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## Four Local Business Receive Emergency Grants from GIANT

By Laura Jacobs  
CARLISLE, Pa., May 11, 2020 – The GIANT Company today announced the more than 100 recipients of its emergency grant program. Announced last month in partnership with Team Pennsylvania, The GIANT Company originally designated \$250,000 for the program, but due to the overwhelming response, the company decided to double the amount of funding available to \$500,000. In all, the company is awarding 110 grants to help support small businesses in Pennsylvania’s food supply chain impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.



Four local business were recipients of the emergency grants, Franklin Hill Vineyards, Inc., Bangor, Funk Brewing Company, Emmaus Clear Spring Farm LLC, Easton and Josie Porter Farm, Stroudsburg.  
“Reviewing more than 500 applications from small businesses

across the Commonwealth confirmed what we knew in our hearts: that the pandemic is having a devastating impact on our small business community,” said Nicholas Bertram, president, The GIANT Company. “We’re inspired by the strength and stories of these local businesses that, in many cases, have been serving our communities for generations. As a company focused on connecting families for a better future, doubling the funding to \$500,000 was an easy decision because it meant we could provide more hope and help to these hard-working families and let them know that they are not alone.”

More than 500 applications were received during the two-week application period, with more than 60 in the first 24 hours. The 110 recipients span the entire Commonwealth and represent multiple

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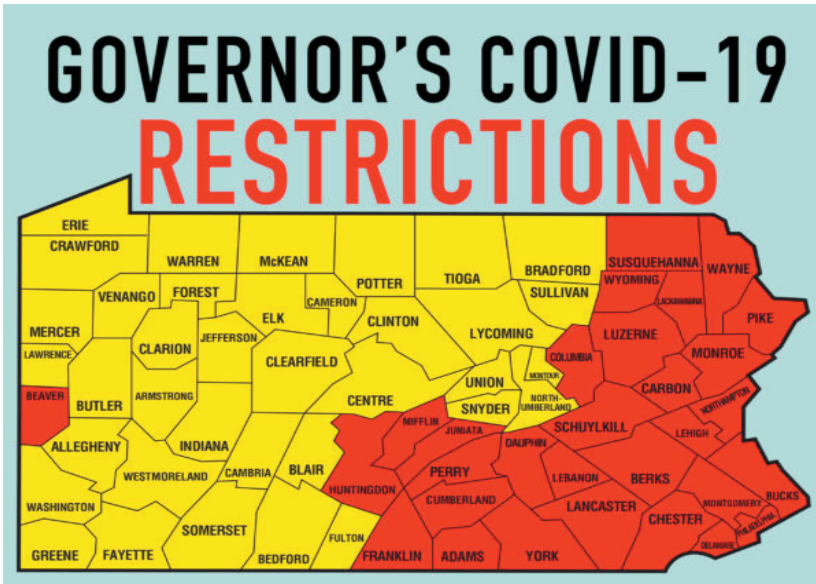
**DENTAL CARE RESUMES**  
with State Guidance  
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## New Guidance Issued for Non-Urgent Dental Care

By Senator Mario Scavella  
PEN ARGYL-Dental care providers can now resume non-urgent procedures under new guidance from the Department of Health. Providers must comply with CDC guidance, including the use of Personal Protective Equipment, in order to provide care safely. Dental providers are also advised to screen all patients for symptoms of COVID-19 before they arrive at the practice, and tele-dentistry should continue whenever possible.

## 24 Counties Enter Yellow Phase; 13 More Move to Yellow on May 15

By Senator Mario Scavella  
PEN ARGYL - By May 15, a total of 37 Pennsylvania counties will be in the yellow phase of reopening, meaning more businesses can safely open with proper safety measures in place. Twenty-four counties are already in the yellow phase, while 13 more will join them on Friday.



According to guidance from the Wolf Administration, all businesses that have been conducting operations through telework should continue to do so in the yellow phase. Businesses that serve the public should seek to conduct business by appointment only whenever possible, observe social distancing guidelines, limit large gatherings, and require all customers and employees to wear masks.

Businesses that have questions about reopening should refer to the Department of Health’s Frequently Asked Questions webpage or call the department at 1-877-724-3258.

Much more work needs to be done by the Wolf Administration to repair the damage caused by the governor’s shutdown orders. Many more businesses could open and operate safely if given the opportunity to do so with guidance from national health experts.

Members of two Senate committees held a joint hearing last week to take a critical look at the governor’s plans to reopen Pennsylvania. Video and written testimony from the hearing are available, and some of the highlights of the hearing are summarized in the video.

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## May 12th is International Nurses day

By Becky Bartlett

EASTON - Northampton County continues to do everything possible during the Covid-19 pandemic to limit exposure to the residents and staff at Gracedale.

"May 12th is International Nurses day," says Lamont McClure. "We honor those Gracedale Heroes who have been caring for their residents throughout this pandemic. They've been doing backbreaking, heartbreaking work all while being scared of a novel virus. The citizens of Northampton County are in their debt."



As of May 11th, 159 residents have tested positive for the virus. Thirty-five residents have recovered; sixteen are in the hospital. Unfortunately, thirty-nine residents have passed away.

Out of the 700 employees which work at Gracedale, forty-three have tested positive for the Coronavirus. Thirty-four have finished their quarantine periods and are back at work.

Gracedale is the largest nursing home under one roof in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. There are approximately 600 residents living at Gracedale with 700 employees tasked with caring for them.

Northampton County encourages everyone to continue to practice social distancing, to wear a mask when they are out in the community and to get tested for Covid-19 if they have symptoms.

Northampton County is sponsoring a drive-thru testing site for Covid-19 located at the main parking lot at Easton Hospital, 250 S 21st Street, Easton, PA 18042. It will be open from 10:00AM – 4:00PM on May 11 and 12th or until supplies run out. Only residents from Northampton County will be accepted for testing and they must show at least one of the following CDC recognized symptoms of Covid-19 to be eligible: fever, dry cough, shortness of breath, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat or loss of taste and/or smell. A prescription from a doctor is not required. Although insurance is not required to be tested participants should bring their insurance card and a photo ID with them.



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## Blue Valley Times

900 N. Main Street., Bangor, PA 18013

Published Weekly/Every Tuesday

Available on the web 24/7 at [www.bluevalleytimes.com](http://www.bluevalleytimes.com) and Facebook

Phone: 610-452-9234  
Email: [bvtimes@rcn.com](mailto:bvtimes@rcn.com)

News / Advertising Deadline  
12 noon Fridays

Owner - Michael Ortoski / Michele Hanna  
Publisher - Michael Ortoski  
Sales - Michael Ortoski  
Asst. Editor - Anne Brown  
Graphic Design / Photography - MM4 Corp  
Feature Writers - Peg R. Berger  
Interns from - Pen Argyl, Bangor and  
Stroudsburg H.S.

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