

The Sentinel Founded in 1861

Small Business
Spotlight:
Dream
becomes reality
with hair salon



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District
attorney's office
honors late
judge and DA
Skip Ebert

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Thursday, November 21, 2024

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BIG SPRING SCHOOLS

A HUNGER TO HELP



MADDIE SEILER, THE SENTINEL

Big Spring freshmen, from left, Ava Hutchinson, Sophia Bono and Eve Deitch applied for their first grant in seventh grade and used the funds to provide meals for Big Spring families over winter break in eighth grade. Now as freshmen, they have secured a second round of grant funding and are deciding how to use it.

Students win grants to fight food insecurity

MADDIE SEILER
The Sentinel

To be fair, Becky Whigham warned that it would be a big project.

Even so, no one could have anticipated the multiyear extracurricular service operation that ensued.

It all began a couple of years ago when Whigham, who teaches family and consumer science at Big Spring Middle

School, presented students with some options for a sustainability assignment. Among them: Explore. Act. Tell., a project-based learning program that teaches students about food insecurity and how to combat it in their communities.

"I said, 'This might be somebody's sustainability project, it would be a good one,'" she said. "And it was a lot of work, so of course, most kids would have said,

and did say, 'I'm not interested.'"

But not Ava Hutchinson, Sophia Bono and Eve Deitch.

The three were in seventh grade when they took on the assignment.

"We really were digging, trying to find something that would be more than just one time in this class," Eve said.

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CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Housing is 'uphill battle' in region, panelists say

MADDIE SEILER
The Sentinel

Pennsylvania's social work hotline received 1,589 service requests in the 17013 zip code between Nov. 1, 2023, and the end of October.

Of these, 68% had to do with housing and shelter. The next highest category: Other, accounting for 5.9% of requests.

These numbers illustrate an already recognized problem in Carlisle and beyond — housing.

On Tuesday, a panel of Cumberland County representatives addressed the topic during the Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce's State of Carlisle: Tackling the Housing Crisis event.

Panelists were United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County Executive Director Cate Mellen, Housing and Redevelopment Authorities of Cumberland County Executive Director Mary Kuna and Safe Harbour President & CEO Scott Shewell. Cumberland County Director of Planning Kirk Stoner moderated the discussion.

Statistics

All three panelists pointed to recent local housing statistics.

According to data from earlier this month, Cumberland County's coordinated entry community queue consists

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MADDIE SEILER, THE SENTINEL

The Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce held a State of Carlisle: Tackling the Housing Crisis breakfast at Comfort Suites Downtown Tuesday morning. A panel discussion featured, from left, Safe Harbour President and CEO Scott Shewell, Housing and Redevelopment Authorities of Cumberland County Executive Director Mary Kuna and United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County Executive Director Cate Mellen, who addressed local housing challenges, statistics and solutions.



Weather
Rain, snow showers
High 50 • Low 35
FORECAST • A10

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