

THE MELTMINDER

A PUBLICATION BY BENTON FOUNDRY, INC.

Web Site: http://www.bentonfoundry.com

2nd Quarter 2017

Congratulations - Employees of the Quarter



Congratulations to **Ed Lemelin** (right), Benton Foundry's 2nd shift Employee of the Quarter. Ed has been employed at the Foundry since 2013. He currently works in our Maintenance Department as a maintenance technician. Ed also worked in our molding department. He has completed the Advanced Process Automation Certificate Program through the Penn State Hazleton Campus. Ed and his wife, April live in Dallas with their two sons. Ed enjoys hunting, fishing and spending time with his family.

Congratulations to **Amanda Hartman** (left), Benton Foundry's 1st shift Employee of the Quarter. Amanda works in our Core Room and has been employed since 2011. Amanda is currently studying Automation Technology at the Pennsylvania College of Technology. Amanda will complete her studies in December of this year. She is a dedicated student and employee. Amanda resides in Grassmere with her daughter Payton and she enjoys spending time with her family when she is not busy studying.



Forest Restoration Comes to the Aid of Wildlife

Replanting our National Forests

There are plenty of reasons to plant trees, and improving wildlife habitat is an urgent and important one. With contributions from members of the Arbor Day Foundation and help from our partner organizations, forests nationwide are being restored following wildfires, windstorms and other destructive forces of nature and humans. Many wildlife species benefit from these critical reforestation projects with homes, food and protective cover.

For example, only five percent of the historical habitat of brook trout remains. These fish need the coldest, cleanest water to survive. While populations exist in upstream areas of Catskill waterways, habitat degradation downstream creates reproductive isolation that disrupts the vital stream network necessary to sustain healthy populations of brook trout. Working with Trout Unlimited and other partners, the Arbor Day Foundation is restoring native, diverse riparian plant communities on downstream farmland.

James R. Fazio, Arbor Day



Farm

Pennsylvania Grand Canyon

Things To Do -

The "Crown Jewel of Pennsylvania" is the Pine Creek Gorge, commonly known as the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon (or, in deference to the slightly more famous one in the American West, "the little Grand Canyon"). By any name, the scenic gem sits atop the must-see lists of many visitors to Pennsylvania.

The 47 mile long 1,000 foot deep Gorge winds its way through surrounded by 165,000 acres of Pennsylvania State forestland offer stunning views of the Canyon and hiking trails from whalong the Canyon rim. Colton Point on the west rim and Leor to visit. The area is so gorgeous and pristine that the 12-mile s 1968.

Within the Canyon lies Pine Creek, a tributary of the Susque Creek and Marsh Creek join and flow the length of the Grand PA Grand Canyon from the water. Fishing is also popular alor lies the Pine Creek Rail Trail. With trains no longer running t used for walking, horseback riding and cross-country skiing, Pennsylvania Grand Canyon. Other visitors enjoy a peaceful In short, the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon provides many mean

The Turkey Path (pictured left) at Leonard Harrison State Parl developed trail, approximately one mile in each direction. The and rest. Some nice views of the canyon and the Little Four M the canyon to the Pine Creek Rail Trail. Be sure to check trail oproper clothing and footwear.



There are picnicking facilities at Leonard Harrison State Park including several covered pavilions. You will find a gift shop, vending machines, water and bathrooms. The Overlook Trail at Leonard Harrison State Park is a short walk, a loop just slightly more than a Canyon from Otter View.

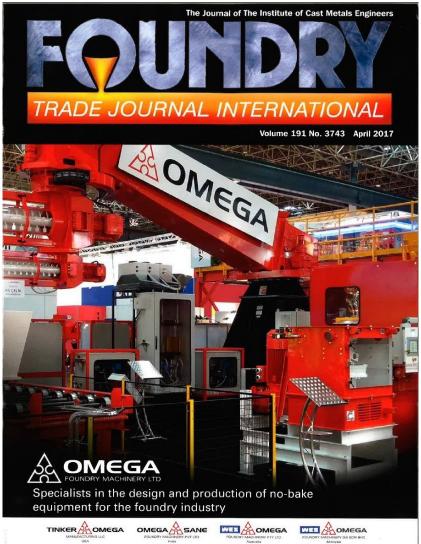
explore. The drive from Route 6 out Forest Road to Colton Point is a

nation, please check out the following websites: pennwells.com, au.





Benton Foundry has International Exposure with Foxalls®



Benton Foundry's grinding room, featuring our Foxall® finishing cells, was recently featured in Vulcan Engineering's advertisement and article in the April edition of the *Foundry Trade Journal International*.

The top picture on the right was photographed inside one of our finishing cells. This view also shows the multi-tool selection on the left-hand side. On the right, the bottom left shows the lineup of Foxall® finishing cells in our grinding room.

Benton's Foxall® finishing cells were also featured in *Modern Casting*, the American Foundry Society Magazine. That article pictured an aerial view of our grinding room showing four of our six robotic grinders.



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Mexico Auctioned Deep Water Blocks

In December 2016, Mexico auctioned eight out of ten deep water oil and gas blocks up for grabs in the Gulf of Mexico, and scored a joint venture for a major crude field in the most hotly-anticipated round of the country's energy opening so far. David Alire Garcia China's Offshore Oil Corporation took two of the eight blocks, while Australia's BHP Billiton outbid Britain's BP in a bid to partner with Mexican state oil firm Pemex in the promising Trion light oil field in the Gulf of Mexico.

France's Total also made three winning bids, teaming up with U.S. major ExxonMobil in the Perdido Fold Belt close to the U.S.-Mexico maritime border for one and with Norway's Statoil and BP for two blocks in the Salina Basin further south.

U.S. oil major Chevron, Pemex and Japan's Inpex combined to win a block while Malaysia's Petronas Carigali and private equity backed start-up Sierra Offshore Exploration also featured in two winning consortia, one fronted by U.S. Independent Murphy and Britain's Ophir.



r," said Energy Minister Pedro Joaquin Coldwell.

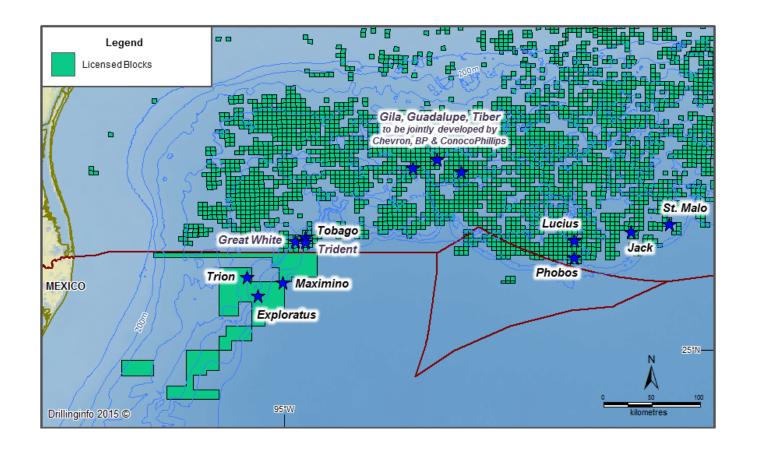
sely hold three more oil auctions for shallow and deep waters, as conventional fields like shale, the minister said.

ome 900,000 barrels per day (bpd) to Mexican output, said Juan

valent (boe) were awarded.

and super light crude secured by China Offshore, a unit of the the U.S. side of the formation has been booming for years.

oil firm, which easily won the two blocks they sought, China ent by a Chinese company in the country.



Benton Foundry Receives Thank You

The engineering program at Bloomsburg Area High School sent Benton Foundry a thank you letter for our financial contribution to their engineering program. This year the students in the engineering program at Bloomsburg High School were able to compete at the Technology Student Associations' regional event held at Mifflinburg High School qualifying four students to participate at the

State TSA Conference. At the state conference, three of the four stearned a first place in Dragster Design in a field of over 60 qualifying

The robotic engineering students hosted the fifth annual "Rage in students helped organize the event and provided the muscle neede event had 17 robot teams from Central, PA and New Jersey. The Bl 6 knockouts on the way to being crowned champions. They are r event. At this national event, they were selected to participate in the in Craftsman Tools for their engineering program.

The Bloomsburg robotic team is currently gearing up to rebuild one League. Bloomsburg has not fielded a team at the national event si



pective events. They also

Mall on April 29th. The

the top 10 and in 2013,

h a rich history of success, the 2017 Bloomsburg Robotics team is looking to make their California University of Pennsylvania.

sponsors that helped make their engineering program one of the strongest in Pennsylvania



Kudos to ou Excellent !!!

Twice a year, Benton Foundry participates in the ICRI (Iron Casting Research Institute) Spectrometer Proficiency Testing Program. This testing measures repeatability and consistency between various technicians within a Lab and reproducibility and consistency between different Labs. We receive three certified standards from the administrator. Each of these standards contains "low," "medium" and "high" concentrations of the individual elements being studied during this specific round. The lab is aware which elements are being considered, but not which samples contain what concentrations. The samples are analyzed over a four or five day time period by each Quality Technician and the results sent to the administrator, who then performs statistical calculations to see if significant variations exist between different Laboratories as well as individual personnel within the same Lab. We are consistently in the group of Labs with zero occurrences in each case. Congratulations to Deb Martz, Deb Fagan, Jeanette Felix, and Gordy Gottshall for producing test results showing no statistical variations in either category.

Randy Kadtke

Receives ASQ-Certified Quality Engineer

The Certification Board of ASQ (American Society for Quality) recognizes that Randy Kadtke has completed the requirements to be named an ASQ-Certified Quality Engineer or ASQ CQE.

"Earning an ASQ certification is more than a great accomplishment—it's a formal recognition of professionals that they have demonstrated an understanding of, and a commitment to, quality practices in their field," said ASQ Chair Cecilia Kimberlin. This distinction represents an investment in ones future.

In order to qualify for the Certified Quality Engineer examination, an individual must have eight years of work and/or experience related to the Body of Knowledge. Certified Quality Engineering is a professional who understands the principles of product and service quality evaluation and control.

ASQ is a global community of people dedicated to quality who share the ideas and tools that make our world work

Dealing with Debt After Death

A few years ago, the adult daughter of a deceased client of Indianapolis estate attorney Brett Carlile showed up in the discovered distraught. After her father's death, she discovered he had dozens of credit cards, with debts totaling nearly \$46,000. She was stunned. "My dad didn't live like this," she told Carlile.

It turned out her father had used the cards to help pay for his late wife's stay in an expensive nursing home. She had Alzheimer's disease, and "he just wanted to take care of her," Carlile says.

Now, the daughter worried she would be responsible for paying them off. Carlile could at least share some positive news: She wasn't on the hook.

As older Americans pile up more debts, the question of what happens to their unpaid bills when they die becomes more pressing. Children sometimes find unpleasant surprises sorting through a deceased parent's finances, discovering unknown debts and fearing they've inherited them. "For a lot of older parents, debts are the last thing they want to burden their children with," says Robert Keebler, a partner with Keebler & Associates in Green Bay, WI, a tax advisory and estate-planning firm. "But they don't talk about it. It's embarrassing. You worked your whole life, you're in your seventies, and you don't want your kids to worry."

Seniors have been taking on more debt of all kinds over the past 20 years, says Lori Trawinski, financial director with AARP's Public Policy Institute. The percentage of families with debt headed by someone ages 65 to 74 rose from about 50% in 1989 to about 66% in 2013, according to the Federal Reserve's latest Survey of Consumer Finances. Debt loads nearly doubled during the same time period for households headed by older people, from 21% to about 41%.

Avoiding Surprises -

Families should understand what past-due balances actually pass down to the next generation, and how to protect retirement plans and other assets intended for children from creditors. Debt may not be obvious - they could be tax obligations that chip away at an inheritance, for instance.

Usually, when a person dies, his or her estate owes the debt. Estate assets used to repay the debt eat into the amount left for heirs. If there's not enough money to cover it, the debt goes unpaid. For unsecured credit card debt, children typical unpaid balance, regardless of the amount or purpose of the spending, says April Kuehnhoff, staff att

unpaid balance, regardless of the amount or purpose of the spending, says April Kuehnhoff, staff at Consumer Law Center. Only a child who is a joint holder on the credit card would be liable.

Retirement plans with a named beneficiary, such as a child, can't be touched by creditors of the deceased, s manager with Burkett Financial Services, in West Columbia Control However, if the deceased parent named the same and IRA or 401(k), creditors can telescope to parent's debts, he says.

For a parent's fer the Education Department recently has required the borrower's estate to the second secon

For co-signed private the total coans, some lenders are calling in the loans even when children are current on payments. Check the loan contract to be sure the lender has the right to do so. They may try to charge the entire balance against the parent's estate, or attempt to collect it from the co-signer heir.

If your parent dies with a mortgage and you want to keep the house, you can try to arrange to take over the payments or you can sell. Payoff the balance and pocket any profit. If the house is worth less than the mortgage amount, the creditor is left with the unpaid debt, not you, says Theresa Pulley Radwan, a professor at Stetson University College of Law.

The law firm of McNees Wallace & Nurick is pleased to announced that Robert Weishaar has been named a 2016 DC Super Lawyer. The polling, researching and selecting of "Super Lawyers" is designed to identify Washington, DC lawyers who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. Only five percent of Washington, DC-area attorneys' receive this honor. Weishaar is chairman of the firm's Energy & Environmental Group, where he focuses primarily on matters involving the state and federal regulation of electricity supply and delivery, natural gas supply and delivery and oil pipelines. He received his JD from Georgetown University Law Center and his undergraduate degree from the American University. Robert (Bob) Weishaar is Benton Foundry's lead attorney at McNees, Wallace & Nurick headquartered in Harrisburg, PA. Bob has helped negotiate Benton Foundry's power rates, keeping them steady, which in these tough economic times, helps us all.

pachamber.org

Safety and Health

50 Great Ways to Live Longer

Robert Love

This is based on a scientific or government study that reveals new insight into what helps or hinders human longevity. The legicity at AARP have filtered through numerous medical journals and studies to identify the best actions you can take to achieve a longer while life. The first 11 of the 50 are listed here and we will continue with this over the next several newsletters. We know, there are no guarantees. Genetics account for just 25 percent of a person's longevity. The rest is up to you.

Consider extra Vitamin D:

Vitamin D, a bright byproduct of sunlight, has many health benefits, including a link to longevity. But too much vitamin D increases your risk of dying as much as too little, according to a 2016 Danish study. So you want to get the right amount. Don't just rely on outdoor time to get extra vitamin D; the rate of skin cancer rises as we age, so it's important to limit exposure your doctor if you would benefit from extra D in pill form. University of Copenhagen researchers found level is more than 50 nanomoles per liter of blood, but less than 100 nmol/L.

Cut Back on Pain Pills:

Regular use of painkillers such as ibuprofen and naproxen, including over-the-counter brands such as Advil, Motrin arraise your risk of heart attack and stroke by 10 percent, according to a 2014 U.S. Food and Drug Adminipanel review. (Prescription-strength versions may increase your risk by 20 to 50 percent, even after just a few these drugs for severe pain and use the lowest possible dose for the shortest amount of time.

<u>Please Go To Bed:</u>

Consistently sleeping less than six hours a night nearly doubles your risk of heart attack and stroke, according to a review of 15 studies published in the European Heart Journal. Another study found that consistently sleep-deprived people were 12 percent more likely to die over the 25-year study period than those who got six to eight hours of sleep a night. These tips from the National Sleep Foundation can help ensure that you get good quality shut-eye, even if you're among the half of people over 60 who have insomnia: Make the room pitch-black dark, and set the thermostat between 60 and 67 degrees.

Exercise every day. It doesn't matter what time of day you work out, just so it doesn't interfere with your rest.

Stick to a regular sleep schedule, going to bed and getting up at the same time each day.

Shut down your electronics an hour before retiring, as the light from some devices can stimulate the brain.

Replace your mattress if it's more than 10 years old.

Get (or Stay) Hitched:

Marriage truly is good for your health and your longevity. The prestigious Framingham Offspring Study found that married men had a 46 percent lower risk of death than never-married men, in part due to marriage's well-known impact on heart health. Indeed, a 2014 study by New York University's Langone Medical Center found that married men and women had a 5 percent lower risk of cardiovascular disease.

Ripeness Matters:

No, you won't die from eating under-ripe produce, but new research shows that fully ripened fruit has more life-lengthening health benefits. For example, green bananas are low in fiber and high in astringent tannins that can cause constipation.

The pears and blackberries have more disease-fighting antioxidants. And in watermelon, a deep red color signifies more lycol dant that may reduce the risk of cancer and heart disease.

Say Yes to that Extra Cup:

Coffee does more than help you wake up; it also reduces your risk of stroke, diabetes and some cancers. In a 2015 and in the journal *Circulation*, Harvard researchers discovered that "people who drank three to five cups of coffee per day had about a 15 percent lower (risk of premature) mortality compared to people who didn't drink coffee," says coauthor Walter Willett, M.D. Mind you, a cup is 8 ounces so your 16-ounce Starbucks grande is really two cups by that measure.

Frozen is Fine:

You can eat a balanced diet even when fresh fruits and vegetables are out of season, because frozen can be as good as or even better for life-extending nutrients. British scientists found that fresh fruit can lose outrious offer three days of refrigeration, while frozen fruits don't suffer the same fate. Another study similarly found that

Go Green:

If coffee's not your thing, green tea also has proven longevity cred, powerful antioxidants know as catechins that may help combat diabetes and heart disease. In a large study more cups of green tea a day was associated with a 12 percent decomposed men and a 23 per cent decrease among women.

Don't Sweeten with Sugar:

A high-sugar diet boosts blood sugar, which in turn plays havoc with your heart by increasing level of LDL cholesterol while lowering heart friendly HDL cholesterol and tripling your risk for fatal cardiovascular disease. The American Heart Association recommends

Business Humor

"I don't have time to see any crazy salesman; I have a battle to fight!"

Guess which berson rebresents Fritz?



50 Great Ways to Live Longer

This is based on a scientific or government study that reveals new insight into what helps or hinders human longevity. The editors at AARP have filtered through numerous medical journals and studies to identify the best actions you can take to achieve a longer, fuller life. The first 11 of the 50 are listed here and we will continue with this over the next several newsletters. We know, there are no guarantees. Gene

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2016 Danish study. So you want to get use near amount. Don't just rely on outdoor time to get extra vitamin D; the rate of skin cancer rises as we age, so it's important to limit exposure. The smart plan: Ask your doctor if you would benefit from extra D in pill form. University of Copenhagen researchers found that the ideal vitamin D level is more than 50 nanomoles per liter of blood, but less than 100 nmol/L.

Cut Back on Pain Pills:

Regular use of painkillers such as ibuprofen and naproxen, including over-the-counter brands such as Advil, Motrin and Aleve may raise your risk of heart attack and stroke by 10 percent, according to a 2014 U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) advisory panel review. (Prescription-strength versions may increase your risk by 20 to 50 percent, even after just a few weeks of use.) Reserve these drugs for severe pain and use the lowest possible dose for the shortest amount of time.

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studies published in the European Heart Journal. Another study

Interesting Weather to die over the 25-year study period than those who

Top 10 Thunderstorm Cities

*This is based on the average number of thunderstorms.

Fort Myers, Florida Tampa, Florida Tallahassee, Florida Gainesville, Florida Orlando, Florida Mobile, Alabama West Palm Beach, Florida

Lake Charles, Louisiana Daytona Beach, Florida

Vero Beach, Florida

National Sleep Foundational Indonesia Qualitative News 1800 quality shut-eye, even if you're among the half of people over 60 who have insomnia:

Make the room pitch-black dark, and set the thermostat between 60 laised 65 a steet rose the average annual precipitation in inches.

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Ripeness Matters:

No, you won't die from eating under-ripe produce, but new

Good Job

Over the last several quarters we listed employees with over

10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 & 40 years of service.

Following is a list of Employees with 5-10 Years of Service:

Fred Kessler **Jeremy Pepe** Aric Strauch Dustin Burke Tammy Norton Rosa Reves Ernie Priebe Caroline Mengine Mary Freed Steve Fritz Ray Katz John Shipe Ray Campbell Ed Posluszny Jeanette Felix Frank Packer Michelle Williams Tina Bizup David Straub, Sr. Gene Ryman Tim Bopp Tim Moore Gene Minnick Chad Zimmerman George Bagdoyan Tyler Hartman



Mike Mitchell

Matt Hess

Save the Date

Don't forget to see Annette Brown to sign-up for our annual company picnic. The picnic will be held at *Knoebels Grove* on Saturday, August 12th.

You must be signed up by
Friday, July 21st.
We hope to see you there!



Oxymoron

Why do you press harder on the buttons of a remote control, when you know the batteries are dead?

Trivia Question???

If you spend 85% of your money and have only \$75.00 left, how much did you start with?

Answer will be in 3rd Quarter 2017

Answer from 2nd Quarter question:

When was Coca-Cola first introduced?

It seems hard to believe, but 1886,

131 years ago!



Birthdays

July

Jeremy Pepe Frank Packer Albert Phillips Robert Wayda Brian Mohr Ben Gonzalez Don Copeland, Jr. Theresa Kubasek Tim Schechterly Fred Kessler II Dan Kline Kevin Trychta Robert Bowman Dave McLucas Deb Clocker Mike Parsons II

August

Dale Engle Adolfo Barrientos Felix Lopez Ernie Priebe Sam Rankin Shawna Minnick Steve Lappan Howard Jones Nyman Engel Tina Bizup Beth Litwhiler Tom Boatman Dustin Burke Roger Green Nick Lawton Eric Piatt Ed Evans

September

Lori Nafus
Mike Mengine
Mason Peters
Jacob Underkoffler
Shawn Nevel
Tim Kepner
George Bagdoyan
Dave Travelpiece
Dan Snyder
Tyler Hartman
J.R. Peterson
Bill Keefe
Eric Malcein
Andrew Ritinski



Tidbits

Top 10 Summer Fruits & Veggies

Cherries - try them in a salad.

Peas - are good to eat raw or cooked.

Spinach - is a nutrition powerhouse.

Strawberries - are a great source of vitamin C.

Asparagus - is great to cook on the grill.

Beets - roasted make an excellent side dish.

Blueberries - are loaded with antioxidants.

Corn - is perfect for camping or barbecues.

Green Beans - are good raw or cooked.

Tomatoes - are a great source of lycopene.

Health.Castle.com

They Had One Job

To Do



"The Wisdom Well"

"Happiness and moral duty are inseparably connected."

~ George Washington



The Benton Foundry Newsletter is written for the purpose of keeping employees updated on the events surrounding the happenings at Benton Foundry. The intent is to inform and to a certain degree entertain. The foundry in no fashion wishes to demean or embarrass. If anyone has been offended by this publication, please accept our apology. We will be diligent in an attempt to avoid any situations. We hope you enjoy the newsletter and are happy to hear any recommendations to improve it.