

ORWIGSBURG HAPPENINGS

From Where It All Began

... Is Happening Again

No. 94 – Issued Quarterly

BOROUGH OF ORWIGSBURG, PA

February 2018

Several New Faces Elected/Appointed to Important Posts

2018 Leadership Team Is Poised for Progress

Orwigsburg Borough is proud to introduce its leadership team for the new year and beyond. Many faces and names are familiar, having served this town with distinction in past years. But, there are several newly elected officials and appointed leaders taking on key positions due to retirements.

Newly elected officials

Results from the November Municipal General Election, voters re-elected Michele Rudloff to a new term on Orwigsburg Borough Council. During Council's reorganization on January 3, her fellow Councilors unanimously elected her to head the Council as President.



2018 ORWIGSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OFFICIALS – Front row from left, Councilors Angie Hoptak-Solga and Katie Bedway, Borough Manager Robert Williams, Borough Council President Michele Rudloff, Borough Secretary Sherry Edwards, and Mayor Barry Berger; back row, Borough Solicitor Paul Datte, Councilors Paul Bedway, Jr., Rodney Schaeffer, Council Vice President Susan Murphy, and Council Pro Tem Brian Baldwin; Fire Chief Jesse Zimmerman, and Police Chief John Koury.

Voters also elected residents Katie Bedway and Rodney Schaeffer to fill new terms on Borough Council. Those positions were open when former long-time Council members Darle Cresswell and Buddy Touchinsky chose not to run for re-election, retiring from the Council at the close of 2017.

Also during the November election, Mayor Barry Berger was re-elected to that position.

New appointees to key posts

Orwigsburg Police Chief John Koury was promoted from his sergeant position to head the Department in May of 2017 upon the retirement of long-serving Chief Stan Brozana.

– Continued on page 2

2018 EVENTS

Orwigsburg Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt at Albright's Woods Community Park, Saturday, March 24, noon.

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

Community Yard Sale – Saturday, May 19; 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Memorial Day parade/service and Lions Club Chicken Barbecue – Monday, May 28; activities begin 8 a.m.

Square Time – Held "On the Square" on the 2nd Thursday, 5:30 p.m.



May 10 – Yappy Hour

June 14 – Family Fun Fest

August 9 – Farm to Square

Orwigsburg Heritage Day – Saturday, Sept. 8; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Orwigsburg Halloween Parade – Wed., Oct. 24; 7 p.m.

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

Orwigsburg Holly Trail and Festival of Lights
Saturday, Dec. 1; noon and 4:30 p.m.

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2018 BOROUGH OFFICIALS

209 N. Warren Street
Orwigsburg, PA 17961 • Ph: 570-366-3103
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
www.orwigsburg.net

OFFICIALS

Mayor..... Barry Berger
Council President..... Michele Rudloff
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..... Jesse Zimmerman

ADDITIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Brian Baldwin • Paul Bedway, Jr.
Katie Bedway • Rodney Schaeffer
Angela Hoptak-Solga

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Emergency..... Dial 9-1-1
Non-emergency..... 570-366-3101
John Koury, Chief
Brandon Bayer • Robert Bechtel
Bryce Lewis • Tanner Noecker

STREET DEPARTMENT

Slade Bugajinsky • Devin Deibert • David Teter

WATER AND WASTEWATER

Shawn Reichart • David Teter

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 2018 in observance of the stated holidays – New Year's Day, Jan. 1; Good Friday, March 30; Memorial Day, May 28; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, September 3; Veterans' Day, Nov. 12; Thanksgiving, Nov. 22 and 23; Christmas eve and day, Dec. 24 and 25.

Leadership Team



Retired Fire Chief Dave Hardinger, left, was presented a clock from Mayor Barry Berger at the close of 2017 in honor of his many years of service to Orwigsburg Borough.

– Continued from Page 4

Jesse Zimmerman became Orwigsburg Fire Chief at Friendship Hose Co. No. 1 at the start of the new year following the retirement of long-time Chief Dave Hardinger. Prior to the new assignment, Jesse was First Assistant Fire Chief.

Not pictured, William "Bill" McMullen of the ARRO Group was appointed Building Code Official, Zoning Enforcement Officer, and Sewage Enforcement Officer following the retirement of familiar Tom Yashinsky of the ARRO Group.

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

VALENTINE'S DAY Order Deadline February 12

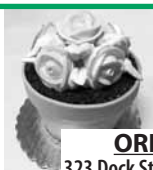
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Message from the Council President

Identifying Needs, Finding Solutions for Growth

It's 2018, a new year! Time for renewal and change for each of us as individuals . . . and for Orwigsburg Borough as well.

The new year ushered in two new faces on Borough Council as Councilors Rod Schaeffer and Katie Bedway were sworn into office shortly after the first. Rod is a life-long resident of Orwigsburg and has actively served on the Orwigsburg Municipal Authority for many years, making him the natural choice for Water and Sewer Chairman.

Katie is new to serving in a Borough capacity, but not in serving her community. She is president of the Orwigsburg Little League and, fittingly, will serve as the Borough's representative to the Blue Mountain Recreation Committee.

I was honored to be voted in as Borough Council President by my fellow Councilors and look forward to serving in that position. As someone who has served in this leadership role previously, it would be easy for me to come in and assume that everything in the Borough will operate exactly how it had before.



MICHELE RUDOLLOFF
Council President

After all, change is hard and particularly for many, resorting to the old tried and true methods or "this is how we always have done it" are the safest and easiest paths.

But are they the most successful and what is needed for meaningful growth?

The biggest change from then to now is having Bob Williams as Borough Manager at the helm of our town's day-to-day operations. Thanks to Bob's leadership, I have found I have a much clearer perspective and grasp of the borough's budgeting process, our expenses, and our day-to-day cash flow.

His desire to bring transparency to our budget process, and our overall financial picture is a benefit to not only the council members who can make more informed decisions, but also to our residents who are increasingly expressing interest in how the borough works. How exciting for our community to see this energy and sense of purpose. It gives me hope the borough will continue to grow and thrive due to both our elected officials and our residents.

Budgeting for the town's best interest

We obviously can't talk about the budget without talking about Council's difficult, but necessary, decision to raise real estate taxes by 3 mills this year.

Much of Council's budget discussions surrounded the Police Department, commanded by Chief John Koury, and the need to properly staff and equip the officers to operate safely and approach 24/7 coverage. An aged and ailing police vehicle needed replacement and the substantial uptick in police-required incidents called for Council to take action. A new patrol vehicle has just been put into service and an additional police officer was hired last fall.

Addressing our aging infrastructure – water and sewer systems, storm drainage, and street maintenance/paving – required a 2018 budget commitment to ensure \$100,000 be directed to start the process. The local funding will be used to actively pursue state grant money to bolster priority improvements.

It wasn't all bad news as we prepared to move from 2017 to the new year. The Borough was fortunate to have higher revenues last year than expected, primarily due to higher activity in the real estate market. Additionally, a negotiated health insurance plan for our employees was showing considerable savings with \$29,015 over 3 years as well as \$8502 savings in our Municipal Workers Compensation Insurance.

So what does 2018 hold for the Borough? No one can say for sure, but I can assure the residents the Borough management and Council are doing everything they can to continue to give you quality borough services in the most cost effective methods possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and to serve as Council President. I welcome all residents to reach out to me with any questions or concerns and I look forward to providing you with important information in future issues of Happenings.

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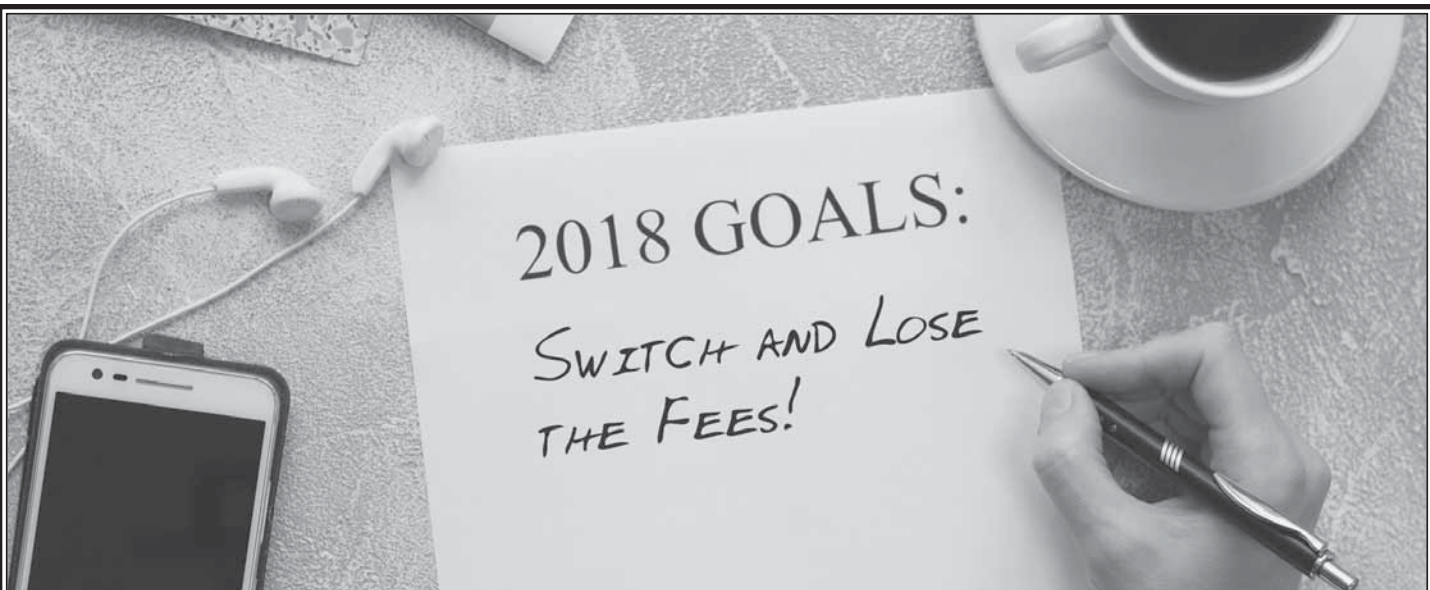
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Proclamation from the Orwigsburg Mayor

No Law Against Stupidity; Be Part of Your Town

As I was drafting my comments for this issue of "Orwigsburg Happenings", the Philadelphia Eagles were cruising to an unexpectedly easy pounding of the Minnesota Vikings. By the time this issue is distributed, we'll all know whether the Birds had another surprise left or the New England Patriots continued their current dominant control of the National Football League.



BARRY J. BERGER
Mayor

I don't normally spend much time following professional football. The whole "anthem protest" issue made me even less inclined toward spending leisure hours supporting that couch-bound activity. While I respect anyone's right to voice their opinion, I don't believe that right justifies disrespect to our nation's flag and, most importantly, those who fought and those who died to defend and protect the freedom represented by that flag.

Since the Founding Fathers of our great nation believed in our freedom to express our beliefs and that we are entitled to a presumption of innocence, there are no general laws against saying or doing anything stupid, assuming no one else suffers harm or

loss in the process.

However, an old saying, supplied throughout history in various forms by King Solomon, Confucius, Abraham Lincoln, Mark Twain, and others, goes along the lines of "It is better to say nothing and appear stupid than to speak and remove all doubt."

Counter to that wise advice, allow me to continue. We are exposed on a daily basis to reports of events and incidences throughout our community, our country, and our entire world that just seem to defy all reasonable logic. The news of these occurrences causes us to wonder how anyone could lack enough common sense to avoid being a contributing party.

My wife gently informs me that my opinions get older every day. I usually say that that's better than the alternative of not being a day older. In any case, let me offer an observation.

As a society, we have very nearly opted out of being a society. "Social media" is quickly displacing socializing. I've seen scores of postings that have left permanent, self-damaging digital fingerprints or gutless insults to others.

I've seen a dozen teenagers at a school bus stop, each displaying a blank, forward stare at their phone screens as they wait without speaking a word to one another. Half the people I pass during evening walks around town don't hear me say hello because their ear bud delivered volume overrides me.

When we disconnect our fellow citizens, consideration for their concerns and opinions is greatly diminished. For the betterment of yourself and your community, get to know your neighbors, our community businesses, our police, and our borough staff.

Become involved with any of our borough organizations or boards. Be a positive force in maintaining the art of common sense for the common good.

– Barry J. Berger, Mayor



R&J TOURS – 2018 HAPPENINGS

Call for Date – NYC Free Day.....	\$42
Call for Dates – Washington D.C. Free Day	\$46
Call for Dates – Gourmet Shopping.....	\$43
Feb 16 – Roy & Conway @ Hunterdon Hills.....	\$87
March 3 – Terra Cotta & Reading Terminal Market	*\$58
March 4 – Amazing Grace @ AMT.....	\$87
March 4-10 – Philadelphia Flower Show	call
March 14 – Jersey Boys @ Santander	\$108
March 14 – Death at the Garage Sale @ RDT	\$77
March 17 – St Patrick's Day Parade.....	\$42
March 17 – Oak Ridge Boys @ AMT.....	\$75
March 20 – Sweet Caroline @ Mt Airy Casino.....	\$67
March 30 – Murder at Mount Hope Mansion.....	\$80
April 4 – Mystery Tour	\$117
April 5 – Cherry Blossom Cruise.....	*\$126
April 7 – American Girl Place	\$82
April 7 – Legoland	\$38
April 7 – New York International Auto Show	\$65
April 10 – Sweet & Salty, Creamy & Crunchy.....	\$75
April 12 – Rainbow-Whose Wife is it Anyway	\$77
April 14 – Madagascar @ DAT	\$42
April 14 – Statue of Liberty & 9-11 Museum.....	*\$85
April 21 – Baltimore National Aquarium 2018	*\$70
April 28 – Eastern State Penitentiary & Grim Serial Killers.....	*\$68

OVERNIGHTS

*Child Rates Available

Call for Dates – Dover Downs	\$125 p/p Double Occupancy
April 20-24 – San Antonio Fiesta.....	\$2125 p/p Double Occupancy
April 23-May 3 – Imperial Cities	\$3849 p/p Double Occupancy
April 27-29 – Virginia International Tattoo	\$581 p/p Double Occupancy
May 31-June 3 – The Purple Moose	\$794 p/p Double Occupancy

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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

Borough holiday schedule

Orwigsburg Borough offices will be closed on March 30 in observance of Good Friday and on Monday, May 28 observing Memorial Day.

Trash/recycling moved from Square

At the request of residents and County Waste, the Borough's trash/recycling contractor, these removal services will no longer take place from properties fronting on the Orwigsburg Square in the 100 blocks of East and West Market St. effective January 1 of this year.



The storage location of waste and recycling containers must be moved from the fronts of these properties. Removal services will be to the rear from Stephen Street on the south and Cherry Street on the north.

If moving your receptacles to the rear of the property is a challenge or hardship, contact Borough Hall at 570-366-3103 to explain your difficulty and determine the relocation.

County Waste provided collection from both fronts and rears of Square properties during the first two collection weeks of the new year to accommodate

this transition. As of this publication date, the new provisions will be enforced.

How do holidays affect trash/recycling?

County Waste, observes six major holidays – Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Years Day – that may change the normal Tuesday/Friday collections.

Here are the simple Holiday Schedule Rules:

- If the holiday falls on a Monday or Tuesday, trash/recycling pickup will be delayed one day for every household ... Tuesday pickup will move to Wednesday; Friday pickup will move to Saturday.
- If the holiday falls on Wednesday thru Friday, the Tuesday pickup will not be affected; but, the Friday pickup will move to Saturday.
- If the holiday falls on Saturday or Sunday, the normal Tuesday and Friday pickups will not be affected.

The next major holiday will be Memorial Day on Monday, May 28. Because the holiday falls on a Monday, the usual Tuesday pickup will be delayed to Wednesday, May 30, and the usual Friday pickup will be delayed to Saturday, June 2.

A handy Trash/Recycling Holiday Schedule card detailing the dates affected for 2018-2019 was mailed with the current Utility Billing in January. Additional





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Valentines Shopping


 February 7 thru 13 – 12 noon to 5 p.m.

Kid's Valentine Crafts Class
 Saturday, Feb. 10 – 1 to 3 p.m.
 (Must Call to Pre-Register)

Spring Re-Opening
 (No Fooling)
 Sunday, April 1 – FREE gift w/purchase



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 HOURS: Fridays & Saturdays – 10 to 5
 Sundays & Mondays – 12 to 5



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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

cards are available at Borough Hall, 209 N. Warren St., for anyone who did not receive it.

Declared "Snow Emergency"

The Borough last year reduced the number of designated "Snow Emergency" streets through Orwigsburg in order for the snow plow crews to efficiently stay ahead of major snowfalls. Fewer snow emergency streets also mean less stress for many residents by not having to move their vehicles off the street right away ... and, if they are required, will have convenient streets allowing parking.

The designated "Snow Emergency" routes are: all of East and West Market streets, including both sides of Centre Square; South Liberty Street from Rt. 61 to Market, and North Washington Street from the blinker light to the Borough line.

During a snow and/or ice event, the Mayor of Orwigsburg may declare an official "Snow Emergency." Residents will be made aware of the emergency by notice posted to the borough website and Facebook page, through announcements on radio stations WPPA-AM and WAVT-FM, and by notice in the Republican Herald daily newspaper.

Households registered with the Borough's direct



notification system – Swiftreach 911 – will receive a phone call with a pre-recorded message from the Borough, an email, or text message depending on which method was requested. 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.

All vehicles parked on the designated "Snow Emergency" streets must be removed for a period of 24 hours once the emergency is declared or for a longer period as instructed.

Vehicles not removed, in violation of the emergency procedure, will be ticketed and will be towed. The vehicle owner is responsible for all towing costs. Ignorance of the declared emergency is not an excuse. It's your responsibility to find out.

Orwigsburg Town Survey

Residents were asked last November what they thought about their town through the Great Orwigsburg Town Survey. The Borough asked your opinion ... and, oh boy, did you respond!

Thank you to all who completed approximately 350 paper and on-line town surveys. The considerable amount of time and careful thought that went into each answer to this extensive survey were quite evident.

Also quite evident is the pride people have in
– Continued on page 10



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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

– Continued from Page 9

being part of this community. Shortcomings and needs exist; but, even negative comments were offered as constructive criticism and hopes for a better Orwigsburg.

Each and every response is being tabulated. A public meeting to reveal the results of the survey and begin a community discussion will be planned for early spring. Stay tuned to the Borough website, Facebook page, and local newspapers for this opportunity.

Easter egg hunt

The Easter Bunny will make a special, early visit to Orwigsburg on Saturday, March 24 for the annual egg hunt sponsored by the Orwigsburg Lions Club. The event will be held at Albright's Woods, located on Grove Street, just east of the Little League field and will begin at 12 noon.

All children from the Orwigsburg community through the age of 10 are invited to hunt for eggs, all filled with yummy candy treats. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Special "prize" eggs will be part of the selection for each age group.



This will be a B.Y.O.B. event ... Bring Your Own Basket! After the Easter egg hunt, there will be a chance to take your child's picture with the Easter Bunny. This is a free event and will be held rain or shine.

Memorial Day Chicken Barbecue

Don't forget the annual Orwigsburg Lions Club Memorial Day chicken barbecue held as part of the Memorial Day festivities on Monday, May 28.

The chicken is barbecued on the spot at the Orwigsburg Veterans Community Memorial Hall. A full dinner is available for eating there or packaged for takeout. Tickets will be sold in advance and some will be available during the event. All proceeds are used by the Lions to sponsor local events.



Now available – Credit/debit bill pay

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.

Providing our residents with a higher level of customer service, Orwigsburg Borough now accepts credit and debit card payments for water, sewer, and trash service. Customers can make payments online at www.orwigsburg.net or at the Borough Office with major credit and debit cards.

The Borough utilizes the services of MuniPAY with Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or e-check. A user fee of 2.45% or \$3, whichever is greater, will be assessed per transaction. The fee for e-check is \$1.50.

GABRIEL CHAMBER ENSEMBLE



Sun., February 25, 3 p.m. – Works by Schikele, Shostakovich, Beethoven, Prokofiev and Brahms

Guest artists:



Xun Pan
Piano



Elizabeth Wright
Violin



John Laughton
Clarinet

Sun., April 22, 3 p.m. – Works by Haydn & Mozart

Featuring:



Katherine Pan
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Gabriel Chamber Large Ensemble

Jerusalem Lutheran Church • 252 Dock St., Sch. Haven
Adult \$20 • Seniors \$15 • Students free

Gabriel Youth Orchestra Spring Concert

Sunday, April 29 – 3 p.m. – \$5.00 General Admission

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Gabriel Chamber Ensemble

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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

The Borough does not collect, receive or retain any portion of the service fees. The fees are charged by MunicIPAY in order to provide the service. MunicIPAY is an electronic payment processing option currently used by local Schuylkill County municipalities designed specifically for local government and utility agencies.

Customers may continue to pay by cash, check or money order at the Borough Office, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Additionally, checks may be mailed to Orwigsburg Borough, 209 North Warren Street, Orwigsburg, PA 17961, or deposited in the 24/7 drop-off box located at the front door to Borough Hall.

Questions concerning these payment options may be directed to kathi@orwigsburg.net or call 570-366-3103.

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.

Fishing Rodeo

The 28th annual Orwigsburg Children's Fishing Rodeo will be held one weekend in May (yet to be announced) for children 15 and under. Fisher's Dam, located near South Washington and East Independence streets, will be stocked for spring fishing.



Indoor and outdoor event rental spaces

Do you need an event space for an upcoming family reunion, holiday or birthday party, business meeting, or other gathering?

Outdoors, the pavilion at Albright's Woods on Grove Street is available for rent. 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. Indoors, facilities at the Veterans Community Memorial Hall can be rented.

For further details and to lock in your reservation at either call the borough office at 570-366-3103.

In need of health aids

Are you or a loved one in need of any of these items to aid in recovery from illness or surgery?

- Wheelchair
- Walker – stationary & folding
- Hospital bed – manual & electric

– Continued on page 12

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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

– Continued from Page 11

- Cane – single and multi-legged
- Crutches
- Shower seat
- Bedside commode/bedpan
- Over-toilet seat with handrails
- 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.

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,

Month	Tues.	Fri.
Feb.	13	16
March	13	16
April	10	13
May	8	11

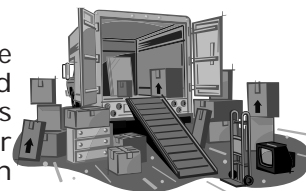
LARGE ITEM PICKUP DATES

do not wait until the morning of collection to place garbage.

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.

Rental properties

Orwigsburg Ordinance #396 and newly enacted Ordinance #424 establishes certain responsibilities for owners of rental properties in the Borough.



Every owner/lessor of any rental property, including but not limited to dwelling, dwelling units, rooming houses, rooming units, or dormitory rooms must register with the Borough each year between January 1 and February 28 identifying the tenants residing. 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 can be printed from the borough website.

As part of the annual registration, a basic triennial (once every three years) inspection fee shall be paid for each and any dwelling unit ... \$110 for the first unit, \$45 for the second, and \$25 for each additional unit per address.

Owners/landlords living in excess of 20 miles from the Borough must designate a local manager for the property and provide all contact information. This individual must live within 10 miles of the Borough.

Property owners, landlords and tenants are asked to store trash and recycling containers at a location out of view from the front of the property. If necessary, the building code inspector shall identify such location.

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 \$20. The permit is good for three weeks; another permit is required

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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

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.

Plan to reduce size of PA House

State Rep. Jerry Knowles reports he is the prime sponsor of House Bill 153, legislation that would reduce the size of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives from 203 to 151 members. Since this would involve a change to the Pennsylvania Constitution, a specific process must be followed. He provides this update:

In the previous 2015-16 session this same legislation passed in both the House and the Senate. Notification of the bill's passage was placed in two newspapers in every county throughout the state. House Bill 153 must now pass in both chambers again in the current 2017-18 session.

Once that occurs, notification will again appear in newspapers, and the measure will appear on the ballot as a referendum for voters to decide. Voters will make the final decision whether the House will consist of 151 or 203 legislators.

"I look forward to this bill being brought up for a vote this year, and I will continue to advocate for a smaller, more efficient state government," says Knowles.

For more information about this legislation, or any other legislative topic, call my district office in

Tamaqua at 570-668-1240, or in Hamburg at 610-562-3411. Information can also be found online at RepKnowles.com or Facebook.com/RepKnowles.

Getting the word out

We use the Borough website 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.

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.



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Orwigsburg Police Department

Community Enforcement, Training and Safety for 2018

Your Orwigsburg Police Department has begun 2018 where last year left off, handling an increasing number of calls for assistance. Our department prides itself on maintaining Orwigsburg as a safe place in which to live and work.

Averaging about 217 calls per month, we ended 2017 with 2,608 calls for service. This number includes 231 crimes reported in the borough resulting in 107 arrests. As of the middle of January this year, we responded to 134 calls for service compared to only 98 through the same period last year.

Comparative numbers for 2017 have not yet been calculated by the FBI. In 1976 Orwigsburg accounted for just 2% of all crime occurring in Schuylkill County.

While we are busier than ever handling calls, we made a renewed effort to be proactive in traffic enforcement. Last year we issued 272 traffic citations, an increase from 200 in 2016.

Our goal as a police department is compliance with traffic laws. Our visibility in traffic enforcement is not limited to only citations, having issued an additional 800 warnings last year. When motorists see us on a traffic stop, or monitoring traffic on the side of the road, they typically slow down and become more alert. This is the best possible outcome.



Certified to detect DUI offenses

Did you know all members of the Orwigsburg Police Department are certified as Standardized Field Sobriety Testing practitioners? This 24-hour course is administered by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and instructs police officers how to detect signs of impairment from a person's driving and behavior.

In addition, officers are taught a battery of tests to determine if a motorist is capable of safely operating a vehicle. We also carry preliminary breath tests that are used to determine the presence of alcohol in a person's body. These instruments use air from deep in a person's lungs and are not susceptible to being masked. Mouthwash, pennies, cigarettes, and hyperventilation are merely "urban myths" in how to beat the test results.

In 2016, our department arrested 17 for driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Last year, once all officers became certified, our DUI arrests doubled to 33. The moral to the story is to "Drive sober or get pulled over." Otherwise it will be the most expensive cab ride you've ever had.

Keeping our officers safe

Officers recently attended a seminar titled "Below 100." The goal of this four-hour class is to eliminate preventable line-of-duty deaths and reduce the total number of law enforcement deaths to below 100 – a number that hasn't been seen since 1943. The all-time high for officer deaths was 278 line-of-duty deaths in 1974.

Through increased awareness, training, and safety practices, that number has dramatically decreased to an average of 150 deaths per year over the last decade. This training reinforced five tenets – wear your seatbelt, wear your body armor, watch your speed, complacency kills, and What's Important Now (WIN).

The class helped to enhance our culture of safety in the Orwigsburg Police Department.

– Police Officer Robert Bechtel

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Veterans Community Memorial Hall

Happy New Year! The Veterans Memorial Development taskforce closed out another successful year of continued renovations to the community building.

The past two months we've experienced some of the longest and deepest cold spells in recent memory. Despite the frigid temperatures, activities must go on. It's times like these we appreciate the value of having a building like the Veterans Memorial in our town. Community Memorial Hall provides a place of shelter, warmth and comfort, allowing meetings to be held, movies to be watched, basketball to be played, and fundraisers to go on, regardless of what is happening outside.

2018 work slated inside and out

Work to replace the outside basketball court that had to be relocated due to parking lot improvements will begin this spring now that plans were approved and funding put in place. Once mother nature gives us the green light, we will proceed with advertising for contractors to bid and complete the work soon after award.

The return of the outdoor court will provide one more completed item for the task force while adding another feature to our town's recreation options. With any construction project, there may be some traffic pattern changes that occur, foot and/or auto. Please be aware and adhere to posted signage for

everyone's safety.

Interior finish work is planned on the new front entrance addition of 2016. Lighting design finishing touches and deciding the best options to visually honor our veterans as a focal point of the building and main entrance are also planned.

The Orwigsburg Borough office has been accepting honor roll applicants to be displayed in this completed space. The form to submit an honor candidate can be downloaded from the Task Force website – www.orwigsburgmemorial.com – or by contacting borough hall at (570) 366-3103. The running list of veterans already submitted can be viewed on the community bulletin board inside Memorial Hall.

Additional help still needed

As the old saying goes, good things come to those who wait. The task force has been working patiently and methodically, taking advantage of public grants and carefully coordinating with private donations from our residents and businesses.

We still need your help. Anyone considering donating time or cash to the cause, follow the link to our website, www.orwigsburgmemorial.com, check us out on Facebook, send us an email at memorial@orwigsburg.net or reach out to a task force member for more information. Every pledge helps get us one step closer to completion.

– Nick Bagdonis, Taskforce Director



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– John and Susan Riley, Orwigsburg

Great job. I knew you could be trusted to make it look nice and you made it better than nice.
– Ken and Cheryl Koscil, Minersville

Word gets around (It's a small town!)

... Some recent letters from customers.

I highly recommend Season's Art! They did a great job for us.
– Leann Strencosky, Orwigsburg

Thanks, looks great! I couldn't be more pleased!
– Robin Otto, Valley View

Thank you to you and your exceptional team. Everything looks great!
– Brenda Robertson, Sch. Haven

I wanted to let you know that the privacy trees you planted for me and Darlene are growing beautifully. I am so pleased with your work. Thank you – Albert Myers, Leesport

Thank you so much for my BEAUTIFUL front yard. You are so blessed to have such great workers. You were all so professional and tireless.
– Pastor Harold and Chris Hand, Pottsville

The landscape looks great at the lake. Thanks for a job very well done! ... as usual – Rose Ann Sinkosky, Lake Wynonah

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Orwigsburg Business & Professional Assoc.

Events Planned Throughout 2018

The Orwigsburg Business and Professional Association (OBPA) proudly announces its calendar of 2018 community happenings planned to provide exciting, entertaining and affordable activities for all ages, lifestyles and tastes.

Ever consider joining the OBPA? Come to our annual Meet & Greet Mixer on Thursday, April 5 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Schuylkill Country Club. The evening presents the opportunity for members (old, new and future) to network with each other and interact on a more casual level with leaders from Schuylkill County and Orwigsburg Borough. OBPA is business oriented, but non-business individuals eager to be involved are encouraged to join. An RSVP is required for this Mixer.

Square Time is a time of celebration

All celebrations in OBPA's 7th annual Square Time events program are held on the second Thursday of the month and kick off at 5:30 p.m. Set on our beautiful town square, Square Time showcases local busi-

nesses, area performers and unique personalities.

Back by "pawpular" demand, **Yappy Hour** on May 10 will kick off the outdoor season. Your four-legged friends are particularly invited to mix and mingle, but pet-less residents and visitors will be equally catered to. Vendors will showcase pet and people-friendly items. Enjoy live music to soothe the savage beast and munch on yappetizers.

A pet-themed Chinese auction, pet parade, and fun demonstrations will be featured.

Family Funfest will be the theme at the June 14 Square Time. Welcome sum-

mer with crafts, a bounce house, games, treats and vendors galore to put you in the summer spirit!

Farm to Square – where wine, farmers and artists meet – will be held August 9. We have combined our annual June Jamboree with our Farmers Market to bring you a huge event where you can sample libations and shop with local farmers and artists while mixing and mingling with your neighbors.

OBPA has also started planning for the 27th annual Heritage Celebration set for Saturday, Sept. 8 and the Festival of Lights on Saturday, Dec. 1.

OBPA more than event planner

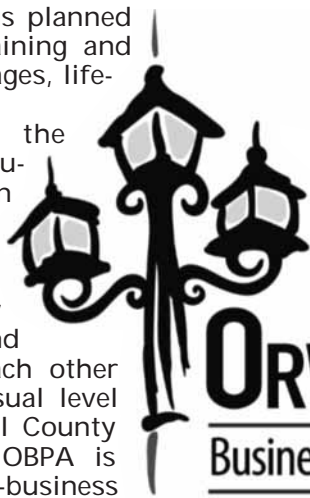
In addition to our events, benefiting both the community and local businesses, OBPA supports young aspiring business professionals. In the past year, we've sponsored a scholarship for the Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!), an after-school program where students in grades 6 through 12 learn the foundations of business by interacting with area business owners. The YEA! is facilitated through the Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce with classes held at a local college.

OBPA also sponsors an annual Blue Mountain High School graduation award and continually supports many area non-profit endeavors.

All are invited to join

Finally, and to answer an often-asked question, "No, you do not have to own a business to join our organization." While our membership primarily consists of business proprietors, we gladly welcome individual members. OBPA wouldn't want anyone to miss out on the fun and great feeling of accomplishment when you work to better your community.

OBPA's meetings are held the first Thursday of each month. Find out more on these activities and how to be a part of this organization on our webpage orwigsburgbusiness.org, join us on Facebook, or contact Pat Falco at 610-462-9167.



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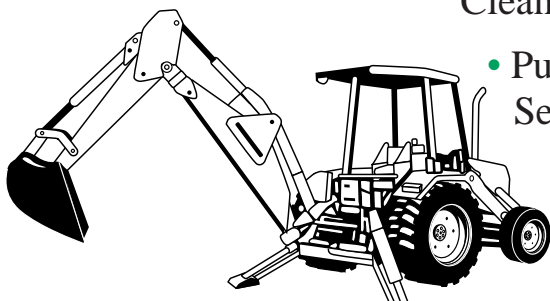
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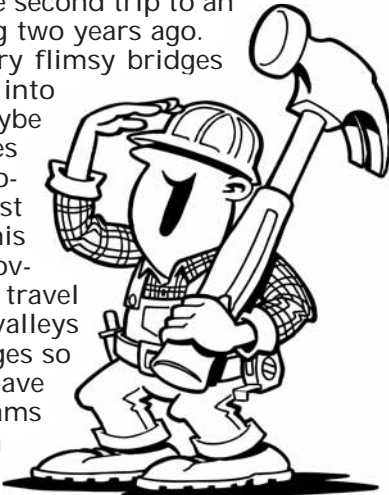


Team Orwigsburg Plans Work Trip

Team Orwigsburg, a local faith-based mission team, is gearing up to travel to West Virginia in April this year. This will be the second trip to an area hit hard by flooding two years ago.

Floods destroyed very flimsy bridges

– the only means to get into some areas where maybe only two or three homes are located in very isolated parts of the West Virginia mountains. This region is immersed in poverty, so mission teams travel deep into the hills and valleys to build and install bridges so that residents do not have to drive through streams and small rivers to reach their below-standard homes.



Team Orwigsburg's work begins at Bartush Signs' warehouse with a team of volunteers and employees willing to give time to the project. Last year a convoy of six vehicles transported two completed bridges, supplies and donations for residents, and all the tools, gear, and food needed to sustain Team Orwigsburg volunteers for 10 days.

The team also does local work during each year and very much appreciates the response to fundrais-

ers that help fund the mission work each year.

This is the team's 12th year of existence. New faces are always welcome. Meetings are held on the first Monday of every month, 7 p.m., at Salem United Methodist Church on S. Liberty Street. No previous mission work is required; just a willing heart to "help heal hearts and homes."

The public is encouraged to support the group's next fundraiser. A turkey dinner will be held Saturday, Feb. 17 from 4 to 7 p.m. at St. John's United Church of Christ Fellowship Hall. A free will offering will be appreciated. Take-outs will be available.

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Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library

Whew ... Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library did it! We're all moved into our "forever" (99 year lease) new home at 216 W. Independence St. on the first floor of the Independence Square senior living apartment building.

Stop in to see this beautiful and spacious place to learn and explore. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. To find out more, visit the website www.orwigsburglibrary.org, find us on Facebook at OrwigsburgAreaFreePublicLibrary, or call 570-366-1638.

Thank you to every person that made the physical move possible – members of the Library Board and staff, the Boy Scouts, church groups, Blue Mountain football team, and individual patrons – helping in any way they could.

And, thank you to all who supported the Capital Campaign to make it all possible. There is still financial help needed and lots of different ways to contribute. Contact any of the Library Board members or speak to Claudia, the Library director.

One opportunity is to purchase a tile piece "in memory of" or "in honor of" a loved one or just for yourself. For a donation of \$250, a 4x4 kitchen tile, individually designed by and for friends/supporters of the Library, will be installed by the kitchenette area.



Memorialize loved ones, original artwork ... you decide.

Here's another one to aid the Capital Campaign. Every member of your family can contribute to this one. February is "Love Your Library Month." Back by popular demand, our Pick a Heart Tree allows everyone to help the cause. Purchase a heart for \$1 and then bring the suggested item back to the Library on your next visit.

It's back ... Cupcake War!

All participating Pottsville District libraries will be hosting the 3rd annual Cupcake War on Sun., March 11 at the Fairlaine Village Mall. Be a baker! Be a taster! Have the kids enter the coloring contest.

Register in advance by March 1. Stop at the Orwigsburg Library for more information.

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Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library

So many services offered

There is no lack of activity here at the Library! There are still the old Favorites ... Book Club, last Monday of the month at 6 p.m.; Tuesday Story Time at 10:30 a.m.; Knitters on Tuesday evenings, 5:30 p.m.; Lego Club on the second Wednesday each month at 5:30 p.m.; Mahjongg on the first, third, and fifth Wednesday each month at 6 p.m. and each Friday from 1 to 3 p.m.

Family Programming is scheduled on random Thursdays at 6 p.m. Upcoming activities include Yoga for all levels and ages on February 15, the ABCs and Ds of Medicare on March 1, St. Patty's Day kids' story and craft on March 8, "Look Your Best for Spring" on March 15, and Book Bingo on March 22.

So many programs are in the works – stop in to check, look at the website, like us on facebook

Play K is a special program for three to five year olds geared to ready youngsters for kindergarten by modeling school behavior and activities. The program is held every Friday morning starting at 10:30 a.m.

A new program – Media Madness – is similar to Book Club. Anyone can be part of this discussion group to talk about movies, television shows, or anything in the media realm. It meets every fourth Wednesday of the month.

Saturday children's programming is held from 10 a.m. Building Block Party, for all ages, is held on the first Saturday of the month; Play K for 3 to 5 year



olds on the second Saturday; Story Time reading and a craft is slated the third Saturday; and Crafty Saturday, geared for elementary age children on the fourth Saturday.

Upcoming events and fundraisers

The Library will be selling its popular "April Calendar" fundraiser during the month of March. A \$5 ticket buys 30 chances to win. Proceeds benefit the children's Summer Reading program.

Dine-out opportunities at the Deer Lake Pub to support the Library are slated Saturday, April 21 and Sunday, June 24. Watch for details



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Orwigsburg Historical Society

Tracing Schuylkill County's past

The Orwigsburg Historical Society has announced a few of its 2018 program series. These presentations are open to the public and held in the Community Center at the society's headquarters and museum building. It is located in the original 1891 Friendship Hose Co. firehouse, 109 East Mifflin Street.

"The Art of Post Card Collecting & Its Significance to Historical Documentation" will be presented Thurs., April 19 beginning at 7 p.m. William Schultz, a noted speaker, author, and philatelic judge and appraiser will speak. Schultz will present a part of his own collection of post cards, featuring toll gates, houses, and toll usages from their earliest development to today.

"Powwowing in the Modern Age" will be the program on Thurs., May 17 starting at 7 p.m. Robert Pheonix, a noted authority on PA German powwowing, will introduce the attendees to the tradition of powwowing, discuss why it is still relevant today, and teach how you can learn to powwow for yourself and for others.

Powwowing is the faith healing and folk magic tradition of the Pennsylvania Germans. With its roots in European folk healing traditions, powwowing involves the use of Christian-based charms, spells, and household cures to offer relief from common ailments.

Volunteers needed and appreciated

Help is needed with painting (inside and outside) at the Society. Other volunteers are asked to help in

the process of cataloging and organizing a number of valuable publications for members and visitors to utilize. Topics include local history, archaeology, Native American history, architecture, American antiques, and historical fashions and accessories.

Anyone interested in assisting with either project, contact the society at 570-366-8769 or 570-617-7809.

OHS membership has many benefits

Annual membership to the Orwigsburg Historical Society brings with it access to the society's collection as well as many other services and offers:

- Free admission to the museum and "Old Jail" for you and your family.
- Use of the society's research resources – local church records, Orwigsburg Board of Health records, DAR files, tax ledgers for Orwigsburg and many southern Schuylkill County Boroughs and Townships.
- Assistance with your genealogical search.
- 10% discount on museum store merchandise, including photo reprints, year-round and notice of "Surprise Sales" on merchandise.
- Discount on rental of the "Community Center" for meetings, lectures, and private events.
- And, the joy of knowing you are helping to preserve the history of Orwigsburg & Schuylkill County.

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State Senator David G. Argall

Reforming our welfare system in Pennsylvania

As Chairman of the Senate Majority Policy Committee, one of the biggest issues my colleagues and I continue to tackle is welfare fraud and abuse in Pennsylvania. My goal regarding welfare reform is to end the abuse of the system so that we can save the state money and afford to provide additional assistance to those who are truly needy.



To date, many of the state's welfare fraud prevention initiatives have been successful. For example, based on figures provided by the Office of Inspector General for the 2016-17 Fiscal Year, the office saved approximately \$622,774 in Schuylkill County through various welfare fraud prevention initiatives. While these initiatives have generated significant cost savings for our region and the state, I do believe more needs to be done.

One reform initiative during the 2015-16 legislative session required the state to hire more investigators within the Office of Inspector General to combat welfare fraud, assist caseworkers with questionable applications, and address tips from the public. Unfortunately, the governor vetoed that plan as he has other reform proposals. I reintroduced a similar initiative this legislative session as Senate Bill 425.

Back in October 2017, the governor vetoed House Bill 59 which would have established a work requirement for able-bodied Medicaid recipients. The goal was to reduce costs in the long-term by encouraging recipients to find employment and become self-sufficient, rather than continue to rely upon the taxpayer.

Many local employers tell me they often have difficulty finding workers. I am hopeful this measure can be adopted in the future so we can enhance our job

climate and help more individuals become productive, self-sufficient members of society.

Time to change our focus

Several years ago I stood with Governor Schweiker to announce the creation of the LCCC Morgan Center in Tamaqua. That community dared to dream that students would take advantage of this local resource. Local students are now helping to turn that dream into a reality.

Our focus should be on more jobs, more people working, better education and training ... not more welfare costs.



**SENATOR
DAVID ARGALL**

Over in the House, Rep. Mike Tobash has been a leader in the fight for welfare reform. He and his colleagues early this year have introduced welfare reform bills focused specifically on work requirements and time limits for receiving various public assistance benefits.

Funding for welfare programs and services accounts for a substantial amount of the state's budget. We must ensure the system is operating efficiently and with the highest integrity.



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A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

Salem UMC

Salem United Methodist Church, where Liberty and Independence meet, offers three unique worship services each Sunday – a traditional worship at 8:45 a.m., a contemporary worship at 10:45 a.m., and the SNL Coffeehouse at 6:30 p.m. Sunday school for all ages is held at 10 a.m. with Children's Choir and Children's Church held during the 10:45 worship for grades one through five. A paid nursery attendant is on staff from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



SNL is Salem's open door, coffeehouse-style worship experience, held Sunday evenings in Sandherr Hall. In a small group setting, the good news of Christ is shared through messages, discussions and Christian films. This time of worship and outreach is under the leadership of Salem's lay speakers, with guest appearances by Pastor Stew Warner. Special "meal and movie" nights, held the second Sunday of each month – Feb. 11, March 11, April 8, and May 13 – begin at 6 p.m. Weekly videos are part of the SNL experience. Coming in April ... a Live Music & Lock-In event for teens is planned.

Lay leader Brenda Binns offers "Eat, Pray and Color" for all ages every Wednesday at 2 p.m. at The Cake Pros in Schuylkill Haven. The supplies and coffee are all free. Join Brenda for an hour of fellowship, fun and food.

Family Movie Nights are held Fridays at 5:30 p.m. throughout the winter months. Check our web page, look for our posters and check the white board sign in front of the church for upcoming dates.

Scrapbooking Guild is open to all, meeting the third Friday each month from 4 to 10 p.m. Come at any time and stay as long as you please.

The annual Soup/Bake Sale will be held Saturday, Feb. 10 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come early to get the best selections. All proceeds help fund the free Community Block Party held at the end of the summer.

The UMW will hold its second annual Chicken and Ham Pot Pie Dinner on March 10 from 5 to 7 p.m. in Sandherr Hall. Eat-in or take out.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14. Salem Church will partner with five other local churches for Wednesday Lenten community supper and worship. A theme of "Giving It Up" will be explored each week. Supper begins at 6 p.m. with worship following at 7. Each church will have its own Ash Wednesday worship. The Lenten schedule and Wednesday locations can be found on our web page www.SalemUMC.com.

The God Squad – our team of bell ringers – will

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
www.SouthSchuylkillPrinting.com

Publication dates for the next three issues are May 11, August 10, and November 2, 2018

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, kathi@orwigsburg.net or call 570-366-3103 for info, 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.



Kimmels Church

179 Pine Creek Drive • Orwigsburg, PA
www.kimmelschurch.org

Join Us!

Easter Egg Hunt

March 25 - 3 pm

Good Friday Service

March 30 - 6:30 pm

Easter Worship Services

April 1

Sunrise Service - 6:15 am

Morning Worship Service - 10:00 am

Join us on Sunday mornings for our worship service at 10 am
www.kimmelschurch.org • Phone: 570-943-2759

A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

be featured two times this spring, March 18 and May 13 at both Sunday worship services at 8:45 and 10:45 a.m.

A free community Easter Egg Hunt for all children up to age 10 will be held on Sunday, March 25 at 1 p.m. Bring your baskets and appetite for a time of fun, food and fellowship.

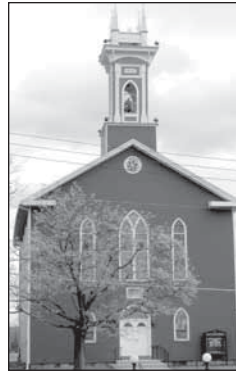
Easter Day on Sunday, April 1 begins with a sunrise service at 6:30 a.m., followed by breakfast in Sandherr Hall at 7:15 a.m. for all the early risers. Make your first stop the cross outside the church where flowers will be available for all to place on the cross. An Easter tradition for years, we remember that He is Risen! He is Risen, Indeed. Regular worship times of 8:45 and 10:45 a.m. and SNL at 6:30 p.m. will follow.

Our mission at Salem Church is TLC – Transforming Lives through Christ. If you are searching and seeking, we welcome you to visit us and learn how your life can be transformed through Christ.

Zion's Red Church

Zion's Red Church, 1287 Centre Turnpike (Rt. 61 at Brick Hill Rd.) in Orwigsburg is a congregation of the United Church of Christ and Evangelical Lutheran Church. We gather for worship each Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Ash Wednesday on Feb. 14 begins the season of Lent. A service of ashes and Holy Communion will be held at 7 p.m. On Maundy Thursday, Mar. 29 at 7



p.m., we gather for a service of Holy Communion and then strip the altar in honor of Christ's suffering on the cross.

Join us on Easter Sunday, April 1 at 10:30 a.m. as we celebrate Christ's resurrection with a service of Holy Communion.

Zion's invites you for an afternoon of fun on Sun., March 18 at 2 p.m. Teri Geiger, an independent consultant of Life Expressions, will be our guide for your Create

a Sign project. First, you'll choose a saying or phrase. Next, you'll pick paint colors to use on your wooden sign piece. Lastly, Teri will teach everyone how to apply the phrase or saying. You have a choice of 4"x24" for \$25 or 4"x12" for \$15 – cash or checks only, no credit cards. A portion of your registration/materials' cost will be donated back to Red Church.

Light refreshments will be served as you create your sign. To reserve a place, please leave a message at the church office (570) 366-1178 including your name and a telephone number.

Whoever you are ... wherever you are on life's journey ... you are welcome at Zion's Red Church! Contact the church office for additional information or go online at www.zionsredchurch.org.

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A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

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Faith Worship Center

The new year brings challenges for sure, but it also brings tremendous opportunity. While we can all agree there will be situations in this uncontrollable world that require perseverance, we should strive to not just endure, but to flourish.



Are you searching for more in life? Finding the message of Faith Church is easy ... for those who may not be able to attend for whatever reason at any time, our website has recorded Sunday Celebration services, presentations of faith and interpretation, and soon will feature "live streaming" of Sunday services.

Many church ministries are offered for folks of all ages, all walks of life, and all interests. Our website provides more information to find your path.

Faith Church is a contemporary church with a live band and a welcoming environment. If you don't have a church you call home, we welcome you to visit and check things out. Currently we are on a winter schedule of a 10 a.m. Sunday celebration service with Youth

Group and Children's programs for all ages.

Each spring we launch a new campaign – this year we will be doing the Campaign of Mercy beginning Easter Sunday and running for eight weeks. The entire church, small groups, and ministries study the same programs and then unite for a Sunday message. Faith Church would love to welcome you to be a part of our campaign that will conclude with a Sunday dinner after church for all to enjoy.

For more information on Faith Worship Center's many groups or to find help for your needs, contact the church at 570-366-5131 or visit the website at www.atfaithchurch.com. The worship center is located at 1168 Centre Turnpike (Rt. 61).

St. Paul's Lutheran

Located at 215 North Warren St. in Orwigsburg, St. Paul's Lutheran Church welcomes all to worship and to be part of the church family. Weekly services are held on Saturday beginning at 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday mornings at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

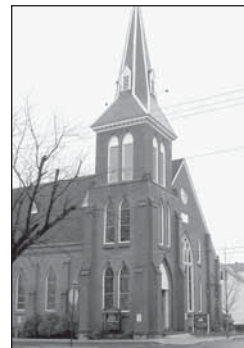
The office is open Tuesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and can be reached by calling 570-366-2316. Additional information can be obtained at www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org.

St. Paul's will mark the beginning of Lent with an Ash Wednesday worship service on February 14 at 7 p.m. All are invited to come forward for the imposition of ashes and to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Midweek Lenten services of Holden Evening Prayer will be held on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. These services will journey through Martin Luther's Small Catechism and provide reflections on the basic principles of our faith.

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday worship, March 24 & 25, when Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem will be celebrated and the reading of the Passion according to St. Mark will be read.

Maundy Thursday worship will be held on March 29 at 7 p.m. Join us on the night when Christ celebrated the Passover, the night when Christ washed



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A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

the feet of his disciples, and the night on which we received the sacrament of Holy Communion. Witness Christ's act of servant-hood in our ceremony of foot washing.

A Service of Tenebrae (Latin for "Darkness") will be held on March 30 at 7 p.m. Candles will be extinguished as we hear how Christ suffered and died upon the cross.

The Festival of the Resurrection will be celebrated on Easter Sunday, April 1 at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. All are invited for the sacrament of Holy Communion and to join us in proclaiming, "Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!"

Lighthouse Church

The Lighthouse Church, located along Rt. 61 at 10 Hollenbush Lane just south of Orwigsburg, recently welcomed a new pastor.

Pastor Bryan Kenville and his wife Michelle come to Orwigsburg from Rochester, New York. Their desire is for people of every generation and background to experience the love of Jesus and find hope and healing.

The regular Sunday services at Lighthouse Church begin at 9 a.m. There is contemporary worship, a children's program and a time for fellowship afterwards.

Wednesday evening offers classes for all ages. The adult Bible study is currently exploring Bill Hybels' book, *The Power of a Whisper*. The kids' program



is currently "Snowed Inn" with fun activities, music and snacks.

Throughout the month there are youth activities, women's meetings and men's breakfasts. All are welcome and invited to join The Lighthouse Church as it begins a new season.

Additional information can be found on the website www.thelighthousechurch.com or call the office at 570-366-1300.

St. John's UCC

St. John's United Church of Christ, 232 E. Market St., Orwigsburg, welcomes everyone – no matter who you are or wherever you are on life's journey – to join us in worship Sundays at 10 a.m. Children in kindergarten through sixth grade enjoy Sunday school lessons after hearing the children's sermon and receiving a blessing. A coffee and fellowship hour follows the service.

St. John's offers spirit-filled worship for contemporary souls. Communion is offered the first Sunday of every month and the Lord's table is open to anyone

– Continued on page 26



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St. John's United Church of Christ

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Spirit-filled worship for contemporary souls

Worship/Sunday School – 10 a.m. EVERY Sun.

Ash Wednesday – Simple Supper/Service, Feb. 14 - 6 & 7 p.m.
Palm Sunday – Choir Cantata, March 25 – 10 a.m.
Maundy Thursday – Simple Supper/Service, March 29 – 6 & 7 p.m.
Good Friday – Contemplative & Penitent, March 30 – 7 p.m.
Easter Egg Hunt – Sat., March 31 – 9-10:30 a.m., Parsonage
Easter Sunday Celebration – Sun., April 1 – 10 a.m.

Salem United Methodist Church



Transforming Lives Through Christ (TLC)

Sharing, Serving, Worshiping, Nurturing

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www.SalemUM.com 570-366-0201

A PAID NURSERY ATTENDANT IS AVAILABLE FROM 8:30 a.m. TO 12:30 p.m.

– Sunday at Salem –

8:45 a.m. – Traditional
 10:00 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages
 10:45 a.m. – Contemporary w/Praise Band
 6:30 p.m. – SNL Coffeehouse

Bible Study Opportunities – See Church Web Page

MARCH 18 & MAY 13 – The God Squad Performs
 MARCH 25 – Easter Egg Hunt - 1 p.m., ages up to 10
 APRIL 1 – Easter Sunrise, 6:30 a.m. - Breakfast 7:15 a.m.

A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

– Continued from Page 25

who is seeking Jesus. Children can take communion with the permission of their parents.

Pastor Jan Remer-Osborn is celebrating her first anniversary at St. John's. She has made the transition from being in Chicago, and is now an Eagle's fan (win or lose)! Meet socially every Wednesday at the Market Square Café, 118 West Market St., from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Pastor Jan looks forward to greet new and familiar faces.



Lenten preparation study will start February 15 in the church conference room and a women's Lenten study group will be held Tuesdays from February 20 through March 27 at Valenti's Restaurant. A healing and recovery support group, led by Pastor Jan, meets monthly.

Special worship services for the Lenten and Easter season begin on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. St. John's is participating in ecumenical Lenten services hosted at area UCC affiliates ... dates and locations can be found on the church's Facebook page or call 570-366-2255.

A Palm Sunday cantata service, accompanied this

year by the children's choir, will be directed by Trena Murphy on Sunday, March 25 at 10 a.m. Maundy Thursday, March 29, will feature a "simple supper" at 6:30 p.m. followed by worship at 7:30. A candlelight introspective and penitent Good Friday Taizé service, including meditative music on the Celtic harp, will be held March 29 at 7 p.m. Easter Sunday on April 1 will feature a celebration service at 10 a.m.

Community children and parents are welcome to attend the church's inaugural Easter egg hunt on Saturday, March 31 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the parsonage. A light breakfast will be included. Call the church office at 570-366-2255 or Pastor Jan at 630-254-9236 for more information and to register.

St. John's hosts many community groups including Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Senior Citizens, and Team Orwigsburg. St. John's Health Ministry brings in programs and groups, such as yoga, exercise, and self-defense classes, that are open to the community as well as church members. The Fellowship Hall is available to rent for private parties (no alcohol). Call the church office for more information on any of these opportunities.

The Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry is housed in St. John's and is supported by eight area churches. Non-perishables and monetary donations are always needed. Volunteers are welcome. Distribution is made the third Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. for qualified individuals and families.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Ash Wednesday Service at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

Create a Sign Fundraiser at 2 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

Maundy Thursday / Good Friday Service at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

Easter Service with communion at 10:30 a.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS – Every Wed. at 7:30 p.m.

See our article for more details!

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

215 North Warren Street • Orwigsburg

570-366-2316

www.stpaulsorwigsburg.org

OFFICE HOURS:

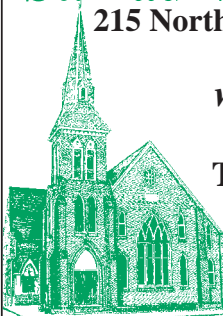
Tues. & Fri. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Worship Times

Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.



Handicap Accessible

Ash Wednesday - Feb. 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Imposition of Ashes and the
Sacrament of Holy Communion

Midweek Lenten Services - Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Holden Evening Prayer (A Journey
through Luther's Small Catechism)

Maundy Thursday - March 29 at 7 p.m.

(Foot Washing, the Sacrament of
Holy Communion, the Stripping of the Altar)

Good Friday - March 30 at 7 p.m.

Service of Tenebrae

The Festival of the Resurrection

Sunday, April 1 at 8 & 10:30 a.m.



A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

Kimmels Church

"If you aim for nothing, you'll hit it every time!" Quite a few people don't bother making any yearly goals or resolutions. Despite best efforts, many feel why set these goals if it won't take long to fail.

In order for us to grow or improve in any area, we need to live intentional lives focused on a plan, a goal, or a purpose. Without that we have no target ... and without being "intentional" to aim at the goal, we will fail every time.

At Kimmels Church, we want to help you establish a plan, a goal, or a purpose. We want to give you a target to shoot for so that you can and will accomplish great things that God has "planned in advance for you to do."

We don't want to be a church that is busy looking good but not accomplishing anything worthwhile. We want to be INTENTIONAL. That is our word for 2018!

Everything we do, we want it to be done on purpose and for a reason. We don't want to go through the motions. We want to change the world, starting here. Our church family is learning to "Live Intentional" in our worship, outreach, evangelism, fellowship and discipleship.

Join with us for Sunday morning worship at 10 a.m. The Book of Romans, a masterfully written exposition on God's grace and the righteousness that comes to us through faith, is being explored in more detail through our current sermon series.

Our Easter season sermon series is themed to



"Come Alive." The power of God was more than enough to raise Jesus from the dead to conquer sin and death. We invite you to take a journey through Holy Week where we will deepen our knowledge of the power and ability of Christ to change us completely.

Our Easter celebration begins with our Palm Sunday (March 25) morning worship service at 10 a.m. and a community Easter egg hunt at 3 p.m. The egg hunt will feature more than 4,000 filled eggs for youngsters up to age 10, as well as crafts and activities for the family.

The week will continue with our evening Good Friday service at 6:30 p.m. Easter Sunday, April 1, will begin bright and early with a sunrise service at 6:15 a.m. at the Chapel on the hill and wrap up with worship at 10 a.m. celebrating the resurrection and the truth that we too can "Come Alive."

Additional information on these and other events can be found at kimmelschurch.org or phone the church office at 570-943-2759. Kimmels Church is located at 179 Pine Creek Drive, just off Kimmels Road, on the eastern end of Orwigsburg.



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