

# Ordinance to Rescind the Tax Exempt Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA) Area in Upper Mount Bethel Township

By Brittney Waylen

EASTON - County Executive Lamont G. McClure has drafted an Ordinance to Rescind Ordinance 744, which created a tax-exempt LERTA Area in Upper Mount Bethel Township, at the Thursday, January 4th, County Council meeting.

"It's in the County's best interest to rescind a massive county property tax break for warehouses. At the end of 2023, the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission approved nine plans that did not demonstrate any need for a tax cut. This tax cut does not promote development. The people of Northampton County should not be giving away their tax money to something they do not support," says Lamont G. McClure.

On April 20, 2023, Northampton County Council adopted Ordinance 744, which provided a property tax exemption for warehouse development in Upper Mount Bethel Township.

If the Ordinance to rescind the LERTA is approved, it would only apply to Northampton County real estate taxes.

# Landmark Breast Cancer Screening Bill Signed into Law in Pennsylvania

By Senator Boscolla

HARRISBURG - Gov. Shapiro Signs Landmark Breast Cancer Screening Bill into Law

Described as the first of its kind in the nation, the PA Breast Cancer Screening Bill, Act 1 of 2023, amended Pennsylvania insurance law to provide coverage for mammographic examinations and diagnostic breast imaging. It would also allow coverage for genetic counseling and genetic testing related to the BRCA gene.

This landmark legislation passed both the House and the Senate unanimously. It removes out-of-pocket costs associated with genetic testing for hereditary breast, ovarian, prostate and other cancer syndromes – as well as supplemental breast screenings for women with a high lifetime risk of breast cancer. Act 1 ensures this critical healthcare will be accessible and affordable for more Pennsylvanians and save countless lives.



# Trauma Informed Care Training at NCC

By NCC

BETHLEHEM, PA - Northampton Community College (NCC) is offering a new Trauma Informed Care certificate program that will equip participants with the knowledge and skills to understand the effects of trauma on



individuals and support survivors in a professional capacity. This program is ideal for educators, healthcare and human service providers, first responders, social workers, and daycare staff.

The program consists of five self-paced virtual modules that cover a range of topics including Trauma and Its Impacts, The Behavioral Neuroscience of Trauma, The Psychology of Stress Management, Building Resilience in Trauma Survivors, and Supporting Mental Wellness with Trauma-Informed Care Systems.

Interested individuals are invited to attend a free virtual information session on January 8, from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. To learn more and enroll, please visit northampton.edu/healthcarecourses. If you have any questions, please email healthcare@northampton.edu. The certificate program begins February 5.



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