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Asst. Public Works Director
Martin M. Limpar

Zoning Officer
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Newsletter Submission
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*Deadline for the
next newsletter*
May 13, 2022

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**COMMUNITY
CENTER STAFF**

Recreation Director
Matthew S. DeGeorge

Hanoverview

State of the Township Message

by John N. Diacogiannis, Immediate Past Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

This is my 17th and likely final State of the Township message recapping the previous year. Yes, it's hard to imagine that my 17 years as the Board of Supervisors Chairman has gone by so quickly. Even more unimaginable is my service on the Board has spanned 37 years. While I have at least four more years to serve on the Board, I believe it appropriate

to step aside and let someone else enjoy the privilege of Chairmanship. At our Annual Reorganization Meeting in early January, Jack Nagle was elected our new Chairman and Mike Prendeville was re-elected Vice Chairman. I sincerely appreciate the support and understanding that everyone has given me over these years.

Thank you all for helping Hanover Township maneuver through very difficult, trying



and sometimes unsettling few years. We have all struggled in some way through this pandemic – our families, friends, employers, employees, shopkeepers and service providers. Frontline workers in medical, law enforcement, fire service, EMS and public works jobs have stepped up to the task of protecting and serving us all. We owe them a huge amount of gratitude.

2021 was a rebirth of sorts. Our township administration and public works department continued to address and handle the impacts of the pandemic. Our workforce worked safely and with minimal disruptions. Streets and facilities were well maintained. Our administration and public works department managed to effectively address supply chain issues that we have all faced. 2021 also saw

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAIRMAN - An Introduction

by John D. Nagle, Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Happy New Year! A new year is upon us and the slate is clean. 2021 was a lot like 2020, so let's just pass that by and look ahead. Before I do that, let me do a quick wrap up of what the Board has accomplished in 2021.

HERE IS THE BIG NEWS— with a coalition of Supervisors, Citizens, Professional Staff led by the recently re-elected Mike Prendeville, we have come up with financing and a developing plan for the Pool!!! I am sure that Mike's article will deal with greater detail, but we anticipate have digging equipment out on site in late



Spring/early Summer! Yes, this Spring/early Summer!

Further great news, with the help of federal funds, we will be addressing several of the water run-off issues that have been a great nuisance to the Township.

And the last bit of great news, the Board has managed to accomplish this WITHOUT a tax increase.

I am happy to announce that my fellow Supervisors have entrusted me with the responsibility of chairing our Board. John Diacogiannis has chosen to step down after 17 years as Chairman. John has

continued on page 2

STATE OF THE TOWNSHIP *continued from page 1*

the resoundingly successful reopening of the Hanover Township Community Center with a mostly new staff and a renewed sense of direction and purpose. Old programs have returned and new programs have been introduced. Plans for this year are expected to see a rebound of summer parks and camps programs, a restart of the preschool program and other programs for young and old alike. With everyone's support and participation, these programs will be better than ever. We also look forward to the construction of a new modern swimming pool complex, with completion targeted for 2023.

Your Board's support for the Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company and Ambulance Corp and the Colonial Regional Police Department is stronger than ever. A new tanker/pumper fire truck is on order and delivery is expected by year-end. CRPD hired three new officers who are currently active and one officer who is currently at the Police Academy. CRPD also had several promotions to Chief, Deputy Chief, Detective Sergeant and two new Sergeants. 2021 also marked CRPD's renewal of the highly respected Accreditation by the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association.

A \$7.5 million loan has been approved and is in the process of being secured. This will provide funding for our new pool complex project as well as to supplement Federal American Rescue Plan funding for important stormwater management projects.

While the Township has relatively little developable land remaining, we have been actively engaged in the development of a multi-municipal comprehensive plan consisting of 10 neighboring municipalities. This very involved effort was initiated in 2017 and is nearing completion. I don't expect any substantial changes to existing land uses; however, the multi-municipal plan may help us avoid, or at least provide flexibility in addressing the traffic impacts from developments in neighboring municipalities. We join several other multi-municipal comprehensive plans that have been or are being developed in Northampton and Lehigh Counties. It's a smart intergovernmental cooperative arrangement that helps to bring stronger guidance to development in the Lehigh Valley.

The Board restarted in-person meetings this past June. Meetings held in our meeting room are streamed online and recordings of these meetings are available on our website. Hanover Township is well positioned for a great year. We can't do it alone - we need your help. Please participate in township events, take part in the programs offered at the Community Center, volunteer and get involved or just visit. With everyone's help we will have a successful 2022.

AN INTRODUCTION: *continued from page 1*

been a strong & steady force in the many years he has been on the Board both as a member and as its Chair. I hope I can live up to his example. John will continue to be on the Board as a Supervisor and will continue as a Commissioner to the Colonial Regional Police Department.

A little about myself for those of you who do not know me or are one of the many people new to the Township, I originally grew up in the City of Bethlehem prior to my family moving to Bethlehem Township. I have lived in Hanover Township since 1989, living in Hanover Farms, Pointe North, and currently in the Westgate area. I graduated from Freedom High School, NCC and Bloomsburg University. My career was in mostly technology sales with companies such as Burroughs, NYNEX, Xerox, and Dun & Bradstreet. I have been retired since January 2016.

My service to the Township began in 2000 when I was elected to the Township Board of Auditors where I served for 6 years, 5 as Chairman. Currently, I am in 17th year as a member of YOUR Board of Supervisors. While on the Board, I have served as the liaison to the Bethlehem Public Library, been on the ad-hoc Compensation Committee, served as a Police Commissioner, and have actively participated in the all-important budget process.

My goals, as your new Chairman, are to continue with responsible fiscal practices, while providing excellent snow removal, Fire and EMT services, an active Community Center, developing the stormwater run-off project and completing the pool project. Additionally, I welcome any and all input from my fellow Supervisors and especially, from my fellow citizens. My mantra, over the years that I have served on your Board, is the most important point of local government, is that the members of the Board are your neighbors and are here to serve YOU! That will be the theme of my Chairmanship.

2022 Real Estate Tax Bills



Your real estate tax bill will be mailed to each property owner by the first week in February. If you do not receive your bill by mid-February or if you have any tax questions, please call

Berkheimer Tax Administrators at 866.300.1714 or 610.599.3143. **Payments will not be accepted at the Township's Municipal office.**

HAPPY NEW YEAR & A SAFE WINTER

It is our pleasure to present to you Hanover Township's Winter *Hanoverview* newsletter. This publication contains valuable information regarding local government operations and services. The Township publishes three Hanoverviews per year (Winter, Spring/Summer & Fall). It is our pleasure to present to you Hanover Township's Winter Newsletter.

This publication contains valuable information regarding local government operations and services. If you have any questions about township services, we encourage you to visit the township's website at hanovertwp-nc.org. Our website is an ideal starting point to search for Hanover Township contacts, information, events, and news. Please also check out the Hanover Township Community Center's (HTTC) website at <https://hanovercommunitycenter.com> for full information on recreation activities, fitness classes, special events, and other offerings.

Amid the global coronavirus pandemic, the past year has been difficult and challenging for all of us. We thank you for your patience and understanding as Hanover has had to change its policies on facility access and operating procedures. Please check the township's website and social media for updates on these policies.

We wish you a safe, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

Hanover Township Board of Supervisors and Staff

REMINDER ABOUT ROADSIDE BASKETBALL HOOPS

A gentle reminder to everyone that both portable and permanent basketball structures, along and within township roads and rights-of-way, are not permitted as it promotes recreational activity in the street. This is a very dangerous practice. These structures are classified as accessory structures and while they are permitted on the same lot as the principal use, they are not allowed within the township right-of-way. Please abide by this restriction as we don't want anyone to get hurt. Placing these in the rights-of-way is dangerous to large vehicles, particularly Township plows and delivery trucks.



2022 Township Budget

by John J. Finnigan, Jr., Township Manager

The 2022 Budget adopted by the Board of Supervisors maintains the Township Tax Rate at 3.9 mills, including the Fire Tax of .5 mills, for the **fifteenth** consecutive year. Hanover Township remains on sound financial footing because of the dedication and commitment of the Township Board of Supervisors and Township staff the Township has become and continue as one of the premier locations to live and work in the Lehigh Valley.



During 2022, Hanover Township projects receiving \$11,265,557 in General Fund Revenue and a similar amount of Expenses. This compares to a budgeted amount of \$9,042,180 in 2021. The vast majority of increase is the income received from the American Rescue Plan offset by similar expenses.

Sources of revenue include, but are not limited to real estate taxes, fire tax, waste and recycling fees, earned income tax, local services taxes, mercantile taxes, American Rescue Plan, real estate transfer taxes, grants, and building and inspection fees. The General Fund expenditures include costs associated with Public Works, Administration, Planning and Zoning and Inspections, Colonial Regional Police, Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company No. 1, Refuse and Recycling and the Bethlehem Area Public Library.

During 2022, Hanover Township estimates receiving \$781,002 in Recreation Revenues & Expenses.

Sources of revenue include, but are not limited to memberships, rental of facilities, fundraising, program fees, catering, advertising – newsletter, programs, and fundraisers. The 2022 Recreation expenditures include costs associated with salaries, operating expenses including utilities, supplies, equipment, park maintenance and training, fundraising costs, and services.

During 2022 road resurfacing is anticipated to be completed on Courtney Street and Stoke Park Road (from Jacksonville to the Faulkner curve).

An Update on the Hanover Township Pool

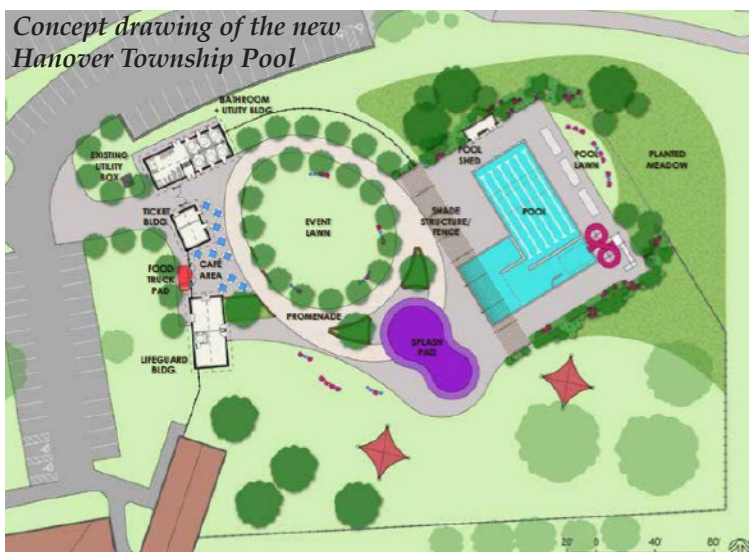
Mike Prendeville, Vice Chairman Board of Supervisors



The Pool Advisory Board and the Board of Supervisors have made significant progress in constructing the framework needed to address the rehabilitation of the Hanover Township pool. During Q3/Q4 2021, the Township executed a contract with a financial consultant to collect bids for a \$7.5M loan to be used for 2 purposes, storm water remediation and rehabbing the pool. Due to the Townships outstanding financial history and fiscal policy, the Township received outstanding terms for a \$7.5M loan over 20 years at 1.470%. The Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance for the authorization and directing approving the issuance of the Township's general obligation note, series of 2022, and in the aggregate principal amount of \$7.5 M. Furthermore, the Township executed a contract with a firm to put the Bid Documents together in compliance with the laws of the Commonwealth of PA. The project will be bid and a contract(s) will be executed with expected completion in time for a pool opening in June 2023.

The Pool Advisory Board is working with BKP Architects on the design features of the pool, amenities and surrounding areas. BKP is designing a package to send to a cost estimator for pricing. Pricing components include: pool, splash pad, pump/bathroom building, check-in/storage building, snack bar/lifeguard building, site work, etc. This process is designed to allow the BOS the ability to understand the cost of each piece and decide what to include in our push to complete final documents for bidding (bidding in March if all goes well).

The Pool Advisory Board and Township staff wanted to incorporate an event area that can be used year-round. The new pool design incorporates feedback taken directly from residents during the survey / public meetings on the pool. The new configuration of the pool will be built within the existing framework of the existing pool. All of the piping underneath the pool will be sealed off with a new piping system being encased in a culvert that surrounds the exterior of the structure. Any voids underneath the pool will also be addressed. As staff and the Pool Advisory Board continue to work with the architects and engineers, stay tuned for updates.



From County Executive Lamont McClure



Something very unusual happened on December 2nd; County Council approved an 8.5% cut. This was the first time the County has cut Real Estate taxes since 2000. That cut featured a drop of 0.1 in the millage rate; the cut Council just passed slashed a full mill (11.8 to 10.8).

How are we able to do this with a global pandemic still in full swing?

The last time Northampton County raised the property tax was for the 2017 budget when the previous County Executive felt Northampton did not have enough money to function. In hindsight, this turned out to be a gross miscalculation.

Since 2018, my team has looked for ways to reduce costs without cutting services. We've decreased travel and identified systems to improve energy efficiency in our buildings. Our departments have been aggressive in applying for community development block grants, open space and land grants and funds for rental and utility assistance.

This tax cut will not come at the expense of the County services our residents rely on. Public Works has replaced 20 bridges in recent years and repaired three more. They will continue to maintain all County properties to a high standard. Elections became more complicated during the pandemic with two elections having to be conducted on same day—one at the polls and one via mail-in ballots. We will continue to provide our staff with all the equipment they need to ensure that our residents can have election results within 12 hours of the polls closing.

The Fiscal Affairs Department is confident that the tax cut will not have a negative impact on our ability to pay our bills or run needed programs. The County has an A-plus credit rating which we intend to keep.

On behalf of the employees of Northampton County, I wish all the residents of Hanover Township a very Happy New Year!



Hanover Township Community Center

Recreation Director: Matt DeGeorge

recdirector@hanovertwp-cc.org

Mark Your Calendar:

Spring 1 Programming Begins	Monday February 21st
Easter Egg Hunt	Saturday April 2nd
Summer Camp Week Begins	June 20th
Summer Parks Program begins	August 1st

Hanover Township Community Center Update

HTCC is committed to helping our members and partners take necessary steps to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in the parks and public spaces we manage, and make well-informed decisions on adaptive and emergency operations.

HTCC urges its members to frequently refer to and follow the recommendations issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as guidance is continually updated as additional information becomes available for re-opening and restarting of the Community Center and programming within the Community Center.

Current HTCC Spring 1 Programming

Spring 1 Programming

Recreation — S.T.E.M. Arts & Crafts, Youth and Adult Martial Arts, Intro to Dance, Level 1 Dance (Tap/Ballet)

Sports — Junior Tennis Clinic, HTCC & GLVA Basketball Clinic, Pickleball, Open Gym Volleyball

Fitness — Yoga, Core Yoga, Silver Sneakers Classic, Silver Sneakers Chair Yoga, Spin Class, Low Level Weights, Step Aerobics, Zumba and Body Toning.

Please visit hanovercommunitycenter.com for more information or to register for our Recreation/Sport classes.

Members of HTCC can register for all fitness classes at the front desk of the community center or by calling our front desk at 610-317-8701.

TOPS Club, Inc. was established in 1948. We are an international organization. The primary purpose of TOPS Club is to help our members Take Off pounds Sensibly and to Keep Off Pounds Sensibly. We provide private weigh ins, accountability, a bi-monthly magazine, and informative programs that promote healthy living as well as sensible weight management tools.

TOPS meet weekly, Thursday evenings in the red room of HTCC. Weigh in is from 6:30 to 6:55 followed by the meeting at 7:00 to 7:45. Membership is just \$32.00 per year plus tax, (\$33.92). Dues are \$2.00 per week to our chapter.

Programs provide positive reinforcement and motivation to help adhere to our food exchange program or your choice of weight loss program. We encourage exercise programs and often have contests with cash awards. We host guest speakers trained in nutrition, exercise science and healthy lifestyles several times a year.

For more information about TOPS Club organization visit their web site at www.tops.org or call 800-932-8677. You may stop in to visit during our meeting or call Margaret at 610-882-0660 and leave a message with a return phone number.

Pickleball & Volleyball Success at HTCC!

Pickleball

Our Pickleball program is stronger than ever. Pickleball players are playing 5 days a week at HTCC. Open Court Play is from 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM Monday – Friday and is broken down each day by skill level.

Monday and Thursdays are set for Advanced Beginners/Low Intermediate players.

Tuesday's are our instructional clinic days and Beginner day for Open Court Play

Wednesday and Friday are for our High Intermediate and Advanced players.

Pickleball has spread like a wildfire here at HTCC and it is a beautiful thing. Pre-registration is mandatory and the max number of players per day is 16-20.

Call in or stop into the wonderful HTCC front desk for more information!

Volleyball

Our Open Gym Volleyball program is off to a great start to the new year. In our last few open gyms, we have had anywhere from 40-50 people stopping into the HTCC gym for some fun recreational volleyball. HTCC plans to offer a few youth instructional clinics on Saturday February 19th as well as Saturday February 26th from 8:15 AM – 9:45 AM here at the HTCC gymnasium. Open gym Volleyball for adults is every Tuesday from 7:40 PM – 9 PM and is just \$3 for almost 2 hours of fun! Call into the HTCC Front Desk for more information.

Special Events Committee

Our Special Events Committee has been formed totaling five members. We are looking to expand upon our events and create new events. Recently, 'Jack Frost' festival was held in January with crafts, vendors, food trucks etc.

Some add-ons will feature breakfast with the Bunny and Breakfast with Santa for the 'Winter Tree lighting ceremony'. We are also looking for donations for decorations indoor and outdoor to really expand our features down here at the center.

We are looking to add on a Fourth of July event this summer, so stay tuned!!

HTCC is also accepting volunteers to speak at our 'Patriot Day' ceremony for September 11th. The speaker must be a witness during the 9/11/2001 attacks on the World Trade Center.



Lacrosse, Field Hockey and Concessions!

Due to the shut-down in 2020, because of the pandemic, two popular programs were unfortunately canceled temporarily. We are excited to announce we are working on returning Field Hockey and Lacrosse back to Hanover Township in the near future.

CONCESSION STAND RETURNS

Our concession stand is now back up and running! We will have a new point of sale (POS) system and an upgraded menu. We look forward to seeing you at the concession area inside of HTCC.

Amazing Athletes

Please join our 'Amazing Athletes' program at HTCC. Tuesdays and Friday time(s) vary for ages 2-6!!

Your children will learn a bunch of skills including: motor skill development, socialization and interacting with other children in a teamwork friendly environment.

Inquire at HTCC or contact Amazing Athletes of the Lehigh Valley for sign-ups.

PENDANT NECKLACE WORKSHOP

We will be having a pendant necklace making workshop in February. Saturday, February 5th @ 12– 2 p.m. At HTCC. Participants will make beautiful jewelry out of semi-precious stones and freshwater pearls while in a beautiful garden setting, learning a life-long skill. Please look at our website for more information with upcoming workshops!

Pre-School Returns!

We are excited to have our Pre-School program beginning to take-off with registrations beginning on February 1st.

Pre-School Camps have been ongoing on holidays for your children to have a safe place to have fun on holidays and school breaks. We are also offering 'Family Storytime' which is part of our Pre-School programming to jump start into the 2022 year.

Please give us a call at our front desk (610) 317-8701 or inquire within. We are looking forward to bringing back a FULL-TIME Pre-school for our community beginning Fall 2022. We look forward to seeing our families out and our young community members begin their educational journey here in Hanover Township.



HTCC

Fundraisers

Hanover Township is currently looking into fundraising opportunities offering a 'Golf Outing' this Spring and a Fall Gala. Please stay tuned for more details!

Eagle Scouts

We are accepting Eagle Scout projects from troops around the area. Please reach out to us, as we are looking to add-on some features around our parks and other area(s). Some of our projects are currently building fire-pits around the pavilion area and storage sheds. Please contact our Recreation Director, Matt DeGeorge at (610) 317-8701 or by email recdirector@hanovertwp-cc.org to inquire.

S.T.E.M. Program



Our S.T.E.M. program is brand new at the community center! It is currently taking place every Tuesday and kids are creating an infrared mechanical robot they can take home!

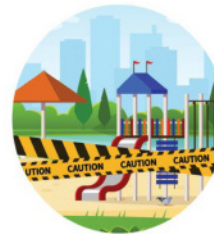
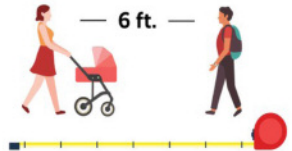
Participants will build, code and drive their own personal robots for their enjoyment. We will be continuing to offer the program and are excited to offer something new.

Outdoor Park Safety & Etiquette



Tips for Physical Distancing In Parks

Know what 6 feet looks like. Lay measuring tape on the ground. It's the distance of a surfboard, long yoga mat or adult bike.



Do not use playgrounds or other frequently touched surfaces.

Go by yourself or those you live with.



Avoid crowded areas. If a space cannot be enjoyed safely, go home or discover a new park in your community.

EMS CORNER

by Karen Peters, EMS Director

EMS Call Statistics for 2021

Medical Emergencies	1,968
Motor Vehicle Accidents	178
Fire Support	218
Total calls for the year	2,364



Old man winter is in full effect, which brings frigid temperatures, snowstorms and icy weather. Being prepared for these conditions is key to make sure you and your family are safe. When temperatures drop be sure to check on your loved ones especially the elderly. Some illnesses make it harder for people to get warm. Thyroid problems can make it hard to maintain

a normal body temperature. If a person has diabetes, it can prevent the blood flowing normally to provide warmth. People with Parkinson's or arthritis can find it hard to put on more clothing to stay warm. People with memory problems like dementia might wonder outside without the proper clothing or shoes.

Hypothermia happens when the body temperature drops below 95 degrees. Some early signs of hypothermia are cold feet and hands, puffy and/or swollen face, pale skin, shivering, slower than normal speech, and acting sleepy. The late signs are moving slowly, stiff and jerky arm and leg movements, slow heart rate and slow and shallow breathing. If you or you find, someone is cold and wet try to get the cold wet clothes off, put warm dry clothes on and cover with lots of blankets. You can also apply warm packs, in the armpits, groin, and behind the neck. If you or you notice, someone experiencing any of these symptoms call 911 immediately, and try to seek warmth.

Snow removal is one of the leading causes of injuries in the winter. Each year snow shoveling leads to almost 12,000 injuries and 100 deaths due to having a heart attack while shoveling, or right after shoveling the snow. If you, a friend, or neighbor is experiencing chest pain while shoving snow STOP immediately, and call 911. If you use a snow blower DO NOT attempt to unclog or refuel the machine while it's running. Snow blower causes more than 5,000 injuries a year.

EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

When you see an EMS or Fire responder please tell them Thank You for your service. Our responders have become more important than ever. We are working on the frontlines battling this pandemic. Every day we continue to come to work and face the dangers this virus brings to our loved ones and ourselves. EMS providers face the highest expo-

sure to asymptomatic, presumptive and positive Covid patients on every call, every day. The crews are working long hours with short rest periods due to staffing shortages when our providers become sick from COVID. It is taking a toll on our providers financially, mentally and physically having to deal with this deadly never-ending challenge. EMS providers are rarely recognized for the job they do. EMS providers are the lowest paid healthcare workers battling the pandemic. It was very disappointing that not one EMS agency was awarded the Governor's hazard pay grant. EMS responders are dwindling in numbers across the Country largely due to the lack of appreciation for the job they do as well as low wages and burnout from working so many hours. Once again, please thank an EMS or Fire provider so they know they are appreciated for the job they do every day to save lives in our community.

FIRE COMPANY NEWS – SANTA DAY

A huge **THANK YOU** to all our residents for your generous donations you gave to Santa and his elves. Our members look forward to this day every year. It is so much fun to see how excited everyone including our furry friends are to see Santa. Thank you to the residents who helped us by posting on the Hanover resident's forum our locations throughout the day.

WEGMANS DONATION

Thank you once again to Wegmans for their gracious donation of the apples, candy canes and puppy treats we gave out on Santa day and for donating the lunch for Santa and his elves. Santa Day is our biggest fundraiser of the year and this donation makes it possible for us to use all of the donations we receive towards our operational expenses.



FUNDRAISING

Watch for our annual fund drive mailing in April. We use your generous donations towards the fire company's annual operational expenses. We rely on your donations to help us help you!

EMERGENCY RESPONDERS NEEDED

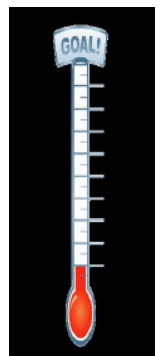
HELP US HELP YOU.... COME JOIN OUR TEAM

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 x417, or stop by during Monday Night Training at 7:00pm.

Visit our website: <http://www.htvfc.org>.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

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



SUPERVISORS ARTICLES

Community Center Looking to 2022 with Optimism

by Susan Lawless



When the Community Center opened in September 2021, the once in a century pandemic seemed to be waning. At the outset of this new year, many of the more obvious conditions and constraints imposed by COVID-19, and a few of the less obvious ones, still pose many challenges for the HTCC

team. Staffing shortages, lingering reluctance on the part of some to participate in large gatherings or in-door activities, and effect of essentially having had to start from scratch remain as constant pressures for the HTCC. Despite these challenges, the HTCC team, headed by its energetic director, Matt DeGeorge, has not only persevered, but have also put in place a number of building blocks for a strong 2022.

Speaking with DeGeorge recently, he is excited and invigorated by a Special Events Committee that has had five (5) new members join its ranks. All of the members bring a lot of diverse expertise, varied points of view and excitement, according to DeGeorge. The Committee has worked with DeGeorge to bring back a number of time-honored traditions. Summer concluded with the Carnival. The pirate themed Fall Festival was blessed with lovely weather. The Winter Tree Lighting and Holiday Event resumed this year as well. Both events were well-attended and well-received. Looking to expand on the successful end of the year event and bring more cheer to the 2022 holiday season, the Center hopes to host a "Brunch with Santa" type event. Resumption of the Easter Egg Hunt is on the docket and, if certain conditions permit, 2022 may see a "Breakfast with the Bunny" event added to the list of family-friendly activities. Bingo has resumed. If a new Bingo machine can be secured through sponsorship and other efforts, DeGeorge is confident of growth here. The HTCC also hopes to host again the National Night Out in partnership with the Colonial Regional Police Department.

The HTCC team has used social media extensively and the "old school" method of handing out flyers at both the Fall and Winter events to advertise its program offerings. There too, the HTCC is hoping to push the boundaries a bit beyond its traditional sports and fitness offerings. The team is testing the waters with a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math ("S.T.E.M.") program, for children

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Preschool Update

by Jeff Warren



This past fall, I had a very enlightening conversation with a neighbor of mine. He told me that his son had attended the Hanover Township Community Center preschool program many years ago. He specifically mentioned how much the preschool not only helped to prepare and give his son tools for

elementary school, but also how this early learning made his son and the family, overall, truly feel like they were part of our collective community here in Hanover Township. I will never forget this dialogue – how much his son's preschool opportunity meant to him, and how it relates to the importance of the township's preschool programming in the future.

It has been written and said many times that the well-being of today's children affects the future vitality of our local communities. Young children who enjoy positive early learning experiences are better able to develop the skills that prepare them for school. Children who arrive at kindergarten prepared to learn perform better throughout school and complete more years of education than those who do not.

Being married to an elementary school counselor has taught me much over the years. Children's social-emotional development begins right at birth with the relationships and experiences they have from the beginning. Social-emotional skills allow children to make friends, care for others, manage their emotions, and resolve conflict. Inevitably, they are being taught the foundations of "community." Actively supporting children to develop these skills will inevitably help build stronger relationships.

In short, providing high quality early learning experiences within our local community (as other townships in our region and throughout Pennsylvania have also done), helps families prepare their children to achieve and succeed. When there is strategic investment within high-quality preschool programming, the result is the foundation of helping to build a more prosperous and better future. Plus, it also strengthens and enhances community bonds within neighborhoods.

The preschool program the Township supported year after year within its budget was here long before my fam-

continued on next page

OPTIMISM FOR 2022 *continued*

aged 8 to 16. The program hopes to entice young minds to explore these disciplines through fun by combining learning with activity. DeGeorge has been very hopeful to secure sufficient enrollment in a theater program. This program targets children ages 7 to 12. DeGeorge sees it as a perfect winter activity for children. The benefits of theater go beyond the fun of it. Children will gain public speaking and interpersonal skills and all around confidence. Arts and crafts classes for adults will be offered during the winter months this year too.

Sporting activities have, however, been a vital part of the HTCC's return to life. Sporting activities targeting every age group have been available since the resumption of programing, including clinics for children. During the fair weather of fall, participation in tennis and yoga classes was strong. Pick-up volleyball games, offered in the gym for adults, have kept the gym alive with the sounds of competition. It has been pickle ball that has been the star performer in terms of popularity. It is a sport that combines elements of badminton, table tennis and tennis. While it appeals to older adults, games can be quite competitive and fast paced. The HTCC team hopes to build these activities by implementing an online service for easy and fast sign-ups and build membership and participation in that way. Tournaments are something the HTCC hopes to organize, promote, and host in the future as well.

DeGeorge, his team and the members of the Special Events Committee hope to take full advantage of the large open campus that surrounds the Community Center by possibly expanding festival type offerings. The Jack Frost Festival, featured in January, was the first of these new offerings. A Fourth of July Celebration is under consideration. The HTCC is exploring the installation of firepits by the time of the Fall Festival and more long-term ways to expand sporting and other activities throughout the campus such as bocce courts and outdoor pickle ball courts. The team hopes to bring back the popular lacrosse and field hockey programs to take full advantage of the Township's parks as well.

Our community's high expectations of having a vibrant HTCC was deeply woven into the fabric of our community when COVID-19 shuttered it. The HTCC team is working hard to revive, to full strength, those programs that were successful in the past and to expand programing to reach across many age groups and interests. The HTCC team hopes to expand programs and hours, including evening fitness programs and early fitness hours, but none of this can or will happen overnight. Your continued support and patience is appreciated as Matt and his team continue to wrestle with the many challenges they face and test new programing. The Lehigh Valley is a growing and desirable

continued on next column

PRESCHOOL UPDATES *continued*

ily and I moved into the community seven years ago. It helped groom and prepare for school many of our township residents and youth of all ages. However, things with our part-time preschool program took a dramatic turn in March 2020. The Community Center and it's overall programming were shut down due to COVID-19.

Reflecting back on the past couple of years, this pandemic has brought the fragility of certain systems into sharp focus within the public and private sectors. However, in doing so it also created some pinpoint opportunities for us to explore and act upon.

After this past budget cycle, the township Board of Supervisors took the steps within its 2022 budget to invest in a full-time Director of Child Services that will be tasked with bringing our preschool back to life for young children and families. In the end, the goal was to not only provide what was in place before the pandemic started, but to begin anew and build strong early childhood preschool programming for the future.

Community involvement sends a powerful message to children. It's one that says you matter. You belong. And it's a message that, within it, holds the strength to empower every child in the world. I'm proud that our community and township are taking proactive steps for our children.

OPTIMISM FOR 2022 *continued*

location which has resulted in competition for qualified employees, a situation which COVID has only compounded. Perhaps no better example of how unforeseen challenges can impact the HTCC's goals is the recent departure of Matt's assistant, C.J. Lindsey. Although Lindsey relished the challenges facing the HTCC and worked well with DeGeorge, he took position to cut his commute and be closer to family. C.J. will be greatly missed. DeGeorge, at the time of press, was pouring through resumes to renew his search for a partner to help him plow through obstacles and meet the goals the HTCC team has set for itself in 2022.

Park Vandalism

The Township encourages anyone who witnesses or suspects illegal activity at any of our parks to call this into the police. You can remain anonymous. For non-emergency type of reports contact the Northampton County non-emergency dispatcher 610.330.2200.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Senator Mario Scavello Highlights 2021 Accomplishments

*by State Senator Mario M. Scavello,
40th Senatorial District, Northampton & Monroe Counties*



I wish you a Happy New Year and send my best wishes to you, your family, and friends. We are certainly hoping for a happy and healthy 2022!

Throughout this past year and all through 2020, my office has remained open and ready to help constituents in any way we can. During the past year, we assisted constituents with thousands of unemployment claim issues,

Property Tax & Rent Rebate applications, professional licensing issues, PennDOT work, and many other constituent issues and cases. As a reminder, if you ever need assistance, please do not hesitate to stop by my Northampton County office or call 610-863-1200. My office information is available on my website www.marioscavello.com. My staff and I are committed to doing everything we can to help in any way possible. We're here to help!

After turning the page on another challenging year, I wanted to take this opportunity to highlight just some of the good work being done in Harrisburg and here at home in the district. 2021 was indeed another challenging year for us all but it was heartening to witness the strength of our local communities and what we could accomplish together.

PRESERVING OPEN SPACE

We announced that two farms in Northampton County entered the PA Farmland Preservation Program. The Arlene Savakus Farm, a 98-acre crop farm and the Charles J. Hilliard & Alice V Simmons Farm, a 121-acre crop operation, both received an investment from the Program.

We know that once farmland goes out of production, it rarely comes back, which is why farmland preservation is so important. It also an important tool in preserving open space in Northampton County which is HIGHLY IMPORTANT. I'm proud to say that Pennsylvania leads the nation in the number of farms and acres permanently preserved for agricultural production! It also assures a way of life Pennsylvanian's cherish will continue for generations to come.

To further land preservation, the Senate passed SB881 which will direct a portion of the state-allocated farmland preservation funding to be set aside annually for use by land trusts. This approach will help generate additional

continued on next page

News You Can Use

by Ann Flood, 138th Legislative District



Many working families continue to struggle to make ends meet as they still feel the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. While some people have returned to work, others are struggling to find new jobs or ones that pay as well as the positions they lost due to the pandemic.

Families may find it difficult to pay for essential costs, such as utility bills, during these times. One state program is targeted to help families who cannot afford their water or sewer bills.

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) is now accepting applications for the new Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP), which will help Pennsylvanians with low incomes maintain access to drinking and wastewater services.

The program is available to families who have past due water bills, had their service terminated, or received a notice indicating that their service will be terminated in the next 60 days.

Households can receive LIHWAP grants for both drinking water service and wastewater service. Grants are issued directly to water service providers, and families must meet income requirements. For example, in order for a single person to be eligible, the maximum income is \$19,320. The limit for a household of two is \$26,130 and for four the limit is \$39,750.

For more information about the program and how to apply, visit www.DHS.Pa.Gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/LIHWAP.aspx.

While water and sewer bills are easy to see, there's also an invisible threat that likely affects four out of every 10 homes in our Commonwealth.

An estimated 40% of Pennsylvania homes have higher levels of radon than national safety standards, due to the state's geology. However, residents can perform a simple test to detect this gas, which is considered the second leading cause of lung cancer.

Radon is an odorless, invisible radioactive gas that occurs naturally from the breakdown of uranium in soil and rocks and enters homes through cracks in the foundation or other openings. High levels of radon tend to be found in basements, but the gas can be found anywhere in the home.

Winter is a good time to test for radon, because doors and windows are generally closed, providing more accurate

continued on next page

2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS *continued from page 12*

private dollars to support Pennsylvania's farmland preservation efforts. It is important to note that this legislation does not call for increased funding from taxpayers. Additionally, the legislation requires that land trusts provide matching funds, which would infuse new dollars into vital farmland preservation efforts. The bill awaits action in the House.

EDUCATION

In 2021, the Senate acted to allocate \$500 million in federal funds to help ensure schools reopened, sustained safe operation, and addressed student and teacher needs resulting from the pandemic. For students who experienced learning loss, the Senate passed a new law allowing parents the option to have their child repeat a grade level during the 2021-22 school year due to COVID-19.

Other legislation passed by the Senate helped ease school staffing shortages by making permanent a temporary program that gave schools an option to use teachers-in-training as substitutes and providing schools with more hiring flexibility for day-to-day substitutes. Further we allowed an individual with an inactive certification who is not an annuitant to be employed as a substitute teacher for up to 120 days during a school year.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Continuing efforts to restore Pennsylvania's economic vitality, the Senate passed SB562 which I introduced. The bill creates the Airport Land Development Zone (ALDZ) program, providing tax credits to employers that make a significant new investment by expanding operations and creating new jobs. Under the legislation, industrial and commercial employers locating in an ALDZ could receive a \$2,100-a-job tax credit for each new job they create in Pennsylvania, each year for 10 years. While aviation plays a significant role in Pennsylvania's economy, many airports struggle despite their owning a substantial amount of land and buildings that can be developed into productive economic uses. This bill seeks to incentivize development on vacant land and buildings owned by airports and leased to private businesses. SB562 awaits action in the House.

For a more in-depth accounting of the bills of note passed by the Senate, visit pasenategop.com/2021-senate-accomplishments. If you would ever like to speak to me about any state related topic or to meet with me in person, please reach out to my office at 610-863-1200. You can also follow me on Facebook, just search for "Senator Scavello." We also publish an email newsletter that you can sign up for on my website or by calling my office. Lastly, if you ever wish to visit your PA State Capitol please let us know. We would be happy to set you up with a tour and if I am in Harrisburg, I'd love to show you around. It is a great educational experience for kids!

Wishing you a happy and blessed 2022!

NEWS YOU CAN USE *continued from page 12*

results. Simple radon test kits are inexpensive and available at home improvement and hardware stores.

To learn more about radon and how to test your home, visit www.DEF.Pa.Gov/Business/RadiationProtection/RadonDivision/Pages/Radon-in-the-home.aspx.

For more information about or help applying for state programs or services, please contact our Wind Gap office located at 196 W. Moorestown Road by calling 610-746-2100. I also encourage you to visit my website at www.RepAnnFlood.com, where you can scroll over the "resources" tab to sign up for weekly email updates. I also encourage you to follow me on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/RepAnnFlood for updates about state programs, services and policies, as well as upcoming community events.

Do You Have Unclaimed Property?

According to their website the Pennsylvania Treasury is working to reunite Pennsylvanians with more than \$3.8 billion in unclaimed property. The State Treasury will help you recover your property free of charge.



Property such as uncashed checks and abandoned bank accounts, stocks or safe deposit boxes are turned over to State Treasury after three years of dormancy or inactivity, or two years for payroll checks.

The State Treasury in the most recent past completed the first major upgrade to the unclaimed property system in more than 15 years, making it easier than ever for Pennsylvanians to claim what is theirs – you do not have to pay anyone for this service! To see if you, your family or your friends are owed unclaimed property, visit www.patreasury.gov/unclaimed-property.

In the meantime, here are a few simple steps you can take to make sure your property doesn't end up at Treasury:

- ✓ Keep financial institutions informed of any address changes.
- ✓ Communicate with your financial institutions at least once every three years.
- ✓ Create and keep up-to-date records of bank accounts, stocks, life insurance policies, safe deposit boxes and all other financial information.
- ✓ Let a family member or trusted advisor know where you keep your financial records.
- ✓ Let a family member or trusted advisor know where you keep your financial records.
- ✓ Cash or deposit checks as you receive them.

Pennsylvania Treasury contact information:

www.patreasury.gov/contact(800) 222-2046

1101 S. Front Street • 4th Floor • Harrisburg, PA 17104

WELCOME TO HANOVER TOWNSHIP'S NEW CRPD OFFICERS

John N. Diacogiannis • Chairman - Colonial Regional Police Commission



On December 15, 2021, our latest new police officers were sworn in by District Judge Vivian Zumas. Please welcome Officer Ryan Heinrich and Officer Renee Font as they enter the CRPD Field Training Program.

OFFICER HEINRICH grew up in Phillipsburg, NJ and studied criminal justice at Warren County Technical School. He started working in the criminal justice field when he was 19 years old and was hired at the Northampton County Prison. He was promoted to Corrections Lieutenant in 2013 and worked as a K9 handler from 2018 until he was hired by the Colonial Regional Police Department. He joined the Navy Reserve when he was 27, where he became a military police officer. He earned a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York in Criminal Justice with a concentration in Human Services.

When asked why and how he decided to enter law enforcement, he said "I always wanted to be a police officer. I never saw myself doing any other form of work. It was always a dream of mine to be a police officer. I grew up knowing a lot of police officers and got to listen to them and how much they loved the job. Listening to their stories just made the want even more intense."

In addressing the issues facing police these days, he stated "Policing has gone through many changes over the years, but we need to adapt and have a more community focused approach in our tasks. Community policing and gaining the trust of the community we protect and serve is key to effective policing."

Officer Heinrich was hired by the Colonial Regional Police Department in July then attended the Allentown Police Academy where he had the distinct honor of being chosen to be class lieutenant. He also had the distinction of graduating first of the class academically.

His personal goals are to continue to grow as a police officer throughout his career and to serve the community to the top of his ability every day. "I don't believe we should ever stop learning."



Originally an island girl, **RENEE FONT** was born on the Caribbean island of Trinidad. She and her family moved to the Poconos when she was 10 years old. After attending schools in the Pleasant Valley School District, she went on to study nursing at Northampton Community College after which she started working at a nursing facility.

However, she always had a passion for law enforcement. She explained, "I remember binge watching Law and Order as a child, wishing to help others like that one day. As one of four siblings, I am the only girl in the family. I've had my share of dealing with over protective brothers, but it was fun at times. I have always looked up to my brother Jefferson, who is a NYPD police officer. We started a career in corrections together at the Monroe County Correctional Facility back in 2013. We've always been really competitive with each other, although he's always been one of my hero's! While at MCCF, I was a member of their Corrections Emergency Response Team. In 2018 I changed facilities and started working for the Northampton County Prison where I worked the intake area, as well as their gang intelligence unit. I learned so much in my time there."

After being hired by the Colonial Regional Police Department in July, she attended the Allentown Police Academy where she was given the opportunity to be the class sergeant. She graduated in the top 3 of the class for her academic score. She also set an academy record of 109 sit ups in 2 minutes.

She proudly states, "I am very excited about my new and final career here at Colonial Regional Police Department. I hope to one day move up in the department. I would also like to get involved in the drug task force and any gang intelligent units among other interests if they become available. My goal is to keep on learning by taking as many classes as I can in order to be a well-rounded officer."

"I'd like to touch more on my hero's. My oldest brother, Kern has always been an inspiration. He is the definition of hard work and recently started a family security business. I admire that quality and I apply it to my life as well. Then there's Keegan the "baby" / my youngest brother. If you know him, he's definitely no baby. He's currently a Correctional Officer at MCCF. He defines loyalty! He's bent over backwards for me and is one of the best uncles my kids can ever ask for. Of course, all those qualities put together came from my amazing parents! Originally from Trinidad, my parents came to the U.S. in 1997 to pave the way of a better future for us. Seeing the smile on their faces and how proud they are is more rewarding to me than they know. They worked hard and raised my brothers and I to always do the right thing even when no one is looking! I stand by that."

"The best part of it all is I also get to be a hero to my handsome boys Christian and Giovanni and my beautiful little girl Natalia. Proud is an understatement! Coming from a family with brothers that are also in law enforcement and my mom who had the first interest in being a police officer, I sense more to come in the future!"

Just as Judge Zumas was about to swear in Officer Font with her children by her side, one of them looked up at her and with a hushed crowd exclaimed loudly, "I'm proud of you Mommy!!!!" I can see why.

FIRE CHIEF INFORMATION

by Fire Chief Scott VanWhy

I would like to share some fire safety tips that can keep us all safe! The way your home is heated is the second leading cause of house fires, house fire injuries, and the third leading cause of house fire deaths. Fire departments responded to an estimated average of 48,530 fires involving heating equipment per year in 2014-2018, accounting for 14% of all reported home fires during this time. These fires resulted in annual losses of 500 civilian deaths, 1,350 civilian injuries, and \$1.1 billion in direct property damage. By following these simple tips, you can help protect you and your family's life and property.



- ▲ Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, such as; the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.

- ▲ Have a three-foot "Child and Pet-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.

- ▲ Never use your oven or stove to heat your home.

- ▲ Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.

- ▲ Never use fuel powered portable heater indoors, such as kerosene and propane.

- ▲ Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected each year by a qualified professional.

- ▲ Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.

- ▲ Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.

- ▲ Test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.

Attention High School Students looking for Community Service hours look no further!! We are an approved location for you to earn you hours REQUIRED to graduate. Give us a call or stop by to find out more information.

We are always looking for new volunteers to help serve our community. **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.

To: Hanover Township

Dear Valued Community Partner,

As your provider of Solid Waste and Recycling services for many years, Republic Services has been experiencing some temporary delays with waste and recycling collections over these last 18+ months. Certainly, Republic Services has not been immune to the events that we have all shared recently.

Many industries are facing staffing challenges currently, and the Solid Waste, Recycling and environmental services industry is no different. There are several factors, both Covid and non-Covid related, impacting services at this time. We are carefully monitoring the needs of our customers and communities with the supply and availability of our talent and adjusting our efforts to attract, engage and retain talent accordingly.



**REPUBLIC
SERVICES**

Republic Services understands your frustration/concerns about the issues and tirelessly working to improve upon the current situation.

Please reference the web address below for additional information relating to our Industry:

<https://www.wastedive.com/news/omicron-waste-recycling-collection-worker-2022/616735/>

We are always recruiting and hiring great people to join our team, and offer a competitive salary, generous benefits, paid vacation, safety bonuses, and numerous career advancement opportunities. For more information, please visit <https://republicservices.jobs>.

We appreciate our customers' understanding and we ask for your patience during this difficult time.

Republic Services



IMPORTANT UPDATES KEYSTONE COLLECTIONS GROUP

Keystone Collections Group collects your Earned Income Tax – you may choose to file online at www.KeystoneCollects.com.

We receive calls from residents that are concerned about postal delays and receiving timely credit for payments. Postmark dates are honored for timely credit.

If you have questions regarding local tax filing, visit Keystone's Frequently Asked Questions or call Keystone's Taxpayer Helpline at 1 (866) 539-1100 to speak with a local, knowledgeable Taxpayer Service Agent. You can also email your questions 24/7 to Taxpayer Support. Taxpayer Service Agents try to respond to all online inquiries within three business days. The local Keystone Collections Group office for Northampton County is located at: 3477 Corporate Parkway, Center Valley, PA 18034. Phone number 888-519-3897. Hours are Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 12:30 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. Please note the office will be closed from 12 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Local income tax in Pennsylvania is based upon where you live rather than where you work. Individuals who are self-employed or whose employer doesn't withhold are required to pay it directly. Penalties will be added if not paid quarterly.

Hanover Township requires all persons moving into, out of, or within the Township to apply for a Moving Permit. Securing a Moving Permit allows the Township to document your moving date and forwarding address. This updated information makes processing your tax documents more convenient for you. There isn't a fee for the Moving Permit and may be obtained at the Township Office during normal business hours. Taxpayers with earned income in 2021 are required to file a Final Tax Return by Friday April 15, 2022. If you live and work in Pennsylvania, you can e-file on our tax administrator's secure website, which is available 24/7 at www.KeystoneCollects.com.

Help Wanted - Parks & Camps

The Township is currently accepting applications camp and park counselors. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Matt DeGeorge at the Community Center, 610.317.8701

SCOTT R. MILHAM Dedicated First Responder



In January of 1980, the Rubik's Cube made its debut at the International Toy Fair. The small puzzle featuring dozens of brightly colored tiles could be seen as a prelude to the 1980's fashion. This is because the wardrobes of that time were all about as wild and colorful as that famous puzzle box. The name of the game was to stand out. Only one problem: everyone else was working hard to be fashionably ostentatious too.

Also, in 1980 Scott Milham began his service to the resident of four communities in the Lehigh Valley as a volunteer serving as a member of four different fire companies and an EMT at three different agencies. As fashion and fads changed, and in some instances recycled, Scott's commitment and dedication to others has been unwavering and steady.

Scott and his wife Kim have recently purchased a home on the eastern shore of Maryland and sometime in the second quarter of 2022 will be relocating from Hanover Township. Scott stepped down as the Hanover Township Fire Marshall at the end of 2021 but continues to serve Hanover as Fire Police Captain.

His service started at the western end of the Lehigh Valley when he served as a Junior Fire Fighter and Firefighter with Firefighter with Cetronia Fire Department where he served from 1980 to 1986. He also served as Firefighter with the Fogelsville Fire Company from 1982-1983.

Moving east he began his first period of service with the Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company in 1987 where he served as a Firefighter and Lieutenant until 1993. In 1993 Hanover Township's loss was Bethlehem Township's gain when he joined the Bethlehem Township Volunteer Fire Company where he served as a Fire Fighter, Captain and Deputy Chief until 2001.

Moving "home" in 2001 he rejoined the Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company where he has served as a Firefighter, Captain, Fire Marshall, Fire Police Lieutenant, Fire Police Captain, Assistant Chief and Chief.

Scott and his wife Kim are the proud parents of two grown children and two grandchildren. Their daughter Courtney and her husband Andrew have two children, and a son Andrew who is also a member of the Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company serving as a Firefighter and Fire Police Lieutenant.

A grateful Township thanks Scott for his many years of dedicated and faithful service to our community. We extend that gratitude to his wife Kim and entire family for supporting Scott in his service to us. Best wishes!

MESSAGES FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

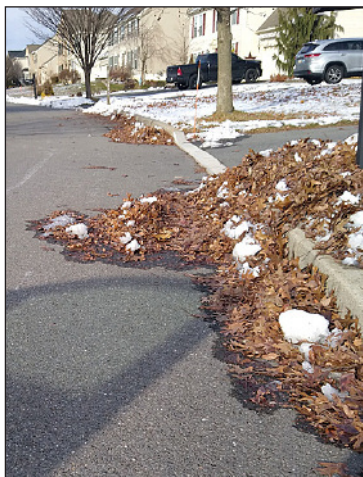
Every winter storm our crews work around the clock to clear the snow and ice. The Borough first plows major streets for emergency vehicle passage as the highest priority. After that, clearing side streets is the next priority. Once all the streets are passable, crews then work on cleaning snow from intersections and parking spaces.

We know that residents hate the “windrows” (those long piles of snow on each side of the road) that plows leave behind, and that often bury freshly shoveled sidewalks and driveway aprons. Unfortunately, the reality is that these “windrows” are an unavoidable part of plowing. You can reduce the amount of snow that ends up in a “windrow” in front of your driveway or walk by doing certain things:

- DO NOT push snow from your walk, drive, or parking area out into the street as it will only be pushed back in when the plow passes.
- When you clear snow, also clear the snow from the road shoulder about 15 feet “upstream” of plow traffic direction (the direction the plow comes from). This way, when the plow passes by, less snow will be pushed back into your driveway.
- Clear all of your sidewalks, the full width of the sidewalk, down to the bare pavement. • After the sidewalk is cleared, sprinkling a little sand can help keep the sidewalk from becoming slippery as night falls and temperatures drop.
- Pile the snow you clear in your yard. • If you have a corner property, clear curb cuts at corners and crosswalks to the street gutter to create a safe passageway.
- Don’t wait to clear the snow—the longer you wait the harder it becomes to move it because it melts and refreezes in an ice cover.
- If you will be away on vacation or health issues prevent you from clearing your sidewalk, make arrangements for help before the snowfall.
- PLEASE, be patient and courteous to crews!!!!

LEAF COLLECTION

The Public Works Department completed the Township’s Leaf Collection program on December 10, 2021. The last sweeps through the Township began December 5th and were announced numerous times via email. If leaves are still lining the front of your property, please bag them for yard waste collection.



STREET TREES

Street trees are required to be planted by the developer when a new subdivision is constructed. The maintenance of the street tree is the responsibility of the property owner. Regular pruning, especially in the first few years after transplanting will encourage the tree to grow up rather than out. Lower branches should be pruned so that sidewalks are not blocked (at least 8 feet above the sidewalk). If the limbs hang over the street, consider taking off any branches that do not provide at least 14 feet of clearance above the road. This also applies to any double frontage lots that have trees along the rear property line. The material trimmed from these trees can be placed out for yard waste collection or taken to the Bethlehem Compost Center (with appropriate ID).

Please note that the Township has the right to cut or trim any tree within, or branches that hang over, the Township Right-of-way. As weather and workload allow, our crews will go into a section of the Township to trim branches, so our vehicles do not hit them during snow plowing. They will also try to cut any dead branches to avoid them falling during storms. Proper care and maintenance of your street tree provides value to your neighborhood. If you have any questions, please call the Public Works Department (610.866.1140, ext. 224).

WHEN THE SNOW MELTS . . . Storm water on parking lots and streets flows into storm drains so that the pavement won’t be flooded. Storm drains connect to underground pipes that convey the storm water directly to a nearby water body. In order to prevent storm water pollution please properly dispose of hazardous substances such as used oil, cleaning supplies, and paint – never pour them in any storm drain of any part of the storm sewer system and report anyone who does.



FYI

**MARTIN M. LIMPAR, Assistant
Public Works Director**

At their October 26th meeting the Board of Supervisors appointed Marty Limpar as the Township's Assistant Public Works Director, effective October 31st.

Marty is a graduate of Northampton Area High School and joined the Public Works Department in May of 2005 as a Laborer. In late 2007 he was promoted to Equipment Operator and subsequently Equipment Operator/Mechanic.

Since June of 2009 he was a Crew Leader first with responsibility for Parks and most recently Roads.

Marty, his wife Gina and children Ryder and Hayden reside Lehigh Township. Marty enjoys camping, off road ATVing, motor cycling, and coaching youth sports.

**DAVID M. SAVAGE RETIRES**

After thirty-four years and seven months of dedicated service to the residents, business community and visitors Dave retired from the Township effective December 31st. Prior to joining the Township Public Works staff in April of 1987, he was employed by two local landscaping companies; Harry Ratushney and JAFLO.

He was hired as a laborer and was promoted to an Equipment Operator in January of 2007 and an Equipment Operator/Mechanic in January of 2008.

The Board of Supervisors Adopted a Proclamation honoring Dave at their December 21st meeting and proclaimed January 2022 as Dave Savage month in Hanover Township. During the Board meeting Manger Finnigan congratulated Dave on his pending retirement and used three words to describe him. He described Dave as committed, dedicated, and meticulous.

Dave and his wife Gari reside in Palmerton and are the parent of two grown children, Natalie (husband Kyle) and David. Dave enjoys camping, boating, hunting, fishing, and has spent years as a leader in the Boy Scouts of

America. Dave and Gari have two cats: Odin & Gatsby and a lizard – Carlos.

WATER & SEWER

The City of Bethlehem provides public water and sewer service for the majority of the Township. If you have an issue with either of these utilities, such as discolored water, contact them directly @ 610.865.7074.

If you live south of Route 22, your water provider is Utilities, Inc. (Community Utilities of Pennsylvania Inc.) and their contact number is 1.800.638.0262. Their email address is customerservice@uiwater.com.

STREETLIGHTS

The streetlights in the Township are owned and operated by PPL. If a streetlight is out, you can call PPL directly. The PPL streetlight outage number is 1.800.342.5775, option 1, option 4. To report the outage, you will need the pole or light number.

PPL owned streetlights (utility poles or individual lights) should all have a yellow or silver sticker at eye level with two sets of numbers on them. If the stickers are missing you can report an outage by the closest address.

YARD WASTE

Hanover Township delivered the 2022 Yard Waste Calendar to the post office in early December and should have been delivered to your home by Christmas. The calendar is also available on-line at:

<https://sites-hanover.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/05154705/2022-Yard-Waste-Schedule.pdf>

RECYCLING NEWS

The Hanover Township Public Works Department collected approximately 975 tons of Leaves and 570 tons of Yard Waste in 2021! In 2020 the department collected 925 tons of Leaves and 555 tons of Yard Waste.

2022 RESIDENTIAL WASTE & RECYCLING BILLS

Your Residential Waste & Recycling bills for services for the 2022 calendar year will be mailed to each residential property owner. If you do not receive your bill by the middle of February, please call the Municipal office at 610.866.1140 extension 231 for Emily. Our office will accept payments during our normal business hours of 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Friday, by mail, or deposited into our mail slot (front of building) during non-business hours. Due to the service interruptions caused by the pandemic and employee staffing the fee will not increase in 2022.

continued on next page

FYI *continued*

Hanover Township delivered the 2022 Residential Waste & Recycling Calendar to the post office in early December and should have been delivered to your home by Christmas.

A new calendar can be found online at:

<https://sites-hanover.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/05154324/2022-Waste-Recycling-Mailer-Website.pdf>

SNOW EMERGENCY PARKING BAN

During a "Snow Emergency" parking of motor vehicles on Township roads is not permitted. Vehicles found on Township streets are subject to ticketing and/or towing at the owners expense.

Please assist with Township Snow Operations by removing your vehicles from Township streets.

Hanover Township may find it necessary to declare a "Snow Emergency" when the **anticipated effects** of the weather dictate. When Hanover Township declares a "Snow Emergency" it is broadcast on WAEB – 790 AM, WFMZ – Channel 69, via the Hanover Township Email Alert System and other media outlets. **If the Township declares a "Snow Emergency" parking on all Township streets is prohibited and vehicles may be tagged (\$100 fine) or towed at the owner's expense.** (§172-29 of the Codified Ordinance reads: Whenever a snow emergency has been declared it shall be unlawful for any vehicle to be abandoned or parked, on any public highway.)

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Additionally, those living in or near a cul-de-sac are reminded of the following:

Section 172-23 of the Codified Ordinances states the following: Parking in cul-de-sac prohibited. No vehicle shall be parked in any cul-de-sac:

A. During periods of snowfall or ice accumulation required to be plowed or cindered until such precipitation is removed; or

B. During times of scheduled garbage pickup or leaf collection.

To register for an Email Alert from Hanover Township, visit www.hanovertwp-nc.org.

RESIDENTIAL WASTE & RECYCLING AND SEWER PAYMENTS**Online Bill Pay Service for Sewer Bills**

We have launched new features that allow you to access and manage your Residential Waste & Recycling and Township Sewer (East & West Districts) bills online at your convenience. To pay the bills online visit:

<https://hanovertwp-nc.org/online-payments/>.

What can you do here?

- Pay by checking/ savings/ credit card
 - ❖ A convenience fee of \$1.00 will be applied to checking and savings payments.
 - ❖ A convenience fee of 2.5% will be applied to credit card payments. An additional fee of 50¢ is applied for payments below \$100.
- Set up Auto-Pay
- View payment history
- Print receipts
- Change your payment profile

Need help?

If you can't find your account, please contact us at 610-866-1140, ext. 222 (Emily) and we'll provide your account information.

Tips for Winter Snow Removal

We can protect our drinking water resources, the environment, and local habitats by following these snow removal tips:

**SHOVEL****Limit the Need for Salt**

Salt works best when applied before the snow and should never be applied when rain is in the forecast. After the snow be sure to clear all snow from driveways and sidewalks before it turns into ice. Salt should only be applied after the snow is removed and only in areas needed for safety.

**SPREAD****Follow Salt Application Directions**

1 lb of salt fits in a 12oz coffee mug and is enough to treat 10 sidewalk squares or 20 feet of driveway. The salt also needs to be spread a few inches apart and should not be laid down in piles or clumps.

**SWEEP****More Salt Does Not Mean More Melting**

Excess salt does not help melt ice! If you see leftover salt on the ground after the ice melts, then you have used too much. Sweep up any leftover salt to be reused and to keep it away from our rivers and streams

**STORE****Prevent Damage**

Avoid storing salts outdoors to prevent direct contact with grass, plants, trees, stormwater, and even infrastructure. Salt can slow plant growth, contaminate water, produce rusting, and weaken the concrete, brick, and stone that make up our homes.

School News

Asa Packer

We hope everyone is having a happy and healthy start to 2022! We closed out 2021 with a lot of fun, excitement, and Puma Pride throughout our Asa Packer community. As we look forward to what 2022 has to bring, we wanted to reflect on some of our favorite year-end highlights.

Our Outdoor Learning Space has been successfully completed and was utilized by teachers and students daily before winter came upon us. Thanks again to Christmas City Landscaping and Monster Tree Service as well as Helder Moreira from HEW Renovations who graciously donated his time to build and install an outdoor whiteboard enclosure to put the finishing touch on the project. To complement the new outdoor learning space, straw bales were reinstated at the front of the school as a secondary option for students to take their studies outside!

After a one-year absence, the highly anticipated Walk-a-Thon was held in October. For their effort, students obtained a bracelet for each lap walked or ran leaving some very colorful arms by the end of the event. We surpassed our fundraising goal and raised over \$9,500 for the school! Thank you to our generous Asa Packer families and friends for supporting our students!

The PTA launched a new programming series called "Puma Parties" as a way for students and families to connect within our Asa community. The first one was held at the school playground in early November and was an amazing success. It was great to see kids and parents reunited in a semi-normal environment and watch new acquaintances ignite. Our playground party was followed up with an afternoon of Ice Skating at the Bethlehem Municipal Ice Rink over the holidays and was a great way for families to meet up during the break.



Some additional end-of-2021 highlights included:

- Festive Fall & Winter parties to spread holiday cheer and treat our students to some fun for all their hard work over these last few months.
- Parading down Main Street dressed in 70's attire as part of the Bethlehem 100th Halloween parade and the return of the Asa Packer Halloween Parade on the school grounds.
- Building our first Appreciation Station for our teachers to thank them for their dedication to our students.
- Getting to go on Field Trips! Our 5th graders had the opportunity to see The Nutcracker at Lehigh University in December.
- Giving back to our Community! Our Student Lighthouse Committee organized a food and coat drive to help those in need.

As we head into 2022, we're excited for the return of our vegetable garden training program sponsored by the Kellyn Foundation, science exploration with Dr. DeLeo and the return of some good old fashioned snow days!

Hanover School

Welcome 2022! So many wonderful things have taken place at Hanover Elementary since the start of the school year.

Our students were able to participate in the annual Harvest Day celebration which included a parade through the neighborhood and fall inspired activities. We continued the Autumn celebrations by joining in the Bethlehem Halloween Parade. In November, students and faculty took time to honor the Veterans of our country during a ceremony around the flag pole. Many students added their own part to the celebration by putting together a short on-line speech for a Veteran they knew of personally or through their extended family. Through the help of our community, the Bake Sale held during election day was a

huge success. Many, many thanks to those who so generously donated their yummy baked goods and to those who helped during the sale.

We kicked off the holiday spirit with a wreath and poinsettia sale in November. Our student government took on a leadership role of decorating a tree at LVIA donated by Walker's Tree Farm. Students were excited to partake in the joy of the Secret Santa Holiday Gift Shop. Big thank you for all the helpers and volunteers. To demonstrate the season of giving, we partnered with the Northampton County Children and Youth to provide gifts to families in need. Thanks to everyone's charitable spirit, 100 families will feel the holiday joy as well.

Some things we are looking for to this spring may include the Hawk Walk, spring Book Fair and our production of Frozen the musical.



New Year: New Fun at BAPL!

COMIC CLUB



Love reading comic books or graphic novels? Stop by tonight to meet other comic fans! We'll talk about what's awesome about comics and share our favorites over yummy snacks. We'll also learn to doodle pages from our comics, supplies are provided. For grades 3-6.

SPECIAL EVENTS



February is Black History Month, March is Women's History Month, and April is Spike's birthday. See bapl.org for the full list of events and if you've never attended a lizard's birthday party, now is the time!

A YEAR OF POETRY



New in 2022: Join us for a once-a-month virtual poetry series with Bob and Stephanie Watts (Lehigh University) will introduce readers to 11 U.S. Poet Laureates and their work. First event is on Tuesday Feb 22 at 7PM on Zoom. Register at bapl.org

PLUS THE RETURN OF OLD FAVORITES!

Storytimes return for kids of all ages from babies on up. No registration is required. Family Fun Nights are back at the Main Library on Tuesdays. Join the fun! Homework help for grades K-12, Monday-Thursdays most weeks, 4-6pm.

Sign up for our email newsletter at bapl.org/newsletter

Check bapl.org/the-bookmobile for the updated bookmobile schedule

Bethlehem Area Public Library Locations

Main Library

11 W. Church Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018
610.867.3761

South Side Branch

400 Webster Street
Bethlehem, PA 18015
610.867.7852

BAPL Coolidge

2740 Fifth Street
Bethlehem, PA 18020
484.892.6267

Books on the Hill

Spiegel and Stanley Streets
Fountain Hill, PA 18015

EZ Lend Kiosk

HTCC
3660 Jacksonville Rd
Bethlehem, PA 18017



Have you visited the **EZ Lend Kiosk** lately? Available whenever the Hanover Township Community Center is open!

STREET TREE REPLACEMENT PLANTING

by the Shade Tree Advisory Commission

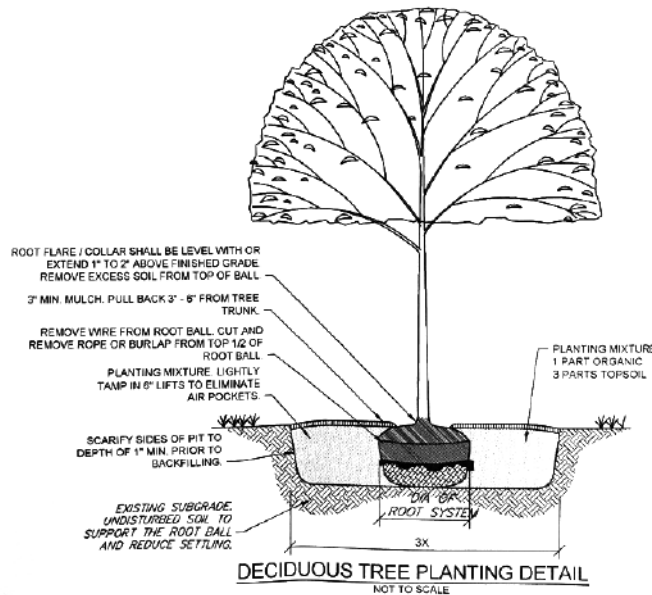
As this is written, Hanover Township is experiencing some of the coldest weather of the Winter of 2022. The ground is snow covered and frozen. Working in the garden right now would be difficult and an unpleasant thought. But this is the time to plan a spring planting,

A good place to start is with the replacement of dead or missing street trees. Street trees contribute to the “curb appeal” of homes and neighborhoods, enhance individual property values by about \$10,000 (source: National Association of REALTORS) and provide natural summer cooling. If you have a dead street tree, or have recently removed one, you know where replacement is needed. If you are not the original homeowner, or aren’t sure about missing trees, walk up and down your block. Because of design spacing, some lots have one tree and some have two or more. But all have at least one. By looking at the spacing of trees on your street, and lot you can tell if you are missing one or more street trees on your property.

The township web-site (<http://hanovertwp-nc.org/zoning/trees>) includes a list of approved & recommended trees. They were selected because of desirable qualities and resistance to disease & insects. Don’t select a new tree based on the prior tree at that spot or a neighbor’s tree; they may no longer be on the “Approved” list. A (free) permit is required for removal of a dead/diseased street tree, and for its replacement. Any tree variety can be planted in spring, Cherry varieties (*Prunus*) and Oaks (*Qercus*) are not

recommended for Fall planting, Summer planting should be avoided. If unavoidable, plan on watering daily.

Once you have selected a replacement tree variety, it is time to shop at tree nurseries and garden centers. Products may not be available (dug) until April, but it is likely that availability of trees will be known sooner, perhaps as early as February. An excellent objective planting date is on or near Arbor Day, the last Friday of April. (www.arborday.org)



TREE PLANTING HINTS

Things to keep in mind when planting:

- Dig a planting hole about 3 times as wide as the root ball and slightly shallower than the root ball height. Backfill with compost/topsoil in 6" lifts and tamp to eliminate air pockets.
- Plant the tree, don't bury it! The root flare/tree collar (the point where the trunk becomes roots) should be 1" to 2" above finished grade.
- Remove all rope from the root ball, fold back or remove at least the top 1/3 of the burlap and remove the top of the wire cage.
- Place 3" of mulch around the tree. Do NOT let mulch touch the trunk.
- Depending upon tree size, you may need to stake the tree for the 1st year after planting.

Board of Supervisors

At their Annual Reorganization meeting, the Supervisors elected and made the following appointments:

- ✓ Elected Jack Nagle as Chairman
- ✓ Re-elected Michael Prendeville
- ✓ Re-appointed James Broughal Township Solicitor
- ✓ Re-appointed Brien Kocher as Township Engineer

- ✓ Re-appointed Barbara L. Baldo, Esq. to the Zoning Hearing Board
- ✓ Re-appointed Evan J. Diacogiannis to the Recreation Advisory Board
- ✓ Re-appointed Gordon Campbell, Richard Kanaskie & Richard Mannix to the Planning Commission
- ✓ Re-appointed Jane Cook to the Shade Tree Advisory Commission

• PROTECT OUR WATERSHED •

WINTER TIPS



SHOVEL

Shovel snow onto vegetated areas. Grass and plants will act as a natural filter once snow melts, reducing runoff that goes down storm drains directly to rivers and streams.



PLAN AHEAD

Shovel and scrape early and often. De-icers work best when there is only a thin layer to remove.



RECYCLE

Save money by reclaiming salt for re-use by sweeping or vacuuming the solids from the sidewalk or driveway after the storm.



USE LESS

A little salt goes a long way. Apply sparingly and remove slush once the snow melts to prevent refreezing.



STORAGE

Practice good housekeeping by storing salt or other de-icers under a roof or other cover to minimize polluted runoff.



VEHICLES

Winterize vehicles so that there are no leaks. Do not wash the car in the driveway – ensure that dirty washwater is not entering the storm sewer.

CAREGIVERS OF NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

can get additional support through the Caregiver Support Program

Contact Northampton County Area Agency on Aging at 610-829-4540 for more information.



- Caregivers can receive reimbursement for approved, out-of-pocket caregiving expenses such as respite care, assistance with personal care and consumable supplies such as adult disposable depends, and nutritional drink supplements.
- Care receiver is age 60 or older and requires assistance with bathing dressing etc., or under age 60 with a diagnosis of dementia
- Reimbursement is based on the household income of the care receiver
- Assistance for Grandparents who are 55+ and are the primary caregiver for their grandchildren
- Assistance for older adults who are 55+ and are the primary caregiver for their adult children age 18-59 with a diagnosis of a non-dementia related disability.

Northampton County Human Services

Northampton County has a 24-hour Emergency hotline for all Human Services-related emergencies. Anyone struggling with a mental health crisis, abuse, neglect, suicidal thoughts, evictions, substance abuse, food insecurity, etc. can call 610.252.906 for help and referrals

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

Meetings of Boards and Commission

The following is a list of all meetings for the Hanover Township Boards, Committees and Commissions. All meetings are open to the public and are held at the Township Municipal Building, 3630 Jacksonville Road, with the exception of the Special Events and Recreation Advisory Board which are held at the Community Center, 3660 Jacksonville Road.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: January, February, March, April, May, September, October and November on the SECOND AND FOURTH TUESDAY; June, July and August the FOURTH TUESDAY and December the THIRD TUESDAY all starting at 7:00 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION: February, March, April, May, June, August, October, November and December on the FIRST MONDAY and July and September the SECOND MONDAY all starting at 7:30 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE: Meetings are held the THIRD TUESDAY of each month, starting at 7:00 p.m.

RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD: Meetings are held the SECOND THURSDAY of January March, May, June, July, August, September and November, starting at 7:30 p.m.

ZONING HEARING BOARD: Meetings are held the FOURTH THURSDAY of each month whenever required. Time(s) of the hearing will be announced when scheduled.

SHADE TREE ADVISORY COMMISSION: Meetings are held the LAST MONDAY of the month, except May which is held the fourth Monday of the month. No December meeting is held. Meetings start at 6:30 p.m.