



photo by Thomas Ross Vincent

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thomasrossvincentphoto@gmail.com

A NOTE FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

It's shaping up to be a busy spring throughout the Borough, as our Parks and Public Works teams, along with a few contractors, get to work on several improvement projects to make New Hope shine a little brighter. We'll see landscaping upkeep and maintenance in our parks, improvements to the Visitors Center, road repairs, and safety and energy upgrades in our public buildings. We'll also be conducting a Borough-wide program to monitor stormwater runoff and protect our natural waterways.

This spring's landscaping program will focus on Ferry Landing Park, East Randolph Street Park, Lenape Park and the Visitors Center. This project will ensure our parks are well maintained and provide a relaxing setting for everyone to enjoy.

This year's road program targets eight areas, identified as priorities by the Public Works team and the Borough Engineer. All eight projects include pavement repair, while two intersections on West Ferry Street, at Stockton Avenue and Old Mill Road, will also see reconstruction to grating and stormwater inlets. The other locations targeted for this year's repair program are West Mechanic Street, from New Street to Stockton Avenue; two stretches of Stoney Hill Road near Mechanic Street; two sections of Sugan Road near Stoney Hill Road, and Turnberry Way.

After many months of anticipation, the Mechanic Street bridge project will be underway. This project consists of repairing the roadway that was taken out of service as a result of Hurricane Ida. Borough staff and our Engineers have been working with FEMA representatives to have the bridge repaired and strengthened for years to come.

With the safety of residents and employees in mind, we've installed new Automatic External Defibrillators in our major municipal buildings. The AED's are located in the Police Department, the Public Works Building, the Visitor Center, our Administrative offices and the Community Room.

A new, energy-efficient electric HVAC system will replace the old oil-burning heater in the Public Works Building. The upgrade is better for the environment and easier on our budget.

Our Borough Engineers will be mapping out New Hope's storm sewer system this spring and summer. The maps help us manage stormwater runoff, identify and address water quality issues, and ensure that we're taking all the steps we can to keep our natural waterways clean, safe and healthy. The mapping work keeps the Borough in full compliance with state environmental regulations and continues our commitment to be a good steward of the riverfront.

Everywhere you look this spring, you'll see improvements popping up all around New Hope. Whether you're enjoying lunch in the park, strolling along the towpath or helping visitors find their way, know that the Borough is working hard behind the scenes to keep our landscaping fresh, our environment clean, and our town welcoming to all.

Sincerely,

Connie Gering

Connie Gering, New Hope Borough Council President



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 General Information.....x151
 Code Enforcement.....x154
 Code Official.....x154
 Zoning.....x155

Public Comment for Council Meetings
 PublicComment@NewHopeBorough.org

Public Works.....215-862-3031

Emergency.....911

Police Department Office.....215-862-3033

New Hope Eagle
 Fire Department.....215-862-2692

Lambertville-New Hope
 Ambulance & Rescue Squad.....609-397-0945

The Free Library of
 New Hope and Solebury.....215-862-2330

Greater New Hope Chamber.....267-756-3443

BOROUGH MANAGER MESSAGE

We're all looking forward to a busy spring and summer here at the Borough, with several projects in the works for New Hope's parks and streets. As always, Borough administration is ready to assist residents, property owners and businesses with any and all of their upcoming projects.



Peter Gray
 Borough Manager

Many home improvements projects require the proper permits, whether for the construction itself or for work performed in our historic district. We recognize that the permitting process can be a bit daunting, however our staff is here to assist you. Just pay us a visit or give us a call to chat about your plans. We're happy to provide guidance regarding the permits required, proper documentation, and anticipated timelines.

All application types and instructions can be found on the Borough website at www.NewHopeBorough.org click: **GOVERNMENT > Documents & Forms**

Around the Borough, our Public Works department will be busy getting the Borough in shape for the warm weather, with special attention to the repairs on the West Mechanic Street Bridge. You'll see our parks getting some pruning, cleaning and planting to be at their best for residents and visitors alike. See the news from the Parks & Rec and Shade Tree committees in this edition!

I'd like to send a special thank you to the many volunteers who serve on our various boards and commissions for their dedication to the many projects throughout the Borough. These citizens give a great deal of their own time and expertise to help the Borough make important decisions across a wide variety of topics and disciplines. They do a great job and play an invaluable role in keeping New Hope buzzing.

Peter Gray, Borough Manager

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NEW HOPE BOROUGH COUNCIL

New Hope has an elected 7-member Borough Council which plays a central role in borough government. Council sets policy, enacts legislation, adopts budgets, controls expenditures, appoints advisory commissions and boards, and hires employees. Council members are elected to four year terms, with either 3 or 4 members up for election every two years.

Council elects a President, Vice-president, and President Pro Tem from its ranks. The President, in cooperation with council, establishes standing committees and makes appointments thereto.

These standing committees generally consider all matters pertaining to a particular area of public policy, such as land use regulation, historic preservation, or recreation, and make recommendations to the full council.

Monthly public meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM in the Community Meeting Room at 125 New Street. Workshop meetings are held at 4 PM on the first Monday of each month in the Community Room. Meeting dates and times are subject to change, so visit the Borough website for the latest information.



Connie Gering,
President



Laurie McHugh
Vice President



Tina Rettig,
President Pro Tem



Dan Dougherty



Ken Maisel



Peter Meyer



Louise Feder



Laurence D. Keller
Mayor

BOROUGH MAYOR

The New Hope Mayor, Laurence D. Keller, has several roles:

- The Mayor works with the Police Chief to set police policy and work rules and is responsible for emergency proclamations.
- The Mayor attends Council meetings and generally votes when there is a tie.
- The Mayor also represents the Borough in local functions and events and may perform weddings.



Denton Kanouff
Tax Collector

NEW HOPE BOROUGH ELECTED TAX COLLECTOR

The elected Tax Collector bills and collects all real estate taxes for the Borough, County and School District. Each taxing district sets its own tax rate and informs the elected Tax Collector. The Borough's elected Tax Collector is:

Denton Kanouff
P. O. Box 444
New Hope, PA 18938
Phone: 215-862-1430



Frank DeLuca
Constable

NEW HOPE BOROUGH ELECTED CONSTABLE

A PA State Constable is a sworn peace officer of the executive branch who is directly elected by and answerable to the voters of their borough. Along with other duties, Constables are charged with keeping order at the election polls and ensuring that no qualified voter is obstructed from voting.



PA ONE CALL – CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG!

Virtually anywhere you need to dig, there are probably underground facilities somewhere in the vicinity..

Growing networks of telephone cables, power lines, and cable TV lines are joining the gas, water, sewer, and petroleum pipes. The odds of an excavator moving something besides dirt are growing each day. Even if you see overhead lines that doesn't rule out the existence of buried power, television or telephone facilities. Buried utilities are along your property line and sometimes between lots to serve neighboring homes.

Pennsylvania 811 does not locate or mark the underground utility lines. We are a communications network that relays your dig information to the utility companies within your municipality.

To review the **Five Steps to Safer Digging**, visit www.pa1call.org

New Hope Historical Society Celebrates 50th Anniversary of the Parry Mansion Museum

Story and photographs by Roy Ziegler

Benjamin Parry, often referred to as the, moved into his new mansion at 45 South Main Street in New Hope with his wife, Jane Paxson, about two years before George Washington became President of the United States. And four successive generations of the family continued to make the elegant Georgian-style mansion their home until President Lyndon Baines Johnson's third year in office.

In 1966 when the New Hope Historical Society purchased the home for \$67,000 from Margaret Parry Lang, the great-great granddaughter of Benjamin Parry, it probably saved the historic home from becoming a gas station or antique shop. The driving force behind the purchase was Dr. Arthur Ricker, a beloved New Hope physician who seemed to have never stopped thinking about New Hope's three centuries of history. He founded the New Hope Historical Society, becoming its first president in 1958.

With the help of its members and the greater New Hope community, the Historical Society set about restoring the home. After seven years, numerous fundraisers and about \$250,000 later, the home was transformed into the jewel in New Hope's crown that it remains today. The popular architectural and interior designer, Charles Lamar, a founding member of The Preservation Society of Newport County in Rhode Island, and a designer of at least one Rockefeller home, donated his services to the Historical Society. His idea to portray five periods of history in the new museum from the colonial to the late Victorian eras gained national attention. Finally, on May 4, 1973, Dr. Ricker's dream of preserving New Hope's history was realized, and the Parry Mansion Museum was opened to the public for the first time.



Dining Room at the Parry Mansion



The Parry Mansion Museum

Today the New Hope Historical Society presents a wide variety of activities in the Parry Mansion, carrying on Dr. Ricker's goal to preserve New Hope's great history by promoting the arts, culture, education and history.

On Thursday, May 4, from 5 pm to 8 pm the Historical Society will present a grand celebration of the Parry Mansion Museum's 50th year of providing historic tours, speaker series, lectures, art shows, music and reenactments among their varied programs. The celebration is open to the public. Admission is \$75, and includes food and beverages provided by Ferry and Main Restaurant, entertainment, tours of the Parry Mansion and an auction of a number of fine works of art and entertainment venues.

A word from the Public Work Department

New Hope's winter season didn't bring much snow this year, but is still a winter wonderland! Public Works was busy with its painting and customized cubby projects. Thank you to our public works crew Steve, Alan, and Tyler for all the hard work you do in keeping New Hope clean and beautiful.

Now that winter is coming to an end and warmer weather approaches, we are excited to see more tourists and shoppers and will continue to maintain that level of cleanliness we all expect. We are gearing up for spring and cutting back the vegetation out of the Borough's right of way and off of road signage. And we're placing our water tanks back on our truck to water the hanging baskets, planters and hayracks.

This year it is going to be gratifying to watch all the puzzle pieces fit together and see each project's final outcome. West Mechanic Street work will begin and be operational again. Improvements to other roads, bridges and inlets are in process. The renovations to the parks are going to be spectacular --- thank you to the Parks and Recreation team for your diligence!

Also, during this winter we've made improvements to the audio equipment in the community room: Come check it out! Any concerns? Don't hesitate to reach out to Public Works at 215-862-3031.



Matthew J. Decker
Director of Public Works, New Hope Borough

NEWS FROM NEW HOPE SOLEBURY SCHOOLS



New Hope-Solebury School District has earned prestigious recognitions in recent years. The Middle School was awarded the National Blue Ribbon Award for Educational Excellence, a highly-selective honor reserved for only 300 schools in the United States. In the latest reports from *U.S. News and World Report*, New Hope-Solebury schools continue to earn top ranks with the Middle School earning Best in Bucks and #15 in the State and the High School earning #10 in the State.

These acclamations for the schools are supported by an exceptional faculty and staff. For the second consecutive year, New Hope-Solebury educators were selected among the twelve finalists for Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year, including Caitlin Keiper for 2022 and Jacqueline Miller for 2023. Maria Bennett, an instructional assistant, was awarded the Pennsylvania Education Support Professional of the Year.

New Hope-Solebury students continue to shine both academically and in their extracurricular endeavors. In 2022, five New Hope-Solebury seniors earned recognitions in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. Three New Hope-Solebury athletic teams, Field Hockey, Girls Volleyball, and Girls Basketball, earned District championship titles. A senior track and field athlete, Marco DeMeo, competed at the state level after also breaking the school's high-jump record. Junior Alexandria Elias, whose artwork was recently displayed in the Phillips' Mill Youth Art Show, also earned three Scholastic Key Awards for her art portfolio.

To enhance our students' college and career readiness, the school's former woodshop and printmaking studio has been renovated into a state-of-the-art STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) wing with a multimedia studio, an engineering design space, an industry-grade manufacturing lab, robotics arena, and high-speed computer lab. The district will host a grand opening of its new facility with a Community STEAM Night on May 4, 2023. The school is also finishing a capital fundraising campaign for its first stadium, with the intention to break ground in June 2023. Philanthropic support from the community, totaling \$1.1 Million, has positioned the district to make extensive improvements to its new turf field, including the addition of a fieldhouse with team rooms, a concession stand, restrooms, and a breezeway pavilion. For the first time, New Hope-Solebury students will compete in facilities comparable to their competitors, the school can host playoff games, and the community will have a welcoming space to gather and cheer for the New Hope-Solebury Lions.



New Hope Borough Park Locations

News from Parks and Recreation:

By Beth Hasher, Chair – New Hope Parks and Rec



Our plans for landscape renovations in Lenape Park and the Visitors Center are well under way. New plants and bedding materials will be installed in both locations and any tree work will be addressed as needed.

In Lenape Park, our beloved water feature will be flowing and beautifully illuminated thanks to the new light-scaping design. The new lighting will be both aesthetic and energy efficient.

Many thanks to each and every P&R member for their vision, diligence, and commitment to the community to bring this project to fruition.

We wish to thank Borough Council and Borough Administration for their guidance and support. A big shout out to Borough Manager Peter Gray and Public Works Director Matt Decker in seeing to the details.

We encourage our residents and visitors to take advantage of our little parks throughout the Borough. We're certain all will take note of the improvements and enjoy these beautiful parks for years to come.

Stay tuned for a ribbon cutting ceremony!

Beth Hasher
Chair, New Hope Parks & Rec



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SHADE TREE COMMISSION – By Krayl Funch

Your New Hope Shade Tree Commission has been hard at work spreading the tree love throughout the Borough. We are excited to share what we have been up to, AND what to look forward to this Spring!

Arbor Day 2023 Celebration in April

An event was held on Friday, April 28th on the grounds of the Parry Mansion, 45 South Main Street, New Hope, PA, as the New Hope Shade Tree Commission and the New Hope Historical Society partner to celebrate Arbor Day 2023!

Once again, through the Shade Tree Commission and The Historical Society's efforts, 15 new trees will be planted on the grounds of the Parry Mansion. With an emphasis on native and period species, *A Garden in Thyme*, a historical gardening service, was consulted to replace several large trees lost due to age and disease. These new trees are also part of the Aquetong Creek riparian buffer restoration planting plan.

A De-Vine Intervention!

Did you spot our de-vine presence around town? The New Hope Shade Tree members grabbed their gloves, shears and garden axes and set out on a mission to reduce and remove invasive vines in several locations around the Borough.

Vines may look pretty at first, however, over time, those harmless-looking vines can steal sunlight, absorb and retain moisture, cause structural damage to trees and homes, and become a breeding ground for fungus and disease. When invasive vines are allowed to climb a shade tree unchecked, they will eventually kill the tree!

The Shade Tree Commission suggests cutting back invasive vines, right away, before they even reach your tree!

Proud Partnerships in the Community.

Through coordination with the Philadelphia Horticultural Society's Tree Tenders Bare Root Tree Planting program, 30 trees were provided for the Community. The Shade Tree Commission, along with our local partners, planted 25 native trees throughout the Riverwoods community, 4 trees alongside the New Hope Borough Community Room and planted another tree at Ferry Landing Park!



*De-Vine Committee Members-
Frank DeLuca, Krayl Funch,
Gloria Broeker, Anita Maximo.
Camera Shy – Robert
Margadonna*

Tree Pit Work Continues!

To expedite the Porous Pave installation, the Shade Tree Commission's main objective for 2022 was to identify tree pits that had healthy trees and minimal sidewalk obstructions. These locations were a priority, as a number of other tree pits required repair to the surrounding sidewalk and/or tree replacement.

By prioritizing, Hugh Marshall Landscaping was able to revitalize 11 tree pits in the Fall. The revitalization will continue into Spring and Summer of 2023, with approximately 13 more tree pits being updated on Main and Bridge Streets! The ongoing revitalization will also include the more challenging projects, as the sidewalks are repaired and tree replacements are completed.

Benefits of Porous Pave:

- allows 60% water flow through to roots, reducing the likelihood of roots bulging through the sidewalks;
- reduces tripping hazards; allows wheelchairs, strollers, etc. to roll over a larger surface;
- reduces weed growth
- made from recycled tires

Did you know? The New Hope Borough Shade Tree Commission has eliminated the application fee for the removal of invasive or diseased trees that fall within the jurisdiction of the Commission. These are trees that are "on any public highway in the Borough of New Hope, or that part of any tree, shrub or woody plant that extends within the lines of any public highway." Public highway is defined as: any street, sidewalk, or alley. Property owners have up to 12 months to replace trees that have been removed. The Shade Tree application can be found on the Borough website, as well as a list of approved plants and shade trees. The recommended arborist list is available by calling, emailing or visiting the Borough Administration Building.



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Planning Commission And Historical Architectural Review Board

By Keith Voss, PC Chair, HARB Liaison

The Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) works with property owners to protect the historical character of the New Hope Historic District in an informed, cooperative effort. The HARB's recommendations are based on the Design Guidelines document, which provides an analysis of what is special about the Historic District and offers specific direction for preserving those qualities. The Planning Commission (PC) reviews and makes recommendations regarding the use and development of land resources within New Hope Borough. Its decisions are guided by the Borough's Comprehensive Plan, which indicates the long-term goals for maintenance and development within New Hope.

The activities of these two bodies reflected many similar goals during 2022. The Planning Commission, for example, spent time developing a Protection of Historic Resources amendment to the Borough's Zoning Ordinance. By relaxing regulations under specific conditions, the PC hopes to encourage continued use or adaptive reuse of historic resources or the land on which they are located. The PC also worked on an amendment to divide the current Urban Residential district (RB) into two separate districts: one for RB properties close to the central core of the Borough and the second for RB properties farther out. The changes in this amendment are intended to maintain the characteristics of the RB neighborhoods based on their proximity to the commercial district, while also reducing the number of non-conformities present.

The HARB worked with property owners to support their efforts to restore, renovate, and maintain buildings within the Historic District. There were several instances when owners sought to restore a building or building element back to its historic roots and these were quickly approved. Other times, in response to a proposal for removal or significant modification of architectural elements, the HARB offered suggestions or alternatives that were acceptable to the applicants. One disappointing result for HARB this past year was the engineering report that confirmed that the Cintra Mansion could not be saved. It is hoped, however, that the developer will follow through with his plans to replace the structure with one that holds strongly to the original design of the building.

Throughout 2022 the HARB helped owners and developers find ways to preserve the historic identity of New Hope, as the Planning Commission looked to allow continued growth, while maintaining the feel of its neighborhoods. Together the HARB and the Planning Commission sought to preserve the characteristics that make New Hope a desirable place to live and work, while helping it improve and grow.

LAWN CARE TIPS TO PROTECT OUR STREAMS

- ▶ For the healthiest lawn possible, set your mower to its highest setting.
- ▶ Reduce your fertilizer use, and use organic, slow-release fertilizers.
- ▶ Leave grass clippings for a free fertilizer alternative.
- ▶ Choose alternatives to harmful pesticides.
- ▶ Reduce the size of your lawn to save money and time on maintenance



Help keep our streams clean

Only rain in the drain!

Storm drains and roadside ditches lead directly to our streams, lakes and rivers.

- How can you help?
 - Use a broom instead of a hose to clean off your sidewalks and driveway.
 - Sweep fertilizer off driveways and sidewalks, back onto your lawn.
 - Keep leaves, grass clippings, trash, and fertilizers out of storm drains.
 - Do not dump motor oil, chemicals, pet waste, dirty or soapy water, or anything else down the storm drain.





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Please consider membership to the Central Bucks Emergency Medical Services. Not only will you be supporting an invaluable service to our Community, a subscription can save you thousands of dollars in ambulance service fees.

By becoming a subscriber, the CBEMS will waive unpaid balances for medically necessary emergency services, after the health insurance company processes their bill. Take into consideration your deductible may be larger than the cost of service, in which case you would only be responsible for half the bill as a subscriber.

Our ability to operate and provide the community with our life saving services depends on being reimbursed for each emergency call. By becoming a subscribing member, you not only support our ability to provide emergency care, but reduce your own cost when your insurance provider does not.

We are your local Emergency Medical Services provider that will respond to your emergency when you dial 911. Though uncommon, there could be times when we are already on 911 calls and the next closest ambulance will respond. In most cases, area EMS units reciprocate annual subscribers. Typically, you will be transported to a hospital of your choice as long as it is within reasonable transport time. There are times where you may need to be transported to a specialty center to assure the best possible care for your injury or illness such as a trauma center.

- \$75 per year Family Subscription** covers all adults and any children under age 18 in residing in the household.
- \$50 per year Individual Subscription** covers an individual living by themselves OR a child over 18 still living with their parents.

To learn more about subscription coverages visit www.CBEMS.org or call 215-348-3343.

Central Bucks EMS would like to Thank-you for your support over the past years. Your continued generosity enables us to provide the finest emergency care available today.

Mosquito Control: What You Need to Know About Filling Tree Holes



Tree holes can be found in the trunk or branches of a tree and can easily fill with water. This makes them a perfect spot for mosquitoes to lay eggs. Filling tree holes is one way to help reduce mosquitoes in your yard.

How to fill a tree hole

- Determine if the tree hole holds water.
 - Tree holes that do not hold water may provide nesting sites for birds or other wildlife and do not need to be filled.
- If the tree hole holds water, fill the tree hole with expanding foam used for home insulation projects. Look for a product that is made to fill big gaps and is water resistant. Follow directions on the product label.
 - Expandable foam is light weight, seals the hole, and keeps it from collecting water, and is flexible enough to move with the tree.
 - You do not need to clean out the tree hole before filling.



- x DO NOT** fill tree holes with concrete. Concrete is not flexible, adds weight to the tree, and can damage it.
- x DO NOT** drill drain holes in the tree. This can damage the tree.

Other Yard Maintenance Tips

In addition to filling tree holes, follow these simple yard maintenance tips to reduce mosquitoes in your yard.



- Once a week, empty and scrub containers with standing water. This includes empty flower pots, bird baths, and trash containers.
- Drain water from pools when not in use. Also, remove water from tarps used to cover items in the yard.
- Mow your lawn regularly and cut down weeds near your home.
- Keep rain barrels tightly covered or screened.

When filling a tree hole

x DO NOT fill tree holes with gravel or sand. These materials do not prevent water from collecting in the tree and can become a safety issue if the tree is cut down.

Learn more: www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes

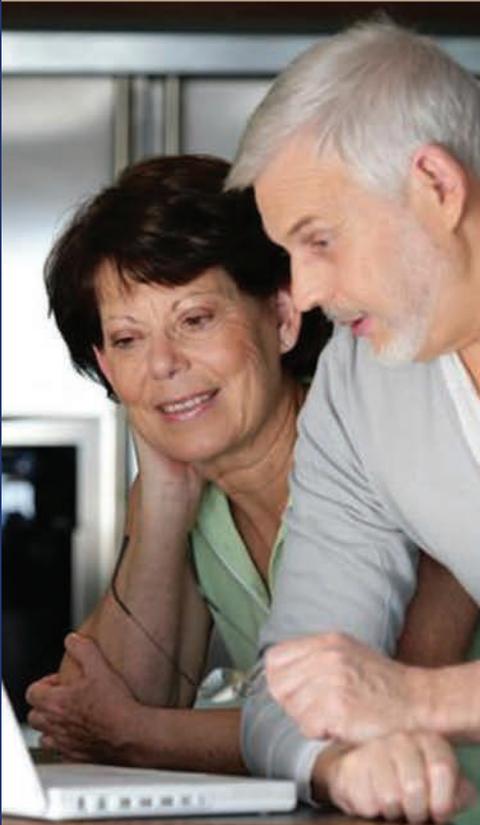


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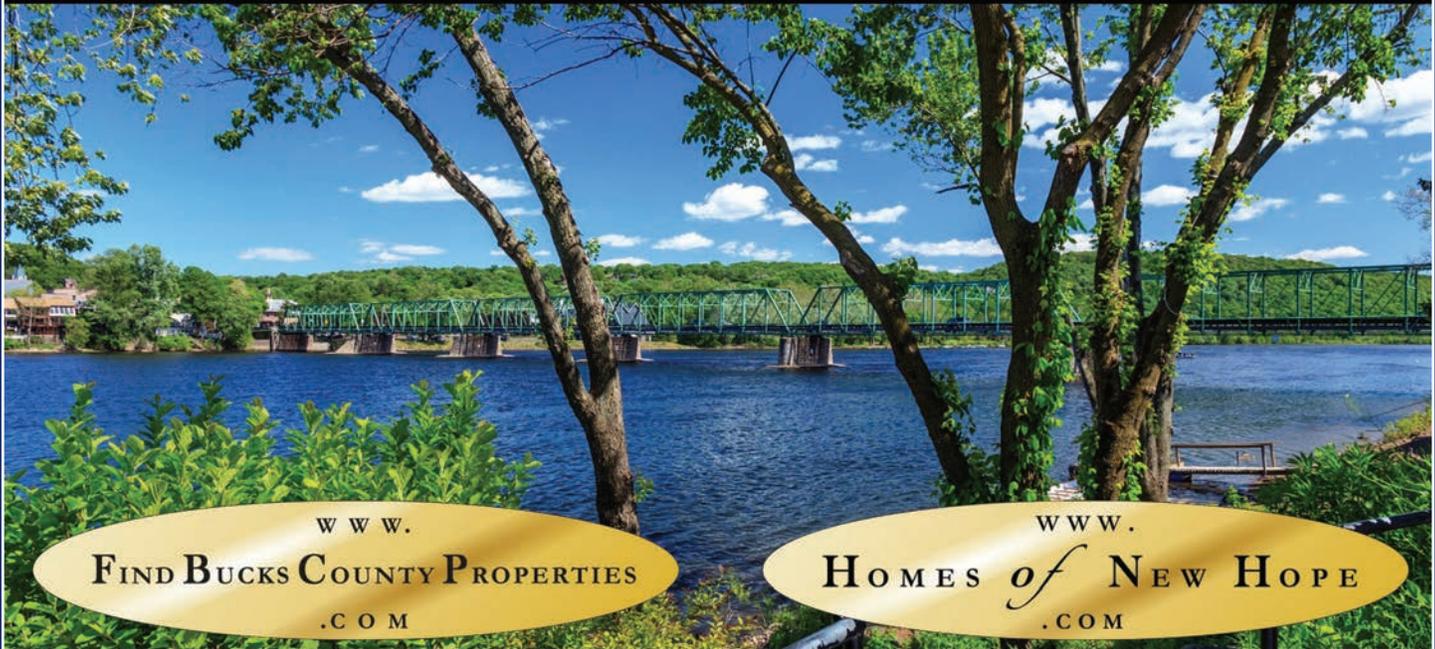
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