

Northampton County 4-H Annual Seedling Tree and Fruit Tree Sale

By **Boyd Simons**

NAZARETH - The Northampton County 4-H program is once again sponsoring the annual seedling tree and fruit tree sale. The sale benefits the 4-H youth in the county and supports various programs throughout the year including camps, fairs, trips, the annual achievement banquet and other club activities.

Fruit trees available for sale are CrimsonCrisp Apple, Gold Rush Apple, Ruby Mac Apple, Honeycrisp Apple, Nittany Apple, Sunrise Pear, Seckel Pear, Harrow Sweet Pear, Sugar Giant Peach, Redhaven Peach, Redgold Nectarine, Artic Glo Nectarine, Blue byrd Plum, NY9 Plum, Goldrish Apricot, Wenatchee Moor Park Apricot, Hedelfingen Cherry, Montmorency Cherry, Emperor Francis Cherry, Blushing Gold Cherry

Seedling trees available for sale are Eastern White

Pine, Colorado Blue Spruce, Concolor Fir, American Arborvitae, Shumard Oak, Sugar Maple, Bur Oak, American Redbud, Gray Dogwood, White Flowering Dogwood, American Elderberry, Cucumber Magnolia, Persimmon

The deadline for all tree orders is march 1, 2019. For order forms call or email the Penn State Northampton County Extension Office at 610-813-6613, Email: NorthamptonExt@psu.edu.

Pick up for all tree orders is Saturday April 27, 2019 between 9:00am – 11:00am at one of the following locations:

- The Northampton County 4-H Center, 777 Bushkill Center Road, Nazareth
- Ace Hardware in Capital Plaza, 438 Blue Valley Drive, Bangor
- Neighbor's Home & Garden Center, 38

South Main Street, Hellertown

The Farm Bureau, 300 Bushkill Street, Tatamy
Miller's Supply, Route 329 and Savage Road, Northampton

Union Evangelical Lutheran Church, 5500 Route 873, Schnecksville

The 4-H program is open to all youth ages 5-18 years and offers over 150 hands-on projects with an emphasis on leadership, citizenship and life skills. Adult volunteers staff the program. Anyone interested in obtaining more information on the 4-H program should contact the Penn State Northampton County Extension Office.

Blue Valley Times December Facebook Post of the Month

4,451 People Reached

Bangor One Room School House to Get \$15K Facelift

By Frank Brooks / Michael Ortoski

BANGOR - It has long been the goal of the Bangor Area School District and its community to revitalize the One Room School House that sits on Five Points Richmond Road in front of the Bangor Area High School. Thanks to Northampton County who awarded \$15,000 toward the restoration project it's now going to happen.

The lessons of history and the heritage of the Slate Belt have always played an important role in the community. The One Room School House stands as a reminder that history is important and never forgotten.

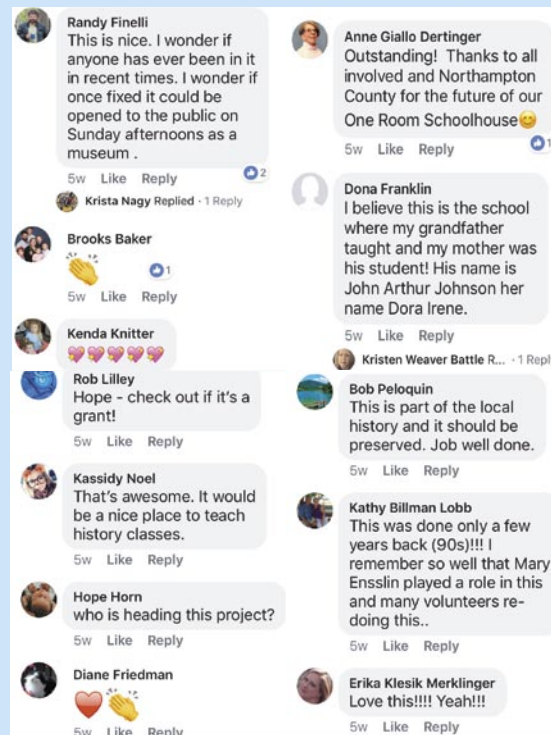
The One Room School House served the district beginning in 1858 making the building one hundred sixty years old. This style of school building used to be common and there may have been up to twenty-six schoolhouses in the area that now comprises the Bangor Area School District.

district as it had in the past.

Frank Brooks took the initiative to write a grant proposal while Mike Ortoski posted a request for letters of support on the Blue Valley Times website. Thanks to all of the concerned citizens and the efforts of all involved, Northampton County awarded \$15,000 toward the restoration of the One Room School House.

The Bangor Area School District will now begin its work to determine what work needs to be done to restore the structure. In addition, tests for lead-based paint hazards will be completed to ensure the safety of younger students should the One Room School House be used as a classroom.

The Bangor Area School District would like to thank the residents who took the time to post notes of encouragement and to everyone who participated in getting this project to this point. Keep an eye on our One Room School House as it gets a facelift and takes its place in our School District.



Today, the One Room School House is one of only a handful of remaining structures making it vital that we preserve this structure. Jeff Ott, P.E. of Ott Consulting Inc., Mike Ortoski, editor of the Blue Valley Times, and Frank Brooks teamed up with school district administrators William Haws, Superintendent, and Bradon Hendershot Assistant to the Superintendent to determine what could be done to save this remarkable building.

It was hoped that not only could the building be restored but that it would once again serve the

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Effects of the Federal Government Shutdown in Northampton County

By Becky Bartlett

EASTON - Northampton County Lamont McClure is evaluating the potential long-term effects of the federal government shutdown as it stretches towards the three week mark, and working to mitigate the damage to the residents of Northampton County. "With tax bills scheduled to go out later in January, there is no anticipated problem with cash flow," says Lamont McClure. "However, several federal grants have been delayed and this may affect services to County residents." Money from Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will soon be affected. HUD funds are used to subsidize housing for low-income residents. Northampton County's Housing Authority has obligated funding through next month. HAP payments to landlords can be

made in January and February, but may not be beyond that. The County expected to receive vouchers for lead paint from residential housing next week. Lead poisoning is a serious issue for children and can cause problems with brain development. Plans to remove the paint are currently on hold. Federal offices in Washington and Philadelphia are closed which means no help will be available if problems arise with particular County programs. Some litigation in federal courts has been postponed. The Department of Corrections is waiting for funds from a State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) to help house undocumented immigrants. "People are hungry for competent, transparent and civil government," says Lamont McClure. "That's what we deliver here in Northampton County, and that's what has to happen on the national level—now."

3,000 Diapers Delivered to Salvation Army of Bethlehem

By Tom Andrews

BETHLEHEM— State Rep. Steve Samuelson today delivered 3,106 children's and adult diapers donated by area residents during his holiday diaper drive to the Salvation Army of Bethlehem. "I am grateful to everyone who donated diapers during this holiday season because many families in our community struggle to cover the cost of diapers, and having an ad-

equated supply of diapers available is a basic necessity for those who care for children and seniors," Samuelson said.

The diaper drive took place for three weeks in December at Samuelson's district office at 104 E. Broad St., Bethlehem.

"We collected diapers to help needy families because there is no federal or state safety-net program to specifically cover the cost of diapers, which can run \$900 or more per year," Samuelson said. "And our network of food banks in the Lehigh Valley do not receive regular donations of diapers. Many families and seniors on fixed incomes are simply unable to afford disposable diapers and undergarments."

All donations were forwarded to the Salvation Army of Bethlehem. A previous diaper drive coordinated by Samuelson's office collected more than 2,000 diapers and \$800 in donations.

BASD Kindergarten

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Once packets are received and confirmed complete, BASD will contact parents/guardians to schedule a kindergarten screening appointment. Completed packets must be received no later than March 1st to schedule a screening appointment in March. Kindergarten screenings for the 2019-2020 school year will occur between March 12 and March 28 at Washington Elementary School. All screenings are by appointment only. An adult must accompany the child(ren) for their screening appointment(s). Our kindergarten staff is eager to meet and work with your child! Welcome Class of 2032!

For more information, please contact: Dr. Joseph Kondisko, Director of Student Services, Bangor Area School District, 123 Five Points Richmond Road, Bangor, PA 18013. Phone 610-588-2163.

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Giant Stores Robot

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"Bringing robotics and A.I. from a research lab to the sales floor has been a very exciting journey, and we were thrilled by the customer response in our pilot stores," said Nicholas Bertram, president, GIANT Food Stores. "Our associates have worked hard to bring this innovation to life with amazing partners."

The in-store robots, which move around the store unassisted, are being used to identify hazards, such as liquid, powder and bulk food-items spills and provide reporting that enables quick corrective action. The robots' efforts free up associates to spend more time serving with customers. They also help stores mitigate risk caused by such spills.

GIANT will be deploying Marty to its 172 GIANT and MARTIN'S Food Markets stores in waves over the coming months with expected completion slated for mid-2019.

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