

JA NEPA News - May 2024

Here's what we are featuring this month:

NEPA Gives 2024

May YES! Days

Junior Achievement NEPA in Our Community

Check out our [Facebook page](#) for more JA NEPA photos!

2024 NEPA Gives

Support Junior Achievement of NEPA during this 1-day giving campaign which runs from 7pm on Thursday, June 6 through 7pm on Friday, June 7.



NEPA Gives is a 24-hour online giving extravaganza that's all about giving back to our local community. We have joined over 200 organizations to highlight the amazing work of our region.

[Your donation to JA NEPA](#) will be used to support our two-day Inspire Career Discovery Experience, expand our middle school YES! Days, and extend our classroom-based elementary programs to local schools.

We sincerely appreciate any support you can provide during this community-outreach event.

NEPA Gives is hosted by the Scranton Area Community Foundation, The Luzerne Foundation, Greater Pike Community Foundation, Wayne County Community Foundation, and the Northeastern Pennsylvania Nonprofit & Community Assistance Center (NCAC).



We finished the year strong with five YES! Days in May interacting with more than 1,100 middle school students throughout Luzerne and Lackawanna counties. We are so proud to share that during the 2023–2024 school year we presented our YES! Day program to more than 2,800 students in 12 schools with the help of more than 300 volunteers from local businesses, organizations, and school communities. We believe we made an

immeasurable impact on the youth of NEPA and we're already scheduling YES! Days for the upcoming school year!



For those who volunteer with this hands-on program, you know we cannot offer YES! Days without you. So please, from the bottom of our hearts: **THANK YOU** for showing up for the youth of NEPA.



Liz Gorski, Sen. Lisa Baker,
Nanticoke Mayor Kevin Coughlin,
and Ann Marie Coughlin



Rep. Kyle Donahue,
JA NEPA President Susan Magnotta, and
North Pocono MS principal Matt Montoro



Sen. Marty Flynn,
Rep. Jim Haddock, and
JA NEPA President Susan Magnotta

In addition, we were thrilled to welcome sponsors from the McGowan Foundation, the Pasco L. Schiavo Memorial Fund of the Luzerne Foundation, PSECU, Derman Associates, and Remake Learning Days as well as visitors Sen. Lisa Baker, Rep. Kyle Donahue, Rep. Jim Haddock, Sen. Marty Flynn, and Nanticoke mayor, Kevin Coughlin to meet with students and educators in their classrooms.

If you're curious as to what happens during our YES! Day program, please check out [this video](#) created by Victoria Kozlek, 8th grade Computer Science teacher at Hazleton Area School District's Valley Middle School.



What is a YES! Day?

Our YES! (Your Economic Success) Day program for middle schoolers is a morning of hands-on, interactive sessions designed to help tweens and teens think about their futures. Each student participates in sessions such as the trades, career interests, manufacturing, personal finance, and STEM through games, videos, questionnaires, and more.

We have already confirmed several dates with schools for their YES! Days in 2024–2025, and we are always looking for business/community volunteers for these half-day programs. [If you are interested in helping with our YES! Days, please fill out this online form.](#)

Congratulations to Our Inspire Survey Gift Card Winners!

We randomly chose two lucky winners who each won a \$100 Amazon gift card from all who completed our student and educator Inspire online surveys. Winners were Olga P., school counselor at Hazleton Area Career Center and Riley V., student at Valley View high school.

JA NEPA Out and About in May!



Rock to Inspire: Thank You!

Thank you to all who came out for a fun night of friends and live music at our Our Rock to Inspire Fundraiser.

And a special shout out to the incredible musicians, **Teddy Young and the Rugged Individuals** featuring Teddy Young, Bill Sordoni, and Scott Henry.



Teaching the Next Generation

Thank you to John Karavis from Wayne Bank for volunteering to teach JA's Ourselves classroom program to students in Mrs. Ella Karassik's kindergarten class at Wyoming Valley West's Third Ave. Elementary School.



Celebrating Local Businesses

JA NEPA staffers Aariah and Suzanne celebrated the ribbon cutting for Building Blocks Learning Center's newest location at the grand opening block party in Wilkes-Barre on May 11.





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