



Saw-whet Owls

Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center Community Programs

By Lauren Forster

NAZARETH - Volunteer Day at Jacobsburg will be held on Saturday, November 7 at 2:30pm to 4:30pm.

Join us for this last volunteer event of the season as we work in our native plant gardens, build brush piles for birds, pick up litter, and plant trees. Work gloves and tools will be provided. Dress for the weather and bring water. All participants must wear a mask and practice social distancing. Registration is required. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

Saw-whet Owl Banding at Jacobsburg
Saturday, November 7 at 7:00pm to 9:00pm

The Northern Saw-whet Owl is the smallest owl in Pennsylvania. During October and November, Saw-whet owls that have bred north of us migrate through our area. Join Darryl and Jackie Speicher of the Pocono Avian Research Center as they try to catch and band Saw-whet owls at Jacobsburg. Dress for the weather. All participants must wear a mask and practice social distancing during the program. Program limited to 20 participants. Registration is required.

You can also view and register for community programs online at <http://events.dcnr.pa.gov/>. If you need an accommodation to participate in a program please contact the park office at 610-746-2801 or jacobsburgsp@pa.gov. With at least three days notice, interpreters for people who are deaf or hard of hearing are available for educational programs.

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EPA Qualified Outdoor Wood Furnaces

A new generation of clean

When John Hanley built his 4,000 square foot log home in a small Ohio township 17 years ago, he chose propane for heat and domestic hot water because it was an economical choice.

But, when propane prices increased and his annual fuel bill reached \$6000, he dropped the thermostat to 63°F to manage his costs. His wife, however, suffered with severe arthritis and lowering the ambient temperature caused her discomfort.

He began looking for a more affordable home heating solution. His research led him to outdoor wood furnaces.

Today's outdoor wood furnaces, also called wood boilers or wood-fired hydronic heaters are a clean, cost-effective alternative to the safety, mess and health concerns of indoor wood burning, while also providing a ready supply of domestic hot water.

The outdoor furnace heats water in an insulated water jacket surrounding the firebox. The heated water circulates through underground pipes to a forced-air furnace, boiler or radiant floor heating system that distributes even, adjustable and comfortable heat.

Hanley knew some townships placed restrictions on the installation of outdoor wood furnaces to address smoke emission issues. It was important for him to set a good example in his own community

by choosing a unit that was EPA qualified. Central Boiler, an American-owned company in business since 1984, helped create the EPA Hydronic Heater Program. Their E-Classic was the first outdoor wood furnace meeting Phase 2 of the program.

Central Boiler's new E-Classic models utilize a three-stage gasification technology and a self-regulating thermostatically controlled system that burns wood so completely that combustion efficiencies approach 100%. This means the owner burns less wood, with very little residual ash and virtually no smoke. By minimizing the emissions, this cleaner generation of outdoor furnaces is the optimum choice for people concerned with the environment.

Hanley chose an E-Classic to heat a 2,500 square foot barn/garage in addition to his home and hot water. Now, Hanley's wife keeps the ambient house temperature at 76°F. "She's happy and she has endless hot water for her whirlpool bath," he says.

Company reliability was also a factor in his choice. "Central Boiler stands behind their products and this sort of warranty service is really important to me."

Finally, because he cuts his own wood, he has eliminated his home heating costs enabling him to redirect the money saved to their children's university educations.

"This furnace is the way to go. You can't beat it," says Hanley.



In 2002, concerns regarding smoke emissions from outdoor wood furnaces prompted a number of manufacturers to form the Outdoor Furnace Manufacturers Caucus and ultimately partner voluntarily with the EPA to create a program that gave homeowners choices for cleaner, more efficient models. EPA states that outdoor hydronic heaters that are EPA Phase 2 program qualified are 90% cleaner than unqualified units.



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Masks

Continued from page 1

“We have to be able to provide examples of how we speak, how we chew.”

With the pandemic, speech therapists faced a unique dilemma in making sure patients continued to receive the highest level of care while following protocols for safety. Standard face masks don't work because patients can't see the therapist's mouth. Even masks for the hearing impaired, which have popped up on social media, are problematic because they don't show enough of the face. St. Luke's was committed to find a solution.

“It's kids who are learning how to speak well. It's adults who may have had a stroke and are learning how to speak again. It's really important to our community,” said Christina Lewis, RN, MPH, Executive Director of St. Luke's Care Network.

St. Luke's set up a team that included Taylor, Lewis, Megan Augustine, MEd, Director of the St. Luke's Simulation Center, Cheryl Davidson, RN, MSN, Senior Network Director/Administrator for Infection Control, and Barbara Nicholas, Director, Network Value Analysis.

Lewis said the team worked closely with the Simulation Center, first establishing that the type of mask they wanted didn't exist. Then they set about coming up with their own mask design. A big issue was finding clear plastic that would show the mouth and jaw, wouldn't fog up, could be sewn onto fabric and, most importantly, would block the virus, Lewis said.

The group settled on using plastic from a commercially manufactured face shield, she said. With a design idea and plastic that met their standards, the team turned the work over to Dozier to come up with a prototype.

Dozier said the process was challenging. She had to fashion a mask that showed the face from the nose to below the jaw. The mask couldn't move when you talked and had to fit snugly enough to block the virus. “It was a little tough how to figure out how to make the mask curve at the chin,” she said.

Lewis said there was a lot of back-and-forth with Dozier more than happy to make adjustments. “We had to keep customizing it,” she said. “How much plastic should we use? How much extra space do we need? Should we do something around the back of the neck?”

With a seal of approval from the St. Luke's Infectious Disease Department, Dozier is now in the process of making more than 115 speech therapy masks with materials supplied by St. Luke's.

She is sewing them with help of her neighbor Linda Benton. Together they have been making traditional cloth masks for St. Luke's, doctor's offices, grocery store workers and anyone else who needs one.

The speech therapy masks are being given to therapists (two apiece) and doctors who work with speech and hearing-impaired patients. Once those are finished, others will get them as well. There are several sizes with Dozier fitting staff members to make sure they get the size right.

“It's extremely beneficial for her to see what I'm doing with my mouth, and for me to see her, too, for progress to be made,” Taylor said.

Dozier, a mother of three grown children, said she's happy to be making a difference. “I feel honored to have been asked to do this,” she said. “It makes me feel like I'm actually being proactive.”



Pen Argyl High School Aims For Their Best Year During The 2020 Stuff The Bus Season

By Frank Jones

The Pen Argyl High School's students and staff are preparing for another productive year of Stuff the Bus. Despite challenges presented with the COVID-19 pandemic, the event will be in full swing again, as the need is expected to be higher than ever, due to the pandemic. Nonperishable food items, paper products, and winter wear items will be collected in the Pen Argyl High School parking lot from November 2nd to November 19th. These goods will be collected between 7:00am and 7:30am and again between 2:30pm and 2:45pm during the weekdays. Donation boxes will also be set up at Wind Gap Middle School, Plainfield Elementary School, Slate Belt Nazareth Baptist Church, and Waste Management for collections during their operating hours.

Suggested donations would include canned goods (such as fruits or vegetables), stuffing, instant mashed potatoes, as well as other non-perishables like cereal, oatmeal, gravy mix, soups, etc. The group is also in need of paper products, gloves, and hats, gift cards for meals, and turkeys. To put it simply, all items are appreciated!

These donations will be given to those in need throughout the Pen Argyl Area School District. Partnering with Families First once again, these items will benefit over 100 families within the school district if the goal is met. Last year, 87 families benefited from the support and kindness of the community, staff, and students. Upwards of 4000 items were collected last year, with all families even benefitting beyond Thanksgiving dinner with extra food like breakfast and lunch items. We'd like to thank the many local businesses who have contributed each year and give a special thank you to Brandywine Bus Co. for the donation of the bus used for this great event.

As always, any donations are appreciated! Thank you!

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of the Fictitious Names Act of Pennsylvania (54 Pa. C.S. Section 301 et seq.), that an application for registration of a Fictitious Name was filed with the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for the conduct of a business under the Fictitious Name of: RESCUE PRINTS

with its principal office or place of business at: 109 N Lehigh Ave, Wind Gap, PA 18091. The name and address of the person who is party to the registration are: Corey Siwec, 109 N Lehigh Ave, Wind Gap, PA 18091. The purpose for which the business is to be organized is to provide Jewelry, Keychains, and accessories personalized with the customers pet.