defined plan of what the business should entail, veterans represent the perfect franchisee given their ability to effectively execute plans as intended.

Nationally, veterans own nearly 2 million businesses, employing more than 5 million Americans, and generating more than \$1 trillion in annual income. Of those, 40 percent of veteran-owned businesses generate more than \$500,000 in annual revenue.

To learn more about SCORE, request a mentor or volunteer to be one, visit score.org.

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As temperatures rise, it's the perfect time to upgrade your home's comfort and curb appeal. Jammer Doors offers

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Whether you're replacing an old garage door or updating your porch or patio, Jammer Doors provides expert service, top-quality products, and unbeatable value—backed by over 30 years of trusted experience.

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Summer is just getting started—make sure your home is ready for it with Jammer Doors.

Oboe and violin in concert at the library *Free outdoor concert*

The Friends of the Doylestown Library presents "Past & Present Voices: Oboe

and Violin in Concert" on Saturday, June 7, from 1 to 2 p.m. in The Backyard—the outdoor



Anna Majcherczyk



Arianna Kalian

extension of the Doylestown Library.

Arianna Kalian and Anna Majcherczyk will perform a program of duets by composers from the eighteenth century to present day including Bennett, Boismortier, Casal, Fine and Ginastera.

"In this unique program, the 'voices'—the violin and oboe—have a conversation with each other through the music," said Ms. Kalian. "We'll also share some introductory comments about the music and our instruments."

Arianna Kalian, an avid chamber musician and oboist,

has been a member of the L'Amore della Musica woodwind and the Chatham Chamber Ensemble reed trio in New York City. While living in Michigan, she served as Principal Oboe with the Southern Great Lakes Symphony and performed in numerous chamber orchestras in the Detroit Metro area. Ms. Kalian has appeared in chamber music recitals at St. Agnes and St. Stanislaus Churches in Manhattan, and as solo recitalist at the Villa Clementine in Wiesbaden, Germany as well as the Merton College Chapel at Oxford University, England.

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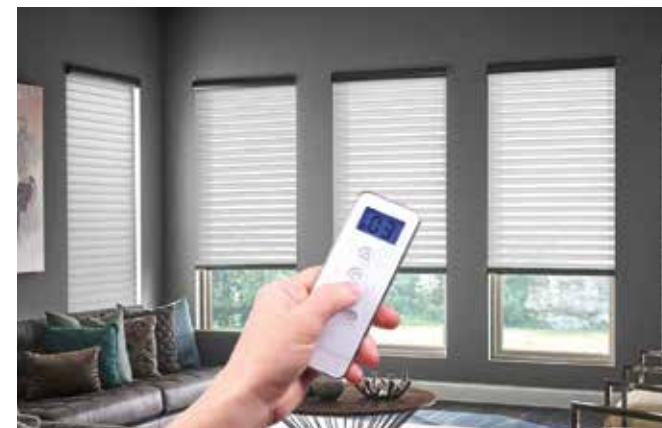
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3. Security: Homeowners can help deter unwanted visitors while on vacation or away from home by utilizing programmable automation settings. Blinds and shades can be easily programmed to open and close at specific times to make the home appear occupied, even if the owners are at work or out of the house.

4. Energy Savings: Your customers can help improve their home energy consumption and light control

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5. Furniture & Home

Protection: Motorized shades will help homeowners protect their investment in woodwork, furniture, upholstery, floors, and artwork from UV damage and inevitable fading. Motorized shades can be programmed to close automatically during the time of day when the sun's rays are the strongest.

Contacting one of our window professionals assures that you'll find the perfect set of shades with the correct options for motorization to fit your needs. Our experts know the industry and what's best for your home. Contact us at 267-201-7509 or visit our website at www.mitsbuckscounty.com and we will get you started.

Concert

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Anna Majcherczyk, violinist, has been a concertmaster of the Krakow Youth Philharmonic Orchestra, debuted as a soloist at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, and has performed in prestigious venues such as the Musikvereinsaal in Vienna and the Philharmonie Berlin. From 2012 to 2018, she was associate leader of the second violins with the Bremen Philharmonic Orchestra. Currently based in New York, she performs with various orchestras and chamber groups including serving as concertmaster with the New York Repertory Orchestra and the Brooklyn Chamber Orchestra, and

teaches extensively at the Lucy Moses School, Opportunity Music Project and the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music.

Please preregister for the event by emailing: friendsofdoylestownlibrary@gmail.com.

Chairs will be provided while available, or feel free to bring your own fold-up. In case of rain, the event will take place in the Pearl Buck room.

The Friends of the Doylestown Library is a non-profit organization supporting the Doylestown Library. Visit the Friends of the Doylestown Library online at friendsofdoylestownlibrary.org, on Facebook at Doylestown Library Friends, or on Instagram at Dtownfriends.

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Tinsman Bros., Inc

The oldest lumberyard still in operation in the entire country!

It is well known that Bucks County is rich with history and Tinsman Bros. has its own historic roots here that go back 240 years!

Founded in 1785, the historic Lumberville landmark has weathered floods, hurricanes, wars and economic crises. Tom Tinsman is the 5th generation to carry on the family business, and he works in partnership with his nephew, Will, who is the 6th generation to carry on the family legacy.

The lumberyard is nestled in a quaint pocket of Solebury Township along the Delaware canal and the Paunacussing Creek with barns rich in history strewn throughout the lush landscape.

In the 1890s this old mill was in full operation. The dam on the Paunacussing Creek aided in diverting waterflow to the mill where it turned water-wheels which in turn powered the saws for the sawmill.

Freshly milled lumber was transported by horse and wagon via the bridge over the Delaware River to the railroad

depot in Raven Rock. There, the lumbermen loaded the railroad's flat cars for delivery throughout the quickly growing industrialized country.

In 1955, the great flood destroyed the dam. As a result, the sawmill portion of the lumberyard became and continues to remain inactive. Prior to the flood, the lumberyard's office and large molding barn was located in our lower yards along River Road. The office was moved to another location in our upper yard for safety, and the molding barn has been "relocated" alongside!

Today, Tinsman Bros. works with lumber and building material manufacturers around the country to bring you the finest materials available. They offer a wide selection of lumber, interior and exterior doors, attic stairs, paints and sundries, hardware, and more.

You can count on Tinsman Bros. to offer you quality products with old-fashioned integrity and service. They still offer delivery today, but now with a



Celebrating 240 years as a successful family business - current owners Tom and Will Tinsman. (photo credit to Laura Billingham)

truck and driver rather than a horse and wagon!

Tinsman Bros., Inc. is located at 6632 Old Carversville Road

in Lumberville. You can call them at 215-297-5100 or visit their website at www.tinsmanbrotherslumber.com

Empower Wheels Car Clinic provides free car maintenance

Services to families in need



Marianne, a single parent of two children with multiple disabilities, is grateful to Drive and Thrive, the only resource she found to help with car repairs so she can take her children to their many doctor appointments.

continued on pg. 18

spot
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At Harris Comfort, we understand the importance of keeping your home comfortable year-round. That's why we're proud to be your local authorized Trane dealer, offering top-quality installation, maintenance, and service of Trane's renowned heating and cooling units.

For over a century, Trane has pioneered the HVAC industry with a reputation for resilience, efficiency, and groundbreaking technology. Their top-tier natural gas or oil furnaces, boilers, and heat pumps are not just products, they are promises of uninterrupted comfort and savings on your energy bills. At Harris Comfort, we take pride in being specialists in Trane's cutting-edge comfort solutions, ensuring your home is a sanctuary in any weather.

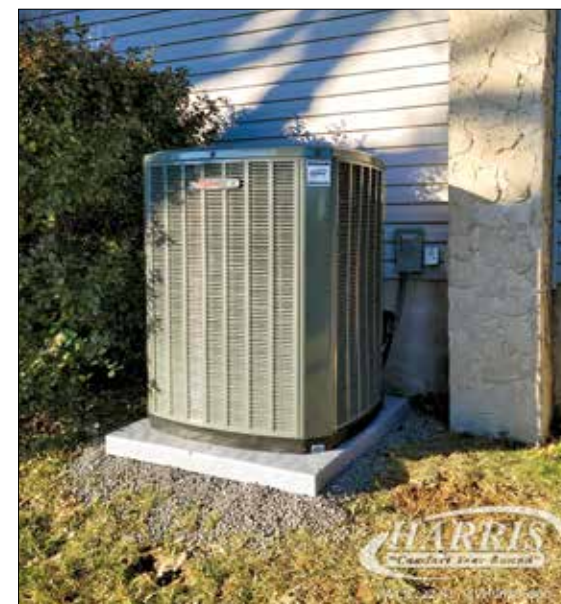
Our expert team not only excels in skills but is also driven to enhance your Trane experience. Whether you need a new gas furnace to warm the winter days or a versatile heat pump that caters to both heating and cooling, we personalize the

ideal comfort setup for your living space.

For added ease, we offer an automatic fuel delivery service, ensuring your Trane unit operates smoothly, delivering reliable comfort without interruption.

Plus, make sure to take advantage of Trane's Unstoppable Spring Promotion, available now through July 31. Enjoy up to \$650* in instant rebates when you invest in a new Trane unit. It's a perfect opportunity to enhance your comfort without stretching your budget. *Terms and conditions apply. Please call for details.

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Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve

Celebrate nature and family at Preserve @ Play on June 28

Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve is hosting its 4th annual Preserve @ Play family day on Saturday, June 28. This year's theme, Wee Wonders, celebrates the smallest creatures and the BIG impact they have on our thriving ecosystem.

From 11 am to 3 pm, families will enjoy woodland crafts, sensory exploration, Travelin' Dogs food truck and live music by Lolly Hopwood.

From 3 to 4 pm, enjoy a wildlife presentation by Aark Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center at The Captain James Moore Pavilion.

Families can also enjoy the Preserve's signature offerings including five miles of hiking trails, children's discovery areas (R.O.T. Plot and Sycamore Hollows), and a new Storybook Trail. Enjoy 5 miles of hiking trails, children's play areas and all other areas of the Preserve



during this day of celebration for the next generation of explorers.

Just in time for Preserve @ Play, Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve is offering a summer savings on its family membership level. Family memberships are just \$79 (normally \$100) from May 15–July 15.

Pre-registration for Preserve @ Play is strongly encouraged. Registration is \$10 per group up to 6 guests with free admission for Preserve members and ACCESS Card holders. Guest passes are not usable for Preserve @ Play.

Register today and learn more at www.bhwp.org. Pre-

serve @ Play is made possible in part by generous sponsors, BLBB Charitable and Capital Health.

Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve is located just two miles from downtown New Hope in historic Bucks County at 1635 River Rd in New Hope.

VIA Designer House

continued from pg. 14

Lorma O'Hanlon of Keller Williams, Hidden Trail Farm is

on the market, and this year's Designer House makeover may well enhance its appeal to prospective buyers. The present

owners, Dr. Jennifer Kramer, a veterinarian, and her husband, Gregory Bock, purchased the estate in 2008 and undertook substantial renovations, including updates to the pool, gazebo, and outdoor kitchen. Dr. Kramer also operated a boarding kennel, the Richboro Ritz, from the barn.

The VIA expressed gratitude to the couple for making their home available. "Without the generosity of homeowners like Jennifer and Gregory, none of this would be possible," Urban said.

Founded in 1895, the Village Improvement Association of Doylestown is a nonprofit women's organization dedicated to improving health and welfare in the region.

The VIA not only established Doylestown Hospital in 1923, but continues to govern its operations today. Through its scholarship funds, veteran support, community recognition, and welfare committees, the VIA's mission extends far beyond hospital walls.

Since the first Designer House in 1971, the event has raised millions of dollars in support of healthcare and community initiatives. Last year alone, proceeds exceeded \$260,000, with \$184,100 benefiting the VIA Maternity Center at Doylestown Hospital and \$78,900 distributed among various mission-driven programs.

For more information about the VIA, visit via-doylestown.org.

A new approach to conservation that starts in your yard

Submitted by the Newtown Borough EAC

The organization, Home-grown National Park (home-grownnationalpark.org), encourages homeowners across the country to plant native plants in however much of their property they're able and willing to do. Whether it's planting a container on your deck with plants that attract pollinators, creating a small native garden, planting a single tree, or converting acres to meadow, it all counts. You can scale your efforts based on what is manageable for you, and no effort is too small.

Why Native Plants Matter for Our Environment and Future

Native plants are a big deal when it comes to keeping ecosystems healthy and thriving. These plants have been here for ages, adapting to the local environment and working hand-in-hand with native animals and bugs. They're not just pretty to look at—they're essential for the environment, conservation efforts, and making sure things stay balanced.

"If all insects on Earth disappeared, within 50 years all life on Earth would end. If all human beings disappeared from the Earth, within 50 years all forms of life would flourish."
— Jonas Salk

Why Native Plants Are Awesome

Native plants are like the backbone of ecosystems. They give food and shelter to local wildlife, like bees, butterflies, and birds. Since they're perfectly suited for the local soil and weather, they don't need tons of fertilizers or pesticides that can mess up the environment. Also, one of the coolest



Replacing lawn with native plants can create a beautiful and welcoming landscape for people and wildlife alike. Photo: David Mizejewski

things about native plants is how little water they need.

Helping Biodiversity: Native plants bring life to an area by supporting all kinds of species. Planting them in your garden or community is a great way to fight back against problems like habitat loss and climate change.

Boosting Soil Health: The roots of native plants dig deep into the soil, helping prevent erosion and letting water soak in better. They also encourage microbes to do their thing, which makes the soil healthier and full of nutrients.

Beautiful and Meaningful

Native plants aren't just practical—they're beautiful too! They've been used by Indigenous peoples for food, medicine, and traditions, making them culturally important. On top of that, their colors,

continued on pg. 16

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Andrew's Lawn Ranger

Following last year's drought, we still have a rain deficit. We had a cold and dry winter. Plants already drought-stressed were damaged further by extreme cold, coupled with temperature fluctuations in March and April. While lawns may look lush right now, they are still lacking adequate soil moisture.

Flea, Tick and Mosquito Suppression: It's flea and tick season, and mosquitos will be around in large numbers this year. Let us help you enjoy your time outdoors with monthly visits to treat your property for these pests. Applications are made by fogging the perimeter of the property and spraying nesting areas, using organic control with peppermint and rosemary oils. Plant material around the house (patio, deck, pool, swing set wood lines if applicable) will also be treated.

Turf Care: We are finishing our second round of crabgrass preventer and weed control. It's not too late to get you on our program! Mowing height is the most fre-

quent question we receive. The shorter the turf, the more stress on the plant. Height should be in the 3.75" to 4.25" range. Change the mowing direction so you don't create a 'pattern' in your lawn. Sharp mower blades will prevent your turf from getting a fuzzy brown look.

Plant Health Care: Are your plants protected from insects? Our technicians are applying foliar insect, mite, and fungicide sprays now. This is crucial due to current plant stress as well as rising temperatures coming in the next few weeks. Continued watering of trees and shrubs would be advised until soil moisture levels improve.

Deer Control: Give deer a reason to go elsewhere. Our monthly treatments make your plants taste and smell bad to hungry deer. Protect your trees and shrubs year-round. Contact our office to set up a



Andrew's Lawn Ranger also handles plant healthcare for commercial clients.

consultation. 215-968-8535 or andrewslawnranger@aol.com. Visit the Education Center on our website at Andrewslawnranger.com

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MORE ABOUT MAX'S

Bucks Beautiful is proud to announce the recipients of our latest round of grants, awarded to support impactful beautification and reforestation projects across our community. These deserving organizations share our vision for a greener, more vibrant Bucks County, and we're honored to help bring their projects to life. Through their efforts, new trees will take root, neglected spaces will bloom, and our shared environment will flourish for generations to come.

Bucks County Civil War Museum & Library. Flower beds beautifying the Museum & Library entrance and the 104th monument honoring soldiers in the heart of Doylestown Borough.

Buckingham Township. Replace approximately sixty trees that have died at Holicong Park.

County of Bucks Employee

continued on pg. 15

spot
light

Tailor Made Film & Video Transfers *Preserve your family memories*

Do you have a box of old videotapes tucked away? VHS, 8mm, Hi8, MiniDV, and other tape formats were never meant to last forever. Magnetic particles break down over time—especially if tapes are stored in hot, humid, or fluctuating environments—leading to image loss, sound issues, or total failure.

Tailor Made Film & Video Transfers, a trusted local business since 1985, specializes in preserving these memories by converting them to high-quality MP4 digital files. Unlike many



services that ship your originals out of state or overseas, all work at Tailor Made is done locally using professional-grade equipment, so your tapes are

handled with care and never leave the premises.

MP4 files are perfect for sharing, storing, and enjoying on modern devices—and can be backed up easily so your memories are protected for future generations. Tailor Made also knows how to deal with challenging issues like mold or "sticky-shed syndrome", carefully restoring tapes before transfer.

And if you have old 8mm, Super 8mm, or 16mm home movie film, Tailor Made now offers stunning high-definition transfers—ideal for today's

large-screen TVs and a major upgrade from the standard-definition DVDs of the past.

With a one-week turnaround time and a focus on quality, Tailor Made Film & Video Transfers ensures your memories are safe, sharp, and ready to enjoy.

See coupon located in this paper for additional savings.

Tailor Made film & video Transfers is located at 205 E Pennsylvania Blvd. in the Feasterville Business Campus. Hours are Monday–Friday 9 am–5 pm. For more information, call 215-322-8444 or visit www.tmtransfers.com.

Planting

continued from pg. 14

Volunteers. Employee volunteer planting project to reinvigorate the main entrance of the Bucks County Administration Building.

Doylestown Township Environmental Advisory Council - Expansion of Native Demonstration Garden at Central Park.

Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA). Commemorative arbor restoration in memorial garden at Core Creek Park.

TJS Distributors. 10 native trees to replace those lost due to storm damage at Tinicum Park.

Town & Country Players. Revitalization of historic theater's grounds with new garden beds and seasonal planters.

Washington Crossing Historic Park. Rehabilitation and expansion of the Thompson-Neely Kitchen Garden.

Bucks Beautiful has been providing Community Grants since 1991 to encourage non-profit organizations, schools, garden clubs and local municipalities to host public garden or tree plantings. The grant award is a 50/50 cash match up to a maximum of \$5,000 per year. Funds may be used for the

purchase of annuals, perennials, bulbs, shrubs, trees, mulch and garden related materials. We highly encourage the use of native plant materials whenever possible. Please request an application by emailing info@bucksbeautiful.org. While sub-

missions are accepted anytime, the deadline for fall is August 31, 2025 and for spring is March 31, 2026.

Generous donations, community partnerships and our growing membership program allow us to coordinate events,

projects and educational programs to continue enhancing Bucks County. To become a member, or contribute to our cause, please visit www.bucksbeautiful.org or call 215-340-3639. Thank you for helping us grow!

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Conservation

continued from pg. 13
textures, and how they change with the seasons make gardens and landscapes come alive. Plants like Wild Blue Phlox, Blue False Indigo and Foam Flower produce beautiful flowers. See Homegrown National Park for lists of native plants best for our area.

Stopping Invasive Plants from Taking Over

Non-native invasive plants can be a real pain, crowding out native plants and messing up ecosystems. Native plants help

keep things balanced and give local species a fighting chance to thrive.

Easy Landscaping with Native Plants

If you're planning a garden or looking for ways to spruce up public spaces, native plants are a no-brainer. They're super low-maintenance, don't need a ton of water, and can resist bugs better than non-native plants. Plus, they're great for pollinators like bees, which are crucial for keeping ecosystems and food production going.

Pollinator-Friendly Spaces: By planting native species, you're

giving pollinators a safe place to do their job. And let's be honest, a garden buzzing with life is so much more enjoyable.

Shrink your Lawn

The idea is to reduce the area of lawn and do it in an attractive way so you're not thrown out of your neighborhood!

Lawns demand significant resources, negatively affect the environment, and do little (and often nothing) to support wildlife such as bees, butterflies, and birds,

You'll rely less on synthetic fertilizers and herbicides, cutting down on potential

health risks.

Going for a more sustainable route not only saves you a load of time and effort on lawn upkeep but also cuts down on the amount of yard waste you need to deal with.

Again, Homegrown National Park has many resources that can help you shrink any size on any lawn.

When you embrace the rewilding movement by shrinking your lawn and mowing less you become a trendsetter. It also helps bring concerns for issues such as loss of biodiversity into everyday conversations. The more we talk about these issues and share ideas with friends and family the better. So, chat it up!

Let's Take Action

Native plants are vital for keeping nature healthy and dealing with big issues like climate change and water shortages. By choosing native plants, we can make a difference and help the environment bounce back.

Consider becoming a part of the Homegrown National Park (homegrownnationalpark.org) movement. There you will find many resources for native plants—what species are invasive? how to shrink my lawn?

"Join us and plant native to rebuild the ecosystems that support all life, and restore the vital connections between plants and animals for a healthier, thriving planet."

Doug Tallamy, Co-founder, HNP
Wrapping It Up

With all the environmental challenges we're facing, planting native species, removing invasives and shrinking your lawn are small steps that can make a big impact.

Let's see how many households in our area can join the **Homegrown National Park Biodiversity Map**. Together, our individual efforts create meaningful change!

spot light

Joe McIlvaine Tree & Lawn



Consult with a Certified Arborist to assess the best methods to prevent and treat diseases affecting your trees.

May is a great month for tree care in the northeast, as the weather starts to warm up and the trees begin to bud. As an arborist at Joe McIlvaine Tree and Lawn, I am here to offer some tips and advice on how to care for your trees this month.

One of the biggest issues that homeowners face during this time of year is the emergence of pests and diseases. There are several pests and diseases that commonly affect trees in the northeast, such as emerald ash borer, Dutch elm disease, oak wilt, and Spotted Lantern Fly. These pests and diseases can cause significant damage to your trees, and it is important to take action to control them as soon as possible.

One of the best ways to prevent pests and diseases is to keep your trees healthy. This means providing them with the right amount of water and nutrients, as well as pruning them regularly to remove any dead or diseased branches.

Additionally, you should be on the lookout for any signs of infestation, such as holes in the trunk or leaves that are discolored or wilting.

If you do notice any signs of pest or disease infestation, it is important to act quickly. There are a number of different treatments that can be used to control these issues, such as insecticides, fungicides, and tree injections.

As an experienced arborist, I can help you determine the best course of action for your trees and provide you with the necessary treatments to keep them healthy.

At the first sign of infestation or disease, it is important to act quickly and seek professional help.

At Joe McIlvaine Tree and Lawn, we are here to help you with all of your tree care needs. Give us a call today at 215-322-8394 to schedule a consultation.

BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP

FREE FAMILY FUN CONCERT SERIES

Celebrating our 325 Anniversary!

Check our website for information and also, our annual "DAY IN THE PARK" on June 26 at Holicong Park from 11 am till 2 pm – fun for all ages with fire trucks, FREE HOT DOGS, special appearance of Shrek and other surprises. Field games, crafts, pony rides, a circus too.

JUNE 19

"YESTERDAY'S GONE"

Authentic "Fleetwood Mac" sound! This great group promises a fun night of the best music! **FREE ICE CREAM SANDWICHES & PRETZEL NIGHT**

JUNE 26

"THE O'FENDERS"

One of our favorite groups with us again this year! These guys can play every kind of music.

JULY 3

"ERIC MINTEL QUARTET"

Let's celebrate USA together & enjoy this great group.

JULY 10

"BIG CHILL"

This is a great "rock n roll" band with a local following. This 6 piece band is so fun! They will get the party started for sure.

JULY 17

"BAREFOOT BOBBY & BREAKERS"

This is a great band! Come for a great night of classic rock!

JULY 24

"RIVER OF DREAMS"

So happy to have this Billy Joel By Request tribute band with us this year! Fun for all ages!

JULY 31

"ZYDECO-A-GO-GO"

Don't miss this New Orleans style rhythm & blues, vintage rock n'roll, & more. Put on your dancing shoes.

AUGUST 7

"FUNKY COWBOY"

This group is so much fun! They play all kinds of music & maybe people will line-dance too! This band is GREAT.

AUGUST 14

"JEFF LOHAN AND FRIENDS"

This local group of guys are great musicians and a lot of fun. It will be great night with really great music.

AUGUST 21

"GRUV TYME"

LAST CONCERT FOR 2025 - Let's end it with a "dance party". This group loves to get the crowd going and have fun!



Concerts from 7PM - 9PM at Hansell Park
(Route 413 & Hansell Rd)

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In case of rain, check BuckinghamPA.org or call 215-794-8834. Will try to make the call by 4 pm
RAIN LOCATION: Buckingham Spring Clubhouse at 1490 Durham Rd.

Buckingham Township Free Family Fun Concert Series

All concerts will be held on Thursday evenings, 7 pm to 9 pm at Hansell Park, Route 413 and Hansell Rd.

June 19: Yesterday's Gone. Authentic Fleetwood Mac sound! This great group promises a fun night of the best music! Free ice cream sandwiches and pretzel night.

June 26: The O'Fenders. One of our favorite groups with us again this year! These guys can play every kind of music.

July 3: Eric Mintel Quartet. Let's celebrate USA together & enjoy this great group.

July 10: Big Chill. This is a great rock n roll band with a local following. This six-

piece band is so much fun! They will get the party started for sure.

July 17: Barefoot Bobby & Breakers. This is a great band! Come for a great night of classic rock!

July 24: River of Dreams. So happy to have this Billy Joel by request tribute band with us this year! Fun for all ages !

July 31: Zydeco-A-Go-Go. Don't miss this New Orleans style rhythm & blues, vintage rock n'roll & more. Put on your dancing shoes!

August 7: Funky Cowboy. This group is so much fun! They play all kinds of music & maybe people will line-dance too!

August 14: Jeff Lohan and Friends. This

local group of guys are great musicians and a lot of fun. It will be a great night with really great music

August 21: Gruv Tyme. The last concert of 2025: Let's end it with a dance party. This group loves to get the crowd going and have fun!

Please note: Rain location will be the Buckingham Spring Clubhouse at 1490 Durham Rd.

If we need to move the concert, be sure to check the website at buckinghampa.org or call 215-794-8834 and check the message on the phone. We will try to make a decision by 4pm. Thank you!

Car Clinic

continued from pg. 10

On Saturday, May 3, Drive And Thrive hosted its most recent Empower Wheels Car Clinic at Koller Automotive in Bensalem, providing free vehicle maintenance to individuals and families facing financial and personal hardship. Thanks to the generous partnership of Koller

Automotive, 15 vehicles received vital services including oil changes, fluid top-offs, and other general maintenance completely free of charge.

Throughout the event, participants enjoyed a festive Cinco de Mayo-themed nacho bar while their vehicles were being serviced. Once maintenance was

complete, each car received a complimentary hand wash, courtesy of dedicated volunteers.

Drive And Thrive exists to serve those whose transportation needs are critical to their wellbeing, and this clinic was no exception. Attendees included women and their children

who recently fled domestic violence, grandparents raising grandchildren on fixed incomes, and individuals managing serious medical challenges.

One participant, Maryanne of North Wales, shared, "I am a single parent of two children with multiple disabilities. Drive and Thrive is the only resource I have found to help with car repairs. I take my children to so many doctor appointments and therapies at CHOP and Nemours that having a car is essential to help them get the care they need to flourish. Thank you so much Drive and Thrive for making sure my car is safe so I can keep my focus on helping my children and supporting them. I am so grateful you saw a need and took action caring for the community."

While applications for the Empower Wheels Car Clinic are currently closed for this quarter, individuals in need of urgent assistance may still apply for our Critical Repair Program or Fuel/Lift Assistance Program by visiting www.comedriveandthrive.org.

Together, we're driving change—one vehicle, one family, one story at a time.

Block Parties

continued from pg. 2

the streets with expanded seating, while local shops often stay open later, sometimes displaying racks of merchandise outdoors. Although primarily an outside dining experience, over time, many local businesses have taken advantage of the additional customers flowing into town by expanding their hours to accommodate the crowd.

"We started this event in 2020 during COVID to support businesses since restaurants couldn't allow people inside," said Caitlin Hernandez, Director of Parks and Recreation for Doylestown Borough. "We thought it would just be something to help businesses during COVID, but it became such a well-attended event that we continued it."

Although they began with just a few restaurants and shops, the Block Parties have grown significantly in both size and popularity. "Over time, they expanded to more seating outside, live music, and games for kids," Hernandez explained. "We close the streets and give these businesses a blank canvas of what to offer, and they've really used the opportunity

to provide additional family-friendly attractions like hiring outdoor musicians. It's great."

The events rotate locations to give various businesses on different streets in the borough the chance to participate. Hernandez notes, "Each street gets back-to-back dates so they can plan accordingly. I'm still getting additional restaurants who want to get involved in the future."

The impact of the Block Parties is felt throughout the borough, not just by business owners, but by residents and by out-of-town visitors.

"The community responded to it in a very positive way," said Hernandez. "That community spirit is what keeps the energy high, no matter the weather. I think the community aspect of it appeals to all people. Even if it's a hot evening, people still come out," she added.

The Block Parties not only support the local economy but also offer a unique summer experience that blends

Doylestown's small-town charm with the big energy of patrons wanting to dine, shop and have fun in this historic community.

Reservations are recommended for dining; guests should contact restaurants directly. Final seating is at 10 pm. The Block Parties are sponsored by Doylestown Borough and continue to grow in popularity each year, promising an exciting 2025 season.

Don't miss the upcoming 2025 Doylestown Borough Block Parties: May 30-31, Printer's Alley

(off E. State Street) June 6-7, W. Court (Hamilton to Harvey Streets)

June 27-28, N. Main Street July 11-12, W. State Street July 25-26, N. Main Street August 8-9, W. State Street August 22-23, Printer's Alley September 12-13, N. Main Street

September 26-27, W. State Street

Whether you're a longtime resident or a first-time visitor, the Doylestown Borough Block Parties are the perfect way to enjoy summer evenings in the community.

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Max's Electric Bikes

*A beginner's guide to electric bikes:
What you need to know*

Electric bicycles, or e-bikes, have become increasingly popular, offering the perfect mix of traditional cycling with electric assistance. For beginners, they provide a great introduction to cycling for commuting, recreation, or fitness—without the physical strain that often comes with regular bikes.

At their core, e-bikes are standard bicycles equipped with an electric motor, battery, and control system. These components work together to provide pedaling assistance, helping riders tackle hills, ride longer distances, and reduce fatigue. Most models use a pedal-assist system, meaning the motor activates only while pedaling. Many also include a throttle feature that allows one to ride without using the pedals at all. Assistance levels are usually adjustable, giving riders

flexibility based on terrain and effort.

If you're considering buying an e-bike, key factors include range, motor power, and battery type. Range—how far the bike can go on one charge—depends on battery capacity, terrain, rider weight, and level of assistance. Many models have 500-watt motors, which are suitable for general, all-around use. Heavier-duty models may offer 750 watts or more, ideal for hilly areas or heavier loads. A removable battery is recommended for easier charging and future replacement.

Understanding local regulations is also important. Many states, including Pennsylvania and New Jersey, use a modified version of the three-class system. Generally, e-bikes must be limited to 20 mph to



Come join the e-bike revolution! Max's is ready to help you find the best e-bike for you

be used wherever traditional bikes are allowed. Pennsylvania adds a 750-watt motor limit, a maximum e-bike weight of 100 pounds, and a minimum rider age of 16.

Overall, e-bikes offer a sustainable, efficient, and enjoyable way to travel. Whether you're commuting to work, getting exercise, or exploring new trails, an electric bike can make cycling more accessible and fun.

Max's Electric Bikes is located in Barnaby's Plaza at 707 N. Easton Road in Doylestown. Call 215-817-7330 or visit maxselectricbikes.com for more information.

Bucks County Community College expands dual credit for high school students with \$1M state grant

Bucks County Community College has received a \$1 million Dual Credit Innovation Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to enable more high school students to enroll in dual credit programs, giving them more opportunities to chart their own course and prepare for successful careers.

Bucks County Community College is pleased to announce the establishment of the Bucks County College Access Network (Bucks CAN) with this support from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This initiative is a collaborative partner-

continued on pg. 21

Riverside Symphonia

Presenting Concert Under the Stars at Tinicum Park

The Riverside Symphonia is thrilled to bring back its annual Concert Under the Stars on Saturday, June 28, at Tinicum Park in Bucks County, along the picturesque Delaware River. A long-standing summer tradition, this open-air concert is a festive evening of live orchestral music, community celebration, and a brilliant fireworks finale that lights up the night sky.

Gates open at 6 pm, inviting attendees to bring blankets, lawn chairs, and picnic baskets to enjoy a relaxing evening on the expansive park lawn. Many guests come early to set up themed tables, share meals with friends and family, and enjoy the scenic surroundings.

At 8 pm, the Riverside Symphonia will perform a vibrant program of patriotic favorites, popular classics, and American standards, all leading up to the highly anticipated fireworks

spectacular—a highlight of the region's Independence Day festivities.

New this year are fun contests for attendees, including awards for the Most Outstanding Table Decoration, Most Patriotic Hat, and Most Spectacular Independence Day Attire for both youth and adults. Guests are encouraged to get creative and festive.

Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the gate, \$10 for children ages 7 to 18, and free for children 6 and under. General parking is free, and the event will take place rain or shine.

Tickets are available at www.riversidesymphonia.org, by phone at 609-397-7300, or at local outlets including Thompson Organization (Doylestown), Siren Records, Angels Cards and Gifts (New Hope), Frenchtown Home & Hardware, Holland Liquor (Milford), and Holland



Floor Covering (35 Swamp Rd.). For more information, please contact Vickie Lupisella at Riverside Symphonia, 4 South Union

Street, Lambertville, NJ 08530, call 609-397-7300, or email info@riversidesymphonia.org.

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NOVA's gala was out of this world

NOVA, Bucks County's comprehensive crime victim services agency, hosted more than 250 guests for its *SuperNova*, an out-of-this-world gala on Thursday, April 3, at The Fuge in Warminster. The gala raised over \$200,000 to support NOVA's free and confidential victim services for children and adults and the continuum of



Penny Ettinger (rear), Executive Director, NOVA, assists auctioneer Cate Smit (front) with the auctioning of a Nakashima table at NOVA's SuperNOVA gala.
Photo: BWAGS Photography. Captions: NOVA.

violence prevention programs that NOVA brings to the community each year. The event is NOVA's largest fundraiser of the year in support of the organization's programs and services. *SuperNova* Gala guests were treated to a beer and wine bar, a four-course dinner, curated live and silent auctions, as well as entertainment by the Perkasi Jazz Band and DJ Juhas, and tours of the centrifuge and the control room. In addition, Jacqueline DeLeon, the founder of Bucks County Mama™, LLC, was in attendance as the *SuperNova* Social Chair.

Always on the cutting edge of service delivery, NOVA provides a continuum of programs to meet individual needs, including but not limited to: a 24-7 victim helpline, forensic exams in area hospitals, forensic interviews for children who have been sexually or physically abused, trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy provided in office, home or schools, legal advocacy and support through the criminal

justice system. In addition, NOVA provides prevention education and professional training in schools, the community and through continuing education conferences. "This year's gala was truly an 'out of this world' experience," said Penelope Ettinger, Executive Director of NOVA. "It was a wonderful evening and an opportunity to thank everyone who supports our mission to help victims of crime and prevent violence through education and advocacy. We are deeply grateful to our business sponsors and individual donors for making this event possible."

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Bucks County Opportunity Council Celebrates Economic Self-Sufficiency Graduation 2025

The Bucks County Opportunity Council (BCOC) hosted the 2025 Economic Self-Sufficiency (ES) Graduation on April 30 at The Warrington Country Club. This year's celebration honored 18 graduates, bringing the program's total to 1131 people in 420 households.

Bucks County Commissioner Bob Harvie kicked off the evening by welcoming all the guests and commending the BCOC ES Program for many years of contributing to the improvement of the lives of Bucks County residents. BCOC's CEO Erin Lukoss then presented the annual Champion of Self-Sufficiency award to Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick. The award honors a business, partner, or community member for their role in the success of the ES program. Kyle Melander, Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick's representative, accepted the Self-Sufficiency Champion award on behalf of the congressman and shared a video of Fitzpatrick congratulating the graduates on their



BCOC 2025 ES Graduates

accomplishments. He spoke about the importance of the ES program and its impact within Bucks County, which was why they were driven to help BCOC receive congressionally directed funding.

The ES Program is a highly successful program that provides one-on-one coaching and resources to those living in poverty who commit to working toward economic self-sufficiency. The graduates have worked, mostly for several years, on an intense, structured plan to become financially

self-sufficient.

Nearly every graduate reflected on the program as a life-changing experience. Each of their coaches provided help and support, and gratitude was a consistent theme throughout the event. The coaches and the program break the stigma often associated with asking for help. One graduate shared that through a difficult life, full of more downs than ups, her mantra was always "everything is temporary." She got through, one moment at

a time, convinced that things could be better. Being a part of the ES program, she was able to break the cycle of generational poverty that she had experienced. Her words, "I know my kids will have a better life" had an incredibly emotional impact on the over 200 guests.

The 2025 class began the program with an average starting income of \$19,687. In the 31 months' time it took for the group to graduate, they increased their income to an average of \$65,948, that is an increase of \$46,261. The key to success has been acquiring the additional education and training necessary to earn a living wage. All 18 graduates have improved their position within their company or gained new employment since beginning the program.

In her closing remarks, Lukoss said, "At BCOC, we know that economic mobility starts with stability. You can't dream about the future when you're worried about getting through the week. That's why our programs are designed to meet people where they are, with the resources they need to move forward. What does eco-

continued on pg. 26

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Pennsbury Manor adopts new rescue horse: Norway

Norway, a former racing horse, joins Pennsbury from a Colorado "kill pen"



Photo: Pennsbury Manor

Pennsbury Manor, William Penn's reconstructed estate on the Delaware River in Bucks County, welcomes Norway, a recently rescued racing horse, to its educational barnyard.

Norway Hanover, is a retired Trotter for the Standardbred harness racing industry, who raced across the US and Canada. These horses often end up in cramped and unhealthy "kill pens" until they can be auctioned for slaughter. Norway was rescued by the Standardbred Retirement Foundation from a kill pen in Colorado.

continued on pg. 30

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Painting Hope HOPE: Youth Art Show for St Jude

Empowered with paint brushes, 29 Bucks County youth are painting hope. Together they have created and signed one collaborative painting of Kids Castle in Doylestown to be put on silent auction to raise funds for St Jude Children's Cancer Research Hospital.

Each of the aspiring young artists will also have their own individual paintings on display for their art show "Painting Hope" which runs June 4-30 at Countryside Gallery, 2 South State Street in historic Newtown. Their paintings feature images about



their childhood of things that make them happy.

While visiting the exhibit, guests are welcome to play the

Eye Spy Art game. There will also be notecards of each of the student's paintings on sale. 100% of the notecard sales and silent auction of the Kids Castle painting will be donated to St. Jude Children's Cancer Research Hospital.

Bids on the painting of Kids Castle can be made in person at the gallery or via email at youthartsilentauktionbids@aol.com now through June 30. The highest bidder will be notified the first week of July. Admission to "Painting Hope" is free and smiles are guaranteed.

Graduation

continued from pg. 24

conomic mobility really mean here? It means having the choice to live where you want to live. It means freedom to leave a job that isn't working for you to pursue something better. And it means dignity, the kind that comes from knowing you can care for yourself and your family without fear. That's the heart of what we're working toward every day."

Graduation is based on ten benchmarks

recognized nationally as standards of self-sufficiency: Full employment; free of all subsidies (food stamps, cash assistance, housing subsidies); balanced household budget; resides in safe, affordable housing; reliable transportation; health insurance coverage for all family members; checking and savings account; acceptable credit rating or approved Credit Repair Plan; completed education/training program (if needed); and basic employment skills such as interviewing and resume preparation.

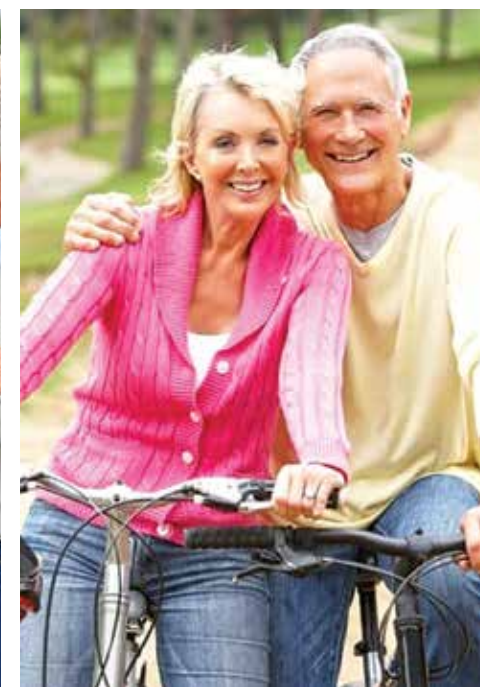
To learn more about all the BCOC does,

visit our website bcoc.org

BCOC is the leading economic mobility non-profit organization in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, dedicated to ending poverty by connecting people with the resources they need to thrive.

BCOC has five major program areas: Housing, Food, Weatherization, Volunteer Income Tax Preparation (VITA) and the Economic Self-Sufficiency (ES) Program. Housing includes street outreach, rental and move in aid, and utility shut-off prevention. Food services supply food directly to families through a network of 75 food pantries and distribution sites. Weatherization services help families in reducing their energy costs. VITA provides free income tax preparation assistance. The ES Program assists individuals and families to leave poverty permanently through case management, education, and employment.

For 60 years, the Opportunity Council has served low-income families in Bucks County by helping them to stabilize when in crisis, garner resources to achieve a livable wage, gain additional education and training, and work towards economic self-sufficiency.



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"Hit To Be Fit" Day was a real hit

A day of celebrating the great sport of tennis during "May Is National Tennis Month" was a real hit. The special event, "Hit To Be Fit" Day, was held on May 10 in conjunction with more than 300 other tennis facilities and sites across the country that were playing tennis simultaneously, showcased the ease and fun of learning tennis while benefiting from a great cardio workout.

Twenty-four tennis enthusiasts, from very beginners to accomplished players, gathered at Council Rock North High School's tennis courts to participate in Red Ball—short-court rallying that provides a great way to learn and practice the game—as well as Cardio Triples—heart-pumping

match play that keeps everyone moving.

BCTA (Bucks County Tennis Association) coaches Craig Batten and Cielo Orjuela led the group through various warmup and play activities. In addition to learning and improving their tennis games, participants enjoyed camaraderie, laughter, and giveaways at the end of the match. Kudos to Tom Engler for receiving the "Most Enthusiastic" award, which was challenging to select given all the on-court spirit.

The BCTA, which hosted the event, thanks its coaches, the USTA, and USTA Middle States for their support. And, of course, it thanks the great group of tennis enthusiasts who came out to enjoy the fun



(and battle the wind).

The BCTA offers public park programs in communities throughout Bucks County with multiple five-week offerings from May through October. Don't miss the fun! To register for a program near you, visit play-tennis.usta.com/buckscounty.

Home Hope Fundraiser for LEV27

LEV27 will hold its Home Hope Fundraiser at the Newtown Brewing Company on June 11 from 6 pm to 9 pm at 103 Penns Trail in Newtown to help families in Bucks and Montgomery counties recover from unforeseen economic hardship and to remain in their homes.

The Home Hope Fundraiser invites the community to come together for an evening of fun and fundraising at a standout venue while promoting safe

and secure homes for those in need. Guests can enjoy great food, 50/50 raffles and prizes. The event is free to attend, but guests are welcome to make a donation to LEV27.

LEV27 Founder and Chairman/CEO Lawrence Steinhouse said, "We recognize that the health and prosperity of our community are a reflection of the well-being of its families. By raising funds in support of LEV27, we can remove the trauma of eviction and ensure

secure housing to promote the true healing and advancement of deserving families."

Families and individuals served by LEV27 receive rental assistance and access to supportive services to prevent housing displacement, homelessness, poverty, mental and physical health issues, and family separation, while ensuring the health and stability of the community.

Steinhouse said, "Secure housing and economic stability

are the foundations which support all other conditions and goals of the family. We are fortunate to have this opportunity to partner with the Newtown Brewing Company for this fundraising event and to dedicate our resources to the healthy future of our families and our community."

For more information on LEV27 or to RSVP for this event, visit www.lev27.org or call (215) 378-9190.

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John sees many possibilities when he looks ahead at the

future of this family venture including additional locations, expanded menu options, the ability to supply more local restaurants and small retailers with a high-quality product that is sure to satisfy their most discerning customers.

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Horse

continued from pg. 25

Norway has now found a forever home at Pennsbury Manor. After a period of rehabilitation to improve his physical condition, he joined Pennsbury in late March. At 16 years old, Norway is a

handsome horse who brings a calm and gentle demeanor, making him an ideal addition to the historic site's educational programs centered around historical animal husbandry, which represent farm life during William Penn's time on the property. Many local children

will have the chance to interact with Norway during his life at Pennsbury.

"Norway joins Pennsbury's existing herd, which includes Arnie the horse, the oxen team, sheep, and geese," said Carole Cunliffe, Animal Curator at Pennsbury Manor. "Under the

care of our dedicated team, he is already getting along famously with all his barnyard companions, including the barn cat. Norway will play a crucial role in teaching visiting students and families about the types of animals that historically would have been at Pennsbury Manor during the 17th century—a perfect representative of the estate's historical authenticity."

Pennsbury recently said farewell to TC, a beloved 31-year-old mare, who recently passed away.

Considered a senior horse, Norway's care comes with costs, including hoof care, targeted nutrition, and regular veterinary check-ups. Pennsbury is currently seeking financial support for Norway's care to ensure that he enjoys a long healthy life on the estate.

Learn more at: www.pennsburymanor.org/support/sponsor-an-animal.

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Emotional Support: The process of transitioning to a senior community can be

continued on pg. 33

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Tuesday, May 27 at 7 pm, “Meeting the Mushrooms: An Intro to the Fascinating World of Fungi” will be the featured program at the monthly meeting of the Trevoise Horticultural Society at the Bensalem Senior Center, 1850 Byberry Rd in Bensalem. This program was originally scheduled for May 20. 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.trevoisegardeners.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 eachucks@gmail.com.

Saturday, May 31, noon–4 PM, Langhorne Council for the Arts will host The Arts in the Garden Tour. Artists and musicians will add to the enjoyment of natural beauty in five private and public gardens in Langhorne Borough and Langhorne Manor. Several stops on this self-guided tour also include open artist studios! Artwork on display (and some for purchase) will include photography, acrylics, pastels, watercolors, tiles, jewelry, and quilts. Musicians will include harpists, blues, folk, indie, jazz, and pop. A full schedule, and tickets to purchase, will be posted on www.LanghorneArts.org. Tickets (cash or check) are \$25 for adults, \$10 for students, free for children under 6 years old, and can also be purchased at all the garden locations.

Tuesday, June 3, 6 pm, the Free Library of Northampton Township, 25 Upper Holland Rd. in Richboro, welcomes the renowned author of “Ghost Sol-

diers”, Hampton Sides, as he discusses his new book, “Wide Wide Sea: Imperial Ambition, First Contact, and the Fateful Final Voyage of Captain James Cook”. Register at newtownbookshop.com.

Saturday, June 7, 10 am–2 pm, Tour the beautiful mansion at Summerseat’s Traditional Patriot’s Day Event, 130 Legion Ave. in Morrisville. Fun for all the family! Raffle baskets, flea market, Summerseat hot dogs, baked goods and children’s games. For more information, call 215-801-0753. Also, visit the Facebook page for updated information at: www.facebook.com/summerseatbuckscounty.

Saturday, June 7, 1 to 2 pm, The Friends of the Doylestown Library presents “Past & Present Voices: Oboe and Violin in Concert” in The Backyard—the outdoor extension of the Doylestown Library, 150 S. Pine St. in Doylestown. This event is free. Arianna Kalian and Anna Majcherczyk will perform a program of duets by composers from the eighteenth century to present day including Bennett, Boismortier, Casal, Fine and Ginastera. Please preregister for the event by emailing friendsofdoylestownlibrary@gmail.com. Chairs will be provided while available, or feel free to bring your own fold-up. In case of rain, the event will take place in the Pearl Buck room.

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, 11 am–4 pm (rain or shine), the 30th Annual Bucks Beautiful Kitchen & Garden Tour is taking place. Explore stunning homes and lush gardens in Doylestown, Richboro, and New Hope. Early bird tickets are just \$45 through May 31! Proceeds support community greening projects across Bucks County. For tickets and information, visit www.bucksbeautiful.org.

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.

Friday, June 13, 5 pm–8 pm, the 2nd Friday Food Truck Rally will take place at Playwicki Farm, 2350 Bridgetown Pike, Feasterville-Trevoise. Enjoy food trucks, children’s activities, vendors, a DJ, and a beer/cocktail garden. For more information, visit www.playwickifarm.org.

Thursday, June 19 to Sunday, June 22, Newtown Arts Company presents Kate Hamill’s acclaimed adaptation of “Pride and

Prejudice” at the historic Newtown Theatre, located at 120 North State St. in Newtown. Get ready for a bold, witty, and delightfully offbeat take on a literary favorite. Tickets are on sale now at newtownac.booktix.com.

Saturday June 21, 1–6 pm, Four Lanes End Garden Club proudly presents its Flower Show, “A Cavalcade of America” at the Richardson House (Langhorne Community Memorial Association Building), 102 West Maple Ave. in Langhorne. The theme and design classes reflect the dreams, courage, initiative, and achievements of those that shaped our American history. Visitors will have the opportunity to see judged floral designs as well as horticulture specimens of numerous types. It is open and free to the public. A raffle table will also be on display. For additional information, contact Chris Foster at 215-350-6038.

Saturday, June 28, 11 am to 3 pm, Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve, 1635 River Road in New Hope, is hosting its 4th annual Preserve @ Play family day. This year’s theme, Wee Wonders, celebrates the smallest creatures and the big impact they have on our thriving ecosystem. Pre-registration for Preserve @ Play is strongly encouraged. Registration is \$10 per group up to 6 guests with free admission for Preserve members and ACCESS Card holders. Guest passes are not usable for Preserve @ Play. Register today and learn more at www.bhwp.org.

Saturday, June 28, the Riverside Symphonia hosts its annual Concert Under the Stars at Tinicum Park in Bucks County, along the picturesque Delaware River. Gates open at 6 pm, inviting attendees to bring blankets, lawn chairs, and picnic baskets to enjoy a relaxing evening on the expansive park lawn. At 8 pm, the Riverside Symphonia will perform patriotic favorites, popular classics, and American standards, all leading up to the highly anticipated fireworks spectacular. Tickets are available at www.riversidesymphonia.org, by phone at 609-397-7300, or at select local outlets. For more information, contact Vickie Lupisella at Riverside Symphonia, 4 South Union St., Lambertville, NJ 08530, call 609-397-7300, or email info@riversidesymphonia.org.

Monday, July 14, beginning at 10 am, the Feasterville Business Association’s 34th Charity Golf Outing will be held at the Spring Mill Country Club, located at 80 Jacksonville Road in Ivyland. The public is invited to participate, and entries are now being accepted. For additional information about participating as a golfer and/or sponsorship opportunities, contact Mike Wielehowski, golf committee chairperson at info@feastervillebiz.org. For details or to register visit www.feastervillebiz.org.

Saturday, October 4, 2025, The Central Bucks High School Class of 1958 from Doylestown will be holding its 67th Reunion at the Plumsteadville Inn. For more information contact drsmith524@verizon.net.

Senior Care Authority

continued from pg. 31

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