FEBRUARY 25, 2020

## Lehigh Valley Food & Wine Festival Returns for First Festival of the Decade

By LVFW

BETHLEHEM - To kick off a delicious new decade in regional food and wines from around the world, the Lehigh Valley Food & Wine Festival will return June 5-7, 2020, to the Wind Creek Event Center. The festival's signature extensive curated selection of wines, craft spirits, and other beverages, plus tasty and generous samples of the region's top restaurants, will be offered. Come hungry!

Star of TLC's "Cake Boss," Buddy Valastro, and Chef Emeril Lagasse will return to this year's festival, representing their Wind Creek restaurants: Valastro's Buddy V's Ristorante and Carlo's Bakery, and Lagasse's Emeril's Chop House, Emeril's Fish House, and Burgers and More by Emeril.

In addition, Chef Lagasse, who has been part of the festival since the start,

will also announce the Northampton Community College students who have won highly-competitive externships to work in his New Orleans restaurants. Each year, students from the college's acclaimed culinary program receive all-expensespaid externships to gain invaluable experience honing their skills in the celebrated chef's New Orleans

The announcement will be made at the opening night premiere party on June 5, which features an extravagant four-course dinner prepared under the direction of Chef Lagasse. The night also includes a live auction to raise funds for NCC student scholarships, featuring four tickets to Chef Emeril Lagasse's Boudin, Bourbon and Beer Festival in Champions Square at the Super Dome in New Orleans, hotel accommodations and dinner at Emeril's restaurants, among many other items. For more information about the premiere party and festival sponsorships, visit lehighvalleyfoodandwine.com.

Also new this year, the immensely popular Champagne & Spirits Room, available to VIP tickets holders, will be expanded, with an entire room devoted solely to champagne and chocolates. Chocolate Works' indulgent chocolate fountain and Belgian chocolates will pair beautifully with the extraordinary bubbly provided by Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits. An area allotted exclusively to fine spirits will be housed in a separate room, giving more space for VIP guests to enjoy all that is offered comfortably.

Hosted by Wind Creek in partnership with Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits, the festival has become the premiere food and wine event of the Lehigh Valley. Sponsorship proceeds from the event go to a good cause - they benefit the Northampton Community College Foundation which provides scholarships to students throughout the region. To date, more than \$2 million has been raised.

Participating restaurants as of February 19 include: Aman's Artisan Indian Cuisine, The Bayou Boys Hospitality Group: The Bayou, and Queen City BBQ; Buddy V's Ristorante, Burgers and More by Emeril, Casa del Mofongo Latin Bistro, Chocolate Works, Clusters Handcrafted Popcorn, Devour Catering and Event Design, The Dime, Emeril's Chop House, Emeril's Fish House, Frutta Bowls, The Hamilton Kitchen and Bar, Hampton Winds, Hop Daddy's Brewing Co., Maxim's 22, Molinari's, Momento Pizzeria & Ristorante, Passanante's Home Food Service, Pat's Pizza & Bistro, Paxos Restaurants: Blue, Torre, Melt and Top Cut; Revel, Seasons Olive Oil and Vinegar, Sette Luna, Sodexo, Stoke Pizza & Bar, Two Rivers Brewing, Zest and Zime.

Tickets are on sale now at lehighvalleyfoodandwine.com, priced at \$50 (designated driver, food-only ticket), \$85 general admission ticket, and \$100 for a VIP pass that includes noon entry and access to the champagne and spirits rooms. Last year's festival sold out so make sure to get your tickets early.







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### Landfill Expansion

Continued from page 1

Project information can also be found on the landfill's website and Facebook page, and neighbors can call Grand Central's Community Line at 888-373-2917 with questions.

"Transparency will be critical to the success of our project and we are making as much project information available to the community as possible. We want everyone to understand our plan and the great care we take in protecting the community and the environment," Mrs. Fors said.

The application filed with the township today requests that 211 acres of land zoned as "Farm and Forest" in the Plainfield Twp. Zoning Ordinance be rezoned for "Solid Waste Processing and Disposal." This acreage is part of a larger land purchase of 36 parcels that includes 325-acres. The proposed Eastern Expansion would include an 81-acre waste disposal area, and approximately 52-acres for support activities and 192-acres of wooded and wetland areas which would be untouched by the expansion project and would serve to buffer the community from landfill operations.

The zoning approval requested today will be needed for Grand Central to receive other expansion-related approvals and permits from Plainfield Township and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). Mrs. Fors said that Grand Central Landfill has less than eight years of remaining operating life. The business cannot apply to PADEP for an expansion permit until it has less than five years of remaining operating life.

The rezoning application filed with Plainfield Township today included the results of multiple environmental studies conducted on the expansion area, two economic studies that include a review of local real estate values, and a health study.

According to the economic studies, based on recent operating volumes, operation of the Eastern Expansion will provide benefits with an estimated value of \$101 million to the municipalities closest to the landfill and an annual economic impact of about \$78 million in Northampton County.

Mrs. Fors said the expansion plan would not impact the landfill's award-winning wildlife habitat and environmental education work and conforms with Plainfield Township's Open Space Plan and a multi-municipal planning strategy that is under development.

Background

Grand Central Landfill has been providing waste disposal services in Plainfield Twp. since 1951 when it was opened by the Perin family. In 1983, the landfill became the second in the state to use a synthetic liner. The Perin family sold the landfill and hauling company to USA Waste in 1997. USA Waste later merged with Waste Management, the current operator of the landfill and hauling company.

More information about Grand Central Landfill and its Eastern Expansion plan can be found at the site's Website at http://grandcentrallandfill.com/ and Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/Grandcentrallandfillandhauling/

### Voting Machine Demonstrations

By Becky Bartlet

EASTON - The Department of Elections will hold demonstrations of the Election Systems & Software (ES&S) ExpressVote XL voting machines at sites around Northampton County before the April 28th Primary.

Members of the public can cast a mock ballot so they can see how the machine functions. Employees from the Election Office will be on hand to provide guidance and answer any questions.

#### **Demonstrations scheduled for March and April:**

March 6th from 8:00AM to 10:00AM Center for Vision Loss Breakfast at Northampton Community Center 1601 Laubach Avenue Northampton, PA

March 6th from 9:00AM – 11:00AM Slate Belt Senior Center 707 American Bangor Road Bangor, PA March 6th from 6:00 – 9:00PM "First Fridays" Banana Factory 25 W 3rd Street Bethlehem, PA 18015 March 9th from 10:00AM – 1:00PM Hellertown Library 409 Constitution Avenue Hellertown, PA 18055

March 11th from 4:00PM - 6:30PM Bath Borough Hall 121 S. Walnut Street, Bath, PA 18014

March 12th from 10:00AM – 12:00PM Nazareth Senior Center 15 South Wood Street, Nazareth, PA 18064

March 17th from 10:00AM – 2:00PM Northampton Community College 3835 Green Pond Road Bethlehem, PA 18020 – Room 236 in College Center

March 25th from 11:00AM – 1:00PM Easton Public Library 515 Church Street, Easton, PA

March 27th from 5:00PM – 8:00PM – Sigal Museum 342 Northampton Street, Easton, PA 18042 (Admission is free)

March 30th from 9:00AM - 11:00AM Nazareth Area High School 501 E Center Street, Nazareth, PA 18064

April 2nd from 10:00AM – 12:00PM Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living, 713 N 13th Street Allentown, PA 18102



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