

## Waste Management Open House & Safety Day

By Michael Ortoski

PENARGYL - On Saturday Waste Management put on a community event 'Open House & Safety Fair.' They gave away a \$500 bike to the lucky winner of the raffle ticket and gave free bike helmets to first 50 kids. Cycle Masters bike shop from Wid Gap gave free bike safety check held a skills course.

One of the big crowd draw was the 'Touch-A-Truck & Equipment'. There were Fire trucks, loaders, dump trucks and trash trucks, my 3yr old grand son could not get enough of them. we must have taken 100 photos of him in front of them, in the driver seat pretending to drive.

A car and truck show was held, In first place was Tyrell Thomas with his black hiunda sports car with a wrap of Sonic the Hedgehog animation on both sides of the car. In second place was Lisa Perin with a 69 Chevy Impala "it's 30 yr restoration project by my father" said Parin. In third was Tim Halpin with his 'Evolution' Jeep with neon green accents all over it and had a nice lift kit.

Their was free food and ice cream all day and lots of water because of the 92 degree day. Slate Belt Regional Police attended and gave child safety car seat checks and Grand Central Landfill gave tours of their facility 'Focused on Tomorrow's Slate Belt.'

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### Work

There are still at least 2 generations of people in the work force who prefer to do a day's work for a day's pay. Not to say that a whole lot of younger people aren't hard workers too but it seems that a little free sugar from the government can make some people lazy. Just like the scene in 'It's a Wonderful Life' where George Baily was trying to satisfy his customers while there was a run on the banks, some people just took what money they needed and others took every dollar they could get their hands on. We saw a run on toilet paper in the past and some people didn't care anything about what they needed, just how much could they hoard. That may be human nature but it is also a negative trait in my opinion. Survival is one thing but opportunism and selfishness only lead to more problems. Relying on the government becomes an addiction and creates the entitlement mindset that we see too much of today. People aren't returning to the work force because they are now addicted to unemployment compensation. That program was not meant to be a career or a long-term source of income. But the government enhanced it to firm up the addiction and now there aren't enough people willing to work to fill all the jobs that need to be done in this country. When the government asked me to shut down my company to flatten the curve I complied. Then to 2 week request turned into 6 and more. I filed for unemployment to fill the gap in my income. I was denied because I was an officer of a corporation and I had the ability to hire and fire people. They could have told me 34 years ago when I started paying unemployment as part of my payroll deductions that I would never be able to use the system. Or maybe it was up to me to figure that out. Either way, it was a lesson learned the hard way.

If we just sit and watch, the government that is supposed to represent us will legislate us into darkness and bankruptcy. It would be great if they just did their job, got off the power trip and paid attention to the little people. We are all in this together and it's not all about politics. It's about work ethic, self-respect, responsibility and obligation to our ancestors. Our families sent hundreds of thousands of soldiers to die for this country and it seems like it's slipping away.

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