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**Deadline for the  
next newsletter  
January 19, 2024**

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Dante Terenzio,  
Recreation Director  
Ken Lowe  
Assistant Recreation Director  
Lisa Outcalt,  
Preschool Director



# Hanover

## Hanover Township Patriot Day Remarks

By Brigadier General Timothy A. Brooks (PA Ret,)

**E**lected officials and fellow Patriots. It is my humble honor to be the guest speaker on this solemn Patriot's Day.

President George Bush in his address to the nation on that fateful evening after the attack said, "this is a day when all Americans from every walk of life unite in our resolve for justice and peace. America has stood down enemies before, and we will do so this time. None of us will ever forget this day. Yet, we go forward to defend freedom and all that is good and just in our world."

I want to focus on the good. We have a safe community that is run well and provides critical services to its residents. We have good elementary schools where some can walk to school each day. We have a hospital that is a close drive in case we need care. We have an airport that is convenient to fly away to other destinations. We have the wonderful Scouts who are performing an important duty



tonight. We have all of these things because we are America. We have these things despite some issues because we are the best country in the world.

Don't take my word for it, Ralph Waldo Emerson, American lecturer, philosopher, and poet said, "America means opportunity, freedom and power."

Early 20th century novelist, Thomas Wolfe said, "America. It is the only place where miracles not only happen, but where they happen all the time."

So, on Patriot Day 2023, 22 years after that fateful

morning in New York City, Washington DC and Shanksville, PA I challenge all of you to live your lives like September 12, 2001. Do NOT live in fear, rise above divisive rhetoric, and look for the good and just in our world.

Thank you, and God bless America!

## WELCOME NEW CRPD OFFICERS

John Diacogiannis - Hanover Township and Colonial Regional Police Chairman

It seems as if there have been a lot of new faces at CRPD over the last few years. That's absolutely correct. We have had a few hard-earned officer retirements, an untimely passing of a Sergeant and one officer family relocation. Fortunately, our recruitment efforts and evaluation-selection process have been very effective. Our focus on hiring top candidates has enabled us to bring on a very qualified and diverse group of officers.

It's a great pleasure to welcome four new officers to the Colonial Regional Police Department. Officers Joshua Chico, Sterling

Kemmerer, Michael Cabrera and Brandon Gianopulos were sworn in by Magisterial District Judge John C. Capobianco on June 13, 2023. Officer Gianopulos is an experienced police officer. The other officers recently graduated from the Allentown Police Academy. Officer Chico had the distinction of being the top marksman of the class and received the Kim Moyer Memorial Award for Top Shooter. Officer Kemmerer received the Tracy Szoke 110% Effort Award. All four of these officers are fine additions to the force.

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*l-r: Officers Chico, Cabrera, Kemmerer, Gianopulos*

There are two officer cadets at the Allentown Police Academy who are expected to graduate and join CRPD later this year. I am looking forward to welcoming Samantha Nigro and Mark McGuire when they graduate. They will bring us up to a full complement of sworn officers.

I asked each of our new officers to tell us a little about themselves. Here is what they had to say.

### **Joshua Chico**

Born and raised in New Jersey and graduated from Bridgewater-Raritan High School, I always wanted to explore a law enforcement career. I served in the Marine Corps as a machine gunner after high school. Since then, I have started a family with my wife Sophia Chico and my son Carter Chico and am now living in Pennsylvania.

I decided to enter law enforcement in 2022. I always wanted to explore this career field and had the chance to do so with Colonial Regional, so I went for it. I have always enjoyed the structure that comes with the lifestyle.

I have many goals but an important one to me is to be the best and then get better. I think always striving to move forward is a good mindset to have. New officers can face many challenges these days, especially with the view on policing in recent years. I think this can also be a great opportunity to change that view. My focus is to shift how people view law enforcement and bring a positive light to it.

### **Sterling Kemmerer**

I was born and raised in Perkasi Pa, a small town in Bucks County. I graduated from Pennridge High School in June of 2010. I worked in various retail establishments with roles ranging from customer service to tech support and finally management/leadership. I train MMA and Jiu Jitsu at Reality Martial Arts in Quakertown Pa, where I have achieved the rank of Blue Belt in Jiu Jitsu. I live with my girlfriend Maegan whom I have been with for the past 5 years and we have a 6-year-old Rottweiler named Sheeba who is my best friend in the entire world!

I have always wanted to be in law enforcement, it's in my blood. I was the guy in school breaking up fights and trying to help anyone out whenever I possibly could, even when the situations weren't the most ideal. I also come from a family of law enforcement. I have 2 siblings that are police officers, as well as a cousin. I also have a brother-in-law and very near and dear family friend who are both retired law enforcement.

I firmly believe that the only way to affect positive change is through understanding and effort. You must have a positive mind set going into every interaction and approach it with a "How can I make my involvement in this situation a pleasant one that improves what this person is going through, rather than hindering it?" It is all too easy to allow a bad day or a negative interaction to dictate how the next one goes, but it is imperative to start each new interaction with a clean slate attitude.

I certainly see policing following the path of a heavier focus on community orientation. Specifically, involving and engaging the community in a positive way the community feels enlightened and morally obligated to do the right thing and encourage their neighbors to do as such as well. But as is often said, we are the lens through which our communities are seen. We need to hold ourselves to the highest of standards if we are to expect the same from others.

My #1 personal goal is to be the best possible human being I can be. I am continually looking for ways to challenge my way of thinking and leave the world a better and safer place than the way I found it.

New CRPD Officers find themselves in a unique situation, faced with the ever-evolving challenges of the world while still being expected and personally obligated to hold ourselves to the highest standards. It is imperative that we find a way to serve our communities in a positive manner while doing so with our own unique experiences and personalities. It is also paramount that we take care of ourselves as we navigate this career path, both physically and mentally.

### **Michael Cabrera III**

I've lived in Lower Nazareth Township my whole life. I graduated from Nazareth Area High School and got a certification in welding from Career Institute of Technology. I have been a volunteer firefighter at Hecktown Volunteer Fire Company for the past 6 years. My hobbies include fishing and hunting.

I found my interest in law enforcement throughout my career with the fire department. I've always had a positive relationship with police officers while on fire calls. I realized that police officers are the true first responders in emergency services and that I felt that I would be a better asset to the community in that role. I want to help the people around me

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## New CRPD Officers *continued*

and in my community and there's no better way to do that than through the police department.

Policing is much different than it used to be. It is my goal as a police officer to change the minds of the community, to show them that there are good people still out there and that we are a team. We cannot do our jobs without the community. I want people to know that it is my philosophy to treat others how you want to be treated. Police officers often encounter people on their worst day of their lives and a small act of kindness can go a long way.

My personal goal as a police officer is to eventually move into a K9 handler role. I believe that K9s are an amazing tool in law enforcement, and I would love to participate in a role like that.

I believe that there are many benefits to working for Colonial Regional Police Department. There are plenty of opportunities for advancement and movement throughout the department. I am very excited to continue my career here at Colonial Regional and make the residents of Lower Nazareth Township and Hanover Township proud.

## Brandon Gianopulos

I graduated from Northampton Area Senior High School in 2010. I then went to Northampton Area Community College where I graduated with an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice in 2012. I sent myself through the Allentown Police Academy and graduated in 2015. I worked at three Police Departments prior to working for the Colonial Regional Police Department, which were the Slatington Borough Police Department, Macungie Borough Police Department and the Catasauqua Borough Police Department. I am a Volunteer Firefighter at the Allen Township Fire Company and have been a Volunteer Firefighter for 16 years.

I knew from an early age that I wanted to be a Police Officer. My Uncle was a Lieutenant with the Phillipsburg Police Department in New Jersey. He would tell me different things that he responded to and different things he did to help the community. When he would tell me these different things that he was doing as Police Officer, I knew that this was the career path that I wanted to do. One of my main goals in Law Enforcement is to be in a K-9 Unit.

I would say my biggest challenge when I started working for the Colonial Regional Police Department was learning all the roads to the 2 Jurisdictions that we cover. I had prior police experience with the applications that CRPD uses, so that transition was not as hard for me. I am looking forward to interacting with the community because Community Policing is a big thing to me. There have been a lot of changes in Law Enforcement. I believe with Community Policing events and being there to answer questions that the community might have, that we can share with them what we do while we are out on patrol and the different things that we do throughout the day.

## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

*by John N. Diacogiannis*



Township Supervisors are asked to represent their constituents and make decisions for the community as a whole. This is often a difficult task when there are various and fundamentally opposite opinions on issues. It is important that supervisors hear from all constituents. One avenue for constituent input is public meetings.

Protocol for Board of Supervisors meetings has been followed since well before I've been a member. Township meeting dates are established at the January organizational meeting, posted on the township website, published in the newsletter and local newspaper. The agenda is always posted in advance, unless a technical issue occurs, for all to review. While we follow the agenda, there are certain rules and procedures that must be followed for an orderly meeting. All meetings are conducted by the chairperson, under the guidance of the township solicitor.

Meetings are open to the public and we welcome citizen and taxpayer attendance. Public participation must take place before any official action is taken. This may take place at the beginning of the meeting or before each agenda item. In our case, you can voice comments on specific agenda items when the items are on the floor. We also have a 15 minute (3 minute limit per person) Courtesy of the Floor for comments on issues that are not on the agenda. One courtesy of the floor is at the beginning of the meeting and a second one is near the end of the meeting. This is not usually an opportunity for dialogue, rather it's an avenue to voice concerns or comments. This is in no way meant to disregard your concerns. We listen to what you have to say and take reasonable suggestions into consideration. Occasionally, people have an issue that affects their lives, their homes or their neighborhood and they want action, resolution, or results. As a Board, we will listen and where appropriate direct township staff to investigate the situation for possible future administrative or Board action. If it is resolved to their satisfaction, we rarely hear from them again.

In many cases, the most expeditious way to get help or direction on such issues is to first contact the Township staff. Know that you can call the Township office during working hours. If you are not sure who to ask for, our receptionist can direct you. If the proper staff person is unable to answer the phone, be sure to leave a message. You can also email staff who will get back to you promptly.

# Hanover Township Community Center Updates



## A few words from our Recreation Director

A positive energy swirled through HTCC during the summer months. The buzz around the Community Center is due in large part to the construction of our new pool, which will be ready in 2024.



**Dante Terenzio**  
Recreation Director

A few things to add to the recent excitement: Our Kids Summer Camp, Parks Programs and Preschool in full force; the commitment from our adult programming participants; and, of course, the non-stop growth of our Pickleball crew. Events such as National Night Out and Patriot Day were also well-attended. It's apparent that HTCC enjoyed a fantastic summer, but now it is time to look ahead to flannel season.

Fall Fest (October 7) and Trunk or Treat (October 21) will highlight the buildup to Halloween at the Community Center, then we will roll right into tournament season.

Our pickleballers are itching to compete on October 28 when we hold our second competition of the year — *PicklePalooza*. Our May tournament was a huge success and drew more than 20 teams. We expect a bigger number in October as we look ahead to the installation of our new outdoor courts, which will be adjacent to the dog park at the Municipal Complex.

The following Saturday (November 4), H.T.C.C. will host a youth Martial Arts tournament. Sensei Tim Heinsinger projects approximately 100 children from the Lehigh Valley and Philly area to participate in Hanover's first Martial Arts tournament in more than a decade. Those competing must be between the ages of 6-17 and have trained in the Shotokan form of Martial Arts. The pairings will be based on age and belt color. If you're looking for an exciting event to spectate, or simply introduce something new to your child, this tournament is for you. Let's pack the Community Center Gymnasium for this one!

## HTCC Fall Programming

**Recreation — Youth and Adult Martial Arts, Junior and Adult Tennis Clinic, Pickleball, Open Gym Volleyball, Disc Golf**

**Fitness — Yoga, Core Yoga, Silver Sneakers Classic, Silver Sneakers Chair Yoga, Spin Class, Low Level Weights, Step Aerobics, Zumba Gold, SHiNE Dance Fitness**

**Please visit [hanovercommunitycenter.com](http://hanovercommunitycenter.com) for more information or to register for Recreation 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.**

## Preschool Updates

HTCC Preschool enjoyed a wonderful summer camp, exploring countries around the world, discovering new artists, and enjoying our playground among other fun activities.

We are now focused on the new academic year and are off to a strong start with many returning students, as well as some new faces. During the current semester, we are looking forward to learning about our friends, teachers, and families in our 'All About Me' theme, as well as learning about Fall and the changing of seasons.

HTCC Preschool are working with The Vero, to host our 'Trunk or Treat' fundraising morning which will be held on Saturday, October 21. 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the HTCC Preschool.

We are offering free registrations for members of the community to decorate their trunks and give out candy. Children wishing to participate in trick or treating are encouraged to register online for \$6 per child. (<https://htcc.activityreg.com> > Trunk or Treat 2023).

I look forward to seeing your decorated trunks and awesome costumes. If members of the public would like to donate candy to our event, please drop them into HTCC reception desk, or directly to me, at Preschool.

As always, I am very appreciative of our community, our families and teachers and am extremely thankful to serve our community.

For questions, please reach out to Preschool Director, Lisa Outcalt:

[PreschoolDirector@hanovertwp-cc.org](mailto:PreschoolDirector@hanovertwp-cc.org)



**Lisa Outcalt**  
Preschool Director

### Thank you to our Special Event Sponsors



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## Hanover Township Welcomes New Assistant Recreation Director

Ken Lowe has met a plethora of new and smiling faces here at the Community Center since beginning in his role as Assistant Recreation Director in early July. He is excited to foster strong relationships with as many members of the community as possible. Additionally, Ken will help grow several programs as well as implement new ones within Hanover Township.

While working as an activities coordinator for much of his adult life, Ken also has extensive experience working in aquatics and behavioral health, all while competing as an athlete at the collegiate level.



**Ken Lowe**  
Assistant Rec. Director

Ken's main focus at the Community Center is to help foster an inclusion amongst all age groups and demographics while providing new activities to all. More importantly, Ken would like to continue the growth of our Kids Summer Camp, along with several other children's programs.

*"I would like to say how excited I am to be working for Hanover Township and all of its amazing staff. Transitioning from a seasonal intern in 2022 to Assistant Recreation Director has been a goal of mine since graduating from Lock Haven University." - Ken Lowe, Assistant Rec. Director*

### Upcoming HTCC Tournaments

- ♦ **PicklePalooza Tournament (Oct. 28)**
- ♦ **Youth Martial Arts Tournament (Nov. 4)**
- ♦ **3-on-3 Youth Basketball Tournament (December)**

### HTCC BINGO

**Community Bingo** is held the first Thursday of each month. The meeting room is reserved for this event. Food and snacks available.

Games start at 6 pm - \$25 for 20 games

### Special Events 2023

**October 7 — Fall Fest**

**December 1 — Tree Lighting**

**December 9 — Breakfast with Santa  
(registration required)**



## Former HTCC Student Uses Self-Defense in Real-life Situation *HTCC Martial Arts still thriving under Sensei Tim*

by Dante Terenzio

Sensei Tim Heinsinger has instructed Martial Arts and self-defense courses at the Hanover Township Community Center since the building opened in 1996.

His biggest hope is his students never need to use those self-defense tactics in the outside world. However, the inevitable did in fact happen to one of his former students and current assistant, Stephanie Alvarado.

While attending a work conference in Atlanta, GA in March of 2020, Alvarado took part in a networking opportunity at a hotel restaurant. Alvarado mingled with professionals from all over the country, but she quickly took notice to one individual.

“His comments and jokes were demeaning and sexist,” Alvarado said of her soon-to-be assailant. “His whole vibe gave me the worst kind of goosebumps.”

Not long after, Alvarado decided to call it a night and made a trip to the restroom. When she exited the restroom, the man attacked her from behind.

That’s when Alvarado’s self-defense training immediately kicked in.

“He grabbed me from behind; it was a rear right-handed choke, a move I had practiced getting out of in the dojo hundreds of times. I simply



*Sensei Tim Heinsinger and Stephanie Alvarado*

reacted,” Alvarado said. “Before I knew it, he was on the floor and I was facing him in a forward stance with my hands up in guard. He was shocked. I was shocked. He was scared. I was scared.”

Unfortunately, that was not the end of the attack, but Alvarado did not let her guard down.

“There was a man in a business suit on the floor yelling ‘sorry.’ So I did what any normal person would do; I helped him up,” Alvarado continued. “When he was back on his feet, he stretched his arms towards my neck, only this time going for a front choke. I blocked and countered with moves from a Heian Yondan, a kata that I had been doing for years. The muscle memory instantly took over before I could even process what was happening in the moment.”

The man again apologized. This time Alvarado gave him a choice.

“I glared at his eyes and mustered my courage to ask him ‘Do you really want to do this?’ I was fully prepared to fight but he said nothing,” Alvarado said. “I could see that I had injured him and that now he was afraid of me. I backed away, not breaking eye contact or losing my stance until I was at a far enough distance where I could run away.”

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## Real Life Situation *continued*

Alvarado's triumph in a frightening situation is one of many examples of why Sensei Tim's Martial Arts program is beneficial.

If not for her training with our highly decorated instructor here at the Hanover Township Community Center, the outcome could very well have been different for Alvarado.

"I have been training with Sensei Tim since October of 2010. Through my years, he has taught me how to fight and defend myself," Alvarado said. "Karate training also has a multitude of benefits one of which revolves around confidence. I was confident that I could handle myself in any situation."

Nowadays, Alvarado assists Sensei Tim during his classes, which are held Monday and Wednesday evenings at HTCC. She finds satisfaction in giving back to the HTCC Martial Arts Program and to Sensei Tim, who recently celebrated his 70th birthday.

"I believe the program saved my life. It is designed to keep you challenged at your level, and I achieved my first-degree black belt in May of 2017, meaning I mastered the basics," Alvarado explained. "Part of my black belt training and testing helped me react in the moment despite being confused and terrified. My muscle memory kicked in."

Alvarado is not the only student who's grateful for Sensei Tim's instruction. While his Martial Arts students train twice a week, he also conducts self-defense courses for all age groups (children, college-aged adults, and seniors).

"Being a former student of Sensei Tim, I am forever grateful for the practical self-defense skills and sense of empowerment given to me and my other senior citizen friends. Tim is a patient, fun and amazing teacher. I give his classes a 5-star rating! Like Sensei Tim says, 'Don't be a victim!'" – Velyn Veleber, a Hanover Township resident who trained in self-defense at HTCC.

"I joined his class a year ago and have found that it is very enjoyable. I have learned an enormous amount of skills and life lessons. I cannot express how much Sensei Tim Heinsinger and Senpai Steph have helped me through this learning process and much more to come. With the help of Sensei Tim and Senpai Steph I would like to continue training to achieve my black belt, which is a great honor to bestow." – Aubrey, a green belt in the HTCC Martial Arts program.

"Over my years of training, Sensei Tim has become a friend and mentor to me. His lessons apply beyond the dojo and have helped me in my life beyond karate. He's helped shape me into the person I am and supports me while I continue to become the best version of myself. – Stephanie Alvarado, a black belt in the HTCC Martial Arts program and assistant of Sensei Tim.

## EMS CORNER

*by Karen Peters, EMS Director*

### EMS Call Statistics January-August 2023

Medical Emergencies	.....1,693
Motor Vehicle Accidents	..... 116
Fire Support	..... 45
<b>Total calls through August</b>	<b>.....1,834</b>



## MENTAL HEALTH



Why is mental health not accepted by our society? Is it a lack of awareness, or a lack of education? Mental health illnesses should be treated and accepted by society as any other health illness such as stroke, heart conditions, diabetes, and such.

Family and friends care for those with a physical illness. We help the person receive treatment, we help care for them, are a friend to talk to, and above all, we treat their illness with the respect, seriousness, and legitimacy that it deserves.

A person suffering from a mental health illness many times is often looked upon to be lacking willpower, lazy, incompetent, or causing their own struggles. We tell them to "snap out of it", "be positive" or "people have it worse than you". These people are suffering real emotional pain and we are doing more harm than good with this attitude.

We need to rally around them and offer support. Research has shown that having a strong support network can promote resilience and help people manage stress during difficult times.

There are many reasons people suffer from mental health illness. Some common causes include the loss of a loved one, long-term physical health conditions, abuse, stress, post post-traumatic stress disorder. We should not let people live in fear, shame, or embarrassment if they suffer from a mental health illness. We need to help them or direct them to someone who can help them.

How can we change our views on mental health illness to help our family and friends? Talk openly about mental health. Social media has become a great platform for positivity and support. Educate yourself and others and respond to misperceptions or negative comments by sharing facts and experiences.

Remember EVERYONE is fighting a battle you know nothing about, so we need to be kind to others and treat them with the same respect we expect from them.





## Fire Company Update

By Chief Scott VanWhy

**FIRE CALLS**  
Jan. 2023 - Aug. 2023  
Total - 479, that is an average of just about two calls a day.  
These calls are **ALL** answered by **VOLUNTEERS**.

Please consider volunteering or donating to the Fire Company. For information on joining see the EMS corner in this newsletter.

Now that the fall season is upon us, I would like to offer some fire safety tips to consider.

1. First and foremost, in our Township we are lucky enough that our Public Works employees pick up our leaves at the curb. With that said it is against the Township's ordinance to burn yard waste including leaves.
2. Be mindful of leaves that build up near exhaust vents so that they do not become blocked as that creates a potential fire/ CO hazard.
3. In November when we turn our clocks back remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors. If smoke detectors or carbon monoxide detectors are more than 10 years old, they need to be replaced.
4. If you use your fireplace for wood burning, consider having it cleaned before you start your first fire.
5. Do not store propane cylinders inside your house, that includes in an attached garage.
6. Have your Boiler, Furnace, pellet stove, ETC. cleaned and serviced yearly.
7. Create or review your home fire escape plan.

## FIRE COMPANY NEWS

### SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN

Santa will make his annual trip through the Township on Saturday, December 9th beginning at 9 am.



Donations are always welcome.

### JOIN OUR TEAM - HELP US HELP YOU

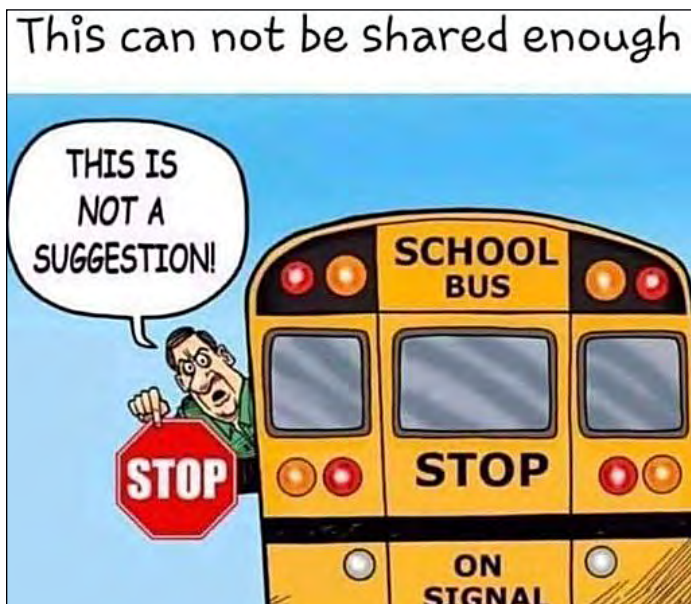
Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company is always in need of volunteers to serve in many different aspects of our organization. There are different divisions within our company: **Administrative positions, Firefighting, Fire Police, and EMS**. All required training and equipment are provided at no cost. If you are interested in exploring how you can help serve your community, contact us at the station 610-867-2103, or stop by during Monday Night Training at 7:00 pm.



Visit our website: [www.htvfc.org](http://www.htvfc.org)

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### STREET LIGHTS

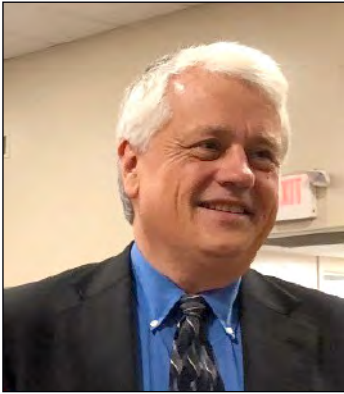
The street lights in the Township are owned and operated by PPL. If a street light is out, you can call PPL directly. The PPL street light outage number is 1.800.342.5775, option 1, option 4. To report the outage, you will need the pole or light number.

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.

## STATE OFFICIALS ARTICLES

### Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program Expanded

*By Representative Steve Samuelson*



On August 4, Governor Shapiro signed HB 1100 into law to expand the Property Tax / Rent Rebate (PTRR) program. I am the prime sponsor of this legislation which raises the PTRR income limits for the first time in 17 years and provides larger maximum rebates for those who qualify. An estimated 173,000

additional people will qualify for a rebate next year including 3,700 additional people in Northampton County.

The new income limits, effective in January 2024, are \$45,000 net income for homeowners and \$45,000 net income for renters. I say “net income” because you only have to count half of your Social Security income along with all of your other income when calculating eligibility for a PTRR. The new law also includes a Cost of Living Adjustment so that recipients will not lose out on a PTRR in future years when they receive a modest increase in their Social Security or pension.

As Chair of the House Finance Committee, I was pleased to have a unanimous vote in committee and overwhelming votes this June in the House and Senate on HB 1100, which was cosponsored by 92 additional representatives.

My district office assists more than 900 people every year in completing and submitting PTRR applications. The program is open to people over the age of 65, widows and

widowers over the age of 50 and people with disabilities (SSD or SSI recipients) over the age of 18.

The new higher income limits will take effect in January 2024 when you can apply for a rebate on your 2023 property taxes or rent. Maximum rebates next year will be \$380 to \$1,000, depending on your income. Those at the \$45,000 limit on net income can receive \$380.

And remember that right now – until December 31, 2023 – there is still time to apply for a rebate on your 2022 property taxes or rent. The CURRENT income limits are \$35,000 net income for homeowners and \$15,000 net income for renters. Maximum rebates this year are \$250 to \$650, depending on income.

Call my district office at 610-867-3890 to get a PTRR booklet and to make an appointment to apply for your PTRR!

### Representative Samuelson's Office Hours at the Community Center

Representative Samuelson holds office hours at Hanover Township Community Center on the Third Thursday of every month, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Upcoming dates for the Hanover office hours are October 19, November 16, December 21, and January 18. My district office at 104 E. Broad St., Bethlehem is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Come meet with Representative Samuelson to get information on the Property Tax / Rent Rebate and other state programs, to sign up for a SEPTA Senior Fare Card (age 65 plus) to ride SEPTA regional rail lines for free, or to discuss legislation or issues with any state agency.

### A Column by Senator Nick Miller

It's been a busy summer here in the district, as well as in Harrisburg.

I now have mobile office hours at Hanover Township Community Center in Bethlehem the second Wednesday of every month from 9 to 11:30 a.m. We can help with a variety of state issues, like notary services, birth certificates and driver's licenses issues. If you can't make it to the Center or prefer to connect by phone, my office number is 610-821-8468. We're here to help you and I want to know what we can do for you.

I'm excited to announce that property tax and rent rebates have been expanded. Starting in January 2024, seniors across the commonwealth who make a maximum of \$45,000 can apply for a rebate. Previously, the limit was \$15,000 for senior renters and \$30,000 for senior homeowners. It's anticipated that nearly 175,000 more senior residents will be eligible to apply. This bill originally went through the Finance Committee, which I co-chair, and I was proud to

*continued next page*



## Senator Nick Miller *continued*

speak up in support of it. I'm confident this expansion will help more seniors stay in their homes and allow them to keep more of their hard-earned money. For more information or to apply, visit myPATH - Home or call my office for assistance.

The 2023-2024 budget passed and includes substantial funding increases for education. As a former member of the local school board, I understand how essential proper funding is for schools; it will be increased 8%, or more than \$700 million, compared to last year. The budget includes a \$567 million increase in basic education funding and a \$50 million increase for special education funding. Additionally, \$23.5 million will be invested in workforce training and vo-tech programs, \$6 million in apprenticeship programs and \$3.5 million in the schools-to-work program. These important investments will ensure our students are prepared to succeed as our workforce of tomorrow.

Another priority for me as senator is economic development. I believe Northampton County has much to offer small businesses and the budget assigns \$2 million in the Municipal Assistance Program, which helps communities plan revitalization, improvement efforts and management. An additional \$1.25 million is earmarked as an increase for the Strategic Management Planning Program, which aids communities on long-term financial management strategies to avoid financial distress. To help grow our industries, \$3 million will be distributed to the Foundations in Industry Program for pre-apprenticeships and apprenticeships.

Public safety will also see an increase in funding. The state police will see an 8% rise at \$1.6 million, enough to hire an additional 400 troopers. Our state police are active in our

community, supporting our local police to keep our communities safe. Additionally, Gov. Josh Shapiro recently signed an executive order removing college credit requirements for state police applicants, allowing more residents to take advantage of a career in the state police. Public safety is another important pillar to community success.

Please visit [pasenatormiller.com](http://pasenatormiller.com) for updated information and follow me on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

It was a pleasure to visit your Community Night Out in August. Connor and I enjoyed meeting so many of you!

**SENATOR  
NICK MILLER**  
[PASenatorMiller.com](http://PASenatorMiller.com)

## MOBILE OFFICE HOURS

Serving the people of the 14th Senatorial District

### Hanover Township

(Northampton County) Community Center  
3660 Jacksonville Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017

**Second Wednesday of every month**  
9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

**Services we provide:**

**STATE APPLICATIONS**

- Vehicle registration
- Driver's license
- Special tags
- Titles
- Car plates/placards for the physically challenged
- Higher education financial assistance
- Birth certificates
- Notary Publics

**SENIOR CITIZEN APPLICATIONS**

- PACE
- Property tax and rent rebates

**SOLVING STATE PROBLEMS**

- State income taxes
- State lottery
- Consumer protection
- PennDOT
- Unemployment compensation
- Utilities or PUC
- Any state agencies which serve the public

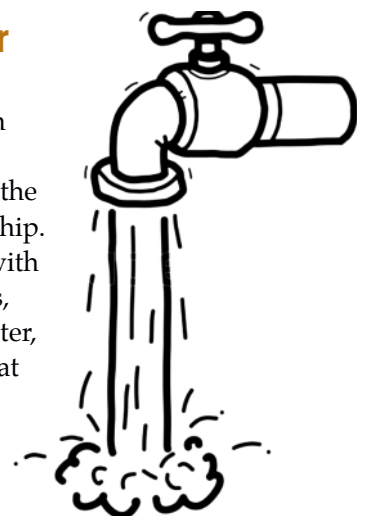
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT, PLEASE CALL 610-321-6468.

If you haven't registered your email address with the Township the time to do it is now. We have instituted a monthly newsletter to cover items in a timelier manner as well as continuing to broadcast important announcements as issues develop. Recently we've sent updates about residential break-ins, yard waste, etc. Shortly, depending on the weather we'll be sending out messages concerning snow emergencies. Stay informed and up to date, register today.

## 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 Community Utilities of PA (CUPA) and their contact number is (800) 638-0292.





## Protect Yourself from Scams

In the wake of recent arrests involving scams against older Pennsylvanians, the Office of Attorney General (OAG) is again reminding people of all ages to be on the lookout for someone trying to cheat them out of their hard-earned money.



Some tips to keep in mind:

- Never send money or gift cards to someone you do not know. Also, gift cards are for gifts, not for paying debts or bills.
- If you are suspicious or have concerns about a solicitation, call your local police or the OAG hotline at 800-441-2555.
- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. "Sweepstakes" scams have been common for years, so be vigilant and use common sense. If you did not sign up for a sweepstakes, you could not have won.
- Sign up for scam warning text alerts from the Office of Attorney General: <https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/consumer-alerts/> Mobile carrier rates may apply.

Additionally, the OAG recommends an acronym to evaluate unsolicited phone calls or emails:

**S:** Sudden – The call or email is unexpected.

**C:** Contact – Scammers will contact you by phone, email or in-person.

**A:** Act Now – The request will be urgent and assert penalties if you do not act quickly.

**M:** Money or Information – The scammer will request money or personal information.

Pennsylvanians who believe they have been victims of a scam should file a complaint with the Office of Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer Protection by calling 800-441-2555, online at:

<https://www.attorneygeneral.gov/submit-a-complaint/scams-complaint/>  
OR emailing [scams@attorneygeneral.gov](mailto:scams@attorneygeneral.gov).

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Pages/Scams.aspx>.

## WINTER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

With fall and winter just around the corner that means so is the start of cold and flu season. Review these simple tips to help you prepare yourself and your family to try to prevent someone in your family from getting sick.



1. **Stock up on supplies.** Be ready before cold and flu season starts. Load up on tissues, hand soap, hand sanitizer, and paper towels. Consider picking up a few distractions in case your kids get sick, like puzzles, coloring books, or DVDs.
2. **Check your medicine cabinet.** Check all expiration dates. Make sure it contains pain relievers, fever reducers, and any other medications you use when your family is fighting colds or the flu, like decongestants or cough syrups. Test your thermometer to make sure the batteries still work. Clean your humidifier and replace filter if applicable.
3. **Be strict about washing hands.** Germy hands spread colds and the flu. Make sure your family scrubs their hands well with soap for at least 20 seconds.
4. **Set up sanitizer stations.** Put a bottle of hand sanitizer in every room. Make sure it's at least 60% alcohol. Use a squirt as you pass by and get everyone else to do the same.
5. **Disinfect.** You should disinfect the heavily touched items in your household such as doorknobs, remote controls, and phones every day.
6. **Switch to paper goods.** If someone in your family is sick, use paper towels instead of hand towels in the bathroom. Switch out glasses for paper cups, and toss them after one use. You'll be less likely to swap germs.
7. **Fill the fridge and pantry.** Stock up on some of your families favorite soups and easy to make meals. Be sure to have Gatorade and favorite drinks on hand.
8. **Rest.** Whether you're trying to recover from a cold or flu, or trying to avoid it, get plenty of sleep.
9. **Get your flu shot.** One of the best ways to help keep the flu away from your house is to make sure your whole family is vaccinated.







## REQUEST A MAIL-IN BALLOT

- Request a mail-in ballot online at [Vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot](https://Vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot) or call to request a paper application.
- The deadline to request a mail-in ballot is October 31, 2023, but please request your ballot as early as possible. Apply today!
- **Ballots will be mailed in early to mid-October.** Check [NorthamptonVotes.com](https://NorthamptonVotes.com) for an upcoming date announcement.
- Return your ballot by mail, at an official drop box, or in-person at the Elections Office.
- Ballots must be received no later than 8pm on Election Day. Postmarks DO NOT count.
- Changed your mind? To vote in-person on election day, surrender your entire ballot package at your polling place on Election Day. You will then be able to vote in person.

**SAFE, EASY &  
SECURE**

**NORTHAMPTON COUNTY**  
Executive Lamont G. McClure

**ELECTION DAY**  
**TUESDAY,**  
**NOVEMBER 7, 2023**  
**POLLS ARE OPEN**  
**FROM 7AM - 8PM**



## REGISTER TO VOTE

**Registration Deadline: October 23, 2023**

Register online at [Vote.pa.gov](https://Vote.pa.gov) or call and request a paper application or register in person at the Elections office.

## EARLY VOTING STARTS EARLY OCTOBER

If you have NOT applied for a mail-in/absentee ballot, you are eligible for Early "On Demand" Voting in the Northampton County Elections Office (669 Washington St., Easton, PA) on the Lower Level. Early voting will be available in early to mid-October once ballots are available. Visit [NorthamptonVotes.com](https://NorthamptonVotes.com) for updates when Early Voting becomes available.

## FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE

Check your polling location at [Vote.pa.gov/pollingplace](https://Vote.pa.gov/pollingplace)

## DROP BOX LOCATIONS & HOURS

**Northampton County Government Center**  
669 Washington St, Easton, PA 18042  
M-F 8:30am - 8pm

**Bethlehem City Hall**  
10 E Church St, Bethlehem, PA 18018  
M-F 8am - 4pm  
Election Day only from 8am - 8pm

**Northampton County Human Services Building**  
2801 Emrick Blvd, Bethlehem, PA 18020  
M-F 8:30am - 7pm

**Northampton County 911 Center**  
100 Gracedale Ave, Nazareth, PA 18064  
M-F 8:30am - 8pm



## Asa Packer Elementary School Fall 2023

And just like that, summer is over and Asa Packer Elementary School is bustling again! The delight of the students in seeing their teachers, friends and classmates made our first day truly exciting.

We kicked the school year off by greeting the students and staff with a "Happy 1st Day 2023" sign and an appearance from our school mascot Ace. We hosted our Boo-Hoo Yahoo Breakfast for Kindergarten parents to come meet each other and the PTA. We also welcomed families at Open House, Parent Visitation Day, and VIP/Grandparents Day where the families get a "peak" into the awesomeness of Asa Packer and all that the staff are doing for our children.

In September we welcomed Jesse Ruben back from The We Can Project. The staff and students were excited to spend time with Jesse and learn more about his mission to empower people of all ages to give back to their communities. Also, with the support of parents helping us fundraise, the PTA was able to add two new basketball systems to the students' playground fun!

October will kick off a month full of activities! Dr. Silva will make a visit to the PTA meeting to meet with staff and parents. This will be a great opportunity to meet our new Superintendent, hear his perspective on BASD moving forward and parents to give feedback. The Asa Packer PTA will also host our annual Walk-a-Thon with thanks to the



planners, volunteers & dedicated sponsors. This is an event that all the children look forward to. The excitement & enthusiasm of students as they total the number of wristbands earned for each lap completed adds fun to this classic fundraiser.

The Fall Harvest school party will also add a fun break to the students' hard working daily routines. Students will be dressed in their finest & scariest Halloween gear and participate in the traditional Halloween parade around the school area. They will be supported by many family & friends cheering on the sidelines as the students pass by. Then Room Parents & Party Helpers plan wonderful activities back in the classroom to finish out their school day!

Asa Packer will also have the Fall Book Fair and two Dine & Donate events. We would like to thank George Oasis Restaurant and mini golf, as well as Pat's Pizzeria for partnering with our PTA to help raise money towards enriching our kids' educational experience.

Overall, it has been a very busy start of the school year, but we wouldn't have it any other way!

## Leaf Collection

Township Leaf Collection will begin in mid-October and run through the first week in December (weather permitting). Place your leaves at the curb in a row and make sure the leaves are free of all debris. Also, make sure you don't park vehicles on these rows as the vehicle may catch fire.

While there is no set schedule for leaf pickup, 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](http://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.





## HANOVER SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome to our newest Hanover Hawks and welcome back to our returning Hanover Hawks! We are starting off the 2023 – 2024 school year strong as we empower our students to be respectful, responsible, critical thinkers, and lifelong learners in a culturally diverse world. We held a special welcome event for the incoming Kindergarten classes on August 24th with our Little Hawks Night. On September 5th we welcomed all of our Hanover families to visit the school and meet their student's teachers during our Open House – it was so good to see everyone! The smiles were plentiful and bright on Picture Day September 20th. This year for International Peace Day, we planted a rock garden filled with hand decorated rocks from each student and had the students form a peace sign afterwards. Peace Rocks!!!!

In October, we are looking forward to having the Hawk Walk as well as Harvest Day. In between these events, our District is holding Education Week. This gives

our parents an opportunity to see a day in the life of their child in the classroom. Parents, you better come ready to keep up with our great learners! We will also be hosting Great Person's Day on Friday, October 13, 2023 for all those special people in a student's life. To top off this eventful week, we will be having a Book Fair! And of course, many, many, many thanks to all the parents, friends, families, Hanover community, volunteers and our PTA for all you do to help make our school so successful.



### *Pool Progress - September 26, 2023*



## PROPERTY OWNERS

Please note that the Township when time permits trim's 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 couldn't 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 pedestrian's walking on sidewalks has become a problem in some areas. Please remember this can be a **liability** to you.

Dumping grass clippings or **ANY** debris on empty lots is against the Township Ordinance 71-5. Violators will be fined up to \$300.00.

## REPORT POTHOLE 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://customer-care.pennndot.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 a.m. and after 5 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.

If there is a concern about Township roads, call 610-866-1140 and ask for the Public Works Department.

## FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

### Alarm System Owners:

Please remember if you have a Monitored Alarm System or Automatic Protection Device it must be registered with the Township. (Ordinance 96-1)

### Storm Drains:

Please remember it is illegal to dump ANYTHING 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 **liability** 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 ANY debris on empty lots is against the Township Ordinance 71-5. Violators can be fined up to \$300.00.

## 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 owner's 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.

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



## SHADE TREE ADVISORY BOARD

### Tree Tips

Fall is the very best time to plant a new tree. The roots have a chance to settle in and develop during the cooler autumn days, and rains are usually more consistent than at other times of the year.

### Watering Newly Planted Trees

After the unusually dry summer this year, many new trees are stressed due to lack of regular, deep watering. The heavy but brief rains we had in September didn't help much. Young trees need an inch of rainwater each week, or about four to five gallons that you allow to seep slowly into the soil. Never rely on rainwater alone to meet your new tree's watering needs. After two or three years, the tree should be able to survive without additional watering. But during droughts like this summer, you need to monitor and water, if needed.

Put water near the trunk and in the whole area about two feet out from the trunk to soak all the roots. A good test to know if your tree is thirsty: if the soil is dry an inch or two below the surface, you need to water the tree!

Mulching the tree is very important. Mulch will help keep the moisture in the root system and cut down on weeds. Be sure to keep the mulch away from the tree's trunk—a couple of inches away is about right—to let the base of the trunk "breathe" and not get rotted out from too much moisture. Move the mulch aside to do the dryness test.

### Staking Material

After one growing season, remove the stakes and wires, if they were used at planting. But do use deer protection at planting time and for a few years to keep deer from rubbing their antlers on the trunk of your tree during late fall. Increased deer populations have become a real issue with the damage they do to tree trunks and gardens in general. Protect your tree to help it survive.

### Tree Sprouts or Suckers

Remove sprouts or suckers growing from the base of the tree or on the ground near the trunk. Simply cut them off as low as possible with a sharp-bladed pruner. Never use weed killer—it will hurt the tree.

### Permit Reminder

If your street tree dies or is diseased, you need to replace it. Get a permit from the Township Office and replace it with a tree from the Approved Street Tree List which is also available online at <https://hanovertwp-nc.org>. It is prohibited to remove healthy street trees!

### REPLACE YOUR MISSING STREET TREE



The Township Approved Tree List can be found on the website or picked up at the Township Office. Fall is the perfect time to plant trees!

## WHEN TO PRUNE TREES

The safest time to prune trees is late fall, winter, or early spring when the trees have lost their leaves and are dormant. There is no risk of spreading viruses and diseases at this time, and the branch structure is easier to see.

### PRUNE CORRECTLY - NEVER TOP

For large trees get professional help. Hire an ISO certified arborist (ask to see their credentials).

A properly pruned tree is like a good haircut – hardly noticeable at first glance.

More information about trees – value, selection, planting and care can be found at [www.arboday.org](http://www.arboday.org).



Topped Tree



Growth After Topping



## Books on the Go

Let us bring the library to you! The BAPL Bookmobile is a mobile library that brings books and other reading materials directly to the community. The bookmobile visits various parts of Hanover Township on a regular basis, as well as special visits to community events, making it easy for residents to borrow books and other materials without traveling to a traditional library location. The Bookmobile is equipped with a wide selection of new materials for all ages and interests. Hanover residents can also get a library card on the bookmobile, as well as pick up holds, making it easy for residents to borrow books and other materials. With the BAPL Bookmobile, community members can enjoy the benefits of a library that comes right to their doorstep! Check out [bapl.org](http://bapl.org) to see the bookmobile's schedule in Hanover Township!

## Check out our Library Programs!

Don't miss the events offered at your library for children, teens, and families. Storytimes, Play & Learn Family Place sessions, Computer Workshops, Dungeons & Dragons One Shot sessions, Game Night, and Open Mic Nights every Monday! And much more! Check our website ([bapl.org](http://bapl.org)) for daily events and more information. Most Youth events do not require registration. Join us!

## Don't miss out on our cloud library!

The Bethlehem District Libraries have brought on a new platform for eBook and eAudiobook lending. The new platform, cloudLibrary™, will provide an app that is extremely easy for all users, and allows for the library to better manage its content and offer far more to you through a partnership with other libraries across PA. Visit [www.yourcloudlibrary.com](http://www.yourcloudlibrary.com)

Sign up for our email newsletter at [bapl.org/newsletter](http://bapl.org/newsletter)

Check [bapl.org/the-bookmobile](http://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





# 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. Some meetings may be moved to the Community Center.

**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.