

# ORWIGSBURG HAPPENINGS

*From Where It All Began*

*... Is Happening Again*

No. 86 – Issued Quarterly

BOROUGH OF ORWIGSBURG, PA

February 2016

## Government Reorganization Begins the New Year

## Major Snowstorm Is Behind Us; Spring Is Near!

Orwigsburg residents and businesses weathered the January 22-23 major snowstorm – the first of this winter – that dumped more than 24 inches of the white stuff. Rapid and effective response by the streets department, the timing of the snowfall during the weekend, and the wonderful cooperation from motorists and property owners minimized the inconvenience.

Despite the prognostications of Punxsutawny Phil and questionable reliability of long-range meteorological forecasts, the fact remains we may need to still weather a few snow, ice, and frigid events before the warmth and promise of spring arrives. We'll all get through it and enjoy Orwigsburg's 2016 planned events you will find elsewhere in this issue of *Orwigsburg Happenings*.

### *Borough government reorganizes*

In the 2015 November General Election, Orwigsburg residents voted to retain two current Orwigsburg Borough Council members while placing one new representative on the seven-member council.

Incumbents Susan Murphy and Paul Bedway, Jr. will each serve another four-year term and will be joined by newly elected member Brian Baldwin, who



**2016 ORWIGSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL and officials** – Front from left, Greg Stewart, planning engineer; Borough Manager Robert Williams; Borough Council President Buddy Touchinsky; Sherry Edwards, council secretary; and Mayor Barry Berger; standing, Borough Council members Angela Hoptak-Solga, Darle Cresswell, Edward Mady, Susan Murphy, Paul Bedway, Jr., and Brian Baldwin.

replaces David Rubright. All three were sworn into office at the January 2016 reorganization meeting, establishing the official borough government for the year.

Councilman Buddy Touchinsky was reelected

– Continued on page 2

## 2016 EVENTS

**Orwigsburg Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt** at Albright's Woods Community Park, Saturday, March 19, noon.

**Children's Fishing Rodeo** at Fisher's Dam, Saturday and Sunday – May dates to be announced; 9 a.m. start.

**Memorial Day parade/service** and Lions Club Chicken Barbecue – Monday, May 30; activities begin 8 a.m.

**Orwigsburg Heritage Day** – Saturday, Sept. 10; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Orwigsburg Halloween Parade** – Wednesday, Oct. 26; 7 p.m.

**Halloween Trick-or-Treat** – Monday, Oct. 31; 6 to 8 p.m.

**Orwigsburg Holly Trail and Festival of Lights**  
Saturday, Dec. 3; noon and 4:30 p.m.



**An important pull-out-and-keep  
Community Guide & Map inside!**

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## 2016 BOROUGH OFFICIALS

209 N. Warren Street  
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Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
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### OFFICIALS

Mayor..... Barry Berger  
Council President..... Buddy Touchinsky  
Council Vice President..... Susan Murphy  
Borough Manager..... Robert A. Williams  
Secretary..... Sherry Edwards  
Treasurer..... Colleen Hoptak  
Tax Receiver..... Colleen Hoptak  
Solicitor..... Paul Datte, Esq.  
Borough Engineers..... ARRO Consulting, Inc.  
Entech Engineering, Inc.  
Alfred Benesch & Company  
Fire Chief..... Dave Hardinger

### ADDITIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Brian Baldwin • Paul Bedway, Jr.  
Darle Cresswell • Edward Mady  
Angela Hoptak-Solga

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

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### BOROUGH OFFICE

Sherry Edwards • Kathi Mengle

Orwigsburg Borough Council meets the First and Second Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, second floor of the Orwigsburg Municipal Building, 209 North Warren Street.

Both meetings are open to the public. A Work Session for discussions and setting of an agenda takes place on the First Wednesday; the Business Meeting is then held on the Second Wednesday.

### OFFICIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

Orwigsburg Borough offices will be closed on the following days in 2016 in observance of the stated holidays – New Year's Day, Jan. 1; Good Friday, March 25; Memorial Day, May 30; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, September 5; Thanksgiving, Nov. 24 and 25; Christmas eve and day, Dec. 23 and 26.

## Borough Council

– Continued from Page 1

council president; Murphy was reelected vice president; and councilman Ed Mady was reelected Pro Tem, meaning he will head the council in the absence of the other two.

Attorney Paul Datte, principal in the law firm of Cerullo, Datte, and Burke, has been named solicitor for the council, replacing Frank Tamulonis, Esq. who has served the borough in that capacity for several decades.

President Touchinsky announced several former committees would be consolidated into two renamed groups – the **Water, Sewer & Sanitation Committee** and the **Buildings, Streets & Lights Committee** – to make room for two new forward-looking committees of Borough Council.

### New committees formed

The **Communication & Technology Committee** will consider and direct a revamp/upgrade to the borough's website, [www.orwigsburg.net](http://www.orwigsburg.net), as well as provide guidance and control over its Facebook and Twitter accounts. It is being tasked to provide effective, responsible, and consistent communication for residents, businesses, and interested parties.

The **Economic Development Committee** will focus on developing improved marketing of business opportunities in Orwigsburg, address vacancies and the needs of the downtown, and seek further development in the borough's industrial park.

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\*Evenings By Appointment



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## Message from the Council President

### "What's up with the Memorial?"

Over the past few months, and maybe even the past year or two, I have had people ask me this question about the Orwigsburg Veterans Community Memorial Hall, or by the shortened name "The Memorial." Being that the project is nearing completion, but still needing financial help, I thought I'd answer that very question.



**BUDDY TOUCHINSKY**  
Council President

Originally erected back in the 1940s, the building honoring Orwigsburg area war veterans was dedicated in 1950 and turned over to the Borough. The Memorial has been used by many thousands of people over the years ... for activities and events by youth and community groups, emergency service training, sports teams, semi-pro basketball, professional wrestling, class reunions, service club and business association events, the annual Memorial Day Lions' chicken barbecue, and the circus.

Once the interior was completed even though renovations continued, the building has been booked solid after-school and on the weekends. Along with the surrounding ball fields, playground, and walking trails, it's truly a place the entire community can

enjoy.

In addition to being a community gathering spot, we need to remember the other purpose of the building ... to honor our veterans. This is why, when about ten years ago it was evident something had to be done with the building, community leaders and volunteers decided to form the Orwigsburg Veterans' Memorial Task Force. The Task Force took on the job to repair and update the building. Its status as a tribute and reminder of the sacrifices by those veterans will live on with the building continuing as a community center of activities.

The Task Force members and committed community members have volunteered countless hours since the project started. Not only do they meet to plan and coordinate work being done, but often they roll up their sleeves and do much of the work themselves.

Demolition of the old bathrooms, pouring the concrete and setting stairs for basement access,

*- Continued on page 6*



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## Council President

– Continued from Page 4

removing interior walls, and installing plumbing and electrical were the result of work done by volunteers to help save money and advance the project. In addition to doing work and saving money, many of these same volunteers then help plan, coordinate, and operate multiple fundraising events throughout the year. For a current update of the project, please read the Task Force president's article in this newsletter.

So, "What's up with the Memorial?" History and current progress aside, I want to stress one thing. The project is nearing its end, but still needs significant monetary support to get it to completion. The Task Force needs our help. The project has had the fortune of securing a number of state grants and receiving funds from many of the gracious individual donors and organizations that have given over the years.

Please consider giving whatever you can to help the project cross the finish line. All donations are tax deductible. Consider becoming a member of the "300 Club" by committing to \$333 per year for 3 years. If that's too much, then consider a smaller donation and attend the Task Force fundraising events.

Once completed it will be a lasting tribute for our veterans and gathering place for generations to come. Again ... for our veterans, for our volunteers, and for our community ... please consider pledging what you can towards completing the project.



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# Proclamation from the Orwigsburg Mayor

I think that one of my best nuggets of wisdom came to me in the process of helping to parent our two daughters. Although my wife provided the bulk of the daily guidance, I would get the call to help whenever an issue arose that required a united front. My "go to" line to the girls was usually, "Don't press your luck. I'm pretty sure I used up all the good stuff."



**BARRY J. BERGER**  
Mayor

I was thinking about "Luck" as I joined millions of Americans by throwing a few bucks into the recent \$1.5 billion Power Ball jackpot. How would I spend that kind of money? Would I be lucky enough to win? Would it be even

luckier not to have my life completely uprooted as that kind of windfall would be certain to do?

While attending a funeral last week, I considered some of the events that occurred during the long life of the departed. I had heard many of the stories over the years, but to hear them presented in full was a testament of both providence and luck.

Providence allowed him to enjoy over ninety years on the planet. As for his luck, I'm still trying to figure out if he was unlucky to have been in jeopardy so often or lucky to have survived it all.

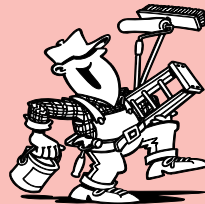
As I finish this season's message, I am patiently

waiting for the aspirin to kick in following 36 hours of intermittent snow shoveling, courtesy of winter storm Jonas. I really have no reason to complain after one of the mildest Decembers on record. If I sold snowmobiles or rock salt, I might have a different perspective. But all things considered, I've been feeling pretty lucky with the way winter has unfolded so far this year. And I hope I'm not jinxing our luck by saying so.

These kinds of weather events seem to bring out the best in our town as neighbors work together to get things back to normal. Let me add all the normal winter precautions ... take your time whether digging, walking or driving; clear the snow off your vehicle before going anywhere; and keep an eye out for kids, pets and pedestrians.

And remember, with any luck at all, Spring is just around the corner!

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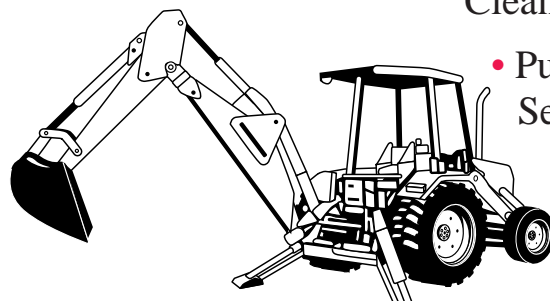
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# Orwigsburg Business and Professional Assoc.

The Orwigsburg Business and Professional Association (OBPA) eagerly announces its calendar of 2016 happenings. These communal opportunities are planned and programmed to provide exciting, entertaining and affordable activities and events for citizens of all ages, lifestyles and tastes.

Seasonal events kick-off the year with a Meet & Greet Mixer on Thursday, April 7 at the Schuylkill County Country Club from 5 to 7 p.m. The evening presents the opportunity for members, old and new, to network with each other and interact on a more casual level with leaders from Schuylkill County and the Orwigsburg Borough.

Spring also marks the return of Nashville recording artist Chad Reinert. The Auburn native and top ten country artist will perform at Veterans Community Memorial Hall beginning at 7 p.m. on Sat., April 30. Enjoy great music, dancing, homemade food and ice cold beer and beverages. Doors open at 6 p.m. General admission tickets are \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door.

Following the "indoor" season, OBPA kicks off its 5th annual Square Time events program. The Thursday evening celebrations, set on our beautiful town square, showcases local businesses, area performers and unique personalities. These family-friendly nights on the town offer the perfect chance to get out and participate in furthering our sense of community while having some fun with friends and neighbors. June Jamboree will be held June 23; Family Fun Fest on August 4.

Plans are being made for the 25th annual Heritage Celebration on Saturday, Sept. 10. Making this milestone special, OBPA is seeking creative and community-minded volunteers willing to help with the planning and staging of this annual tribute to our historic town and community. Membership in the organization is not required. All who have ideas are welcome at any OBPA monthly planning session.

OBPA supports young aspiring business professionals. In the past year, scholarships have been provided for the Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!), an after-school program for students in grades six thru 12 learning the foundations of business by interacting with area business owners/managers. YEA! is facilitated by the Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce and classes are held at a local college.

OBPA also sponsors a Blue Mountain High School graduation award each year. The recipient is chosen from a submission of a 250-word essay answering the question "How has growing up in a small community influenced my career path?"

Finally, and to answer an oft-asked question, "No, you do not have to own a business to join OBPA." Membership consists of many business proprietors; individuals are also welcomed. OBPA wouldn't want anyone to miss out on the fun and great feeling of accomplishment when you work to better your community.

For more information, start with the website [orwigsburgbusiness.org](http://orwigsburgbusiness.org), join the conversation on Facebook, or call president Pat Falco at 610-462-9167.

## 2016 OBPA EVENTS

**Thurs., April 7** – Meet & Greet Mixer; 5 to 7 p.m. at the Schuylkill Country Club.

**Sat., April 30** – Chad Reinert in Concert; 7 p.m. Veterans Community Memorial Hall

**Thurs., June 23** – Square Time "June Jamboree;" 5:30 to 9 p.m. "on the square"

**Thurs., Aug. 4** – Square Time "Family Fun Fest;" 5:30 to 9 p.m. "on the square"

**Sat., Sept. 10** – 25th annual Heritage Celebration; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. "on the square"

**Sat., October 22** – A Night of Chili and Chills; 5:30 to 10 p.m. at the Veterans Community Memorial Hall

**Sat., December 3** – Festival of Lights; 4:30 p.m. "on the square"

town square, showcases local businesses, area performers and unique personalities. These family-friendly nights on the town offer the perfect chance to get out and participate in furthering our sense of community while having some fun with friends and neighbors. June Jamboree will be held June 23; Family Fun Fest on August 4.

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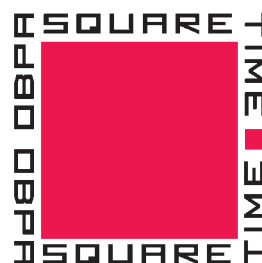
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# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

## Veterans Honor Roll

The Orwigsburg Veterans Memorial Development Taskforce seeks to identify the names and military branch of service personnel for the Veterans Memorial Honor Roll to be enshrined and permanently displayed at the Veterans Community Memorial Hall.

If you, a family member, friend, associate, or neighbor served, or if you personally have knowledge of someone from Orwigsburg who served in any branch of military service, please complete the form on page 13 and forward to: Orwigsburg Borough, 209 North Warren Street, Orwigsburg, PA 17961 or call 570-366-3103 with the information.

Your assistance is vital in this attempt to permanently honor every Orwigsburg veteran in this way. Questions may be directed to the borough staff or Borough Manager Robert Williams.

## Team Orwigsburg

Team Orwigsburg is celebrating its 10th year since forming a mission team to "heal hearts and homes" after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf region. Members travel out of the area once each year, but also work on local projects in Schuylkill County throughout the year, including helping to restore the Veterans Community Memorial Hall.

This year's mission trip is planned for early April. Details will be announced in a few weeks. Members are asked to help with fundraisers during the year to



offset the cost of travel and housing for the out-of-the-area trips.

Thank you for the community support at our fundraisers. Residents and visitors are encouraged to enjoy our next event, a turkey dinner on Saturday, Feb. 27 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the St. John's United Church of Christ Fellowship Center on East Market St. Take-outs will be available and a free-will offering will be appreciated. A complete meal including dessert will be served.

Team Orwigsburg monthly meetings are held at Salem United Methodist Church, South Liberty St., on the first Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

New faces are always welcome! Contact Susan McCartney at 570-943-2103 for additional information about this mission team.

## In need of health aids?

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- Temporary tub hand rail
- Recliner chair with auto-lift seat



The Orwigsburg Lions' "Health Equipment Loan Program" provides these items to local residents at no charge as a community service. To arrange a loan, call Larry Dagna at 570-617-6149 or Walt Schimpf as a secondary contact at 570-366-0784 or call 570-449-0659 and leave a message.

## State property tax, rent rebates

Forms to apply for Pennsylvania's Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program for 2015 are now available at the kiosk inside at the Orwigsburg Municipal Office, 209 N. Warren Street between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Forms are also available by calling Rep. Jerry Knowles' Tamaqua office at 570-668-1240.

Eligible residents or property owners can receive a rebate of up to \$650 based on their rent or property taxes paid in 2015. The program benefits Pennsylvanians who are 65 years or older, widows and widowers 50 years or older, and those 18 years or older with disabilities.

Income limits for homeowners are set at the following levels, excluding 50 percent of Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, and Railroad Retirement Tier 1 benefits:

- \$0 to \$8,000, maximum \$650 rebate (homeowners or renters)
- \$8,001 to \$15,000, maximum \$500 rebate (homeowners or renters)

– Continued on page 14



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First Name

Middle Initial (s)

Maiden Name

Last Name

Suffix

Military Service Rank/Rating

Unit/Ship/Organization of Assignment

Start Date of Service

End Date of Service

War/Conflict(s) Name (If Applicable please list in order)

Awards/Decorations

**We may need to contact you regarding the above information.  
Will you please complete the information below?**

Name of Contact Person:

Contact Phone:

Best time to call:

Contact Information – Address:

## AFTER YOU HAVE COMPLETED THIS FORM, PLEASE DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. Drop it off at the Orwigsburg Borough Hall Reception Desk; or
3. Or, e-mail to:  
**memorial@orwigsburg.net**

2. Mail to: Mr. Robert Williams  
Orwigsburg Borough Manager  
Orwigsburg Borough Hall  
209 N. Warren Street #1  
Orwigsburg, PA 17961

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**Infrastructure**  
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assessmentsplanningdesign

# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

– Continued from Page 12

- \$15,001 to \$18,000, maximum \$300 rebate (homeowners only)
- \$18,001 to \$35,000, maximum \$250 rebate (homeowners only)

This rebate program is one of many initiatives supported by the Pennsylvania Lottery. Residents are reminded to provide all the necessary income, property tax or rental information required to process claims quickly and accurately. Applications are due by June 30.

## Dumpster? You need a permit

Any resident who rents a dumpster and places it on the street is required to fill out a dumpster permit prior to dumpster delivery. Permits are available at the borough office at a cost of \$5. The permit is good for three weeks; another permit is required for additional time. Four (4) reflectors are required on each side of the dumpster, and dumpster wheels must be placed on 3/4" thick pieces of wood so as not to damage the road surface.



## Request for cones

Cones are available for use from the Borough. A cone request form must be filled out and is avail-

able from the borough office. Forty-eight hours notice must be given to allow time to get the cones delivered to their location and signs made and placed on the cones.



## Take care of your property

Property owners must keep all premises and exterior property free from weeds or plant growth in excess of 6 inches. All noxious weeds are prohibited.

Weeds are defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs provided; however, this term does not include cultivated flowers and gardens.

The property owner must also maintain weeds appearing between sidewalk blocks and between the curb and the street.

## Owner/tenant forms

Reminder to all landlords: Orwigsburg Borough Ordinance #396 requires that every owner/lessor of any apartment, house or other type of rental building shall register with the Borough every year. If any tenant moves from the dwelling during the year, the owner shall notify the Borough within thirty (30) days of said changes. Forms are available at the borough office or from the borough website.

In addition, landlords living in excess of 20 miles from the Borough must designate a local manager for the property. This individual must live within 10 miles of the borough.

## Albright's Woods

Now is the time to plan that 2016 outdoor event. The pavilion at Albright's Woods is available for rent for your graduation party, family reunion or other event. Albright's Woods is located on Grove Street in Orwigsburg. The park has a pavilion with picnic tables and a kitchen available for use. Rental fee for the kitchen is \$75, \$25 of which is a returnable security deposit. If the kitchen is not needed, a \$25 fee is charged. For further details or to make a reservation to use the park, call the borough office at 570-366-3103.



## R&J TOURS – 2016 HAPPENINGS

Feb 24-25 – Dover Downs (\$50 FSP/1 Buffet/Delaware Park \$30 FSP).....	\$121 p/p dbl
Mar 6 – Philadelphia Flower Show (departs 7:00am) .....	\$ 59**
Mar 8 – Philadelphia Flower Show + Lunch on Moshulu (departs 9:15am).....	\$ 98**
Mar 10 – Philadelphia Flower Show (North Pickups)(departs 7:00am) .....	\$ 62**
Mar 10 – Sands Casino \$35 FSP.....	Orwigsburg Pickup \$ 25
Mar 12 – Philadelphia Flower Show (departs 6:30am) .....	\$59**
Mar 12 – Star Wars & the Power of Costume .....	\$ 60**
Mar 17 – St. Patrick's Day Parade or New York City Free Day .....	\$ 40
Mar 19 – New York City Free Day .....	\$ 40
Mar 19 – Washington DC Free Day .....	\$ 44
Mar 19 – Oak Ridge Boys @ American Music Theatre .....	\$ 68
Mar 25 – "Samson" w/Lunch at Hershey Farm Restaurant.....	\$104**
Mar 25 – "Fancy Nancy" (Children's Lunch Buffet) .....	\$ 40
Mar 29 – Mt. Airy Casino Show: Kid Kyle (\$20 FSP, Lunch Buffet) .....	\$ 63
Mar 30 – Nana's Naughty Knickers @ Rainbow Dinner Theatre .....	\$ 74
Apr 2 – New York International Auto Show .....	\$ 51
Apr 2 – "Spreading It Around", Hunterdon Hills Playhouse .....	\$ 79
Apr 6 – Menopause the Musical @ Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre.....	\$ 77
Apr 14 – Sands Casino Resort \$35 FSP .....	Orwigsburg Pickup \$ 25
Apr 16 – "King Tut-The Exhibition", NYC.....	\$ 67**
Apr 19 – Lancaster County Comedy Show & More!.....	\$ 75
Apr 23 – Baltimore National Aquarium .....	\$ 68**
Apr 23 – Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island & 9-11 Museum.....	\$84**
Apr 26 – Mt. Airy Casino Show: Legacy of the Miracles (\$20 FSP, Lunch Buffet) .....	\$ 63

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# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

## Proper disposal of Old Glory

Used flags may be brought to the borough office for proper disposal. Place flags inside the designated mailbox-like container in front of the borough building.



## Help us help you

It shall be the responsibility of property owners in the Orwigsburg Borough to number their buildings. The number needs to be placed over/under each front door, or front transom bar or glass or front show window, over or on either side of the entrance or upon a permanent standard, base or support between building and street. The number is to be of



paint, metal, enamel, plastic, or other weather resistant material and at least three inches in height, the color of the numbers to be in contrast to the immediate back-

ground, and shall be so placed as to be in full view and legible from the street. No numbers shall be covered with any sign, drapery, or other obstruction and all old numbers shall be removed when a new number is assigned.

## Utility bills

As this newsletter is being published, the due date

for quarterly utility bills is fast approaching. It is the responsibility of all property owners to pay their bills in full by the due date printed on the invoice.

The Borough relies on these payments in order to meet the debt service and operating costs for the water, wastewater and sanitation services. If a bill is not paid after a short grace period, collection efforts will be initiated. If efforts to collect payments are unsuccessful, additional steps could include interruption of service and/or a lien placed on your property. Property owners are responsible for all costs incurred to collect past due obligations.

To avoid these actions and additional costs, property owners must make payment arrangements with the Borough. Have accounts up to date or a payment arrangement in place by then to avoid loss of service.

Mail your payment to 209 N. Warren St., Orwigsburg, or drop it off during regular hours at the Municipal Building. A "drop box" has been located at the front door for your convenience if paying after hours. Please do not include cash when dropping off your payment.



## Meter reading

Many water meters are read from a remote reading register attached to the build-

- Continued on page 16

Auto

Home

Life

Business

Retirement

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spottsj@nationwide.com



**Michael Sterner**  
sternem1@nationwide.com

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# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

– Continued from Page 15

ing and connected to the meter. Borough Ordinance 310 requires these units be accessible to the Borough. Landscaping around your remote reading register needs to be maintained so as to not restrict free access.

## Call before you dig!

Contractors, service companies, or do-it-yourself property owners must call 8-1-1 before disturbing the ground in and around their property. Planting a tree? Building a deck? Installing a fence or even as simple as a mailbox, plan your project in advance and call the alert number several days before starting any digging project.

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.

## Curb your animal

Borough Ordinance 299 prohibits pet owners from allowing their pets to defecate on another property without removing the feces from that property. Those violating this ordinance can be fined up to \$600.

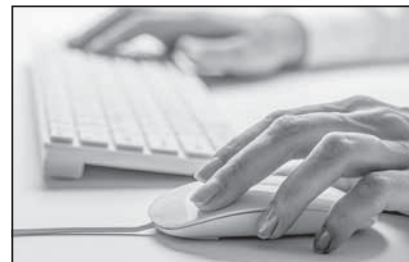


**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

Many residents take advantage of the parks and walking trail and are discouraged by the lack of consideration shown by some pet owners.

## Getting the word out

We use the Borough website [www.orwigsburg.net](http://www.orwigsburg.net) as a valuable tool to keep residents and property owners informed about the happenings in the Borough. Our staff will keep the home page current with news on upcoming events and information on past events in the Borough.



The website lists borough meeting schedules. Minutes from these meetings are posted after they have been reviewed and approved by the appropriate body. The subdivision and zoning codes are also available for all to view. Numerous forms can be accessed, including applications for Albright's Woods usage. Trash day pickup changes will also be posted. Links to other websites, such as the Lions Club, library, churches and fire company are on the website.

## Lions Glasses Dropbox



A special dropbox for eyeglass recycling is located at Heiser's True Value Hardware Store, 715 West Market Street, Orwigsburg.

## GABRIEL CHAMBER ENSEMBLE



Geral Hieser - Simon Maurer - Agn s Maurer - Xun Pan  
Cello Violin Viola Piano

Concert featuring young artist – Dana Weiderhold, violinist

**Sun., Feb. 28 – 3 p.m.**

**Jerusalem Lutheran Church  
52 Dock St., Schuylkill Haven**

### Guest Musicians



Dana Weiderhold  
Violin



Xun Pan  
Piano

### PROGRAM:


Haydn String Quartet  
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violin and piano

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[www.gabrielensemble.org](http://www.gabrielensemble.org)  Gabriel Chamber Ensemble  
[gce@gabrielensemble.org](mailto:gce@gabrielensemble.org)

## Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

The website also includes a link allowing residents to enter their contact information into the borough's Swiftreach 911 emergency notification system. This site allows the Borough to notify residents via telephone, text message and email of boil water advisories, weather emergencies or any other emergencies in a prompt manner.

### **Snow emergencies**

We may be trying hard to forget the experience of a snowy winter, but it is that time of year again. Here are a few reminders when the snow flies.

A "Snow Emergency" may be called by the mayor. Parking will be restricted on streets designated as "Snow Emergency Routes." Parking will NOT be permitted on the even side of a snow emergency route on even dates and the odd side of the street on odd dates. Note there will be no parking allowed on either side of the Square during a snow emergency.

Notice will be posted on the borough website, borough Facebook page and provided to the Republican Herald newspaper and radio stations WPPA-AM and WAVT-FM.

Households with a current telephone number in our database will receive a pre-recorded message call with information concerning the snow emergency. You may also receive notifications via email and text



message. If you have not already done so, add your contact information via the Swiftreach link on the home page of the borough website:

[www.orwigsburg.net](http://www.orwigsburg.net).

Vehicles parked on a designated Snow Emergency Route in violation will be ticketed and could be towed. The vehicle owner is responsible for all towing costs.

### **Large item disposal**

One large item may be placed at the curb beside your regular trash once per month.

Regular trash consists of up to six bags of garbage and up to ten bags of leaves. Residents should place trash at the curb any time after 6 p.m. on evenings prior to collection. Because pickup times vary, do not wait until the morning of collection to place garbage.

Month	Tues.	Fri.
Feb.	9	12
March	8	11
April	12	15
May	10	13
June	14	17

### **LARGE ITEM PICKUP DATES**

Construction materials (shingles, drywall, cabinets, insulation, etc.) may not be placed at the curb with your regular trash. You must get a dumpster which can be leased from the borough's trash collector, County Waste at 570-874-3047.

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Member FDIC



# Single-Stream Recycling

○ *Circled days indicate biweekly curbside recycling*

FEBRUARY 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

MARCH 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

APRIL 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Shaded days are trash collection days

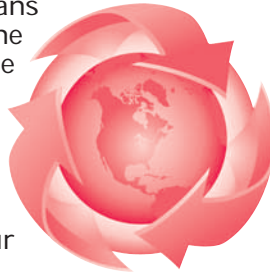
Tuesdays – Market Street and north; Fridays – south of Market Street

Large item collection, once per month

Convenient, single-stream curbside recycling is available to residents every two weeks on the designated trash pickup day. Recyclables should be separated from other household trash and placed in the container provided by the Borough and County Waste, or in a container of the property owner's choice clearly designated for recycling.

Single-stream recycling means items can be co-mingled in one container/recycle bin without the need for separation.

Materials for recycling are collected curbside every two weeks on your designated trash pickup day (see calendar schedule above). Simply place your



recycling bin beside your other trash containers and yard waste.

Use the following guidelines to prepare recyclables for pickup:

- Newspapers and mixed paper should be bundled or placed in a paper or clear plastic bag in order to keep them secure.
- Cardboard should be flattened and bundled.
- Take steps to ensure paper, cardboard and plastic, etc. do not blow around to neighboring properties or streets.
- Glass food and beverage containers are recyclable and include items such as glass soda, beer, wine, liquor, ketchup or juice bottles, and glass food containers. Metal caps and lids should be removed, but labels can remain.

## Newsletter Particulars

"Orwigsburg Happenings" is a quarterly newsletter of the Borough of Orwigsburg distributed to 1,400 households within the borough.

The newsletter is designed and printed by South Schuylkill Printing & Publishing  
960 E. Main St. • Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

Ph: 570-385-3120 • Fax: 570-385-0725

E-mail: [printing@southschuylkill.net](mailto:printing@southschuylkill.net)

[www.SouthSchuylkillPrinting.com](http://www.SouthSchuylkillPrinting.com)

Publication dates for the next three issues are May 13, August 12 and November 4, 2016

## News Submittals

Nonprofit and community organizations within the Borough are invited to submit news items for consideration. Written submittals must be received by Kathi Mengle in the borough offices, three weeks prior to the publication date.

## Advertising

Businesses wishing to reach every household in the Borough of Orwigsburg are invited to advertise in future issues. Contact South Schuylkill Printing & Publishing for more information. Call Barb @ 570-385-3120. All advertisements must be received at least three weeks prior to the publication dates. Ad content is subject to approval and acceptance by the Borough of Orwigsburg.

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# Single-Stream Recycling

- Glass items such as mirrors, ceramic cups and plates, crystal, clay flower pots, light bulbs, window glass, drinking glass and heat-resistant ovenware are NOT recycled by glass container plants and should not be mixed in with container glass.
- Aluminum beverage cans should be rinsed and crushed. Steel cans need only be rinsed. Leave labels in place.
- Plastic soda bottles and milk jugs should also be rinsed and crushed.
- Be considerate of the streetscape view in your neighborhood; store your recycling container to the side or back of your property or residence.

After following these instructions, combine all materials in one recycling container and place curbside after 6 p.m. the evening before pickup. Recyclables must be in their special container separate from household trash because a separate collection is made.

Given the convenience of single-stream recycling, the number of occupants in your household, and the volume collected for recycling, residents may find the need for a smaller or larger container. The borough has two sizes available.

Contact the Borough Office at 570-366-3103 during phone office hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to arrange for a different recycling container or for additional information.

## Single-Stream Recycling



### Yes



Plastic Containers  
#1 through #7  
(No Styrofoam)



Aluminum, Steel &  
Tin Containers



Glass Bottles &  
Containers



Newspapers  
\*bundle or place  
in paper bag



Corrugated Cardboard  
& Boxboard



Mixed Paper



### No



Paper Towels,  
Facial Tissue &  
Toilet Tissue



Plastic Bags &  
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Wax-Coated  
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Containers



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MONDAY-FRIDAY  
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SATURDAY:  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SUNDAY:  
CLOSED

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# Orwigsburg Historical Society

The Orwigsburg Historical Society invites residents and visitors to explore its collection of Orwigsburg's past at its headquarters and museum located in the historic, original Friendship Hose Company firehouse at 109 East Mifflin Street.

Open to the public each Thursday, 12 to 4 p.m. and by appointment, the expansive collection of memorabilia, published works, a genealogical library, and artifacts representing the town and broader southern Schuylkill County awaits you. Group tours can be scheduled and children's groups are especially encouraged.

Membership support of the society's mission is appreciated. Information regarding membership, the society, and specific upcoming programs can be obtained by calling 570-617-7809, 570-366-8769, or email [Peanut1212@comcast.net](mailto:Peanut1212@comcast.net).

Donations of family historical items are always invited. Monetary support is keenly needed right now to make roof repairs and purchase a new furnace for this historic building.

## Downton Abbey Tea fundraiser

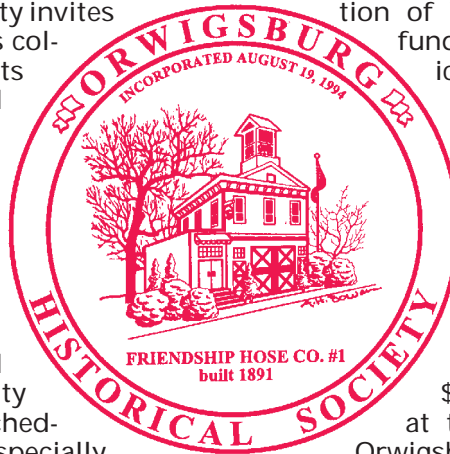
Saturday, April 9 – Experience the elegant tradi-

tion of Victorian Tea at Downton Abbey. This fundraising event will be held at the historic Yuengling Mansion, 1440 Mahantongo Street in Pottsville (home to the Schuylkill County Council for the Arts) beginning at 4 p.m. Not only will you enjoy tea, scones, delicate sweets and champagne, a living history presentation will both educate and entertain. Dress in Victorian fashion and receive a special gift. Test your knowledge for prizes in the Downton Abbey trivia contest. Reservations are necessary at \$35 per person. Tickets can be purchased at the Old County Seat Gifts/419 Café in Orwigsburg.

## 2016 Tracing Local History programs

The Orwigsburg Historical Society announces several programs scheduled this year in its Tracing Local History series. All of these events are free, open to the public, and will take place at the society headquarters and museum. Refreshments and fellowship follow the presentations.

Wednesday, April 27 – Mark Antune, a second generation beekeeper, will speak on the history of bee keeping, gathering honey, and man's relationship with honey bees beginning at 7 p.m. Antune maintains more than 100 colonies of specific variety bees



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Sat. by Appt.



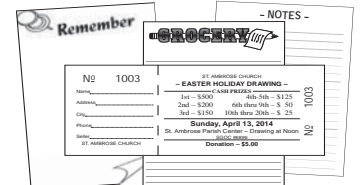
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## Orwigsburg Historical Society



ORWIGSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Located at 109 East Mifflin Street

in Bucks and Montgomery counties. Honey will be available for purchase.

Wednesday, May 25 – Glenn Wenrich, a canal historian and resident of Berks County, will present a program focusing on the Schuylkill Navigation Company and the History of Canals in Schuylkill and Berks counties. This 7 p.m. talk follows the development of canals from Schuylkill County to Philadelphia, tracing their “heyday” and their eventual demise.

Wednesday, Sept. 28 – Auctioneer and historian, Raymond Stump, will present his knowledge on the History of Public Auctions. American auctions trace back to the pilgrims’ arrival on eastern shores in the 1600s and continued in popularity during colonization. Selling at auction was, and still is, the fastest and most efficient means to convert assets into cash. Attendees are encouraged to bring artifacts and photos purchased at auction or from their personal collections.

In addition to these special programs, the Orwigsburg Historical Society members meet on the first Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. Residents and visitors interested in the society are also welcome.

The museum and large community room are available for private gatherings, educational lectures, class or family reunion events. The society has many gift ideas for Valentine’s Day, birthdays, and anniversaries, including books, postcards, artists’ renderings of historic buildings, and commemorative baskets.



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# Veterans Community Memorial Hall

## Trivia Night fundraiser promises fun

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day weekend at the 2nd annual Trivia Night on Saturday, March 19 in-and-benefiting Veterans Community Memorial Hall, 300 Grove Street. The fun starts at 7 a.m. Get your family, friends, and trivia buff ringers together ... reserve your table ... and compete for bragging rights while enjoying an evening of fun and food.

The cost is \$20 per person and includes draft beer, soda, bottled water and snacks at this 21 years-of-age-and-older and BYOB event. Additional food selections and raffle contests will be available for purchase. Various categories of useless trivia will be used. May the best team win!

Reserve team (maximum 8 persons) tables in advance by the deadline of March 5 by contacting Kathy Wolfe at 570-943-2672, email [kathyswolfe@verizon.net](mailto:kathyswolfe@verizon.net), or Greg Stewart at 570-273-2888, email [stewart228@verizon.net](mailto:stewart228@verizon.net). Individuals and smaller groups will be paired with others to form a competing team.

Additional information is available on the website [www.orwigsburgmemorial.com](http://www.orwigsburgmemorial.com).

## Help! All veterans to be honored

As construction on the building progresses, so

does the effort to compile a Veterans Honor Roll to be displayed at the building in recognition of the service and sacrifice of all Orwigsburg area veterans.

The current list of veterans to be honored is displayed in the building and on the website. These are "draft" versions ... this work-in-progress list needs to be made as complete as possible before memorializing the honor roll. If you or your family have information on area veterans not already on the "draft" list, please submit a completed form to Borough Manager Robert Williams c/o Orwigsburg Borough, 209 North Warren St., Orwigsburg, PA 17961. The form can be downloaded from the memorial project website or complete and mail the form on page 13.

## Renovations continue; funds yet needed

The Veterans Memorial Development Task Force is working with the Borough to execute an existing DCNR C2P2 grant to improve the recreation area on the grounds of Memorial Hall. A new play structure and swing set have arrived and installation with corresponding site improvements will be done soon.

A \$225,000 grant received last year through the Keystone Communities Program will fund stormwater management and parking lot improvements. Before those improvements can be started, a concrete patio and corresponding sidewalks need to be installed to facilitate access to the new addition. The task force must raise the funds for those improvements before the parking lot and drainage work can proceed.

The interior of the new entryway that will honor area veterans and the commercial kitchen upgrade are two major stand-alone interior projects to be tackled over the next year, assuming the funds can be raised. The entry will also be home to the original Orwigsburg Court House clock, restored by Schuylkill Lodge #138 F&AM.

With the recent progress and building status, this facility can be used for many different functions, such as meetings, public activities, recreation events, parties, private affairs, etc. Work will continue, but

**WELCOMING** .....all with God's love  
**STRENGTHENING**.. individuals for life's journey  
**BLESSING** .....our wider community

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Worship at 10:30 a.m.

**March 20** – Palm Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

**March 24** – Maundy Thursday Service  
with Communion, 7:30 p.m.

**March 27** – Easter Sunday 10:30 a.m.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

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*See our article for more details!*

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# Veterans Community Memorial Hall



should have limited impact to current uses of the building.

Contact Sherry Edwards at Borough Hall, 570-366-3103, to discuss availability and logistics. The building is heavily used some evenings during the winter months by three separate organizations, but additional needs can be accommodated.

The renovations have restored this building to a first class community center due to the hard work, effort and generosity of community-minded individu-

als. The project has received donations in all shapes and sizes, monetary, materials and volunteer labor. Current and former residents, family and visitors each has a different ability and level of support for this project. Thank you to all who have contributed, but more is still needed to complete the project. More information on how you can be a donor can be found at [www.orwigsburgmemorial.org](http://www.orwigsburgmemorial.org) or on its Facebook page.

– Greg Stewart, President  
Veterans Memorial Development Task Force



**PennState**  
Schuylkill

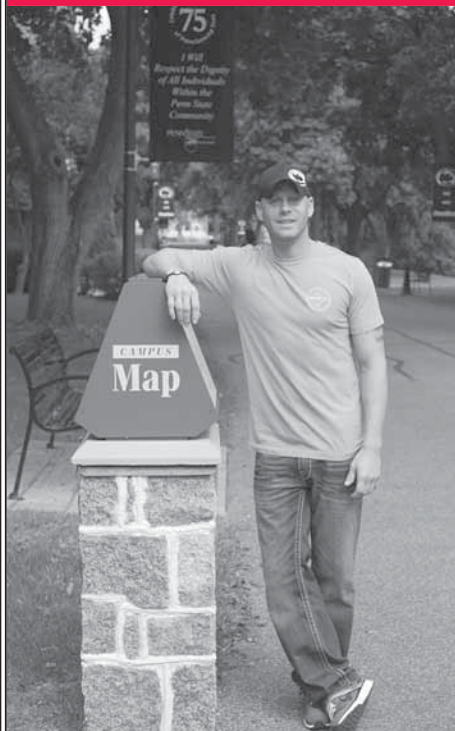
## SPRING OPEN HOUSES!

**March 19  
and  
April 16**

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10:00 a.m.**

**REGISTER:  
[sl.psu.edu/events](http://sl.psu.edu/events)  
or 570-385-6252**

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# Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library

The Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library wishes all patrons a new year filled with health, happiness and "happenings." The library has many activities and events planned and in the works ... many FUN events for the community that provide FUNdraising and sustain its work and service.

State funding continues to diminish and/or be late in coming. The library depends on its connection to the community built through the years and expands yearly. Although the word "Free" is in the library's name, it is not free to operate. Pennsylvania provides less than 12% of the library's operating budget.

## *Be part of these FUNdraisers*

Casino Night will be held at the Schuylkill Country Club on Saturday, March 5; bakers and tasters are wanted for the annual Cupcake War to be held this year on Sunday, April 17 at the Frackville Mall; the library's Blow-Out Book Sale (stuff a bag for just \$5) is on Saturday, April 23; the popular yearly Jane Austen Tea Party will be held at the library on Sunday, May 1; and on Saturday, May 7 a Ticket Auction will be hosted at the Schuylkill Lodge #138, 1000 E. Market St.

For additional information on these events and all of the activities and services offered by

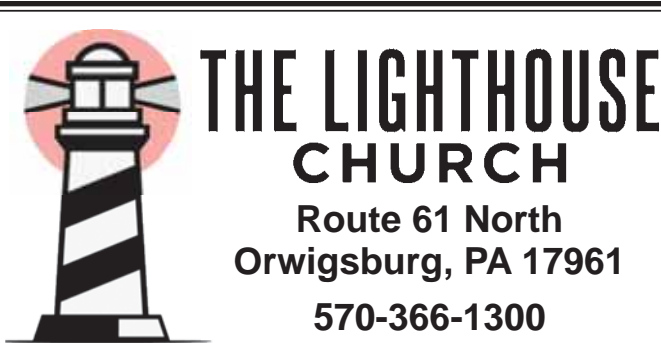


the Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library, call the library at 570-366-1638; follow them on Facebook at OrwigsburgAreaFreePublicLibrary; access through the borough website at [www.orwigsburg.net](http://www.orwigsburg.net); or stop in person at 214 E. Independence Street.

## *So many services offered*

What does the library provide Orwigsburg and surrounding municipalities?

- Recreational and educational materials in many formats ... books, both written and digital (e-books); books on CDs and DVDs (both fiction and non-fiction); free Internet and WIFI; and many programs.
- Clubs that meet weekly and monthly. The Orwigsburg Book Club meets the last Monday each month at 6 p.m. discussing new authors, new genres, and new experiences. Knitters, crochet and needlework enthusiasts welcome all skill levels to their weekly group meeting Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. Lego builders of all ages gather the second Wednesday each month at 5:30 p.m. to share their creations. Learn and play Mahjongg at 6 p.m. on the first, third, and fifth Wednesdays of the month.
- Tuesday morning at 10:30 is Preschool Story Hour. Get those little ones out to socialize through stories, singing, movement, and crafts.
- Upcoming Thursday evening programs, beginning at 6 p.m., include children's story time exploring animal hibernation on Feb. 18; learning the game of Craps on Feb. 25 in preparation for Casino Night; a St. Patty's Day story and craft for children on March 3; and, also for children, the anticipation of the coming spring through story and craft on March 10.
- Adult art classes, made possible by the Berks Art Council, are offered in a series of six classes each held monthly. The first class is Saturday, March 12 at 9:30 a.m. Call the library for more information. Seating is limited.



Route 61 North  
Orwigsburg, PA 17961

570-366-1300

[thelighthousechurch.com](http://thelighthousechurch.com)

Join Us For Worship, Fellowship  
and Time in the Word

Sunday Services – 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Wednesday 7 p.m. Classes for all ages

Join Us Valentine's Day Sunday  
Guest Speakers at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

**EASTER – Additional services**  
**WEEK – Friday and Easter Sunrise**  
*All are welcome and encouraged to join in*  
*this Lord's Year of Jubilee, a time of*  
*restoration for all who believe and follow Jesus.*

## Orwigsburg Lions Club – We Serve!

The Orwigsburg Lions Club is preparing for a very busy spring.

Kicking off the festivities will be the annual Lions Easter egg hunt at Albright's Woods on Sat., March 19 beginning at noon. All children from the Orwigsburg community through 10 years of age, accompanied by an adult, are invited to hunt for eggs filled with yummy candy treats. There will also be special "prize" eggs for each age group. This is a B.Y.O.B. event ... Bring Your Own Basket ... and you'll be able to take your child's photo with the Easter Bunny. This rain-or-shine event, sponsored by the Orwigsburg Lions, is free.

Lions Club members can always be found volunteering at the Orwigsburg Food Pantry, cleaning up litter throughout the Borough, sprucing up Albright's Woods to ready for spring activities, and serving up delicious food at Schaeffer's Harley-Davidson's annual MDA Block Party set this year for Saturday, April 23.

### *Las Vegas comes to Schuylkill County*

The Orwigsburg Lions will host one of the area's most hilarious and fun-filled events, the Miss America Pageant! This event is held every five years and has

proven to be a community treasure for decades. It will be an evening you won't soon forget – no matter how hard you try!

The contestants are already perfecting their routines and getting "swimsuit ready." The beauties competing in the 2016 pageant feature strong, glamorous talent in the 180 to 250 pound weight class!

Don't miss this opportunity to cheer on your favorite "lady" and support the Lions' biggest fundraising event. The pageant will be two nights only – Friday, April 1 (no fooling) and Saturday, April 2 – held in the Blue Mountain High School auditorium. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Pre-sale tickets are just \$15; seniors and student tickets are \$12; and will also be available at the door for \$18. Tickets can be purchased from any Orwigsburg Lions Club member. This is a sell-out event so don't wait, get your tickets now!



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# From the Desk of the Fire Chief

## Winter is here!

As I write this article, I've just finished digging out from what I'm sure we will all remember as the blizzard of 2016. Although it was a difficult weekend for all, from the perspective of the local fire service, it was also a good weekend.

Large storms portend the Fire Department will be busy with multiple vehicle accidents, chimney fires, carbon monoxide detector calls, medical assists for heart attacks from shoveling, etc. Despite this massive storm, the OFD did not receive a single call. Common sense appears to have ruled the day. By and large, everyone stayed safe at home. While we were ready to answer the call if anyone needed help, we were happy to stay idle during the storm.



## Fireplaces and Woodstoves

- Have your fireplace or woodstove and chimney inspected each year to ensure no cracks exist in the flue liner and the chimney is free of creosote buildup.
- Use only dry, seasoned hardwoods in the fireplace or woodstove. Do not burn trash such as wrapping paper.
- Never use flammable liquids such as gasoline or kerosene to start the fire.



## Space Heaters

- Operate kerosene heaters only in well-ventilated areas to prevent carbon monoxide buildup.
- Do not attempt to use any fuel other than kerosene in the heater. Use of other flammable liquids can lead to an explosion and fire.
- Allow the heater to cool and take it outside before attempting to refill it.
- If you are using an electric space heater, make sure it has a safety certification label from an independent testing organization, such as the UL mark from Underwriters Laboratories.
- Check the power cord for cracks, fraying, loose connections and broken plugs. Have the cord repaired or replace the heater if you find any damage.
- Plug electric space heaters directly into the wall outlet and avoid using extension cords.



## Heating Safety

The devices we use to heat our homes, such as fireplaces, woodstoves, and space heaters are the single largest source of residential fires each year. More than half of these fires occur during the cold weather months of December, January and February. A few simple tips and precautions can prevent most of these heating fires.

## General Precautions

- Keep children, pets, and flammable items at least three feet from any heat source.
- Never leave space heaters, woodstoves, or fireplaces unattended.
- Make sure you have at least one properly functioning smoke detector on each level of your home and a carbon monoxide detector in the room where any heating device that burns wood, coal or kerosene is located.

As you are digging out from that snowstorm, take a few minutes to dig out the neighborhood fire hydrant. This will save valuable time in the event of a fire. Also, check on your elderly neighbors to see if they need any extra help.

– Dave Hardinger, Fire Chief

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

215 North Warren Street • Orwigsburg

570-366-2316

[www.stpaulsorwigsburg.org](http://www.stpaulsorwigsburg.org)

Pastor: Rev. Lee A Diefenderfer

OFFICE HOURS:

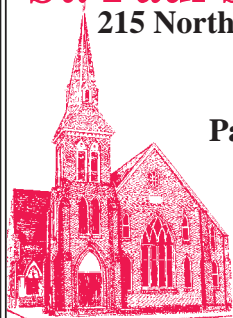
Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

New Worship Times

Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.



Handicap Accessible

### WEDNESDAYS IN LENT – STARTING FEB. 10

12 Noon – Prayer Service; 7 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer

### HOLY WEEK – MARCH 19 TO MARCH 27

Palm Sunday – Sat. 5:30 p.m.; Sun. 8 & 10:30 a.m.

Holy Monday – 7 p.m. Prayer Service

Holy Tuesday – 7 p.m. Prayer Service

Holy Wednesday – Noon Prayer Service,  
7 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer

Maundy Thursday – 7 p.m. Foot Washing, Laying of  
Hands, Holy Communion, Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday – 7 p.m. Tenebrae,  
7 Last Words of Christ

Holy Saturday – 5:30 p.m. Easter Vigil

Easter – 7 and 10:30 a.m., Festival of the Resurrection



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Schuylkill Haven

HOURS:

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Sat. 10-6 • Sun. 12-5



Valentine's Shopping Feb. 12 & 13, 10 to 4

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[www.TheArtsBarn.com](http://www.TheArtsBarn.com)

Spring Opening Arts Tour April 2 & 3

570-366-8736 or check us out on Facebook



## State Senator David G. Argall

### School Property Tax Elimination Fight Continues

The burdensome school property tax is the main issue I often hear about from local residents – and I can confidently say I'm not surprised!

This unfair tax has long been the bane of existence for many homeowners, especially senior citizens living on a fixed income who are concerned about whether or not their future entails remaining in their current home, or if the school property tax will drive them away.



**SENATOR  
DAVID ARGALL**

Complete elimination of the school property tax is my top priority and considerable momentum is mounting finally in the state legislature. The issue is strongly supported by an overwhelming amount of local residents, with more than 95% voicing their support for this endeavor based on the correspondence my office has received since

January of last year.

This past November, the elimination of the school property tax was brought to debate and a vote on the floor of the Senate for the first time ever. Despite the disappointing 24-24 Senate vote on the issue, the outcome was a clear indication that we only need one

more vote in order to approve this measure. Many continue the search for that one missing vote that will help us declare victory and win this battle once and for all.

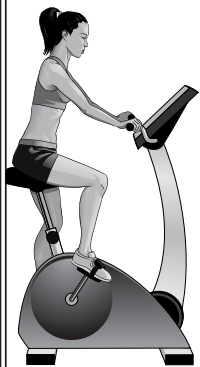
Eliminating the school property tax is a win-win situation. By getting rid of this tax, we can restore homeownership, save taxpayers' money, and find a better, more equitable way to fund our public schools.

Continuing this archaic tax should not be an option. I will keep fighting for the total elimination of the school property tax.

I encourage all readers to share, with family, friends, and neighbors, the importance of school property tax elimination and its positive impact on current and future residents.

### SPREAD THE WORD

Interested in submitting an article for next quarter's issue of **Orwigsburg Happenings**? We welcome community service and non-profit organization information. Please contact Kathi Mengle at 570-366-3103 or [kathi@orwigsburg.net](mailto:kathi@orwigsburg.net)



## Johns Physical Therapy

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# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

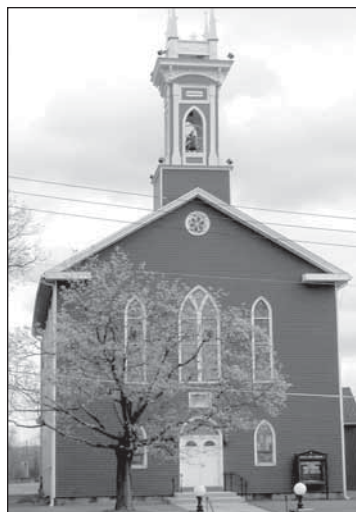
## Zion's Red Church

Zion's Red Church, 1287 Centre Turnpike (Rt. 61 at Brick Hill Road), is a union congregation of Evangelical Lutheran and United Church of Christ denominations whose members welcome, strengthen, and bless all who enter.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Zion's Red Church! Visit the updated church website at [www.zionsredchurch.org](http://www.zionsredchurch.org) to learn more or call the church office at 570-366-1178. Each Sunday the combined Confirmation Class, replacing the traditional Sunday school, meets at 9:15 a.m. followed by worship at 10:30.

The recently completed construction on Rt. 61 has necessitated a new driveway entrance to the church parking lot off Brick Hill Road. It's behind the church and using it will keep you safely away from Route 61 traffic. After navigating through the jug-handle just above the church or coming east on Brick Hill Road from Orwigsburg, make the turn toward Schaeffer's Harley Davidson, then bear right and follow the stone drive around the back of the church and into the parking lot. Special thanks goes to Faron Breiner who, literally, laid the groundwork for this new access.

Not sure, in the event of inclement weather, if church activities are still on? Of course, use your best judgment when traveling. Drive with caution. Your safety is important to us. If worship services or other planned activities are canceled, every effort



will be made to leave an announcement on the church phone's answering system, on the web-site, and Facebook page.

All are invited to attend Easter Holy Week services ... Palm Sunday, March 20 at 10:30 a.m.; Maundy Thursday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m. with communion; and Easter Sunday, March 27 at 10:30 a.m.

New during Lent at Zion's Red Church is Brown Bag Bible Study. Want to delve deeper

into God's Word to us? Have some nagging questions about a certain passage in scripture? Then join us for Bible Study, starting Ash Wednesday, Feb. 10 from 11:30 to 12:30. Bring your lunch, your Bible, and your curiosity every Wednesday during Lent. Let Pastor Wanda know what book in the Bible or topic you would like to "chew on."

Sunday worship services during Lent will be held downstairs on the middle floor beginning February 14 to avoid the need to climb stairs. The Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday worships will be upstairs in the beautiful sanctuary.

Members serve the greater community by volunteering time and financial resources to the Orwigsburg Food Pantry and Schuylkill Women In Crisis. Donate blood and save a life when the Bloodmobile visits on Saturday, April 9.

For additional information and schedule of activities, visit Zion's website.

## Salem UMC

Salem United Methodist Church, 133 S. Liberty Street – where Liberty meets Independence – offers three unique worship services each Sunday ... a traditional worship at 8:45 a.m., a contemporary worship at 10:45, and the SNL Coffeehouse at 6:30 p.m. Sunday school for all ages is held at 10 a.m. and children's choir and children's church are held during the 10:45

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## St. John's United Church of Christ

232 E. Market St., Orwigsburg • 570-366-2255

*Traditional worship for contemporary souls*

**Maundy Thursday – March 24, 6 p.m.**

**Meal followed by service of Tenebrae**

**Palm Sunday – Worship and Sunday school, 10 a.m.**

**Easter Sunday – Worship and Sunday school, 10 a.m.**

**Every Sunday – Worship and Sunday school at 10 a.m.**

**Communion the first Sunday of each month**

# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

worship for youngsters in grades one through five. A nursery is available at 10 a.m. and during the 10:45 worship for infants through five years of age.

Numerous small group meetings and activities are offered weekly, including Youth Group, small group Bible studies, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, and Team Orwigsburg mission group. Music ministry opportunities include senior choir, children's choir, hand bell choir and Praise Team.

Website [www.SalemUM.com](http://www.SalemUM.com) contains dates and times for all activities or call the church office at 570-366-0201 for more information.

Meal and Movie Night is held once each month during the Sunday evening SNL Coffeehouse. All are welcome to enjoy a free meal and a great film. Upcoming movie nights, beginning at 6 p.m., are scheduled February 14 and April 10.

All are invited to the annual homemade Soup and Bake Sale on Saturday, Feb. 13, from 8 a.m. to noon. All proceeds support the end-of-summer FREE Community Block Party.

Salem's hand bell choir, The God Squad, will have two spring performances – Palm Sunday on March 20 and Mother's Day on May 8. The hand bell choir



will be featured at both the 8:45 and 10:45 a.m. services.

The Scrapbooking Guild is open to all in the community. Upcoming Friday meetings are February 19, April 15, May 20, and June 17 from 4 to 10 p.m. The February meeting will include an auction of craft items.

United Methodist Lenten season services will be hosted at various area churches. Salem Church will be the site of the Ash Wednesday service on February 10. Following Wednesday services will be at Salem Church on February 17, Covenant

UMC in Schuylkill Haven on February 24, Welcome UMC in Landingville on March 2, Salem Church again on March 9, and Covenant UMC again on March 16. Holy Thursday service on March 24 will be held at First UMC in Schuylkill Haven. Supper is offered at 6 p.m. followed by worship at 7 p.m.

A sunrise Easter worship service at Salem Church begins at 6 a.m. on March 27. A delicious breakfast in Sandherr Hall will be offered afterward. Sunday school children will present a drama during the 8:45 and 10:45 a.m. worship times. No SNL Coffeehouse is planned on Easter.

The mission at Salem Church is TLC – Transforming  
– Continued on page 30

## AN INDEPENDENT

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Monroeville, PA	888-228-1363
Pine Brook NJ	800-321-0030
Syracuse, NY	800-400-1662





# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

– Continued from Page 29

Lives through Christ. If you are searching and seeking, Salem welcomes you to visit and learn how your life can be transformed through Christ.

## St. John's UCC

St. John's United Church of Christ, 232 E. Market St., is a house of worship where there is "traditional worship for contemporary souls." Everyone is invited to experience that worship Sundays at 10 a.m. with Communion served the first Sunday of each month.

Sunday school classes are held for adults beginning at 8:30 a.m., and for children ages four through 6th grade, at 10 a.m. Children will be with their parents or grandparents during the worship service until the blessing of children and the sharing the faith, then will go to their Sunday school room.

The pastoral search committee is well on its way with the process of finding a new full time pastor. Interim pastor John Steitz welcomes each person with a handshake and greeting prior to the beginning of the worship service.

Music director Trena Murphy directs the adult choir, children's chimes and bells, and brings guest musicians and vocalists to perform throughout the

calendar year.

St. John's outreach program sponsors Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, a quilting group, yoga classes, senior citizens, blood drives, the Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry and Team Orwigsburg fundraising dinners. Call the church office at 570-366-2255 for information about any of these groups. New faces are always welcome!

The food pantry is housed at St. John's, but is a community effort with eight area churches, community groups, and Blue Mountain School District all helping to feed those less fortunate on a monthly basis. Donations are accepted via the church office at the rear of the church or by mailing a donation to St. John's UCC

payable to the Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry.

## Lighthouse Church

The Lighthouse Church, located along Rt. 61 at 10 Hollenbush Lane just south of Orwigsburg, will have guest speakers from Abundant Living Ministries of Lititz for Valentine's Day Sunday.

John and Sharon Charles are the second generation of their family to work in family counseling, and bring a joyful heart to their message. They will speak at both the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services.

The regular Sunday services at Lighthouse Church are currently teaching through the Book of Acts in a study called "Do the 'Acts' of God" encouraging all to live out their faith with the Spirit's power.

Wednesday evening offers classes for all ages, children to adults. One group is studying Dr. David Jeremiah's video series from the Book of Revelation, "Agents of the Apocalypse."

Easter week will offer additional services on Friday and sunrise on Easter.

All are welcome and encouraged to join in this Lord's Year of Jubilee, a time of restoration for all who believe and follow Jesus.

Additional information can be found on the website [www.thelighthousechurch.com](http://www.thelighthousechurch.com) or call the office at 570-366-1300.

## St. Paul's Lutheran

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 215 North Warren St., offers eight days of Holy Week services beginning Saturday, March 19 in preparation for Palm Sunday and continuing with services and prayer each day through Easter Sunday, March 27. In addition, Lenten midweek services each Wednesday, beginning Feb. 10, will offer a noon prayer service as well as a Holden evening prayer beginning at 7 p.m.

Regular services at St. Paul's include Saturday worship at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday services at both 8 and 10:30 a.m.





**Kimmels Church**

179 Pine Creek Drive  
Orwigsburg, PA  
Phone: 570.943.2759  
[www.kimmelschurch.org](http://www.kimmelschurch.org)

**Join Us!**

**Easter Egg Hunt**  
Palm Sunday, March 20 @ 3:00 pm

**Good Friday Service**  
March 25 @ 6:30 pm

**Easter Worship Services - March 27**  
Sunrise Service @ 6:30 am  
Morning Worship Service @ 10:00 am

Join us on Sunday mornings for our worship service at 10 am  
Sunday School Classes for all ages begin at 9 am

## A Town's Spirit



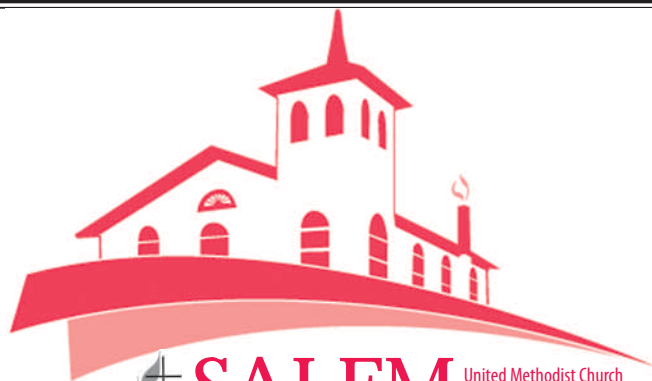
During Holy Week, a prayer service will be held Monday and Tuesday, March 21 and 22, both beginning at 7 p.m. A Holden evening prayer on Holy Wednesday, 7 p.m., will lead to a Maundy Thursday 7 p.m. service that includes foot washing, laying of hands, Holy Communion, and the stripping of the altar. The Good Friday Tenebrae service March 25 at 7 p.m. will feature

the seven last words of Christ.

An Easter vigil service will be held Holy Saturday at the usual time, 5:30 p.m. Easter will be celebrated March 27 with a Festival of the Resurrection at both 7 and 10:30 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church welcomes all to worship and to be a part of the church family. The office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and can be reached at 570-366-2316. Additional information can be obtained at

[www.stpaulsorwigsburg.org](http://www.stpaulsorwigsburg.org)



**SALEM** United Methodist Church  
Orwigsburg, PA

**Welcome Home**

**133 S. Liberty St. Orwigsburg**

**www.SalemUM.com 570-366-0201**

**– Sunday at Salem –**

**8:45 a.m. – Traditional**

**10:00 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages**

**10:45 a.m. – Contemporary with**

**Children's Church and Nursery**

**6:30 p.m. – SNL Coffeehouse**

**– SPECIAL EVENTS –**

**SNL Meal and Movie Nights – Feb. 14 and April 10**

**The God Squad Performs – March 20 and May 8**

**March 27 – Sunrise Worship 6 a.m.; Breakfast 6:45**

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## Landscape Design – A Problem Solving Journey

*Local landscape architect and owner of Season's Art Landscape Design, Tim Hill, offers the following design thoughts for homeowners.*

"They were on sale at the end of the season," is often a reason given when working with the homeowner on a new landscape design. A row of fast-growing shrubs reduced the walkway to a narrow path. A tree blocked a view, grew into overhead wires, and its branches scraped the side of the house.

I've been installing landscapes for more than 40 years. Important lessons learned are you have to roll up your sleeves, get your hands in the soil, and you've got to keep on learning. The amount of information and possibilities are endless. When I first started in business, there were 50,000 varieties of daylilies ... now there are more than 90,000!

The landscape design process can be lengthy, but I'll try to give homeowners some direction as each looks at their own property.

### *Enjoy the experience*

- Accept that you have to put some time into the process. A glass of wine along the way helps.
- Analyze and get to know your property ... very important! Consider sun path, wind direction, existing soils and depth, existing vegetation, underground utilities, views, climate zone, ground slope, drainage, architecture style and colors, surrounding landscapes, and noise.
- Define your lifestyle, goals, and budget. Ask yourself: How long will I be living here and how much time will I spend outdoors? How much sun or shade

and in what areas? Is space needed for pets or outdoor sports with the children? An herb or vegetable garden? How much time do I want to spend on yard maintenance?

- Learn about the possibilities. Pour another glass of wine. Check out books and magazines; watch



home/garden shows; and walk around area garden centers. Take a drive exploring other landscapes. Make a list of plants and materials you like and then learn about each plant's requirements and ultimate size.

- Begin thinking, dreaming, designing. It's important to explore alternatives; don't be locked into your first idea. Start with functional elements

such as driveways, walkways, and patios. Trees and larger shrubs should be located first and then work your way down to perennials and ground covers. Consider color, scale, texture, form and bloom times to assure interesting year-long seasonal displays.

You don't have to be an artist. Many great ideas begin as a sketch on a restaurant napkin. Designs can be two-dimensional in plan view, but don't forget height as an important part of the end result. Measure all existing structures and elements so you can place them in proper scale.

Take your plan to the outdoors with a tape measure, small flags and white spray paint. Measure and mark your walks, patio, and planting beds. Use the flags to mark trees and shrubs. Spend time walking through your vision and imagine the beauty.

Your dream landscape takes a large investment of time before you spend a dime. But it's worth it!