



A Yoga demo was given to the scouts and even some of the leaders got into the relaxing physical exercising.



Realistic first aid by Appellation Trail Conservancy and members of national youth leadership training course



Pocono Wildlife Center who talked about wild animal rescues and also brought a large live porcupine.



Totts Gap Arts brought their Blacksmithing works and instructor 'Jeff the iron man' on the left



L-R Patrica Konopa (Scavello's Office), State Senator Mario Scavello, from State Rep. Marcia Hahn's office Debbie Petraitis and Sam Nittle



Adrian Forrs and Chad Beer from Waste Management gave a seminar on waste water treatment and how it all works to keep the environment clean



Continued from page 1 Trail To Town – Jamboree

Organizers for the event were Jim Shoemaker, Wind Gap Mayor, Eily Leicht, Scoutmaster Troop 33 Pen Argyl and Michael Ortoski, Co-Chair Slate Belt Rising.

Troop 33 Pen Argyl preformed outdoor skill demos like Lashing & knots proper fire building and proper back packing. Information tables from conservation organizations were provided by Pocono Wildlife Center who talked about wild animal rescues and also brought a large live porcupine., Waste Management gave a seminar on waste water treatment and how it all works to keep the environment clean. Totts Gap Arts

photography.

Local officials State Senator Mario Scavello and State Rep. Marcia Hahn had an informational table with literature on hiking, biking and trails in our area.

As a requirement of being an Appalachian Trail Town Wind Gap will host this event every year, this was their second. If your Troop or group would like to be part of next year's 2018 Trail To Town – Jamboree please call Eily Leicht, Scoutmaster Troop 33 for Troop information at 610-442-4973 or Jim Shoemaker for Group/Vendor info at 484-274-2963.

SINCE 1929

Albanese NEW! ICPLA

Garden Center & Greenhouse

Rt. 512, 260 E. Moorestown Rd., Wind Gap, PA

610-759-4699 www.albanesegardencenter.com

HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

YOUR 1-STOP GARDEN CENTER, FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1929

SALE

FALL IS FOR PLANTING

FALL HARDY MUMS (in bud & bloom)

Pumpkins, Gourds, Indian Corn, Halloween Decorations

25 TO 50% OFF ALL NURSERY STOCK

GET YOUR SHRUBS READY FOR WINTER

Wilt Prof, Tree Wrap, Burlap, Hollytone

WILD BIRD SEED, SUET, SQUIRREL PROOF BIRD FEEDERS, SUET CAGES	JONATHAN GREEN GRASS SEED
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TIME TO WINTERIZE YOUR POND - Pond De-Icers, Netting, Aerators, Etc.

WATER GARDEN POND SEMINAR

OCTOBER 7TH • 10 A.M.

Slate Belt Business Expo

Sponsored by

Slate Belt Chamber of Commerce

Saturday, September 23, 2017

12-3 PM

Rain or Shine Event

At the Bangor Elks Lodge

120 Broadway, Bangor

Stop by and check out our

Slate Belt Merchants

Healthcare Services

And more.....

Free Admission, Raffles, Refreshments, and

lots of take-aways!

610-588-1000.

Ken Field

Owner of Slate Belt Energy Services



Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times

Silent Killer

It is no exaggeration that carbon monoxide is called the silent killer. I find it horrifyingly sad that a lack of understanding about this common gas leads to so many unnecessary deaths every year. I feel so strongly about this that I believe it is necessary to educate kids in school about it so they can be aware of the sources and the symptoms of CO poisoning. It is a pet peeve of mine that people say carbon dioxide or CO₂ when they mean carbon monoxide or CO. One is basically harmless and the other will kill you. That's not something easy to confuse.

Carbon monoxide is a product of combustion. Engines make tons of it and every gasoline powered generator has an engine. This is the most common source of CO during a power outage. Several people have already died in Florida and Texas from running generators inside a home or too near one. In one case a 35 year old mother and her 13 year old daughter and 16 year old son all died from generator exhaust trapped in their home. Several other people in the home were injured but survived and a police officer was also injured when he responded to the 911 call. The gas is insidious, you can't smell or see it and it makes you sleepy and stupid before it kills you. In small doses it will give you flu like symptoms and if you don't get out of the area, you will never get better and more likely will get sicker and eventually die. Battery powered CO detectors can save your life, especially during a power outage.

Home heating systems and water heaters can also produce large amounts of CO and that alone is a good reason to have them checked annually to be sure they are operating safely. Heavy rains like we had this summer can cause large amounts of debris break free and fall inside of any masonry chimney. If the chimney is blocked, combustion inside the furnace or water heater will not be correct and an excess of CO will be produced. This will all spill into the home and the furnace fan will spread it around the home in a matter of minutes.

It takes a long time to recover from CO poisoning and it can even lead to permanent brain damage because it deprives the brain of oxygen. Learn to recognize the symptoms of CO poisoning and the potential sources of the gas and get a CO monitor for your home.

Ken Field is the owner of Slate Belt Energy. 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 610-599-8832 or at www.SlateBeltEnergy.com

Pennsylvanians to Vote on School Property Tax Exemption

By State Senator Mario M. Scavello, 40th Senatorial District, Northampton & Monroe Counties

TANNERSVILLE- With the recent passage of House Bill 1285, Pennsylvanians will have the opportunity this fall to vote on a measure to eliminate residential school property taxes through the homestead exemption.

This November, voters will consider a constitutional amendment to expand the Commonwealth's existing homestead exemption program to cover 100% of the assessed value of an owner-occupied residence.

The exact language of the ballot question will read as follows:

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to permit the General Assembly to enact legislation authorizing local taxing

authorities to exclude from taxation up to 100 percent of the assessed value of each homestead property within a local taxing jurisdiction, rather than limit the exclusion to one-half of the median assessed value of all homestead property, which is the existing law?

Voting "yes" on this provision is the first step toward residential school property tax elimination on owner-occupied properties. While this does not remove school property taxes from commercial properties or second homes, it is the first step to rescue seniors and families struggling to stay in their homes.

I encourage all of my constituents to support this change to our state constitution. Should the measure pass, we will be able to follow up with legislation to provide

the revenue necessary to eliminate school property taxes on primary homes.

I remain a steadfast supporter of Senate Bill 76, the Property Tax Independence Act, and this is not a measure designed to stop full school property tax elimination. Expanding the existing homestead exemption program to provide residential school property tax elimination is the first "bite at the apple" in tackling the larger property tax beast.

Please vote "yes" this November to finally give homeowners freedom from the oppressive school property tax.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at my respective offices (Northampton County: 610-863-1200; Monroe County: 570-620-4326) or mscavello@pasen.gov.

Ginder Greenhouse Annual Craft and Vendor Show

By Michael Ortoski

BANGOR- On Saturday, JoAnn Ginder, co-owner of Ginder Greenhouse & Garden Center held their annual Craft and Vendor Show inside the greenhouses. Some of the vendors included Crafted Crete, LuLaRoe The Hen House, Mary Kay and Handmade Wood Crafts. By The Dozen was there was delicious food! The was a wheel of gifts that customers could spin to win prizes or discounts!

Ginder Greenhouse is located at 558 Lake Minsi Drive, Bangor. Their hours are Thurs-Sat 9-5pm and Sun 9-3pm. Come and check out their fall mums and decor. Check out their facebook page and website for specials, www.gindergreenhouse.com.



Vender Cathy Saveri (Mary Kay)



Vender Shelley LaBar (Handmade Wood Crafts)



Left Employee Brandi Keppel works the 'Wheel of Gifts' for the customers



Vender Marcia Cox (Crafted Crete)



Left Co-Owner of Ginder's Gardens Joanne Ginder receiving lunch from her food vender 'By the Dozen'



Vender Terry (LuLaRoe The Hen House)