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JANUARY 13, 2026



Slate Belt Heritage Center Receives \$18,595 Donation From Bangor's 150th Anniversary Committee

By Karen Brewer

BANGOR - The Slate Belt Heritage Center and Museum accepted a check for \$18,595 from Bangor's 150th Anniversary Committee and was recognized for their contribution to the success of Bangor's 150th Celebration. \$5000 will be held in trust for the next celebration committee, and 13,595 will go to Slate Belt Heritage Center and Museum.

Presenting the check was John Brown, Bangor's 150th Co-Chairperson and Tina Brown, Bangor's 150th Co-Chairperson. Accepting for the Heritage Center was Nicholas Rosato, Slate Belt Heritage Center & Museum Board member and liaison between the Bangor 150th and the Center, Melissa Hough, President of the Center

The Slate Belt Heritage Center & Museum will hold a "Preservation Workshop" on Sunday, February 8th @ 2:00 PM. Presenters will be Curator Melissa Hough along with Board Member Rachael Winston. Come and learn about the best practices for paper preservation, in addition to general artifact handling and storage for family heirlooms. They will also offer suggestions on how to put together a successful Time Capsule Envelope so it will be readable 50 years from now. This is in preparation for the burial of the new Bangor Time Capsule that will take place in the Church Memorial Park next to the Heritage Center and Museum. Leave a letter for your descendants by purchasing an envelope at the Center, any Sunday from 12:00 -3:00. Envelopes must be returned by March to be included in the time capsule. The Center is located at 30 North 1st Street, Bangor, PA.



John Brown, Nicholas Rosato, Melissa Hough, Tina Brown

Northampton County Executive Summit Brings More Than 100 Leaders Together to Chart a Collaborative Path Forward

By Jessica Berger

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PA – More than 100 community leaders, local officials, nonprofit partners, and industry professionals gathered today for the first Northampton County Executive Summit, a daylong working session convened by County Executive Tara Zrinski to establish shared priorities for the county's next 100 days and beyond.

The highly interactive summit, held at the Northampton County Government Center, brought together participants across seven themed committees, including housing, infrastructure, sustainability, public safety, and economic development. Following the event, 86 participants submitted detailed survey responses, offering candid feedback on what is working across county systems and where stronger coordination is needed.

"The energy in the room was extraordinary," said County Executive Tara Zrinski. "Across every committee, people came ready to do the hard work of collaboration—naming gaps honestly, sharing ideas, and finding the intersections that connect us. This wasn't a meeting about what's wrong with government; it was about how we fix it together."

Several cross-cutting priorities emerged consistently across discussion groups:



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Mailing Delays from Some State Agencies

By State Rep. Ann Flood

The Shapiro administration recently announced the termination of a vendor responsible for handling outbound mail from some state agencies. This vendor failed to deliver a significant volume of documents, and it remains unclear how many Pennsylvanians may have been impacted.

Among the affected agencies was the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), which indicated some invitations to renew driver licenses and vehicle registrations, driver license camera cards, vehicle registration cards and address update cards were delayed.

A new vendor has been hired, and all previously unsent mail should be delivered within 7-10 days.

If you are waiting for official paperwork from a state agency and believe your mail has been delayed, you are welcome to contact my office. We may be able to assist in determining the status of missing materials or help facilitate communication with the appropriate agency.

The East Bangor UMC Church will be hosting a Lenten Bible Study

The East Bangor UMC Church will be hosting a Lenten Bible Study based on Richard Wilke's thoughtful book, "He Set His Face To Jerusalem." The 5-week study will meet at 10:00 am on Wednesdays (February 25 - March 25) and will also be accessible on Zoom. (It will be recorded for those who cannot attend.) The book is available through Amazon, Cokesbury, and other booksellers. The church is located at 136 W. Central Ave. (Rt. 512), East Bangor. If you have any questions and for the Zoom access, please contact Dave Goss at 570-556-9482.

PLAINFIELD TWP. RESIDENTS!

**FREE CURBSIDE
 COLLECTION
 COMING IN 2026!**

As part of the new Host Municipality Agreement negotiated between WM and Plainfield Township in planning for the future of the Eastern Expansion, residents will receive new trash carts in Spring 2026 with free curbside collection beginning at the end of the current trash contract -
July 1, 2026.

More information will be coming to mailboxes soon. Stay Tuned!

**READ ABOUT MORE PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP BENEFITS:
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