

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

John N. Diacogiannis
Chairman
 610.865.4410

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 610.865.5170

John D. Nagle
 610.625.2912

Stephen R. Salvesen
 610.865.6658

Mark J. Tanczos
 610.349.7730

TOWNSHIP OFFICE

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

TOWNSHIP STAFF

Township Manager
 John J. Finnigan, Jr.

Director of Administration / Treasurer
 Ryan P. Kish

Township Secretary
 Lori A. Stranzl

Public Works Director
 Vincent G. Milite

Zoning Officer
 Yvonne D. Kutz

Newsletter Submission
 hanover@hanovertwp-nc.org

Deadline for the next newsletter
September 12, 2015

COMMUNITY CENTER

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

COMMUNITY CENTER STAFF

Recreation Director
 Robert Cepin

Assistant Director
 Nichole Hamburg

Hanoverview

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY HANOVER TOWNSHIP, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ARMED FORCES DAY 2015 *by Bernie O'Hare*

Despite threatening skies, Hanover Township celebrated its 4th annual Armed Forces Day on May 16th at Armed Services Park, dedicated to the men and women who are serving and have served in all branches of the military. Residents and dignitaries gathered underneath the flags of each branch of service, along with the Stars and Stripes to reflect on the sacrifices made by those in uniform. The entire Board of Supervisors attended the ceremony, and laid a wreath at the memorial.

State Senator Mario Scavello and State Representative Marcia Hahn also attended, but delivered no speeches. Those came from Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Seth Phillips, USN (Ret.) one of only eight rabbis who acted as US Navy Chaplains during his time of service (1992-2012). The audience also heard from Chief Warrant Officer (CWO4) Donald E Smith, USA (Ret.) a Hanover Resident whose Navy career spanned more than 50 years. He's been a member of Congressman Charlie Dent's Military Academy Selection Board for the last 23 years, and described the military careers of several Hanover residents who attended the military academies.

Music entertainment was provided the Brass Ensemble of the American Legion of Bethlehem. Post 379 also provided an honor guard, which provided a 21-gun salute in honor of the fallen.



Senator Scavello, CWO Smith, USN (Ret.), LCDR Phillips, USN (Ret.) & Representative Hahn

Photograph by Bernie O'Hare

In his benediction, Rabbi Phillips reminded the crowd of these words from Archibald MacLeish's *The Young Dead Soldiers Who Do Not Speak*:

***"We leave you our deaths.
 Give them their meaning.
 We were young, they say.
 We have died; remember us."***

As his words withered away, WWII Veteran LeRohn "Dan" Deysher stood a distance from the crowd, and played Taps. Deysher served three years during WWII in the United States Navy aboard the USS Pennsylvania as Mus1C from the Aleutians to Okinawa, followed by three years shore duty to complete his enlistment. Retiring from Bethlehem Steel in 1984, he has played Taps for over 3,000 military funerals, Memorial Day Services and other remembrances.

YARD WASTE BARRELS

On Saturday, July 18th, 2015, beginning at 8 A.M., Hanover Township will be distributing free 96 gallon Yard Waste Barrels to Township residential property owners who did not receive a barrel during the first distribution in 2009. These residents will receive a post card in the mail providing them with further information regarding pick up. Residents must bring the post

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Armed Forces Day 2015

RABBI SETH D PHILLIPS

LCDR, CHC
United States Navy (Ret.)

Brooklyn born, but raised in Richmond, VA, Rabbi Seth D. Phillips is a proud Penn State graduate. Ordained at the Hebrew Union College (Reform) in 1979, he served congregations in Ohio, Melbourne, Australia, and Naples, Florida over the next 13 years.

Commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Navy Chaplain Corps in May 1992, Rabbi Phillips has provided Jewish and life enhancing services for the Marines in Okinawa, for "tincan Sailors" in Norfolk and the Mediterranean and submariners based in Groton.

In 2005 & 2006, he made 3 trips to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, spending a total of 4 months in country. Besides visiting Marine and Army bases to conduct Jewish services, Rabbi Phillips served as Marine battalion chaplain for 5 weeks outside of Falluja. In 2006, he was the only Navy rabbi to be stationed in Europe, based out of Naples, Italy. Rabbi Phillips reported to the US Naval Academy in June 2009, where he was known for his innovative prayers to the whole student body, his tambourine and completing his 51st 26.2 mile marathon. He was appointed as the Navy football team chaplain for the 2011 season and gave the invocation before the 112th Army-Navy game (Navy won).

After a 20 year career, Rabbi Phillips retired from the Navy in August 2012. He now brings the message of Wellness, Worship, Education and Mitzvot to Congregation Keneseth Israel in Allentown, PA.

Rabbi Phillips is married to Marjory Kramer of Teaneck, NJ. They share three children and an interest in travel and crosswords.

CWO DONALD E. SMITH

USN (Ret.)

Chief Warrant Officer W-4 Don Smith's naval career spans a period of more than 50 years. He began his career when he enlisted in the Naval Reserve in 1955 while he was still attending Liberty High School.

As an Electronics Technician he served on active duty with the 7th fleet in the Pacific. He was stationed aboard the aircraft carrier USS Shangri la CVA-38 for two consecutive tours in the Far East.

Chief Warrant Officer Smith served in the Naval Reserve at Lehigh Valley Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center and Naval Air Station JRB Willow Grove. While at NAS he served with Atlantic Fleet Imaging as Division Officer, Training Officer, Operations Officer and Executive Officer. He was brought into the combat camera unit to transition it from motion picture photography to videography.

In 1977 as a 1st class Electronics Technician he was selected by Commander Naval Reserve Force as "National Sailor of the Year". He was honored because of his contributions to the naval reserve and his community service.

CWO Smith rose through the enlisted ranks as an Electronics Technician to the grade of Chief Petty Officer. In 1987 he received his commission as a Chief Warrant Officer (Photographer). He earned two NOBC's; Photographic Officer and Motion Picture-Television Project Director.

In 1988 and 1983, CWO Smith was the co-recipient of the coveted "Thomas Jefferson" Award from the Department of Defense. This award is the equivalent of an Emmy. It was awarded for excellence in television production for programs "NC-4 First to Cross" and "Old Ironsides Enters the 21st Century".

Some highlights of CWO Smith's naval career included being appointed "Honorary Member of the US Navy Band, Washington, D.C. in recognition of dedicated support. He was the only non-Hollywood celebrity ever to be given this honor.

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YARD WASTE BARRELS *continued from page 1*

card with them, along with identification showing that they reside at the Township property (driver's license preferred.) There are approximately 2,800 residential properties that have not yet received a Yard Waste Barrel. Unfortunately, the grant used to fund this purchase only allowed for 1,475 barrels, meaning distribution will be on **a first come, first serve basis**. Residents can begin to line up at 7:30 A.M. and **no foot traffic will be permitted**.

All residents are reminded that traffic in and around the Municipal Complex is expected to be heavy with lines extending into Stafore Estates. Because of the size of the 96 gallon barrel, some cars may be too small to transport, please plan accordingly. Yard Waste barrels are only to be used for Yard Waste, and cannot be used for trash or recycling. All barrels come with a serial number, and remain with the property, regardless of ownership.

Armed Forces Day 2015

In 1993 he had the privilege of working with Dr. Robert Ballard, Oceanographic Scientist, on the Jason IV Project. In 1994 he took part in the 50th Anniversary of D-Day and worked close with numerous dignitaries including the President of the United States.

In 1997 CWO Smith retired from the US Navy. He continued to serve under permissive orders. He has served on the PA 15th Congressional District Military Academy Selection Board for the past 23 years and as a Blue and Gold Officer with the Admissions Department at the US Naval Academy for the past 12 years.

Awards earned by CWO Smith include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards); Navy Achievement Medal (two awards); Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon; Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon, Navy Good Conduct Medal; Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medal (five awards); National Defense Service Medal (two awards); Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal; Navy Overseas Service Ribbon (three awards); and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal (three awards).

Don retired from PPL after 34 years of service. As a telecommunications engineer he worked in various departments including Nuclear, Corporate Communications, HR&D and Division Operations.

He is a graduate of Capitol Engineering Institute, Washington, D.C. majoring in Nuclear Engineering Technology and graduate studies in Television Engineering. He also attended Moravian College.

CWO Smith is a Past Commander of American Legion Post 470, Bath, PA. He is a member of the Fleet Reserve, VFW, Honorary 213th First Defenders, Association of the US Navy and a Past National Officer of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association.

Don is married for 55 years to the former Constance Canova of Scranton, PA who is retired from Miller Blood Center. They have two children, Sheri Burdin of Collegeville, and Greg of Bath, PA. They have on grandson, Tyler Smith, a sophomore at Moravian College.

Pull to the Right

By: Fire Chief Craig Wasem



Yielding to an emergency vehicle may sound like an easy concept; however we encounter drivers that appear to be lost as we approach. Most drivers, when they are traveling on an open road, are safely able to pull to the right and allow the apparatus to pass without needing to travel in the lane of oncoming traffic. Take that same driver and place them at a stopped traffic signal and let confusion take over! Here are some of the problems that complicate your ability to pull to the right.

- How do I pull to the right if I am in the left turn lane?
- How do I pull to the right if the other stopped vehicles around me don't move?
- I can't pull into the intersection to make room for the fire apparatus, the light is red!

To help remedy these issues, do the following. Once you realized that an emergency vehicle is behind you, do not stay fixated on your rear view mirrors. Evaluate the roadway around you and see if you can safely pull to the right. If you are stopped at a traffic light and the emergency vehicle is directly behind you, pay close attention to the traffic signal. Our vehicles are equipped with emitters that provide us the ability to change the lights from red to green. Once the light is green, you are able to pull through the intersection and then safely off to the right side of the road to allow us to pass. If the light stays red, and you are still unable to pull to the right side of the roadway, **DO NOT MOVE INTO THE ONCOMING TRAFFIC LANE**. If you cannot get to the right side of the road, and the traffic around you is not moving and allowing the emergency vehicle to pass, stay stopped in your current position. If it is necessary, the approaching emergency vehicle will navigate into the oncoming lane of travel.

Our drivers are professionally trained to operate and maneuver emergency vehicles. Lastly, please do not attempt to outrun or tailgate the emergency vehicle. Attempting to outrun the apparatus will only cause you to be part of the problem at the next intersection. Tailgating the emergency vehicle through traffic is not only hazardous and unsafe because of our frequent stops, lane changes, and turns, but it is also illegal.

If you have any questions or concerns on how to yield to emergency vehicles or how to join the Fire Company, contact me at 610-867-2103 or stop at the station any Monday evening between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

EMS CORNER

By: EMS Captain Karen Van Why

Thank you for your continued support. We will continue to serve you with professionalism and excellence throughout all of our services: Fire, Fire Police and Emergency Medical Services. We could not serve you as effectively without the equipment, training, and support provided through your support of our fund-raising efforts, and the support you provide through the Board of Supervisors and administration of the Township.



Thank You Traditions of Hanover

We extend our thanks to the Traditions of Hanover for hosting the annual appreciation breakfast for emergency responders.

Yield to the Bicycles and Motorcycles

This is the time of the year when kids are riding their bicycles and motorcycles are on the roadway.

Please be careful when driving on the roads keeping a watchful eye out for the riders.

Some safety tips for Bicycle riders:

- Always wear your bike helmet
- Look both ways before you cross the street and pulling out of the driveway.
- Don't ride at night
- Obey traffic signs and signals
- Wear light or bright colored clothing so motorists can see you.
- Give the right away to vehicles

Call statistics for the first quarter of 2015:

JANUARY

Ambulance Emergencies	153
Auto Accidents	18
Fire Support	13
Total	184

FEBRUARY

Ambulance Emergencies	127
Auto Accidents	7
Fire Support	16
Total	150

MARCH

Ambulance Emergencies	135
Auto Accidents	15
Fire Support	15
Total	165

Total for First Quarter 499

Join our Team

Hanover Township Volunteer Fire Company has been providing fire service to the residents of Hanover Township since 1942. We're thankful for the new members that have joined our Fire Company! But, we could use your help as well. Consider serving your family, friends, and neighbors by joining us in any of our three services: Fire, Fire Police, or EMS. All required training and equipment is provided. If you are interested in exploring what this entails, contact us at the station, or stop by during Monday Night training at 7:00 p.m.

VILLAGE VIEW PARK

Started in the fall of 2013 and completed during 2014 Phase I of Village View Park included the installation of storm water facilities, road and pathways, parking lots (3) and two multi-purpose fields. In the Spring of 2015 the landscape contractor is repairing low spots and washouts as well as slit seeding both fields to ensure full grass coverage.

Phase I was completed with funding from the Northampton County Open Space Advisory Board, Monroe County Gaming Grant and recreation funds from the Township of Hanover.

On May 21, 2015 Northampton County Council awarded Hanover Township an additional Northampton County Open Space Grant in the amount of \$182,477.71 to



assist in the completion of Phase II. These funds, as well as additional recreation funds from Hanover Township will allow for the installation of an additional parking lot and two additional fields.

Assuming the slit seeding is successful, Phase I will be open for public use in the Spring of 2016.

Hanover Township is committed to continuing to develop first class recreation facilities that can be used by adults, young adults and the youth of our community and the surrounding area.

HANOVER TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER

Director:
Robert Cepin

RECREATION NEWS

Assistant Director :
Nichole Hamburg

HTCC is Giving Back!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

First Strides Women's 5K Walk/Run	Saturday June 6th
Hanover Car Show	Sunday September 6th
Patriot Day	Friday September 11th
Field of Pink	Sunday October 4th
Vera Bradley Bingo	Sunday October 18th
PSU/HTCC "THON" 5K Fun Walk/Run	Saturday November 1st

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

◆ **NEW LOBBY MAKEOVER!** Have you seen the bright, new lobby at HTCC decorated with our art classes art projects!

◆ **ONLINE REGISTRATION IS HERE!** www.hanovercommunitycenter.com to learn how to register from the comfort of your own home for programs, memberships and reservation request.

◆ **BAPL KIOSK**—another way to borrow books and DVDs for your use. This kiosk is free; you need to have a valid library card in order to use the kiosk. Your card must be updated yearly and can be done through the bookmobile or the library itself.

◆ Don't have a membership? You can come for a visit with a guest pass! \$8/adult, \$6/students or seniors. Your guest pass gives you full service (fitness) access to the facility.

The Hanover Township Community Center gives back! The 2015 Community BINGO events have several outstanding beneficiaries that are well known non-profits!

<u>JUNE</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>
Community BINGO benefits:	Community BINGO benefits:	Community BINGO benefits:	Community BINGO benefits:
<i>School Sisters of St. Francis Monocacy Farm Project</i>	<i>PA PLAYHOUSE</i>	<i>Pampered Chef Bingo to benefit HTCC Summer Parks & Recreation Programs</i>	<i>Big Brothers & Big Sisters</i>
<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>DECEMBER</u>	
Community BINGO benefits:	Community BINGO benefits:	Community BINGO benefits:	
<i>The Pink Ribbon Fund</i>	<i>"Cuties for a Cure" Cystic Fibrosis</i>	<i>Lehigh Valley Aging in Place Coalition</i>	

Community Bingo continues monthly, meeting once a month on the first Thursday of each month. The meeting room is reserved for this event and food/snacks are always available from our kitchen. Early Bird games (\$5) start at 6:30pm and are over by 7pm. Regular bingo starts at 7pm - \$25 for 22 games - 9 boards or 9 chances to win each game! Specials are included and prizes range from \$40 to \$125 per game!

"Starbucks" _ Helps Hanover Recreation Thrive

If you haven't noticed the iconic "Starbucks" logo present in the Hanover Township Community Center or around the municipal complex in the past months, they have joined forces with Hanover Township to help promote local recreation.

"Starbucks" has quickly become an integral part of both our community events and our center's events. The partnership also has helped create numerous fundraising opportunities to help raise funds to install solar panels in the near future at our Lion Pavilion on the Municipal Grounds.

Being involved most recently with our J.P. Sousa Concert, "Starbucks" donated refreshments which include 2 of their signature blends of coffee, iced coffee and snacks. This partnership has proven to benefit everyone involved. They have also donated product for our Easter Egg Hunt, which made all parents that day very happy given the cold, rainy weather we were dealt.

Aside from in-kind donation, "Starbucks" also sent a regional manager to our Summer Seasonal Staff Meeting to discuss with our young employees how to handle and present themselves outside of their working environment and discuss the tools needed to succeed in the corporate world.

Needless to say, we can't be happier to have landed such a great community partner! "Starbucks" and Hanover Township hope that you will stop by one of our community events and just see how great our community is thriving!





VERA BRADLEY BINGO

SUNDAY 10/18 @ 1 PM

TICKETS: \$15 PRIOR TO
10/1- \$20 AFTER 10/1
AND AT THE DOOR.



Join us on October 4, 2015 for the 4th Annual Field of Pink!

Vera Bradley Bingo

Twice a year HTCC hosts a Vera Bradley Bingo. This Fall our VB Bingo will be on Sunday, October 18th @ 1 p.m.

The Field Of Pink is planted to help raise awareness of breast cancer and to honor those who have fought this disease. This year, over 3000 pink flags will be planted and will be left on display for the month of October. Our day will begin at 10 a.m. at the Hanover Township Community Center, located at 3660 Jacksonville Road Bethlehem, PA 18017. We will walk from HTCC to the Field Of Pink located on Hanoverville Road between Gwenmawr Road and Maryann Lane.

Pre-Registration for the walk is required and a donation of \$5 per walker is suggested. Donations from the walk will support The CHEMO Bag (www.facebook.com/thechemobag), a local nonprofit agency that provides gift bags to men and women undergoing chemotherapy treatments in our community. When arriving at the Field of Pink everyone will enjoy a brief presentation and planting of our field. Walkers will then head back to HTCC--the round trip walk is approximately 3.2 miles or equivalent to a 5K. Carpoolers may park at either end if the full 3 mile walk is too taxing for individuals. There is no timing involved, just a walk in honor or in memory of our loved ones who have fought this disease. Planting of the field is taking place at 10:45 a.m. after the arrival of our walkers. Flag sponsorships are suggested at \$1 per flag, and flag donations will be given to The Pink Ribbon Patient Assistance Fund at Lehigh Valley Hospital who help women and men undergoing breast cancer treatments by paying for household expenses.

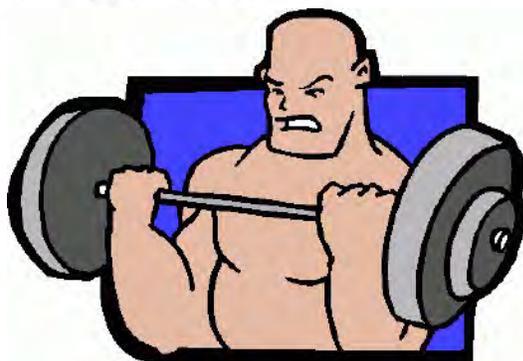
Registration for the walk and the sponsoring of the flags will begin on Saturday, August 1, 2015 at Pink Day at the Hanover Pool. Flags can be purchased at Hanover Township Community Center during normal business hours. You are encouraged to write "In Honor of" or "In Memory of" on your sponsored flags and join us on October 4th to plant our Field of Pink. If you wish to sponsor a flag but cannot join us on October 4 you can leave the flag at HTCC and we will plant it for you! Sponsorship forms can also be found on the Field of Pink Facebook page and the Hanover Township Community Center website hanovercommunitycenter.com.

Summer Membership Special

Do you like a discount?

Do you need a fitness membership?

If you answered Yes to the above, come see us at the Community Center on *Saturday, July 25 from 10am-12pm*. All FITNESS memberships of 3 months or longer will be discounted up to 50% if you are one of the 1st 50 in line that morning. Special is only open to the 1st 50 people in line. All others who wish to renew during this membership drive will receive 10%. Renewal will only be available for those who are currently expired or expire before September 1, 2015. Offer not available to be combined with any other discounts.



PRESCHOOL AGE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

NEED BEFORE SCHOOL & AFTER SCHOOL CARE?

Then we have you covered!

Children in preschool to grades K-8 are invited to participate in this structured and theme related enrichment program. Children may sign up 24 hours in advance for "as needed" service or contracts are available for the school year. Children with contracts may sign up for care when preschool is off.

Hours are 7:30 am-5:30 pm Monday to Friday.

Fee schedule- HTCC Preschool student or Basic Membership

BLOCK HOURS-

10 hours= \$75.00

20 hours= \$140.00

30 hours= \$195.00

40 hours= \$240.00

50 hours= \$275.00

BEST VALUE:

A contractual agreement:

10-14 hrs/ week	\$4.50/ Hour
15-19 hrs/ week	\$4.00/ Hour
20+ hrs/ week	\$3.50/ Hour

Sports & Specialty Summer Camps

Summer Volleyball Camp

HTCC Volleyball Day Camp
 Monday - Thursday Ages: 10 - 15
 This program will reinforce skills necessary to play at the appropriate level.
 Instructor: Katie Yanochko-District Assistant Volleyball Coach. Learn or improve your skills - fitness levels, volleyball basics - passing, setting, hitting and serving. Basic knowledge of the game. Position specific training.
July 6 - July 9 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Fees: \$75 members/\$95 non-members

Teen Weight Training Camp

Monday - Thursday Ages: 12 - 16
 Participants will be introduced to fitness training guidelines, appropriate use of the equipment, and gym etiquette. Class will review the five components of fitness with an emphasis on lifelong fitness habits. This program is a prerequisite for any student wishing to use the fitness room without adult supervision. Participants will receive a workout booklet.
June 22 - June 25 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Fees: \$49 members/\$79 non-members

Flag Football Camp

July 22, 23, & 24
 Ages 4-7 yrs.- 9 am-12 pm Ages 8-12 yrs.- 1-4 pm
 In partnership with Greater Lehigh Valley Athletics, Hanover Township Community Center is offering a three-day flag football camp. This is the perfect program for young athletes who want an introduction to America's Game or for those who simply want to brush up on their skills in preparation for league play. Through a 'skill of the day', campers will learn skills on both sides of the ball including components of passing, catching and de-flagging or defensive positioning - all presented in a fun and positive environment. End the week playing against fellow campers in a 40-minute game and put your skills to the test! Free t-shirt.

Cost: \$100 for 1st child, siblings receive a \$10 discount



Theatre Seekers Summer Camp

June 30th, July 1st & July 2nd
 Time: 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Theatre Seekers is drama camp for ages 5-12. A performance on the final day will be open to family and friends.

Children will learn to project their voice and speak clearly, to and learn empathy.
 Cost: \$75 member/\$85 non-members



The Hanover Car Show & Auto Swap Meet

Sunday, September 6 9 am-2:30 pm

Hanover Car show is back and better than ever; more classes for car owners to enter and more prizes to give-away! This years car show is Sunday, September 6th and will feature different merchandise from local vendors, food and music. Like many of our other events and programs, our goal is to achieve community outreach and education. Again, our car show is in honor of our emergency personnel with a certain percentage of proceeds benefitting our local emergency personnel. The best of show award will be in memory of Office Robert Lasso. We encourage you to come out and meet the volunteers who support our community through the Fire and EMS as well as our Colonial Regional Police Department. Registration form for those wishing to register can be found www.hanovercommunitycenter.com.

NEW Auto Swap meet will be held in conjunction with the Car Show. If you are interested in being a vendor of auto related merchandise, please contact Rob Cepen, rcepin@hanovertwp-cc.org.



Important Pool Dates



Dip-N-Dance[®] dates for the 2015 aquatic season are Wednesday, June 17th, Wednesday, July 15th and Wednesday, August 12th. They run from 1 - 3pm and music is provided by D.H. Productions.

Pool Opening is set for June 6th and our hours of operation will be 1 - 7pm daily. Lap Swim will take place from 6pm to 7pm weekdays only. The pool may close at the discretion of management regarding weather or pool conditions.

To contact the pool, call 610-868-3202.

Additionally, the Hanover Twp. Pool will close for swim team usage on June 18, July 2, July 6, July 16, and July 23 for swim meets. July 22 the pool will close at 6pm.

The Pool will start its season closing schedule on Sunday, August 23rd. However, the pool will re-open August 29th & 30th as well as Labor Day Weekend, September 5th, 6th and September 7th.

Lastly, Hanover pool will be hosting the Field of Pink kickoff event on Saturday, August 1, 2015. Wear pink to the pool and show your support for breast cancer awareness! Purchase a pink flag in honor, or in memory of someone battling breast cancer.

Special Events – Fall Festival October 4, 2015

Hanover Township’s Fall Festival has it all and is a great start to the fall season! As one of our largest special events, the Fall Festival offers live music, food tastings, a free pumpkin patch, tractor rides through the foliage of the municipal complex and a haunted house in the Community Center! New this year, we will be offering apple cider tasting from local farms in the Lehigh Valley. Events commences at 12pm and lasts until the last pumpkin is gone! The best part about this great event, it’s **FREE!**



Patriot Day Ceremony - September 11th, 2015

Schedule of Events:

National Anthem

Welcome & September 11 Flag Dedication

Guest Speaker.....TBA

Flag Retirement by Boy Scout Troop 352

Refreshments to follow inside Community Center

Anyone have an interest in speaking, please contact Nichole Hamburg at HTCC.



Remembrance



Honor



Pride



We now have online registration! Check out www.hanovercommunitycenter.com

Property Tax Update

A COLUMN BY STATE REPRESENTATIVE MARCIA M. HAHN, 138TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

On Wednesday, May 13, the state House passed House Bill 504, a step forward in the effort to eliminate school property taxes for Lehigh Valley residents. For me, the key to approving this legislation occurred the day before when language from House Bill 860 (legislation I originally co-sponsored) was amended into it.

The amendment and the bill both passed with bipartisan support. Debate on the floor truly reflected the issue, which is not a problem statewide. Many of the speakers mentioned the legislation not being perfect, but being better than doing nothing. What passed is historic in nature, as it would be the largest (\$4.9 billion) property tax cut in state history.

My goal remains aligned with many residents of the district who want complete elimination of school property taxes. The truth is, votes for bills that do that do not currently exist.

House Bill 504 shifts us away from property taxes to less burdensome forms of revenue in order to fund Pennsylvania's public schools. It also provides relief for the renter whose monthly bill is based on what his or her landlord pays.

This measure gives school districts a more reliable source of funding, which will make it easier for them to budget for the coming school year. The bill also guarantees every new dollar generated through new Personal Income Tax and sales taxes would be used to reduce school property taxes – complete with safeguards to ensure these reductions stay in place.



Rep. Marcia M. Hahn

The Personal Income Tax revenue is dedicated to school districts and will grow naturally without further rate increases. We are mandating school districts to subtract this new dedicated state revenue from their already reduced Act 1 Index. All new Sales and Use Tax revenue will go to further reduce homeowner property taxes and will also increase through economic activity.

Pennsylvania is now 26 Senate votes and one governor's signature away from doing what has never been done before. Along with much-needed pension relief and an improved funding formula, we hope this is not the last

historic day in the 2015-16 session of the General Assembly.

Here is a list of school districts in the 138th Legislative District, along with the corresponding percentage of relief that would be realized by property owners under House Bill 504:

- Bethlehem Area – 42 percent
- Nazareth Area – 39 percent
- Northampton Area – 38 percent
- Pen Argyl Area – 53 percent

The percentage of relief is estimated by combining the following statistics:

- Percentage of relief from millage reductions
- Homestead and farmstead allocations
- Property Tax/Rent Rebate expansion
- Gaming allocations

Questions about this or any legislative issue should be directed to my district office by calling (610) 746-2100.

SUMMER SHADE TREE TIPS



1. Don't top trees – topping is harmful with no benefits
2. Water young trees frequently (very important). Can use drip hose or five-gallon bucket with holes in bottom
3. Mulch for water conservation and to protect trunk from lawn mower damage (don't let mulch touch trunk)

REPLACE DEAD OR MISSING STREET TREES

RECYCLING EVENT

On April 4, 2015 the Township held its annual Electronics Recycling and Shredding Event with Responsible Recycling Services of Kutztown, PA.

Approximately 250 cars came through and 18,975 pounds of electronic waste was generated and 400 pounds of shredded material.



THE GOLD IN MY WALLET: AN APPRECIATION

by Bob Cohen

The Bethlehem Area Public Library card's easy to find among the stack of plastic in my wallet; its bright yellow greets me as if it were pure gold.

For decades, this card has given me access to a trove of literature old and new; I can retrieve and read again the stories of D.H. Lawrence, the big fat novels of Dickens, the fables of James Thurber. I can stand before the alphabetized rows of DVDs to find the classics of Hitchcock, Bergman, and Fellini that I first viewed in tiny art theatres. I can learn about the 14th Century from Barbara Tuchman, or the 20th, from Winston Churchill. I can even return books unread, DVDs only viewed for a few minutes. A guilty privilege.

Yes, I could read and view lots of this at home on a computer screen. I can purchase volumes at our amply-stocked Moravian Book Shop, or buy online a good used, and cheap copy. Occasionally I do that.

But I get so much more by coming to this special Bethlehem place on Church Street. And making the trip here from Hanover Township requires no tolls or traffic jams.

What happens to me here? A proud comfort in knowing that this place is public, not just MY library. This place is common property, open and available to our citizenry. Whoever you are, whatever you think, whomever you love, you are welcome to this space, to sit, to browse, and if a resident, to borrow from its lavish contents. You don't need a key. No one has to recommend you. You could have a PhD, or be a 6th grade dropout. Just show your bright yellow card at the circulation desk, and you can carry out armloads of stuff to teach and to entertain you, your children, and your grandchildren.

A public library represents a bastion of democracy, of common property, in a culture increasingly focused on the acquisition and the hoarding of things. Let yourself feel a rush of hope in what you see here. Feel the promise of what there is to read, to learn, to know. How from the floor to the ceiling, these book-filled shelves suggest a kind of continuity in their plentitude. My particular,



peculiar joy is knowing that this supply of what has been thought and written and imagined will be available to generations after my own takes a final trip down the block to Nisky Hill Cemetery or out to Bethlehem Memorial on Linden Street.

Take a seat at one of the tables and pretend to read a magazine. Watch people looking for books

along the aisles of shelves. Or folding over the pages of today's New York Times at a nearby table. Yes, in the winter, the homeless find daytime refuge here, but most are reading rather than dozing. To our credit, we make room for them. For me, the sense of community I get here alone makes well worth it the annual \$17.03 I pay through my taxes.

It's pleasant greeting and schmoozing with people I recognize here. But it's being among people with whom I have no acquaintance whatsoever that has a special value. I know only that they are in this public place looking to use something in print or in images that will bring them pleasure, information, maybe even wisdom. Just seeing others seeking what I seek confirms my sense of a shared humanity. There's so much to separate us, so much to be fearful of, this sense of shared humanity becomes more than useful, it is necessary: to be among people browsing bookshelves in a public place.

Let's add our public library to a roster of churches and synagogues and mosques. Let's consider it a sacred place. Whether we're from Hanover Township or Bethlehem Township, or Bethlehem itself, let's offer a blessing for having the Bethlehem Area Public Library in our midst, and its golden yellow card ready for use in our wallets.

Note: This article appeared originally in The Morning Call, April 15, 2015, during National Library Week. It is reprinted here with minor alterations.

Bob Cohen has lived in Bethlehem since 1979. He is on the Board of Directors of the Bethlehem Area Public Library.

SCHOOL PROPERTY TAXES: EVERYONE'S TALKING

BY STATE SENATOR MARIO M. SCAVELLO, 40TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT

For the first time in Harrisburg, the Governor and leaders in both the House and Senate are all acknowledging the impact of ever-increasing school property taxes on homeowners throughout the Commonwealth.

And now it is time for concrete action.

The public is weary from “all talk and no action” as their school property taxes continue to spiral upward, forcing seniors out of their homes and making homeownership unattainable for families with school-age children. While a quality education is critical for our children, many residents throughout the 40th Senate District in Northampton and Monroe Counties struggle to pay school property taxes equal to or greater than their mortgage.

While the 40th Senate District is the most affected region of the state, other areas are beginning to experience the same school property tax pressures we are facing. Previously, school property taxes did not pose a significant problem in other regions across the state, but now have become a burden in school districts experiencing increased growth without accompanying increases in school funding.

There are several school property tax proposals currently being discussed in the Capitol, all of which propose shifting to a combination of increased sales tax and personal income tax (PIT).

I have been a stalwart supporter and co-sponsor of Senator Dave Argall’s Property Tax Independence Act, also known as Senate Bill 76, which proposes school property tax elimination through a one percent increase in the state sales tax and a 1.27 percent increase in the state personal income tax (PIT). The sales tax would also expand to additional items and services.

The Property Tax Independence Act is seen as a more equitable tax shift, taking the burden off of the homeowner and shifting it to the consumer. The more one buys, the more one pays. Even with the PIT increased to 4.34 percent, Pennsylvania would still rank as one of the lowest PIT rates in the region.

However, in his recent 2015-16 budget proposal, Governor Wolf proposed a different school property tax plan that increases the sales tax to 6.6 percent, expands it to additional items, and increases the personal income tax by 0.7 percent. The Governor estimates his plan will result in an average 50 percent reduction in local school property taxes across the Commonwealth.

While some districts will see significant relief, or elimination in some cases, property tax reductions for schools



Rep. Mario M. Scavello

in the 40th Senate District would only range from 25% to 48% under the Governor’s plan. My greatest concern is in supporting a plan that continues to unfairly fund our school districts versus other districts.

In a recent report, it was indicated that residents in four school districts in Monroe County pay the greatest percentage of their personal income in property taxes each year. In high-growth areas like Northampton and Monroe Counties, school property taxes have increased with the construction of new school buildings and state education dollars that

have not kept pace with higher student populations as a result of an outdated funding formula.

I have always said that I will vote for anything that eliminates school property taxes or provides dollar-for-dollar property tax reduction for my constituents.

Currently, there is a third school property tax proposal that has passed the PA House of Representatives and is now in the Senate for consideration. Similar to the Governor’s plan, it too proposes a reduction using the state sales tax and PIT, however it does not expand the number of items that are subject to the sales tax. According to initial estimates, this plan would also be fairer to districts in Northampton and Monroe Counties.

This school property tax reduction plan, sponsored by State Representative Stan Saylor, provides a fairer distribution of property tax relief for school districts across the state, with most receiving a 40 to 60 percent decrease.

It is very likely there will be significant action on school property tax reform this session. As I said before, for the first time everyone is talking about school property taxes in Harrisburg. I remain committed to property tax elimination, but I am also open to discussions of a significant reduction plan that provides dollar-for-dollar property tax relief as a middle ground toward elimination.

The school property tax problem has hit crisis levels in many areas within the 40th Senate District and it is time for substantive action. As always, school property tax reform is my top priority and I am working to keep the issue at the forefront in Harrisburg.

If you would like to receive the latest information regarding school property taxes and other state issues in Harrisburg and the 40th Senate District, please subscribe to my E-Newsletter at www.marioscavello.com.

You can also visit one of my two district offices in Northampton (2 North Robinson Avenue, Pen Argyl, PA 18732) or Monroe (2989 Route 611, Tannersville, PA 18372).

Colonial Regional's Newest Officer

Robert "Kirk" Ryan. Grew up in Radnor PA and graduated Radnor High School in 2004. In 2008, Kirk graduated from Susquehanna University with a BA in American History and received a commission in the U.S Army as a Field Artillery Officer. While stationed in Mississippi, Kirk was able to gain law enforcement experience as a Reserve Deputy with the local sheriff's department. After six years in the Army, to include one combat tour in Afghanistan, Kirk transferred his commission to the Pennsylvania National Guard and attended the Police Academy at Temple University. After the Police Academy, Kirk worked briefly for the Lehigh County Sheriff's department until he was hired by Colonial Regional.



District Magistrate Narlesky swears in Officer Ryan.

From the...

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

PET OWNERS:

1. Dogs are not allowed in Township Parks or on Township Property.
2. Dogs off owners property shall be under owners control at all times (leashed).
3. Please clean up after your animals.
4. All dogs shall be licensed with the County. (Forms available at Municipal Building or on the Township web site www.hanovertwp-nc.org)
5. Cat owners! Please be aware that as a cat owner YOU are responsible to keep your animal on your property. This has become a big problem over the past few years.

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., drain 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.



NO need for speed in Hanover

The Township continues to receive a large number of complaints from residents who are concerned with drivers speeding, not only on major and secondary roads in the Township but also in our residential neighborhoods. The speed limit on local roads in residential neighborhoods is 25 miles per hour; with nice weather approaching and the expected seasonal increase in pedestrian and bicycle traffic on the roads, safe driving should be foremost in all motorists' minds.



BETHLEHEM AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Main Library

11 W. Church Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018
610 867-3761

HOURS

Monday-Wednesday: 10AM-8PM
Thursday & Friday: 10AM-6PM
Saturday: 10AM-5PM

South Side Branch

400 Webster Street
Bethlehem, PA 18015
610 867-7852

HOURS

Tuesday & Thursday: 11AM-8PM
Wednesday & Saturday: noon-4PM

The Library is closed July 3 & 4

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Phone the **Main Library** at 610-867-3761 x224, **Youth Services** at 610-867-3761 x499
South Side Branch at 610-867-7852 OR visit www.bapl.org for details

Free Adult Programs

SUMMER READING · June 6-August 8

Join anytime during the summer. Enter weekly drawings for **terrific prizes** donated by area businesses & restaurants. Write your own reviews of books you've loved or hated! Plus de-stress & relax this summer at weekly **Yoga** classes!



Free Teen Programs (grades 6-12)

UNMASK SUMMER READING

June 6-August 8

Create Your Own Superhero Workshop

Cartoon Workshop at both locations

Heroes and Villains

Superhero trivia game, costume contest & more

Teen Fear Factor

Compete and win prizes

Unplugged Games Night

Superhero Movie Night at both locations

Free Children's Programs

SUMMER READING for preschool & school age children

June 6-August 8

EVERY HERO HAS A STORY



Superhero Training Camp
Super Science Wednesdays
Meet Local Heroes
Two of a Kind in concert
Magician Tom McDonnell
Read to Dogs
Eyes of the Wild live animal show
Back Porch stories with guest authors
Book Discussions
Puppet Pizzazz
StoryTimes
Toddler play dates
Family Fun Nights
Hero Movie night
STEM Workshops

BAPL Book Sales

www.bestbooksale.org

MAIN LIBRARY

12,000 books, movies

& music in great condition!

Wednesday **July 8** noon-8PM

Saturday **July 11** 10AM-4PM

Bookmobile Schedule for Hanover Township

Mondays, except where noted

A WEEK	(alternate weeks beginning June 8)	B WEEK	(alternate weeks beginning June 1)
11:30-12:30	Hanover Elementary School (<i>Saturdays</i>)	12:15-1:15	Toni Ln. at Crawford Dr. (<i>Thursdays</i>)
12:15-1:15	Cheryl Dr. at <i>Southland Condos</i> (<i>Thursdays</i>)	3:00-4:00	Hanover Township Community Center
3:00-4:00	Hanover Township Community Center	4:05-4:50	Bridle Path Rd. at <i>Traditions of America</i>
4:05-4:50	Stonewood & Belaire	5:00-5:45	Monocacy Dr.
5:00-5:45	Monocacy Dr.	6:45-8:15	Chesterfield near Lord Byron
6:45-8:15	Chesterfield near Lord Byron		

REDUCING STORM WATER RUNOFF

You Can Do Your Part by Creating Stormwater-Friendly Lawns, Gardens

When the amount of rain falling exceeds the land's ability to absorb it, the result is stormwater runoff.

Without treatment, stormwater that runs from the land into our waterways can be unhealthy for people and bad for the environment. Runoff can carry chemicals, metals, bacteria, viruses, organic compounds, and other pollutants directly into creeks, lakes, rivers, and streams. Runoff can also cause severe erosion and flooding — even during a typical Pennsylvania storm.

Clearly, then, what we do on the land impacts the quality of our water. That means everyone, not just government, plays a role in protecting this valuable resource by reducing runoff and the pollutants it carries.

This summer, homeowners can take steps to help with the effort by making sure their gardens and lawns are “stormwater-friendly.”

The stormwater-friendly garden

Home gardens can contribute considerable nutrients and other pollutants to waterways if not cared for responsibly. This mainly applies to fertilizers and pesticides.

Fertilizers: Instead of using chemical fertilizers, give organic alternatives, such as compost and manure, a try. Compost, a “do-it-yourself” fertilizer that can be created from such things as vegetable scraps and garden clippings, contains the nutrients that help your vegetables grow. When using organic fertilizers, be sure to apply them directly to the ground before planting the vegetables to prevent runoff.

Pesticides: Many insects are harmless to people and play an important role in maintaining a healthy lawn or garden ecosystem. If one is posing a problem, however, identify the exact pest you have and research the non-chemical alternatives to controlling it. Pesticides should be a last resort because they could infiltrate groundwater, possibly contaminate drinking supplies, and hurt downstream ecosystems.

The stormwater-friendly lawn

The following lawn-care steps will not only help to protect local streams and rivers but also result in cost savings for homeowners:

Set your mower height to 3 inches or higher. Taller grass slows the runoff and produces a deeper and denser



root system, which absorbs more water and prevents erosion. Deeper roots also reduce the need for watering during droughts and suppress weeds from growing up around them.

Keep grass clippings and chopped leaves on your property. A mulch-mower is ideal for retaining and spreading clippings on your lawn. The clippings decompose quickly,

provide important nutrients for your lawn, and settle to create an organic layer on the soil that encourages stormwater infiltration. Using this mulch may also reduce or eliminate the need for nitrogen fertilizers.

If mulching with your clippings is not possible, bag and store them in a compost area and then use the organic material that's created as a fertilizer later.

Figure out if you really need to fertilize your lawn. Foregoing fertilizer is ideal for the health of local waterways and ecosystems. However, if your lawn is thin or has bare spots, you may not have a choice since a dense, vegetated cover is the most stormwater-friendly lawn.

There are no one-size-fits-all guidelines when it comes to fertilizer. Homeowners' needs vary drastically based on the soil texture and pH and nutrient levels. In fact, soil tests may reveal that your lawn is suffering from “micronutrient deficiency,” a problem that standard chemical fertilizers may not alleviate. Identifying your lawn's needs first will reduce unnecessary applications, create a healthier lawn faster, and reduce your long-term costs.

If fertilizer is needed, maximize the benefits of slow-release nitrogen and minimize the number of chemical applications. Typically called “water insoluble nitrogen,” or WIN, on fertilizer bags, slow-release nitrogen limits nutrient runoff and exportation. This type of fertilizer should be applied to your lawn in the spring, instead of the fall, to provide a steady source of nutrients throughout the growing season.

Another tip: Homeowners should wait until the grass begins growing in March to fertilize and then stop fertilizing after October. Fertilizing during a lawn's dormant season increases the risk that the chemicals will run off into streams or leach into your water table because the root systems are less active.

Do not fertilize or use pesticides within 15 to 20 feet of a stream. Keeping this distance will help keep chemicals

continued on next page

REDUCING STORM WATER RUNOFF

continued from page 14

out of waterways. Also, if you live near a stream, consider establishing a natural riparian buffer there instead. To learn more about these buffers, visit www.stormwater.alliance-forthebay.org and click on "Structural BMPs."

Also, when you're done applying fertilizer, immediately sweep any granulated chemicals off hard surfaces and back onto your lawn. Your walkway, driveway, patio, or local road is often a quick route to the drainage pipes that discharge into local streams.

In the long run, little actions, such as taking a storm-water-friendly approach to your garden and lawn, will have a big impact as all of them work together to protect our water's quality.

Note: Information courtesy of StormwaterPA and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.

2015 CRPD Citizen's Police Academy September 2, 2015 thru November 11, 2015

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

If interested please email, call, or fax the application located on our website. Deadline is **August 21, 2015**.

(website) www.colonialregionalpd.org
(email) info@colonialregionalpd.org
(phone) 610-861-4820

RESIDENTIAL WASTE AND RECYCLING BILLING 2014

In January each **residential property owner** received their 2015 Residential Waste & Recycling bill which had a discount date of March 16th, 2015 and a due date of April 15th, 2015. Bills that have not been paid received a reminder notice postcard around May 14th 2015. Please pay your bill as soon as possible to avoid additional fees and charges.

2014 Delinquent Bills

43 homeowners who did not pay their 2014 bills after numerous billings and reminders had their properties lienied to collect their fees.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out will be held at Hanover Township's Municipal Complex on Tuesday, August 4th from 6-9 p.m. You are invited to meet with members of the Colonial Regional Police and the Township Crime Watch who will be on hand with games and prizes for the kids, "Kids Picture ID cards" and Homeland Security Packets. Rain or shine, there will be free hot dogs, ice cream and birch beer. Look for flyers during the summer for further information.



NORTHAMPTON COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AND ECONOMIC REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY GRANTS

During the second round of 2014 Restricted Grants process Hanover Township received \$39,000 to purchase and install two additional solar powered radar speed boards. One board will be installed eastbound on Jandl Boulevard and the second will be installed northbound on Jacksonville Road in the area of Bridle Path Road. These boards have helped to bring to the attention of motorist the speed they are traveling on Township roads.

In the 2014 Uncommitted Funds Grants the Township received \$64,866 to be used to purchase two 2015 Ford SUV Police Interceptors to be used by the Colonial Regional Police Department. These two stealth vehicles will be used to patrol Hanover Township.



Hanoverview

Hanover Township Newsletter
3630 Jacksonville Road
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18017-9302

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OR TO CURRENT RESIDENT



HANOVER DAYS

Spectacular sunny days and warm nights was the recipe for the most successful Hanover Days since the carnivals introduction. Summer weather, in early Spring, brought droves of people to the Municipal Tract to enjoy the rides, games, music and food. The Nittany Lion came all the way in from State College and Olaf from the Disney hit Frozen weathered the heat to bring smiles to the children in attendance.