



Ken Field

Owner of Slate
Belt Energy
Services

Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times

Ignoring a Problem doesn't make it Go Away

The best way to solve a problem is to find the cause and correct it. Then if anything can prevent the same problem from recurring, make those changes and it becomes one less problem you will ever need to deal with again. If you have high utility bills maybe there is a cause for that. It could be that you are underestimating the amount of energy it takes for you to live your life. It could also be the high cost of electricity and fuel. It could be one or more basic flaws in the design or construction of your home. Two of the things that won't correct this problem are complaining about it and ignoring it. Rather than selling and moving into something smaller, you could have the problem analyzed by someone who specializes in energy conservation and the application of modern appliances to condition indoor living space. There is some baseline testing that can be done to ascertain the integrity of the building envelope. Visual testing is not accurate so a walk-around energy audit without an infiltrometer test is going to end with a guess at best. The result of an infiltrometer test is expressed in cfm/50. That is how many cubic feet of air the building leaks at 50 pascals of pressure. It is a very small amount of pressure but allows the auditor to actually quantify it. In an audit that starts from scratch a load calculation is also performed. That requires the measurement of the home and all windows and doors. It is entered into a computer program along with the construction values of the home, the target temperatures for comfort and the cfm/50 and the result is the energy requirement of the home expressed in Btus. From historical weather data we can calculate how many

Btus it would take to heat and cool this building. It is a very accurate process albeit a little time consuming. Having these results allows a homeowner to know if the home is really using too much energy or if their expectations are just too low for the amount of living space. There is always room for improvement. If the infiltration is reduced, the energy consumption is reduced. Those improvements are usually drastic. There are standards for infiltration that allow an auditor to know what is good and what is bad for every home based on size. A new infiltration value can be tested in the load calculation program and the resulting improvements in energy usage can be calculated in Btus and estimated in energy cost savings. You really aren't stuck with high energy costs until an audit shows no room for improvement.

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

COMPUTER
NETWORKING &
REPAIR

MICROSOFT WINDOWS 10 UPGRADE

"OVER 25
YEARS OF
EXPERIENCE"
James Albanese

HOME - BUSINESS - GOV'T - EDUCATION
NON-PROFIT - SENIOR CITIZEN
SALES * SERVICE * SUPPORT



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
SPECIALIST



*** Microsoft Windows 7 Support/
Updates ENDS January 14th, 2020**
*** Upgrade your existing Windows 7
or 8 Computer For UNDER \$200**

Call to Schedule your Windows 10 Upgrade
Today!

WINDOWS COMPUTER SALES, SETUP,
INSTALLATION, DATA TRANSFER & TRAINING

www.compnr.com/service@compnr.com

368 Blue Valley Drive Bangor **610-588-8700**

Slate Belt Energy Services

SBE

610-599-8832

**We service and Install
all brands and types
of heating systems.**

24 hour emergency service

Low Interest financing. Credit cards accepted.
Certified in all aspects of energy conservation.

www.SlateBeltEnergy.com

Women's club of Pen Argyl

The Women's Club of Pen Argyl met on Tuesday, April 2 at the Phoebe Wind Gap Manor. We were pleased to welcome 5 new members.

Our spring Mr. Pastie sale will be in effect from May 22 to August 22. Coupons for pasties are available for \$7.50 from any club member.

A monetary donation of \$250.00 was made to the Pen Argyl High School

Working with Families First, a \$200.00 donation was made to Backpack Friday which aids local Families.

A program was presented by Triple M Treats of Bangor.

Women's Club would like to thank the Slate Pub for hosting our recent fundraiser.

We will meet again on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 12:00 noon at Wind Gap Park for a program by Zorro, Slate Belt Regional Police's K-9 dog and his handler, Officer Josh Lowe. Any woman in the Pen Argyl, Wind Gap or Plainfield Twp. who would like to join us may call 610-863-7371.

Blue Mountain Community Library

The Blue Mountain Community Library will host our annual spring Silent Auction fundraiser between Monday, April 15 and Saturday, May 4, 2024. There are 14 items including small appliances, cookware, purses, and more. All items are displayed on the first floor of the library. Stop in to place your bids! The winners will be notified on Monday, May 6, 2024.

Our Lady Queen of Peace Church

Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Rt 209, Brodheads-ville will be having a Community Sunday Supper on April 14, from 2:30 to 3:30 in McCawley Hall. Please come and enjoy a home cooked meal and some fellowship with your neighbors. Please call the Church office at 610-681-6137 if you have any questions>

Senior Luncheon on Monday April 15, from 12:30 to 1:30, in McCawley Hall. Please come and enjoy a home cooked meal and some fellowship with your neighbors. Please call the Church office at 610-681-6137 if you have any questions.

Community Sunday Supper on April 28, from 2:30 to 3:30 in McCawley Hall. Please come out and enjoy a home cooked meal and some fellowship with your neighbors. Please call the Church office at 610-681-6137 if you have any questions.

Upcoming Bangor High School Music Events:

At Performing Arts Theatre 187 Five Points Richmond Rd Bangor, PA.

Bangor Area High School Bands Night of Jazz
Thursday, April 25, 7:30 PM

Bangor Area High School Bands Spring Concert
Thursday, May 2, 7:30 PM

Bangor Area High School Spring Choir Concert
Wednesday, May 8, 7:30 PM