



National Conference visits Bangor Quarry Hoist

By Mike Piersa

BANGOR - On Tuesday, August 24th, a bus load of visitors from the Society for Industrial Archeology came to Bangor for special tours of the Bangor Quarry Hoist, Slate Belt Heritage Center, and the Blue Mountain Antique Gas & Steam Engine Association. The group was attending the society's annual national conference, based in Bethlehem, and spent the day touring slate industry related sites in Northampton and Lehigh County.

Thanks to a large air compressor provided at no cost by Serene Scenes Landscaping, the Bangor Quarry Hoist was operated for the group. Guests from across the country marveled at the motion of the Hoist and were further intrigued as they learned about Bangor's mining and manufacturing history. Stay tuned as pavilion construction wraps up and future events are scheduled at the Hoist.

Federal Child Care Funds Critical to Reopening and Rebuilding PA

By Kimberly Early

Allentown, PA – On Friday, September 17, 2021, Volunteers of America Children's Center and the Pennsylvania Association for the Education of Young Children (PennAEYC) will co-host a tour and roundtable discussion describing the current state of child care in the Lehigh Valley.

U.S. Congresswoman Susan Wild will participate in a tour and roundtable at Volunteers of America Children's Center to learn about the on-going challenges with recruiting and retaining staff, under-enrollment and continued pandemic related expenses.

Over 1,000 Pennsylvania child care providers have permanently or temporarily closed since the beginning of the pandemic. These closures and struggles with hiring and retaining teachers have created access issues for many Pennsylvania families trying to return to work. While federal relief funds have helped to stabilize some in the child care industry, Congress must make significant and sustained investments in child care and preschool to ensure families can return to work and our economy can recover.



Congresswoman Susan Wild

U.S. Representative Susan Wild
 Betty Druckenmiller, Director, The Children's Center
 Elaine Pivinski, Owner, Franklin Hill Vineyards
 Jan Schwartz, Outreach Director, PennAEYC
 Kim Early, Director of Advocacy and Public Policy, PennAEYC
 Shirlee Howe, Outreach Coordinator, Children First
 Erin Connelly, Associate Vice President, Impact, United Way
 Akshara Vivekananthan, Assistant Director, Education, United Way

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