



Celebrate 50 Years of Earth Day

By Adrienne Fors

PLAINFIELD TWSP. - Celebrate 50 Years of Earth Day April 22, 2020, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. at Grand Central Environmental Education Center

Join us for free family fun as we learn about Raptor Bird Banding with our community partner and Federal Bird Bander, Paul Karner. We will explore recycling through activities, games and a discussion on the do's and don'ts when it comes to your curbside bin. Together, we will make a pledge to continue to protect our environment. There will be activities for kids of all ages, nature walk, treats and more!

To learn more about the event or to register, please email Adrienne Fors at Afors1@wm.com or visit our Facebook page.

Grand Central Environmental Education Center is located at 891 Grand Central Road Pen Argyl PA 18072.

www.facebook.com/grandcentrallenvironmentaleducationcenter. www.grandcentrallandfill.com.

Waste Management Ranked Among World's Most Ethical Companies For Eleventh Time

By Adrienne Fors

Plainfield Twp., Pa., March 9, 2020 – Waste Management (NYSE: WM), which operates Grand Central Landfill and Hauling Co., has been named as one of Ethisphere's 2020 World's Most Ethical Companies.

The company employs more than 200 environmental professionals at its site in Plainfield Twp. Inclusion in this year's Ethisphere list marks the 11th time the Houston-based company has earned the designation. The list includes 130 companies from 21 countries and 51 industries. Waste Management was one of only two environmental services companies ranked.

Ethisphere's World's Most Ethical Companies assessment process includes more than 200 questions on culture, environmental and social practices, ethics and compliance activities, governance, diversity and initiatives to support a strong value chain. The process serves as an operating framework to capture and codify the leading practices of organizations across industries and around the globe.

The full list of the 2020 World's Most Ethical Companies can be found at <https://worldsmoetethicalcompanies.com/honorees>.

Waste Management is North America's leading provider of comprehensive environmental services. Through its subsidiaries, the company provides waste collection, transfer, disposal services, and recycling and resource recovery. It also is a leading developer, operator and owner of landfill gas-to-energy facilities in the U.S. and Canada. The company's customers include residential, commercial, industrial, and municipal customers. To learn more about Waste Management, visit www.wm.com or www.thinkgreen.com.

For more information about recycling, visit wm.com/recyclerright.

BHS Student Food Drive

By BHS Student Government

BANGOR - The Bangor High School Student Government Association recently conducted a food drive to help our local food pantries.

They made it a contest to see which grade could bring in the most food.

The students donated more than 60 boxes of food to help these wonderful organizations. The food will be shared between the Portland Food Pantry and the St. Elizabeth's Food Bank.



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Ken Field

Owner of Slate Belt Energy Services

Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times

Flu Symptoms

It is important for you to have a carbon monoxide (CO) detector in your home if you have any gas appliances. It is a good idea to have one no matter what fuel you use for cooking or to heat your home because most homes have a garage attached to them today and automobiles produce a large amount of carbon monoxide as well. Some new homes are constructed more tightly than older homes so if CO gets in, it may linger much longer than it would have in older leaky homes.

Some of the scariest things about CO are that it is colorless and odorless. The concentration of it in the air is measured in ppm which stands for parts per million. As an example if you quantified all the air in your home and it totaled up to 10,000 cubic feet, that is about the size of 10,000 basketballs. Of those 10,000 basketballs if 8 of them (800 ppm) were filled with CO, you would be dead within 2 to 3 hours. Lower levels give you flu symptoms and higher levels make death imminent in a much shorter time. One of the first symptoms of low level exposure is a clouded mind which makes realizing the problem more difficult and fatigue which makes you want to take a nap. If you have a CO problem, you need to leave the house and a CO alarm going off may help you realize that.

There have been cases of malfunctioning furnaces that made people think they had the flu for weeks. Of course they stay home from work and stayed in bed and never got better because the problem wasn't the flu it was the flue. Gas stoves and ovens are rarely to blame but they can also malfunction and produce large quantities of CO. The effects are much worse on babies and older people for the same exposure level and a healthy adult may not feel the effects as profoundly so there may be a tendency to overlook CO as a cause of one person's illness in the home when others feel fine. Just being familiar with the effects of CO exposure may help you identify the symptoms if you don't have a detector. Knowing how little it takes to affect you should make you want to buy a CO detector and have one on each level of your home. UL listed CO detectors are set to alarm within 4 hours at 70ppm. Low level detectors are available too that alarm at as low as 25 ppm.

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



L-R Caiden Flowers, Kendall Hil, Andrea Morokutti and Steffani Smith

BHS Band

By Mary Lou Cole

BANGOR - Bangor Slater Band members Caiden Flowers(Tuba), Kendall Hill(Clarinet), Andrea Morokutti(Percussion) and Steffani Smith(Cornet) have been selected to perform in the PMEA Region V Band. Region V encompasses 15 Pennsylvania counties from south central PA to northeast PA. These students represent the largest number ever to be selected from Bangor, a tribute to the superior music program at Bangor. The festival will be held March 26-28, 2020 at Eastern York High School in Wrightsville, PA.

The band will be under the baton of Mr. Alexander Kaminsky, director of bands at VanderCook College of Music in Chicago.

PSAs for Northampton County's Lead Abatement Program

By Becky Bartlett

EASTON - Public Service Announcements about the BEN coalition which removes lead-based paints from Northampton County housing have been filmed to raise awareness about this important public health threat. The BEN coalition, named for Bethlehem-Easton-Northampton, is being used as a model for how vested partners can positively affect the health of an entire community. Lamont McClure and Mayors Sal Panto and Robert Donchez appear in one of the PSAs.



Paints containing lead were used in America until 1978. Deterioration of the paint exposes a substance which can cause brain damage. In the United States, lead-based paint and lead in dust are the most hazardous sources of the heavy metal. Children under the age of six are vulnerable because they frequently put their hands in their mouths. Their brains and nervous systems are susceptible to damage, and exposure can cause serious disability or death. Even low levels of lead in blood have been shown to negatively impact IQ. Learning disabilities, behavior abnormalities, attention deficit problems and insomnia are common symptoms.

HUD funds are available to remove lead paint for qualified Northampton County residents. For more information, contact Tanya Allison at tallison@bethlehem-pa.gov or 610-865-7083.



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