# **Common Myths About Hearing Loss and Hearing Aids**

By Doctor Joseph Motzko, Audiologist

a hidden agenda behind information they choose to share. As a doctor audiology, I want to take a few minutes and clear up some of the misconceptions I have heard from my patients.

The first myth I have heard

older people. While "presbycusis," or hearing loss due to aging, is a physical health. primary cause of hearing loss in America there are many people thing I hear from patients is that born with hearing loss or acquire it at a younger age due to hazardous noise exposure. In fact, about twothirds of people with hearing loss are under the age of 65. If you, or someone close to you, shows signs of hearing loss simply get a hearing test. Sometimes hearing loss can condition.

Another myth I commonly situations are better (or worse) hear is that hearing loss doesn't than others. Talking in a quiet affect your overall health, it's room with someone sitting close "just hearing." That could not be and face-to-face with you, you'll

hearing loss can double your risk hearing loss than in settings with for dementia, according to experts background noise or a speaker who at Johns Hopkins Medicine. There are many misconceptions Furthermore, your ears pick up and stigma associated with hearing subtle cues that help with balance up with my patients is that a hearing loss and hearing aids. While and walking, and untreated the internet and social media hearing loss can put you at risk for Hearing loss is caused by damage to can provide you with a ton of falls. Hearing loss can also lead to information, the quality of that social isolation, and some studies information is difficult to ascertain. have indicated that low-frequency

is far away. One myth I make sure to clear

aid will not "cure" your hearing loss. the inner ear. This damage cannot be undone. However, hearing aids employ advanced technology to Unfortunately, many websites have hearing loss can be an indicator greatly improve your ability to

understand speech and engage with those around you. advanced More hearing aids are beneficial more challenging situations like restaurants, weddings, bars. meetings, and around the family dinner table.

The last myth I will clear up is

is that hearing loss only affects of cardiovascular disease. Hearing about hearing aids themselves. Many people picture big, bulky devices behind their ears. That was the case years ago but hearing aids have come a long way! Today's devices come in a variety of small sizes, shapes, and colors. Hearing aids today take advantage of modern technology like smartphone integration, rechargeable devices, Bluetooth® connectivity, and more.

If you are interested in having be a sign of a treatable medical our brains, this sounds as if people your hearing tested or want to learn more about hearing aids, please give my office a call. All our patients are welcome to take a set of aids home free of charge to test

further from the truth. Even mild notice far fewer issues with your About two-thirds of people with hearing loss are under the age of 65.

health is just as important as your

they believe their hearing is fine,

other people just mumble or don't

speak clearly. Speech that comes

across as mumbling is exactly

what hearing loss sounds like.

Hearing loss develops in the inner

ear (cochlea) which can no longer

send clear signals to the brain. To

are mumbling all the time. Some

Perhaps the most common

# What's Inside...



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Two great events lined up by the **Pike County Historical Society!** 

Be sure to check it out on Page 7.



@ LackawaxenTownshipPA



@ lackawaxenpa

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J.S. POSTAGE **DTS TASA9** 

169 Urban Road, Hawley, PA 18428



## **TOWNSHIP News**



#### 169 Urban Road Hawley, PA 18428

Main Office: 570-685-7288
Road Dept.: 570-685-3200
After Hours: 570-685-7825
Building: 570-685-2900
Zoning: 570-685-2990
Sewage: 570-685-2990

#### **MUNICIPAL MEETINGS**

#### Supervisors Workshops are held on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Township Building, 169 Urban Road, Hawley, PA

Supervisors Meetings follow at 7:00 p.m. Both meetings are open to the public.

#### **PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS**

are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

We approve minutes from the previous month at our regular meetings. Our Supervisor meetings are where the regular business of the township are conducted. Comments from the public are of value and often influence public policy and our laws.

We encourage residents to attend regular meetings, hearings, and workshops.

Meeting agendas are posted the Friday before on our website: lackawaxentownshippa.gov

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Lackawaxen Township does not endorse or support any specific political candidate.

#### **TOWNSHIP ROADS - WHAT TO EXPECT:**

Just a heads-up of what your township leaders have in store for the summer of 2023.

With the completion of the major reclamation of the Westcolang road, a four-year Covid delayed job, we intend to add radar controlled digital speed awareness devices along the road and at the beginning of the village. Some of these units will have the ability to take pictures and record license plates of cars that ignore the posted speed limits.

We know some of you believe that this may be a complete waste of money. Our feelings on this are as follows: that if we do not make every effort to slow traffic in this area, if one child gets hit by a car and they are not in place, then shame on us! It does not matter if these homes are not occupied year-round or if the grandchildren are only here in the summer months. They are considered residents when they are here, and we have an obligation to keep them safe.

You can also expect delays and possible road closures on the Blue Eddy/Urban Roads as there will be tree trimming and culvert replacements which will allow for pavement upgrades next year. This is all part of our comprehensive road plan, that your Supervisor, John Beisel and Roadmaster, Benard Knapp dedicate most of their time to

The Garrity Road on the north end of the township along with the Mott Road in the Welcome Lake area will see new pavement and, in some spots, black topping for the very first time. Also, on the agenda this summer will be the improvement to the approaches of the bridge on the Case Road.

The Cortese Road will see some new stone and modified improvements to aide and control drainage issues as well. Being an unpaved road with limited amount of travel, this becomes a maintenance issue every couple of years.

All these projects have been put out for bid and are under review by our township engineer and our solicitor for bonding and compliance.

Thank you for your faith and trust in us,

Your Board of Supervisors. Jeff, John, and Mike

# Lackawaxen Township, A Great Place to Call Home.

The Lackawaxen Connection is always looking for residents to submit articles for the semi-annual newsletters.

We mail them out directly to all Lackawaxen Township residents in the Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter.

They can be about anything that you can think of, from informational to a fun story!

If you would like to submit an article, please do so by emailing Heather Clark at: heather@lackawaxentownshippa.gov

# Lackawaxen Ecker-Haupt VFW **Gearing Up For Activities**

The veterans at Lackawaxen passed by Congress. This Act deals our local volunteer organizations. Ecker-Haupt Veterans of Foreign with exposure to toxic substances in Wars Post 5635 are gearing up the line of duty while in the service. for another year of activities. The The first source of information held the 1st Friday of the month at annual Memorial Chicken BBQ and assistance is the Veterans will be held on Sunday May 28th, Administration. Contrary to some please get tickets early from any of our members or by calling Tom Clark at 570-685-8873.

be held on Monday May 29th. Veterans Affairs Office at 570-296-Please keep an eye on our sign 3563 is also a valuable resource. board and our Facebook page for updates. @EckerHauptVFW5635

The VFW members and flags at the graves of service members prior to Memorial Day. If you know of a grave that has been missed in the past please let us

VFW Post. Please drop off any flags building or use the marked bin.

to review the PACT Act recently future.

VFW monthly meetings are held the 1st Friday of the month at 7:30 PM at 560 Rt 590, Lackawaxen PA.

popular belief the VA does great service for our veterans and will be a valuable partner if you have The Memorial Day Service will been exposed. The Pike County

We had another successful year with the Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy contests sponsored by volunteers will be replacing the the VFW. These contests are for middle and high school students and promote interaction between students and veterans, patriotic ideals and historical awareness, and encourage students to speak Soiled or unusable flags will be or write about their views about retired on Flag Day June 14th at the current events. Awards and prizes are awarded at local, state and at the Post. Please look for the new national levels. More information Used Flag Deposit Box donated by can be found at www.vfwauxiiary. the Steuhl family out in front of the org/scholarships. We will be posting more information about All veterans are encouraged our local contests in the near

> The VFW and members continue to partner with local fire 29th. Flag Day June 14th, please and EMS, Growing Lackawaxen and other local organizations to help keep Lackawaxen Township a great place to live. We encourage all residents to join or support

Every little bit helps.

VFW monthly meetings are 7:30 PM at 560 Rt 590, Lackawaxen PA. Come join our merry band. We do serious work and have a good time doing it.

We encourage all veterans to join a veterans organization. Not only for yourself but these organizations are the driving force behind ensuring that Congress provides the resources to support our wounded and disabled service members and their strength lies in

Poppies are going to be sprouting soon. The flower, which is the centerpiece of the famous poem "In Flanders Fields", has come to represent our fallen service members. Sales of Poppies support hospital bound veterans and we encourage you to purchase and wear them in remembrance and to assist our veterans in need. Mark your calendars.

Memorial Day Chicken BBQ May 28th tickets on sale now.

Memorial Day Service May drop off flags before then.

VFW Rib Roast August 13th. Tickets on sale in June.

# Memorial Day Weekend Chicken BBQ Sunday, May 28th Serving 1pm-4pm



VFW Post 5635 of Lackawaxen, PA

**Meal Includes Tickets** \$12/Adult

\$6/Child

1/2 Chicken **Potato Salad** 3 Bean Salad Roll Coffee Dessert

Call Tom for tickets: 570-685-8873

Tel. (570) 729-7402 Fax (570) 729-0722



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#### **MUNICIPAL INFORMATION**

#### **Building Officer**

Rich Tussel, Building Inspector 570-685-2990, Ext. 17 • Fax: 570-685-2550 building@lackawaxentownshippa.gov

#### **Zoning/Code Officer**

**Rich Tussel** 

570-685-2990, Ext. 17 • Fax: 570-685-2550 building@lackawaxentownshippa.gov

#### **Commercial Building / Electrical Inspector**

**Todd Klikus** 

570-493-1229

todd@lackawaxentownshippa.gov Hours: By Appointment Only

#### **Sewage Department**

Ron Tussel, Sewage Enforcement Officer 570-237-6454 • Fax: 570-685-2550 rontussel@gmail.com

#### **Tax Collector**

Michelle Thompson taxcollector@lackawaxentownshippa.gov

#### **Road Department**

Jay Knapp, Roadmaster 570-685-3200 • Fax: 570-685-2550 Emergency/After Hours: 570-493-4584 Roadmaster@lackawaxentownshippa.gov Hours: Mon.-Fri. 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

#### Office Manager

Denise Steuhl, Township Secretary Denise@lackawaxentownshippa.gov Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

#### **Treasurer**

**Jeffrey Shook** 570-685-7288 Jeff@lackawaxentownshippa.gov **Hours: By Appointment** 

#### **Assistant Treasurer**

**Cathy Wargo** cathy@lackawaxentownshippa.gov

#### YOUR SUPERVISORS

Chairman - Jeffrey A. Shook Jeff@lackawaxentownshippa.gov

Vice Chairman - John W. Beisel John@lackawaxentownshippa.gov

Supervisor - Michael B. Mancino Mike@lackawaxentownshippa.gov

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 570-685-7288 169 Urban Road, Hawley, PA 18428

# GROWING Lackawaxen

# And the winners are! 2522-23 PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

We would like to thank everyone who submitted photos for our 2022-23 Photo Contest.



**SUMMER PHOTO** JAYNE WILCOX



**CHILD PHOTO** DARLENE COLAKU



**PET PHOTO** MARIAH FORD



# Local Non-Profits Supporting One Another

## **Lackawaxen Township Fire Commission**

Fire Commission was formed by the Board of Supervisors in Resolution #08 in 2009. The purpose was for all members to work in partnership with one another to provide dependable and efficient emergency services for Lackawaxen Township, coordinate administration, fund raising, utilization of assets, training, and equipment among the four Fire Departments and EMS, and to explore other initiatives that maybe beneficial to them.

#### **Membership Re-Organization**

After the COVID pandemic hit, the Fire Commission struggled to make quorum at their meetings. During this period the fire chiefs and the supervisors had been meeting on a regular basis. They still believed in the goals of the Fire Commission, but they also felt that open communications between the fire chiefs and the supervisors would only enhance the overall level of protection to the residents. The Township Supervisors along with the fire chiefs decided to change the membership of the Fire Commission. The current membership was changed in 2023 to include two township supervisors, four fire chiefs and the EMS supervisor as voting members. The meetings are also attended by other fire department members. The

on a quarterly basis.

#### Firefighters in Numbers

The Fire Commission was able to combine all four fire companies and EMS together to get reduced insurance premiums for all. The Fire Commission was also awarded a large grant to be used for the purpose of recruiting new fire department members. In Pennsylvania in 1970 there was an estimated 360,000 volunteers and to 36,000 volunteers in 2021. The Township offers a stipend payment to the fire departments if they submit a list of active members based on the percentage of calls, training and fundraising events attended. We currently have 84 active members within the four fire departments which allows them all to receive the stipend. Recruiting and retention remains a top priority, our volunteers spend hours providing quality emergency services to our Township.

#### Commission on Fundraising Duties to Streamline Fire Departments'

When discussions turned towards fund raising activities it was decided that the Fire Commission would take over the responsibilities of preparing, Lackawaxen printing, and mailing of the semi-

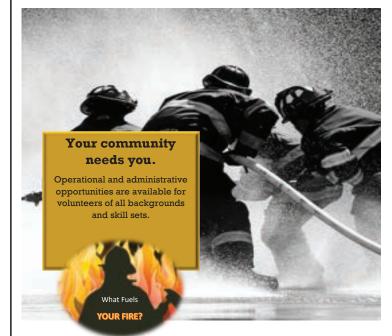
The Lackawaxen Township Township Fire Commission meets annual fundraising brochure, this action saved each of the four fire departments time and effort so that they could concentrate their time and energy on firefighting operations.

#### **Improving Safety Protocols**

The fire chiefs have scheduled multiple drills together which enhances the communications between fire departments and EMS on emergency calls. The Fire Commission members are also that number has dwindled down working on updating their current Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG'S) which includes Safety, Emergency Vehicle Operations, Use of Communication Equipment, Driver Operator Training, and other requirements to improve firefighter safety and to comply with Lackawaxen Township's Minimum Training Requirements Ordinance.

#### **Supporting Our Community**

The Lackawaxen Township Fire Commission, comprised of Supervisors, Fire Chiefs, and EMS personnel, is responsible for Emergency Services in our Township as stipulated by the Second-Class Township Code. This means that everyone in Lackawaxen Township benefits from the combined efforts of our Township's Emergency Services.



Join one of our 4 Fire Departments Lackawaxen, Central, Forest or Greeley.

**IOIN TODAY!** 

Lackawaxen Township Fire Commission Call 570-685-7288











#### GROWING Lackawaxen

# Save the dates on our upcoming events this summer/fall!

#### May 27th, 10am-2pm

Community Tag Sale at Veteran's Memorial Park (109 Scenic Drive, Lackawaxen, PA 18435)

If you would like to sell your items, please contact us at growinglackawaxen@gmail.com

Spaces are \$10/each.

#### September 30th, 12pm-3pm

Car Show Fundraiser at Veteran's Memorial Park.

This event is FREE to the public. Car entries are \$5.00 per car.

Register the day of the event! Trophies will be awarded in

4 categories (to be announced).

Contact Jeff for more info 570-352-5425.

Food & Beverages will be available for purchase.

This event supports the Care Cabin food pantry.

#### We will be hosting a series of "Movies in the Park"

(located at Veteran's Memorial Park) this summer into fall, please keep an eye out on our Facebook page for movie titles.

Dates are: May 20th; June 17th; July 15th; August 26th; October 21st.

# 570-226-6000 | 52 Welwood Ave Hawley PA

Get the freshest, hand picked groceries delivered right to your door!

Curbside Pickup is also avaliable!

# Save Your Time with IGA Online



# Two Great Events Happening Thanks to the **Pike County Historical Society**

Society is planning two events at the property known as Lock House 16 in Glen Eyre (495 Towpath Road, Hawley).

#### Tunes Along the Towpath 3, June 24, 2023

They will once again host a day of music in the field behind the Lock House - TUNES ALONG THE TOWPATH 3 - is shaping up to be a great day of fun and music! This year we take you back in time again and go old school with a DOORS AND DEAD show. We welcome back Feast of Friends the premier Doors cover band who have been receiving rave reviews and appearing all over the Hudson Valley.

We are happy to have them back and will add GRATEFULLY YOURS to the lineup this year to bring you some of the best tunes out there by top-notch musicians in tribute to an era of music that will always stand the test of time. Bring a lawn chair and relax and enjoy the show! Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the gate the day of the show. Gates open at 2pm. There is plenty of parking, BYOB, burgers and dogs and soft drinks will be available for purchase. Show starts at 3pm.

You may purchase tickets by visiting our website at pikehistorical.org/events, scanning and California.

The Pike County Historical the QR code, or give us a call at 570-296-8126.

#### **Feast of Friends** (The Doors Tribute)

Formed in 2013, Feast of Friends remains one of the only active Doors Tribute Bands in the Northeast!

Their live performances have been described as "spooky, in their accuracy", "Unbelievable!", and "Powerful and electrifying!". Feast of Friends is not your typical "parody" tribute act. No costumes, wigs or a Jim Morrison look-alike. This tribute pays homage to the music of The Doors, with precision and accuracy, fusing elements of the bands studio sound with their epic improvisational live experience.

Each memorable performance features the classic hit songs, plus tons of deep tracks, most of which were never performed live by The Doors, carefully selected from the bands catalog ranging from 1967-1971. FOF have also performed The Doors, (1967), Strange Days (1968), and L.A. Woman (1971) albums live in their entirety.

FOF has performed thousands of adoring fans at clubs, theaters, casinos, festivals, private and corporate functions, and parks throughout New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania,

The time to hesitate is through. Experience the unparalleled "live action" that is Feast of Friends, and the ultimate musical tribute to Jim Morrison and The Doors!

#### **Gratefully Yours**

Gratefully Yours was conceived and founded in 2012 by keyboardist Alex Mazur, who is also the founder of The Deadbeats; one of the longest running Grateful Dead cover bands in existence. Based out of New York's Hudson Valley, Gratefully Yours is comprised of an all-star lineup of highly regarded "jam band" musicians from the region and has emerged as one of the premier Grateful Dead tribute bands in the tri-state area.

Their willingness and ability to improvise, their openness to musical spontaneity and the energy of the moment lie at the core of their performances and truly sets them apart from other Grateful Dead inspired tribute bands. However, "cover band" is an extremely misleading term when it comes to the music of Gratefully Yours. In the very best tradition of The Grateful Dead, it is this openness that allows the crowd to become a part of the creative process and results in a synergy between the band and the crowd that is truly unique! It is about creating that Grateful Dead "magic" that Gratefully Yours truly aims to "cover" and pay tribute to.

Gratefully Yours has been joined on stage by some very special guests that include Rob Eaton (Dark Star Orchestra), Tony Markelis, and Russ Lawton (Trey Anastasio Band), Bill Carbone (Max Creek), Kenny Brooks (Ratdog), Vinnie Amico (moe.), and Zach Nugent (Melvin Seals & JGB).

#### **Civil War Re-Enactment**

The American Civil War comes to Pike County this August when the Pike County Historical Society and the 142nd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry present "Defending the C&O Canal" at Lock House 16 on the Lackawaxen River. (495 Towpath Road, Hawley)

The event will feature tours encampments, interpreters in period garb detailing the lives of both soldiers and civilians during p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday. the war, plus the life and work of a typical lockhouse family on the Delaware and Hudson canal in the 1800s. The similarity between the Lackawaxen Valley -- a river, railroad and canal route for commerce -- and the Potomac River valley -- a major river, the Chesapeake and Ohio canal and a railroad -- will be com used to demonstrate late-war military tactics and maneuvers. The C&O was a chronic target for Confederate raiders and a major the Union armies.

#### Save the Date: Aug. 12-13, 2023

Union and Confederate Camps open at 10 a.m. each day. Military demonstrations 2 p.m. each day. Camps close 4

> Visit our event website for more details: bit.ly/142canal

> Note to public: While the Website is, at this time, intended for living historian recruitment, it provides excellent details on what story the organizers will tell.

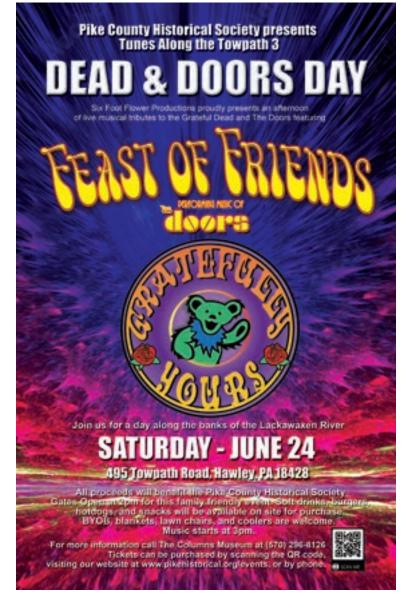
Additional information: Bill wjwatson1967@gmail.

Entry fee to the civil war event is \$10/adult - Pay the day of event,

On site food and beverages will supply route between the eastern be available from 11am-2pm daily and western theaters of the war for at the Cannonball Café, cash sales







Advertise in the "Lackawaxen Connection" and reach 2,400+ readers!

Call Heather @ (570) 352-8268 for sizes & rates available!

# Jes! You Can Grow That

Whether you're planting your I know from experience! Some a plant from seed, or purchasing a garden for the 30th year in a row, intruders to keep an eye out for are started plant, your investment will or you're thinking about starting a salad patch for the very first time, everyone has one thing in in containers will help bring you to common. The supermarket is harvest. Just be sure to keep them expensive! Inflation has caused close to your home and keep an eye Everyone has a green thumb if you many people to think about on them daily. gardening for the first time or 3. Choose prolific growers. If about your product. I'll be back a few tips to consider for the new (and experienced) gardener:

1. Start small. Choose three items you'd like to grow that you readily enjoy eating. It becomes easy to want to plant one or two of every vegetable known to man, but it can become overwhelming. It's best to focus on a few items so you may learn how to care for them and have a successful harvest. Every plant has different needs when it comes to nutrients, watering, pruning, etc. Read up on the items of choice, and work to make them abundant. Some good choices to start with are tomatoes (cherry are my favorite), cucumbers, green beans, and peppers.

2. Consider container gardening. Container gardening has many advantages. You can grow on a deck, small porch, or sunny windowsill. A big battle in our area is wildlife. If you don't have a fenced yard, chances are you will have damage to your garden. Even with a fence, you will have damage to your garden! Trust me,

deer, rabbit, groundhog, birds, and more. Having your produce grown

increasing their yield to rely less your motivation to start a garden with some more tips, and happy on shopping at the store. Here are is reducing your cost at the supermarket, be sure to choose plants that will have high yields. township resident in Hawley Cucumbers tend to be one of PA. She is a local realtor with those items. I usually have more Wallenpaupack Realty. She can be cucumbers than I know what to found on Instagram @garden\_by\_ do with. Tomatoes are also big jess producers. Whether you're growing

be paid for ten times over under the proper care.

Give a few of these tips some thought and see what you can do. take the time to read and learn gardening!

Jessica Morigl is a Lackawaxen









*Life is sweeter* when you have a garden.



# Fawn Lake Forest Association to Host Tunnel to Towers 5K In Honor of Maureen Donohue



There is a new event coming to Lackawaxen Township! Fawn Lake Forest Association will be hosting their first Tunnel to Towers 5K Walk/Run on Saturday, August 19, 2023, in honor of Maureen Donohue who passed away recently from a 9/11 related cancer. Maureen is the daughter of FLFA Board member, Pat Gill, and served on the NYPD on September 11th, 2001, as well as throughout its aftermath.

For anyone who is not familiar with the Tunnel to Towers

Please read "Stephen's Story" for the story behind this amazing Foundation.

This event is not just for those participating in the run or walk. All are welcome to attend this moving tribute.

It is an honor to be a small part of the work accomplished by the Tunnel to Towers Foundation and to continue to honor and remember the lives tragically lost on 9/11. We will never forget.

For more information or to volunteer for this event, please philosophy of St. Francis of Assisi, whose encouraging and inspirational phrase "while we have time, let us do good" were words that Stephen lived by. Stephen's life and heroic death serve as a reminder to us all to live life to the fullest and to spend our time here on earth doing good this is his legacy.

Firefighter Stephen Gerard Siller was the youngest of seven children born to Mae and George Siller. At the age of eight, Stephen lost his father, and a year and a half later his mother passed away, leaving him an orphan to be raised by his older siblings. For a while Stephen went through a period of struggle, but thanks to the love of his siblings, and the values instilled in him by his parents, he grew up to be an extraordinary individual and dedicated firefighter. More than most, he knew that time was precious and accomplished much in his 34 years.

> "while we have time, let us do good"

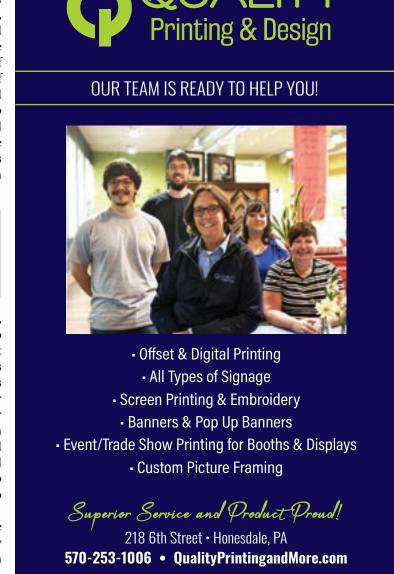
On September 11, 2001, Stephen, who was assigned to Brooklyn's Squad 1, had just finished his shift and was on his way to play golf with his brothers when he got word over his scanner of a plane hitting the North Tower of the World Trade Center. Upon hearing the news, Stephen called his wife Sally and asked her to tell his brothers he would catch up with them later. He returned to Squad 1 to get his gear.

Stephen drove his truck to the entrance of the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel, but it had already been

Determined to carry out his duty, saving others.

Author and family friend Jay event, even a tragedy, has its the world follow his footsteps."

closed for security purposes. symbolic figures. September 11th was no different; it just had a few he strapped 60 lbs. of gear to his more of them. Rudy Giuliani, back, and raced on foot through Father Mychal Judge, the four guys the tunnel to the Twin Towers, on United Flight 9 ... a hundred where he gave up his life while more ... a thousand. None bigger than Stephen Siller, whose stature only grows with time as New Price wrote: "Every momentous Yorkers and people from around





Foundation, please visit their website (t2t.org) to learn more. Since 9/11, the Foundation has been helping America's heroes by providing mortgage-free homes to Gold Star and fallen first responder families with young children and by building specially-adapted smart homes for catastrophically injured veterans and first responders. They are also committed to eradicating veteran homelessness.

pikecounty@t2t.org or email contact Lee Romano at Fawn Lake Forest Association at 570-685-7600.

#### STEPHEN'S STORY

Stephen had everything to live for; a great wife, five wonderful children, a devoted extended family, and friends. Stephen's parents were lay Franciscans and he grew up under the guiding



## Lackawaxen Outdoors

# **Anglers Soon To Be** Reeling Them In

As we lift the veil of spring and stare into the warming eyes of summer, there are many new opportunities presented in the outdoor world.

By Ron Tussel

Fishing action really ratchets up this time of year, with multiple species available. For me the early part of June is my favorite time of the year to key in on big panfish. The biggest bluegills to be had come in this time frame as they "bulls" work hard to defend the bedding areas. Almost anything you throw to the "hot-zone" will usually result in a straightening of the line and an ensuing battle. Ounce for ounce these slab-sided panfish put up one of the best fights available. As such, my preference is to hunt big bluegills with either an ultra-light spinning outfit or my old stand by, the flyrod.

Early morning and late evening beg for the slurp of a popper chugged through the lily pads to churn up a marauding bluegill. During the day, I prefer to use a wooly-bugger or similar to dig a little deeper just off the weed edges to taunt bluegills to make a grab at my offering. Artificial baits usually allow for a quick release of the fish not headed to the fryer. Any livebait such as red or meal worms will result in a quick inhale and more deeply hooked fish that should not be released as they will surely die anyway. As for eating quality, bluegills offer thick slabs of fillets that beg to be dredged and then deep fried to a crispy golden brown. If you have not taken your friends and family out for a bluegill bonanza which ends in a deep fried shore lunch, you are missing a right of early summer in Pike County!

Of course June is also the month when bass season opens. As a kid with a farm pond full of bass, I always had trouble sleeping the night before opening day. Bass are flat out summer fun no matter what age you are or how long you have been pursuing them. Of course, fishing that pond long ago was my introduction to topwater fishing for bass with my faithful Tiny Torpedo. To me there are not many things more exciting while fishing than plopping a bait on top of the water and then tingling with anticipation of every twitch of the retrieve, waiting for

the resounding slosh and splash of a largemouth bass attempting to slaughter that offering! among the rocky depths.

We are luck to have both largemouth and smallmouth bass available to us in Pike County. Lake Wallenpaupack and the Delaware River are two abundant producers of bragging-size smallies and anglers come from far and wide to cash in. Smallmouth offer an excellent battle, especially on light tackle among the strong current of the Delaware. Fishing from shore or even wading among the riffles can produce plenty of action in June. On light spinning tackle, I prefer to dunk plastic, twister-tailed jigs among the rocky depths of the river. As for Lake Wallenpaupack, crank baits in bright colors seem to work well for me.

This is also the time of year when all of the wildlife bring forth their young of the year. Among the list of these critters, is one who is not so welcome in great numbers in plenty of locations. Groundhogs can play havoc among farm country fields and pastures with their dens ruining farm equipment and harming livestock. In residential areas they dig burrows and destroy landscaping and plenty more. Luckily, the hunting seasons and bag limits for groundhogs are liberal (year 'round except not on Sundays and during firearms season for big game), offering hunters an opportunity at some warm-weather hunting, and land owners some welcome relief from high rodent populations. eaten the same as rabbit or similar. small game. I advise looking online for a guide to removing the glands on groundhogs, but beyond that, waste nothing you harvest from the wild if possible.

The Fish and Boat Commission had already stocked many waters ahead of the season, and according to their press, will continue putting trout out there for anglers, minus the usual brigade of volunteers who would normally assist with those efforts.



Spring turkey season is just around the corner, and we have been out scouting.

Trout are not the only species available either. Panfish action has really been picking up, with crappies, bluegills and perch reacting to warming waters and moving to feed on minnows and other available food sources. Two anglers in even a small boat can still observe social distancing while cashing in on some lake or pond fishing right now. Perch and bluegills are being found in about ten feet of water just off the edge to more shallow water. Crappies are off the wood already and schooling suspended while feeding. I observed schools of fish nipping bait near the surface of a locale lake, causing the surface to be dimpled in a large circle. One cast among the activity with a fathead minnow proved that this was indeed a school of plate-sized crappie actively hunting.

Those monitoring temperature of the Delaware, will soon be announcing the arrival of the American shad as they make their way in from the ocean to spawn. Shad provide some red-hot action for a short window of time, and there is a group of us who await the arrival of the silver demons every spring! I was arranging my Groundhogs are primarily tackle recently, a good form of vegetarian and as such, can be therapy for cabin fever, and now have one entire tackle box devoted to shad. It is loaded with shad darts of various colors and sizes, along with flutter spoons and deerhaired lead head jigs. Whether from a boat or casting from shore, I will be on the Delaware very soon hunting for the first arrivals of the spring wave of migrating shad.

Spring turkey season is just around the corner, and we have been out scouting. Gobblers are well dispersed now from the bachelor bands of winter, and breeding has been under way for weeks. Yesterday while checking the local ramp patch, we noticed some subtle disturbances among the leaves. To me this signals a single hen scratching for feed, probably with a nest nearby. This time of year, where there is a hen, there is likely to be a gobble close by. Of course, a good pair of binoculars can prove invaluable when driving around looking for gobblers. Many times, I have located gobblers using binos, and then contacted the landowner to obtain permission to return another day to hunt them.

If you have not patterned your turkey gun, get out there and do

it! We pattern our turkey shotguns and adjust the sights to center that pattern as if we were sighting in a rifle. With turkey chokes now delivering excellent patterns out beyond forty yards, it is important to know that the percentage of pellets are going where they will prove most effective.

One downfall warmer spring weather, is the enormous number of ticks we are encountering. I cannot urge enough to apply repellant EVERY time you head out! I have already sent my first tick out for analysis, only to have it come back testing positive for the spirochete that cause Lyme disease. Be sure to take field worn clothing off immediately upon return and place them in a plastic bag with spray to kill ticks. Ticks are brought indoors after every trip outside and that includes from family pets.

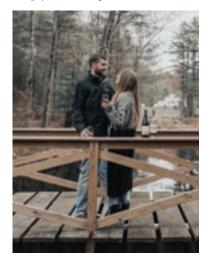




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Our guests' experience is very important to us from the first hello perfectly serene setting in which several tools to the last sip.

but we look forward to continuing tagline and philosophy, 'Pairs dictate the quality of our mission of creating exceptional wines while making new friends. Our promise to you is that we experiencing fine foods, and living we will continue to provide the best life to the fullest while pairing handed service in the most enjoyable and safest atmosphere possible while offering world-class wines and unforgettable experiences that there would be no memories. keep you coming back.



Our historic property offers a to do just that and can be enjoyed a Our lives are ever-changing, through all four seasons. Our at their disposal to nicely with life®, is a reminder that the wine. We strive creating memories with loved ones, to these memorable moments with nature. our wines is more important than decisions ever. For without these moments, winemaker commits

#### Our Approach to Winemaking

Here at Three Hammers, we strive to craft our wine using minimalist techniques that coax out and showcase the wine's true varietal character. We pride ourselves on deriving the flavors and aromas from the compounds and elements naturally found in the fruit. To draw these expressions out, we rely on the creative part of the process and utilize tools such as yeast strains, barrel producers, and unique production methods.

There that winemaker preserve what naturally are through Stylistic that a to are what imparts their signature on the wine. We strive make elegant, memorable wines that are distinct in

their quality and style. We invest in the highest quality fruit. Although there may be challenging vintages,

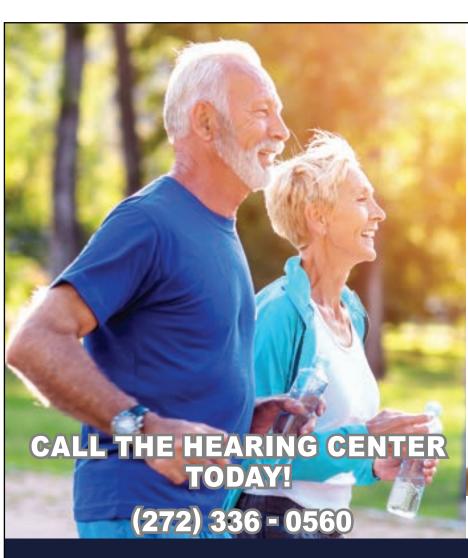
We pride ourselves on deriving the flavors and aromas from the compounds and elements naturally found in the fruit.



artificial, synthetic products to excited to invite you to taste our Cheers! new and upcoming vintages of wines in 2022 and beyond!

We thank you for your visit and continued support of Three

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