



**Ken
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Opinions Are Not Always Facts


Sometimes the most expensive thing you can get is free advice. I follow a lot of heating and energy conservation blogs and I contribute to some. I never contribute information that I cannot backup with iron clad proof of validity because people may take this advice and use it and if it is wrong, it may cause them problems and cost them money. What I see that alarms me is the information given by unqualified contributors who either recite outdated or even just blatantly false information. On occasion I will chime in with information contrary to the false information but usually I just move on. People don't like being questioned, especially on social media. Most of my time spent there is for amusement but I don't offer inaccurate information for fun because that's just wrong. What I find odd is that even the people offering inaccurate information have nothing to gain. It isn't like we get a grade for sharing information. For some it may be an ego boost but egos don't really have any place on social media. Typically when I contribute information it is something I have learned by experience or formal training by experts in the energy conservation field. My way of sharing this information is usually to raise questions that when answered help someone draw a conclusion. Ventilation is a controversial topic almost all the time whether about attics or crawl spaces. Neither of those locations are fun to work in so the last thing you want to do is spend time there or pay someone to work there and gain no benefit. Because of the condition of things today a lot of people are taking on weekend work and side jobs to make ends meet. Many of these people are able-bodied and well-intentioned but they may not be qualified to complete the work they suggest. Many people who want work done ask about a license and insurance but I've never seen one ask about qualifications. Whether you plan to remodel one room or a whole house, you should get information from an insulation expert about how to prepare before drywall is installed. What usually happens, especially in older homes, is that someone stuffs fiberglass in the wall before installing drywall and the room looks nice but is at least as bad as it was before on energy use. That's not really an upgrade, it's just a facelift. There is a drastic shortage of contractors who really know the current information on infiltration, ventilation, insulation, vapor barriers, and how they all interact with an interior facelift. I recommend that you have a thorough discussion with any prospective contractor about those things and get an energy expert to help with any that are not clear. 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

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25 Years: Then and Now at the Slate Belt Heritage Center, Celebrating its 25th Anniversary.

By Slate Belt Heritage Center

BANGOR - The Slate Belt Heritage Center celebrates the twenty-fifth anniversary of its founding with exhibits, opening receptions, in-person programs and a gala banquet in April and May, 2024.

SBHC's founding is an amazing story of citizens coming together to preserve an iconic building and diverse community stories. To mark the occasion of the founding, Slate Belt Heritage Center will host a spring exhibit that highlights the energetic volunteers who created the Center, the organization's development to collect, preserve and interpret histories and artifacts from all nine Slate Belt municipalities and many ethnic groups, and the Center's current and future projects to share that history with the public.

Anniversary events kick-off on April 7 with a members' preview.

On April 11 at 7 pm, there will be a public program "Remember When...the Start of the Heritage Center" with a panel of people remembering SBHC's early years.

Beginning April 13, the Center will open to the public every Saturday and Sunday, from 12 to 3 pm through October featuring the show in the Council Chamber, "25 Years: Then and Now at the Slate Belt Heritage Center." Each of the nine rooms will also have a special display.

On April 13 at 1 pm, there will be a ceremony in front of Pen Argyl Town Hall to dedicate three outdoor display units about Pen Argyl History. The panels are funded by the Northampton County Department of Community and Economic Development Hotel Tax Grant and by the Slate Belt Heritage Center. The units follow national park service standards and join three similar units that were placed in Bangor last year.

A gala banquet will take place on May 11, from 6-9 pm at the Elks Home in Bangor, PA. See the Heritage Center Facebook page, [SlateBeltHeritageCenter_SBHC](https://www.facebook.com/SlateBeltHeritageCenter_SBHC) for details in the near future.

The Slate Belt Heritage Center is a not-for-profit 501 (c) 3 organization located at 30 North First Street, Bangor, PA, 18013, in the former Bangor Town Hall. Starting April 13, the Center will be open on Saturdays and Sundays, from 12-3 pm (except holidays). Private tours, research time, and program speakers are available by contacting the Center at SBHC@frontier.org or (610) 599.4339.

