

Welcome to

HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP



NEWSLETTER



Lehigh County
Pennsylvania



Summer 2017

Hello to all Heidelberg Township Residents,

I sincerely hope the year 2017 is bringing you happiness. I know living in a beautiful area surrounded by nature can brighten up anyone's day. Here at the Heidelberg Township municipal building everything is buzzing with the ending of spring and start of summer.

The office staff is busy answering questions about properties for sale within the township, following up on permits, keeping our residents abreast of happenings within the township via our website and fine tuning our procedures and policies. Important aspects of this is the updating of our Emergency Operations Plan, actively participating with the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission's updating of the comprehensive plan, a map of the future of the Lehigh Valley, and researching grant funding possibilities for future township projects.

The road department is diligently working to maintain the roadways for the safety of all who use them. The road crew will be oil and chipping some of the roads, clearing out culverts for improved drainage, blacktopping roads as necessary and shoulder mowing the grass and weeds that keep on growing even without sufficient rainfall. A large project that the road crew will complete shortly is replacing the culvert and pipe under a section of Werleys Corner Road off of Route 309 and then paving the roadway from Route 309 to the cul-de-sac.

Let's talk about your elected officials....your Board of Supervisors. In the 17 years I have been employed by Heidelberg Township, I had the pleasure of working with many Boards of Supervisors who work as a team for the good of the township. Thankfully this tradition continues as one of your supervisors Rodney Schlauch Jr. found it necessary to relinquish his seat on the Board and a new supervisor, Jonathan Jakum, was appointed. Jonathan Jakum chose to make Heidelberg Township his home about nine years ago. Attracted to the area's abundant farmland and open space, he volunteered his time on the Heidelberg Township Environmental Advisory Council and continues to do so. Moving to Heidelberg Township meant he could continue his hobbies of enjoying outdoor activities, gardening, beekeeping, landscaping and old-house restoration. By accepting the appointment as township supervisor, Jonathan hopes to further the land preservation efforts begun by past Boards while encouraging sustainable change to increase the quality of life for township residents.

The Board of Supervisors continues to adopt ordinances to promote the rural character of the township. In 2016 the Board adopted an ordinance regulating the installation of mini-cellular towers in the township right-of-way and began researching changes to the zoning ordinance that would allow multiple uses permitted on a property. There is more about this in a zoning office article in this newsletter.

Enjoy reading your township newsletter and please contact us with any questions. We are here to serve you.

Remember to frequent the businesses who support your township by advertising in this newsletter. The Board of Supervisors thanks them for their continued support.

Kind Regards,
Janice Meyers, Township Administrator



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Chairman's Message

Heidelberg Township Board of Supervisors

Donna Wright, from Lower Milford Township, who is also the Lehigh County Farmland Preservation Municipal Outreach Coordinator addressed us at our Winter LCATO banquet, and had these tidbits to share about the latest on Lehigh County Farmland Preservation:

- July 1st is the new application deadline to apply to get your parcel onto the farmland preservation list.
- \$6000 per acre is the new county maximum, but it is calculated on an individual basis.
- The county will guarantee a 1-1 match on Municipal Contributions (Heidelberg has committed \$10K from the 2017 budget for our farmland preservation fund). We can choose to give the money to the county for the 1:1 match, but it is not guaranteed to be used for township farms. The other way we can use this money is to make up a deficit between the assessed value of a property and the per acre cap. This use of the funds would ensure that the township funds would solely be used for Heidelberg Township properties. It is expected the State will match Township/County funds, for a net effect of \$4 for every \$1 the township commits. Either way, the fact that we have funds set aside for this purpose enables us to move higher on the list for county and state farmland preservation funding. Some of the other townships that have also committed funds from their budget for this purpose are: Upper Saucon, Lower Milford, Upper Milford, Lower Macungie, Upper Macungie, and North Whitehall.
- \$6 Million dollars has been budgeted for farmland preservation from the County for the next 3 years.
- There are currently about 80 farms on the list, and 15-20 are expected to be preserved with this year's County/State Funding.
- Horse farms are eligible, but not if the farm is used for Race Horse Breeding.
- Installment payments, instead of a one-time payment, can be requested.

Also presented were the latest figures on the tax expenditures for the various parcel types:

If you have 1 acre of land that you are paying \$1.00 of taxes on (as an example):

- Residential land costs the township \$1.22 -\$1.27
- Farmland or open space costs between \$0.17- \$0.59
- Commercial cost \$0.99 of the \$1.00!!

So, farmland saves your tax dollars, because, as the saying goes...

"Cows don't go to School!"

Many thanks to the County Commissioners and the Lehigh County Farmland Preservation board for their commitment to preserving our farms!

PS... Heidelberg Township currently has 46 farms, and 3,309 acres Preserved!!!

Steven Bachman, *Chairman*

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Hello from the Zoning Office

It's hard to believe it has been almost two years since I started here and this is the third newsletter I put together. I am so blessed to live in this beautiful place and to have the opportunity to help my community through my work here. The educational courses and extra responsibilities I have taken on have really helped me to be able to better help residents when they have questions or need help. It is a challenge to juggle everything, but it's worth it.

In January I received an Outstanding Planning Education Achievement award for having completed the Certified Citizen Planner series of courses and a course in Zoning Administration. As the Alternate Zoning Officer I am still working closely with our Zoning Officer, Christopher Noll of Keystone Consulting Engineers, and we have worked things out so that in most cases we are able to speed up our processes and reduce costs.



For several years there was a permit extension law that kept most permits from expiring. That law has ended and as of June 30, 2017 the permits that had benefited from the law will expire. Permits now expire one year from the issue date and in certain cases they can be renewed one time. I understand that the permitting process can seem overwhelming, but it doesn't have to be! The best advice I can give residents is to ask lots of questions BEFORE making a purchase or scheduling work. DO NOT rely on realtors, or anyone else's word on whether or not something is allowed or requires a permit. Laws are different depending on the area of the township you live in and they can change from time to time. In most cases your contractor can help you with the permitting process, but again, do not rely on their word because things may have changed. Please feel free to call me at the Township Zoning Office, or you can call Chris Noll, Zoning and Sewage Enforcement Officer with any questions you may have. Sherwin Miller our Building Code Official at Code Master Inspection service can answer questions about the building code; when a building permit is needed; and what plans need to be submitted for a project. Contact information is listed in the directory at the end of this newsletter or on the township website.

In addition to my other duties, I have been working on keeping the township website www.heidelberghigh.org up to date with helpful information, local events, downloadable permit applications, and the township code of ordinances. I recently met with Becky Bradley and Amanda Raudenbush from Lehigh Valley Planning Commission to discuss the challenges of rural townships and our township. One of the challenges we discussed was how to give property owners more options for generating income, while still maintaining our rural character. Preserving farmland is extremely important, and by giving land owners more options it will help make farmland preservation more appealing and viable. I am also helping to update our emergency management plan and much more. Please check out the Township website from time to time, and contact me with community events and/or ideas for the website or newsletter. Have a great summer!

Dawn Didra ~ ddidra@ptd.net

SHARE THE LOVE: MAKE SURE YOUR DOG IS LICENSED

Dogs have often been referred to as man's best friend.

They are the first ones to greet you at the door and are happy to sit next to you while you read or catch up on the daily news. They are more than companions. They become members of our families.

That unconditional love is something they always give, and one way we can show that same love in return is by having them licensed.

The state Department of Agriculture and its Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement reminds Pennsylvanians that the best way to protect their dog is by ensuring that he has a current license. In fact, a license increases the likelihood that, if separated, you'll be reunited. Therefore, licensing is not only the right thing to do, but it's also the law.

Licensing makes sense

The dog license application is simple to complete and only requires owner contact information and details about the dog being licensed, such as name, age, breed, and color. County treasurers, state dog wardens, animal control officers, and shelters use this information primarily to identify lost dogs and get them home safely.



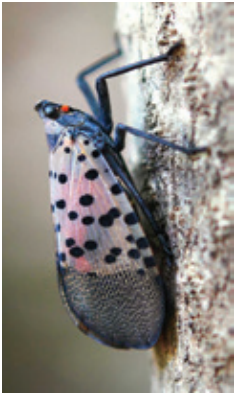
PEST ALERT

Spotted Lanternfly, *Lycorma delicatula*, attacks grapes, apples, pines and stone fruits. It often attaches to the bark of Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), an invasive species similar to Sumac that can be found around parking lots or along tree lines. Adults often cluster in groups and lay egg masses containing 30-50 eggs that adhere to flat surfaces including tree bark. Freshly laid egg masses have a grey waxy mud-like coating, while hatched eggs appear as brownish seed-like deposits in four to seven columns about an inch long. Trees attacked by the Spotted Lanternfly will show a grey or black trail of sap down the trunk. For more information about the Spotted Lanternfly, visit www.agriculture.pa.gov and search "lanternfly."

If you have a business in the quarantine area and would like to know how to safely move out of the quarantine, please contact PDA Region 7 at (610) 489-1003. They can discuss inspections, certificates and compliance agreements.



Residents are encouraged to watch for the Spotted Lanternfly and offered the following suggestions:



- During the months of July through December, when the adults are active, conduct a quick inspection of your vehicle any time you move in or near a quarantine area, to find any spotted lanternfly hitchhikers.
- If you see eggs on trees or other smooth outdoor surfaces: Scrape them off, double bag them and throw them in the garbage, or place the eggs in alcohol or hand sanitizer to kill them.
- If you are in parks or forested areas, check yourself before you leave. Sometimes the insect may hitch a ride on you.
- If you park in a tree line check your vehicle. The insect may fall into the bed of a truck, toolbox, etc. The spotted lanternfly is not a strong flier, but can be transported by people and vehicles.



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RECYCLING

As most of you are aware, Heidelberg Township has removed the recycling bins, and no longer accepts most recyclables. Information on where to take your recycling is below, and can also be found on the Township website. Heidelberg Township has a solid waste ordinance that makes recycling mandatory for residents.

Do you have garbage pick-up? Contact your garbage hauler for information on their recycling pick-up schedule. By law all garbage haulers must also pick up recycling. Most garbage haulers require that you provide your own recycling bin. This can be a container you already own that is clearly marked for Recycling, or Home Depot (and possibly other retailers) sells 32 gallon recycling containers with lids for about \$16.00.

Heidelberg Township Office is a collection site for rechargeable batteries and cell phones! Batteries and cell phones will be accepted during regular business hours and before and after meetings. Each battery must be sealed in its own bag (also available at the Township office) before dropping it in the collection box. Please contact the Township office with any questions

The Lynn Township Transfer Station at 6450 Scholler Road, New Tripoli accepts recycling from non-residents for a cost of \$1.00 per trip. It is open Friday and Saturday from 8 am-3 pm. They do not accept garbage from non-residents. For more information please call Lynn Township at 610-298-2645

The Whitehall Township Recycling Drop off Center at the corner of Eberhart Rd. and Range Rd. is open to all Lehigh County residents. The Drop-Off Center will take comingled recyclables, as well as: scrap metal, four tires without rims, clothes and textiles, telephone books, etc. For more information go to www.whitehalltownship.com/recycling. **The Center is for residential use only and is NOT to be used by businesses!** **OPERATING HOURS:** Tuesday and Thursday - 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Saturdays - 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The Recycling Drop-Off Center is closed on holidays and during periods of inclement weather.

Antiques: or old architectural items, claw foot tubs, radiators, moldings and trim, doors, hardware, light fixtures: Allentown Preservation League, 1518 W. Walnut St., Allentown: 610-437-1989

Bicycles: Community Bike Works: 235 N. Madison, Allentown: 610-434-1140; or see www.communitybikeworks.org

Electronics (TVs, computers, microwaves, etc); CDs, DVDs, other techno trash; Fluorescent & Mercury bulbs, ballast, batteries, : A.E.R.C. Recycling Solutions., 2591 Mitchell Ave., Allentown: 610-797-7608; or see their drop-off Friday program information or www.aerc.com. GER Solutions at 795 Roble Road, Allentown, PA 18109: 610-443-1776 also accepts electronic recyclables, for pricing and more information go to www.gersolutions.net



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Packing peanuts (clean): Shipping Plus, Schneeksville: 610-799-6610

Slate, bricks, blocks, rock, concrete: Crusherete: 610-865-1898

Styrofoam (clean, dry, no peanuts or meat trays) and Paper Shredding (free, call for details): Liberty Recycling, 526 N 3rd St., Allentown: 610-433-0129

Allentown Recycling Center: 1400 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., Allentown (610-437-8729, www.allentownrecycles.org) will recycle clean glass bottles and jars, aluminum cans, tin and bimetal cans, cardboard, office paper and magazines, newspapers, paperboard, telephone books, good used clothing, hardback and paperback books, #1 and #2 plastics, scrap metals. Open 24 hours a day.

Bethlehem Recycling Center: Illick's Mill Rd. between Schoenersville Rd. and Center St., Bethlehem (610-865-7082, www.bethlehem-pa.gov/recycle/) will recycle clean glass bottles and jars, aluminum cans, tin and bimetal cans, aerosol cans, cardboard, paperboard, office paper, glossy magazines, newspapers, Styrofoam, plastics #1 through #7, telephone books, clothing and textiles, hardback and paperback books, scrap metals. Open M-F 9AM-5PM, Saturday 9AM-4PM, and Sunday 11AM-4PM.

Paints, chemicals, antifreeze, smoke detectors, hazardous waste: Lehigh County Hazardous Household Waste: Call 610-782-3073 for information.



Become a Girl Scout Volunteer!

Girl Scouts in the Four Meadows Service Unit is looking for volunteers and new scouts! As a Girl Scout volunteer, you'll introduce girls to new experiences that show them they are capable of more than they ever imagined. You'll be their cheerleader, guide, and mentor helping them develop skills and confidence that will last long after the meeting is over. Whether you can give a day, a few weeks, or the whole year, it all starts with you. Become the role model they will always remember. For more information about volunteering or to sign your daughter up for Girl Scouts, contact Brittany, bsedler@gsep.org, 267-308-4983.

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BOY SCOUT FLAG RETIREMENT AND ASHES TO GRAVES PROGRAM



On Saturday May 13, 2017 at 11:00 AM at the Schnecksville Fire Company Pavilion Boy Scout Troop 57 of Neffs, led by Scoutmaster Rob Drews, conducted part one of their two part annual Flag Retirement and Ashes to Graves Program with the help of the VFW Post 12099 of Allentown and the historic Allentown Flag Day Association. The Scouts of Troop 57 performed and explained the thirteen folds of the flag. Flag Retirement followed in their incinerator which was an Eagle Scout project of former Troop member Paul Schappel.

For the Scouts of Troop 57 this Flag Retirement Ceremony is important for several reasons beyond the proper disposal of our tattered Old Glory. It is designed to honor the history of the flag from the first stitch through its final ash. Second, it gives the scouts an opportunity to demonstrate good citizenship in the community, and to thank all Veterans who served our country. In attendance for both parts of the program were Veterans from some of the local VFW posts as well as Veterans from the American Flag Day Association. Troop 57 began their retirement ceremony with an invocation led by scout Elias Miller which was then followed by the retiring of one of their own flags while scout Dylan Kuntz played Taps. This was then followed with continued retirement of all damaged flags that were collected throughout the year or are brought to the program. All in attendance were given the opportunity to participate.

The second part of the program, the "Ashes to Graves" Ceremony, was originated by Troop 57 and WWII and Korean Veteran Joseph Zeller back in 2008. This concept of returning ashes of retired flags to Veteran Memorials, and the graves of Veterans was never done before. Every year this ceremony gains more popularity and grows. Over the last few years, ashes were even spread at the War Memorials in Washington D.C., Antietam National Battlefield, and Veterans graves in Massachusetts. This year's "Ashes to Graves" ceremony was held immediately following the Flag Retirement at the Neffs Union UCC Church Cemetery. Ashes will also again be spread by the scouts at the Antietam National Battlefield during their Fall Trip.

Troop 57 will hold both the Flag Retirement and Ashes to Graves program next year on on Saturday May 12th, 2018. The day will begin with the retirement program to be held at the Schnecksville Fire Company Pavilion at 11AM and then immediately following, at 1PM, their Ashes to Graves Program where ashes from the retired flags will be spread at the Neffs Union UCC Church Cemetery.



The Independent Order of Odd Fellows is a religiously and politically independent fraternal order. Founded in 1819 by Thomas Wildey in Baltimore, Maryland. IOOF is a non-profit organization that provides aid to various & local causes.

Call Jim at 610-972-7994

For membership information: www.GLPAioof.org

GREATER NORTHERN LEHIGH CHAMBER CELEBRATES ANNUAL MEMBER APPRECIATION PICNIC

WHEN: Wednesday, July 19, 2017

WHERE: Walnutport Canal Park Pavilion – Lehigh Street in Walnutport

TIME: 5:30pm-8:00pm

COST: Event is **FREE** to Chamber Members! Future members pay only \$15



The Greater Northern Lehigh Chamber is proud to present the annual Member Appreciation Picnic. Chamber members will gather for our membership appreciation summer picnic and mixer at the Walnutport Canal pavilion on July 19 from 5:30 until 8 p.m. to relax and unwind. The event is a great networking event as we say “thank you” to our members for a great year and swear in the new board members.

There will be games, music and of course terrific food for all registered attendees. Members will enjoy the peaceful surroundings along the canal while networking with fellow chamber members. This year we are excited to present two area non-profits: Northern Valley EMS and the Slatinton Public Library with monies raised throughout the year on their behalf. In addition, students receiving the first round of scholarships from the Greater Northern Lehigh Chamber will be on hand to receive their certificates. We invite each Business of the Month from the past year to attend and be recognized.



Picnic food and soft drinks will be provided thanks to our Picnic sponsors. If you wish to sponsor the picnic and the efforts of the Greater Northern Lehigh Chamber of Commerce, please contact Alice at (484) 274-2080.



About the Chamber: The Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce’s mission is to serve as the voice for business by continuously improving the economic climate and creating growth opportunities for the Greater Lehigh Valley region. We accomplish this through business-to-business networking events and marketing products, affinity programs and exclusive, money saving member benefits, training programs, government affairs initiatives and public policy advocacy, and community development enterprises. With nearly 5,000 members who employ more than 200,000 individuals, The Chamber is the largest in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and in the top ten nationwide.

PASTORIUS HOME ASSOCIATION, INC.

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MISSION STATEMENT: The Pastorius Home Association, Inc. seeks to preserve the German language, heritage and culture in America, promote American history and culture among Germans, operate the Pastorius Haus (Germany) and the Pastorius Center (USA), and encourage friendship between Americans and Germans through student and adult education, exchanges, travel and tours. The Pastorius Home Association, Inc., a 501©3 nonprofit organization, sponsors the Winter Vanquish Festival held annually at the Germansville Fire Hall.

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NORTHERN VALLEY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC.



Northern Valley Emergency Medical Services, Inc. (NOVA) is a not-for-profit organization. We provide community-based emergency medical services to Heidelberg, North Whitehall, and Washington Townships, as well as, portions of Lowhill Township, and to the Boroughs of Slatington and Walnutport. Every year our highly-trained paramedics and EMTs respond to more than 3,300 calls for help. Every year our highly-trained paramedics and EMTs respond to more than 3,400 calls for help. We cover our area out of three stations located at 2375 Levans Rd, Coplay, 524 W. Church St., Slatington, and 6272 PA Route 309, New Tripoli. The closest available unit will respond to the emergency call.

In addition to covering emergency calls, we also do standbys for Northwestern Lehigh and Northern Lehigh School districts for their football games and other sporting events as requested. We also do standbys for churches, bike races, marathons/5K's, and most any event that requires the presence of an ambulance.

The NOVA Auxiliary helps support the ambulance service by catering weddings, parties, and corporate events. The Auxiliary also hosts many events throughout the year. Upcoming events include a Chicken BBQ in July held at our main building, 2375 Levans Rd., Coplay, a shoefly pie sale in September, an apple dumpling sale in October, and the Thanksgiving sale, which includes Filling, Bacon Dressing, and Nut Breads in November. If you are interested in any of these events, please call 610-262-7749 for information or to place an order.

This year we are holding our first Community Health Festival. Please join us on Wednesday, August 16th from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM at our main building. Area health providers will be offering free health screenings and vendors will be present displaying healthy lifestyles products. There will be free giveaways, a basket raffle and the NOVA Auxiliary will have lunch items available to purchase. Admission is free.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!!

Venisa Ustynoski



On October 20th, 1989, Venisa Ustynoski was involved in a very serious car accident at the base of the Blue Mountain on PA Route 309. Venisa suffered partial paralysis and her difficult recovery took more than a year. On the day of the accident, Northwestern Ambulance Corp responded to the scene. Two brothers, Dennis and Larry Hartman were part of the crew and provided lifesaving care to Venisa.

After 27 years, Edwina (Ustynoski) Genetti, Venisa's mother, is still grateful for the care given to her daughter in her time of need. She located Dennis and Larry and made a trip to meet them. Edwina expressed her appreciation by making a monetary donation to Northern Valley Emergency Medical Services, Inc. (NOVA) in honor of the care given to her daughter.

Edwina indicated that Venisa is fully recovered from her injuries and is living in Florida. Dennis and Larry plan to make a trip to Florida and meet Venisa.

NOVA contracted with Heidelberg Township in February of 2015 to provide emergency care to Heidelberg Township which was previously served by Northwestern Ambulance Corp.

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Senator Pat Browne

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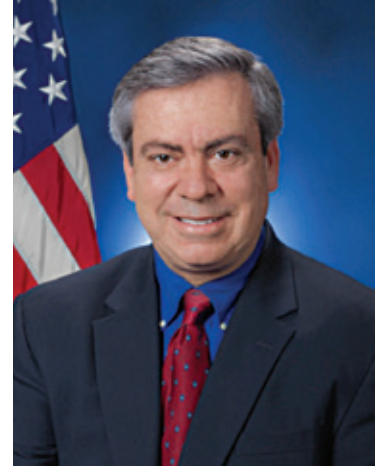
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*Senator Pat Browne
Appropriations Committee
Chairman*

PENNDOT WILL NO LONGER ISSUE VEHICLE REGISTRATION STICKERS

Beginning on December 31, 2016, PennDOT will no longer be issuing registration stickers for Pennsylvania Drivers. Act 89, which became law in November of 2013, provided for the elimination of vehicle registration stickers and will result in significant cost savings for taxpayers. Law enforcement agencies have electronic access to PennDOT's database from their patrol vehicles, which allows them to verify if a vehicle's registration is valid. In addition, police departments use license plate reader technology to efficiently validate registrations. Constituents still need to register their vehicles, and will still receive registration cards in the mail.



Bringing State Government to You

By Rep. Gary Day (R-Lehigh/Berks)

I believe that good and consistent communication is one of the most important factors in success, especially in terms of governing. And that's why I strive to keep in good communication with all of you, the residents of Heidelberg Township.

No matter what the state issue – road and bridge projects, questions about pending legislation, concerns about state agencies or ways to try and address your most pressing problems – my district staff and I are here to serve you.

You can visit my office in the Star Plaza, located at 6299 Route 309, Suite 302, in New Tripoli, or you can call us at 610-760-7082. I also operate a Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/RepGaryDay and a variety of forms and applications for state programs and services is available on my website at www.RepGaryDay.com.

To help you or your loved ones with state programs and services, my highly trained and knowledgeable staff can help with a wide range of services -- from the most complicated PennDOT paperwork to applications for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and the PACE and PACENET prescription drug assistance programs.

My staff is also available to help with obtaining birth and death certificates, copies of state legislation and questions about many other programs and services. We also have a number of seasonal publications available: trout stocking guides in the spring, vacation guides for the summer and hunting information in the fall. We also try and keep on top of the latest scams and frauds so if there is something about which you have a question, please call us. If we don't have an answer, we will point you in the right direction.

More information about our services is available online at www.RepGaryDay.com, but if you have any question at all about state government, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

Also, many ideas for legislation comes from residents like you, because you are the ones who deal with life's everyday situations. I encourage you to reach out to me if you see an issue and have an idea about how we can best address it.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your voice in state government.

State Representative Gary W. Day Serving Lehigh and Berks Counties

What My District Office Can Do For You:

- Driver's license and vehicle registration applications and renewals
- Assistance with PennDOT paperwork (lost cards, changes, corrections, special registration plates, vanity plates and temporary placards for disabled persons)
- PACE and PACENET applications for seniors
- Property Tax and Rent Rebate applications
- Voter registration forms and absentee ballot applications
- State tax forms
- Student aid applications
- Free state maps
- Copies of legislation
- Tours of the State Capitol
- Referrals to agencies to resolve state-related matters

Save the Date:

Rep. Gary Day's Senior Fair

Thursday, October 5, 2017 • 10AM-1PM
Kutztown Fire Company
310 Noble St, Kutztown



Reducing Water Pollution

Tips to manage your stormwater. When it rains in developed areas, rainwater washes pollutants such as fertilizers and pesticides from lawns, chemicals and heavy metals from paved surfaces, and sediment from bare soils into storm drains.

Storm drains lead to streams and rivers, and these pollutants not only harm fish and other aquatic life, but can also enter our drinking water supplies, increasing treatment costs. The increased amount of impervious surfaces such as driveways, roads, and roofs also cause larger quantities of rainwater to drain to our streams at a rapid rate.

Even lawns growing on compacted soil can be considered impervious if water cannot penetrate the ground. The higher volume and speed of the water leads to flash flooding, erosion, and does not provide any groundwater recharge. Comparatively, in a forested area, the majority of rainfall soaks into the ground and recharges our aquifers.



What can you in your garden do to make a difference?

Don't guess, take a soil test

Take a soil test to determine what nutrients your plants need. Plants and lawns may not require as much fertilizer as you think.

Limit your use of lawn fertilizers, herbicides and insecticides

Reduce the size of your lawn by creating beds of shrubs and perennials. These landscape beds allow water to penetrate the soil and recharge groundwater. You can also reduce your need for herbicides by mowing your grass at 3 to 4 inches. High mowing discourages weeds because higher grass shades out weeds.



Use natural fertilizers and time it right

Use compost or slow release fertilizer on lawn areas; they release nutrients slowly. Leave grass clippings on your lawn to compost naturally. Avoid fertilizing your lawn before a heavy rain to prevent runoff of excess fertilizer. Sweep fertilizer off paved areas and rinse spreaders on the lawn so that fertilizer can be absorbed by the grass rather than being lost to runoff.

Skip the pavement and use permeable hardscaping

For decks, patios and pathways, check out porous paving options like wood, stone, loose bricks, and paving blocks that allow water to soak into the ground. You can also install green roofs on your garden sheds.

Plant trees

When it rains, trees act like giant umbrellas, intercepting rainfall in their canopies, reducing the amount of water that goes into storm drains. Their deep roots allow rainwater to infiltrate back into the soil where it can be used by plants.

Water wisely

Avoid over-watering lawns and use soaker hoses or drip irrigation in garden beds to put water where it is needed and reduce evaporation. Improve your soil with compost which holds moisture and use natural, dye-free mulch in planting beds. Plant your garden when less water is needed – early spring and fall are the best times to plant. Avoid planting

during a drought when you have to water more.

Disconnect your downspout

If your downspouts are connected to your sanitary sewer pipe, it is best to disconnect them and redirect the water from your roof to a lawn or landscaped area where water can be infiltrate into soils, or be captured in a rain barrel or cistern and used to water plants when things are dry. Make sure the lawn or landscaped area is large enough and sloped away from the home so that water does not pool near the building foundation.

Build a rain garden

Install a rain garden to collect stormwater from your rooftop or driveway. These gardens capture and filter rainwater, allowing it to recharge ground water rather than running off you property to pick up additional pollutants. Rain garden plants are chosen to withstand periodic inundation as well as drier weather.

Plant your stream banks, don't mow them

If you have a stream or a small creek running through your property, plant native trees, and shrubs along your stream banks. Mowed lawn grass has a very short root system, while trees and shrubs have deep roots that help hold the bank in place, and prevent erosion. These deep rooted plants also reduce downstream flooding, filter out pollutants and nutrients and improve fish and aquatic habitat with shade.

Plant Native

Native plants tend to be better adapted to our climate, weather patterns, and soils. Most native species are able to withstand periods of drought, once established, and do not require supplemental watering. Native species also provide habitat for native butterflies, bees and hummingbirds.

Dispose of household chemicals properly

Keep soaps and cleaners out of storm drains where they can enter streams and rivers. Reduce the amount of deicers and toxic chemicals used around the home. Dispose of these chemicals properly.

Learn more

Contact the Master Gardeners in your county to arrange for a program on Stormwater Solutions, Designing and Building a Rain Garden, Rain Garden Plants, and Rain Barrels.

Link: <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/gardening/eco-friendly/reducing-water-pollution>

Rain Gardens - the Basics



Rain gardens are a simple and resourceful way to use the stormwater from your gutters productively as a garden.

In its most simple design, a rain garden is a type of garden strategically located so that it can intercept storm water and allow it to soak into the soil. You can select the location of your rain garden by first taking a good look at your property and determining where your storm water goes, where it runs off, where there may be wet spots in your yard. Most residential rain gardens are located near the house since the greatest amount of storm water on residential properties comes from the roof and the driveway. Rain gardens can be located near downspouts, next to the driveway or sidewalks, or out in the yard. You can allow the rain to naturally collect in the rain garden or you can direct storm water from the downspout or gutter with a length of plastic pipe. You can also bury the connection pipe, just make sure you do it so the water still flows correctly from your gutters (you don't want to cause water to back up!). The rain garden should be located at least 10 feet from the house (yours or you neighbors) to avoid any possibility of the creating moisture problems to the house or basement.

Plan your rain garden so that its deepest part is about six inches. This will allow the rain garden to drain within a proper time frame. This depth will provide a good water regime for the plants you'll be using. Although there are plants that can withstand deep water (in excess of 8 inches), a six inch depth is well in the range that water tolerant plants can withstand. With this depth you won't need to worry about drowning your plants or about the water standing for

too long. To begin your construction, you will need to select your area and begin making a shallow depression. Remove the topsoil and store it separately from other soil material (you'll want to put it back after your finished excavating). Then you will need to loosen the subsoil in your garden. Go ahead, get in there and turn up that soil! The soil does not have to be smooth, and you don't need an even grade throughout the garden. Rather, you should have areas of varying depth, ranging from ground surface level (0 inches) up to 6 inches below the ground. This way, when it rains the water will flow into the various "holes" first and will slowly fill up the other areas. Some areas of your rain garden may have only an inch or so of water and some might have six inches!

Next, return the topsoil and amend with compost if needed. Remember that clay soil is not ideal as it inhibits drainage. You may need to add compost to lighten the soil if you have heavy soil. Ideally, the water from your rain garden should drain within 12 hours or a within 24 hours at the most. This length of time will ensure that mosquitoes will not breed in your rain garden. When you are done planting you can add a layer of hardwood (resists rotting better than pine bark) mulch if you want. The mulch may shift and move around during rain events. There is a bit of maintenance at first, while the plants are getting established, but no more than any other type of garden! Remember to weed out undesirable plants. Instead of cutting back the foliage once the plants are hit by frost, leave the whole plant as a seed source and shelter for over-wintering birds and butterflies. In spring, cut the foliage back to allow for new growth.

The rain garden can be designed in a three zone approach: the lowest zone is the area that will hold water the most often. The middle zone will have water (up to a few inches) but will drain more quickly. The upper zone is the transition zone between your rain garden and your non-garden area. This area will only receive water infrequently when there are very heavy rains and this area will dry out first. Remember that the rain garden will dry out between rain events and the plants you use must be able to withstand varying conditions.

Calculate Your Stormwater Yield:

Follow this formula to get an estimate of the amount of storm

continued on page 14



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water runoff your roof produces each year:

- 1 inch of rain on a 1000 square foot roof yield 623 gallons of water.
- To calculate the amount of stormwater your roof yields, take the square footage of your house and multiply by 623. Then divide that number by 1,000.
- To calculate the average yearly amount of stormwater generated by your roof multiply the number above by the average amount of annual rainfall in our area. (Audubon, Sept. 2003 and Cumberland Conservation District 2006)

The average rainfall amount in our area is about 42 inches. That's a lot of stormwater, isn't it? Think about how much water can go back into our groundwater table by using rain gardens!

Did You Know?

- Five minutes of running the hose uses 25 gallons of water. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean decks, sidewalks, and other paved areas.
- As much as 30% of the water used can be lost to evaporation by watering lawn during midday. If watering lawn, water during the coolest part of the day (preferably morning) and never on windy days.
- Grass turf requires 30-50% more water than shrubs and other groundcovers. Limit grass areas and use trees, shrubs, and other native plants that typically require less water.
- An average uncovered pool loses about an inch of water a week because of evaporation. Cover pools to prevent evaporation. (Cumberland County Conservation District, 2006)

Link: <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/gardening/eco-friendly/rain-gardens/rain-gardens>

Created by Lauri Danko, March 2005, Revised June 2006

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Penn State Cooperative Extension Service in York County, 112 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402-9041



Know what's **below.**
Call before you dig.

Before You Dig – What is 811?

811 is the phone number you call before digging to protect yourself and others from unintentionally hitting underground utility lines.

There are millions of miles of buried utilities beneath the surface of the earth that are vital to everyday living like water, electricity and natural gas.

811 is the federally designated call before you dig number that helps homeowners and professionals avoid damaging these vital utilities. When you make the free call to 811 a few days before you dig, you'll help

prevent unintended consequences such as injury to you or your family, damage to your property, utility service outages to the entire neighborhood and potential fines and repair costs.

Do I need to call 811?

Yes! Any type of digging requires a call. Building a deck? Planting a tree? Installing a fence or mailbox? 811 is the number you should call before you begin any project.

Making the call

Call 811 from anywhere in the country a few days prior to digging, and your call will be routed to your local one call center. Tell the operator where you're planning to dig. Your affected local utility companies will be notified about your intent to dig and will send locators to your dig site to mark the approximate location of buried lines with flags or paint.

Remember: **Always** call 811 before you start any digging project! You can help avoid injury, expense, embarrassment and a very inconvenient day without critical services like electricity, internet or phone.

When can I begin my digging project? – Wait for the marks! Utilities will mark their buried lines on your dig site.

Most locate crews will arrive to mark your dig site with paint or flags within a few days and will make sure you know where to avoid digging so you don't hit buried utilities. Remember the depths of utility lines may vary and there may be multiple utility lines in the same area. Be sure to check your state laws for specific information.



What's next? – Digging Safely

You called before digging, waited for your lines to be marked, and now it's time to roll up your sleeves and get to work! Make sure to always dig carefully around the marks, not on them. Some utility lines may be buried at a shallow depth, and an unintended shovel thrust can bring you right back to square one - facing potentially dangerous and/or costly consequences. Don't forget that erosion or root structure growth may shift the locations of your utility lines, so remember to call again each time you are planning a digging job. Safe digging is no accident!

***This article is taken from the call811.com website**

NORTHWESTERN RECREATION COMMISSION

The Northwestern Recreation Commission meets monthly to oversee the Northwestern Community Park which is located directly across from the Northwestern Lehigh High School, and behind Katie's Restaurant & the New Tripoli Plaza. The Recreation Commission Board is comprised of seven voting members, one representative from each of the four Northwestern School District Townships, (Heidelberg, Lynn, Lowhill & Weisenberg), two school board members, and one member –at- large.



The officers for 2017 are:

President: Don Link (member at large)
Vice President: Justin Smith (Lynn Twp)
Secretary: Todd Hernandez (School Board)
Treasurer: Christie Steigerwalt (not a voting member)

The park employs one part time employee, Jim Hughes, who keeps the park looking great, and operating safely.

The Northwestern Community Park is open to the public during daylight hours. Although the sports fields are usually scheduled for the various Northwestern Youth Athletic Association (NYAA) sports teams, these fields are also open for community use when not used by the NYAA. The fields may also be reserved for various other school or sports affiliations for tournaments and rehearsals, etc. These reservations and facility requests are scheduled at the monthly Recreation Commission meetings.

The park has a 5K walking trail mapped out for your walking and running enjoyment, and has a Lions Pavilion at the lower playground that is free to residents, and can be reserved for group gatherings by filling out a facilities request form on the following NW school district web page: <http://www.nwlehighsd.org/community.cfm?subpage=1987051>

Plans are in the works for a “paved” walking trail through the park as well as an additional “Batting cage” for Baseball and softball.

Our annual “A Night in The Country” event is coming up on August 19th from 4:00-10:00 pm (rain date is August 20st). This event offers one of the greatest fireworks displays in the valley, and brings together many local businesses and community service organizations for a one night blowout that is a must to attend. There is something for everyone, including a car cruise, fire fighter competition, cow flop, live music, Chinese auction, bingo, great food, and much more!

The Northwestern Recreation Commission thanks you for observing the park rules. The most noted rules are: NO Smoking, NO Alcohol, NO Pets, and NO Parking on the Grass. These rules can be found posted on signs throughout the park.

Please enjoy our facilities!

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Logos for various brands like Grundfos, Goulds Pumps, and others are shown at the bottom.

4-H... That's Just for the Farm Kids.

Wrong! 4-H is more than cows and plows! 4-H is a positive youth development organization that empowers young people to reach their full potential. A vast community of more than 6 million youth and adults working together for positive change, 4-H enables America's youth to emerge as leaders through hands-on learning, research-based 4-H youth programs and adult mentorship, in order to give back to their local communities.

4-H is a fun program where you get to "Learn by Doing." All youth between the ages of 5 and 19 are invited to join! While the roots of 4-H are in the rural farming communities, 4-H has branched out to all communities with a wide range of interest areas. In 4-H you can go to camp, build a robot, start a business, take part in an international exchange, raise an animal, create a blog, give a presentation, participate in a community service project, develop your resume, practice interview skills, learn about healthy eating habits, and build lifelong friendships. Member expenses are minimal and vary by state and club; but be assured that this is a low cost program with a high experience return.

During the late 1800's, researchers at public universities saw that adults in the farming community did not readily accept the new agricultural discoveries being developed on university campuses. However, they found that young people were open to new thinking and would "experiment" with new ideas and share their experiences and successes with adults. In this way, rural youth programs became an innovative way to introduce new agriculture technology to their communities.

The seed of the 4-H idea of practical and "hands-on" learning came from the desire to make public school education more connected to country life. Early programs tied both public and private resources together for the purpose of helping rural youth. Building community clubs to help solve these agricultural challenges was a first step toward youth learning more about the industries in their community.

Today, 4-H has an expansive reach, serving youth in rural, urban and suburban communities in every state across the nation. Youth currently in 4-H are tackling the nation's top issues, from global food security, climate change and sustainable energy to childhood obesity and food safety. 4-H out-of-school programming, in-school enrichment programs, clubs and camps also offer a wide variety of

science, engineering, technology and applied math educational opportunities -- from agricultural and animal sciences to rocketry, robotics, environmental protection and computer science

-- to improve the nation's ability to compete in key scientific fields and take on the leading challenges of the 21st century.

4-H clubs are run by screened adult volunteers. Most leaders volunteer because they enjoy working with youth. Many have a background with 4-H or the project area, such as horses. However, experience is never required! Volunteers are always welcome to find something to meet their needs and interest areas within 4-H. Parents, grandparents, professionals -- all with an interest in helping youth are welcome to apply.

The numerous 4-H Youth Development Programs across the region welcome you to get a glimpse of what 4-H is all about. Take time to participate in an upcoming event, visit a local summer fair or attend any of the 4-H events to connect with other youth and adults and learn more about what 4-H has to offer. Connect with the 4-H community as a 4-H member or as a volunteer today! Contact the Lehigh County Extension Office to find a club at 610-391-9840 or visit: extension.psu.edu/4-h/counties/lehigh.

Upcoming Lehigh County 4-H events open to the public are listed below. To join a year-round club or a short-term SPIN (SPecial INterest) club, contact the 4-H office or visit the website for options.

- Visit us at the Schnecksville Fair- June 20-24
- 4-H Camp Shehaqua in Hickory Run State Park- June 26-30 (preregistration required)
- Horse Show at Berks County 4-H Center- July 8
- 4-H Farm to Table Day Camp- July 17- 21 (preregistration required)
- Regional Horse Show at Montgomery County 4-H Center- August 26 & 27
- Visit us at the Allentown Fair- August 29- September 4
- Buy an animal to fill your freezer- September 2

Information adopted from: <http://www.4-h.org>.





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HEIDELBERG UNION CHURCH

HEIDELBERG UNION CHURCH is the oldest church in the township, serving our community for over 277 years. Their outreach includes programs for all ages, youth through retirement age; support for local food banks; the Allentown Soup Kitchen and their traditional Sunday services. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Pastor Karen Yonney has been serving as the United Church of Christ pastor for almost 12 years. Sunday services are currently at 8:30 a.m. Starting September 10th, service time will be 11:00 a.m.

Currently, the Lutheran congregation is served by The Reverend Virginia Goodwin, Interim Pastor since September 1, 2016. Services are currently at 11:00 a.m., but starting June 18th, their service time will be at 10:15 a.m. Starting September 10th, their service time will be at 8:30 a.m.

Union YOUTH FAITH FORMATION (PreK through 8th grade) and COFFEE AND CONVERSATION currently meet from 9:45-10:45 a.m. During the summer, Youth Faith Formation and Coffee and Conversation won't meet, but will resume meeting on September 10th.

- Upcoming Sunday Union Services held at 10:15 a.m. are: Sunday, June 25th; Sunday, July 2nd; Sunday, July 16th; Sunday, August 20th.
- Upcoming Sunday Union Services held at 11:00 a.m. are: October 8th, Confirmation Reunion; December 3rd, Christmas Handbell Concert; Sunday, December 17th, Faith Formation Program. Christmas Eve Services are on Sunday, December 24th, Christmas Eve Candlelight at 8:00 p.m.; Sunday, December 24th, Christmas Eve Communion at 11:00 p.m.

The church's address is 5187 Irvin Road, Slatington, PA (intersection of Church and Irvin Roads near Saegersville); church phone: 610-767-4740; U.C.C. Website: www.uccheidelberg.org; Lutheran Website: www.heidelberglutheran.org.



Christ's Church at Lowhill Food Pantry

4695 Lowhill Church Rd. • P.O. Box 115 • New Tripoli, Pa. 18066

Below is listed some basic information about the pantry.

If your family is in need of assistance, please call:

Pantry number (answering machine, generally): 610-298-2054

Cell number: 610-674-2440

Email address: info@lowhillfoodpantry.com

Website address: www.lowhillfoodpantry.com

Hours of operation:

Serving patrons: 1st Saturday of the month from 9-11 am
3rd Thursday from 4-6:30 pm

Seniors are the Wednesday before that Thurs. from 10-12 noon

Donations: Accepted by appointment and mutual availability.

The last Saturday of the month from 9-11 am.

The 3rd Tuesday of the month from 9-11 am.

** Monetary donations can be mailed to the address above **

Please remember, we are not on-site every day and donations, in any form, should not be dropped at the door. Please call first.

Drop Off Sites: New Tripoli Bank - both Madison St and Claussville Branches

ESSA Bank at Rt. 309 and 100.

If any business would like to become a "drop-off" site, please contact us.

The Blessings Shop: distributes NEW & GENTLY used clothes, toys, household items and is open the same hours as the pantry. The shop is located in the lower level of the new pantry addition. Please

call to see what donations they are currently accepting. Small household items are always welcome, as are gently worn jeans, and new socks and underwear.

We welcome volunteers!!! Please contact Barb at: lowhillfoodpantry@gmail.com

In case of inclement weather, an announcement of any closing will be available on Channel 69 / WFMZ—look for Christ's Church at Lowhill: **FOOD PANTRY**

**Help
Feed the
Hungry**



We WISH to thank the community for their tremendous support. Without the donations from our community and local businesses we could not be a success.

HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP



Kate Miller, Executive Director
Miracle League of the Lehigh Valley
484-707-5746-Cell • 610-769-2096-Office
kate@miracleleaguelv.org

Miracle League of the Lehigh Valley (MLLV) provides sports and opportunities for children with special needs. The largest program is baseball, which organizes nearly over 100 games from May until October. Games are played at the Jandl Family Park on a field specifically designed for the needs of our athletes.

Events and gatherings occur throughout the year that encourages children to be more active members of the community. All of our programming and events are made possible by the generosity of volunteers and donors.

The Miracle League of the Lehigh Valley Spring baseball and cheerleaders season is starting on Saturday April 1st. We are excited to start a new year of baseball at the Jandl Family Park located on 5858 Sell Rd Schnecksville, PA 187078.

Please call the office if you would like to donate or volunteer. Please go to our new website to get all the upcoming events. www.miracleleaguelv.org

Sincerely,
Kate Miller



THANK YOU

Heidelberg Township would like to thank the businesses and to recognize them each as supporters and cornerstones of our community. For it is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents.

Central Grange No. 1650



Central Grange No. 1650 meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the Germansville Fire Hall. A national, non-profit, family-oriented, community service organization, we are one of four Granges located in Lehigh County.

We hold fundraisers and proceeds are used to help those in need in our community. For over 60 years we baked shoo-fly pies as our major fundraiser. Recently, that project has been turned over to the Fire Co. to raise much needed revenue. We have helped families with medical bills, our local Ambulance Corps, Food Pantries, Community Easter Egg Hunt, Christmas Gifts to needy children, etc, and have given major donations to the Germansville Fire Company.

Membership is open to anyone age 14 through 100! There are activities for the entire family including contests in photographs, baking, sewing, and talent. The PA State Grange holds summer camps for our Juniors (age 5-14) and Youth (ages 14-21). There is also a Summer Festival weekend held at the Centre County Fairgrounds for all members to enjoy!

We have "American Values with Hometown Roots". Why not come out and join us! Chartered in 1915, we have just celebrated our 100th anniversary of service to our community. For more information, check out the PA State Grange website: www.pagrangegrange.org or call 610-767-4400.



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FORGOTTEN FELINES AND FIDOS

April 2016, members of the Heidelberg United Church of Christ's youth group volunteered their time to help with Forgotten Felines and Fidos, Inc. (FF&F) is a 100% volunteer based no kill animal shelter located in Germansville, PA. Volunteers are always welcome and appreciated. If you are interested in a rewarding experience working with animals at the shelter or assisting with fundraising activities, contact our Volunteer Coordinator Deb at 610-248-4592.

FF&F provides a low cost neuter and spay program for cats and dogs less than 35 pounds, which is supported by an experienced and caring team who are committed to providing quality care to the animals. Female house cats are spayed for \$65 and males \$55. FF&F implemented a Trap, Neuter and Return (TNR) program in an effort to help control the feral cat population. A female cat caught in a Have-a-Heart trap and brought to the shelter in the trap will be spayed for \$30 and a male will be neutered for \$20. All cats will be vaccinated for rabies and distemper. If you need financial assistance to have your personal house pet spayed or neutered, FF&F may be able to assist you if you are a qualified applicant based on specific guidelines.

FF&F also hosts a vaccination clinic at the shelter twice a year, in April and September, to benefit the community.

If you are interested in adopting a cat or kitten, FF&F's experienced volunteers can provide a pleasant adoption experience for a reasonable fee. Medical records are provided for all adopted pets and all cats will be microchipped. If you are 65 years or older and adopt one of our senior cats (age 8+) you may qualify for our "Seniors for Seniors" program. FF&F will provide food, cat litter and medical treatment to a qualified adopter. Fostering is a rewarding way to volunteer time by helping to socialize a cat or kitten(s) in a loving environment with the intention of preparing it for a forever home. For adoption or fostering related inquiries call Therese at 610-248-7399.

For more information on any of the services / programs discussed above please call the shelter at 610-760-9009. For more information on FF&F visit our website www.forgottenfelines.org or visit our Facebook page.

THE HEALING PLACE at Living Stone Fellowship – Where Miracles Happen

6925 Flint Hill Road (at the intersection of Long Court & Flint Hill Rd) New Tripoli, PA

We welcome our neighbors and friends in Heidelberg Township to join us for Celebration, Praise, Worship and Prayer each Sunday at 10AM. We are a non-denominational full gospel church that exists to share the love of God and His goodness to all.

THE HEALING PLACE at Livingston Fellowship was created:

- To glorify and worship God;
- To lead people to faith in Jesus Christ;
- To help people find their destiny and purpose in life;
- To disciple adults and children to maturity in the Word of God;
- To support people in their ministry and life's mission; and
- To bring them into the fellowship of a church family.

We offer many events and fellowship experiences for people to deepen their spiritual understanding of our Father's love and His goodness.

Join us for the following regularly scheduled events:

- Every Sunday Morning at 10AM – Sunday Celebration with Children's church
- 2nd Saturday of every month at 6PM – **Family and Community Outreach Night**
– FREE meal served to everyone. Along with a time of fellowship, great food, sharing, enjoying a family get together. Free Movies, Free Bingo and Games. Activities vary month to month. Everyone in the Community is invited. Just let us know you are coming so we make enough food – RSVP 610-298-3020
- 2nd & 4th Mondays at 6:30PM – **Gemstones** Women's Ministry
- 2nd & 4th Mondays at 6:30PM – Men's Bible Study Ministry
- 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:45PM – Family Prayer Time – **Where Miracles Happen**
- Every Sunday morning – Children's ministry in our Kids Zone classes for ages 3-14

Pastor Jean F. Masiko



CLEAN AND GREEN

WHAT IS CLEAN AND GREEN?

Clean and Green is a preferential tax assessment program that bases property taxes on use values rather than fair market values. This ordinarily results in a tax savings for landowners. The Pennsylvania General Assembly enacted the program in 1974 as a tool to encourage protection of the Commonwealth's valuable farmland, forestland and open spaces. Currently, more than 9.3 million acres are enrolled statewide.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS?

A property must be ten acres in size, and in Agricultural Use, Agricultural Reserve, or Forest Reserve. Agricultural Use applications may be less than 10 acres in size if the property is capable of generating at least \$2,000 annually in farm income.

MAY I SELL OR DIVIDE MY PROPERTY WITHOUT HAVING TO PAY ROLLBACK TAXES?

The Act allows for two types of divisions or conveyances: "Split-offs" and "Separations." A split-off is a division, by conveyance or other action of the owner, of land, into two or more tracts, for use of constructing a residence. No more than two acres may be split-off per year except if the municipality requires a minimum three-acre subdivision to construct the residence. Cumulative split-offs may never exceed 10 acres, or 10% of the total land originally enrolled, the lesser of the two. Rollback taxes would be due only with respect to the land split-off. Separation is a division, by conveyance or other action of the owner, of land into two or more

tracts of land that continue to be in Agricultural Use, Agricultural Reserve, or Forest Reserve. The tracts must usually be at least 10 acres in size and continue to meet the qualifications. No rollback taxes would be due.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR CLEAN AND GREEN?

Please contact your county tax assessment office to request an application.

WHAT IS THE DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR CLEAN AND GREEN?

The application deadline is June 1 of each year, in order to be considered for the following tax year. The deadline may be extended to October 15 in the year of a reassessment.

MUST I RE-APPLY ANNUALLY FOR CLEAN AND GREEN?

Once enrolled, a landowner does not need to reapply. Landowners must, however, notify their county tax assessment office if the status of their enrolled land changes.

CONTACT US

For further information or to request an application, please contact your local county tax assessment office.

*this article is from the PA Department of Agriculture website

PLAYGROUND SAFETY

A quick checklist for parents

Place this list in a prominent area of your home for quick reference. Then, before your children head out the door for the playground, check that:

☐ **Supervision is present, but strings and ropes aren't.**

Adult presence is needed to watch for potential hazards, observe, intercede and facilitate play when necessary. Strings on clothing or ropes used for play can cause accidental strangulation if caught on equipment.

☐ **All children play on Age-appropriate equipment.**

Preschoolers, ages 2-5, and children ages 5 -12, are developmentally different and need different equipment located in separate areas to keep the playground safe and fun for all.

☐ **Falls to surface are cushioned.**

Nearly 70 percent of all playground injuries are related to falls to the surface. Acceptable surfaces include hardwood fiber/mulch, pea gravel, sand and synthetic materials such as poured-in-place, rubber mats or tiles. Playgrounds surfaces should not be concrete, asphalt, grass, blacktop, packed dirt or rocks.

☐ **Equipment is safe.**

Check to make sure the equipment is anchored safely in the ground, all equipment pieces are in good working order, S-hooks are entirely closed, bolts are not protruding, there are no exposed footings, etc.



Checklist is from the National Program for Playground Safety (NPPS) at www.uni.edu/playground/

Goodwill Fire Company #1

PO Box 69 | Germansville, PA 18053 | Social Hall: 610-767-7757

www.germansvillefire10.org



2017 Fire Company Officers:

President - Paul McAdams • Vice President - TJ Stellar
Treasurer - Jamie Zanelli • Membership Secretary - Rachael Scheffler • Recording Secretary - Paul Zanelli

2017 Fire Team Officers:

Fire Chief - Jay Scheffler • Deputy Chief - Randy Metzger • Assistant Chief - Rich Witt
Assistant Chief - Erik Pfeiffer • Captain - Paul McAdams • Captain - Billy Shellhammer
Lieutenant - John Fritz • QRS Captain - Mark Smith

A note of thanks. We would like to recognize the residents of Heidelberg Township as well as patrons of neighboring municipalities for your support of our 2017 membership drive. To those individuals who made financial contributions beyond the set membership dues, we thank you for your commitment to our organization as we strive to provide the best fire and emergency service response to our community! Because of your support, we are able to provide continuing education opportunities to our fire team, upgrade equipment and keep our social hall open as a resource for community functions and Fire Company fundraisers.

A few friendly reminders:

- Test smoke alarms and CO detectors at least twice a year keeping in mind they have a life span of approximately 10 years.
- In order for the fire team to respond to emergency calls in a timely and accurate manner, please make every effort to clearly mark your driveway and/or mailbox with your house number, especially if your mailbox is not located near the driveway. Both sides of the mailbox should be marked for easy identification by the fire team. If you are interested in purchasing a red, reflective address marker for your home or mailbox, please contact Jay Scheffler at 484-239-5020 or via email
- If you are planning a controlled burn at your residence, please remember to report it to the Lehigh County communications center by calling 610-437-5252.
- Please be respectful to your neighbors and others by following the burn ordinance adopted by Heidelberg Township. Burning is permitted during daylight hours only. For a full copy of the burning ordinance, contact the township administrator by calling 610-767-9297.
- During your travels, please yield to emergency vehicles and be aware of fire crew personnel who are on the roadways assisting with accidents or related emergencies.

Looking ahead. The Fire Company is currently working on replacing a 26 year old engine and a 26 year old truck. As replacement plans evolve for this existing equipment, more information will be made available to our members and the community. Due to the increase in medical assistance calls made in conjunction with our local ambulance provider, the Fire Company certified another QRS unit which puts two units in service to assist the community with ambulance related emergencies. This is an invaluable resource to have in instances where time matters. As demands for assistance at medical emergencies increase, we will continue to assess the functionality of our existing equipment to meet the needs of the community.

Volunteers are invaluable. From January through December 2016, the fire team responded to approximately 150 calls in Heidelberg and Lowhill Township and assisted in surrounding municipalities. Do you have an interest in helping the community? The fire team trains each Monday evening starting at approximately 6:30 p.m. Stop by the Fire Company to learn about the types of activities we do each week. We are always looking for new and friendly faces to join our team!

Remain informed. If you are interested in learning more about upcoming events or general business of the Fire Company, I encourage you to attend a general membership meeting held the first Monday of each month, beginning at 7:30 p.m. To remain informed about Fire Company events and points of interest, "Like" us on Facebook at Germansville Fire Company.

Fundraisers. We continue to brainstorm creative fundraising events that can be coordinated throughout the year that are fun, profitable and bring the community together. Contact Deputy Chief Randy Metzger at 610-739-9677 or via email at fishman1998@hotmail.com or Chief Jay Scheffler at 484-239-5020 or via email at jayscheffler@me.com with your suggestions!

Social hall is ready and available. We are fortunate to have an abundant amount of hall rental space at the Fire Company that can be rented for community events, fundraisers and special functions. Contact Deb Duminie at 610-217-6234 or the Fire Company main line at 610-767-7757 to inquire about availability and pricing.

Night in the Country. Please be sure to visit and patron our food tent during the Night in the Country event on Saturday, August 19th. All proceeds raised during this fun community gathering help to support the general operations of the Fire Company.

In the name of safety,
Jay Scheffler, Fire Chief

HEIDELBERG CONTACT INFORMATION

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE LOCATION: 6272 Route 309 ~ Suite A | New Tripoli, Pa. 18066 | 610-767-9297
TOWNSHIP WEBSITE ADDRESS: www.heidelberglehig.org

Board of Supervisors

Meetings-3rd Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m.
Steve Bachman, Chairman
David Fink, Vice Chairman
Jonathan Jakum

Planning Commission

Meetings -Last Monday of every month (when there is an agenda) at 7:30 p.m.
Mark Steidinger, Chairman
Priscilla Brennan, V-Chairman
Christine Bailey, Secretary
Brian Alnutt
Sidney German
Patricia Fenstermacher
Dillon Turner
Donald Billig, Alternate
Janice Meyers, Recording Secretary

Zoning Hearing Board

Meetings-3rd Monday of every month (when there is an agenda) at 7:30 p.m.
Andrew Toth, Chairman
Michael J. Bailey
Stephen Dymond
Mary Beth Dolinich-Alternate

Environmental Advisory Council

Meetings-2nd Tuesday of every month
Priscilla Brennan, Chairman
Morgan Kunkel, Secretary
Dawn Didra
Jonathan Jakum
Lucas Savage

Agriculture Security Area Advisory Council

Meetings as required
David Fink, Chairman
Daniel Hartman
William Dietrich
Michael Bailey
Janice Meyers, Recording Secretary

Township Auditors

Meeting-Tuesday after 1st Monday in January
Susan Zellner, Chairman
Sharon Metzger, Secretary
Charles Perich

UCC Board of Appeals

Meetings (when needed)
Gregory Snyder, Chairman
Jay Scheffler, Vice Chairman
Barry Mantz
Jeff Christman
Steven Ackerman

Township Solicitor

Atty. Charles Waters-Steckel & Stopp Law Offices

Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor

John Ashcraft III, Esquire

Emergency Management Coordinators

Kevin Baer
Joshua Bingham

Lehigh County Emergency Services

Office of Emergency Management
640 W. Hamilton Street, 8th Floor
Allentown, PA 18101
610-782-4600

Township Administrator, Secretary, and Treasurer

Janice Meyers ~ 610-767-9297 ext. 14

Township Office Assistant/ Alternate Zoning Officer

Dawn Didra ~ 610-767-9297 ext. 11

Road Maintenance Department

Kevin Huber, Road Superintendent ~
610-767-9297 ext. 15
Travis Moyer
Daniel Watt
Jonathan Pasieka

Township Zoning Officer and Township Engineer

Keystone Consulting Engineers, Inc.
Christopher Noll ~ 610-865-4555

Sewage Enforcement Officer

Christopher Noll ~ 610-865-4555
Alternate Sewage Enforcement
Scott Bieber ~ 610-965-1167

Tax Collector ~ Property

Phyllis Breininger ~ 610-767-7919
6292 Sunset Road
Germansville, PA 18053

Tax Collector ~ Wage

H. A. Berkheimer, Tax Officer ~ 1-800-360-8989
50 North Seventh Street
Bangor, PA 18013

Building Inspectors

CodeMaster Inspection Services ~ 484-223-0763
Blue Mountain Inspection Service ~ 570-943-2577

Emergencies ~ 911

Communications Non-Emergency 610-437-5252

State Police ~ 610-861-2026

Bethlehem Barracks
2930 Airport Road
Bethlehem, PA 18017

Goodwill Fire Company #1 ~ Germansville

6011 Memorial Road ~ PO Box 69
Germansville, PA 18053
Social Hall 610-767-7757
Social Hall Rental ~ Please Contact Doris Koenig
at 610-217-6234 *ms are available at the Township office.*

Germansville Post Office

6066 Memorial Road
Germansville, PA 18053
610-767-3367

New Tripoli Post Office

6736 Madison Street
New Tripoli, PA 18066
610-298-2550

NOVA

2375 Levans Road
Coplay, PA 18037
610-262-1075

Northwestern Lehigh School District

6493 Route 309
New Tripoli, PA 18066
610-298-8661

PA State Representative ~ District 187

Gary Day
6299 Route 309 ~ Suite 302
New Tripoli, PA 18066
Phone 610-760-7082

PA State Senator ~ District 16

Patrick "Pat" Browne
702 Hamilton St
Allentown, PA 18101
Phone 610-821-8468

District Justice 31-3-01

Rodney R. Beck
106 South Walnut Street
Slatington, PA 18080
610-767-8641

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Berger Sanitation ~ 610-837-1790
Waste Management ~ 1-800-621-2100

Electric Companies

PPL ~ 1800-342-5775
Met Ed ~ 1-800-545-7741

Telephone, Cable, Internet

Verizon ~ 1-800-479-1919
Blue Ridge ~ 610-767-6383
RCN ~ 1-800-746-4726
HughesNet ~ 1-877-271-0627
DIRECTV ~ 1-888-795-9488

Banks

New Tripoli Bank ~ 610-298-8811
ESSA ~ 610-760-7850
Neffs National Bank ~ 610-767-3875

Newspapers

Morning Call ~ 1-800-666-5492
Northwestern Press ~ 1-800-596-6397

Local Parks

Northwestern Community Park
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Pioneer village
Picnic pavilion rentals ~ 610-298-2645



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