

Monroe County Garden Club Arbor Day Celebration

By Carly Martino

STROUDSBURG- The Monroe County Garden Club will plant 5 disease-resistant chestnut trees, donated from Lowes, at the Kettle Creek Environmental Center, 8050 Running Valley Road, Stroudsburg, on Friday, April 27 from 10am to 12pm.

The Stroudsburg High School Show Choir will perform. Christine Leskosky, the President of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania, and Tom Wolf, Governor of Pennsylvania will attend the ceremony. Veterans will present the flag.

The Garden Club will present a plaque to be placed at the foot of the trees to honor our members, Shirley Young and Sheila Bortree, for

their service to the community and local gardens.

Parking will be provided at the Giant Supermarket on Rt 611, Bartonsville, in a marked area near the gas station. A shuttle will be provided to Kettle Creek.

For more information, contact Emily Weidinger 570-982-8246 or email emynjoey@icloud.com, or contact President Robin Teets (570) 350-8069 or rteets@ptd.net. Visit our website, <http://www.monroecountygardenclub.com/> and Join us on Facebook.

Celebrate Arbor Day



Plant A Tree



Wildlands Conservancy

Minsi Mud Painting

At Minsi Lake
Saturday, May 26, 2018
12-1:30pm Free Program
Register at www.wildlandspa.org

The soil under Minsi Lake has been submerged for almost 50 years. Plants and wildlife have thickened the lake bed adding fragments of themselves to the muddy morass. This bit of biologic richness will be exposed until the lake refills in late 2019. In that mud lies a once in a lifetime opportunity to create a unique piece of artwork. Your Minsi mud painting will remain dry on land long after the water returns. The experience is designed for everyone. No artistic flare required even though an Artsquest Teaching Artist will lead the art activity. Location: West shore parking lot of Minsi Lake: Lake Minsi Drive, Upper Mt Bethel Township, 18013

**To learn more, contact Denise Bauer at
610.965.4397, ext. 131 or dbauer@wildlandspa.org**

MAIN OFFICE: 3701 Orchid Place, Emmaus, PA 18049 610.965.4397 www.wildlandspa.org





The River Unites Us: Stories about the Scenic Wild Delaware River by those who know it best



Sharon Davis
Delaware River
Program Manager
NPCA

**This month's column features
Brienne Rosner, Director of
the Sally D. Francisco Gallery,
Peters Valley School of Craft,
and Co-Vice Chair of the
Scenic Wild Delaware River
Stewardship Council.**

The River Unites Us:

How did you become involved with Scenic Wild Delaware River (SWDR) geotourism program?

Brienne Rosner:

I've made my home in this area for a long time. My director recommended me for the council as someone that may bring a fresh perspective and new ideas. My connection to a demographic and knowledge of social media and technology has been a help to the council. The Peters Valley Gallery acts as an interpretive center for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (DEWA).

TRUU: As a geotourism program, the SWDR focuses on enticing travelers to visit our region's authentic natural, historical and cultural sites. How does this fit in with the Peters Valley School of Craft?

BR: Peters Valley enriches lives through the learning, appreciation and practice of fine craft. The non-profit school is nestled amid the fields, forests and streams of the NJ side of the national park in what was once the charming and leafy farm village of Bevans. Participants from all over come to immerse themselves in 2-5-day intensive workshops in 8 studios. Our Retail and Exhibition galleries are open to the public year round, and we have other events annually.



Brienne Rosner

Visitors can even watch participants working in the studios on weekend afternoons June – August.

TRUU: The SWDR Stewardship Council thrives on the donation of time and expertise by our volunteers. You designed our informational card and continue to serve on our Marketing Committee.

BR: It was my pleasure. As an artist (mixed media jewelry, wall pieces, and wall pieces that incorporate removable jewelry) I am naturally a creative thinker. This lends itself to my role as a Gallery Director as well as the ways in which I can contribute to the SWDR Initiative. As someone in my mid-thirties, I am very comfortable with technology, so putting together the rack cards, palm cards and other promotional material is easy for me. I'm glad I can help the council in that way, as well as contributing my thoughts regarding other aspects like online presence, social media and digital functionality.

TRUU: Finally, tell us some of the "Must See" places that you recommend for travelers that can be found at www.scenicwilddelawareriver.com

BR: The vicinity of Peters Valley boasts some beautiful waterfalls such as Dingman's Falls just over the Historic Dingman's Bridge. The Walpack Inn, just down the road, offers incredible views and world-class food in a rustic setting. For history buffs, nearby is the Bevans-Hellwig Kitchen, a little stone building that was the rear kitchen of a large 19th century farmhouse. A short drive away is Historic Blairstown Village, where visitors can take a self-guided tour of dozens of turn of the century buildings, now listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

This column is syndicated by the **Blue Valley Times**



www.npca.org

About The Scenic Wild Delaware River Geotourism Project:

Scenic Wild Delaware River Geotourism is one of only 23 geotourism programs created by National Geographic worldwide. Working collaboratively in the 3 states along the middle & upper Delaware River region, the Program promotes and sustains the region's resources for long-term economic and environmental vitality. NPCA helps staff this program. Visit the interactive travel website showcasing local experiences at

www.ScenicWildDelawareRiver.com



For more information contact Sharon Davis, sdavis@npca.org or tel: 570.460.4468



**Ken
Field**

*Owner of Slate
Belt Energy
Services*

Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times

Where There's Smoke There's Not Always Fire

One of the simplest and most helpful pieces of testing equipment I have is a smoke stick. I had an experience this week with one side of a twin home. One side was vacant and the other side was occupied. I was working in the vacant side and the homeowner from the other side knocked on the door and said they smelled a solvent odor. It was a product I was using and the odor didn't seem very strong to me but when I went to the other side of the house it was definitely noticeable. That got me interested enough to grab my energy auditing tools and do some checking. I used a smoke puffer stick and followed the air right into the ceiling. It turned out that there was a hole made by a previous contractor to access the bathtub drain and another one from a leak that had damaged the ceiling. That alone did not explain why the air made a bee line to the other but a new heating system in the other side might. A furnace was installed there years ago and an inadequate duct system was installed which was very likely leaky and imbalanced. The home is also uninsulated and balloon framed which makes the whole house very drafty. A furnace fan wants to move air and it does not care where it gets it from. If a duct system leaks air to the outside, outside air will be drawn in to replace it. That not only makes energy bills high but it can bring bad air into the house. Many times air from a crawl space will be drawn into a house with a poor duct system. If a furnace is not vented properly a poor duct system can even cause exhaust to be redirected into the home and carbon monoxide will be introduced into the air.

If you live in a twin and you smell what your neighbor is having for dinner, it may be worth your effort to have the house checked for tightness. If you contain the air in your home and only have to heat and cool your own air, your energy bills will drop. The isolation process is not too invasive and the insulation is usually all done from the exterior. That kind of an investment also increases the resale value of a home and can improve the air quality too.

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



By Jessica C. Peetz

STROUDSBURG- The Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs will honor Gina Bertucci with the Alex "Buzz" Bensinger Lifetime Achievement Award at its annual auction at the historic Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort on March 22, 2018.

Bertucci will be the fourth recipient of the Rotary Club's Alexander Bensinger Award, which recognizes Monroe County residents who are successful in their vocation and known for their community service, selflessness or philanthropy. The award was established in 2015 in the name of well-known Stroudsburg attorney and Ro-

Stroudsburgs Rotary honors Gina Bertucci at Annual Not Just Another Auction

tarian Buzz Bensinger.

Past honorees include John J. Riley, William Ramsden, and Charlie and Ginny Kirkwood.

Gina Bertucci was the Vice President of Marketing and one of the owners of Bushkill Group Inc. where her responsibilities include the marketing of Fernwood Resort, Pocono TreeVentures, White Lightning Snowtubing and The Villas at Tree Tops and Fairway. She has over 35 years of experience in resort, real estate and recreation marketing in the Mid-Atlantic region. She has received the Pocono Mountains Vacation Bureau Tourism Achievement Award, the Pocono Mountains Chamber of Commerce Frank Schoelch Community Commitment Award, the Salvation Army Distinguished Service Award, and was recognized as one of the top women in business in Northeastern PA.

Bertucci was born in Monroe County and has been active in several community and professional organizations including the East Stroudsburg Salvation Army, the Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau, Mt. Pocono Rotary Fly-In Breakfast, Developmental Education Services Foundation, East Stroudsburg University Property Board, Friends of Northampton Community College, Monroe County


Planning Commission Board, National Geographic Scenic Wild Delaware River Project, Northern Tier Symphony, the Pocono Arts Council, Habitat for Humanity, Middle Smithfield Township Economic Development Committee and Greg Moyer Defibrillator Fund.

Stroudsburg Rotary Club president Rob Howell said, "Gina is a staple in business and community service regionally. She epitomizes our Rotarian value -- Service Above Self."

Stroudsburg Rotary Club's auction takes place 6:00pm to 9:30 p.m. on March 22 at the historic Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort and will have an India inspired theme, entertainment, and live and silent auctions. The public is invited. Funds raised will go towards The Hunger Coalition of Monroe County and Nino del Lagos, a non-profit organization that helps the children of Guatemala.

Reservations can be made at stroudsburgsrotary.org. The cost is \$50. For more information, contact Rotarian Rob Howell at 570-213-5030 or email notjustanotherauction@gmail.com.

The Rotary of the Stroudsburgs was chartered May 1, 1992. We meet weekly for lunch to further our service based goals and objectives. Members focus on giving of themselves in both time and talent through annual fundraisers. Funds have been raised for the purchase of 8 vans, the Daffodil Express, for the Monroe County Chapter of the American Cancer Society; VALOR; Women's Resources of Monroe County; Pocono Alliance, United Way and many more local organizations. The club also supports those in need around the world with projects such as Pedals for Progress, Haiti School & Water, Shelter Box and End Polio. For more information email stroudsburgsrotary@gmail.com or visit www.stroudsburgsrotary.org.

FREE CLASSES		GED	BEGINS March READING MATH WRITING	
BANGOR Mon. & Wed. Begins 3/19 & 3/21 6:00-8:30 P.M. DeFranco Elem. School Library Rt. 512 & 5 pts. Richmond Rd.	PEN ARGYL Mon. & Thur. Begins 3/19 & 3/22 6:00-8:30 P.M. Pen Argyl Sr. High School Library 501 W. Laurel Ave.	NAZARETH Tue. & Thur. Begins 3/20 & 3/22 6:00-8:30 P.M. Nazareth Sr. High School Library 501 E. Center Street		
<p>THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASS IS ORIENTATION STUDENTS MUST ATTEND BOTH DAYS. If a student cannot attend both days in March, they must wait until September 2018 to begin. Computer Training is included in all classes. Adults who attend class, complete requirements and pass the GED will be eligible for an equivalency High School Diploma. Please contact www.GED.com for info about test.</p>				
 Northampton Community College		<p>Free classes provided by the NCC Center for College & Career Readiness and Bangor, Pen Argyl, Nazareth School Districts. Call 610-861-5427</p>		

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