



York, Pennsylvania

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# Community Compost Co-op Offers FREE Food Scrap Drop Off

by: Sara Mack sara@msprint.media

Launched in late 2025, the York Community Compost Co-op provides free food scrap drop-off access to local residents. Based on the collection model utilized by Lancaster Compost Co-op, York's iteration of the co-op program allows participants to bring their food scraps to a designated drop-off location at Horn Farm to reduce their household's environmental impact.

York Community Compost Co-op's founder, Alexia Purkanto, is a 17-year-old York County resident with an interest in the intersection between sustainability and finance. Purkanto is focused on furthering efforts around composting because it represents a "simple solution" to climate change-related issues with the potential for high impact.

Previously, resources surrounding food scrap composting in York County were virtually non-existent in a public capacity. Without access to a private composting set up on their own property, residents interested in composting before the introduction of the compost co-op were unable to recycle their food



Illustration by Lauren Clifton @low\_low

scraps in any capacity outside of scattered access to composting in a select few community gardens.

With the co-op model, barriers to entry for locals hoping to recycle their food waste are significantly lowered. The model provides a clear drop-off location for anyone who lives close enough to stop by to deposit organic waste. Aside from

some introductory educational materials, participants are able to get involved right away and at no cost.

\*\*\*composting tip: store food scraps in a bag or container in your freezer until you are ready to take it to a drop off location. This will eliminate any/all odor!\*\*\*

The co-op's food scrap drop-off services are free to participants thanks to support from a variety of local stakeholders. After obtaining the initial "blueprint" for the project from the organizers of Lancaster Compost Co-op, Purkanto reached out

Continued on 1B

what's inside???

upcoming events in York this March

2A 3A

local music booking provides resources for punks of all genres

1B

writer's exhibit provides launchpad for local writers

4B

1A

## Community Compost

Continued from 1A



to local businesses to scope out funding and to find a physical location and site for the drop-off point.

York Economic Alliance serves as the York Community Compost Co-op's fiscal supporter, and Michael Black, a local consultant, provides project management support to the effort. Horn Farm hosts the only current drop-off site, and supports the project by providing materials and a physical space for the composting to take place.

According to the USDA, food waste is estimated to account for approximately 30-40% of the food supply. While a large amount of food waste is out of the hands of consumers due to the production of agricultural byproduct, intentionality when purchasing and preparing food can help to reduce food waste substantially. For all remaining food waste produced by consumers (and businesses), composting offers a closed-loop alternative to throwing organic waste into landfills.

York Community Compost Co-op is still in its infancy as an organization. The bin system utilized by the Co-op at the Horn Farm location has the capacity to process food waste from up to 60 families, and Purkanto hopes to increase volunteer support for this location and the program generally before creating any additional drop-off points nearby. At the moment, the co-op regularly processes food scraps from at least 12 households.

Because Purkanto plans to attend college this fall, the growth and future of the co-op will hinge on the success of the first location and mobilization of future volunteers. If you are interested in getting involved, reach out using the contact form: [yorkcompost.org/contact](http://yorkcompost.org/contact).

According to Purkanto, her goal isn't just to further composting-related initiatives; she is interested in raising awareness surrounding environmental problems, and presenting accessible and actionable solutions for those problems.

## Bent Nail Booking Brings Punks of all Types to York

by: Matthew Gargano

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In 2025, when the Skid Row Garage shuttered after the community decidedly rejected its culture of abuse, two organizations emerged to facilitate bringing music into York: F.H. Pappy's and Bent Nail Booking. These two organizations share founders and were designed to work as two halves of a music machine. F.H. Pappy's was to be the brick and mortar aspect of the scene (as covered in York msprint vol. I no. 3) while Bent Nail booking would handle the booking and artist relations.

As the sale of the former Skid Row garage space to F.H. Pappy's fell through, the lines between the distinct missions of these intertwined organizations became blurred.

One founder of Bent Nail Booking and F.H. Pappy's, Tom Klimek, explained how his frustration with seeing the punk scene in York diminish in recent years manifested as motivation to start Bent Nail Booking with the goal of making live music in York more accessible. Bent Nail Booking was always designed to be larger than just the booking arm for one specific venue. Tom described musicians in York as, "a real tight-knit supportive community" but noted that York has historically struggled to draw in artists from outside of the region. Bent Nail Booking hopes to improve York's draw by being the go-to facilitator for booking a variety of genres at different venues across the city.

In addition to the York Community Compost Co-op, Purkanto is involved with several environmentally oriented efforts locally including operating her own line of all-natural, eco-friendly fragrance diffusers called Fragrance Gems. According to the Fragrance Gems website, proceeds from product sales support scholarships and community projects.

To learn more about York Community Compost Co-op and to become a member for free, visit [yorkcompost.org](http://yorkcompost.org)

Bent Nail Booking is working with different spaces in the city from community centers to churches to enable these spaces to be able to host music. Bent Nail Booking helps these venues to do the work to ensure everything is "above board" and comply with occupancy limits, greatly reducing risk that venues assume by hosting music events.

"If there is anyone who wants help putting on music, we are happy to help," said Tom. In addition to matching musicians with venues and ensuring venues are capable of hosting, Bent Nail Booking also secures the sound and production equipment (by covering costs associated with the equipment) to ensure that a Bent Nail Booking-hosted show at any venue is a success.

One of the founding principles of Bent Nail Booking is "there are punks in every genre". Bent Nail Booking aims to bring music of all genres, not only punk and hardcore, into York.

This welcoming approach to all genres is no surprise considering Tom's background as both a lifelong metalhead and a classically trained cellist.

Continued on 4A

# MARCH EVENTS

## Horn Farm Community Training Day

Become part of Horn Farm's Community Crew and learn the ins and outs of land stewardship at Horn Farm. Sign up at:

[hornfarmcenter.org/community-crew](http://hornfarmcenter.org/community-crew)

3/8  
10:00AM-2:00PM  
Horn Farm Center  
4945 Horn Rd, York

## York YMCA Toastmasters Meeting

The York Toastmasters invite local adults for an evening of practicing and honing their leadership and communication skills in a supportive environment. Please arrive 10-15 minutes early.

3/11, 3/25  
6:45PM-8:00PM  
York YMCA  
90 N Newberry St, York

## Queer Ballroom Dancing

Every second Wednesday of the month, join the Victrola Dance Hall in an LGBTQ+ friendly evening of dance. Registration recommended.

3/11  
6:30PM-7:30PM  
Victrola Dance Hall  
11 W Philadelphia St, York

## St. Paddy's Day Parade

The 40th Annual St. Paddy's Day Parade will march through York down Market St from its intersection with Penn St heading East, passing through Continental Square, and continuing until Queen St.

3/14  
1:00PM-3:00PM  
Market St, downtown

## The Death Cafe Book Club

Monthly book discussion exploring the themes of grief, death, dying, and loss. March's book is *They Left Us Everything* by Plum Johnson and the discussion will be lead by Andrea Williams, a Bereavement Counselor at Grane Hospice Care.

3/24  
6:00PM-7:30PM  
Kreutz Creek Library  
66 Walnut Springs Rd, Hellam Township

## Not So Lucky

### Brand Showcase

Bent Nail Booking and Not So Lucky Brand present a showcase of underground hip hop.

3/14  
6:30PM  
Collusion Tapworks  
115 S Howard St

## The Grotto Community Center's 2026 Writers Exhibit Provides Outlet for Creatives, Explores Lies and Truth

by: Sara Mack [sara@msprint.media](mailto:sara@msprint.media)

Like we've covered in previous issues, The Grotto Community Center is a co-working space with a lot going on behind the scenes. Each year, a series of art-centric exhibits hosted in the space represents just one of the offerings that falls outside of the co-working bubble. Although York is no stranger to art exhibitions, The Grotto presents a unique twist on the exhibit structure with its annual writer's show.

Now in its fifth year, the Writer's Exhibit provides an opportunity for locals to submit pieces in a variety of formats including poems, prose, zines, and essays. The exhibit focuses on a core theme each year, and the 2026 theme centered on lies and truth: "Tell us lies, tell us all your pretty lies (or perhaps your truth). We invited the Grotto Community to blur the line between what is said and what is meant."

The 2026 Writer's Exhibit opened on February's First Friday and included live readings from participants, a friendship bracelet-making station, and a photobooth. Featured pieces were displayed throughout the Grotto's livingroom-like first floor, and patrons at the opening received a zine with excerpts from each submission compiled by Tiffani Spangler (Zines By Tiffy).

The exhibit features work from 20 local writers, and addresses the given theme from a variety of perspectives. Topics included processing grief, guilt, change, and love. The emergence of opportunities locally for writers to submit their work, like through this exhibit at The Grotto, furthers conversation and fosters the writing community in York more broadly.

Although York's cultural consciousness largely revolves around visual and performing arts, there is a growing scene in the area for writers. This trend is visible through the reestablishment of the Poet Laureate program in The City of York. With a selection process facilitated by Creative York, the return of this program will induct the city's first Poet Laureate since 2017. The new Laureate will serve in their role for two years, and will receive a \$1,000 honorarium per year during their term.

York City (and York County!) residents are eligible to apply for the Poet Laureate position; applications are due by April 30, 2026. For more information: [creativeyork.org/the-poet-laureate-of-york/](http://creativeyork.org/the-poet-laureate-of-york/)

The msprint is looking forward to the continued evolution of the York writers' scene! Reach out to us with your thoughts on potential opportunities for writing collaboration locally. To submit to future Grotto exhibits, look out for open call announcements at [grottoyork.com](http://grottoyork.com)

## COMIC CORNER COMIC CORNER COMIC CORNER COMIC CORNER

I AM EXCITED THAT IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR TO CELEBRATE MY BLACKNESS, BECAUSE MY FAVORITE ICE CREAM COMPANY IS COMMEMORATING THIS SPECIAL MONTH BY OFFERING AN ICE CREAM SUNDAE TOPPED WITH DEVIL'S FOOD CAKE. YUM! M'SONIKING IS INTRODUCING A NEW TOY, INCLUDED THIS MONTH WITH A KID'S MEAL... JAR JAR BINKS. WHEN ASKED WHY THEY'RE UNVEILING THIS PARTICULAR TOY, OUT YEARS AFTER MOVIES' INITIAL RELEASE, THE COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE REPLIED WITH THIS STATEMENT, "THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION WAS SIGNED IN 1865, ENSURING FREEDOM TO ALL BLACK PEOPLE, AND, ONLY A SHORT WHILE LATER, WERE ABLE TO CAST A VOTE WITH THE VOTERS RIGHTS ACT OF 1965."

I HAVE BEEN A RESIDENT OF YORK CITY NOW FOR CLOSE TO 25 YEARS. I HAVE SEEN SOME UPS, DOWNS, AND ALL AROUNDS FOR THIS CITY, BUT IT'S THE PEOPLE THAT KEPT ME HERE. ONE S(QUET & LOUDLY) TRYING TO FOSTER POSITIVE CHANGE HERE, AS IN THE MASTERMINDS BEHIND THIS LOCAL INDEPENDENT PAPER, 'MSPRINT,' OF WHICH I HOPE TO REGALE YOU WITH PERSONAL STORIES OF YORK CITY & I (PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE) NARRATED AND ILLUSTRATED BY THE CONTEMPLATIVE FELLOW YOU SEE BEFORE YOU.

UMM... THIS IS THE MARCH ISSUE. FEBRUARY WAS LAST MONTH, YOU ARE TOO LATE TO CELEBRATE AND/ OR REFLECT ON HISTORY... ITS OKAY, THERE'S ALWAYS TIME, BECAUSE HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF!



# Bent Nail Booking

Continued from 1B

# York's Responsibilities and Reactions to US Strikes on Iran

Bent Nail Booking is producing their second hip-hop show on March 14th highlighting an often underrepresented underground hip-hop scene in York. There are future collaborations with the York Symphony Orchestra in the works to merge the worlds of DIY music and contemporary classical. Tom is also the Chamber Director of the York Youth Symphony, and is working through Bent Nail Booking to produce a performance of the York Youth Symphony in Cellusion - the same space that hosts the majority of Bent Nail Bookings' hardcore and punk shows!

On February 28th, 2026, the United States and Israel launched airstrikes on Iran. Although these attacks are taking place thousands of miles away from York County (and US soil entirely), the political implications of these developments are highly relevant to us and our neighbors as we interact with local politicians and organizations with roots in our area.

Ultimately, Iranian leader Ali Khamenei was killed along with some members of his family and other Iranian leaders. The strikes occurred after multiple rounds of negotiations between the US and Iran regarding limits on civilian and military nuclear technology. One day before the strikes, the Associated Press reported that Trump "indicated he would give negotiators more time to reach a deal to avert another war in the Middle East."

Historically, Iranian leaders, including Khamenei, are responsible for years of human rights abuses including the brutal quelling of a people's uprising accounting for at least 7,000 deaths and 40,000 arrests just in January, 2026.

Even so, the extreme actions taken by the US will only serve to destabilize the region further. The US military's actions constitute war crimes including attacking civilian populations and assassinating the political and military leadership of a sovereign nation.

Nina Srinivasan Rathbun, who previously served in the State Department's Non-proliferation Bureau, expressed concerns that if the current Iranian government maintains its rule, it may be more committed to developing nuclear weapons than it was before the recent incidents because the country's lack of nuclear weapons did not deter the US and Israel from attacking.



Illustration by Lauren Clifton @loww\_loww\_

Echoes of the Nobel-Peace-Prize-winning Obama administration's role in toppling Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi in 2011 can be heard as modern-day politicians discuss the "need" for US intervention in Iran. Both interventions eliminated a multi-decade authoritarian leader and both sought justification due to crackdowns on domestic protests against the government and widespread human rights abuses. However, analysis of the Libyan intervention by military intervention expert Alan Kuperman found intervention increased the death toll sevenfold and worsened human rights abuses and humanitarian suffering, all while increasing weapons proliferation across the Middle East. Yet, many supporters of the recent Iranian attacks claim that this current round of intervention will somehow reduce or eliminate these concerns.

Continued on 3B

4A



Photo courtesy of F.H. Pappy's

York's music community has welcomed Bent Nail Booking with open arms. Already, they are booked through the end of June and typically work to book shows three months in advance. If you are a music maker and would like to work with Bent Nail Booking to schedule a show, reach out to them on Instagram @bentnailbooking with dates and/or a bill of bands. If you are affiliated with a venue that would like help producing shows in your space, email bentnailbooking@gmail.com to collaborate and design a show tailored to your venue's unique vision.

## CLASSIFIEDS

Leave your own note in our classifieds section! Send an email to: york@msprint.media

Are you SEEKING older issues of the msprint? Check out the archive online at <https://msprint.media> For current issues, seek them out in person like always :)

### SEEKING: Comic/manga artists

I'm an aspiring writer, primarily fantasy and sci-fi. I'm looking for artists to collaborate with, mostly artists interested in comic or manga creation.

While I don't have anything finished yet, I've been looking to meet fellow writers as well. Reach out to joshvenom88@gmail.com to connect.

### SEEKING: Vendors for a new outdoor market in Royal Square.

The Glass Turtle Studio is facilitating a new farmers market on the second Sunday of each month. Vendor applications are open now: [theglassturtlestudio.com/farmers-market/](http://theglassturtlestudio.com/farmers-market/)

SHARING: SPRING! The Spring Equinox falls on March 20th in 2026. The sun sets at 7:19PM on March 20th. Get outside and enjoy the changing season!

## &&& Love Notes/ Missed Connections

Remember the two of us in your CR-V? You, dyed-blond curls, eyebrow ring, growing collection of stick-and-pokes (nothing to prove but proving it all anyway), doing your "driving with Barbie hands" bit (pretty funny, actually). Me, skin and bones (haven't been taking the best care of myself), shivering in my Community Aid thermal with the passenger window down, blowing out that sickeningly sweet Camel Crush menthol smoke. Candy cigarettes. Kids acting like adults. Then, a kid on the way. You tell me you pissed on a stick and there's two lines - not one. I question this - I mean, there's no way, right? Well, when two people love each other very much...

I'm watching you bear down in a hospital bed - the room has a flesh and iron smell (animal, mineral) - from all the blood, I guess.

Our daughter opens her eyes on your chest. There is a look in her eyes that betrays her - she knows things we don't, sees what we can't see. Comes from an older, more enchanted place - the woods, we decide. She confirms this for us later.

Five years later, the two of us in a CR-V again - mine this time. You in the passenger, hair its natural color now, age making itself more known on your face, hogging the aux like usual (I'm okay with this). Our daughter is in her carseat - fighting sleep. She'll give in soon and I'll have to carry her up to bed when we get home (I'm ok with this, too). I catch you sneaking a glance at me, smiling - and feel myself start to blush. When I turn my head to look back at you (my passenger princess, my forever crush)

- I see the glow of your cheeks (blood flow to the skin increases during pregnancy), the increased softness of your edges, the baby bump just barely starting to form in your middle, and I remember all the drives I've taken with you. Years ago, my friend - now, mother of my children.

If you're free right now, maybe we can go for a drive.

## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL

City Council Meeting  
March 17  
6:00PM-8:00PM

## MEETINGS

All meetings are open to the public and held at York City Hall: 101 S. George Street, York

City Committee Meeting  
March 25  
6:00PM-8:00PM

City Council meetings can be streamed on the City's Facebook page, the White Rose Community TV Youtube Channel, Xfinity WRCT Channel 18, or online at [wrct.tv](http://wrct.tv)

2B

Want to see your local event featured in future editions?

email [york@msprint.media](mailto:york@msprint.media) to submit your own!

## Author Meet & Greet

with Tiffany Glass

Local cookbook author Tiffany Glass will be signing copies of her new cookbook 'Whole Nourishing Foods'. Meet Tiffany and sample one of her recipes.

3/14  
1:00PM-3:00PM  
Bound Books  
2555 South Queen St, York

## Crispus Attucks York's 95th Annual Meeting

At the Annual Meeting, Crispus Attucks York explores the theme, "A Legacy of Service. A Community of We, Not I." The meeting will focus on how collectivism can uplift the York Community. Hear the organization's highlights and accomplishments from the past year and learn more about upcoming work.

3/15  
3:00PM-5:00PM  
Crispus Attucks York  
605 S Duke St, York

## York Chess Club

Chess players of all ages and experience levels are welcome to play, talk about the game, and improve their skills.

3/17  
6:00PM-7:45PM  
Kreutz Creek Library  
66 Walnut Springs Rd, Hellam Township

## Everything Edible Flowers

Learn how to safely forage and identify edible flowers and explore the wide variety of floral flavors. Tickets required.

3/19  
6:30PM  
Refillism  
2572 Eastern Blvd, York



## Addled Brains, FTS, Disoviet, Rest Etiquette

All ages tape release show for a split between local punks Addled Brains and NJ's FTS. Supported by Philly's Rest Etiquette and Disoviet.

3/20  
6:30PM  
Collusion Tapworks

3A

# M O R E E V E N T S

## Shoot DA5, Side Over, Barbell, Darcechoke

York Power violence group Barbell and Central PA HXC Darcechoke support NYC hardcore band Shoot DA5 and Scranton hardcore group Side Over.

3/21  
7:00PM  
Collusion Tapworks

## Unnamed Tributary to Mill Creek Stream Clean Up

The Watershed alliance of York hosts a stream clean up to kick off Spring. For more details visit: [watershedallianceofyork.org/events](http://watershedallianceofyork.org/events)

3/21  
10:00AM-12:00PM  
New Eastern Market  
201 Memory Ln, York

## Welcome Spring Party

Editionstyles is transforming for a celebration of Spring. Enjoy live violin performance, a patio decorated for photos, and a \$200 Editionstyles gift card giveaway.

3/21  
10:00AM-7:00PM  
Editionstyles Vintage Shop  
38 S Beaver St, York

## York Township Egg Hunt

### Youth Egg Hunts:

Ages 3 and under - 11:00AM  
Ages 4-5 - 11:30AM  
Ages 6-8 - 12:00PM  
Ages 9-11 - 12:30PM  
Youth Egg Hunts:

Adult Egg Hunt - 6:30PM  
Teen Flashing Light Egg Hunt - 8:00PM

\$4 — registration required by 3/25 at: [yorktownshiprec.com](http://yorktownshiprec.com)

3/28  
York Township Park  
25 Oak St, York

## US Strikes on Iran

Continued from 4A

All four of York County's congresspeople are failing us by ignoring the short-sighted nature of such attacks. Senators John Fetterman and Dave McCormick may be on different sides of the political aisle, but they are united in the misguided belief that facilitating further destabilization abroad will lead to long-term peace.

Representing Northern York County, Scott Perry professes, "To the People of Iran: The hour of your freedom has arrived", completely ignoring the potential for this conflict to become drawn out and cause mass suffering like we saw in Libya. Lloyd Smucker, representing Southern York County, justifies the attacks by focusing on nuclear weapons proliferation, which could actually worsen as a result of these attacks.

Warfighting brings a significant amount of money through York County. BAE Systems, one of the six largest suppliers to the Department of Defense, operates a facility in York manufacturing armored combat vehicles. General Dynamics, the 3rd largest contractor of the Federal Government, has one of their many facilities in Red Lion and has received criticism for the role their products play in the slaughter of Palestinian people. When our neighbors work for and contribute to these businesses, they cannot control how their work is applied. No amount of saying that these products only target terrorists or bad actors can change the truth: that the work being done right here in York contributes to the deaths of innocent civilians.

Pennsylvania was founded by pacifists. Quakers and Mennonites in our communities maintain a steadfast belief in pacifism. Organizations representing York and the Greater York County area like South Central PA Democratic Socialists of America and the Harrisburg Palestine Coalition have been organizing protests across the region against war in Iraq. As always, you can call and email our senators and federal representatives to demand the opposition of war. As the death tolls rise, we must keep in mind the lessons of the past and do what we can to prevent future suffering.

3B