



**Ken  
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*Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times*

## Follow the Money

I think you can find data to support any argument you choose to make. If you want to prove that spray foam is bad for the environment and poses a global warming potential the science is there to prove it. If you want to show that the energy saved in a home insulated by spray foam offsets that damage to the earth you can find that information too. Fiberglass can be a good insulator and is by far the most popular one for homes. It is made in a blast furnace using giant induction heaters to melt sand. Nobody ever talks about the global warming potential of fiberglass though. I think that's partly because all of the damage is done at the electric generating plants that provide the power for those furnaces. The same is true for electric vehicles and the energy needed to recharge them. None of the pollution is done locally, it's all miles away, but does the earth really care where the damage starts? Until electricity can be produced without any pollution there is no valid reason to shift every possible use over to electricity. The infrastructure won't support an EV in every garage and we've already seen that there are serious limitations to the public charging stations as well as the vehicles. Unfortunately the government gets its ideas from corporate America where the flow of money makes politicians see things from a different perspective. I wonder if the version of green energy politicians see has presidents' faces on it. It is doubtful that one senator or congress person could tell you what the electric bill is for their home. That is the disconnect between us and them. If you spend an additional \$7000 for spray foam in a new home you could save that back probably in 5 or 6 years and would be more comfortable the whole time. Going forward, as energy costs rose, you would be saving more and more each year. The government is incentivizing the installation of electric heat pumps backed up by electricity but don't care if your house insulated well or not. There are minimum standards for insulation but they are pretty low when compared to what is easily attainable. I would rather see the government incentivize super insulation and let people choose their own heat source. That would revolutionize the housing market and make the future of heating and cooling all homes much less expensive. Reducing electricity usage has the same effect as upgrading the infrastructure. I prefer to do what makes sense no matter what is being pushed by government experts.

Ken Field is the owner of Slate Belt Energy and Field's Service, Inc. As a certified energy rater and contractor, he is qualified to assess every aspect of energy usage and prescribe solutions to save energy. He can be reached at 610-759-6306 or email [Ken@FieldsService.com](mailto:Ken@FieldsService.com)

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## Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

By Senator Rosemary Brown  
SLATE BELT -

Saint Patrick, who lived in the fifth century, is the patron saint of Ireland and was credited with bringing Christianity to the country.

Even though the Irish have observed St. Patrick's Day as a religious holiday for more than 1,000 years, the first St. Patrick's Day parade actually took place in America. Records show the first parade was held on March 17, 1601, in a Spanish colony in what is now St. Augustine, Fla.

"May your troubles be less and your blessings be more, and nothing but happiness come through your door." – Irish blessing



## Recognizing K9 Veteran's Day in Pennsylvania

By Senator Rosemary Brown

SLATE BELT - This past week, March 13th, we celebrate K-9 Veterans Day. I was pleased to attend an event in Delaware Water Gap, hosted by Paul and Maryann Baader, to acknowledge these heroes.

The official K9 Corps was created on March 13, 1942, when the U.S. Military began actively recruiting and training canine forces. Just like human soldiers, military working dogs are always on the clock, actively working in combat zones worldwide. It is important to recognize the thousands of dogs that served with honor, dignity, valor, and heroic efforts throughout history. These K9 military dogs have served in many wars, having been employed by the United States Military from World War I to present conflicts. Every military working dog (MWD) is a non-commissioned officer, one rank higher than their handlers. They are part of the team, part of the risk, part of the intelligence, part of the protection and part of the U.S. Military.

I am pleased to have sponsored legislation to formally designate March 13th at K9 Veterans Day in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.