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Huntingdon Valley view

Enchanted Trail Experience!

Isabella Leung (left) and Sarah Goldy, Huntingdon Valley Library Teen Advisory Board members, set up "Hansel & Gretel" Fairy Tale Trail at Lower Moreland Park. See story on page 2.





COMMUNITY NEWS, EVENTS & LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHTS

INSIDE THIS EDITION Spring Home & Garden 3 Camps & Education

Huntingdon Valley Library Teen Advisory Board hosts the tale of "Hansel and Gretel" in the woods

By Naomi Weiss

Some may not know the story of "Hansel and Gretel", nor have had the tale told to them by strategically placed illustrative storyboards in the middle of the woods. The Huntingdon Valley Library Teen Advisory Board's fifth annual Fairy Tale Trail provided this unique experience for kids.

Catered towards toddlers through 2nd graders, the Fairy Tale Trail was a selfguided, circular half mile path around Lower Moreland Park featuring a twist on the story of "Hansel and Gretel". It was open from May 11 -17, from sunrise to sunset.

Beth Bilus, head of the teen and adult services at the Huntingdon Valley Library, said the board, made up of 75 local high school students, came up with the idea during the COVID lockdown. They were trying to create a program that did not have to take place indoors.

"So we asked, 'how do we come up with a way to contribute to the community when we can't sit in a room together and work with people in person?'", Bilus said. "It's iust one of those things that was really successful and the community loved it. And ន so now five years later, it's

Lower Moreland High School who joined the board in her sophomore year, said the board had to come up with a "happy ending" to make the story more ⊋ child-friendly. For reference, the original story features a



Rylan Fox, Teen Advisory Board member, sets up one of the "Hansel and Gretel" storyboards at Lower Moreland Park.

riveting, yet surprisingly gory climax in which Gretel shoves the witch into a flaming oven and slams it shut.

Anna Galdo, a senior at Lower Moreland High School who joined the board in her freshman year, elaborated on the child-friendly "twist" they included from the original "Hansel and Gretel" story. "In our storyboards, the witch wasn't actually bad," Galdo said. "We purposely set it during the winter so that the witch puts Hansel and Gretel in the oven to warm them."

Galdo said she believes children trekking through the trail can learn a lesson to "not take things fully at face value," but also she saw the project as simply an exciting event for them.

"We wanted them to just have fun with a sense of entertainment in the park so they were maybe not as bored as they would be just walking around," Galdo said.

In the past, the trail has been guided by stories such as "The Snail and the Frog", "Alice in Wonderland", "Goldilocks and the Three Camels", "Little Red Riding Hood", "Three Little Pigs and One Big Bad Wolf."

Each program the Advisory Board develops, including the Fairy Tale Trail event, is facilitated by its own committees made up of board members. Previous board members created all the board committees that currently exist, to which Bilus said have been "honed" throughout the years. Other programs have included helping elementary school students read and aiding senior citizens in navigating the Internet.

Adding on, she believes the committees provide them with leadership experience that may help them in their future lives and careers.

"Within each of these groups, there's planning

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Mailing Address: PO Box 192 Morrisville, PA 19067 215-702-3405 Fax: 215-702-3409 email:



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product selection.

Join us on June 12 from 9 am to 1pm for a live demo and product review offered by Festool. This month's demo will focus on sawing capabilities.

Our current giveaway will continue to run through June 20 and features a Magswitch package valued at \$1,029.82!

Magswitch is a brand of woodworking tools and products that use magnetic technology to make woodworking projects safer, easier, and faster. Magswitch's patented technology uses switchable magnets that can be turned on and off to attach jigs and fixtures to metal surfaces.

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

You can register at wtbwoodworking.com/giveaway. The winner will be pulled in-store at 10 am EST on June 20.

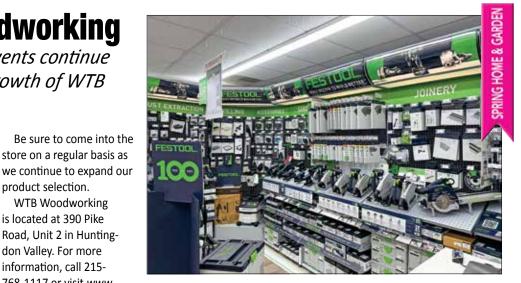
Are you interested in learning more about the Festool line of power tools and accessories? Join for Festool Fridays to watch Sedge and the Festool Team every Friday from 11:45 am -12:45 pm on YouTube.

Hotdogs will be served while meeting up with fellow woodworkers to learn and exchange ideas.

Still on the hunt for the perfect Father's Day gift? eGift Cards are available for purchase online and physical gift cards available in-store!

NEXT EDITION

Check it out June 24th www.OMGLocalLife.com







Visit WTB Woodworking for a wide selection of tools and supplies!

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Max's Electric Bikes

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



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

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 fitnesswithout 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 compo-

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nents 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.

continued on pa. 12

Empower Wheels Car Clinic provides free car maintenance

Services to families in need

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 topoffs, and other general maintenance completely

Throughout the event, participants enjoyed a festive Cinco de Mavo-themed nacho bar while their vehicles were being serviced. Once maintenance was complete, each car received a complimentary hand wash, courtesy of dedicated volunteers.

free of charge.

Drive And Thrive exists to serve those whose transportation needs are critical to their



Maryanne, 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.

> 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 continued on pg. 8



Ben Manis Plumbing

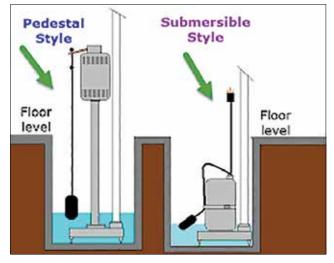
Don't wait for a storm to check if your sump pump is operating!

As the rainy season approaches, it is always good to be sure your sump pump is operating effectively.

Sump pumps are necessary in order to insure that basements susceptible to water problems are kept dry. They are especially critical in cases where the basement has been finished and the cost of the damage sustained by flooding can be high.

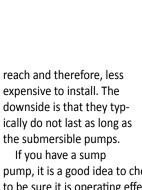
Sump pumps are generally installed in the lowest area of your basement and the water travels to the pump naturally or through drains.

There are two types of sump pumps: submersible and pedestal. The submersible



type is installed below the floor surface and is sealed. It offers protection for children or pets and generally will last longer. The downside is that they are harder to reach and therefore more costly to install. A pedestal pump has the motor mounted on top of the pump. It is easier to see and





GARDEN

SPRING HOME &

If you have a sump pump, it is a good idea to check to be sure it is operating effectively. Pour a bucket of water into the pit to check for proper working condition.

If you have a battery backup, you should test it monthly for proper charge and operation. Always make sure your discharge line is clear. If you need to have a sump pump installed, Ben Manis

Plumbing has certified plumbers who can be sure that the job gets done correctly. Having a pump installed now could save you thousands of dollars in damages in the future.

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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



This people-first approach is why so much of Rosenello's business comes from referrals and repeat customers throughout the county. Even as the recommendations that suit your 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.



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6

Regal Paws Pet Resort

How to keep your dog entertained when it's hot outside

As the weather heats up, it is a challenge to keep your dog stimulated while keeping them safe. Thankfully, there are plenty of fun activities you can do together.

Start with water play! Dogs love to splash, so set up a kiddie pool in the backyard or head to a dog-friendly beach or lake. Some parks even have dog splash pads designed specifically for cooling off on hot days.

Don't forget the floating toys for an extra dose of fun. Indoor games are another great option. Try a game of hide and seek, or create a mini agility course using furniture and treats. Puzzle toys and treat-dispensing balls are excellent for mental stimulation when it's too hot to be outdoors for long.

For a change of scenery, you can visit a pet-friendly store and





No matter how hot it is outside, it's always a fun time at Regal Paws Pet Resort!

expose your pet to all of the sights, sounds and smells, Early mornings and late evenings are ideal for short walks when the pavement is cooler. Always check the ground with your hand first-if it's too hot for you, it's too hot for your dog's paws.

Homemade frozen dog treats made from yogurt, peanut butter. or fruit also offer a tasty way to cool down after playtime.

Spending a day at Regal Paws Pet Resort is the perfect way

Empower Wheels

continued from pg. 4

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."

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of an entertaining day away

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.

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One Day Bath offers two options for revitalizing your bathroom: The TubcuT[®], which is a custom-modification to convert your tub to a walk-in shower; and we also offer a traditional tub-to-shower conversion, which is a specially designed acrylic shower system that includes a shower surround and fold-down seats.

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existing tile.



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color of your fixtures and yes, we can revitalize your grout lines and even replace your

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HUNTINGDON VALLEY VIEW

TJ Martin, Inc. A fullservice contractor for all of your roofing and remodeling needs

A roof provides protection from the elements and ensures the safety of the inhabitants.

Over time, a roof may start to deteriorate and develop issues that could compromise its functionality. Here are some signs to look for to determine if it's time to replace your roof:

Age: The age of your roof is one of the most critical factors in determining if it needs replacement. Generally, a well-maintained roof lasts around 20-25 years.

Curling, buckling, or missing shingles: If you notice that your shingles are curling, buckling, or missing, it's a sign that your roof is reaching the end of its lifespan. These issues can allow water to seep under the shingles and cause significant damage to the underlying structure.

Damaged flashing: Flashing

2025

is the metal or plastic material that seals the edges and joints of your roof. If you notice any cracks or damage to your flashing, it's a sign that your roof may be leaking.

Sagging roof deck: A sagging roof deck is a sign that your roof has sustained significant water damage. This can happen if your roof has been leaking for an extended period. If you notice any sagging, it's crucial to have your roof inspected by a professional immediately.

High energy bills: If your energy bills have been steadily increasing, it could be a sign that your roof is no longer adequately insulating your home.

Replacing your roof may seem like a daunting task, but it's a necessary investment that can save you from more significant expenses in the future. If you notice any of the signs



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mentioned above, it's time to consider a replacement. Call TJ Martin, Inc. at 215-

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A new approach to conservation that starts in your yard

Submitted by the Newtown Borouah EAC

The organization, Homegrown National Park (homegrownnationalpark. 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-inhand 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 stav balanced.

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

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Huntingdon Valley Library

continued from pg. 2 involved and they need to move through steps," Bilus said. "For the Fairy Tale Trail committee. I needed them to decide what story they were going to work on, who was going to write it, who was going to edit it, who was going to illustrate it, and who was going to come and set it up." The Fairy Tale Trail is not the only program the board participates in yearly.

Organized by Lower Moreland Township, "Trunk or Treat" is a favorite for many on the board, including Rachel Goldy, a sophomore student at Lower Moreland High School. For this Halloween program, the library participates with other organizations, and the board chooses the library's theme, as well as making decorations, costumes, and tables during the drive-through.

"The different organizations at Lower Moreland just open up their trunks where they keep the candy. When cars drive

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by, we put some candy in the kids' bags," Goldy said. "[This year's theme] was the "Addams Family". We made little goodie bags with bookmarks, candy, pencils, all that fun stuff."

With events such as the Fairv Tale Trail and Trunk or Treat, the board's volunteer work may not be viewed as traditional volunteering. This is partly why Sarah Goldy, an 11th grade student at Lower Moreland High School who joined the board her sophomore year, and so many other students have decided to devote their time to the board.

"A lot of times when you're volunteering, you're in the same place at the same time every week. But in the library. you can choose what you want to do," Goldy said. You can be part of the in-house shift where you can volunteer every week. or if there's a certain week where you don't have as much to do, you might want to volunteer for three events, and you can do that."

Whether it's crafts, an imaginative storytelling trail for toddlers, handing out fun-size candy from a car's trunk in a parking lot, or helping senior citizens surf the web, the library and its Teen Advisory Board is very special to Sarah Goldy, who she says functions as a "catch-all" for the community.

"There's people here at any time. There's puzzles that people can do. There's older people on the computers. There's a teen section. There's younger kids who hang out," Goldy said. "So, originally I participated on the Advisory Board for volunteer hours, but now I also participate because I like the fact that this board contributes so much to the community."

The Teen Advisory Board's creative events. like the Fairv Tale Trail, show how young people can make a lasting impact on their community, bringing joy, learning, and connection to all ages.

TEST RIDE YOUR

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Max's Electric Bikes

continued from pg. 4 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 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.



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HUNTINGDON VALLEY VIEW MAY 202

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style

during

The Iron Oven in Southampton, offers a welcoming family-friendly atmosphere, making it an ideal spot for a delightful lunch or dinner experience. Founded by Alex Nalbandian in 2018, the restaurant is a testament to his dedication to high quality food and community, drawing inspiration from his family's longstanding involvement in the restaurant industry.

The interior combines modern design with rustic charm, featuring an oval shaped

the stromboli, a dining area and garage windows that open pleasant weather. enhancing the The restaurant dining experience.

This design creates a bright and open environment suitable for families and groups.

The menu at The Iron Oven is diverse, catering to various tastes. Popular items include

family recipe perfected over time. and the cheesesteak. known for its bold flavors.

also offers a range of appetizers, sandwiches, and entrees, ensuring there is

something for everyone. Service at The Iron Oven is consistently praised, with staff described as attentive and

friendly. Guests often commend the team's commitment to providing a positive dining experience, contributing to the restaurant's reputation for excellent service.

Whether you're seeking a satisfying lunch or delicious dinner with the family or a place to enjoy quality food and service, The Iron Oven in Southampton delivers on all fronts. For more information about The Iron Oven, located at 1134 Street Rd. in Southampton, visit www. ironoven.com/ or call 215-322-1907.

Dan McMeans—Mind, Body and Spirit Adviser

Self-confidence

If your child is experiencing bullying at school or in the neighborhood, it's an incredibly stressful situation for them and one that can be equally distressing for you as a parent. There are many factors at play in these dynamics. Bullies often target children they perceive as weak or quiet because it boosts their own sense of control and self-worth. As a parent, it's important to consider your options and explore ways to empower your child to stand up for themselves.

Taking this route may feel daunting, and there's always a risk involved in confronting bullies. However, there are significant benefits when a child learns to assert themselves in these situations. In many

cases, bullies will back off once your child stands up to them. The most impactful benefit, though. is the boost in self-confidence your child gains from the experience. This newfound confidence can build momentum, influencing how your child is perceived by others and potentially earning more respect from their peers. Self-confidence is a

powerful force. It leads to positive thinking. improved mental and physical health, and greater resilience in the face of challenges. With self-confidence, the risk of depression can decrease, and your child's overall well-beingboth mental and physical-can improve. More importantly,

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embracing a mindset of positive thinking opens the door to new possibilities, such as overcoming fear and expanding the mind. These benefits can lead

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Dan McMeans

to greater personal growth and a broader range of opportunities. Ultimately,

the decision to empower your child to confront a bully is a pivotal moment in their life. It can set them on a path to greater self-assurance and open doors to new experiences and insights, shaping their future in profound ways.

If you are interested in gaining a better understanding of yourself, your life, and how renewed

perspective can change your future, Dan McMeans can help. Call 267-570-9042 or email him at dan mcmeans@ yahoo.com. Also, visit www. mind-propulsion.design.

I can help remove negative and depressive thought patterns from your mind to restore focus. Can possibly heal cancer tumors.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS • HAPPENINGS • MARK YOUR

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 Trevose 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. 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.

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 Town*ship, 25 Upper Holland Rd. in Richboro,* welcomes the renowned author of "Ghost Soldiers", 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. a 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, 5 **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 foldup. 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-Trevose. 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

CALENDAR • HAPPENINGS • UPCOMING EVENTS • • •

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

Conservation

Awesome

continued from pg. 10

Why Native Plants Are

Native plants are like the

backbone of ecosystems. They

give food and shelter to local

wildlife, like bees, butterflies,

and birds. Since they're per-

fectly suited for the local soil

and weather, they don't need

tons of fertilizers or pesticides

that can mess up the environ-

ment. Also, one of the coolest

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

which makes the soil healthier

Beautiful and Meaningful

Native plants aren't just

practical—they're beautiful

too! They've been used by

medicine, and traditions,

Indigenous peoples for food,

microbes to do their thing.

and full of nutrients.

making them culturally important. On top of that, their colors, 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

Stopping Invasive Plants

Non-native invasive plants

native plants and messing up

ecosystems. Native plants help

keep things balanced and give

local species a fighting chance

Easy Landscaping with

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

planting native species, you're

giving pollinators a safe place

to do their job. And let's be

Pollinator-Friendly Spaces: By

and food production going.

can be a real pain, crowding out

our area.

to thrive.

Native Plants

from Taking Over

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

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.

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,

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 invasives? 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!

EDITOR. JUNE PORTNOY 215-702-3405 | SUBMIT YOUR STORY IDEAS

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