

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Michael J. Prendeville  
484.788.8403

## TOWNSHIP OFFICE

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

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Martin M. Limpar

### Zoning Officer

Tracy Luisser

## Newsletter Submission

Deadline for the  
next newsletter  
May 10, 2024

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

### Recreation Director

Dante A. Terenzio

### Assistant Recreation Director

Ken Lowe

### Pre-School Director

Lisa M. Outcalt

# Hanoverview

## WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2024

By Susan A. Lawless, Esq., Chair Board of Supervisors

The late Sydney J. Harris, a journalist based in Chicago but who was well-regarded for his aphorisms, once noted that our human dilemma is that we hate change and love it at the same time; what we really want is for things to stay the same but get better. What is in store for our community in the coming year in a word is: change.

The Board of Supervisors (the "Board") will be comprised of two (2) newly elected Supervisors, Jean Versteeg and Stephen Gross. As incoming Chair, I have received the gavel from John Diacogiannis, whose quality tenure on the Board and as its Chair measures in the decades. This new, incoming Administration embodies changes and itself faces a lot of change.

The number one priority for the incoming administration will be to hire a new Township Manager. In a Second-Class Township like ours, the Township Manager is responsible for day-to-day operations within the Township. Therefore, the role is a pivotal one. The search is already underway. The Board, in 2023, hired the Meyner Center (the "Center") to assist in the broad search for and the vetting of candidates. Affiliated with Lafayette College, the Center is dedicated to the study and betterment of state and local government and offers executive recruitment services. The goal is to have a new Manager hired within the first four (4) months of 2024. Jay Finnigan has been retained as a consultant to lend his expertise to ensure continuity during the transition. In the wake of his long tenure as Manager, he left the Township with a well-trained staff in all key positions and a good deal of institutional and financial strength. This will not only serve the Township during the transition but also his successor.

The new Administration and newly hired Manager will be challenged with shepherd-



ing the success of significant changes in the Township's Zoning Department. Yvonne Kutz, who served the Township for several decades as the Chief Zoning Officer, has retired. Zoning is transitioning to a hybrid configuration with certain inspection and review tasks being outsourced to a third-party vendor. As is the case with the Manager position,

Ms. Kutz ensured continuity within the Zoning Department through selection of a new software management system and the long-term training of capable personnel, Tracy Luisser, who will continue to provide the high level of customer service for which the department is known.

We look forward to the opening of the new pool complex in Spring. HTCC Director, Dante Terenzio and his team are already working to meet the challenges of staffing such a complex and is working on other plans to make it a success. Because supply chain issues will delay the completion of the pool and the testing of its systems until the eve of opening, Public Works will be challenged with getting the complex operational in a short time frame. We fully expect our parks and roadways to be among the best in the County under the continued leadership of Marty Limpar even while operation and maintenance of the new complex is integrated back into the Public Works rotation.

We anticipate at least one large construction project to be completed within the Township in 2024, one to bring stormwater management systems to the only neighborhood in the Township that is presently without one. The Administration hopes to tackle many other projects in the upcoming year, including bringing Township ordinances into conformity with the Multi-Municipal

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## News from the Colonial Regional Police Commission

*John N. Diacogiannis – Commission Chairman*

I'm very pleased and proud to welcome our newest police officers to CRPD. Officer Mark McGuire and Officer Samantha Nigro graduated from the 112th Class of the Allentown Police Academy and were sworn in by District Magisterial Judge John C. Capobianco in mid-December. I was privileged to attend their very moving class graduation. They immediately started their tours of duty and began their field training under seasoned field training officers. They will continue their training to learn everything they need to prepare for service as CRPD officers in Hanover and Lower Nazareth Townships. Please give them a hearty welcome when you see them.

### OFFICER SAMANTHA NIGRO

Officer Nigro was born and raised in Easton, PA and graduated from Easton Area High School in 2016. After high school she knew she wanted to be part of something bigger than herself. In order to make a difference, she joined the PA Army National Guard as an Automated Logistical Specialist. She completed training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and worked as a recruiting assistant. She then completed two tours overseas, working as a Flight Operations Specialist. Officer Nigro is currently serving in the Army National Guard with the rank of Sergeant.

When asked what her impetus was to serve as a police officer she stated, "I always knew I wanted a job where I could help people and make a difference. Growing up, I always looked up to my father. I admired his hard work and dedication to the job, as well as his integrity, and loyalty to



his partners. My father has been an officer with Colonial Regional PD since 1999. I knew I wanted a career in law enforcement. When an opportunity opened up at CRPD, I knew it was exactly where I was supposed to be. To serve and protect the public as an officer alongside my father Officer Ronald Nigro."

She went on to comment about the challenges facing police. "As we all have seen on the news and many social media outlets, law enforcement has experienced many changes over the years. Police services and expectations are constantly evolving and growing. With the many resources and technology, we have today, I see policing within the next few years continuing to produce a highly trained and professional police force. With all the training and resources available to us we have everything we need to be well

rounded, and ready for all situations that come our way."

"I aspire to move up within the department as a K-9 handler and one day hold a supervisory position. I will have many opportunities as a CRPD officer. With CRPD, I have the chance to grow and advance within my career. We are offered many opportunities to further our training and I plan to keep learning and training to better myself throughout my career in law enforcement."

I asked her what her immediate challenges are. "There are many challenges when starting any new career. Becoming a police officer presents challenges, as well as being a rewarding job with many opportunities. I believe the most challenging part as a new officer is learning the roads and areas of Hanover Township and Lower Nazareth. With a job in law enforcement, you have to be ready for everything and anything. My top focus is learning everything I can from my Field Training Officer and to continue to learn and challenge myself each day."

Officer Ronald Nigro had the proud and distinct honor to pin the badge on his daughter. We are equally proud of them both.

### OFFICER MARK MCGUIRE

Officer McGuire is from Phillipsburg, NJ and has lived there his entire life. He attended Phillipsburg High School and graduated in 2015. In high school he played baseball, basketball, and football. He joined the Army National Guard as an infantryman and served 8 years. While in the National Guard he went on deployment to Djibouti, Africa for nearly a year. Also, while in the National Guard, he attended Kean University and earned a Bachelor's Degree

### What's In store for 2024 *continued from page 1*

Comprehensive Plan to address mega-warehouse development and protect the quality of life in the Township, a reconfiguration and overhaul of the Township's website, and continued invigoration of programing and amenities at the HTCC.

Success will require patience and perseverance to listen and remain open-minded. Despite facing a lot of change, the institutional knowledge held by long-serving, dedicated members of the Township's management team is a solid foundation upon which to build and bring about positive change without disrupting what we all cherish about our community.

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## PAST CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

by John N. Diacogiannis



Two years ago, I had written what I expected to be my final Chairman's year end article. As often happens, I was wrong. To paraphrase Don Michael Corleone, just as I thought I was out --- they pull me back in. After a year's break in 2022, the Board elected me to be Chairman again. I vowed that 2023 would be my final year in the center seat. This year I nominated, and we elected Susan Lawless as Chair. Susan brings to the table six years' experience on the Board, as well as years of Planning Commission experience, including PC Chairman. Please join me in welcoming and supporting her. As always, there is much to do, and I am committed to assisting her any way that I can. I have two more years remaining in my current term and will continue to serve on the Colonial Regional Police Commission.

2023 was a pivotal year. The year was only days old when our dear Public Works Director, Vince Milite passed away. It left a giant hole in our hearts, which has not, nor will ever be healed. The Directors responsibilities were quickly and very capably taken over by Vince's assistant, Marty Limpar. However, Vince did so much more for our community than few completely understood. We continue to recognize its full effect in his absence. He is forever in our memory.

The effects of the Covid pandemic in 2020, 2021 and to an extent in 2022 were quickly put behind us in 2023. The biggest impact was felt in our recreation programs, particularly at the Hanover Township Community Center. Under new leadership since last March, the Community Center was revitalized. The preschool and other programs have recovered quite well. Programming continues to grow and improve for all ages. Pickleball has been a tremendous hit and will expand to new dedicated outdoor pickleball courts this year.

The most anticipated and largest project our township has undertaken in the last 50 years was to construct a new outdoor pool complex. The decision to proceed and seek financing opportunities was very difficult, but in the end the project was viewed as a net benefit to the community. Goodness knows that I've heard from many residents concerned about the financial costs that we have incurred. When the final tally comes in, the total costs will be north of \$7 million. This was not a simple build. Geology and post Covid labor and supply chain constraints were not our friend. There was extensive and time consuming geotechnical engineering and mitigation done to address the site sinkhole problem. The new complex was built to the best new standards and under the direction of a well-qualified pool architect. Those of us who have been involved with the project can attest that Hanover Township will have one of the best

pool complexes in the area. As of this writing, I expect the ribbon cutting to occur on Saturday, June 8, the last day of the Hanover Carnival (June 5th to 8th). Regular pool season opening is expected to be on Saturday June 15th. Keep an eye out for specifics and come see us when we open. You will be pleased.

On the development front, we saw an uptick in projects and proposals. It certainly was not the same level of activity as what we experienced over 10 or 20 years ago; after all there is limited space remaining for development. However, the impact on traffic and our residents have made many developments of any sort a hot button item. This is not just in Hanover, but in many areas of the Lehigh Valley. To assist us in addressing many of these issues, Hanover joined with 9 other area municipalities and adapted the Nazareth Area Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan. While I, Barry Check and Jay Finnigan were involved, Susan Lawless represented us on the plan's steering committee. One principal concern expressed in that effort was traffic impact, especially "downstream" in neighboring municipalities. Unfortunately, Hanover is the recipient of much of the traffic emanating from neighboring townships. Stay tuned - Lehigh Valley developments are not going away.

Finally, our long term Township Manager, Jay Finnigan, has retired. As we have begun the extensive process of recruiting and hiring a new Manager, Jay is serving on a limited time consulting basis to assist and guide our staff as needed. I wish him well in whatever his next adventures hold. I extend many thanks to him for all his support during the almost 20 years of my Chairmanship. Most importantly, I would like to extend my gratitude to his wife Mona for being his compass.

## OFFICER MARK MCGUIRE *continued*

in Criminal Justice. He is engaged to Samantha Moreland and planning a 2024 wedding. In his free time, he likes to play basketball and any competitive games.

Asked when and how he decided on a law enforcement career he responded that he wanted to be a police officer since high school. "That was one of the main reasons I joined the military. I knew it would help me to become a police officer. I wanted to be in a job where I could help people and do something different every day. I also didn't want to have to sit behind a desk for my entire career. No one in my family was in law enforcement before, so it was something new."

"The challenge of being a new police officer is learning everything that comes with the job. Knowing the roads and just getting experience being a police officer is what will be the most challenging. My goal is to hopefully one day be able to move up in CRPD. I would also like to get involved in drug work. I believe technology will play a big role in policing within the next 10 years. There will be much advancement that will help officers."

Officer McGuire had his badge pinned on by his proud parents.



## A FOND FAREWELL TO JAY FINNIGAN - TOWNSHIP MANAGER EXTRAORDINAIRE

*By Supervisor Michael J. Prendeville*



It is with a mix of emotions that we share the news of the retirement of our esteemed Township Manager, Jay Finnigan. After an incredible 27 years of dedicated service to our community, Jay has decided to embark on a new chapter of his life, bidding farewell to the role that has defined his illustrious career.

Mr. Finnigan's journey in service to Hanover Township has been nothing short of remarkable. From serving as the Chief Fundraiser of the 200th Anniversary Committee in 1998 to contributing to the Recreation Advisory Board from 1998 to 1999, Jay's dedication has been unwavering. His subsequent roles on the Board of Supervisors from 2000 to 2006, including Vice Chairman in 2001-2002 and Chairman in 2003-2006, showcased his commitment to shaping the community's path. In April 2005, he assumed the position of Township's Director of Administration and eventually became Township Manager from 2006-2024.

Jay Finnigan's tenure as Township Manager has been characterized by a resolute commitment to excellence, a fervent passion for community development, and an inde-

fatigable dedication to making Hanover Township a better place for all its residents. His leadership has left an indelible mark on our beloved township, evident in the positive transformations witnessed under his guidance.

Under Jay's stewardship, Hanover Township has experienced unprecedented growth and fiscal responsibility. His strategic vision and collaborative approach have not only improved our township's infrastructure but have also strengthened the bonds within our community. From enhancing parks and recreational facilities to elevating public services, Jay's influence is apparent in every facet of our township.

Jay's ability to navigate challenges with grace and resilience has been a guiding light for our community. His open-door policy, willingness to listen, and proactive approach to problem-solving have earned him the respect and admiration of both colleagues and residents alike. As we bid farewell to Jay Finnigan, we reflect on the lasting impact he leaves behind.

As we embark on the search for a new Township Manager, we remain steadfast in our commitment to building upon the foundation laid by Jay Finnigan. We are confident that the principles of community, collaboration, and progress instilled by Jay will continue to guide us in the years to come.

Please join us in extending our heartfelt gratitude to Jay Finnigan for his exceptional service and wishing him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS NOTES

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

- Elected Susan A. Lawless as Chair
- Elected Jean E. Versteeg, Vice Chair
- Re-appointed James L. Broughal, Esq. as the Township Solicitor
- Re-appointed Brien R. Kocher, PE as the Township Engineer
- Re-appointed Steven J. Elton as the Township Fire Marshal
- Re-appointed Martin Gilchrist and appointed Barry Check to the Planning Commission
- Re-appointed Telly Diacogiannis as Township Representative to the Bethlehem Public Library, with Michael Prendeville being the alternate.
- Re-appointed John N. Diacogiannis as the representative to the Colonial Regional Police Commission, with Jean Versteeg being the alternate.
- Appointed Julie Bailey as the Vacancy Board Chair
- Re-appointed John C. Tadarro to the Recreation Advisory Board
- Appointed Stephen Gross as the voting representative to the Nazareth Council of Governments (NazCOG) with John Diacogiannis as the alternate
- Re-appointed John Diacogiannis as the voting delegate to the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors
- Appointed Marty Limpar as Animal Control Officer
- Supervisors assumed the following committees: Stephen Gross - Administration; Michael Prendeville - Developments; Jean Versteeg - Planning & Zoning and John Diacogiannis - Public Works

## MANAGER FINNIGAN'S REMARKS



Hanover Township's rich tradition started in 1798 when it was incorporated on August 8th. The lands that comprise Allen, East Allen, and the two Hanover Townships – Lehigh & Northampton County, were originally part of the 23,000 acres by Richard Penn's "Manor of Fermor. It

acquired its present boundaries in 1812 when Lehigh County was formed. At that time, Hanover was split into two separate Townships with approximately one third of the land and one half the population remaining in Northampton County.

From its inception until April 1, 1990, the Township's day-to-day operations rested with the Board of Supervisors who often needed to stop by and assist the Township staff. As the municipality grew, that form of government was not practical and the Board created the Office of Township Manager. N. James Serner, a long time employee of the Township was appointed the Township's first manager and served until December 31, 2005. Upon his retirement, Jim had dedicated thirty-eight years to the Township, starting in 1967 as a laborer and advancing up the ranks.

Upon Mr. Serner's retirement the Board appointed Jay Finnigan as Jim's replacement effective January of 2006. Jay completed his service to the Township January 2, 2024. During his final Board of Supervisors' meeting Jay offered these remarks.

"Mr. Chairman, Members of the Board of Supervisors, and those attending tonight's meeting.

As I am about to close this chapter of my public service, I am reminded of the three individuals who instilled in me the foundation to serve others for the common good.

The first is my grandfather, William Carey, who served as a member of the Boston City Council and Massachusetts House of Representatives. He often took me to the State House in Boston while the House was in session and to many community events in his District. While a Democrat, today he would be considered a centrist. He worked tirelessly for his constituents, whether friend or foe.

The second was my father, John Finnigan, who never served in public office, but always volunteered to coach my brother, sister, and my sports teams. He always volunteered in our home parish while we were young, serving on many committees and boards. As we grew, he grew with us.

Once we hit high school, he was on the school and athletic board. It culminated when he organized a group of parents to paint our school's gym as part of my sister's class gift, after securing all the material through donations.

Finally, growing up in Massachusetts, President Kennedy's public service had a profound influence on my life and desire to serve others. I'll circle back to President Kennedy in my closing comments.

I want to thank the Board of Supervisors, past and present, for the confidence they placed in me the last eighteen years allowing me the honor to serve as Township Manager. We've agreed on a lot of issues and disagreed on more than anyone will ever know. For the most part we were civil in our disagreements and presented a unified team in public.

Any personal success I achieved is a direct result of the Township employees past and present. We had mutual respect for each other, and I know in my heart they have always had my back and as a result our residents, business and visitors all benefited. They are second to none.

I've also had the privilege to work with many fine men and women professionals who have served the Township so well for many years. Jim Broughal and Brein Kocher have become trusted confidants, mentors and friends who have provided unparalleled knowledge and guidance to me professionally, and in some instances personally.

I would be remiss if I did not thank Mona, John, and James. They have and continue to be my biggest supporters. No one has supported me more than Mona. Thank you!

President John F. Kennedy once said "let us not be blind to our differences ... but let us also direct attention to our common interests and the means by which those differences can be resolved. And if we cannot end now our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity. For in the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we are all mortal."

Finally, there is much more to be accomplished. So let us resolve tonight to commit to putting aside our differences and focus on what brings us all together. By forsaking our differences and building on our common belief that Hanover has a bright future, there is absolutely nothing we cannot accomplish working together for the common good. Thank you."

# Hanover Township Community Center Updates

## A few words from our Recreation Director



My first holiday season as Hanover Township's Recreation Director was thoroughly enjoyable. Despite heavy rain at times, our annual Tree Lighting event was well attended and brought vendors from Hanover Township and surrounding areas. The horse and carriage

rides provided by Bethlehem Carriage Company were a big hit as usual. Santa and Mrs. Claus made their rounds throughout the evening, and the snow ball fight in the gymnasium was, in a word, intense. The HTCC meeting room was filled with activities for the kids – a cookie making table run by Wegman's employees, arts and crafts, reindeer food, and let's not forget the viewing of Polar Express accompanied by a cup of hot coco. The Nitschmann Middle School orchestra was also on hand, giving Santa a warm welcome following the official tree lighting. We hope everyone enjoyed our holiday light display outside the Community Center; as always, our Public Works department did a tremendous job putting up the outdoor decorations.



**Dante Terenzio**  
Recreation Director

Old Saint Nick made his return to HTCC a week later for our Breakfast with Santa event. Both sessions were filled to capacity as children of all ages enjoyed a scrumptious breakfast (special thanks to Fiamma Italian Grill for its thoughtful donation) and an opportunity to snap photos with Santa.

Some updates from the daily activity inside the Community Center: Memberships and programming are on the rise. Our morning fitness classes have especially grown, thanks in large part to our fantastic instructors. We've also upped the number for our weekly pickleball clinics, on top of adding a third class. The sport continues to flourish as we look ahead to our four new outdoor courts in the Spring. But for now, avoid the mid-winter blues and head down to HTCC to partake in our fitness programs!

## HTCC Winter Programming

Recreation — Youth and Adult Martial Arts, Junior and Adult Tennis Clinic, Open Pickleball and Clinics, Open Gym Volleyball

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

Happy New Year from HTCC Preschool! We are off to a fantastic start, with our first open house of the year and it was very well attended thanks to our wonderful community.

Our students are currently enjoying the winter weather and enjoy trips to our Community Center playground in fair weather. When it snows, our students enjoy playing with snow, warm in their classrooms using their sensory bins, making our inside days so much fun! We are looking forward to spring and setting up our preschool vegetable patch and learning all about how to grow and care for plants, and in turn investigate the plant life cycle, and even participate in a cooking and tasting lesson!

Our preschool summer camp is open to members of our community for children aged 3-entering kindergarten, spots are filling up fast so book today to avoid disappointment. Parents can register at <https://htcc.activityreg.com-registrations>preschool>summer camp>.

We have spots for students available now as well as booking September registrations for your 2.5+ year old children. If you would like to come and visit our classrooms, we will host another open house in April. Such events are posted on the Community Center Facebook page, and on our "Message Board" at the Community Center.

Thank you again for your continued support of our preschool program, we are happy to serve the community and provide a safe, fun and exciting environment for our township children.

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 Pool Set to Open this Summer



**Hanover Township pool and facility as of January 2024.**

*by Dante Terenzio*

The wait is over!

Hanover Township will bring back a long-time staple of the community when opening its brand new pool in June of this year.

While the project is not entirely complete, the progress has been a topic of positive conversation throughout the Township over the past few months. Numerous residents have followed along

each step of the way, expressing just how important this is to the community.

Long-time resident Mike Stasak, who is also a member of Hanover's Recreation Advisory Board and Pool Advisory Group, is especially excited for what the pool will bring to the Township.

"Our beautiful new pool, complete with splash pad, circular slide, zero depth walk-in entry area, in-pool built-in seating, six competition swim lanes as well as a snack bar and food truck drive-up lane and

*continued on next page*

### **HTCC Bingo 2024**

Held the first Thursday of each month in the HTCC meeting room. Pizza, snacks and beverages are available.

Games start at 6 PM  
\$25 for 20 games  
Prizes range from \$25 to \$100.

### **Special Events 2024**

**March 23: Breakfast with the Easter Bunny**  
**August 1: National Night Out**  
**September 11: Patriot Day**  
**October 7: Fall Fest**  
**December 6: Tree Lighting**  
**December 7: Breakfast with Santa**



much, much more will be open for use early this summer,” said Stasak.

The pool will also be utilized for swim lessons, adult programming and through the Community Center’s Summer Kids Camp.

“Please check the pool out, it’s absolutely beautiful; it reminds me of an island resort pool complex,” an enthusiastic Stasak said.

While residents like Stasak look forward to relaxing summer days poolside, members of the Hanover swim team are thrilled to get back to competing at their home base.

For the past five years, the Stingrays swam out of Memorial and Stark, both pools located in Bethlehem City. While those facilities were relatively close by, there’s simply no place like home for our youngsters.

“The Hanover swim team is excited to be back home swimming this summer at the new Hanover Township pool,” Stingrays coach Evan Kocon said. “Comprising dedicated swimmers of ages 5-18, this community-driven team is not just about competition, but also fostering a love for swimming and a sense of camaraderie.”

Kocon’s staff and athletes have been held in high regard for decades and this year will be no different.

“Led by experienced coaches, the Hanover swim team focuses on skill development, sportsmanship, and personal growth,” said Kocon.

Registration for this summer’s swim team opens on February 1. To register, please send an email to [hanovercoach@gmail.com](mailto:hanovercoach@gmail.com) or **scan the QR code below.**



## Hanover Hires New Pool Manager

Hanover Township is excited to announce Stefanie Ray as its new Pool Manager.



**Stefanie Ray**  
**Pool Manager**

Energetic and passionate are two words to describe Ray, who moved to Bethlehem in 2021. She has spent the past two summers as the head lifeguard of Stark Pool in the City of Bethlehem.

Ray is currently enrolled in the Master in the Art of Teaching program at Moravian University. She believes lifeguarding and teaching go hand-in-hand.

“I found that lifeguarding and teaching share a lot of parallels; the pool felt like a classroom with water,” Ray said. “In both roles, it is my responsibility to know and enforce the rules of the environment while keeping everyone safe and engaged. So whether I am in school or at the pool, I’m telling children to stop running.”

When asked what was most appealing to her when applying for the Pool Manager position, Ray did not hesitate.

“When I found out the construction at HTCC was for a pool that was reopening, I immediately reached out to the recreation department,” Ray explained. “I spoke with Dante and felt a kinship in our vision for how the pool should serve the patrons and the expectations of its employees. It appears I can’t resist a renovated community pool that is eagerly reopening!”

Ray’s goals for the Hanover Township pool are extensive. But naturally, safety is at the top of her list.

“My number one goal is to keep the patrons and staff safe. No matter the situation or environment, there are always people who need to test boundaries and break the rules, knowing this is half the battle,” Ray said. “The best way to combat this issue is through

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## EMS CORNER

by Karen Peters, EMS Director

### EMS Call Statistics January-August 2023

Medical Emergencies .....	2,661
Motor Vehicle Accidents .....	191
Fire Support .....	74
<b>Total calls for the year .....</b>	<b>2,926</b>



### NON-EMERGENCY TRANSPORTS

Just a reminder we are doing non-emergency BLS transport. We have partnered with Lehigh Valley Health Network and St. Luke's Health Network. A non-emergency BLS transport is transporting a patient from a hospital to hospital, hospital to another medical facility, or back to the patient's residence. If a patient must come home on a stretcher because of a medical condition and meets the medical requirements for a BLS non-emergency transport, you can have your hospital Case Manager request Hanover Township EMS. You must request Hanover Township Ambulance. If our crew is available, we will be happy to transport you or your loved one home. Transport costs are generally covered by your insurance. If you have additional questions, please contact me via email at [kpeters@htvfc.org](mailto:kpeters@htvfc.org).

### WHEN EMERGENCIES HAPPEN SECONDS COUNT

#### HELP US FIND YOU IN AN EMERGENCY

Number your mailbox with 3" REFLECTIVE NUMBERS ON BOTH SIDES



#### CLEAR THE WAY

a) Snow and untrimmed bushes and trees can impede our access to get to the patient.

Shovel your driveway and sidewalk as soon as the snow stops. If you are unable to do this yourself, have a plan in place to have someone do it for you.

b) Keep bushes and trees trimmed back away from the sidewalk, porch, or any access way into your home. Stairways should be clear of clutter.

### MAKE YOUR HOUSE STAND OUT

a) Emergency responders have GPS units and mapping programs to help us get to you quickly. However, if we cannot see the address, it delays our response.



b) Turn on outside lights, open the front door, and have someone if available watch for Emergency responders to flag them down.

c) If you have pets in the house secure them in another room away from the patient.

### DECLUTTER YOUR HOME

Keep your hallways, stairs, and living spaces free from clutter and belongings. Emergency responders need to bring in their equipment and a stretcher for the patient. If they do not have room, it delays the care for the patient.

### POOL MANAGER *continued*

understanding. The lifeguards will receive not only life-saving swim instruction through the American Red Cross, but also pool management by myself, the assistant pool manager, and the head lifeguard."

Ray is also focused on contributing to the pool's programming and activities for pass holders and community members.

"We are excited to have the Hanover Township summer campers at the pool, the return of the Hanover Swim Team, and swimming lessons this summer," Ray said. "According to the American Red Cross, a little over 50% of self-described swimmers can perform all five of the basic skills that could save their life in the water. It is my personal dream to have a swim class for adults, not only for their own empowerment but of the safety of those around them."

Ray and the Hanover Township recreation department would like to announce that applications are now available for lifeguards and gate guards. To apply, please pick up an application at the Hanover Township Community Center front desk.

## HELP WANTED POOL, PARKS & CAMPS

The Township is currently accepting applications for lifeguards, gate guards and pool staff for the 2024 summer. Camp and park counselor openings are also being filled. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Dante Terenzio at the Community Center, 610.317.8701





## FIRE COMPANY NEWS

### THANK YOU

A huge Thank you to all our residents for the generous donations you gave to Santa and his elves. Our members look forward to this day every year. It is so much fun to see how excited everyone including our furry friends is to see Santa. Your generous donations helped to keep us all warm in our hearts. The Fire Company needs your donations to help support our great Company throughout the year. These donations help us to pay the bills we need to pay to keep our volunteer company operational.

### WEGMANS DONATION

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



### BINGO

Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company was the beneficiary of the December bingo held at the HTCC.

We want to give a special Thank You to our local businesses who donated raffle baskets and/or gift cards for us to raffle off at the bingo. The Vero, Oasis, My Boys Baking, 3 Men and a Bagel, Sage Nail Salon, Advanced Health Care of Hanover and HTCC. The donations for the baskets were a huge hit.



## SAVE THE DATE EASTER EGG HUNT

**Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>** will be our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Our fundraising committee is always looking for donations for raffle baskets for our events. If you would be interested in donating items for a basket, a basket, or gift card please email our fundraising Chairman, [Brittany.vanwhy@htvfc.org](mailto:Brittany.vanwhy@htvfc.org)



### FUND DRIVE

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

## EMERGENCY RESPONDERS NEEDED

### HELP US HELP YOU....

### COME JOIN OUR TEAM

Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company is always in need of volunteers to serve in many different aspects of our organization. There are different divisions within our company: Administrative positions, Firefighting, Fire Police, 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 x417, or stop by during Monday Night Training at 7:00 pm.

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

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

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



## 2024 REAL ESTATE TAX BILLS

Your 2024 real estate tax bill will be mailed to each property owner the first week of February. If you do not receive your bill by mid-February or if you have any questions, please call Berkheimer Tax Administrators at 866.300.1714 or 610.599.3143. Payments will not be accepted at the Township Office. You may pay your bill at the Hanover Township Community Center on February 15, 2024, and March 27, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Representatives of Berkheimer will be on site to accept payments.



## 2024 RESIDENTIAL WASTE & RECYCLING BILLS

Your residential Waste & Recycling bills for services for the 2024 calendar year were mailed January 11th to each residential property owner. If you do not receive your bill by the end of January, please call the Municipal Office at 610.866.1140. Our office will accept payments during our normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, by mail, or deposited in our mail slot during non-business hours. Payments can also be made on-line.



## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

By Fire Chief Scott Van Why



Winter is here and since we haven't had a significant snow fall in around two years it's a great time to go over some reminders. I would like to remind you to keep any exhaust vents clear around your residence. These vents can be from your furnace, water heater, dryer or other appliances that produce Carbon Monoxide. If these vents become blocked by

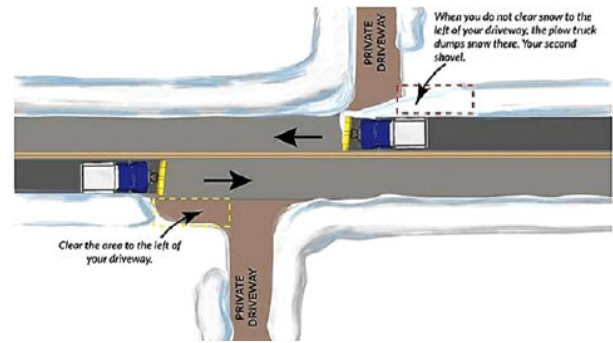
snow, ice, or other obstructions this could result in deadly Carbon Monoxide gas filling your home.

We also ask that you remove snow and other obstacles from every entrance to your residence to ensure you can get out of every possible exit in case of an emergency. Additionally, if you have a fire hydrant on or near your property, we ask that you keep it clear of any snow or ice.

Maintaining a clear path near the fire hydrant is not



### How to Prevent the "Second Shovel"!



only necessary when it snows, but all year round. Trees, overgrown shrubs, and vehicles can all block the fire companies' access to the hydrant. Having a blocked fire hydrant can result in delays of recusing occupants and extinguishing of the fire. If you notice any damage to a fire hydrant, contact Bethlehem Water Authority at 610-865-7070 and report the hydrants' location.

When clearing a fire hydrant of snow, we ask for 3' of clearance all around the hydrant. This gives us room to make all the necessary connections.

We are always looking for new volunteers to help serve our Township. If you may be interested in joining our team or learning more about what is involved in volunteering, stop by our station. We train every Monday night at 7 p.m. Stop in to see what we are all about.

<http://www.htvfc.org>.

All required training and equipment is provided FREE of charge.

Visit our website: [www.htvfc.org](http://www.htvfc.org) LIKE US ON FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/HTVFCPA>

## What You Can Do to Help Prevent Stormwater Pollution at Home - Winter Pollution Prevention Practices

- ❖ Do employ these simple practices during winter weather to prevent 'stormwater pollution' -- (Stormwater pollution is a major cause of water pollution in our urban and suburban streams.)
- ❖ Shovel snow first to remove it from paved surfaces, like driveways and sidewalks, before applying snow melt and deicing products.
- ❖ Pile shoveled snow downslope of paved surfaces to help prevent icy and slippery conditions on pavement as snow melts and refreezes.
- ❖ Shovel snow onto lawn and vegetated areas where melting snow can soak into the ground.
- ❖ Limit the use of deicing chemicals and products on sidewalks and driveways since they can readily flow into storm drains and streams as ice melts. When deicing products that contain salt and other constituents, dissolve, they seep into ground water and flow into streams where they can impair water quality, diminish soil fertility, damage plants, and harm aquatic life.
- ❖ Use environmentally friendly alternatives, such as clean clay cat litter, sand, or fireplace/stove ash, to avoid the need for products that can have damaging impacts and be harmful to the environment.
- ❖ Take a 'Snow Day' -- work at home or postpone errands on snow days avoiding trips on the road to help your community clear roads safely, possibly limiting the need for excessive road salting and deicing.
- ❖ Sweep up after snowmelt -- Sweep and dispose of residual sand, grit, and litter to help prevent accumulation in streets and roadside ditches; clogged storm drains and culverts; and sediment pollution in streams.
- ❖ Keep gutters and drainage pathways clear and free of debris to prevent snowmelt from backing up and forming ice in places where you want runoff to flow freely.
- ❖ Direct, or route, snowmelt runoff into nearby gardens and vegetated areas before applying salt and deicing products.



## HANOVER SUPERVISORS ARTICLES

### Focus in 2024 Includes Communication, Grants

By Supervisor Stephen Gross



A number of thoughts and feelings were racing through my head as I stood with my family in the Township Municipal Building in front of District Judge Vivian Zumas, and next to fellow Supervisors Susan Lawless and Jean Versteeg, as the three of us were sworn in on January 2.

I'd be lying if I said my nerves didn't top the list, worrying about messing up the oath as I repeated back Judge Zumas' words. Honored and humbled weren't far behind. But excitement was right up there too. And that excitement stems from getting to work on behalf of my friends and neighbors and hopefully making Hanover Township an even better place to live.

One of the first steps toward that goal is improved communications with residents. A few minor changes can go a long way and we're starting with this very newsletter. On the following pages you'll notice we've added a calendar with scheduled meetings and events of note for each month until the next newsletter hits mailboxes. It's a start and we're hoping it grows. Of course, everything is subject to change, so it's still best to double check the Township's website. Speaking of the website, you'll soon find a calendar of the current month there as well and that will be kept up to date with any changes.

The Board of Supervisors is also working to get the agenda for its meetings published on the Township website earlier than the required 24 hours. This may not always be able to happen for one reason or another, but we're hoping for most meetings, it can be posted at least four days in advance (the Friday prior to the meeting). It will give residents more time to review the agenda and supporting documents, leading to improved transparency.

Equally as exciting as I assume my duties as Supervisor is the number of grants the Township has received recently, helping to improve the quality of life of residents through infrastructure upgrades and enhancements to our local parks, among other initiatives.

The largest grant received in the past few months was for more than \$1.6 million, with help from state Rep. Steve Samuelson and state Sen. Nick Miller, through the COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Act H2O PA-Water Supply, Sanitary, Sewer and Storm Water Projects. The secured funding will go toward the Chaucer Lane and Lord Byron Drive Storm Sewer Extension Project, which Supervisor Lawless provides more details on in one of her two pieces in this newsletter.

The Township also was awarded \$50,000 from a Northampton County Livable Landscape Grant for a managed storm water release area beside the new pool and \$20,000 from the 2023 Grow NORCO Grant toward the purchase and installation of a fitness park at Monocacy Park.

Even this year's tree lighting ceremony will benefit, with the 2024 Hotel Tax Grant providing \$2,700 for expenses at the 2024 holiday celebration.

Hopefully this is just a preview of what the Township can expect going forward. We're currently awaiting the approval of two other grants that would benefit First Responder's Park and plan to be just as—if not more—aggressive pursuing grants in the future. In fact, during my first week as Supervisor, Township Treasurer Beth Bucko had already identified another large grant that the Township could possibly apply for to assist with infrastructure upgrades.

Improved communications and additional grants are just two things to be excited about in the Township as 2024 gets started. In addition to that, I'm looking forward to meeting and working with more of you. If you spot me around the Township, stop and introduce yourself, and be sure to send me an email if you have any thoughts or feedback. Your input is always welcome!

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### Additional State & Federal Funding Will Make the Much-Needed Stormwater Upgrade Project a Reality in 2024

By Susan A. Lawless, Esq., Chair Board of Supervisors

For some time, Hanover Engineering's plans and bid specifications to upgrade stormwater management systems in the neighborhoods in and around Lord Byron Drive and Chaucer Lane have been approved by the Board of Supervisors. The Board annually sets aside funding for maintenance and upgrade projects. Funding for a project of this size, however, is a long-term effort. Optimism that the project would come to fruition was bolstered in 2021 when the Township received funding in excess of one million dollars from the American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"). ARPA was the infrastructure aspect of the Biden Administration's efforts to jump start a sluggish, post-COVID economy.

The project was put out to bid. It was not a positive sign that only one bid was received. Disappointingly, that single bid was significantly above the projected budget. Supply chain issues, particularly regarding vital products such as pre-cast pipe and other conduit, combined with other economic factors, to drive up the projected cost beyond the amount of the reserves which the Township had set aside over many years for infrastructure upgrades like this proj-

*continued next page*

## Upgrade Project a Reality in 2024 *continued*

ect even with the substantial infusion of federal dollars. The Board voted unanimously to reject this bid.

The Board remained committed to this project. The Township's staff worked tirelessly to identify other potential sources of funding, such as grants. One such application was made to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Department of Community & Economic Affairs. This Department was administering additional ARPA funds set aside specifically for shovel-ready and needed municipal water supply, sanitary sewer, and storm water projects. State Senator Nick Miller (D-District 14) and Representative Steve Samuelson (D-Legislative District 135) reviewed the project and toured the neighborhood with the Township's recently retired Manager, Mr. Finnigan. They agreed that the project, once completed, would have an incredibly positive impact in the Township and was necessary. They lobbied hard for the Township. On December 20, 2023, the Board received confirmation that the Township would be awarded approximately 1.6 million dollars to complete this project.

The ARPA funds must be expended by the end of 2024. The Board is cautiously optimistic that multiple bids will be received, and that the funding amassed to date will be more than sufficient to make this important project a reality. If that optimism turns out to be an accurate prediction, we should be reporting the construction schedule and other highlights of the project in our Spring newsletter.

## Zoning Department Update *By Supervisor Jean Versteeg*



As a twenty-year resident of Hanover Township, it is my honor to now serve as one of the newest members of the Board of Supervisors. I look forward to working with the other board members and the Township staff. We will all strive to continue to provide our community with the level of service, and quality of life, that makes Hanover Township a

wonderful place to live.

This new year not only brings two new Supervisors to the Township but also brings changes to our Zoning and Building Code Enforcement department. In January we reluctantly bid Yvonne Kutz a happy retirement, well deserved after over 18 years of dedicated service. Yvonne is a Valley native from Emmaus and Macungie, currently residing in East Allen Township. She came to work in Hanover Township in the summer of 2005, after working for four years with Hanover Engineering. During her time here, she has guided countless residents through the building permit and inspection processes, helping them realize their home construction and remodeling dreams. Our residents have also benefited from the many relationships she

developed, from our various municipal committees and boards to the professionals we rely on for inspections and approvals. Her kind nature and inherent desire to help residents have endeared her to so many. While Yvonne will be greatly missed, she is leaving us in the very capable hands of Tracy Luisser, who has benefitted from Yvonne's mentorship over the last four years.

As Ms. Luisser takes the lead in the department, an additional Code Enforcement Officer will be hired to support her. You can help during this transition, by educating yourselves on what you need to do to apply for the permits required for your construction and remodeling projects.

The department's page on the Hanover Township website is very informative and contains links to the necessary forms and applications along with a list of FAQ's. You can find their page here:

<https://hanovertwp-nc.org/zoningbuilding/>

In short, a Zoning Permit is required before the erection, construction, or alteration of any building, structure, or any portion thereof. It also authorizes the legal use of the property and a use occupancy after construction is completed. You may find all the Hanover Township ordinances, including those related to Zoning permits, at <https://ecode360.com/HA1762>.

If you happen to find yourself planning to operate a business here in Hanover Township, we welcome you and want to share with you the information you will need for that. The graphic on page 18 gives a thorough guide to the steps you need to take, depending on the type of business you plan to run.

We appreciate your patience during this time of transition, and we look forward to working with Ms. Luisser going forward. Yvonne, we wish you all the best and a wonderful retirement!





## HARRISBURG UPDATES

### Senator Miller's Column

By Senator Nick Miller



Congratulations and thank you to three public servants who retired and left Hanover Township.

Barry Check served on the Planning Commission from 2009-2022, including as chairman from 2019-2022. He was also on the board of supervisors since 2022. John Nagle served on the board of supervisors beginning in 2006, including as chair in 2022. He also was the Colonial Regional Police Commission alternate from 2016-2023. I'd also like to thank Jay Finnigan who retired early in 2024 after 27 years of service to the Township and continues to serve as a consultant.

If you need help with a state-related issue, you can always call my office at 610-821-8468. We also have mobile office hours at the Hanover Township Community Center on the second Wednesday of every month from 9 to 11:30 a.m. We can help with a variety of issues, like notary services, birth certificates and driver's licenses.

Late last year, the Senate passed House Bill 301, which establishes the Educator Pipeline Support Grant Program. This will provide a student teacher with a grant of up to \$10,000 for their time student teaching, providing they continue to teach in the commonwealth for at least three years. The bill also created the School Environmental Repairs Program, which provides grants for schools to resolve hazards, such as mold, asbestos and lead in water. As a former member of the local school board, I have seen firsthand how our students and staff are struggling with unfit educational facilities. This funding is a beginning step to making necessary updates to our schools.

If you are having trouble paying your heating bills this winter, you are not alone, and the state can help. The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps families living on low incomes pay their heating bills in the form of a cash grant. The grant is a one-time payment sent directly to the utility company/fuel provider to be credited on your bill. These grants range from \$300 to \$1,000 based on household size, income and fuel type. To apply, visit

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/LIHEAP.aspx>.

Did you know you could have unclaimed property? The Pennsylvania Office of the State Treasurer has \$4.5 million in unclaimed property. This includes closed bank accounts, uncashed checks, contents of safe deposit boxes,

life insurance policies and expired gift cards. Pennsylvania does not charge to claim your property. Visit <https://patreasury.gov/unclaimed-property/> today to see if you are the one in 10 Pennsylvanians with unclaimed property.

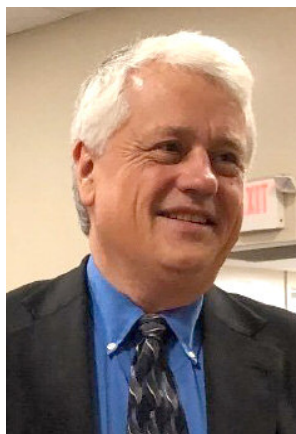
January was National Radon Action Month. An odorless, colorless gas, radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. High levels of radon are found in about 40% of homes across the commonwealth. Testing is the only one way to know if you have radon in your home.

Check out these tips from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection on testing for radon and how to mitigate it:

[dep.pa.gov/Business/RadiationProtection/RadonDivision/Pages/default.aspx](https://dep.pa.gov/Business/RadiationProtection/RadonDivision/Pages/default.aspx)

### State Awards Township \$1.6 million Grant for Storm Sewer extension project

By Representative Steve Samuelson, 135th District



In December, the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development awarded a \$1,603,773 grant to Hanover Township for the Chaucer Lane and Lord Byron Drive Storm Sewer Extension Project.

I worked closely with Hanover Township officials and State Senator Nick Miller for several months to secure this funding and I am thankful that DCED recognized the crucial need to extend the storm sewer system to address storm water issues that have been a problem for residents in the vicinity of Stoke Park Road, Chaucer Lane and Lord Byron Drive for years.

The grant funding comes via the COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Act H2O PA-Water Supply, Sanitary, Sewer and Storm Water Projects program, and was approved by the Commonwealth Financing Authority. The H2O PA Act was enacted by the legislature in 2008. The act enables municipalities or municipal authorities to apply for grants for drinking water, sanitary, sewer and storm water projects. Act 54 of 2022 appropriated \$205.4 million of American Rescue Plan Act funds to H2O PA. Projects must be completed by September 2026.

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## \$1.6 million Grant *continued*

### Expanded Property Tax / Rent Rebate Now in effect, My office can assist you

Governor Josh Shapiro visited Bethlehem in the snow on January 16 to launch the statewide expansion of the Property Tax / Rent Rebate (PTRR).

I was the prime sponsor of legislation which expanded the PTRR by raising income limits for the first time in 17 years and by providing larger maximum rebates for those who qualify. An estimated 173,000 additional people will qualify for a rebate this year including 3,700 additional people in Northampton County.

The new income limits, which became 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 Social Security or pension.

My 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. Those who qualify can apply for a rebate on 2023 property taxes or rent. Maximum rebates are \$380 to \$1,000, depending on your income. Those at the \$45,000 limit on net income can receive a rebate of \$380.

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

### Rep. Samuelson's office hours at the Community Center

I hold 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 my Hanover office hours are February 15, March 21, April 18, May 16 and June 20. My district office at 104 E. Broad St., Bethlehem is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come visit 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.

## Apply Today: Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

*By Representative Joe Enrick (R-Northampton)*

Older adults and Pennsylvanians with disabilities may be eligible to receive up to \$1,000 in rebates. Applications for the state's 2023 Property Tax / Rent Rebate program are due June 30. Remember, assistance through my offices is always free. You need not pay a private firm for assistance.

The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. The income



limit is \$45,000 a year for homeowners and \$15,000 annually for renters, and half of Social Security income is excluded.

Under Pennsylvania law, the Department of Revenue evaluates the program before the June 30 deadline. If extra funds are available, the deadline is extended to Dec. 31. Applications postmarked by that date will be accepted for processing.

There are a few ways to apply for the program – online, by mail or in person. If you are interested in applying for the program and need assistance, please call my offices at 484-544-0146 or 610-746-5090. You may also visit my district office at 134 South Main St., Nazareth, or my Palmer district office at 301 Village at Stones Crossing Road if you prefer in-person assistance.

To date, funding has been available to allow all who qualify to benefit from the program.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to my district office for assistance. I look forward to serving you.



### County Executive Lamont McClure

As your County Executive, I'm committed to focusing on the future and the work that still needs to be done for the citizens of Northampton County as we begin 2024.

This year, you can expect more focus on improving and bettering our air quality, the condition of workforce housing, ensuring that all county residents have sufficient broadband access, the fight against the fentanyl epidemic, and expanding the Fake is Real campaign as we approach the 1st anniversary of the campaign launch.

My focus will remain on fighting warehouse proliferation, and I'm achieving that by preserving over 622 acres of open space and environmentally sensitive land between 2018 and 2023 and investing \$25 million in the preservation of farmland. Gracedale Nursing Home, which took the hardest hit from the pandemic, will remain county-owned and county-operated. Lastly, I will continue to address the lack of transportation funding in Northampton County. Even though the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission admitted that most Lehigh Valley development is occurring in Northampton County, we would only receive 10% of the total funding to the region

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**County Executive McClure** *continued*

between 2025 and 2028. Northampton County residents have been ignored in this regard for too long.

Looking to the future, it's hard to believe another election cycle is almost here. Some consider the 2024 Presidential Election the most critical election of our lifetime. I want you to know that Northampton County's first priority is to ensure fair, accurate, and legal elections. I'm extremely confident that we delivered on that priority during the Municipal General Election held on Tuesday, November 7th. The Elections Office has already evaluated its poll worker training and other pre-election processes to address issues that arose during the Municipal Election. We know that elections are human endeavors and are necessarily imperfect, but because of our bellwether status, we are working diligently to implement stronger controls.

I, along with the devoted elections staff, am committed to working tirelessly from now until the 2024 primary to ensure the voters of Northampton County have a much better voting experience and that our voting machine vendor has rectified every issue incurred on November 7th.

As we start a new year, it's important to look at where we have been to understand how to move forward into the future together. I'm optimistic for the New Year and making progress for the people of Northampton County together with our new County Council.

I wish you and your family a prosperous, healthy, and happy 2024!

**FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT****MAILBOXES**

The Township is not responsible for damage to mailboxes during snow operations. Please check your mailbox to make sure it is not overhanging the roadway. Over time, mailboxes tend to lean one way or the other and in some instances the lean is toward the roadway.

**TREES**

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 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 pedestrian's walking on sidewalks has also become a problem in some areas. Please remember this can be a liability to you. Clearance should be 8' above any and all walking areas. If you have low hanging branches, please trim them up.

**A MESSAGE FROM THE SHADE TREE  
ADVISORY BOARD****ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION  
IN HANOVER TOWNSHIP!!!**

Save the date now for Saturday, April 27, 2024, as we mark the Township's second annual Arbor Day with fun events at the Community Center from 11 am to 1 pm. That same morning, we will dedicate the new tree that will be planted at Hanover Elementary School on Jacksonville Road.

We are planning lots of family-friendly activities, tree sapling giveaways, plus refreshments and live music. Local nurseries and environmental agencies will be on hand to give out information and to answer your outdoor plant questions. There will be something for all ages, so plan to be there!

**WINTER IS THE BEST TIME TO PRUNE TREES**

Pruning when a tree is dormant is the preferred time to keep the tree healthy and properly shaped. February and March are usually the coldest months in this part of Pennsylvania, so take advantage of the good visibility of the tree's branches. Visit the Penn State Extension website at <https://extension.psu.edu/pruning-landscape-trees> for helpful tips and guides to the best pruning procedures.

**NEVER TOP A TREE**

Topping street trees is illegal in Hanover Township! Any tree service or landscape firm that suggests that you should top a tree is not following good practices, and in fact is violating the law and open to being cited and fined. For the best pruning results, use the Penn State Extension guidelines cited above and/or hire a certified arborist to do this important work. Cutting off the upper branches to "top" the tree will open it to insect invasion and decay and will increase the long-term cost, since the tree will die and need to be removed at a much greater expense than if the pruning had been done correctly in the first place.

**SNOW EMERGENCY PARKING**

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, website, Facebook, message boards 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). (§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.)

## SCHOOL NEWS

### HANOVER

Happy New Year from Hanover Elementary! We hope you had a wonderful holiday season. Our school and students have been very busy.

We celebrated Unity Day, Harvest Day with a parade walking through the neighborhood and Autumn inspired activities and had a Martial Arts Assembly to promote focus and self-awareness. We did not slow down in November. To honor and show respect to our Veterans, we held a program filled with patriotic songs. We were excited to share this with the many Veterans who attended. Election Day we had an amazing bake sale thanks to our Hanover PTA. There were goodies, treats, soups and something for everyone's tastes. A huge thank you to all those who donated the scrumptious food and all those who helped with their time.

To start the holiday season, the PTA did a Poinsettia and wreath sale. The PTA also made the Secret Santa shop for the students a wonderful success. To continue the holiday cheer, our very generous Hanover families answered the call to help over 100 children have a Merry Christmas by participating in the Giving Tree. There is nothing better than watching the students light up like a Christmas tree with the spirit of giving!! Our Student Council demon-



***Giving Tree 2023***

strated their leadership skills by decorating a tree at the LVIA airport. 5th grade got into the season by visiting the Zoellner Arts Center for the production of The Nutcracker. We also put on a show with our Annual Winter Concert showcasing singing by the Kindergarten and 4th grade classes and music being played by our 4th and 5th grade instrumentalists.

A special thanks to the Liberty High School Boys Basketball players for coming out to read in the classrooms and show off their skills. For the late Winter and Spring time, we are hoping for a few more assemblies, grade level field trips, Carnival, Field Day, production of Finding Nemo Kids and the 5th grade track meet.



### ASA PACKER ELEMENTARY • By Asa Packer PTA

Happy New Year, from the Pumas and families of Asa Packer Elementary School! We would like to take a moment to thank you all, our community, for your support throughout 2023. Because of you, our educational initiatives become realized; creating memories our Pumas will hold dearly for life.

A very special thank you to Christmas City Landscape for their generous donation to restock our recess equipment. We are also extremely grateful for our local business donators and fundraiser participants, such as PJ Whelihan's, Pat's Bistro, Chipotle and Buzas' Greenhouses.

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## Asa Packer *continued*

In addition to our contributors, we are all appreciative of our dedicated Asa parent volunteers and staff involvement. Together, we continue to provide established educational programs, opportunities, and resources; or create new ones!

We are a talented bunch. This year, for the first-time ever, our Pumas proudly marched in the Bethlehem Parade alongside a colorful, parent-crafted "Welcome to the Jungle" float. Did I mention we also bake? In November, parents got their baking aprons on and baked for our 1st Election Day Bake Sale. This event was such a hit, our baked goods sold out before sunset!

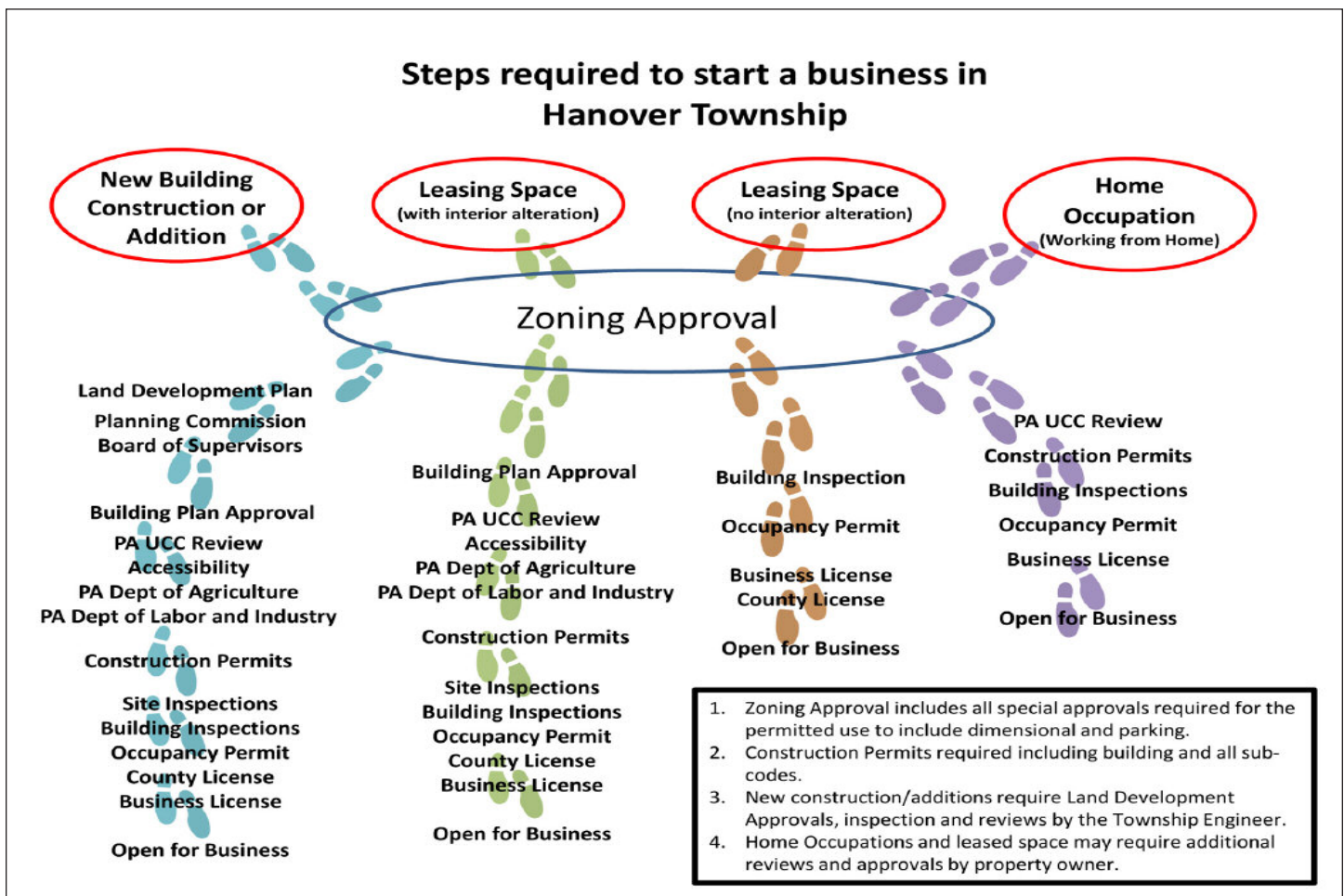
As mentioned before, we are all fortunate for our dedicated staff involvement; will even go as far as to dress up as an elf for the day in our new fundraiser, the "Friendly Elf Coin Competition"! Also in December, our amazing teachers transformed our school into a Winter Wonderland, for a magical evening filled with crafts, stories, hot coco, and cookies.

### OTHER 2023 HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Teacher Appreciation Station and Hot Chocolate Bar
- Veterans Assembly, honoring the veterans of our Pumas
- Liberty High School Basketball team visits for book reading

- Halloween school parade, Fall & Winter Classroom parties
- Performances by the Liberty High School Theater Choir and Band
- Lighthouse Winter Coat Drive
- CHOP Pajama Day Fundraiser
- 5th Grade trip to the Nutcracker Musical
- Winter Concerts for Kindergarten, 4th grade and Instrumental group
- Polar Puma Ice Skating Party at the Bethlehem Municipal Ice Rink

Hello, 2024! We begin this new year full of puma spirit and much to look forward to! We are eager to share that we'll be visited by beauty queen, Miss Pennsylvania in the educational mission: Infusion and Inclusion 2.0, which includes a special message from Shane Burcaw. Also, this month, the PTA will launch a new fundraiser, Stuffed Animal Sleepover. In February, for the second year since the pandemic, we're hosting International Dinner - a family favorite! And students will get laced up and roll into March during our next social event, Asa Packer's Roller Skating Puma Party.





## 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!

## Upcoming Events:

- Lehigh Valley Book Festival - March 23
- BAPL Book Sale - March 20 & 23
- Yoga Classes - Wednesday afternoons
- Open Mic Night - Monday Nights

## 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.

## 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)

**Social Media:** @pabapl

**FOLLOW US**

**Newsletter Signup:** [bapl.org/newsletter](http://bapl.org/newsletter)

**Bookmobile Schedule:** [bapl.org/the-bookmobile](http://bapl.org/the-bookmobile)



## 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





March

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Planning Commission – 7:30 p.m.	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Board of Supervisors Meeting – 7 p.m.	13	14 Recreation Advisory Board – 7:30 p.m.	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Breakfast with the Easter Bunny at HTCC – 9 a.m. HTVFC Easter Egg Hunt
24	25 Shade Tree Advisory Commission – 6:30 p.m.	26 Board of Supervisors Meeting – 7 p.m.	27	28 Zoning Hearing Board – TBD	29	30
31						*Fire training nights every Monday at 7 p.m. at HTVFC (not holidays)

April

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Planning Commission – 7:30 p.m.	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Board of Supervisors Meeting – 7 p.m.	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Board of Supervisors Meeting – 7 p.m.	24	25 Zoning Hearing Board – TBD	26	27 Arbor Day Event at HTCC – 11 a.m.-1 p.m. HTCC Concert: Easton Municipal Band – 2 p.m.
28	29 Shade Tree Advisory Commission – 6:30 p.m.	30				
						*Fire training nights every Monday at 7 p.m. at HTVFC (not holidays)

# 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

May							2024
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			1	2	3	4	
5	6 Planning Commission – 7:30 p.m.	7	8	9 Recreation Advisory Board – 7:30 p.m.	10	11	
12	13	14 Board of Supervisors Meeting – 7 p.m.	15	16	17	18	
19	20 Shade Tree Advisory Commission – 6:30 p.m.	21	22	23 Zoning Hearing Board – TBD	24	25	
26	27 Memorial Day	28 Board of Supervisors Meeting – 7 p.m.	29	30	31		
							*Fire training nights every Monday at 7 p.m. at HTVFC (not holidays)