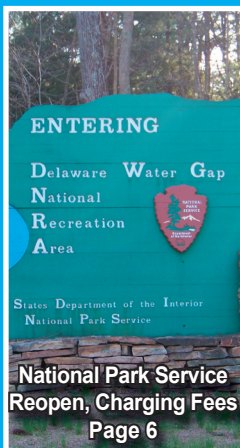




Slate Belt Girl Scouts  
page 4



National Park Service  
Reopen, Charging Fees  
Page 6



Bangor Cross Walk  
Page 7



Prince Of Peace Harp  
And Heels Concert  
Page 11

## Zero-Energy Homes

By Donald Gilpin / Princeton Mazazine

**Note:** Slate Belt Energy owned by Ken Fields was the insulating contractor on this project. He writes a column in the Blue Valley Times every week on HVAC.

NEW JERSEY - Buildings are responsible for about 40 percent of all greenhouse gases, and every building, including your home, creates CO2 through the energy used in construction and the energy required to operate it.

Most climate scientists (along with the Paris Agreement of 2015) warn that the world must reach net-zero carbon by 2050 to avoid the most disastrous effects of heat, flooding, sea level rise, and weather extremes. The climate crisis is an international security threat, as it increasingly creates dislocation of millions and migration of vast populations. This climate-fueled instability creates military tensions, financial hazards, and world health emergencies.

In the United States the climate catastrophe has resulted in record droughts in the West; wildfires in California, Montana, Utah and elsewhere; power grids strained in Texas and throughout the nation; reservoir water supplies at record lows; flooding throughout the country; and pervasive crises caused by extreme weather.

Sooner or later — and many experts say our planet's survival depends on making that sooner — all buildings will need to achieve net-zero carbon. Homeowners and buyers, as well as designers and builders, must focus on net-zero carbon in all facets of construction, renovations, and operation.



Ed Jenks' Zero-Energy Home

On a cold, rainy morning in early February I visited Ed Jenks in his zero-energy home, one of very few in the state, nestled in a wooded setting just off Route 12 near Flemington.

Continued on page 9



## Wildlife at Minsi Lake

By Jim Wilson / Sec of Friends of Minsi Lake

UMBT - This year, we have TWO active breeding pairs of Barred Owls nesting in two of the four Barred Owl nestboxes we put up in the Minsi Lake Greenway over the past several years. One of last year's nestbox had three eggs in it when we checked it earlier this month.

And more recently, we discovered one of the nestboxes in area is occupied this year for the first time. The attached pic is mama sitting tight on her clutch of eggs a week or so ago.

We trail cams at both nestboxes so we'll have plenty of cool pics to share with folks AFTER the young fledge later this spring. Our PhD at Hawk Mountain is aware of the two nesting pairs & he's stoked to come band the young in both boxes later next month, like he did with the two young ones

Continued on page 6

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