



# The Anthracite Post

Highlighting Neighborhood News & Events

Volume 2, Edition 2, January 2025



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ZION GROVE

## MMI Introduces New Scholarship for Pre-College Credit Program in Partnership with Lackawanna College

(Freeland, PA – January 14, 2025) – MMI Head of School Mrs. Theresa Long is pleased to announce The Dr. Philip A. McHale '58 and Ms. Linda Tishko Scholarship for College Credit Opportunities, a one-time, donor-funded initiative that will reduce 30% of the per-credit cost for eligible students participating in the Pre-College Credit program at Lackawanna College this spring.

Through this program, MMI students have the flexibility to take classes online, attend courses at the Lackawanna College Hazleton Center, or participate in concurrent classes held at MMI Preparatory School to earn college credits. The collaboration aims to save students time and money toward their higher education goals, gain exposure to college-level coursework, review pathways to career-focused programs, and explore fields of study before committing to a major.

Currently, juniors and seniors can choose between nine different concurrent enrollment courses. Additionally, students in 10th grade can select dual enrollment tracks which gives them the opportunity to

earn an associate's degree while still enrolled at MMI.



Pictured: Ms. Linda Tishko and Dr. Philip A. McHale '58

Mrs. Long was excited about the scholarship, saying, "We are grateful for the wonderful contribution from Dr. McHale and Ms. Tishko. With this scholarship, we're excited to provide more students with the opportunity to experience college courses,

preparing them for whichever path they choose after graduation. We can't thank Dr. McHale and Ms. Tishko enough."

"We are proud to support this program and emphasize the power of collaboration between MMI and Lackawanna College," said Dr. Philip A. McHale '58. "By working together, we're creating meaningful opportunities for students to experience college-level coursework, explore their interests, and build a strong foundation for their future. I hope this initiative inspires even more partnerships that benefit our students and their educational journeys."

Prospective and current students and families can learn more about MMI's and Lackawanna College's Pre-College Credit program by visiting [www.mmiprep.org/academics/college-credits-in-upper-school](http://www.mmiprep.org/academics/college-credits-in-upper-school), contacting Dr. Tammy M. Chrin, MMI's Director of College Counseling, at (570) 636-1108 x169 or [tchrin@mmiprep.org](mailto:tchrin@mmiprep.org), or visiting MMI at one of its upcoming Discover MMI events on January 15 or January 25. More information can be found about those events at <https://www.mmiprep.org/discover-mmi/>.

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to The Anthracite Post are not a reflec-  
tion of the opinion of The Anthracite  
Post.

# The Anthracite Post

Highlighting Neighborhood News & Events

## Letter from the Editors

Hello! Are you all keeping warm? This cold spell has been lasting way too long. We haven't had these bitter -° temperatures in a few years. So far the coldest I've seen has been -19° in my car on the way to work in the morning. I sure hope warmer temperatures are on the way. As I write this, today ended up being in the 30's and it feels like a heat wave. It's nothing to get excited about because the weather people are calling for snow squalls tomorrow morning while people are headed to work.

I could try and look at the bright side of things. In the winter there are no pesky bugs, no snakes and we get that extra hour of sleep. I'll remind myself of that when I go home and get under my electric blanket to thaw out while I read a book.

If you'd like to advertise your event or business, send either Lee Ann (570) 582-0981 or myself, Shari, (570) 401-1798 a text and we will be happy to speak to you.

Just an FYI - You can also see the digital version of **The Anthracite Post** on our website - theanthracitepost.com

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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## The Anthracite Post



## January 2025

It's a brand new year full of hope and optimism.

January is one of the two coldest months of the year in the northern hemisphere. But, there are many holidays big and small, to help keep you warm. And, celebrating them will help to make the winter days go by a little quicker.

The big holidays this month include: New Year's Day and Martin Luther King Day.

Notable, cute little January holidays: Houseplant Appreciation Day, World Introvert Day, Global Belly Laugh Day



### MONTHLY CELEBRATIONS

- National Bath Safety Month
- National Blood Donor Month
- Braille Literacy Month
- National Hobby Month
- Hot Tea Month
- National Oatmeal Month
- National Soup Month



### WEEKLY EVENTS

Week 2 - Letter Writing Week



# WINTER FOODS

T E F P O T A T O E S U C K P S T Q M N  
S D T S Y Z U V U E C Q Y S C U U M Z G  
T V A A W I W D W P N U T M P H O Q J P  
U E Z Y L O N J C B L A W A N V L S S E  
F K I E J O L A A E C Z C Y Y A A N G K  
F I O K F H C L L A V E A Y U I E B G Y  
I C Q R D T H O A M U L L E D W I N E W  
N I Z U T C G J H M O G G I C N R B A P  
G N V T S C R E G C H L P S I N A I K C  
S N M B A L M A I N T S I D D U H C E H  
G A V K O A I P N I I O R R E T C C K E  
N M E O R E N E G B Z D H A R M A Y A S  
I O L A T M C C E A E N D X M E S Q C T  
L N Y T O T E A R G H R N U J G S D T N  
P J V W P A P N B O I S R Q P Y E J I U  
M E A I W O I P R N Y J A I Y T R M U T  
U X R W E N E I E G N G E L E J O E R S  
D I G F T A S E A G Y H I C U S L K F E  
J B F H S L R P D E Q R T O W O E Y S V  
N D S T U N D E C I P S P U Y J G D Z M

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CASSEROLE  
CHESTNUTS  
CIDER  
CINNAMON  
CRANBERRIES  
DUMPLINGS  
EGGNOG

FONDUE  
FRUITCAKE  
GINGERBREAD  
GOULASH  
GRAVY  
HOT CHOCOLATE  
MARSHMALLOWS  
MINCE PIES

MULLED WINE  
NUTMEG  
OATMEAL  
PECAN PIE  
POT ROAST  
POTATOES  
PUDDING

SOUP  
SPICED NUTS  
STEW  
STUFFING  
TURKEY  
YAMS  
YULE LOG CAKE



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## **Bureaucratic Nightmare at Long-Vacant State Properties in White Haven, Other Communities Must End**

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

During a recent public hearing of the Senate Majority Policy Committee, we heard considerable frustration from state legislators and local leaders about the bureaucratic roadblocks that have prevented three state centers in White Haven, Hamburg, and Polk from being returned to productive use. The constant delays have resulted in the state spending \$47.2 million in taxpayer dollars to heat, staff, and maintain water and sewer systems at these three properties – with their fate in question.

The White Haven Center was closed in 2023, without input from state legislators or the surrounding community. It served the people of northeast Pennsylvania for a long time, providing quality care for the people who resided there and stable jobs for residents of the area.

Since it was closed, it has sat vacant with no plan in place for its reuse. Last year, the state spent \$8.9 million to maintain this completely empty property. Over \$116 million was spent to maintain similar properties in Allentown, Harrisburg, and Pittsburgh, many of which have now finally been demolished.

Officials from the Pennsylvania Department of General Services admit that Pennsylvania taxpayers deserve MUCH better. This governor, the last governor, and their appointed cabinet officers in the Departments of Human Services and General Services should all be embarrassed by their continuing bureaucratic nightmare.

I am introducing legislation to require a detailed plan on how these properties will be sold and put to better use. Members of the White Haven community deserve to know what the state is doing with this valuable property.

## **Hazleton Rotary and Rotary District 7410 Essay Contest**

The Hazleton Rotary Club and Rotary District 7410 are again sponsoring an essay contest with cash prizes. The contest is open to high school juniors and seniors.

Essays should be 1,000 words, typed, double-spaced and submitted as a PDF file. The following information should be included on the first page: student's name, email address and cell phone number; school name, grade level and English teacher's name; parent(s) name, email address and cell phone number, and the student's and parent(s) mailing address. Please note that Google Docs will not be accepted.

This year's theme relates to Rotary's Four Way Test which guides all Rotary projects and includes this question: "Is it fair to all concerned?" It adds, "that we use empathy to see other points of view, in the context of problems to be solved." This year's essay theme asks, "How can we use teamwork, inclusion, empathy, acceptance, belonging, and accountability to solve problems, or achieve the goals we set?"

Completed essays are to be submitted individually by the student via email to Kim McNulty, Hazleton Rotary Essay Contest Chair, at [kmcnulty@mmiprep.org](mailto:kmcnulty@mmiprep.org), no later than February 21, 2025.

Essays will be reviewed locally by a committee and a local winner, who will receive a prize of \$100, is selected. That local winner will be invited to a Hazleton Rotary meeting to read his/her essay to the club's members.

The local winner's essay will then be submitted to Rotary District 7410 to compete at the district level against local winners from all over Northeast Pennsylvania.

District readers will evaluate all local winning essays and the top three in the district will be awarded prizes of \$1,000 for first place, \$500 for second place and \$250 for third place.

For more information, please email Kim McNulty at [kmcnulty@mmiprep.org](mailto:kmcnulty@mmiprep.org).

# Art League Treasures Come Home

Over the years, HAL has built a substantial permanent collection of diverse artworks by many talented artists from the region and beyond. Most of this collection is displayed at the Hayden Family Center for the Arts, located at 31 West Broad Street in downtown Hazleton. Other pieces are loaned to corporate members of the Art League, while some have unfortunately been lost to history.

This makes it especially gratifying when a previously loaned and nearly forgotten artwork is rediscovered and returned to the collection. Such was the case with two significant works loaned to State Representative Correale F. Stevens in 1981. One of the pieces, a large oil painting entitled *Meeting on Lombard Street*, was created by local artist William C. Meyer (1903-1966). The other, a painting titled *Men Down Under* by Arthur S. Carpenter (1911-2003), depicts a group of coal miners and is rendered in casein, a milk-based polymer often used by artists.

For over 40 years, these paintings hung on the walls of an office building directly across the street from the Hazleton Art League. Thanks to a timely phone call from Almicar Arroyo, publisher of *El Mensajero* magazine, these long-lost treasures have been returned to HAL. The return came as *El Mensajero* prepared to move its offices, bringing the paintings back home where they belong.

HAL is currently working to locate other artworks loaned to businesses and institutions in the area. While some that participated in the program have since closed, making retrieval of certain pieces challenging, the Art League remains committed to preserving and showcasing its collection. The good news is that HAL's artwork loan program for corporate members remains active and thriving.

# AARP Smart Driver Course

at Heritage Hill Senior Community



## REFRESHER COURSE

Wednesday, February 12 • 9:00am-1:30pm

– Snow date Wednesday, February 19 –

The course will be taught by AARP instructor Jim Fish and includes lunch courtesy of Heritage Hill.

**Course cost: \$20 for AARP members | \$25 for nonmembers**  
Must bring AARP membership card and valid driver's license.

**Space is limited! Please register by February 7 by calling Rachael or Matthew at 570-427-4500.**

Successful completion of this course can result in discounts on car insurance.



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Hello Everyone,  
I would like to personally thank each and everyone of you that helped put a smile on the Soldiers faces this holiday season. With your support and help we were able to send out 53 holiday cards to the Soldiers at Hunter Army air field in Savannah Ga. where my daughter Alissa is stationed as a flight medic. I can't thank you all enough. Along with this note is also a picture of my daughter and her Company that they would like you to have and say much thanks for thinking of them. May God bless you all. My wish for you is to have a happy and healthy New Year! Stay safe.



Sincerely,  
Tammy Alituaia



**Representative Dane Watro**  
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## 2024 Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program Now Open

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

The application period for Pennsylvania's 2024 Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is now open for eligible residents to begin claiming rebates on property taxes or rent paid last year.

Income limits increased again this year to \$46,520 for both homeowners and renters. This is due to a 2023 law I supported that calls for adjusting the income limit based on annual increases in the Consumer Price Index. Be sure to exclude 50% of Social Security when determining your income. The rebates range from \$380 to \$1,000.

The program is open to residents aged 65 years and older; widows and widowers 50 years and older; and people with disabilities 18 years and older.

Remember – you do not need to pay anyone for assistance to apply for the rebates. Apply online at [www.mypath.pa.gov](http://www.mypath.pa.gov), or contact my district office in Hazleton or Mahanoy City for help. The application deadline is June 30.

The rebate program is supported by funds from the Pennsylvania Lottery and gaming.



**Trooper Anthony Petroski III**  
**Public Information Officer**  
**Community Service Officer**  
Pennsylvania State Police  
Troop N - Hazleton



Pennsylvania previously had the "steer clear" law, which required drivers to move to an adjacent lane when approaching an emergency response area (traffic stop, motor vehicle crash, etc.). As of April 27th, 2021, the law will be called the "Move Over Law". Changes to this law include:

Required to merge into a lane further away from the emergency response area and IF that cannot be done, slow down 20 MPH below the posted speed limit.

\$500 fine for first offense, \$1,000 fine for a second offense and \$2,000 for a third or subsequent offense and a 90-day license suspension for a third or subsequent offense.

New point system that imposes 2 points for failing to merge into adjacent lane.

\$10,000 fine if an emergency service responder is injured or killed.





# Sports Trivia Treats

By Ron Marchetti

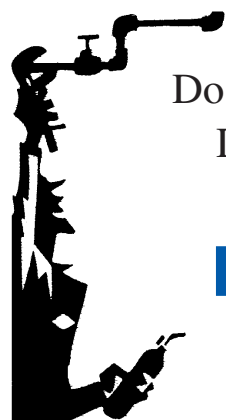
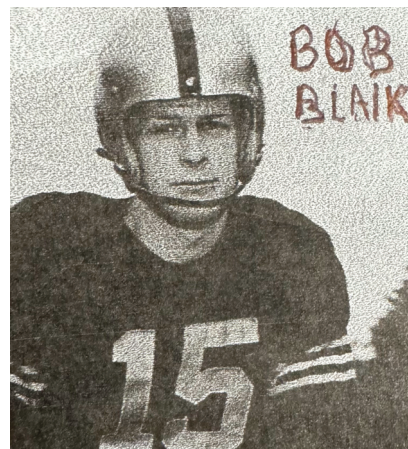
## CODE BREAKERS (1951)

Results of the great West Point scandal ended in 1952. 70 years ago college football teams only played nine regular season games per season and Bowl games had no implications on National rankings. All Army, who was riding in a 28 game unbeaten streak, had to do was beat Navy in their final game of the 1950 season, but they lost 14-2 costing them the National Title to Oklahoma. Army finished #2 to Oklahoma but still had a 7 year record of 59-3-2 with two National Championships and two #2 rankings. However, while preparing for a promising campaign in August of 1951 Coach Earl "Red" Blaik's greatest challenge may have been the resurrection that followed the expulsion of 37 of his players. They were among 90 cadets who were dismissed from the Academy for sharing test information, thus breaking the institution's Honor Code. Tragically for Blaik, his son Bob Blaik was one of them who was his team's starting quarterback, Coach Blaik was blamed in part for scandal because part of the academy's honor code that remains in place today requires that those with knowledge of cheating come forward with that information. Many of the players who were expelled were banned because it was proven they

had knowledge of test-sharing, but they did not want to rat on their teammates.

Was Blaik to blame for building too close-knit football team, How could you blame a coach for trying to build team unity. The 1951 and 1952 Army teams went 6-11-1, but rebounded in 1953 with a 7-1-1 slate. The Touchdown Club of Washington named him as its "Coach-of-the-Year".

Five years later after Army went undefeated which included their last win ever over Notre Dame (at South Bend) and after creating his famous "Lonely End" offense which helped lead his team to a final #3 National AP ranking, Coach Earl "Red" Blaik retired at age 61 with a record of 121-32-10 at West Point.



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## A Veterans Journal #97

By Joseph Barna • Freeland  
USMC, Korea 1952-1953



## A Walk Down Memory Lane ... Centre St. Freeland in the 1940s and 1950s.

I thought I would write about something a little different this month. One morning over coffee, buddy Frankie Balon started asking me about different places in town. Before long, I started writing the names and places down. I don't mean this to be a complete list of every storefront. It's just what this (soon to be) 88-year-old memory can recall. In fact, when anyone sees me around town, feel free to tell me something or someone I missed or got the location or name wrong. I will add it next time. I want to say also that I am pretty much sticking to Centre St. on this walk, but I do take short side turns up or down Front St.

Let's start our walk at the corner of Chestnut and Centre on the West Side of Centre St. Herkalo's Store was near the corner. I remember buying Tasty Kakes for 7 cents. Across Chestnut St. was St. Ann's Rectory and Church with the Convent and School in the Rear. The school housed Grades 1 thru 12. Older people will remember when there were 4 high schools in Freeland. Freeland, MMI, St. Ann's and Foster Township.

Across Centre St. from the St. Ann's Rectory was Gabuzda's Grocery Store. My buddy Frankie Balon says he remembers going into Pop Gabuzda's store for Penny Candy after school as he walked home from the D.C.M (Daniel Coxe Memorial) Elementary School around 1965.

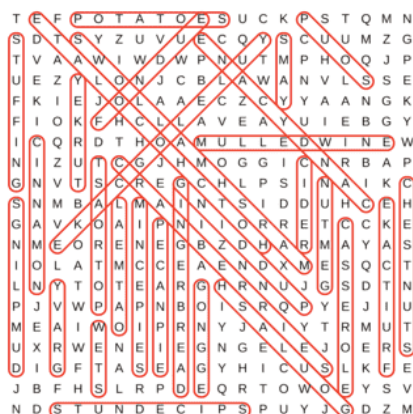
Moving down the street was John Stunz's TV Repair and Electronics Shop. After several private residences, we come to the Freeland Fire House and Borough Building. During this time period, the Borough building housed all of the town offices and meetings.

Crossing back over Centre St., you would be in front of the PP&L Building on the corner of Centre and Walnut. Notice I say PP&L (Pennsylvania Power AND Light) not the simplified, 3 letter name PPL that is used today. There you would pay your electric bill. This building still exists today. Today there is a vacant, grassy lot as you move down Centre St. I recall Kerry's Barber Shop in this area. All the Irishmen went to Kerry's for their haircuts and to catch up on town news. Further down the street was Janie Logan's Ice Cream Store and Cornelius Welsh's Drug Store. I remember getting a pint of ice cream at Janie Logan's for 25 cents. A buddy and I would get a pint of ice cream and two spoons. Again, Frankie Balon remembers Doc Welsh still operating the store the mid-1960s. Next to Welsh's was the Elk's Club. The Elk's Club was still in operation until around the year 2000 I believe. Below the Elk's was the Fairchild's News Stand. I remember paper boys going there to pick up and deliver morning AND afternoon editions of the local Standard Speaker Newspaper. Next was Stewart's Floral Shop. On the corner of Centre and Front was the big three-story apartment building. In my early years, I knew this as the Feist Building. I remember Dr. Dragowoski had his office upstairs. If you would turn the corner and go up Front St., you would come to Feist Wholesale store. This small building still exists just past the alley. Farther up, on Front St., some of you may remember Dr. Neil Dever's home and Office. Crossing over Front St. you have several residences but then you would find in this area Joe Cherone's Barber Shop and a small sewing

(to be continued in next issue)



## WINTER FOODS



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CASSEROLE  
CHESTNUTS  
CIDER  
CINNAMON  
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DUMPLINGS  
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GINGERBREAD  
GOUTASH  
GRUY  
HOT CHOCOLATE  
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MINCE PIES  
MULLED WINE  
NUTMEG  
OATMEAL  
PECAN PIE  
POT ROAST  
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## THE ANGEL SHOT

Once upon a time in the bustling world of bars and nightclubs, a new "drink" appeared on the menu, the Angel Shot. But unlike other cocktails, this one wasn't designed to tickle your taste buds but instead it was crafted to be a guardian angel in disguise.

The tale begins in 2016 in Lincolnshire, England, with the "Ask for Angela" campaign. This initiative encouraged individuals feeling unsafe to discreetly seek help by asking for "Angela," signaling staff to assist them in exiting the situation safely.

Inspired by this celestial idea, bars across the pond in the United States introduced the Angel Shot. Patrons could order an Angel Shot to alert bartenders of their discomfort, prompting staff to intervene appropriately.

The variations of the order convey different levels of assistance.

### Neat

Signals the staff to escort the patron to their vehicle.

### On the Rocks

Indicates the need for a taxi or ride-sharing service.

### With a Lime

Implies an urgent situation requiring a call to the police.

The Angel Shot serves as a testament to the hospitality industry's commitment to patron safety, wrapped in a clever and approachable package. So, the next time you're perusing a bar menu and spot the Angel Shot, remember: it's the one "drink" designed to keep the good times flowing and the bad vibes at bay... Cheers to that!

*-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](http://www.youtube.com/@winehopsroadstops) and [facebook.com/winehopsandroadstops](https://facebook.com/winehopsandroadstops)

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**\$69.95**

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#### 1996 PONTIAC FIREBIRD



21,996 Miles  
5.7L V8 285 HP  
4 Speed Automatic  
Rear Wheel Drive

**\$22,395**

#### 2008 FORD RANGER



279,842 Miles  
4.0L V6 207 HP  
5 speed Automatic  
4WD

**Call for price.**

#### 2010 SUBARU FORESTER



79,073 Miles  
2.5L 170 HP  
4 speed shiftable  
Automatic  
AWD

**Call for price.**

#### 2011 VOLVO XC60



171,664 miles  
3.0 L Turbo AWD

**\$6,995**

#### 2023 BOBCAT CT2035



**\$26,195**

#### 2012 NISSAN MURANO



147,714 Miles  
3.5 V6 260 HP  
CVT AWD

**\$7,095**

#### 2014 NISSAN ROGUE



153,087 Miles  
2.5L 175 HP  
CVT AWD

**\$7,995**

#### 2015 Cadillac SRX



2015 Cadillac SRX  
116,113 miles  
3.6L V6 308 HP  
AWD

**\$11,295**

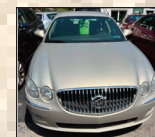
#### 2017 DODGE JOURNEY



112,151 Miles  
Pentastar 3.6L V6  
6 speed shiftable  
automatic  
AWD

**\$9,795**

#### 2008 BUICK LaCROSSE



66,000 Miles  
3.8LV6 200hp  
4 speed automatic  
FWD

**\$6,495**

#### 2014 CHEVROLET IMPALA



85,476 Miles  
Ecotec 2.5L I4 195hp  
6 speed shiftable  
automatic with  
overdrive  
FWD

**\$13,295**

#### 2012 Subaru Impreza



149,443 miles  
2.0 L I4 148 HP  
AWD

**\$7,895**

#### 2012 VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT



140,128 miles  
2.5L I5 170hp  
6 speed shiftable  
automatic  
FWD

**\$6,895**

#### 2010 MAZDA MAZDA 3



114,000 miles  
2.0L I4 148 hp  
5 speed automatic  
with sportshift  
manual 5A  
FWD

**\$5,895**

#### 1996 ISUZU NPR



133,445 miles  
Isuzu 4HE1-XN 4.8L  
I4 170h  
RWD

**\$7,595**

#### 1979 Ford Ranchero



53,517 miles  
5.7 LV8

**\$9,995**

#### 2003 FORD F-550 SUPER DUTY



146,771 miles  
Power Stroke 6.0L  
V8 325hp  
RWD

**\$7,995**

#### 2010 NISSAN MAXIMA



146,028 miles  
3.5L V6 290hp  
Xtronic CVT  
FWD

**\$6,295**

#### 2016 CHEVROLET MALIBU



124,914 miles  
Ecotec 1.5L Turbo I4  
160hp  
6-Speed Shiftable  
Automatic  
FWD

**\$9,195**

#### 2013 HYUNDAI ELANTRA



130,252 miles  
1.8L I4 148hp  
6-Speed Shiftable  
Automatic  
FWD

**\$6,395**

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