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Highlighting Neighborhood News & Events

Volume 2, Edition 10, October 2025



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The Greater Hazleton Area POLONAISE SOCIETY

In Honor of Polish-American Heritage Month, The Polish Harvest Celebration – Dozynki will be celebrated by The Greater Hazleton Area Polonaise Society on Sunday, October 26, 2025 at the Mahanoy City Elks Lodge #695, 135 E. Centre St., Mahanoy City. The doors will open at 1:00 p.m. with entertainment by The Shenandoah All-Star Polka Band playing from 2:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. There is a \$10 cover charge along with a Food and Bake sale, Cash Bar, Gift Card Raffle and Polish Pottery sale.

The word Dozynki is derived from the Polish verb dozynac meaning to cut down or reap, thus relating to the harvest. Poland being an agricultural country for centuries traditionally held harvest festivals on or about August 15, Assumption Day, known as the Feast of Our Lady of Harvest. Owners of large estates or farms would hold this celebration for the people who worked during the sowing and reaping.

On the chosen afternoon after the crops had been harvested, the farm folk of the village, in their most impressive costumes

would gather at the manor house. This group always included the best reapers. A huge wreath either round or cone shaped was made of vegetable, fruits, grains, nuts and streamers of red, and white ribbon. This wreath was carried by the best reapers, both male and female and presented to the owner or Lord of the estate. The village priest would impart the blessing on the harvest bounty, represented by the wreath. After the blessing the village folk responded with songs of praise to God for the abundant harvest. The owner in turn would treat his workers with vodka, bread, which was baked by the hostess, and cheese.

There would be dancing and singing around the first “sноп” or sheaf of wheat. After this all were invited to a large barn which was cleared for dancing and a hearty supper was served by the landlord to all who participated. This merrymaking would continue into the hours at dusk when all would return to their homes.

The symbols of the harvest had meaning: Wheat - has a twofold representation not



only of the harvest, but also the bread of life as in Communion with God. Wine - represents the wine used by Christ at the Last Supper, the bountiful fruit of the vine.

Cheese - represents the land of milk and honey or an abundant harvest. Colors – red and white ribbons or streamers represent the colors of Poland. Costumes – Polish costumes are colorful, they include vests for women with beads onto red, wine blue or black velvet or suede cloth. The skirts are made of white cloth with several rows of colored ribbons for the small girls. Shirts and blouse are white with long puffy sleeves. Money – was considered good luck for the following harvest when a guest outside of the harvesters would redeem himself with a monetary gift to the harvesters.

If you would like to join us for the merriment tickets are available either in advance by calling Cheryl Sabol – 570- 401-2555 or Barbara Grosso – 570-436-4425 or at the door on the day of the event.

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Dane Watro, State Representative
Contributing Writer
Community Information

The Anthracite Post

Highlighting Neighborhood News & Events

Letter from the Editors

Hello everyone! There is a chill in the air today as I write this, and some much needed rain is on the way. It seems Autumn has finally arrived. Everywhere you look, there are pumpkins and mums, and the leaves have started to change colors. I love this time of year. That first hot chocolate on a cool day tastes so good. I like to read books. Curling up on the couch under a soft fuzzy blanket, with a good book, is just so relaxing.

It's a great time of year to get in your car or on your motorcycle and take off for the day. There are so many Fall Festivals going on, along with hay rides, pumpkin patches and corn mazes. It's also nice to just go for a ride to do some leaf peeping. Nature shows its beauty before everything hibernates for the winter.

I almost forgot about trick-or-treating. There are plenty of treats to be had with local trunk-or-treat events and town trick-or-treating. I personally like Swedish Fish, Twix Bars and Almond Joy's if you'd like to drop some off at the new office - just kidding.

As always, if you have any ideas, stories, recipes, photos, etc., that you would like to submit for *The Anthracite Post*, send us an email, text or give us a call.

Lee Ann & Shari

WRITTEN BY SHARI

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OCTOBER 2025

BIZARRE & UNIQUE HOLIDAYS

- 1 Pumpkin Spice Day
- 2 Name Your Car Day
- 3 National Boyfriends Day
World Smile Day
- 4 National Taco Day
- 5 Do Something Nice Day
World Teacher's Day
- 6 Come and Take it Day
- 7 Bald and Free Day
National Forgiveness Day
- 8 Emergency Nurses Day
National Pierogi Day
- 9 Curious Events Day
Fire Prevention Day
- 10 World Egg Day
World Homeless Day
- 11 It's My Party Day
National Motorcycle Ride Day
- 12 Old Farmer's Day
National Gumbo Day
- 13 Columbus Day
Indigenous People Day
National M&M Day
- 14 National Dessert Day
- 15 Fossil Day
- 16 Bosses Day
World Food Day
- 17 National Pasta Day
Wear Something Gaudy Day
- 18 No Beard Day
Sweetest Day
- 19 Evaluate Your Life Day
- 20 International Chefs Day
- 21 International Nacho Day
Pumpkin Cheesecake Day
- 22 National Nut Day
Smart is Cool Day
- 23 National Mole Day
TV Talk Show Host Day
- 24 United Nations Day
- 25 Howl at the Moon Night
Make a Difference Day
- 26 Mother-In-Law Day
National Pumpkin Day
- 27 Black Cat Day
Navy Day
- 28 National First Responders Day
Plush Animal Lover's Day
- 29 National Cat Day
- 30 National Candy Corn Day
Mischievous Day
- 31 Halloween
Increase Your Psychic Powers Day

October Brings Sci-Fi Art and More to the Hazleton Art League



The Hazleton Art League is celebrating October with a full month of creativity at the Hayden Family Center for the Arts. The featured exhibition, Signals Not Lost, showcases local artists exploring science fiction, celestial, and speculative themes across all mediums.

The show opens Friday, October 3 with a reception from 5 to 8 p.m., highlighted by the Hazleton Area Garden Club's annual Art in Bloom floral display, where members design arrangements inspired by selected artworks. The exhibition continues through Sunday, October 26. Special events include an Artists' Talk on Sunday, October 5 from 1–3 p.m., and Acoustic Jam with live local musicians on the final day, October 26 from 1–3 p.m.

October also marks the start of the Art League's membership drive. Members enjoy discounts and benefits through December 31, 2026, with rates starting at \$15 for students, \$30 for adults, and \$60 for families.

Fall classes are underway as well, including stained glass with Bret Huttenstine and pottery wheel classes with Joni Mazzie.

For details, visit hazletonartleague.org or call 570-455-3333. The Hayden Family Center for the Arts, 31 W. Broad St., Hazleton, PA 18201



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Rotary Donates to Brandon's Forever Home



On September 24th, Hazleton Rotarians and Young Rotarians enjoyed a fun Social event at Booty's Place.

A request was made that attendees bring, if they chose, items to be donated to Brandon's Forever Home, Hazleton. The response was tremendous! Clothes, school items, diapers and monetary contributions were among the donated items! "Thanks to all who contributed to this voluntary effort. Your kindness and generosity will go a long way to helping with a noble cause. In addition, thank you to Freeland American Legion Post 473 – for their very large monetary donation." explained Social Chair Stephen Seach. "The Greater Hazleton Area is very generous with one group helping another with its efforts."

That's what Rotary is about—United for Good!!

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THE ANTHRACITE POST PAGE 4



Senator Dave Argall
29th District Pennsylvania Senate
 Toll Free Number: 877-327-4255
 dargall@pasen.gov
 Schuylkill, Carbon and Luzerne counties



Problem with State Government? Call Us!

By State Sen. Dave Argall (R-Schuylkill/Carbon/Luzerne)

Do you need assistance with a state-related issue? You can visit any of my district offices! So far this year, we've helped address almost 6,000 problems for the people of Luzerne, Carbon, and Schuylkill counties.

Our more common requests include providing help with property tax/rent rebate forms, driver's license applications, and filing for unemployment. Last year, we also worked to recover more than \$400,000 in unclaimed property belonging to our constituents.

If you ever have a state government related question or problem, we're here to help! My offices are open weekly, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The locations and contact information for my district offices are as follows:

- Hazleton: 145 E Broad Street, Hazleton
(570) 521-9441
- Mahanoy City: 1 West Centre Street, Mahanoy City
(570) 773-0891
- Pottsville: 100 North Centre Street, Pottsville
(570) 622-3400
- Weissport: 204B Bridge Street, Weissport
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Warning: Refund Scam Via Texts

By State Rep. Jamie Walsh (R-Luzerne)

Scammers continue to get more sophisticated and dangerous, which means consumers need to always be on high alert when receiving any texts or emails asking for personal information. The following is just the latest scheme being reported in the Commonwealth.

The Pennsylvanians Department of Revenue has issued a warning about a phishing scam involving fraudulent text messages that impersonate Revenue officials and attempt to trick recipients into sharing sensitive personal and financial information.

Similar reports have surfaced in Philadelphia, where the city's Department of Revenue has also seen residents targeted by deceptive texts. These messages often include links to fake websites and request banking details under the pretense of processing a refund.

Officials advise all taxpayers to verify the status of their refund only through official channels. Taxpayers can check the status of their refunds online by visiting the department's official online tax hub, myPATH, or by calling 1-888-PATAXES. Taxpayers will be prompted to provide their Social Security number and requested refund amount to obtain the current status.

To protect yourself:

- Do not click on links from unknown or suspicious senders.
- Never share your Social Security number, bank account details or other personal information via text.
- Report suspicious messages or calls to the Department of Revenue at 717-425-2495, Ext. 72267.

To verify potentially fraudulent contact from the department or to report suspicious activity, visit revenue.pa.gov.



Trooper Anthony Petroski III

Public Information Officer
Community Service Officer

Pennsylvania State Police

Troop N - Hazleton



Colder weather is fastly approaching, and we will be warming up our vehicles in the morning to ensure it runs properly and so we are warm while driving. Although most newer vehicles come equipped with a remote starter, a lot of vehicles don't have one, requiring you to leave a key in the ignition. If you must do this, we recommend you locking the doors and using an additional key to unlock your vehicle. If possible, a remote starter is best for allowing your vehicle to warm up, while not having the key in the ignition. With the holidays right around the corner, a remote starter might be a great idea for a gift. Safe travels!



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October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

By State Rep. Dane Watro (R-Luzerne/Schuylkill)

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, with the month serving as an opportunity to reflect on the progress we've made regarding breast cancer and the work that still lies ahead.

Cancer is the #2 cause of death among women with heart disease being the first; breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death after lung cancer. Last year in Pennsylvania, an estimated 13,370 women were diagnosed with breast cancer, according to the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; one in eight women are projected to get breast cancer in their lifetime.

That's why early detection is critical. The American Cancer Society says women have a better than 99% five-year survival rate when breast cancer is detected at its earliest, localized stage, when treatment is typically more effective and less extensive. Screening mammograms can detect breast cancer before you can feel it or before it causes symptoms, leading to earlier treatment and better outcomes; mammograms have been shown to reduce breast cancer death by 22%.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a great reminder to take action and talk to your health care provider about breast cancer screening and figure out what's best for you.

Telephone Town Hall on Oct. 15

I'll be hosting a Telephone Town Hall meeting on the evening of Wednesday, Oct. 15, starting at 7 p.m.

On the day of the town hall, you should receive a phone call about 10 minutes before the town hall begins. If you wish to participate, instructions will be given at that time. You can also join the town hall by calling 877-229-8493 and use PIN 122199. Additionally, you can listen and interact online during the townhall using the following link:
video.teleforumonline.com/video/streaming.php?client=22199

Call in or join us online and ask me a question or simply listen. The conversation will last about an hour, but you can stay on the line for as little or as long as you'd like.

If you have any questions about the town hall or need assistance on any matter, you can call my office at 570-453-1344.

I hope you can join us on Oct. 15.

Hazleton City Police Department
Tipline: 570-450-2080 (call or text)
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Alaskan Adventure with Frank Balon



Alaska became the 49th State on January 3, 1959. It is a vast land of mountains, lakes, tundra, glaciers and coastlines. Wildlife abounds and natural resources are plentiful. The largest city is Anchorage with a population of 290,000. In September, I was able to spend 10 days in this big, beautiful land. A friend of mine, who was a nurse on cruise ships, recommended that I visit the southern Alaska island port town of Ketchikan. I flew into Ketchikan's airport and after gathering my single bag, I took the ferry across the bay to town. I was immediately struck by the beauty of the cove and the surrounding, cloud-draped mountains. The downtown is small but vibrant with restaurants and

shops. Every morning and afternoon during the season, the gigantic cruise ships dock and the tourists double the population of the town until the 4 pm "All Aboard" Calls. I immediately found the town people very friendly. As it turns out, most Alaskans are from somewhere else. During introductions, you usually find out where they are from and how long they have lived in Alaska.



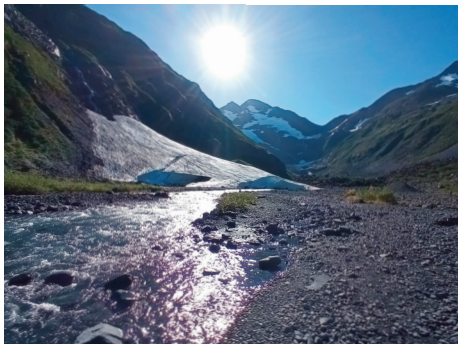
The salmon were running and were easily visible in the stream running through the town. My hotel was just a few steps from salmon creek. Also nearby was a bar called "The Caberet". I saw a sax and trumpet hanging in the window and learned from 11 am to 3 pm, they have an open stage where musicians from the cruise ships may come in and start impromptu jazz sessions. Having my little travel trumpet with me, I joined a little group for an afternoon. The owner of the club is a retired emergency room doctor from San Francisco. He is also a jazz guitarist. A piano player from a ship joined us. It was a blast. People were

coming in off the street to listen as we played for around 45 minutes.



The next day, I flew to the city of Anchorage. There, I boarded the Alaska Railroad train to Denali National Park. The distance from Anchorage to Denali is 229 miles and is spectacularly beautiful. The trip takes about 9 hours. Snow had fallen the day before and all the mountain tops were glistening white. The morning temperatures were in the mid 30's but the afternoons warmed to around 60. In Denali National Park, I was able to hike a little and take a guided Natural History Tour of the park. After 3 days, the train took me back to Anchorage. Staying in the Denali Cabins for two nights, I took a Glacier Hike and sight seeing tour. The weather was perfect, the tour guides were passionate and interesting, and the sights were incredible. Early next morning, 2:45 am, my flight left for Seattle. After an afternoon

layover in Chicago, I boarded the flight home to Avoca. In the gate waiting area in Chicago, I noticed an older couple who had been on the Anchorage to Seattle flight many hours earlier. As they were heading to Wilkes Barre on my flight, I pointed out that I recognized them from the Anchorage airport. As it turned out they live near Bloomsburg and were meeting their son in Avoca. I like to call these "Small World" Stories. All in all, the flight day home was 18 hours, as I arrived in Wilkes Barre after midnight....



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Remembering the ACS Telethon Pioneers



Leona and Henry Kreisl

"What a team! What a Day! What A Dream Come true!" were the words of praise following the very first Greater Hazleton American Cancer Society telethon in 1979. At that time, it was called the first annual American Cancer Society Benefit Dance-A-Thon-Telethon.

The dream continues Saturday, November 15th when the 47th annual Greater Hazleton telethon, "Fighting Every Cancer for Every Life" is scheduled to air from 11:00 am to 10:00 pm on WYLN and PTN. The public is invited to attend the event to be held at the PTPA (Pennsylvania Theatre of Performing Arts), 212 W. Broad Street, Hazleton

In addition to Clemie Yamona who actively participated in all the 47 years of the Telethon and still makes a brief appearance every year, there are five additional names to also remember as telethon pioneers.

They are no longer with us, but Henry-Leona Kreisl and Joe-Irene Gans are honored for their years of dedication to developing and continuing to bring the telethon to the area. They and their families truly joined the fight against cancer for area residents.

We also include the late Bill Genetti who welcomed the Greater Hazleton American Cancer Society telethon into his Best Western Motor Lodge for many years

The Kreisls had "The Dream" and devoted hours working on it after Vic Diehm, president of WAZL and WVCD radio stations urged them to have a "polka ball" to raise funds for the local unit of the American Cancer Society

They brought professional quality entertainment and superior organizational skills to the project idea, which would give hope to cancer patients and their families. Just as important, they found a way to give very impor-



Irene and Joe Gans

tant cancer prevention and education information to the local population, which continues to be an integral part of the event.

Although the Kreisls were most optimistic, they informed the Hazleton cancer group that they needed help with local television stations and a cable system to transmit their production throughout the area.

Thus, Joe and Irene Gans entered the picture, putting together the technical expertise needed to get the show out to the people.

No sooner was the first telethon over when the Kreisls, who already had visions far beyond 1979, started their work on the second telethon with the Gans family again ready and willing to televise.

"The Dream" expanded and here we are today, continuing it on November 15th a for the 47th year!

"Over the years, there have been

countless telethon volunteers and each and every one earns respect for taking the time and energy needed to bring the telethon with its entertainment, education and inspiration to the public." explains volunteer Pat Korb. "Many have done so, time and again since 1979 and to say the American Cancer Society-Greater Hazleton is grateful, is an understatement."

"Of course, all of us currently involved with the telethon, wish that there would be no more need for one," explains telethon Chair Jane Dougherty "but although things have improved, cancer is still here and thus the need to raise funds and provide insight and education continues."

Phones will be once again be manned by local volunteers and pledges can be made by calling 570-459-1212 or going to the website www.acsmove.org/hazletontelethon.

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A Thousand Times a Day

Submitted by Kenny Wenner. If you have any information about people in this article, please call Ken at 570-401-4564 or email kenwennersr@gmail.com.

We have read about three North Siders liberated from Stalag 7 at Mossburg Germany in part 3, and Bob Seitzinger's first hand account as a POW in part 4. As Sept is POW/MIA month we will continue with POW's from the northside.

Pfc Anthony Legutko became a POW of Japan since the fall of Corregidor in May 1942. He suffered the Bataan Death march. His sister Mrs. Michael Danko of Cedar St, stated he was in fine health and received some letters, packages and photos from her. He was being held in a POW camp in Japan. Pfc Legutko had served in the Phillipines for several years prior to the war. He was one of five brothers who served in action during World War II.

Sgt George Znachko, age 38, was MIA in Italy May 12th during the offensive for Rome on May 4th, 1944. He went to Europe in Feb. of 1944 with the 85th Inf. Div. and was sent to the Anzio beachhead. He was freed by the Russians on April 22nd, 1945 after 1 1/2 years of captivity as a POW. He stated, "God was good to me. He had me by the hand all the time". As a prisoner he was wounded by shrapnel. He graduated from MMI and St Mary's School.

Pfc Mike Dinovic, age 29, of Ridge St, was captured in France Sept. 26, 1944. His Armored Div. fought across France after landing at Normandy. Mike was freed with fellow north siders from Moosburg on April 29, 1945. Brothers **Pfc John Dinovic** is a Seabee in the Aleutians, **Sgt Dominick** is in Virginia, **Pvt Louis** is

Army in Germany.

Pvt Amos Natalie, age 31 of 719 Walnut St, was captured Dec 21st, 44 in the Ardennes offensive in Belgium (Battle of the Bulge). Served with the 106th "Lion" Inf Div near St Vith, Belgium. They challenged 9 on rushing Divisions of SS and Panzer Troops at the start of the Bulge. He was due for rotation in a few days but was captured. After capture, the POWs walked 4 days (38 miles) thru snow and mud living on 1/2 loaf of bread per day. They slept two nights on bare ground and were only allowed to lay flat. No standing or sitting. At Gerstein Germany, west of Pruem, they were herded into boxcars to travel for ten days with no food or water. On Christmas Eve, they began singing in their boxcars when they were bombed and strafed during "Silent Night" and 9 prisoners were killed by allied aircraft. They arrived at Bad-Orb where they slept in wooden shelters on wooden floors. There was some straw and each man had a blanket so they doubled up and if you found a piece of wood it became your pillow. It was very cold. In Jan and Feb 1945, 4 or 5 men died each day from pneumonia, dysentery, or malnutrition. He was liberated from Stalag 9-B at Bad-Orb, 30 miles from Frankfort on Easter Sunday 1945 by the 1st Army as they freed 1277 POWs of the 6th Armored Div. from the Seigenham POW camp located 14 miles from Kassel. Natalie was examined and flown to Le Havre France where he was issued new clothes and then set sail for home.

During his captivity he went from 180# to 130#. His brother **Anthony Natalie** is in France with the 7th armored Div.

Pvt Gordan Fisher, of Birkbeck St, was Freeland's longest German POW. He was captive 26 months from Feb. 14, 1943 when his field artillery outfit was encircled by German's in the Kasserine Pass in Tunisia, Africa. He was in Stalag 2-B. Brother **Harry Fisher** was in the Navy in Norfolk, Va.

Pfc Albert Goeppert, Age 18, of 809 Walnut St, was listed as MIA April 12th, 1945, but had been a POW for 2 weeks before being liberated. He was moved from a French hospital to Indiantown Gap for emergency surgery. He enlisted May 3rd, 1944. He served with Patton's 3rd Army.

Pfc John Howey, entered service Jan 14th, 1942 and went to England in Jan 1943. Served in France, Germany, Luxembourg, and Belgium with the 22nd Amphibious, 4th Inf Div. He was twice wounded in action by shrapnel. He landed in Normandy and later captured in Cherbourg. Pvt Howey was POW for several days until being liberated by G.I.s taking a French town from the Germans. John returned to duty where he suffered shrapnel wounds to the head.

Pvt Joseph Harashak, of 109 St. James Dr, Youngstown was the 2nd longest POW. With the 9th Inf Div, they served in the French Morocco and Tunisian campaigns of North Africa. He was captured by the Germans in April 1943 and was interred in several POW camps in Germany. Brother **Paul Harashak** is serving in the Pacific with the Navy.

Pvt Arthur Wheeler, of White Haven. I have little info on Art other than he was 82nd Airborne PIR (parachute infantry regiment) and he dropped into Normandy on "D" Day June 6, 1944. He was captured the first day and was a POW until the end of the war in May 1945.

Other POWs memorialized during the POW/MIA ceremony each year are **Pvt John Kaschak**, **Cpl Conrad Broskoski**, **Cpl Stephan Novatney**, **Pvt Michael DiNoia**, **Pvt John Sherman**, and **Cpl John Zabitchuck**. I have no information on these soldiers.

As is the situation in war, many facts are unknown. **S/Sgt James Corrigan**, of 902 North St, was shot down Dec 3rd 1944 during an aerial raid on Tokyo. His B-29 Superfortress failed to return to base. The co-pilot of his bomber, Col. Richard King parachuted, was captured and interred as a POW. He was eventually returned from captivity at wars end and there was hope that other crew members survived. S/Sgt Corrigan was never located. He had been a gunner with the 21st bomber command. Previous, Corrigan served more than a year as a B-24 Liberator gunner on anti-sub patrol in England. He was credited with shooting down two enemy planes. He was then transferred to the B-29 in the Pacific. MIA

Next month we will begin the long list of MIA's from our home area. We remember you, S/Sgt Corrigan.

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Sports Trivia Treats

By Ron Marchetti

A Cougar Success Story

Chris Long, who recently celebrated his 50th birthday, has a history of many firsts. He was on the first Hazleton Area Cougars basketball team as a senior during the 1992-93 season and played in the first game at the brand new HAHS gym before a capacity crowd of 3500 on December 15, 1992 when the Cougars defeated Pottsville (66-57). Chris led the Cougars that year in scoring with 582 points and as a Mountaineer, 1037 points for a career total of 1619 points. The 1992-93 team finished with a 29-2 record under Coach Bruce Leib and played in the PIAA Class AAAA state championship game in the first year of consolidation of the Hazleton, Freeland and West Hazleton high schools. Long scored 19 of his team's 30 points in the state title game in a losing effort.

On September 23, 2007, Chris was inducted into the Hazleton Area Sports Hall of Fame, the first Cougar basketball alumni to achieve that honor. After graduation from HAHS, he attended Ivy League Princeton University where he played basketball for legendary coach Pete Carrell but then decided to concentrate on academics and did extremely well. He graduated from Princeton cum laude an AB degree in economics and also earned an MBA degree from Harvard Business School.

Chris began his financial career in New York working for various Wall Street firms including Sandell Asset Management, Morgan Stanley, TH Putnam Ventures and IP Morgan, all involved in multi-billion dollar transactions. Currently he is chief investor for Prairie Capital Management, based in Kansas City, Missouri. His firm handles approximately \$5 billion in assets for both high net worth individuals and institutions, for advising clients on investments, cultivating relationships with new clients and managing the proprietary hedge fund and private equity fund for his firm.

Long now resides in Kansas City with his wife, 2 daughters and 2 sons. He is now Co-owner of the Kansas City Current women's soccer team along with his Co-owner and great friend Patrick Maholme, K C Chiefs quarterback, who both were very instrumental in the building of the recently erected 13,000 seat stadium which is exclusively used for women's soccer. Congratulations to Chris Long for his many accomplishments. He is the son of Dale and Diane Long of Hazleton.

Thanks for reading. Till next time, be a good sport and 'stay loose'.



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BRIEF HISTORY OF PUMPKIN BEER

Pumpkin beer isn't a new craft beer trend. It is actually older than America itself. Back in colonial times, barley was expensive and hard to grow, so brewers sometimes tossed in pumpkins because they were cheap, plentiful, and they added sugar for fermentation.

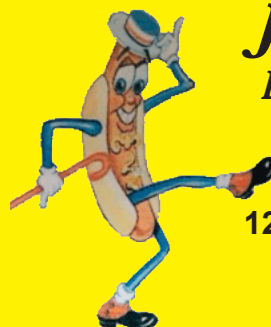
Fast forward a couple hundred years, and now pumpkin beer is everywhere. Some people love it, some roll their eyes, but one thing's for sure. It is here to stay.

So next time you crack one open, raise a toast to beer history, because pumpkin beer is a big part of it.

-Jeff & Desiree Bonomo

Watch Jeff & Desiree talk about all things in the craft beverage world on Wine Hops and Road Stops on Service Electric Cable and Blue Ridge Cable or online at www.youtube.com/@winehopsroadstops and facebook.com/winehopsandroadstops

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For more information, call Rachael at 570-427-4500.

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Heritage Hill Events

Hill's Angels Helping and Healing Caregiver Support Group

Hill's Angels Helping and Healing Caregiver Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month at 4:00 p.m. at Heritage Hill Senior Community, 800 Sixth St., Weatherly. This free support group provides a safe, welcoming space to share your caregiving experiences—the ups, downs and uncertainties. Led by Executive Director Lisa Perla and Memory Care Director Kit, we'll connect, learn from one another, and explore supportive ways to navigate the changes that come with dementia. Call Rachael at 570-427-4500 or email rtimm@heritagehillsenior.com to attend.

AARP Smart Driver Program - Initial Course

Thanks to Heritage Hill Senior Community and AARP, review your driving skills with a two-day initial course on Tuesday, Oct. 21, and Wednesday, Oct. 22. Both class times run from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Participants must attend both days. Successful completion can result in discounts on car insurance (contact your insurance agent for details). The course is available to drivers aged 50 years and older who have yet to complete the initial course or have let three years pass since taking it. The cost for AARP members is \$20 per person with proof of membership; nonmembers are \$25 per person. Participants must bring a valid driver's license. Heritage Hill provides a complimentary lunch. Seating is limited; registration is required. Please call Rachael at 570-427-4500 or email rtimm@heritagehillsenior.com.

Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat at Heritage Hill

Dress up the kids and enjoy a safe, festive night of trick-or-treating at Heritage Hill Senior Community on Friday, Oct. 24, from 4:30-6:00 p.m., at 800 Sixth St., Weatherly. Take the kids on a candy-filled adventure from the comfort of your car as you drive through our parking lot, stopping at decorated trunks to collect sweet treats and surprises. For more info, call Rachael at 570-427-4500 or email rtimm@heritagehillsenior.com.

THE ANTHRACITE POST PAGE 12



Dozynki Harvest Festival

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Spooky Good Fun for Freeland's 150th

By Bobby Maso

Mark your calendars! This month, the Freeland 150th Celebration Committee will hold two very special events to continue our ongoing efforts in throwing the biggest party in Freeland's near sesquicentennial history. Each event will happen on the same day- Saturday, October 25th, and both will happen at the Freeland Public Park.

First, at 3 p.m., we will hold a costumed pet parade for dogs and cats along the Master Sgt. Paul Karpowich Pathway. Prizes will be awarded in the categories of Funniest, Scariest, Cutest, and Most Original. The cost of registration is a can of pet food, which the 150th Committee will donate to Spooky Lou's Kitty Rescue in Freeland. Alternatively, the price is just \$5.

Later that evening, from 6-8 p.m., middle school students of the area are invited to enjoy a free Halloween dance in the pavilion. Costumes are encouraged to make the night more festive. If your child is interested in coming to the dance, we ask that you RSVP by e-mailing freeland150th@gmail.com. Please plan to pick your child up by 8 p.m.

The events will cap off a great day of celebrating both the town and the Halloween season, as the 150th Committee will also be part of the annual Safe Trick-Or-Treat program, hosted by the Freeland Rec. Board earlier in the day.

For more info, please visit our Facebook page, at Freeland PA 150th Celebration. Enjoy a great day of thrills and chills with us that you won't soon forget!



A Veterans Journal #104

By Joseph Barna • Freeland
USMC, Korea 1952-1953



The older I get I'm finding it harder to forget the memories: Whether they are good memories or bad memories. Maybe it's crazy, but I don't want to forget them. Maybe the memories keep me company when I'm alone. Through all my years I was able to share so many with friends. I'm finding it sad to lose the people I used to share stories with. I guess I'll keep these and maybe someday share them with the ones I've already said farewell to. They keep looking down on me waiting for me to be on that next elevator to heaven.

Other memories are carved on tombstones or left in foreign countries on beaches, jungles, skies, oceans and in towns and cities. All veterans are part of these stories. I found during my life that almost all people are good. But like a bushel of apples, there may be one who will spoil the basket. Some do it on purpose.

It's a beautiful thing to share a friendship, or a marriage where you can multiply the number of friendships. Friendships can also be spell strength. Alone you find weakness. I once heard if you have one true friend you are a millionaire. I know many rich people because I tried to be that one person.

There was a short time in my life when I served in the military. I saw many millionaires and a lot of strength. I am proud of that time I were combat boots. These friendships never go away. Isn't it nice to have others ask you to play on their sports teams or just tell you that they enjoy being with you. To be wanted this way is a treasure. Love and friendships are priceless. Think about others, not only yourself and I'm sure your life will be full of good and not bad.

Share the talents you were given. Everybody has that special talent. It may be as simple as listening to a friend. It doesn't cost much, only good words and deeds. I've tried to live my life with love and respect. I see and hear some people speak louder than the next person or yell over them. This is no way to make others believe what is right. If they would speak softly, maybe everyone would listen to them.

I spoke of friendship in the military. The first day I met a boy from Philadelphia. His name was Roy Carlin. I knew I had to ask for his friendship and if I needed help, I could count on him. Like me, Roy left a girl waiting at home for 2 years. We trained together in boot camp

and infantry training in California. We fought side-by-side in Korea, we got very close as friends. One night as we were getting shelled, he said to me, "Joe if you get hit by a shell, I hope I'm there with you." We both survived the war, came home and married the girls who waited. In fact, I was married Thanksgiving Day in 1953 and Roy married two days later. We both had three children. But in 2013, Roy died of cancer in Philadelphia. I had to say goodbye to him. I went to his funeral in Philadelphia and had the honor of carrying him to his final resting place. As a Marine bugler blew Taps, part of me went into that grave with Roy. This is what it's all about: Love and Friendship.

I have been asked at times what do you remember about your war and why do you write about it. I don't want to forget what I had to do to live. Everyday I saw boys killed that never got to see their families again. They should never be forgotten. They did things they never enjoyed but they did them so others could live. We must never forget them. Forgetting takes away the honor they earned. Anyone who believes war is beautiful is wrong. It's ugly, but full of memories, prayers, tears and yes, love. It's the love between the young warriors that cannot be described in words, but only in feelings. When one faces death he has no time to think should I or shouldn't I. God makes a decision for him. Maybe it's his time to become an angel. It's not easy to write about dying. But, to write about it shows you care about others. For many years, I tried to keep all the memories to myself, but one day, I learned that I had to share them.

While serving on the Honor Guard at military funerals, each veteran that I have the honor of helping to send to Heaven, makes me proud to have said goodbye to him or her. Do not let those memories of our loved ones go away. They are thanking you even though you can't hear it.

I have been able to contact and speak with three other Marines who were in the same outfit as I. We fought in the same battles. These Marines are Wallace Stewart from California, Jim Barnett from Oregon, and Jack Price from Montana. Jack passed two years ago. He marches in God's Army. The Brotherhood of fellow Marines lasts forever. This is what Semper Fi means: Always Faithful!

The Colors of Change: Walking Through October's Quiet Beauty

By William M. Dempsey



Brilliant fall color frames a small pond in Packer Township near Weatherly.
Photo by William M. Dempsey.

There is a moment in early October when the air starts to feel different. The evenings become cool enough to carry the smell of smoke from a nearby campfire or chimney, and the mornings arrive with fog like a quilt over the area valleys. The forests of northeast Pennsylvania begin to exhale after the long, hot, and humid summer. Maples and oaks blaze with color, and the hillsides display a glow that signals the peak of fall foliage.

Now is the perfect time to get outdoors to satisfy your senses. With each step on the trail, you hear the crisp sound of leaves crunching underfoot. The air is cool and crisp, and life moves with a slower tempo this time of year. The buzzing of summer insects is fading, giving way to the sounds of squirrels and the

distant voices of migrating birds overhead. October is the time of year when nature seems to relax and stretch, giving us its best before it goes into the long rest of winter.

To walk through the local hills and valleys in the autumn is to walk through history as much as through landscape. The trails, which were bursting with lush vegetation from late spring through the summer, have transformed, now having a completely different look and feel. Sunshine floods through the thinning treetops, turning the green trail corridors into shades of gold, red, and rust. The low autumn sun casts long shadows that soften every detail. Reminders that come with the change of seasons surround us, such as the curved leaves dropping to the forest floor and

the shimmering webs of spiders hit by a sun that continues to fall in the sky as we move toward the winter solstice.

The local trails in the Anthracite region are exceptionally well-prepared for this time of year. By the time October fades away, these trails emerge transformed. The old coal haul roads and river trails are now lined with maple and birch, making them ideal places for meditative thoughts while walking in the woods. A great example is the D. L. & W. rail trail near Rockport, a walk here gives us the chance to follow the bends and detours of the Lehigh River through the colorful wooded slopes that line both sides of the gorge, painted with a dozen shades of orange and gold. The air by the river has a faint scent of pine needles from the trees that surround the rock cliffs that meet the path.

On a clear day, the trails on top of Broad Mountain offer breathtaking views of the season's colors that stretch far across the valleys. This time of year, the wind on top of the hills becomes even sharper with less of a natural barrier as the trees shed their leaves.

Even the smaller parks take on the characteristics of the season. At Tuscarora and Locust Lake State Parks, the lakes are mirror-like, reflecting the season perfectly. A quiet afternoon walk around the paths of either lake can provide an escape from our busy lives. Make some time to enjoy these shortened days of October when the sunlight becomes a delicate treasure of days that seem to end too quickly.

The woods of October become quiet, allowing us to be more alert to the sounds, colors, and temperatures. The changes in the air felt when walking down into a hollow or climbing a hill into the wind. Acorns are scattered underfoot, and you may even encounter the startling drumming sound of ruffed grouse as you walk. If you take a hike following the rain, you will experience the aroma of the damp leaves along the path. Nature in the autumn does not shout; it whispers, and it is well worth listening to.

This month, if the weekend forecast indicates clear weather, don't delay. Put on your hiking boots, pack a light coat, and head outdoors. Walk a portion of the D. & L. Trail along the Lehigh River, or around the lakes at Tuscarora or Frances Slocum. See the sights, because this season is not permanent, but rather short-lived. You'll be grateful that you took the opportunity to appreciate the fleeting moment of brilliance and beauty that can only be witnessed during autumn in Pennsylvania.



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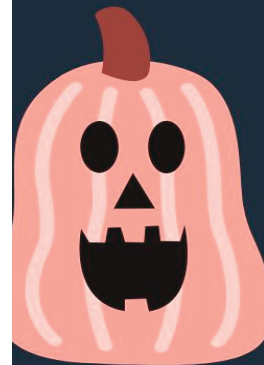
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