



**Ken
Field**

*Owner of Slate
Belt Energy
Services*

Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times

Creeping Energy Cost

Where you get your advice is important. Money can easily influence someone when it comes to giving advice. There are pros and cons. I always choose to take my advice from pros and not cons. Not even ex-cons. Nobody is as concerned about the value you get for spending money as you are. If you focus solely on cost you may end up with a short lived victory. The cost of energy creeps up when we're not necessarily paying attention. I noticed that the cost of a Kwh of electricity is now almost 20 cents. That takes into account all of the taxes and other fees that are lumped into the bill.

That is almost double what it was 10 years ago. Where do you think the cost of electricity is headed? If solar and wind are going to make a major contribution to the energy profile of the US then you can expect higher rates. I would hazard a guess that they will double again in another 10 years because fossil fueled generating plants are going off line at an alarming rate as restrictive emission standards are making them impossible to retrofit. The government is incentivizing electricity use in every aspect of our lives. The federal tax credits available now are for heat pumps backed up by electric, so all electric. And electric vehicles need special charging stations because they make your heat pump look like a hair dryer. The bottom line is that you should get the best fuel for the long term and when it is powered by electric, you should get the highest efficiency on the market. Sure you will be paying more than the low end system but if it saves you 15% on electricity now that will be 30% in future standards as the cost of electricity rises.

People who bought electric vehicles so they don't have to buy gasoline will put a dent in the taxes being raked in by government and that won't sit well with them. There will then be an adjustment and electric vehicles will pay by the mile. Gasoline prices may drop because of lower demand and the scales will tip back. The same goes for heating oil and diesel which are essentially the same product except for the taxes. All of the natural gas conversions are having an effect on demand for heating oil and eventually the price will stabilize. It is not regulated by the government so it will settle at what the market will bear.

Think about the future when you invest in any new appliances.

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!

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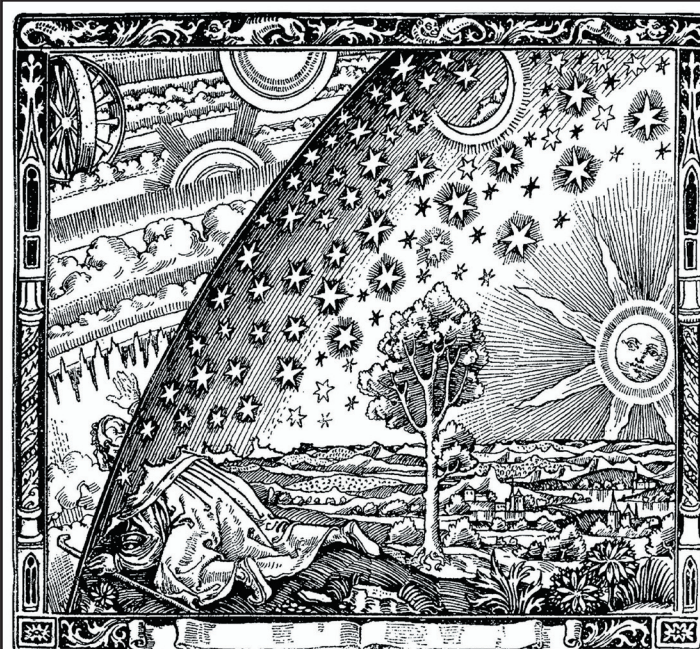
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Star Gazing at West Shore Minsi Lake!

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@norpap.gov



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