

## Tickets On Sale For Hops, Vines & Wines Festival

By Kay Poeth

Tickets go on sale on Saturday, April 18 for the popular, award-winning Hops, Vines & Wines Festival scheduled for July 18. Organizer are hopeful that the festival will be held, especially since Bucknell University has rescheduled their graduation for that same weekend.

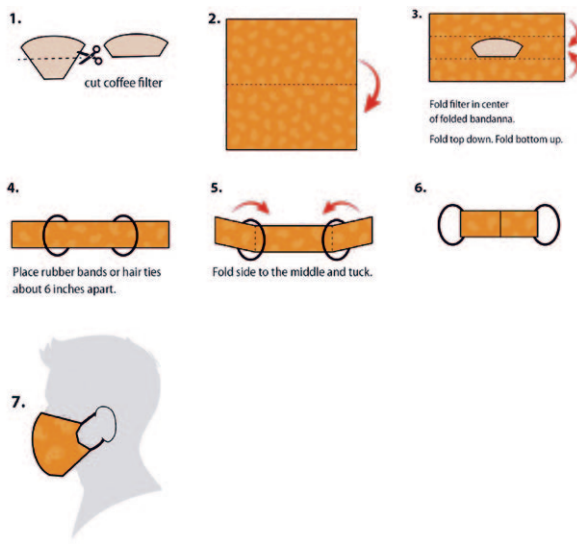
The window for vendor participation is still open through the end of April. A number of new breweries, distilleries and wineries joining the event this year. Entertainment will be provided by the Ann Kerstetter Band and WQSU will be broadcasting live from the festival.

The Selinsgrove Hops, Vines & Wines Festival is the only two-time award winning festival in Central PA. Over \$572,962 (net) to date has been raised and funds go to directly benefit Selinsgrove's downtown revitalization efforts.

However, if the Hops, Vines & Wines Festival has to be cancelled, 100% of the ticket purchases will be refunded. The event will not rescheduled for this year.

Ticket sales begin on Saturday, April 18. Festival information and online ticket sales can be found at <http://www.selinsgrovebrewfest.com>.

## Making A No Sew Handkerchief Mask



Governor Wolf recommends that all Pennsylvanians wear a mask any time they leave their homes. Here is an easy to make mask that requires a handkerchief, two hair ties or rubber bands and a coffee filter or paper towel. The instructions are as follows:

1. Start with a handkerchief and two hair ties. Rubber bands are okay as well, although they will be less comfortable.
2. Fold the handkerchief in half, along a horizontal axis, and make a nice crease.
3. Place piece of paper towel or coffee filter at the

center of the handkerchief. Fold the top down and the bottom up, so that the coffee filter or paper towel rests in the fold.

4. Place your first elastic about one-third of the way in from the edge of the handkerchief. Place the second elastic one-third of the way in from the other side. The two elastics should be about one hand-width apart.

5. Fold the left side in toward the center and then fold the right side in toward the center, tucking the right side into the left-side flap.

### Using and taking care of your mask:

- Don't wear it at home, and don't wear it in the car unless you're with people outside your regular family group. Don't wear it more than necessary – just wear it when you're in a public place, like a supermarket, where you might be within 6ft of people. It may not be necessary in a park or on a quiet street with few pedestrians, when you're moving around.
- Don't remove the mask until you're at home or in a place where you can wash your hands and avoid coming within 6ft of other people. When you do remove the mask, avoid touching the front of it in case you breathed in infected droplets that could now be there.
- Remove and dispose of the paper towel insert.

Place the rest of the mask in soapy water, soak it for two minutes, then wash and rinse.

Any kind of soap – dish soap, laundry detergent, hand soap – will do. Then wash your hands, and disinfect with bleach or alcohol anything you touched after taking off the mask. Never reuse a mask without washing it first.

- Next time you wear the mask, remember to replace the paper-towel insert.
- If you have symptoms – a stuffy nose, a cough, a fever – stay inside.

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# Courts

## DISTRICT COURT 17-3-01, LEWISBURG

**Charged** Ram UK, 30, of Lakewood, CO, with driving under the influence of alcohol with general impairment and driving under the influence of alcohol with a BAC of .16% or higher on March 9.

**Charged** Nicole Amber Walker, 31, of Sunbury, with two counts of retail theft on March 20.

**Charged** Mark Eugene Stepp, 63, of Winfield, with driving under the influence of alcohol with general impairment, driving under the influence of alcohol with a BAC of .08%-.10%, obedience to traffic control devices, disregard traffic lane (single) turning movements and required signals, and careless driving on February 29.

**Charged** Darnella R. Hoover, 58, of Sunbury, with Retail theft on March 25.

**Charged** Brian William Shiffer, 43, of Lewisburg, with manufacture, delivery, or possession with two counts of intent to manufacture or deliver a controlled substance, one count of criminal use of communication facility and possession of a controlled substance by a person not registered on December 4.

## DISTRICT JUDGE JEFFREY L. MENSCH, MIFFLINBURG

**Charged** Brian K. Gemberling, 56, of Mifflinburg, with two counts of corruption of minors- Defendant 18 or older, indecent assault person less than 13 years of age, corruption of minors, indecent assault without consent of other, indecent assault person less than 16 years of age, and harassment-subject other to physical contact on December 18, 2016. Gemberling was arraigned on April 2 and bail was set at \$50,000 unsecured.

**Charged** Kurt Robert Wands Sr., 58, of New Columbia, with driving under the influence of alcohol with general impairment, driving under the influence of alcohol with a BAC of .10%-.16%, disregard traffic lane (single), and careless driving on March 8.

**Charged** Denise Lynn Rupert, 37, of Williamsport, with use/possession of drug paraphernalia, driving under the influence of a Schedule I controlled substance, driving under the influence of a controlled substance metabolite, driving under the influence of a controlled substance with general impairment, exceed 55 mph by 19 mph, and careless driving on March 4.

**Charged** Michael Anthony Green, 34, of Rochester, NY, with driving under the influence of alcohol with general impairment, depositing waste on highway, careless driving, restriction on alcoholic beverage, and violate hazard regulation on March 18.

**Charged** Cheri Elaine Schast, 62, of Honey Brook, with burglary-overnight accommodation-no person present, criminal trespass-enter structure, theft by unlawful taking, and receiving stolen property on July 2, 2017.

**Charged** Jonathan Wayne Lloyd, 45, of Lewisburg, with theft by unlawful taking and unauthorized use of motor/other vehicles on March 13.

**Charged** Chase Andrew Satteson, 35, of New Columbia, with driving under the influence of alcohol with general impairment, driving under the influence of alcohol with a BAC of .10%-.16%, disregard traffic lane (single), and careless driving on March 7.

# Buffalo Valley Rail Trail Remains Open

If you desire a break from home, Union County's Buffalo Valley Rail Trail remains open to the public on which users are encouraged to practice social distancing. Under the Commonwealth's stay at home directive; outdoor recreation including bicycling, walking and hiking is permitted as long as social distancing is maintained. The Centers for Disease Control and the Pennsylvania Department of Health recommend keeping a minimum of six feet from other persons.

While the trail is open, the restrooms at the trailhead parking lots have been closed recently based on the advice of health professionals in an effort to prevent the unintended spread of COVID-19. The Union County Trail Authority regrets this inconvenience, but protecting public health and safety during these unprecedented times is the highest priority, said Union County Trail Authority Chair John Showers.

The Trail Authority continues to operate, however remotely, and notes that their regular April 19th Board Meeting has been canceled. The authority's annual meeting also scheduled for April 19th has been postponed until the summer and has been rescheduled to coincide with the 9:00 AM board meeting on July 16, 2020 at the Union County Government Center.

Trail users are asked to report immediate trail maintenance needs or safety concerns via the Buffalo Valley Rail Trail Facebook page or by leaving a message by telephone at 570.524.3878. The authority asks for everyone's patience as it may take longer than normal to respond to maintenance needs under the current circumstances. Due to the public health pandemic and emergency declarations of maintaining the trail will be even more challenging as local contractors the authority relies on may not be available. The authority also asks trail users to carry in and carry out all trash to prevent litter. Community volunteers who keep the trail clean may not be able to attend to the trail during the COVID-19 outbreak.

# Mifflinburg Teen Unveils Sidewalk Library



Union County Commissioner Jeff Reber, Garrett Franck, and Mayor David Cooney participate in the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Sidewalk Library located at the Mifflinburg Government Services Building at 343 Chestnut Street.

With the Covid-19 pandemic closing schools and libraries, 14-year old Garrett Franck of Mifflinburg began to wonder where people would get their reading materials. It wasn't long before Franck approached his parents and said he wanted to spend some of the money he had put aside for his 4-H projects this year to set up a sidewalk library in Mifflinburg.

Franck and his mother, Barbara, started to make phone calls to find out if permits were needed and where a box could be placed. Franck wanted to set it up the lending library near the Union County Extension Office so he would be able to monitor it when he was going to Teen Council meetings. The county commissioners granted Franck permission to set up his box at the Mifflinburg Government Services Building located at 343 Chestnut Street.

Franck purchased an old newspaper box and refurbished it. He then recruited a family friend, Cindy Potoeski of Millmont, to help him with the decals he wanted to place on the side of his library. Potoeski taught him how to prep the decals and get the box ready for application. Heritage Printers donated bookplates to put inside the books. Next, he went sorted his books. However, he discovered that he was short on teen and adult reading material. He called upon his friends from the Good Time 4-H Club who generously donated books to his cause.

On March 27, 2020, Franck's vision became a reality at a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially "open" the new library with Union County Commissioner Jeff Reber, Mayor David Cooney, MHRA Executive Director Heidi Criswell and his parents, Joshua and Barbara Franck in attendance.

"The library box says it all. Take a book, Leave a book. You can take a book you are interested in reading or you can leave a book you want to share with someone else in the community," explained Franck. "My dream is for there to be books in there for everyone to read from 1 to 100."

Franck is already looking to expand his Sidewalk Library concept by placing more boxes within the county where there is a need. Anyone who is interested in donating books can contact Franck at MifflinburgSidewalkLibrary@gmail.com or leave them in the box at 343 Chestnut Street.

# Police

**Hit & Run** Between 10-10:42a.m. April 9, in Hoover Tractor Supply parking lot, in Limestone Township. A 2016 grey Toyota Tundra belonging to Terrance Gearhart, was parked in the parking lot of Hoover Tractor Supply. An unknown vehicle struck the driver side of Gearhart's Toyota Tundra before fleeing the scene in an unknown direction. Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 570-524-2662.

**Crash** 6:23 p.m. April 6, on Baker Hollow Road, in Buffalo Township. A JI Case traveled off the roadway via the east berm and struck an embankment on the east side of the roadway. The driver, a 16 year old male, of Mifflinburg, was issued a warning for driving on roadways laned for traffic.

**Crash** 3:51 p.m. April 9, on Broad Street at its intersection with SR 15 S. in Kelly Township. A 2016 Nissan Altima and a 2019 GMC Terrain were traveling west on Broad Street at its intersection with SR 15 S. The Nissan Altima began changing lanes, traveling into the turning lane for SR 15 S. and the GMC Terrain was continuing west on Broad Street. The Nissan Altima abruptly turned back into the driving lane and struck the GMC Terrain. Both vehicles came to rest off the northbound side of the roadway facing west. The driver of the Nissan Altima was issued a warning for careless driving.

**Crash** 4:52 p.m. April 9, on Buffalo Road, in Buffalo Township. A 2010 Toyota Corolla driven by Jairo G. Porras, 45, of Lewisburg, was traveling east on Buffalo Road. Porras's Toyota Corolla traveled off the south shoulder of the roadway and struck an embankment, overturning and continuing to travel east on Buffalo Road, coming to rest facing west on Buffalo Road. Possible injuries reported.

**Theft** 8:28 p.m. March 31, on Old Turnpike Road, in Buffalo Township. The victim, a 20 year old female, of Mifflinburg, reported that she was issued a fraudulent check for a Craigslist purchase in the amount of \$1,500. Investigation is ongoing.

**Criminal Mischief** 6:30 p.m. April 13, West Milton Community Park, on River Road/High Street, in White Deer Township. Three unknown individuals caused damage to West Milton State Park. The individuals were described as three juveniles, two small and one big approximately between 14-16 years of age. Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 570-524-2662 and reference incident number PA20-507241.

**Found Property** 7 p.m. April 13, River Road/High Street, in White Deer Township. Baseball equipment was found at West Milton Community Park. The property is currently at PSP Milton. Please call 570-524-2662 to describe and claim property. Reference incident number PA20-507779.

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# Face Mask Effort To Keep Community Safe

By Kay Poeth



Ron Mapes and his wife Susan are part of the community volunteers making face masks for Evangelical Community Hospital, area nursing homes, and the general public. Ron is pictured here at the sewing machine.



Diane Hoover and other Hoover's BERNINA Sew employees cut fabric and elastic to be placed into face mask kits. Hoover's BERNINA Sew is donating the fabric and materials to help the community during this crisis.

Hoover's BERNINA Sew in Mifflinburg is part of the family owned-BERNINA company. It has long provided top-quality service to area residents by offering BERNINA sewing machines, software, and accessories, and also provides a variety of sewing, embroidery and quilting classes for people of all skill levels. They make their customers feel like part of the family.

Hoover's BERNINA Sew is now reaching out to serve the community during this time of crisis. The employees are busy making face mask kits that include pattern cut fabric and elastic. Community members-at-large are busily sewing the kits. While most are being distributed to Evangelical Community Hospital and area nursing homes; others are for local residents.

"Last week, we cut out over 2000 kits," said Leon Hoover, owner of Hoover's BERNINA Sew. "We are part of the community so we want to do our part in helping the community to stay safe."

The project got underway after Evangelical sent out an urgent request for face masks. Laverne and Priscilla Zeisler have spearheaded the effort. Priscilla delivers kits to various volunteers willing to help, picks up the completed masks, and then delivers them to Evan and other area nursing homes.

"We deeply appreciate the donation of these masks. By providing cloth masks that people who are not involved in direct care or not in a health-care area can wear, we preserve our supply of surgical masks and, when needed, N-95-type masks, for direct caregivers. That makes the donation even more important," says William Swanger, spokesperson for Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries, which operates Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village.

Evangelical Community Hospital is also appreciative of the community efforts. "We have truly been touched by the outpouring of support of the Hospital. Every corner of the community has played a part in contributing to our efforts to care for our patients. We have been collaborating with several partners, including members of the Mennonite and Amish community with whom we have a strong relationship, to make homemade masks that will be used to add to our stockpile of supplies for the COVID-19 response," stated Kendra Aucker, President and CEO of Evangelical Community Hospital. "Using these handmade masks for patients and staff not involved in direct patient care allows us to conserve our supply of hospital-grade masks for the personnel who require a more intense level of protection."

Face masks are more in demand for personal use in the effort to safe. According to Leon Hoover, "Community members have also been stopping to pick up kits and materials to make their own." Hoover's BERNINA Sew has been supplying all the fabric and elastic for the kits. For safety reasons, the business is operating on curbside pick-up and free shipping over \$50. Customers call in their order. The Hoovers are still servicing machines as well with the call ahead and drop off method.

Hoover's BERNINA Sew is located at 2282 Beaver Road in Mifflinburg. Follow the signs to the store. For more information, call 570-966-3822.

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# Obituaries

## David W. Boyer, 63, Lewisburg

David W. Boyer, 63, of Lewisburg, died Saturday, April 11, 2020, at Rolling Hills Manor, Millmont. Services will be announced at a later date at the convenience of the family.

## Frank Ralph Yurkoski, 92, Lewisburg

Frank Ralph Yurkoski, 92, of Lewisburg, died on Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020. A celebration of life and memorial mass will be scheduled at a later date.

## William J. Strohecker, 85, Jackson Township

William J. Strohecker, 85, of Jackson Township, passed away Monday, April 13, 2020, at his residence. No services are scheduled at this time.

## Donald E. Bingaman, 85, Mifflinburg

Donald E. Bingaman, 85, of Pleasant Grove Road, Mifflinburg, entered into rest at 5:41 p.m. Saturday, April 11, 2020, at Evangelical Community Hospital, Lewisburg. Burial will be held privately in Mifflinburg Cemetery.

# CAA To Offer Emergency Basic Needs Delivery Service

Union-Snyder Community Action Agency (CAA) is on the front line in responding to the need for in-demand resources for Union and Snyder counties' most vulnerable populations. Beginning Monday, April 6, CAA will be coordinating delivery of Basic Needs Bags to residents in remote locations, without transportation, decreased or no income due to COVID-19, ill or taking care of someone who is ill, or elderly/at-risk.

Each Basic Needs Bag will include a selection of non-perishable food, diapers (if requested), personal hygiene products, and cleaning supplies. This service is intended to provide supplemental goods to residents in need in between scheduled food distributions throughout the counties. CAA will only deliver to households who are affected by COVID-19 in some way and demonstrate urgent need of supplies.

To request a Basic Needs Bag, residents are instructed to call 2-1-1 or CAA's direct line at (570) 374-0181 to answer a few basic screening questions and schedule a delivery time. Delivery drivers are vetted and healthy CAA staff or CORE Susquehanna AmeriCorps members. Drivers will be equipped with donated cloth masks from PPE for Central PA and gloves; deliveries will be left outside to avoid any person-to-person contact.

Union/Snyder community members who want to help with this project are encouraged to donate basic needs items (non-perishable food, personal hygiene products, cleaning supplies, diapers) and/or equipment (gloves, face masks, NEW paper bags or cardboard boxes). Hosting a donation drive is a great way to engage friends and family, too. Monetary donations will go towards supplies for the Basic Needs Bags.

CAA is working in close partnership with agencies like Greater Susquehanna Valley United Way, Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. (CSO), and the Salvation Army to coordinate regional efforts to ensure all families in the Valley are supplied with in-demand resources during this pandemic. For questions or concerns regarding the delivery program, or to learn how to donate, please contact Emily Mrusko, Assistant Director, at [emrusko@union-snydercaa.org](mailto:emrusko@union-snydercaa.org) or (570) 374-0181 x108.

The mission of Union-Snyder Community Action Agency (CAA) is to reduce poverty in Union & Snyder Counties through self-sufficiency initiatives for families and individuals in collaboration with community partners. Union-Snyder CAA operates in four service components: Community Services, Service Navigation, Veterans Affairs, and CORE Susquehanna AmeriCorps. We envision a future where all residents of Union and Snyder Counties have equal opportunity to reach their full social, civic, and economic potential.

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# The Impact Of COVID-19 Crisis On Small, Local Businesses

By Kay Poeth

The wildfire spread of COVID-19 has impacted every aspect of our lives and changed our daily routines from working at home, learning at home, and for some not working at all. The Stay at Home orders and travel for only essential business, food, and doctor visits are designed to flatten the curve. How are our small, local businesses surviving such dramatic and unforeseen changes during this crisis?

**Ritter Feeds** in Paxtonville is considered a life-sustaining businesses. People still need to feed their animals. The hours of operation are the same as always. The employees are taking precautions to keep customers safe. Employees are practicing social distancing from customers and the protocol of washing and disinfecting. They Lysol the doors and counters throughout the day. They are using hand sanitizer and are not requiring customers to sign credit card receipts. Employees are encouraged to wash their hands frequently.

**IGA Central Market** in Middleburg is also an essential business and is open for customers. Across the region and nation some products are limited or unavailable because of the stockpiling and demand. Some of the supplies such as toilet paper, bread dough, yeast, pasta, and pasta sauce are limited. Prices of other products have risen when suppliers increase the price. Some Lysol wipes and cleaning products are not currently available. Delivery trucks are arriving regularly but warehouses are allocating products. "We are never sure what will be delivered or what will be out-of-stock," said one employee.

The initial stockpiling and hoarding seems to have subsided. People for the most part are being more moderate. "We are seeing regular customers more often and new customers are stopping to shop. Some are going store-to-store to see what they find," said Chris App.

IGA Central Market is taking precautions to keep both their employees and customers safe. Throughout the day they are disinfecting the shelves, door handles, counters, and carts. The employees are wearing gloves and masks. Plexiglas has been added to the checkout areas. The checkout area is wiped after each customer. The aisles are marked with lines allowing for the 6-foot social distancing between customers. They are trying to open only every other register to allow for more space between customers. After closing, the store is again thoroughly disinfected.

IGA Central Market in Middleburg has adjusted its hours. The store is open from 9 am-6 pm, Monday-Saturday. Closed on Sunday.

**Miller Travel Agency** in Middleburg has also been impacted by the crisis. Amie Miller reports, "As you probably guessed, the majority of our clients have travelled worldwide prior to and shortly after the outbreak. We made the very difficult decision to discontinue walk in appointments prior to the Governor's order to close the physical office. We are now operating via email only, but we have seen a substantial increase in bookings for 2021. The majority of our clients booked this year have elected to reschedule for next year."

Looking on the bright side, Miller notes that people now realize the benefit of having an agent by their side during these difficult times. "Unlike the big online travel companies who were not able to handle the massive cancellations, we walked each and every client through options and they only needed to call us, not be placed in long ques or ever busy phone numbers. We are so very grateful to our local clients who have made it possible

for us to weather this crazy storm! We would not be here without them and are moved by all the local support we have received."

**Tom's Eatery** at Fox Crossing in Mt. Pleasant Mills is serving delicious country comfort food to its customers. Owners Roger and Sue Sheesley say, "We are very fortunate that we are able to work out of our concession trailer because it has window service. When our business first opened in 2016, we operated a take-out business from the concession trailer. So, during this current crisis we have gone back to basics."

Tom's Eatery at Fox Crossing open Wednesday-Sunday from 11 am- 8 pm offers a full menu depending on available supplies. The regular menu including daily specials are posted on their Facebook page. They also offer curbside service and some limited delivery. In addition to cash, payment may be made onsite or by phone using a credit or debit card.

In the near future, Tom's Eatery at Fox Crossing is partnering with Sysco to operate a Pop-Up Shop offering fresh eggs, bread, cheese, leaf lettuce, tomatoes, potatoes, onions, paper towels, toilet paper, and disposable gloves. The merchandise will change depending on availability. Items will be posted on Facebook. Customers can order by calling 570-539-8009 on Wed-Sun from 11 am-7:30 pm. The Pop-Up Shop will be open throughout the current pandemic. Tom's Eatery at Fox Crossing is located at 28 A Fox Crossing Road in Mt. Pleasant Mills along Rt. 35. For orders, call 570-539-8009.

The **Snyder County Times** and **The Union County Times** are also affected by the pandemic. According to owner Susan Weaver, "If the businesses are closed, we are losing their advertising and we have lost a lot! During this time of crisis, Weaver is relying on saving to keep the paper going and to keep up with the expenses of mailing, printing, employees and office expenses. "I am mainly here to help the community. That's our job!"

The office has a small staff and they are working only at their own computers. They are staying the recommended 6 feet away, washing hands, and using the hand sanitizer at their desks.

The hours of operation are the same: Monday-Wednesday from 8 am- 4 pm and Thursday from 1-4 pm but the employees are experiencing shorter hours with some leaving earlier on certain days. (Note: Kay Poeth, reporter, always works from home and currently is not covering events. She depends on the public to send her neighborhood news.)

**Eva Linke of The Tack Room** in Vicksburg is another small business affected by the COVID-19 crisis. Sorry for the delay. She states, "We are shipping and doing curbside pick-up. Our door is closed to the public." Visit their website at: [www.tackroominc.com](http://www.tackroominc.com) or call 570-966-4999.

The Tack Room is able to ship per the business listing for electronic and mail order sales. Employees are cleaning in the event that someone touches something.

"It is very important to support your local businesses. They are the ones that support your local events, fire companies, ambulance services, youth activities, etc." says Linke. "Please support local businesses by doing online shopping locally, call in an order, or send an email with an order."

Over 99 % of America's 30.2 million firms are small businesses in this country. The vast majority (88 %) of employer firms have fewer than 20 employees. Take the time to support our small, local businesses. Before you click on that unknown online entity, consider our local businesses. Call them, check online to see if they have what you need. Many will ship or you can pick it up at the store. Support your neighbors, family, and friends in these unprecedented times.

## Go Ask Alice



Submit your questions to Alice Stelter Insurance at 570-372-0612 or [alice@stelterminsurance.com](mailto:alice@stelterminsurance.com) 832 N. Market St. Selinsgrove, Pa 17870  
Respectfully submitted by Alice Stelter, B.S. Health Education, Certified Senior Advisor CSA  
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**Question: Alice can you please explain why Medicare Part D drug plan coverage is not that great, and what President Trump is doing to help?**

**Answer:** I will try to make some sense out of some of the key points to lower drug costs directly related to Medicare Eligible Citizens. Most of the proposals fall far short of the goal to lower drug costs.

**Require drug ads to include the price:** One of the ideas is to require drug makers to disclose list prices in advertisements. Many experts say that they don't think that would have a significant impact on pricing and spending.

**End the patent games:** Another idea is to give the Medicare Part D insurance plans more flexibility to negotiate discounts on drugs that are still under patent or don't have any competitors. Patents allow the drug makers to recoup the millions of dollars invested for research and development. Over the years, the drug makers have found ways to hold on to the patent protections much longer. Trump said, "our patent system will reward innovation, but it will not be used to protect unfair monopolies."

**Persuade other countries to pay more:** I think we are all aware that many medications can be obtained cheaper from Canada. One of Trump's key proposals would involve pressuring other countries to raise their prices for prescription medications. In the United States we have the highest costs for prescription drugs. Many foreign countries have negotiated lower prices from the drug companies. It is believed that foreign companies should share in the pricing because the innovation benefits the whole world. It is unclear whether other countries would be willing to raise their prices and in turn lead to drug companies lowering prices in the United States.

President Trump is taking a stab at tackling this complex problem of high drug costs.

However, many of Trump's proposals are light on details and will need action by Congress to become a reality.

For 2020 Medicare Part D enrollees will have the Brand name drugs reduced to a 25% cost share in the "Donut Hole". Let me put that into perspective for you. Humira and Taltz are routinely advertised in the Evening News timeslot. A Medicare Part D enrollee would have a 25% co-pay in the "Donut Hole" of around \$1250 a month. Yes, you read that correctly! The total cost of those Medications each are over \$5000 a month.

Explaining Medicare Part D plans and the related costs is extremely difficult. I always tell our clients to hold on and fasten their seat belts. Sadly, as we all get older, things that should be clear, simple, and less expensive, are just the opposite. Any improvement and positive moves to lower drug costs I believe are more than welcomed by all.

## DINING GUIDE

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## Business Directory

### TALLMAN ESTATE AUCTION

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Attorney: Melissa S. Lobos - Mifflinburg

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