



L - R District Manager, Joe Statile, Community Relations Manager Adrienne Fors, Sgt. John Dickerson, Route Manager Joe Rohrman and Operations Manager Ryan Stevens

Waste Management Gives Toys and More to Toys For Tots

By Michael Ortoski

PEN ARGYL - Grand Central Landfill and Hauling presented a \$1,000 donation check to the Toys for Tots Organization. Sgt. John Dickerson accepted the donation on the organizations' behalf along with several boxes of toys collected by Waste Management employees.



'Persimmon Lane' Artisan Shop

By Michael Ortoski

PORTLAND - Slate Belt Chamber held a ribbon cutting in Portland last week. They celebrated the grand opening of a new businesses in the Slate Belt! 'Persimmon Lane' on Delaware Ave. (Route 611) in Portland. Its an artisan shop which sells hand crafted items like teas, soaps, bubble bars, jewelry and more!



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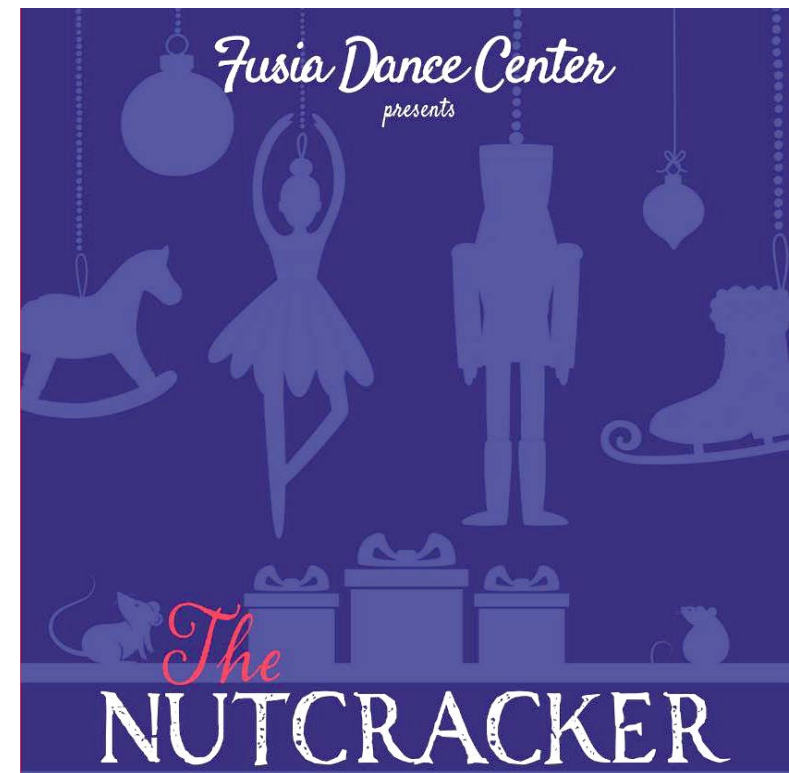
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\$15 ADULTS
\$12 STUDENTS/SENIORS



**Ken
Field**

Owner of Slate
Belt Energy
Services

**Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times
Rebate Changes for the Slate Belt**

I learned a few days ago that UGI changed the rules for their rebate program. Previously it went by zip code and most of the slate belt was excluded. I'm not sure why they did that but it wasn't a very nice thing to do. Within a mile of someone you were excluded from a potential \$1800 rebate check for installing the same piece of equipment. It is almost as wrong as the cell phone companies giving huge discounts to lure new customers while disrespecting existing ones with high prices and poor service.

I spoke with someone at UGI and they said that now all areas they serve in PA get the same treatment and the only other small change in the program is that the rebate amounts have changed. Last year the rebate for a 95% efficient gas boiler was \$1500 and now it is \$1200. Still it is a big savings for installing something you probably needed or should have had anyway. I think they are trying to convince people to use more efficient equipment instead of the age old junk still made and used every day by contractors who think the only thing that matters is a low price. I believe it should always be up to the homeowner and if they are presented with all the options, most choose something other than the bottom of the line.

Some of the jobs we have done using more efficient equipment actually solves problems that have existed for a long time. Conventional equipment uses a chimney and chimneys don't last forever. Installing a furnace and using an old chimney can lead to problems. High efficiency equipment does not use a chimney and sometimes can be installed in a much more convenient location in the basement. A liner can be installed in a chimney but the cost of lower efficiency equipment and installing a liner usually exceeds the cost of high efficiency equipment. The difference in efficiency between conventional and high efficiency gas systems is 15% or more. So the gas bill will be at least 15% less for the life of the new equipment and you can abandon that old chimney. It is a win-win situation when you examine all the pros and cons of using better equipment.

At this time of year UGI takes quite some time to get around to hooking up new customers due to weather and demand so if you are thinking about rebates and a new furnace, check to be sure it can be done this year.

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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BY ORDER OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF MONROE COUNTY, PA
REAL ESTATE AUCTION
4 BEDROOM 2 ½ BATH HOME
2 P.M. TUESDAY JANUARY 7, 2020 RAIN, SNOW OR SHINE
ON THE PREMISES
179 GABRIEL DRIVE EAST STROUDSBURG, PA 18301
SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP, MONROE COUNTY, PA
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REAL ESTATE consists of a Two Story 4 Bedrooms 2 ½ Bath Home with approx. 2,300 Sq. Ft., 1 Acre Lot, Nice Residential Area. Deed Book 2501 Pg. 5282 Tax Code: 16-6B-1-25

INSPECTION: THURSDAY JANUARY 2ND 12 Noon - 2 P.M.
SATURDAY JANUARY 4TH 12 Noon - 2 P.M.

DIRECTIONS: From East Stroudsburg, PA take Business Route 209 turn left onto Airport Road pass Airport turn left onto King's Pond Road then left onto Winchester Rd. then onto Remington Rd. Continue and make a left onto Gabriel Rd.

TERMS: 10 % DEPOSIT (\$5,000 BANK CASHIER'S CHECK - payable to Jack Muehlhan Auctioneer Escrow and balance of 10% Deposit by Good Personal Check) AT SALE. BALANCE DUE AT SETTLEMENT WITHIN 30 DAYS. No Back Taxes, No Buyer's Premium. Insurable Deed.

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570-421-8333 AU000643L

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Two New Eagle Scouts

By Senator Mario Scavello

POCONOS - Dominic and Austin Frey attained the rank of Eagle Scout and celebrated their achievements while home on Thanksgiving break. Congratulations to these fine young gentlemen! I have no doubt they will succeed in all their future endeavors.



Eagle Scout Project "Take a Book, Leave a Book"

By Cari Friend / Exe. Secretary The Salvation Army E. Burg STROUDSBURG - Ryan Pinchback, a student at Stroudsburg High School, built these "Take a Book, Leave a Book" huts here at the Salvation Army, as part of his Eagle Scout project.

Ryan officially dedicate the huts with Major Gilbert Parkhurst, Commanding Officer this past week.

Ryan chose this project because he is aware of our service to the homeless and wanted to try and bring the joy of reading into their lives.