

# Slater Family Network Receives Mini Food Pantry As Eagle Scout Project

By Michael Ortoski

UPPER MT. BETHEL - Earlier in the year, Patti Damour, Executive Director of Slater Family Network read an article about the Blessing Boxes showing up in the Lehigh Valley. The article was about the Lehigh Business Groups efforts to sponsor these mini pantries and match Scouts to help them gain the rank of Eagle.

Patti reached out to the group and received a response from Kevin Cope, L.V. Business Groups Director and facilitator of Lehigh Valley H.O.P.E.. Once matched, a meeting was set between Patti, Kevin and the Scout, Kyle Morris of Troop 74 Bushkill Twp. Kyle has been involved in Scouting since Kindergarten and is a second-generation Eagle Scout. Kyle's father, Scott Morris also received the rank of Eagle.



*Once an Eagle,  
Always an Eagle*

As of Sunday, May 23rd, the box is fully installed and will be lettered soon. Slater Family Network's Blessing Box will not only provide some food to the community during our off-hours without paperwork but serve our High School Students who may be food insecure but not want to use our pantry due to embarrassment.

All food in the box will be SFN & community supplied, as the box will read "Take what you need, leave what you want". We ask if leaving food, please make sure its non-perishable and not outdated. Box will be monitored by Slater

Family Network, and we ask that food not be left outside the box if full due to animals. If box is full, please call for an appointment and we can store in the pantry.

Our mission is to provide resources, referrals, and programs to empower families in need in the Bangor Area School District.

The Slater Family Network Foundation is a non-profit family center. Our service is free and confidential for all residents of the Bangor Area School District. We provide resources, referrals, and programs. SFN is grant, community, private and school district funded.



## Lake Minsi Update: Fishing Piers, ADA Kayak Launch, Purple Martins and Osprey



By Michael Ortoski Co-Chair of Friends of Minsi Lake

UPPER MT. BETHEL - Lots of great things happening at Minsi Lake! 'Friends of Minsi Lake' (FOML) had 'BoardSafe' install new fishing piers at both East and West shore, and at the south jetty.

At the East shore they also installed an ADA kayak launch and a paddle board launch. Later this year FOML will have a demonstration on how to use the two launches. There is a sign on the kayak launch with instructions.

Both launches are made for everyone. F□

Good news about our Purple Martin Colony at the Lake, which is just in its second year. Last year, there were 6 or 7 martins that nested or at least roosted all summer long in the west side tower & none occupied the east site tower. We know one pair successfully fledge 3 young from the west tower, which were banded by a licensed bird bander last summer. This year, we currently have 12 martins at the west tower & at least 4 at the east tower. It's worth a visit just to see & hear them carrying on at the towers!

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