



**Ken
Field**

**Owner of Slate
Belt Energy
Services**

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Plan Ahead

There are a lot of inefficient oil systems still in operation. I know, I take care of a lot of them. For years I have shared information about more efficient oil systems with my customers and some have taken my advice and hired me to install one. The ones that also produce hot water for the faucets are the easiest ones to make much more efficient. When oil was \$2.00 per gallon the savings of making an upgrade that saved the average household 15 or 20% was probably less than \$500 per year. Now it is much closer to \$1000. I don't know if oil will stay at or above \$5/gallon but I don't have much confidence that we will see \$2/gal-
lons anytime soon. The investment in energy savings isn't just about oil either. Electricity is generated with fossil fuels and they all follow each other. Rate hikes in electricity up to 39% have been announced already. So for those who paid \$700 electric bills every month this winter, that will be close to \$1000 next winter. If you see the handwriting on the wall, you should really do something to avert the disaster that is ahead. If you need to finance a system, you should also observe the trend in interest rates. They are not going any lower or even staying as low as they have been. What seems like a sales pitch now might seem like an early tip from an insider later.

Some homes I have weatherized and upgraded have cut energy costs in half. That was such a bold statement that I have been questioned by the Better Business Bureau as to how I could make that claim. I just gave them the phone number of a couple customers who realized those savings and haven't been bothered again. Not everyone can save that kind of money but there are several thousand really inefficient homes within my service area. Snow is never seen on these roofs. Eventually, everyone will be hunkered into a single room or two with an electric heater all winter. And there will be damage to the home from things freezing. Nobody can pull money out of thin air to upgrade their home but it is probably the biggest single investment most people ever make in their life, except possibly for their summer home, and their boat. Now is the time to have an energy survey done to prepare for the increase in energy cost and also to beat the interest rates. Next winter is coming like a freight train.

Ken Field is the owner of Slate Belt Energy and Field's Service, Inc. As a certified energy rater and contractor, he is qualified to assess every aspect of energy usage and prescribe solutions to save energy. He can be reached at 610-759-6306 or email Ken@FieldsService.com

Bangor Slaters 2022 Baseball Seniors



Freddy Bacon with his parents Lynn and John Bacon



Kael Godshalk Bacon with his parents Chris and Brandt Godshalk



Dan Heald Bacon with his parents Jean and Jason



Allec Rutt Bacon with his parents Kerry and Jason Rutt



Brayden Strohe Bacon with his parents Vicki and Scott



Matthew Swanton with his parents Hilary Swanton-Richards, Steve Swanton and Dean Richards



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