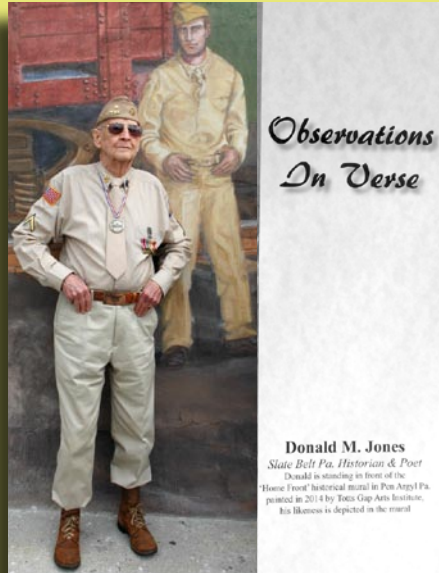


A Poem from the Archives of Donald Jones

Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times



Observations
In Verse

Donald M. Jones
Slate Belt Pa. Historian & Poet
Donald is standing in front of the
"Horse Tread" historical mural in Pen Argyl Pa.
painted in 2014 by Tonia Gap-Arto Institute.
His likeness is depicted in the mural

SPRING
After a long cold winter,
Spring has a pleasant
ring.
And after too much snow,
It's a wonderful thing.

Crocus shoots burst
through the ground,
Swelling buds on trees
simply abound.
Now is the time the birds
begin to sing,
And returning geese are
on the wing.

And if you're like me,
You can't wait to see,
The barren earth turn
green.

What a wonderful sight,
What a welcome delight to
witness
This awakening scene.

And yet all these wonders
are but part of a plan
Created for us by a wave
of God's right hand.

Salamander Safari & Frog Slog at Bear Swamp on April 14

By Jim Wilson
BANGOR - In partnership with The Nature Conservancy and the PA Amphibian & Reptile Survey, Northampton County Division of Parks & Recreation will sponsor a Salamander Safari & Frog Slog at Bear Swamp County Park & Archery Complex, Lake Minsi Drive, Bangor (Upper Mount Bethel Township), PA 18013 from 11:00AM to 12:30PM on Sunday, April 14. Join Stefani Cannon, a volunteer with the PA Amphibian & Reptile Survey, for this family friendly adventure to search for frogs, toads and salamanders along the wetland trails at Bear Swamp Park. This adventure is best suited for people ages 5 and up. Dress for the weather and wear boots or shoes that can get wet and muddy to enjoy the trail less traveled. The program begins promptly at 11:00AM. Meet at the Bear Swamp Park & Archery Complex Parking Lot on Lake Minsi Drive (Coordinates: 40.909095, -75.182202). This program is free of charge; however, reservations are required. For more information or to register for this program, call The Nature Conservancy at 570/643-7922, Ext. 310; or register online at www.nature.org/paevents.



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THE UPPER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP EASTER EGG HUNT WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, April 20th 11:00 A.M.



AT THE UPPER
MT. BETHEL
FIRE HOUSE ON
ROUTE 611

THE EGG HUNT WILL BEGIN AT 11:00 AM PLEASE
ARRIVE A FEW MINUTES EARLY. COME JOIN THE FUN
- LOTS OF GREAT PRIZES!! The event is for kids 12 &
under. The event will be held rain or shine

Waste Management Delivers Surprise to Two-Year-Old Super Fan

By Michael Ortoski

Pen Argyl, P.A. April 5, 2019- Two-year-old Rhett Smith of Wind Gap waits weekly for Waste Management's big green truck to roll down his Aunt Luanne's street. Every Friday, Rhett runs to the door waving like crazy to surprise his favorite garbage men with big smiles and occasional treats.

This week, the garbage men came rolling down the street to surprise Rhett with something special.

Representatives from Waste Management of Pen Argyl stopped to visit with the young fan who beamed from ear to ear as each one shook his hand.

"He loves you guys! And we appreciate all that the drivers do to show Rhett they notice his enthusiasm," commented Rhett's father, Ryan Smith.

Waste Management driver, Gary Martin stepped out from behind the wheel to surprise Rhett with his very own branded toy truck and other memorabilia.

"His enthusiasm makes our day! We love seeing friendly faces like Rhett's," stated Gary.

The duo took photos with the toy truck before ending the visit with a great big hug from Rhett.



Waste Management driver, Gary Martin stepped out from behind the wheel to surprise Rhett Smith with his very own branded toy truck and other memorabilia.

CACLV Receives \$1 Million To Improve Housing On Bethlehem's South Side

By Alan Jennings

BETHLEHEM - On Monday, April 8, Bethlehem Mayor Robert Donchez announced the investment of nearly \$500,000 made available by Project Reinvest: Neighborhoods, a national fund resulting from a settlement with Bank of America. The announcement will take place at 2 PM at 735 Hayes Street in south Bethlehem, one of five homes purchased as part of the project.

Investment in the project, including funding from the City of Bethlehem and the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, will total nearly \$1 million and will enable the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley to initially rehabilitate five homes. As the homes are sold, proceeds will be invested in the purchase and rehabilitation of additional properties for sale to low- to moderate-income home buyers in south Bethlehem.

Mayor Donchez, representatives from the Hayes Street neighborhood and CACLV spoke at the event.

Making a Splash @ 4-H Camp

By Sherri L. Williams / Penn State Extension – Monroe County

MONROE COUNTY - Join the FUN! Boys and girls ages 8-15 (as of 1/1/19) residing in Monroe County are invited to attend 4-H Camp. 4-H Camp is part of the beautiful Seven Mountains Scout Camp in Spring Mills, PA. The \$340 (non-4-H member fee) covers lodging, meals, medical insurance, workshop materials, T-shirt, and transportation to and from the camp.

4-H Camp, June 24th – 28th, 2019 will be a week of fun! What do we do at camp? Meet new people, learn about nature, make a craft, get challenged at paddle boarding, kayaking, or playing human foosball, participate in campfires, swim at the pool, and lots more fun! Our theme for the week is "Making a Splash."

The facility consists of two cabin areas, each with multiple bunk beds, indoor toilets, and common sitting area. Campers of similar age and gender will be housed together. Trained counselors will be housed in cabin areas and will supervise all activities. A camp director, 4-H Youth Development Extension staff, nurse, and adult volunteer chaperones will be present at all times.

If you are interested in this camping experience for your child or for more information on 4-H, please contact the Monroe County 4-H office at (570) 421-6430. Registration is due May 13, 2019.

Administered in Pennsylvania by Penn State Extension, 4-H is a community of more than 6 million young people across America learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. Penn State Extension 4-H youth development educators in all 67 counties throughout the commonwealth administer local 4-H programs through non-formal education and outreach. To find your local program, visit the Penn State Extension website at <https://extension.psu.edu/programs/4-h>.

Blue Valley Farm Show

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST

April 21st
7:30am-12:30pm

Featuring.....

- *Homemade Cream Chipped Beef*
- *Homefries with or without onions*

Scrambled Eggs ~ Kielbasa ~ French Toast

Scrapple ~ Pork Sausage ~ Ham
Turkey Sausage ~ Pancakes

Desserts - Cakes - Donuts - Shoe-fly Pie - Puddings
Orange Juice Fountain - Coffee - Tea - Hot Chocolate

Farm Show Auditorium

Off Rt. 512 between Bangor & Pen Argyl

Adults -\$10
Kids over 6 - \$5
Under 6 - FREE