

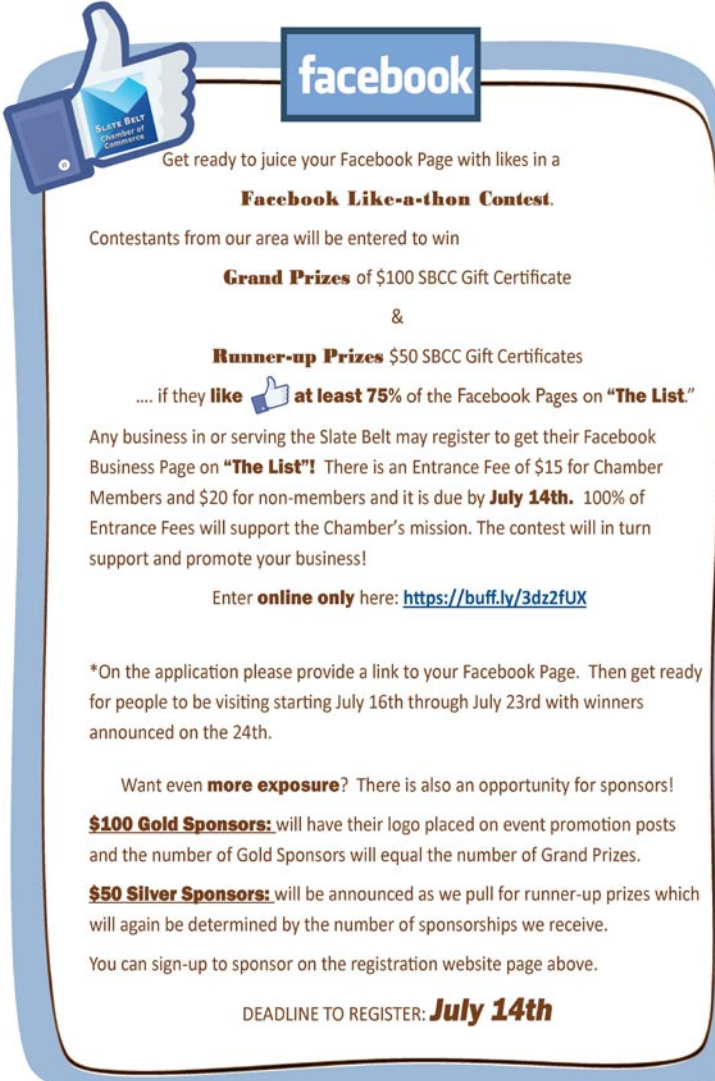
Northampton County partners with LVH-CHA for a COVID-19 Drive-through Testing Site

By Becky Bartlett

EASTON - Lamont McClure and the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) have organized a partnership between Northampton County and Lehigh Valley Hospital-Coordinated Health Allentown Hospital (LVH-CHA) to set up a COVID-19 drive-through testing site located at LVH-CHA at 3100 Emrick Blvd. Bethlehem, PA 18020. Hours of operation will be Monday through Friday from 10:00AM – 4:00PM. The site is anticipated to open within a few weeks.

"While the PA Department of Health has done an admirable job of contact tracing in Northampton County, adding the additional tracing capabilities of LVH-CHA will aid us in our fight to limit the spread of COVID-19," says Lamont McClure. "I encourage everyone to continue to practice social distancing, wearing a mask and frequent hand-washing and, especially, to get tested if they develop symptoms of COVID-19."

A Physician's order will not be required but, to be eligible for testing, individuals must report or display one or more CDC-recognized symptoms of COVID-19: fever, dry cough, shortness of breath, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat or loss of taste and/or smell. The drive-through site will be open to everyone, but only residents of Northampton County will have the cost of testing covered by the County if they do not have health coverage. All testing will be through HNL Lab Medicine unless insurance requires an alternate laboratory. Participants should bring a photo ID and their insurance card, if they have one, with them to the testing site.



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Enter **online only** here: <https://buff.ly/3dz2fUX>

*On the application please provide a link to your Facebook Page. Then get ready for people to be visiting starting July 16th through July 23rd with winners announced on the 24th.

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Ken Field

Owner of Slate Belt Energy Services

Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times

It Looks Good on Paper

Here is a bit of logic I have assembled about how things work. I could be wrong but because my information is based on my own experience and that of my customers I will take my chances.

Nobody starts a business with a goal of losing money. Nobody works for free. A middleman makes money by selling the sizzle not the steak. Promises are only as good as the person making them. Fine print was not created as an eye test. If it's not spelled out in black and white, it's not going to happen. Not every company views their customer as a hard working person who deserves respect and fair treatment.

Home warranties and extended warranties on cars are popular today. Not because they are a good value, but because they are marketed to everyone constantly and look appealing. The same is true with repair plans on water lines and electric lines outside your home. They generate millions of dollars for the people selling them and don't always provide what the homeowner expects.

They give the impression that everything is covered but there are hidden surprises. The exclusion list is longer than the list of what they fix. Most of my experience with these warranties is in the air conditioning area. Every single instance of a home warranty contractor coming to one of my customers homes resulted in incorrect diagnosis of the problem and a hard sales pitch for an entire system replacement within a few minutes of them arriving. Every one also involved some kind of deceptive practice like cutting wires or venting refrigerant from a system to make their sales pitch seem legitimate.

Those companies don't get paid much for showing up so their tactic is to sell, sell, sell. In all of the cases we were involved with, we repaired the equipment for the customer because it did not need to be replaced at all. We also had to repair the sabotage that was done by the other contractor. In two of these cases the homeowner complained to the warranty company to no avail. The contractors who they sent were not from the area, just someone who would agree to accept the minimal payment the warranty company offers to satisfy their part of the agreement.

There may be stories of joy and happiness out there about home warranty repairs but I have not heard any. Paying for what you need when you receive it is the best plan for home repairs. A false sense of security isn't worth the paper it's printed on.

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

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