

Bill Rita Laubner's 74th Wedding Anniversary Parade

By Michael Ortoski

WIND GAP - On June 30th Bill (age 100) and Rita (age 94) Laubner celebrated their 74th Wedding anniversary with a parade of 19 cars filled with masked friends, family and neighbors.

They sat on the front porch of their home and waved to each one reading the signs they made wishing them a happy anniversary. Some people got out of their cars and put cards, flowers, gifts on their sidewalk that were then retrieved by their daughter.

The couple were married in East Stroudsburg 74 years ago. They have a daughter Laurie Stasak (husband Robert) of Wind Gap and a son Bill Laubner (wife Barbara) of Arizona.



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Ken Field

Owner of Slate Belt Energy Services

Grand Central Landfill Annual Butterfly And Bird Walk

By Adrienne Fors / Waste Management

PLAINFIELD TWSP - Grand Central Landfill and community partners from DCNR as well as butterfly enthusiasts Doug Burton and Bill Grant lead their annual butterfly and bird walk on July 5 at the Grand Central Environmental Education Center. The walk offered the nearly two dozen guests with the opportunity to learn the difference between butterflies and moths, host plants for butterflies and the life cycle of Monarchs. Another butterfly walk will be schedule for later this summer.

Butterflies found at the event: American Copper, Eastern Tail Blue, Pearl Crescent, Clouded Sulfur, Cabbage White, Black Swallowtail, Yellow Swallow Tail, Orange Sulfur.

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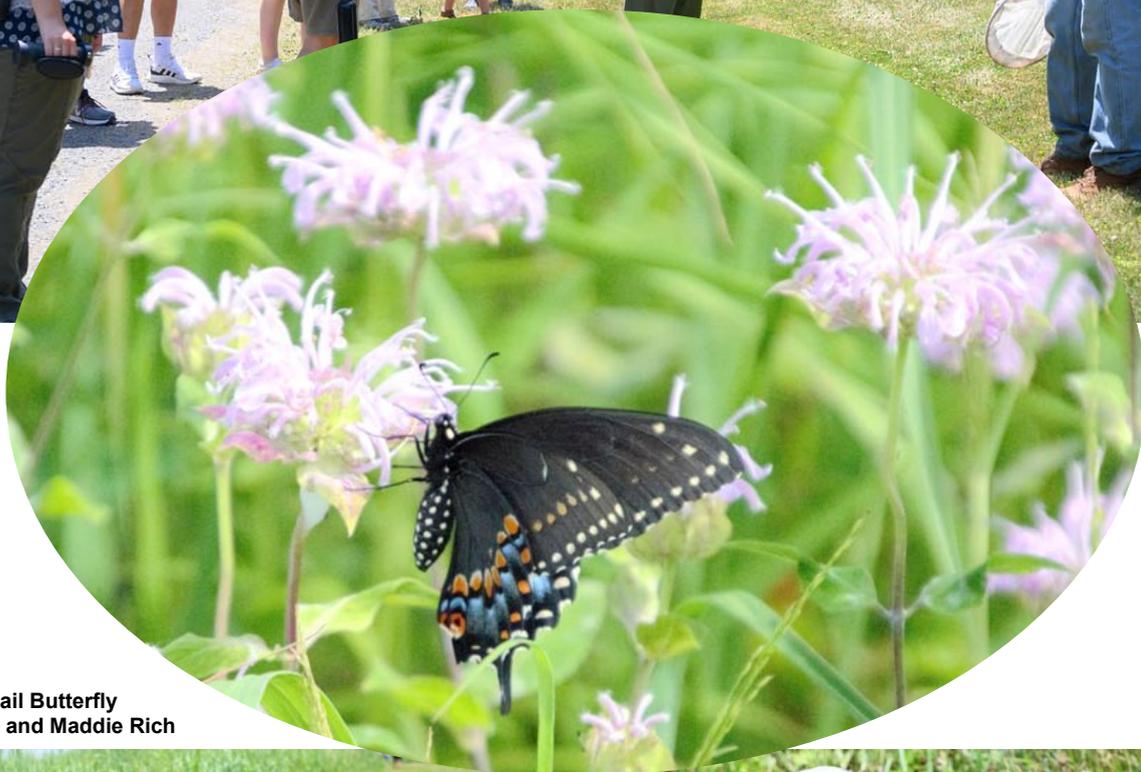
One consideration that enters into the decision of anything I buy or sell is where it was made. It has become increasingly difficult to source many things from the USA but it can still be done. Most air conditioning equipment is NOT produced here but some still is. Some is produced here but the corporation is owned by China or other countries. The sad fact is that I would be out of business if I attempted to buy American made goods only. I wouldn't be able to repair most equipment because the individual parts come from overseas even if they are assembled here.

I believe this trend was started many years ago by American workers who wanted a fair wage for a day's work and I can't blame anyone for that. It was exacerbated by environmental regulations that cost American manufacturers a huge amount of money for keeping hazardous materials out of the air and water. We may have slipped a little in the manufacturing process in the early years with respect to robotics and micro-mechanization. It may have been resistance to change or possibly greed of the corporate owners who failed to reinvest in the infrastructure and just took the money and ran the companies to the ground.

You can't run a country strictly on retail sales and white collar jobs so a large part of the population is left to find something they can do to feed their families. Construction jobs are good but someone must be buying what they are building and sometimes it feels like the only one with money is the government. The dirtier the job, the more secure it is, but the less it pays. Trade jobs are not likely to be outsourced or eliminated anytime soon because after things are built they start breaking almost immediately. They require hands-on people with knowledge. I am proud to be in a trade but like every other person I must live within my means. It's easier to live within your means if that is \$100,000/year than if it is \$50,000.

I have a lot of respect for the hard working people of this country who just keep plugging away and paying their taxes and trying to keep a roof over their heads while having some kind of health insurance and a safety net, if possible, for a rainy day. Many had to use that net this spring or do without things if there was none available to them. I hope things get better for all of us soon.

Ken Field is the owner of Field's Service, Inc. and Slate Belt Energy Services. He has over 40 years of experience in heating, air conditioning and is certificated by RESNET and BPI in various areas of energy conservation. He can be reached at 610-599-8832 or at www.SlateBeltEnergy.com



Above Photo Black Swallowtail Butterfly
Below Photo L- Doug Burton and Maddie Rich

