

Newtown GAZETTE



Community Carnival Returns!

Lucy Gonzalez, 5, with her mom, Maddie Gonzalez, both from Newtown, enjoy the teacup ride at the Upper Makefield Fire Company's annual carnival in Washington Crossing. See story on page 3.

Photo by June Portnoy

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!

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Bird Watching can even reduce stress; we all need that!

For more information, visit www.wbu.com/buckingham.

A local tradition lives on at this year's annual Upper Makefield Fire Department Carnival



(clockwise from top) Newtown's Zia Zoldessy, 2 ½, enjoys her first carnival with her mother on the merry-go-round. Keira, 5, and her brother Kenny, 3, take a pizza break at the carnival. Savannah Jones, 4, of Newtown, proudly holds prizes that her dad, Travis Jones, has won for her. The Houghton Boys entertain with music ranging from jazz and Dixieland to string band. Photos by June Portnoy story on pg. 8

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BCABVI celebrates 80 years of service with New Assistive Technology and a \$25,000 state grant

by June Portnoy

The Bucks County Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (BCABVI), located in Newtown, marked a significant milestone on May 2 with a dual celebration: its 80th anniversary and the awarding of a \$25,000 state grant to enhance its Low Vision Clinic. Local leaders, clients, and community members gathered for the special event, featuring speeches, technology demonstrations, and a commemorative tree planting.

The celebration welcomed Pennsylvania Senator Steve Santarsiero and Representative Perry Warren, who played a pivotal role in securing the grant funding.

"We have two legislators here with us today to help celebrate our 80th anniversary and also to thank them for being instrumental in assisting us with \$25,000," said Anne Marie Hyer, Executive Director of BCABVI. "We want to make sure that we recognize you both for your support."

Representative Perry Warren, a longtime Newtown resident, recalled how the initiative began. “This stems from two phone calls that were made to my office and Senator Santarsiero’s office that advised us of the need,” he said. “We were fortunately able to go back to our respective appropriations committees to get the funds to help with your programs here, and today we’re seeing how it works.”

Senator Santarsiero echoed that sentiment: "Perry and I both agreed this should be a priority for us. We're very happy we had the ability to do that," he said. "To show our appreciation for the important



Representative Perry Warren (second from left) and Pennsylvania Senator Steve Santarsiero (second from right) present a \$25,000 state grant to (from left) BCABVI client, Ronald Givens; Laurie Wajda, BCABVI Board President; Anne Marie Hyer, BCABVI Executive Director; and BCABVI client, Nancy LaRosa.

work you do, we brought with us a flag that was flown over the Capitol and a citation to commemorate your 80th anniversary."

To honor their efforts, BCABVI presented both Senator Santarsiero and Representative Warren with plaques recognizing their support and commitment to the organization. "You have such a good reputation across the community for being responsive and always willing to help out," said Anne Marie Hyer during the presentation. "This is just one way we can say thank you."

The \$25,000 grant allowed BCABVI to purchase several advanced low vision devices that were showcased by clients who now rely on them to navigate daily life. Each demonstration served as a compelling example of how adaptive technology can restore independence.

Karen Brookins of Morrisville demonstrated the LyriQ Assistive Reader, a device

that uses AI to scan and read printed text aloud. "This works wonderfully for me because I'm totally blind," she said. "It reads documents like my electric bill, summarizes the charges, and skips over unnecessary details. It's changed the way I handle paperwork."

A Newtown client demonstrated the Visolux, a magnifier for books, recipes, and menus. "I've had a passion for reading all my life. This tool is vital to me now that I can't read independently," she said. She is participating in BCABVI's loaner program, another initiative supported by the grant, allowing clients to try equipment before purchasing.

Michele Fekete from Levittown, who lives with macular degeneration, showed the Clover 10, a portable magnifier. "When I first came here, I thought I was going to be unable to continue working," she said. "This device is a godsend. I use it every day

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**spot
light**

Holland Floor Covering

Summer story: Your seasonal flooring experts in Newtown

As summer starts in Newtown, homeowners are flinging open their windows, enjoying the sunshine—and realizing their floors could use a refresh. At Holland Floor Covering, we've proudly served Bucks County for over several decades, helping families transform their homes with beautiful, lasting flooring solutions.

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Beat the Fall Rush: Summer brings quicker turnaround times for installation and refinishing before back-to-school chaos begins.

Protect High-Traffic Areas: Add mats at doorways and consider sealants to safeguard your floors from sand, dirt, and summer foot traffic.

Time Projects with Vacations: Planning a trip? That's the perfect opportunity to let our team work without disrupting your routine.

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Siding: These vinyl siding profiles will provide a break from the existing vinyl siding and provide texture and depth.

Decorative Accents: There are many different closed cell foam accent pieces that can provide a decorative touch to your home such as corbels, window headers, porch post columns or gable louvers. There are many more options.

Color Change: Choosing a contrasting color on the front of your house also attracts the eye.

Stone Façade: Removing existing vinyl siding and installing a stone façade can create a sense of warmth and texture that adds pop to the front of your home.

Shutters: If you add shutters, you create a different aesthetic and provide color.

Garage doors: Removing the old wood panel garage doors and installing new garage doors with windows or barn style



Transform your home from shabby to chic

doors can really change the profile of your home.

Railings: Front porches often have railings made with 2x4s. Try changing to posts with acrylic panels to provide an unobstructed site line.

Window boxes: They provide color and warmth to the front of your home.

Landscaping: A change of plants, bushes,

or even the size or shape of your landscaping bed can create a different appearance.

Any combination of the above options can really enhance the appearance of your home.

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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

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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. Preserve @ 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.

Hit to be Fit

continued from pg. 6



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 playtennis.usta.com/buckscounty.

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Carnival

continued from pg. 3
by Naomi Weiss

Visitors drove in, and were met with firefighting volunteers directing them to open patches of parkable, green spring grass. They looked left and saw search-and-rescue K9s obeying their owners' commands. To their right, they spotted a big green, quintessential-looking fire truck. And looking straight ahead, attendees beheld the bright, dizzying rides and fair foods that made up the 2025 Upper Makefield Fire Department annual carnival.

This year's carnival was held from May 6 - May 10 at the soccer fields in Washington Crossing State Park. With the help of volunteer firefighters providing parking and ticketing assistance, along with Houghton Enterprises being contracted to provide the rides, the carnival functioned, and has functioned, as a major fundraising event for the Fire Department and a fun night out for members of the community.

The Upper Makefield Fire Department has been operating since 1967, primarily serving the residents of

Upper Makefield and providing mutual aid services to surrounding fire companies such as New Hope, Lower Makefield, Yardley, Newtown, and some NJ communities upon request. Responding to about 200-250 calls per year, the department consists of all volunteer, unpaid firefighters ranging from 18 years old to 70 years old.

In 1979, the first year of the carnival, it was located at the Taylorsville Road firehouse in what is now the River Knoll neighborhood. In recent years, it has been held in the park on River Road south of Route 532, and across from the Washington Crossing Post Office. However, beginning last year, the carnival was held at the soccer fields in Washington Crossing State Park, providing a larger parking area to accommodate all the vehicles driven to the carnival.

The carnival raises about \$20-\$25,000 each year, which is funneled into a collective fundraising account in which the department may utilize the money throughout the year for special projects, maintenance of the firehouse, and equipment like general turnout gear which could cost upwards of \$25,000.

According to Tim Brewer, the fire department chief, the carnival's main focus when it originally opened was fundraising. Now, Brewer has seen it become more than just fundraising, but a widespread community event. In addition to the immediate Upper Makefield area, attendees travel from outside the nearby area to attend, and has morphed into a favorite community event involving multiple generations.

"A mother approached me last night who came here with a bunch of sixth and seventh graders. As soon as they put their wristbands on, they said, 'thanks mom', and took off. But she said I have them in a place that's in our community, and I'd rather have them here than maybe walking around a mall," Brewer said. "We've had kids that grew up in the community who bring their kids back to the carnival because they were here when they were a kid."

To Kevin Campbell, the fire department vice president and chairman of the carnival committee, the carnival provides "a little bit of luxury" for the community with its old-school fair charm.

"There's not a lot of places to go on a weekday or a weeknight with your kids where you can go back in time to a smaller theme park type of carnival in the area," Campbell said. "It's a nice local draw for the kids to come and have some fun enjoying some rides, buying some funnel cake or cotton candy, or playing some games of chance."

In front of the event and to the left of the ticket booth sat some of the most well-behaved and level-headed carnival attendees—search and rescue dogs from Alpha K9 Search and Recovery. This all-volunteer team is based in Bucks County and receives

calls from the fire department to utilize their services when people have been reported missing.

At the carnival, the team hoped to educate children on K9 search and rescue, and expose the dogs to a loud atmosphere. Cheryl Rose, K9 handler and vice president of the team, introduced "Zeke" to the carnival. "He's a puppy. He's seven months old. So bringing him into these kinds of events gets him used to the loud noises, lots of hands petting him and again, helps build their training as far as being a search and rescue canine," Rose said.

Under a blown-up picture of golden brown turkey legs, a three-man band featuring a saxophone, banjo, and upright bass played old-school music to attendees with corn dogs in their hands. In western Pennsylvania, they may be known as the "Houghton Boys" and could be found adorned with cowboy hats and boots, while in Eastern PA they might be referred to as the "Eagles Pep Band". Yet, at fire department events, as saxophonist Brian Saunders says, they proudly call themselves the "Firehouse Three".

"We certainly like playing for the department. It's a thankless job that they do, and it's good to reward them with whatever we can give them, musically, or support in any kind of way," Saunders said.

As the rides slowed and music faded, the 2025 Upper Makefield Fire Department Carnival wrapped up another year of community, tradition, and support. What began as a fundraiser has grown into a beloved local event, bringing generations together for fun, food, and a shared appreciation of the volunteers who serve this community.

spot light

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.

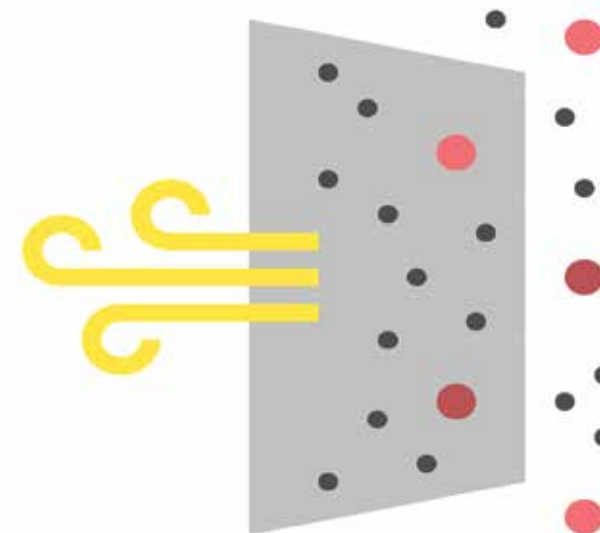
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Bucks County Opportunity Council celebrates Community Action Month

The Community Action Network is a robust state and local force that helps empower hardworking families to achieve economic independence rather than keeping them reliant on government assistance. There are nearly 1,000 agencies across the country working every day to create economic opportunities, strengthen local communities, and help families find pathways to prosperity. This year, Bucks County Opportunity Council (BCOC), a proud member of the Community Action Network, commemorates 60 years helping families

throughout Bucks County.

"Each May, during Community Action Month, we reflect on the impact our programs and our network has had on families," said Erin Lukoss, CEO and Executive Director of BCOC. "Last year alone, we served over 57,000 people in Bucks County, and Community Action Agencies served over 15 million across the country with services like job training, financial education, and small business support, helping families build skills to achieve long-term financial freedom."

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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 frequent 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.

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

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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 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.



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

Photo credit: David Mizejewski

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, 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

continued on pg. 15

Kathleen Layton, BHHS Fox & Roach, Realtors

What one local seller almost gave up before listing her home

In a seller's market, it's not uncommon for eager buyers to make a move before the "For Sale" sign even hits the yard. That's exactly what happened to one local homeowner recently—only this time, the story took a very different turn.

Before she had the chance to list her home, a relative of a neighbor approached her with an offer. The buyer was polite and direct: they wanted to purchase the house off-market, for \$25,000 less than what her realtor had suggested she list it for. To someone unfamiliar with the selling process, it seemed simple—skip the showings,

avoid commissions, and be done with it.

But the seller wasn't comfortable handling the sale on her own. She wasn't sure how to verify the buyer's qualifications, navigate contracts, or protect herself legally. So, she called her agent for advice.

Her agent encouraged her to take a breath and consider the bigger picture. The only way to truly know the home's value was to expose it to the open market—and let buyers compete. It felt risky at first, but she trusted the guidance and listed the property.

The result? Multiple offers. Fierce competition. And a final sales price that was \$86,000 higher than the original



off-market offer.

While the buyer's early offer wasn't malicious—in fact, it was a smart move on their part to try—it underscores an important truth: when sellers take shortcuts to avoid com-

missions or sidestep the process, they often leave far more money on the table than they realize.

In this case, listing the home publicly didn't just bring in a better price. It also brought peace of mind. The agent qualified the buyer, managed every detail of the transaction, and ensured the seller got both the best price and the best terms.

The story is true! The agent you choose to work with does matter—so choose wisely! If you're considering selling your home, let's talk! You can reach me at 215-801-2019 or kathleenlayton.com. I'd love to meet you!

Achieve More with a Healthy Pelvic Floor



Thursday, June 5, 2025 | 6 p.m.
Location: Zoom Meeting

Are you experiencing pain in your pelvic area during sex, personal care, or urination/bowel movements? It's time to advocate for yourself! Join **KATHIE OLSON**, nurse practitioner and program director for Capital Health's Center for Incontinence and Pelvic Health, to learn strategies for living your life without pelvic pain. Kathie will be joined by **RACHEL HANNUM-GRINSTEAD**, a licensed pelvic health therapist, who will discuss the benefits of pelvic floor physical therapy. All genders are welcome!

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



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As temperatures rise, it's the perfect time to upgrade your home's comfort and curb appeal. Jammer Doors offers insulated garage doors to keep heat out, energy-saving entry

and storm doors, and custom retractable screens to let the breeze in while keeping bugs out.

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.

Pennsbury Manor adopts new rescue horse: Norway

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

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.

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

continued on pg. 16

Conservation

continued from pg. 12

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 wild-life 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!

Opportunity Council

continued from pg. 10

Community Action Agencies ensure that hard-working American families have access to the opportunities they need to thrive, while also promoting local economic growth and reducing government dependency. All agencies are locally controlled with boards of directors composed of local elected officials, private and public sector representatives, and engaged community residents. "We are proud of our communities' participation in the development and oversight of our programs," said Lukoss. "Their engagement helps us to be more effective in our approach by determining what Bucks County needs."

To celebrate the continued success of Community Action and raise awareness throughout Bucks County, follow BCOC on social media, visit their website at www.bcoc.org, donate, and get involved by volunteering.

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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.

Horse

continued from pg. 14



Photo: Pennsbury Manor

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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Bucks Learning Cooperative

Choosing more than school can offer

As more families encounter challenges with traditional schooling—ranging from anxiety and burnout to a lack of engagement—the question arises: what alternatives exist when school isn’t working?

Bucks Learning Cooperative (BLC) is a full-time educational program for teens ages 13-18 who want to re-engage with learning on their own terms.

Many arrive after feeling frustrated or disconnected from school and find relief, encouragement, and a fresh start. Fueled by curiosity and supported by experienced mentors and a caring peer community, teens design their own educational paths. At BLC, teens take classes and join workshops in subjects that interest them, go on excursions into the wider world and participate in internships that connect learning to



Bucks Learning Cooperative teens clean up Burlington Island as part of Spearhead Project Earth”

life. With support from staff and their families, alumni have gone on to colleges like Temple, Penn State, and Bard, while others launch businesses, learn trades, or enter professions like aviation and medicine.

Community engagement is a cornerstone of BLC’s model. Students participate in monthly service projects, such as volunteering at the United Way Help Center in

Bristol, creating care packages at the Uplift Center for Grieving Children in Philadelphia, and helping preserve local landmarks like Historic Fallsington and Slate Hill Cemetery.

For the past 10 years, local therapists and educational experts have recommended BLC as a place for teens who may be frustrated with traditional school, including the

bright but bored, the school avoidant, kids who may be socially isolated, and more. Such kids have found that BLC’s personalized education plans let them thrive.

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, BLC is committed to access and equity. Financial assistance is available, and families are encouraged to schedule a visit or trial day to see the model in action.

Learn more at www.buckslearningcooperative.org.

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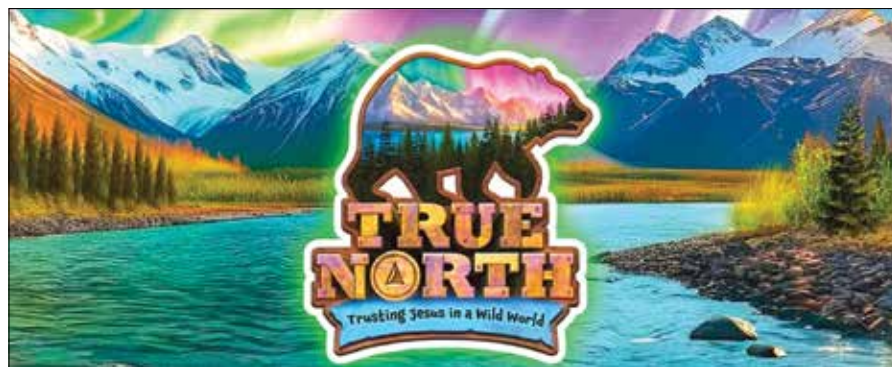
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Newtown United Methodist Church

Explore adventure and faith at True North VBS 2025!

Get ready for an unforgettable adventure! Newtown United Methodist Church invites kids ages 4 through 5th grade to embark on a journey through the wild wonders of Alaska at True North VBS 2025: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World!

From June 23 to June 27, children will dive into thrilling Bible stories, hands-on science experiments, exciting outdoor games, and delicious Alaskan-themed treats, all while



discovering that Jesus is their unshakable guide through life's adventures.

Daily Adventures Include:

Sing & Play Peak: Kick off each day with high-energy music and meet a new Bible Memory Buddy.

Wild Bible Adventures: Experience powerful Bible stories that demonstrate Jesus' unwavering love.

Imagination Station: Dive into hands-on, science-based activities that connect faith and fun.

Glacier Games: Enjoy fun-filled games that reinforce the day's Bible message.

Tundra Treats: Refuel with snacks inspired by the Alaskan wilderness.

Sticky Scripture™: Engage with daily Scriptures through interactive activities that help kids understand and remember God's Word.

Why Attend?

True North VBS is packed with fun—and every moment is designed to build a rock-solid faith foundation. Through every song, story, game, and hands-on activity, kids will discover that no matter what they face—questions, loneliness, fear, or uncertainty—they can always trust Jesus to guide them. They will leave with a deeper understanding of Jesus' love and direction, ready to face life's adventures with courage and confidence.

This high-energy, faith-filled experience is completely free! Join us daily from 9 am to 12 pm.

Don't miss the fun; register now! For details, contact Debbie Haneman at ghaneman314@gmail.com.

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 Indepen-



dence 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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Makefield Highland Golf Club

Makefield Highlands Golf Club, located in Yardley, is a hidden gem nestled in the countryside of historic Bucks County, just west of the Delaware River. Founded in 2004, and professionally managed by Spirit Golf Management, the public golf club features a pristine 18-hole Championship Golf Course, and an award-winning practice facility recognized as one of the finest in the region.

With five sets of tees playing 7,058 yards, the

links style golf course was designed by the distinguished architect Rick Jacobson, who created a challenging and fair layout utilizing the natural beauty of the surrounding landscape. Equipped with the transformative Top Tracer Technology, the state-of-the-art practice facility is home to Spirit Golf Academy, led by a team of expert PGA of America Golf Professionals. Spirit Golf Academy offers a dynamic line-up of player development programs that cater to golfers



of all levels, including juniors, women and newcomers to the game.

Complementing the golf experience, accomplished Chef Mark Miller brings culinary excellence to the on-site restaurant, Makefield's Public House, which is open to the public seven days a week, while presenting imaginative menus, all seasonally inspired, that appeal to golfers and members of the surrounding community.

With breathtaking views of the majestic grounds of the golf course, Makefield Highlands Golf Club serves as the perfect venue to host parties and special events for all occasions, including weddings, anniversaries, graduations, Bar/Bat Mitzvah's, charitable golf outings, and more.

Whether you are looking to experience a round of golf, elite instructional programming or a venue to host a special event, Makefield Highlands delivers unmatched service and amenities, and offers something for everyone. If you are interested in learning more, please visit www.makefieldhighlandsgolf.com or call 215-321-7000.



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Please call 215.295.7725 to make a reservation as there is limited seating.

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Newtown Arts Company

A fresh twist on a timeless classic: Newtown Arts Company brings Kate Hamill's "Pride and Prejudice" to the stage

Get ready for a bold, witty, and delightfully offbeat take on a literary favorite. From June 19 to 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 Street, Newtown. Tickets are on sale now at newtownac.booktix.com.

Hamill, known for her inventive and irreverent spins on classic literature, reimagines Jane Austen's beloved novel with a contemporary sensibility and comedic punch. In this version, the social pressures of Regency-era England collide with a modern feminist lens, delivering a show that's fast-paced, full of surprises, and fiercely funny.

At the heart of the story is Elizabeth Bennet—sharp-tongued, fiercely independent, and totally uninterested in marrying for status. That is, until she crosses paths with the enigmatic (and awkward) Mr. Darcy. What follows is a clever and chaotic journey through pride, prejudice, and unexpected connection. The play turns tradition on its head while staying true to Austen's signature wit and insight.

Directed by Tammy Tuckey, this vibrant production promises lively performances, inventive staging, and a fresh voice that will captivate longtime Austen fans and newcomers alike.

Presented through special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection (www.dramatists.com), this production captures the essence of classic romance while infusing it with new energy, humor, and heart. Whether you're revisiting a favorite story or discovering it for the first time, "Pride and Prejudice" at Newtown Arts Company is a must-see theatrical event.

Newtown Arts Company is proud to create a space where creativity thrives and all are welcome—on stage, backstage, and in the audience. For details on tickets, memberships, volunteering, and ways to support the arts, visit newtownartscompany.com or connect with us on social media.

Andrew Donnie as Mr. Darcy,
Kashfara Saba as
Elizabeth "Lizzy" Bennet.
Photo: Joe Cutalo Photography



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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



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

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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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 thermostat 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.

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 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

continued on pg. 30

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Gusto Ristorante Italiano BYOB

Chef Andrea Esposito inducted into the prestigious Marquis Who's Who Biographical Registry

Chef Esposito is the esteemed owner and chef of Gusto Ristorante Italiano BYOB. Since establishing his restaurant in 2022, he has remained dedicated to providing an authentic Italian dining experience.

His commitment to authenticity encompasses using ingredients imported directly from Italy to ensure that each dish served is a true reflection of Italian culinary traditions. Moreover, he consistently explores new recipes to enhance his restaurant's offerings and makes each dish with care.

Alongside his attention to detail in the kitchen, Chef Esposito takes on the responsibilities in front of the house as well, answering phone calls and taking reservations to oversee all operations of his business.

Prior to opening Gusto Ristorante, he honed his skills as a chef and pizzaiolo.

Growing up in Italy, Chef Esposito was exposed to the culinary world early on, with his father owning various pizza restaurants, and this early exposure to the restaurant industry laid the foundation for his

passion and instilled in him the desire to bring real Italian cuisine to the US.

Over the years, his expertise in Italian cuisine has been recognized by patrons and peers alike.

In recognition of his contributions to the cuisine in the US, Chef Esposito has received several recognitions, including being named best Italian restaurant by "5 Reasons to Visit."

Moreover, Chef Esposito has been nominated for various awards with the culinary community, honors that reflect not only his skill as a chef but also his commitment to maintaining the integrity of traditional Italian cooking.

In all he has achieved, he attributes his accomplishments to hard work, perseverance, and a deep love for the culinary industry.

Chef Esposito remains committed to changing the way Italian cuisine is perceived and prepared in the US.

Gusto Ristorante Italiano is located at



Chef Andrea Esposito pictured with his Marquis Who's Who in America award.

430 W. Street Road in Feasterville. Call 215-322-9979 or visit <https://gustobyob.wixsite.com/gustofeasterville>.

Tucker Chiropractic Center hosting free workshop

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

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

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

continued on pg. 27

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The Iron Oven

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 dining area and garage-style windows that open during pleasant weather, enhancing the 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 the stromboli, a family recipe perfected over time, and the cheesesteak, known for its bold flavors. The restaurant 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.

Painting 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, continued on pg. 27



Capital Health

Capital Health first in Mercer and Bucks Counties to offer minimally invasive treatment option for stress urinary incontinence

Capital Health Center for Incontinence and Pelvic Health is the first and only practice in Mercer County, New Jersey and Bucks County, Pennsylvania to offer Bulkamid, a safe and effective minimally invasive option for treating stress urinary incontinence (SUI).

Capital Health has been designated as a Bulkamid Center of Excellence in recognition of their staff's experience, expertise with the procedure, the quality of positive patient outcomes, and their commitment to improving the patient experience.

Bulkamid is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

To help alleviate SUI symptoms, Dr. Donald DeBrakeleer, director of Urogynecology at Capital Health, and his team at Capital Health Center for incontinence and pelvic health inject a soft, water-based gel into the urethral wall to support the urethra's closing mechanism and provide better control of urination. Administering the gel is a simple process involving just three to four small injections that take about 15 minutes to complete under local anesthesia or light sedation. Bulkamid is clinically proven to provide safe and effective symptom relief for at least seven years.

Research Hospital.

Bids on the painting of Kids Castle can be made in person at the gallery or via email at youthartsilentauctionbids@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.

Painting Hope

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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

Tucker Chiropractic

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Visit the link: www.DrDavidTucker.com/TriggerPointWorkshop.

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

The Center is located right

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

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



Donald DeBrakeleer, DO

Capital Health Center for Incontinence and Pelvic Health follows national guidelines and best practices to accurately diagnose and treat conditions and help patients experiencing bladder, bowel, pelvic pain or sexual health issues.

To learn more, visit capitalhealth.org/pelvichealth or call 609-303-4474 to schedule an appointment.

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canfordesign Cabinetry Finishes

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to reconcile credit card statements and receipts at my job. It's helped me stay employed and independent."

Leahana Stabilito of Southampton introduced the Optaro, a compact video magnifier made for smartphones. "This is great for reading price tags, menus, and receipts on the go," she said. "It's smaller than the other devices and doesn't attract attention, which I like."

The final demonstration came from BCABVI's Occupational Therapist and Low Vision Specialist Erin Kramer who showcased the latest innovation: the eSight Go, a pair of electronic eyeglasses. "It's not virtual reality; it's real life," she said with a smile. "This eyewear helps people with central vision loss due to macular degeneration. It magnifies and enhances what's directly in front of them. It's sleek, adjustable, and life-changing."

The event concluded with an outdoor tree-planting ceremony to honor BCABVI's 80 years of service. Attendees posed for photos near the commemorative tree, which now stands as a living tribute to the organization's impact in Bucks County.

Senator Santarsiero



BCABVI's Occupational Therapist and Low Vision Specialist Erin Kramer (standing) poses with BCABVI clients who demonstrate their adaptive technology devices.



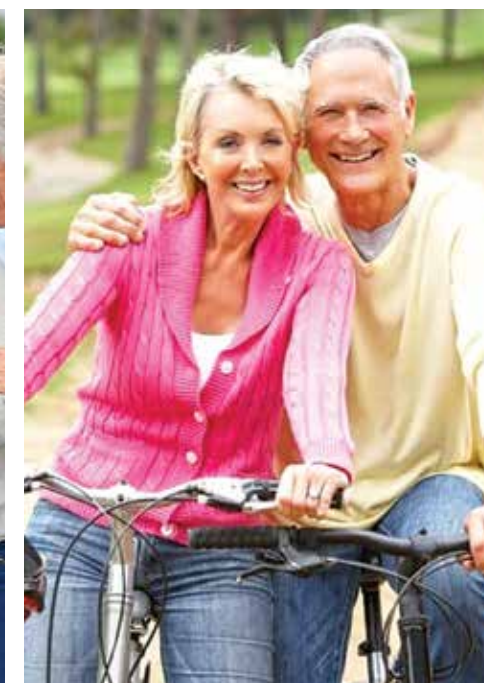
Representative Perry Warren tries on the eSight Go to see for himself how this device works.



(from left) Anne Marie Hyer, Pennsylvania Senator Steve Santarsiero, Representative Perry Warren, and Laurie Wajda step outside for the tree-planting ceremony, honoring BCABVI's 80 years of service.

summed up the sentiment shared by many: "A lot of times we help secure grants, but we don't always get to see the result. Seeing how these devices change lives in such tangible ways makes it that much more meaningful."

As BCABVI looks to the future, its mission remains clear: to empower individuals with visual impairments to lead full, independent lives, with the help of technology, community, and compassion.



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Achievement & Wellness Center

Anxiety and depression in high school student nixed by neurofeedback

submitted by Maria Di Donato DEd, BCN, PA
Licensed Psychologist,
PA/NJ Certified School
Psychologist

Paul, not his real name, a high school student from Bensalem, was diagnosed with depression and anxiety. He was treated with several psychotropic medications which resulted in multiple negative side effects. These medications became a type of toxicity for Paul, which caused concern for Paul and his parents. He also reported multiple head injuries from falls over the years and a concussion from sports in 8th grade. A friend recommended neurofeedback, a drug free approach for anxiety

and depression to address his issues. On the intake, Paul reported multiple problems including difficulty concentrating, being fidgety, stomach problems, nausea, irritability and difficulty sleeping. He also remarked that he had poor sleep patterns at night.

Some of Paul's difficulties include inattention, depression, forgetfulness, tearfulness, lack of motivation, agitation, feelings of aggression, and self-harm.

As part of the intake, a Quantitative electroencephalogram (QEEG) provided information about the brainwave imbalances driving his many behavioral and emotional difficulties.

Soon after beginning treat-

ment, which included neurofeedback and counseling, Paul reported sleeping better, being less hyper, feeling more awake and alert. He was beginning to enjoy his life more and reporting engaging in more positive activities. School work was also improving.

Many emotional issues were calming down as anxiety and depression were decreasing. Agitation, impulsivity, and aggression were all reduced considerably. He was smiling more. Over time, Paul will be able to enjoy a more positive lifestyle and have a happier future.

A QEEG provides important information about the specific areas of the brain that are dysregulated and is used to guide treatment. Neurofeedback, a form of biofeedback, is used to reward and train positive brainwaves that result in more positive behavioral, emotional and cognitive outcomes. As a result, individuals can enjoy a more balanced lifestyle and a happier future.

For more information about Achievement & Wellness Center, located at 301 Oxford Valley Rd, Suite 703B in Yardley, call 215-321-9502.

Car clinic

continued from pg. 24

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.



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.

Pets Furst Urgent Care:



Compassionate veterinary services in Langhorne

Located at 502 Oxford Valley Road in Langhorne, Pets Furst Urgent Care is a trusted veterinary clinic dedicated to providing compassionate and timely care for your pets. Open daily from 8 am to 8 pm, this walk-in facility caters to the immediate health needs of dogs and cats, offering a range of services without the need for an appointment.

Comprehensive Services for Your Pet's Health

Pets Furst Urgent Care offers a variety of services to ensure the well-being of your pet:

- **Urgent Care:** Addressing non-life-threatening conditions such as ear infections, minor injuries, vomiting, and allergic reactions.
- **Wellness Exams:** Conducting thorough physical examinations, vaccinations, and par-

asite screenings to maintain your pet's health.

- **Diagnostics:** Utilizing in-house laboratory tests and digital X-rays to diagnose various health issues efficiently.
- **Microchipping:** Providing microchipping services to help reunite lost pets with their owners.
- **Surgical Services:** Offering routine procedures like spays and neuters, as well as more complex surgeries with a focus on safety and recovery.

Experienced and Caring Team

The clinic is led by Dr. Lawrence A. Rebbeck Jr., VMD, and Dr. Jonas Colmer, VMD, who bring years of experience and a commitment to high-quality veterinary care. The staff is known for their compassionate approach, ensuring both pets and their owners feel comfortable and well-cared-for during visits.

For more information, call 215-755-1000 or visit petsfursturgentcare.com.

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The Importance of Regular Eye Exams:

Did you know that half of all blindness or severe vision loss cases can be prevented through early detection? Or that many eye conditions have little or even no symptoms?

The good news is that yearly eye exams from our knowledgeable physicians can help you stay on top of your eye health. Here at EABC, we specialize in the following types of eye exams:

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- We believe our patients are best served by having access to state-of-the-art technology to provide the best vision outcome. EABC is well-respected and trusted throughout the community by both patients and doctors alike. We have a reputation for delivering the highest quality care in a professional and compassionate environment.

At Eye Associates of Bucks County, we understand the importance of vision in your life. Whether restoring, preserving, or improving sight, our skilled team is dedicated to helping you achieve your best vision' so you can live your best life.

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Dr. Pendse performed cataract surgery on both my eyes. He was very attentive to all follow-up care and my many questions. Whenever an out-of-the-ordinary problem arose, he would be sure to see me in an expeditious manner. The staff is thorough and caring. I would

definitely recommend them. – Barry G.

If you would like to be involved with making an informed decision about your eye health, call Eye Associates of Bucks County at 833-921-6200 or visit www.centerforeyes.com to schedule an appointment

Dr. Sagun Pendse, Eye Associates of Bucks County



Airforce JROTC Cadet honored by the Washington Crossing Chapter SAR



From left: Kevin Treiber, Chapter Veteran's Committee, and Cadet Kema Brown. Photo taken by SAR member Shane Treiber.

On April 24, the Pennsbury High School Airforce Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC) Unit PA-20171, held its annual awards ceremony. The AFJROTC program at Pennsbury High School was the first unit of its kind established in Pennsylvania in 2017. Cadet Kema Brown was recognized by the Washington Crossing Chapter Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) with the SAR Bronze JROTC medal, certificate

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Senior Care Authority *Why you should use a placement advisor when finding a senior community for your loved one*

Finding the right senior community for a loved one can be a daunting task. With numerous options available, each offering different levels of care, amenities, and environments, the decision-making process can quickly become overwhelming. Senior Care Authority, a premier placement advisor, can be of great assistance to your family. We provide the following:

Expert Guidance: We know the senior living options and understand the nuances of various communities. We are knowledgeable about the specific services, costs, and cultures of different facilities, allowing us to provide tailored recommendations based on individual needs and preferences. Our expertise can save families countless hours of research and help them avoid common pitfalls. We arrange tours, provide insights into community culture, and even negotiate terms, ensuring families get the best possible fit for their loved ones.

Personalized Assessments: We conduct a thorough assessment of the senior's health, lifestyle, and personal preferences. This personalized approach ensures that the recommendations align with the individu-

al's unique requirements, whether they need assisted living, memory care, or independent living. By focusing on the specific needs of the senior, advisors can help families find a community that feels like home.

Emotional Support: The process of transitioning to a senior community can be emotionally charged for both seniors and their families. Our approach not only provides practical assistance, but also offers emotional support throughout the journey. We help facilitate difficult conversations and provide reassurance, making the transition smoother for everyone involved.

No Cost to Your Family: There is no cost to the family to use the placement services of Senior Care Authority.

In conclusion, using Senior Care Authority, when searching for a senior community can simplify the process, provide expert guidance, and ensure that families make informed decisions that prioritize the well-being and happiness of their loved ones.

Contact Randy Reardon at 267-938-4530.



Call Senior Care Authority for personalized placement support at no cost to you!

Senior Living & Care Solutions

Expert Guidance - We have visited and vetted all of the senior communities we work with. We will assist you in obtaining the best care.

Personalized Assessments - We will take the time to understand the senior's individual needs so we can best match them to the most appropriate community.

Transition support - we will guide you through the admission process and ensure a smooth move in and follow up to ensure a smooth adjustment period.

Ongoing Support - The relationship with Senior Care Authority doesn't end once a placement is made.

Our placement services are provided at no cost to the family

Helping families make transitions with their senior loved ones. Our communication with you will be accessible and consistent. You do not need to do this alone!



Randy Reardon, Certified Senior Advisor
(267) 938-4530
randyreardon@seniorcareauthority.com
seniorcareauthority.com/neofphilly



Airforce

continued from pg. 32
and SAR challenge coin. This cadet was chosen by Aerospace Science Instructor, Retired Airforce Technical Sergeant Chauncey Ivey, as the recipient of this award based on her superior leadership abilities, military bearing and academic excellence. Cadet Brown was selected to serve in a leadership role in the Company. This outstanding Cadet exemplifies the high ideals and principles which motivated and sustained our patriot ancestors. Past Washington Crossing Chapter President and Veteran Committee Chairman Bill Hampton processed the award package. Chapter Veteran's Committee member Kevin Treiber presented the award to Cadet Brown.

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Friends Village

As we approach the halfway point of 2025, there's no slowing down at Friends Village! With the arrival of warmer days, residents have been embracing the outdoors—most recently by gathering to plant and share joy in the garden. The coming weeks promise even more opportunities to connect and celebrate, from our table at the Senior Games Kickoff on May 28 at Bucks County Community College to Welcome Day on June 8, where we'll be sharing small gifts and big smiles with our community.

As we continue to celebrate Older Americans Month this May, we proudly embrace this year's theme: Flip the Script on Aging. This theme challenges outdated narratives and encourages a fresh perspective on what it means to grow older. Rather than seeing aging as a time of decline, we highlight the strength, wisdom, and valuable contributions that older adults bring to our families, communities, and society. Throughout the month, we are engaging in events and conver-

sations that honor the diverse experiences of older Americans. By flipping the script, we aim to reshape attitudes and celebrate aging as a dynamic, enriching, and purposeful stage of life.

And speaking of milestones—our Friends For All Time Gala on October 11 is fast approaching! This special event will celebrate 125 years since Paxson Hall first opened its doors. Built in 1900 by Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Edward Paxson and gifted to the Bucks Quarterly Meeting of Quakers, Paxson Hall has provided a warm, welcoming home for older adults ever since.

In preparation for its next century, we're embarking on an important renovation to replace Paxson Hall's aging heating and cooling systems and install a fire suppression system for added safety. These upgrades not only improve comfort and security but will also make the building more energy-efficient and environmentally friendly. At Friends Village, we're committed to being an active part of the community and a valuable resource to those around us. After all, Friends Village isn't



just part of the neighborhood—it is a neighbor.

For more information on Friends Village, or to take a

tour, contact Barbara Heverly at 215-968-3346 extension 108 or by email at info@friends-village.org

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 stu-

dents 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 partnership between Bucks County Community College (BCCC), the 13 public school districts of Bucks County, the three Bucks County technical high schools, and the Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22. Bucks CAN is dedicated to expanding dual credit enrollment across Bucks County by increasing access to opportunities to help students shorten the time required to complete a college degree and

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Pickering Manor



Newtown Rotary Golf Committee presenting the 2024 Golf Outing fundraising check to Pickering Manor.

Dual credit

continued from pg. 34

reduce the financial burden associated with higher education. Bucks CAN offerings will include a diverse range of dual credit courses offered on Bucks County Community College's three campuses in Bristol, Newtown, and Perkasio, through Bucks Online, and in the high schools.

BCCC President & CEO Patrick M. Jones said, "The Bucks County College Access Network will allow academically qualified high school students to take college-level courses while still enrolled in high school to enable them to get a jump start

on their collegiate education, while saving a substantial amount of money on college tuition." Jones added, "Bucks CAN will bring high school teachers and college professors together in a county-wide network to ensure students from every community of Bucks County have access to higher education, and the grant will remove or reduce financial barriers faced by many families."

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, dual credit offerings improve academic achievement, high school graduation rates, college enrollment, and college completion rates.

Celebrating community and compassion on the green

For 35 years, the Newtown Rotary Golf Outing has brought together local leaders, businesses, and golf enthusiasts for more than just a day on the green—it's been a celebration of community, service, and support.

Last year's outing raised over \$25,000 for Pickering Manor, Newtown's nonprofit Life Plan Community. But beyond the dollars raised, the event highlights the deep bond shared between two mission-driven organizations dedicated to service.

"The Rotary has been nothing short of incredible," said David Woodhead, CEO of Pickering Manor. "Their continued support over the decades has directly enhanced the lives of our residents. Thanks to their 2024 contributions, we were able to purchase new Hoyer lifts, which improve both resident safety and caregiver support in our Skilled Nursing neighborhood."

Woodhead adds, "Their motto, 'service above self,' is more than a phrase—it's something they live out with every

gesture, every donation, every moment spent advocating for us and our surrounding community. We are honored to have them as steadfast partners."

Much of the event's success can be credited to the dedicated Golf Committee, whose planning and outreach efforts ensure a smooth and successful fundraiser each year. In appreciation, Pickering Manor treated committee members to a celebratory lunch.

From morning tee-offs to the closing awards ceremony, the Rotary's Golf Outing is a heartfelt reminder of what's possible when community and compassion come together.

This year's Golf Outing will be held on June 2 at the Trenton Country Club. If you missed the chance to join us this year, there's always next time. Mark your calendar for next year's outing and be part of something truly meaningful.

To learn more about participating, sponsoring, or supporting Pickering Manor, visit www.pickeringmanor.org or call 215-968-3878. Your support helps us continue providing compassionate care—one swing at a time.

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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 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 Township, 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. 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, cel-

brates 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.

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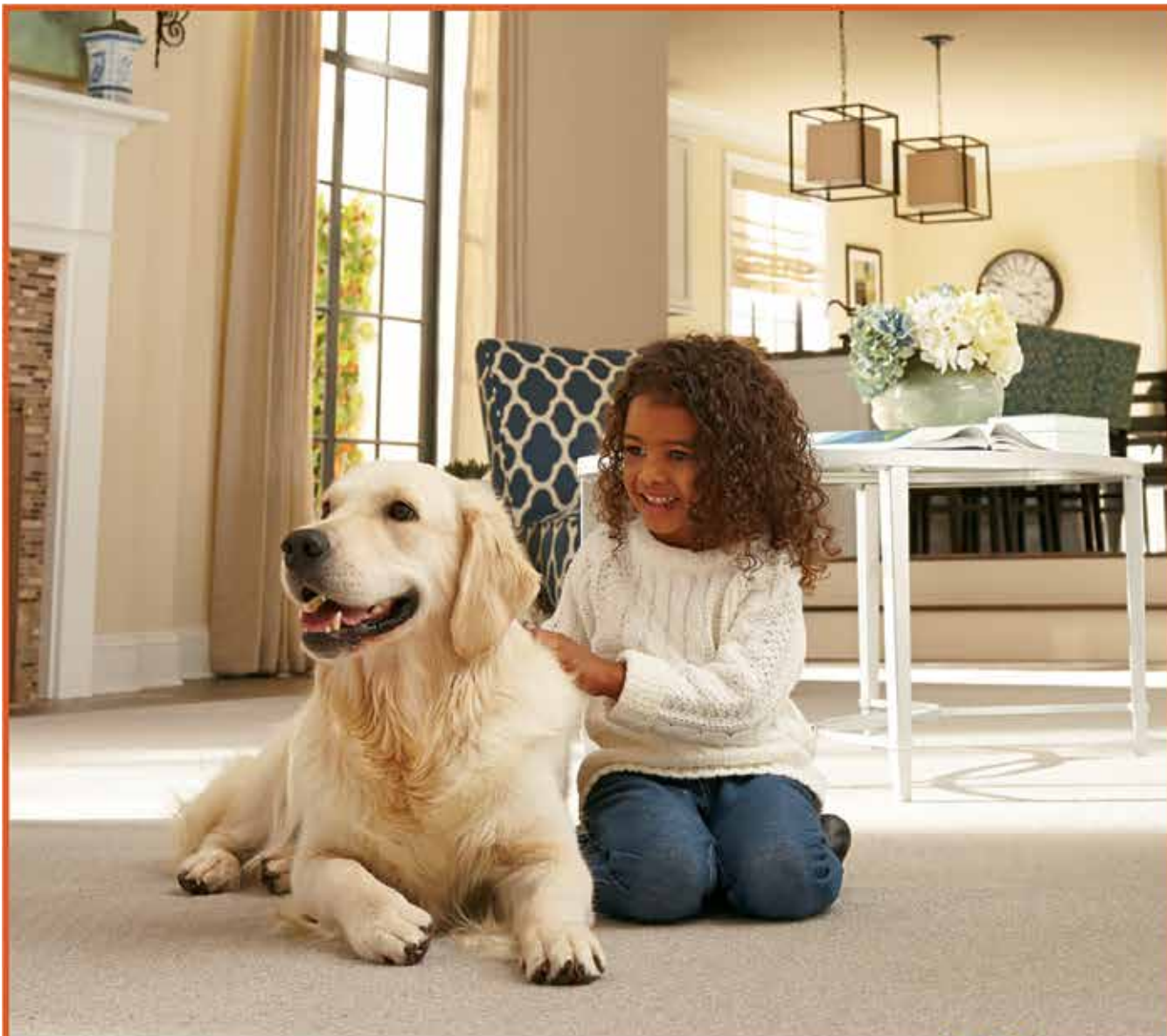
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