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Serving Buck Hill, Canadensis, Cresco, Mountainhome, Paradise, Mt. Pocono, Scotrun, Swiftwater and Tannersville

Vol 22 No3

August 2022

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Hey Folks, new to the area?  
Where to go...what to do?...

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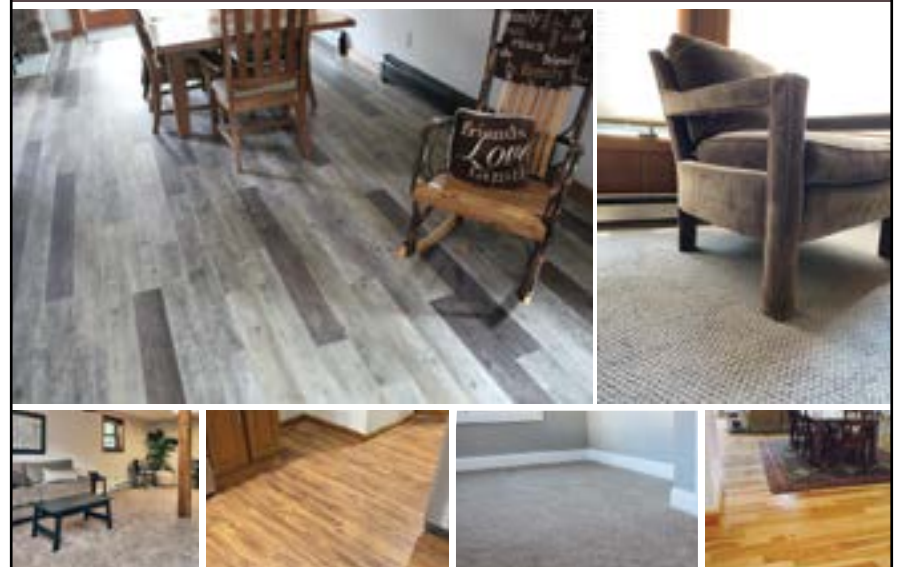


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## The Apartment

by Phil Dente

Well, it's that time of year again when the kids go back to school, and the graduates go on to college.

Our son, Ryan, is in his third year at college, and this year after living in the campus dorms for the first two years, decided to get an apartment with three other fraternity brothers.

All summer this was the main topic of conversation, as he anxiously awaited August 23, the big day when he could move in. He scoured around our attic for old pots, pans, dishes, and any other item that could be considered useful in an apartment.

Meanwhile, his mother was viewing this from a totally different perspective. To her, this meant that he would not be coming home next summer, as he now has his own home, and weekends would be limited to coming here only when necessary. Several tears were shed whenever the topic came up, and I, being in the middle of all this, trying to share in Ryan's excitement, without making his mother feel like I actually approve of his new venture, felt like our floors were made of fresh

eggs. It's not an easy job being husband and father at times like this.

Patti, meanwhile, graciously accepted his decision, and reaching into her mothering instincts, went about doing everything she could to make sure he had everything he would need for his new "pad."

When the day came to move into his new apartment Patti and our daughter Heather decided they would help move by driving our van loaded with his new belongings, and do what they could to help him settle in. I would have been there to help also but other commitments made this impossible. Now, Patti, like most mothers, has done her best throughout her children's lives to make a comfortable home for them to grow up in. She always made sure our home was clean, safe, and "homey."

When they got to the new apartment, she was slightly taken back by the size of it. It seems that his bedroom, that he was sharing with another lad, was not about to accommodate all the "stuff" that they had to bring in. Also, the hallway was so small, that as the other boys



were bringing in a couch, they turned a corner and forcibly made a last ditch effort to get the couch through the narrow passageway. This was not to be, as the legs stuck into the wall. There it hung, like a work of art.

Now, the problem was they couldn't get it out either, for there was no room to "back it out."

Being that a saw wasn't thought of as being a requirement for an apartment, a quick trip to the hardware store was called for. Off came the legs.

After moving the legless couch into it's final position in the "living room," the legs came out of the wall and were laid on the seat of the couch to be re-installed at a later date.

Then the wall was patched,

sort-of.

When Patti and Heather came home with the "tales of the apartment from hell," along with, "he won't like it there, he's not used to being in such a cooped up place," and "he's going to be homesick for his own bedroom," I just nodded my head in agreement like a good husband would do.

But, going back in time, I kind of remember my thinking when I was Ryan's age, my reaction would've been "Wow!! my very own apartment. This is it!! I'm on my own!! Freedom! Freedom! Freedom! No one to tell me to keep my room clean, no one to tell me not to stay out late, no one to supervise my comings and goings."

I want to tell Patti that no matter what she thinks of his

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apartment, he is one happy dude right now, and as to the size restrictions, HE DOESN'T CARE! But of course I just nod my head and listen. After all, this is all part of the growing up cycle, and who am I to throw it out of rotation.



The  
Village  
View

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The Village View

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per, is now operating from  
The Historic Castle Inn in  
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that trolley services have  
returned to what was once  
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tourism route.

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off at The Historic Castle  
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along the Stroudsburg/  
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route, which ran through  
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In its heyday, Delaware Wa-  
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locally among dozens of  
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in Delaware Water  
Gap, and the  
area’s first with  
running spring  
water and electric-  
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“The Pocono His-  
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ter Luck, owner of Pocono  
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was a collaboration be-  
tween two local businesses,  
whose shared mission is to  
preserve the Poconos’ past,  
as well as the borough of  
Delaware Water Gap. I am  
thankful to all who saw the  
vision and helped bring it  
to life.”

Tours are offered mid-  
week and weekends,  
April-October. Tickets are  
available for purchase at  
The Historic Castle Inn  
and online at PoconoDay-  
Tripper.com.



2022  
Township  
Clean-up

8am –12pm

May 7, 2022 • June 4, 2022 • July 9, 2022  
August 6, 2022 • September 10, 2022 • October 1, 2022

Items accepted ONLY on these dates/times. Please no calls during the week.

Rates

Automobile Load	\$10.00	Box Vans U-Hauls 6-8 ft	\$50.00
SUV or Mini-Van or Small Pick-Up	\$30.00	Box Vans U-Hauls 8-10 ft	\$80.00
Full Size Pick-Up Load	\$40.00	Trailer (8ft or smaller)	\$40.00
One-Ton Load	\$50.00	Trailer (longer than 8 ft)	\$60.00
Utility Van	\$60.00	Anything enclosed over 10 ft	\$150.00
Single Axle Dump	\$75.00		
Tires (car & small truck)	\$10.00 ea.		
Tires (20" and larger)	\$15.00 ea.		
Rims	\$5.00 ea.		
Fridge, freezer, AC	\$55.00		

No charge for TV’s, CRV’s, Monitors etc.

PLEASE NOTE: Electronic devices covered under the Covered Device Recycling Act (computers, TVs, monitors, printers, laptops, etc.) are accepted free of charge. Vehicles containing only covered electronic devices will not be charged a load fee.

Clean-Up takes place at the Barrett Township Maintenance Facility, 194 Sandspring Rd, Cresco, PA.  
Clean-up is for Barrett Township residents only. Must show valid ID when checking in.

Items NOT Accepted: Household Trash, Oils/Chemicals etc., Paint Cans

Note: All Loose Screws/Nails must be in a container.

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## The Village Scene

### August Birthdays

Kyle Stiff  
Jill Shoemsmith  
Jacob SHoesmith-Fox  
Kiera Yerkes  
Emily Knecht  
Gloria Jean Kaye  
Reda Briglia  
Elaine Stark  
Trudy Leming  
Kellie Leming  
Will Stark  
Alec Sopko  
Patrick Sopko  
Cindy DeLuca  
Nancy Lewis  
Tom Fullington  
Tim Fullington  
Amy Fullington  
Jesse Fullington  
Megan DeLuca  
Randy Transue  
Brianna Hardy  
John Conti  
Mya Conti  
Megan Sheloski  
Gretchen Reisenwitz  
Gabriel Stirr  
Cayla Passmore  
Marge Smith  
Alexander Fornwald  
Carissa Gross

### August Anniversaries

Nathan and Megan Barrett  
Charles and Peggy Fishler  
Wayne and Connie Heckler  
Tim and Carolyn Fullington  
William and Carol Gering

## Favorite blue can turns 85: 4 tips for cooking with the SPAM Brand

Can you believe the SPAM® Brand is celebrating its 85th birthday this July? It's a classic ingredient with a proven track record of making delicious dishes, which explains its continued popularity worldwide. More than 9 billion cans have been produced around the world and sold in 48 countries, where it is known as the SPAM® Brand, no matter the language!

From the late 1930s to today, the brand has made an iconic evolution from a wartime delicacy to a trending ingredient on TikTok, a 16,000 square foot museum, a celebrity chef staple, an annual Hawaiian street festival and so much more. During its 85-year reign, SPAM® products have consistently been used to create delicious meals and snacks from home cooking to fine dining – all while inspiring, celebrating and connecting consumers around the world.

If you haven't prepped SPAM® products before or if it has been a while, check out these four tips for cooking with this beloved ingredient.

#### 1. Choose a flavor

While you might be most familiar with SPAM® Classic, there are eleven SPAM® varieties to complement and elevate any dish.

If you're in the mood for something sweet yet savory, try SPAM® Teriyaki. If you're in the mood for something spicy, SPAM® Jalapeno may be just what you're looking for to make an afternoon snack like nachos really pop.

Other flavors include bacon, turkey and hickory smoked. No matter what you're craving, there's a flavor for you. Try a few out and see which ones you

prefer based on your tastes and preferences.

#### 2. Decide on a dish

Now that you've chosen a flavor, it's time to decide on a dish. The great thing about SPAM® products is that they're incredibly convenient so you can throw together a quick meal or snack for your friends and family.

An excellent and easy recipe for a mid-week dinner or as a utensil-free meal for an outdoor gathering is SPAM® Street Tacos. This creative take on the classic street taco takes only 20 minutes to make, so you can enjoy this tasty treat in no time.

SPAM® products are such a flexible and creative ingredient that you can even make it into a cake. Check out this SPAM® Musubirthday Cake recipe, a creative spin on classic Musubi that is ironically perfect for the brand's birthday celebration.

#### 3. Don't slice it too thin or thick

One of the most common mistakes people make when cooking with SPAM® products is not knowing how to slice it to suit a dish. While you may be tempted to create thin slices like a cold cut, you won't be able to fully enjoy the flavor in your sandwich. On the other hand, you don't want to slice it too thick either or you might overpower the other sandwich ingredients.

For making stir-fry dishes or adding it to a casserole, it's a good idea to chop the product into small cubes that are easy to fry or bake quickly. The more you cook it, you'll discover your preference for how to prepare the meat to suit your meal or snack.

#### 4. Decide how to cook it

While SPAM® products are known for their signature sizzle in the pan, your favorite varieties can be cooked just about any way- frying, baking, boiling, grilling and more. How you cook the product will depend on your chosen recipe and the texture you prefer, but moist and crispy is a fan favorite. A trending and simple way to make crispy SPAM® products is to use an air fryer. All you need to do is cube or slice it, add it to the air fryer basket with some oil, and cook it for about 10 minutes.

Once it's done, you can eat it on its own as a snack or add to a salad or as a breakfast side dish.

No matter what flavor or recipe you choose or what preparation and cooking method you use, it's easy to get creative when cooking with the SPAM®

Brand. To find some inspiration and recipes for your next meal, visit [SPAM.com/Recipes](https://SPAM.com/Recipes).

### SPAM® Street Tacos

#### Ingredients:

1 (12-ounce) can SPAM® Classic, sliced into strips

1/4 teaspoon ground cumin

1/4 teaspoon garlic powder

1/4 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoons chili powder

1/4 teaspoon paprika

1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper

1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes

1 tablespoon olive oil

1 (8-ounce) package WHOLLY® Guacamole Classic

1 small onion, diced

1 small Serrano pepper, seeded and diced

1 (10-count) package taco size flour tortillas

Fresh cilantro, for garnish

#### Directions:

In a bowl, combine the SPAM® Classic, cumin, garlic powder, salt, chili powder, paprika, and black pepper, then set aside.

In a large skillet, heat oil and cook the SPAM® Classic until lightly browned. Add seasoning and continue to heat for 1-2 minutes.

Place the SPAM® Classic in tortillas with guacamole, onion, and serrano pepper. If desired, garnish with cilantro sprigs.

## Obituaries

**William F. DeHaven**, 63, of Scotrun, passed away Saturday, July 30; **Berthamae Daubert**, 74, of Tannersville, died Monday afternoon, July 25, 2022; **Karen A. Salzer**, 70, of Henryville, passed away Saturday evening, July 23, 2022; **Charles P. Brady**, 81, formerly of Cresco, PA, died Friday evening July 1, 2022; **Frank Edward Olson**, 94, of Canadensis, PA passed away on Tuesday, July 19, 2022; **Thomas Joseph Moore, Jr.**, 81, of Harrisburg, PA, previously of Buck Hill Falls, PA died on July 8, 2022; **Charles Gilbert**, 83, of Cresco, passed away on August, 2022; **Ella Mae Smith**, of Canadensis, passed away August 2, 2022.



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Greetings Monroe County,

As we continue to deal with everyday life and look to make it simple or enjoyable, there are so many distractions that turn us around from what is important. The struggles of today come from the struggles of yesterday.

We should not let yesterday's issues take us back to a time that was ugly in America.

Monroe County United has 2 upcoming events that take away from the negative and are geared to bring all walks of life together, fellowshiping with one another, interacting with one another, and having candid conversations that will lead to Building Relationships and Breaking Barriers which are essential to our Humanity.

On August 20, 2022, MCU and the Pleasant Valley Presbyterian Church, in Brodheads ville, PA will be hosting the series, Humanity at its Best in our Community. You don't want to miss it! THIS DISCUSSION WILL BEGIN AT 10:00 A.M till 12 Noon. All are welcome to attend.

This Friday 8/5/22 at 6:30 P.M, the planning committee for our upcoming 2nd Annual Faith Blue and You event will be meeting at the Wesleyan Church in Stroudsburg. All are welcome to participate.


Attached are Flyers of Community Programs and Events that will make a difference in our community.

We Are Stronger Together  
Thank You  
Dr. Thomas B. Jones  
President  
Monroe County United



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**2022 Spring Clean Up**

May 7      June 4      July 9      Aug 6      Sept 10      Oct 1

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SUV, Mini-Van or Small Pick up	\$30.00	Box Vans U-Hauls 8-10 ft	\$80.00
Full Size Pick-up Load	\$40.00	Anything enclosed over 10 ft	\$150.00
Trailer (8ft or smaller)	\$40.00		
Trailer (longer than 8 ft)	\$60.00		
One-Ton Load	\$50.00		
Utility Van	\$60.00		
Single Axle Dump	\$75.00		
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By signing this form, I certify that I am a resident of Barrett Township. I also hereby hold Barrett Township harmless from any injuries or damage that may occur to my person or property while I am on Township property.

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Signature



## Life, Or Something Like It

by Judy Linder

*Prayer is when you talk to God; meditation is when you listen to God.*  
Author Unknown

Many of the authors I read who have greatly affected me with their words of wisdom and encouragement, incorporate meditation in their daily lives. Some mention this off-handedly while others devote whole chapters to explaining why meditation helps them be their best and find inspiration and peace.

I've always wanted to meditate and become one of those calm, peaceful folks who seem to gracefully manage life. (Sadly, the words "calm," "peaceful," and "graceful" have seldom - ok, never - been used to describe me.) Since I truly have no idea how to go about learning to meditate, I approached this as I do many things in my life - by visiting Amazon.com. I spent a bunch of time reading reviews about various meditation CD's until I finally found one that seemed about my speed - sort of a *Meditation for Complete Imbeciles* type thing.

Yesterday the CD arrived and this morning I decided to give it a whirl. I sat cross-legged in bed (it was the closest thing to yoga that my body would agree to) put on my headphones, and prepared to be swept away to whatever blissful place the rest of the meditating world gets to visit. It went something like this:

*Now I'd like you to sit up straight, imagining a cord running along your spine and through your head, pulling you upward.* (Well, THAT doesn't sound too comfortable. A cord running from my backbone through my skull? Like Pinocchio? Excuse me?) *Notice your breathing. Breathe in deeply. Fully. Deep into your chest. Feel the deep breath. Breathe deeper, deeper.* (My God! When do I get to exhale? This woman is killing me.) *Gently breathe out now, completely, fully.* (Finally!!) *And in that pause between breaths....you will find God.* (What? What pause between breaths? I don't pause, I just go right on breathing.) *Pause. Pause. Feel God. He is in between the breaths.* (Oh, now I get it. I'll find God because I'll be DEAD if I don't start breathing again.) *Now as you continue your natural breathing, look deep inside and notice....a tiny pin-prick of light.* (Huh? Where?) *Keep watching that small light.* (Wait! Help! I still haven't seen the pin-prick, for God's sake!) *See it begin to grow larger?* (No! Shut up for a minute and let me find the pin-prick, already!) *The light is growing and growing. It is beautiful and welcoming. Watch the light.* (Oh, man. No light. No damn light. No pin-prick. No growing. No beautiful, welcoming anything. Now what am I supposed to do?) *Become part of the light. Merge with the light. You ARE the light and the light is YOU. Feel the beauty.* (OK, this isn't going well. How can I merge with something I CAN'T DAMN WELL SEE???) *Go deep into the light. Relax. Let go.* (Arggg!!!! Seriously...still no light!!!)

After 15 agonizing minutes looking for that %#=\$\*! light, I finished up no more inspired, fulfilled, or peaceful than when I started. In fact, one might actually say that just the opposite occurred.

Grumbling, I went to the kitchen, poured a cup of coffee, and walked out to the porch where I deposited my un-enlightened self onto the swing. Then a cool thing happened. As I watched a beautiful cardinal hop from branch to branch across the forest canopy, listened to the far-a-way call of a mourning dove, and felt a soft breeze blow by, everything got very, very calm and steady inside me. It suddenly occurred to me that this lovely morning with its sights and sounds and textures was, in a way, a meditation.

Maybe I hadn't seen that stupid pin-prick of light or found divinity in between my breaths. It could be that studying at an ashram or following a spiritual guru isn't going to happen for me and it's a good bet that I'll never be mature enough to quiet my mind and simply "listen."

But I do know this: There are - thank God - many paths that lead to the heart. Some may find peace in nature, some through physical exercise, some by learning new skills, some through artistic expression, and some....by breaking meditation CD's into tiny little pieces with a hammer.

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# Firecall

by Charlie

Barrett Township Volunteer Fire Co.



## July 2022 alarms

7/1 - 11:39pm - 8 men - 1 truck - vehicle accident - Canadensis Creek Rd.  
 7/7 - 5:08pm - 6 men - 1 truck - assist station #25 - 1 tanker for structure fire.  
 7/9 - 6:47pm - 6 men - no trucks - auto alarm - Laurel Grove Ct. - no fire.  
 7/10 - 1:50am - 5 men - 1 truck - vehicle accident - Rt. 447.  
 7/11 - 7:40am - 8 men - 1 truck - brush fire - Preacher Hill Rd.  
 7/11 - 4:44pm - 4 men - no trucks - auto alarm - Rt. 390 - no fire.  
 7/19 - 6:15pm - 12 men - 1 truck - assist EMS - Fab Circle.  
 7/20 - 4:06pm - 8 men - 1 truck - tree on wires - Rt. 447 & Spruce Cabin Rd.  
 7/20 - 5:27pm - 6 men - 1 truck - golf cart rollover - Bunting Rd.  
 7/22 - 10:34am - 7 men - 1 truck - Med-E-Vac landing - Barrett School.  
 •7/22 - 11:26am - 9 men - no trucks - auto alarm - Wychwood Dr. - no fire.  
 7/27 - 11:45 am - 8 men - 1 truck - assist EMS - Roth Lane.

## Pack 89 attended Akelaland Cub Scout summer camp in July.



The Pack has many more Summertime activities. Youth who might be interested in joining Cub Scouts in the fall are invited to attend one or more summertime activities to meet the other Cubs and their families and have fun. If interested in getting more information to participate in a summertime activity or information about the Pack contact Cubmaster Wayne Gross at Pack89barrett@gmail.com.

Pack 89 is sponsored by the Rotary Club of the Pocono Mountains (<http://rotaryclubofthepoconomountains.com/>) and serves the families of youth in Barrett, Paradise, Coolbaugh Townships, Mt. Pocono Borough, and Newfoundland and other surrounding areas.



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# Simple, eco-friendly changes matter, all the way down to the toilet seat

(BPT) - From organic bedding to reusable produce bags, there is no shortage of useful, sustainable products made in the United States. You may strive to use these products every day so you can feel good about making a difference for Mother

Earth. However, there are many things you use daily that you may not even know can be made sustainably, like your toilet seat.

Think about it: There is one product you use every day that touches your skin in a very direct way and it's

your toilet seat. As you add sustainably made products to your home, make sure to consider your toilet seat, too.

Traditional toilet seats Most toilet seats are made from wood or plastic, or a combination of the two. Many plastic toilet seats are

made from a material called polypropylene, a low-density plastic that is resilient and resists breaking. Other options are made from wood, oftentimes with an enamel coating to protect the wood, provide a smooth surface and a white or cream color.

Many toilet seat manufacturers do not use sustainable practices to reduce waste. Plastic does not decompose and wood may be

sourced from forests, causing more trees to be cut down. Additionally, if the toilet seats are produced overseas, this impacts overall carbon output due to the transportation necessary to get the product to the U.S. and distributed to stores. Eco-friendly toilet seats

Many people are surprised to learn that there are sustainably made toilet seats available and by making this simple choice you're helping protect the planet. For example, Bemis enameled wood toilet seats like the Weston model are made in the U.S. with eco-friendly processes that respect the environment and leave a forest of trees standing.

How does this happen? Each year the company sources 70 million pounds of scrap wood from Wisconsin window and door manufacturers for use in their products. They also collect 3

million pounds of scrap and 1.5 million pounds of airborne dust from their molding operations. This is ground and blended into wood flour, the main material in their enameled wood seats. Each seat is painted with water-based paint and packaged in recycled and recyclable packaging.

Bemis also purchases over 2.5 million pounds of plastic regrind to incorporate into their durable plastic toilet seats. This innovative process saves 550,000 pounds of waste plastic per year from being landfilled. Going green doesn't mean sacrificing comfort or quality. Each Bemis sustainably made toilet seat is durable, warmer to the touch than alternatives and designed to be complementary to many decor styles. Learn more at ToiletSeats.com.

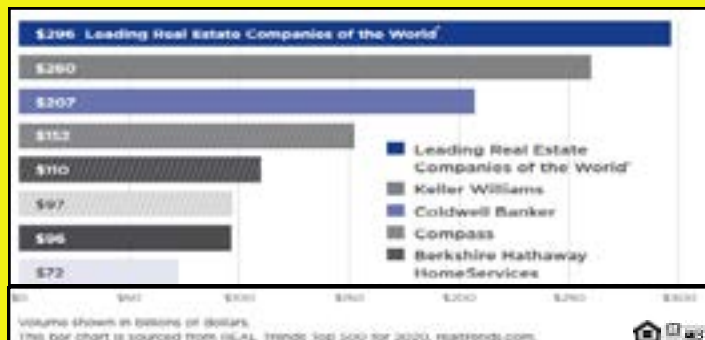
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## 5 fun, easy and affordable ways to brighten up your outdoor space

If you love entertaining friends and family outdoors, you're not alone. Transforming outdoor areas into extended living spaces continues to be a huge trend, as anything and everything from smaller balconies to spacious porches and patios creates an opportunity to expand your home environment well into the evening hours with one crucial design element: lighting.

Lighting an outdoor space can make a world of difference in creating ambience, lending additional functionality to a space or improving aesthetics within a space — making or breaking an evening barbecue, party or intimate gathering. Luckily, lighting choices are one of the most affordable ways you can enhance any area of your home, and outdoors is no exception. Even small changes like swapping your light bulbs creates the perfect opportunity to have some fun and express your personality with different colors and design styles.

"Most homeowners don't appreciate the power of stylish yet functional light bulbs to make a design statement both inside and out," said Bethany Wood, senior merchant of light bulbs at The Home Depot. "The Home Depot's exclusive light bulb brand EcoSmart was designed to inspire DIYers to create better, brighter room atmospheres. It's important to choose light bulb features unique to your lifestyle that'll also allow you to customize your space, from switching through shades of light to match your mood, saving on energy bills with automatic on/off, helping you complete a task or creating your ideal ambience."

Here are some easy and affordable ways to transform your outdoor areas for effortless warm-weather entertaining.

### 1. Get the party started

To create an upbeat mood, nothing is more fun and festive than bright, vibrant colors, so consider upgrading your entertaining space with a Color Changing Party LED Light Bulb from [The Home Depot](https://www.homedepot.com). You'll bring any indoor occasion to

life using red, green, blue and yellow light, with five lighting effect options to choose from. EcoSmart light bulbs are equipped with user-friendly and innovative features, meaning you can easily switch between colors using a toggle on each bulb or conveniently cycle between colors with the simple flip of a standard wall switch.

### 2. Pump up the jam

A party atmosphere isn't complete without music. Set the tone for an exciting night with your guests and keep them dancing or singing all night long with a Bluetooth Speaker

LED Light Bulb. This EcoSmart bulb combines color selectable lighting with Bluetooth technology. Simply connect to your favorite Bluetooth device, without the need for any extra wiring or a hub.

### 3. Go vintage

Everything vintage and retro style is all the rage right now, but it's not always easy to create the look and be practical at the same time. One fun option is to use strands of Edison bulbs to give your deck or patio a "bistro" atmosphere. Or if you want a more intimate old-fashioned

look, illuminate the night with the warm glow of EcoSmart Flame LED Light Bulbs, which create an alluring ambience by simulating a warm and realistic flickering flame effect without emitting any heat. Better yet, you won't have to worry about the risk that real flames from candles or torches can bring.

### 4. Enjoy a bug-free shindig

Your light bulbs can even help you keep those pesky pests away from your get-together in a more natural way. Opt for outdoor yellow Bug LED Light Bulbs, which help to

repel insects and can be used as an alternative to bug sprays.

### 5. Be ready for anything — even outages

Don't let summer storms rain on your parade! In case your power goes out, Battery Backup LED Light Bulbs are energy efficient and equipped with a power failure battery that will automatically turn on in the event of a power failure — and can last up to 3 hours. When in regular use the internal battery will charge, ensuring that you'll always have an option for light during an outage.

You can set up your backyard

for all kinds of entertaining with these and many other selections by exploring the wide variety of innovative features and the latest lighting options from EcoSmart. Whether your plans include hosting backyard barbecues or creating a refreshing outdoor oasis, lighting up your space has never been easier. Check out the curated collection of eco-friendly, energy-efficient EcoSmart options available exclusively in-store at The Home Depot or online at [HomeDepot.com](https://www.homedepot.com)

# Barrett Township

## Summertime Frolic

Saturday August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at High Acres Park  
110 High Acres Drive, Canadensis, PA 18325  
1:00pm to 7:00pm

<p><i>Fun For The Whole Family</i></p> <p><b>Food Vendors:</b> Cook's Corner Sebring's Fresh Roasted Peanuts &amp; Kettle Corn 69<sup>th</sup> Street Pit Stop (Self-Purchase Only)</p> <p><b>Bring Your Bag Chairs &amp; Blankets!</b></p> <p><i>Cheri Jeans' Closet</i> In memory of Cheri Jones, a beloved community member who had a love for all things Halloween, ESPECIALLY our Parade, please bring your lightly worn &amp; unwanted Halloween costumes to donate to the closet! Cheri Jeans' Closet will be open at our Fall Festival on October 8<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p><b>FREE ADMISSION</b></p>	<p><u><b>Itinerary:</b></u></p> <p>1pm-3pm Pocono Mountain Regional Police K-9 Unit Pony Rides with Ross Valley Farm</p> <p>1pm-6pm Cornhole Tournament with Pocono Cornhole</p> <p>2pm-5pm Face Painting Rock Painting with Pam Balloon Animals</p> <p>3pm-7pm Alpacas of Windy Haven Farm</p> <p>4pm-5pm "Cake Walk"</p> <p>(If interested in donating a cake or baked good, please contact Jeryl at 570-994-6546 or <a href="mailto:jeryl@barretttownship.com">jeryl@barretttownship.com</a>)</p> <p>4pm-7pm Live Entertainment by Joe Franzo</p> <p><b>ALL DAY:</b> Barrett Township Volunteer Fire Company Pocono Mountain Regional EMS Lawn Games Sponge Races Tug-O-War High Acres Playground Horseshoes Water Slide Bounce House 50/50 Raffles (CASH ONLY)</p> <p>Brought to you by The High Acres Park Committee, Barrett Township Supervisors and Weller Corporation</p>	 <p><b>Snow Cones Hot Dogs Water FREE Ages 12 &amp; Under</b></p> <p><b>HELP THY NEIGHBOR!</b> Please Bring Non-Perishable Donations (Canned Goods, Hygiene Products) <b>For C.A.M.E.</b> *DROP OFF AT PARK ENTRANCE UPON ENTRY*</p> <p><b>Reminder:</b> NO alcoholic beverages are permitted on park property!</p> <p><b>RAIN OR SHINE!</b></p>
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## Marcel

John Cafarella



Marcel is a swan. She is a trumpeter swan in fact. This is her second year of residence here at Lake in the Clouds. Marcel arrived with her fellow swans during the spring of 2021. Lake in the Clouds is a popular rest stop of choice for migrating birds. Our eagle-eyed bird observers have seen yearly visits from: Common Merganser, Common Loon. (Of course, we have several year-round loons here in Lake in the Clouds), Hooded Merganser, Ring Necked Duck, Pier Billed Grebe, Rudy Duck, and Osprey

Something unfortunate happened to Marcel last spring. She developed “Angel Wing” on her left side leaving a wing that was badly injured and deformed. The Water Fowl Society informs us that “Angel wing occurs when the growth of the wing feathers outstrips the muscle ability to hold the wing in the natural position. It is nearly always due to an imbalance in feeding: too many calories and a deficiency of essential elements. Left untreated, the bird will be unable to fly properly.” Whatever happened to Marcel, occurred in the spring of ‘21’ as clearly, she was able to fly here. She cannot fly now. When her fellow swans left (flat leavers that they are), Marcel remained here at the lake. When we first saw her, she had a fishhook stuck in her beak and fishing line entangled in her left wing. Initially, we thought that was the cause of her deformed wing. Our friend and neighbor, Tina, an extraordinarily kind and caring person, and her husband, Bob were bravely able to remove the fishhook and untangle and remove the fishing line. Fish and Wildlife organizations were called by several residents and callers were told that they (the organization) would care for the swan if “we captured it and brought it to them”. Easier said than done. This was not going to happen through fear of

injury to captors or to the captive. Swans are strong and mean and violent. As fall came, we believed that Marcel, being unable to fly, would not survive the winter. Yet, this spring, she was back! We don’t know how she survived the winter. We don’t know where she went to survive the winter. Clearly, someone took care of her.

Tina named the swan Marcel. We were not sure until this year if Marcel was male or female, but we discovered her gender during some rather nasty episodes. More on that later. Tina also rescued, treated and fed a duck with a broken leg. Yes, it was the proverbial “lame duck”.

Marcel is the only swan on the lake now, but she is not alone. She has been adopted by some of the lakeside residents. Our friend, Jan, calls Marcel our mascot. As a result, she is fed and watched over by many “Clouders”. We feed her corn and she loved it ..... for a while. She is a very sloppy eater. She will eat the corn out of your hand but for every kernel she gets, she knocks 10 in the water. She will then eat those floating on the surface and then those that have sunk to the bottom. Then, she opens and closes her beak (emitting no sound) indicating a request for more. If you want to feed swans give them fresh bread (mold is poisonous to them and NOT white bread – white bread can cause Angel Wing), grain such as wheat or corn, and fresh greens such as lettuce or spinach. The food should be thrown onto the water so that they can swallow water with the food

We know when Marcel is heading for Bob and Tina’s from the loud honking announcing her imminent arrival as she crosses the lake on her mission for food. Sounds are amplified over water and she can be heard from quite far away. When they are not there.....she comes to us or several other food source docks on the lake. Tina told us that once, when they were away for the day she left a container of corn on the lawn for Marcel. The next day 20 ducks and an antler-budding buck showed up.

Marcel has even attracted groupies. There are two ducks that occasionally shadow her, staying 10ft or so away – we believe it is an invisible force field – and no closer, waiting to swoop in after she has left for other areas, to look for any remaining food. They are

usually disappointed as Marcel is thorough.

Trumpeter Swans are quite large—males average over 26 pounds, making them North America’s heaviest flying bird. To get that much mass aloft the swans need at least a 300 ft. long “runway” of open water: running hard across the surface, they almost sound like galloping horses as they generate speed for take-off. Trumpeter swans can be distinguished by their straight purely black bills. They are, on average, considered to be the largest living species of swan. Large as she is, Marcel is quite friendly and will approach people at their docks. She doesn’t like boats though and paddles away when approached. In case you were wondering, there are three species of swans in North America. The Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) and Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*), sometimes known as the Whistling Swan, are native to North America. The Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) is an invasive Eurasian species that has been introduced and now breeds in the wild in some areas.

This spring Marcel was attacked by a group of three migrating

swans, at least twice. That’s how we deduced that Marcel is a female. The bullies were much larger than her, leading us to believe they were males, which would indicate that Marcel is female. Swans are very territorial, and aggression reflects an overlap in resource use, and so there is competition or food and shelter. Or, the melee could have been an intense argument over Tchaikovsky’s romantic ballet, Swan Lake. Which is the better recording? Boston Symphony conducted by Seiji Ozawa or the New York Philharmonic conducted by Leonard Bernstein? Marcel evidently prefers the Philharmonic. Tina and Bob spent almost an hour one day defending her (Marcel likes to rest on their lawn) from the gang attack. Several days later, our neighbors, Bill and Kelley had to defend her from the same assailants on their lawn. Eventually, the internal migration clock alarm went off for the three swans and they left to continue their journey. Will we see them again in the fall?

Recently, Marcel stopped eating our corn. Whenever we see her making her way towards our dock in the evening, Margaret will dash up to the house and get some corn.

Back comes Margaret, Marcel now takes a handful of corn, eats a few kernels and spits the rest out and then she turns her back to us and paddles away. I could swear she lifted her tale and wagged it in contempt at what she considered our feeble attempt at food service. Or she wasn’t hungry anymore as swans will not overeat.

On one occasion, while sitting on the dock I was fortunate to observe a mother duck supervising the maturing ducklings attempts at flight. Like children learning to ride a two-wheel bicycle, the first several attempts failed but then one by one.....flight. They were so happy. Merrily quacking to each other sharing their triumph. Marcel attempts to fly several times a day. She zooms across the surface, wings flapping for 25 yards or so but she is unable to get air born. Sad.

Adult swans who develop Angel Wing will not regain the ability to fly. Marcel will never fly again. Summer will end. Fall will follow and then winter. What will become of Marcel? Her future is uncertain but know this, Marcel is a survivor.

# NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS



## Barrett Township Community Shed

Many in our community are living without basic things most of us take for granted every day. This program was developed to help those in need in our community.

If you are moving, downsizing, settling an estate or buying new furniture and need to get rid of your old items, please contact us to donate. If you are in need of any items, please contact us for pick-up.

Some of the items we accept:

- Furniture: Dressers, Nightstands, Tables and Chairs, etc
- Small Appliances: Toasters, Irons, Coffee Pots, Lamps
- Linens: Sheets, Blankets, Pillows and Towels
- Pots and Pans, Kitchen Utensils, Dishes etc.

*Please ensure all donations are in good condition and working order. We will not accept torn or damaged furniture. We reserve the right to accept or refuse any item.*

Donations & Pick-Ups: The Community Shed is located at the Municipal Building (993 Route 390, Cresco) and is available for Donations or Pick-ups between 8am to 4pm Monday-Friday, call Pam Gardsy – 570-595-2602 ext 3 for an appointment. Gently-used items will be inspected and placed into inventory. The inventory list will be posted on Barrett Township’s website: [www.BarrettTownship.com](http://www.BarrettTownship.com). We ask that items be in good condition; we have the right to refuse any item.



## Greening Mountainhome series Knocking Out Knotweed

### Regrowth to Be Zapped in September Brodhead Watershed Association

Along this stretch of Mill Creek in the Brodhead watershed, fast-growing invasive knotweed was cut knee-high in late June, near Preacher Hill in Mountainhome.

It looked pretty dead in June, but the plants have regrown, as expected —sucking all the strength from the roots.

From the bridge on Spruce Cabin Road, the regrowth looks like it was never cut!

But this process is a one-two punch —

the next step is to spray the regrowth.

So, about the end of September, licensed pesticide applicators from Strauser Nature's Helpers will spray the regrowth with an herbicide that is safe to use near water. Within three weeks, most of the regrowth will wither and die.

Because this two-step process forces the plants to use up so much energy, only a very little knotweed will grow here next spring. That will be cut and sprayed again, to knock out the knotweed for good.

For more details about knocking out knotweed — and how you can get rid of knotweed in your landscape —go to <https://brodheadwatershed.org/greening-mountainhome/>



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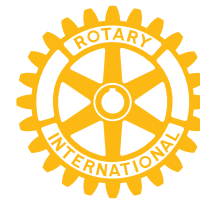
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The Friendly Community Center has a program called W permitting, a group of members meet at 9:30 and hike a group who hiked at Mt. Wisme



Ron McCall



Ernie Camlet



Joan Griffin



Barbara Camlet





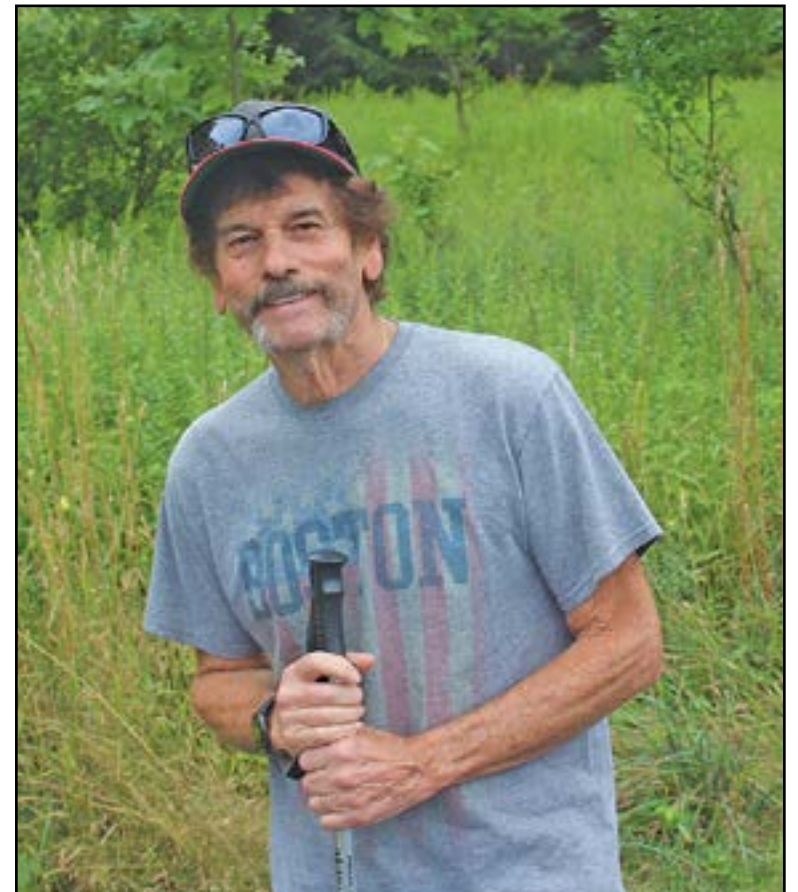
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Penny Burlingame



Ernie Biondolillo





Gnus of the Day

John Cafarella

"Gnus Almanacs  
available on  
Amazon"

6. 1753 - Monday  
Professor Georg  
Richmann was rendered

kaput during an experiment with lightning. Richmann attached a wire to the top of his house and led it down to an iron bar suspended above "the electric needle" and a bowl of water partly filled with iron filings. During a storm, Richmann was struck while about a foot from the bar, as he observed the needle. A witness description - "A globe of blue and whitish fire about four inches in diameter" came from the bar struck Richmann's forehead" with "an explosion like that of a small cannon."

7. 1782 - Wednesday George Washington created the Order of the Purple Heart, as a decoration to recognize merit in enlisted men and noncommissioned officers. Washington devised a badge, "for any singularly meritorious Action, that was the "igure of a Heart in Purple Cloth or Silk edged with narrow Lace or Binding." This Badge of Military Merit, was affixed to the uniform coat above the left breast

8. 503 - Saturday -After meeting on eMonarchy.com, and texting just forever!, King James IV of Scotland married thirteen year old, Margaret Tudor, daughter of King Henry VII of England .The affair was catered by Harry's Haggis of Holyrood. Music provided by D.J Bagpipes Da Tartan. The groom was resplendent in a kilt by Ralph Lauren the bride glowed in a traditional Highland sporran by Vera McWang. The nuptials would eventually result in James great grandson becoming King of England 100 years later.

9. 1593 - Monday- "FISH: an animal that grows the fastest between the time it's caught and the time the fisherman describes it to his friends" .....For all you fishermen out there - Happy Birthday, Izaak Walton, English naturalist who wrote The Compleat Angler, the first book on fishing.

10. 1833 - Why did the mammoth cross the road?A: Because they didn't have chickens in the Ice Age. ....Archeologists using an early mammothogram, discovered the complete skeleton of a thirty-six foot long and fifteen-foot high

mammoth in St. James, Nebraska

11. 1807 - Monday Happy Birthday, David Atchison. Atchison was actually president for one day, March 4, 1849. President Zachary Taylor refused to be inaugurated on a Sunday. As President Pro Tem of the U.S Senate Atchison served before Taylor was inaugurated. Hail to the Chief was played really really fast.

12. 1981 - Wednesday- IBM introduced the PC personal computer. The first PC ran on a 4.77 MHz Intel 8088 microprocessor and used Microsoft's MS-DOS operating system....all yours for \$1565, although a fully loaded version with color graphics would run you \$6000.

13. 1888 - Monday- Happy Birthday, John Logie Baird, Scottish engineer, who was the first man to televise outline pictures of objects in 1924. This was followed the next year by recognizable human faces. By 1926, he was able to demonstrate TV for moving objects at the Royal Institution, London.

14. 1457 - Friday The oldest known exactly dated printed book, the Mainz Psalter, was printed in the Fust-Schöffer shop, 21 years after Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press with replaceable/moveable wooden or metal letters in 1436

15. 1877 - Wednesday Thomas Edison coined the telephone greeting "Hello." The use of Hello to answer the phone triumphed over the use of Ahoy as suggested by inventor Alexander Bell.

16. 1988 - Tuesday "One word sums up probably the responsibility of any vice president, and that one word is 'to be prepared'..... George H.W. Bush selected intellectual Indiana Sen. Dan Quayle to be his Vice-Presidential running mate on the Republican ticket.

17. 1978 - Thursday The Double Eagle II completed the first transatlantic balloon flight when it landed near Paris. It took 137 hours after lifting off from Presque Isle, Maine to get to Paris, or about the same time it takes to get out of Newark Airport when there are thunder storms in the vicinity.

18. 1909 - Wednesday- The first race was held at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. It is now the home of the world's most famous motor racing competition, the

Indianapolis 500.

19. 1960 - Friday- Sputnik 5, carrying two dogs, was launched into space. They were later retrieved as the first living organisms from space. The dogs then developed as alien pods and took over the minds of anyone who petted them and mutated into people who abuse the use of handicapped parking spaces.

20. 1833 - Tuesday- Happy Birthday, Benjamin Harrison, 23rd President of the United States. 1889-1893. Benjamin was the ham for the Grover Cleveland Presidential Sandwich. Cleveland preceded and succeeded him as president. Harrison's Vice President was Levi Morton. Benjamin was the grandson of William Henry Harrison, briefly the 9th President.

21. 1841 - Saturday How do you make a Venetian blind? Poke him in the eye.....John Hampson of New Orleans, Louisiana was issued the first patent for Venetian Blinds. He did not invent them as Venetian blinds were actually invented in Persia and Venetian traders brought the blinds to Venice, hence, Venetian Blinds.

22. 1902 - Friday President Theodore Roosevelt became the first U.S. President to ride in an automobile. The joy ride took place in Hartford, Connecticut. The President called "shotgun" and then hogged the radio choosing only classic rock while yelling "hey babeeee" at attractive women.

23. 1609 - Sunday The telescope was first demonstrated by Galileo Galilei. Working in Venice, he pointed the instrument toward Padua, and the Tower of Saint Giustina, thirty-five miles away. The very first telescopes were believed to have appeared around the year 1608 and were credited to opticians Hans Lippershey and Zacharias Janssen.

24. 1853 -Wednesday It has been claimed that the first potato chips were prepared by Chef George Crum, an American Indian, at Moon's Lake House in Saratoga Springs, NY. When gazillionaire Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt was dining there, he sent his fried potatoes back to the kitchen, complaining they were "too thick." Chef Crum retaliated by slicing paper thin strips of potatoes and frying them to a crisp. Vanderbilt loved these "Saratoga Chips" and they became an instant success.

25. 325 - Tuesday- The Council

of Nicaea, the first ecumenical debate held by the early Christian church, ended with the establishment of the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. The Council had been convened by Roman Emperor Constantine I in May.

26. 1909 - Thursday- An almost perfectly preserved Cro-Magnon man skeleton was discovered by paleontologist Otto Hauser. It was later identified as Keith Richard.

27. 1894 - Monday- A sad day as the first graduated income tax was passed. As is done today, some sleazoid congressman snuck the tax into another bill. President Cleveland fought it and the Supreme Court voted it unconstitutional. The TAX had to wait until 1913 when it was passed as the 16th amendment to the Constitution.

28. 1922 - Monday The first radio commercial aired on WEAF in New York City. It was a 10-minute blurb, a really long time when you think about it. It was an advertisement for the Queensboro Realty Co., which had paid \$100 for five days of sponsorship.

29. 2005 -Monday Hurricane Katrina made landfall near New Orleans, Louisiana, as a Category 4 hurricane. Despite being only the third most powerful storm of the 2005 hurricane season, Katrina was the worst natural disaster in the history of the United States.

30. 1983 - Tuesday- Guion S. Bluford Jr. became the first black American astronaut to travel in space, aboard the shuttle Challenger.

31. 2012 - Friday Good news for lupine fans, Gray wolves in the state of Wyoming were dropped from the US government's list of endangered species after a successful twenty year program to repopulate the species. The repopulation program encouraged wolves to join singles and mingles nights, speed dating, and the popular Howlers Like Us website in order to mate and propagate. New rules stated the Wyoming needs to maintain at least ten pairs of breeding wolves and cannot have less than one hundred of the animals.

Full Moon is the Sturgeon Moon - Noted by chanteuse, Madonna on her recording of Like a Sturgeon

1. 1981 - Saturday MTV made its debut at 12:01 a.m. The first music video (this was when the M originally indicated Music) shown was Video Killed the Radio Star, by the Buggles. And, in answer to the inevitable question; the second video was Pat Benatar, You Better Run. MTV has since gone on to cultural icons such as Jersey Shore, 16 and Pregnant, Laguna Beach, Date My Mom, The Ashley Simpson Show,, and Engaged and Underaged

2. 1610 - Monday In a minor navigational error, Henry Hudson sailed into what is now known as Hudson Bay in Canada, thinking he had made it through the Northwest Passage and reached the Pacific Ocean. He suspected he was in the wrong place when the only beer offered was Labatt Blue.

3. 1811- Saturday Happy Birthday, Elisha Otis, American inventor. Otis did not invent the elevator; he invented the automatic safety brake for elevators. This later made high-rise buildings practical. Prior to this many elevator technology had its ups and downs.

4. 1755 -Monday "A horse may be coaxed to drink, but a pencil must be lead" .....Stan Laurel.....Joyeux Anniversaire! Nicolas-Jacques Conté, French painter and inventor who was the first to use graphite - and that is still used as the basis for making pencil leads today.

5. 1957 - Monday American Bandstand, featuring lip-synching recording artists and dance trend setting teens, made its network debut on ABC. Bandstand began as a local program on WFIL-TV Channel 6 in Philadelphia. It was first hosted by Bob Horn and called Bob Horn's Bandstand.

After a brief scandal involving the host and underage girls, the show got a new host in July 1956, clean-cut 26-year-old Dick Clark. P.S, the only artist not to lip synch on Bandstand was B.B King.



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## District Court 43-4-02

District Justice  
Phillip Riley



### The following individuals waived their rights to a preliminary hearing:

- **Stiveng Cuevas Reyes**, 23, of Philadelphia, charged with DUI, use/possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana, and 2 counts of traffic violations.
- **Jose Adrian Hernandez**, 47, of Long Pond, charged with retail theft, and receiving stolen property.
- **Cameron James Burge**, 21, of Greenville, SC, charged with 2 counts of manufacturing, delivery, or possession with intent. 2 counts of possession of a controlled substance, and 2 counts of use/possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **Shateek Burks**, 18, of Mount Pocono, charged with 2 counts of burglary, conspiracy, receiving stolen property, possession of firearms without a license, 4 counts of theft, criminal trespass, and 3 counts of flight to avoid apprehension.
- **Khalil Caldwell Adams**, 27, of Pocono Summit, charged with 2 counts of theft, 2 counts of receiving stolen property, and 2 counts of bad checks.
- **Gregory Torres**, 61, of Mount Pocono, charged with 2 counts of DUI, and careless driving.
- **Eric C. Lee**, 34, of Tobyhanna, charged with 2 counts of DUI, and following too closely.
- **Kiara Lynn Williams**, 23, of Tobyhanna, charged with possession of marijuana, use/possession of drug paraphernalia, and 1 traffic violation.
- **Amber Marie Bilal**, 18, of Bartonsville, charged with possession of marijuana, and use/possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **George Thomas Royal**, 72, of Long Pond, charged with criminal mischief.
- **Kelly A. Halliday**, 37, of Brooklyn, NY., charged with retail theft, 2 counts of possession of a controlled substance, and use/possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **Ashley Ann Rodriguez**, 29, of Hamden CT., charged with theft.

### Charges against the following individuals were held for court:

- **Solomon Ad Akpor-Mensah**, 27, of Bethlehem, charged with 2 counts of DUI, and 2 counts of traffic violations.
- **Jim Akers**, 30, of East Stroudsburg, charged with making terroristic threats, simple assault, resisting arrest, criminal mischief, and harassment.

OOPS!

Joe decides to take his boss Phil to play nine holes of golf. Both men are playing excellently but were often held up by two women in front of them, moving at a very slow pace.

Joe offers to talk to the women and see if they can speed it up a bit. He gets about 3/4ths of the way, stops and jogs back. His boss asks what the problem is.

Joe said, "Well, one of those women is my wife and the other is my mistress."

Phil just shook his head at Joe and started toward the women. He was determined to finish his round of golf. He was prepared to ask the ladies to hurry their game. He too stopped short and turned around.

Joe asked, "What's wrong?"

"It's a small, small world Joe, and you're fired."

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*by Sue*

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### Company Profile

Category: [Pest Control](#)

506 Main Street  
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*Serving Mt. Pocono and surrounding area*

Green Man Exterminator is a family owned and operated business that has been proudly serving North East PA for over 12 years. They were awarded with the 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014 & 2013 Super Service Award from Angie's List. It is Angie's List highest honor that is only awarded to the top 5% of all businesses. They were also awarded with the popular Pocono Record Reader's Choice Award for top exterminator in 2021, 2020, 2018, and 2017.

Green Man Exterminator is a full service Eco-Friendly

Pest Control company that specializes in Ants, Bed Bugs, Cockroaches, Fleas, Termites, Spiders, Wasps, Beetles, Millipedes, Mice, Hornets, & more. They also humanely relocate wildlife such as Bats, Ground Hogs, Snakes, Raccoons, Squirrels, Skunks and other nuisance wildlife. This exterminating company serves commercial and local residential areas.

Their hours of operation are Monday through Saturday 9AM until 5PM with extended hours during the Summer. All major credit cards are accepted such as Master Card, Visa, American Express and Discover. They have other payment options such as personal checks, money orders and cash. Senior discounts and payment plans are available.

You don't have to live with stubborn pests. Green Man Exterminator combines the power of Mother Nature with green technology to provide you with low costs proven pests solutions. Go green! Protect your family and loved ones with out the use of toxic chemicals. Roaches and bed bugs have no chance against their Lemon Bomb spray. It is a blend of steam distilled botanical oils of Peppermint & Lemongrass. They also use a proprietary blend of non toxic ingredients to bait Carpenter Ant colonies. Calcium blocks and Integrated Pest Management methods are used to eliminate rodent problems.

With a quarterly service plan, all pests are guaranteed doomed without harm to your family, pets, plants, and

waterways. Green Man Exterminator's protocols are science based and specific to each of your pest problems. If you have stubborn pests don't bug out! You can feel good about going green and protecting your loved ones.

They are always Eco-friendly, 100% safe and toxin free.

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September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

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September 22, 2022 - 9 a.m. Shotgun Start

#### \$80 Per Player

Includes: Cart & Green Fees,

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**TEAM Name/s (4 players on a team):**

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Library Letters

By MaryAnn Lewis

Greetings, everyone! Summer days are flying by quickly and kids will soon return to school. The Library can help with the transition! Stop in and select some fun, recreational reading to ease back into the groove of reading for classes. Try audiobooks (downloadable digital, Wonderbooks, & other formats) to spark interest and appeal to different learning styles. Need support with academics? Look for the Brainfuse link on our website. Brainfuse caters to learners of all ages, with an emphasis on assisting students in grades K-12. Online tutoring is available to anyone with a library card. Brainfuse support for adults includes preparing for the GED, career based exams, and help with writing resumes and preparing for interviews, too. Library staff are glad to help you find what you need.

### Library Hours:

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, Sat: 10am – 5pm  
Wed: 10am – 8pm  
The Library will be closed on Mon, Sep. 5, in observance of Labor Day

Our "Tale on the Trail" program now has permanent stations in the Barrett Township Community Park at Ice Lake! **Follow the trail behind the pavilion and turn right to embark on this outdoor reading adventure. Enjoy a picture book as you stroll along the path. The path is about 0.12 miles from beginning to end, and then you can continue around the lake or turn around to return to the pavilion. The trail is mostly flat, but rough and rocky in places. Very young children may need help or prefer to ride in a stroller. New stories will be featured regularly, so check back often!**

When you visit us during the month of August, please consider bringing unopened, unexpired cat or dog food to donate to Monroe County Meals on Wheels pet food drive. Each of the libraries in the area has a collection box this month to help MOW clients take care of their pets, a source of great comfort and support to many.

The Bard will soon return! We're looking forward to resuming

meetings of the Shakespeare group at the Library in September. Please contact Lynn for details if you're interested in attending.

Check out some local history. Our Searchable History Project is in the process of digitizing materials in three local history collections, beginning with items from the Buck Hill Falls community. The items that have been digitized are now available online, so you can view and explore the collection. So far, there are images from the early 1900s and Buck Hill Breeze issues from the 1920s, '30s, and '40s. Look for the Searchable History link on our website.

Have you checked out our Book Sale Corner lately? We have an abundance of items that have been trimmed from the collection and we will continue adding more as we work our way through the Library! At the moment, we have a lot of Large Print & Biography, as well as Juvenile and Adult Fiction. Bag Sale: All items (books, audiobooks, DVDs) \$5 a bag. What a bargain!

**\*\*Please note that we CANNOT accept used book or DVD donations until further notice\*\***

We are accepting donations of gently used costume jewelry to replenish our ongoing sale at the Library. Stop in and browse a unique selection of earrings, necklaces, bracelets, and pins at very affordable prices! All proceeds benefit library programs and services.

Computer use: We recommend that you call ahead of time to schedule an appointment, but walk-ins are welcome as space allows.

PROGRAMS: Current programs & descriptions below. Check our Facebook page for additional programs, posts, and opportunities: [www.facebook.com/BPFLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/BPFLibrary). Our live videos can be seen at [www.facebook.com/BPFLibrary/live/](http://www.facebook.com/BPFLibrary/live/). You don't need a Facebook account to view.

### Programs for Children

Contact Chelsea or Jen with questions: 570-595-7171 or email Ms. Chelsea at [chelseabpfl@gmail.com](mailto:chelseabpfl@gmail.com).

Take & Make Mini-activities: Pick up coloring pages and simple crafts, then complete the projects on your own at home. Activities are available in the Children's

Area.

### Story Time at Ice Lake:

**Tuesdays in August & September 10:30-11am.**

Ages 0-5. All children are welcome to join us under the pavilion at The Barrett Township Community Park at Ice Lake for stories, songs, and games! Visit with therapy dog Stanley and his owner Roseanne. Registration is not required. If it is raining on story time day, please check our Facebook page or call the Library for updates.

### Saturday Night Library: TikTok on the Block

Saturday, August 27, 7pm on Zoom. Pickup supplies beginning August 25. Let's end the summer together with a virtual Block Party. There will be games, snacks, and dancing. Pickup a party kit at the Library and join us on Zoom as we celebrate the end of summer and attempt some dance challenges. Please email [ChelseaBPFL@gmail.com](mailto:ChelseaBPFL@gmail.com) to register for this virtual program.

**Story Time at the Library**, Fall Session: Thursdays, September 8, 15, 22, & 29, 10:30am.

Ages 0-5. Please join Ms. Chelsea for stories and songs in the Weiler Family Community

Room. Space is limited and sign ups are required for this four-week session. Please call the Library to register.

Tale on the Trail at Ice Lake: See info above.

### Adult Programs

Registration is required for each program. For more information or to register, please call: 570-595-7171 or email Lynn at [l.vromanbpfl@gmail.com](mailto:l.vromanbpfl@gmail.com).

### Adult Take-Home Craft: Pressed Flower Lanterns

Make your own pressed flower lantern. This beautiful candle holder is easy to make and adds brightness to your home.

We supply all the materials. You must register for this craft. Pickup begins Monday, August 15.

### Tuesday, August 16: Virtual Afternoon Book Club 1:00pm

Join our virtual afternoon book club on Zoom. This month, we will discuss *The Good Sister* by Sally Hepworth. If you're interested in joining, please call the Library for more details. Tuesday, August 30: Virtual Evening Book Club 7:00pm. Join our virtual evening book club on Zoom. This month, we will discuss *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett. If you're interested in joining, please call the Library for more details.

### Thursday, September 8: Virtual Writing Group 6:30pm

Join us on Zoom to discuss the art of writing while sharing work with the group. Contact Lynn for details and the Zoom link.

Below are a few of the online resources available through the Library. Take advantage of technology! Visit our website to browse more online resources and get details on using them.

### HeritageQuest

Explore your family history through census records, books, obituaries, and more!

Newspapers World Collection:

The largest online newspaper archive consisting of 179 million+ pages of historical newspapers from 20,000+ newspapers from around the United States and beyond. Newspapers provide a unique view of the past and can help us understand and connect with the people, events and attitudes of an earlier time.

### Hoopla!

Borrow movies, music, audiobooks, ebooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on your computer, tablet, or phone – and even your TV!

OverDrive: Download and enjoy e-books, audio books, and magazines on your computer, phone, or portable device. The collection includes fiction and nonfiction materials for all ages. Library Info: [www.barrettlibrary.org](http://www.barrettlibrary.org); email [brfpubli@ptd.net](mailto:brfpubli@ptd.net); 570-595-7171.

Read often and stay safe & healthy!

Mary Ann, currently reading *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett, this month's Evening Book Club selection.



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	7:00 PM	MBG Men's Classic \$22.00/week starts 8/29	Men	4
TUESDAY	AM	Create your own league here		
	7:00 PM	Pinbusters \$14.00/week starts 9/6	Mixed	4
WEDNESDAY	AM	Create your own league here		
	7:00 PM	Wednesday Night Mixed \$12.00/week starts 9/7	Adult/Jr	3-4
THURSDAY	AM	Create your own league here		
	7:00 PM	Men's Classic \$22.00/week starts 9/1	Men	5
FRIDAY	9-12 AM	IJ20 and Evergreen Schools		
	7:00 PM	Friday Night Sport Challenge	Singles	1
SATURDAY	10:00 AM	Saturday Juniors	Juniors	2-4
SUNDAY		Create your own league		

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

Answer

5	2	8	7	1	8	1	8	3
9	6	1	3	5	8	4	2	7
4	7	3	9	1	2	5	8	6
6	1	2	5	8	4	7	3	9
3	5	4	6	7	8	2	1	9
8	9	7	1	2	3	6	4	5
2	3	6	4	9	5	8	7	1
1	8	9	2	6	7	3	5	4
7	4	5	8	3	1	9	6	2

**Super Crossword**

Answers

1 C H E D J T A M A O O P I Z Z A  
M C H A V E R M O E V E M A I  
P A D A C E V Y F R I C E C A O T I  
I S S K I S I N G I N G O K A  
S E E G U A N O H A S  
- E L F M E F O N D A S E A S - S E  
A F H I C O P C M I C A I  
S P E C T R A T E S L A G K A O M A  
A L T E R I L E A N N O V E T  
F E A O M I S S I N G A J D I  
C A T S G E M A N C U P C H E R  
H E B I C K S I O P S F H E  
A L S T E R G C O N T A A  
J U N K Y A R D D O G G E F N A R L O  
A N G E L M O N O M O T I I  
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I F A V D S I R S F A I  
L A C C H Y E N B S C W L N U I  
O M A A F O C C O W N T H E F O R D  
L A T I N A T A C E E N T A F E  
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Answer

We can no longer rely on the  
dog to protect us from the  
ground. It is not trustworthy.



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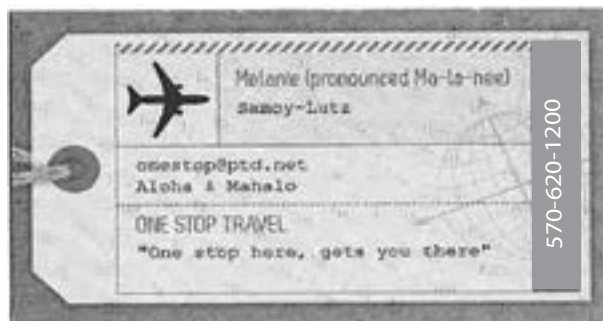
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## Bulletin Board

Congregation B'nai Harim Ice Cream Social, August 14th at 4 PM, at Tutrones Ice Cream, 2581 PA-940, Pocono Summit, PA 18346.

All are welcome.

Congregation B'nai Harim's 12th Annual Golf Outing & Awards Dinner is on Tuesday, August 23, 2022.

Golf at Mountain Laurel Golf Club and Dinner at Lake Naomi Clubhouse.

We welcome anyone who is interested in playing golf with us on August 23rd.

For more information, contact: Frank Ambrosio at Fambyl059@gmail.com or Lauren Miller Lauren@PoconoPinesLiving.com

Congregation B'nai Harim is collecting school supplies and will need helping hands to sort and deliver them to the Tobyhanna Elementary Center. Donations can be brought to the Temple or dropped off at Mountain Top Lodge.

We will meet at the Temple on Sunday 8/21 at 10 A.M. to sort and pack items. We will deliver the school supplies to the school on Monday 8/22.

Please contact Roberta Pineiro if you are interested in helping : (570)839-0107, RobertaP100@gmail.com.

High Holiday Holidays are coming up. If you would like to join us at services please call the temple message service 570-646-0100.

Rosh Hashanah. Begins sunset Sunday, September 25, 2022

Yom Kippur. Begins sunset Tuesday, October 4, 2022

### First Rule of Takanakuy

The South American country of Peru has an interesting tradition held every year on December 25. In addition to Christmas, they celebrate Takanakuy.

Takanakuy is when you settle your grudges for the year. Men, women, and kids all participate. They challenge each other, they fight each other, and when it's all done they make peace and move on.



The worst natural disaster in Barrett Township History occurred 67 years ago when the remnants of two hurricanes, Connie and Diane, hit the northeast only 5 days part. With the ground already saturated by Connie, Diane would dump an

additional 10 inches of rain in less than 24 hours leading to a flood like none before or since. During this program we are asking those who remember the flood to come and share their stories. We also hope to record the narratives of those that lived through

## The Flood of '55 Remembered

it so that future generations can hear first-hand accounts of the devastation wrought on Barrett on August 19, 1955 and how the community responded.

This program is open to the public and will be held at The Friendly Community Center, 6683 PA 191, Mountain-

home, PA 18342 on August 19, 2022 at 7 pm. For more information, please call 570-481-4622 or email stationmuseum@gmail.com.



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# Tips to attract buyers when selling your home

Preparing your home for sale may start with ideas for staging the house or spackling and painting over nail holes, however, it also requires a considerable amount of planning and organization. Before opening your home to tours, either virtual or in person, be aware of what buyers might notice.

"Getting your home ready for sale may seem like an overwhelming task, but it's important to make your home as attractive as possible," said Bonnie Lee, vice president of property claims at Mercury Insurance. "Not only does it give a favorable first impression, but it also shows that the

home was well maintained and cared for. Most buyers expect to tour and eventually purchase a clean, well-cared for home."

Walk through each room of your home and take note of what needs to be cleaned, repaired or replaced.

**Eliminate clutter**

For many homeowners the beginning of the home selling process is the chance to clear out any unwanted items. Take this time to throw away, donate or sell items that are no longer purposeful. Remember that potential buyers are likely to open closet doors and built-in cabinet drawers to determine the amount of storage space available, meaning you won't be able to simply store unwanted items in a closet. Buyers want to visualize themselves and their belongings within the living space so depersonalize and remove any large visual distractions such as large, distinct artwork or family photos.

Bulkier items such as furniture can change the perceived size of a room. Make sure buyers are able to walk

around living spaces without bumping into furniture. If you don't plan to take certain large items with you, check if your local municipality will pick them up. Deep clean your home Before scheduling tours of your home, do a deep clean, especially in areas like the kitchen and bathrooms. Home buyers are savvy and can detect when

candles or air fresheners are being used to mask unpleasant scents of a home.

"A home that hasn't been cleaned can be perceived as needing a lot of work or has underlying serious problems like water or structural damage," Lee said. "Keeping your home clean will boost that ever-important first impression and maximize the selling cost."

**Make small repairs**

Wear and tear from everyday living is normal. However, fixing these small repairs before listing your home might be a slight inconvenience for you, but might be seen as part of a larger, underlying issue to a potential buyer. Thoroughly go through each room of your home and touch up any dings on baseboards or doors. Make any minor repairs like filling in and repainting any holes left in the walls from hanging items. Check for leaking faucets or running toilets and replace any worn or damaged caulking around sinks, showers, bathtubs or windows.

**Curb appeal**

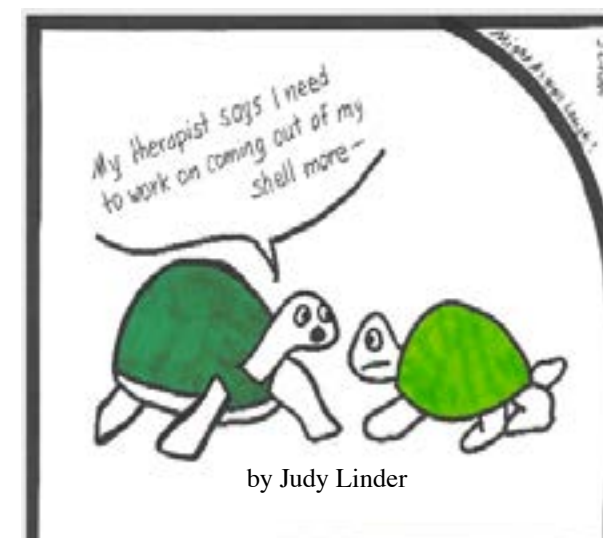
Your home's exterior is the first thing buyers see as they approach the house. Trim any trees or shrubs outside of your property, especially along walkways, for a well-manicured look. Inspect any trees around your home to make sure they aren't scraping shingles off of your roof or blocking gutters. Keep walkways and driveways free of clutter such as gardening tools or children's toys. Replace or repair any damaged screens or windows and make sure that any house numbers are visible.

"A well maintained outdoor area that has been properly cared for is not only aesthetically pleasing but can also be a reflection of how well the home was cared for overall," Lee said.

**Get a CLUE**

A Comprehensive Loss Underwriting Exchange (CLUE) report provides a detailed history of any insurance claims that may have been filed on the house within the last seven years. While this report is extremely useful to buyers, it can be equally important to sellers. "Sellers whose homes have had no insurance claims within the last seven years can use a CLUE report as a selling tool. It gives potential buyers the assurance that they are not buying a home with a history of problems and increase a seller's chance of selling their home quickly," Lee said.

Under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, you can request a copy of your CLUE report from LexisNexis by calling 1-866-312-8076 or by visiting [consumer.risk.lexisnexis.com](http://consumer.risk.lexisnexis.com).



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Mountainhome PA

For more information about programs,  
how to become a member or to sign  
up for the weekly newsletter call  
Nicole Abrams at 570-481-4330 and  
leave a message or send an email to:  
info@thefriendlycommunitycenter.  
org.

For a full listing of programs  
and more information visit  
The FCC's website [www.thefriendlycommunitycenter.org](http://www.thefriendlycommunitycenter.org).  
Follow us on Facebook or Instagram  
Classes are offered IN PERSON and  
ONLINE to members.

### BARRE FIT

Time: Thursdays from 4:30 -5:30 PM  
Instructor: Ashley Meinking, IBBFA  
Certified  
Membership: Unlimited or Unlimited  
Quarterly \$195 Annually or \$55  
Quarterly

### BARRETT BIRDING CLUB

Time: 2nd Tuesday of the month 7 PM-  
Outdoor locations announced via email  
Facilitators: Darryl & Jackie Speicher  
and Tim Grover  
Membership: Basic \$30 Annually

### CARDIO TONE

Time: Mondays from 4:30 – 5:15 PM  
Instructor: Ashley Meinking, IBBFA  
Certified  
Membership: Unlimited or Unlimited  
Quarterly \$195 Annually or \$55  
Quarterly

### CHAIR YOGA

Time: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30-  
2:30 PM  
Instructor: Kimberly Matthew  
Membership: Member Plus \$50  
Annually

### DANCE & MOVEMENT

Time: Tuesdays at 1:00 PM  
Instructor: Natalie M. Schultz-  
Kahwaty, PhD  
Please call 570-481-4330  
or send an email to: info@  
thefriendlycommunitycenter.org to  
register for this class. This program is  
free and open to the public

### BREATHE & VIBE HEALING SOUND BATH

Time: Monday, August 22nd @ 6PM  
Instructor: Kim Matthew  
Cost: \$10 per person- Membership is  
not required to attend- Registration is  
required via email  
Where: Skywood Park -Rt 191,  
Cresco PA, in the event of rain, meet  
at The FCC  
Bring: A blanket, yoga mat or chair

### “IN STITCHES” KNITTING & MORE

Time: Thursdays from 1 – 2:30 PM  
Membership-Basic \$30 Annually  
Instructor: Carol Hillestad

### LINE DANCING

Time: Every Wednesday (Except the  
2nd Wed of the month) at 4 PM  
Membership: \$30 Annual Basic  
Instructor: Barbara Camlet

### LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

Facilitator: Marilyn Schultz  
Time: 2nd and 4th Mondays of the  
month at 3:30PM  
This program is free and open to the  
public. Please call 570-481-4330 to  
register to attend.

### MAH JONGG

Time: Thursdays at 1:00 PM  
Membership: Basic \$30

### MOVEMENT and MEDITATION

Instructor: Ann Merli  
Time: 11:00 AM on the 2nd & 4th  
Thursdays of the month  
Membership OR Pay By Class:  
Member Plus or \$5 per class

### SEATED TO THE BEAT (The FCC version of Seated Zumba)

Time: Tuesdays from 2 - 3 PM  
Instructor: Natalie Schultz-Kahwaty,  
PhD  
Membership: Member Plus \$50  
Annually

### MEN GET FIT

Time: Mondays and Thursdays at  
3:00 PM  
Instructor: Bob Larsen NASM,  
C-PT, CES, PES, ENFA BTS  
Membership: Unlimited or  
Unlimited Quarterly \$195 Annually  
or \$55 Quarterly

### DANCE TO THE BEAT (The FCC version of Zumba)

Time: Tuesdays from 3:15 -4:15 PM  
Instructor: Natalie Schultz-Kahwaty,  
PhD  
Membership: Unlimited or  
Unlimited Quarterly \$195 Annually  
or \$55 Quarterly

### QI GONG AT SKYWOOD PARK

Time: Thursdays at 9:30 AM- Class  
will be held at The FCC if raining  
Instructor: Kimberly Matthew  
Membership: Member Plus \$50  
Annually

### YOGA TWICE A WEEK

Time: Tuesdays at 10:00 AM At the  
FCC & Online via Zoom  
Instructor: Ann Merli, LMT, RMT,  
RYT500, AYS  
Time: Saturdays at 10 AM AT the  
FCC & Online via Zoom  
Instructor: Colleen LaScala  
Membership: Unlimited or  
Unlimited Quarterly \$195 Annually  
or \$55 Quarterly

### WEEKLY WALKERS

Time: Tuesdays at 9:30AM, weather  
permitting  
Hike Guides: Kathleen Lauer and  
Ernie Camlet  
Membership: Basic

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draw during October, you win \$50!  
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The FCC during regular business hours.  
For information please email,  
[info@thefriendlycommunitycenter.org](mailto:info@thefriendlycommunitycenter.org) or  
call 570-481-4330



## Super Crossword

## MAKE JOKES



A man giving a long-winded speech finally says, "I'm sorry I talked so long. I left my watch at home."  
A voice from the crowd says, "There's a calendar behind you."

Hey, have you heard about the latest anonymous sperm bank being established by the State of Indiana? It will be called "Hoosier Daddy!"

A spiritual leader asked his pupils if they saw a \$20 bill and a \$100 bill on the floor which one they'd pick up.

Nobody answers but finally one guy meekly blurts out, "\$100."

The spiritual leader simply says, "I see."

After a small pause, of his pupil asks him, "Which one would you have picked up, oh Wise One?"

Looking straight into his eyes the leader answers, "I'd have picked up both."

This is my step ladder...I never knew my real ladder.

Her: At least invite me out to dinner.

Him: I don't go out with married women.

Her: But I'm your wife.

Him: I make no exceptions.

A five year old boy went for a weekend trip with his grandparents. On the way home, they stopped at a country restaurant for lunch. The little boy left the table to use the restroom by himself. A moment later he returned with a confused look on his face. He says, "Grandpa, am I a rooster or a hen?"

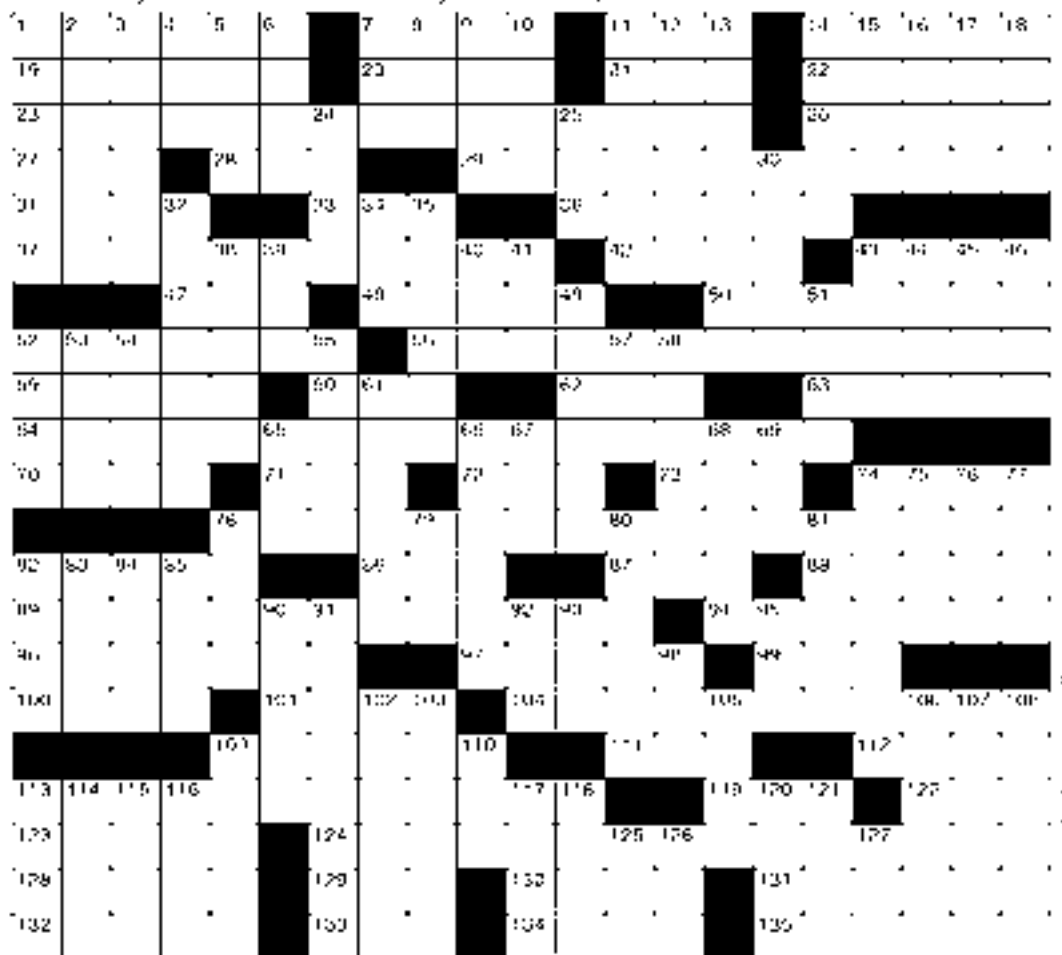
After learning the Lamaze method of natural childbirth, I was admitted to the delivery room with my wife.

It seemed like an eternity before the doctor finally announced, "I've got the head now; just a few more minutes."

"Is it a girl or boy?" I asked excitedly.

The doctor replied, "I don't know. It's hard to tell by the ears."

- ACROSS**
- 1 Yearned glory
  - 7 Zee Nations Park locale
  - 11 Fracas
  - 14 Demure
  - 19 Colorado River bridge
  - 20 Quarterback Tony
  - 21 Bible book
  - 22 PG letter
  - 23 Bought an expensive garment?
  - 25 Dream party
  - 27 "at first"
  - 28 Ho line
  - 29 Churning while standing atop a tree?
  - 31 Glimmer
  - 33 Lance Armstrong's entourage
  - 36 Quasi-Schiff
  - 37 Request to go to America when you need to get somewhere in a hurry?
  - 42 Infants' realm
  - 43 Swain house
  - 47 Liquid
  - 48 Traffic jam
  - 50 Furry
  - 52 Color ranges
  - 56 City where the Model is produced?
  - 59 Adjust
  - 60 Eastern rail
  - 62 Raggedly
  - 63 Filled the
  - 64 Why you don't want to give up your beloved C/P?
  - 70 Hay box-I
  - 71 Sparky's name
  - 72 From long ago
  - 73 Once-boy news agency
  - 74 Silk-out vest
  - 78 Declaration when a Rega stabs in battle?
  - 82 VIP notice
  - 86 Freedom
  - 87 Dark sweater
  - 88 Share of "Ducky"
  - 89 Crimper being dismantled for turning metal?
  - 94 Plum that
  - 96 Sam - only WSW of Sacramento?
  - 97 Unpleasantly
  - 99 Unlovable
  - 100 Pure
  - 101 Oxidation
  - 104 Things produced by pyrotechnic in Grand Cherokee?
  - 109 Cruise ship
  - 111 Knightly tale
  - 112 Clanking
  - 113 After you're done in
  - 119 Forest meadow
  - 122 Rupture
  - 123 Large city in Nebraska
  - 124 Put a defect on a Mustang?
  - 128 Cakes
  - 129 Ocean east of Fla
  - 130 Warm beam
  - 131 Main course
  - 132 Nurse's instructions
  - 133 Making connection
  - 134 Oases
  - 135 Vocabularies
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- DOWN**
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Answers on page 20

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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4			9			8
6		2	5			9
	5			7		1
8				3	6	
	3		4		8	
		9		6		5
7			8	1		2

Place numbers in the empty boxes so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

## CryptoQuip

This is a cryptogram puzzle. It is a puzzle where the letters of the alphabet are replaced by other letters. The key to the puzzle is a list of the letters that have been replaced and the puzzle is solved by replacing the letters with the correct ones.

Click Details G

I.O BZP PN UNPDOL IOUH NP ESZE

NUK INBJOF EN UYAE NAA ESO

DINCPK. YF'E PNF ESIQFF-I NIESH.

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## Sustainable beef: How cattle are part of the climate solution

(BPT) - Beef has gotten a bad rap when it comes to environmental sustainability, and the important role cattle play in environmental conservation is often omitted from headlines. It's true that cattle produce methane, a greenhouse gas, and industry leaders are working to reduce the amount of methane cattle's digestive systems produce.

Dr. Ermias Kebreab, associate dean for global engagement in University of California-Davis' College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, is studying the most effective feed supplements to limit climate impact. This, paired with the ecosystem benefits cattle provide, demonstrates cows are vital in sustaining healthy environments.

"My research is focused on how we can make cattle more sustainable and reach climate neutrality. Cattle already provide natural benefits by enriching soil quality through carbon sequestration. I want to take cattle's environmental benefits one step further," says Kebreab.

All too often the untold story is how cattle farmers and ranchers are actually helping to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide, the world's most abundant greenhouse gas, in the environment through grazing cattle.

Through grazing management and other sustainable practices, cattle ranching is positively impacting the environment - from the open space it preserves for wildlife habitat to the way cattle naturally regenerate soil and plant life which then capture carbon.

Still skeptical? Read on to see how cattle and sustainability can go hand in hand.

Capturing carbon

By simply grazing, cattle take part in carbon sequestration - the process of

plants capturing and storing carbon dioxide underground [1]. In fact, proper grazing management is one of the best ways to store carbon in the soil [2]. This is because cattle recycle nutrients through the soil. They consume and digest plants and their manure enriches the soil, allowing new, healthy plants to grow quickly and effectively, and in turn, capture carbon [3].

Why is cattle's role in carbon sequestration so important? U.S. soil holds up to 30% of the world's carbon, and all that stored greenhouse gas is protected by the farmers and ranchers who graze cattle on that land [4]. If you were to develop on that land, you'd release all the stored carbon and rob the soil of its ability to capture additional carbon in the future [5].

Protecting biodiversity

Cattle and bison have naturally preserved the North American ecosystem for centuries [6]. Today, farmers and ranchers across the country graze cattle on varying landscapes and in a range of climates, preserving land that is home to countless species of plants and wildlife [7]. In fact, the land that U.S. ranching families manage preserves the habitat of hundreds of animal species, like butterflies, waterfowl, songbirds, elk, deer and countless others, including many that are on the endangered list [7,8].

Without farmers and ranchers grazing cattle on the land, habitats could be permanently destroyed by development, leading to the endangerment and possible extinction of plant and wildlife species.

Part of the climate solution

Through decades of research, innovation and improvement, the U.S. is the leader in sustainable beef production, but it doesn't stop there. The beef industry is committed to continuous

improvement and through programs like the Beef Checkoff-funded Beef Quality Assurance program, farmers and ranchers across the country have access to the training and tools they need to continue to protect the land.

While grazing and grasslands are already storing carbon, offsetting emissions in the atmosphere and preserving open space, cattle farmers and ranchers know it is their duty to protect the land they have been entrusted to manage.

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## Why Wait? Get Into a Home Sooner with Private Mortgage Insurance

For the past several years, homebuyers have faced a hot housing market and home prices have risen at what can seem like an intimidating rate. In today's market, it could take a family earning the national median income up to 14 years to save for a 20% down payment plus closing costs, according to U.S.

Mortgage Insurers (USMI). It is understandable that prospective homebuyers might be discouraged and want to wait. However, purchasing a home in an affordable and sustainable way is possible with a low down payment mortgage backed by private mortgage insurance (MI).

Here is how it works. Private MI helps a borrower with less than 20% down qualify for a home loan and the average down payment for purchasing a home with private MI is 7%, according to USMI. Private MI is typically paid monthly along with the

mortgage payment. The benefit is not just that the borrower is able to qualify for a home sooner, but also that the cost is temporary. Unlike government-insured mortgages backed by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), private MI cancels once a homeowner establishes 20% equity either through payments or home price appreciation. When the private MI is canceled, your monthly mortgage bill goes down.

Let's look at how this would work in today's market. Consider you want to purchase a \$407,600 home, the median sales price for a single-family home in 2022. A 5% down payment is \$20,380 versus \$81,520 for 20% down. With a 740 credit score at today's MI rates, your monthly MI payment would be about \$171. This is included in your monthly mortgage payment, and can be canceled, typically after five years once you reach 20% equity in your home.

But is it the right time to buy? The right time to purchase a home is different for everyone, especially nowadays. Rising home prices mean homes will cost much more in the coming years. With higher home prices come higher down payments and, thus, more time required to save. Other factors such as rapidly changing interest rates can also make mortgage financing pricier down the line. Purchasing a home sooner allows you to begin building equity and the long-term wealth that comes with homeownership. As we adapt to this changing world, it is important to know that it is possible to purchase a house now without exhausting your savings. Mortgage financing backed private MI makes this possible, helping borrowers gain access to housing sooner and succeed as sustainable

homeowners.

According to USMI, private MI has helped more than 37 million families become homeowners over the past 65 years. In 2021 alone, nearly 2 million families accessed mortgage financing sooner because of private MI.

If you're interested in learning more about private MI, check out [lowdownpaymentfacts.com](http://lowdownpaymentfacts.com) to calculate your cost and learn more about your options.

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