



# Community Update

Volume 25, Issue 76

Spring 2024



## EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

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# City of Hermitage & Shenango River Watchers Earth Day Festival | April 20th, 2024 @LindenPointe



**3580 Prosperity Place Hermitage, PA 16148**  
9am to 12pm - Earth Day Cleanup  
12pm to 5 pm - Earth Day Festival



## EARTH DAY CLEANUP

9:00 AM

10 COUNCIL AVE. WHEATLAND,

Let's Spring into action and clean up the City! We're looking for volunteers to help with our Earth Day Cleanup! -Coffee provided by O'Neill Coffee



## BLUEBIRD BOX WORKSHOP

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

LED BY PENNSYLVANIA GAME  
COMMISSION REGISTER BY 4/18

Join us to make a bluebird box on Saturday April 20th at 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at LindenPointe as part of the Earth Day Festival. This workshop will be led by a PA Game Commission educator and is open to families with children ages 6-12. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Please sign up as a family (one bluebird box per family). During this two hour program, families will learn about bluebirds, their nesting habits, predators, proper bluebird box placement and care, and build a bluebird box to take home.



## WINGS OF WONDER

Program @ 12:15 PM & 1:30 PM

TWDC ROOM 113

Get up close and personal with some of Pennsylvania's magnificent birds of prey including a live falcon, hawk, and owl. Learn about these birds' characteristic features, discover their adaptations and natural history, and explore their critical role in our environment. Find out what you can do to help birds of prey and the world we share.



## AFTERNOON BIRD WALK

4:00 PM

LindenPointe Trail

Join Kathy Goodblood on an afternoon bird walk to catch a glimpse of native birds who call LindenPointe their home. Bring your binoculars if you have them!

Follow us on Twitter @hermitagepa

Like us on Facebook!

[www.hermitage.net](http://www.hermitage.net)

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 9:00 - Earth Day Cleanup
- 10:00 - Bluebird Box Workshop
- 12:00 - Ruby Mountain Music
- 12:15 - Wings of Wonder Program
- 1:00 - Digester Tours until 3:00pm
- 1:30 - Wings of Wonder Program
- 2:15 - Poetry Contest Winner Reading
- 2:30 - Story Spinning with Victoria Lingner
- 3:00 - Better Late Bluegrass
- 4:00 - Afternoon Bird Walk

## COMMUNITY PAPER SHREDDING EVENT

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

- Free to all Mercer County residents.
- Limit of 5 bankers boxes.
- Remove all binder clips and metal bindings.
- Off-site shredding services provided by the Keystone Blind Association.
- Sponsored by the Mercer County Commissioners.



## FOOD WASTE DIGESTER TOURS

Every 30 minutes from 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Bus Stop @ Prosperity Pl & Innovation Way  
Transportation provided by COG

Did you know that the City of Hermitage is home to one of the most revolutionary Food Waste to Energy Facilities in the country? Take a tour of the City of Hermitage Waste Water Treatment Plant and Food Waste Digester and learn about how the City of Hermitage turns food waste into energy!

# EDUCATIONAL Activities



## City of Hermitage

### *Ice Cream Cone Bird Feeders*

Bird feeder and seed variations: Learn about the different types of bird feeders and bird seeds that various Pennsylvania native birds enjoy. Decorate a paper shopping bag that will be used at D'Onofrios Food Market during Earth Week.



## Shenango River Watchers

Learn about feathered friends who live along the Shenango River. Children will gather beads that correspond to different birds, creating a beautiful bracelet that tells the story of their avian discoveries.



## Buhl Park

Tools & Tasks Activities: Why do birds have beaks? Grab a household tool and discover all the ways a bird's beak is adapted to where it lives and what it eats.



## Mercer County Conservation District

Decorate play binoculars and use them to find feathered friends around the festival!



## Bartramian Audubon Society

Learn how to turn your backyard into a wildlife sanctuary.



## Birding Basics (eCenter Board Room)

Join Nancy Bires for a workshop where you will learn various bird songs and bird calls by using an "Identifyer" & listen to bird sounds from Cornell University Lab or Ornithology. Children will learn how to use small binoculars and practice by finding and focusing on bird photos placed in the trees outside.



## HopeCAT (TWDC Building)

Ever wonder what to do with all those plastic grocery bags? Make "Plyarn"! Learn how to make "Plyarn", a recycled plastic yarn, and make fun new creations with simple weaving and crocheting projects!



## Food Waste Digester Tours

*Every 30 minutes from 1:00-3:30*

*Bus Stop @ Prosperity Pl & Innovation Way*

*Transportation provided by COG*

Did you know that the City of Hermitage is home to one of the most revolutionary Food Waste to Energy Facilities in the country? Take a tour of the City of Hermitage Waste Water Treatment Plant and Food Waste Digester and learn about how the City of Hermitage turns food waste into energy!



## Tamarack Wildlife Center

*Presentations @ 12:15 & 1:30*

*TWDC Room 113 (Technology Lab)*

Get up close and personal with some of Pennsylvania's magnificent birds of prey including a live falcon, hawk, and owl. Learn about these birds' characteristic features, discover their adaptations and natural history, and explore their critical role in our environment. Find out what you can do to help birds of prey and the world we share.

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT @ THE MAIN STAGE

Ruby Mountain Music 12:00-2:00  
Poetry Contest Winner 2:00  
Victoria Lingner Story Spinning 2:30  
Better Late Bluegrass 3:00-5:00



## FOOD & BEVERAGE ECENTER LOT

Torta'Mo  
Sandy's Meltdown  
Penn State Creamery  
Slow Hurry Coffee  
Big Rail Brewing



Follow us on Twitter @hermitagepa



## VENDORS ECENTER LOT

Robin's Refills  
Camp Co Candles  
Rod & Needle  
DK Studios  
Teachers Pet Goat Milk Soap  
Tim Heeter Honey  
Gargiulo Landscapes & Native Plants  
Gourdworks by Steve  
ReLoved by Kerri Rickard  
SV Garden Club  
Stigliano Designs  
Ashton Ferns

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[www.hermitage.net](http://www.hermitage.net)

# spotlight business



## Nick's Inn 62 welcomes patrons with traditional, homemade food

Contributed by Dick Davis

Much like the longtime television sitcom *Cheers*, Nick's Inn 62 Restaurant and Tavern takes pride in welcoming regular patrons while knowing their names. For more than 20 years, owners Nick and Debbi Morocco have provided quality cuisine along with an inviting, friendly atmosphere at 1890 E. State St., Hermitage.

"We have tried to maintain a mom-and-pop establishment and keep our prices fair and affordable," says Nick Morocco. "We would rather have guests two or three times a week than only once a month."

Traditional recipes for house specialties like lasagna, several pastas, along with wedding soup, stuffed pork chops and stuffed chicken breast are overseen for the past decade by chef Jim Wansor, formerly of The Wave, which thrived for many years in downtown Sharon.

The extensive menu has spaghetti, rigatoni, cheese ravioli, homemade cavatelli, chicken or veal parmigiana, smothered chicken, grilled chicken, ham steak, and salads. Sandwich choices include hamburgers, pressed steak hoagie, Italian steak hoagie, meatball hoagie, hot sausage hoagie, or Italian hot dogs.

Haddock is popular on Friday with selection of Italian breaded, beer battered or broiled fish, coleslaw or salad, and a side. Beer and a fully-stocked bar complement the cuisine.

Nick and Debbi purchased the restaurant in September 2003 from the Ciambotti family, which established and operated it for 44 years.

Businesses of Nail Designs and DeJulia Styling are separate in the building.

Nick is retired after careers of 47 years as a high school and college basketball official and 23 years as a City of Sharon firefighter. Numerous friends and acquaintances drop by regularly to sample Nick's fare.

Cheers!



Follow us on Twitter @hermitagepa

Like us on Facebook!

[www.hermitage.net](http://www.hermitage.net)

**Nick's Inn 62  
Restaurant and  
Tavern**

1890 E. State St.  
Hermitage, PA 16148

**724-346-4546**

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**Hours:**  
Monday - Friday  
11AM - 10PM  
Saturday - Sunday  
12PM - 10pm

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**Follow us on Facebook!**  
**Nick's Inn 62**





# Call For Artists

Artists, scan to apply!



Food Truck Vendors,  
Scan to apply!



## Tom Darby

Tom Darby, born and raised in Hermitage, Pennsylvania, discovered his passion for photography in the 1960s when he received his first camera, a black and white Polaroid

Swinger instant camera. Presently, Tom dedicates his lens exclusively to capturing the beauty of landscapes and outdoor scenes, primarily sharing his work with friends and fellow photography enthusiasts. His photography has been featured at the Hermitage Arts Festival, McKeever Nature Art Exhibit, The Oil City Art Exhibit, and several other local art showcases. We are thrilled to welcome back Tom Darby Photography to the 2024 Hermitage Arts Festival!



## Sandy Garcia



Sandy Garcia, from Hermitage, PA, is the creative mind behind a vibrant array of beaded prism sun catchers, designed to brighten any sunny window. Combining elements such

as stained glass, beach glass, crystals, stones, and seashells, Sandy infuses joy and beauty into her unique handcrafted treasures. We are excited to add a touch of fun and elegance to this year's Arts Festival with Sandy Store Crafts by Sandy Garcia!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**COMMUNITY SAFETY CLASSES**  
PRESENTED BY: THE CITY OF HERMITAGE POLICE DEPT.

**MAY 7** SCHOOL VIOLENCE & STUDENT THREATS 6PM - 7PM

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
ALL CLASSES HELD AT THE CITY OF HERMITAGE MUNICIPAL OFFICES

QUESTIONS? EMAIL [SSTAPLES@HERMITAGE.NET](mailto:SSTAPLES@HERMITAGE.NET)

RAISE YOUR GLASS TO UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS

**WINE TOUR**  
GENEVA, OH  
SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST  
FIVE WINERIES  
\$40 PER PERSON  
INCLUDES ROUND TRIP TRANSPORTATION  
(MEALS & DRINKS ON YOUR OWN)

*Ask a question—Save a life.*

### QPR Gatekeeper Training teaches:

- How to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis
- Leave knowing how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help

**Q Question** **P Persuade** **R Refer**

**Where:** 3050 Prosperity Place,  
Technology Lab  
Hermitage, PA 16148

**When:** May 9, 2024  
6:00PM-8:00PM

**Sponsored By:**

Mercer County Suicide Prevention Network



# SUMMER REC SCHEDULE

Starts June 10th! Visit the City of Hermitage Parks & Recreation registration site for more information!



## Girls Basketball

### Grades 5-8

M/W 4:30-6:30 pm

DMS Gym

### Grades 9-12:

Mon 5:30-7:30 pm

Wed 12- 2 pm

HHS Gym

## Girls Soccer

### Grades 7-12

T/TH 6:30-8 am

Artman Fields

## Boys Soccer

### Grades 7-12

T/TH 6-8 pm

Artman Fields

## Boys Basketball

### Grades 2-3

M/W 8-9 am

DMS Gym

### Grades 4-6

M/W 9-10:15 am

DMS Gym

### Grades 7-8

M/W 9-11 am

HHS Gym

### Grades 9-12

M, T, Th 7-9 pm

HHS & DMS Gym

## Tennis

### Grades 3-5

MWF 8-9 am

### Grades 6-8

MWF 9-10 am

### Grades 9-12

T/Th 8-9:30 am

Weds 6-7 pm

### Adults 18+

\*\*Starts June 3rd\*\*

MWF 7-8 pm

HHS Courts

## Golf

### Grades 5-12

T/Th 9-10 am

Buhl Driving Range

## Cross Country

### Grades 4th-6th

T/TH 9-10:15 am

### Grades 7th-12th

M-TH 9-10:15 am

Buhl Park (starts June 4)

## Girls Volleyball

### Grades 5-8

Tues 1:30-3:30 pm

Thurs 8-10 am

Location TBD

### Grades 9-12

Weds 2-4 pm

Thurs 10- 12 pm

Location TBD

## Lacrosse

### Grades 5-12

T/TH 6:15-7:30 pm

Rodney White Field

## Register



Schedules are subject to slight changes. Please check the registration page for most up to date information.

## Violin Lessons

### Grades Pre-K-12

8 Private Lessons, \$80

Mon 4:30-5:30, 5:30-6:30

Weds 4:30-5:30, 5:30-6:30

Thurs 4:30-5:30, 5:30-6:30

Sat 9-10 am, 10-11 am, 11-12pm

TWDC @ LindenPointe

# The City of Hermitage & Buhl Park Summer Camp AT BUHL PARK

June 10 through July 19

Monday through Friday

9 am to 3 pm

100% outdoors

Grades 1st-6th

(2024-2025 school year)



REGISTRATION CLOSES MAY 19

Scan for Info & Registration



Thank you to  
our sponsors:

JOY

# ADULT KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

AT THE HERMITAGE ATHLETIC COMPLEX



Saturday, August 3 starting at 10:00 AM

Gather Your Team & Compete for Glory

Food Truck & Beer Vendor!

Look for registration to open in June !

# Hermitage Small Biz Group Formed

On January 23rd over 40 small business owners and representatives met at Valley Kitchen to form the Hermitage Small Biz group. Hermitage Small Biz is a collaborative and creative group focused on promoting small businesses in the city and the amenities the city has to offer. City officials attended the inaugural meeting and pledged to support the group in its endeavors.

Hermitage Small Biz was organized by Summer Wise, owner of So So Trendy Boutique, and was inspired by her collaboration with other small business owners for a successful Halloween Bootique Walk last year. The group has now expanded and

plans a Spring Hop Shop event on April 12-13, a Small Business Saturday event on November 30, and promotions for the return of the American Roller Sports National Speed Skating contest at Olympic Fun Center on June 10-14, among other collaborative opportunities.

The second meeting of Hermitage Small Biz is set for April 9th at 6:00 p.m. at Vey's Pub & Grille and advance reservations are required. Future meetings will be publicized through the Hermitage Small Biz Facebook group and on City of Hermitage Social Media. Hermitage small businesses are invited to join the group and may reach out by email at [hermitagesbg@gmail.com](mailto:hermitagesbg@gmail.com)

## New Eateries Opening

Hermitage continues to attract a variety of restaurant and food and drink businesses to meet the tastes of our community. Last summer, One Hot Cookie opened its first Pennsylvania location in the Hermitage Square Plaza near Starbucks. One Hot Cookie offers a variety of cookies, cookie cakes, brownies and other sweet treats that are freshly baked and kept at 110 degrees in their warming cabinet, with a variety of toppings that can be added onsite. Bookings for birthday parties are available and a mobile Cookie Camper is available for rent.

In February, Jersey Mike's opened a location in the Hermitage Towne Plaza at 2427A E. State Street. Jersey Mike's offers fresh-sliced sub sandwiches, including veggie options, beef and chicken cheese steaks, drinks, cookies, brownies, and chips. Catering and personal lunch boxes are also available for order.

Recently, Cianci's reopened at its former location on Route 18 at 489 S. Hermitage Road. Cianci's menu includes homemade pasta and Italian specialty features, appetizers, homemade soups and salads, signature sandwiches and boneless wings. Carryout and catering are available and the restaurant offers BYOB service.

Starbucks is constructing a second location in the city at the former Denny's site at the intersection of E. State Street and Buhl Farm Drive. The new location will include an outdoor patio and drive-thru.

MP Coney Island is finishing renovations to the former Stone Church building at 600 S. Hermitage Road. In addition to its famous chili dogs, Coney Island offers burgers, sandwiches and fries, drinks, a snack menu and chili to go.

Finally, construction is slated this year for a McAlister's Deli location on Route 18 across from the Walmart plaza. McAlister's Deli offers fresh sandwiches, soups, and salads, and is famous for its giant spuds and delicious sweet tea.



## UPMC Minutes Matter

The City of Hermitage and UPMC partnered to provide a Minutes Matter open forum training on February 26th, at LindenPointe's Workforce Training and Development Center. Around forty attendees engaged in hands-on education on handling initial moments of cardiac events, opioid overdoses, mental health crises, and uncontrolled bleeding emergencies. Participants practiced techniques like wound packing and tourniquet application. The interactive format allowed for participants to discuss each topic with UPMC educators. More about Minutes Matter and events can be found at [minutesmatter.upmc.com](http://minutesmatter.upmc.com).



## UPMC Hillman Cancer Center Plans \$9.6M Expansion Project

**Left to Right:** Representative Parke Wentling, Dr. Heath Skinner, chair of Radiation Oncology, UPMC, Beth Wild, president, UPMC Hillman Cancer Center, Dr. Uzoma Iheagwara, radiation oncologist, UPMC Hillman Cancer Center, UPMC Horizon, Dr. Beth Piccione, president, UPMC Horizon & UPMC Jameson, Senator Michele Brooks, Joel Yuhas, executive vice president, UPMC, and president, UPMC Health Services Division

# 2024 Major Infrastructure Improvement Projects

During 2024, the city will be undertaking over \$4 Million in capital infrastructure improvement projects funded by the 2024 Capital Budget, Community Development Block Grant, Hermitage Municipal Authority, American Rescue Plan Act, PennDOT funds and previous bond issue funds. In addition, some street paving and sanitary sewer improvements will be made in the Wheatland neighborhood, with locations to be determined. The projects are:

**2024 Capital Paving Project:** Project location is Jerry Lane, Fran Lane (Jerry Lane to Maria Lane) and Tiffany Lane (Jerry Lane to Maria Lane). Project is to mill pavement and apply new asphalt.

**2024 Neighborhood Investment Program (NIP) Project:** The block targeted for investment is bounded by North Buhl Farm Drive, Shenango Valley Freeway, Baker Avenue and East State Street. This year's works will include milling pavement and installing a storm sewer system on South Oakdale Avenue (Fern Street to State Street) and Trace Street (South Oakdale to Wick Avenue). The objective of the Neighborhood Investment Program is to systematically upgrade the City infrastructure, one area at a time in our older, established neighborhoods before deterioration begins by identifying the program areas, taking a

comprehensive assessment of existing conditions including input from property owners and residents, determining needs and developing a work plan, funding sources and a timeline. The anticipated program outcomes are to develop public/private partnerships where property owners and utilities work with the City on area improvements, such as upgrading and improving public facilities, and the residents continue to maintain or improve their properties maximizing property values and a high quality of life in our neighborhoods.

## 2024 CDBG Streets Improvement

**Project:** Project is to install a storm sewer system on King Drive (Buhl Farm Drive to South Crescent Drive) and South Crescent Drive (King Drive to southern end). Also, South Crescent Drive (King Drive to southern end) will be milled and paved.

**Kelly Road Improvement Project:** The City has been awarded a transportation grant through the Mercer County Metropolitan Organization (MPO), Surface Transportation Urban (STU), in the amount of \$462,795, for a project to improve Kelly Road. The scope of work includes new pavement, stormwater upgrades and bicycle and pedestrian improvements. The project will be in cooperation with the Borough of Sharpsville's plans to improve High Street and Mercer Avenue.

## Hermitage Road/Route 18 Median

**Beautification Project:** This project will remove the larger concrete medians along both North and South Hermitage Road (Route 18) between the Shenango Valley Freeway and School Drive and replace the concrete with appropriate attractive landscaping. The project is a component of the Town Center Project and is planned to be completed in 2024.

## South Neshannock Sanitary Sewer Extension Project

**Project:** The project will extend municipal sewers south on South Neshannock Road from East State Street to Miller Road. It will also add sewers from South Neshannock Road west on Virginia Road to South Darby Road and on Miller Road from South Neshannock Road to South Darby Road. The project will add approximately 93 homes to the system and will make vacant land available for future development. The project is scheduled to begin construction in late 2024 and completed in 2025.

## East State Street Pedestrian Improvement Project (PennDOT)

**Project:** The project will add sidewalks on State Route 3008 (East State Street) from Boyd Drive to State Route 18 (Hermitage Road) and approximately 300' North and South on State Route 3025 (Buhl Farm Drive). It is estimated the project will begin in July.

## Call for Volunteers

Community is more than where we live or the name of our city. It's about meaningful interactions, fostering relationships and doing something together that makes living here matter. If you would like to be a community volunteer for some of our long-standing traditions like the Hermitage Holiday Light Parade and Arts Fest, please contact the city.

[parks@hermitage.net](mailto:parks@hermitage.net) | (724)981-0800 ext. 1240



## The Buhl Child Development Center

Buhl Summer Camp | June 10 – August 9, 8am – 4pm

### OUR PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Discounts for Buhl members
- ELRC/CCIS Accepted
- Breakfast, lunch and snack included
- Field trips, swimming and more!



For more information contact:

[nanderson@fhbuhlclub.org](mailto:nanderson@fhbuhlclub.org)

724-981-3700, ext. 107

28 Pine St, Sharon, Pa 16146

# Buhl Park – Spring 2023

## SPLASH INTO SUMMER WITH US!

Season passes are now available for purchase. Be sure to set your family up for a fun-filled summer and get yours today! Stay tuned for more information about programming and other fun news coming from the pool!



Stay tuned for more information and visit [buhlpark.org/outdoorpool](http://buhlpark.org/outdoorpool) for the most up-to-date information on our outdoor pool and programming.



**1874 GUS 2024 MACKER**

**3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**  
**JULY 26-JULY 28, 2024**  
**BUHL PARK**  
**HERMITAGE, PA**

**More Info:** [MACKER.COM/LOCAL/HERMITAGE-PA](http://MACKER.COM/LOCAL/HERMITAGE-PA)

**POWERED BY:**  
**Visit Mercer County PA** **HERMITAGE PENNSYLVANIA**



**Dum Dum**  
BUHL PARK GOLF COURSE

**JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM**

**MONDAY & WEDNESDAY | AGES 7 - 18**  
**\$125 PER SESSION**  
**FOUR 6-WEEK SESSIONS**

**SIGN YOUR KIDS UP TODAY!**  
[BUHLPARK.ORG/GOLF](http://BUHLPARK.ORG/GOLF)

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY | AGES 7 - 18

\$125 PER SESSION

FOUR 6-WEEK SESSIONS

SIGN YOUR KIDS UP TODAY!

[BUHLPARK.ORG/GOLF](http://BUHLPARK.ORG/GOLF)

SESSION 1:

April 8th - May 15th | 4PM-5PM

SESSION 2:

June 3rd - July 10th | 9AM-10AM |

10:30AM-11:30AM | 12PM-1PM



# Shenango River Watchers

## Spring Paddle Fest

June 15, 2024

**Spring Wildflower Hike**  
**April 28th**  
**1:00 pm**  
**Kidds Mill Park**  
99 W Kidds Mill Rd. Greenville, PA  
2 Mile Hike  
Free - Registration Required

**WHERE THE RIVER RUNS**  
  
**10 MILE TRAIL RACE**  
**MAY 18TH 9:00 AM**  
**SHENANGO TRAIL**

**Fly Casting Clinic**  
**May 5th**  
**11:00 AM**  
**Shelter 4 - Buhl Park**  
FREE - Registration Required

**Spring Wildflower Hike**  
**April 28th**  
**1:00 pm**  
**Kidds Mill Park**  
99 W Kidds Mill Rd. Greenville, PA  
2 Mile Hike  
Free - Registration Required

**WHERE THE RIVER RUNS**



**10 MILE TRAIL RACE**  
**MAY 18TH 9:00 AM**  
**SHENANGO TRAIL**

**Fly Casting Clinic**  
**May 5th**  
**11:00 AM**  
**Shelter 4 - Buhl Park**  
FREE - Registration Required



**VISIT SHENANGORIVERWATCHERS.ORG FOR MORE INFO**



# BUHL REGIONAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

Promoting a Healthy Community

## MINI GRANTS

BRHF is currently accepting applications for their Mini-Grant program. Local organizations may apply for grant money, in amounts up to \$5,000, to support collaborative programming focused on the health of our community. Eligibility guidelines, additional information, and the BRHF Grant Portal are available on our website.

## AED+ PROGRAM

Buhl Regional Health Foundation, Staying Alive LLC, AHN Grove City, and the UPMC Jameson and Horizon Foundations continue their collaborative AED+ Program, a life-saving device and skills program for the community. The AED+ Program offers FREE AED's, staff training on the use of an AED, Hands-Only CPR training, and CPR Certification to all eligible non-profits, schools, and organizations in Mercer County. Interested parties may apply for the program on our website.

## TEEN GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

As part of the Youth Grief Support Program, BRHF, in collaboration with Baker Professional Counseling, offers a grief support group for adolescents and teens in 7th-12th grade. The support group meets on Saturday mornings at Grace Chapel, offering a safe and supportive space where adolescents and teens can connect with others who are going through similar experiences, share their thoughts and feelings, and learn coping strategies to help navigate their grief journey. The group is currently accepting registrations for the next session, which will run from August 24th - November 2nd. Interested parties must register via the intake form on our website.

## CAMP COURAGE 2024

Registration has begun for the 3rd Annual Camp Courage program. Camp Courage, held at Buhl Park the week of July 29th - August 2nd, is a weeklong program for children (K-7) who have experienced grief and loss. The camp is free to families and provides both professional and peer support to grieving children, through a thoughtful curriculum focused on the

development of coping mechanisms, social skills and therapeutic activities. Registration is required to determine each camper's eligibility. Please register your camper on our website by June 30th.

## YOUTH FEEDBACK CAMPAIGN

BRHF has launched an initiative seeking the voices and ideas of youth in our community. Children, youth and teens are invited to complete a brief survey regarding Mercer County's overall health and wellness. All submissions are anonymous and all ideas are welcome! Ask the youth in your household to complete the survey today. Surveys can be accessed via our website's homepage.

## 2ND ANNUAL R.A.M. FREE COMMUNITY DENTAL CLINIC

**Sharon High School**  
**1129 East State St., Sharon, PA 16146**

**June 8-9, 2024 Doors open at 6AM**

### NO ID/INSURANCE/PAYMENT REQUIRED

- Exams      • Cleaning      • Fillings
- Extractions      • Oral Hygiene Instruction

BRHF, in partnership with Remote Area Medical, will host their 2nd annual community dental clinic this summer, providing crucial dental care to hundreds of Mercer County residents for FREE! The clinic will be open to the public for walk-in dental care on June 8th and 9th in Sharon High School's gymnasium. Comprehensive dental services will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

Plenty of volunteers are needed to support the clinic, including medical and dental professionals as well as general volunteers. Anyone interested in assisting with the clinic should visit our website to complete a volunteer registration form.  
[www.buhlregionalhealthfoundation.org/dental](http://www.buhlregionalhealthfoundation.org/dental)

## OUR WEBSITE

For further information regarding our programming and grants, or to access registration or application forms, please visit  
[www.buhlregionalhealthfoundation.org](http://www.buhlregionalhealthfoundation.org)



**Adult Training Programs**

EMT  
Medical Assistant

**APPLY ONLINE**  
[www.HopeCAT.org](http://www.HopeCAT.org)

HopeCAT is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization providing education to people in our community. Visit our website for more information and to apply.

**START YOUR CAREER WITH US**

# Hermitage Spring Shop Hop

◆ April 12 & 13th 2024 ◆

**Participating Venues**

- SO SO TRENDY
- SMOKY MARTIN'S BBQ
- POPPY RD. BOUTIQUE
- LECHIC BATH BOUTIQUE
- HEALING TREE
- BEST LIFE BOUTIQUE
- ONE HOT COOKIE
- WEBB WINERY
- BICYCLE STORE
- DIANE'S BOUTIQUE

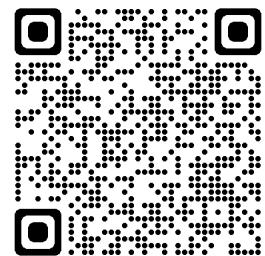
# LindenPointe

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## eCenter Business Incubator

The eCenter continues to add to the economic development in Mercer County by fostering a supportive community. The facility has entrepreneurs in all suites as well as many tenants occupying the co-working spaces. The eCenter is welcoming a new co-worker, Cerb3D, an e-commerce brand that sells primarily to local companies and performs some 3D print on demand business with plans to expand. There is open desk space in the co-working suite, for those interested in renting a designated workspace, please contact [ecenter@lindenpointe.com](mailto:ecenter@lindenpointe.com).

For more information on co-working please visit [www.ecenterlindenpointe.com/co-working-space/](http://www.ecenterlindenpointe.com/co-working-space/)



## eAcademy

The eAcademy holds two student pitch competitions during the school year. At the end of their first semester, learning about the entrepreneurial mindset, students compete in "Dolphin Tank," and must present a short elevator pitch to a panel of local judges. This pitch must include: product name and category, the problem they are attempting to solve, their proposed solution, and the key benefit to the solution. Judges then lead a Q&A session discussing market opportunity, competition, customer acquisition, and financials. Students should also present a high-level product spec as the very beginning stage of their proof of concept.

This year, VersaStyle (pictured) took 1st place and will continue on to compete at Demo Day at the end of the school year. They will present a working prototype and full business plan for the chance to win up to \$5,000.00. Demo Day is scheduled for Sunday, May 19th at HopeCAT and is open to the public- more information to come!

VersaStyle is a hair-care tool targeting multi-racial families with a variety of extensive hair care needs. They are designing a base with several attachments that work with all different types of hair. The team, comprised of five local high school seniors, states, "The VersaStyler does not only allow for efficiency, but it also promotes self-confidence and inclusiveness. This brush encourages support for all ethnic hair types and allows for everyone to express their uniqueness in their own hair style. This builds a strong foundation for self-expression and connection between all individuals."



**Pictured left to right:** Meredith Winslow (Hickory), Luke Nevil (Hickory), Quentin Lee, Jr (Sharon), Rachel Weaver (Grove City) and Isaiah Harvey (Sharon).



## Pennsylvania Cybersecurity Center

The Pennsylvania Cybersecurity Center (PCC) at LindenPointe is excited to welcome our first cohort of adult learners to the program. Adult learners take three courses that provide the opportunity to obtain 2 industry-recognized certifications, CompTIA Network+ and CompTIA Security+, that prepare them for an exciting career in cybersecurity. Through the PCC's partnership with the PA CareerLink and Penn State University, the PCC offers a unique and effective learning experience as it is virtual, live instructor led, and facilitates real-world experience. The PCC has some upcoming information sessions on April 1st and 29th at 3-4:00 PM at PA CareerLink – Mercer County to answer questions regarding the next cohort that is set to begin on Tuesday, May 21st. To register for

an information session, please use the QR code or contact the PCC team at [PCC@LindenPointe.com](mailto:PCC@LindenPointe.com). The PCC is also excited to continue recruiting for our high school and college programs that begin in Fall 2024.

For more information on the LindenPointe Development Corporation or any of its programming mentioned above, please call us at 724.981.1829.





Join us for a simple meal of soup and bread and choose a handcrafted bowl to take home as a reminder that food insecurity persists in our local communities. The event features a basket raffle, silent auction, live entertainment and a cash bar.



Your support helps feed  
our hungry neighbors right  
here in Mercer County!



Scan QR code or visit [mercercountyfoodbank.org](http://mercercountyfoodbank.org) to get tickets online or purchase tickets at MCFB or at the door of the event. Questions? Contact Patty at 724-981-0353 ext. 103



**Myron's Meal Mobile**  
is coming to your neighborhood!

Starting June 10th  
we'll be serving weekly hot lunches from  
11:30-1:00pm (or while supplies last)

- Mondays at Hillside Presbyterian Church
- Tuesdays at Stoneboro Fire Department
- Wednesdays at W. Middlesex United Methodist Church
- Thursdays at Stey-Nevant Library
- Fridays at the Buhl Club

**Come have lunch on us!**

**Stay Tuned!**

Visit [mercercountyfoodbank.org](http://mercercountyfoodbank.org)  
for more information!



## VALLEY YMCA

**We have a new facebook page  
& a new Website!**

Find us on Facebook at  
**"VALLEY YMCA OF HERMITAGE"**  
Our new website is:  
[www.grovecityymca.org](http://www.grovecityymca.org)  
(Select "Valley" branch for the Hermitage location)



We participate in certain Health Insurance Programs that may qualify you for a free membership! Ask your Health Insurance if they are offering you any of these programs: or call us for more info:

**"Silver Sneakers", "Fitness-Your-Way", "Renew Active", "Silver & Fit", and "Active & Fit"**

We have Individual Memberships for all ages, as well as Family Memberships and Day Passes! We offer Financial Assistance for those in need. No one is ever turned away.

\*\*\*\*All of our classes are FREE for Members!\*\*\*\*

### UPCOMING YOUTH SPORTS

**\*\*Register online or at our Front Desk\*\***  
Children do not need to be members to participate in our Youth Programs. We do have discounts on most of our Youth Sports if a child is a Member.

### SPRING FLAG FOOTBALL

Co-Ed ages 5-12  
Program runs April 13th—May 18th  
Registration ends: April 8th

### GIRLS ONLY SPRING FLAG FOOTBALL

Girls Ages 7-12  
Program runs April 22nd—May 20th  
Registration ends: April 8th

### T-BALL

Co-Ed Ages 3-6  
Program runs May 15th—June 25th  
Registrations ends: May 3rd

### ADULT SPORTS

#### **18+ Pick Up Basketball**

Every Friday – 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM  
\$5 Dollars At The Door

#### **Pickle Ball**

Indoors Rain or Shine!  
For Members and Non-Members  
Tuesdays: 1:45-3:45  
Wednesdays: 12:15-2:15  
Thursdays: 1:45-3:45  
Fridays: 11:30-1:30

### ON GOING YOUTH PROGRAMS

#### **Parents Night Out**

Ages 3 and up  
Once a Month

#### **Grow & Craft**

Ages 3-10  
2nd & 4th Friday of Every month

# Hermitage Historical Society

5465 East State Street • 724-346-0419 • Follow Us on Facebook

Thank you so much for your continued support and we appreciate all your financial support to keep our beautiful 1869 mansion authentically preserved for the enjoyment of our beloved community. This year marks the 155th anniversary of the Stewart House, home of the Hermitage Historical Society. We are planning to host an open house Wine and Cheese event on September 17 from 5:00-8:00 to commemorate this historical marker. Tickets will be \$20. Anyone interested in attending OR interested in donating to the society can feel free to contact the society at 724-346-0419 OR Rod at 724-877-7996.

We know of many homes and families of historical importance to our town's history, but we don't know everything! If you have a home that was built over 100 years ago or has particular historical value, please contact the historical society. Any pictures, stories, family histories, etc. are vital to giving full context to the history of our community.

#### New Members Are Always Welcome:

Students-\$5 per year  
Individuals-\$10 per year  
Family-\$25 per year  
Lifetime-\$150 once

The Hermitage Historical Society is launching a 2024 fundraising campaign for building and maintenance needs. Monetary donations may be brought to any public meeting OR be mailed to:

**Hermitage Historical Society  
Attn. Treasurer  
c/o 4200 Morefield Rd.  
Hermitage, PA 16148**

The Hermitage Historical Society is in need of:

- Donations of gently used items for sale at our flea markets. All proceeds go to the maintenance of the house and other Hermitage Historical Society endeavors.
- Volunteers to help at the society's Stewart House on East State Street. Members and volunteer duties include: welcoming visitors during open hours, general cleaning, gathering historical information, etc.
- aluminum pull tabs from any container (pop, soup, pet food, etc.) for donation to the Ronald McDonald House.

If anyone is interested, please contact the society at 724-877-7996 or message us on Facebook. Thank you in advance.

#### The Stewart House

##### **Stewart House Rentals**

The Stewart House is a beautiful home to host your next important gathering! (showers, weddings, meetings, etc.): \$150 per 4 hours

##### **Upcoming Speakers:**

*Open to the public at the Stewart House*

##### **April 16 - 7pm**

Representative from the city of Hermitage  
**May 21 - 7pm**

Dan Maurice on postcards chronicling the history of the Shenango Valley

##### **Flea Market May 4th 8am-2pm**

It's hard to believe, but our first Flea Market of 2024 is only a few short months away. Vendors can set up for \$10. (rain or shine). Call 724-877-7996 if you have interest in setting up

#### **Historical Society Officers:**

President: Cameron Linton  
Vice President: David Gibb  
Second Vice President: Dan Maurice  
Treasurer: Rod McAdams  
Secretary: Barb Matejka  
Assistant Secretary: Cindy Cox  
Board Members: Brenda Kulka, Maria Koledin, Dave Fodor, Michael Ristvey

## Hermitage School District Holds District Wide Career Week

**Dan Bell, Superintendent**

As you will read on each school page, our district puts an emphasis on providing our students with yearly exposure to the many career paths that they have in front of them upon graduation. We feel it is important, starting in kindergarten, to show our students the career opportunities available to them. We are planning on creating even more flexibility in the coming years for our senior high students to explore careers through work study, internships, and job shadowing.

#### Stadium Renovation

The Hermitage School Board recently approved a full stadium renovation that will take place this coming summer. Construction begins the week after our Commencement ceremony scheduled for Friday, May 31, 2024. The construction includes a new turf field, track, scoreboard, expanded chair seating, and new fencing around the track. As our current facility has aged beyond the expected life, our school board proactively set aside the necessary funds for this project so that we are able to complete the project out of capital reserve savings. These new improvements are greatly

All of these activities would not be possible without the volunteer spirit shown by our parents and our community. Our students benefited from the 100+ speakers who took time to present to our students during career week. Strong communities build successful schools that graduate successful students. We are so grateful for our parents and community members who shared their knowledge and expertise with our students. Thank you.

anticipated by our student athletes, our coaches and fans. We can't wait to see the finished project.

Community members who access the track and stadium for exercise should note that the stadium will be closed to all use starting June 1, and will be closed through project completion which is expected to be around July 31. Once the project is completed, the stadium will be reopened for community members. We are fortunate to have beautiful outdoor facilities and look forward to planning a ribbon-cutting ceremony at our first home football game.

# Hickory High School celebrates career week with several exciting activities



Career Week at Hickory High School has always been an enriching experience for our students where we offer a variety of insightful sessions and opportunities to explore future pathways. Our theme for 2024 was GRIT: Guts, Resilience, Initiative, and Tenacity. We were privileged to begin our Career Week with our Guest Speaker, Joe Klimchak, the In-Game Host for the Pittsburgh Pirates. He shared his invaluable wisdom and personal life experiences that left a lasting impression on all of our students and staff. Mr. Klimchak spoke passionately about his adversity during his school years and how his tenacity and GRIT allowed him to overcome obstacles.

In addition to a wonderful kick off, each grade level took part in various activities related to careers. Our 8th and 9th grade students heard from our own HHS School Resource Officer, Phil Sciaretta, who discussed building relationships and what it means to be a part of a community. The freshmen also completed Career Interest Inventories and Career College projects, where they researched multiple colleges and universities and gathered information regarding majors, admissions, and costs for each institution. Our sophomores heard from an alumni panel of successful and thriving Hornet graduates who shared their own personal journeys to their careers as well as offered advice on how to navigate life past Hickory High School. The alumni panel comprised recent graduates and those that

graduated up to twenty-two years ago. Our juniors benefitted from a Post-Secondary Options Panel with speakers from local Colleges and Universities as well as Community Colleges, Jameson School of Nursing Program, HopeCAT Adult Training Program, and several branches of the Military. This provided our students with the opportunity to ask questions that will help them when making decisions about their academic futures. Our juniors also participated in an Army Team Building Exercise at the Armory, provided by the Army National Guard. Students were able to work collaboratively with their peers to improve communication, strengthen relationships, and utilize problem solving skills. Finally, all HHS seniors will now graduate with a CPR certification to add to their list of accomplishments while at HHS. This, along with each senior experiencing a mock interview with local community professionals, will help our seniors gain confidence and readiness for future

career opportunities. Each senior was interviewed by Shenango Valley citizens from multiple occupational fields: from the military, law enforcement, local business owners, lawyers, teachers, and professionals from numerous corporations.

Hickory High School would like to thank all of our volunteers and visitors from the community who made our 2024 Career Week a success. We cannot thank you enough for your gifts of time and wisdom to our students. Your cooperation allows the HHS Career Week Committee to focus on our students and provide them valuable input for their future.

Chris Gill, grades 11-12 principal  
Vince D'Angelo, grades 8-10 principal  
Roshelle Green, grade 12 school counselor  
Melanie Fuller, grades 10-11 school counselor  
Paula Bittler, grades 8-9 school counselor



# Exciting Recap of Career Week 2024 at Artman Elementary!

Chris Gill, principal, grades 11-12, Vince D'Angelo, principal, grades 8-10

The recently-concluded Career Week at Artman Elementary in 2024 was an astounding success! A remarkable total of 73 accomplished guest speakers graced our classrooms, enlightening our young learners about an array of captivating career paths. Throughout the event, our students were immersed in a multitude of exciting career possibilities spanning diverse fields,

igniting a fire of curiosity and ambition within them. We are deeply grateful to our supportive community members for their encouragement and dedication to enhancing our students' awareness of potential careers.

As we reflect on this enriching experience, it is evident that our students' futures are boundlessly bright, illuminated by the seeds of inspiration

sown during Career Week. We stand proudly by their side, celebrating their hard work and dedication with immense pride. If any parents or community members would like to be part of future career week activities at the K-3 level, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Artman guidance department for information.



## Kindergarten Registration Wraps Up:

March 6th and 7th were the dates for our kindergarten registration screenings. We had a wonderful turnout at the event which was accentuated by our Care Fair. The Care Fair is an opportunity for community agencies and vendors to connect with parents of incoming students. This year we had 19 vendors on hand to show parents what opportunities are around the Shenango Valley that can help our students and families.

If you have a child who will be five years old by September 1st, 2024, and you plan for them to attend kindergarten next year, please contact the school at your earliest convenience for registration information. It is important to register as soon as possible so that we can plan accordingly for next school year.

## Other Artman Happenings:

Through the remainder of the year there will be many events at Artman Elementary. First, the annual 3rd grade musical "We Rule School" will kick off the season. We also have our end-of-year field trips in 1st and 3rd grade. Our amazing Artman PTO also coordinates many events for our staff and students as well. From teacher appreciation week to student field day experiences, our PTO does an amazing job of making Artman the 'place to be' in the Spring.

# Ionta and Delahunty Students Experience Career Education

Eric Trosch, principal, grades 4-7, Mary Mild, school counselor, grades 4-7



The Ionta Elementary and Delahunty Middle School Career Week was a huge success! There were so many fun and engaging activities that took place, as well as countless opportunities for students to learn about various occupations within our community. Included below are highlighted areas from our Career Week events.

To kick off our career week, Ionta and Delahunty held school-wide assemblies for both students and staff in which our very own Superintendent, Dr. Dan Bell, presented to all of our students about the importance of learning and thinking about different career opportunities, occupations, their future, and the world of work. Dr. Bell reviewed the importance of coming to school everyday, being ready to learn, and trying their very best. He talked about how you don't have to receive perfect grades in school to be successful in life and what matters the most is how hard you work and how much effort you put into your own individual education and schooling.

There were discussions on what our students wanted to be when they were older, as well as the different types of educational paths available to students while still in high school and upon graduation. Hickory High School has an abundance of career readiness opportunities and Dr. Bell also shared these with our students. He concluded his presentation by sharing how every student's future starts here within the walls of our schools and how vitally important it is to take their education seriously.

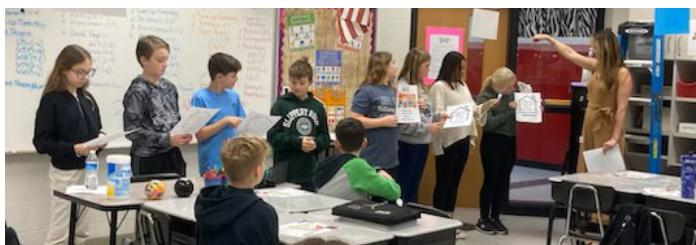
To further educate our students on the available careers within our community, we brought in six different speakers for each grade level to discuss details about their occupations. In fourth grade, students were able to hear from a Chemistry Professor, a State Trooper, an Aircraft Pilot, a Sports Broadcaster, a Nurse from the Neuro Intensive Care Unit, and two women in the United States Air Force. In fifth grade,

the speakers consisted of a Real Estate Agent, a Pharmacist, an Electrician, a Veterinarian and Veterinary Technician, a Detective, and a Project Manager. In sixth grade, we were able to hear from a Park Manager, a Loan Officer, a Heavy Equipment Operator, a Lawyer, a Detective, and a Funeral Director. Finally, our seventh-grade students learned about a Life Flight Pilot who is an Intensive Care Nurse, a Chef, a Real Estate Agent, a Veterinarian, a Federal Agent, and a Plumber. Students in seventh grade also heard from the Marketing Director at the Mercer County Career Center who shared with our students all of the unique aspects about attending the career center.

We brought in occupations based on the interests of our students, so they can learn more about the careers that they have already been curious about. These presentations, by far, were the favorite activity for all of our students and we received excellent feedback on the chosen speakers.

Some of the fun from the week consisted of dress up days: "college shirt day", "dress for your future career", and "dress for success". Students also completed personality tests that connected them to different potential careers. There were even college and career door decorating contests where the winning rooms received a pizza party. And finally, teachers were encouraged to share why they chose to be a teacher and what prompted them on their own career path and education.

In closing, we look forward to continuing to educate our students at an early age on the importance and value of discovering the multitude of career opportunities. A sincere thank you to all of our speakers who presented information to all of our students. We hope to continue to build upon our career week activities and further develop a positive experience for our students.



## FREE PRC's TRAVELING GLASS RECYCLING BIN



Apr. 27 – May. 2nd  
7 a.m. to sundown.

Sept. 28th – Oct. 3rd  
7 a.m. to sundown

City of Hermitage Fire Station #3 • 541 Mercer Avenue,  
Hermitage Across from Morefield Cemetery

### Types of Glass Accepted:

- All colors of glass bottles, jars and jugs ONLY.
- Caps, lids and labels are acceptable
- Empty all containers

### Not Accepted:

- Cut glass • Glass bakeware • Mirrors • Porcelain & ceramics • Stemware • light bulbs • TVs
- All other materials including recyclables

For a complete schedule of PRC locations, visit [prc.org/glassrecycling](http://prc.org/glassrecycling)

Look for more information on  
the City's website and social media.

## Hermitage Recycling, Yard Waste, Garbage

### E-Waste Recycling Program

- Year-round @ the City Garage  
5250 Virginia Road
- **1st & 3rd Fridays** – 7 a.m.-noon
- \$10.00 tag / item. Purchase at the Municipal Building.

### Acceptable e-waste includes:

- Televisions
- Computers (including monitors, keyboards, mice and printers)
- Cell phones
- Other electronics banned in landfills in Pennsylvania

### Tri-County

### Recycling Program

Hard to Recycle Hazardous Waste & E-Waste Collection Program – Tri-County Industries is now offering a voluntary curbside HHW and E-Waste collection service for Hermitage residents. By appointment only, additional fees apply.

### Tire & Appliance Recycling

- Year-round @ the City Garage  
5250 Virginia Road
- **Monday-Friday** – 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
- There is no cost to residents. Proof of residency required.
- Number of tires per visit may be limited. (no tires with rims, or dirt in casings)
- All household appliances accepted without Freon.

### Bulk Trash Pick Up

2024 Bulk Trash collection days

Spring – The Week of April 28th

Fall – The week of September 22nd

### ATTENTION RESIDENTS:

Residents shall place their garbage, recycling and yard waste at the curb for collection

### NO EARLIER THAN 24 HOURS BEFORE THE DAY OF THE SCHEDULED SERVICE.

Carts shall be moved back away from the curb once collection service is completed.

For more information, please visit [hermitage.net](http://hermitage.net) or call TCI @ (724) 748-4705 or [tricountyind.com](http://tricountyind.com)

## Hard-to-Recycle (H2R) 2024 Event Calendar



Recycling/Solid Waste Department  
724-658-6925  
Like us on Facebook!

### NEW in 2024: Bring us your BOOKS!

The Lawrence-Mercer Recycling/Solid Waste Department offers a program for the collection of select hard-to-recycle items. **Collection days are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 9 AM to 1 PM**, and transition between locations in Mercer and Lawrence counties. This makes the program accessible to as many people as possible. Please contact us with any questions about acceptable materials.

#### 2024 LOCATIONS:



May 14	North Beaver Township Road Department Garage 437 Kyle Road, New Castle, PA
June 11	Ellwood City Public Works Garage 105 Sixth Street, Ellwood City, PA
July 9	Hempfield Township Municipal Building 278 South Mercer Street, Greenville, PA
August 13	City of Farrell Municipal Building 500 Roemer Boulevard, Farrell, PA
September 10	Mahoning Township Building 4538 West State Street, Hillsville, PA
October 8	New Castle Public Library 207 East North Street, New Castle, PA
November 12	Munnell Run Farm/Mercer County Conservation District 753 Greenville Road, Mercer, PA
December 10	Lawrence County Recycling/Solid Waste Dept. Gettins Annex at Lawrence County Courthouse, New Castle, PA

#### Program Details:

- This program is for **RESIDENTIAL** households only. No commercial or institutional materials are accepted.
- The program is currently free.
- Materials collected are subject to change depending on costs and markets

Visit our webpages or follow us on Facebook!  
[lawrencecountypa.gov/recycling](http://lawrencecountypa.gov/recycling) and [mercercountypa.gov/recycling](http://mercercountypa.gov/recycling)

### 2024 Yard Waste Collection Begins the week of April 15, 2024

Yard waste collection will take place as part of your normal curbside collection on a weekly basis starting the week of April 15th.

(Green-lid) yard waste carts or biodegradable bags may be placed at the curb on a weekly basis on your regular collection day. There is no limit to the amount of biodegradable bags a household can place at the curb.

Acceptable yard waste includes: Leaves, Grass clippings, Plants and flowers, Roots, Sawdust, Shrubbery and pruning, Branches, tree limbs under 3" in diameter, Brush up to 3' in length



# New Faces, New Positions

Multiple personnel changes have occurred in the city over the past several months. Some of the changes welcomed new employees due to retirements and promotions and some of the changes were from promotions of current employees to new positions.

## New Positions



**WPC Department Superintendent** – Wayne Covert was named Superintendent of the Water Pollution Control Department and Manager of the Hermitage Municipal Authority last summer. He is a 33-year veteran employee of the city and served 6 years as Assistant Superintendent. He holds numerous licenses and certifications related to wastewater treatment and management.



**WPC Department Assistant Superintendent** – Randall Ketcham was named Assistant Superintendent of the Water Pollution Control Department last summer. He is a 7-year city employee who has held multiple positions in the Department and has received several certifications and wastewater treatment and collection licenses.



**WPC Collection System Operator** – Jason McClafferty was named to this position last fall. He has been employed by the city for 21 years, serving 20 years as WPC Inspector.



**WPC Inspector** – Andrew Hamilton was recently named to this position. He has been employed by the city for over 3 years, serving in multiple positions during that time.



**WPC Operator** – William Tidswell Jr. was recently named to this position. He has been employed by the city for 10 years in the position of Maintenance Technician.



**Police Sergeant** – Louis Squatrito was recently promoted to the rank of sergeant. He has been employed with the Hermitage Police Department for 17 years, also serving in the rank of corporal.



**Police Corporal** – Justin Erickson was recently promoted to the rank of corporal. He has been a police officer with the Hermitage Police Department for 14 years.

## Welcome to Our New Employees

Over the past several months, the city has added new employees to various departments, in most instances replacing retiring staff. Those employees are:



**Facilities and Grounds Technician** – Ray Spangler was hired last summer, reporting to Neil Hosick, Facilities Coordinator. Ray has a degree in Turfgrass Science from Penn State University and has extensive experience in golf course grounds maintenance, turf management, and general maintenance.



**Facilities and Grounds Technician** – Hanson Sponseller was hired last summer, reporting to Neil Hosick, Facilities Coordinator. Hanson has a degree in Horticultural Science from Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute and many years of experience in landscape design and building and grounds maintenance.



**Administrative Assistant - Merger Transition (PT)** – Danielle Wanner formerly served as Administrative Assistant for the Borough of Wheatland and

joined the city staff on January 1, 2024, where she reports to the City Manager. Her duties involve assisting in the requirements of the merger transition and staffing the former Borough Building.



**Bookkeeper-Clerk** – Cathleen Weaver was hired last summer as a Bookkeeper-Clerk, reporting to Vikki Gruitz, Finance Director, filling an existing vacant position. She has a strong background in the banking industry and several years of experience in account management and payment processing.



**Bookkeeper-Clerk** – Amy Nelson was hired last summer as a Bookkeeper-Clerk, reporting to Vikki Gruitz, Finance Director, filling an existing vacancy. She is a graduate of Thiel College with a degree in Elementary Education. She has a background in pre-school and elementary education and in the banking industry.



**Police Officer** – Wesley Womer a graduate of Sharpsville High School and Community College of Beaver County PA Act 120 Municipal Police Course was hired in February 2024. Officer Womer previously worked as a full-time police officer at Farrell Police Department.



**Police Officer** – Brennan Cook a graduate of Girard High School and Mercyhurst PA Act 120 Municipal Police Course was hired in February 2024. Officer Cook previously worked as a full-time police officer at Hempfield Township Police Department.

# From the Hermitage Fire Department



In 2021, over 120,000 children between the ages of 0-12 years were injured in motor vehicle collisions, 746 of which were fatal, in the United States. One in three children who were fatally injured were not restrained. In February Deputy Fire Marshal Lawrence Clark completed a 32-hour course regarding instruction on

the proper selection, fit, and installation of child protective seats and restraint systems.

Through training, Clark became certified in car seat installation, enabling him to assist and teach guardians with installation. New and current parents alike can benefit from having a certified child passenger safety technician close by. Guardians can schedule a "car seat checkup" with Clark at which time the seat will be checked for proper fit in the vehicle, proper fit to the child, expiration, and any recalls.

Additionally, Hermitage Fire Department has become a car seat loan station. Seats can be loaned to guardians who need

them due to financial constraints or other reasons such as visiting children who only need to use a car seat for a brief time.

The Hermitage Fire Department is excited to bring this service to our community and our neighbors. For more information or to schedule a free car seat checkup please contact Deputy Fire Marshal Lawrence Clark at

(724) 342 0669 or  
lclark@hermitage.net  
or scan the code to  
fill out a form.



## From the Desk of the Treasurer

### Bernie Harry, City Treasurer

Hello Spring, and welcome all new Hermitage residents, including our Wheatland Neighborhood! Our office is open to the public from 8:00a.m. to 4:00p.m., Monday through Friday except legal holidays, and you can reach us by phone or e-mail with any concerns you may have.

Just a reminder that tax bills are mailed twice a year. The County/City portion of your real estate bill goes out on **March 1st** of each year. The school bill along with the per capita bills are mailed on **August 1st**. If you do not receive your bills around the mailing dates, please notify us and keep in mind that it is the home-owners responsibility to know the due dates of taxes. It is important to keep your original bill for payment.

**Once again, I'd like to explain the note on your bills stating that we need separate checks for each bill. Your County/City bill is one combined bill requiring only one check for the total amount due. Should you own more than one parcel, all County/**

**City bills may be made payable with one check if you so choose. School bills require a separate check as do your County/City, and Per Capita bills. Again, like bills may be combined but different bills cannot!**

**School bills, County/City and December courtesy notices all explain that we cannot accept personal checks for any payment after December 15th of the current year. We are hoping to have it added to our Per Capita bills this year also. After that date, you may still pay until December 31st by bank check, cash or money order. Personal checks received after Dec. 15th will be returned to the owner.**

Whether you rent or own your home, you must register with the city for per capita tax billing. Per Capita tax is a head tax levied on anyone over the age of 18, living in the City of Hermitage. It remains at \$30.00 per person.

When making payments, it is not necessary to come in as you can mail your payment or leave it in the secure



drop box on the north side driveway. If you need a receipt, please include your **entire bill** along with a **self-addressed stamped envelope**, and we will return the stamped receipt to you.

Remember to register all rental properties with our office even if a family member is living there. This information is necessary to update our City census.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to call our office at 724-347-4472 and we will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Bernie Harry  
Hermitage Treasurer



## Water Quality Corner

The City of Hermitage is committed to protecting and improving stream & river quality in our community and region.

With the arrival of good weather, many citizens are starting their spring cleaning. Make sure to properly dispose of hazardous household chemicals through local disposal programs instead of pouring them down the drain! These chemicals can harm local waterways and disrupt the aquatic ecosystem.

**Every resident can help to preserve our environment and water resources.**  
[www.stormwaterpa.org](http://www.stormwaterpa.org) | [www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov)



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Sharon, PA  
PERMIT No. 83

## Parks & Recreation

800 North Hermitage Road  
Hermitage, PA 16148

ECRW/SSEDDM  
Hermitage  
Postal Customer



## City of Hermitage Board of Commissioners

From left to right: Cameron S. Linton, Bill Moder, John Moroco, Duane Piccirilli, and Louis Squatrito

## Subscribe to the City's eNewsletter

In January 2023, the City of Hermitage released its first e-newsletter. The monthly newsletter is sent out at the end of each month to all email subscribers. Each edition will feature news and events involving the City, local businesses and local organizations. If you are interested in subscribing, please visit [www.hermitage.net](http://www.hermitage.net) and click the 'Forms Center' button from our home page or email us at [ealets@hermitage.net](mailto:ealets@hermitage.net) • <https://hermitagepa-services.app.transform.civicplus.com/forms/30465>

Every month, we will spotlight a local business and/or organization. If you are interested in having your content featured in our e-newsletter, use the link above or email us at [ealets@hermitage.net](mailto:ealets@hermitage.net)

Subscribe to our YouTube channel for more! <https://www.youtube.com/@cityofhermitage/>



## See Click Fix



Customer service and engaging with our residents are a top priority so please check out our free mobile app in collaboration with See Click Fix. Residents are able to submit service requests on the fly from their smartphones or on the web and access important city information regarding events, alerts and more.

If a question arises, city workers will be able to have direct communication with residents to resolve issues together.

See Click Fix features access to the following city resources:

- Submit Requests/Concerns with the easy access "Start Request" button
- Provide multiple photos when submitting a request
- Access to our website, socials and online form submittal



DOWNLOAD THE APP

SUBMIT A CONCERN

## NOTICE TO HERMITAGE RESIDENTS:

MUNICIPAL BUILDING HOURS ARE 7:30AM - 4PM MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY OR CALL 724-981-0800



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