

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

John N. Diacogiannis
Chairman
610.865.4410

Michael J. Prendeville
Vice Chairman
484.788.8403

Susan A. Lawless, Esq.
908.963.6085

John D. Nagle
610.737.4431

Jeffrey M. Warren
610.554.2594

TOWNSHIP OFFICE

3630 Jacksonville Road
Bethlehem, PA 18017-9302
610.866.1140
610.758.9116 Fax
hanover@hanovertwp-nc.org
www.hanovertwp-nc.org

TOWNSHIP STAFF

Township Manager
John J. Finnigan, Jr.

Township Treasurer
Beth A. Bucko

Township Secretary
Elizabeth D. Ritter

Public Works Director
Vincent G. Milite

Zoning Officer
Yvonne D. Kutz

Newsletter Submission
hanover@hanovertwp-nc.org

*Deadline for the
next newsletter*
September 10, 2021

COMMUNITY CENTER

3660 Jacksonville Road
Bethlehem, PA 18017-9334
610.317.8701
610.317.8704 Fax
HTCC@hanovertwp-cc.org

COMMUNITY CENTER STAFF

Recreation Director
Matt DeGeorge

Assistant Director
CJ Lindsay



Hanoverview

JAMES DEPALMA

Chief of Police

Colonial Regional Police Department

by John N. Diacogiannis, CRPC Chairman



*Deputy Chief DePalma's daughter, Jenna,
pins his chief's badge to his uniform.*

Please join me in congratulating James DePalma, our new Chief of Police. A member of CRPD since its inception in 1995, he served as Deputy Chief since 2003. He was preceded by recently retired Chief Roy Seiple and first Chief Daniel Spang. He was replaced by Michael Melinsky, who was formerly Detective Sergeant.

CRPD was created in 1995 by three municipalities, including Hanover Township. Sometime during that formative year, a bright, young, enthusiastic officer walked into headquarters in the basement of Bath Borough Hall. He was part of the team of officers who were spun off from the Nazareth Area Police Department serving Lower Nazareth Township. I had the pleasure of meeting him and quickly recognized his leadership qualities from the onset. He was promoted to Sergeant, Lieutenant, Deputy Chief and now Chief. Chief DePalma was instrumental in getting the Department accredited in 2006 and maintained that important accreditation status since then.

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MICHAEL S. MELINSKY

Deputy Police Chief

Colonial Regional Police Department -

by John N. Diacogiannis, CRPC Chairman



Our newest Deputy Chief of the Colonial Regional Police Department is Michael S. Melinsky. He was born and raised in Bath, and graduated from Northampton Area Senior High School in 1982. After working in security he graduated from the Allentown Police Academy and joined the Bath Police Department in 1985. He joined the Nazareth Area Police Department in 1988 until the inception of Colonial Regional in 1995. He was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in 1997 and transferred to Detective Sergeant in 2010. He attended Police Executive Training provided by Penn State University and the FBI.

He is a graduate of Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command. He was Supervisor of the Northampton County Drug Task Force 1990-2021 and dedicated most of his career to Drug Law Enforcement. He is a certified FAA Small Unmanned Aircraft (drone) Pilot. He implemented the CRDP Drug Take Back Program and managed and instructed the Citizens Police Academy. He is our new

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JAMES DEPALMA*continued from page 1*

Born and raised in Roseto PA, he is a 1979 graduate of Bangor High School. Chief DePalma attended Paul Smith's College in upstate New York. Located in the beautiful Adirondack mountains, this was a perfect place to study forestry. You see, the Chief initially intended to work for the National Park Service. However, a three-year stint as military police in the US Army changed his career direction. We are indeed truly fortunate for his service to our nation and for his desire to enter the field of law enforcement.

After graduating from the Allentown Police Academy, he was a part time officer in his hometown of Roseto, until he joined the Nazareth Police Department in 1987. He was part of the initial hires at CRPD in 1995. Recognized for his leadership ability he was promoted to Sergeant, then Lieutenant and was nominated by then Chief Spang to attend the FBI National Academy. The Academy provides a professional course of study for law enforcement managers nominated by their agency heads because of demonstrated leadership qualities.

Along the way, DePalma married his wife Deborah and together they raised four children. Sadly, they lost his beloved Deborah after a prolonged illness. They were married for 21 years.

I had the opportunity to ask the Chief about his thoughts on relevant topics. Asked about changes in policing over the last 25 years, he confirmed what most of us have long recognized. He feels that many law enforcement duties remain the same. Responding to incidents, assisting citizens at a critical moment in their life, investigating and solving crimes remain key responsibilities. As we all have seen in the news, law enforcement has been asked to do much more

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(Left to right): Chief James DePalma, Chief Roy Seiple (Ret.) & Deputy Chief Mike Melinsky on Chief Seiple's last day of work.

MICHAEL MELINSKY*continued from page 1*

Accreditation Manager, having assisted in the past. Deputy Chief Melinsky is married to Lori and has a son, Tanner. In his rare spare time, he enjoys fishing, motorcycles and playing the guitar.

I've known DC Melinsky since he joined CRPD. What has always impressed me was his dedication and professionalism. I could always get an honest and transparent answer from him. I asked him for an interview for this article with some leading questions. On sitting down with him, he handed me a prepared statement. My job was done, although he is rather modest. What he has meant to the force and the amount of effort he has put into service to our community cannot be overemphasized. His following statement is indicative of the type of officer he is.



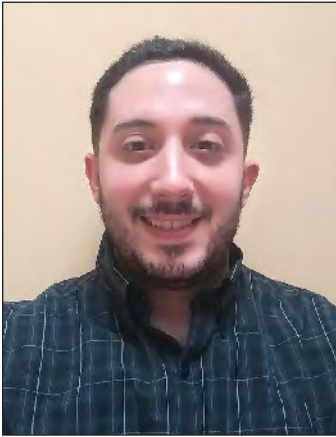
Lori Melinsky pins her husband's Deputy Chief's badge on.

"As a young boy watching my first episodes of ADAM-12, Dragnet and Police Story, I knew I wanted to be a Police Officer. It was more of a calling for me, and I've always known that this is what I wanted to do. My father was a steel worker and my mother a homemaker. College just simply wasn't an option then. This was my way of making a difference in people's lives.

Early on in my career, I realized most citizens were hard working, good people. Most, but not all, crime was fueled by addiction. I dedicated most of my career to drug law enforcement, not to put people in jail, but to give them an option for a better life. That is why I believe in Colonial Regional's CPAIR Program. This is a program designed where anyone can come in, without fear of arrest, and within the hour, we will have them with a drug counselor and in treatment if warranted.

I also instituted the Drug Take Back Program, a program to get unwanted and unneeded prescription drugs out of your home. We currently have two receptacles in the vestibules of CRPD and the Hanover Township Municipal Building. Over the last 30 plus years in law enforcement, I have seen many changes. I remember showing up for my first day on the job. I was handed a Smith and Wesson revolver and the keys to the car, and I was told, "Kid, if you

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MATT DEGEORGE**Hanover's New Recreation Director***by Susan A. Lawless, Esq.*

The critical, major first step has been taken to re-open our Community Center. Following an intensive, region-wide search (MA-MD), the Township Manager recommended to the Board of Supervisors that it appoint Matt DeGeorge to serve our community as its next Recreation Director. The Board voted unanimously to do so at its May 11, 2021 public meeting.

In addition to his degree in Exercise Science from East Stroudsburg University and Masters' Degree in Athletic & Recreation Administration from Concordia University, Matt brings a tremendous amount of energy and enthusiasm to the position. A native of East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, DeGeorge has worked at all levels of sports and recreation, including as a personal trainer. He also completed his internship for his Masters' Degree through Moravian College's Athletic Department. He worked as a graduate assistant there and continues to have strong personal relationships with Moravian's Athletic Department, a resource of which he hopes to make creative use in his new role.

While acknowledging the challenges he and the community will face in re-opening a facility that has been shuttered for more than a year, including the unique challenges associated with the transition out of COVID-19 restrictions and the Valley's competitive job market, DeGeorge expressed confidence in his ability to steer the ship efficiently back to life. His optimism is based on his experience successfully navigating similar challenges working with other community service providers. Matt was integrally involved with the Meadowlands Area YMCA's transition from an organization that served its community in Northeastern New Jersey from multiple, satellite locations to one that offered its services from a single, massive facility at MetLife Stadium. The size of the new facility, DeGeorge explained, offered an immediate opportunity for a lot of new and expanded programming, much of which had to be designed, implemented, and marketed from scratch. Serving as its Sports & Recreation Director, DeGeorge developed numerous sports leagues and tournaments to meet the needs of all age groups served by the "Y." His involvement with that transition, DeGeorge recounted, afforded him wide ranging experience in the management of a community service facility beyond programming. He hired and managed staff and evaluated programming against the needs of the community his facility existed to serve. Because the "Y" was a

*continued on page 6***CJ LINDSAY****Hanover's New Assistant Recreation Director***by Jay Finnigan*

C.J. Lindsay is a graduate of Kutztown University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor's Degree in Leisure and Sports Studies. He was also a nationally qualified sprinter and a school record holder in the 4x100 meter relay for the Men's Track and Field team during his time at KU.

In 2017, Lindsay was the Community Relations Intern for the R-Phils where he designed and implemented successful community outreach programs, planned special events, and was responsible for managing the organization's fundraising efforts, among other things.

Following graduation, Lindsay became a Sports Director at a YMCA in Coatesville, PA. In this role, he was responsible for staffing, financials, instruction, league management, and new program implementation, all while organizing the entire Sports Program that served over 700 kids on a yearly basis.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the sports program at the YMCA was promptly shut down which allowed him to seek other opportunities. He was hired as the General Manager at Rip It Baseballtown Charities that is ranked to be one of the best sports training facilities in Berks County and the surrounding areas.

He recently became a certified Registered Athletic Administrator through the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association in April 2021 in hopes to further his education and training.

"I am greatly appreciative of this new position here with Hanover Township," Lindsay said. "My passion for inspiring the youth and teaching them lifelong values through sports and recreation is one that drives me every day and I am dedicated to making the Hanover Township Recreation Department the best it can possibly be."



A Phoenix Rises on Bridle Path Road

Mike Prendeville, Vice Chairman Board of Supervisors



Recently I had the distinct honor to spend time at Kolbe Academy, a recovery high school located on Bridle Path Rd. One of the first things you notice is the majestic campus and serene surroundings. I was warmly met by John Petruzzelli, Principal, his staff, and students. We huddled in the foyer for announcements, Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer.

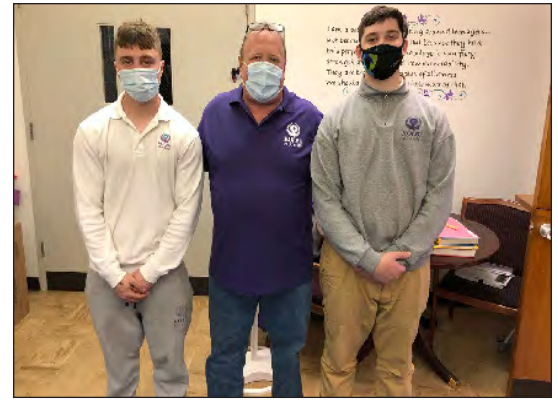
Kolbe Academy is part of a network of recovery high schools across the country and the first faith-based recovery high in the nation, supported

by the Diocese of Allentown. Among one of its many missions is to support and encourage the community at large who value the education and sobriety for adolescents as our future leaders. Kolbe Academy provides individualized academic programs in a safe, compassionate, faith-centered school for high school students in recovery from substance addiction. The faculty and administration proudly create an environment that promotes life-long recovery and educational success. It is a safe haven where students can truly recover, succeed and transform. A primary goal is to listen to students and hold them accountable with love. Principal Petruzzelli cites that recovery is rooted in connection rather than isolation. That message came across loud and clear during my visit.

During my visit, I had the opportunity to speak with a few of the students about Kolbe. They universally expressed their love and appreciation for the school, its programs, and its staff. Just a few of their testimonials they shared included statements such as: *I never liked school until I got here. This school saved my life. I learned more here than ever before. I can call any of the faculty at any time, for any reason. I intend to have a life long relationship with them. Kolbe is not a school, it is a family.*

While exploring the school, the color purple was everywhere. Purple is the color of recovery. The United States' National Recovery Month was founded in 1989 and purple was selected as the recovery movement's official color, and it is abundant within the halls at Kolbe. Not surprisingly, the school mascot is the Phoenix which symbolizes birth, death, and rebirth, as well as eternity, strength, and renewal. The whole idea that this mythical bird is reborn from the ashes of the flames of death signifies a journey through fire or adversity. The phoenix is the ultimate symbol of strength and renewal.

Principal Petruzzelli cites that he and the staff take great pride in the personal care, compassion, accountability, and structure that is shown to each student. He points to a sign in his office that states "Culture eats strategy for lunch". I was so moved in what I learned during my visit by this unique culture of compassion, that I shared my experience with Joe Jurkivo, owner of Flamma Italian Grill here in Hanover Township. Joe was so moved with the Kolbe story that he sent the students and staff a fully catered lunch in a show of community support. To learn more, visit <https://kolbe-academy.com/>



HELP WANTED

We are always looking for new volunteers to help serve our Township. **THERE IS A JOB FOR EVERYONE AT HTVFC! FIREFIGHTERS, EMT'S AND EVEN ADMIN MEMBERS.** The minimum age for Jr. Firefighters and Admin Members is 14 years old and 16 years old to be an EMT. If you may be interested in joining our team or learning more about what is involved in volunteering check out our website <http://www.htvfc.org> and fill out the contact us section or call me at the number below. All required training and equipment is provided FREE of charge. LIKE US ON FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/HTVFCPA> If you have any questions feel free to call me @ 610-867-2103 ext. 114.

Hanover Township's Very Own Oasis

Mike Prendeville, Vice Chairman Board of Supervisors



Nestled next to the Monocacy Creek in the southeast corner of Hanover Township exists a special place of hope, serenity and support. Opened in June 2019, the OASIS Community Center serves families and friends impacted by a loved one's substance use (opioids, alcohol, or other substances), as well as those who have experienced a substance-related loss. OASIS was founded by Rhonda Miller, a 27-year resident of the Township, after losing her 23-year-old son Ben to opioid use disorder in 2016. Located just south of the Route 22 overpass on the northbound side of Route 512, OASIS is headquartered in a stunning Georgian stone building that was erected in 1803 as part of the Shimer farm, a 279 acre tract of land adjacent to the Monocacy. The interior is impeccably furnished to provide a peaceful and serene environment that inspires calmness and self healing. In fact, I find myself so drawn to this place that I am writing this article on-site.

While interviewing Rhonda, I was immediately inspired by her sincere passion to transform her grief into action. She cites the difficult time she and her family faced after the passing of Ben. Their family felt ostracized by friends and extended family. She attributes that experience to the stigma that exists with substance use. The stigma attached to addiction is so strong that Nar-Anon Family Group dispels it using the concept of the Three C's. One of the best descriptions of an addiction stigma and the understanding OASIS provides comes from our very own, Jay Finnigan, who in July 2019 wrote:

"To steal a cliché from one of the 12-step programs – Nar-Anon - let me share the Three C's

- I Didn't Cause It
- I Can't Control It
- I Can't Cure It."

Unless you have experienced a loved one's or friend's addictive behavior, you will never appreciate that cliché. Parents, spouses, siblings, co-workers, etc. are often confronted with the Three C's. They blame themselves for the

addiction; they try everything in their power to control the individual's destructive behavior and they look for the magic formula to cure it. The key to the other side of the disease equation is the self-healing that parents, spouses, siblings, co-workers, etc. require when coping with someone else's addiction. When one looks up the definition of "Oasis" one of the definitions is: "a pleasant or peaceful area or period during a difficult, troubled, or hectic place or situation." OASIS will assist in the self-healing process needed by those affected by a loved one's substance use. OASIS will educate, provide processes for self-care of the body, mind and spirit, offer workshops, provide family and children's programs, and service projects --all of which will help individuals heal from the pain of an addicted family member, or worse case — their passing."

OASIS is operated by Speak Up for Ben, Inc., a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit. Ben, Rhonda's late son's name, also serves as an acronym for Break the silence, End the stigma, Never Forget. Rhonda gives credit to Northampton County's Drug and Alcohol Administrator Beth Miller and County Executive Lamont McClure for making OASIS a reality. OASIS is the first and only center devoted to supporting families affected by a loved one's substance use in the Commonwealth, perhaps the nation. They offer a wide range of programs such as walking groups, yoga, cooking and art classes, equine therapy, support groups, group counseling and much more.

The isolation of COVID-19 has exacerbated substance use, and there is an emergent need for this type of service. This incredibly special place simply exists to serve our community by providing free services and resources to families currently facing the agony of substance use of their loved ones, as well as for those who have tragically lost a loved one to this insidious disease. Judgement (stigma) has no place here-- just understanding, love and compassion. We are so fortunate to have OASIS call Hanover Township home. Come see for yourself — you will find a very warm and welcoming environment! To learn more, visit www.oasisbethlehem.org.



MATT DEGEORGE*continued from page 3*

not-for-profit entity, DeGeorge “learned to do a lot with a little.” He became comfortable managing payrolls and budgets and was introduced to the concepts of grant funding. Mr. DeGeorge also has prior experience managing aquatics programs as well as pool facilities.

Mr. DeGeorge will be leaving a position as Director of Athletic & Recreation Operations for the Hillsborough, New Jersey Community Center to take the helm at the HTCC. DeGeorge also gained “start-up” experience while working at the Hillsborough facility which currently serves approximately 20,000 community members from a 364,000 square foot facility. DeGeorge again enjoyed success in Hillsborough through creative, quality programing which included leagues, tournaments, and community events. The management of the Hillsborough facility was out-sourced to National Sports & Recreation Company, Mr. DeGeorge’s now former employer. Working for a corporation managing community oriented services offered DeGeorge more intensive training in metrics to evaluate the success of programs as well as the management of budgets. That facility operated during the height of COVID-19 restrictions and, therefore, Mr. DeGeorge is well-prepared to manage the transition here with an eye towards safety.

Regardless of whether the facility is for profit or not for profit, however, Mr. DeGeorge explained that his philosophy remains the same: to create, implement and market quality programming in which members of the community, at all age levels, will want to take part. Recognizing that the HTCC has traditionally offered pre-school programing, DeGeorge was quick to offer his extensive experience with programing aimed at developing motor skills in toddlers and other recreational activities involving pre-school and grammar school aged children. Matt became very animated as he shared his sometimes frustrating but always amusing experience coaching kids in entry level soccer camps but explained in a more serious tone the number of parents who have shared with him their concern that quality programing resume for children in all age groups and as soon as possible. With its new Director in place, efforts are underway to select a Director to head the pre-school programs.

Although Mr. DeGeorge enthusiastically shared with me his many ideas for community engagement, new and wide-ranging programing ideas, ways to further engage community volunteers, including the members of advisory boards, and potential ways the HTCC might fill gaps in the employment needs at the Center, his first priority will be to conduct a thorough assessment of the building as a facility, the Township’s parks and fields, any programing in place as well as prior programing, previous budgets and simply familiarize himself with the Township. He hopes to be able to host an “open house” at the HTCC over the summer months and to use special events thereafter, such as the Township’s Fall Festival, to welcome residents back to the HTCC. We hope you will mark your calendars, look forward to these events and stop by and welcome Matt DeGeorge to our community

JAMES DEPALMA*continued from page 2*

than ever before. They have been placed into the position of providing social services, dealing with drug and mental health issues, interpersonal relationships, homelessness, and increasingly quite often lifesaving using Narcan. They are truly first responders in every sense of the word.

One of the other major changes that he has seen over the last 25 years is the increased use of technology. Early in his career, patrol cars were equipped with a radio and a shotgun. Now they have mobile data terminals, body and vehicle cameras, cell phones and license plate readers. Real time information is available instantly in the vehicle. Besides weapons, officers and their vehicles carry a lot more equipment and supplies needed to perform their duties as first responders.

One of the Chiefs priorities is to plan and respond to the expected turnover of officers during the next 5 to 10 years due to eligible retirements. The challenge in recent years has been the recruitment of quality officers nationwide. As an aside, by the time you read this newsletter, CRPD will have announced the hiring of three new officers. We were pleased to have a record number of applicants during this latest hiring process. We are equally pleased that we had many good finalists to consider. This is a positive indicator for our future recruitment efforts.

The Chief’s goals are to maintain a professional police force as expected by the citizens of Hanover and Lower Nazareth Townships, to keep cost contained, to continue improving law enforcement activities and to be as transparent as possible. His focus on the future will be to enhance crime prevention. Part of which will be to educate the public as well as officers, on the new rolls and expectations in law enforcement. Traffic being one of the key elements that has plagued all of us throughout the country, he would like to be able to establish a dedicated Traffic Unit. Also, he would like to continue and improve interagency cooperation with other area departments, the State Police, and the FBI.

We congratulate Chief DePalma and commit our support of CRPD for its next 25 years.



Chief Seiple signing off the radio for the last time.

In Memoriam

SERGEANT JOHN A. HARMON

In April the Colonial Regional Police Department announced the passing of Sgt. John A. Harmon, badge #910. Sgt. Harmon lost a sudden and quick battle with cancer over four months.

Sgt. Harmon has worked for the Colonial Regional Police Department since 1995, serving for 25 years, and in that time he has served as the FTO supervisor, bike patrol sergeant, color guard member, collision reconstructionist and was a member of the Northampton County Drug Task Force. Sgt. Harmon also worked part time for the Northampton County Sheriff's Department. Prior to his law enforcement career, he had served for the United States Marine Corps from 1984-1990.

John was born on February 24, 1966 in Rota, Spain to the late Delmar E. Harmon, Sr. and Patricia A. (Ziegler) Harmon.

He was a member of the Fraternal Order of Police. He was also a member of Holy Family Catholic Church of Nazareth. John was a diehard Pittsburgh

Steelers fan and proud season ticket holder of the Lehigh Valley Phantoms. He loved rocking out to 70's and 80's music. He and his family enjoyed taking their annual vacations to Rhode Island. John was a hardworking good man, who always made sure he provided for his family.

He is survived by his wife Sandy, daughter Claire and his CRPD family.



Congratulations to Our Eagle Scouts



On December 29, 2020 **ELIJAH JOHN SIVICK** earned his Eagle Scout Award on December 29, 2020 with Troop 302 First Presbyterian Church, Bethlehem, PA. For his Eagle Project Elijah created a chimney swift tower for First Presbyterian Church in Bethlehem so that the chimney swifts currently living in the church's chimney's will have a new habitat. Hopefully, it will allow for the chimneys to be properly cleaned.

In his troop Elijah has served a Senior Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, Quartermaster, Patrol Leader and Assistant Patrol Leader. Currently attending Liberty

High School, he participates in Liberty Rifle, Stage Crew, Band (Bagpipes, Major Pipe) Chior, Orchestra, Jazz Band, National Honor Society and Cancer Crushers.

Elijah is the son of Lori & Charles Sivick.



On August 19, 2020 **Jacob Orrico**, a member of Boy Scout Troop 302 First Presbyterian Church in Bethlehem, earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest award in Scouting. He served as Librarian, Patrol Leader, and Order of the Arrow Representative for his troop.

For his Eagle Project, he completed a walking trail for the visually impaired at the Wildlands Conservancy in Emmaus, PA. Jacob is the son of Russ and Lynn Orrico and will graduate from Liberty High School in 2022. At Liberty, he is a member of the Cross Country and Track Teams, Orchestra, and the National Honor Society.

Outdoor Burning Tips

by Fire Chief Scott VanWhy

Now that the weather is getting warmer and you are itching to get out of the house and spend time outside, I would like to review the townships burning ordinance with you.

While sitting around a campfire is fun and relaxing it can also be dangerous. For example, if the weather has been dry and/or low humidity, that will cause brush and grass to dry out, making it easy to ignite and will make a fire spread rapidly. Wind is another factor you must consider when thinking about having a campfire ... If there are high winds you should not be burning; as it is extremely easy for the fire to get out of control in just a few seconds. If these conditions are present, most of the time you will see advisories on Township Signs, email blasts, Township Website and the Official Township Facebook page. Please heed the warnings that are given and be mindful to prevent the threat of a fire spread. Read the ordinance below and make yourself familiar if you plan to have campfires.



§ 58-3 UNLAWFUL ACTS.

Except as hereinafter provided, no person, firm, corporation, business entity, industry or other association shall cause, allow, permit, conduct or maintain outdoor or open burning of any kind, including the burning of any solid waste, recyclable materials, and leaf waste, as defined in Act 101, known as "the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988," as same may be amended from time to time.

§ 58-4 EXCEPTIONS.

All fires conducted under the provisions of this Section shall be constantly attended by an adult, 18 years of age or older, until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment, including but not limited to dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization.

A. A fire set to prevent or abate a fire hazard.

B. Burning shall be permitted for the purpose of instructing personnel in fire-fighting and for exhibitions. Such activity shall meet current National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) standards for this type of activity.

C. A fire set for the prevention and control of disease or pests as authorized by the Board of Supervisors of the Township.

D. Farming. Following proper written notification, in advance, to the Township Manager or his designate, open

burning shall be permitted in conjunction with the production of agricultural commodities in their unmanufactured state on the property of a farm operation.

E. Cooking. Burning of coals or small, contained fires for the purpose of cooking or preparing food for human consumption is permitted when:

(1) The cooking unit is located no less than 15 feet from any combustible materials;

(2) Cooking units are not located on balconies or porches of apartment units exceeding one story above ground level; and

(3) Such activity is conducted in a safe manner and is not prohibited by any other Township or state regulation or statute.

F. Recreational. Following proper written notification, in advance, to the Township Manager or his designate, burning shall be permitted for recreational and ceremonial purposes, (i.e., bonfires and camp fires) if such burning is conducted in a safe manner in a place where open fires are otherwise permitted and such burning is under the direct supervision of an adult until such burning is completely extinguished. Recreational fires shall not be conducted within 30 feet of a structure or combustible material, nor shall the pile size exceed three feet in diameter and two feet in height. The use of burn barrels is not considered a recreational fire.

G. Use of chimneys or outdoor tables with fire pits shall be permitted, provided that they are used exclusively for their intended purpose and comply with the following:

(1) Only nontreated wood products may be burned;

(2) All containers shall have a screen cover on all openings and shall have openings not larger than one-inch square to prevent flying ashes; and

(3) All containers shall be located a minimum of 15 feet from any building or structure.

H. Outdoor fireplaces and outdoor fuel burning appliances built pursuant to a zoning and/or building permit shall be permitted if such burning is conducted in a safe manner complying with all applicable Township or state regulations, restrictions and ordinances.

§ 58-5 HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS.

A. Suspensions. Except for cooking, as set forth in § 58-4, no outdoor burning shall be permitted during any period of fire weather advisory, strong winds, drought, or weather inversion (i.e., hazardous air quality conditions) or during/in any other situation deemed hazardous or objectionable by the Township Manager, his designate or a law enforcement officer.

B. Cancellations. If such hazardous or objectionable conditions develop during a day when burning is being con-

continued on next page

FIRE COMPANY NEWS

FUND DRIVE

Our annual Fund Drive letter was mailed out in May. We still need your help more than ever due to the increased expenses we are still incurring in the battle to fight COVID-19. We depend on your gracious donations to help us support our great Company throughout the year. Your donations help us purchase equipment, maintain our vehicles, and cover workers compensation insurance and other costs associated with the operations of our Fire Company. We need your help so we can be there when you need our help.

THANK YOU

A great big Thank you to Traditions of Hanover!! They donated cases of isolation gowns to the EMS division. The crews must wear a gown over their uniform when treating a potential or confirmed COVID-19 patient. They also donated breakfast for the crews. Our Emergency Responders truly appreciate the gracious donations.

EMERGENCY RESPONDERS NEEDED

HELP US HELP YOU.... COME JOIN OUR TEAM

Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company is always in need of volunteers to serve in many different aspects of our organization. There are different divisions within our company: **Administrative positions**, Firefighting, Fire Police, or EMS. All required training and equipment provided at no cost. If you are interested in exploring how you can help serve your community, contact us at the station 610-867-2103.

*** Please note in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we implemented a "No Visitor" policy at the Fire Station on Stoke Park Road (near Wegman's) in March.***

Visit our website: www.htvfc.org

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<https://www.facebook.com/HTVFCPA>



EMS CORNER

by Karen Peters, EMS Director

1st Quarter Call Statistics for 2021

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Medical Emergencies |467 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents |29 |
| Fire Support |37 |
| Total calls for the quarter | 533 |



SPRING, SUMMER HEALTH AND SAFETY

Flowers are blooming and the trees are turning green and that means spring is here and summer will be here

before we know it, so let get outside and have some fun!

Either if you are playing a sport, or outside doing yard work dehydration is one on the leading causes of a heat related emergency. A sign of early onset of dehydration is the lack of sweat. Sweating is the body's way of cooling your body down. Once you stop sweating your body will overheat. If you notice a family member, friend or neighbor outside with red dry skin and not acting normal this is a late sign of severe heat stroke and 911 should be called immediately. The hotter the temperature the more breaks you need to take to prevent dehydration. Do not wait until you



are thirsty. Drink plenty of water during activity especially in warm weather. Avoid too much alcohol and caffeine. Gatorade and other sports drinks are also good but loaded with sugar, so the zero sugar ones work the best. The water to sports drinks should be 2:1, two glasses of water to one glass of a sports drink.

Sunburn can also cause great harm during the summer 1 out of 3 Americans report getting sunburn a year. Use high SPF sunscreen to protect against sunburn. Reapply sunscreen often especially if you are sweating or doing activities in the water. Stay in the shade during peak hours (11 a.m. to 4 p.m.). Keep children in the shade as much as possible. Cover your skin and wear a hat. Not protecting your skin from the sun can cause skin cancer.

When doing yard work remember to wear proper protective equipment, such as hearing protecting, eye protecting and gloves. A good practice is also to wear long pants and some type of safety shoes to protect your feet and legs. When mowing the grass, or using a weed trimmer, rocks or branches can kick up and can cause injuries to your feet or legs. Each year about 7 thousand people sustain serious bodily injuries from lawn mowers. Always check your surrounding when on a riding mower when turning or backing up. Look out for other people around you, or hazards that can cause a loss of control of the mower or a rollover.

Avoid water-related injuries; always bring someone with you when engaging in water sports. If you have children, make sure an adult is supervising. Do not drink alcoholic beverages before water activities.

With all that said let us all have a great and safe summer!

OUTDOOR BURNING TIPS *continued from page 8*

ducted, existing permits may be canceled by the Township Manager, or his designate, or a law enforcement officer. Upon notification that hazardous conditions have developed and all burning is to be canceled, residents conducting burning shall, immediately following such notification, fully extinguish all active fires, including embers thereof.

C. Extinguishing fires. If the Township Manager, his designate, or a law enforcement officer determines any burning is in violation of this chapter, or to be hazardous to the health or welfare of the Township residents, the person(s) conducting the burning shall, upon notification, fully extinguish all active fires, including embers thereof.

§ 58-6 STORAGE AND DISPOSAL OF CERTAIN COMBUSTIBLES.

A. Storage. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation or other association to store or deposit ashes, smoldering coals or embers, grease or oil substances, or other matter liable to spontaneous combustion, within 10 feet of any wooden or plastered wall, partition, fence, floor, lumber, hay or straw, shavings, rubbish or other combustible material, except in metallic or other noncombustible receptacles. Such receptacle, unless resting on the ground outside the building, must be placed on a noncombustible surface and in every case must be kept at least two feet from any wall or partition.

B. Disposal. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation or other association making, using, storing or having charge or control of any trash, garbage, shavings, excelsior, rubbish, sacks, bags, litter, hay, straw or other combustible material, to fail, neglect or refuse at the close of each day to cause all such material to be removed from the premises or to be stored in a noncombustible receptacle as described above.

C. Exception. This provision shall not apply to the storing of hay, straw, fodder and other materials, including the normal homeowner clean-up and temporary storage of yard waste, when such materials are stored in a safe and appropriate manner away from any source of ignition, or pursuant to a farming operation when such materials are stored in structures especially intended for such storage (e.g., barns, etc.)

§ 58-7 VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES.

A. Any person, firm or corporation, or the plural thereof, who shall violate any of the terms or provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a summary offense and upon conviction thereof in District Court, be sentenced to pay a fine not less than \$300 nor more than \$1,000 and the costs of prosecution for each offense. In default of payment of any fine or penalty imposed by a Magisterial District Justice under the provisions of this chapter, the person or persons may be committed to the county correctional facility for a period not exceeding 30 days.

B. Each day a violation of this chapter is committed shall constitute a separate offense and shall be punishable as such hereunder.

C. This section shall not preclude the Township from any other remedy it may have at law or equity.

§ 58-8 LIABILITY.

The Township and its agents, officials and representatives shall not, under any circumstances, be liable or responsible for damages caused to any person or property by reason of the provisions of this chapter or by reason of conduct of any burning activity in compliance with the terms and provisions of this chapter. The individual person or party responsible for any such fire shall bear sole liability for any damages caused as a result thereof.

Sign, Sign, everywhere a Sign; *Unless it's a STOP Sign!*

By Jim Milot, TSOS, TOPS, Traffic Coordinator, Hanover Engineering

We often get requests from residents to place stop signs along township roadways for various reasons; however, did you know the placement of "STOP" signs is a carefully regulated process. As an Official Traffic Control Device, Federal and State regulations mandate the use and placement of STOP signs to designate preferential right-of-way for the intersection of two roadways or the intersection of a driveway entering a through street. Stop signs are intended to minimize the number of vehicles having to stop (side street approaches only) unless a traffic study documents the need to place a STOP sign along the major street in accordance with Federal and State regulations.

STOP signs are not to be utilized for speed control. Studies indicate excessive use of STOP signs promote non-compliance with rolling stops and increased mid-block vehicle speeds, while increasing air pollution and energy consumption. Keep all this in mind the next time you stop at a STOP sign.



WHEN YOUR CAR'S LEAKING OIL ON THE STREET, REMEMBER IT'S NOT JUST LEAKING OIL ON THE STREET.



Leaking oil goes from car to street. And is washed from the street into the storm drain and into our lakes, streams and into coastal waters including the Chesapeake Bay. Now imagine the number of cars in the area and you can imagine the amount of oil that finds its way from leaky gaskets into our water. So please, fix oil leaks.

If you have questions regarding storm water, please contact your municipality or Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Regional Office. For general questions, you may also contact DEP's Bureau of Water Management at (717) 772-1561 or visit www.dep.state.pa.us. Thanks to the Washington State Water Quality Consortium for permission to adapt and use this poster.

WHEN YOU'RE FERTILIZING THE LAWN, REMEMBER, YOU'RE NOT JUST FERTILIZING THE LAWN.



You fertilize the lawn. Then it rains. The rain washes the fertilizer along the curb, into the storm drain, and directly into our lakes, streams and into coastal waters including the Chesapeake Bay. This causes algae to grow, which uses up oxygen that fish need to survive. So if you fertilize, please follow directions and use sparingly.

If you have questions regarding storm water, please contact your municipality or Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Regional Office. For general questions, you may also contact DEP's Bureau of Water Management at (717) 772-1561 or visit www.dep.state.pa.us. Thanks to the Washington State Water Quality Consortium for permission to adapt and use this poster.

MICHAEL MELINSKY

continued from page 2

go over the railroad tracks, you went too far." I have seen a steady increase in training and professionalism. Many laws have changed, and policing concepts have changed.

Police officers who have survived were willing to accept and embrace those concepts and change. In today's world, policing is still ever evolving, and we need to accept change and embrace it. The Colonial Regional Police Department has been an accredited Agency since 2006. So, when recent mandates changed in Use of Force, just to name one, we reviewed our policies and found we have been doing it right since our inception. I credit this to our first Chief, Daniel Spang, a retired Major of the State Police, and the continuation of these practices with Chief Roy Seiple and now, James DePalma. Spang once said, "Treat everyone fairly and as if they were one of your family."

So as Deputy Chief, I want to maintain our accreditation, policing the right way, accept and embrace change, and follow Spang's words of wisdom. As Deputy Chief, I believe we need to maintain our hiring practice of only hiring the "Best of the Best". I would like to see the department become more diversified. I wish to build morale among the officers and train more.

Post pandemic, I would like to see the department go back to being more proactive than reactive. I would like to be transparent using social media more and get back out in the community with programs such as the Citizens Police Academy and Coffee with a Cop. I have no real concerns. I believe the department is running well and the officers are doing a great job. I believe there is always room to improve and will strive to keep the department moving in the direction it is. My door is always open to the officers and, most of all, to the citizens we serve."



**CRPD 15th Shop With A Cop
Saturday, December 11, 2021**

NEWS YOU CAN USE

by Representative Ann Flood, 138th Legislative District



The popular state Property Tax/Rent Rebate program is now accepting online applications and the federal government has postponed implementation of REAL ID requirements.

Senior citizens and people with disabilities eligible for the state's 2020 Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program can now file for their rebates online at www.MyPath.Pa.Gov.

You don't have to create an account to submit your application online. Applying online can lead to faster processing and direct deposit options, instant confirmation that your application has been filed, an online tracking tool to monitor the status of your claim, and security features to ensure your sensitive information is safe.

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate program benefits Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older with incomes limited to \$35,000 a year for homeowners and \$15,000 annually for renters. Half of Social Security income is excluded.

The maximum standard rebate is \$650, but supplemental rebates for certain qualifying homeowners can boost rebates to \$975. The Revenue Department automatically calculates supplemental rebates for qualifying homeowners.

The deadline to apply for a rebate is June 30. Rebates will be distributed beginning July 1, as required by law. You do not need to pay for help with filing your application. My office can provide help at no charge. Please call our Wind Gap district office at 610-746-2100 for assistance.

In other news, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security recently announced it again postponed the enforcement date for REAL ID until May 3, 2023, citing ongoing pandemic restrictions that have impacted states' ability to process and issue the enhanced driver licenses and identification cards.

REAL ID is a federal law that affects how states issue driver's licenses and ID cards if they are going to be acceptable for federal purposes. A federally acceptable form of identification must now be used on and after May 3, 2023, to board a domestic commercial flight or visit a secure federal building or military installation that requires ID for access. Federally acceptable forms of identification include a Pennsylvania REAL ID driver's license or ID card, a valid U.S. passport/passport card or a military ID.

REAL ID is optional in Pennsylvania. There is no requirement that any resident obtain a REAL ID. PennDOT will continue to offer standard-issue driver's licenses and photo IDs.

For more information about REAL ID and how to obtain one, visit www.PennDOT.gov/REALID.

Scavello Renews Push to Provide School Property Tax Relief in Pennsylvania

by Senator Mario M. Scavello,
Senate District 40 (includes Hanover Township)



This year I have once again introduced two bills to provide much needed school property tax relief for Pennsylvania's homeowners. Property taxes continue to rise at an alarming rate. No tax should have the power to leave you homeless, and no citizen should be forced to choose between paying for food, medicine, or their school property tax bill.

My first piece of legislation, Senate Bill 590, would provide a property tax rebate of up to \$5,000 for all seniors age 65 and older who have an annual household income of \$60,000 or less. (Fifty percent of your Social Security benefits are excluded when determining the annual household income) This legislation expands upon the existing Property Tax Rent Rebate Program. With a rebate of up to \$5,000, the legislation would eliminate school property taxes for the majority of senior across the commonwealth. It is important to keep seniors in their homes as any new child that occupies that home, if a senior is forced to sell, adds a roughly \$20,000 expense per year to the local school district.

To fund this tax relief, Senate Bill 591 provides for a one-half percent increase in the sales and use tax. This legislation does not expand the sales and use tax to other items — all currently taxable and non-taxable items would remain the same.

I have also introduced Senate Bill 587 to provide the revenue necessary to eliminate school property taxes on all owner-occupied homes via the homestead exclusion. This legislation followed the Constitutional Amendment question passed by voters in 2017 expanding the homestead exclusion to 100 percent of a home's assessed value. The voters spoke and I acted.

I've sponsored similar legislation in the previous session and have fought diligently for the complete elimination of school property taxes. I will continue to fight for total elimination of school property taxes. I'm proud to say I've co-sponsored and voted for Senate Bill 76 on multiple occasions.

If you have questions about this or any other state issue, please do not hesitate to contact me at 610-863-1200 or mscavello@pasen.gov.

Let's keep our neighborhoods safe for our children

Supervisor Jeff Warren, Administration



It's that time of year when sunny and warmer days are part of our lives. Getting out into the open air, soaking up the rays of sun and enjoying the company of others – no matter what age – has been a long time coming for so many of us. Personally, I've been able to enjoy time with my daughters at the Hanover Township Community Center park area on weekends as we've played wiffle ball and football. My daughters and many other children in our community have been biking around the township and playing with their neighborhood friends, block by block and house by house.

Our neighborhood kids have been tried and tested this past year. Many have been cooped up in their homes for months on end doing schoolwork and staying safe from COVID-19. The majority of children want to be outside of their home, playing with friends when the weather is nice. We're seeing more and more of this. We are also seeing more and more traffic as the world opens up.

Some township residents have been concerned for their children's safety as they've seen motorists running stop signs in neighborhoods and not adhering to speed limits on long stretches of roadways (such as Stoke Park Road, Macada Road, and Jacksonville Road). Are there times when a basketball or baseball may accidentally roll into a street, and then chased down by a child? Absolutely. This happens almost daily in my neighborhood. While this may sound elementary, our vehicles need to stop at stop signs and adhere to speed limits to help keep our children safe.

Over the past couple of decades and according to SafeKids USA, the total number of children ages 14 and under killed as pedestrians has decreased by 40%, which is great news. However, pedestrian injury is still the second leading cause of injury-related death in the United States for children ages 5 to 14.

The Colonial Regional Police Department has been and will continue to monitor our neighborhoods throughout the spring and well into the summer to help ensure the safety of our kids who are out and about. While our police department cannot monitor every single stop sign at all times of the day and night within our township, it's up to us to drive with care throughout our township streets.

Let's keep our eyes open for kids in our neighborhood who may be enjoying their time with their friends. Let's make sure as the nicer and warmer weather allows us to enjoy our community, we continue to keep Hanover Township a safe community for our children.

From County Executive Lamont McClure

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant."

– Ann Bradstreet



This past winter was hard, not just because of the weather, but also from dealing with the ravages of the Coronavirus. With vaccines available, hospitalizations decreasing and Governor Wolf's announcement to drop the mandatory mitigation measures it appears that warmer, sunnier days are ahead for the County of Northampton.

But we understand that some of our residents might still be struggling with the aftereffects of the pandemic, so we want you to be aware of programs which are available to help.

The COVID-19 drive-through testing center is still open at 2801 Emrick Boulevard, Bethlehem Township. If you think you've been exposed or are showing symptoms, bring your ID and insurance card, if you have one. Tests are free for County residents who don't have insurance. The site is open from 10 AM – 1 PM on Monday / Wednesday / Friday and from 3 PM – 6 PM on Tuesday / Thursday.

One important revelation given to us from the pandemic is the importance of our parks and trails. Northampton County is continuing to make investments in preserving farmland and open space and to increase our number of parks. We added two additional properties last year: Little Martins Preserve in Lower Mount Bethel Township and a 76-acre parcel in Williams Township which includes the famous Hexenkopt Rock. Renovations are taking place this year at Wy-Hit-Tuk Park and along the Nor-Bath Trail.

With some of the pandemic restrictions eased, we plan to hold our annual County Festival on October 16th at Louise Moore Park. I hope you can join me there. We have a lot to celebrate.

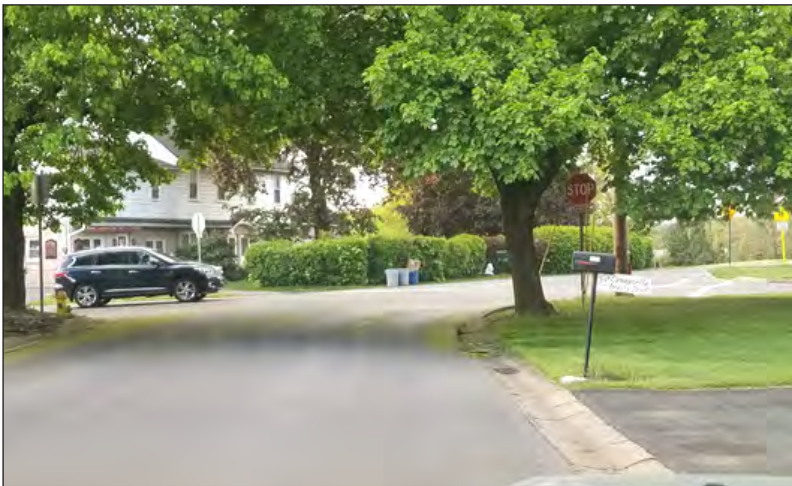


POLICE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

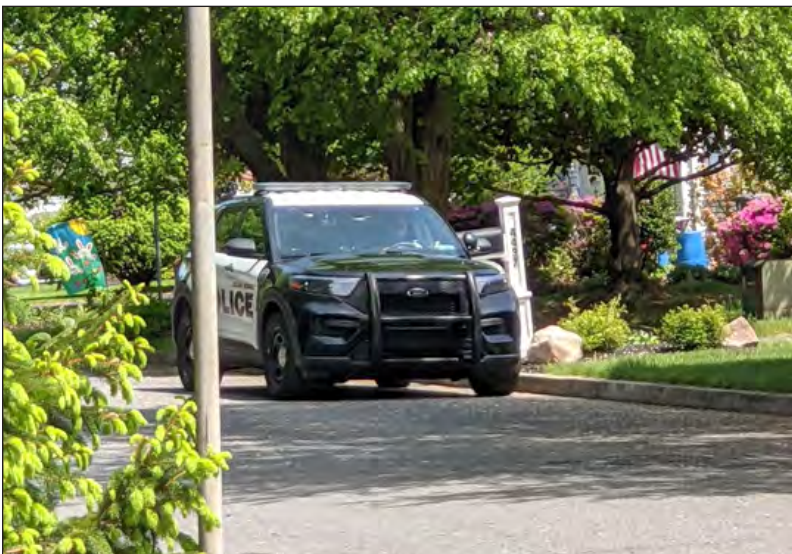


Residents and visitors to Hanover Township have noticed an increase in traffic violation enforcements. Warnings and citations have been issues for speeding, stop sign violations and pedestrian crosswalk violations. What they have found is many of the violators are your neighbors. Pay attention, you can't afford a moving violation that results in points being added to your license.

Later this summer the Colonial Regional Police Department in conjunction with the Northampton County DUI Task Force will conduct a Sobriety Checkpoint in the Township.



CRPD Officers conducting stop sign enforcement on Stoke Park Road.



CRPD Officers conducting stop sign enforcement on Greenfield Road.

April 22 EARTH DAY – 50th Anniversary

April 24 ARBOR DAY

Both of these April holidays emphasize the importance of trees for our health and the health of the planet.



EARTH DAY 1970 inspired 20 million Americans - at the time, 10% of the total population of the United States - to take to the streets, parks and auditoriums to demonstrate against the impacts of 150 years of industrial development which had left a growing legacy of serious human health impacts.

Earth Day achieved a rare political alignment, enlisting support from Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, urban dwellers and farmers, business and labor leaders. By the end of 1970, the first Earth Day led to the creation of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. Then important laws were passed including the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act. These laws have protected millions of men, women and children from disease and death and have protected hundreds of species from extinction.

One of the Earth Day campaigns is THE CANOPY PROJECT. Since 2010, the Earth Day Network has planted tens of millions of trees across the globe, improving our shared environment.

continued on next page

ARBOR DAY is the annual observance, begun in Nebraska in 1872, that celebrates the role of trees in our lives and promotes tree planting and tree care. On the first Arbor Day approximately one million trees were planted in Nebraska alone. Today Arbor Day is celebrated around the world as people and countries come to see the great value of trees.

The Arbor Day Foundation sponsors Time for Trees with the goal of planting 100 million trees by Arbor Day 2022. As of this spring over 70 million trees have already been planted by over 4 million new tree planters. You can add to this list in Hanover Township!

1. Plant a new tree.
2. Replace your street tree if one of yours has died or is missing. Fill out an on-line permit and select a tree from our Approved Tree List (found on-line), 2" minimum diameter. In most cases, use the "Without Overhead Wires" list.
3. Appreciate the value of trees: they clean the air, provide shade and reduce energy use, beautify our neighborhoods, provide homes for birds, and increase property value.

If you are planting or pruning, check these websites for proper techniques. How a tree is planted and pruned will impact its longevity.

www.treesaregood.org

Click Tree Owner Information

www.arborday.org

Click Trees, then Planting and Care.

If you hire someone to plant or prune, be sure they know the proper methods.



SCHOOL NEWS

HANOVER HAWKS HIGHLIGHTS

At Hanover Elementary School, we are high achieving, always leading, working together, kindhearted students. We have been very busy this school year! This fall, we celebrated International Peace Day, a day to highlight diversity and inclusion. Our students made pinwheels for peace. We also celebrated Unity Day, our students wore orange and created a school wide unity chain and spoke about ways to be allies against bullying, not bystanders. We celebrated Veteran's Day with a virtual celebration to honor family members and members of our community who served in the military. As the holidays approached, a giving tree was organized to purchase gifts for the less fortunate and pajamas and books were purchased for the Pajama Program for group homes and shelters in the area. This spring, we are continuing to work with the Kellyn Foundation to learn how to grow food from seed to harvest, learn about healthy eating habits and all-around wellness. We are looking forward to a Martial Arts outdoor program and Hawk Walk 2021 which promotes a healthy lifestyle and raise funds for the students. We also enjoyed, hat day, pajama day and pretzel day! We thank our parents for their continuing support.

NITSCHMANN MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

by Dr. Peter Mayes

First and foremost, thank you to all of our students, families, and community members for supporting our 2020-2021 school year. We are expecting to return to a traditional schedule for the 2021-2022 school year and welcome all of our students together this fall for the first day of school on Monday, August 30, 2021.

Nitschmann Middle School is gearing up for its 100th Anniversary for the 2021-2022 school year! We will be hosting several special events throughout the school year to honor our 100 years of learning in Bethlehem, but also look towards a bright future serving our community as we move into our next 100 years! Please stay up-to-date on our events on our Nitschmann Middle School website (<https://basd-wpweb.beth.k12.pa.us/nitschmann/>), the BASD app available from your smartphone app store, or our social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram.

Summer learning activities & camps will be occurring this summer at Nitschmann, including free activity camps for students in July and ramp-up activities to prepare our students to return in August for the first day of school. A highlight will be our NMS Mountain Biking club, sponsored through a grant through Specialized and the Riding for Focus grant with our full complement of 50 high-end mountain bikes!

In addition, our 100th Anniversary NMS Marching Band & Color Guard will be kicking off practice in August, along with our 100th Anniversary fall sports teams, including football, field hockey, cross country, and volleyball. We are looking forward to welcoming all students back to full activities and sports this fall.

Hanover Township Memorial Golf Tournament 17TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 17th Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, June 26, 2021 Bethlehem Golf Club, in Bethlehem, PA. Tentative start times for the shotgun format are 8 am and 1 pm. Due to the Covid-19 crisis, we are currently working with the golf course to determine the procedures format for the tournament. The tournament will be first come, first served, as there may be a limit on the number of participants the golf course can accommodate while maintaining social distancing protocols. Entry fee is \$100 per player.

EVENTS: There will be closest to the pins on the par 3's, long drive for both men and women and of course, the annual putting contest -- Please consider chipping in \$5 to the cause to have a chance to win the BlackStone flat top griddle courtesy of Caccamo & Associates!

FOOD: The morning group will have bagels from Three Men and a Bagel and the afternoon group will be getting a hot dog at the turn. The main meal will be in the Pavilion at the after party that starts around 6:00 pm. Food from Pizza Village and Clubhouse Grille with beer, wine and a cash bar for other drinks.

PRIZES: Closest to the pins, long drives, putting contest and top teams. We are working on a "trophy" to be kept at the Clubhouse Grille for bragging rights for years to come.

Visit the website: www.htmgt.org



2021 CRPD Citizen's Police Academy

August 25, 2021 thru October 27, 2021

Having graduated several classes now, the academy shows the citizens of the area just what the police do in the course of their days. Classes include Accident Investigation, Crimes Code, Use of Force, and more. Demonstrations and tours are conducted including the prison, 911 Center and more.

If interested please email, call, or fax the application located on our website. Deadline is **August 6, 2021**.

(website) www.colonialregionalpd.org

(email) info@colonialregionalpd.org

(phone) 610-861-4820

(fax) 610-861-4829



■ PROTECT OUR WATERSHED ■

SPRING TIPS



CLEAR

Uncover and clean catch basins, drains, gutters, and downspouts to help avoid flooding.



PLANT

Plant trees, native plants, and ground cover to soak up spring rains and provide food and habitat for pollinators.



PROTECT

Move stored chemicals, such as salt, fertilizers, and pesticides to high areas where potential flooding cannot reach.



MAINTAIN

Inspect and pump septic tanks and make sure your sump pump is working properly. Install a water alarm in basement in case of flooding.



DISPOSE

Dispose of any household chemicals left over from spring cleaning or yard work at a local recycling event or a Northampton County recycling and disposal location.



PICK UP

Pick up pet waste and dispose in a trash receptacle.

■ PROTECT OUR WATERSHED ■

SUMMER TIPS



MEASURE

Always follow directions to use proper amounts of fertilizer and herbicides. Too much can wash off your property into storm drains and can harm aquatic life.



REUSE

Keep grass at least 3" to promote healthy root growth. Dispose of clippings in a compost pile or yard waste bag so they don't wash into storm drains and then our streams. Clippings also make great natural mulch!



CARE

Have a spill kit handy to immediately clean up any spills in your driveway like gas or oil leaks.



CONSERVE

Watch your watering! Lawns only need about 1" of rain per week. Overwatering can result in runoff, which can carry fertilizers and herbicides along with it. Avoid watering during mid-day.



CLEAN UP

Get involved in a local stream or neighborhood cleanup.



WASH

Wash cars at commercial car washes, where wash water is connected to sanitary sewers and treated. At home, wash your car on the grass, not the driveway, so soapy water doesn't wash into storm drains.

Stormwater Management for the Homeowner

Residential Rain Gardens are an easy and effective tool that we can use to help reduce stormwater runoff from residential properties in Hanover Township. These gardens are strategically placed to intercept stormwater runoff until it can be fully absorbed into the ground. Their design allows the rain garden to serve almost as a bowl that collects water from downspouts or overland flow across a property. The water is then able to slowly infiltrate into the underlying soil. Rain Gardens can come in all different shapes and sizes but work best when planted with native species indigenous to the area.

How Rain Gardens Work

The existing soil within the rain garden is removed (or amended) and replaced with a more permeable soil typically consisting of a mix of sand, topsoil and compost. These soils will allow for easier water percolation. Sizing of the rain garden is dependent upon the amount of water that is expected to enter into the garden during a rain event. The garden is planted with trees, shrubs and perennials before being covered in a layer of mulch. The completed rain garden will have a slight depression that is used to temporarily collect runoff so it can infiltrate slowly. Rain gardens have the same look and feel as any other landscaped beds but with the added benefit of increased stormwater infiltration.



Plants

- Native species
- Consider sun, partial sun or shade
- Aesthetically pleasing

Soils

- Loose soil for infiltration, root growth
- 50% Sand-25% Topsoil-25% Compost

Ground Cover

- Gravel or mulch
- Traps moisture and moderates soil temperature
- Large stones can be added to improve aesthetics



Rain Barrels—Rain barrels are simple structures designed to collect and hold water runoff from roof tops. By collecting rain runoff, the water can be stored easily for later use. Watering lawns and gardens with the stored water is an excellent way to reuse the stored water.

Backyard Streams—For homeowners with backyard streams, a vegetative buffer zone should be allowed to form. The broader the vegetative zone, the more filtration can occur before entering the stream system.

Wildflower Meadows—Wildflower meadows are a beautiful addition to any homeowner's property and require almost no maintenance beyond choosing the appropriate site location.

When choosing plants for your rain garden consider the direction the rain garden will be facing. Consider how the plants will handle water as the middle of the garden will be wetter than the outer edges. Native plants such as Buffalo Grass, Prairie Dropseed, Black Eyed Susan and Common Ninebark are native species that have hardy root systems. Native species will be your best planting option because they need little maintenance once established, will love the growing conditions, offer benefits to native wildlife and improve your landscaping. Rain Gardens require about the same amount of maintenance as a standard landscaped bed. The first year is the most important as weeding and watering is critical to your plants taking hold.

Hanoverview

Hanover Township Newsletter

3630 Jacksonville Road

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18017-9302

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
LEHIGH VALLEY, PA
PERMIT NO. 522

DELIVER AS ADDRESSED
OR TO CURRENT RESIDENT

ESSENTIAL WORKERS:



There are people who performed extraordinary tasks in the face of the COVID-19 Pandemic. **WE**

ARE THANKFUL FOR THE:

*Thank
you!*

Doctors
Nurses
Emergency Room Technicians
Paramedics
EMT'S
First Responders
Fire Fighters
Police Officers
Public Works Staff
Township Employees
Nursing Home Staff

Assisted Living Facility Staff
Independent Living Facility Staff
Grocery Store Employees
(i.e., Weis, Wegmans, etc.)
Mass Retailers
(i.e., Lowe's, Home Depot,
Walmart, Target, etc.)
Truckers delivering life sustaining
equipment, medical supplies,
groceries, etc.

Teachers, Teacher Aids
School Administrators
Pharmacists
Pharmacy Techs
Pharmacy Employees
Gas Station Attendants
Restaurateurs and their
employees who are
providing take-out
meals,
ETC, ETC!!!