VOL. 29 NO. 20 SERVING THE SLATE BELT, SOUTHERN POCONOS & NORTHERN N.J. VOL. 29 NO. 20 WEEKLY IN PRINT AND DAILY ONLINE AT WWW.BLUEVALLEYTIMES.COM AND FACEBOOK Sen. Scavello, State Representatives Hahn, Emrick Announce \$1,427,358.00 in Northampton County Grants

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Bringing PA Back' page 2

Upper Mt. Bethel

Memorial

Day Parade

Scheduled page 4





Harrisburg – The Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) announced today the approvals of Local Share Account (LSA) grant funds for a number of Northampton County projects. State Senator Mario Scavello (R-Northampton/Monroe) joined State Representatives Marcia Hahn, Joe Emrick and Zach Mako in announcing \$1,427,358 of approved grants in their combined legislative districts.

LSA grants support economic development, job training, community improvement and public interest projects through gaming funds under Act 71 of 2004. These specific grants come from Monroe County, which funds projects in Monroe and its contiguous counties. Senator Scavello thanked his colleagues for their efforts in joining with him to secure these vital grants for Northampton County communities.

"These grants are an integral part of economic growth for this area," Scavello said. "We must continue to invest in infrastructure, economic development and public safety to ensure a high quality of life in our communities and across the Commonwealth."

Grant recipients include:

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MAY 19, 2020

Signs of Thanks and Well Wishes From BHS Senior Class

By Mrs. Jeanine Brown / High School History, Government / Sociology Teacher / Student Government Advisor

BANGOR - As a result of the Covid-19 crisis and the associated cancelation of school and year-end events, the Bangor High School Student Government Association was seeking ways to celebrate the Bangor High School Class of 2020.

The initial idea was to rent a billboard honoring the Senior Class, however, after discussing it with the Seniors Class Officers, who are all members of the Class of 2020, they felt very strongly that they would also like to honor healthcare workers and essentials employees as well.

The plan grew to have 3 additional billboards, so with the support of the Seniors Class Officers, they were able to rent four billboards in the Bangor School District celebrating both

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MAY 19, 2020

LUE VALLEY TIMES

PA Chamber Launches 'Bringing PA Back' Initiative Website

By Laura McClain

BANGOR - As part of our new initiative to help businesses safely re-open their facilities and jumpstart the economy, the PA Chamber today announced the launch of the 'Bringing PA Back' https://bringingpaback.com/. The comprehensive website features critical information for employers, including: guidance from trusted sources on workplace readiness – such as cleaning and safety standards; employment opportunities; industry-specific guidance; and policy recommendations that will help to revive Pennsylvania's economy.



An initiative of the PA Chamber

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The website also includes a map of the Commonwealth – identifying which phase of the re-opening process each county is currently in – along with an overview of the Wolf administration's guidance for each phase. The PA Chamber has also developed policy rec-

ommendations that are focused on the state's economic recovery and which we will be working with elected officials to enact – all of which are highlighted on the website. This initiative wouldn't be possible without the feedback and input of our local chamber partners.

We are asking for your help in spreading awareness about the "Bringing PA Back" website to your members and local media. Attached please find a press release template that you can customize, as well as social media infographics for Facebook and Twitter.



Results From Drive-thru Testing Site At Easton Hospital

By Becky Bartlett

EASTON - In its first eight days of operation, the drive-thru testing center at Easton Hospital tested 524 Northampton County residents for Covid-19, an average of 65.5 tests/day. The testing site was made possible by a partnership between Northampton County EMS and Easton Hospital. Northampton County used \$150,000 in CARES funds to sponsor the tests.

"Many of our residents are desperate to get this County open. I believe testing sites like this one will help us achieve that goal quicker," says Lamont McClure. "The virus isn't going anywhere and there are going to be peaks and troughs in the testing results. Folks should consult our Coronavirus dashboard to track our progress."

The Northampton County sponsored Covid-19 drive-thru testing site at Easton Hospital will be open until May 22nd. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, from 10:00AM – 4:00PM in the main parking lot at Easton Hospital, 250 S 21st Street, Easton, PA 18042. The risk of viral transmission at a drive-thru site is much lower than at a walk-in clinic.

Only residents from Northampton County will be accepted for a test and, to be eligible, they must show at least one of the following CDC recognized symptoms of Covid-19: fever, dry cough, shortness of breath, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat or loss of taste and/or smell. A prescription from a doctor is not required. The tests are free, but participants should bring their insurance card, if they have one, and a photo ID.

All residents are encouraged to continue to practice social distancing, to wear masks and to wash their hands frequently to limit transmission of the virus.

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#/a90733c6c4e1469289ec82 6f3f59dc23

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