



Community Update

Volume 22, Issue 66

Fall 2021

**Holiday
Light Parade**
Saturday, Nov. 20

Fireworks

**Hermitage
Trick or Treat**
Saturday, Oct. 30
4:00-6:00pm

Spotlight Business

Webb Winery • PAGE 2

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Webb Winery thrives with regionally grown fruits from the vine

Contributed by Dick Davis



Webb Winery owners Carlee and Kevin Webb

It is one thing to have a hobby and produce a few cases of homemade wine. It is quite another to turn that hobby into a business. And it's a true success story to maintain and grow that business thanks to lots of hard work and expertise.

"I started experimenting a little back around 2003 with some grape juice in the basement," recalls Kevin Webb. "I was strictly an amateur."

Then in 2007 Kevin met Carlee Caiazza when a mutual friend fixed them up on a blind date. They married in 2008. More winemaking experimenting followed along with Carlee's encouragement to use fresh fruits rather than juice.

In 2010 they bought a home in Hermitage. Equipment and a small tasting room filled it. In 2015, the Webbs started a tasting room at Tam O'Shanter Golf Course and a year later moved its production winery to Sharpsville. The wine-making facility includes about 30 tanks ranging in

size from 130 gallons to 3,500 gallons and equipment to process more than 50,000 lbs. of fresh fruit and produce each year.

"We are especially proud of our 'Farm to Bottle' commitment where we purchase produce directly from eight western Pennsylvania family growers," Carlee says. "This includes the Apple Castle in New Wilmington."

Both Carlee and Kevin earned college undergraduate and graduate degrees that they apply every day in their winery.

Blueberry wine is Webb's best seller. A sweet fruit wine, it contains 100 percent blueberries. Some other wineries start with a grape-based wine and then add flavors.

Winter Spice, a seasonal sweet red wine with a blend of six spices, is the number two seller. Other wines among a lengthy list include traditional reds, rosés, and whites, dry, semi-dry, sweet, and semi-sweet.

Webb's most popular dry red wine, the Leon Millot, is also available as bourbon barrel-aged from bourbon barrels sourced via a Geneva, Ohio distillery or as rye whisky barrel-aged made from rye whisky barrels via a Pittsburgh maker of whisky.

Webb Winery

Tasting Room at Tam O'Shanter Driving Range

2978 S. Hermitage Rd. (Rt. 18)
Hermitage, PA 16148

Tasting Room (Seasonal) Grove City Premium Outlets

1911 Leesburg Grove City Rd.
Suite 405
Grove City, PA 16127

724-856-2770
www.webbwinery.com
Also on Facebook

Hermitage Holiday Light Parade



The 23rd Annual Hermitage Holiday Light Parade is scheduled for **Saturday, November 20 at 6:00 p.m.** The route for the parade begins at the intersection of East State Street and North Kerrwood Drive (Kraynak's and Hermitage Town Plaza), travels east on State Street to the intersection of Route 18, turns left and proceeds to the entrance of the Shenango Valley Mall. Entries are judged on: originality, creativity, the use of lights & music, and a holiday theme. Results will be posted on www.hermitage.net.

This yearly community event draws over 15,000 people to our Central Business District, and we are asking all businesses along East State Street (*especially those along the parade route*) to participate by decorating with holiday lights.

To enter a float or decorated vehicle, or for more information, contact Amy Gargiulo at 724-981-0800. Space is limited, so please register early.

Community Food Warehouse Holiday Food Drive



The Community Food Warehouse continues to serve over 4,000 households throughout Mercer County. Help us Starve Hunger. Feed Hope during this holiday season.

• Truck-Full of Hope Food Drive

Nov. 1st through December 17th
Bring your food donations to Taylor Chevrolet of Hermitage to fill the truck.

• Hermitage Holiday Light Parade

November 20
Parade goers may also bring their food donations to the parade to be collected, as in previous years!

Much needed items: are canned meats, tuna, fruits, peanut butter, vegetables and cereals. No glass items please.

Merry Christmas Mile Race Benefits Hickory Cross Country Team

Saturday, November 20, 2021

Race begins at 5:50 p.m. sharp @ Kerrwood Drive near Kraynaks
Race route follows the Light Parade route.

We encourage participants to dress in costume!

Come prepared to run your PR in the mile!

Awards: Top 3 open male/female finishers and the top male/female masters. Plus, awards for the best 3 costumes! Awards will also be given to the top finishers in the following age categories: Men and women 10 and under, 11-14, 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70 and up

Race Entry Form:

Register by mail or for an additional fee
Online Registration at www.runsignup.com

Early Registration: \$12 without t-shirt or \$24 includes t-shirt
(postmarked by Monday, November 15)

Race Day Registration: \$14 without t-shirt

***Availability of race shirts only guaranteed to those pre-registered by November 12th**

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Age on Race Day: _____ Gender (circle): Male or Female

T-Shirt Size: YM YL S M L XL XXL

I hereby certify that I am in good physical condition and hereby assume all risks and liabilities related to my participation. I understand the race course is on public roads and could include uneven surfaces. I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, release the Hermitage school district, All Race Sponsors, any municipalities or other public entities (and their respective agents and employees) and all volunteers from all claims for injury suffered by me while participating in this event. I understand that the entry fee is non-refundable. I also give permission for free use of my name, picture, or likeness for any purposes related to the race.

Signature _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian (*if under 18*) _____

Mail form and check to:
Hickory Cross Country Boosters,
Attn: Tiffany Wolf,
1600 Idaho St., Hermitage, PA 16148
(registration fees are not refundable)

Both pre-registration packet pick up and race day registration start at 4:30pm-5:40pm in the Kraynaks parking lot (side facing Kerrwood Drive)

For more information, email tiffwolf81@gmail.com



Hermitage School District Angel Tree Program

Every year, through the Angel Tree Program, the Hermitage School District has helped to provide gifts for children whose families are struggling financially during the holiday season. Generous donations from staff members, community families and businesses, have enabled us to help over 100 families each year. We are currently planning for this season.

If you are interested in helping a family, please contact **Patti Bruzzese** at patricia_bruzzese@hermitage.k12.pa.us or 724-981-8750, ext 5901 or **Mary Mild** at mary_mild@hermitage.k12.pa.us or 724-981-8750, ext 3040.

Buhl Farm Park – Fall 2021

www.buhlfarmpark.com • 724-981-5522



Looking For An Event Venue? We've Got Plenty!

Buhl Park offers a variety of indoor and outdoor facilities that are available to rent all year long. Four Shelters, the Casino, and the Activities Building all have unique character and qualities. Each facility offers different scenery throughout the Park. Weddings, receptions, showers, birthday parties, graduation parties, conferences, family gatherings...the list goes on and on.

Reservations can be made online at www.buhlpark.org OR by calling 724-981-5522.

Indoor Winter Golf League

Buhl Park's Indoor Golf League session one will begin on Monday, November 1st. Using state of the art trackman simulator software, our indoor league is truly one-of-a-kind. Call 724-308-7883 to sign up or for more details.



Snappy's Floatin' Boats

Yes - We're still open! It's the best time of the year to catch a beautiful sunset on Lake Julia.

Off Season Hours and Rates:

Thursday & Friday: 4PM-8PM

Saturday & Sunday: 11AM-8PM

\$15 Pedal Boat Rentals

\$10 Kayak, Paddleboard
and Canoe Rentals

Outdoor Fall Recreation Opportunities:

- **Disc Golf:** Fling your way into Fall at our 18-hole disc golf course. Get outside and enjoy the beautiful fall foliage while playing a TOP 10 rated PA Disc Golf Course.



- **Tennis:** It is truly the sport of a lifetime and at Buhl Park you'll find truly one of THE BEST, newly resurfaced, 8-court tennis facility that overlooks the beautiful Lake Julia and Casino. Dust your rackets off, get outside and be active with a few games of tennis. Weekly play with the Shenango Valley Tennis Club (*more info on facebook*) and private lessons are also available for anyone looking to learn or improve their game (*more info at buhlpark.org*).

- **Pickleball:** Many locals and out of town friends flood our courts every morning.

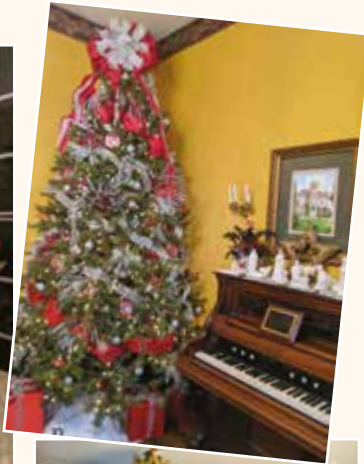


- They welcome anyone who is interested in joining. No membership required, just show up and play! Recently, we held the inaugural Buhl Day Pickleball Tournament that was a huge success. We look forward to hosting more events at our facility.
- **Golf:** For as long as the weather permits, our Golf Course and Driving Range will remain open. We're always here to give you the opportunity to keep your golf game strong even during the off season!

Hermitage Holiday Attractions & Events

Hermitage Historical Society

Christmas Tree Tours



Hermitage Holiday Light Parade

Saturday, Nov. 20



Old Hickory Craft Show

Saturday, October 16 • 9am - 3pm

Adults: \$3 • Children/Seniors: \$2
Children under 6: FREE

Shenango Valley YMCA Events & Programs

*Don't wait for New Years to get started on your healthy resolutions...
The Y has healthy activities for all ages- stop in today for a tour!*

www.svymca.com • 724-981-6950 • 925 N. Hermitage Rd., Hermitage

Membership:

YMCA MEMBERSHIPS:

Y Memberships are available for all ages and provide a variety of programs and other opportunities to get/stay active and healthy. Flexible payment plans are available, as well as financial assistance scholarships so that no one is ever turned away due to an inability to pay the fees.

INSURANCE MEMBERSHIPS:

Through your health insurance, you may qualify for a free membership to our Y. If you are unsure, call or stop in and we can check your eligibility and get you started!

Adults and Older Adults:

GROUP EXERCISE:

So much more than a workout! Join a class, and reach your goals with like-

minded members and instructors who provide support and motivation!

- Over 60 classes are offered weekly. Zumba, cycling, aerobics, strength training and more!
- FREE FOR ALL MEMBERS.
- Huge variety of classes: times, types and intensities for anyone.

Specialized Services:

Qualified, competent, caring and here to help!

PERSONAL TRAINING: Whether you're an exercise veteran, have never been to the gym or even someone in between... A Personal



Trainer will keep you motivated and organized, and will make sure you perform properly.

FREE SESSION AVAILABLE FOR ALL NEW MEMBERS!

Please call the YMCA (724)981-6950, or stop in for more info.

Hermitage Historical Society

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

The Hermitage Historical Society is in need of volunteers to help at the society's Stewart House on East State Street.

Members and volunteer duties include: general cleaning, upkeep, and welcoming visitors during open hours.

Our upcoming Christmas tree tours are the society's biggest yearly fundraiser and we would love to have people interested in helping guide tours and prepare the home for our festivities. If anyone is interested, please contact the society at 724-877-7996 or message us on Facebook.

Thank you in advance!

EVENTS:

October 8 & 9: Craft and community flea market • 9:00-4:00
If anyone is interested in setting up, call Francis 724-662-3035

October 17: Iranian Hostage Crisis 40th anniversary presentation (*at the Stewart House*) by the Flynn family of the Avenue of 444 Flags

October 19:
Guest speaker: Cameron Linton on genealogy (*meetings are open to all members of the public but we ask that you please wear a mask*)

Christmas Tree Tours:
November 27 & 28 (1:00-5:00),
December 3 (5:00-9:00)

December 4-5 (1:00-5:00)
December 10 (5:00-9:00)
December 11-12 (1:00-5:00)

We are in need of Chinese Auction baskets for the Christmas Tree tours.

Thank you!

New Members Are Always Welcome:

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

Stewart house Rentals (*showers, weddings, meetings, etc.*):
\$150 per 4 hours
(*no alcohol permitted*)

Buhl Community Recreation Center

www.fhbuhlclub.org • 724-981-3700

The Buhl Club Fall Youth Programs

Dance Classes

Tap, Ballet, Jazz, Lyrical, and Hip Hop for ages 3-18

Spring Recital: May 28th, 2022

Fee: Membership required
\$50 registration fee

Lead Dance Instructor:

Courtney VanBuren

Hip Hop Instructor:

Megan Johnson

Register Now!

724-981-3700 ext. 102

Swim Lessons

Registration begins the week of October 18th. Classes begin November 1st.

Classes Offered:

Mom and Dad Swim with Me
(6 months- 18 months)

Guppies (ages 18 months-3 years)

Minnows (ages 3-5)

Levels 1-6 (ages 6+)

Fee: Free for family memberships,
\$30 youth members, \$65 non members

Aquatics Director: Matthew Pegg

Register Now! 724-981-3700 ext. 107

Basketball Skills and Drills

Sundays October 10th, 17th, 24th,
November 7th, 14th, 21st

Ages 4-7 12:30pm-1:30pm

Ages 8-12 1:45pm-2:45pm

Fee: \$30 members,
\$50 non members

Instructor: Alexis George

Register Now!

724-981-3700 ext. 102



For more information on memberships and youth programs, please visit our website at www.buhlclub.org or call member services at 724-981-3700.



Community Library of the Shenango Valley

www.clsv.net • 724-981-4360

Weekly Programs:

Monday: Writers Group 1:30pm

Tuesday: Knit and Crochet 12:30-2:30pm
Lego Club 4:30pm

Thursday: Chess Club 5:00pm

Friday: Ooey-Gooey Art 10:30 am

Special Dates:

Wednesday, Oct. 13, 20, and 27: Storytime 10:30am

Thursday, Oct. 7 and 21: Gadget Workshop 11am-4pm

Friday, Oct. 8 and Nov. 5: Music with Ms. Jess 10:30am

Thursday, Oct. 14 and Nov. 11: Great Issues 2pm

Thursday, Nov. 4 and 18: Gadget Workshop 11am-4pm

Wednesday, Nov. 10, 17, and 24: Storytime 10:30am

Keep an eye on our Facebook and Website for our 12 Days of Christmas program and other upcoming programming events.

HOURS: Mon.-Thurs. • 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday & Saturday • 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
11 N. Sharpsville Ave., Sharon, PA 16146

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.

As we begin to enter fall, please consider mulching leaves in your yard. Some of the benefits include improvements in soil fertility and water retention. If you do rake your yard, please place the leaves in your green-lid yard waste bins or biodegradable leaf bags for pick-up by Tri-County. Do not rake leaves into streams or roadside ditches.

www.stormwaterpa.org

www.dcnr.pa.gov

Hermitage Recycling, Yard Waste, Garbage

E-Waste Recycling Program

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

Acceptable e-waste includes:

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

Tri-County Recycling Program

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

For more information, please visit hermitage.net or call TCI @ (724) 748-4705 or tricityind.com

Tire & Appliance Recycling

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



Blue Lid = RECYCLING

Acceptable Materials:

- Household Plastic Bottles – #1, #2, #5 only
- Cans – aluminum & steel
- Foil Containers
- Cardboard
- Magazines
- Newspaper
- Other Clean Paper – junk mail, office, paper bags



Green Lid = YARD WASTE

Acceptable Materials:

- Leaves, grass clippings, plants and flowers, roots, sawdust, shrubbery and clippings, branches, tree limbs under 3 inches in diameter, brush up to 3 feet in length.
- Ending second week in December.
- **DO NOT use plastic bags.**



Brown Lid = GARBAGE

Acceptable Materials:

- Everything that cannot be recycled in your blue or green lid carts.
- Bag all garbage before placing it into the cart.

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.

Electronics can still be taken to the City Garage on Virginia Road from 7 a.m. to noon on the 1st & 3rd Friday of each month.

A \$10 electronics tag must be purchased at the Hermitage City Building or thru TCI for each item.



New Program Director Chosen To Lead The High School Entrepreneurship Academy at Lindenpointe

Katie (Kelly) Parr Chosen to Lead the eAcademy Program for 2021-2022 School Year



We are excited to announce that Sharon High Alum, Katie (Kelly) Parr, will be leading the eAcademy program this school year. She comes with a vast knowledge of instructional practice, curriculum design, lean methodology, and experiential learning activities. She stated that she is "eager to help deconstruct myths about entrepreneurship. It's not just a method, but rather a mindset that requires practice and continuous improvement. I want students to graduate from the eAcademy with the ability to anticipate setbacks, problem-solve, and thrive in their environment. Not all the students at the eAcademy will continue on to a degree or career in business, but they will all leave with the skills necessary to succeed in any workplace."

The eAcademy strives to provide local high school seniors with a unique, school year long, immersive experience to develop their leadership and entrepreneurial skills as well as the confidence to be successful in an ever-changing,

global economy. The eAcademy is an innovative educational program focused on economic development and has become a sustainable, flagship program serving two counties and ten school districts in our region. The LindenPointe Development Corporation in Hermitage oversees the program, which has three main goals: building relationships, building community, and building businesses.

Students at the eAcademy are supported by a large network of regional experts, business owners, and CEOs. Students are exposed to over 15 guest speakers and 10 site visits to local area businesses. eAcademy graduates and eCenter alumni have the opportunity, and the underpinning, to commercialize technologies, create jobs, and strengthen local economies. Jeff Meier, Executive Director of the LindenPointe Development Corporation, adds "The eAcademy has a great partnership with the Penn State Shenango campus as well. Katie is a part time lecturer within their business department so our students can earn up to six college credits, three each semester, by the end of their senior year of high school without any additional coursework." Students will also start the program with a free laptop that they will take with them upon graduating the program. Meier adds, "Our local community is very fortunate to have such a high quality and widely-supported entrepreneurial training program for our area students."

Katie (Sharon '07) graduated from the University of Mount Union in Alliance, Ohio, with a bachelor's degree in Middle Childhood Education

with certification in English Language Arts and Social Studies/Citizenship Education for grades 6-9th. She worked in the Pittsburgh area before accepting a middle school teaching position in Surprise, Arizona where she was employed by the Academy of Math & Science- Peoria Advanced campus. She taught Literature and Composition to 6th and 7th grade students before being promoted to campus-wide Instructional Coach. The eAcademy Advisory Board, comprised of various school district superintendents and faculty members, and under the direction of Assistant City Manager of Hermitage, Gary Gulla, and Senior Commercial Lender with the Mercer County State Bank, Sarah Palmer, hired Parr in August after her return to the Shenango Valley this summer. "We were looking for a candidate with a master's in education and experience managing a business. Parr fit the bill," explains Palmer.

Interested high school students may apply for the entrepreneurship academy in their junior year.

For additional information students can contact their high school principals or guidance departments or can contact Ms. Katie directly.

(Kparr@lindenpointe.Com)

From the Chief of Police

Eric Jewell, City of Hermitage Chief of Police



Thank You:

Thanks again to all citizens and businesses for continuing to support the Hermitage Police Department

(HPD). Your officers see and appreciate the signs and flags showing your solidarity, hear your kind and uplifting words, and read your supportive letters, cards and writings. We are committed to always providing professional law enforcement services to all citizens, visitors and businesses through lawful, respectful, modern and effective police practices. HPD strives to offer better services through current training and policy improvements including, but not limited to, the following:

- Annual Continuing Education
- Updated Use of Force Policy (i.e. *More Use of De-Escalation, Duty to Intercede, and Restriction on Use of Chokeholds*)
- Cultural and Bias Training
- De-Escalation Training
- Crisis Intervention Training
- Leadership Training
- Criminal Interdiction Training
- Community Engagement Program
- Active Attack Training
- Other Specialized Training (*K-9, Drug Recognition Expert, Critical Incident Response, Crash Investigation, Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program, School Resource Officer, Crisis Negotiation, etc.*)

Know the Law:

Most of us occasionally transport long or awkward sized items that do not fully fit inside most passenger cars or smaller pick-up trucks. Whether it is a lengthy piece of pipe, a long piece of lumber, a large ladder or a kayak; these hard to haul items sometimes have to stick out the side or back of some vehicles. However, there are laws that regulate (*for safety*) what you can or cannot do when transporting these cumbersome items. The following Pennsylvania Vehicle Code statutes may be applicable to your hauling situation:

- **Section 4925** (*Width of Projecting Loads on Passenger Vehicles*) prohibits any passenger vehicle from operating on any highway with a load extending beyond the left side of the vehicle. It also prohibits a load extending more than twelve (12) inches beyond the right side of the vehicle.
- **Section 4924** (*Limitations on Length of Projecting Loads*) also prohibits loads from sticking out more than three (3) feet in front of the body of a vehicle and no more than six (6) feet from the rear of the body of a vehicle. Additionally, Section 4924 requires the use of a red flag (at least 12 square inches of red material) when transporting loads that extend more than four (4) feet from the rear of the vehicle.
- **Section 4922** (*Height of Vehicles*) prohibits any vehicle or load from exceeding a height of thirteen (13) feet six (6) inches. Vehicles

with loads taller than 13'6" run the risk of hitting low bridges and catching low wires. Some older tunnels or bridges in the Mercer County area have clearances lower than 13'6" so watch out for posted height signs at these locations.

- **Section 4903** (*Securing Loads in Vehicles*) states all vehicles must be "so constructed or loaded as to prevent any of its load from dropping, sifting, leaking or otherwise escaping." Secure coverings or tarps must be used when transporting loose material to prevent it from dropping or blowing out or causing a hazard to other users of the highway.

Most home improvement stores provide free plastic flags and string to safely transport those extra long items, but having your own heavy duty flag and tie-down straps is also a plus. So when leaving the hardware store, lumber yard or yard sale; remember to check your load's length, width and height; flag it if you need to and properly secure it before pulling out onto the highway.

Traffic Safety:

If you drive or ride in a motor vehicle long enough, most of us will be involved in some type of traffic crash (accident) in his or her lifetime.



Most of us have seen the signs on busy city beltways, interstates, bypasses, and congested urban highways that say something similar to "Fender bender? Move to the side of the road." Pennsylvania Vehicle Code Section 3745.1 (Accident Scene Clearance), states, in part, "the driver of any vehicle in an accident that does not result in apparent serious bodily injury or death shall immediately remove the vehicle from the roadway to a safe refuge on the shoulder, emergency lane or median or to a place otherwise removed from the roadway." That is provided crashed vehicles are drivable and capable of being removed safely. Secondary crashes caused by inattentive drivers, 'rubberneckers,' bad weather, etc. can occur the longer crashed vehicles stay on a roadway. Do not stand outside your vehicle on or alongside the road when possible at a crash scene. Walk to a place of safety away from the road to reduce the risk of being hit by an approaching or passing vehicle. Activate your four-way flashers in your vehicle too to alert approaching motorists.

PennDOT requires a police crash report when there is injury or death and/or when a vehicle needs towed from the scene. This type of accident is called a reportable crash. By law drivers must immediately notify the nearest police department by the quickest means of communication possible if involved in a reportable crash. Non-injury crashes, wherein all vehicles are safely drivable away from the scene, do not require a police report. However, drivers of all non-reportable crashes must exchange driver, vehicle and insurance information with each other if a police crash report is not done. In addition to notifying police, drivers of all crashes involving injury must stop to render aid and give their

information (*name, address, registration plate number, etc.*). In the case of only minor vehicle or property damage drivers must stop and give their information to the affected vehicle or property owner. If you suspect a driver may be intoxicated or unlicensed, the vehicle uninsured or the person at fault/in violation is not taking responsibility for the crash, summon a police officer and request a report even if it is a non-reportable crash.

Have a reputable, local towing company in mind should your vehicle ever become disabled from a mechanical failure or a crash. Having a back-up towing company isn't a bad idea either. The Hermitage Police Department typically asks drivers involved in crashes who their towing preference is. Unless your towing company is unavailable or unreachable or if their response time is too long (safety necessity), the police officer may utilize the next available towing company off an established local towing rotation list. Please know unless you can pay the towing fee in full on the spot, a tow company may only tow your vehicle to their tow yard, where you or your insurance company may incur daily storage or gate fees. In addition to the tow and storage fees, tow operators may also charge you or your insurance company scene clean up fees and other administrative costs. Check with your towing preference in advance to see what costs may be associated with towing your vehicle.



Crime Prevention Tip:

The best defense to a low crime community is a good offense – simple crime prevention practices, highly visible and assertive police patrol, and great police/community relations. Though all are important, let's discuss crime prevention today.

A popular equation in crime prevention is as follows: **Desire + Ability + Opportunity = Crime**. This equation is also commonly illustrated as a Crime Triangle (*below*).



Generally speaking desire, ability and opportunity are all needed in order for a person to commit a crime. Imprisonment (and rehabilitation) can stop the desire, the ability and the opportunity to commit a crime; but crowded and expensive jails and prisons cannot incarcerate all criminals all the time. Most career criminals typically have the desire (intent/want) and the ability (knowledge/resources) to commit crime and regularly look for the opportunity (chance) to commit crime.

From the Police Chief, continued on page 12

TRICK OR Treat

City of Hermitage • October 30, 2021 • 4–6 pm

PLEASE FOLLOW THE FOLLOWING SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR TRICK OR TREAT:

TRICK OR TREATERS

- Stay home if sick.
- Trick or treat with people you live with.
- Remain 6 feet apart from people not in your household.
- Wear a face mask covering both your mouth and nose
- Hand sanitize (with sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol) frequently while out, especially during key times.

HOMEOWNERS

- Do not hand out candy if you are sick.
- Wear a face mask covering BOTH your mouth and nose.
- Use duct tape to mark 6-foot lines in front of home and leading to driveway/front door-step.
- Participate in one-way trick or treating.

PARENTS

- Stay home if sick.
- Talk with your children about safety and social distancing guidelines.
- Guide children to stay on the right side and to ensure distance.
- Carry a flashlight and ensure your children have reflective clothing.
- Wear a face mask covering BOTH your mouth and nose.
- Wash your hands as soon as you return home.
- Inspect candy.
- Wash hands often.



From the Police Chief, continued from page 11

The only factor citizens can readily take out of the above-mentioned equation or triangle to help prevent crime is opportunity. Most criminals want easy, quick targets to guarantee success and reduce the likelihood of being caught. They simply look for unlocked houses, vehicles, garages, barns and sheds and insecure property left outside. An open door or window is the easiest and quickest way for criminals to enter a structure or vehicle. Easy entry allows more time for thieves to search for and take valuables and depart undetected. Additionally, entry through unlocked doors may appear normal to unaware witnesses and may draw little attention. Unlocked doors and windows of homes at night also allow criminals to surreptitiously (secretly) enter unbeknownst to sleeping occupants. Breaking through locked doors and windows typically requires more time, effort and equipment (burglar tools like a pry bar, screw driver, brick/rock, etc.). Breaking in also

often generates abnormal noise, may alert sleeping occupants and looks like obvious criminal activity to witnesses, who will normally summon police.

So let's look at your home like a traditional medieval castle. A castle's basic physical defenses consist of high stone walls, a moat and a drawbridge with a portcullis (heavy iron gate). Good lighting, working locks, security cameras, trimmed vegetation, a good watch dog, fencing, warning signs (no trespassing, no solicitors, cameras in use, security system in use, beware of dog, etc.), and helpful/watchful neighbors serve as your home's high walls and moat. The castle's high walls and moat are worthless if the drawbridge is left down and the gate up. Your home's doors and windows are the drawbridge and gate.

Keep them closed/locked at night and when not at home. Same goes for your vehicle. Keep your car or truck doors locked at night and valuables out of sight or locked in

the trunk. Though locked doors and windows are not guaranteed to stop a burglar or thief, it denies most crooks the easy opportunity they look for and can often dissuade them from targeting your home or vehicle. Remember to report all crimes or suspicious persons, vehicles or activities to police immediately.

Contacting Your Hermitage Police:

Dial 911 for any police, fire or medical/injury emergency. This includes crimes in progress or suspicious events in progress. To talk to a police officer, provide a tip on a case or make a report for non-emergency or not-in-progress matters, call our dispatch center at 724-662-6110. To speak to the Records Section about a police report, leave a voice mail message for a specific officer, request a presentation, talk to a detective, or make a compliment or complaint to the Chief; please call our station at 724-983-6780.

From the Fire Chief

John R. Flynn, City of Hermitage, Fire Marshal-Chief

“Beep-Beep-Beep” Smoke And Carbon Monoxide Alarms: Gather Your Clan And Have A Plan.



Smoke alarms save lives. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you

time to get out. Having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a fire in half. Almost two-thirds of residential fire deaths are the result of fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. Fire research has demonstrated that with today's modern furnishings, fires can spread much more rapidly than in the past when more natural materials were used. Because of this, having a sufficient number of properly located smoke alarms is essential to maximize the amount of available escape time. Here are some installation tips and things you should know about your smoke alarms:

- Test your smoke alarms every month.
- When a smoke alarm sounds and you see smoke, get outside and stay outside.
- Replace all smoke alarms in your home every 10 years
- Install smoke alarms inside each bedroom and outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement and attic.
- On levels without bedrooms, install alarms in the living room (den or family room) or near the stairway to the upper level.

- Smoke alarms installed in the basement should be installed on the ceiling at the bottom of the stairs leading to the next level.
- Smoke alarms should be installed at least 10 feet (3 meters) from a cooking appliance to minimize false alarms when cooking.
- Mount smoke alarms high on walls or ceilings, remember smoke rises. Wall-mounted alarms should be installed not more than 12 inches away from the ceiling.
- If you have ceilings that are pitched, install the alarm within 3 feet of the peak.
- Never paint smoke alarms. Paint, stickers, or other decorations could keep the alarms from working.
- For the best protection, interconnect all smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds they all sound. Interconnection can be done using hard-wiring or wireless technology.
- Smoke alarms with non-replaceable 10-year batteries are designed to remain effective for up to 10 years. If the alarm chirps, warning that the battery is low, replace the entire smoke alarm right away. Smoke alarms with any other type of battery need a new battery at least once a year. If that alarm chirps, warning the battery is low, replace the battery right away.

As I mentioned earlier, a fire can spread rapidly through your home, leaving you as little as one or two minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Having a

preplan for evacuation from your home has proven to be another life saving measure during a fire emergency. The best way to make a preplan is to have everyone in your household help make the plan so they will be very familiar with the plan. Walk through your home and inspect all possible exits and escape routes. Set-up a meeting place outside at a safe location. Stress to your younger family members to NEVER re-enter the structure after they have safely escaped a fire even if they forgot their favorite toy or pet. Households with children should consider drawing a floor plan of your home, marking two ways out of each room, including windows and doors. Make sure as part of your plan; notify 911 of your emergency as early in the emergency as safely possible. Once you have made your plan, you must continually practice the plan so it becomes second nature. If you make any modification to your home update your plan accordingly.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Carbon monoxide is often referred to as the silent killer. Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas created when fuels such as gasoline, wood, natural gas, propane and oil burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide. Like smoke detectors, we strongly suggest a carbon monoxide detector for every home. Here are some things you need to know:

- CO detectors should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home. For the best

From the Fire Chief, continued on page 14

From the Desk of the Treasurer

Bernie Harry, City Treasurer

I'd like to remind everyone that the **School Real Estate** bills and the **Per Capita** bills were mailed on August 1, 2021. We are happy to inform you that the school taxes will remain at the face amount this year from October 1st through December 31, 2021. The school has decided to not charge the 10% penalty this year due to Covid. All taxes remaining unpaid after December 31, 2021 will be filed for collection at the penalty amount.

It is your responsibility to notify the Tax Office in the event you do not receive your bills.

Per Capita is a head tax, waged on **every** resident **over the age of 18** and this year is **\$30.00**. **All residents are responsible for this tax and are expected to notify the tax office in the event they do not receive one.** Likewise, when moving from Hermitage, please notify the tax office to have your name removed from our tax rolls. There are exemptions (based on income from all sources) available to those who qualify. If your income is \$5,000.00 or less annually, you may be exonerated from the entire per capita bill. If your income is between

\$5,000.00 and \$10,000.00, you may only be required to pay a portion of that bill. Upon receipt of your Per Capita bill, all proof of income must be brought into our office, and a form filled out and signed by the person to be exempt. This process must be followed each year.

The **Homestead/Farmstead Act** offers 3 payments to satisfy the School tax amount owed. By choosing this option, you lose the 2% discount. Certain rules apply to these payments, and they are explained on your tax bill, starting with the AUG. 31st. deadline for the first payment. **Please remember that all homestead approved properties must be owner-occupied. This means that the name on the deed must match the name of the person or persons who live in that house. You can only receive the credit on one parcel.** The **2021 Homestead/Farmstead allowance** to all **approved home-owner parcels**, is **\$104.23**, which comes off your original School tax amount due.

Anyone who receives the homestead credit and does not qualify, is required by law to notify their tax collector of

the necessary correction.

Also if there is any change to your deed, through selling or simply a name deletion or change, the Homestead

will not automatically follow. You will need to re-apply.

Forms are available on the County website as well as in our office, for your convenience beginning October 1st. All completed forms must be received at the Mercer County Courthouse by Mar. 1st.

County/City taxes will remain at the penalty amount until December 31st.

You still have time for the property tax rebate if you qualify, since once again it has been extended to December 31, 2021.

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



From the Fire Chief, continued from page 13

protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home, so when one sounds, they all sound.

- Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call your gas company or your local fire department.
- If the CO detector sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an

open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel arrive.

- Never warm-up a vehicle inside a garage, even if garage doors are open. After starting your vehicle remove it from the garage immediately. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engines indoors. Make sure the exhaust pipes are exhausting to an outside uncovered location.
- During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for your dryer,

furnace, stove, wood burners and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.

- Generators should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings.
- Signs and systems of carbon monoxide poisoning are: headache, weakness, dizziness, nausea or vomiting, shortness of breath, confusion, blurred vision or loss of consciousness.

Stay safe and have a plan.

Sump Pumps into the Sanitary Sewer Cause Big Problems!

Besides the fact that connecting sump pumps to the sanitary sewer is illegal, it causes big problems! Sump pumps are designed to pump groundwater and rainwater. Sanitary sewer pipes are designed to carry sewage, not groundwater and rain water.

Usually, the sanitary sewer pipe in the street is only 8 inches in diameter, and often the pipe slope is not very steep. Many 8 inch sewer pipes are installed with a slope of 0.4%. This means that for every 100 feet of pipe, the pipe goes downhill less than 5 inches. This low slope condition is very common in Pennsylvania's sewer collection systems. As you can imagine, there is only so much sewage water that can flow through this pipe

For this type of sewer pipe, about

300 gallons of water can flow through it in a minute. If more sewage than this tries to get through the pipe in the street, the sewage will surcharge, that is start filling up the sewer lateral pipes that run to the sewer main from houses. When even more sewage or extra water is sent to the sewer pipe, it will surcharge even farther, eventually pushing back into someone's basement. The sewage might come out of a neighbor's basement toilet or washing machine drain for example.

If hooked up to a house's sewer lateral, a half-horsepower sump pump will pump about 60 gallons to the sewer each minute. That means that if 5 pumps are connected to the sewer, it will be full. Normal sewage flows often fill the sewer main more than half-way already. So if two or three neighbors in

a block illegally connect their sump pumps to their sewer lateral, the flow that is trying to

get through the sewer main will be more than its capacity of 300 gallons per minute. The sewage in the pipe is going to start backing up!

It is critical that sump pumps discharge to the yard or storm sewer, not to the sanitary sewer. It is illegal to connect your sump pump into your sanitary lateral, and it can cause serious problems!



In response to increased interest by residents desiring to raise poultry on their property, the City's new zoning ordinance contains provisions for backyard poultry. Anyone wishing to raise poultry must first obtain a no-cost permit from the City and comply with regulations which include, but are not limited to:

- Backyard poultry is limited to chickens and ducks. No roosters are permitted.
- Poultry must be within a securely fenced area – no “free range poultry”.
- All coops housing poultry must be in the rear yard of the property.

For other requirements and answers to questions, please contact Nathan Zampogna in the City of Hermitage Zoning Office at 724-981-0800 x1250 or nzampogna@hermitage.net.

COMMUNITY FOOD WAREHOUSE OF MERCER COUNTY

EMPTY BOWLS MERCER COUNTY

An artful taste to ending hunger

Thursday, October 21, 2021

3-7 pm @ Hope Center for Arts & Technology
115 Anson Way Sharon, PA 16146

Join Us

for a simple meal of soup and bread, donated by local restaurants and bakeries.

Take Home

a bowl handcrafted by local artisans & students as a reminder that hunger persists.

Know

your support helps feed the hungry right here in Mercer County.

Tickets available at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com), at CFWMC or at the door.
For more info call Sarah at 724-981-0353 ext. 106





City of Hermitage Board of Commissioners and City Treasurer

From left to right: William Moder, III (Board Vice-President)
William McConnell, Michael Muha, Bernie Harry (City Treasurer)
Louis Squatrito, and Duane Piccirilli (Board President)

Quota International of Hermitage

is collecting new children's undergarments for school age children in Mercer County.



Socks, panties, briefs, undershirts and training bras

Boy Sizes: 4-20 • **Girl Sizes:** 4-16
Adult Sizes for high school students

Collection Site:

Hermitage Municipal Building
800 North Hermitage Rd.

Monday-Friday • 7:30am - 4:30pm



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