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IRS trained Tax

Preparers will be at Blooming Grove and Matamoras Boro Hall for tax payer assistance for those with low to moderate income, with special attention to those age 60 or older

This will be by appointment ONLY

- . Beginning February 7th Tuesdays, at Matamoras Borough Hall and Wednesdays in Blooming Grove.

Tax-Aide volunteers will prepare your return following IRS and Tax -Aide requirements for **Drop-Off** service.

When you call 570-775-5550 you can make an appt. and we will mail you the packet. You will need to obtain copies (see Below) and bring to the site on the date and time you have an appointment. The packet will have all of the information you need and the forms to be filled out for AARP.

IT IS IMPERATIVE that you bring a copy of and a form of ID for you and your spouse, if applicable

last year's income tax returns,

***W-2 forms for each employer**

***SSA-1099 form if paid Social Security**

*** All 1099 forms (1099-INT, 1099-DIV, 1099-B, etc.)**

*** 1099-MISC showing any miscellaneous income**

*** 1099-R form if you receive a pension or an annuity**

*** All forms indicating federal income tax paid**

*** Dependent care provider information (name, employer ID/Social Security numbers)**

***Social Security cards or other documentation for yourself and all dependents**

***All paid property tax bills**

Please remember to make reservation for lunch

We do not want to disappoint when **there isn't enough for walk-ins**

For Blooming Grove lunch

Call 570-775-5550

For Lackawaxen Lunches

Call 570-685-7808

For all other centers call

570-775-5550

Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

PA Department of Revenue is urging online applications for the rebate.

Application Deadline:

June 30, 2023

You can do the forms online now with

Mypath go to:

<https://www.revenue.pa.gov/>

Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program:

1-888-222-9190

Continued page 2

Warm Greetings to All, keeping winter weather as our primary concern for everyone. Heating bills increasing, we have some great ideas for decreasing heat costs. 3. The icy conditions outside add to many slips and falls.

Make sure you have some tread on your shoes or boots. Yak Tracks or similar devices on your shoes make great safety presents!. Ice melt on porches and driveways (watch for your pet's paws though, make sure it is pet-friendly ice melt) can definitely help remove and reduce icy walk ways.

If you are staying in more, try and keep your window shades open more to increase sunlight and you will see your mood increase and be "sunny" as well. Also helps with bringing in more warmth to your home.

We like to cook more in the winter, it helps make house smell amazing when there is a pot of soup cooking. We did some cooking last month and thanks to Joan Edel and myself, we conquered the avocado mysteries.

The cooking classes will be starting in February at Blooming Grove we have a number of interested participants and hoping to take to other centers in early Spring.

Congratulations to our New secretary of PA Dept. of Aging- Jason Kavulich —



PA Rent Rebate,,,,,,,,,,,,,continued

This year we will try and help as many people as possible with the MyPath on line application

The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. The income limit is \$35,000 a year for homeowners and \$15,000 annually for renters, and half of Social Security income is excluded. Spouses, personal representatives or estates may also file rebate claims on behalf of claimants who lived at least one day in the claim year and meet all other eligibility criteria. The maximum standard rebate is \$650, but supplemental rebates for qualifying homeowners can boost rebates to \$975. The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is one of five programs supported by the Pennsylvania Lottery. Since the program's 1971 inception, older and disabled adults have received more than \$7.6 billion in property tax and rent relief. The rebate program also receives funding from slots gaming.



Comm. Osterberg, Dr. Amary Sec. Torres Larisa
Yusko, SHARE, Dir. Skibber, Comm Waldron

SHARE Housing hits 5 years!!!



AAA Directors from Northumberland, Lackawanna, and Monroe Counties
join in celebration with PDA Secretary Robert Torres, & Director Skibber

VICTIMS INTERVENTION

Every person, no matter how old, deserves to be safe from harm by those who live with them, care for them, or have daily contact with them. According to the CDC, approximately 1 in 10 people aged 60 and older who live at home experience some form of abuse, neglect, or exploitation. Elder abuse is historically underreported in the United States. Many states, including Pennsylvania, have laws about mandated reporting of child and elder abuse. But even with these laws in place, many older adults go without help. The staff at Victims' Intervention Program is committed to strengthening awareness about elder abuse through education.

Throughout the months of February and March, VIP will be giving presentations at each of the 5 senior center locations throughout Pike County. The topics being presented include, but are not limited to, the signs and effects of elder abuse, vulnerabilities, and what you can do. Most importantly, we will be discussing ways to prevent it.

VIP offers counseling, legal and medical advocacy, shelter and a variety of other services for survivors of abuse within Wayne and Pike counties. All services are confidential and provided at no cost to women, men and children ages five and older. VIP also helps anyone who has witnessed a crime or has been indirectly affected by abuse or violence, such as the survivor's family and friends. No matter your age, race or income level, we are here to help. If you or someone you know has been a victim of violence, call our hotline today to speak with an advocate. 570-253-4401

Hemlock Farms Community Association PULSE 1-14-23



Lana & Galina at Pulse Health Fair



Donation from Columba
Italian American Club

Cooking for 1 or 2
Classes starting soon.

If interested please call our office
570-775-5550.

Classes will be held mid
morning in Blooming Grove



Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General

pennsylvanians should report scams to the Office of the Attorney General at 800-441-2555, email us at scams@attorneygeneral.gov or file a consumer complaint online. By reporting these scams, you are helping us protect others. Your information is safe with us.



Bingocize is a 10 week, evidence-based health promotional program that combines exercise and health education with a familiar game of Bingo. It is a great way to have fun to get moving and socializing while exercising.

Where else can you go to socialize, have fun, and live a healthier life, than Pike County Area on Aging the one stop shop. Come join us, we'd love to see you. Register now, have a heart healthy lunch for a donation of \$2.50. See you soon. Please call 570-775-5550

Lana

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

What to have in your home or car in case of emergency:

BLANKET WATER BOTTLE(S)
FLASH LIGHT LIGHTER
BATTERIES
MATCHES MEDICINES
COLD WEATHER GEAR
NON-PERISHABLE SNACKS (NUTS,
GRANOLA BARS ETC.)
WHISTLE BOOKS OR GAMES

Match Game Winners

January date match game was successful.
We had the following winners

1st Place Linda Waddington Tully
\$25.00 Weis card Saw Creek (Bushkill Center without walls)
2nd Place Elaine Kovacevich
\$10.00 Weis Card each Nellie Curry
(Blooming Grove)

Honorary Mention Galina Grishina (Matamoras)



Knights of Columbus
Council 12571
Food for families & friends
program

TAKE OUT DINNER

Must call for reservations

Chicken Cacciatore/Pasta

Sunday, February 5th 1:30 to 3:00
St. John's Parking Lot
705 Route 739, Lords Valley, PA
St. John's 570-775-6791 or
Angelo 570-775-2755
MUST call for Reservations

Teriyaki Meatballs/Rice

Sunday, February 12th 1:30 to 3:00
St. Ann's Parking Lot
123 Richardson Ave., Shohola
MUST call for Reservations
St. Ann's 570-832-4275
Frank 347-446-9636 or text

Donations are welcome but not necessary




Wednesday, February 15th
@ 10:00 am Sharp

Eastern Pike Center @
Matamoras Fire
House
506 Avenue Q
Matamoras

MUST call for
reservations
570-775-5550




Please check with
the Pike County
State Health
Center for updates
on vaccine
availability
570-296-6512

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Valentines Trivia Question: In Roman mythology, Cupid is the son of whom?		1 Tomato Soup Lemon Chicken Breast Rice Medley Carrots Rye Bread Apple Sauce	2 Grape Juice Beef Stew w/potatoes & vegetables Mixed Vegetables Dinner Roll Fruit Crisp	3 Black Bean Salsa Chicken & Rice (Spanish) Corn Dinner Roll Fresh Fruit
6 Tossed Salad Meat Lasagna Green beans Wheat Bread pears	7 Red Beets & Onions Baked Fish Herb sauce Rice Pilaf Spinach Dinner Roll Fresh Fruit	8 Cole Slaw Roast Turkey Gravy Mashed Potatoes Peas & Onions Wheat Bread Ice Cream	9 Waldorf Salad BBQ Chicken Baked Beans Buttered Noodles Rye Bread Pudding	10 Beer Barley Soup Stuffed Shells Tomato Sauce Italian Green Italian Bread Jello
13 Tossed Salad Beef Stroganoff Buttered Noodles Peas & Carrots Wheat Bread Fresh Fruit	14 Orange Juice French Toast Sticks Syrup Sausage patty Apple Compote Blueberry muffin	15 Mandarin Salad Chicken Cordon Bleu Roasted Potatoes Squash medley Dinner Roll Chocolate Cake	16 Broccoli/chick Pea Salad Breaded Fish Fillet Potato Puffs Tuscan Vegetable medley Jello	17 Minestrone Soup Sausage Steak w/ Gravy Rice Pilaf Creamed Spinach Rye Bread Fruit Cocktail
20 ALL CENTERS CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY	21 Turkey & Rice Soup Sausage, Pepper, & Onion Hoagie Potatoes O'Brien Peaches	22 Cottage Cheese Ham, Macaroni, & Cheese Bake Stewed Tomatoes Rye Bread Cookies	23 Cream of Broccoli Soup Swedish Meatballs w/sauce Rotini Peas & Carrots Fresh Fruit	24 Tossed Salad Chicken Parmesan Sauce Fettucini Italian Green Beans Wheat bread Jello
27 Cranberry Juice Chef Salad (Turkey, Ham, Cheese) Macaroni Salad Roll Pudding	28 Cucumber Salad Stuffed Cabbage Tomato Sauce Mashed Potatoes Corn Rye Bread Chocolate Cake	<div>  <p>Mardi Gras is celebrated February 21st in New Orleans and everywhere else nowadays</p> <p>King Cake Beads</p> <p>Masks Parades are some Of the traditions What is the symbolism of the colors Green, Gold, & purple</p> </div> <div>  </div>		

February

2023 Blooming Grove Activities



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	Arts & Crafts <i>Chess after lunch</i>	1 Cards Dominoes, Rummikube	2 Bingo	3 Arts & Crafts Cards
6 Medical Transport	7 Arts & Crafts <i>Bigger Shopping Dingmans & Shohola</i> <i>Chess after lunch</i>	8 Cards Dominoes, Rummikube <i>Bigger Shopping Mil/Mat</i>	9 Bingo <i>Bigger Shopping Promised Land</i>	10 Arts & Crafts Cards
13 Medical Transport	14 Arts & Crafts <i>Chess after lunch</i> 	15 Cards Dominoes, Rummikube	16 Bingo <i>Blood Pressure @ 10:00</i> <i>Speaker @ 12:00</i>	17 Arts & Crafts Cards
20 <i>Closed for president's Day</i>	21 Arts & Crafts <i>Chess after lunch</i>	22 Cards Dominoes, Rummikube	23 Bingo <i>Speaker VIP</i> <i>Celebrate Birthdays</i>	24 Arts & Crafts Cards
27 Medical Transport	28 Arts & Crafts <i>Chess after lunch</i>	Answer: Venus		



LEFT
Chloe is all decked out in Philadelphia Eagles Stuff to win the championship



Above Jewelry making with Sybil Many thanks to her and her talent and variety of beads and bangles. Blooming Grove Center folks enjoyed it very much.



Sponsored by Pike County Area Agency on Aging
Top of the World Restaurant at Saw Creek Estate
148 Cambridge Ct, Bushkill PA 18324
MONDAYS 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

9:30am Meet & Greet, Socializing, Tea and Coffee
11:30 to 12 noon Lunch; Light Menu

2/6-Bingocize @ 12:30
2/13-**Valentine's Party** Cards & Games
2/20—CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY
2/27—**VIP Speaker**
2/27Bingo & Birthday Celebration

All registration through
Pike County Area Agency
on Aging only
Please call 570-775-5550

*You do not need to be a resident of
Saw Creek Estates to participate*

Suggested Lunch
Donation
\$2.50

CENTER WITHOUT WALLS
Mondays at Saw Creek Estates



Sponsored by Pike County Area Agency on Aging
Pocono Mountain Lake Estates
Memorial Hall
2095 Milford Rd, Bushkill PA 18324
TUESDAYS 9:30 am to 2:00 pm

All registration through
Pike County Area Agency
on Aging only
Please call 570-775-5550

2/7-Cards & Games, Exercise & Swim 11-12
2/14-**Valentine's Party** Cards & Games & Exercise
2/21-Exercise & Swim 11-12
2/28-**VIP Speaker Swim** 11-12
2/28 Bingo & Birthday Celebration

*You do not need to be a resident of
Pocono Mountain Lake
Estates to participate*

Suggested Lunch
Donation
\$2.50

CENTER WITHOUT WALLS
Tuesdays At Pocono Mountain Lake Estates


Lackawaxen/Shohola Township 9 am to 2 pm 570-685-7808

February

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
CLOSED	CLOSED	1 Cards & Games Exercise Lunch @ 11:45	2 Cards, games & bingo Lunch @ 11:45	3 CLOSED
6 CLOSED	7 CLOSED	8 Cards & Games Exercise Lunch @ 11:45	9 Cards, games & bingo Lunch @ 11:45	10 CLOSED
13 CLOSED	14 CLOSED	15 Cards & Games Exercise Lunch @ 11:45	16 Cards, games & bingo Lunch @ 11:45 Valentine's Party	17 CLOSED
20 CLOSED	21 CLOSED	22 Cards & Games Exercise Lunch @ 11:45 Birthday Celebration	23 Cards, games & bingo Lunch @ 11:45 Birthday Celebration	24 CLOSED
27 CLOSED	28 CLOSED			

FEBRUARY

Eastern Pike Center @ Matamoras 9am-2pm 570-775-5550

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
CLOSED	CLOSED	1 Cards Bingo Lunch	2 CLOSED	3 Bingo 10:30 Lunch Exercise & Line Dancing
6 CLOSED	7 CLOSED	8 Cards Bingo Lunch	9 CLOSED	10 Bingo 10:30 Lunch Exercise & Line Dancing Valentine's Party
13 CLOSED	14 CLOSED	15 Lunch  \$250 Cash Bingo @ 10 am	16 CLOSED	17 Bingo 10:30 Lunch Exercise & Line Dancing VIP Speaker 12:00
20 CLOSED	21 CLOSED	22 Cards Bingo Lunch	23 CLOSED	24 Bingo 10:30 Lunch Exercise & Line Dancing Birthday Celebration
27 CLOSED	28 CLOSED			



Holiday parties around the County

From upper left:

Blooming Grove, Galina,
Saw Creek & PMLE, bottom



Retired & Senior Volunteer Program
of Berks, Pike & Wayne Counties
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Pike County Area Agency on Aging

(Matamoras & Blooming Grove) Senior Center Kitchen & Meal Delivery
Health & Wellness Instructors

Training paid for and provided by Pike County Area Agency on Aging

Dawn Houghtaling, RSVP Coordinator 570-390-4540 or Email: houghtalingd@diakon.org



WHAT IS SHARE?

SHARE is an affordable housing choice that brings together homeowners who want to share their home with home seekers who are looking for housing in exchange for rent, help around the house, or a combination of both. The home seeker receives their own bedroom and agreed upon use of the common areas. Every arrangement is unique depending on the needs, preferences, and abilities of the participants involved.

WHY SHARE A HOME?

Some people like the idea of having another person around the house. Others are looking for an affordable place to live or a way to supplement their income in order to meet household expenses. In some cases, it enables the older adult to remain in their home and community. Homesharing offers the homeowner:

- Income to help with expenses
- A responsible tenant

Homesharing offers the home seeker:

- A private bedroom with agreed upon, shared common spaces
- Affordable rent Homesharing may offer participants help with household tasks or other agreed upon services. It may also offer the home seeker reduced rent in exchange for services.

HOW DOES **SHARE** WORK?

A homeowner and home seeker meet separately with the **SHARE** Housing Counselor to discuss needs and preferences, complete the application, and provide references.

The **SHARE** Housing Counselor will:

- Conduct reference and background checks
- Identify potential home share matches
- Introduce the homeowners and home seekers
- Coordinate the written homesharing agreement
- Oversee trial living periods
- Provide ongoing support during the term of the agreement
- Connect the participants to other community resources.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Older adults, persons with disabilities, veterans, working professionals, college students, individuals at risk of homelessness, single parents, or people simply wishing to share their lives and homes with others. If interested, please contact Larisa Yusko at (570) 832-5133 or lyusko@pikepa.org



at-

EVENTS and PROGRAMS

Loaves to Fishes Food Pantry
Paupack Methodist Church, Route 507
570-857-1141 Serves Palmyra Twp.
1st Friday of month 9:30am - 11:00am

Hemlock Farms Food Pantry
98 Willow Drive, Hawley PA
The 3rd Monday of the month
4pm - 6:30pm
Registration is a must prior to distribution
Please register by calling 570-775-6787

Pike County Food Pantry
Dreher Township Building
899 Main St. Newfoundland, Pa
570-676-4066 Serves Greene Twp.
3rd Thursday of the month 12pm - 2pm
Pre-registration is required

Good News Good Cheer Food Pantry
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
Rt 590, Greeley PA 18425
570-226-3966
1st Sunday of the month 10:30 am- 11:30 am
Proof of residency and photo ID required

Agape Food Pantry
300 Avenue H, Matamoras PA
845-772-0218
Every Tuesday 5pm - 6pm

Lake Region IGA
570-226-6000 extension 10 (you must order between 7 am & 9:30 am on Tuesdays).
They deliver same day, by 1:30 PM.
There is a \$9.95 delivery charge.
Now offering online shopping
www.lakeregioniga.com
Delivery is \$4.95
Picking fee plus \$6.95 delivery fee
In store pickup is \$5.95

Dutch's Market
570-676-3373
Curbside pick up only
dutchsdelivery@gmail.com

Dave's Super Duper 570-251-9530
Deliveries on Wednesdays only.
superduper9530@yahoo.com

Shoprite delivers (\$10 internet fee & \$6.95 delivery fee)
shop at www.shoprite.com

Growing Lackawaxen Care Cabin
169 Urban Rd, Hawley 570-685-2273
4th Saturday of the month 8am - 11am

Holy Trinity Food Pantry
103 Delaware Crest, Dingmans Ferry
570-828-7411
Help available Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 9am-1pm every week by appointment only.
Please call 24-48 hours ahead

Lords Valley Community Church / Hands of Hope Pike County
707 Rt 739, Suite 3, Lords Valley
570-775-3777
2nd Thursday of the month
3pm-5pm



Pre-packaged and placed into car



Ecumenical Food Pantry
321 5th St., Milford
570-618-1568
Fridays: 12pm - 1pm
Fridays: 6:30pm - 7:30pm
Eligibility is based on income
Photo ID & verification of address required

St. Ann's Bridge Point Food Pantry
125 Richardson Ave., Shohola, PA
570-832-4275
1st & 3rd Thursday of the month 9am-12pm
Registration is at pickup

Bushkill Outreach Food Pantry
168 Lehman Park Rd, Bushkill, PA
570-588-0660
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-12pm
Every week except the 5th of the month

Blooming Grove Food Pantry
St. John Neumann / Good Shepherd Church
705 Route 739, Lords Valley
570-775-6791
3rd Thursday of the month 9:30am - 11am
Pre-registration is required
Do not bring children and wear a mask

First Presbyterian Church of Hawley
815 Church St, Hawley PA 570-226-4835
2nd & 4th Saturday of the month 11:30am

Senior Law Center

Senior Law Center protects the legal rights & interests of Seniors in Pennsylvania through legal services, referral services and advocacy. Call the Senior Law helpline if you need assistance at: 877-727-7529

Pike County Area Agency on Aging
150 Pike County Blvd.
Hawley, PA 18428
570-775-5550

Non-Profit mailer



DO NOT CALL REGISTRY

If you want to stop those nagging calls from solicitors you can place your phone number on the Do Not call registry by calling:
1-888-382-1222 and
1-888-777-3406 or go on line to: www.donotcall.gov

To renew subscription, clip out mailing label and send it in with the \$5 yearly fee. If you have email, just send your email address to: kdantuono@pikepa.org, and get your newsletter sent right to your email address for **FREE**—Save time and money!
www.pikeaaa.org

Where to Find Information About the Medicare Plans Available in your County:

- * Medicare & You 2022 Handbook
- * www.medicare.gov Call the PA MEDI Helpline at: 1-800-783-7067
- * Call Medicare at: 1-800-633-4227 (Phone) or 1-877-486-2048 (TTY)
- * Or call us at: 570-775-5550 x 1313 for an appointment to assist you

Pike County Area Agency on Aging

Executive Director - Robin S. Skibber - email: rskibber@pikepa.org

Protective Services & Options Supervisor - Robin Soares - email: rsoares@pikepa.org

Aging Care Supervisor/PA LINK Coord. Monroe/Pike/Wayne – Joan Edel - email: jedel@pikepa.org

Nutrition Site Managers - Cherie Bland, Emily DeLeeuw, Galina Grishina & David Zlasney

Activity & Program Director & Health & Wellness Coordinator - Lana Romeo-email: lromeo@pikepa.org

Blooming Grove Center-150 Pike County Blvd., Hawley, PA 18428

(Phone: 570-775-5550 or 1-800-233-8911 Fax: 570-775-5558)

Office / Center: Monday through Friday - 8am to 4pm

Lackawaxen/Shohola Township Center-Lackawaxen Fire Dept., Beisel Beck Rd. & Rte. 590, Lackawaxen, PA 18435.

Wednesday and Thursday 9 am to 2 pm (Phone: 570-685-7808)

Eastern Pike Center @ Matamoras-Matamoras Fire House, 506 Avenue Q, Matamoras, PA 18336

(Phone: 570-775-5550)

Wednesday and Friday 9 am to 2 pm

ELDER ABUSE REPORTING NUMBER 1-800-233-8911

Advisory Council

Chairperson: *Patricia Crane

* Alicia Bonadonna * Cordell Bowman * Jeanne Carlstedt

* Laura Guccini-Engle * Kathie Joseph * Leatrice Langer * Barbara Leary * Linda Leyh

* Monica McVitie * Mary Little * Barbara Shevlin * Sue Siska * Rita Tepperman * Lori VanSlot *

Pike County Commissioners * Matt Osterberg * Ronald Schmalzle * Tony Waldron

Pike County Transportation Hours 7:30am—4:00pm Phone 570-296-3408 Fax 570-296-3409

Toll Free: 1-866-681-4947 STATUS LINE: 570-296-1959

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