



2nd Quarter 2019

THE MELTMINDER

A PUBLICATION BY BENTON FOUNDRY, INC.

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

Benton Foundry Hosts Tour

The Lehigh Valley Foundry Association was welcomed at Benton Foundry on April 4th for a tour. At least thirty-five guests representing Eastern Pennsylvania foundries, as well as, foundry suppliers attended. Following the tour, a question & answer session was held. Dinner was at the Turkey Hill Brewery, where positive comments and kudos for a great tour were received.



The town of Benton hit by an EF-2 Tornado

Pennsylvania has had 28 tornadoes so far this year according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Thirteen of those tornadoes occurred in May and fourteen of those occurred in April. According to the National Weather Service, the 28 tornadoes so far in 2019, makes it the sixth-highest number on record. 1998 saw the most with 61. Tornadoes occur most frequently in April, May and June in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania typically averages 16 tornadoes for an entire year, according to research from NOAA. "Of course, mid-Spring into mid-summer is our 'severe weather season,' so some T-storm threats are normal, but it's been unusually active for sure this year," said Millersville meteorologist Eric Horst. "The jet stream of the Pacific has been unusually strong the last few months due to the enhancement by the El Nino ongoing in the Pacific, so this is a factor," said Horst.



Barn North of Benton on Rt. 487

How are tornadoes measured?

Meteorologists use the Enhanced Fujita Scale to correspond winds with a score. Sometimes, winds can be hard to measure in the peak of a tornado, so sometimes the amount of damage caused by the tornado will act as an indicator of how fast the winds were.

EF-0: 65-85 miles per hour

EF-1: 86-110 miles per hour

EF-2: 111-135 miles per hour

EF-3: 136-165 miles per hour

EF-4: 166-200 miles per hour

EF-5: 200+ miles per hour



Mill Race Golf Course (Benton, PA)

Photos: Jimmy May (Press Enterprise via AP)

Info. via LNP Lancaster Online

The recent tornado caused some disruption with electricity and blocked roads; however, due to our dedicated 69KV lines, we were able to continue to produce. One of our longtime employees, Deb Martz, had a harrowing experience as a large tree fell through her roof and destroyed the second floor of her home. Luckily no one was hurt. Here at the foundry we received no damage.

10 Ways to Prepare for Summer Storms

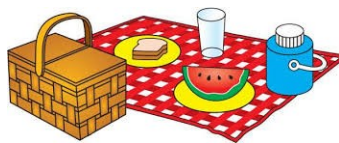
- 1. Keep a well stocked first-aid kit.** Bandages, pain relievers, antiseptic, tweezers and scissors.
- 2. Clean your gutters.**
- 3. Prepare for power outages.** Along with owning a back-up generator, flashlights and a battery or solar powered cell phone charger, you should also keep a battery-operated radio handy. In addition, you should make sure that you keep a list of emergency contacts somewhere accessible.
- 4. Create an evacuation plan.**
- 5. Fill your bathtubs with water.**
- 6. Reinforce your windows.**
- 7. Inspect your trees and shrubbery.**
- 8. Store water and non-perishable foods.** Store bottled water and non-perishable food items, such as canned goods, energy bars and peanut butter in a safe and dry place.
- 9. Secure outdoor furniture.**
- 10. Stock-up on fun activities.**

Rob Minnick
www.minnicks.com

Things to do this summer

Go for a picnic

It seems a little old-fashioned, but a picnic can still be a lot of fun. Put some food in a basket or a cooler, go find a good spot and have a meal. Take your friends or your family along and make an experience that you'll remember.



Unplug and go

connect with your real life friends

Everyone is on their devices these days. Some people will keep their face pointed directly at their phones even when they're outside. Sometime this summer, make sure you set the phone down, step away from the computer and experience life without the Internet. Make sure you stop by and see your friends. Catch up; do things that you used to do before the Internet became a dominant force in our lives. Your brain will thank you because sometimes, you just have to get away from the web.

Go find your nearest body of water

Water is an amazing thing and you can do a lot with it. Go visit a body of water this summer, be it a lake, an ocean, a river or something else. Go fishing and swimming. Lie on the beach or go for a boat ride. There are a hundred things you can do once you hit water. Visit one and enjoy yourself!



Walk somewhere

We have legs that we are using less and less these days. Do your body, your cardiovascular system and your health a favor and pound some pavement this summer. Find a park or a trail and walk around. If you live close enough, hoof it to your local shopping center. Whatever it is, just get off your behind and walk around outside for a while. Did we mention that the sun gives away free vitamin D?

Try something you've never tried before

When we were kids, summer was the time of exploration. We took the time off of school to compile the experiences that would eventually become treasured memories. Why does it have to stop now that we're grown up? There are a lot of things left to experience and you have three whole months to do them! Go skydiving or water skiing. Take a road trip to a place you've never been before. The possibilities are endless and they'll be your treasured memories years from now.

Start a garden

There is almost a primal satisfaction in making things grow out of the ground. A lot of people plant gardens and you should too. You can grow flowers, vegetables, fruits, or even herbs and spices. Finding what to grow can be fun and weeding your garden can be oddly calming and therapeutic. Plus at the end of the season, you can pick what you grow and use it for indoor decoration, as food or to spice food. That's a win-win!

Plank yourself three times a day

Summertime is the best time to get yourself into shape. It's nice outside which makes outdoor activities more fun. People generally lose weight over the summer because there is so much more to do. When we say plank, we don't mean the silly thing that people do where they lie down on random things. We're talking about the ab exercise that can help you firm up that tummy. If you start doing it now and keep going until fall, you'll definitely see results!

Go on vacation

This one is self explanatory but nevertheless it's important. The routine of day-to-day life can be stressful. Going on vacation allows you to get away from all the stress of your every day life. You can decompress, recharge, and give yourself a mental and emotional makeover. It also doesn't hurt that vacations are fun.



Have a BBQ

Fire up the grill and the smoker because it's summer! There is no better time to have a BBQ and invite your friends, neighbors and family over. It's a fun time and it's a great way to bond with the people you care about. BBQ is also delicious and with all of the other activities you'll be doing, it'll be easy to keep the weight off too.



Do some house work

There is no more snow on the ground which means it's a lot safer to get up on your roof and finally cleanout those gutters and re-shingle the roof. Your yard could probably use some TLC too and the siding on your house is probably in need of a good power wash. We've no doubt you have a to do list and there is no better time to get it done than summer.

Health



Offer your employees the help they need

Mental health conditions cost the United States over \$200 billion a year, greater than the cost of heart disease, stroke, cancer and obesity. That's just the tip of the iceberg. There are also indirect costs to consider:

- Absenteeism
- Hiring costs due to recruitment and retention
- Increased short-term disability rates
- Overtime and overstaffing to cover absences
- Safety incidents
- Underperformance

That's a long list that can affect the bottom line. Fortunately, you can help.



Tell your employees about Virtual Care. They can access therapists, counselors and psychiatrists from the comfort and privacy of home, anywhere in the United States. Once they download the app and register, they can search for the service they need and schedule an appointment.

The app is free and the services are covered by their health plan. Just like an in-person appointment, they pay a copay through the app.

Behavioral health services offer help in a number of areas:

- Anorexia and bulimia
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Grief counseling
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

And more!



Congratulations - Employees of the Quarter



Congratulations to **Melissa Claudio Morales** (above), Benton Foundry's 1st shift Employee of the Quarter. Melissa works in our Core Room as a Core Assembler. She has been employed since 2017. Melissa lives in Berwick with her son Samuel. Melissa enjoys spending time with her family when she isn't working.

Congratulations to **Tyler Hartman** (below), Benton Foundry's 2nd & 3rd shift Employee of the Quarter. Tyler has been employed at the Foundry since 2010. He works in our Maintenance Department. Tyler lives outside of Lairdsville, Pa with his wife Kristy and their daughter Peyton. Tyler is the second generation of Hartman's to work at the foundry, his father Dave retired in 2013 and his mother Donna was a shell core maker in the 1970's. Tyler enjoys spending time with his family, woodworking and riding ATVs.



Keystone Iron Works

Mission: **Keystone Iron Works** engages at-risk youth in the activity of Iron Casting. Keystone Iron Works connects students to faculty and their community through mentorship, stewardship, respect for process and teamwork. KIW's high school students, college mentors and professional artists showcase their skills at the annual **Fire at the Furnace and Arts on Fire Festival** casting their own sculptures, as well as, over 200 cast iron tiles made by the community members. KIW students give back to the community by donating collaborative sculptural works to Confluence Sculpture Park. These sculptures become a permanent part of the areas cultural landscape.



Employee Savings and Retirement Plan

Contribution Source						
	Balance As Of 01/01/2019	Contributions	Withdrawals	Gains/ (Losses)	Balance As Of 6/30/2019	Vested Balance
EMPLOYER PROFIT SHARING	\$63,039	\$2,569	(\$4,219)	\$7,768	\$69,157	\$68,804
EMPLOYER MATCH	\$2,280,233	\$101,199	(\$194,281)	\$324,434	\$2,511,585	\$2,479,667
EMPLOYEE 401(k)	\$6,352,632	\$250,101	(\$316,626)	\$777,909	\$7,064,014	\$7,064,014
EMPLOYEE ROLLOVER	\$350,045	\$0	(\$43,294)	\$32,650	\$339,401	\$339,401
TOTAL	\$9,045,948	\$353,868	(\$558,420)	\$1,142,760	\$9,984,156	\$9,951,885
Activity By Fund						
	Balance As Of 01/01/2019	Contributions	Withdrawals	Exchanges	Gains/ (Losses)	Balance As Of 6/30/2019
American Funds New Perspective Fund A	\$590,369	\$19,715	(\$40,835)	\$73,610	\$110,068	\$752,927
American Funds Growth Fund of America A	\$963,277	\$27,381	(\$82,440)	\$5,593	\$167,353	\$1,081,164
American Funds Fundamentallnv A	\$901,965	\$21,210	(\$52,594)	(\$62,894)	\$136,131	\$943,819
American Funds American Mutual Fund A	\$877,352	\$17,732	(\$41,166)	\$0	\$108,477	\$962,395
American Funds American Balanced Fund A	\$940,523	\$33,427	(\$177,775)	\$1,786	\$102,675	\$900,636
American Funds Bond of America A	\$304,135	\$16,347	(\$30,898)	\$72,244	\$21,846	\$383,672
American Funds SMALLCAP World Fund A	\$429,664	\$16,657	(\$35)	(\$74,982)	\$87,821	\$459,125
American Funds New World Fund A	\$209,170	\$8,987	(\$5,758)	(\$2,083)	\$39,051	\$249,368
American Funds Capital Income Bldr	\$393,276	\$15,411	(\$5,309)	(\$7,503)	\$42,090	\$437,965
American Funds Cap World Grand IncA	\$236,168	\$7,998	\$0	(\$960)	\$37,768	\$280,974
American Funds Inv Company Of Ameri	\$162,211	\$8,131	(\$7,690)	(\$70,202)	\$24,085	\$116,536
RS Global Natural Resources Fund A	\$145,696	\$13,872	(\$4,527)	\$16,225	(\$23,958)	\$147,307
RS Value Fund A	\$90,775	\$4,492	(\$960)	\$0	\$20,611	\$114,916
Oppenheimer Gold And Spec Minerals N	\$396,975	\$22,280	(\$1,330)	(\$22,752)	\$100,507	\$495,680
American Funds Money Market Fund A	\$1,395,639	\$57,185	(\$106,198)	(\$133,678)	\$19,597	\$1,232,546
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2020A	\$8,412	\$7,380	\$0	\$204,223	\$10,806	\$230,821
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2025A	\$185,871	\$10,199	\$0	\$1,373	\$21,332	\$218,774
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2030A	\$377,113	\$7,650	\$0	\$0	\$46,809	\$431,572
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2035A	\$25,539	\$4,387	\$0	\$0	\$4,231	\$34,157
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2040A	\$308,831	\$7,974	\$0	\$0	\$46,068	\$362,874
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2045A	\$6,344	\$2,354	\$0	\$0	\$1,608	\$10,306
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2050A	\$95,563	\$15,549	(\$906)	\$0	\$16,905	\$127,111
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2055A	\$711	\$2,772	\$0	\$0	\$435	\$3,917
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2060A	\$371	\$4,778	\$0	\$0	\$444	\$5,594
TOTAL	\$9,045,948	\$353,868	(\$558,420)	(\$0)	\$1,142,760	\$9,984,156
Price Per Share By Fund						
	12/31/2014	12/31/2015	12/31/2016	12/31/2017	12/31/2018	6/30/2019
American Funds New Perspective Fund A	\$36.28	\$36.02	\$35.33	\$43.16	\$37.67	\$44.75
American Funds Growth Fund of America A	\$42.68	\$41.29	\$42.04	\$49.54	\$42.76	\$50.34
American Funds Fundamentallnv A	\$52.06	\$50.71	\$54.44	\$62.21	\$52.29	\$59.27
American Funds American Mutual Fund A	\$37.14	\$33.85	\$36.83	\$40.80	\$37.51	\$41.73
American Funds American Balanced Fund A	\$24.75	\$23.83	\$24.81	\$27.15	\$24.90	\$27.33
American Funds Bond of America A	\$12.81	\$12.59	\$12.72	\$12.89	\$12.57	\$13.16
American Funds SMALLCAP World Fund A	\$45.31	\$43.63	\$45.98	\$55.80	\$46.90	\$56.43
American Funds New World Fund A	\$53.50	\$50.00	\$51.45	\$66.92	\$57.36	\$67.70
American Funds Capital Income Bldr	\$59.58	\$55.85	\$57.64	\$62.82	\$56.33	\$61.10
American Funds Cap World Grand IncA	\$46.09	\$43.36	\$43.83	\$51.11	\$42.81	\$48.85
American Funds Inv Company Of Ameri	\$37.08	\$33.37	\$36.23	\$40.39	\$33.91	\$38.15
RS Global Natural Resources Fund A	\$24.81	\$15.34	\$23.49	\$23.73	\$12.86	\$11.05
RS Value Fund A	\$33.04	\$28.33	\$27.94	\$26.21	\$20.28	\$24.72
Oppenheimer Gold And Spec Minerals N	\$13.04	\$10.00	\$13.85	\$15.74	\$13.64	\$16.98
American Funds Money Market Fund A	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2020A	\$11.38	\$10.90	\$11.29	\$12.56	\$11.69	\$12.82
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2025A	\$12.06	\$11.36	\$11.77	\$13.44	\$12.43	\$13.78
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2030A	\$12.51	\$11.87	\$12.30	\$14.42	\$13.17	\$14.78
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2035A	\$12.57	\$11.91	\$12.38	\$14.84	\$13.38	\$15.25
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2040A	\$12.70	\$12.10	\$12.57	\$15.20	\$13.63	\$15.62
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2045A	\$12.74	\$12.19	\$12.69	\$15.43	\$13.84	\$15.89
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2050A	\$12.50	\$11.95	\$12.44	\$15.10	\$13.56	\$15.58
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2055A					\$16.92	\$19.45
American Funds Trgt Date Ret 2060A					\$11.24	\$12.91
* Share price does not reflect fund dividends.						

Good Job

AFS E-Learning for April - Benton Foundry was #1 with Mike Modla as the top student. Mike is Benton Foundry's Controller.

Kudos to our Lab for once again scoring consistently well in the 44th round of lab testing through the **Iron Casting Research Institute**.

For the quarter ending 06/30/19, we produced more molds and tonnage than any quarter in our history. During the quarter, we also broke several other production records including, ductile iron molds in a month, ductile iron tonnage in a month and total tonnage in a month.

Benton Foundry supports the Adopt-a-Highway program in Pennsylvania. Each spring and fall we spend time cleaning up litter in the section of 487 North and South of the foundry.



New Trailer at Benton



Knoebels

August 10, 2019

10:00 Arrival



Tidbit

The most common street name in the U.S. is *Second Street*.

Trivia Question???

What president appears on the \$1,000 dollar bill?

Answer will be in 3rd Quarter 2019

Answer from 1st Quarter question:

What country has the oldest operating university in the world?

Morocco (University of Karueein)

10 Summer Things

Longer Days
Beaches & Lakes
Umbrella Drinks
Cotton & Linen
Fruits & Vegetables
Eating Outdoors
Ice Cream
Outdoor Events

Travel
Patios



P&G Everyday

Birthdays

August

Dale Engle
Adolfo Barrientos
Felix Lopez
Ernie Priebe
Anthony Day
Byron Erdman
Steve Lappan
Melissa Morales
Seth Pypiak
Sarah Eighmey
Nyman Engel
Tina Bizup
Beth Litwhiler
Tom Boatman
Dustin Burke
Roger Green
Eric Piatt
Billy Ribble
Nathan Steinruck
Michael McAndrew
Ed Evans
Allen Hunsinger
Scott Bennardi
Walt Lutcavage
Lee Ray
Kim Williams

September

Hunter Guyer
Lori Nafus
Mike Whalley
Mike Mengine
Bill Thomas
Homer Chapin
Shawn Nevel
Tim Kepner
George Bagdoyan
Dave Travelpiece
Dan Snyder
Tyler Hartman
JR Peterson
Bill Keefe
Courtney Leahy
Harold Phillips
Eric Malcein
Nichole Mickel
Ruth Dawson
Steve Gonzalez
Andrew Ritinski
Garrett Wakely
Crystal Hummel
Ricardo Correa

October

Sherry Steele
Casey Swisher
Ray Katz
Derek Storti
Tim Schechterly, Jr.
Chris Newhart
Tom Vandine
Luis Cruz
Gordon Gottshall
Robert Paninski
Rosa Reyes
Kyle Lear



happy
birthday

Want

\$250.00?

Company Referral Plan

Refer a Potential Employee to Lou
(Before They Come In)

If Hired, After
6 Months of Employment
You Get \$250.00

Oxymoron

Why do we drive on a parkway
— and park on a driveway?

Irony



"The Wisdom Well"

"The trouble with being punctual is that
nobody's there to appreciate it."

~ F.P. Jones

