

Northampton HERALD

Ivyland Estate Transformed!

Visitors tour this Ivyland estate, consisting of a historical farmhouse and a custom-built chalet, during this year's 49th annual Bucks County Designer House & Gardens. See story on page 3.



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

by June Portnoy

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

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

The roots of Hidden Trail

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

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

Ownership of the land changed hands multiple times throughout the 19th century. In 1830, Silas Yerkes purchased a portion of the property and doubled the size of the farmhouse through renovations that

defined much of its current structure. John Scott acquired the estate in 1867, followed by Mahlon H. Stout in 1894, and eventually Harry Snellenburg, owner of the prominent Philadelphia department store, in the early 20th century. The Snellenburgs restored the house, added the current library and primary bedroom suite, and renamed it Henny Penny Farm.

In 1978, Raymond and Roberta Trail became the next custodians. The Trail family removed stucco from the home's exterior to reveal the original stonework and modernized the interior while preserving its colonial character. Mrs. Trail chronicled their hands-on restoration experience in a memoir, offering a unique perspective on life within such a storied structure.

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

mately creating the 14.4-acre estate that hosted this year's Designer House.

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

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

Both homes were renovated by local designers, who volunteered their time and creativity. "Each designer was assigned their own room, or sometimes

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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.

Wild Birds Unlimited, Buckingham

Feed the birds all summer long!

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

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

It's also important to provide a source of water, and our variety of bird baths are the perfect way to do so! Keep it in an area of part sun and add one of our copper purification disks to slow algae growth. If possible, have it near an accessible hose for easy cleaning and refilling. Birds will drink from it and enjoy splashing around when taking a bath as well.

And of course, summer is best for Ruby-throated Hummingbirds - we have a wide variety of nectar feeders available.

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available, in addition to birdhouses, feeders, pole systems, squirrel-proof feeders, birdbaths, baffles, binoculars and a bird feeder camera system.

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



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"Hit To Be Fit" Day was a real hit

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

Twenty-four tennis enthusiasts, from very beginners to accomplished players, gathered at Council Rock North



High School's tennis courts to participate in Red Ball—short-court rallying that provides a great way to learn and practice the game—as well as Cardio Triples—heart-pumping match play that keeps everyone moving.

BCTA (Bucks County Tennis Association) coaches Craig Batten and Cielo Orjuela led the

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Vincent Deon - Northampton Twp. Tax Collector

A message from Vincent Deon

As your neighbor and elected Northampton Township Tax Collector I want to advise you on how to protect the largest investment of your lifetime: Your Home. I am inviting residents to meet locally with the Bucks County Recorder of Deeds.

Dan McPhillips, Bucks County Recorder of Deeds, will be holding mobile office hours at the Northampton Township Tax Collector's Office on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Services provided will include:

Protect your property with a FREE Fraud Alert Program

Request a FREE copy of the Deed to your property

Record your Military Discharge Papers (D214) for FREE and learn about Veteran Discount Cards

Renew your Public Notary Commission by appointment only. Protect your Notary Commission and ask about a FREE Notary Fraud Alert Program.

To schedule your appointment, email Dan McPhillips at mcphillips@buckscounty.org or call his cell phone at 215-801-2551.



Vincent Deon, Northampton Twp. Tax Collector

The Northampton Township Tax Collector's Office is located at 815 Bustleton Pike in Rich-boro.

Summer Sensations at Free Library of Northampton Township

On Tuesday, June 3, at 6 pm, the library 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 newtown-bookshop.com.

Enjoy an adult craft on Thursday, June 5, at 1 pm and design your own marbled paper. Be prepared to get messy. Supplies, gloves, and wipes provided. Registration required.

What if a natural disaster befell Bucks County? Join a representative from the American Red Cross of Southeastern Pennsylvania on Saturday, June 7, at 1 pm for "Be Red Cross

Ready: Disaster and Emergency Preparedness". Learn ways to stay safe. Registration required.

You hum his patriotic tunes, but what do you know about John Philip Sousa, the world-famous bandmaster? On Saturday, June 14, at 1 pm, Dr. Covington brings history to life with "Stars and Stripes Forever: John Philip Sousa" in a first-person biography. Registration required.

On Monday, June 16, at 6 pm, Kimberly London, of the Bucks County Drugs & Alcohol Commission, will present the program "Where to Look: Substance Abuse Resources". With over 30 years of Behavioral Health experience, Ms. London knows resources for the supportive services for those

dealing with substance abuse.

Kids: Be a part of Summer Reading 2025 with our "Summer Quest Kickoff Party" on Saturday, June 21, from 10 am – 1 pm. Bucks County Artist, Tim Gibson, paints with us a collaborative paint-by-number style community mural reflecting this year's theme, "Color Our World". Also, grab your summer reading log, enjoy Rita's Water Ice, get your face painted, partake of crafts and raffles! Travelin' Tom's Coffee Truck will be here with ice-cold refreshers, lemonade, iced lattes and more. Let Summer Quest begin!

For more information, visit www.northamptontownshiplibrary.org.

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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 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

Hit To Be Fit

continued from pg. 4

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.



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 mentioned above, it's time to consider a replacement.

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Board and Batten or Cedar Shake 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



Transform your home from shabby to chic

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 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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Fundraiser

continued from pg. 8

By raising funds in support of LEV27, we can remove the trauma of eviction and ensure secure housing to promote the true healing and advancement of deserving families."

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

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

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



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Jammer Doors *Post-Memorial Day savings*

Memorial Day has come and gone, but the summer heat is here to stay—and so are the savings at Jammer Doors. We're extending our Memorial Day

Sales Event so you can still take advantage of great deals on garage doors, retractable screens, and storm doors that keep your home cool, energy-efficient, and stylish all summer long.

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.

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for all your needs at www.jammerdoors.com.

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

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



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.

of dedicated volunteers.

Drive And Thrive exists to serve those whose transportation needs are critical to their wellbeing, and this clinic was no

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spot
light

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 mois-

ture 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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WTB Woodworking

New products and events continue to be a part of the growth of WTB Woodworking!

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 \$1029.82!

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 wood-



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workers 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!

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continue to expand our product selection.

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

Ivyland Farmhouse

continued from pg. 13

more, and they worked collaboratively so there was a sense of flow," Urban explained. "The result was breathtaking."

The Designer House is the VIA's largest annual fundraising event, and the proceeds from this year's event are primar-

ily earmarked for enhancing the behavioral health unit at Doylestown Hospital's Emergency Department, a reflection of the community's growing mental health needs.

Shuttle buses ran regularly from Richboro Swim Club, and an estimated 5,000 visitors toured the property from April

27 through May 25. Guests also enjoyed shopping at on-site boutiques housed in the estate's large barn and dining at a café catered by McCaffrey's.

Currently listed for \$3.45 million with Lorma O'Hanlon of Keller Williams, Hidden Trail Farm is on the market, and this year's Designer House makeover may well enhance its appeal to prospective buyers. The present owners, Dr. Jennifer Kramer, a veterinarian, and her husband, Gregory Bock, purchased the estate in 2008 and undertook substantial renovations, including updates to the pool, gazebo, and outdoor kitchen. Dr. Kramer also operated a boarding kennel, the Richboro Ritz, from the barn.

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

Founded in 1895, the Village Improvement Association of Doylestown is a nonprofit women's organization dedicated to improving health and welfare in the region. The VIA not only established Doylestown Hospital in 1923, but continues to govern its operations today. Through its scholarship funds, veteran support, community recognition, and welfare committees, the VIA's mission extends far beyond hospital walls.

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

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

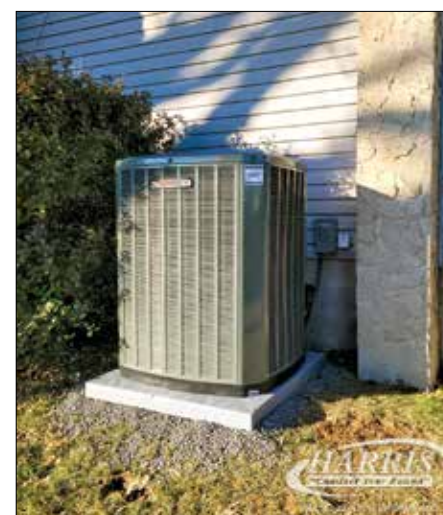
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A new approach to conservation that starts in your yard

Submitted by the
Newtown Borough 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-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: 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

continued on pg. 22

spot
light

JC Heating & Cooling

Spring into comfort with JC Heating & Cooling: Schedule your HVAC maintenance today

As spring settles in across Bucks County, now is the perfect time to ensure your HVAC system is ready for the warmer months ahead. At JC Heating & Cooling, we've been providing trusted HVAC services in Lower Bucks County since 1973. Our comprehensive maintenance plans are designed to enhance efficiency, reduce energy costs, and extend the lifespan of your heating and cooling systems.

Why Choose JC Heating & Cooling for Your HVAC Maintenance?

Expert Technicians: Our team is fully licensed and insured, offering professional maintenance services for all makes and models of HVAC equipment.

Comprehensive Maintenance Plans: Our annual HVAC maintenance includes over 30 detailed checks and services, such as cleaning coils, checking refrigerant levels, inspecting

safety controls, and more.

Energy Savings: Regular maintenance can reduce cooling and heating costs, improve equipment efficiency, and add years to your system's life.

Priority Service: As a maintenance plan customer, you receive priority scheduling and same-day service when needed.

24/7 Emergency Service:

We offer 24-hour emergency service 365 days a year for our service agreement customers.

Schedule Your Maintenance Today

Don't wait until the heat of summer arrives. Scheduling your HVAC maintenance now ensures your system operates efficiently, preventing unexpected breakdowns and costly repairs. Call our Service Department at 215-945-4833 to book your appointment.

Serving Bucks County Communities

Drive and Thrive

continued from pg. 12

exception. Attendees included women and their children who recently fled domestic violence, grandparents raising grandchildren on fixed incomes, and individuals managing serious medical challenges.

One participant, Maryanne of North Wales, shared, "I am a single parent of two children with multiple disabilities. Drive and Thrive is the only resource I have found to help with car repairs. I take my children to so many doctor appointments and therapies at CHOP and Nemours that having a car is essential to help them get the

care they need to flourish. Thank you so much Drive and Thrive for making sure my car is safe so I can keep my focus on helping my children and supporting them. I am so grateful you saw a need and took action caring for the community."

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

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



We proudly serve the communities in Bucks County. Whether you need a tune-up for your furnace, air conditioner, or oil burner, JC Heating & Cooling is here to keep your

home comfortable year-round. Contact us today to schedule your HVAC maintenance, and experience the JC Heating & Cooling difference. Call 215-945-4833.

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Joe McIlvaine Tree & Lawn

May is a great month for tree care in the northeast, as the weather starts to warm up and the trees begin to bud. As an arborist at Joe

McIlvaine Tree and Lawn, I am here to offer some tips and advice on how to care for your trees this month.

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

to take action to control them as soon as possible.

One of the best ways to prevent pests and diseases is to keep your trees healthy. This



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

means providing them with the right amount of water and nutrients, as well as pruning them regularly to remove any dead or diseased branches.

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

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

As an experienced arborist, I can help you determine the

best course of action for your trees and provide you with the necessary treatments to keep them healthy.

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

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

Bucks County Community College receives \$400,000

to build Healthcare Pipeline through new Pre-Apprenticeship Program

Officials at Bucks County Community College are proud

to announce that the college has been awarded \$400,000 through the PA Department of Labor and Industry to develop and implement a new Healthcare Pre-Apprenticeship Program.

Bucks will partner with Drexel University, District 1199C, Bucks County Workforce and Economic Development Board, regional hospitals, and local medical practices to create a career-aligned registered pre-apprenticeship program. Bucks will provide free training and job placement services for two inaugural cohorts, graduating 24 pre-apprentices over the next year and a half. Graduates of the 12-week pre-apprenticeship program will receive recognized certifications in EKG tech, certified phlebotomy technician, CPR for healthcare providers, mental health first aid for fire/EMS, and child abuse recognition and report-

continued on pg. 20

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My vision is simple: I want to be the one call my clients make for anything they need—

whether it's a handyman, mover, stager, or plumber. With a network of trusted resources at the ready, I'm here to take the stress out of selling a home and provide seamless solutions when challenges arise.

Selling a home can feel overwhelming, whether it's unfamiliar territory or simply difficult to focus on amidst a busy schedule. That's where my team and I step in—not only to ensure a successful sale but to make the entire process as effortless as possible.

Let us take care of the details. We're here to help. Visit



us at www.GinaSpaziano.com. Gina Spaziano Real Estate & Concierge Services is located at 842 Durham Road, Suite 25 in

Newtown. For more information, call 215-876-7173 or email gina@ginaspaziano.com.

Pipeline

continued from pg. 18

ing training, as well as a college certificate of completion and a pre-apprenticeship certificate.

"We have received overwhelming support from the healthcare industry for this

pre-apprenticeship program," said Bucks President & CEO Patrick M. Jones. "Given the success of our pre-apprenticeships in other sectors, we are thrilled to be able to offer the education and training necessary for area residents to launch their allied health

careers with jobs that are in high demand and pay family-sustaining wages."

The PA Department of Labor and Industry grant will afford Bucks' Center for Workforce Development the opportunity to venture further into the healthcare sector and build

upon the success Bucks has had in building pre-apprenticeships in manufacturing and the building trades. The state funding will enable the college to have a greater reach in the Southeastern Pennsylvania region resulting in providing increased enrollment and pathways to high-paying jobs and apprenticeships that are in high demand.

The free 12-week career training programs will likely begin in early 2026 and be held Monday-Friday, 8:30 am–3 pm in the college's Center for Advanced Technologies (CAT) on the Epstein Campus at Lower Bucks in Bristol. The CAT is a brand-new, state-of-the-art facility offering job seekers access to high-quality career training programs. Students will also have the opportunity to work with Drexel University, District 1199C, regional hospitals, employers, and apprenticeship programs in the industry.

For more information about this program, contact Associate Vice President for Workforce Development Susan Herring at 267-685-4827 or susan.herring@bucks.edu.

Ben Manis Plumbing

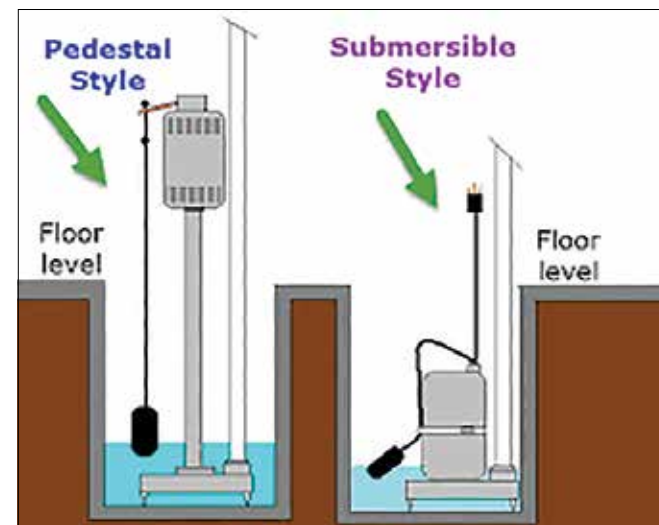
Don't wait for a storm to check if your sump pump is operating!

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 reach and therefore, less expensive to

install. The downside is that they typically do not last as long as the submersible pumps.

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

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Conservation

continued from pg. 16

National Park for lists of native plants best for our area.

Stopping Invasive Plants from Taking Over

Non-native invasive plants can be a real pain, crowding out native plants and messing up ecosystems. Native plants help keep things balanced and give local species a fighting chance to thrive.

Easy Landscaping with Native Plants

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

Pollinator-Friendly Spaces: By planting native species, you're giving pollinators a safe place to do their job. And let's be honest, a garden buzzing with life is so much more enjoyable.

Shrink your Lawn

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

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

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

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

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

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

Let's Take Action

Native plants are vital for keeping nature healthy and dealing with big issues like climate change and water shortages. By choosing native plants, we can make

a difference and help the environment bounce back.

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

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!

Tucker Chiropractic Center hosting free workshop

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

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

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

Visit the link: 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.

spot light

Upper Southampton Parks and Recreation

Summer youth camp for ages 5–11

Get ready for a summer of adventure, creativity, and connection at the Upper Southampton Youth Camp! Running for seven exciting weeks from June 23 to August 8, this ACA-accredited day camp offers children ages 5 to 11 an unforgettable experience filled with fun, friendship, and discovery.

Operating weekdays from 9 am to 4 pm, with flexible drop-off (7:50–9 am) and pick-up (4–5:15 pm), the camp is designed with working families in mind. Campers will dive into a variety of classic camp activities, including daily sports, games, arts & crafts, and weekly swimming—perfect for staying active and engaged throughout the summer.

One of the highlights? Three exciting youth day trips are

included in the cost of registration, giving campers the chance to explore new places and enjoy enriching off-site experiences (Trip dates to be announced soon.).

Campers must have completed kindergarten to enroll. Whether attending all seven weeks or choosing a minimum of three, families can tailor the camp schedule to their needs. Fees are structured for both Upper Southampton residents and non-residents, with payment plans available and a final payment deadline of June 11.

This camp is more than just a place to spend the summer—it's where kids build confidence, make lasting friendships, and create memories that will stay with them long after school



Join the fun at Upper Southampton's Summer Youth Camp!

starts again.

Please note: No camp will be held on July 4, and no refunds are provided once registered. Space is limited, and residency will be verified, so early registration is encouraged.

Join us this summer for an enriching, laughter-filled camp

experience that your child will never forget!

Upper Southampton Township Summer Camp will be held at 913 Willow St. in Southampton.

For additional information call 215-355-9781 or visit www.USTWPREC.com to register.

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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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



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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.

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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.

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Jann's does a full line of repairs including computer diagnostics, air conditioning and state inspections for cars, light trucks and trailers.

John is a hands-on owner. "I believe in having only one location because I want to be here for my customers every day, 45-plus hours a week," says John. "If there's a problem, I'm here for my customers."

Although Jann's was established in 1977 by William Jann, John worked for Bill for 11 years before purchasing the business from him in 2002. The transition was seamless since Jann's had already established a positive reputation in the community and John had developed an on-going relationship with his customers.

Over the years, the service station went from a one-story building with two bays to a shop with seven bays and 3,600 square-feet. It's because of his customers' loyalty that he's been able to continue to grow and expand over the years.

John lives in Feasterville with his wife, Janice, and they have raised their two children here as well. Ironically, John met his wife while he was still working for Bill. His wife was one of his customers!

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Bucks County Opportunity Council Celebrates Economic Self-Sufficiency Graduation 2025

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

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



BCOC 2025 ES Graduates

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

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

Nearly every graduate

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

break the cycle of generational poverty that she had experienced. Her words, "I know my kids will have a better life" had an incredibly emotional impact on the over 200 guests.

The 2025 class began the program with an average starting income of \$19,687. In the 31 months' time it took for the group to graduate, they increased their income to an average of \$65,948, that is an increase of \$46,261. The key to success has been acquiring the additional education and train-

continued on pg. 30

spot
light

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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2025 Bucks County Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

by Karen Sangillo

The Bucks County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame inducted its Class of 2025 on Thursday, April 24 at Brookside Manor in Feasterville.

Inductees included Lindsay Krasna (Pennsbury, basketball, volleyball); Donna Nicholson (Pennsbury, athlete, coach, PIAA official); Joseph Paluszek (Conwell-Egan, bowling); Victoria Worthen Lang (Council Rock South, track and field); Megan Schafer Miller (Neshaminy, soccer); Carl Poff (Council Rock, wrestling); Allison Nemeth Wunsch (Neshaminy, field hockey, softball); John Kopack (Bristol, wrestling); Jesse Hellyer (Bensalem, basketball); and Sylvia Kalasz (Quakertown, athlete, coach, athletic director).

Kopack was a top wrestler for Bristol and for Millersville State Teachers' College (now Millersville University) before becoming the longtime wrestling coach at Pennsbury.

His daughter, Kelly Kopack Kauffman, was inducted in



(L to R): Carl Poff, Lindsay Krazna, Megan Schafer Miller, Syliva Kalasz, John Kopack, Joseph Paluszek, Victoria Worthen Lang, Allison Nemeth Wunsch, Donna Nicholson, Jesse Hellyer (behind Nicholson).

2022 for her stellar field hockey career at Neshaminy and Duke. They join Pancho Micir (2016) and Addie Micir (2022) as the only father-daughter pairs in the Hall of Fame.

"This is very, very special," Kopack said. "I'm thrilled to be in the same Hall of Fame as my daughter, Kelly. That's something really special for me."

Krasna set the all-time scoring record at Pennsbury with 1,292 points. She went on to play at Cornell, then professionally in Israel.

"It's such an honor to be here," she said. "The players I played with in high school sports and beyond are a big part of who I am, and to be here and connected to my roots



Victoria Worthen Lang (Council Rock South, track and field) poses with Carl Poff (Council Rock, wrestling).

is really special."

Lang was a pole vaulter, winning the PIAA indoor title in 2009 for the Golden Hawks. She competed at Princeton, winning numerous Ivy League titles.

"It's really amazing that people are recognizing me for things I did in high school and college," she said. "I'm very thankful to the committee for that recognition and the opportunity to relive the good old days and also to remember all the growth I had from sports."

Miller set the Neshaminy record for career goals (102)

continued on pg. 32

NOVA's gala was out of this world

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

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

Always on the cutting edge of service delivery, NOVA provides a continuum of programs to meet individual needs, including but not limited to: a 24-7 victim helpline, forensic exams in area hospitals, forensic



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

interviews for children who have been sexually or physically abused, trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy provided in office, home or schools, legal advocacy and support through the criminal justice system. In addition, NOVA provides prevention edu-

cation and professional training in schools, the community and through continuing education conferences.

"This year's gala was truly an 'out of this world' experience," said Penelope Ettinger, Executive Director of NOVA. "It was a wonderful evening and

an opportunity to thank everyone who supports our mission to help victims of crime and prevent violence through education and advocacy. We are deeply grateful to our business sponsors and individual donors for making this event possible."

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is really special."

Lang was a pole vaulter, winning the PIAA indoor title in 2009 for the Golden Hawks. She competed at Princeton, winning numerous Ivy League titles.

"It's really amazing that people are recognizing me for things I did in high school and college," she said. "I'm very thankful to the committee for that recognition and the opportunity to relive the good old days and also to remember all the growth I had from sports."

Miller set the Neshaminy record for career goals (102)

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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.

Graduation

continued from pg.26

ing necessary to earn a living wage. All 18 graduates have improved their position within their company or gained new employment since beginning

the program.

In her closing remarks, Lukoss said, "At BCOC, we know that economic mobility starts with stability. You can't dream about the future when you're worried about getting through the week. That's why our pro-

grams are designed to meet people where they are, with the resources they need to move forward. What does economic mobility really mean here? It means having the choice to live where you want to live. It means freedom to leave a job that isn't working for you to pursue something better. And it means dignity, the kind that comes from knowing you can care for yourself and your family without fear. That's the heart of what we're working toward every day."

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

To learn more about all the BCOC does, visit our website bcoc.org

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

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

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

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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." 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 res-

idents. "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.

Sports Hall of Fame

continued from pg. 28

and assists (78) and was the Gatorade Pennsylvania Player of the Year in 2014. She was a member of Penn State's first-ever NCAA championship team (2015).

"It was an experience of a lifetime," Miller said. "Everyone asks me if I liked high school or college better, but they were so different; it's hard to choose. But I loved both and I'm very happy to be here."

Donna Nicholson excelled in field hockey, basketball and softball at Pennsbury. She

returned to her alma mater to coach girls basketball and track. She was a PIAA field hockey official for 38 years and was named the Field Hockey Official of the Year in 1995.

"Being a graduate of Pennsbury and being able to come back to Pennsbury as a teacher meant the world to me," she said. "It was such an amazing opportunity to give back and to impart some of the values that I learned at Pennsbury to student-athletes at Pennsbury."

Paluszek set the Philadelphia Catholic League record in 1998 with a 218.6 average. After

graduating from Wichita State, he joined the Professional Bowlers Association in 2005, winning five PBA titles.

"This is an ultimate gratification for many years of dedication," said Paluszek, who owns Bowlero and Joe's Pro Shop in Feasterville. "It's a testament to the people who supported me and gave me the confidence to go on for so long."

Poff was another three-sport athlete, competing in wrestling, soccer and cross country at Council Rock. He was the head coach at Lock Haven from 1990-2002 and is a member of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

"It's a tremendous honor to be recognized by your local community," he said. "I have nothing but good memories about my experience in Bucks

County and Council Rock. It's a special night for me."

Wunsch was the goaltender for Neshaminy's field hockey team, starting for three seasons and setting a program record for shutouts (35). She was all-state first team in field hockey and softball.

She played both sports at Princeton.

"They were all wonderful years, both at Neshaminy and Princeton," she said. "I was so fortunate to have fantastic people around me; so many great coaches, so many great teammates."

For more information about the Bucks County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame or to make a nomination, go to www.buckscountysportshof.com.

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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.

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.



Donald DeBrakeleer, DO

HEALTH

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

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

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

They soar as small business owners. According to research, 80 percent of the 1.7 million veteran-owned business owners consider themselves successful. The small business five-year survival rate for

veterans is double that of the non-veteran population.

Data from the U.S. Small Business Administration has



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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



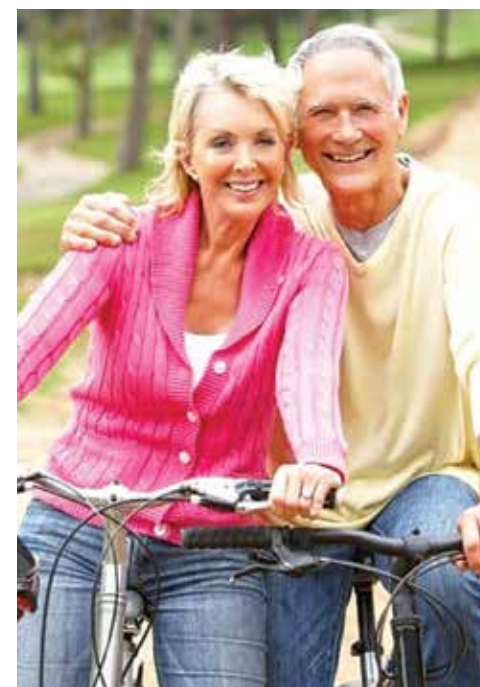
Dan McMeans

depression can decrease, and your child's overall well-being—both mental and physical—can improve. More importantly, embracing a mindset of positive thinking opens the door to new possibilities, such as overcoming fear and expanding the mind. These benefits can lead

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_mcmmeans@yahoo.com. Also, visit www.mind-propulsion.design.



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SCORE

continued from pg. 33

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

In conjunction with National Military Appreciation Month in May, SCORE, a national non-

profit organization that assists small businesses, has developed specific resources for use by its 10,000 mentors nationally in mentoring veterans.

The SCORE Veterans Small Business Resource Guide features veterans-specific resources to offer insight on developing a business plan, securing funding, starting a business, buying an existing

business, buying a franchise, connecting with one of SCORE's volunteer mentors, and gaining a better understanding of business through webinars and workshops.

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

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

"Military transitioning from

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

Veterans account for about 10 percent of SCORE's client base. Veterans own 10 percent of small businesses and 14 percent of franchises. Since franchisors have a defined plan of what the business should entail, veterans represent the perfect franchisee given their ability to effectively execute plans as intended.

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

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

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Bucks County Dental Design

Kids will be out of school for the summer very soon. As you and your children transition to the “lazy, hazy days of summer”, here are a few things to consider.

If you are sending a child off to a college that is out of our area, call now to schedule a dental checkup. It is much better, from both a stress and financial standpoint, to deal with your child’s dental issues locally. Also, if your child needs wisdom teeth removed, start



the process now. Oral surgeons are generally busy in the summer and you’ll want to get an appointment that works for you.

Summer is also a time of less structured (maybe rambunctious) play. Accidents happen. If your child comes running to you with blood coming from his mouth, don’t panic. If it is a cut on the lip or inside the mouth, apply ice or even a popsicle, then inspect it. Call your dentist

or pediatrician if you have concerns about the size of the injury. Sending a photo on your cell phone is a great way to get an opinion about the necessity of further treatment. A cut in the mouth often looks worse than it is because the blood mixes with the saliva, making the blood look more significant.

If your child runs to you with loose or missing teeth, get to the dentist quickly. If the tooth has completely fallen from the

mouth, put it in a glass of milk, or, in the case of older children, right in the mouth against the cheek (mucosa). The chance of reimplanting the tooth decreases with each minute so time is of the essence. Loose teeth can be splinted, which gives the gums and bone time to reattach.

When the sports teams start practicing later in the summer, make sure your child has a comfortable custom mouthguard and wears it! It is the most cost-effective dental insurance you can buy.

Call Bucks County Dental Design today at 215-364-2420 for all of your family’s dental needs or visit www.BucksCountyDentalDesign.com.

Best wishes to you all for a happy and safe summer!

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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



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

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 individual'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.

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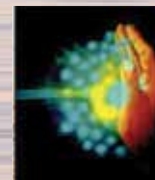
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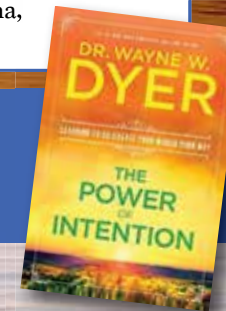
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Friends Village

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 conversations 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 students to enroll in dual credit programs, giving them more

opportunities to chart their own course and prepare for successful careers.

Bucks County Community College is pleased to announce the establishment of the Bucks County College Access Network (Bucks CAN) with this support from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This initiative is a collaborative 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 reduce the financial burden associated with higher education. Bucks CAN offerings will include a diverse range

BCCC

continued from pg. 38

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.

Pickering Manor

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



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

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 eachucks@gmail.com.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sunday, June 8, 11 am–4 pm (rain or shine), the 30th Annual Bucks Beautiful Kitchen & Garden Tour is taking place. Explore stunning homes and lush gardens in Doylestown, Richboro, and New Hope. Early bird tickets are just \$45 through May 31! Proceeds support community greening projects across Bucks County. For tickets and information, visit www.bucksbeautiful.org.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Partners in planting: Celebrating our latest grant-funded projects

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

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

Replace approximately sixty trees that have died at Holcong Park.

- **County of Bucks Employee Volunteers** - Employee volunteer planting project to reinvigorate the main entrance of the Bucks County Administration Building.
- **Doylestown Township Environmental Advisory Council** - Expansion of Native Demonstration Garden at Central Park.
- **Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA)** - Commemorative arbor restoration in memorial garden at Core Creek Park.
- **TJS Distributors** - 10 native trees to replace those lost due to storm damage at Tinicum Park.
- **Town & Country Players**

- Revitalization of historic theater’s grounds with new garden beds and seasonal planters.

- **Washington Crossing Historic Park** - Rehabilitation and expansion of the Thompson-Neely Kitchen Garden. Bucks Beautiful has been providing Community Grants since 1991 to encourage non-profit organizations, schools, garden clubs and local municipalities to host public garden or tree plantings. The grant award is a 50/50 cash match up to a maximum of \$5,000 per year. Funds may be used for the purchase of annuals, perennials, bulbs, shrubs, trees, mulch and garden related materials. We highly encourage the use of native plant materials whenever possible. Please request an

application by emailing info@bucksbeautiful.org. While submissions are accepted anytime, the deadline for fall is August 31, 2025 and for spring is March 31, 2026.

Generous donations, community partnerships and our growing membership program allow us to coordinate events, projects and educational programs to continue enhancing Bucks County. To become a member, or contribute to our cause, please visit www.bucksbeautiful.org or call 215-340-3639. Thank you for helping us grow!

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