



'meLVin' (the LV Phantoms mascot) leads the YMCA Dance



Wedding Announcement

Mr. & Mrs. Jared Tocket & Amanda Jensen Married June 3rd 2019 in Cape May NJ. Brides parents Per & Maria Jensen, Grooms parents Todd & Amy Jo Tocket.

Wedding party - Bob & Dawn Abbott, Best Men Brandon Tocket (grooms brother) & Zack Clark. Maid of Honor Rebecca Jensen (brides sister), Ring Bear Jacob Tocket (GB), Flower Girl Malysa Tocket (GS). Couple resides in San Diego California.

BARGAINS OF THE MONTH®

<p>9.99 3M® Filtrete® Allergen Defense Filters One inch thick. Choose 16 x 20 in., 16 x 25 in., 20 x 20 in., 20 x 25 in. Other sizes available. F 395 830, 913, 396 143, 291 F6</p>	<p>19.99 O-Cedar® ProMist Max Mop Head tips 180° to clean more surface area. Includes refillable bottle for your own cleaning solution. w 238 719 F2</p>	<p>14.99 Globe® 6 ft. Power Strips 2 USB ports. 3 grounded outlets. Low profile plug. Choose mint, black, rose or white. E 129 060, 050, 061, 225 240 08 Mist shown.</p>	<p>5.99 YOUR CHOICE Rayovac® 16 pk. AA or AAA Alkaline Batteries Guaranteed fresh for 10 years. E 182 537, 539 B10</p>	<p>16.99 Homepointe® 16 in. Oscillating Stand Fan 3-speeds. Adjustable height with tilting head. w 164 550 1</p>	<p>49.99 Four Seasons® Extra-Large Zero Gravity Chair Steel frame with sling fabric. 350 lb. seating capacity. T 242 961 3 Red shown. Folding Side Table, 14.99 Sling fabric top with cup holder. T 242 965, 964, 963, 967 B3 Available in some colors as chair.</p>
--	---	---	---	---	---

MT. BETHEL ABSTRACT

A FULL SERVICE TITLE INSURANCE AGENCY

3013 N. Delaware Dr., Mt. Bethel, PA. 18343

SEARCHES REAL ESTATE
CLOSINGS SETTLEMENTS
TITLE INSURANCE NOTARY PUBLIC

PHONE FAX TOLL FREE
570-897-9047 570-897-9048 888-325-2433

www.mountbethelabstract.com

48th Annual

ANTIQUE GAS ENGINE & TRACTOR SHOW

BLUE MTN. ANTIQUE GAS & STEAM ENGINE ASSN., INC.

WWW.JACKTOWN.ORG

The Friendly Show in the Grove

Grounds Open

7 A.M. to 9 P.M. Friday & Saturday

7 A.M. to 4 P.M. Sunday

featuring: Fairbanks Morse



JULY
19-20-21
2019

1229 RICHMOND ROAD • BANGOR, PENNSYLVANIA

JACKTOWN GROVE

ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY, JULY 19

6:00 P.M. - Antique Tractor Pull
6:00 - 9:00 P.M. - Bobby Clark

SATURDAY, JULY 20

9:00 A.M. Antique Tractor Pull
1:00 - 4:00 P.M. - At The Hop
6:00-9:00 P.M. - Steel Creek

SUNDAY, JULY 21

9:00 A.M. - Church Service
10:00 A.M. - Garden Tractor Pull
1-4:00 P.M. - Jessie Wade Gang

STEAM SHED DEMONSTRATIONS

AMERICAN SAWMILL
BUTCHER SHOP
PRINT SHOP

FARM EQUIPMENT DISPLAY
TRAIN RIDES

65 CASE STEAM TRACTOR
JACKTOWN RAILROAD

CRAFTS • FLEA MARKET

FUNNEL CAKES

JACKTOWN ICE CREAM

DEMONSTRATIONS DAILY

FARM MUSEUM

SUNDAY • JULY 21
KIDS' PEDAL TRACTOR PULL
Sign up 10:00 am • Pull 11:00 am
(TRACTOR PROVIDED)

FREE ADMISSION
FREE PARKING
FREE ENTERTAINMENT

ALL DOGS MUST BE ON A LEASH

For More Information Call: 610-588-6900 (Show Times Only) • 570-897-6893 (Robert Rowe) • 610-588-7360 (Tom Buist)

Replacing Keystone Exams with SATs Would Save Money, Help Students and Parents

By Gary Miller

HARRISBURG – In a new special report released today, Auditor General Eugene DePasquale said Pennsylvania taxpayers are still spending tens of millions of dollars every year on the Keystone Exams, which have not been federally required for four years.

“Pennsylvania should aggressively explore using a nationally recognized test that can open new doors for students rather than continuing to spend money on an exam that is no longer required,” DePasquale said. “For less than what Pennsylvania spends on the Keystone Exams, it could instead pick up the tab for every high school student to take the PSAT or SAT.”

Federal law requires that all states administer a secondary-level standardized test; however, since 2015, when the No Child Left Behind Act was replaced, the state-specific Keystone Exams were no longer required.

But rather than phase out the state-specific tests – which at least 12 other states have done – the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) is still paying the tests’ creator, Minnesota-based Data Recognition Corp., tens of millions of dollars each year to administer and score the Keystone Exams.

Between 2015 and 2021, Pennsylvania will have spent nearly \$100 million on the Keystone Exams. “When the federal law changed in 2015, why didn’t Pennsylvania begin to phase out the Keystone Exams? I could understand if they used them for a short time after that, but it’s been four years — and if PDE completes the current contract they will have spent nearly \$100 million,” DePasquale added.

Pennsylvania students could have instead been taking a nationally recognized test such as the SAT or ACT – which is shown to improve the rate at which students attend post-secondary education – at a lower cost than what has been paid for the Keystone Exams.

“Not only would this change benefit families who now have to pay out of pocket for their children to take these nationally recognized tests, it could help students who are not on a college track discover that they could succeed in college and possibly change the course of their future,” DePasquale said.

Many school district officials do not realize that the Keystone Exams, administered to all public high-school students in Pennsylvania, are not and will never be a graduation requirement, DePasquale said. Eliminating the Keystone Exams would allow teachers to spend more time instructing students on key concepts.

“There is much talk among educators about the Keystone Exams being a graduation requirement, but that never materialized,” DePasquale said. “In fact, under a state law enacted last year, passing the Keystone Exams is simply one of many means by which students can prove themselves ready to graduate.”

DePasquale’s 18-page special report details five observations and provides five recommendations for action to stop spending taxpayer money on standardized tests Pennsylvania students do not need.

DePasquale highlighted that one of the major problems in gathering information for this special report was that so much information about the Keystone Exams was not where it was supposed to be.

“My team had to make repeated requests to PDE officials just to get basic information about public tax money that should be available to anyone who asks,” DePasquale said. “We waited months for information that they promised to share, but it was only yesterday that the agency started answering our remaining questions.”

The “Where Did Your Money Go?” special report and additional resources are available online at: www.PaAuditor.gov.

Learn more about the Department of the Auditor General online at www.paauditor.gov.

Wolf Aims to Fund Voting Machine Replacement without Legislative Authorization

HARRISBURG - After vetoing a key election reform bill that would have also provided \$90 million in funding to help counties replace their voting machines, the governor announced this week he would simply go around the Legislature and supply the funding unilaterally.

Leaders in both the House and Senate question the governor’s authority to take such action without legislative authorization.

The need for the funding was brought about by the governor’s decision to decertify every type of voting machine currently in use in the Commonwealth. It is estimated to cost \$150 million to replace machines in all 67 counties, a significant burden on taxpayers across the state.

By vetoing the legislation, the governor is also robbing voters of other needed election improvements, including extending the deadline for submission of absentee ballots to ensure all votes count and creating a commission to manage the process for election machine decertification in the future.

Finally, the bill would have brought Pennsylvania in line with more than 40 other states by eliminating the “straight party” voting option, the measure most strongly opposed by the governor. The change could have opened the door to more minor party candidates and encouraged voters to cast their ballots for a person rather than a party.