

Update on Covid-19 deaths in Northampton County

This is an UPDATE to previous press releases which have reported the number of deaths in Northampton County due to COVID-19.

From County Executive Lamont McClure

"We are providing the following information to give our residents the maximum amount of information permitted by law and in keeping with sound epidemiological standards," says Lamont McClure. "It is a sad and grim duty to report this data, but we continue to do so, so that our fellow residents have the information they need to make sound decisions."

Please note that this data comes from the Northampton County Coroner's office and only reflects the number of people who have died of COVID-19 within the county's borders as of April 14th. It does not reflect those Northampton County residents who died of the virus in another county. Two of the twenty-nine deaths recorded were residents of other states.

Municipalities in which the decedents lived:

Forks Twp. (1)
 Lower Nazareth Twp. (2)
 Bangor Boro (1)
 Palmer Twp. (8)
 Upper Nazareth Twp. (4)
 Williams Twp. (1)
 Nazareth Boro (1)
 Bethlehem Twp (7)
 City of Bethlehem (1)
 Washington Twp (1)

Phillipsburg, NJ (1)
 Bronx, NY (1)

Average age of the Deceased:
 78.8 years.

Gender of the Deceased: 59%
 Female/41% Male
 Race of the Deceased: 72%
 White, 14% African American,
 10% Hispanic,
 3% Asian/Pacific Islander

The GIS department has put together a dashboard to track Covid-19 infections and related deaths in Northampton County. It can be accessed at:

<https://northampton.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/a90733c6c4e1469289ec826f3f59dc23>

Please note—the 29 unfortunate victims of Covid-19 do not provide enough data points for a statistically significant sample. Younger people remain at significant and serious risk, and should stay-at-home. All Northampton County residents should continue to practice social distancing.

This information is being provided as they are the facts as they exist on the ground as of today. These profound losses to our community do not provide us with enough scientific evidence to draw any conclusions.

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Ken Field

Owner of Slate Belt Energy Services

Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times

Beat Quarantine Boredom

Here are a few energy saving and safety tips that may help occupy some of your stay-at-home time. If you are not comfortable doing any of them, you can always call a professional for service but some are safe and relatively easy to do.

Clean the rain gutters and spill area near the downspouts. Best done on a warm day when the wind is not insane like it has been lately but the leaves are all off the trees from last fall and we will probably get some more spring rain so getting those old leaves out of the gutter and making sure the water flows away from the hose is crucial for keeping it out of the basement. Ideally the water should discharge at least 4 feet from the foundation wall and should not be allowed to run back toward the house. If you get this chore done you should not need to worry about it again until well after the economy is destroyed.

Clean the coils underneath and/or behind the refrigerator. Most refrigerators have wheels that let them easily roll forward to allow access to the rear. There may be a small water line there also and a power cord for sure so take it a little easy until you can see back there. You may be able to vacuum back there with just a long wand and might not have to pull it far forward. There is probably a grille on the bottom at the front that can be removed easily which will reveal the condenser coil. A long brush helps to clean that area and it is actually better to unplug the unit while cleaning that coil because there is also a small fan behind it that can blow a lot of dust while you are cleaning if it is running. A crevice tool on a vacuum cleaner can be a big help. I have brushes that make the job much easier too so if you see a huge amount of dust and can't reach it, drop me a line and I will send you a brush. Periodically checking and cleaning that coil can save a lot of energy.

Clean the dryer vent. That may need to be disconnected to clean unless you have a brush on a rod but poor airflow makes the cycles take long and is inefficient. Make sure the vent behind the dryer is not crushed or kinked. Make sure the vent hood on the exterior is clear of lint and that the flap closes properly. That will keep chipmunks out and prevent cold air from blowing in 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

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Obituary

David Wesley Jones

David Wesley Jones, 79, formerly of Bangor, died April 6 in Manor Care Healthcare, Allentown, from natural causes not related to the present

emergency. He was the brother-in-law of our classmate, June Saddler Jones, wife of Sherwood Jones.

He was recently employed as a security guard at the Wind Creek Casino in Bethlehem.

A member of Bangor High School's Class of 1960, David was passionate about baseball, in high school and college leagues, and professional baseball. He was very well-informed about baseball players, teams, and their statistics.

Born in Flicksville, March 3, 1941 to Charles and Esther (Hahn) Jones, he is survived by his wife Judy (Baumert), his brother Sherwood and Sherwood's wife June. He was predeceased by brothers Gerald and Charles, and a sister, Velma Rosenberry. David and his wife resided in Allentown.

Survivors also include his niece Vicki and her husband Jim Hughes, nephews Mark Jones and wife Kathy, David Jones and wife Renee, and Todd Rosenberry and his wife Shari, many grandnieces and nephews.

The family will arrange for a memorial at a later date.



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