



# Community Update

Volume 26, Issue 79

Winter 2025



## Hickory Fields

### CITY CENTER REDEVELOPMENT

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## Hickory Fields Project Begins

The Hermitage Planning Commission approved subdivision and land development plans for the initial phase of the Hickory Fields project on January 13, marking the beginning of the redevelopment of the former Shenango Valley Mall property. Flicore LLC, developer of the mall property, presented a Sketch Plan delineating 11 parcels on the 54-acre mall property and detailing extensive pedestrian facilities and an interconnecting street grid system, special landscaping features and open space areas.

Four Land Development Plans for the initial development phase which were approved by the Hermitage Planning Commission reveal the construction of an approximately 128,660 sq. ft. building to house a national big box retailer, along with Chick-fil-A, Chili's and Longhorn Steak House restaurants.

The City of Hermitage has engaged SmithGroup, an award-winning national design firm, to provide recommendations and concepts for the development of the City Center consistent with the Hermitage 2030 Comprehensive Plan.

The Hickory Fields announcement marks a turning point in the history of the Shenango Valley Mall property. The once thriving mall suffered from consumer trends that have swept across the nation and which led to the loss of mall anchors Macy's and Sears, which closed in 2016. This led to disinvestment in the mall building, the loss of nearly \$250,000 in annual property tax revenues for local taxing bodies, and a significant decline in retail and hospitality jobs in the community. The Hickory Fields project will not

only reestablish the tax base, but it will also involve private investments in excess of \$100,000,000 in the property and the creation of hundreds of new jobs in the retail and hospitality sectors.

"We are excited to kick off the Hickory Fields project and welcome national brands like Chick-fil-A, Chili's and Longhorn, along with a big box national retailer, to our community," remarked Duane Piccirilli, President, Hermitage Board of Commissioners. "These brands will satisfy the demands of customers from across the region while providing significant job opportunities for area residents and stabilizing the tax base in our community."

The project was spurred by \$5.5 million in Commonwealth of Pennsylvania investments providing funds for demolition of the mall building, site preparation and the construction of road and pedestrian infrastructure. The state investment was an integral part in attracting Flicore to pursue redevelopment of the property. Hermitage City Manager, Gary Hinkson, thanked local legislators for their part in spurring the development. "We are grateful to State Senator Michele Brooks who was instrumental in securing the state funding needed to realize this project and to State Representative Parke Wentling for his strong support of the project," Hinkson commented. "In the absence of their involvement and support the Hickory Fields project would not be possible."

"I'm happy to see plans for the initial phase of the Hickory Fields project unveiled," stated State Senator Michele Brooks.

continued...

"It is a prime example of how state funds can leverage a large private investment that will transform our community through a mixed-use development that will provide jobs for our residents and dining, shopping and entertainment that will work to attract new families and businesses to the area."

"I am excited for the launch of the Hickory Fields project," said State Representative Parke Wentling. "This project will not only provide shopping and dining opportunities that our community has long desired but will ultimately lead to the development of a walkable City Center that will provide amenities for the enjoyment of people of all ages and

accommodate a variety of gathering opportunities."

And there is more to come. The Hickory Fields project will include future phases involving the development of the remaining seven parcels as well as the City Center. "Hickory Fields is a multi-year project, and we expect construction on the initial four parcels to begin later this year with store openings occurring sometime in 2026," Hinkson stated. "Future phases will follow the presentation on January 13 and we look forward to the full buildout," Hinkson concluded.

## City of Hermitage 2025 Budget

On December 18, 2024, the Hermitage Board of Commissioners approved the City's 2025 budgets which total \$24.7M, including the General and Sewer Funds. There is no increase in taxes and staffing levels will be maintained. It is anticipated that revenues in 2025 will remain stable, enabling the city to sustain existing services and capital programs. City officials place a high priority on maintaining a sound infrastructure system and several projects will be undertaken in 2025 including:

- Phase III of Block 7 of the Neighborhood Investment Program. Fern St. from Greenwood Ave. to Baker Run (east of Baker Ave.) will have the old pavement milled off with roadway base repairs made and then repaved. Also, new subsurface stormwater facilities and new street signs will be installed.
- The 2025 Capital Paving Program will consist of paving Tiffany Ln., Fran Ln., Lee Run Rd., Briarwood Rd., Anderwood Dr. and Monticello Blvd. These streets will have the existing pavement milled off, necessary roadway base repairs made and new pavement and street signs installed. Elsewhere in the City several streets will be sealcoated and line painting done, with the exact locations yet to be determined.
- Wheatland Neighborhood Paving Program will consist of milling off old pavement and repaving streets in the residential neighborhoods. The exact streets to be improved are yet to be determined.
- Wheatland Community Center will have a new roof installed.
- Lorenwood Drive Improvement/Athletic Complex Trails will construct trails from Lorenwood Dr. into the Hermitage Athletic Complex (HAC) and add trails inside the HAC.
- Hermitage Athletic Complex Pickleball Courts – Nine pickleball courts will be constructed at the HAC along with a parking lot and additional trails.
- Hermitage Athletic Complex Softball Field #2 Improvements will include a press box, bullpens, an outfield warning track and drainage improvements.
- Traffic Signals at the intersection of Council Ave. and Broadway Ave. will be replaced and programmed to coordinate with signals at Mercer Ave. and Broadway Ave.
- North Hermitage Rd. Pedestrian Improvement Project will construct sidewalks along the west side of North Hermitage Rd. from Highland Rd. to the Walmart development.
- Rodney White Olympic Park Playground Improvement Project will replace the accessible playground equipment and surface at RWOP.
- South Neshannock Rd. Sewer Extension Project will extend the municipal sanitary sewer system from E. State St. to Miller Rd. and to parts of Virginia Rd. and Miller Rd., adding 92 properties to the system and opening vacant land for development.
- Hermitage Little League Concession & Multipurpose Facility Project will construct a new building that will house concessions, ADA restrooms, first aid, umpires room, a multipurpose room and storage area.
- City Center Median Beautification Project will remove the wide concrete median on N. Hermitage Rd. north of E. State St. and replace it with landscaping.

Other capital expenditures include 2 new utility vehicles for the Fire Department, 8 new police vehicles, new computers in the Planning and Inspection/Code offices, a new street sweeper, new large grounds mower with attachments and capital facility maintenance improvements at the Municipal Building.

# 2024 Year in Review with a Look Ahead

The City of Hermitage capped off 2024 by receiving the Community Growth Award presented by the Shenango Valley Chamber of Commerce. The award recognized the collaboration between city officials and staff, business leaders, entrepreneurs, and the community in growing the economy and quality of life of Mercer County's largest city. Now, the stage is set for transformational growth in the city with numerous vital projects slated.

The former Borough of Wheatland officially became part of the City of Hermitage at the beginning of last year, following a successful municipal merger. Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor Austin Davis marked the occasion with a visit and tour of Wheatland Tube, which has committed nearly \$100 million in plant modernization upgrades. The Wheatland neighborhood will also receive city and state investments in 2025 for building enhancements to the Wheatland Community Center, a full reconstruction of the Broadway/Council Avenue traffic signal, sewer upgrades in the industrial area, and planned roadway projects.

Building projects and openings abounded in 2024. Mercer County Community Federal Credit Union completed a nearly \$5 million headquarters in the city center and Joy Cone started construction of a new 220,000 square foot cookie plant with over \$40 million in private investment leading to 130 new jobs. New openings included restaurants and eateries like Blue Collar Betty's, Cianci's, Giavonna's Gourmet Coffee, Hunger Station, Jersey Mike's, MP Coney Island, and Starbucks, and service businesses like Envy Hair and Nail Salon and Express 80 Truck Repair.

The marquee project for 2025 is the redevelopment of the

Shenango Valley Mall property, a multiyear endeavor. Flicore, LLC, will construct new buildings for national brand restaurant and retail businesses, following demolition of the mall. The city plans to develop outdoor community space to host events and to provide a variety of amenities for all ages. The overall project will exceed \$100 million and result in hundreds of new jobs.

The city continues investments in neighborhoods and recreational spaces. About \$1.5 million was committed to neighborhood road and stormwater projects in 2024, with a similar amount allocated for 2025. A sewer expansion project will reach 92 residential properties along S. Neshannock, Miller and Virginia roads.

The Hermitage Athletic Complex continues to expand in its recreational opportunities. In 2024, PennDOT Secretary Mike Carroll visited the complex to discuss two state grants that will provide trail access and expansion. Also, last year a new Dek Hockey facility was opened for use. A state grant and city funds will build 9 outdoor pickleball courts, and additional parking and pedestrian facilities. The complex will host Penn State Shenango's new Women's Softball program and a new multipurpose building will be constructed at the adjacent Hermitage Little League complex.

Residential development is a focus for the city. In 2024, multifamily housing was added to the zoning at LindenPointe Technical Park and a first-time homebuyers assistance program was launched. The city looks to spur further housing development to meet demand fueled by a growing economy and enhanced quality of life.

## Winter Street Maintenance

The City of Hermitage Street Department provides winter maintenance, including plowing snow and applying salt and calcium chloride, on over 98 miles of city streets, including over 5 miles in the Wheatland neighborhood. In addition, in exchange for an annual payment, the city provides winter maintenance on the following state roads:

- North & South Neshannock Road (city line at Clark to city line at Shenango Twp.)
- North & South Keel Ridge Road (Valley View Road to city line at Shenango Twp.)
- Dutch Lane (entire length)
- Lamor Road (city line at Sharpsville to city line at Jefferson Twp.)
- Ohio Street (Church Street to South

Stalene Road)

- Highland Road (North Hermitage Road to city line at Sharon)
- Maple Drive (East State Street to Freeway)
- Mercer Avenue (Freeway to city line at Farrell)
- Mercer Avenue (Farrell city line to Broadway Avenue)
- Council Avenue (Mercer Avenue to Broadway Avenue)
- Church Street (entire length)
- Thornton Avenue (city line at Sharon to Forker Avenue)

The Street Department also provides some winter maintenance on Buhl Park roadways, and the Building & Grounds staff assists with work on the driveways and parking lots at city parks

and at all city buildings. City streets and state roads are divided into winter maintenance routes where the work is accomplished, when at full staffing, with 11 large trucks and 3 small trucks, all equipped with salt spreaders and plows and operated by city employees. The department uses, on average, approximately 5,000 tons of road salt each winter.

The city reminds property owners and residents that during winter weather events vehicles should not be parked along streets. Vehicles parked on the street serve to reduce the effectiveness and efficiency of winter maintenance efforts and can result in vehicles being "plowed in" during snow removal efforts.

**HERMITAGE ARTS**  
*Festival*  
**July 26 & 27, 2025**

# Call For Artists

The Hermitage Arts Festival Committee is seeking talented individuals and food truck vendors to participate in our Summer Arts Festival, always held the last weekend in July! **To apply, please visit [hermitage.net](http://hermitage.net) and click the 'Forms Center' button - Or- Scan the appropriate QR code. The paper application will no longer be accepted.** All applications/registrations MUST be done online. For more information, please contact us at [events@hermitage.net](mailto:events@hermitage.net) or give us a call at 724-981-0800.

**ARTISTS,  
Scan to apply!**



**FOOD TRUCK  
VENDORS,  
Scan to apply!**



## 26th Hermitage Holiday Light Parade

So many great floats & entries, congrats to all!



**Thank You!** to the following for helping to make the 26th annual Holiday Light Parade a tremendous success:

**Fireworks Sponsor**

City of Hermitage  
Butterfli Holdings, LLC  
Diehl Toyota Chevrolet of Hermitage  
IAG Consulting, LLC  
Joy Cone Co.  
Lindy Paving

**Platinum Sponsor**

Hudson Group, Inc.  
Reinhardt's Agency, Inc.

**Gold Sponsor**

Combine Construction, Inc.  
First National Bank of PA  
KAKE Development (Fred & Ena George)  
Kraynak's, Inc.  
Mercer County Community Federal Credit Union  
Protech Asphalt Maintenance, Inc.

**Silver Sponsor**

Black, Bashor & Porsch, LLP  
Greenawalt Excavating, Inc.  
HHSDR Architects/Engineers  
JFS Wealth Advisors  
McGonigle Ambulance Services, Inc.  
J. Bradley McGonigle Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc.  
J & T Paving, Inc.  
Lennon Smith Souleret Engineering, Inc.  
Rien Construction Company

**Additional Sponsors**

Advance Auto Parts - Use of Property for judging trailer  
Hermitage Towne Plaza / J. J. Gumberg Co. - Use of plaza property  
I C Electric - Lights  
Satin Sounds - Sound System  
Aiken Refuse - Dumpsters  
Giant Eagle  
O' Neill Coffee



*From*  
**The Hermitage Holiday  
Light Parade Committee**

Be a part of the adventure!

# THE CITY OF HERMITAGE & BUHL PARK SUMMER CAMP AT BUHL PARK

Register by May 19th

### Who

All students entering grades 1st through 6th

### What

Outdoor Educational & Recreational Activities All Day

### When

June 9 - July 18  
Five Days a Week  
9am - 3pm

### Discounts

Hermitage residents receive a discount!

### Scholarships

Income Based Scholarship Available!



More info at:  
[www.hermitage.net](http://www.hermitage.net)  
[parks@hermitage.net](mailto:parks@hermitage.net)

## NOW HIRING SUMMER CAMP COUNSELORS

The City of Hermitage in partnership with Buhl Park are taking applications to fill counselor positions for our outdoor Summer Camp at Buhl Park! For more information and to apply, please scan the QR codes!



## Hermitage GOES TO PITTSBURGH

APRIL 5TH • 2 STOPS • 5 BREWERIES  
DANCING GNOME  
HITCHHIKER  
GRIST HOUSE  
BURGH'ERS  
STRANGE ROOTS

**BUS TRIP COST: \$50/PP**  
INCLUDES  
TRANSPORTATION  
MEALS & DRINKS ON  
YOUR OWN

DETAILS &  
REGISTRATION



## Join us for a Winery Tour

Geneva, OH  
Saturday, June  
7th

Four Wineries  
\$40 per person  
Includes Transportation  
(Meals & Drinks on your own)



# LOOKING AHEAD IN

## 2025 CITY OF HERMITAGE EVENTS



APRIL  
26

### EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

12PM - 5PM



JULY  
26&27

### ARTS FESTIVAL

NOON - 9PM, 11 AM - 4PM



DEC  
21

### WINTER SOLSTICE

5:30PM - 7:30 PM

### NIGHT MARKET

5 PM - 9 PM  
3rd Annual Corn Roast September 11th

JULY-  
OCT



NOV  
22

### HOLIDAY LIGHT PARADE

6PM - 8 PM



For more information on these events & our many programs & recreational activities visit [www.hermitage.net](http://www.hermitage.net)



## 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 continues 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.

### 3rd ANNUAL R.A.M. FREE COMMUNITY DENTAL CLINIC:

BRHF, in partnership with Remote Area Medical, will host their 3rd 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 7th and 8th 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 can visit our website to complete a volunteer registration form.

### CAMP COURAGE 2025:

Registration has begun for the 4th Annual Camp Courage program. Camp Courage, held at Buhl Park the week of July 28th – August 1st, 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, beginning in February.

### 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)



**2025 SHELTER RENTALS ARE NOW OPEN. OUR SHELTERS FILL UP QUICKLY, BOOK NOW: [BUHLPARK.ORG/RENTALS](http://BUHLPARK.ORG/RENTALS)**



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



**OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES @ SANDY'S PLACE**

**FOR MORE INFO: [KATIE@BUHLPARK.ORG](mailto:KATIE@BUHLPARK.ORG)**

- **Preschool Playgroup: 1/9 - 2/27**
  - Thursdays from 10 to 11 am
  - Ages 2 to 6
  - Email Katie before your first time to get on the email list.
- **Kids Winter Mini Camp: 2/17 \$25 per kid**
  - Grades K to 4, 9AM - 3PM
  - Learn about winter animals, do some crafts, play outside, and make new friends! Dress for the weather. Pack a lunch & we will serve snack.
  - Must pre-register: [tinyurl.com/buhlwinter](http://tinyurl.com/buhlwinter)

Sandy's Place is located at the Activities Building @ Buhl Park

*Dum Dum*  
**WINTER LEAGUE**



\$25 PER WEEK

SESSION 2: JANUARY 20

10 WEEK SESSION

**BUHL PARK GOLF COURSE**

1290 Forker Blvd. Hermitage, PA

Hosted at our newly renovated First Tee Building featuring 3 state-of-the-art Trackman Simulators and Puttview technologies. Perfect for all skill levels, giving you a chance to stay sharp through the winter!

**Call The Shop to sign up: 724-308-7883**

*Limited spots available*

Can't join the league? You can still use the simulators - they are available to rent for \$30/HR Mon-Thurs and \$40/HR Fri- Sun.



11. N Sharpsville Ave.  
Sharon, PA 16146  
(724)-981-4360  
[www.clsv.net](http://www.clsv.net)

Hours:  
Monday-Thursday 10AM-8PM  
Friday-Saturday 10AM-5PM  
Sunday Closed

**Love Your Library Fundraiser**

February 8th | 4-7PM

\$25 Per Person in advanced  
\$40 Per Person at the door

Buy tickets online or at the Library. Drinks, snacks, activities & entertainment included with ticket purchase.

**Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale**

May 7-10, 2025

Wednesday 9AM-7:30PM

Thursday 10AM-7:30PM

Friday 10AM-4:30PM

Saturday 10AM-4:30PM



Check out our monthly newsletter at [clsv.net](http://clsv.net) to see all of our FREE programs for kids, teens, and adults. Story time, STEM makerspace, crafts, book clubs, and more!

**EMPTY BOWLS**

MERCER COUNTY FOOD BANK

**April 3rd • 4-8pm**  
**Hickory VFW Post 6166**  
 5550 E State St. Hermitage

# STUFF THE TRUCK

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH**  
**D'Onofrio's** PARKING LOT, HERMITAGE  
 Join us anytime from 9-3  
 Help us feed our neighbors in need!



Winter 2 Programs are just around the corner, starting February 23rd, and we have an incredible lineup for you! This session includes Martial Arts, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math), Preschool Sports, Basketball Skills and Drills, Cheer Camp, Ooey Gooley (a hands-on sensory fun class), Gymnastics, and Conditioning Confident Kids. Each program is carefully designed to provide a balance of learning, growth, and fun, ensuring participants of all ages and skill levels feel engaged and empowered.

Whether you're looking to spark creativity, build confidence, or develop new skills, our Winter 2 Programs offer the perfect opportunity. From physical activities like gymnastics and martial arts to hands-on learning experiences in STEAM and sensory exploration in Ooey Gooley, there's truly something for everyone. These programs are a fantastic way for kids to stay active, make new friends, and try something new this winter season.

Registration is now open the week of February 2nd! For more information or to sign up, visit our website, call 724.981.3700, or stop by the Buhl Club today. We can't wait to see you there!

## VALLEY YMCA

Find us on our website: [www.grovecitytmca.org](http://www.grovecitytmca.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:

*"FitOn Health", "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 PROGRAMS

**\*\*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.

### NEW! INDOOR SOCCER

Co-Ed Ages 3-6  
 Program runs Feb. 13th-Mar. 26th  
 Registration ends: Feb. 3rd

### ADULT SPORTS

#### 18+ Pick Up Basketball

Every Thursday – 8-10 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



## Shenango Valley Senior Community Center

220 N. Buhl Farm Dr., Hermitage, PA, 16148  
Telephone: 724-981-7950

### Ongoing Evidence Based Classes:

#### Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program

The Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program (AFEP) is a low-impact recreational exercise program that also incorporates a brief educational component.

#### Bingocize

Bingocize is a socially engaging group-based program that combines exercise, health education, and the widely popular game of bingo.

#### Tai Chi for Arthritis

Tai Chi for Arthritis is an enjoyable exercise that can relieve your pain, improve your health and your ability to do things

#### Chronic Disease Self-Management Program

CDSMP is a direct education intervention that helps individuals and caregivers of those with chronic health conditions build a "toolbox" of strategies they can utilize to help achieve their health goals



**Please call to reserve your spot. These classes are designed for people age 60 and over.**



Start your **CAREER WITH US**

- Construction Trades
- Medical Assistant

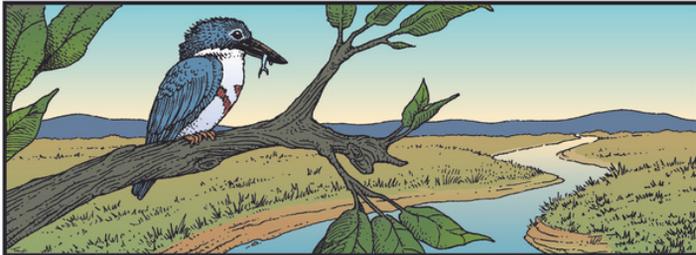


**APPLY NOW**

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.



## SHENANGO RIVER WATCHERS



FOUNDED 2001

### Public Meeting

Wed. March 26, 6PM

Buhl Park Activities Building

### Family Cleanup

Sat. April 5, 9AM

Clark Boat Launch



For more information

### Earth Day Cleanup

Sat. April 26, 9AM

Location TBD

### Earth Day Festival

Sat. Apr 26, 12-5PM

Lindenpointe Park

### 15K Trail Race

Sat. May 3, 9AM start

Shenango Trail

### Spring Paddle Fest

Sat. June 7, 7:30-10AM

Shenango River

# Hermitage Historical Society

5465 East State Street • 724-346-0419 • Follow Us on Facebook and our new Instagram @hermitage\_historical\_society

Thank you to ALL for making our annual Christmas tree tours a success. Since 1999, the Hermitage Historical Society has decorated our beautiful 1869 Stewart mansion for the holidays, and each year, we are overwhelmed by the support from our community. Our sincerest thanks.

## The Stewart House Stewart House Rentals

The Stewart House is a beautiful home to host your next important gathering! (showers, weddings, meetings, etc.):

### Upcoming Speakers:

**March 18:** TBD

**April 15:** Tom Kavanuagh from Cottage Gardens

**May 13:** Connie White on Lafayette Tours

\*Our speakers are free and open to the public at the Stewart house at 5465 East State Street\*

## 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:* Tom Darby, Brenda Kulka, Maria Koledin, Dave Fodor, Michael Ristvey

## Flea Market

**May 3rd**

8am-2pm at the Stewart House.

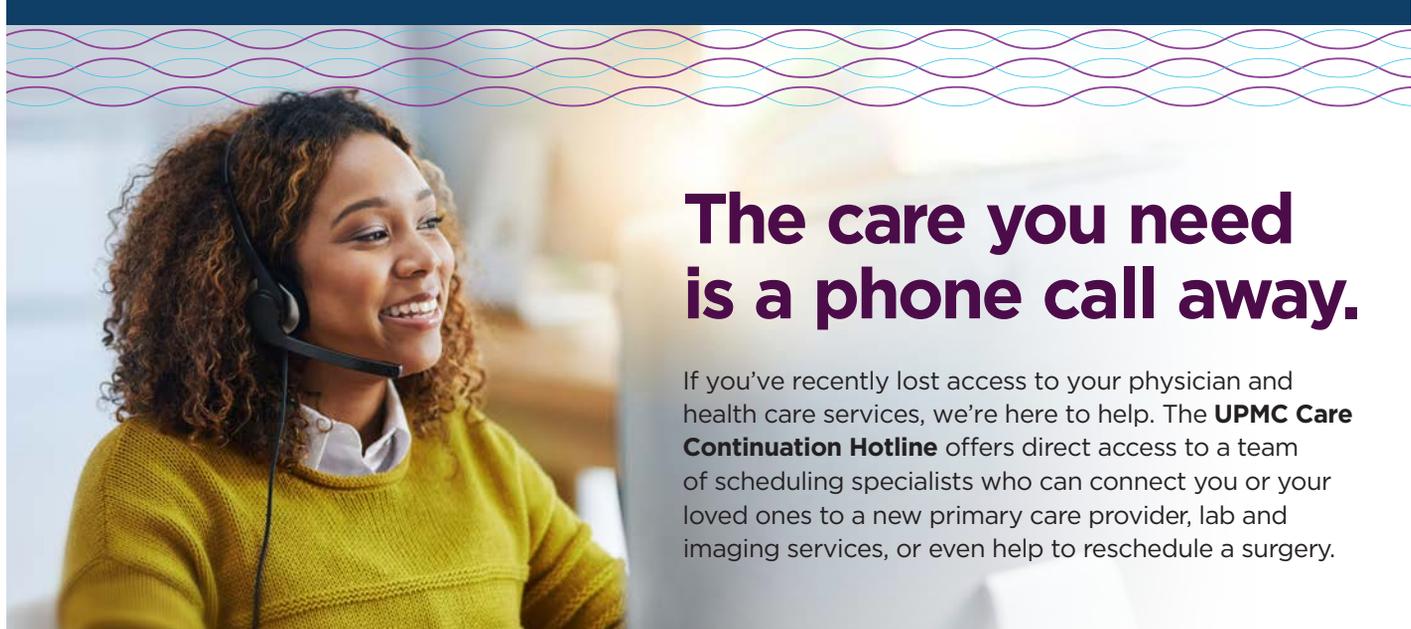
It's hard to believe, but our first Flea Market of 2025 is only a few short months away. Vendors can set up for \$10. (rain or shine). Call 724-877-7996 if you have interest in setting up or have any interest in donating items to the society for the sale. All proceeds go back to the maintenance of the Hermitage Historical Society.

## New Members Are Always Welcome:

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

We are starting to accept our yearly dues. Any donations to the society are also greatly appreciated and go to the preservation of our historic home. Please either contact a board member or mail to:

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



## The care you need is a phone call away.

If you've recently lost access to your physician and health care services, we're here to help. The **UPMC Care Continuation Hotline** offers direct access to a team of scheduling specialists who can connect you or your loved ones to a new primary care provider, lab and imaging services, or even help to reschedule a surgery.



**UPMC Care Continuation Hotline: 724-994-4747. Available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

Visit [UPMC.com/OurRegion](https://www.upmc.com/OurRegion) to learn more about services in Mercer and Lawrence counties.

**UPMC | HORIZON**

**UPMC | JAMESON**



IQ Mobile Details was started by two local college students who graduated from the eAcademy at LindenPointe where they learned about entrepreneurship and small business management. Over the course of their senior year, they were able to gain valuable knowledge in the startup world and practice 21st century skills like critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration, leading by influence, agility and adaptability, effective communication, accessing and analyzing information, and initiative. Isaiah Harvey and Quentin Lee, Jr (the I and Q in IQ Mobile Details)

are two young entrepreneurs taking their passion for cars and their attention to detail into their community in the form of a mobile detailing business.

IQ Mobile Details provides cleaning and car enhancement services to all vehicles. Sure, they will wash and vacuum your car, but they offer so much more than that! Harvey and Lee have basic pricing for both the exterior and interior of cars, but also provide a price list for several packages and add-ons like engine cleaning, headlight restoration, odor removal, and more.

You can find them through their website- [www.iqmobiledetails.com](http://www.iqmobiledetails.com)- or book with them through Setmore- <https://quentingrz1.setmore.com>



## A Teacher and Student's Collaborative Tale of Entrepreneurship at the LindenPointe Development Corporation

Katie Parr, a passionate hiker and National Park enthusiast, is also a teacher of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management at the eAcademy at LindenPointe. One of her students, Anna Kavulla, would later play a key role in bringing Katie's dream to life.

At the end of 2024, Katie published *Hike the ABC's: A Journey through our National Parks*, a children's book that encourages young readers to explore the outdoors. The idea for the book began when Katie, pregnant with her son Rowan, struggled to find National Park books that captured the essence of her own park adventures- scenic drives, wildlife, and iconic trails- to fill the shelves in her son's nursery.

Determined to create a book that would share these experiences with Rowan, Katie began writing.

The project was put on hold while Katie's focus turned to raising her son, but after two years, she

returned to her story to finish it. Katie then asked Anna, her former student and obvious choice, to illustrate the book. Anna had previously gifted Katie a watercolor for Rowan's nursery, a piece Katie cherished. Recognizing Anna's creativity, Katie invited Anna and her sister, Ava, to collaborate. Together, they brought Katie's vision to life with beautiful watercolor illustrations inspired by Katie's own photographs and the landscapes described by the National Park Service.



This isn't just a teacher and student's collaborative tale. It's a testament to the power of entrepreneurship and its ability to drive innovation, create value, and transform ideas into

tangible outcomes that benefit the community.

Anna and Ava now run their own business, A Pastel Petal, creating vibrant watercolor and calligraphy designs.

Katie continues to teach young entrepreneurs from local school districts in Mercer and Lawrence Counties at the eAcademy at LindenPointe and has since written a second book, *Ranger Rowan's Guide to Yellowstone*, which will officially launch in February.

About the Book: *Hike the ABC's* introduces children to U.S. National Parks through the alphabet, featuring unique wildlife and landscapes. With colorful illustrations and fun facts, it's a perfect way to spark a love for nature in young readers.

The book is available online at BookBaby, Barnes & Noble, and Amazon.

Learn more about Katie and Anna at [www.katieparr.com/books](http://www.katieparr.com/books)



# School Year and New Year Have Much to Offer Our Hermitage Community

**Dr. Nanci Hosick, Director of Curriculum and Instruction**

As we are working through our first month of 2025, we would like to celebrate some student accomplishments from the fall and winter of this school year, as well as recognize several ways that our Hermitage students are giving back to the great community in which we live. As you read the articles from our principals across the district, we also recognize how much we benefit from the parent and community involvement in our schools. We are so thankful to live in such a great community!

## Hickory arts programs continue to give back to the community

20 seniors filled the cast of the fall senior class play, "Curse of the Cobra's Kiss". A dozen other students made up the stage crew that worked behind the scenes on the show. We are grateful to director, Mrs. Julie Kerr, for spending endless hours working with the students to put on a top-notch show for the Shenango Valley. We hope the community will join us in attending the spring musical, "Seussical the Musical", which runs March 13-16, 2025.

## Hickory's Chamber Choir and Chamber Orchestra

Mrs. Brandy Rockage leads 31 students, grades 9-12, in Hickory's elite Chamber Choir; and Mrs. Julie Kerr leads 20 talented 9-12 graders in Chamber Orchestra. The two groups of performers toured around Mercer County providing entertainment during the holidays. The groups also perform at other local events throughout the year. We are thankful that they give back to the community through their musical talents!

## HHS marching and Pep Bands

From the "Pride of Hermitage" 145-member marching band, to the small-but-mighty 20-member pep band, Hickory's touring bands are key in infusing school spirit into a crowd at any sports competition or community event. Thank you, Mr. Andrew Garay and students, for the never-ending school spirit!



## Hermitage School District gives back through Good Fellows food drive

Every year, students and staff, grades K-12, collect canned goods to support the annual Good Fellows food drive. This year, we are pleased to report that HSD collected nearly 10,000 canned goods to give back to our community! Thank you to our families for your generosity.

## HHS Competitive Cheer and Football once again win D10 Championships!

Congratulations to the Hickory high school competitive cheer squad, who won the D10 Championship for the seventh time; and to the Hornet football team, who won back-to-back D10 Championships in 2023 and 2024! We are so proud of our student-athletes and coaches for their hard work and excellent representation of Hermitage School District. Go Hornets!



## HHS Seniors Experience a Successful Business Week

Dr. Chris Gill, 11-12 principal - Mr. Vince D'Angelo, 8-10 principal



Hickory High School and the Hermitage School District is proud to partner with the Americans for the Competitive Enterprise System in offering our annual Business Week program to the senior class for the 14th consecutive year. Through generous support from both Cronimet Specialty Metals and The Hudson Companies, Hickory High School is able to offer this worthwhile & meaningful program.

During Pennsylvania Business Week, Hickory seniors focus on team building, financial literacy, and creativity, as they create, market, and sell a product, while maintaining a healthy balance sheet. At the end of the week, a group of community members rate each senior team based on the presentation and explanation of their product to select one winning group.

In addition to our major sponsors mentioned above, we need to thank our additional Business Week sponsors of: JFS Wealth Advisors, Reinhardt's Insurance, Joy Cone Baking Group, Ristvey Investment, and First National Bank. These local companies have donated their

resources to help our Hickory High School seniors have a significant and memorable high school experience.

An additional recognition goes out to these professionals from the Shenango Valley for volunteering their time and energy to make this program possible: Lauren Garthwaite from Berkshire Hathaway, Sarah Palmer and Jeff Simmons from Mercer County State Bank, Leah Beckert from the Mercer County Community Federal Credit Union, Jennifer Hughes from First National Bank, Dan Bolena from Imparo Coaching, LLC, Tom Vaughn from Infinite Consortium Gaming, Tom Ristvey from Vey's Restaurant, and Sgt. Matthew Taylor from the US Army.

Last but not least, we need to thank our Hickory High School professional staff for their willingness to be a part of this special week.

All of the companies and individuals mentioned above interacted with the Class of 2025 and closely contributed to the ongoing success of Hickory High School's Business Week. The Hermitage School District and Hickory High School are thankful for the positive connections to our school community.



# Ionta and Delahunty Schools Community School News 2025!

Mr. Eric Trosch, 4-7 principal

Once again, I am excited to share with all of our Hermitage families the wonderful school happenings that are occurring at Ionta and Delahunty Schools. As we transition into the new year, we look forward to watching our students grow and celebrating their tremendous accomplishments and achievements.



## Spelling Bee Champions!

Just prior to the holiday break, students in grades four, five and six competed in the Ionta and Delahunty annual Spelling Bee Competition. I am excited to announce that both Ionta and Delahunty Schools will be sending three students to represent Hermitage School District in the Mercer County Spelling Bee Competition this year. **A special congratulations to our Fourth Grade Champion, Lainey Rogers; Fifth Grade Champion, Seraphina Long; and Sixth Grade Champion, Matthew Wible. Best of Luck to all of the students participating in this year's Mercer County Spelling Bee Competition!**

## Student Service at Ionta and Delahunty Schools!

The Student Council and Students for Charity organizations are committed to empowering its students with the realization that other children's needs exist within our school communities and there are opportunities available for everyone to help others. The primary purpose of Students for Charity is to volunteer with, or raise funds for, charitable organizations each month alongside our Student Council Organization. They initiate, implement and complete projects that are helpful to our schools, students, faculty and community.

Some of the organization's endeavors of 2024-2025 include the following: November-Clothing Closet Donations; December-Good Fellows Support and Awareness; January-Snack bags for Ronald McDonald House; February-Crafts for Kids Drive - Children's Hospital; March-Team Danielle - Invitations for Fundraiser; and April-Building of Hope - Toiletry Baskets.

Together, Mrs. Kimberly Ghirardi, fifth grade ELA teacher, and Mrs. Michelle Lanshcak, fifth grade math teacher, continue to be the driving forces behind the success of these student-based community and school organizations.

## Girls on the Run-Heart and Sole Program Reaches Delahunty Students!



We are excited to announce that Delahunty Middle School has been invited to participate in the Girls on the Run-Heart and Sole Program through UPMC. This is a 10-week program where our sixth and seventh grade girls are empowered to connect with others, develop leadership skills, recognize the power and responsibility in decision making, and nurture their physical, emotional and spiritual health, among many other core values that they can use throughout their lifetime.

The program was headed up by Delahunty's Middle School Dean of Students, Mrs. Nicole Porter, along with a team of teachers including: Miss Mary Kay Allaman, Miss Stephanie Bucci and Mrs. Christine Gilfoyle. The program is designed for our female students to meet twice a week after school and participate in learning activities that are focused on building confidence, leadership, and decision making, as well as emotional and physical development.

The Heart and Sole season culminated in a 5k walk/run in Pittsburgh with other girls from around the state who participated in Girls on the Run-Heart and Sole. The program is a zero-cost opportunity for students to participate and each student participant received a team jersey, awards, and plenty of treats for being a part of the Delahunty Girls on the Run-Heart and Sole Program!

## HSD Good Fellows Food Drive!

Ionta and Delahunty Schools would like to give a huge shout out to all of its students and families that contributed in donating items to the Good Fellows organization to help support community families in need this holiday season. Our Ionta and Delahunty students teamed up together this year and collected just over 3,000 non-perishable food items.

A very special "Thank you" to all of our students and families for their overwhelming support and generous contributions!

# The Artman Family Hosted Wonderful Holiday Events for Grades K-3

Dr. Andrew Kemper, K-3 principal

The holiday season at Artman always means the kickoff of the annual Angel Tree program. This year the generosity of school staff, community members, and local businesses helped us provide gifts to well over 200 children in our community. The effort was once again spearheaded by our elementary guidance departments in conjunction with the 8th grade student council. This monumental yearly event simply could not happen without the many volunteers who help from start to finish. Thank you from the Artman family to everyone who had a hand in making sure



so many families could enjoy a wonderful holiday season!

Our students also enjoyed the annual Craft Land, put on by the amazing Artman PTO and parent volunteers. Students work alongside the parent volunteers to create crafts to share with family and friends over the holidays. These crafts often become keepsakes for families to collect as their children go through the Artman grade levels.

Finally, our 2nd grade parents had an additional gift of musical performances by the 2nd grade homerooms. Thanks to music teacher, Lanette Winterberger, for directing our students in these shows!



## Attention Incoming Kindergartners!

Believe it or not it is time to start thinking about next school year! Our planning begins well in advance, beginning with these events for our soon-to-be kindergarten students

### Gearing Up For Kindergarten:

The transition program provides students with hands-on learning experiences led by Artman Elementary teachers. Important academic and social/emotional learning information will be shared with families to help support student achievement.

**Who:** Students who plan on starting Kindergarten in fall 2025

**When:** Tuesday, February 11, 2025 from 5:30pm - 6:30pm  
Wednesday, February 19, 2025 from 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Registration forms are available at the school office, district website (<https://hermitagesd.net/> > Schools > Artman ES > Parent Forms and Information > Gearing Up for K, or from your pre-k provider. Pre-registration is required so we can accurately prepare.

## Kindergarten Registration 2025-2026:

### Online Registration Process:

The Hermitage School District utilizes an online registration process for all incoming students. Registration window for incoming Kindergarten students opens February 1, 2025. You MUST complete the online registration process in order to set up a Kindergarten screening appointment (see Kindergarten Screening Process below). The registration information can be found on our Hermitage School District website: <https://hermitagesd.net/> > Offices > Student Registration

Forms to be uploaded during the registration process: State Birth Certificate, Immunization Record, Proof of Guardianship (if not biological parent), Proof of Residence (deed, lease, two current utility bills, property tax bill) ALL INFORMATION MUST BE CURRENT.

**Please note:** if you do not have access to a computer, contact our Central Administrative Offices at 724-981-8750, ext 6000 to schedule an appointment. You will need to bring the above documents with you to the appointment in order to complete your child's registration.

### Kindergarten Screening Process:

Our Kindergarten registration process includes an academic screening for kindergarten readiness, a speech/language screening, and vision screening. Our kindergarten screening will take place March 5-6, 2025, by appointment only. All students must be registered PRIOR to attending the Kindergarten Screening. Please go to the Hermitage School District website to register for your appointment or call Mrs. Cindy Foster at 724-981-8750, ext. 5001. We ask that no more than 2 parents/guardians attend with each child. If you cannot make your scheduled appointment time, please call to reschedule.

### Other Requirements and Important Information:

Your child must be 5 years old on or before September 1st, 2024, to register. Please do not wait to register. It is extremely beneficial for each student to participate in the registration process so that we can build our class rosters with as much information as possible.

## BULK Trash Collection Dates - SPRING 2025

Aiken Refuse, the new curbside provider of solid waste, recycling, and yard waste collection services in the city of Hermitage, will be providing customers with a SPRING BULK trash cleanup. The collection schedule will be similar to last Fall with some minor adjustments. Please see below for details on when to expect your SPRING BULK trash collection to occur. Questions may be directed to Aiken Refuse, 724 758-9400, hermitage@aikenrefuse.com or www.aikenrefuse.com. Aiken will only collect bulk trash from residents who are current on their quarterly garbage bill. All items should be placed at the curb by the Sunday night before your scheduled pick-up week. Bulk items will be collected separately from your regular collection and will be picked up at some point throughout the week depending on routes. The following is the pick-up week schedule based upon your normal garbage collection day:

**Monday & Tuesday regular collection day - Residents should place their items out to the curb by no later than Sunday, March 30 - For collection starting the week of March 31 - April 3.**

**Wednesday & Thursday regular collection day - Residents should place their items out to the curb no later than Sunday, April 6 - for collection starting the week of April 7-10**

### Accepted Items

Lawn Chairs, Lamps, Bicycles, Carpet Rolls (no more than 4 feet in length), Appliances (large and small), Furniture, Tables, Washers, Dryers, Stoves, Window glass, Mattresses (any size), Freon - Air conditioners, dehumidifiers, refrigerators, and freezers must have their doors disabled and Freon removed and be properly tagged by a certified technician.

### Items Not Accepted

Bagged Leaves, Computers, TVs, Fluorescent light bulbs, Construction material

This collection is for BULK items **only**, so extra regular garbage put in bags, boxes or other trash receptacles will not be accepted

## Does it Belong in Your Recycling Bin?



Cardboard - Various Types    Magazines    Aluminum Cans    Plastic Bottles & Jugs

Steel & Tin Cans    Junk Mail    **Yes**    Mixed Paper    Newsprint

Anything NOT Listed here... belongs in your trash or recycled elsewhere!  
The "recycling symbol" does not mean an item is recyclable.



Plastic - Toys, Chairs, or anything that is not a bottle/jug    Vinyl - Siding, Liners, etc.    Contaminated Paper    Aluminum Pans & Foil    Trash    Glass Jars & Bottles

Construction Material/Wood    Ceramic    Polystyrene Styrofoam

Paints & Chemicals    Hoses    Batteries

Glass - Windows, Mirrors, Cookware, or anything that is not a jar or bottle    Plastic Bags    Electronics & Appliances    Light Bulbs & Tubes    Phone Books

**No** (Just Some Examples)

Questions:  
Aiken Refuse, 724-758-9400, www.aikenrefuse.com,  
City of Hermitage, 724-981-0800, www.hermitage.net

## Hermitage Recycling, Yard Waste, Garbage

### 2025 Yard Waste Collection

Yard waste collection will take place as part of your normal curbside collection on a weekly basis starting the **week of April 14th**.

(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

For more information: please visit [hermitage.net](http://hermitage.net) or call Aiken Refuse @ (724) 758-9400 [www.aikenrefuse.com](http://www.aikenrefuse.com)  
City of Hermitage @ (724) 981-0800

## FREE PRC's TRAVELING GLASS RECYCLING BIN

April 26th – May 1st  
September 27th - October 2nd  
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 • Stewware • 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.

## 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.

## BATTERIES SHOULD NOT BE DISPOSED OF IN YOUR TRASH OR RECYCLING CANS

- They are considered hazardous waste and can be disposed of at "special collections" held throughout Mercer County. Visit <https://lawrencountyga.gov/departments/recycling-and-solid-waste> or [hermitage.net](http://hermitage.net) for more details.

## Food Waste to Energy **Wayne Covert**, WPC Superintendent, HMA Manager

The Hermitage Wastewater Treatment Plant transforms processed sewage and discarded food into renewable energy through anaerobic digestion. This process uses one thermophilic (131°F) and three mesophilic (96°F) digesters, where bacteria break down organic matter in the absence of oxygen, producing a mix of methane and carbon dioxide called biogas.

The biogas is captured in inflatable membranes and a Bio-Ball, with a storage capacity of 100,000 cubic feet. After drying and removing impurities like siloxane and hydrogen sulfide, the biogas is pressurized to 70 inches of water column (2.5 psi) and fed into a Combined Heat and Power (CHP) generator. This generator produces both electricity and heat for the digesters, generating around

65,000 cubic feet of biogas daily, which equates to 5,000 kWh of energy.

We process food waste from across the U.S., either de-packaging it on-site or unloading tanker shipments into our hydrolysis pit. By converting food waste into energy, we reduce landfill waste and methane emissions, lower electricity and natural gas costs for the plant, and generate revenue through tipping fees and recycling aluminum, cardboard, and pallets. Additionally, the process produces Class A biosolids, cutting landfill costs, and helps stabilize sewer rates, which have remained steady since 2013. Our innovative approach not only supports sustainability but also creates significant economic benefits, turning waste into a valuable resource.

## Water Quality Corner

The City of Hermitage is committed to protecting and improving stream & river quality in our community and region. Every resident can help to preserve our environment and water resources.

When discussing polluted waterways, there are two types of pollutants: point source & non-point source pollutants. When there is a direct water contamination issue that can be followed, that is considered point source pollution. Nonpoint source pollution includes cars leaking motor oil,

littering, and fertilizer use. These items, along with many others, are sources of pollution that greatly impact the health of our waterways and can lead to long last effects including fish kills and hazards to human health.



## From the Desk of the Treasurer



Hello Everyone,

I hope you had a nice Holiday season and are now enjoying the daytime hours increasing as each day goes by. January has greeted us with more winter like weather than last year. Hopefully it will warm up soon.

This is the time of year to take a break from property taxes. All unpaid taxes have been turned over to the County and the unpaid Per Capita bills have gone to Sharp Collections. Keep in mind that we only collect for current year taxes and they must be paid in our office by December 30th of each year, in order to keep from being filed for collection.

This is a good time of year to have your receipts handy to prepare your tax rebate if eligible. Forms will be available in our office if you don't receive one by mail, and they should be filed with your income taxes. Have you ever applied for the Homestead Exclusion on your residence? Generally, it's a

one-time application unless you have a change on your deed. Keep in mind that by law, you can only claim one Homestead Exclusion on the house in which you reside and are named on the deed.

The county has announced an increase on their portion of the county/city bill, while the city portion will remain at 5 mills. These bills will be mailed to you on March 1st.

This bill labeled County/City is one bill and does not require one check for the county portion and another check for the city portion. Please remit one check for the combined amount stated on your bill.

As always, our office is available should you have any questions. Call us at 724-347-4472 or feel free to walk in during regular business hours.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Harry**  
Your Hermitage Treasurer

# Hermitage Police Dept.

Joel Ristvey, Deputy Chief of the Criminal Investigation Division

The Hermitage Police Department has seen a marked uptick in residents falling victim to scams, some involve criminals using local Cryptocurrency – Bitcoin ATM machines as a payment mechanism. Within the last several months, five Hermitage Victims had a combined total theft of approximately \$589,000 through various scams! Have a conversation with your parents, grandparents and friends

A government report in 2023 showed the vast majority of victims were over 60 years old. Last year Americans reported losing more than \$5.6 billion through fraud involving cryptocurrency. Pennsylvania ranks seventh worst in the Country.

**The top three scams for that age range were;**

1. Tech Support
2. Personal Data Breach
3. Confidence/Romance Scams

Scammers running some frauds will pressure you to pay them in cryptocurrency, something no legitimate business or government agency would do. Virtual money isn't backed by any government or central bank. Crypto investments are subject to far less regulatory protection than traditional investments and can be volatile. Crypto ATMs are favored by criminals for their anonymity, general lack of oversight, and difficulty tracing. They don't have the same legal protections as credit or debit cards and payments usually can't be reversed. Scammers sometimes falsely advertise individual retirement accounts as IRS-approved to make them

seem less risky. Don't invest in crypto with someone that sends you a text message, contacts you on social media or email and if someone says you owe a fee or payment and they tell you to directly go to a crypto ATM machine or buy gift cards, certainly it's a scam.

## Red flags

- Claims that you'll make big money. Someone you don't know sends you a message out of the blue about an incredibly lucrative virtual currency investment opportunity involving no risk and surefire profits.
- Pressure to pay. A call, text, email or social media message claiming to be from a government agency, utility or other official body seeks a crypto payment, debt or fee.

## How to protect yourself

- No legitimate business or government will ever email, text, or message you on social media to ask for money and they will never demand that you buy or pay with cryptocurrency or prepaid gift cards.
- Never click on a link from an unexpected text, email, or social media message, even if it seems to come from a company you know.
- Don't pay anyone who contacts you unexpectedly, demanding payment with cryptocurrency, prepaid gift cards or wire transfer.
- Never pay a fee to get a job. If someone asks you to pay upfront for a job or says to buy cryptocurrency, it's a scam.
- **Resist pressure to buy right now.**

Criminals often try to create a false sense of urgency around a supposedly red-hot cryptocurrency.

- **Check out any dealer before you buy.** It's not a good idea to invest in or trade virtual currencies on the advice of someone you've only dealt with online.
- **Do your research.** Thoroughly research any virtual currency platform or digital wallet provider before providing any credit card information, wiring money or disclosing sensitive personal data.
- **Carefully read any agreement.** They (similar to banks) likely will not accept responsibility for replacing your money if it is stolen or connected to a theft through manipulation.
- **If you own crypto, never share your "private keys"** — the long letter-and-number codes that enable you to access your virtual currency — with anyone. Keep them in a secure place.

## What to do if you've been targeted by any scam-

- Submit a report to the FBI <https://www.ic3.gov/> (IC3) or contact your local FBI Field Office and provide as much information about the transaction as possible.
- Report it to your local police. To file any police report, call 911 or to report a not-in-progress incident, call the 24/7 Non-Emergency Dispatch Phone Number 724-662-6110
- File a report through, Report Fraud FTC <https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/>

# From the Fire Chief

John R. Flynn, Fire Marshal-Chief

The Hermitage Volunteer Fire Department would like to wish everyone a happy and safe New Year. The Hermitage Volunteer Fire Department has mailed its annual truck fund drive packet out and encourages all the Hermitage residences and businesses to support and donate no matter how big or small your donation is. These funds will help secure the future of the fire department with the best equipment possible.

As I travel around our community, I have noticed an alarming amount of businesses and residences without addresses on their homes or businesses. The City of Hermitage Ordinance 9/8/1971; Chapter 4-103 states you must have at least a 4 inch in height number with the color contrasting with the background surface. It shall be affixed to the residence or

building or structure at the assigned address and must be visible from the street. If street side mailboxes are used, the number shall be affixed to the mailbox. Most of the time when you need some type of emergency services, time is of the most importance; why slow us down by not having an address visible. Trying to find an address in the darkness of the night can be like finding a needle in a haystack.

I cannot stress enough how important a visible address is for safety and security for you and your loved ones. Please do your part as a safety advocate for our community and make sure your address is visible from the street.

As always, thank you for your continued support and please be safe.

ECRWSEDDM  
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

## HOW TO STAY IN THE KNOW.....



### Sign up for 'Notify Me'

The City's 'Notify Me' feature provides updates, via email or text alert, about topics that interest you by subscribing to various modules on our website. You can sign up for 'News Flash' or our Events Calendar to receive the latest updates on upcoming City-sponsored events. To stay in-the-know with important updates from our Boards, sign up for our 'Agenda Center'.

To subscribe, visit [www.hermitage.net/list.aspx](http://www.hermitage.net/list.aspx)



### Subscribe to the City's eNewsletter

Stay up-to-date with news and events involving the City and local businesses and organizations.

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

To subscribe, visit <https://hermitagepa-services.app.transform.civicplus.com/forms/30465>



### See Click Fix



Customer service and engaging with our residents are a top priority. Download our free app, See Click Fix, that allows residents to submit service requests on the fly from their smartphones or on the web. Residents can also access important city information regarding events, alerts, and more.



DOWNLOAD THE APP



SUBMIT A CONCERN

**NOTICE TO HERMITAGE RESIDENTS:**  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING HOURS:  
7:30AM - 4PM  
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY  
OR CALL 724-981-0800

### CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



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

