

# THE ABINGTON JOURNAL

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## City of Scranton taking steps to become more pedestrian-friendly

🕒 December 3, 2018 👤 gpsadmin 📁 Local 💬 1



### WEATHER

Clarks Summ		
Weather	Wind	Rain
		<b>50</b> Slight Chance
<b>37 °F</b>		
23 40 SAT		28 35 SUN
7:50 PM Fri Dec 28		

### POLL

Fetching questions...





SCRANTON — The city is taking its first step towards a more pedestrian-friendly city, and community

leaders invite members of the public to walk through the process with them.

Scranton Tomorrow will host a free lecture titled Towards a More Walkable Scranton featuring guest speaker Jeff Speck at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec, 12 in the Kane Room of Leahy Hall at The University of Scranton. MSpeck is a city planner, urban designer and author of “Walkable City: How Downtown Can Save America, One Step at a Time” and the newly-released “Walkable City Rules: 101 Steps to Making Better Places.” A booksigning will immediately follow the lecture.

After his friend Charles Jefferson, a local real estate developer, gave Scranton City Councilman Wayne Evans a copy of “Walkable City: How Downtown Can Save America, One Step at a Time,” Evans was inspired to share the book with other community leaders.

“When I read the book, I had dozens of ‘aha’ moments that I couldn’t get out of my head, and I thought, ‘we must find a way to make this happen in Scranton, and make it happen in downtown,’” MEvans said.

Evans is particularly interested in the correlation Speck draws between walkability and increasing commerce, and how the concepts outlined in the book could be implemented in Scranton. These concepts include creating narrower lanes,

### EDITOR'S PICKS



## Dalton Delights: Our book and bake sale was memorable

Welcome November. Let’s get this month’s column started with a big THANK YOU to everyone who made our fall book and bake sale a memorable and successful one. Our appreciation goes out to...

### LOCAL VIDEO

Wyoming Are...



### FEATURED JOBS

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reversing one-way streets to make them two-way, and improving walkability and pedestrian safety.

“When people visit a city like Savannah, Georgia, or Charleston, South Carolina, or Austin, Texas, they may ask ‘why did I like it so much?’ and they find it’s because these cities are walkable. They don’t even realize what’s taking place. They just know that they can walk from point A to point B, and feel safe, and enjoy the experience and that’s what I think we’re trying to make happen here,” Evans said.

This discussion is especially timely because the City of Scranton will conduct a transportation study in 2019 to assess walkability, pedestrian safety, on-street parking, feasibility of bicycle lanes, and adding more trees.

Towards a More Walkable Scranton is designed to increase awareness about the economic, environmental, and epidemiological benefits of creating a more walkable city. Speck will offer insight into what makes walking useful, particularly as it applies to land-use, zoning, transit, and parking policies and practices. He’ll also explore how to create a safer walking environment by delving into topics such as vehicle speeds, block sizes, widths and geometries, curb protection and cycling facilities.

Participants will learn about the elements of a comfortable and interesting walking environment through discussion of spatial definitions, height-to-width ratios, vegetation, building facades and public art. In addition, Speck will discuss the General Theory of Walkability: in order to be truly walkable, built environments must make walking useful, safe, comfortable, and interesting.



## Clarks Green discusses candidates for assistant secretary/treasurer position

CLARKS GREEN — At the Clarks Green Council meeting, December 20, Councilman Keith Williams, in his personnel committee report, announced that he, Council president Joe Barrasse...



## Merchants of Groove to perform Aug. 23 in Lakeside Wednesday Concerts series at Hillside Park

S. ABINGTON TWP. — Regional band The Merchants of Groove is up next in the Lakeside Wednesday Concerts series at Hillside Park

## CIRCULARS



Towards a More Walkable Scranton is presented by the Greater Scranton Board of Realtors and Lackawanna County. Contributing sponsors include: the Architectural Heritage Association (AHA), Maloney Law, P.C., Jefferson-Werner, LLC, and The University of Scranton.

Advance reservations are requested, but not required, by Monday, Dec. 10. To make reservations, contact Liz Baldi at [lizbaldi@scrantontomorrow.org](mailto:lizbaldi@scrantontomorrow.org) or 570.963.5901.



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### Trending Now

and is set to perform at 6 p.m. Aug. 23, following the Aug.



## Weather spotters needed, Lackawanna County SKYWARN Class set for Nov. 9

BINGHAMTON, N.Y. — The National Weather Service will conduct a Winter SKYWARN weather spotters training class from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Nov. 9 at the Lackawanna County Center for Public Safety...



## Clarks Summit native Ellen Doyle to perform stand-up comedy routine

After winning the Abington Heights Class of 2002 Class Clown award, Ellen Doyle went