



**Ken
Field**

*Owner of Slate
Belt Energy
Services*

Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times

Spring Heatwave

There is never a good time for something to break down. Whether it is your car or your refrigerator or even your air conditioner. But these things happen and as long as you know you have done everything you can to prevent it, you just have to get it repaired and move on. Preventive maintenance is the best means of keeping the unexpected problems at bay but even then times of extreme temperatures and hard usage test every part of your system. If the coils of your refrigerator are clean the heat removed from inside is dissipated to your kitchen and then eventually to your air conditioner. All of that heat plus the heat from every other appliance and light bulb and even human being is absorbed by the air conditioners indoor unit and then transferred to the outdoor unit to be dissipated. When the coils of your refrigerator are not clean, the compressor struggles to get rid of that heat and it is hard on the unit. It uses more electricity and the motor runs very hot. That extra heat also ends up having to be removed from the inside by the air conditioner.

On hot days the coils on the outdoor unit of your air conditioner need to be clean in order to allow the fan to carry that heat away. If they are even partially clogged the compressor gets hot and pressures rise and cooling capacity is reduced. Not to be critical, but this is on YOU. You should check the coils on the back or bottom of your refrigerator occasionally and clean them if they are blocked. You should never blow grass toward the outside air conditioning unit but if it is running, you should not even cut grass or weed whack or mulch near it. It is like a giant vacuum and anything that gets near when it is running will be drawn in and become attached to the fins. They are not usually easy to clean but are easy to damage. They need to be cleaned with a spray of water or chemical but only from the inside toward the outside. We have a special wand that works on some units but often must remove the cabinet to do it properly. When the coils are clean the unit operates at full capacity and without any extra heat from poor airflow. Sometimes a unit gets so hot from lack of airflow that the compressor turns off on overload and will not operate for hours even after we correct it. Think about your appliance even when it isn't 95° outside and they will last longer. But don't be surprised if it is during that weather that they fail.

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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Gymnastics in the Slate Belt

By Karen Brewer

BANGOR - The Slate Belt Heritage Center will present: "Gymnastics in the Slate Belt" on Thursday, July 11th @ 7:00 PM. Former Pen Argyl History teacher and Bangor High School graduate, Walter Cole, will give a four part presentation which will include information on the 50th Anniversary of "The Parkettes" which was founded by former Slate Belt residents Bill & Donna Strauss. There will also be a presentation about Pen Argyl's Kristen Maloney who won many national championships and was a member of the U. S. Women' Gymnastics team. This team won the bronze medal at the 2000 Sydney, Australia Olympics. The Pen Argyl High School gymnastics team will also be acknowledged which was coached by Duane Toth. His son, Tom, will talk about his father's program. The program will also recognize Bangor High School gymnasts, Hollie & Heidi DeBoer and Krista Janette. Any former Slate Belt gymnasts are invited to attend this program.

Also, The Heritage Center will participate in the regional "Passport to History" weekend on Saturday July 20 & Sunday July 21 with extended hours of 10:00 AM -4:00 PM. On Saturday, local historian, Cheryl Statham will demonstrate and instruct on the German Art of "Schernschitte" a Pennsylvania Dutch form of fancy paper cutting. Cheryl is also a craftsperson and retired museum educator. The "Smokin' Pastie" food truck will also be selling contemporary versions of the traditional ethnic food treat, the Cornish Pasty.

On Sunday, Perry Morris will demonstrate and distribute cut-out wooden Christmas ornaments. Both days will also feature the Center's special exhibit "25 Years of Memories" which celebrates the Heritage Center's quarter century of preserving and presenting Slate Belt History. Each room shows a special anniversary highlight.

All events are free and open to the public. The Heritage Center is located at 30 North 1st Street, Bangor, PA. For additional information please contact: Karen Brewer @ 484-894-5661.

200+ Jobs 		\$7.1 Million Annual Tax Revenue Benefiting Plainfield Township, Northampton County, Commonwealth of PA and Pen Argyl Area School District over the life of the expansion
Waste to Energy provides power to 5,000 homes	\$101 Million in Host & Neighboring Benefits for life of Expansion	20 Annual Environmental Education Programs
	\$78 Million Northampton County Annual Economic Impact	
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	Providing 20 Years of additional Disposal Service	
		70-Truck CNG Fleet Reducing GHG Emissions by 15%