



# Community Update

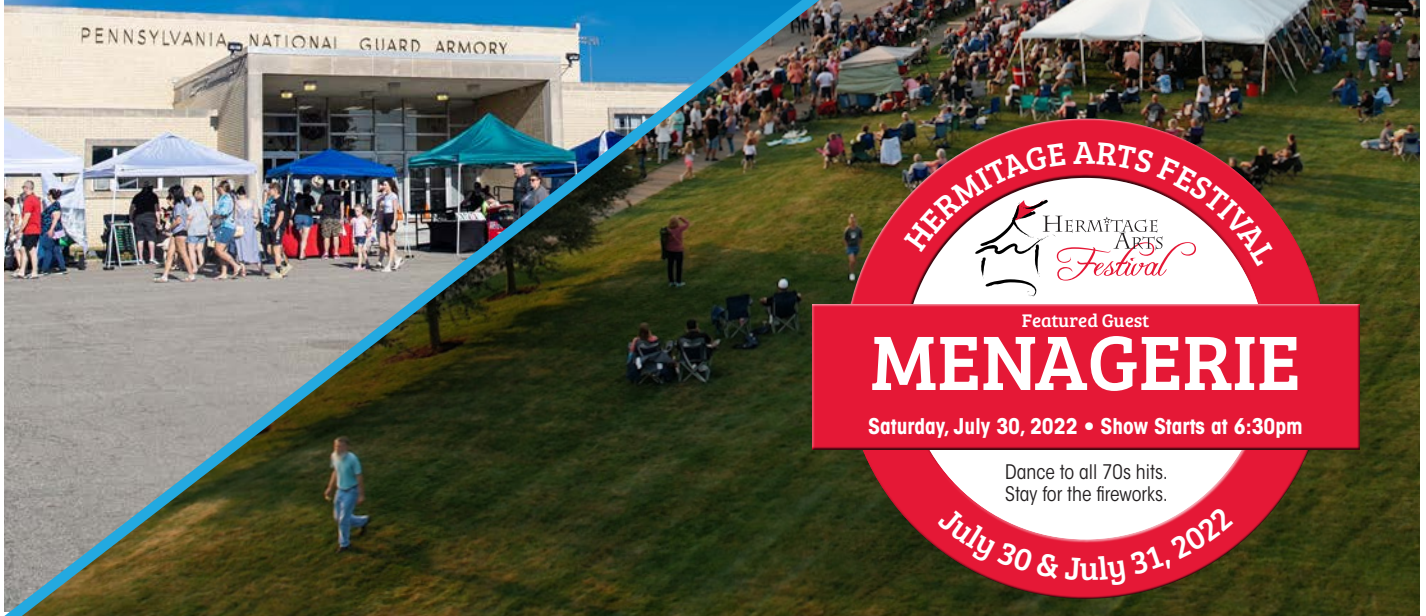
Volume 23, Issue 69

Summer 2022

## HERMITAGE NIGHT MARKET at the HERMITAGE NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY

5PM  
TO  
9PM

Thursdays,  
August 11  
September 8  
October 6



HERMITAGE ARTS FESTIVAL



Featured Guest

### MENAGERIE

Saturday, July 30, 2022 • Show Starts at 6:30pm

Dance to all 70s hits.  
Stay for the fireworks.

July 30 & July 31, 2022

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## spotlight business



# Rita's Italian Ice and Frozen Custard offers treats galore on East State Street

Contributed by Dick Davis



John Sarandrea knew he wanted to open an Italian ice business in Hermitage. Growing up in New York City, he frequently enjoyed the frozen treats at Ralph's Famous Italian Ices, which has multiple locations in New York and New Jersey.

"I wanted something to make everybody happy," says Sarandrea. "Past careers I usually was able to make maybe half the people happy. I really enjoy doing this with my family."

In doing his due diligence, Sarandrea learned Ralph's required locations within a 2 ½ hour radius. Rita's, which has about 600 shops around the country, was his final choice. All products are made daily in-house for high quality.

The Hermitage Towne Plaza building is the only Rita's to be built onsite from the ground up. Sarandrea recently opened his second location in Austintown, Ohio.



Past careers are quite numerous for Sarandrea. They include being a firefighter, teacher and high school basketball coach in New York City, assistant basketball coach at the University of Pittsburgh, basketball coach and teacher at New Castle High School, superintendent at Sharon schools, then superintendent at New Castle schools.

Gelati is Rita's best-selling treat among its 90 flavors with 20 available at any one time. The gelati is a combination of layered ice and custard.

The gregarious Sarandrea and 35 employees always keep in mind the Rita's motto of "ice-custard-happiness" whether in the shop or from its Rita's on the Road Treat Truck at various locations. Community participation is quite extensive with about \$25,000 in local contributions annually.

## Rita's Italian Ice & Frozen Custard

Hermitage Towne Plaza  
2393 E. State St.  
Hermitage, PA 16148  
**724-979-4452**

### HOURS:

Open daily 12 noon – 10 p.m.

[www.ritasice.com/location/ritas-of-hermitage/](http://www.ritasice.com/location/ritas-of-hermitage/)

Follow us on Facebook!



Follow us on Twitter @hermitagepa

Like us on Facebook!

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





# July 30 & July 31

**All Free & Open to the Public**

**Saturday, July 30** • Noon - 9:00 pm, fireworks 9:30 pm

**Sunday, July 31** • 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

For more information call 724-981-0800 • [www.hermitage.net](http://www.hermitage.net)



## Entertainment

**Saturday, July 30**

Noon - 1:30 p.m. • **FX Project**

2:00-3:30 p.m. • **SOUNDBITE**

4:00-5:30 p.m. • **Steve Vuich**

6:30 - 9:00 p.m. • **Menagerie**

9:30 pm • **Fireworks**

**Sunday, July 31**

10:00am. • **Boot Camp** -

Open to the Public

w/ Instructors from Cycle Life

11:00am - 12:30 p.m. • **Gordan James**

2:00 - 3:30 p.m. • **Slam Band Sam**

**SAT & SUN**

**The Prize Wheel is back!**  
Spin to win some Hermitage swag!

## Food Vendors

**Haitian Sensation** - Chicken, Rice & Beans,

Macaroni & Cheese, Cupcakes

**HHS Cheerleaders** - Dippin' Dots

**Miss Elaineous Dance Studio** - Meatball Subs  
and Hotdogs

**Ye Old Kettle Korn**

**Mosses Ears & More** - Elephant Ears,  
Shaved Ice, Cotton Candy, Fresh Cut Fries

**Rita's Italian Ice & Custard** - Italian Ice, Misto

Shakes, Cookie Custard Sandwiches, Pretzels

**Pap Pap's Smokehouse** - Pulled Pork, Chicken,  
Sausage, Mac & Cheese

**Sandy's Meltdown** - Gourmet Grilled Cheese;  
Fries

**The Whole Sh'bang** - Pasta Bread Bowls,  
Burgers, etc.

**The Ice Cream Truck** - Ice Cream Novelties

**Nacho Mama's Tacos & More** - Tacos and More

**Smoky Martin's** - Smoked Pork, Brisket, Ribs, etc.

## Children's Activities

**Saturday, July 30, 2022**

12:00-4:00 p.m. • **Chalk on the Walk**

NOON-4:00 p.m. • **OH WOW's Mr. Ralf**

**Bounce House**

Sponsored by Family Life Church

3:30-6:00 p.m. • **Mike The Balloon Guy**

**Sunday, July 31, 2021**

1:00 p.m. • **City of Hermitage**

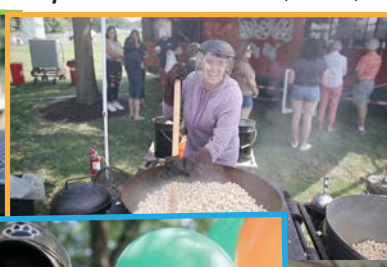
**Recognition Ceremony**

12:30-3:00 p.m. **Mike The Balloon Guy**

**SAT & SUN**

Community Library will be in the  
children's area with books & activities

**Trendy Trousseau -**  
**Mobile Clothing Store!**





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## Participating Artists AT THE TIME OF NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION

**Studio C - (Wholife Services)** - Handmade crafts

**Animal Protection League of Western PA** – Candy bars, dog and cat accessories.

**Jennifer Neider (Jenny Neider Photography)** – Hermitage, PA – Wildlife photography.

**David Varner (4 Ever Rings)** – Vienna, OH – Stainless steel stamped rings.

**Carol Moyer (Carol's Gourds & Crafts)** – Hadley, PA – Birdhouses, bowls, hand woven rugs and purses.

**Francis Picciotto & Monica Herrera Graces (Anibal Coffee)** – Pittsburgh, PA – Featuring Columbian farmers from local Columbian growers.

**Melanie Broadwater (Suds & Cedar)** – Transfer, PA – Handmade soap and body products.

**Bill Hauger** – Hand turned wood products.

**Bethany Krystek** – Hermitage, PA – Beaded jewelry, crocheted accessories and toys.

**Sandy Garcia (Sandy Store Crafts)** – Hermitage, PA – Beaded and hemp items for the home.

**Denise Carone (Green Acres Alpacas)** – Greenville, PA – Alpaca socks, hats, gloves, teddy bears, sweaters, etc.

**Judy Rorabaugh** – Hermitage, PA – Handmade dog bandanas, blankets, pillows, wine gift bags.

**Sam Beneviat (MB's Gems & More)** – Sharon, PA – Rare and exotic gemstone jewelry, paintings on slate, hand tied fish flies.

**Darla Rogers (Pease Pots)** – Hermitage, PA – Handmade functional wheel turned pottery.

**Wendy Mosbacher (Designs in Polymer Clay)** – Meadville, PA – Weird and whimsical pieces of art.

**William Wike** – Brookfield, OH – Decorative and unique wood products.

**Amy Moore (Spirit Seeker Designs)** – Canfield, OH – Handcrafted natural crystal gemstone bead jewelry.

**Julia Metz (Silver Frog, LLC.)** – Monaca, PA – Handmade beaded jewelry items.

**Bill Metz (Wood Docs, LLC.)** – Monaca, PA – Mixed hardwood cutting boards, wine and beer bottle bird feeders, 3D wooden puzzles.

**Mandie Uzarski** – New Castle, PA – Crocheted items such as coasters, pot holders, hot plates, etc.







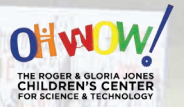
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## Participating Artists (continued) AT THE TIME OF NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION

**Tracy Jones & Evan Muszik** – Hermitage, PA – A Trace of Clay, clay sculptures

**Gayle Robbins** – Beaver Falls, PA – Sewn fabric items, including purses, wallets, wristlets, etc.

**Marlene Sikera** Pulaski, PA – Christian artwork featured on greeting cards, prints, candles.

**Chandler Beatty** – West Middlesex, PA – Wildlife paintings.

**Stacey Squatrito (Stacey's Dolly Boutique)** – Hermitage, PA – Handmade designed doll clothing.

**Marjorie Zampogna (ohyousillygoose!)** – Hermitage, PA – Upcycled clothing, home décor.

**Cathryn Stranahan (Ravenmaid Creative)** – Union City, PA – Original 2D and 3D acrylic paintings, hand painted ornaments, hemp jewelry, etc.

**Stacey Keating (Stella's Sundries)** – Hermitage, PA – Natural homemade soaps.

**Luke Allen** Handmade line-cut prints

**Andie Parady** Fiber based pieces inspired by animals and nature

**Rory O' Donnell** Paintings, terrariums

**Amy Carlos Titus (Eastwick & Co.)** - Intention jars, Chakra balancing bottles, Wreaths, Home Blessing Balls

**Michael Slefanick (Art by Reef)** - Hermitage, PA - Watercolors

**Jenna Whiting (Chainsaw Art)** - Edinburg, PA - Chainsaw art

**Deanna Tyree (Tyree Pottery)** - West Middlesex, PA - Pottery

**Cynthia Kelleher (Face Paint Pittsburgh)** - Mt. Jackson, PA -Face painting

**Tabitha Snyder (Healthy Lifestyle Consulting & Developing)** - Butler, PA - Medicinal Jewelry

**Jennifer Dombeck - (Jennifer Dombeck Crafts)** - Hermitage, PA - Bookmarks, wooden shelves, etc.

**Shenango River Watchers** - Sharon, PA

**Rachel Stine (Querida Designs)** - Oil City, PA - Textile and Fiber art

**Suzanne R. Rich (Handcrafted by Suzanne)** - Austintown, OH - Tree of life designs

**Kelly Ryan (Kelly Ryan Designs)** - Grove City, PA - Stained glass

**Debbie Baer** - Brookfield, OH - Handmade jewelry



Join us for

# FIREWORKS!

**Saturday, July 31st  
beginning at 9:30 pm**

**Special Thank You to the McConnell Family  
for providing the firework display site!**

## Chalk on the Walk Art Contest for Children

Children can create a work of art using chalk on  
the sidewalk! (chalk will be provided)

**Saturday, July 30, 2022**  
on the grounds of the Hermitage Arts Festival

**Noon - 4:00 pm**  
(must be registered by 2:00 pm)

**FREE TO ENTER • PRIZES  
OVERALL WINNER IN EACH DIVISION**

**Divisions: Age 6 & Under, Grades 2-4, Grades  
5-8, Grades 9-12, Ages 18+**



Name (required): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**For Office Use Only**

Age/Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Entry# \_\_\_\_\_

**Entry forms can be turned in day of event or to the Municipal Building anytime prior to event.**

For more information, contact Mary Ellen at 724-981-0800 or mmckendry@hermitage.net  
Winner's art will be photographed and put on display at the Hermitage Municipal Building.





# HERMITAGE NIGHT MARKET

at  
the **HERMITAGE NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY**

**5PM  
TO  
9PM**

Thursdays,  
August 11  
September 8  
October 6

The Hermitage Night Market features local growers and producers, artisans, food trucks and more. Fun and family friendly night out. Make sure to bring a chair to enjoy music from some of your favorite local musicians.

Live music 6-8pm. Grab some food, play some yard games, bring your family and your friends and stay awhile.

We have over 30 registered vendors. Please stop out and support local. 740 N. Hermitage Rd, Armory parking lot. Follow us on Facebook @hermitagepa or check our website [www.hermitage.net](http://www.hermitage.net) for more information on upcoming markets.



Follow us on Twitter @hermitagepa

Like us on Facebook!

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





# HERMITAGE NIGHT MARKET

5PM  
TO  
9PM

at  
the HERMITAGE NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY



Thursdays,  
August 11  
September 8  
October 6



Follow us on Twitter @hermitagepa

Like us on Facebook!

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



## Community Library of the Shenango Valley

### Summer Reading Programs

**FOR KIDS:** DIY Crafts - July 26 @ 1:00pm  
Storytime - July 30 @ 10:30am  
Over and Under the Pond at Buhl Park - July 27 @ 1:00pm  
Ooey-Gooey Art - July 29 @ 10:30am

### FOR ADULTS:

Ken Burns Movie Night - July 30 @ 1:00pm  
Book Club Discussion - July 28 @ 2:00pm

### FOR TEENS:

DIY Crafts - July 27 @ 3:30pm  
Great Art Explained - July 29 @ 3:30pm

### Upcoming August Programs

(Check our website for dates and time)

Gadget Workshops  
Music with Ms. Jess  
Great Issues  
Book Club  
Afterschool DIY



As always keep an eye  
on the Library Facebook  
page and website  
for more details and  
programs to come!

## 2022 Fall Baseball League

- 4 Divisions: 8U (coaches pitch), 9-10, 11-12, 13-15  
(\*2023 Little league age)
- League begins September 11th and runs  
through October 23rd.
- The games are all on Sundays.
- The cost is \$30 per player.
- For additional information call Ed Chess 724.981.0800
- All games will be played at the  
Carl Harris Hermitage Little League Complex

Online registration @

<https://apm.activecommunities.com/cityofhermitage/ActivitySearch?txtActivitySearch=&applyFiltersDefaultValue=true&cat=Activities>

## RACE TO END HUNGER

### 5K / 2 MILE WALK

BC3 @ LINDENPOINTE, HERMITAGE

09.17.22

**\$18 PRE-REGISTRATION \* \$20 RACE DAY REGISTRATION**

This year we're honoring Breast Cancer Survivors!

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER

RACE BEGINS AT 9:00AM



**CROSS THE FINISH LINE AND BE  
ENTERED TO WIN \$1,000!**

For more info call 724.981.0353 or visit [foodwarehouse.org](http://foodwarehouse.org)

## Hermitage School District

The Hermitage School District will begin the 2022/2023 school year on Monday, August 29, 2022.

Below are the dates for our back to school events:

**Our 6th Annual Back to School Bash** will take place on **August 24, 2022 from 3:00pm until 6:00pm at the Shenango Valley Mall**. This event began as a collaboration between the Hermitage School District and Primary Health Network and has expanded to include many community agencies with a common goal of supporting our families with free resources and back-to-school items for students.

### Kindergarten Orientation:

August 29, 2022 (Times will be mailed to each family in August)

### Open House Dates:

Artman Elementary School: September 1, 2022 from 5:00pm until 6:30pm

Ionta Elementary School: September 7, 2022 from 6:00pm until 7:30pm

Delahunty Middle School: September 7, 2022 from 6:00pm until 7:30pm

Hickory High School (8th grade): August 25, 2022 from 6:00pm until 9:00pm

Hickory High School (9th-12th grade): August 25, 2022 from 8:00pm until 9:00pm





## Buhl Day on Labor Day – Monday, September 5th

Buhl Day is a one-of-a-kind celebration in a one-of-a-kind park. The first celebration took place 107 years ago, in 1915 when Buhl Farm was formally opened. Local people took the opportunity to honor industrialist Frank H. Buhl and his wife, Julia. Today local people continue to pay tribute to this historic philanthropist for a park that continues to serve the community. Like that first Buhl Day, the intent of the occasion remains intact and is based on a simple formula that combines food, fun and fanfare to attract people to the park for the summer's last hurrah.

## CALLING ALL FOOD VENDORS

Any non-profit or for-profit food vendors interested in being part of Buhl Day, please visit [buhlpark.org/buhlday](http://buhlpark.org/buhlday) to submit a form or contact

us for more information.

Stay tuned to the Buhl Park website and facebook page for more event details coming soon.

## SNAPPY'S FLOATIN' BOATS:

Water sport rentals on our own Lake Julia. Kayaks, Canoes, Paddle Boards & Pedal Boats all available to rent from our ADA compliant dock & boat launch. Offering the freedom to explore the beautiful scenery from a different angle. Reservations are recommended, walk-ins are welcome. 724-718-8485

## Open Daily:

Mon-Fri: 12PM-8PM

Sat-Sun: 10AM-8PM

*\*Please visit [buhlpark.org/boatrentals](http://buhlpark.org/boatrentals) for information on pricing and weekly specials.*



July 15th & August 22nd

# DATE NIGHT

On Lake Julia

**\$50** per couple\*

\*1 hr Pedal Boat Rental, Charcuterie Box for 2, bottle of wine or sparkling juice

Call or email for reservations  
[annie@buhlpark.org](mailto:annie@buhlpark.org)  
 724-981-5522 ext. 1

Limited boats available



August 27 & 28



## Mixed Doubles Shootout

July 23rd

9AM

\$30 Per Team

Buhl Park Pickleball Courts  
 Located at the Buhl Park Golf Course  
 1290 Forker Blvd.  
 Hermitage, PA 16148

**For more information and to sign up: [buhlpark.org/pickleball](http://buhlpark.org/pickleball)**

Upcoming Shootout: Women's Doubles - Sept. 24

## Save The Date

**DIVISIONS:** Men's, Women's & Mixed

**SKILL LEVELS:** 3.0, 3.5, 4.0+

Double Elimination

Winners bracket plays 11 - best of 3

Losers bracket plays 1 game to 15

Medals for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place in each division & skill level.

\$50 per team

Buhl Park's Family Movie Nights

# MOVIES UNDER THE STARS

FEATURING OUR NEW 33FT SCREEN!

**July 22**  
**"Guardians Of The Galaxy"**  
 Rated PG-13

**August 19**  
**"Frozen II"**  
 Rated PG

Movies begin at dusk (8:45/9:00 PM)  
 Bring your family & friends, blankets & lawn chairs (benches will also be available) for a fun evening.  
 Our concession stand will be open.

Follow us on Twitter @hermitagepa

Like us on Facebook!

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





[www.fhbuhlclub.org](http://www.fhbuhlclub.org)  
724-981-3700 ext 121

## Buhl Club kicks off \$6M Renovation Project

The Buhl Club is embarking upon a new chapter in its storied history with the official launch of a long-overdue renovation to the facility located on State St in downtown Sharon. This current phase of the renovation will be complete later this year with a budget of over 6 million dollars. The funds for the project were secured from overwhelming community support from all across the Shenango Valley, including the lead matching gift of \$2,000,000 from the Buhl Regional Health Foundation.

Renovations of the 119-year-old building began April 25th, and the Buhl Club has not undergone a significant renovation since 1967.

Renovation plans include a new welcome center, an expanded Wellness Center with new equipment, a Youth and Teen Center, a family locker room, updated men and women locker rooms, an elevator, an updated dance studio, and added restrooms on the second and third floor, and cosmetic updates throughout the facility.

The underlying theme for the project is an emphasis on expanding the benefits of membership, programming for all ages, safety & security and accessibility. Additional improvements coming in the next phase are a new parking lot, new sidewalks, and improvements to the pool area.

Last but not least, there will be updates to electrical and mechanical systems, some of which are over 50 years old. During the renovation, the Buhl Club will continue to provide services included with membership by utilizing the second and third floors. For example, the Wellness Center is now located on the second floor. The pool, gymnasium, racquetball/handball courts, group fitness classes, swim lessons, and youth programs will remain open and operational.



## Shenango Valley YMCA Events & Programs

[www.svymca.com](http://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.

#### BUDDY UP PROGRAM:

Join the Y with a buddy and you both can save up to 20% off the monthly fee. For complete details and information, contact or visit the YMCA.

### Fitness/Wellness:

#### DIABETES PREVENTION:

To help adults at risk of developing

type-2 diabetes reduce their risk by taking steps that will improve overall health and well-being. Participants work together in a small group, facilitated by a trained lifestyle coach, to achieve the following goals:

- Reduce weight by 7%
- Build up to 150 minutes of moderate physical activity per week
- Reduce risk of developing diabetes.

#### GROUP EXERCISE:

So much more than a workout! Reach your goals with like-minded members and instructors who provide support and motivation! We offer over 60 group classes weekly: yoga, cycling, circuit, line dancing, step, balance, toning, cardio, SilverSneakers, Silver& Fit, and more!

**FREE FOR ALL MEMBERS.**

#### SILVER SNEAKERS, SILVER & FIT: RENEW ACTIVE

Our YMCA participates with these great programs. 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!

### Upcoming Youth Sports & Programs:

#### FALL SOCCER (INSTRUCTIONAL LEAGUE)

Boys & Girls ages 3-10  
Registration: Now - August 29th

#### NFL FLAG FOOTBALL (COMPETITIVE LEAGUE)

Co-ed Grades K-8  
Registration: Now - August 29th

For more information call 724-981-6950



# BUHL REGIONAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

*Promoting a Healthy Community*

## Bi-Weekly Lunch and Learn Wellness Series

While hearing from professionals in our community, you will have the ability to ask questions in a convenient format. These virtual educational sessions are open and free to the public. Registration is not required. Topics include: Healthy Living, Men's Health, Women's Health, Physical Fitness, Preventative Screenings, and Anxiety and Depression. Check out our FB page for the latest information or visit, <http://buhlregionalhealthfoundation.org/community-education/>.

## Camp Courage

BRHF has partnered with Buhl Park to offer Camp Courage, a weeklong camp that is free to attend for children who are dealing with grief and loss. This camp is scheduled to take place August 1st through 5th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Buhl Park. Deadline to register is July

15th, 2022. To register, visit <https://buhlregionalhealthfoundation.org/programs/camp-courage/>.

## Dental Care

We have partnered with the Hubbard Public Library and Mercy Health Foundation Mahoning Valley, to provide free dental care for those without access to regular dental treatment. The Mobile Smile Station will be at the Hubbard Public Library parking lot monthly through the end of 2022. Dates include: July 29th, August 31st, September 30th, October 21st, November 30th, and December 29th. For more information or to register, visit <https://buhlregionalhealthfoundation.org/programs/dental-care/>.

## Healthy Lifestyles

The Healthy Community Collaborative, a partnership between Buhl Park, BRHF and Community Food Warehouse, is

exited to announce new healthy food options that will be available during the Wednesday Evening Summer Concert Series at Buhl Park this summer. The Health Hut @ The Cabin Cafe will offer a healthy whole food option with nutrient information and recipes. For more information, visit <https://buhlregionalhealthfoundation.org/programs/health-hut/>.

## AED Procurement

BRHF has partnered with AHN, UPMC and Sharon Regional Medical Center, to increase cardiac arrest survival rates by distributing AEDs to public facilities where they may most often be needed. Any nonprofit organization with a 501(c)(3) status or that operates under the fiscal sponsorship of a tax-exempt non-profit, including schools, churches and public organizations and must be within the BRHF Service Area in order to qualify for an AED provided by BRHF. If your organization is in need of an AED, submit an application at <https://buhlregionalhealthfoundation.org/programs/aed/>. For more information on BRHF's Community Education, Grantmaking or Programming, visit [www.buhlregionalhealthfoundation.org](http://www.buhlregionalhealthfoundation.org).

## Hermitage Historical Society

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

The Hermitage Historical Society is very busy this summer maintaining our beautiful 1869 Stewart mansion. Our current projects include: painting of soffit and fascia, repairing pillars, and more. Any monetary donations towards these projects are always welcome. As always, we would welcome new volunteers to help maintain and volunteer at the Stewart house. If anyone is interested, please contact us at 724-877-7996 or message us on Facebook. Thank you in advance!

### UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

**August 16** - Neil Hosick  
**September 20** - McCullough Grainery  
**October 18** - Ernie Smith from Parker Bros.

### FLEA MARKETS:

August 6 (8:00am - 3:00pm)  
September 10 (8:00am - 3:00pm)  
(Vendor spaces are \$10)

### Stewart House Rentals

(showers, weddings, meetings, etc.):  
\$150 per 4 hours

### New Members Are Always Welcome:

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

### Christmas Tree Tours

Tours begin the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Help us celebrate our 20th year of Christmas decorations for an unforgettable experience! For more information or to volunteer please call 724-346-0419.



## SHENANGO RIVER WATCHERS



**730 Forker Blvd Hermitage, PA 16148  
(724)342-5453**

Shenango River Watchers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit watershed group formed to restore and protect the environmental, scenic, and recreational attributes of the Shenango River Watershed. Working together, our members, volunteers and donors have made SRW an award-winning organization. Our projects include environmental education, river and aquatic life research, cleanup and recycling as well as creating recreational opportunities.

If you'd like to get involved, we are always looking for volunteers to help at cleanups, assist with trail maintenance, and lots more! This August Visit Mercer County and Shenango River Watchers are hosting the first ever Lake to Lake Paddle Challenge! Paddlers can choose to do the full 30 miles from Pymatuning to the Shenango River Lake, or choose the Adventure option of 15 miles from Kidds Mill to the Shenango River Lake. If you're not sure you're up for the challenge, we are in need of lots of volunteers to make this event a success and we would love your help!

For more information about volunteer opportunities or any of our events, please visit our website. [Shenangoriverwatchers.org](http://Shenangoriverwatchers.org)

### *Lake to Lake Paddle Challenge* PRESENTS

**The 30 Mile Challenge – Competitive Class  
The 15 Mile Challenge – Adventure Class**

**AUGUST 27, 2022**



[WWW.LAKETOLAKEPADDLE.COM](http://WWW.LAKETOLAKEPADDLE.COM)

### FALL FOLIAGE HIKE

**October 23rd, - 1 p.m.**

Meet at the Big Bend parking area. Shuttle to New Hamburg provided by Carried Away Outfitters. Dress for the weather and wet/muddy trail conditions. Pre-registration required. [shenangoriverwatchers.org](http://shenangoriverwatchers.org)

### FALL PADDLE FEST

**October 8th** - Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. at Pymatuning State Park

Join us for a float down the Shenango River

\$15 per paddler via online registration

\$20 event day registration

Bussing from Riverside Park to Pymatuning State Park. Busses run every 30 minutes from 8-11 a.m. Float to Riverside Park. (9 miles, ~3.5 hours Class 1 water

Lunch provided:

@ Riverside Park, Greenville 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Visit [shenangoriverwatchers.org](http://shenangoriverwatchers.org) for more information and to register!**

### WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

#### AUGUST

Saturday 13th - 8 a.m. - River Cleanup Kidds Mill

Sunday 14th - 10 a.m. - Trail Work Day River Road

Saturday 27th - Lake to Lake Paddle Challenge

#### SEPTEMBER

Sunday 11th - 10 a.m. - Trail Work Day River Road

#### OCTOBER

Saturday 1st - Shenango Lake Cleanup

- Location & Time TBD

Saturday 8th - Paddle Fest Pymatuning State Park

Sunday 23rd - 1 p.m. - Fall Foliage Hike Big Bend

#### NOVEMBER

Sunday 13th - 10 a.m. - Trail Work Day River Road

Thursday 17th - National Take A Hike Day

Thursday 24th - 9:30 a.m. - Gobble Wobble Buhl Park

The inaugural Lake to Lake Paddle Challenge is a timed paddlecraft challenge for all skill levels. The event will be held on the class 1, Shenango River Water Trail. Participants have the choice of two distances starting at one of two starting points:

#### 30 Mile Challenge

##### Check-in:

August 27, 2022

6:00 A.M. – 8:30 A.M.

Pymatuning State Park  
15769 Water Trail Drive  
Jamestown, PA 16134

##### GPS Coordinates:

41.4985270417305,  
-80.45865769158009

##### Start Time:

Rolling start times:  
9:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M. Chip timed.

#### 15 Mile Challenge

##### Check-in:

August 27, 2022

8:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

Kidd's Mill Covered Bridge  
West Kidd's Mill Road  
Transfer, PA 16154

##### GPS Coordinates:

41.354194791624145,  
-80.39786005668815

##### Start Time:

Rolling start times:  
11:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M. Chip timed.

#### Contact:

Carmen Aiello

[caiello@visitmercercountypa.com](mailto:caiello@visitmercercountypa.com)

724-614-2769

*Visit*  
**MercerCountyPA**  
YOUR SOURCE FOR TRAVEL PLANNING

# News and Updates from the eAcademy @ Lindenpointe

**Are you a high school Junior residing in Mercer or Lawrence County?  
Interested in learning more about entrepreneurship?**

*We are still accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year. Sign up today!*

The Entrepreneurship Academy Program is an innovative educational program focused on economic development serving two counties and over ten school districts. The main goals of the academy include: building relationships, building community, and building businesses.

Over the course of the past eight years, it has become a flagship program under the eCenter@ LindenPointe Development Corporation in Hermitage, PA. And, with eight cohorts thus far, the first class graduating in 2015, the eAcademy program has seen over 200 alumni graduate from the program and join the eAcademy family. Approximately 80% of eAcademy graduates pursue traditional college degrees, most from regional colleges and universities that include Grove City, Westminster, YSU, Duquesne, PSU Shenango, Edinboro, Mount Union, Pitt, Allegheny, Thiel, and Slippery Rock. About 10% of our graduates earn technical schools or skilled trade educations and 10% serve in the military or enter directly into the workforce.

The Cataloni family is no different. Sisters, Gabby (2018), Gianna (2019), and Grace (2022) all attended Hickory High School and enrolled in the eAcademy Program their senior years. And, all three sisters continued on to the University of Mount Union to further explore entrepreneurship in their college studies (Go, Purple Raiders!).

The action steps are what make the eAcademy different from other business or entrepreneurial classes. Students launch businesses. This

is not a school project. This is not a paper that they write and never read again. This is real, this is tangible and this is life changing! Gabby agrees, explaining, "The eAcademy enhanced my communication, networking, and public speaking abilities tremendously. These skills are critical for ANY real-world experiences. eA helped me realize



that entrepreneurial opportunities are endless, thus I pursued these throughout college, minoring in Entrepreneurship. I am forever grateful for the experience I had at the eAcademy!"

Whatever careers and life choices you make, you may soon find yourself in situations where you need to create things (e.g., websites, blueprints, circuit boards, business plans, nursing reports, community campaigns). Much of your learning will take place while you create these things, during the process of research, trial, prototype, critique, and revision. What you learn through this process will send you back to books or other resources or encourage you to connect with colleagues to learn new facts. Learning in life is dynamic, synergistic, interrelated, and deeply connected to creation. Prepare yourself to build the life that you

want by learning the entrepreneurial mindset which means: putting the problem before the solution, operating under uncertainty, managing complex dynamics, valuing diversity in teams, mitigating risk via iteration, and talking to humans.

The eAcademy curriculum is purposefully and systematically designed to help prepare you for your next life step with four primary program areas:

**1. Entrepreneurial Mindset:** The eAcademy curriculum is based on a nationally acclaimed college textbook and a combination of programs, publications, and lessons that are specifically tailored for high school seniors and aligned with two business courses at Penn State Shenango. Students have the opportunity to complete dual enrollment credits at a discounted rate and with no additional coursework.

**2. Startup Business:** Students will work in teams to pre-incubate companies, working through issues of market analysis, technology viability assessment, competitive positioning, team building, product life-cycle planning, marketing strategy, sales channel analysis. The student teams will pitch their final businesses in a startup showcase style "Demo Day" and final competition to judges and the community.

**3. Real-World Experiences:** Gianna defends, "The eAcademy allowed me the freedom to express myself through creative teamwork and brand-new opportunities. Every eA experience truly prepared



me for college and my future." Students participate in field trips to small, medium, and large businesses in diverse regional industries. Industries could include manufacturing, healthcare, distribution, education, engineering, supply chain management, small business, electronics, construction, pharmaceutical, hospitality, transportation, aerospace etc. Speakers with various experiences engage with the students having meaningful conversations on life lessons learned.

#### 4. Soft Skill Development:

How to think, reason, weigh evidence, problem solve through innovation, self-resourcefulness, communicating through conflict, self-motivation, and independent task management are all connected to activities and curriculum throughout the year. Grace adds,

"Attending eAcademy my senior year pushed me outside my comfort zone and gave me the opportunity to learn skills that will be extremely beneficial in college and in my career." Students should use eAcademy as a way to be guided through and practice their ability to manage complex dynamics; it is better to fail and learn in class than in the real-world with money and a job at risk.

Students already have a good knowledge base of reading, writing, and math from their school districts. The eAcademy provides skills that employers are looking for, like Tony Wagner's Seven 21st Century Skills: Leading by influence, collaboration across networks, agility and adaptability, initiative, effective communication, accessing and analyzing information, curiosity and imagination. But don't just take

our word for it! Christine Cataloni, guidance counselor at Union High School and mother to Gabby, Gianna, and Grace Cataloni, serves on the eAcademy Advisory Board. She enlightens, "Being a school counselor, I was able to see firsthand how the Entrepreneurship Academy gave my students and my own daughters the opportunity to develop and apply creative thinking skills to real-world problems. The experience opened many doors for them. I love how the eAcademy always puts students' best interest at the heart of every decision."

We'd love for you to join our eAcademy family! If interested in learning more about the program, please contact Program Director, Katie Parr, at [kparr@lindenpointe.com](mailto:kparr@lindenpointe.com).

## Is your sewer bill past due? Help is available!

### Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)

Residents who meet income guidelines may qualify for assistance with delinquent sewer & water bills. You do not have to be a homeowner to qualify.

#### Apply online:

[www.compass.state.pa.us](http://www.compass.state.pa.us)

#### Learn more:

[www.dhs.pa.gov/waterhelp](http://www.dhs.pa.gov/waterhelp)

Request application: 877-395-8390 or hearing-impaired call PA Relay at 711

Applications available at: Mercer County Assistance Office, 2236 Highland Rd., Hermitage

### Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency Homeowners Assistance Funds (PHFA HAF)

Homeowners who meet income guidelines may qualify for assistance with delinquent bills, including sewer bills. Apply online at: [www.pahaf.org](http://www.pahaf.org)  
Qualified applicants may receive assistance from both programs!

Contact **Sarah Kephart**, Finance Supervisor,  
at 724-981-0800 ext. 1300 or [skephart@hermitage.net](mailto:skephart@hermitage.net):

- To make payment arrangements for your past due sewer bill.
- If you are applying to these programs for your delinquent sewer bill.
- If you have exhausted your benefit limits from both programs or have been denied by both. You may qualify for additional assistance for your past due sewer bill!

## Convenient Automatic Sewer Bill Payments

Automatic payments of current month sewer charges can be deducted from your bank account at no additional cost.

Sign-up forms are available online at [www.hermitage.net](http://www.hermitage.net), at the Municipal Building, or by calling the Municipal Building 724-981-0800. Payments are deducted on the 5th of the month or the next business day after the 5th in the case of a weekend or holiday.

Past due balances will not be automatically withdrawn, will continue to accrue penalties and interest, and must be paid separately. It is the responsibility of all customers to read each month's bill and check for past due balances. Call 724-981-0800 with questions or for more information.



## Water Quality Corner

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

Did you know that there is a known link between fertilizer usage and water pollution that greatly impacts our local waterways? Fertilizers are commonly made using synthetic materials. Those synthetic materials get washed away into our waterways and greatly impacts aquatic life. The chemicals found in our waterway can lower the oxygen levels within the stream causing great harm to the local fish population. You can make a difference by leaving lawn clippings, using the right type and amount of fertilizer for your yard or field, and keeping fertilizer as far away from water sources as possible.

**Every resident can help to preserve our environment and water resources.**

[www.stormwaterpa.org](http://www.stormwaterpa.org)  
[www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov)

## FREE PENNSYLVANIA RESOURCES COUNCIL'S TRAVELING GLASS RECYCLING BIN



**Saturday, October 1st – Thursday, October 6th  
 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

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

### Types of Glass Accepted:

All colors of glass bottles, jars and jugs ONLY.

- Caps, lids and labels are acceptable • Empty all containers

### Not Accepted:

cut glass • glass bakeware • mirrors • porcelain and ceramics  
 stemware • light bulbs • TVs • all other materials including recyclables

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

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

## 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.

## Bulk Cleanup

The final bulk cleanup of the year is scheduled for the week of September 26, 2022 (on regular collection day).

## City Garage Collection

As part of the solid waste recycling and the yard waste contract the City has signed with Tri-County Industries, residents may take their electronics to the City Garage, located on Virginia Road. Collection hours will be held year-round on the first and third Friday (Except on shut down days. Please see the

City of Hermitage Calendar for a list of building closures) of each month from 7 a.m. to Noon. Please contact Kathy at the City Garage (724) 342-0210 with any drop-off questions. *"A \$10 tag must be purchased before drop off. Price of tag is per electronic item"*

Appliances (freon must be removed with a certificate attached for refrigerators, freezers, and dehumidifiers) and tires (4 at a time) can also be dropped off at the City Garage (no tag needed) between the hours of 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday except for holidays.

***"Proof of Hermitage residency is required"***



# From the Chief of Police

**Eric Jewell**, City of Hermitage Chief of Police

## Thank you:

The officers of the Hermitage Police Department are grateful for the wonderful community support provided by citizens and businesses of the City of Hermitage. Working together we can continue to make Hermitage a safer place to live, work and play. Always report crime or suspicious persons, vehicles or activities to police right away by calling 911 for in-progress crimes or emergencies and 724-662-6110 for non-emergencies. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

## Traffic Safety Reminder:

At any time, a storm, traffic crash or grid failure can interrupt electrical service including power outages at intersections with traffic-control signals (traffic lights). Per PA Vehicle Code 3112, every driver upon approach to a completely unlighted signal must stop in the same manner as a stop sign, and the right to proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable after making a stop at a stop sign. That said, stop, be careful, be patient and be courteous negotiating an intersection with an unlighted traffic-control signal. Hermitage police work with the fire department to set up generators to temporarily run some traffic lights, plus public safety agencies coordinate with public utilities services to restore power as soon as possible.

## Kids and Curfew:

The Hermitage curfew ordinance exists, in part, to provide protection to our youth, regulate the conduct of minors on streets at night and reduce nocturnal mischief by minors. Minors, persons under 18 years of age, are prohibited to be or remain in or upon any public highways, parks, or other public places between

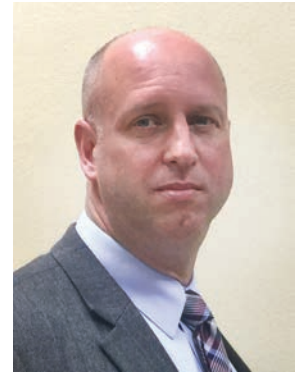
the hours of 11:00 PM and 6:00 AM on the following day and 12:00 midnight to 6:00 AM on Fridays and Saturdays. The police department needs parent(s)/guardian(s) help to ensure compliance with this local law for the safety of all residents. Check out the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6 – Conduct, Part 1 – Curfew, for exceptions and further information on the City's website.

## Crime Prevention Reminder:

Scammers are constantly out there online, on the phone or knocking at your door looking to trick, romance, pressure or persuade you by fraudulent means to take your money, credit or identity. Don't let greed, loneliness or the hope to make an easy buck override your common sense or rationality. Scammers can spoof (wrongly use) names, phone numbers, websites and addresses to fool your caller-ID, email and web searches too. Always ask a trusted family member, friend, banker or police officer for a second opinion before considering any 'opportunity' that requires you to send money, seems questionable or sounds too good to be true.

## What's New....

The police department has a new patrol vehicle added to its fleet – a bicycle. Though not a new concept in modern policing bicycle patrol is new to Hermitage police. In the past, the expanse of Hermitage made patrolling by bicycle impractical, but as the city continues to expand recreational areas, special events and athletic facilities for citizens and visitors the need for a specialized patrol method also increased. Patrolling by bicycle offers several unique advantages over traditional motorized patrol.



Bike patrol allows police to quickly reach hard to get to areas due to narrow paths, frequent pedestrians and areas closed to regular vehicular traffic. Bike patrol simply allows Hermitage police to have a greater crime prevention presence in areas such as exercise trails, parades, ball fields, parks, large parking lots and some neighborhoods. Bike patrol also allows for greater police-citizen relationship building, as patrolling in the open air enables the officer to regularly engage (talk) with the public – a benefit like that of foot patrol. Bike patrols will be scheduled on an occasional basis or as needed for special events.

Officer Cam DiLorenzo is the Hermitage Police Department's first designated bike patrol officer. Officer DiLorenzo joined HPD in 2011, is a member of the Patrol Division and holds a bachelors' degree in criminal justice from La Roche University. He recently graduated from a police urban mountain bicycle training course at Cuyahoga Community College. Thank you to the Shenango Valley Foundation / Estate of Al Puntureri and the Hermitage Bicycle Store for helping to make this great program possible.



Follow us on Twitter @hermitagepa

Like us on Facebook!

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

# From the Fire Chief

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

## "SOUNDING THE ALARM"

Have you ever wanted to be a firefighter? Have you ever thought how cool it would be to be a firefighter? Here is your chance to join a great volunteer organization, the Hermitage-Patagonia Volunteer Fire Departments. If you delay, you may never get the chance.

Prior to being hired full-time as the Fire Marshal/Chief for the City of Hermitage and the Hermitage Volunteer Fire Department, I volunteered as a firefighter for over 25 years, giving back to my community. Being a volunteer firefighter is a very rewarding and exciting position. Every call we go



on, we never know what we will be doing or what you will be faced with. To serve our community as a volunteer firefighter, in my opinion, is one of the most rewarding and unselfish acts one can do. To help your neighbor, a stranger, a friend, or a family member in their time of need will give you a feeling that you have never felt before. The volunteer fire department is a family and a "brotherhood" for life. Many of our volunteers, have been able to obtain full-time careers in the fire service. Being a volunteer firefighter has also helped them get jobs because of their commitment to the community. A volunteer firefighter is looked upon very highly. They are thought of as leaders and one

who is committed to the safety and well-being of their community. Some famous Americans who served as volunteer firefighters were George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Adams, John Hancock, Paul Revere, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, John Barry, Aaron Burr, Benedict Arnold, James Buchanan, and Millard Fillmore. I am very proud to be a volunteer firefighter and so are the ones I stand next to.

Volunteers today have really diminished in numbers. Most service organizations, churches, volunteer fire departments, and many other organizations are struggling to find volunteers to fill vacant positions. Back in the day, the Hermitage Volunteer Fire Department had written in their bylaws a cap on the number of volunteers they could have in the department. According to the Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute, the number of volunteer firefighters has diminished from 300,000 in the 1970s to about 60,000 in the early 2000s and to 38,000 in 2018. The Hermitage-Patagonia Volunteer Fire Departments are not immune to the volunteer problem. As a matter of fact, I am sounding the alarm. If we do not get volunteers soon, the city will be forced into a career department. What does that mean to you?.... higher property taxes. Our current fire department budget is \$666,710 and of that amount approximately \$150,000 of unused funds a year gets turned back over to the city. A career department will cost approximately \$1,600,000 annually, which in turn, will raise the millage within the city.

Being a volunteer firefighter takes a lot of commitment and time. Our number one goal is your safety.



We want everyone to return safely home to their families. Therefore, we put a big emphasis on training. We pay for your training, give you gear, and provide you everything you need to be a successful volunteer firefighter. We also have a stipend program, which is currently being overhauled to offer a bigger benefit to our volunteers. We train every Thursday night for approximately 3 hours on different types of emergency incidents ranging from all types of fires, motor vehicle extrication, and many other different types of rescues. In order to be a Nationally Certified Firefighter 1, it takes 196 hours of training followed by a pro-board examination. We encourage every volunteer firefighter to achieve this goal, and again, there is no cost to you. The fire department answers on average 600 to 700 calls a year. We are looking for quality, not quantity, in volunteers. The department is currently made up of 3 career fire marshals, 2 administrative secretaries, and a maintenance person Monday thru Friday 8 to 5pm. The rest of the staff are the incredible volunteers who are devoted to our community and the





surrounding communities. The process of becoming a volunteer is simple; fill out an application, we conduct an oral interview, the candidate must pass a background check, the application will be presented at a regular monthly department meeting, and finally, pass a probationary period. If you are physically and mentally able to be a volunteer firefighter, or know someone who is, please contact our office (724-342-0669). Without your immediate help, we will lose our volunteer status.



## From the Desk of the Treasurer

### Bernie Harry, City Treasurer

Hello Summer! We are open to the public but continue to accept payments through the U.S. mail as well as in our convenient drop box next to the City Building.

As a reminder, you may have noticed on your bills, that it reads separate checks for all bills. To further explain, you may still combine "like" bills to one check,

For example, if you paying more than one Per Capita bill, they may be combined to one check. The same holds true for multiple County/City bills as well as multiple School bills. You can no longer combine any of the three to one check. They all have separate accounts and need to be paid with separate checks.

The note on the bills seemed a bit confusing at first, but we want to thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Per Capita bills will be mailed on August 1st and are due at the discount amount from August 1st through September 30th. October 1st through November 30th is the face period and December 1st through December 31st, they are due at penalty. As of January 1st, 2023, all unpaid Per Capita bills will be turned over to Sharp Collections.

Anyone moving to or from Hermitage is encouraged to notify our office to either add you to our Per Capita and census or to remove you as needed.

All residents over the age of 18 are required to pay Per Capita. The face amount this year is \$30.00.

There is a partial exoneration from Per Capita if your annual income is less than \$10,000.00 from all sources, but you must come into the office with proof of income each year.

School Real Estate taxes have seen an increase for the 2022 billing, but we have also received an increase in our Homestead Exemption of \$29.32, making this year's amount \$133.55.

The school board has again decided to approve a resolution for 2022 School Taxes ONLY, decreasing the penalty to 0% on all School taxes paid through December 30th, 2022. The discount period remains the same -August 1st through September 30th.

This will also apply to the payment plan for your School Taxes, but keep in mind that you must make the first payment by August 31st to be eligible for this plan.



Please bring in both sections of your bills if you are needing a receipt. If you mail your bill, kindly include both parts along with your self addressed stamped envelope, and we will gladly return your stamped half as your receipt.

Please notify us if you have not received your bills.

Landlords, please remember to update your rental properties with our office.

As always, our office is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for your questions and comments either in person, or by phone @ 724-347-4472. We will be happy to assist you whenever possible.



## City of Hermitage Board of Commissioners

**From left to right:** William Moder, III (Board Vice-President)  
Cameron S. Linton, Michael Muha,  
Duane Piccirilli (Board President), and Louis Squatrito

## Stay updated within the community


The re-designed website will be easier to use, allow for greater user interaction and will allow ease and accessibility for:

- Online form submittal
- Reporting issues such as potholes, downed trees, and any other non-emergency activities
- Paying bills and online registration
- Plus, access to our current mobile app and Chat Bot messenger service
- The City of Hermitage is looking forward to a website that will enhance community engagement and communication.

Please check out the new site at  
[www.hermitage.net](http://www.hermitage.net)

**Get Connected.  
Get Involved.  
Get Results.**

SeeClickFix is the fastest, easiest way for you to submit non-emergency requests to your community, stay updated, and initiate change in your community.



**SeeClickFix**

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



@hermitagepa



City\_of\_Hermitage



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