



Williams Township's Role in the Industrial Revolution

By Linda Heindel, Volunteer

WILLIAMS TWSP. - "Williams Township's Role in the Industrial Revolution" will be the topic at the Sunday, March 31, 3:00 pm meeting of the Williams Township Historical Society. The meeting will be held at St. John's Church of Morgan Hill, 2720 Morgan Hill Rd., Easton (in Williams Township). Martha Capwell Fox, historian-archivist of the National Canal Museum, will present a PowerPoint talk. The public is cordially invited.

Despite its largely agricultural landscape, Williams Township was part of the birth of the American Industrial Revolution from its very beginnings here in the Lehigh Valley. The Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company transported its anthracite down the Lehigh Canal past the township and ultimately cut the canal and towpath through the "flatland" portion of its riverbank. In the late 1830s, ironmaster David Thomas from Wales arrived to build the nation's first anthracite-fired iron furnace along the canal at what is now Catasauqua. Anthracite proved superior over charcoal for making large quantities of good quality iron quickly from local iron ores.

Areas along the Navigation attracted the English ironmaster William Firmstone, who built the second anthracite iron works on the "flatland" at Glendon, then part of Williams Township. The Glendon Iron Works became a major factor in the Lehigh Valley's dominance of the American iron industry in the mid-19th century.

The public is welcome. For information or directions, call 610-253-8951.

Assistance With Finding Subsidized Child Care

By Becky Bartlett

EASTON - Beginning in March, Lamont McClure and the Department of Human Services will host Early Learning Resource Center Family Specialists (ELRC) on the first Thursday of every month from 1-5 PM at the Human Services Building in Bethlehem (2801 Emrick Blvd. Bethlehem, PA 18020, Conference Room #5) to assist with questions about accessing subsidized childcare. Anyone with questions about child care and/or Child Care Works, should feel free to stop in and see them.

"Finding quality child care can be difficult under the best circumstances," says Lamont McClure. "We hope, by providing access to specialists, it makes it easier for our working families to find daycare."

Early Learning Resource Center is in partnership with Community Services for Children with Region 14 serving Lehigh and Northampton Counties. Their offices are located at 1520 Hanover Avenue, Allentown and 65 E. Elizabeth Avenue, Bethlehem.

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**Ken
Field**

*Owner of Slate
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Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times

Professionals Make It Look Easy

The work of artists and musicians is nothing short of amazing. They make something we all enjoy and they do it in a way that makes it look almost effortless. Whether you like classical music or rock or country, they all have the same basic qualities that everyone can appreciate. Art is really no different. It is the expression of emotions on canvas and that emotion can be shared by people who view it.

If you have ever picked up a musical instrument and attempted to play it, you probably realized how complicated it really is and unless you are a prodigy, all you made was noise. I can barely paint a room let alone a portrait or a nature scene. You may wonder what I'm setting you up for and rightly so.

Do-it-yourself jobs come in all shapes and sizes and some require skills. Equipment manufacturers want to sell stuff so they suggest that you can cut out the middleman and do the installation yourself. Today's example is about a mini-split air conditioner. I installed one in my own home recently and even though I have a few special tools that aid in the installation I had some difficulty getting the final installation to where I considered it acceptable. The operative word there is acceptable. Your singing may sound great to you and like nails on a chalkboard to everyone else. It's easier to live with your own mistakes than those of someone you paid to do a job. I don't get paid to work in my own home but I am my biggest critic. Neatness is my trademark and that includes using shoe covers and vacuuming up after a job is finished. If I had any less experience or skill or tools, I feel like this installation would have been a failure. Advertising these products as a DIY job is cruel and wrong. This is not karaoke, this is over a thousand dollars and it needs to work properly and look at least half decent when it is done. Once you buy it, there is little hope that anyone other than your brother-in-law will help you install it so think first, then decide if you want to go there.

I have been installing these systems for well over 30 years and the first few systems I ever installed are failing just now. You won't get that kind of longevity out of a bad DIY job. Save the singing for the shower and hire a professional for mini split heat pump installation.

Ken Field is the owner of Field's Service, Inc. and Slate Belt Energy Services. He has over 40 years of experience in heating, air conditioning and is certificated by RESNET and BPI in various areas of energy conservation. He can be reached at 610-599-8832 or at www.SlateBeltEnergy.com

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"To Help Other People At All Times."

By Jana Morris

BANGOR - Part of the Scout Oath is "to help other people at all times." Each year Pack 102 completes a service project for our local community. This year the Scouts of Pack 102, located in downtown Bangor, initiated the "Caring Bears" project. The Caring Bears is a drive to collect new stuffed animals for the Bangor Police department. Depending on the response by the community, we may be able to extend to other local emergency service organizations.

Nationwide, there is a growing trend for Fire, Police and EMS personnel to have little stuffed buddies ride along with them. When they respond to a crisis where children are involved the emergency workers can use the stuffed animals to help soothe the children and form a very important bond with them.

Pack 102 worked together to decorate the donation boxes and will be hanging signs around the Slate Belt area that each Scout colored. The Pack held a coloring contest and Preston Rogers (from the Bear Den) won. We will be using his coloring sheet as our main promotional image to spread the word. Pack 102 is proud of all of the children that helped with this effort.

Starting Friday, March 01, 2019, the Scouts of Pack 102 will be placing collections boxes at The Broadway Pub, the Bangor Trust Brewing Company, Recovery Revolution and A Clean Slate. We encourage our community to stop by one of these locations and donate a stuffed animal to this great cause. We will be collecting through April 2019.

Pack 102 would like to thank the brave women and men of our local emergency response community as well as the businesses who are supporting our efforts.

Hahn to Host REAL ID Event

By Scott Little

WIND GAP – State Rep. Marcia Hahn (R-Bushkill Township) invites anyone planning to purchase the optional REAL ID to attend a pre-verification event she is hosting on Wednesday, March 20, from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Kenneth Butz Jr. (Bushkill) Elementary School, 960 Bushkill Center Road, Nazareth.

"We will be processing some of the preparatory work that needs to be completed by anyone wishing to obtain a REAL ID, which will be available in March," Hahn said. "Please remember purchase of a REAL ID is optional, and that type of identification won't be necessary until late next year.

Anyone planning to attend the event should bring with them the following personal documents for processing by PennDOT representatives:

Proof of identity (original or certified copy of a birth certificate with a raised seal or valid U.S. passport).

Social Security card.

Proof of all legal name changes (state or county marriage certificate or court order).

Two proofs of current Pennsylvania physical address (current, unexpired PA license or ID, vehicle registration card and a no more than 90-day-old bank statement).

Questions about this or any state government issues should be directed to Hahn's district office at (610) 746-0210.

