**BLUE VALLEY TIMES** JULY 21, 2020



#### Lamont McClure Joins Bethlehem's **Community Advisory Board**

By Becky Bartlett

EASTON - Lamont McClure attended a press conference on July 6th in Bethlehem for the Community Advisory Board. Mayor Robert Donchez and Esther Lee, President of the Bethlehem Unit NAACP, announced the creation of a Community Advisory Board. The Board was formed in response to the peaceful protests in Bethlehem for holding law enforcement accountable for their interactions with the public.

County Executive McClure is a member of the Board. The Community Advisory Board is seen as an opportunity for the police to educate the public and also for the public to educate the police. The twenty-one member Advisory Board will represent several sections of the community including the faith community, Latino community, local youth, the health department as well as the teacher and police unions.

They plan to meet on a monthly basis. "I want to commend Mayor Donchez and Esther Lee for their work in forming this Community Advisory Board," says Lamont McClure. "The powerful, but peaceful, demonstrations we've seen over the last month give me hope that we can come together and begin a conversation that leads to real change."

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#### Families Can Find A Scavenger **Hunt At Cherry Valley Refuge**

By Bill Bass

Once a golf course, Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge near Stroudsburg, Pa., is now a haven for birds, butterflies, bees and other pollinators. For families who enjoy a fun challenge, there are worlds to discover, and Brodhead Watershed Association offers a scavenger hunt to encourage adventure.

Sharp-eyed kids will find at least five distinct habitats— a sunny meadows, stream, and brush pile are three of them. Another is the small wetlands where native cattails grow, home to redwinged blackbirds, wetland plants, frogs, salamanders and turtles. Stretches of forest habitat provide a shady retreat along the creek and also line the upland boundaries of the old golf course, where you might see the opening of a groundhog burrow, coyote scat or white-tailed deer.

Wood turtles, bog turtles, rabbits, foxes, bears and bobcats thrive as their habitats return. Fish, aquatic plants, water striders and other bugs are coming back, too. The water of Cherry Creek is fertilizer-free and healthy again.

"Nature does most of the work," says Jared Green, refuge manager of CVNWR for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "We humans help by cutting out the fertilizers and insecticides that hurt the creek. Then we just get out of the way."

Go to brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos for information





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