

DECEMBER 12, 2023		BLUE VALLEY TIMES		COMMUNITY LISTINGS		PAGE 15			
<p>NOTICE ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE EMAILED ONLY TO BVTIMES@RCN.COM BY FRIDAYS NOON</p> <p>Mission of Love Food Bank Every Tuesday- Food Bank Program 555 North Main St., Bangor, 10am-12pm. All are invited Bilingual Services. Pastor Frank Pons. (570) 807-7794</p> <p>Explore Warren County Tourism at: ExploreWarren.org Located at 165 County Route 519 South - Belvidere, NJ 07823 908-475-6580 / 800-554-8540</p> <p>Portland Upper Mt. Bethel Food Bank Located at 111 State St. Portland Pa. and until further notice the PUMP will be open every Monday as normal, AM AND PM: 10 to 11:30 am & 6:00 to 7:30 pm but will deliver food to your car as your number is called in the parking lot. No one but workers will be allowed to go inside. There will be no access to restrooms. Your cooperation during this difficult time is greatly appreciated.</p> <p>Biking Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area - River Road Bushkill, PA (570) 426-2452 Levee Loop Trail - Biking East Stroudsburg, PA (570) 426-1512 info@srosr.org</p> <p>BIKE TRAIN ALL ABOARD THE SCENIC BIKE TRAIN! Hop on the Bike Train and step back in time. Enjoy a relaxing 25 mile train ride through the Lehigh Gorge. Then, pedal your bike back down to Jim Thorpe at your own pace along the Lehigh Gorge Rail Trail. Advance Tickets/reservations Are Required For The Bike Train And Can Be Made By Calling The Blue Mountain & Northern Railroad (Aka Lehigh Gorge Scenic Railway) Directly At</p> <p>Wineries in the Poconos Pocono wineries offer a unique and relaxing getaway. Tour a winery and unwind while sampling the many varieties of vintages available at our vineyards. From hip downtown wine bars like RAW Urban Winery & Hard Cider , Tolino Vineyards and Wild Elder Wine and Cider Co. to scenic properties like Mountain View Vineyard Winery and Sorrenti Cherry Valley Vineyards where rows of grapes are spread out on the hill before you, these wineries are located throughout our four-county region, so a Pocono vineyard experience is close to you no matter where you travel. Pocono wine tours, wine tastings and special wine pairing events and dinners make it easy to discover new, locally-crafted, one-of-a-kind flavors. Check out specials at Three Hammers Winery in Hawley, Soaked Winery in Milford, Eagles Rest Cellars in Stroudsburg and Wine & More on 1st in Lehighton. Whether looking for a bachelorette party or relaxing with your spouse, browse the wineries in the Poconos below to</p>		<p>Bangor Area Ski Club is having an upcoming fundraiser and they need your help deciding which colors and style will win the vote. Please choose which color combination should win. Pre-orders are available for those that can't wait to slip into some Slater Socks!!! \$15 for Knee High / \$13 for Crew https://www.facebook.com/groups/1685762688660460/permalink/1685765401993522</p> <p>Jacobsburg Community Programs for December 2023 Snowshoes and Hiking Poles Available When: Monday thru Friday, 8:15 AM-3:30 PM Where: Jacobsburg Visitor Center, 400 Belfast Road, Nazareth Borrow snowshoe equipment to use on Jacobsburg's trails this winter! Snowshoes are available for folks of any age or shoe size, including small children. Snowshoes will not be made available during times of insufficient snow cover, at least six inches of snow is required. To borrow equipment, you must provide a driver's license or other form of state issued identification. For more information call 610-746-2801 or email jacobsburgsp@pa.gov. You can check our website for current winter conditions and snow depth: https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/WinterReport/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>Birds and Bagels - Citizen Science and Monitor Training Saturday, December 9 at 10:00am to 12:00pm Love birds and want to contribute to science? Project FeederWatch turns your love of feeding birds into scientific discoveries. Participants will learn how to contribute to Project FeederWatch and be presented with the opportunity to become FeederWatch monitors at Jacobsburg or in their own homes! Bagels, coffee, and hot cocoa will be provided. Attending this program is required if you plan to participate in Project FeederWatch Monitoring on Thursdays and/or Fridays: Dec 21-22, Jan 4-5 & 25-26, Feb 15-16 & 29, Mar 1 & 21-22. Registration is required. Winter Tree ID Saturday, December 9 at 2:00pm to 3:30pm No leaves to be seen? Dichotomous keys help you identify trees! During this program you will learn how to use a dichotomous key to identify trees by examining the twigs. You will discover common patterns among groups of plants and tricks to help you remember those groupings. After the lesson, we'll head out for a short walk to practice our new skills. Registration required.</p> <p>Crafting Natural Arrangements for Adults Wednesday, December 13 at 1:30pm to 3:30pm This free program is offered in both English and Spanish. Get crafty and join Conservation Volunteers Adriana and Toni as they demonstrate how to use natural materials to create simple, yet ornate floral arrange-</p>		<p>ments. You will have the opportunity to create your own arrangement to take home. You will also learn to identify native and invasive plants and gain experience in sustainable gathering of plants for crafting. The arrangements will be Wabi Sabi-inspired; the Japanese world view centered on the acceptance of imperfections.</p> <p>ALL ABOARD IN PHILLIPSBURG FOR A NEW "UNION STATION HOLIDAY MARKET" AND "HOLLY JOLLY EXPRESS DAY" Phillipsburg Union Station: 178 South Main St., Phillipsburg, N.J. 08865. December 1st–December 17th. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 12 p.m.–8 p.m. Sponsored by Unity Bank and First Common Wealth. This first-of-its-kind holiday market is in a historic train station owned by the Friends of the NJ Transportation Heritage Center. Check the calendar for all the special events happening every night and weekend. Phillipsburg Union, PU Tower: 84 Brainard St., Phillipsburg, N.J. 08865. 12 p.m.–5 p.m. Bring your unwrapped toy for the amazing train arrival of Operation Toy Train. There will be music, food trucks, hot coco, and tours of the PU Phillipsburg Union - PU Tower. Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive around 3:50 p.m. by train. Please bring at least one new, unwrapped toy for charity. Phillipsburg Railroad Historians: 10 Pine Alley, Phillipsburg, N.J. 08865. 1 p.m.–3 p.m. will return with their annual Santa Train Ride on the miniature Southwestern and Centerville trains. All aboard for this free train ride, and after, have a stroll through there museum collection. Free train rides, hot cocoa and cookies Delaware River Railroad Excursions: 99 Elizabeth St., Phillipsburg, N.J. 08865. November 24th–December 17th. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m. Set to the sounds of the motion picture soundtrack, passengers will relive the magic of the classic story as they are whisked away on THE POLAR EXPRESS™ for a magical hour and a half trip to meet Santa. Once you board, your car hosts will make their way through the coach and punch your golden ticket before serving you hot chocolate and delectable cookies by dancing chefs. Passengers listen to the classic children's book, The Polar Express, by Chris Van Allsburg. Santa and his helpers greet passengers, and each guest is given the first gift of Christmas—a silver sleigh bell. During the trip, there is plenty of entertainment, from our magical juggling chefs to our singing hobos! Each guest will take home a keepsake sleigh bell in addition to the wonderful memories made on this magical trip. Phillipsburg Area Historical Society: 540 Warren St., Phillipsburg, N.J. 08865. 3 p.m.-6 p.m. Step back in history at one of the oldest homesteads in Phillipsburg. The Roseberry House will hold their annual "Days of Yule." Get into the holiday spirit with local author and</p>		<p>expert Jeff Finnigan as he discusses "Washington in December." There is no admission fee, musical entertainment, or light refreshments. Phillipsburg Farmers Market: 165 South Main St., Phillipsburg, N.J. 08865. WINTER FARMERS MARKET Sunday's 10 a.m. -1 p.m. 12 p.m.–6 p.m. will hold an elf workshop for children. Children make and take crafts for gifts, ornaments, and decor. Stop by before or after attending Operation Toy Train! Hosted by Phillipsburg Farmers Market and Firth Youth Center staff.</p> <p>Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center Programs, January 2024 Snowshoes and Hiking Poles Available When: Monday thru Friday, 8:15 AM-3:30 PM Where: Jacobsburg Visitor Center, 400 Belfast Road, Nazareth Borrow snowshoe equipment to use on Jacobsburg's trails this winter! Snowshoes are available for folks of any age or shoe size, including small children. Snowshoes will not be made available during times of insufficient snow cover, at least six inches of snow is required. To borrow equipment, you must provide a driver's license or other form of state issued identification. For more information call 610-746-2801 or email jacobsburgsp@pa.gov. You can check our website for current winter conditions and snow depth: https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/WinterReport/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>First Day Hikes Monday, January 1, 2024 at 10:00am to 11:30am or 1:00pm to 2:30pm Get out and get hiking on the first day of 2024! Join us for a three-mile interpretive hike at Jacobsburg. We will explore the fields of the Homestead Trail to enjoy views of Blue Mountain and the village of Belfast. The hike will start and end at the visitor center at 400 Belfast Road. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable hiking shoes, and bring a water bottle. Registration is required. omen in the Wild - First Day Hike Monday, January 1, 2024 at 1:00pm to 2:30pm Get out and get hiking on the first day of 2024! Join fellow women hikers for a three-mile interpretive hike at Jacobsburg. We will explore the fields of the Homestead Trail to enjoy views of Blue Mountain and the village of Belfast. The hike will start and end at the visitor center at 400 Belfast Road. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable hiking shoes, and bring a water bottle. Registration is required.</p> <p>Women in the Wild is a new monthly series of outdoor programs held at state parks throughout the Southeast. Each month of 2024 there will be an opportunity to get outdoors, learn a new skill, and have fun in a relaxed, friendly, and affirming environment. Are you drawn to the outdoors and interested in exploring new hobbies and wilderness skills, but you're not enthusiastic about entering a hyper-masculine space to do so? This series is designed especially for you! Choose from activities like archery,</p>		<p>paddleboarding, rock climbing, and birdwatching. Check out the event at your closest state park or follow Women in the Wild to a new park each month. We're excited to spend the year with you trying new things! Not sure if this series is right for you? Contact Lauren at 610-746-2801 with any questions!</p> <p>Intro to Fly Tying (Three-part Program Series) Tuesday, January 9, 23, & 30, 2024 at 7:00pm to 8:30pm Learn to tie flies with members of Trout Unlimited's Forks of the Delaware Chapter during this three-part series. This program will be held indoors with your own worktable on Tuesday, January 9th, 23rd, and 30th. All tying equipment will be provided and best of all, you can take home your flies after the program. This is open to all ages. Registration is Required. You may also wish to sign up for the hands-on portion called "Intro to Fly Fishing" to tie it all together.</p> <p>Speaker Series: Grouse and Woodcock in Pennsylvania Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 6:30pm to 7:30pm Join Reina Tyl, Pennsylvania Game Commission's Woodcock and Grouse Biologist as she talks about the population status of and primary issues affecting two species of greatest conservation need in Pennsylvania: the Ruffed Grouse and the American Woodcock. She will share interesting research being conducted to inform the management of these beloved species.</p> <p>Family Science Night - Exploring Eclipses Friday, January 19, 2024 at 6:30pm to 7:30pm Eclipses are a fascinating phenomenon with deep ties throughout humanity's history, culture, and scientific development that you can experience yourself. Join us to learn what causes eclipses and how to safely view them so that you can enjoy the upcoming total solar eclipse occurring on April 8th, 2024. Registration is required.</p> <p>Winter Plant Walk Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 10:00am to 12:00pm Join volunteer Doug Burton on a walk through the woods and fields of Jacobsburg in search of winter plants that provide food for birds and other animals. Learn how to identify plants in winter and enjoy the winter landscape. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable hiking shoes. If we have deep snow, we will walk in snowshoes! This program is for adults only. Registration is required.</p> <p>Birding for Beginners Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at 10:00am to 12:00pm It's never too late to pick up a new hobby. The act of "birding" simply means to observe birds in their natural habitat. Conservation volunteer Doug will help you discover the entertaining aspects of looking and listening for birds while on a short hike around the center.</p>	