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Friday, December 5, 2025

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MIDDLEBURG, PA 17842

Feed 500 for Thanksgiving

By Kay Poeth



A DIRECT MAIL PUBLICATION - 28TH YEAR - NO. 49

Volunteers work in the kitchen to prepare meals for Feed 500



Nate Apple is pictured here helping his grandpa sort meals for delivery.

The Apple family of Mt. Pleasant Mills has been blessing the community with their Feed 500 for Thanksgiving and Feed 500 for Christmas outreaches. It is a labor of love for the family and many volunteers. They greatly appreciate the donations from others to provide meals for those in need.

The outreach began in 2021 when 14-year-old Nathan Apple shared with his parents that some of his friends were not going to have a Thanksgiving meal. He asked his mother about helping their community and feeding people for the holiday. That began the Feed 50 for Thanksgiving outreach. The Apples and friends prepared the meal in their kitchen with donations from many Facebook friends. The plea to Feed 50 for Christmas followed a month later.

Each holiday the need to feed people continues to grow. The outreach meals were prepared for Thanksgiving and Christmas in 2022, 2023 and 2024. In 2024, an Easter meal was also served. In 2023, the operations moved to the commercial kitchen of Richfield Life Ministries in Richfield to

MARTIN'S ARCHERA

Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. 1-7 ● Sat. 8-12

305 Troup Valley Road, Mt. Pleasant Mills

December 15th - 24th, 2025

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meet the growing need. Thanks to the generosity of many businesses and individuals who donated the goods to make this event so successful.

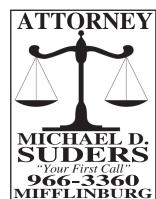
Wendy gave a huge shout out of appreciation to all those who helped with the Feed 500 for Thanksgiving on Facebook (Wendy's Wonders). "There are so many that have donated. I want to thank all my delivery drivers and all my wonderful people that helped in the kitchen my husband Scott, Nathan Apple, and Sekota Stotz, Connie Burge, Cathy Nicodemus, Kathy Bettis, Dave Eia, Lee Zechman and Toni Nornhold-Longer you guys are truly a god-

Local businesses also contributed to the cause including donations from Empire- 50 turkeys, Bread of Life-500 butter packets, Hilsher's General Store 28 cans of corn, Whispering Pines- 500 fruit cups, Dynamic Wings- plasticware and food containers, County Line Restaurant- gravy and David Eia- bags.

But above all, we'd like to thank God for guiding us through this adventure and allowing us to serve

Feed500 for Thanksgiving spearheaded by Wendy Apple, her family, and volunteers were delivered in time for the holiday. Now Wendy Apple is focused on Feed 500 for Christmas. The Apple family and volunteers will be preparing free ham dinners to those in need in Snyder, Juniata, Union and Northumberland Counties. Donations are needed.Items needed include 50 hams 42boxes of mashed potatoes, 15 gallons of ham gravy, 25 large #10 cans of corn, 500 applesauce singles, 500 dinner rolls. 500 butter pkts, 500 take-out containers, 500 forks, knives, spoons and napkins. If you are in need or a loved one is interested in receiving a meal, call 570-554-5359. Please call if you wish to donate as well.

This Week's Inserts: Weis **Markets** in Select Areas



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Mifflinburg Resident Charged with Arson



Photo provided from Mifflinburg Hose Company.

West Buffalo Township, Union County- On 12/2/25 at approximately 1239 am, PSP Milton responded to 980 Walbash Road, West Buffalo Township for a report of an intentional house fire. It was determined that Benjamin Houdeshell - 65 yoa, Mifflinburg, PA intentionally set fire to his cabin. Houdeshell admitted to Trooper's that he poured gasoline on the floor and lit the cabin on fire. He immediately contacted 911, advising them of what he did. Houdeshell was taken into custody, charged with arson and placed in the Union County prison on \$25,000 bail.









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Sat 8:00-1:00

ATTENTION READERS:

Let your local businesses know you saw their

advertisement in The Snyder & Union County Times!



Deeds & Courts

Jeffery P. & Donna L. Byerly, New Columbia to Nathan E. & Morgan E. Hurst, Watsontown property in White Deer Township for the sum of 368,000.00.

Trah Rentals LLC, Millheim to Henry Michael Vecellio & Mary Francis Beaty, Phila. property in Mazappa, Buffalo Township for the sum of 375,000.00.

Christina E. Williams & Nicholas Hilbert, Lewisburg to Filippo Cracchiolo & Lorenzo Cracchiolo, Lewisburg property in East Buffalo Township for the sum of

Kuhn's Bros. Lumber Co. Inc, to Landx Holdings LLC, Middleburg property in Buffalo Township for the sum of

Timothy W. & Louise Ann Shively, Mifflinburg to Shively living Trust, Mifflinburg property in West Buffalo Township for the sum of 1.00.

Paulette O. Armbruster Onestak, Lewisburg to Onestak Living Trust property in East Buffalo Township for the

sum of 1.00. Joan M. Quigley by William D. Flowers, Lewisburg to Joey & Julie Doan, Lewisburg property in Kelly Township for the sum of 239,000.00.

Stuart Hawley Young III for Helen L. Young to Stuart H. Young III & Yinchen young, Lewisburg property in East Buffalo Township for the sum of 1.00.

Julie L. Lohr, Millmont & Andrew A. Lohr, New Berlin to Andrew A. Lohr, New Berlin property in Limestone Township for the sum of 1.00. Robert S. & Barbara H. Thomas, Lewisburg to Thomas

Living Trust property in East Buffalo Township for the sum of 1.00. Weis Markets Inc, Sunbury, Geisinger Medical Cen-

ter, Danville property in Kelly Township for the sum of

Union Co. Sheriff's Deed: Ernest R. Ritter III,& Nichole C. & Joshua J. Lora, Mifflinburg to Newrez LLC DBA Shell point Mortgage Servicing, Greenville, SC property in Mifflinburg Borough for the sum of 95,000.00. James Snyder, New Columbia to Snyder Living TRust

property in White Deer Township for the sum of 1.00. Timothy F. & Mae L. Haley, New Columbia to Haley Living Trust property in White Deer Township for the

Wendy Shoemaker & Terry Vanbuskirk Jr for Alice K. VanBuskirk to Kyle A. Gardner, Lewisburg property in Lewisburg Borough for the sum of 265,000.00. Russell E. & Anna M. Baker, Parkersburg Pa. to Bren-

da A. Zack, Mifflinburg & James Zack, Mifflinburg for Jamdanmat Trust property in New Berlin for the sum of James & Cheryl Mulligan, Lewisburg & Brandon M. Vo-

gel & Erin L. Jablonski, Lewisburg to Brandon M. Vogel & Erin L. Jablonski, Lewisburg property in East Buffalo Township for the sum of 1.00. Marriages:

Cassie Jade Keister, Millmont to Garett Lee Walls, Mill-

Justin Scott Blount, Lewisburg to Allyson Ellen Jurford, Garnet Valley, Pa.

Jason David Clough, W. Milton to Catelynn Marie

Bobbi Jo Marie Ashton, Milton to Alfred Joseph Lezzi Jr. Milton

DISTRICT JUDGE JEFFREY L. MENSCH, MIFFLINBURG

December 2, at 11 a.m.

Charged Sara Rose Elliott, 63, of Mt. Airy, MD, with one count of forgery-unauthorized act in writing, theft by deception-false impression, identity theft, display of registration plate and two counts of receiving stolen property on November 19. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for

Charged Jessica M. Peltz, 40, of New Columbia, with possess of a small amount of marijuana for personal use on November 18. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for December 2, at 10:30 a.m.

Charged Garan Warren Harrington, 45, of New Columbia, with two counts of fail to provide accurate registration info, one count of possession of a controlled substance by a person not registered, possession of a small amount of marijuana for personal use, use/possession of drug paraphernalia, driving while operating privilege is suspended or revoked, registration required-PA registration expired > 60 days, non-PA expired, or unregistered, and manufacture, delivery or possession with intent to deliver or manufacture controlled substance on November 18. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for December 2, at 10 a.m.

Charged Paul Edwards James Jr., 66, of White Deer, with manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver controlled substance, on November 20. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for December 9, at 10:30 a.m.

DISTRICT JUDGE JEFFREY ROWE, **LEWISBURG**

Charged Graham Caldwell Wallace, 21, of Lewisburg, with DUI/alcohol with general impairment, duties at stop sign, and carrying and exhibiting drivers license on demand on November 21.

Charged Drew Cormier, 22, of Burlington, CT, with invasion of privacy-video/photograph person without consent on November 18.

Charged Jessica Marie Peltz, 40, of White Deer, with DUI/Schedule 2 or Schedule 3 controlled substance, DUI/ Schedule 1 controlled substance, DUI/drug or combination of drugs with general impairment, possession of a small amount of marijuana for personal use, use/possession of drug paraphernalia, driving while operating privilege is suspended or revoked, careless driving, and operate vehicle without required financial responsibility on November

Charged Heaven Leigh Angeil Shutt, 23, of Liverpool, with retail theft-take merchandise (misdemeanor 1) on No-

Charged Justin Kyle Rodriguez, 35, of Newport, with retail theft-take merchandise (misdemeanor 1) on November

Charged Matthew Wayne Heimbach, 61, of Mifflinburg, with retail theft-take merchandise (misdemeanor 1) on No-

Charged Anna May Wright, 79, of White Deer, with retail theft-take merchandise (misdemeanor 2) on November 19. Charged Daniel Raymond Engleman, 35, of White Deer, with two counts of access device fraud-use anothers device without authorization (felony 3), theft of property mislaid or delivered by mistake (misdemeanor 1), identity

theft, theft by unlawful taking and receiving stolen property on November 19. Charged Coco Maurer-Iezzi,43, of Lewisburg, with two counts of access device fraud-use anothers device without authorization (felony 3), theft property lost, mislaid or delivered by mistake (misdemeanor 1), identity theft (misde-

meanor 1), theft by unlawful taking (misdemeanor 1), and receiving stolen property (misdemeanor 1) on November Charged Kari Jo Zimmerman, 48, of Coal Township, with two counts of access device fraud-use anothers device without authorization (felony 3), theft of property lost,

mislaid or delivered by mistake (misdemeanor 1), theft by unlawful taking (misdemeanor 1) and receiving stolen property (misdemeanor 1) on November 19. Charged Zachary Dakota Zarr, 31, of Milton, with disorderly conduct-hazardous physical offensive conduct and

restriction on alcoholic beverage on November 17.

Community Calendar`

Indoor Holiday Sale

December 5, 6, 8am-?, 1330 Borough Line Rd., Mifflin-

AFSCME Retiree's Christmas Lucheon

December 8, 12pm, SUN Tech, RSVP 570-374-4547 Public Talk "Separating Fact from Fiction: The Immigration Crackdown"

December 9, 4-5:30pm, The League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area, Public Library for Union County

Contra Dance December 13, 7-10pm, Donalld Heiter Community Center, 100 N. 5th St., Lewisburg

Middleburg Joint High School Class of '74

December 16, 9am, Conty Line Restaurant, Richfield Milk Matters: Practical Steps to Better Milk Quality December 16, 10am-2pm, The Rail Center, 184 Young Rd., Lewisburg

"Milk Matter: Practical Steps to Better Milk Quality" Workshop

December 16, 10am-2pm, The Rail Center, 184 Young Rd., Lewisburg

MJHS Class of '66 Monthly Breakfast December 17, County Line Restaurant

MJHS Class of '65 December 19, 12pm, 12pm, Good Wills, Milton

<u>CONTINUOUS EVENTS</u> MJHS Class '64 Luncheon

Third Thursday every month, Hotel Middleburger SAHS Class '65

2nd Tuesday every month, 12:15pm, Perkins Dinner by the River

First and Third Thursday every month, 6pm, First Presbyterian Church, 18 Market St., Lewisburg

Free After School Program for Grades 6-12 Mondays and Tuesdays, 2:30-4:30pm, Mifflinburg United Methodist Church, 3rd and Market St.

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

Church News

Christmas Bazaar, Cookie Walk, Bake Sale, and Lunch Stand December 6, 8am-2pm, Emmanuel UCC, Market and

Vine St., New Berlin Christmas Bazzar

December 6, 8am-2pm, Emmanuel UCC, New Berlin Free Community Meal

December 6, 11am-12:30pm, First Lutheran Church, 404 Market St., Mifflinburg **Cookies with Santa**

December 6, 10am-12pm, Lighthouse Worship Center,

Market St., Mifflinburg

6151 New Berlin Hwy, Winfield

Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner December 13, 12-5:30pm or until sold out, during Christkindl Market St. John's United Church of Christ, 417



Annual Sale **December 2-6, 2025**

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Hours: Monday through Thursday 8-4 Friday By Appointment Publisher/Owner: Susan Weaver In-Office Staff: Valerie Hollenbach, Chloe Eddy, & Elizabeth Sheesley

The Union & New Berlin Gazette were merged to become the Union Times in 1822 and this was the start of the Union County Times. A lifetime

The Union & New Berlin Gazette were merged to become the Union Times in 1822 and this was the start of the Union County Times. A lifetime of Newspaper Publishing.

Standard postage paid at Post Office, Middleburg, PA 17842. Send all address changes to Union County Times, Inc., P.O. Box 356, Middleburg, PA 17842. Subscription Rates: Out of County \$55.00, out of state \$65.00, Newsstand 50¢ Submission policy: The Union County Times reserves the right to reject or revise any copy which considers objectionable, either because said copy is not keeping with usual newspaper standards of propriety or for any other reason deemed material by the Publisher. In any event, the advertiser or advertiser's agency assumes liability for the content of all advertising copy printed and agrees to hold harmless from all claims arising there for made against the Snyder County Times or its subsidiary publication. Publisher is not responsible for copy omission. typographical errors, or any unintentional errors that may occur in advertisement. Liability of Publisher is limited to only amount of space consumed by such error. All advertivsing accepted on this basis. All submissions must include the sender's name, address and daytime telephone number. 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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Sunbury City Band to **Host Holiday Concerts**

Edited by Kay Poeth



The Sunbury City Band will be performing two holiday concerts for the community this year. The first performance will be on Monday, December 15 at 7 pm at St. John's Lutheran Church, located at 3rd and Queen Street in Northumberland. The main concert will take place on Sunday, December 21 at 3 pm at the Zion Lutheran Church, located at the corner of Market and Fifth Streets in Sunbury. Admission is free.

The concert will include arrangements of traditional Christmas carols, including the most frequently recorded Christmas song, "Silent Night," and a celebratory rendition of "O Come All Ye Faithful." There will be plenty of familiar holiday songs like "Over the River and Through the Woods" and "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year." The arrangement, "Christmas in a Nutshell" is a sampler of no less than 17 popular holiday tunes. Some tunes will be woven into unlikely genres such as "The Nutcracker Suite" will be featured in a New Orleans swing version and "Carol of the Bells" will be played as a light waltz. Finally, the popular "Christmas Sing-a-Long" is certain to put everyone in the Christmas spirit.

Formed in 1895, The Sunbury City Band is composed of residents of the Central Susquehanna Valley. The City Band performs a spring concert and concerts at retirement villages and other community venues throughout the year. The organization's mission is to provide and promote musical excellence in a community setting. New players are always welcome. You can learn more about the Sunbury City Band at: www.sunburycityband.org or follow them on Facebook.

Lewisburg Children's Museum Offers Free Admission for Families on December 5

Lewisburg, PA - The Lewisburg Children's Museum (LCM) invites families to enjoy a full day of free fun, learning, and hands-on exploration during Free Friday on Friday, December 5, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of UPMC and UPMC Health Plan, admission to the museum will be completely free for all visitors.

LCM is honored to welcome Patti Jackson-Gehris, Market President of UPMC North Central Pa., president of UPMC Williamsport, who will be visiting the museum along with UPMC Health Plan mascots, Will and Gabi, to meet families and experience the playful learning happening throughout the exhibits. Families are encouraged to join a special Storytime with UPMC at 11:00 AM, where children can enjoy an engaging read-aloud inside the museum.

"Free Friday is one of our favorite ways to welcome new families and reconnect with our community," said Natalie Bond, Experience and Engagement Director at LCM. "We are grateful to UPMC for helping us make this day accessible to everyone and for joining us in celebrating the power of play." LCM's hands-on exhibits are designed for children ages 2–10 and their families to

learn through play. During their visit, children can explore many of the

museum's most beloved experiences, including: BodyWorks, featuring a kid-sized doctor's office, a walk-through digestive system, and a life-size

ambulance for pretend medical play • Weis Markets & PlayCafé, where little shoppers and

chefs can practice role-play and build social-emotional skills • Creation Station, filled with large-scale building mate-

rials for collaborative construction Playtime Theatre, offering costumes, props, and stage space for imaginative storytelling

• STEM and Engineering exhibits, including our BRAND NEW Dig It! Mineral Exhibit and the always loved Rigamajig

No registration is required—just come ready to play,

learn, and explore. For more information about the Lewisburg Children's Museum and upcoming events, visit

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Dairy Sale - December 9 @ 12PM

Legals & Classifieds

LEGALS

ESTATE NOTICE

Estate of MARY L. JOHNSON, late of Kelly Township, Union County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

LETTERS TESTAMEN-TARY on the above estate having been granted to the undersigned, all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims to present the same without delay, to:

Connie J. Clutcher, Executrix c/o Robin S. Martin. Esq. 111 N. High Street,

Suite One Selinsgrove, PA 17870

NOTICE

In Re: CHANGE OF NAME OF NATHEN PHILLIP THOMAS IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF THE 17TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA SNYDER COUNTY **BRANCH**

CIVIL ACTION - NAME **CHANGE**

NO. CV-402-2025

ORDER

AND NOW October 28, 2025, pursuant to the Court's Order Dated October 16, 2025, it is here by ORDERED that a hearing on the Petition for Change of Name is rescheduled for Decemher 16. at 2:30 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Snyder County Court-Middleburg,

CLASSIFIEDS WANTED

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

FOR SALE

Cojack puppies, ready by Dec. 16 for Christmas Gifts, very cute and up to date on shots and wormer, 570-863-8085

Oak mirrored queen head board w/attached nightstands, 2 dressers w/wheels, one w/mirror, ex. cond., \$1,000, 570-765-4978

Christmas Tree Two stands for large trees up to 6" in diameter, one is steel and one is ornate cast iron, \$25 each, 570-765-8615

'08 F450, crew cab, Reading tool box, ladder rack 6.4 diesel, 260k \$18,000, Houle liquid spreader, Tandam axle. \$16,000, 484-877-0227

200gal., 3pt., 27', 20" spacing, manual fold and control field sprayer. \$4,000, Baltic Spinner Spreader, \$2,000, 484-877-0227

2021 hauling trailer load and tote, ex. cond., 570-768-8074 or 570-541-

7ft Pre-LIT Duncan-Fir, quick set, clear lights, three sections w/stand, \$40, 272-363-8199

Scag zero turn mower sit on runs good, \$2,600, 3 cabinet pole light bulb battery operate, house ones, nice

es, 717-247-8520

Dog Bass Amp model BD30B, 43 watts, Hard-

shell case inluded, great

beginner guitar, \$225, 570-374-8242

Large Harmon Wood

Stove, brick lined, shak-

er and ash pan. blower

(if desired), up to 2' logs

V.G. condition, serious

heat for home or shop,

asking \$900 OBO, 570-

FREE

2 orange and white kit-

tens, 8wks and 1 about

10 wks old, 1 multicolor 8

wk old, call/text 570-541-

Whirlpool range, call/text

YARD SALE

December 5, 6, 8am-

4pm, garage sale, all

Chrismtas items, 7978

Col. John Kelly Rd.,

HELP WANTED

sale

570-971-8768

Lewisburg

658-7174

angle snowplow, skid loader attachment welded on for skid loader or loader tractor, needs hoses to go to skid loader, has cyl., \$900, 717-247-8520

One rooster, three hens. 11 months old, all four \$30, 4'x8' trailer w/26" sides all around. great for firewood/saw \$700, 717-247dust.

Caterpillar 951B Crawler, works well, no canopy, 765-9089 \$8,000, 570-

Hyster P180A Diesel, 8 foot forks, 18,000Lb capacity, \$15,000, 570-765-9089

Antique tractors and cars, in original boxes, please dd and ends, 814-221-0385

Ryobi 10" table saw, new, 15amp saw w/rip fence, miter gauge and foldable stand, \$150, pickup in Millmont, 570-238-9948

Ariens Snow Blower, like new, reg. 1,200 asking \$800 OBO, Husqvarnva Pro Tractor-Tread-Drive Snowblowers, like new, reg 2,500 asking \$675 OBO, 2001 F350 Crew Cab Diesel, red, LB DRW, 134K miles, inquire, 570-743-6952

2016 Ford Explore Eddie Bauer package, minimum rust on running board, well kept in garage and all maintenance details, sunroof, power seats in front. third row seating, up to date inspection, 570-217-0560

Wild life print sofa and chair, fair condition, \$100 for set, 570-837-

in 2012, purchased excellent condition. Hardshell Martin Case

Indiana Acoustic/Elec-

Obituaries

Ethel Lois Musser Fisher, 93, Mifflinburg

Ethel a beloved mother and committed wife and partner of the late William Thomas Musser, M.D. of 67 years passed peacefully with her loving family by her side on November 25, 2025 at the Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village.

Born in Chillisquaque, PA on February 4, 1932 Ethel was the daughter of the late Ross and Esther Fisher and sister to the late Elizabeth Byrd and Donald Fisher. Memorial services will be held at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mifflin-

burg on Saturday, December 6, visitation at 1:00 pm followed by the service at 2:00 pm.

Jane O. VanSickle, 78, Lewisburg

Jane died November 30, 2025 at Riverview Manor Assisted Living, Lewisburg. Jane was born on February 27, 1947, in Danville to the late Robert and Ruth (Magill)

Services will be held privately at the convenience of the family in the Odd Fellows Cemetery, Danville.

ATTENTION READERS:

Let your local businesses know you saw their

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Times!



Did you capture a photo at a local event?

Tag us on Facebook for a chance to have your photo published in The Snyder or Union County Times!

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Advertisin

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CLASSIFIEDS

IS TUESDAY

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Business Classifieds (Help Wanted, For Rent, For Sale etc.) **DEADLINE FOR ALL**

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For Sale & Free Items
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Yard Sales with listed items/descriptions For Sales with over 25 words **Homes For Sale**

Paid Classifieds are \$10 for 25 words or less, and 20 cents per word over 25

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Grand Opening

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Call <u>570-412-0775</u> Martin 6 String Acoustic/ Elec model ĞPCRSGT,

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or scuc@ptd.net

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SCHRECK'S CUSTOM TRIM **FINISHING** Mt. Pleasant Mills, PA 570-539-4431 • schrecksrs@aol.com **NOW STOCKING** Knotty Pine T&G Reversible 6" & 8" Widths Trim Boards • Clear Coating Stain & Clear Coat White Wash Finish **Exterior Colors Available** *Box Beam Wraps Interior & exterior doors in any species by custom order **Specializing in Pre-Finishing Interior Doors & Mouldings**

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Susquehanna Valley Chorale Continues Cherished Holiday Tradition with Annual Candlelight Christmas

tions, the Susquehanna Valley Chorale's Candlelight Christmas, under the direction of William Payn, will take place on Sunday, December 14 at 3 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church in Sunbury.

The SVC ensemble includes over 80 members. The performance will be accompanied by orchestra and organ, as well as a traditional candlelighting to conclude the performance.

Special highlights: SVC Limited will perform a piece as part of the program, and three soloists will be featured – Brian Crane, Josh Dearing, and Rob

The concert will include nine readings, as has been presented annually for over 100 years during



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One of the region's most cherished holiday tradi- the Nine Lessons and Carols service at Kings College in Cambridge, England.

Traditional Rutter carols will be presented, including "Candlelight Carol" and three arrangements by Dan Forrest: "See, Amid the Winter's Snow", "Festival First Nowell", and "Angels We Have Heard on High". The Chorale will also perform "So Many Hopes" by William Payn, "Sleep, Little Baby, Sleep" by Robert Cohen, and several other familiar favorites such as "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing", "Silent Night", "O Come All Ye Faithful", "Joy to the World" and "Still, Still,

Robert S. Cohen is well known to members and friends of the Susquehanna Valley Chorale as the composer of Alzheimer Stories, which the Chorale commissioned and premiered in 2009. "Sleep, Little Baby, Sleep" is Cohen's setting of a Christina Georgina Rossetti Christmastide poem, which he composed in 2010.

Sponsors for the performance include: Martha and Alan Barrick/Coldwell Banker Penn One Real Estate, Co-sponsors include: Bernadine Richard, Central Penn Bank and Trust and Margaret Weirick and Underwriters are: Gloria Karchner, Kessey Kieselhorst and William Vandenheuvel Ťickets are available online at SVCMusic.org, by

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"Milk Matters: Practical Steps to Better Milk Quality" Workshop

Dairy farmers and industry representatives invited to "Milk Matters: Practical Steps to Better Milk Quality" workshop.

LEWISBURG, PA- Dairy farmers and industry representatives are invited to attend "Milk Matters: Practical Steps to Better Milk Quality" workshop hosted by Penn State Extension this winter. The event will run from 10 AM to 2 PM on December 16 and will be hosted at The Rail Center, 184 Young Road, Lewisburg, PA.

During this in person workshop learn about why milk quality matters, best practices for reducing somatic cell count, and how to interpret culture results and take milk samples effectively. Participants will also learn to use DHIA records to track milk quality and guide culling decisions. In addition, the extension dairy team will share findings from a Northeast SARE sponsored project that identified the most common milk quality issues on Pennsylvania dairy farms.

Register as a group! \$10 registration fee for the first person and \$5 for any additional person. Lunch included.

This event is sponsored by Northeast SARE and JBZ

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SUMMIT Early Learning Fosters Creative Play in Outdoor Nature Playgrounds

By Kay Poeth



The Outdoor Learning Environment offers many different ways to engage the children.



No matter what the season, for children "playing outside builds confidence, teaches teamwork, and reduces challenging behaviors. Overall, it helps children grow, learn, and feel connected to the world around them.



Children collaborate and discover how to move a mini-boulder in the nature play area at the Lewisburg

On brisk November morning, the Outdoor Nature Playground at SUM-MIT Early Learning was filled with laughter, engagement, collaboration,

and learning. Two girls carried a long stick together up the hill and over a bridge. Then they switched who was in the lead. Others were playing in the mud kitchen at one end of the play area. A boy was busy analyzing how to move a mini-boulder in the yard. Soon, he was joined by five other children. Together, they engineered a way to lift the heavy stone using a stick. They moved it several feet away. Teachers were observing asthe children were actively engaged in a number of activities.

Doug Bertanzetti, SUMMIT Executive Director was enthusiastic about the Outdoor Learning Environment (OLE). "Children need to spend less time on screens and more time experiencing the natural world around them. Nature-based play helps children focus better, think creatively, and solve problems. It keeps them active and healthy, improves their motor skills, and lowers stress. Playing outside also builds confidence, teaches teamwork, and reduces challenging behaviors. Overall, it helps children grow, learn, and feel connected to the world around them.

Natural playgrounds are designed to encourage creativity, problem-solving, and collaboration. Features like loose parts – sticks, stones, leaves, and other openended materials – give children the freedom to invent, explore, and imagine. Whether it's climbing, digging, swinging, or building, children are learning through movement and experimentation. As the seasons change, the opportunities for new exploration unveils.

With a generous grant from the Charles B. Degenstein Foundation, SUMMIT Early Learning began to develop a nature play area at their Lewisburg Center. It encompasses a 7,000 square-foot wooded area with trees, benches, a mud kitchen, sand table, stepping stones in a dry creek bed, a hill for running and rolling (and soon snowman-making), sticks, leaves, insects, tree stump seating, heavy rocks for climbing, cut logs, buckets, water table, rock sorting station, binoculars and more. And, the children love it!

According to Bertanzetti, next year, "We have plans for raised vegetable and flower beds and a butterfly garden with butterfly bushes and bee loving plants." A music wall is in the plans as well.

By using the nature play areas during both the morning and afternoon sessions, SUMMIT teachers say that they have fewer behavior problems in the classroom and children nap better when they spend time outdoors, especially in our nature-based spaces. By incorporating spaces for gardening, dramatic play, music, art, and exploration, a nature playground becomes a living classroom where children can explore science, math, language, and the arts in meaningful and memorable ways. In natural settings, children engage all their senses, move their bodies in new ways, and build the foundation for lifelong healthy habits.

During Staff Training in August, Elizabeth Marcello, STARS Technical Assistance Coach, Outdoor Play-Based Learning, Community Connections for Children, provided the SUMMIT team with information about outdoor learning and natural playgrounds. Elizabeth explained the importance of outdoor learning for children. Spending time outdoors provides time for exploration, creativity, social emotional development, time with the natural environment, and fun with friends. The staff learned ways to incorporate nature into their lessons inside the classroom as well as ways to take their math, science, and reading lessons outside in nature.

'Our Lewisburg Center's OLE is the furthest along but we have some really interesting plans under way for our Susquehanna Children's Center including a local Eagle Scout working on a project with us," said Ber-

At the Outdoor Nature Playground at Mifflinburg, there are paths for riding their tricycles, benches, a rock-climbing apparatus, a mud kitchen, and more. SUMMIThas also been working with Bucknell University. One of their Management 101 classes selected Summit to participate with them this semester! Management 101 Company B built the Mifflinburg Children's Center two raised deck for the infants so that they can be outside. They built a music wall for the toddlers. They built two raised garden beds for the preschool playground and had a local builder build a mud kitchen for the preschool playground and the toddler playground. Additional and future grants will contribute to the

creation of nature spaces at SUMMITCenters in Selinsgrove, Middleburg, and Lewistown thanks to the

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Selinsgrove Moose Lodge and The Community Giving Foundation.SUMMIT is thrilled to have such great community partners and be able to offer these new play and exploration opportunities for children and teachers alike!



Books for Babes: The Gift of Reading



During the holiday season, members of Keystone State Literacy Association Susquehanna Valley (KS-LASV) participate in their annual Books for Babes community outreach program. This year volunteers wrapped 820 books for preschool students enrolled in local Early Head Start, Northumberland Area Head Start, PreK Counts, and Early Intervention Preschool Programs. The Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU), which serves Snyder, Union, Columbia, Northumberland, and Montour counties, distributes the books to the preschool children. Teenage parents in CSIU's Project Elect, a program that supports young parents, also receive a book for their child.

CSIU, one of 29 intermediate units in Pennsylvania, is an education service agency that provides many services to schools, including preschool programs, special education services, and professional development for educators.

KSLASV held a book wrapping party on November 3 at the CSIU building in Montandon. Over 20 individuals attended the party, including members of

Susquehanna University's chapter of Kappa Delta Pi. KSLASV members and volunteers wrapped two books: Goodnight, Little Panda and Goodnight, Little Duckling, both written by Amanda Wood. Parent tips for reading aloud to children were included in each

The Books for Babes project helps encourage parents to read to their children early and often. Reading aloud to children has many benefits, including building vocabulary, developing comprehension, and strengthening the bond between parents and children.

Harper Collins UK published a study in April 2025 that showed parents are not reading to their children nearly as often as previous generations. Only 41% of children aged four years and younger are being read to frequently. In 2012, the number was 64%.

KSLASV is a local non-profit, volunteer organization whose goals are to develop literacy, professional development, and advocate literacy issues. For more information about joining KSLASV, please visit ksla. wildapricot.org. Donations for the Books for Babes project may be mailed to Mrs. Janice Adair at 121 Sycamore Lane, Northumberland, PA 17857. Checks should be made payable to KSLA Susquehanna Val-



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Ladies Night Out

December 12, 2025

Nothing warms you up quicker than swimming results after our first snowstorm of the season. The Mifflinburg swim team won their first ever official dual meet! The boys swept their tri-meet against Shamokin and Schuylkill Haven and the girls split their meet.

Malachi Moyer and Grady Gemberling each won two individual events. Moyer won the 200 IM and the 100 butterfly. Gemberling took the 100 freestyle and 100 backstroke and swimming legs on both winning relay teams in the 400 free and 200 medley. Moyer was the anchor on the 400 free relay.

Wildcat Natalie Gemberling won both the 200 and

500 freestyle for the girls. This is the first year that Mifflinburg has rostered enough members to have relay teams. The future is bright for Mifflinburg swimming. Imagine how it would be shining had that natatorium been built that was offered many years ago? Selinsgrove soccer star Madi Merrell was named to

the All-State team and the HAC-1 first team with four other Grove teammates. Merrell had 26 goals and 14 assists this year. Grove girls joining Madi on the first team are Katie Varner, Emily Aument, Joslyn Zacharda and Addison Wenzel.

Bella Knepp from Midd-West was also named to the HAC-1 first team as a defender. Lewisburg's Ava Satterson was selected to the HAC-II first team as a midfielder.

The Susquehanna football team beat previously undefeated Christopher Newport 42-28 in the second round of the Division III playoffs. The Captains beat SU 41-27 earlier this season. The River Hawks defense is what flipped the script from the previous game in sacking the QB five times and picking off two passes after the Captain's QB Barry threw only two interceptions all year.

Susquehanna will travel to Radnor, PA to face (10-1) Eastern University at noon this Saturday.

Are the Chicago Bears and New England Patriots

this good? They share the two best records in the NFL with the Rams, Seahawks and Broncos. The first reaction is they haven't played anyone good and they have an easier schedule.

You still have to beat the teams on your schedule and last week the Rams lost to the Panthers and the Eagles were manhandled up front by the Bears. The Cowboys beat both Super Bowl teams from last year within the space of five days!

Parity reigns in the NFL which actually means 'Not For Long.' Teams determined to be at the top of the rung are continually losing to inferior opposition. I'm in a family football poll where you just pick the winner of each NFL game, no point spreads used. My record is 124-70 and the leader is at 135-59, you would think it would be easier to just pick the winning team. The Bengals beat the Ravens last week!

All professional leagues reward the worst teams through an inverted draft whereby the best teams pick last and non-playoff teams choose first. The reason parity only exists in professional football is because of a hard salary cap. This year teams cannot spend more than \$279M in salary. This number escalates every year but no team can spend more than the cap.

Major league baseball teams can spend all the money they want and are only penalized by a Competitive Balance Tax, also known as the luxury tax. These taxes are pooled together and redistributed to lower revenue teams to help promote competitive balance. How is that going for the Pirates, A's and Rays?

This past baseball season the MLB base tax threshold was \$237M. Teams spending over that are taxed on a tier basis. Tier 1 up to \$20M over is a 20% tax, Tier 2 (\$20M-\$40M) is a 32% tax and Tier 3 is a 62.5% tax on teams paying over \$277M in salaries. There are also potential draft pick penalties for teams in Tier 3.

The Mets payroll was \$374M which was \$137M over the threshold which equates to \$85.5M in luxury tax. The Pirates were \$72M and the A's \$50M under the \$237M threshold so they are making money by not spending it. This is what frustrates the smaller market fans as their team is not investing that money to get better on-field talent. That is why the luxury tax was created, to promote more parity, not parody.

Deep pocketed teams like the Dodgers, Yankees and Mets just want to win, no matter the cost. They stack their teams with the best players and have reliable depth in case of injury during the season. They also have creative ways of accounting by having a significant portion of a salary deferred over time as

they know the threshold increases every year.

The perfect example of this is what the Dodgers have done with the best player in the game, Shohei Ohtani. He signed a 10-year, \$700M guaranteed contract and is being paid just \$2M a year for the first 10 years. The deferred payment will be approximately \$68M per year to be paid out from 2034 to 2043. Mookie Betts and Freddie Freeman have deferred contracts as well.

The NBA also has a salary cap that is very easy to navigate. They can re-sign their own free agents even if that puts them over the salary cap and other complicated exceptions. With smaller rosters the players run the league. Players also talk to each other and devise ways to play on the same team through holdouts and

Parity aside, our two PA teams are both struggling but the Eagles will figure it out. They will get their offense back on track for a deep run into the playoffs. The Steelers are a different story and have few posi-

tives. The highest paid defense in the league gave up more yards on the ground in last week's game than they have in more than fifty years. The Rodger's experience isn't working and he looks very old. Coach Mike Tomlin needs to hit the reset button with a different franchise. Speaking of coaching changes, I would hope that

Penn State has named a new coach by the time you are reading this. Athletic director Pat Kraft has dropped the ball big time with this hiring process. Unless Notre Dame's Marcus Freeman is coaching the Nittany Lions next year, Kraft should be fired. Michigan State and Kentucky got much better with a

coaching change in one day. Kraft has had two months to make a hire and has

turned Happy Valley into Antsy Valley. The latest rumor is BYU's Kalani Sitake coming to the Lions. Kraft and Penn State are going to regret not hiring Bob Chesney from James Madison. Thank goodness Kraft

was smart enough to stay away from Lane Kiffin. Kiffin again chose himself over his team, of course, and earned permanent villain sta-Whenever a coach or administrator says it's all about the student-athlete....they are lying.

Enjoy a great weekend of football this weekend. You can reach out to me with comments or questions at theviewfromhear74@gmail.com Ron

Mifflinburg's Magical Christkindl Market

By Kay Poeth



On December 11-13, the town of Mifflinburg willbustling with activity as visitors celebrate German history and traditions at the Christkindl Market. Dubbed the "oldest authentic outdoor German Christmas Market in the United States,' Christkindl Market in Mifflinburg celebrates its 36th anniversary!

Inspired by the 700-year-old traditional

the festival features craft vendors, gifts and souvenirs, displays and demonstrations, crafters, traditional German foods and American favorites, hot Gluhwein, a live nativity, marionette shows and an array of entertainment both on the outdoor stage and various indoor venues. Over 100 booths are showcased in the event. The

German Christkindl Market, or Christ Child Market,

aroma of delicious food wafts through the air as people munch on various different food options avaliable. Nutcrackers guard the entrance to the marketplace that is always brimming with visitors. Visitors enjoy visiting The Tinsel Angel, glitter-

ing like gold. The Live Nativity is another special spot. Others prefer to snap selfies with the Guardian Angel and Miner of the Erzgebirge. Christkindl Market also offers a number of scenic backdrops for photographs. Signs direct families to visit the Buggy Museum lo-

cated at 598 Green Street for self-guided and docent displays of restored sleighs at the Visitors Center. Pictures with Reindeer & Food Hut in Market.

The beauty of Mifflinburg and the Christkindl Market create many memorable moments that will be treasured throughout the years. Visit the Mifflinburg Christkindl Market on Thursday, Dec. 11 from 4:30-9 pm, Friday, December 12 from 10 am- 9 pm, and Saturday, December 13 from 10 am- 8 pm.

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