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# Hanoverview

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY HANOVER TOWNSHIP, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

# A Day in the Life with District Magistrate Vivian Zumas

by Michael Prendeville, Vice Chairman



In continuing with the "A day in the life" series for the Hanoverview newsletter, I recently had the opportunity to spend a day with District Magistrate (DM) Vivian Zumas at the local magistrate's office located at 248 Brodhead Road. DM Zumas oversees District 03-1-04 which covers Hanover Township as well as Ward 14 of the City of Bethlehem. I wanted to report on how our local judicial function serves our community. As we began the day, I am immediately overwhelmed with how busy this office is.

Court of Common Pleas President Judge Michael J. Koury (Northampton County) oversees the county magisterial offices providing support services.

Here is a breakdown of the types of cases handled in 2018:

Type of Case	Number	Percentage
Traffic	7,866	88%
Civil Procedings	512	5%
Criminal Cases	319	4%
Summary Offences	243	3%
TOTAL	8,940	

DM Zumas hears civil cases up to \$12K, signs search and arrest warrants, and sets bail. Due to changing legislation, she is

required to attend forty hours of continuous training at the Pennsylvania Judicial Center located in Harrisburg.

A graduate of Bethlehem Catholic and Widener University Law School, DM Zumas has worked in Northampton County's public defender office, served as an Assistant District Attorney in Northampton County, served as a Deputy Attorney General in New Jersey as well as running her own law practice in Bethlehem City. Residing in Hanover Township with her husband George and two sons, DM Zumas was elected to a six-year term that commenced in January 2018.

Just as any citizen can, I sat in her courtroom and observed DM Zumas in action. I found her approach to be patient, emphatic and very methodical. She and her staff are very approachable and take a genuine interest in all they interact with. Furthermore, I have personally witnessed how DM Zumas has distinguished herself in the community through professional, volunteer, and philanthropic work. She had served on the Hanover Township Planning Commission. DM Zumas embodies the true spirit of a public servant and embraces the many qualities that make for an exceptional magistrate.



here are 14 magistrate offices spread throughout Northampton County. During 2018, county magisterial offices handled 58,361 cases. This office had the highest workload, handling 8,940 cases (15.3% of the County workload). Supported by a staff of six, each staff member rotates every ninety days to different functions such as citation processing, traffic, hearing schedules, process payments, process documentation, and proof of service. Cross functional training ensures that the office operates effectively and efficiently.

## **POLICE AND OTHER SERVICES** — *Impact on Budgets*

by John N. Diacogiannis

Chairman - Hanover Township Board of Supervisors • Chairman - Colonial Regional Police Commission

Municipal governments in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are responsible for several public services. Most of the funding for these services comes from taxes or user fees. The top 3 services provided by townships like Hanover are public infrastructure, public safety, and environmental and safety regulations. Public infrastructure is readily apparent in roads and public sewer and water systems. Road maintenance has always been a top priority for Hanover. Public safety is quite evident in our police department, volunteer fire and ambulance company, and emergency management services. We have been blessed to have a dedicated volunteer fire company, which has helped to minimize costs to taxpayers. Pennsylvania requires townships to adopt certain environmental and safety regulations. Among the many responsibilities that we have, include enforcing building and property maintenance codes. A potential costly environmental impact requirement pertains to stormwater management. All municipalities are facing very costly expenses. Several have already been charging property owners fees to help fund mitigation efforts.

These top 3 service responsibilities have a substantial impact on the township annual budget. Combined, they consist of approximately 60 percent of the current budget. We have been very fortunate over the years to absorb the ever-increasing funding demands of ever-changing services. This has been achieved by a very conservative fiscal policy coupled with natural growth of tax revenue through a slow, but steady development growth. As we can all see, our Township is nearly completely developed. Accordingly, we have entered into a maturity stage of municipal growth. We can no longer expect development growth to significantly add to our revenues. Unfortunately, the funding demand for existing services, let alone increasing responsibilities is not letting up.

One of the most important services that we provide to our community is police services. We have just passed the first anniversary of the Borough of Bath's departure from the Colonial Regional Police Department. For the last several years, the Colonial Regional Police Commission has recognized the need for increasing the force compliment. The Bath departure allowed the Commission an opportunity to adjust to new service demands while we experienced a force reduction through attrition. Through



good force management practices, we have been able to adjust and adapt. However, service demand has increased rather than decreased and it is time to right-size the force.

The Commission is currently considering several proposals for increasing staffing levels. I believe that an increase in force levels Is required to continue to provide the level of service that we have become accustomed to and deem appropriate. Police service demands have increased significantly over the last year. We are projecting a 28% increase (2019 over 2018) in incidents requiring a police response. Also, the nature and type of incidents are changing. There has been an increase in incidents requiring the response of several officers. There has also been an increase in the time necessary to resolve each incident, including court time where applicable.

Labor cost is the primary and largest component of the police budget. Currently, 89% of the police budget consist of wages, employee benefits, and pension costs. An additional 6% of the budget pertains to officer-related expenses such as training, officer-use equipment, and vehicles. The remaining 5% are the budget is for other managerial and operating costs. All of these costs have been carefully managed and kept to a minimum.

I expect that the police budget being proposed by the Commission will have an increase in manpower costs. Therefore, I expect fiscal pressure on the Hanover Township budget itself. As most of you know, we have been able to hold our tax rate among the lowest in the Lehigh Valley. As a matter of fact, in 2019 our tax rate of 3.9 Mills was the 2nd lowest out of 38 municipalities in Northampton County. We have held this rate for 12 years (2008 to 2019). In the prior 13 years (1995 to 2007) our tax rate was actually higher. With the potential increase in the police budget and possible additional funding demands for other municipal services, there is a distinct possibility that the tax rate may need to be increased for next year.

## Street Lights

The street lights in the Township are owned and operated by PPL. If a street light is out you can call PPL directly. The PPL street light 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 street lights (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.

#### **EMS CORNER**

by Karen Peters, EMS Captain

## Public Safety

#### FIRE COMPANY

#### **FIRE SAFETY**

by Scott R. Milham, Fire Chief

#### **EMS Call Statistics for YTD**

Total	1 502
Fire Support	138
Motor Vehicle Accidents	109
Medical Emergencies	1,336



#### **STROKE**

Stroke is the 5th leading cause of death in the United States and is a major cause of serious disability for adults. About 795,000 people in the United States have a stroke each year.

A stroke or cerebrovascular accident occurs when the blood supply to the brain is cut off (an ischemic stroke) or when a blood vessel bursts (a hemorrhagic stroke). Most strokes are of the ischemic type. Without oxygen, brain cells begin to die. Death or permanent disability can result. High blood pressure, smoking, and having had a previous stroke or heart attack increase a person's chances of having a stroke.

You can save a life by recognizing the symptoms of someone suffering from a stroke. Use the letters in "F.A.S.T." to spot stroke signs and know when to call 9-1-1.

### **F** – FACE DROOPING

Does one side of the face droop or is numb? Ask the person to smile. Is the person's smile uneven or lopsided?

## A – ARM WEAKNESS

Is one arm weak or numb? Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one drift downward?

## S – SPEECH

Is speech slurred? Is the person unable to speak or hard to understand? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence.

## T – TIME TO CALL 911

If the person shows any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 9-1-1 and get them to the hospital immediately.

#### ADDITIONAL SYMPTOMS OF A STROKE

- Sudden numbness or weakness of face, arm, leg or one side of body
- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding speech
- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes
- Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause

October 6th, 2019 kicks off Fire Prevention Week in the United States. The week of October 9th every year is dedicated to fire prevention and improving fire safety. So it seems that this issue of the newsletter would be a good place to share some fire safety tips and info on smoke detectors. According to the most current statistics from the National Fire Protection Association from 2017, we can learn the following: There were 357,000 reported fires in homes such as single family homes, duplexes, apartments, mobile homes etc. Which means there was a fire reported in some type of home approximately every 88 second across the U.S. Sadly during those 357,000 fires, 2,630 people died and 10,600 people were injured as a result of those fires. That translates to an average of 7 deaths per day, every day for 2017. The saddest part about these statistics are that many of these fires and deaths are preventable.

All you need to do is spend a little time every year your home, family or business by following fire safety tips. Each year the Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company goes to all of the Elementary schools in Hanover Township and we do a fire prevention and fire safety program for them. Fire safety is very important and can save your life and your home which is why we provide these programs to the local schools. If you go to the National Fire Protection Association website which is www.nfpa.org and search safety tips, you will find many pages of safety tips both for your home and for work. Please take the time to do so as it may save you or a loved one's life someday.

#### **SAFETY TIPS:**

Change your smoke detector batteries when you change the clocks in fall and spring. A smoke detector does not do any good if it does not work due to a dead battery or any other reason.

You should have a minimum of 1 smoke detector per floor of your home as well as 1 smoke detector in each bedroom of the home. The reason for each bedroom is that you should sleep with the bedroom door closed and that way there is a smoke detector behind that closed bedroom door. Also the reason to sleep with the door closed is that closed door can be a barrier to keep the fire out of the bedroom. Many fires that I have been to have a room or two that were only lightly affected by the fire due to a door being closed.

continued on next page

#### A message from PPL -

#### PLEASE DON'T POST ON OUR POLES

Thinking about promoting your yard sale, band concert, or campaign for township supervisor, state representative, state senator, congressman or your yard sale, by posting signs on utility poles?

#### PLEASE DON'T.

Posting signs or posters on utility poles is unsafe and, in many cases, illegal. Our line workers can be injured if their climbing hooks strike a nail, tack or staple that has been hammered into a pole. The fasteners also could tear the rubber equipment our workers wear to protect against electrical shock.

Section 6905 of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code makes it a summary offense to drive a nail or tack into a utility pole. (Don't believe us? *You can read it below.*)

Even if the posters are affixed with tape or string, they can still cause problems. The signs can hide identifying markers on poles, slowing our efforts to locate the source of trouble in the event of a power outage.

In addition, many communities have laws prohibiting the posting of signs or posters on poles by any means. (Some communities are cracking down on these postings, as seen in this **WBRE/WYOU** news story from November 2017.)

We know our poles appear to be a high-visibility place to post messages. But when you do that, you're putting our workers at risk, and most likely breaking the law. So, again, please don't.

Our line workers thank you.

For outages or power problems, please visit www.pplelectric.com or call 1-800-342-5775. In case of an emergency, please dial 911.

#### PA CRIMES CODE

§ 6905. Nails and other hard substances attached to utility poles.

#### (a) Offense defined.

A person is guilty of a summary offense if he drives a nail or tack or attaches any metal or hard substance to or into any pole of any public utility pole line.

#### (b) Exceptions.

Subsection (a) of this section does not apply to:

- (1) the public utility or its licensee using the poles from affixing its metal or other markers or from otherwise using the poles in its public service; or
- (2) the erecting traffic signs and other signs similar thereto by a municipality when authorized by statute or by the owner of such poles.

## Public Safety continued

#### **FIRE COMPANY**

Smoke detectors need to be replaced every 10 years as the detector performance begins to degrade after 10 years and may not detect the smoke.

It is recommended that at least every level of your home have a carbon monoxide detector if you have any type of fuel burning appliances such as an oil burner, gas furnace or other fuel burning apparatus or a fire place where you burn wood, propane or natural gas. Bedrooms are also recommended to have them as well. Even if you don't have any fuel burning appliances it is still recommended to have at least one on each level due to the potential of carbon monoxide from cars and trucks or other gas equipment such as lawn mowers etc.

Carbon monoxide detectors need to be replaced more often than smoke detectors due to their sensors not lasting as long. Most carbon monoxide detectors last 5 years however some of the newer ones last for 7 years so be sure to check the manufacturers website to see how long they are good for.

Every home should have at least one fire extinguisher for each floor. If you have one on each floor then you won't have to run to the garage from the 2nd floor bedroom to get one when it is needed wasting precious time. A fire doubles in size every minute. 30 years ago you had approximately 15 minutes to safely evacuate your house when a fire started. Due to changes in the materials used in furnishing a house as well as the materials used to decorate the house and build the house, you now only have 3 to 5 minutes to safely evacuate the house.

Fire extinguishers should be at least a 5lb. with an ABC rating so that it can put out most common types of fire such a wood, paper, grease etc.

As I am limited in the amount of fire safety information that I can pack into one article, here is my email address firechief@htvfc.org. If you would like some additional fire safety tips and info please feel free to email me and ask for more info. Or if you have any fire company related questions feel free to contact me at the above email address.





#### **Upcoming Events:**

✓ Vera Bradley Bingo & Field of Pink October 13th

✓ Try Lax for Free October 14th 10:30am-12pm FREE ✓ Tree Lighting

December 6 from 6-8pm

Find us on

Facebook



**Recreation Director - Rob Cepin Assistant Director - Nichole Hamburg** 

Basketball Clilnic with Penn State - LV Women's Head Coach Lorie Khalil Returns November 29!



Time: 10a.m.—12 p.m. Ages: 7-14 years Cost: \$25

One day clinic (school is off for Thanksgiving break. Fundamentals of the game are taught, skills and drills and a scrimmage (time permitting).

## Try Lacrosse for Free Day in Hanover Township!

Monday, October 14th 10:30 a.m. -12 p.m.

Held at Hanover Twp. Community Center FREE (show up day of)



Friday, December 6, 2019

**Hanover Township Community Center** 

The Tree Lighting Celebration runs from 6-8 p.m. at the Hanover Township Community Center with plenty of fun for kids of all ages.

#### Festivities include:

- \* Marshmallow & Hot Dog Roasting on an open fire
  - \* Live Reindeer
  - \* Music Sung by a Choir
  - \* Horse Drawn Carriage Rides on a lighted path!
    - \* Ice Sculpting Demonstrations
      - \* Special Guest: Santa!

Please call 610-317-8701 or rcepin@hanovertwp-cc.org for more information.



#### Thanks to our 2019 Special Event Sponsors:

Wegmans, Patient First, Alvarez Orthodontics, Lehigh Valley Health Network, Embassy Bank, Elliott Tracey State Farm Agent, HanoverView Animal Hospital, Janney Montgomery Scott, Frey Smiles Orthodontics, The Lehigh Valley Ironpigs, Marlow & Morrow Real Estate Brokers, Weichert Realtors, Once Call Senior Services, Bright Dental, St. Luke's University Health Network, and the Law Offices of Michael D. Recchiuti

## Field of Pink/Vera Bradley Bingo & Monthly Cash Bingo

Our Annual Vera Bradley Bingo and the Field of Pink "Planting" will be held the second Sunday of October, Sunday, October 13th, during Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The annual Field of Pink is a way we give back to our community, raising dollars for the Pink Ribbon Fund of the LVHN. HTCC will be selling Pink Flags for the annual "planting". For those wishing to purchase a flag in honor or memory of a loved one who has been affected by cancer, Flags are \$2.00 each and are for sale at the Community Center, several locations at both LVHN Muhlenberg and Cedar Crest, and at Traditions of Hanover.

think

Help us make the day special by:

- A Purchasing Flags for the Field of Pink \$2 each. Available *now* at multiple locations!
- Purchasing tickets for our Raffle basket at HTCC only. Raffle to be drawn on 10/30.
- Attending the Vera Bradley Bingo. Tickets \$20 to 9/30, \$25 after 9/30.
- Attending the Flag Planting during Intermission on Sunday, Oct. 13th

#### Vera Bradley Bingo

Sunday, October 13, 2019 1 p.m. @ HTCC

This annual event is a community favorite!

Come play for fun, play for a cause, play to
win! Help us raise awareness for Breast

Cancer. A portion of net proceeds are for
Women's Programming at HTCC.

Tickets: \$20 through Sept 30 \$25 October 1 & at door





#### **COMMUNITY BINGO**

First Thursday of every month! 6:30 pm Early Bird/ 7 pm Start Please join us for a fun evening at HTCC...\$Cash Prizes\$

Benefits a different LOCAL non-profit each month!

## Basics of Buying and Selling on eBay

Tuesday, October 22 6:30pm-7:45pm

Class for the beginner who wants to buy and sell on **eBay** - the online marketplace. Just over one hour of instruction on how to open an account, research items, create listings, pricing strategies, and monitoring and shipping items. This brief class will get you started in a pinch.

Bring an item you want to sell! Fee: \$20

## **January Fitness Fair**

Saturday, Jan. 4, 2020, 7 a.m. - 12 p.m.

First 50 people in line will be eligible to choose an envelope with membership discounts ranging from 10% to 100% off included memberships. Anyone after the first 50 people will receive a 10% discount until 12 pm.



See HTCC for full details and rules



#### **Toddler Time**

Fastest Growing Program at HTCC!

Offered Fridays in October– April (No Class in December) 11:00am-12:15pm

Ages 5 and Under Fee: \$5 per child each visit

Children participate with a parent/caregiver. *This is a drop-in program.* You do not need to register in advance to participate. Come enjoy some play time in the HTCC gym with your child. Children and their parents will be able to explore, play, and make new friends.



# Program Highlights: Tennis Programs has over 92 years of Professional Teaching Experience!



In the picture below, our HTCC tennis professionals; Mike Stasak and Neil Curtis have a combined 92 years of experience in the tennis world. We are so lucky to have this expertise within our youth tennis program and all of our programs we offer! Kudos to you and thank you for your service!

Tennis Program Offerings: QuickStart Tennis Wednesdays 5:00-5:45pm

> 5-10 years old Fees: \$42/\$60

Children 10 and under will have instruction, games, and fun on a smaller court using larger tennis balls.

Fall 1: August 26 - October 6 Fall 2: October 7 - November 17 Winter: January 6 - February 16

## HANOVER STARZ LACROSSE LEAGUE REGISTRATION INFORMATION 2020 Season

(Teams forming for Boys Grades K-8)

Sign up in person at HTCC or online! Registration runs Jan. 2– Jan 25, 2020



Cost (includes uniform): \$95 for grades K-4/ \$125 for grades 5-8
\*security deposit for Helmet/Shoulder Pads required if needed

What's Involved:

1-2 Practices week for grades K-4 / 3-4 practices per week for grades 5-8 1-2 games week

Purchasing Equipment:

(stick, gloves, elbow pads, mouthpiece, cleats)

## **Lifestyle Programming**

#### **Pelvic Floor Conditions**

A FREE class presented by St. Luke's

Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 1pm

Discover how pelvic floor PT can help with common conditions such as incontinence, post-prostatectomy, & pelvic organ prolapse. And get info on changes you can make to improve your symptoms.

FREE But MUST pre-register at front desk by Sept. 23rd!

#### A Matter of Balance

A **FREE** 8-Wk award-winning program designed to manage falls & increase activity levels presented by Bethlehem Health Bureau

Thursdays Sept. 26th to Nov. 14th 1pm-3pm FREE but MUST Register at Front Desk or Call Bethlehem Health Bureau at 610-865-7083

#### Soup & Salad and a Movie

Monday, December 16th at 12 noon
Lunch at 12 Noon and Movie at 1:00 pm
The Shop Around the Corner (1940)
Members: \$5 Non-members: \$10

Must pre-register at front desk by December 13th!

#### Wine Glass Art with Karyn

Tuesday, September 17th at 1pm Cost \$30 Must pre-register by Sept. 13th!

## The Power of Produce: Fall Edition Tuesday, October 22nd at 1pm

Join GIANT Food Stores Nutritionist, Sarah Glunz, to discover the powerful ways that fruits and veggies can impact your health and how to incorporate fall produce like pomegranates and winter squash into your meals and snacks. Enjoy a lively conversation about health and wellness and some yummy samples!

FREE But Must pre-register at front desk by Oct. 20th!

#### Wine Bottle Light Art with Karyn

Tuesday, October 29th at 1pm
Cost \$30 Must pre-register by Oct. 25th!

## **Muscles 4 Mom**

A fitness class for adults & children to promote a healthy lifestyle. Workout program is designed for you to be active with your child(ren) in a fun enviornment! Stroller or ergo-baby carriers are encouraged.

Class is held Mondays 9:15 - 10:00 a.m



#### A New Breed of Con Artist ~ Senior Scams

Join us for an informative presentation brought to you by Mary Wozniak of the AARP Fraud Watch Network

#### Tuesday Oct. 1st at 1pm

Sponsored & Light Refreshments by Adult Day Services at Westminster Village

FREE but MUST Register at Front Desk by Sept. 25th!

#### <u>Afternoon Matinee</u>

Every Monday at 1:00 pm Members: \$1 Non-members: \$2

#### **Bridge**

Mondays at 1:00 pm Members: FREE Non-members: \$1 Beginners and experienced players welcome!

#### Mahjongg

Wednesdays at 1:00 pm Members: FREE Non-members: \$1 Learn the basics of the game of mahjongg!

#### **Pinochle**

Thursdays at 1:30 pm Members: FREE Non-members: \$1 Beginners and experienced players welcome!

#### Hand & Foot (Version of Canasta)

Fridays at 1:00 pm

Members: FREE Non-members: \$1
Beginners and experienced players welcome

#### Cooking with Joan

Second Tuesday of every month at 1:00 pm Members: \$4 Non-members: \$8

#### **Book Group Discussion**

Usually the Third Monday of the Month at 3 pm Stop in at HTCC for List of Books we're reading!

## **Preschool Book**

Held in the lobby of HTCC
December 1st –December 7
Books for all ages from
Preschool-Adult (cash or check)





This is a nonprofit organization that promotes the health of the group & the welfare of its members. Through group support & encouragement, excessive weight & the maintenance of proper weight is discussed.

#### Meetings take place every Thursday at HTCC

This program is open to women, men, & children older than 7. Yearly national fee of \$24. Weekly dues \$2.00 per week. Incentives in place to help you reach & maintain your goals.

See you on Thursday at 7:30 pm!

## Shade Tree Advisory Board — YOU CAN HELP!!

The catastrophic burning of the Amazon Rain Forest (the lungs of the earth) will eventually affect us all. But fire is not the only crisis. Urban deforestation compares with what is going on in the rain forests. According to Time magazine, Washington, D.C, has lost half of its tree cover. Chicago and Philadelphia have tree cover less than 20% of what it was. And right here in Hanover Township we have lost hundreds of our street and park trees due to the Emerald Ash borer, aging cherry trees and many other causes.





But, You Can Help! If you have lost a street tree or there is one missing from several years ago, plant a new tree, selected from the Township's Approved Tree List (available from the Township Office or on-line). Besides doing what is required by our Ordinance, you will be helping in the world-wide effort of "reforestation".



Trees increase property value, filter air pollution, give off oxygen, cool the area in the summer and, last but not least, beautify our neighborhoods. Because trees are so vitally important to our well-being (and survival), there are massive tree-planting projects all over the world from small communities to large cities to countries.

If you are interested in helping with Hanover Township's "urban forest", please call or email the Township.

REMINDER: Don't "Top" Trees. Proper pruning is hardly noticeable!

## **Yard Waste Barrels**

The Township still has Yard Waste Barrels available. Please come to the Township Building Monday – Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and we will provide you with one. These are 96-Gallon Yard Waste Barrels. The barrels are for homeowners only (one per residence) and will be distributed on a first-come first-serve basis free of charge. The barrel is to be used for <u>YARD WASTE ONLY</u> which is picked up by Township employees by sector throughout the year. The barrel is not to be used for recycling materials or trash collected by Raritan Valley.

The barrel remains the property of Hanover Township-Northampton County and shall stay at the address should you move.



#### WHERE TO PLACE YOUR MAILBOX

#### Violation - §95 Health & Nuisances

**F.** The obstruction of any sidewalk, pavement, highway, street, lane, alley, thoroughfare, passageway in any public building, or public place, or business place.

#### § 95-6 Violations and penalties.

For any and every violation of any provision of this chapter, the Township may exercise any one or more of the following remedies:

**A.** Any person who violates or permits a violation of this chapter shall, upon conviction in a summary proceeding brought before a District Justice under the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure, be guilty of a summary offense and shall be punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000, plus costs of prosecution. In default of payment thereof, the defendant may be sentenced to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 90 days. Each day or portion thereof that such violation continues or is permitted to continue shall constitute a

separate offense, and each section of this chapter that is violated shall also constitute a separate offense.

**B.** Upon notice to the person violating said chapter, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to abate the nuisance, and upon failure of such person to do so within a period of 10 days from the date of the receipt of said notice, the Township shall take such steps as are necessary to abate the nuisance, and charge said person violating the chapter with all costs

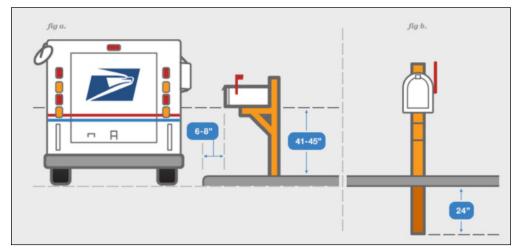
thereof, together with a collection fee of 10%, or file a municipal claim against said person, together with a collection fee of 10%, or by an action of assumpsit without the filing of a claim.

**C.** Institute proceedings in any court of equity having jurisdiction to abate the nuisance.

#### https://www.usps.com/manage/mailboxes.htm

Here are some helpful guidelines to follow when placing your mailbox:

- Position your mailbox 41" to 45" from the road surface to the bottom of the mailbox or point of mail entry.
- Place your mailbox 6" to 8" back from the curb. If you do not have a raised curb, contact your local postmaster for guidance.
- Put your house or apartment number on the mailbox.
- If your mailbox is on a different street from your house or apartment, put your full street address on the box.





The Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company is always in need of volunteers to assist in the many different aspects of our organization. We have the three operational divisions: Fire, EMS and Fire Police and we also have the administrative division. If you are interested in helping in one or more of the divisions we will provide all the training for those positions at no cost to you.

People don't realize not every firefighter actually fights fire. We have many jobs on calls that need to be done that don't actually involve fighting the fire such as setting up ladders, hooking the engine up to the fire hydrant, controlling traffic at accidents etc.

So even if you are not interested in actually fighting the fire we can still use your help! If you are interested in exploring how you can help out your community by being a firefighter, EMT or Fire Police Officer, stop by the station at 100 Stoke Park Rd any Monday night which is our training night between 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

## Who is the Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company?

Since 1943 The Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company has provided fire protection, rescue services, and emergency medical care to Hanover Township, Northampton County. We have three different operational divisions within our Company: Firefighting and Rescue, Fire Police and EMS. We all work together to serve the needs of our residents, businesses and visitors to the township. Our goal is to keep everyone Safe!

The fire and rescue division consists of approximately 25 members and 6 pieces of apparatus. The fire department responds to approximately 550 calls a year and attends many community events. Firefighters are on call 24hours, 7 days a week and respond within a moment's notice. The EMS division consists of approximately 40 members and 3 ambulances. The EMS division has volunteer members and paid career staff. EMS members are on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and are mandated to be at the station during their shift. EMS responds to approximately 2,000 calls a year as well as standbys for various races and events held in the township. Fire Police have 3 members who provide traffic control at accidents, fires, and events like 5k runs or bike races.

The goal of the fire company is to provide rapid, prompt and professional services to our residents, employees, and visitors within Hanover Township. We rely on your donations to help us pay for the operational expenses needed to have effective fire, rescue, EMS and fire police services in Hanover Township.

## FIRE COMPANY NEWS SAVE THE DATE / SANTA'S ARRIVAL



Saturday, December 14th SANTA will be making his annual visit to Hanover Township. Santa gives good boys and girls and apple and candy cane. Santa will be riding on a firetruck all through our Township visiting all of the children. Have your Mom and Dad mark it on your calendars. Santa always

welcomes your gracious donations to help the Fire Company.

#### **FUND DRIVE DONATIONS**

Thank you for your gracious donations to our annual fund drive. Your donations greatly assist in the Fire Company's annual operational expenses. If you have not sent in your donation, please remember we need your help so we can help you in your time of need. You can mail your donation or drop it off at the fire station: 100 Stoke Park Road





Visit our website: www.htvfc.org LIKE US ON FACEBOOK https://www.facebook.com/HTVFCPA

### FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

#### **Storm Drains:**

Please remember it is illegal to dump <u>ANYTHING</u> in a storm drain, i.e., engine oil, Anti-Freeze, paints or thinners, dog or cat feces, grass clippings, etc.

#### **Property Owners**

Please note that when time permits, the Township trims trees overhanging the roadway, to provide proper clearance for vehicles. If you do not want your trees trimmed by the Township, please have your trees trimmed regularly.

Property owners who live on corner properties should also be aware that you should not plant anything in the "Clear Site Triangle".

Shrubs and pine trees overhanging the road have also become a problem. Please keep all trees and shrubs behind the rear face of curb.

Proper clearance for pedestrians walking on sidewalks has become a problem in some areas. Please remember this can be a <u>liability</u> to you. We recommend a 7' clearance.

Remember to remove the weeds from the curb line along your property (front and rear).

Properties with sidewalks should maintain them clear of all debris, grass and weeds from edge to edge.

Dumping grass clippings or <u>ANY</u> debris on empty lots is against the Township Ordinance 71-5. Violators can be fined up to \$300.00.

#### 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 at (610) 865-7074.

If you live south of Route 22, your water provider is Utilities, Inc. and their contact number is (800) 638-0262.



## Legislative Update

### **Working for You**

by State Rep. Marcia Hahn 138th Legislative District

As a member of the School Property Tax Working Group, which consists of House and Senate members from both sides of the aisle, I am diligently working with

my colleagues to reach a consensus on legislation that will provide relief for Pennsylvania property tax payers.

Of course, this is a very complex issue that in some ways is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to funding education in Pennsylvania. We are looking not only at possibly reducing or even eliminating school property taxes, but also addressing the cost drivers that would impact any piece of legislation we put forward and affect its sustainability for future generations.

Eight pieces of school property tax legislation have been introduced in the House and Senate, including my House Bill 1200. The working group is evaluating the merits of each one of them.

While the understood goal is providing relief for taxpayers, our objective as an appointed group of legislators is to discover which bill or combination of bills has the best chance to garner 102 votes in the House, 26 Senate votes and the signature of the governor. Nothing will change if a piece of legislation can't accomplish that.

Over the years, I've heard many constituents say they simply want school property taxes eliminated. Doing so means coming up with a stable source of revenue that will generate more than \$8.5 billion annually, and that figure increases each fiscal year.

The ideal situation would be to find that funding source, in addition to a way to reduce the price tag for education. Accomplishing that would serve as even greater stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

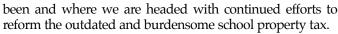
If you have a legislative question on this or any other state-related issue, there are a number of ways to get in touch with me:

- My primary district office, located at 196 West Moorestown Road, Bushkill Township, is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- My email address is **Mhahn@pahousegop.com**. I try to answer individual emails as quickly as possible.
- I have a legislative Facebook page at www.face-book.com/rephahn. If you follow the page, you'll get updates on local and state issues. You can also ask me a question through my Facebook page.
- I have a legislative website at **www.RepHahn.com**. It contains information on a number of different state government topics.

### School Property Tax Reform: Continung the Fight

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

I am writing to provide area residents with a straightforward assessment of where we have



I have introduced or co-sponsored school property tax elimination and reduction proposals going back 15 years, from plans that would have reduced school property taxes by 50% to current proposals like Senate Bill 76 that propose full elimination on all properties.

Following the overwhelming 2017 public vote in favor of expanding the Commonwealth's Homestead Exclusion Program, I introduced a bill that would eliminate school property taxes on all owner-occupied homes. As school property tax relief measures have faced resistance, I have also begun work on a proposal to provide relief specifically to seniors.

My pro-reform colleagues and I have all said until we are blue in the face – our seniors have not had children in school for decades and they are being forced to make critical decisions between such expenses as food and medication versus paying their property taxes. Despite years of paying their taxes faithfully, they never truly own their home. We need to diversify the ways we fund our schools.

No matter what approach we take, one fact remains to pass any proposal: you need the support of 26 Senators, 102 Representatives and a Governor willing to sign a bill.

Conversations have been held between Senate and House leadership over recent months to develop consensus on a reform proposal that could pass both chambers with the Governor's support. I also took part in a Senate policy hearing in August to help move these school property tax proposals forward.

If even one senior or family loses their home to school taxes, that's one too many. I am hopeful the Governor works with the Legislature to pass a proposal that provides real reform and actual relief, not just more dollars to the areas that already have them.

Politics is rarely an all-or-nothing game and, when it comes to school property taxes, I would rather a bite at the apple than no apple at all. Otherwise, we may find ourselves no closer to reform and having this same conversation in another 15 years.

My promise to you is that I will continue the fight. I hope others do the same.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 610-863-1200 or mscavello@pasen.gov.



### **Leaf Collection**



Township Leaf Collection will begin in early October and run through the first week in December (weather permitting). Place your leaves at the curb in a windrow and make sure the leaves are free of all debris. Also, make sure you don't park vehicles on these windrows as the vehicle may catch fire. While there is no set schedule for leaf pick-up we will be updating the Township Website with the location of our three trucks so you'll be able to judge when you will be picked up. Volume and weather conditions dictate the speed at which crews pick up leaves. All trucks work north to south in their section of the Township. The location of the trucks will be updated on the home page of the website (www.hanovertwp-nc.org).

Section I – East Allen Border to Crawford Drive Section II – Crawford Drive to Stoke Park Road

Section III – Stoke Park Road to City of Bethlehem Border

The sections will not be started over until all three sections are complete. Consequently all three trucks may be in one section or two may be in one while another section is finished.



FALL LEAVES...LOCAL FLOODING.
What's the connection?

Leaves raked into streets clog storm drains and cause local flooding! **Keep streets and storm drains clear of leaves and debris to prevent flooding.** 

## Report Potholes and Poor Road Conditions Year-round

Potholes and other highway maintenance issues on state routes are reportable year-round to the Customer Care Center for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. Reports can be submitted directly online at https://customercare.penndot.gov.

Motorists may also express concern with road conditions, construction projects, signs and signals, speed limits, and personal property damage by calling 1-800-FIX-ROAD (1-800-349-7623). Be prepared with details on location and a description of the issue when you call or complete the online reporting form.

Urgent roadway concerns before 8:00 a.m. and after 5:00 p.m. should be reported directly to the appropriate PennDOT Regional Office. Northampton County residents can contact the County PennDOT Office directly at 610-250-1840.

To report potholes on Township roads please contact the Township Office at 610-866-1140.

#### **REMINDER**

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 (\$75 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.

We remind you of the above as we approach leaf and snow season.

## Free!







Did you know the Main Library hosts tutoring for grades K through 12 in most subjects, provided by **Moravian College America Reads** tutors? Monday-Thursday, 4:00-6:00 pm. Check our website for scheduled sessions that follow the College calendar.



We offer story times **for babies, toddlers, and the entire family** at both Main and the South Side branch. Please check our website for dates and times.

## NATURAL WANDERS



At Main! An **outdoor exploration** with stories and hands on activities indoors for ages 3.5 to 6 years.

## PLUS!



a variety of activities for children, teens, and families including Family Fun Nights, Sewing Club, Anime Club, Girls Who Code sessions, STEM events, Halloween events, an Escape Room challenge, and coming soon--Sensory Sensitive Story Time for preschoolers.

There's always something going on at BAPL!

### **Locations & Hours**

#### **Main Library**

11 W. Church Street Bethlehem, PA 18018 610.867.3761

#### **EXPANDED HOURS!**

Mon. – Wed. **9AM – 8PM** Thurs. & Fri. **9AM – 6PM** Sat. 10AM – 5PM Sun. CLOSED

#### South Side Branch

400 Webster Street
Bethlehem, PA 18015
610.867.7852
Mon. - Thurs. 11AM - 8PM
Sat. 12PM - 4PM
Sun. & Fri. CLOSED



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



#### **ASA PACKER**

## School News

#### **HANOVER**

by Erin Hines, Principal

The summer did not end for the students of Asa Packer Elementary without one last hooray! On August 18th, Asa Packer families enjoyed a fun filled Back-to-School Potluck picnic with old and new friends at the HTCC. Under the shaded pavilion, both parents and children shared laughter, recipes and excitement for the upcoming school year!

Nearly days later on August 26th, the doors of Asa Packer Elementary opened for the start of a brand-new school year! It was a beautiful sunny day, as teachers welcomed new and familiar faces to their prepped classrooms. And the filled hearts of kindergarten parents shared tears and joy at Asa Packer PTA's second annual Boo Hoo Yahoo Breakfast.

Today, we are in full swing at Asa Packer Elementary with a wide variety of academic programs and educational events that complement our BASD curriculum. To name a few returning programs, "Leader in Me" uses Stephen Covey's "7 Habits of Highly Effective People" as a basis to help students develop leadership skills both in and out of the classroom. For the 7th straight year, Asa Packer has been designated as a "No Place for Hate" school, which is a result of completing various projects that focuses on diversity, tolerance, and acceptance. Spanish Language Class will also return for a second year at Asa Packer. Other similar efforts and programs will continue through 2019-20 school year, to promote both academic achievement and character development for all students.

We are enthusiastically organizing lots of activities outside the classroom as well. Our biggest fundraiser the Walk-a-Thon, was held on September 20th and our fall mum sale ended on September 27th. Volunteers are already gearing up for upcoming American Education Week (October 14th – 18th), which features a Parent Visitation Day (October 16th) and a Grandpal/VIP Day (October 17th). American Education Week also gives us the opportunity to focus on Reading, with a fall Book Fair October 15th-19th, and a Pre-K Literacy Day.

Asa Packer is thrilled about the start of the school year and looks forward to seeing our students learn and grow both in and out of the classroom this year! You can follow their activities and achievements by visiting our website (http://basdwpweb.beth.k12.pa.us/asapacker/). Also, keep any eye out for the many fundraisers and volunteer opportunities brought to you by the Asa Packer PTA. Learn more by visiting (http://asapackerpta.org).

VISION — At Hanover, we empower students to be respectful, responsible, critical thinkers and lifelong learners in a culturally diverse world.

It is with great pride and excitement that I write this letter of introduction to you as the newly appointed Principal of Hanover Elementary School for the 2019-2020 school year. I am honored to have the opportunity to lead a school with such a rich tradition of education! Our year thus far has started out beautifully!

The calendar of events and happenings is full of opportunities for students and families to complete community outreach projects and numerous PTA and Student Council sponsored activities. We will strive to be a "No Place For Hate" school as we complete projects throughout the year to obtain the "No Place For Hate" designation. The program is designed to teach tolerance, learn about diversity and acceptance for all. On September 20, 2019, our property will be filled with Pinwheels for Peace as we take part in World Peace Day. The pinwheels will be decorated on one side and contain the students' wish for world peace on the other side.

The annual Hawk Walk was held on the school grounds On September 27, 2019. In the future if you would like to support the Hawk Walk through a monetary donation or corporate sponsorship please contact the school at (610) 691-3210.

October 15th – 18th is Bethlehem Education Week and we invite parents and community members to visit our school and classrooms to observe the wonderful curricular offerings in the Bethlehem Area School District. On October 15, 2019 students will welcome the special people in their lives as we celebrate "Great Persons Day". The Scholastic Book Fair will be open during Bethlehem Education Week and Great Persons' Day.

Thank you to the staff members, students, PTA, parents, and community partners for your hard work and dedication. We look forward to another year filled with academic, social/emotional and personal growth as we continue to strive to be the High Flying, High Achieving, Hanover Hawks.



**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

