



**Ken  
Field**

**Owner of Slate  
Belt Energy  
Services**

*Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times*

## Repair or Replace

It doesn't matter whether we are talking about cars or lawn mowers or furnaces, there is always a point where you reach your limit and have to make a decision to keep repairing them or to replace. It's not because repairs are impossible, but sometimes a repair is throwing good money after bad. You also have to be careful who you get your information from. I follow many groups on social media and it is obvious that many repair technicians get compensated for selling someone a whole system. I don't like that situation because a knowledgeable person has an incentive to sell something to someone who really has no working knowledge of a complex system. I've read posts from people asking questions about their furnace or lawn mower or portable generator and a repair would be inexpensive and yet replies about throwing them in the junk pile were all I saw. Personally, I don't agree with scrapping things that are not worn out. It's not at all unusual to get frustrated by something that does not work the way it should but that comes as a challenge to those of us who like to fix things. With any piece of mechanical equipment there are parts that get a lot of use and wear and other parts that are basically framework to hold everything together. Combined these parts make up a useful machine, but the failure of a tiny piece can stop everything. If parts are not available then the game is over and you have no choice but to replace. Today with the internet, so much is available that repair is practical if you can just locate a source. With a furnace time can also be a factor because nobody will wait a month for a part in the middle of winter. That can help to make a decision when replacement is necessary to select a model with readily available parts. Your heating professional can help with that.

Every one of the devices I mentioned can benefit from a little TLC and regular maintenance. Checking oil level and using gasoline without ethanol can keep any lawn mower or generator running like new for a long time. Having your furnace serviced annually can add years to the life of the equipment and insure your safety and comfort all winter long. Or you can just run everything into the ground and act surprised that you have bad luck with mechanical things. You don't have to like all the complications of life today but you have to choose a way to deal with them.

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

# NORTHAMPTON COUNTY FESTIVAL



**OCTOBER 14, 2023 • 11AM — 5PM**

**Louise W. Moore Park**

151 Country Club Road, Easton, PA 18045

**FREE ADMISSION!**

**FOOD & BEVERAGES • LIVE MUSIC**

**CRAFTERS • AWARDS**

 **@NORTHAMPTONCOUNTYFESTIVAL**

**Slate Belt Energy Services**

**SBE**

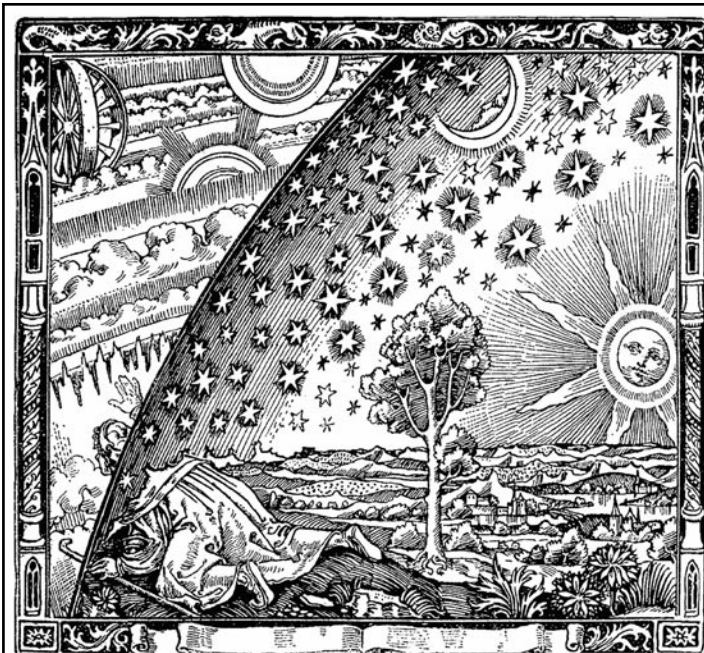
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**We service and Install  
all brands and types  
of heating systems.**

**24 hour emergency service**

Low Interest financing. Credit cards accepted.  
Certified in all aspects of energy conservation.

**www.SlateBeltEnergy.com**



**Star Gazing at West Shore Minsi Lake!**

**Thursday, September 21**

Arrive by 7:20pm; program begins at 7:30pm.

Join Dr. David Buckley, Professor of Physics and Resident Astronomer at ESU! There will be telescopic views of the Waxing Crescent Moon and the planet Saturn and its magnificent rings! Depending on night sky conditions, we may also view the great Hercules Star Cluster and the Ring Nebula! We'll also learn about the constellations Scorpius, Sagittarius, Cygnus the Swan, Lyra the Harp, the Big Dipper, the North Star, Cassiopeia and Pegasus!

This program is free of charge; however, registration is required.  
West Shore Minsi Lake is located at 33 Blue Mountain Drive, Bangor, PA 18013

Registration Required  
Contact Jim Wilson  
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jwilson@norcopagov



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