

# THE Union County Times

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The Area's Largest Weekly Newspaper!

A DIRECT MAIL PUBLICATION - 29TH YEAR - NO. 3

Friday, January 16, 2026

MIDDLEBURG, PA 17842

## America250PA's Area County Kick-Off Events

Edited by Kay Poeth

America250PA will kick off the Semiquincentennial year with a two-week tour of all 67 counties—celebrating at courthouses and historic sites across Pennsylvania. They will be in our 4-county area on January 21.

As the birthplace of American democracy, Pennsylvania will stand at the heart of our nation's 250th anniversary, a once-in-a-generation moment to reflect on where we've been and imagine where we're headed.

America250PA has been working since 2018 to bring this ambitious celebration to life. The vision is simple and deeply personal: to ensure that every Pennsylvanian—no matter where they live—feels a profound sense of pride, connection, and belonging during this historic anniversary.

That's why they are bringing the celebration directly to the people in our local communities and telling the stories that make our Commonwealth extraordinary through the America250PA 2026 Kick Off Events Tour and all of the signature events that will follow throughout 2026.

Each stop on the Kick Off Events Tour will celebrate the unique character of each county while uniting communities through shared history, and a collective sense of pride in who we are—and who we are becoming. Each event will offer inspiring remarks, custom county signage, swag and light refreshments.

Celebrations across the Valley will be held on Wednesday, January 21, 2026. In Union County the tour will stop at the Union County Courthouse, located at 103 S. 2nd Street in Lewisburg, from 12:45-2 pm.

The Snyder County event will be held at the Snyder County Courthouse, located at 9 W. Market St., Middleburg, from 3:30- 5:00 pm.

Other stops include the Montour County Administration Center, located at 435 E. Front St. in Danville, from 11:15 am- 1 pm. In Northumberland, the event will be held at the County Courthouse, located at 201 Market Street in Sunbury, from 2:00-3:30 pm.

To register for any of the celebrations, visit: [www.america250pa.org](http://www.america250pa.org).

## Heart of Lewisburg Ice Festival Returns February 6–8, 2026

LEWISBURG, PA — Downtown Lewisburg will shimmer with winter excitement when the 22nd Annual Heart of Lewisburg Ice Festival returns February 6–8, 2026. This beloved community tradition invites residents and visitors alike to enjoy a full weekend of ice sculptures, family-friendly activities, food and drink specials, and unique shopping experiences throughout the downtown.

The festival officially kicks off early Friday morning as the Bucknell Men's Crew Team installs ice sculptures along Market Street, transforming the downtown into a sparkling winter showcase.

One of the weekend's signature events, the **4th Annual Ice Festival Sip & Shop**, takes place Friday evening from 5:00–8:00 PM. Presented by the Lewisburg Downtown Partnership and sponsored by the Susquehanna River Valley

**Saturday Highlights: Ice, Art, and Adventure**  
Saturday begins with the Frosty 5K, hosted by Sunset Rotary, starting and finishing at the Campus Theatre. Registration opens at 8:00 AM, with the race beginning at 9:30 AM.

Ice carving begins at 10:00 AM in Hufnagle Park. From 10:00 AM–2:00 PM, the Lewisburg Children's Museum will host children's activities in the park, offering hands-on winter fun for families.

Participants can warm up before the Polar Bear Plunge at the Pre-Plunge Party from 11:00 AM–2:00 PM at Brasserie Louis, with tickets available at: [tickettailor.com/events/lewisburgneighborhoods](http://tickettailor.com/events/lewisburgneighborhoods) and from Noon–2:00 PM at Stillwater Spa & Events (100 Market Street) with Rusty Rail Brewing.

At 2:00 PM, the whimsical Handmade Parade sets off from the corner of Market and Front Streets, traveling to the St. George Street Landing.

The crowd-favorite Polar Bear Plunge follows at 2:30 PM. Registration is available at: [tickettailor.com/events/lewisburgneighborhoods](http://tickettailor.com/events/lewisburgneighborhoods)

The celebration continues on Sixth Street with

the Spicy Sips on Sixth Block Party, running from 2:00–9:00 PM, featuring:

Chili served until 6:00 PM

Bucknell student Battle of the Bands from 4:00-6:00 PM

**Sunday Wind-Down**

**ATTORNEY**  
  
**MICHAEL D. SUDERS**  
"Your First Call"  
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MIFFLINBURG

This Week's Inserts:

**Media Resources**  
**Weis Markets**  
in Select Areas

  
**STAUFFER BROTHERS FENCE AND EXTERIORS**  
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Hours:  
Mon-Fri 8:00-5:30  
Sat 8:00-1:00

  
• ESTATES, WILLS, TRUSTS  
• PROBATE  
• POWERS OF ATTORNEY  
• REAL ESTATE SALES, LEASES, & PURCHASES  
• LLC FORMATIONS

**WEAVER'S ARCHERY LLC**  
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[weaversarchery.com](http://weaversarchery.com)  
**Super BOW Saturday**  
**January 17, 2026**  
  
Free gift for first 20 people at 9am  
Special Sales ~ Meet Manufacture Reps ~ Prize Drawings

  
**YOUNT LAW**  
570-966-1098  
[YOUNTLAWFIRM.COM](http://YOUNTLAWFIRM.COM)

**ATTENTION READERS:**  
Let your local businesses know you saw their advertisement in The Snyder & Union County Times!  


# Deeds & Courts

# Community Calendar

# Police

## Deeds:

Christopher S. & Amy K. Rhinard, Lewisburg to Laura A. Schenkel, Lewisburg property in East Buffalo Township for the sum of 360,000.00.  
 Santiago Roig & Miria Pia Del Rosario Pugliese to National Residential, Nominee Services Morristown NJ property in East Buffalo Township for the sum of 310,000.00.  
 National Residential, Nominee Services Morristown NJ to Scott R. Schenkel, Lewisburg property in East Buffalo Township for the sum of 310,000.00.  
 Jeromy S. Snyder & Gail L. Hassenplug Snyder to Jeffrey L. Martin, Mifflinburg Borough for the sum of 260,000.00.  
 Barbara A. Beech, Lewisburg to Nawar Al Janabi, Lewisburg Borough for the sum of 265,000.00.  
 Sue Nannette Remaley, Turbotville to Guadalupe M. Roque, Lewisburg property in West Milton Kelly Township for the sum of 135,000.00.  
 Angela L. & John C. Wagner & Sandra L. Tristan & Michael W/ Showers to Laurel Lodge Real Estate Co. Williamsport property in West Buffalo Township for the sum of 650,000.00.  
 44 Market ST. LLC, Lewisburg to Mary Costagliola, Selinsgrove property in Kelly Township for the sum of 83,500.00.  
 Dion B. & Stephanie Kline to Cera Nicole & Ethan Fisher Renninger, Lewisburg property in Buffalo Township for the sum of 369,000.00.  
 Daniel E. & Christina J. Weaver to Austin L. & Laylene R. Weaver, Lewisburg property in Kelly Township for the sum of 1,250,000.00.  
 Rebecca Lynn Rittle & Jason Hill to Zachery D. & Sydney L. Jockel, Lewisburg property in East Buffalo Township for the sum of 302,500.00.  
 Pa. American Water Co. Mechanicsburg to SGH & AMH Holding Co. 11 LLC, Watertown, SD property in Buffalo Township for the sum of 242,000.00.  
 Donald L. Kahler, Millmont & Gary A. Kahler, Millmont & Paul A. Kahler, Millmont & Nancy L. & Joseph P. Lau, Bismarck, Arkansas to Donald L. Kahler, Millmont & Gary A. Kahler, Millmont & Paul A. Kahler, Millmont property in Lewis Township for the sum of 1.00.  
 Harold E. Jr. & Rosaura Hollenbach, Lewisburg to Peggy S. Hollenbach, Lewisburg property in White Deer for the sum of 1.00.  
 Donald O'Neill Jr & Wanda Louise O'Neill & Benjamin J. O'Neill to Keith L. Stephens, Lewisburg property in Mifflinburg Borough for the sum of 177,000.00.  
 Scott R. & Laura A. Schenkel, Lewisburg to Ray & Lisa Wolfe, Milton property in Kelly Township for the sum of 494,000.00.  
 Timothy N. & Rachael M. Turner to Tioga County Realty LLC, Mifflinburg property in Mifflinburg Borough for the sum of 203,500.00.  
 268 Supplee Mill Rd. LLC, Randolph, NJ to Jeremias Jr & Lee Christine Garcia, Lewisburg property in East Buffalo Township for the sum of 425,000.00.  
 Paul W. & Suzanne E. Ernst to Kenneth Arndt & Laura Bush, Mifflinburg property in Hartley Township for the sum of 28,000.00.  
 Vincent G. & Tami A. Evans to Jennifer Michele & Bartholomew James Wellisley, Lewisburg property in East Buffalo Township for the sum of 468,000.00.

**Divorce:**  
 Kerly Alicia Stedem, Lewisburg from Keda Mejaimech, W. Roxbury, Ma.  
 Gregory Allyn Schlegel, Lewisburg from Kimberly Sue Schlegel, Lewisburg  
 Darla H. Maxwell, Lewisburg from Bradley W. Maxwell, Lewisburg  
 Michael J. Fornwalt, New Columbia from Melissa J. Fornwalt, Montoursville

**Marriages:** None  
**DISTRICT JUDGE JEFFREY L. MENSCH, MIFFLINBURG**

**Charged** Victor Manuel Medina, 40, of Mifflinburg, with stalking-repeatedly commit acts to cause fear, impersonating a public servant, disorderly conduct-hazardous/physical offense, loitering and prowling at night time, and harassment-follow in public place on January 10. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for February 10, at 3:30 p.m.  
**Charged** Joseph D. Snyder, 52, of Millmont, with DUI/BAC .108%-10% and DUI/alcohol with general impairment January 5. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for January 20, at 2 p.m.  
**Charged** Timothy D. Lohr, 46, of Mifflinburg, with one count of theft by unlawful taking, resisting or interfering with an officer, and three counts of control of property on January 5. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for January 20, at 2:30 p.m.  
**Charged** Ruth E. Fackler, 41, of Winfield, with DUI/drug or combination of drugs with general impairment, DUI/Schedule 1 controlled substance, DUI/metabolite controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance by a person not registered, careless driving, and maximum speed limits on January 5. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for February 10, at 3 p.m.  
**Charged** Cody R. McClintic Milano, 32, of Clifton Hights, with possession of a controlled substance by a person not registered on January 5. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for March 3, at 10 a.m.  
**Charged** Joseph Felix Caceres, 38, of Brooklyn, NY, with possession of a small amount of marijuana for personal use, possession of a controlled substance by a person not registered, use/possession of drug paraphernalia, windshield obstructions and wipers-improper sun screening, and following too closely on January 5. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for January 27, at 10:30 a.m.  
**Charged** Preston John A. Elsasser, 19, of Middleburg, with DUI/unsafe driving, DUI/BAC .10%-16%, DUI/Schedule 1 controlled substance, DUI/metabolite controlled substance, DUI/alcohol and a drug or combination of drugs with general impairment, DUI/alcohol as a minor, DUI/drug or combination of drugs with general impairment, careless driving, driving on roadways laned for traffic (single), depositing waste and other material on highway, property, or waters, drivers required to be licensed, notice of change of name or address-ID card, and minor prohibited from operating vehicle with any alcohol in system on January 8. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for February 17, at 3 p.m.

**DISTRICT JUDGE JEFFREY ROWE, LEWISBURG**

**Charged** Josiah Woodberry, 26, of Winston Salem, NC, with theft by unlawful taking-movable property (\$25,000-\$100,000/or motorized vehicle), receiving stolen property, and criminal mischief-damage to property/intent/reckless/negligent (\$1,000) on January 12.  
**Charged** Ethan P. Figard, 26, of Clayton, NC, with DUI/alcohol with general impairment, DUI/BAC .16% or greater, careless driving, periods for requiring lighted lamps, driving at safe speed, driving on right side of roadway, disregard traffic lane (single), turning movements and required signals, and duties at stop sign on January 12.  
**Charged** Tahj Jordan Facey, 22, of Philadelphia, with DUI/BAC .16% or greater, DUI/alcohol with general impairment, careless driving, driving at safe speed, and duties at stop sign on January 8.

**Union-Snyder Agency on Aging Inc. and Senior Centers**  
 January 19, Closed  
**Middleburg Joint High School**  
 January 20, 9am, County Line Restaurant, Richfield  
**MJHS Class of '74**  
 January 20, 9am, County Line Restaurant, Richfield  
**Free Workshop for Those Joining Medicare**  
 January 23, 10am-12pm, Northumberland County Aging Office, 322 N 2nd St., Sunbury  
**Bannerville Fire Company Breakfast**  
 January 24, 6-10am, 7547 Stage Rd., McClure  
**Piecemakers Quilt of Susquehanna Valley Members**  
 January 25, 1:30pm, East Buffalo Township Building, Fairground Rd., Lewisburg  
**PQG of Susquehanna Valley's Stitch and Gab**  
 January 26, 10am-3pm, Union County Library Reitz Blvd., Lewisburg  
**SUN Tech Unlimited Open House**  
 January 27, 6-8pm, room A111 in the West Campus of SUN Area Technical Institute, Unlimited.Sun-Tech.org  
**MJHS Class of '66**  
 January 28, 9am, County Line Restaurant  
**Union County Crops Day**  
 January 28, 9am-2pm, Silvermood Banquet Hall, Lewisburg  
**Second Annual Blizzard of a Yard Sale**  
 January 30, 31, 7am-3pm, Christ Community Church, 3939 Park Rd., Selinsgrove  
**CONTINUOUS EVENTS**  
**MJHS Class '64 Luncheon**  
 Third Thursday every month, Hotel Middleburger  
**SAHS Class '65**  
 2nd Tuesday every month, 12:15pm, Perkins  
**Dinner by the River**  
 1st and 3rd Thursday each month, 6pm, 18 Market St., Lewisburg

**NOTICE TO READERS:**  
 To place events in the calendar please send them at least three weeks before the event so that we can publish it at least twice before the event. **The deadline for events is Monday by Noon.** The calendar goes by space available. Send, fax or e-mail us your event. Address: P.O. Box 356, Middleburg, PA 17842. Fax: 570-837-0776. E-mail: scuc@ptd.net. All phone numbers must include area code.

# Church News

**Lego Club**  
 January 16, 20, 30, Febrary 13, 27, 7pm, children ages 5-15, Boyer Mennonite Church, 1472 West Ridge Rd.  
**Community Dinner**  
 January 17, 4:30-7:30pm, Faith Christian Fellowship, 12N. Creamery Ave., Middleburg  
**Senior Community Lunch**  
 January 22, 11:30am-1pm, Emmanuel United Church of Christ, Corner of Vine and Market, New Berlin  
**Soup and Potpie Sale**  
 Preorder by January 31, Trinity Luthern Church, Cowan, 570-238-1472 or 570-966-2039

# League of Women Voters 2026 Forum Series

The League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area will open its 2026 Forum Series with a timely public talk focused on the future of education on Tuesday, January 20 at 4 pm in the Public Library for Union County Community Room.  
 Education Without Boundaries: Virtual, Blended, and Innovative Teaching and Learning will feature Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) Chief Outreach Officer Bernadette Boerckel and Lewisburg Area School District Superintendent Vincent Hoover. Together, they will explore how teaching, curriculum, and technology are reshaping learning today and what lies ahead.  
 Lewisburg schools have recently earned statewide recognition for excellence, and this forum offers a community-wide opportunity to reflect on what those successes mean for the future of learning in the region.  
 The interactive Forum will examine engaging in-classroom strategies, district-run virtual academies, cyber charter schools, blended learning models, and emerging questions around the role of artificial intelligence in education. The conversation is designed for anyone interested in how schools are evolving to meet student needs.  
 The Forum takes place from 4:00-5:15pm on Tuesday, January 20, at the Public Library for Union County Community Room, 255 Reitz Boulevard, Lewisburg. Doors open at 3:30pm. The event is free, open to the public, and no registration is required. For more information, email LWVLAForum@gmail.com.

## MILTON STATE POLICE

**Crash 2:20 p.m.** January 9, on Col John Kelly Road, in Kelly Township. A 1996 Advance Mixer driven by Richard A. Stancavage, 56, of Lewisburg, was traveling east on Col John Kelly Road. The Advance Mixer was negotiating a right hand curve when Stancavage lost control of the vehicle. The Advance Mixer continued traveling southeast into a ditch and came to rest facing west on its drivers side on Col John Kelly Road. No injuries were reported. Stancavage was cited for driving on roadways laned for traffic (single).  
**Crash 11:58 a.m.** January 10, on I-80 W. near mile marker 195.2, in Lewis Township. A 2016 Chevrolet Malibu was traveling west on I-80 near mile marker 195.2 when a deer entered the roadway from the right side. The Chevrolet Malibu struck the deer with its front passenger side bumper causing minor damage. No injuries were reported.  
**Theft by Deception Extortion 9:13 p.m.** January 9, in White Deer Township. Unknown suspect utilized information previously uploaded on the internet and threatened to expose pictures belonging to the victims if the unknown suspect was not paid \$20,000. Investigation continues.  
**Crash 1:08 p.m.** January 8, on Westbranch Highway at its intersection with Zeigler Road, in Kelly Township. A 2008 Subaru Imprezza driven by Kathleen A. McCaffery, 64, of Lewisburg, was traveling south on Westbranch Highway and a 2010 Ford Fusion driven by Joshua R. Moore, 37, of Montoursville, was on Zeigler Road turning left to enter Westbranch Highway North. As McCaffery was traveling south on Westbranch Highway and failed to stop at a fully illuminated red light and struck Moore's Ford Fusion. McCaffery was transported to Wellspan for Evaluation. McCaffery was cited for failure to stop at red signal.  
**Drug Possession 10:04 p.m.** December 28, at 2091 I-80 W. in White Deer Township. PSP conducted a traffic stop on a 2015 Dodge Dart driven by a 21 year old female, of Erie. The driver was found to be in possession of a small amount of marijuana.  
**Harass Physical Contact 1:04 a.m.** January 10, on Saratoga Lane, in West Buffalo Township. PSP was dispatched for the reports of an active domestic. Through investigation it was learned the 17 year old male juvenile, of Mifflinburg, struck the victim a 75 year old male, of Mifflinburg, multiple times. The juvenile also demonstrated signs of alcohol intoxication. Charges were filed through District Court 17-3-02.  
**Crash 8:27 a.m.** January 11, on Buffalo Road, west of Cooper Mill Road, in Lewis Township. A 2002 Ford F-150XLT driven by Lane M. Hook, 20, of Mifflinburg, was traveling west on Buffalo Road attempting to negotiate a left curve in the roadway. The Ford F-150XLT began to spin clockwise due to the icy conditions of the roadway. Hook was unable to correct the spin of the vehicle. The Ford F-150XLT exited the roadway off the south side of the roadway and struck an embankment. Due to the impact, the Ford F-150XLT overturned onto its drivers side, coming to rest in the eastbound lane, facing east. Minor injuries were reported. Hook was cited for driving at safe speed.

# Middleburg Auction

The following items were sold on **January 13, 2025**  
 Timothy: \$100 by the bale; Grass: \$75 to \$325 by the ton; Grass: \$3.10 by the bale; Mixed: \$50 to \$260 by the ton; Mixed \$52.50 by the bale; Straw: \$150 to \$200 by the ton; Straw: \$2.75 to \$3.55 by the bale; Corn Fodder: \$135 by the ton; Ear Corn: \$130 by the ton; Firewood: \$50 to \$115 by the load; Calf: \$100 to \$1,800 per hundred; Fats: \$135 to \$234 by the hundred; Cow: \$35 to \$160 per hundred; Bull: \$160 to \$196 per hundred; Feeder: \$25 to \$1,450 per hundred; Hogs: \$10 to \$80 per hundred; Pigs: \$10 to \$80 per head; Sows: \$24 to \$60 per hundred; Boars: \$5 to \$47 per hundred; Sheep: \$25 to \$170 per hundred; Goat: \$130 to \$380 per head; Lamb: \$290 to \$405 per head.



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# D & B Insurance LLC



**Market House Closed Until March 3rd**  
**Feeder Cattle Sale - January 16 @ 6PM**  
**Dairy Sale - January 13 @ 12PM**



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**Deadlines:** Articles and Display advertisements must be submitted by 4 p.m. Tuesday to be considered for publication. Community Events must be submitted by 12 noon Monday. Legal Notices and Classifieds must be submitted by 12 p.m. Tuesday. There will be **no exceptions** to this rule.  
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 Opinions are not necessarily the same view of the Newspaper or Management.  
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# Classifieds

## CLASSIFIEDS

### WANTED

General Hauling, T Tag Dump Truck Service Jobs 570-238-0305.

### FOR SALE

Indiana Acoustic/Electric Bass Guitar SC-AB/Washburn Bad Dog Bass Amp/ BD30B 43 watts, Hardshell case Great Beginner Guitar, \$220.00, text for pics, 570-259-0130

Fender Telecaster, Good Condition, MIM. Hardshell Case included, model MX18162195, \$495, text for pics, 570-259-0130

Martin Acoustic/ Electric Guitar, Model GPCRS-GT. Like New condition, Martin Hardshell case included, \$775, text for pics, 570-259-0130

Lincoln ac225 electric stick welder, very nice, \$550, 9ft bin sweep auger, \$400, air barrel greaser, #100, Craftsman 4 SPD 1/2hp 1/2 in drill press, \$100, 570-217-6332

Econoburn Wood Burner, Gasification Boilers, model #EBW-150, 7" stove pipe, BTV rating: 150,000, fuel: wood, water capacity 42gal. used twice, paid \$10,000 asking \$8,000, 484-6645-3714

Cook books, 33 Pillsbury, Taste of Home, Quick Cooking, Decorating and self help books, all new or great shape condition, hundreds of salt and pepper collectible shakers, 570-374-2927

Exercise bike, three in one universal weight lift bench Gold Gym, 570-837-3259

Toro Snow Blower, like new, used once, 721E 21" width, 212cc OHV, 4 cycle engine, electric start, \$500 OBO, 570-539-8591

GEHL 970 16ft t/a forage wagon field ready, \$3,650 John Deere 1600 8 shank pull type chisel plow, \$1,750, 717-437-4441

White garden tractor w/ mower, snowplow 3pt. hitch, weight box, runs well, garage kept, \$800, 570-524-4665

08 F450 Super Duty 6.4 diesel, 260,000 miles, 8200hrs, 4dr, Reading toolbox, ladder rack, inspected 10/26, \$18,000 OBO, 484-877-0227

Roll top desk, \$100, Inversion table, \$100, exercise bike, \$100, 570-541-2966

Hay, mixed grass round bale, stored inside, \$30 a bales, call/text 570-837-9456

Big outdoor wood furnace to heat a shop plus house, great running condition, \$1,900, 4x8 trailer w/sides great for hauling sawdust or mulch, \$700, 717-247-8520

Inside French doors w/ glass panels 30" wide, 6ft 8in high, \$70, 570-524-4665

Antique blanket cedar chest made in Milton, Pa, make offer, 966-7318, evenings leave message

AKC GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES AVAILABLE 1/20/26. Vet checked, prepaid AKC registration, up to date shots, chipped, health certificates, and dewormed. 2 Sable males and 1 female bulk/sable available. Family raised Mom and Dad on site. Dad is Black and silver from NC, Mom is Black from RI. Please call for more information 570-939-2719

### FREE

Black cat with 5 kittens almost grown, 4 black 1 striped, could deliver for free, 570-847-3181

# Obituaries

## Gary Ernest "Pappy G" Graybill, 70, Richfield



Rhoads. Together, they enjoyed 51 years of marriage marked by love, patience, kindness and making memories.

Gary enjoyed being outside, hunting, detailing cars, driving his Ford Mustangs and Farmall tractor, watching his beloved LA Dodgers, riding bike, collecting calendars and sale bills, antiquing, public sales, attending his grandson's baseball games, and going out to eat. He also took pride in growing his hair out to donate to Children With Hair Loss and Locks of Love. More than anything, he enjoyed and cherished his family. Nothing made him happier than being surrounded by his family.

Surviving, in addition to his beloved wife Ann of 51 years, are his daughters Heidi (Charles) Oldridge of Cornville, AZ, and Lori (Brent) Wesley of Lewisburg, his grandchildren Madison Mincevich and Brock Wesley, and devoted siblings Susan Reichenbach, Ted (Mary) Graybill, Bev (Joe) Kauffman, Mark (Linda) Graybill, Lucinda (Louis) Leclerc, and Melinda Graybill. Gary was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Doug Graybill.

Gary will be remembered for his infectious smile and beautiful green eyes, his love of food and insatiable sweet tooth, his sense of humor, his kind, generous heart, and his amazing bear hugs. Most importantly, Gary will be remembered as a man who passionately loved the Lord and his family, and was kind to all.

Although he was a lifelong resident of Richfield and well-loved by many, Gary became a local celebrity on August 18, 2025, when Parkinson's dementia caused him to wander away from his home, and be missing in a cornfield for 72 hours. During this time, hundreds of people devoted time, money, and other resources that culminated in his miraculous recovery on August 21, 2025.

The family expresses their profound gratitude to every individual and agency who contributed to the search and rescue of Gary in August, including Richfield Fire and Ambulance League and Ladies Auxiliary, Christian Aid Ministries Search and Rescue Team, Penn State Life Lion, countless first responders and volunteers, as well as the caring staff at Geisinger Medical Center, Evangelical Community Hospital, and Geisinger Hospice. Lastly, the family also expresses their heartfelt gratitude to the staff of Richfield Healthcare and Rehab, for providing compassionate, loving care to Gary over the past several months. As a result of his rescue and top-notch care, the family was able to enjoy 142 bonus days with Gary.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 24, 2026, at the Christian Union Church of Mt. Pleasant Mills, 5230 Route 104, with visitation from 9:00-11:00, services at 11:00, and a meal and fellowship in memory of Gary to follow.

## Carmaletta Elizabeth Taylor (nee Varner), 96, formerly of McAlisterville PA



Carmaletta passed away peacefully on Sunday, January 11, 2026, at Rolling Hills Manor in Millmont PA.

Born January 25, 1929, to Beulah Varner; she was raised by her grandparents Simon and Laura Varner in Mifflintown.

"Carmie" is survived by two sons, Ralph E. "Tim" Taylor of Gainesville, FL and Donald L. Taylor and wife Joyce of Berwick; a daughter Patricia C. Bowman and husband Dan of Mifflintown; seven grandchildren; fourteen great grandchildren; six great-great grandchildren.

She attended Juniata Joint High School in Mifflintown. She was preceded in death in 2020 by her husband of 71 years Jack E. Taylor.

In addition to being a wonderful wife and mother, she and her husband served God as missionaries in Haiti for a year, and in 1968 they sailed to Papua New Guinea where they labored to bring the gospel of Christ to people of the highland tribes who learned to love them. They retired from missionary work in 1997. Carmie was an example of service to God and to others.

A viewing will be held on Friday, January 16, 2026, at Hummel Funeral Home, 574 Hill Street, Middleburg from 10-11 with the funeral service to begin at 11 am.

Burial will be in St. John's Cemetery, Fayette Township.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations, in memory of Carmie, to the Papua New Guinea Student Fund at Penn View Bible Institute, 125 Penn View Drive, P.O. Box970, Penns Creek, PA 17862

Funeral arrangements are being made by Hummel Funeral Home, Middleburg.

## Mr. Sticky's Fundraiser at the Herr Memorial Library

Mifflinburg, PA – Celebrate National Sticky Bun Day and support a great cause with a Mr. Sticky's sticky bun fundraiser benefiting the Herr Memorial Library! Community members are invited to place orders and enjoy these popular treats while helping support library programs and services.

Orders can be placed online at bit.ly/HerrMrStickys, by calling 570-966-0831, or by visiting the Herr Memorial Library at 500 Market Street, Mifflinburg. Order deadline is Saturday, February 7; Pick-up date is Friday, February 20.

All proceeds from this fundraiser will directly benefit the Herr Memorial Library, supporting its programs, services, and community offerings. Don't miss this opportunity to treat yourself while supporting your local library. The Herr Memorial Library is a member of the Union County Library System.

## DINING & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

**Chat Shack, LLC**  
3473 Sand Valley Road Richfield, PA 17086  
**(717) 694-3046**  
(Located at Village Merchants in Richfield, PA)  
Thurs. - Sat. & Mon.: 12 PM - 6 PM  
Sunday: 10:30AM - 1:30PM  
Tuesday & Wednesday: Closed  
**Featured Burger**  
Ringing in the New Year  
**Featured Salad**  
Super Chat Salad  
**Specials**  
**January 15-19**  
Hawaiian Panini  
Tuna Noodle Casserole  
Pot Roast  
Shrimp Alfredo

**VFW Post 6631**  
Selinsgrove Rt. 522  
**(570) 374-3912**  
**DAILY PUBLIC LUNCH SPECIALS**  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
11AM-1PM SMOKE FREE  
**Monday, January 19th**  
Tomato Soup, Grilled Cheese Sandwich, & Draft Soda **\$6.00**  
**Tuesday, January 20th**  
Firecracker Shrimp Soft Tacos, Chips, & Draft Soda **\$8.00**  
**Wednesday, January 21st**  
Taco Salad, & Draft Soda **\$7.00**  
**Thursday, January 22nd**  
Ham & Cheese Cosmo, Chips & Draft Soda **\$7.00**  
**PINT/BACON CHEESEBURGER NIGHT**  
**Friday, January 23rd**  
Fresh Fried Haddock Sandwich **\$10.00**  
Baked Haddock **\$10.00**  
Beer Battered Shrimp **\$10.00**  
Fries or Mac & Cheese w/ Stewed Tomatoes  
*All include 16 oz. Soda. We now accept credit cards!*  
**Eat in or Take-out.**  
**TAKE-OUT PLEASE CALL IN BY 11AM FOR PICK-UP BY 11:45AM**  
**Add 50¢ for Can Soda**  
**CASH BACK**  
**JANUARY 18TH**  
1-5PM  
**AMISH COMIC**  
**JANUARY 31ST**  
8-10PM  
**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:**  
WWW.VFWPOST6631.ORG  
Selinsgrove VFW Post 6631

**Middle Creek CAFE**  
127 South Main Street  
Middleburg, PA 17842  
**570-837-2237**  
**Specials:**  
**Fri. Jan. 16th**  
Battered Haddock Sandwich or Seafood Bisque  
**Mon. Jan. 19th**  
Turkey Club Sandwich  
**Tues. Jan. 20th**  
BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich  
**Wed. Jan. 21st**  
**CLOSED**  
**Thurs. Jan. 22nd**  
Chili and Cornbread  
**Fri. Jan. 23rd**  
Battered Haddock Sandwich or Seafood Bisque  
**Mon. Jan. 26th**  
Homemade Cranberry Chicken Salad Sandwich  
**Tues. Jan. 27th**  
Hot Sausage Sandwich  
**Wed. Jan. 28th**  
**CLOSED**  
**Thurs. Jan. 29th**  
Turkey Apple Cheddar Wrap  
**Fri. Jan. 30th**  
Battered Haddock Sandwich or Seafood Bisque  
Specials subject to change  
All specials include drink  
Mon., Tues., Thurs. Fri., & Sat.,  
7 AM - 2 PM  
Gift Certificates Available

**TREE SERVICE**  
**CUSTOM CUT TREE SERVICE, INC.**  
YEAR AROUND SERVICE  
TOPPING-TRIMMING-REMOVALS  
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OFFICE 570-837-1986  
TOLL FREE 877-837-1986

**Want to Advertise?**  
**Call us at**  
**837-6065 for more information!**

## Business Directory

**Selinsgrove Moose**  
100  
40 West Spruce St.  
(570) 374-9012 - 11-8  
Monday-Friday  
11 AM - Close  
Saturday  
10 AM - Close  
Sunday  
7 AM - Close  
**BREAKFAST 7:30AM-10:30AM**  
**SUNDAY, JAN. 18**  
S.O.S & Home Fries  
Quarts for sale \$9.00  
**SUNDAY, JAN. 18**  
Cheesesteaks 3-6 PM  
**FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER**  
Jan. 23 5:30-7:30 PM  
Lasagna & Salad \$12  
**FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER**  
Jan. 30 5:30-7:30 PM  
Ham Steak, Scalloped Potatoes,  
Mixed Veggies, Applesauce \$10

Find Us On Facebook!  
  
The Snyder & Union County Times  
Facebook.com/SnyderUnionCountyTimes

**Rayauda's RESTAURANT**  
19231 Route 522  
Beaver Springs PA  
570-658-7025  
Hours: Tues.-Sat. 6 am-8 pm  
Dine In-Take Out-Curb Side Service  
**Specials for the Week Starting:**  
Tuesday 1/20: Cornbread and Chili  
Wednesday 1/21: Ham Pot Pie w/ Harvard Beets  
Thursday 1/22: Crispy Fried Chicken  
Friday 1/23: Fresh Haddock (Breaded, Battered or Flat Iron) Macaroni & Cheese and Stewed Tomatoes  
Saturday 1/24:  
Breakfast: **SMOKED SAUSAGE GRAVY/BISCUITS**  
Lunch/Dinner: **HAMBURGER STEAK W/ FILLING, Chicken & Waffles or Country Ham (1/2 or Whole Slice) CANDIED CARROTS, Browned Potatoes, Lettuce w/Bacon Dressing**

**Our Sales Staff is limited.**  
**We apologize that we can't get around to everyone.**  
**If you are a business interested in placing an advertisement, Please contact us at (570) 837-6065 or scuc@ptd.net**

**Door Service**  
  
America's Favorite Garage Doors  
Residential & Commercial Sales & Service  
**BUFFALO VALLEY DOOR SERVICE**  
Along Rt. 104 S. Mifflinburg, PA 17844  
**570-966-4064**

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**Federated Car Care Dave's Automotives**  
State Inspection Cars & Trailers  
A/C Repairs  
We also Repair Classic Vehicles Domestic & Foreign Cars  
**570-922-5033**  
756 Stover Road, Millmont, PA 17845

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**HOEVER'S BERNINA SEW LLC**  
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Tues. 9-7 Sat. 9-3  
Closed Sunday  
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Mifflinburg, PA 17844

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Adirondack Chairs • Gliders  
Dining Sets • Vinyl Swing Sets  
Bird Feeders • Bird Houses  
January & February Closed  
By Appointment Only  
**570-855-0728**  
sunsetpoly@emypeople.net

**Auctioneer**  
**Alson Reiff**  
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• Real Estate  
• Inventory Reduction  
• Farm Dispersals  
**(570) 966-4006**

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Port Trevorton, PA 17864

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1160 STATE ROUTE 104 • MIFFLINBURG

# Join the Buffalo Valley Singers!

Do you love to sing? Celebrate the joy of singing with the Buffalo Valley Singers—a Lewisburg-based community choir with more than 50 years of unforgettable music and community connection! The Buffalo Valley Singers invite you to be part of the excitement as they gear up for their 2026 Pops Concert.

Rehearsals begin Monday, January 26, 2026 at St. John's UCC, at 1050 Buffalo Rd, Lewisburg. Arrive at 6:30 pm to get a register. Rehearsal runs from 7-9 pm. \$20 folder fee, no auditions. To pre-register, call or email and provide your name, address, email address, phone number and voice part to buffalovalleysingers@gmail.com, 570-246-3895.

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE**  
WWW.THEUNIONCOUNTYTIMES.COM

(Live Auction Only)

## Legendary Gun Auction

130-Guns \* Remington \* Sako \* Browning \* Kimber \* Crossbows \* Optics \* & Misc  
**Monday, January 26th, 2026,**

**@ 5:00 PM**

Friendship Firehouse Comm. Bldg.  
(212 West 4thST. Port Royal PA)



Wow! This truly is a legendary collection of firearms, featuring lots of "new old stock" in the boxes, and some of the most "hard to find" collectors and some great hunting guns! Auction is to be held indoors, "heated facilities." We hope to see you there!!

80-Remingtons Incl:(8)Model Sixes incl:6mm Rem in Box; (3)270Win 1w/Scope; (4)30-06cal 2w/Scope; (10)Mo. 7'sincl:300-RSAUM Custom Shop Thumbhole LSS; 7mm-08 NIB; 243Win LSS; 243Win S.S. w/Box; 222Rem Unfired; 17Rem Unfired; 260Rem S.S.;243Win Lam w/Scope; 243Win Walnut; 308Win Lam. w/Scope;(27)Mo. 760's Incl: Hi-Grade Custom 308Win; (2)35Rem NIB; 308 Carbine 5-Diamond; 308 Carbine; (3)6mm 1w/Scope;

(3)35Rem w/Scope; 223Rem; 243Win; (2)BDL 270Win; BDL 270Win Basket weave NIB; BDL 308Win Basketweave NIB; (3)BDL 30-06 Basketweave 1w/Box; (2)BDL 30-06; Blk Tip 35Rem NIB; Blk Tip 270Win NIB; Blk Tip 243Win NIB; Blk Tip 308Win NIB;Blk Tip 30-06 NIB; (5)Mo. 7600's Incl:270Win; (3)30-06; 243Win Syn;(20)Mo. 700's incl: BDL Hi-Grade 270Win; BDL-LH Custom Dix. 270Win NIB; BDL 25-06 w/Green Box; BDL-LH 7mm Mag w/Scope; BDL-LH 270Win; BDL-LH 243Win w/Scope; BDL Custom Dix. 243Win;

BDL Maple 308Win; BDL-DM 7mm Mag; BDL 300Rem U-Mag Unfired; (2) BDL 243Win w/Scope; BDL 7mm Mag; ADL 270Win; Classic 300Wby; Classic 300WSM; 300Win Mag LSS; 308Win S.S.; 300Win Mag w/Scope;(3)Mo. 4's incl: Diamond Anrv. Grade 30-06 1 of 1500 NIB; 280Rem NIB; 6mm Rem; Mo. 721 270Win w/Scope; Mo. 742 30-06 w/Scope; Mo. 788 6mm; 870-WM 20ga; (2)870-WM 12ga;

**Browning Incl:** Mo. X-Bolt White Gold Medallion 6.5CM NIB; (2)Mo. X-Bolt Wht. Gold Med. Maple Oct. 6.5CM & 7PRC both NIB; Mo. X-Bolt 2-Speed Ovt 7PRC NIB; X-Bolt Wht. Gold Med. 7mm Mag NIB; A-Bolt IIWht. Gold Med. Oct. 270WSM NIB; A-Bolt IIWht. Gold Med. Oct. 300WSM;Mo. BLR Wht. Gold Med. 308Win NIB;

**Winchester Incl:** Mo. 1873 45LC Carbine Maple/Case Color Oct. 1 of 200 NIB; Mo. 1873 45LC Maple/Case Color Oct. 1 of 300 NIB; Mo. 1873 45LC Maple/Case Color Oct. 1 of 300 Unfired; Mo. 1895 T. Roosevelt Comm. 405Win NIB; Mo. 70 Coyote 270Win Light Bansner Ultimate Custom Rifle; Mo. 101 20ga O/U; Mo. 67 22LR; Mo. 67-A 22LR; Mo. 140 12ga; Sakolinc: Mo. 75 Stainless Varmint Lam 22-250 Bul Brl; Mo. L-46 Vixen 222Rem Blonde Stk; Mo. L-461 Vixen 222Rem NIB; Heavy Brl 222Rem Mfg. Riihimaki Finland; Riihimaki 222Rem;

**Misc. Guns Incl:**Kimber 8400 270WSM; Ruger M-77 MK-II 7mm Mag; Ruger M-77 270Win w/Scope; Ruger 7mm Mag Zytel/Padelsik S.S.; Weatherby Vanguard 7mm Mag w/Scope & Box; Weatherby 20ga; (2)Franchi Affinity III 20ga NLIB & 12ga Turkey w/Red Dot; Tikka 512-S Combo Gun 222Rem over 12ga; Marlin 1895 MXLR 450M w/Scope; Marlin 925 22Mag w/Scope; Marlin 25MNSS 22Mag; Marlin 25 22LR w/Scope; (2)Savage 340 30-30Win w/Scope & 22Hornet; (2)Interarms Mark X 308Win Custom Engraved & 300Win Mag w/Scope; S&W 1100 20ga; Ithaca 37-T Hi-Grade 20ga; and a few others not listed.

**Crossbows & Misc:** Ten Point Viper 430 w/Burris Oracle X range finding scope!! Wicked Ridge Invader 400 w/Scope NIB; Barnett Raptor BCX w/Bu-kOpsCycloptic range finding scope; Scopes Incl: Leupolds VX-1 4-12x40, VX-2 4-12x40 AO, Vari-X 2 3-9x40, Vari-X 3 6.5-20x40, Vari-X 3 2.5-8x32, Vari-X 2 4-12x40 AO; Nikons Monarch 3-12x40 BDC & 4-16x40; Binoculars: Leupold BX-4 Pro Guide 10x42 NIB; Sig Zulu6 16x42 Image Stabilizing NIB!; 4 Pairs LaCrosseAlphaburly boots size 9/11/12 all NIB; Assorted Vintage Ammo; Gun Vices: Tipton Ultra, Leadsled Solo, 2 Bog Pod Deathgrip Tripods; Knives; New Broadheads; Clay Bird Thrower NIB, & more.

**Schedule of Event:** Doors will open for preview at 2PM. Auction to start at 5PM with Misc. items, & Crossbows, followed by Guns.  
**Auction Terms:** Cash or Good Check or (Credit Card w/5% Premium) Must be a resident of PA and 18yrs of age to buy firearms.  
**No Buyers Premium!**

Auctioneers:  
Nelson Weaver AU005696  
PH 330-763-4855  
Daniel Weaver AU005695  
PH 330-231-8865  
David Miller AU005253  
PH 330-473-3430  
To View more pics go to Daniel Weaver auctionzip.com #32963

# Kinderfolk Announces Preschool Open Enrollment



Kinderfolk Preschool has begun open enrollment for the 2026/2027 school year; the program runs from September to May. Kinderfolk is a secular preschool located at First Baptist Church in Lewisburg, located at 51 S. 3rd Street, that offers a child-centered learn-by-doing approach for all children regardless of race, ethnicity, or religion. The preschool's programs prepare children for their early education years both socially and academically.

Kinderfolk's curriculum involves daily classroom work with a wide variety of materials to encourage a child's self-expression through art, music, literature, science and drama.

Group activities, both large and small, are used to help children develop communication skills and to identify themselves as a positive contributor to, as well as an essential part of the group.

By creating a close relationship to school and home, the program believes that one compliments the other and helps make the experience beneficial for everyone. In addition to age-appropriate field trips, the preschool welcomes visitors from community helpers, the local library, families, and Bucknell University volunteers. Kinderfolk strives to maintain a safe, nurturing, and stable environment that will foster a close teacher and student bond.

The preschool offers two exceptional programs. There is a M/W/F class that meets from 9-11:30 am for children from 2.5 to 4 years of age and a Pre-K Monday-Friday 12:30-3 pm afternoon program for children who will enroll in Kindergarten the following year. The program runs from September to May. Contact the program director, Julia Umstead, for a tour of the program as well as for more information on the enrollment process at info@kinderfolkpreschool.com. You can access their website at kinderfolkpreschool.com as well for more information!

**COMPLETE AUCTIONEERING SERVICE**  
**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Saturday, January 24, 2026, 9 A.M.  
Selling Lifetime Collection of Bill and Mae Reigle of Paxtonville. At Freeburg Community Center, 11 E. Church Street, Freeburg, PA 17872

Directions: From Harrisburg take Routes 11& 15 North to the Route 35/Selinsgrove Exit. Travel south/west on Route 35 Approximately 4 miles to the town of Freeburg. In the center of town, turn right onto Freeburg Road and travel one block to auction on the left.

### HUNTING-FISHING AND RELATED PLUS INDIAN ARTIFACTS GUNS:

Winchester, MD 37, 20 Ga.; Winchester MD 12, 20 Ga.; Remington MD 78760, 30-06/Scope; Remington, UMC, 32 Cal.; Stevens MD 311A, 20 Ga.; Remington MD 870, 20 Ga. Wingmaster; Remington MD 87, 12 Ga., Express Magnum, Vent Rib; Remington MD 1100, 12 Ga.; Winchester MD. 61, 22 Cal.; Springfield Armory, MD 1898, 30-40, Craig w/Bayonet; Thompson Center Arms, Renegade, 50 Cal., Flintlock; Percussion Double Barrel, Lock Marked "Williams"; Crosman, 180 Pellet Gun; 100 Lots of Indian Artifacts; 120 Lots of Hunting licenses beginning 1913- Extensive Collection; 30 Lots of Fishing Licenses Beginning 1923; 40 Lots of Dog Tags Beginning 1907, Mostly Snyder, Union and Northumberland Counties & Others; Trapping Tags; Fishing Lures & Reels; Misc. Knives, to include Case, Colt, Remington, Robinsion & Others; Powder Flasks; Defiance Shell Box; Hunter Trader Trapper Magazines; Trappers Friend; 100's of Game News Magazines; Plus...

See <http://www.hassingercourtney.com/> for detailed listings.

KENNETH E. HASSINGER  
330 Hassinger Way  
McClure, PA 17841  
(570) 658-3536 : AU-001532-L  
www.hassingercourtney.com

NEILA A. COURTNEY  
3442 Heister Valley Road  
Richfield, PA 17086  
(570) 539-8791 : AU-002651-L

**PUBLIC Auction**  
Saturday, February 14 @ 9 AM  
Located in the Village of Forest Hill at 9680 Col. John Kelly Road, Mifflinburg, West Buffalo Twp, Union County, Pa

### MIFFLINBURG COUNTRY HOME ON 2 ACRES

**Selling @ 1 PM:** 3 Bedroom Alum Sided Ranch Style Home Nestled in a Peaceful & Natural Setting. Sizable Eat-In Kitchen which Exits into the Attached 2 Car Garage; Spacious Living Room w/Brick Fireplace, Large Front Window Providing Plenty of Natural Lighting and Accenting Octagon Windows; Bath; Cemented Basement w/Coal Stove & Workshop Area; Enclosed Front Porch; Attached 2 Car Garage with Macadam Driveway & Interior Basement Entrance; 200 Amp Service w/Electric Heat & Air/Replacement Windows; Well & Septic; 12'X12' Garden Shed; Step Outside to Enjoy Your Private Outdoor Oasis in a Tranquil Setting with a Backdrop of the Woods. This Property Offers a Sizeable Yard for Outdoor Activities & Gardening. Don't Miss this Chance to Bid on this Piece of Country Living at an Auction. Taxes: \$2,314. To Schedule a Showing Call 570-966-2512. Terms: \$10,000.00 down balance within 45 days.

**Selling Shop Tools, Husqvarna Zero Turn Mower w/16 hrs., H/H Goods & Collectibles**  
Estate of Ken L. Hoey  
Attorney: Scheib Law Firm, 570-523-3200

**HESS'S** Auctioneers: Lori Hess Lauver, AU-002854-L  
570-966-2512 & Daniel King, AA-0019500-L  
auctionzip.com ID# 2399 or  
AUCTIONEERING GoToAuctions.com ID# 4215

# Free Preschool Openings at SUMMIT Early Learning

Looking for a high-quality preschool experience that prepares your child for kindergarten—at no cost to your family? SUMMIT Early Learning's Pre-K Counts classrooms have openings now and for the fall of 2026 school year in Mifflinburg, Selinsgrove, and Middleburg.

Pre-K Counts is a free, full-day preschool program (6 hours/day) for children ages 3 and 4 whose families meet income guidelines. Experienced, caring staff use a research-based curriculum that encourages learning through play, exploration, and discovery—helping children build language, math, and social-emotional skills in a fun and nurturing environment.

SUMMIT provides healthy meals and snacks each day, families stay informed and engaged through regular communication and support.

As one parent shared: "I had a good grasp and understanding of what my child was doing on a regular basis, and I genuinely appreciated that. Overall, I would recommend this program 100%."

To see if your family qualifies or to get started, submit an interest form at [summitearlylearning.org/enrollment-pre-registration-form](http://summitearlylearning.org/enrollment-pre-registration-form)  
Email [enrollment@summitel.org](mailto:enrollment@summitel.org).

**COMPLETE AUCTIONEERING SERVICE**  
**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Wednesday, January 28, 2026 @ 9 A.M.  
Selling Lifetime Collection of Bill and Mae Reigle of Paxtonville "200 Years Combined Collecting"  
Freeburg Community Center, 11 E. Church Street, Freeburg, PA 17872  
Directions: From Harrisburg take Routes 11&15 north to the Route 35/Selinsgrove Exit. Travel south/west on Route 35 approx. 4 miles to the town of Freeburg. In the center of town turn right onto Freeburg Road and travel one block to auction on the left.

**ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES**  
Putnam Dye Cabinet; Drying Fingers; Broad Axes; 2 Qt Ice Cream Freezer; Candy Containers; Wicker Buggy; Hiawatha Bust; Meat Grinders; Clark's Spool Box; Frames & Prints; Candle Molds; Wooden Golf Clubs; Potato and Corn Planters; Adz and Many Other Tools; Clam Shell Photo Album; Yard Sticks; Paper Mache Rabbit; Mold Dishes; Misc. Crocks & Jugs; Bee Smoker; Cigar Wrappers; Egg Scales; Infant Shoes; Cherry Pitters; 1920's Mixer; Midget Mason Jar; Still Banks; Atlantic Grease Can; Ring Puzzle; Apple Peelers; Mitchell Mill Sifter; Dough Roller; Mouse Trap; Political Buttons; Wagner Mini Waffle Iron; Cast Fry Pans. To Include Walpak Indians; Corn Dryers; Wire Rat Trap; Turkey Crates; Jigs; Copper Kettle & Strirrer; Ad Calendars; Calendar Plates; Ingram, Spangler, Runkle & Smith, and More; Mantle Clock; German Cast Deer; Buttons; Cast Frog; Quilts & Patches; Wall Racks; Reaping Hooks; Scholb, Wetzel, Christ; Salt Glaze & Sponge Pitchers; Celluloid Animals; Sereopticon & Cards; Coffee Grinder; Brass Ladles & Forks; Mutschler Reducer Gear; Peanut Butter Glasses; Glass Slides; 1913-15 License Plates; Lots of Flue Covers; PA Rail Road Light; Chalk Face Santa; Sad Irons; Early Christmas Decorations; Fence Stretcher; Redware Crocks; Blanker Knife Sharpener; Cyclone Hand Hedge Trimmer; Milk Bottles; Cara Farms, Royal Dairy & More; Painted Glass Eggs; Ad Fans; Wan-Eta Cocoa Jar; Rye Coil Basket; Clay Pigs; Ad Plates: J.W. Stahl-Hoffer, S.G. Kerstetter-Meiserville, Middleburg Bakery, and Many More; Early Wooden Fork; 1880 Mudge Canner; Postcards; Exceptional Santa Album and Others; Early Valentines; Trade Cards; Deeds; Photos; Plus...

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www.hassingercourtney.com

NEILA A. COURTNEY  
3442 Heister Valley Road  
Richfield, PA 17086  
(570) 539-8791 : AU-002651-L

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
MILITARIA &  
ANTIQUE COLT REVOLVERS  
SAT., JANUARY 24, 2026  
PREVIEW 8:00 AM,  
SELLING AT 9:00AM.  
LOCATION: Selinsgrove VFW Post 6631,  
940 US-522, Selinsgrove PA 17870  
VIEW ALL PICS AT AUCTIONZIP.COM AUCTIONEER #35599  
FOOD STAND WILL BE AVAILABLE  
RESTROOM & SEATING PROVIDED  
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# SPORTS NEWS

## THE VIEW FROM HEAR

BY RON BOLT

What a great weekend of NFL Playoff games last weekend. This weekend should be even better, culminating with the CFP title game Monday night. If you are like me you thought there would be at least one team from PA standing of the last ten teams to play.

I'm talking to you Eagle fans. Dysfunction defines Sirianni's tenure in Philly and don't be surprised if AJ Brown and Eagle OC Kevin Patullo aren't the only ones not working in Philadelphia next year.

It's totally inexplicable how the Eagles lost that game. Saquon rushed for over 100 yards, the Eagles were much healthier than San Fran and the Birds had the ball for 10 minutes more than the Niners. No turnovers and Purdy threw two interceptions. The Eagles run an unserious offense that has cost them all year, no more so than in the first round of the playoffs.

The Steelers surprised many by making the playoffs but lost their first game in the playoffs again. Mike Tomlin didn't waste any time after the loss as he has stepped down as head coach. The Steelers have to be bad to get good to move up in the draft order. Tomlin and recently fired Ravens coach John Harbaugh's careers continue to be intertwined.

The Seattle Seahawks and New England Patriots are the two favorites to reach this year's Super Bowl. I still believe this is Josh Allen's year and not because this is Buffalo's best team in recent years but because he is by far the best QB left in these playoffs. He will outplay Bo Nix in Denver and move on.

The Chicago Bears are a good team and a lot of fun to watch in the fourth quarter. The LA Rams defense has disappeared late in the season. This should be another fun game to watch with the Rams winning late.

Houston has a nasty defense but a QB in CJ Stroud that turns the ball over too much. The Patriots Drake Maye can run and won't be a standing statue like Rodgers was last week. That will be the difference in a game in which whatever team scores twenty points first will win.

Kyle Shanahan proved how great he is as a coach with all of their injuries. His scheming on offense against Philly was a thing of beauty. In Seattle they will be facing the only defense better than the Houston Texans and the only home crowd better than Philadelphia.

If the four Elite Eight games don't live up to last week's wildcard games you still have the college football championship game Monday night. I was not surprised that Indiana beat Oregon last Friday, I was surprised by the ease in which they did it and the final score. What amazed me most was the percentage of fans from IU that were in the stands for the Peach Bowl. It was a sea of crimson estimated conservatively at 80% Indiana fans.

Not only are the Hoosiers the top ranked team, Indiana University has the highest number of living alumni from any US college with over 805K. Penn State is second with around 800K. The Big Ten has five other schools in the top ten.

The Miami Hurricanes match up well with Indiana up front and you could say they have a slight advantage. The Canes also make mistakes and Indiana does not. That and the fact Curt Cignetti will coach circles around Miami's Mario Cristobal will complete the greatest turnaround in sports ever.

We all know that college football is out of control and needs a commissioner with leadership and simple reasoning skills. I have the answers to fix the reckless path college sports is heading down.

Resetting calendar dates is most important. The 14 day transfer portal ended this Friday. All of this while the college playoffs are being played. Bolt's new rules are to make the portal dates every year from January 4th to Jan 14th. Play every CFP title game on New Year's night. This will mean playing the playoff games during December and teams won't be rusty after a long layoff. The portal has to

start after the season is over.

Eliminate the early signing date of high school recruits that is currently the first week of December. The new signing date for these recruits will be four days after the transfer portal opens. This will still allow those high school seniors to enroll early at college like many do now. They will also see if their college of choice took someone in the portal at the same position they play. If they don't like competition they can sign with another school.

You should only be able transfer one time without penalty. This means you can play right away if you transfer. Multiple transfers will require you to sit out a year like it used to be.

Play all the Bowl games at the beginning of the year. The first round of playoffs will be hosted by the top eight ranked teams. No conference championship games as the regular season will determine the champion and every conference must play nine league games.

These calendar changes are needed for various reasons. Coaches seldom change schools after the New Year and everything after the title game will be geared towards the next season.

Locally, we are getting a better grasp of what teams are and if making the playoffs is a reality. Most of our teams are hovering around .500 winning percentage and it's now or never for many teams.

Midd-West boys basketball hung with Southside for a half trailing by only six at intermission. The Mounties went on to a 75-58 victory as both teams had four double-digit scorers. Central Mountain ended their five game winless streak with a 53-39 win over the Mustangs. Zani Coley had a game high 17 for 2-10 Midd-West.

The Grove boys team came back behind Xaivier Jackson's 21 points to beat Shik 54-47. Earlier in the week Grove won the Snyder county tilt with a 69-44 win over Midd-West. Jackson had 25 and Griffin Parker 13 points.

The Seals (7-4) started this week with a 56-42 win over Shore despite checking out two and a half minutes before halftime. During this time Jersey Shore scored eight unanswered points to pull within three before the break. Grove came out under and in control for the third quarter and never looked back. Xaivier led the charge finishing with 27 and 10 assists.

Big win for the Lewisburg boys in ending Montoursville's (10-3) five game winning streak 50-42. Leon Tucker had 20 points. Earlier in the week the Green Dragons kept Milton winless with a 63-36 W. Nazir Meredith, Cooper Mowry and Tucker all scored in double-digits.

Slow starting Mifflinburg had a tough week against two teams ranked in the top 16 in northeastern PA per WNEP TV. Southern Columbia beat the Cats 46-37 after getting off to an 11-2 start. Chad Martin had 17 and Cheeky Griffith 14 in the loss.

It's tough to win any game in any sport when you fall behind 18 points at the start unless you are the Chicago Bears. Warrior Run (10-1) stymied Miff in a 55-27 blowout.

Their struggles continued this week in losing 57-54 to Shamokin. Brennan Snyder had 12 points for the Wildcats who fell below .500 for the first time this year.

The Lewisburg girls lost to Milton 30-25 for the first time since 2010. Williamsport beat the Green Dragons 43-38 despite 13 points from Lauren Schwartz. Ava Motto got Lew back on track as she scored a career high 22 points in beating Montoursville 43-23. Motto dropped in four treys and Addy Shedleski had a great all-around game with 8 points, 7 boards, 5 dimes and 3 steals.

The Miff Lady Cats held off Shamokin 43-41 as Avery Reibsome had 14 and Brooke Gessner 11 points. Central Mountain came to Middleburg and returned west with a decisive 70-32 win over Midd-West. Emma Wagner had 13 points for the Mustangs.

Selinsgrove girls scored their most points this season in beating Midd-West 53-37 for their second straight win. Madi Merrell led all scorers with 24 points. Shik cruised to a 61-25 win over Grove with Merrell scoring 15.

The action on the mat is heating up as three of our teams competed in the HAC championships at Bloomsburg University. Rugged Central Mountain won the team title 229.5 over Mifflinburg at 221.5. Montoursville finished a distant third at 175. Selinsgrove was sixth with 119 and Lewisburg ninth with 87.5 points.

The Wildcats had four champions in Griffin Walls (121) Bradley Wagner (133) Ben Straub (139) and Landon Tucker at 215 lbs. Jack Gramly took second at 127 and as a team Mifflinburg wrestling had 10 total place winners. Very impressive showing.

Lewisburg's Landon Wagner took first place at 152. Selinsgrove had two runner ups with Alex Kadryna losing to Straub and Jack Peters losing to Shik's Brady Rebeck. Peters has committed to Davidson wrestling for next year. Mifflinburg's Wagner will be wrestling for Bucknell next year.

Selinsgrove lost to Line Mountain in a dual meet 42-34. The match turned when Kadryna who once led 12-0 was pinned at 139 lbs. Jack Peters won by tech fall at 285. The aforementioned powerful Central Mountain beat Selinsgrove 52-18 despite a fast start with two pins from Colton Kratzer and Anthony Snook. Kadryna and Peters finished the scoring for the Seals with two three point decisions.

Lewisburg gave up six pins in losing 52-18 to Milton. Landon Michaels and Landen Wagner continue to roll for 7-2 Lewisburg in getting two falls for the only wins for the Green Dragons.

Mifflin County beat Midd-West (3-6) 54-24 thanks to four pins and five forfeits. Mason Kerstetter, Charley Paige and Evan Maneval all had pins for the Mustangs only wins.

In the pool, Mifflinburg and Lewisburg both competed in a quad meet against Danville and Jersey Shore. The Miff boys beat Lewisburg 75-25 and Jersey Shore 77-20. Mifflinburg had already had a meet with Danville earlier in the season. Chance Moyer won the 100 free, Malachi Moyer the 100 breaststroke and Elliott Deluca the 100 backstroke for the Wildcats.

Lewisburg girls beat Mifflinburg 91-45 and lost to Danville 102-66. For Lewisburg Emma Hopkinson won the 500 free and 100 butterfly. Morgan Shannon won the 200 and 500 free. Jillian Muchler won the 100 backstroke. The boys team beat Jersey Shore 29-24 with Collin Shannon winning the 200 and 500 free.

Congratulations to Mifflinburg grad and current Lycoming basketball player Isaiah Valentine for scoring 1,000 career points. He passed the mark against Lebanon Valley College where he also tied the game to send it into overtime and hit the game winner in OT for the win. Well done. Comments and questions can be sent to theviewfromhear74@gmail.com

### Did you capture a photo at a local event?

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## DEP Encourages Pennsylvanians to Test Their Homes for Radon During National Radon Action Month

*Testing for radon is one of the easiest actions Pennsylvanians can take to keep their homes safe and families healthy*

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is encouraging Pennsylvanians to test their homes for radon during Radon Action Month, bringing public awareness to a very serious health hazard.

“Radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer after smoking in the United States, and is a serious concern within the Commonwealth, but it is also very easy to protect yourself and your family from this naturally occurring gas,” said DEP Secretary Jessica Shirley. “January is a great month to pick up a test kit from the local hardware store, put it on the lowest floor of your house, and find out if your home has radon. And if you do have elevated levels, DEP has a list of state-certified radon mitigation system installers that can work with you to address it.”

Radon is responsible for an estimated 21,000 lung cancer deaths every year in the U.S., according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and about 40 percent of Pennsylvania homes have radon levels above the EPA action level of 4.0 pCi/L (picocuries per liter). While radon problems may be more common in some regions, there is potential for any home to have high radon levels.

Due to its unique geology, Pennsylvania is particularly prone to elevated radon levels, and the only way homeowners can know for certain if they have a radon problem is to test their home. DEP recommends that all homes, schools, public and private buildings get tested. The best time to test is during the colder months, when homes and buildings are closed, and radon is most likely to be trapped and build up to higher levels.

Radon test kits are also available at many home improvement and hardware stores, as well as from Pennsylvania-certified radon laboratories. Radon test kits typically cost approximately \$20-\$30. Completed test kits are sent to a Pennsylvania-certified lab where the sample is analyzed, and the results are sent to the home or building owner. Homeowners are also able to hire a state-certified radon testing company to do the testing for them. Even homes that have mitigation systems installed should test their homes every two years.

The public is encouraged to call DEP’s Radon Division at 717-783-3594, or the Radon Hotline at 800-237-2366, for help with interpreting their test results and what follow-up action may be necessary.

Permanent radon mitigation systems typically cost between \$800 and \$1,200 and require minimal maintenance. A list of state-certified radon contractors, labs, and testers is available on DEP’s website. The list is also available by calling 1-800-23-RADON.

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## PennDOT Driver License, Photo Centers Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday

Harrisburg, PA – The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) today announced that all driver license and photo centers, including its full-service center in Harrisburg, will be closed Saturday, January 17, 2026, through Monday, January 19, 2026, in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday.

Customers may still obtain a variety of driver and vehicle products and services, including all forms, publications, and driver training manuals, online through PennDOT’s Driver and Vehicle Services website.

Driver and vehicle online services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and include driver’s license, photo ID and vehicle registration renewals; driver-history services; changes of address; driver license and vehicle registration restoration letters; ability to pay driver license or vehicle insurance restoration fee; driver license and photo ID duplicates; REAL ID pre-verification; and driver exam scheduling. There are no additional fees for using online services.

## Japanese Taiko Drumming Sensation DRUM TAO Comes to Weis Center on January 30th

The Weis Center for the Performing Arts will welcome DRUM TAO on Friday, January 30 at 7:30 p.m. at the Weis Center.

The performance is sponsored, in part, by Service 1st Federal Credit Union.

Direct from Japan, DRUM TAO returns to North America in 2026 with their all-new show – “The Best.”

The internationally renowned ensemble will visit more than 40 cities as part of the highly-anticipated tour.

DRUM TAO explodes on stage with a captivating performance full of flash and fire! Renowned for powerful and athletic drumming, their newest show, The Best, blends traditional “Wadaiko” (Japanese Drums) with modern energy and theatrical flair. Seen by 10 million spectators across the globe, DRUM TAO shows feature vibrant costumes, dramatic synchronized drumming and movement with a variety of traditional Japanese instruments including flutes and harps alongside the massive taiko drums. They have captivated audiences worldwide – selling out shows in 26 countries – garnering critical acclaim and accolades along the way.

DRUM TAO has a rich history of international spectators celebrating their groundbreaking performances. In 2016, their Off-Broadway debut in New York completely sold out, earning high praise. A year later, they launched their long-running Tokyo show MANGEKYO, which went on to have over 500 performances. In 2020, they opened a stunning new permanent outdoor theater, TAO no Oka, nestled in the breathtaking Aso Kuju National Park. Continuing to innovate, they launched CLUB TAO in 2022, bringing their high-energy performances to Tokyo and Osaka’s hottest nightclubs. Most recently, in 2024, DRUM TAO completed an ambitious 100-day tour across the United States and Canada.

Their achievements have been recognized with numerous honors, including the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications Award, the Japan Tourism Agency Commissioner’s Award, the Outstanding Cultural Achievement Award from Oita Prefecture, and the Cultural Creation Award from Taketa City.

Chicago Tribune describes DRUM TAO as, “Extraordinary talented percussion artists, and seductive, alluring performers.” Edinburgh Evening News raves, “Undoubtedly one of the finest shows!”

## \$600,345 in PA Farm Bill Grants to Expand Career Opportunities for Young Pennsylvanians in Agriculture



On the third day of the 2026 Farm Show, Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding announced \$600,345 in PA Farm Bill Agriculture & Youth Grants, including 15 matching and 47 direct awards to organizations in 33 counties, funding projects that will empower youth across the state to succeed in Pennsylvania’s \$132.5 billion agriculture industry. Labor & Industry Secretary Nancy A. Walker, and Education Secretary Dr. Carrie Rowe joined Secretary Redding to make the announcement during a Career Expo connecting more than 2,200 Pennsylvania students with career opportunities offered by 48 agricultural businesses.

“Pennsylvania youth are the fertile ground that will grow our nation’s prosperity in the future,” Secretary Redding said. “The Shapiro Administration is committed to investing in opportunities every young person needs to succeed. Our investments in relevant agriculture education today will help Pennsylvania agriculture businesses meet increasingly complex challenges tomorrow.”

Investment funds 62 projects in 33 counties, and one statewide project to inspire and equip young Pennsylvanians to pursue careers in the state’s \$132.5 billion agriculture industry.

Under Governor Shapiro’s leadership, L&I and the Department of Agriculture have partnered to create more apprenticeship opportunities and training programs in Pennsylvania’s agriculture industry. Since the start of the Shapiro Administration, L&I’s Apprenticeship and Training Office has supported the creation of 115 new apprenticeships including four new apprenticeship programs serving the agriculture industry and enrolled more than 17,100 new apprentices since the Governor took office.

The 2025-26 budget also delivers \$183 million in funding for career and technical education and apprenticeships — a more than 50 percent increase compared to when the Governor first took office.

“Agriculture has always been at the heart of Pennsylvania’s economy, and it continues to offer meaningful, family-sustaining careers for the next generation,” said-Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry Secretary Nancy A. Walker. “Under Governor Josh Shapiro’s leadership, we’re investing in hands-on training through apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships that prepare Pennsylvanians for careers on the farm and in the many trades and industries that support agriculture. These investments help ensure our agricultural workforce remains strong as we honor our roots and continue growing a nation.”

“For many students, agriculture education is the first time they realize something powerful: There is a place for me here -- a place where learning is hands-on and connected to the real world, where technology meets tradition, where curiosity turns into purpose,” said Secretary Rowe. “As Governor Shapiro often says, investments in today’s students are investments in Pennsylvania’s future. That’s why early career education matters. Career exploration doesn’t begin at graduation -- it begins with curiosity.”

Grant recipients, funded project titles, and funding amount in our area are:

Northumberland  
Line Mountain School District Animal and Veterinary Program Additions, \$7,368

Snyder  
The Pennsylvania State University – Agriculture Adventures Youth Day Camp, \$6,103

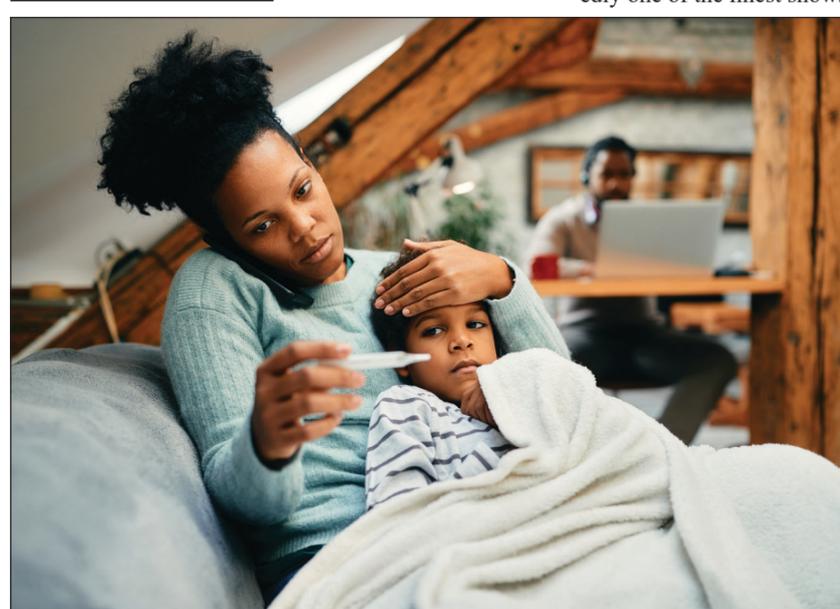
Union  
The Pennsylvania State University – Putting the Science Back in Livestock and Environmental Projects, \$7,500  
Mifflinburg Area School District – Agriculture Program Mobile Workstation – Mifflinburg, \$25,000

Statewide Project  
The Pennsylvania State University – AP 4-H Agriculture and Nutrition Education - Books for Cooks, \$7,500

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# Graduates

## McKendree University

Kristopher Aden Walter, Lewisburg

## University of Maryland Global Campus

Michael John Gross, Lewisburg

## Lebanon Valley College

Anthony Bennage, Mifflinburg, Tate Llanso, Lewisburg

## Westminster College

Lauren Gross, Lewisburg

## Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Samuel Darer, Lewisburg

## McDaniel College

Cynthia M. Kostic, Lewisburg

## Pennsylvania College of Technology

Austin Riley Carollo, Lewisburg

Sidney N. Clark, Lewisburg

Adrien Duran, Lewisburg

Brynna Eichenlaub, Lewisburg

Jarret B. Foster, Mifflinburg

Zoey Denise Gramly, Mifflinburg

Logan Joseph Heyman, Lewisburg

Alec Cameron Klingler, Mifflinburg

Tyler John Nevil, Lewisburg

Tyler John Nevil, Lewisburg

Teresa Yoder, Mifflinburg

## Oberlin College

Ruby Feuerstein, Lewisburg

## Bucknell University

Rebecca Beneroff, Lewisburg

Andrea Coleman, Lewisburg

Grant Laws, Lewisburg

Caroline Marcus, Lewisburg

Talulah Rice, Lewisburg

Alec Sanders, Lewisburg

Harmony Yeung, Lewisburg

Coy Bastian, Winfield

## Litter Hawk Youth Award Celebrates America250: 2026 Program Now Open for Grades K-6

(January 9, 2026) Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful is once again announcing the Litter Hawk Youth Award Program, a recognition program for students in Kindergarten through 6th Grade. Each participant will complete a fun, grade-level-specific project that inspires environmental stewardship and creativity. It's a chance for kids to learn, lead, and leave a lasting impact, all while earning recognition for their efforts. Kids can participate individually or as part of a lesson initiated by schools, home-schools, scout troops, 4-H clubs, environmental clubs or other organized groups.

The Litter Hawk Youth Award Program is an annual way for kids to share their hope, optimism and concerns about litter and inspire others to care for their communities through art, words or video. This year's Litter Hawk Youth Award theme is: Celebrate America250 – Keep It Beautiful! in support of the Country's 250th anniversary on July 4, 2026. Projects include:

Grades Kindergarten through 4 – Poster

Grades 5 – Essay

Grade 6 – Video

Submit your artwork, essay, or video for a chance to win prizes and recognition! First and second place in each grade level will be awarded certificates. All participants will receive recognition of participation with a Litter Hawk sticker. The deadline for participating is January 31, 2026. Winners will be announced on April 2, 2026

in coordination with an awards ceremony at the PA State Capitol Building where all winning entries will be on display as part of the 2026 Litter Hawk Youth Award exhibit. All winners and their families, guardians and teachers are welcome to attend. Special guests will include representatives from the PA Department of Environmental Protection and America250PA.

"We are excited to see how Pennsylvania students feel and think about litter in their neighborhoods, school and other favorite places. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful believes that engaging youth in protecting the environment not only creates a direct impact on changing behaviors and attitudes, but also influences their friends and families," said Stephanie Larson, Communications and Program Manager, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. "We are all responsible for keeping our communities clean and beautiful. This program provides a fun and easy way for students to illustrate respect for the environment and their community."

The Litter Hawk Youth Award program is funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. For more information, downloadable promotional posters and an entry form, visit <https://www.keeppbeautiful.org/grants-awards/awards/litter-hawk/>. Additional questions can be answered by Stephanie Larson at [slarson@keeppbeautiful.org](mailto:slarson@keeppbeautiful.org) or 724-836-4121 ext. 104.

## Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania Kicks Off Cookie Season by Welcoming Exploremores to the Cookie Lineup



Harrisburg, PA January 6, 2026 – Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania kicks off the 2026 Girl Scout Cookie Season as Girl Scouts across the region take part in the largest girl-led entrepreneurial program in the world.

A new cookie joins the lineup this year. Exploremores, a rocky road ice cream-inspired sandwich cookie, that features flavors of chocolate, marshmallow, and toasted almond crème. Inspired by curiosity and adventure, Exploremores reflects the spirit of exploration at the heart of Girl Scouting. Fan favorites including Thin Mints, Caramel deLites, Peanut Butter Patties, and more will also return for the 2026 season.

"When you purchase Girl Scout Cookies, you are directly supporting girls in your community," said Kim McBride, Director of Product Program and Retail for Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania. "Those proceeds stay local and help power programs, service projects, camp experiences, and opportunities that last far beyond cookie season."

Through the cookie program and beyond, Girl Scouts explore who they are, what they can do, and how they can

make a difference in the world. Every cookie purchase supports that journey, one box at a time.

### How to Purchase Girl Scout Cookies

If you know a Girl Scout, reach out to her directly. You can also text COOKIES to 59618 to receive updates about the Girl Scout Cookie Program.

Girl Scout Cookie Season runs nationally from January 6 through April 4. Girls in grades K-12 can join Girl Scouts at any time and begin their own leadership journey. Learn how to join or volunteer at <https://www.gshpa.org/en/get-involved/join/cookie-recruitment.html>.



Winter snow in New Berlin circa 1910. Front Street, looking east from Union Street.

## Union County West End Fire Co. Celebrates 75 Years

Recently, US Congressman Glenn "GT" Thompson recognized the Union County West End Fire Company on 75 years of dedicated service to the community. Founded in 1950, the Union County West End Fire Company has been answering the call to serve the community and protect their neighbors in times of need. Our volunteer firefighters provide fire, rescue, and EMS services – often balancing it with day jobs and family commitments. These professionally trained volunteers are the backbone of fire protection and emergency response, especially in our rural communities. They are there in emergency situations like fires, car accidents, medical calls, and disaster response. Their commitment to service and teamwork is second to none. I congratulate the Union County West End Fire Company on 75 years of outstanding service.

Congratulations to the 2026 officers and trustees for the Union County West End Fire Company: Chief 701-Terry Smith, Chief 702 - Bobby Delsite, Chief 703- Jason Martin, President - Robert Ortlip, Vice president - Leon Martin, Secretary - Jeff Norton, Treasurer -Brian Zimmerman, Trustees- Tyrell Zimmerman, Mike Conrad and Luken Buoy, Township citizen representative- John Hoover Jr., Business representative- Joe Schnure, Captain 705- Rich Meese, Captain 706 - Leon Martin, Captain 707 - Mark Rieff, Lieutenant 710- Wilson Rieff, Lieutenant 712- Brian Zimmerman, and Lieutenant 713- Ian Kapelan.

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\*Based on Medicare Advantage enrollment data, as of January 2026.

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# Wednesday, Jan. 28 is International Lego Day

By Tom Emery

*Celebrates the Anniversary of Patent for Lego Bricks*

CARLINVILLE, IL – Few toys capture the imagination like LEGO bricks. There’s even a day on the calendar to celebrate them.

Wednesday, Jan. 28 is International LEGO Day, designed to honor the anniversary of the patent submission for Lego bricks in 1958. Since then, LEGOs have become a part of global culture, a favorite toy of children and adults alike.

Today, many public libraries offer LEGO Clubs for creative youngsters, including in Carlinville, Ill., a town of 5,700 located 60 miles northeast of St. Louis.

“Our LEGO Club has some devoted members,” said Carlinville library director Hannah Miller. “They take it very seriously. It’s a lot of fun for everyone involved, of course. But some of the youngsters in LEGO Club are really into it.”

Anyone wanting to find a nearby LEGO Club is encouraged to contact their local public library.

The name “LEGO” is derived from the abbreviation of two Danish words, “leg godt,” which means “play well.” It was aptly named. The Franklin Institute of Philadelphia, which hosts some of the most complex LEGO creations on the planet, estimates that 400 million people worldwide have played with Lego bricks at some point in their lives.

The company that gives it name to the toys, the LEGO Group, is headquartered in Denmark, which is home to one of its three global factories, with others in Hungary and Mexico. The fourth-largest toy manufacturer in the world, the company has produced an estimated 400 billion LEGO pieces, or 62 for every person on Earth.

That many pieces, stacked on top of one another with the toy’s famous interlocking pegs, could build ten towers that reach from the Earth to the moon. Some 36,000 LEGO pieces are produced every minute, and seven LEGO sets are sold every second worldwide. The volume of LEGO bricks sold in a single year would circle the globe five times.

The LEGO group was founded in 1932, and its unique product developed into the bricks we know today. The patent for those bricks was first filed on Jan. 28, 1958, eventually giving rise to the international day in their honor. LEGO was first introduced in the United States in 1962.

The company prides itself on quality, as only 18 out of every million LEGO bricks are defective. LEGOs are also among the sturdiest of toys, as anyone who has stepped on one while barefoot will tell you.

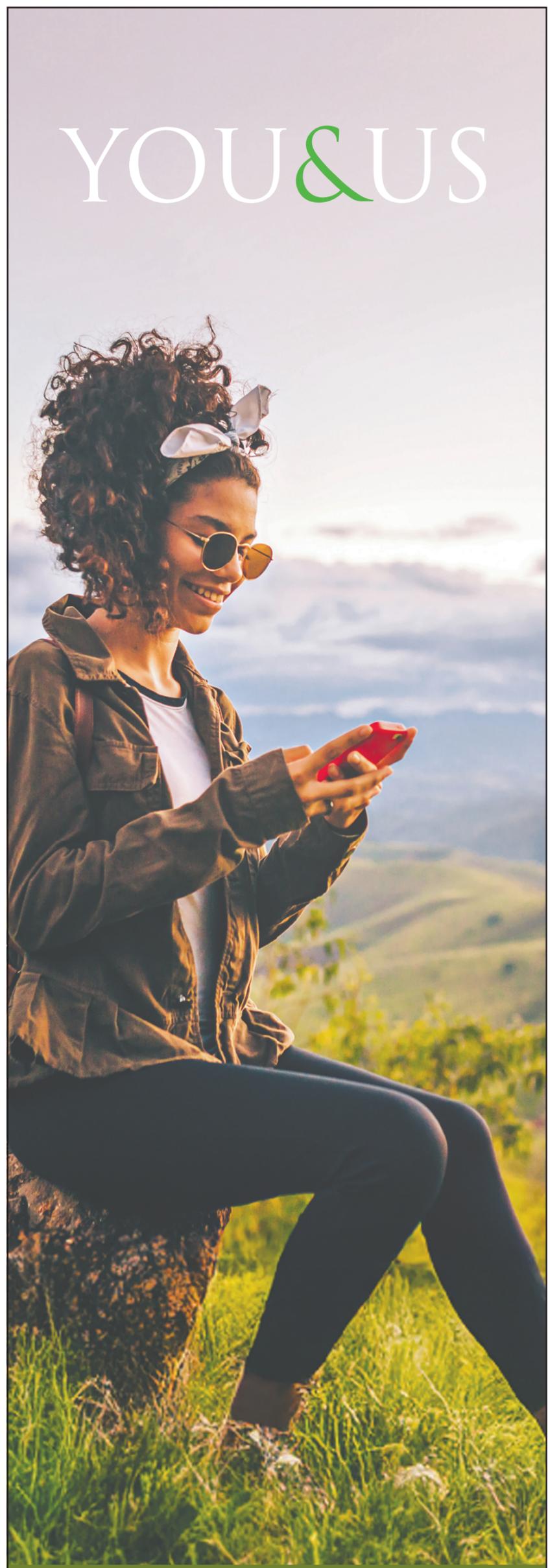
For millions in past decades, LEGOs were simply a beloved childhood toy. Today, however, LEGOs have evolved into a worthwhile educational tool. Many teachers, scientists, and builders point to the value of LEGOs in promoting creativity and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) in young people, as well as problem-solving skills and team building.

LEGO has also become a tourist destination, as children and their parents may journey to one of twenty-seven LEGoland Discovery Centers around the world. Thirteen of those centers are in the United States, including in Schaumburg, Ill. and Kansas City. There are also LEGoland theme parks and resorts in California, Florida, and New York.

Today, International LEGO Day is celebrated in various corners of the globe. Major American public libraries in Chicago, Detroit, Austin, and Salt Lake City have all hosted LEGO Day celebrations in recent years, as well as the public libraries of Christchurch, New Zealand.

On the other side of the globe in 2023, enthusiasts at the 12th-century Portsmouth Cathedral in the United Kingdom celebrated the day by walking “a fun and interactive LEGO-themed trail.”

Back in Illinois, Miller marvels at the creations of the Carlinville library’s LEGO lovers. “It’s amazing to see what the kids come up with,” she said. “For us adults, it’s so rewarding to watch them learn. To see the looks on their faces when they’ve created something new is just wonderful to see.” Tom Emery may be reached at 217-710-8392 or ilcivilwar@yahoo.com.



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