

New Group Of Women To Set Off On Israeli Adventure

By Stephanie Smartschan

LEHIGH VALLEY - Ten new women will experience Israel this summer with the Jewish Federation of the Lehigh Valley and the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project.

They will make up the third cohort of women from the Lehigh Valley to take part in this program.

For eight days beginning in late July, the women will travel and study in Israel, visiting sites like the ancient mikvah in Tzfat, Independence Hall in Tel Aviv and the Western Wall in Jerusalem. They'll climb Masada and swim in the Dead Sea and have the chance to meet 400 like-minded women from around the world.

They'll also have daily classes while in Israel, focused on topics like marriage, self-esteem and incorporating Jewish values into their lives.

New this year, the women will have the chance to experience life on a kibbutz in Yoav -- the Lehigh Valley's partnership region -- and build strong bonds with four women from Yoav, who will accompany them on the entirety of the trip.

Upon returning from the trip, the women -- all moms -- will embark on a year-long course of study to further the lessons they received and learn how to bring those lessons into their homes.

"I am so excited to begin this journey with an amazing group of women, and to see where it takes all of us," said Stephanie Smartschan, director of marketing for the Jewish Federation, who will serve as community leader this year. "I am also thrilled to have Naomi Schachter from the second cohort returning this year as a madricha to help guide the group both physically and spiritually."

This year's cohort is comprised of: Wendy Edwards, Feather Frazier, Nissa Gossom, Gwen Hartnett, Jennifer Lader, Amy Sams, Joelle Saunders, Brenna Schlossberg, Jacqueline Schwartz and Julia Urich.

The women range in age from 35 to 52. All are committed to raising Jewish children and looking to learn and grow.

The group came together for the first time on March 19 to bake hamentaschen and get to know each other better. They will hold two more pre-meetings before the trip begins in Israel on July 30.

Are you interested in being a part of next year's cohort? Contact Stephanie Smartschan at 610-821-5500 or stephanie@jflv.org to learn more.



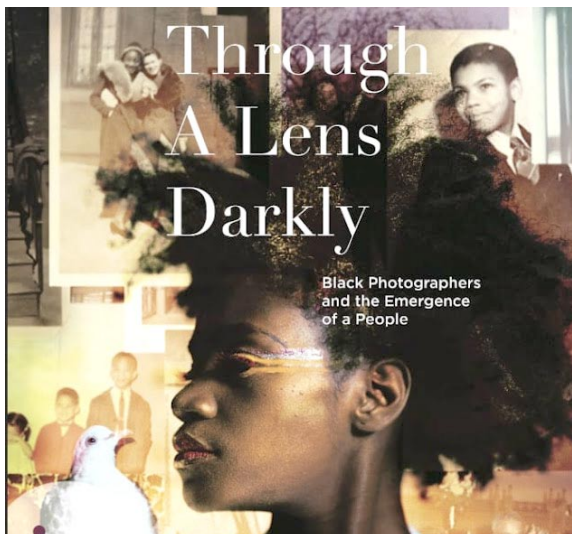
Through a Lens Darkly

Film Screening And Talk Back

By Lehigh Valley Black News Network

ALLENTOWN - On Sunday March 31st the Allentown Art Museum is honored to present the film Through a Lens Darkly, followed immediately by a talk back with artist and producer Dr. Deborah Willis. The film was inspired by the book Reflections in Black by Dr. Willis and explores the role of photography in shaping African American identity and social emergence. After the screening, Dr. Willis will respond to questions from the audience related to her career as an artist and cultural worker as well as to the history of art and photography as it relates her work and the work of other artists featured in the film. The event is Free. or more info: www.allentownartmuseum.org, located at 31 N 5th St, Allentown, PA. (610) 432-4333.

Through a Lens Darkly: Black Photographers and the Emergence of a People is the first documentary to explore the role of photography in shaping the identity of both professional and vernacular African American photographers, the film opens a window into the lives of black families, whose expe, aspirations, and social emergence of African Americans from slavery to the present. Bringing to light the hidden and unknown photos serieses and perspectives are often missing from the traditional historical canon. African Americans historically embraced the medium as a way to subvert popular stereotypes as far back as the Civil War era, with Frederick Douglass photographed in a suit and black soldiers posing proudly in their uniforms. These images show a much more complex and nuanced view of American culture and its founding ideals.



REAL ESTATE AUCTION
PRIME OFFICE BUILDING
2 P.M. **APRIL 23, 2019**
ON THE PREMISES 11 KNOB ROAD
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Formally Headquarters of John J. Riley Accounting Firm approx. 4,700 Sq. Ft. of prime professional Offices.

Main level has 10 individual offices plus restroom and conference room. Lower level has 5 offices, kitchen and restroom, central air, new roof.

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INSPECTIONS: **WEDNESDAY** **APRIL 3RD 2 - 4 P.M.**
SATURDAY **APRIL 13TH 1 - 3 P.M.**

TERMS: \$ 10,000 BANK CASHIER'S CHECK (made payable to Jack Muehlhan Auctioneer Escrow) AT SALE. BALANCE AT SETTLEMENT WITHIN 30 DAYS.

DIRECTIONS: 1/2 Block off Route 611 on Knob Road Borough of Mt. Pocono, PA

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Like new condition office building in town of Mt. Pocono. This was the creation of prominent CPA and Business Leader John J. Riley who passed away after a full life of community service. Rare opportunity to BUY a move in condition office building. Must be Sold to wrap up Mr. Riley's Estate.

SALE ORDERED BY: Mary Riley Frantz, POA Attorney Todd Williams

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2019

Bangor Area High School
M. Craig Paine Performing Arts Theatre
187 5 Points Richmond Rd.
Friday March 29th, 7:30 pm
Saturday March 30th 2:00pm And 7:30pm
Sunday March 31st 2:00 pm



**Ken
Field**

*Owner of Slate
Belt Energy
Services*

Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times

We Don't Need No Stinking Badges

The cost of having unqualified people working in your home can create some serious problems. I'm not talking about some uninsured, fly by night gypsy either. I'm talking about contractors and their employees who think that they can work on anything because they have a bag full of tools. It is really up to the employer to train his technicians. Maybe not personally, but there are training sessions nearby for most of the equipment that we have to work on and certainly tech support by phone for the more complex stuff. But it seems that just like asking for directions, many technicians will just keep fumbling around and trying one thing after another when making a repair, instead of asking for assistance and getting right to the heart of the problem.

I saw 2 examples of this in the last week or so and neither are very pretty. In one case I have to be the sounding board for an unhappy customer who needs expensive repairs because someone improperly adjusted the burner in her home and damaged the boiler. Now she is upset and considering replacing the whole unit instead of repairing it. If I was all about money, I might encourage that but it would/will be a huge waste of money if she decides to do that and I will stand by my recommendation right up to the point where I would lose the job if I pressed any harder.

The second one was a person who was considering getting a liner in his chimney and called someone who advertises in a lot of local papers. They came in and dismantled the pipe in the basement as part of the estimate and reinstalled it incorrectly. This was early in the morning on a very cold day. The homeowner left for work and returned to find the house full of thick smoke and everything covered in a black film. The oil burner ran all day with a blockage in the flue pipe and covered the house in soot. The cleanup is estimated at over \$20,000 and he can't live in the home.

Accidents can happen to anyone but they happen to unqualified people more often. Just calling them accidents gives accidents a bad name. With everyone having cell phones, knowing who to call when you are at wits end on a breakdown is a technician's secret weapon. My techs call me and if I don't know, I have a whole list of people to call. I'm not one bit ashamed of that.

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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REAL ESTATE AUCTION
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REAL ESTATE consists of an affordable 3 Bedroom Brick Ranch Style Home with partially finished Basement on a tree lined street in the Village of Delaware Water Gap, Monroe County, PA with Public Water and Sewer. Nice quiet, peaceful location in Village.
Easy Drive to I-80 and 3 miles from Stroudsburg, PA.

INSPECTION: TUESDAY MARCH 26TH 5-7 P.M.
SATURDAY MARCH 30TH 2-4 P.M.

TERMS: \$7,500 BANK CASHIER'S CHECK
(payable to Jack Muehlhan Auctioneer Escrow) AT SALE.
BALANCE AT SETTLEMENT WITHIN 30 DAYS. INSURABLE DEED. NO BACK TAXES.

DIRECTIONS: Only 3 Blocks off Main Street in Village. Ask anyone, very friendly people in Delaware Water Gap.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Rare opportunity to BUY an affordable ranch style home in nice small community. Must be SOLD to care for elderly widow. Your bid may buy.

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(left to right) –Mark Jobes, Chief Banking Officer, Diane LaBelle, Executive Director & CEO, Michael Cole, Branch Manager, Bethlehem Office

Merchants Bank Supports Lehigh Valley High Charter School of the Arts

By Susan Kovacs

BANGOR - Merchants Bank supports the Lehigh Valley Charter High School of the Arts for sponsorship towards the school's artistic performances this season. The Lehigh Valley Charter High School of the Arts is a nationally-recognized leader in education. Their program helps to foster long-term community transformation, bringing the arts into our communities.

"This school has achieved so much since its inception as evidenced by their outstanding students and their award winning results both on the stage and in the classroom. The School makes a difference by having a clear focus on artistic excellence and providing guidance to prepare for their road ahead. We are proud to help support this dedicated facility as they build upon their achievements," says Mark Jobes, Chief Banking Officer.

Anglers Prepare for Opening of Trout Season

BY DCNR

PENNSYLVANIA - Anglers from 18 southeastern and southcentral counties of the state are gearing up to fish their favorite spots at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, March 30, 2019, which marks the traditional **regional opening day** of trout season.

Since late February, the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission has been busy stocking waterways with a fresh supply of brook, brown, and rainbow trout.

With approximately 3.2 million adult trout stocked in lakes and creeks, along with more than 10,000 miles of wild trout waters, anglers will have plenty of opportunities to catch a stocked or wild trout. Opening days are:

Regional Opening Day of Trout -- Saturday, March 30 (8:00 A.M.)

Statewide Mentored Youth Day -- Saturday, April 6 (8:00 A.M.)

Statewide Opening Day of Trout -- Saturday, April 13 (8:00 A.M.)

Anglers are encouraged to stay aware of local and statewide burn bans during spring wildfire season.

Information about fishing opportunities at Pennsylvania state parks and forests is available at the DCNR website. Additional information about trout season is available at the Pa. Fish & Boat Commission's website <https://www.pafishandboat.com>.