

# ORWIGSBURG HAPPENINGS

*From Where It All Began*

*... Is Happening Again*

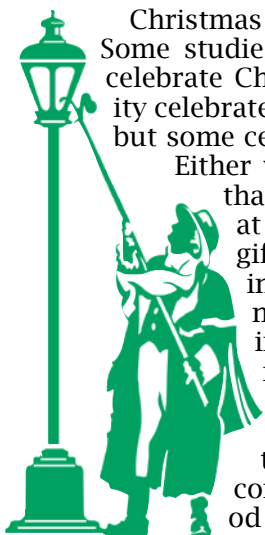
No. 97 – Issued Quarterly

BOROUGH OF ORWIGSBURG, PA

November 2018

## Children's Party, Holly Trail, and Festival of Lights

## Enjoy the Season's Holidays in Orwigsburg



Christmas is a wonderful time of the year. Some studies suggest that 92% of Americans celebrate Christmas in some way. The majority celebrates Christmas as a religious holiday, but some celebrate as a cultural holiday.

Either way, there is a lot of preparation that goes into the activities we enjoy at this time of year ... purchasing of gifts for family and friends, decorating the home (inside and out), planning parties, preparing and cooking the Christmas meal, and many more that sometimes control our time and attention.

Unfortunately for most, more time is spent preparing for (or complaining about) this holiday period than is actually spent enjoying

its purpose and meaning. We spend much time preparing for friends and family, but then devote little time actually with them. One study revealed that on Christmas day, the average parent only spends nine minutes playing with their children.

### *Festivities get started early*

No matter how you spend your time preparing for Christmas, one thing is important to point out ... spend more time celebrating than preparing. We invite you to begin the Christmas celebration right here in your hometown.

## NEW RECYCLING GUIDELINES INSERT – THIS ISSUE

## HOLIDAY EVENTS

**Saturday, Nov. 10** – Holiday Stop and Shop with Soup/Bake Sale at Salem UM Church, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Nov. 10** – “They Did It For You” Capital Campaign Dinner; Veterans Community Memorial Hall, 6 p.m.

**Sunday, Nov. 11** – Veterans Day service at Bicentennial Park, west end of Centre Square; 11 a.m.

**Wednesday, Nov. 21** – Community-wide Thanksgiving Eve church service; 7 p.m., hosted at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 215 N. Warren St.

**Saturday, Nov. 24** – Children's Christmas Party; 5 to 8 p.m.; Orwigsburg Veterans Community Memorial Hall; area children up to 10 years of age and parents/grandparents. FREE!

**Saturday, Dec. 1** – Holly Trail, sponsored by the Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library; 12 noon to 4 p.m.; tickets and tour program/map available at the library; call 570-366-1638.

**Saturday, Dec. 1** – Festival of Lights; 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Orwigsburg Centre Square; program, food, entertainment, and trolley ride with Santa.

The Orwigsburg Business & Professional Association, local churches, area businesses, the Orwigsburg Lions Club, and the Borough join together to help our community welcome the Christmas season with the annual Festival of Lights on Saturday, Dec. 1 on Centre Square.

The festivities “on the square” begin at 4:30 p.m. with “sounds of the season” music and singing by the Blue Mountain High School Band, Blue Mountain Chamber Singers and the Blue Mountain Middle School Show Choir. Be sure to support the Orwigsburg Lions Club that will be serving up hot and cold food items on the Community Parking Lot.

The Festival of Lights program begins at 5 p.m. The Lamplighter will officially open the Christmas

*– Continued on page 2*

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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](http://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.  
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Fire Chief..... Jesse Zimmerman

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Katie Bedway • Rodney Schaeffer  
Angela Hoptak-Solga

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Bryce Lewis • Tanner Noecker

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### 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 remaining days in 2018 and beginning of 2019 in observance of the stated holidays - Veterans' Day, Nov. 12; Thanksgiving, Nov. 22 and 23; Christmas eve and day, Dec. 24 and 25; New Year's Day, Jan. 1; and Good Friday, April 19.

## Festival of Lights

- Continued from Page 4

season by lighting the community Christmas tree and Centre Square decorations. All present will light candles, sing carols, and the story and meaning of Christmas will be revealed.

As always, the evening ends with an early arrival by Santa Claus, riding a vintage trolley. The trolley offers a free ride around the Square, enabling children to visit with Santa and share their Christmas hopes and wishes. Lastly, plan a stop at one of our local restaurants for a nice dinner to usher in the Christmas season.

### Orwigsburg Holly Trail on Dec. 1

Earlier in the afternoon, travel the Orwigsburg Library's Holly Trail from noon to 4 p.m. Tour some of the town's wonderfully decorated homes and enjoy the traditional tea and cookie stop at Kimmels Church complete with a picture memory, listen to live music, and relax with good friends. For tickets and more information, contact the Orwigsburg Library at 570-366-1638 or stop by and see its new home on the ground floor of the Independence Square senior living apartments, 216 W. Independence St.



## IN TOWN SELF STORAGE OF ORWIGSBURG

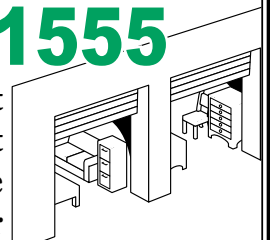
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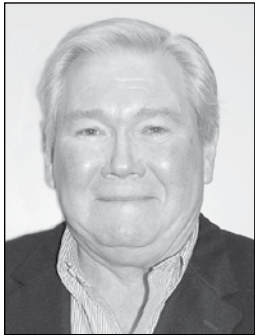


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# Proclamation from the Orwigsburg Mayor

## Community Debate Leads to Mutual Understanding

As I may have previously mentioned, the publishing date of our quarterly *Orwigsburg Happenings*



**BARRY J. BERGER**  
Mayor

straddles our seasons of the year. As an example, this issue is published on November 1, covering borough events through the latter half of autumn and the first half of winter. This fact doesn't significantly impact our calendar of upcoming events, but it complicates my opportunity to offer these comments on a singular seasonal note.

There is one season, however, that has become a year-round reality - namely, the Political Season. Two holidays fall therein - one each in November and May. There is only a slight pause after Election Day, held semi-annually, to recalibrate arguments before moving right into the next political contest.

Many years ago, this conflict between opposing viewpoints was mutually restricted to a short period ahead of each Election Day. Today, thanks to the instantaneous news and social media feeds, politicians feel obligated to remain in continuous battle mode, lest they be caught and exposed in an eternal

under-dedicated moment to the cause of their respective parties.

The U. S. Senate hearings for Justice Kavanaugh provided ample illustration of this state of affairs. In the end, no one escaped without casualty - not Ms. Ford, not Kavanaugh, not his family, not our form of government, not the various medias, not the Senators from both sides of the aisle who staged the event, and certainly not the citizens of America. Similar examples abound in state and local situations.

### *The wisdom of mothers*

I credit my mother for providing many single sentence maxims that get hauled out of the corners of my mind when I take the time to consider how to approach different situations. Many, if not all of them, were first offered by someone else or in slightly different form.

In this case, "Think before you speak" and, its closely related cohort, "If you can't say something nice about someone, just shut up" popped up, front and center. While everyone is entitled to his/her own opinion, how often is it the result of considered thought and considerate presentation? The consequences of inaccuracy and disrespect can be devastating.

The second relative pair that come to mind are "Your vote is your voice" and "If you don't vote, don't complain." Too many times we have too few people making our election decisions. I think our community turns out to vote in greater percentages than the state and national averages, but far too many don't contribute their "voice." And, if you can't take the time to cast your ballot, be prepared to accept the consequences.

### *Local debate and social media*

How does any of this apply to Orwigsburg? In my opinion, it is because we all share a greater focus on matters that more closely affect our daily lives.

During the past several weeks, Borough Council has debated how to approach the future needs of the Borough and its residents. This process has included significant conflicting discussion by both members of the public and of Council. Somehow, we arrived at a decision in a civil manner.

It is quite easy to be the smartest person in the room when you're alone at the keyboard. Somehow, when we are face-to-face with our fellow citizens, civility and respect are bigger drivers than our own self-centered opinions.

- Barry J. Berger, Mayor

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# Orwigsburg Police Department

## *Don't allow yourself to be a victim*

You may have followed the saga of fugitive Shawn Christy, of McAdoo, that lasted through most of the summer, ending with his capture in late September. One of the ways Christy was able to avoid capture was by stealing food, money, and vehicles. He had easy access to transportation because, in all cases, the vehicle doors were left unlocked and the keys were in plain view.

What does this have to do with Orwigsburg? In early August, there was a rash of vehicle break-ins that occurred in the Cresswell Acres neighborhood. They only took items from cars that were left unlocked.

Orwigsburg is a clean and safe town; however, like anywhere else there is a criminal element.

The moral of the story in both cases? These were easy crimes to commit because the thieves had easy targets. Do not feel bliss out of ignorance; feel bliss out of preparedness! Always lock your home, car, and garage.

## *Never hesitate to call our Station or 911*

Your Police Department relies on its residents to share information with us. But, we can only respond appropriately when it is reported to us or when the incident is occurring. Often times, we are notified about crimes or suspicious activity hours, days and sometimes weeks later. The reason we hear most

often is that, "I didn't want to bother you."

Our existence is for two primary functions - To Serve and Protect. We'll gladly field any question, comment or concern, no matter how small or inconsequential it may seem. We can only help when contacted directly. We won't respond or investigate anything posted on social media or via a third party.

Feel free to alert your neighbors using social media, but please remember to alert us as well! Please "Like" us on Facebook for important updates regarding the Borough and the Police Department. You can always reach us at the police station by calling (570)-366-3101 ... or better yet, stop by in person and introduce yourself! We'd be happy to meet you!



## *Neighborhood Crime Watch to form*

The Orwigsburg Police Department needs YOUR help. That's YOUR - as in "you" - the one reading this. The police can be anywhere but we can't be everywhere. That's why we need the public's help in maintaining Orwigsburg as a safe place.

The Orwigsburg Police Department wants to form a Neighborhood Crime Watch with the intent of giving us an extra set of eyes and ears in town. Details will follow, but our first meeting is planned for January 2019. This will be your chance to hear directly from our officers what types of crime and activity are happening in the Borough and ways you can help.

- John Koury, Police Chief

## GIVE THE GIFT OF HOMETOWN MEMORIES



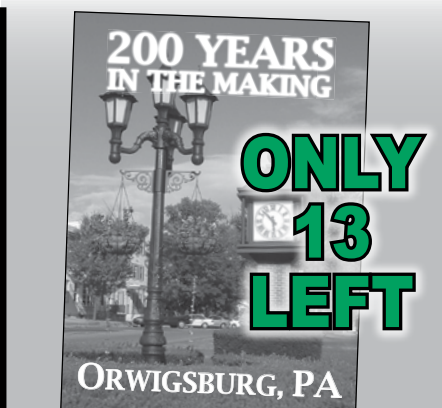
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## Message from the Council President

### Exciting Times Require Us to Address Future Needs

Even though we are heading into the months when people would prefer to hibernate due to the weather, it's hard not to feel an energy and excitement in the Borough and surrounding communities.



**MICHELE RUDLOFF**  
Council President

If you haven't noticed, the progress on the Geisinger St. Luke's Hospital, located just outside our Borough, is underway. The realization of having that facility, and all that may result from its presence, is setting in for many, including those of us on Orwigsburg Borough Council.

It's easy to imagine the lives that will be saved being that close to a facility that can provide emergency care.

Of course, with that excitement also comes fear and concern as many are worried the impact this will have on immediate development and future construction, as well as the impact on our way of life.

The hospital and its surrounding buildings will be a customer of the Borough through the purchase and delivery of water to the Schuylkill County Municipal Authority. This was a decision and agreement made four years ago, guided by our engineers and legal

folks to ensure we could provide the water service they need without jeopardizing the needs of our residents.

We wanted to ensure that everyone who benefits from our utility also contributes to the operating costs of the system. This decision was not made lightly, but reached after balancing the needs of our residents and our desire to increase revenue for the Borough to help provide the services our residents expect.

#### *Strong real estate market*

But it's not just our water system that will be impacted by this development. Orwigsburg Borough currently finds itself in a hearty real estate market as reflected in increased real estate revenues from home sales. More often than not, homes go up for sale in the borough and, in less than 30 days, are sold to new owners.

I expect the Borough to stay on this continued trajectory next year and longer with the hospital's employees and their families seeking residence nearby. Like us, they will find that Orwigsburg offers exactly what they are looking for.

With an influx of new residents and visitors to our area, we can expect the normal growing pains that may accompany that - increased traffic, stress on our infrastructure, increased crime, etc. I would like to

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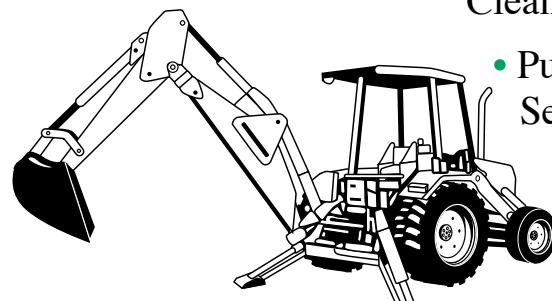
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## Council President

think that Orwigsburg's forward thinking has put us in a position to handle these stressors and I believe that Council, when it voted on its preliminary 2019 budget, took some of these issues into consideration.

### *Planning for future improvements*

We recognize that our infrastructure is in need of major repair and upgrades as will our sewer and water plants, even more so as we increase our usage. Additionally, we voted to hire an additional police officer to ensure the Borough has 24/7 local police coverage. Residents expect that when there is an emergency and they pick up the phone to call 911, good guys in blue will show up at their door.

We certainly do not know what the future holds as far as development; but, we as a Council can assure you transparency as we move forward. It is what you should expect from your local government and is what is necessary to ensure we are spending your tax dollars wisely.

I know we all love Orwigsburg for a variety of reasons and often times residents and visitors speak of the "Mayberry appeal" our quaint little town offers. I know these latest changes are concerning to many. We don't want to lose our quaint little town; but, I ask the residents to take a leap of faith with us as we work to grow our community responsibly, so that more people can enjoy what we have come to know and love.

- Michele Rudloff, Council President



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# Borough Services Update . . . and Events

## Free smoke detectors - installed!

The American Red Cross, Orwigsburg Fire Department (OFD), and other local fire companies have partnered to bring a Home Fire Campaign to Orwigsburg on Saturday, Nov. 10 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

If you need smoke detectors in your home, volunteers from the fire companies and Red Cross will provide and install these units, FREE of charge, on November 10. Door hangers and flyers explaining the program will be distributed throughout town in advance of the event. Follow the instructions explaining how to sign up and be pre-registered to take advantage of this Home Fire Campaign.

Information will also be sent via the borough's Swiftreach 911 notification system in advance of the event. Residents and property owners not signed up for Swiftreach 911 can do so online at the Borough's website at Orwigsburg.net or by calling the Borough Office at 570-366-3103.

Community volunteers who want to help in this program that day should coordinate through the OFD

(Friendship Hose Co. No. 1) in advance by calling the non-emergency station number, 570-366-1500.

## Veterans Day "on the square"

Residents and visitors are asked to devote time on Veterans Day - Sunday, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. - to remember and honor veterans and current armed services personnel.

Always held the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, a parade and service - conducted jointly by Orwigsburg's James Steele American Legion Post 369 and the Joseph W. Morrison Post 2198 Veterans of Foreign Wars - will take place at Bicentennial Park at the western end of Centre Square at North Liberty St. and West Market St.

## Holiday Stop and Shop

Taking place Saturday, Nov. 10, get into the holiday spirit with the 12th annual Holiday Stop and Shop held at the Salem UM Church Fellowship Hall, South Liberty and West Independence streets.

The Stop and Shop will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Team Orwigsburg will serve lunch for a reasonable donation and offer its homemade soups and baked goods to benefit its service mission of "healing hearts and homes."

## Thanksgiving church service

Present and former residents, family members, and college students returning for the Thanksgiving

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## Borough Services Update . . . and Events

holiday are reminded a community-wide Thanksgiving Eve church service will be hosted this year by St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 215 N. Warren St., on Wednesday, Nov. 21 beginning at 7 p.m. All are encouraged to attend.

### *Children's Christmas party*

All area children, up to 10 years of age, and their parents and grandparents, are invited to the 5th annual Orwigsburg Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, Nov. 24 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Orwigsburg Veterans Community Memorial Hall, Grove and North Washington streets.

This free community event is sponsored by Market Street Wash Rite and Classy III, Inc., and will feature Santa, a movie, crafts and refreshments. No prior registration is required.

Free hot dogs and drinks will be served. Children will be treated to an evening of fun. Santa is expected to make a special visit to Orwigsburg to meet with all the children at this event and receive their Christmas present "wish list."



Santa will arrive at 5:30 p.m. and the evening will conclude with the movie showing of "Santa Clause II" beginning at 6 p.m. Bleacher seating is available for the movie or attendees are encouraged to bring

blankets for floor seating.

This children's Christmas party is a supporter of the annual Toys for Tots campaign of the U.S. Marine Corps League through the Borough. Families are asked to bring a new unwrapped present on behalf of each child for the Toys for Tots collection.

### *Borough holiday schedule*

Orwigsburg Borough will close its office and service departments in observance of these coming holidays - Monday, Nov. 12 (Veterans' Day); Thursday and Friday, Nov. 22-23 (Thanksgiving); Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 24-25 (Christmas); and Tuesday, Jan. 1 (New Years Day).

### *Toys for Tots collection boxes*

Warm your heart and spirit this holiday season. When shopping for Christmas gifts to give to family members and friends, consider purchasing a toy or other item to help a needy youngster better enjoy this joyous time of year.

Orwigsburg Borough Hall is the official authorized drop-off location for the Toys for Tots campaign in conjunction with the U.S. Marine Corps League. Clean, new, and unwrapped toys will be accepted beginning



- Continued on page 12

*Your Pet Deserves the Best!*



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9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SUNDAY:  
CLOSED





# Borough Services Update . . . and Events

- Continued from Page 11

early November through December 19 in the special collection box located at the first floor foyer area at Borough Hall, 209 N. Warren St.

A drop-off collection box will also be available at the Edward Jones Financial Advisors office, 210 W. Market St.

In addition, special Toys for Tots collections will be held Saturday, Nov. 24 at the Children's Christmas Party at the Veterans Community Memorial Hall and during the Festival of Lights celebration on Saturday, Dec. 1.

The Festival of Lights collection point will be a specially-decorated Borough Dump Truck parked prominently "on the square." Along with taking a horse-drawn Christmas trolley ride with Santa, help fill the Toys for Tots dump truck.

## Declared "Snow Emergency"

The Borough, two years ago, 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](http://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.

## Winter fire prevention tips

The Orwigsburg Fire Department and its Fire Chief Jesse Zimmerman wish residents, businesses, and visitors an enjoyable holiday season and a healthy and safe new year. To help ensure that wish, the emergency responders urge all to heed the following fire prevention measures.

- Have your furnace, chimneys, and vents serviced by a certified technician at the beginning of the heating season.
- Install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors/alarms and test them monthly.
- The nation returns to Standard Time on Sunday, Nov. 4. The time change of clocks in your home is a great time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

## R&J TOURS - 2018-2019

Call - NYC FREE Day.....	call
Call - Radio City Spectacular.....	call
Call - Gourmet Shopping in NY.....	\$43
Nov. 10 - Philadelphia Mills Mall.....	\$35
Nov. 11 - Veteran's Day @ Arlington.....	\$52
Nov. 22 - Macy's Parade.....	\$42
Nov. 24 - A Christmas Experience @ Antietam.....	*\$88
Nov. 28 - Rainbow-Christmas in Paradise.....	\$77
Dec. 4 - Mt. Airy-Home for the Holidays.....	\$67
Dec. 5 - AMT Christmas Show.....	*\$106
Dec. 7 - The Mahoney Bros @ Hunterdon.....	\$97
Dec. 9 - Tiny Tim @ Shawnee Playhouse.....	\$80
Dec. 11 - Holidays @ Mt. Hope.....	\$75
Dec. 11 - Under the Street Lamp.....	\$85
Dec. 15 - A Christmas Carol.....	\$88
Dec. 28 - Cinderella @ DADT.....	\$42
Jan. 26 - Tammy Wynette Story @ DADT.....	\$94
Feb. 2 - Philadelphia Auto Show.....	*\$50
Feb. 14 - In-laws, Outlaws and Other Family.....	\$84
Feb. 22 - Dr. K's Motown Revue @ Hunterdon.....	\$96

### OVERNIGHTS

Call - Dover Downs.....	call
Dec. 6-8 - Boston Pops.....	\$539 p/p DBL
Dec. 31-Jan. 1 - New Year's Eve in Gettysburg.....	\$309 p/p DBL

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# Borough Services Update . . . and Events

- Always cover your fireplace with a screen to prevent flying sparks and embers. Do not burn trash or Christmas wrapping paper in fireplaces.
- Beware of lit candles. Although they look very nice from the outside, candles are one of the leading causes of fire in the winter months.
- Space heaters are secondary heat sources and should be used in that manner with particular precautions. When using a space heater, keep all combustibles, pets, and children away from the heater. A heater's use should be monitored at all times. Adding fuel to space heaters should not be done indoors and only when the unit has cooled.



Statistics show that every day, seven people die and 36 are injured in home fires, most in the absence of working smoke alarms. Sadly, children and the elderly disproportionately lose their lives. More than \$7 billion in property damage results from structure fires each year.

## Single Stream Recycling Program

The Borough and County Waste Recycling, LLC have prepared updated definitions of the items that can be recycled in our biweekly recycling collection program.



A handy chart of typical recyclable items and a description of the overall program is included as a centerfold in this issue of *Orwigsburg Happenings*. This information is also available in the "Recycling" section of the borough website, [Orwigsburg.net](http://Orwigsburg.net). Additional printed copies are also available at the Borough Office.

Since early 2018, the worldwide recycle materials market has been in disarray. Only the best quality recycle stream sources are now acceptable. Putting anything and everything in the recycle containers is no longer acceptable. Please follow the new guidelines and clarifications.

The acceptability and/or preparation of some items has changed. Your cooperation in following these guidelines is needed to make the program practical and effective. Any future updates to the guide-

lines will be amended on the borough website.

Recycling and/or proper disposal of items not covered by our program may be found on the Schuylkill County Solid Waste website:

[www.co.schuylkill.pa.us/Offices/Recycles](http://www.co.schuylkill.pa.us/Offices/Recycles)

We have asked the county solid waste coordinator to update this site and to add more options for items with little known local recycling or reuse options.

## Walborn Sensitivity Garden

Members of the South Schuylkill Garden Club will create a Sensitivity Garden at the Walborn Community Playground located along Walborn Street near the top end of North Liberty St.

Pictured here are members, front from left, Jane Kruse, Danielle Richards, and Pat Wishousky; in the back are Nancy Russial and Bonnie Bernat. Garden planting is slated for the spring of 2019.



## Team O helps local flood victims

Team Orwigsburg, a local faith-based mission

- Continued on page 14

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# Borough Services Update . . . and Events

- Continued from Page 13

team, recently assisted the Port Carbon community hit hard with flooding this summer. Team O volunteers helped clean streets with machinery and dump trucks, assisted in cleanup at the town's library, and relocated thousands of books to a storage facility in Pottsville.

Additionally, the group donated "flood buckets" containing cleaning supplies to residents in other local flood-ravaged communities to aid in home cleanup from the high waters. The Team will also take on a home repair project in Pine Grove. These volunteers find personal and spiritual reward when making a difference in the lives of others wherever and whenever the call is made.

Want to discover more about Team Orwigsburg? Meetings are held the first Monday of every month at 7 p.m. at Salem church. New faces are always welcome. The December meeting will be held at Roman Delight on Dec. 3 at 6 p.m. with a "Dutch treat" dinner before the meeting. For more information, call Susan McCartney at 570-943-2103.

## Refuse/recycling collection

The Borough contracts with County Waste for the weekly collection of refuse and biweekly recycling collection. Curbside collection is on Tuesday for properties on Market Street and north ... and on Friday for properties south of Market Street. Up to six bags of

trash are allowed each week.

Pickup will be delayed one day for residents with Friday pickup due to the Thanksgiving holiday. That pickup for properties south of Market Street will be on Saturday, Nov. 24. Christmas and New Year holidays will affect both collection days - normal Tuesday pickup will move to Wednesday and normal Friday pickup will be on Saturday both weeks.

Cut Christmas trees will be picked up curbside on scheduled days, a part of your normal trash collection, after the holidays. Trees should be void of ornaments, stands, or needle collection bags.

## Disposal of leaves and yard waste

Your curbside trash collection/disposal allows up to 10 bags of leaves each week. Sticks and branches should be broken in short pieces and bundled/tied together and placed beside your trash for normal pickup.

Leaves and debris in the street gutter of your property are your responsibility and must be raked and bagged for collection. If residents fail to clean their street gutter, the debris will clog storm drains and present a hazard.

## Monthly large item pickup

One large item (furniture, etc.) may be placed at the curb beside your regular trash once per month. The collection date is the second Tuesday of each month for residents north of Market Street and the Friday following the second Tuesday for residents south of Market Street.

Month	Tues.	Fri.
Nov.	13	16
Dec.	11	14
Jan.	8	11
Feb.	12	15
March	12	15

## LARGE ITEM PICKUP DATES

Residents should place trash at the curb anytime after 6 p.m. on evenings prior to collection. Because pickup times vary, 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.

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.

## Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry

The Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry is housed at St. John's UCC, 232 E. Market St., and is connected with eight area churches. Non-perishables or monetary donations are always needed. Distribution to qualified individuals and families is made the third Saturday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m. Call the Pantry at 570-366-2255 for more information, need, or to help in any way.

## 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?



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## Borough Services Update . . . and Events

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 aid?**

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
- 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.

### **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.

Orwigsburg Borough now accepts credit and debit card payments for water, sewer, and trash service. Customers can make payments online at [www.orwigsburg.net](http://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.



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The Borough does not collect, receive or retain any portion of the service fees. The fees are charged by MuniPAY in order to provide the service. MuniPAY 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](mailto: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.



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# Orwigsburg Historical Society & Museum

## Financial Needs Threaten Society's Future

*The Board of Directors has submitted this open letter to the greater Orwigsburg community of residents and businesses, explaining the financial situation that threatens the future of the Orwigsburg Historical Society & Museum.*

Thank you to all who have focused their interest and continued support of the Orwigsburg Historical Society & Museum through donations of time, labor, physical and verbal additions to our historical collection, membership, and financial support. You are truly appreciated!

Like many non-profit organizations, our Society struggles each and every day to raise funds in order to provide valuable services to the community of Orwigsburg, all of southern Schuylkill County, and to individuals who trace their heritage back to our little "Burg."

In addition to providing many of these services, the Society continues to preserve its two historic buildings – the original 1891 Friendship Hose Co. No. 1 firehouse and the "Old Orwigsburg Jail" to the rear of the property along Church Street. Building maintenance of old structures is a hefty and very expensive undertaking that strains our annual budget.

And, of course, regular monthly bills for insurance, electricity, only basic phone service, oil (ouch!), general supplies, and all of the other things neces-

sary to enable us to open our doors add to the fiscal need. Since the old system of "bartering" is no longer in existence, our Society must pay for all of this with actual money.

Contrary to what many assume, there are very few support grants currently available. Those that do exist are highly competitive, very specific, and are never available to small historical societies for needs such as a new roof, boiler repairs, drainage problems, and monthly bills.

### *Your contributions keep us going*

In this season of giving, we humbly ask individuals, business owners and organizations of our community to consider a monetary donation. We realize that historical/cultural preservation and restoration may not be No. 1 on everyone's list for giving; but for our Society, even a small donation or simple membership goes a long way. Send to the Orwigsburg Historical Society, 109 E. Mifflin St., Orwigsburg, PA 17961 or contact the society by calling 570-617-7809.

Annual memberships come with invitations to special programs, reduced admissions to special events, genealogy assistance, and a 10% discount on museum store purchases. Membership costs are \$20 for an individual, \$25 for a family, and \$50 for businesses (recognition at events and in the museum).

Volunteer donations of time are greatly appreciated. Let us know if you can help with membership and community outreach, genealogy and historical research, programs, keeping the museum open for visitors, or help us with website design.

### *Can we make it to our 25th year?*

Right now the society's two buildings have several urgent needs – a roof (again), drainage improvements, repointing of the exterior brick on both the "Old Jail" and our historic headquarters, boiler repairs (again), and repairs to the cupola.

Our financial situation is dire, threatening closure of the museum. Perhaps we need to reevaluate – take a step back – to evaluate whether historical preservation is important enough, not just to our membership and current donors, but to the citizens collective of the area.

It is through the hard work, blood, sweat, and quite often TEARS of dedicated individuals that the Orwigsburg Historical Society & Museum is approach-



**ORWIGSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY – Located at 109 East Mifflin Street**

### **GABRIEL CHAMBER ENSEMBLE**

Simon Maurer  
violin  
Agnés Maurer  
viola  
Gerall Hieser  
cello



### **Sunday, Nov. 4 – 3 p.m.**

Jerusalem Lutheran Church • 252 Dock St., Sch. Haven

Pianist  
Xun Pan



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Schoenfield Café Music for Piano Trio  
Brahms Piano Quartet in C minor

*Partially sponsored by Sch. Area Community Foundation*

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### **Sunday, Dec. 9 – 3 p.m.**

**Gabriel Youth Orchestra – Holiday Concert**



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Admission \$5 – Under age 18 – FREE

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www.gabrielensemble.org  Gabriel Chamber Ensemble  
gce@gabrielensemble.org  Gabriel Youth Orchestra

# Orwigsburg Historical Society & Museum

ing its 25th anniversary next August 2019! We are very much hoping there will be many decades ahead for us.

## *We want to hear from you*

The society has an active Facebook page for thoughts and opinions - the good, the bad, and the ugly are all welcome. Our headquarters and museum are open every Tuesday and Thursday from 12 noon to 4 p.m. or can be viewed by appointment.

Feel free to stop in, take a tour, peruse our collection depicting the greater Orwigsburg's history and culture, and speak with one of our dedicated volunteers ... no paid staff. Give us your thoughts, suggestions, and opinions (anonymously if you like) by leaving a

note in our box at the front of the building.

We need and want to know! If a historical society and museum no longer has the support or interest, we will close that chapter of Orwigsburg's history. Thank you for reading!

- Orwigsburg Historical Society Board

## 2019 25th ANNIVERSARY MEMBERSHIP

*Celebrating 25 years of preserving the history and culture of Orwigsburg and Southern Schuylkill County in 2019!*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership (Please Check One):

☐ Individual \$20.00 ☐ Family \$25.00 ☐ Corporate \$50.00

I would like to make a contribution to the "2019 25th Anniversary Campaign" to help with much needed revitalization to the historic headquarters in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This contribution is "in honor of" / "in memory of" (please circle one) the following person/family:

**MAIL THIS FORM AND** Orwigsburg Historical Society & Museum  
**CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO:** 109 East Mifflin St., Orwigsburg, PA 17961

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# State Rep. Knowles and Sen. Argall

## Honoring Our Veterans and Rebuilding Memorial Hall

In 1950, a group of patriotic citizens from Orwigsburg came together to dedicate a new memorial hall that would serve as a gathering place for the citizens of the community. On the day of the dedication, more than 2,000 people flocked to the new building and listened to the keynote address given by Pennsylvania Governor James H. Duff.

From that moment on, the Orwigsburg Veterans Community Memorial Hall would host the people of Orwigsburg for varied functions and serve as a reminder of the ultimate sacrifice that so many have made to ensure our freedoms.

In the almost 70 years that this building has been standing, it has entertained generations of Orwigsburg residents. The interior open area seats more than 1,500 people and features a basketball court while the outdoor recreation area includes baseball fields, a playground, and an addi-



**Representative  
Jerry Knowles**



**Senator  
David Argall**

tional basketball court.

As the years passed, a lack of significant maintenance had taken its toll on the building resulting in much of the Hall falling into disrepair. In an effort to breathe new life into the building, public officials and the Orwigsburg Veterans' Memorial Development Taskforce have been working tirelessly to ensure the future use of the Hall.

As part of that ongoing effort, we announce that the Hall just received \$750,000 from Pennsylvania's Redevelopment Capital Assistance Program. We also need to thank all of the volunteers who never gave up on supporting this worthy project and who also recognized the value of this tremendous regional asset.

These funds serve as another shining example of a successful private-public partnership where elected officials and community leaders can work together to achieve a common goal.

This money will be used to complete various interior and exterior improvements to the Hall. In addition, these funds will also be used to complete the Veterans Foyer of Honor recognizing all area veterans and the renovation project contributors.



Though the \$750,000 in grant money is a huge victory for the Orwigsburg Community, it is now up to all of us to complete the final lap of the race. By visiting the Veterans Community Memorial Hall's website at [orwigsburgmemorial.org](http://orwigsburgmemorial.org), local residents can continue to support the Hall for the future thousands of friends and family that will enjoy everything this facility has to offer.

— Rep. Jerry Knowles and  
Senator Dave Argall, co-authors

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## Orwigsburg Lions Club

The local Lions had another very busy year in 2018 by hosting the community Easter Egg Hunt at Albright's Woods, the annual Chicken Barbeque at the Veterans Memorial Building on Memorial Day, a Golf Tournament at Hidden Valley Golf Course ... and, just recently one of the Lions' signature events, the annual Orwigsburg Halloween Parade.

Other important service activities included the purchase and distribution of Easter meals to families in need through the Orwigsburg Food Pantry, running two litter cleanup days along the main roads through town, as well as maintenance and cleanup events at Albright's Woods and the Blue Mountain/Lions Walking Trail.

To round out the year, the Lions will be involved in another big community event - the Festival of Lights celebration. We invite everyone to come down to the Centre Square Saturday, Dec. 1 to kick off the holiday season with the tree lighting, Christmas carol singing, and lots of hot and delicious food served up by the Lions.

The motto of Lions Clubs throughout the world is "We Serve!" Won't you please join us?

You are invited to be a member or just simply to find out more by contacting Lions Club President Gretchen Sterns by email [gsterns@gmail.com](mailto:gsterns@gmail.com). The Lions hold regular meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

## 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 February 14, May 10 and August 16, 2019

## News Submittals

Nonprofit and community organizations within the Borough are invited to submit news items for consideration. Written submittals must be received by Kathi Mingle in the borough offices, [kathi@orwigsburg.net](mailto: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.



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# Orwigsburg Business & Professional Assoc.

## Bringing It All Together This Year and Next

With Halloween now in the rear view mirror and less than 50 shopping days until Christmas, some might think it too early to reflect on 2018 and to take a peak at 2019.

We at the Orwigsburg Business and Professional Association (OBPA) believe that with the crush of Thanksgiving and other holidays on the horizon, it may be the best time to look back and to think ahead. So please indulge us for a few minutes as we summarize our accomplishments and plans.

During the past 10 months, we've grown our membership to 94-strong. Through the active and on-going participation by these members, we've presented the Orwigsburg area with an array of activities and events.

In early spring, OPBA held its fourth annual "get to know us" Spring Mixer for present and future members, hosting many of our partners in local, county, and state government as well as community organizations and services.

The outdoor season began with the return of the



**Orwigsburg Heritage Day Horse-Drawn Trolley**

very popular Yappy Hour, followed by Family Fun Fest, giving young and old the chance to enjoy each other on a perfect summer evening. Farm-to-Square (Where Wine, Farmers and Artists Meet) made its exciting debut in August and Orwigsburg's Heritage Day celebrated its 27th year in September, allowing

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# Orwigsburg Business & Professional Assoc.

us to celebrate our past while we look forward to our future.

The last happening of 2018 is the beautiful and tranquil diversion from the crazy holiday season – the Festival of Lights on Saturday, Dec. 1 on Centre Square. This traditional event features the songs and sounds of the season while offering our community a chance to celebrate together.

The Blue Mountain High School Band, Blue Mountain Chamber Singers and the Blue Mountain Middle School Show Choir will all be on hand to entertain us, while we enjoy homemade goodies by the Lions Club. Kids will be able to participate in a holiday craft and Santa will arrive via horse-drawn trolley following the tree lighting by the town's lamplighter. Be sure to enjoy a free trolley ride with Santa around our festively decorated town square.

## *But wait! We do much more*

High profile events and concerts help to keep the organization afloat, but some of the most important work we do often goes unnoticed. Through joint cooperation, we've grown our relationship with the Orwigsburg Lions, Women Who Care, Team Orwigsburg, Friendship Hose Co., Orwigsburg Historical Society and the Orwigsburg Library. OBPA is a part of the Veterans Memorial Task Force 300 Club donation program and routinely have a representative at the monthly Borough Council meetings.

As part of our plan to build a bridge to the future, OBPA established a Young Entrepreneurs Academy (offered by the Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce and hosted at Penn State Schuylkill) scholarship for local youth. We have also created a business/community scholarship for deserving Blue Mountain High School students.

The Borough and OBPA are partnering to foster ideas for structural improvements, including the eventual installation of electricity at the Community Parking Lot on Centre Square where many town celebrations are held. This past year OBPA purchased



**Catch the Santa Trolley at Festival of Lights**

several new refuse/recycling receptacles and partnered for the Community Lot "way-finding" signage.

OBPA encourages fresh ideas for improvements from individuals/businesses and enthusiastically welcomes new members. If not able to join in either, maybe you will purchase one of our unique, colorful T-shirts and spread the word about our organization. Whatever your interest, you can learn more at our website, [www.orwigsburgbusiness.org](http://www.orwigsburgbusiness.org), visit our Facebook page, or call president Pat Falco at 610-462-9167.

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# Veterans Community Memorial Hall

## Nov. 10 Gala Honors All Veterans; Features Gen. Joulwan

The kick off to November is a big change for many.

Daylight hours are shortened. Our clocks get reset to Standard Time. The colorful leaves are falling from the trees and wintry gusts and greys are on the horizon. Outdoor activities are slowly coming to a halt or moving indoors. Thoughts and plans focus on the rapidly approaching holidays.

What if this year we had something different to look forward to and lend our support? This year, November features a unique opportunity on its second weekend. The Orwigsburg Veterans Memorial Task Force, in conjunction with the Captain Jason Jones Memorial Foundation, will be hosting an evening of honor to veterans and community members ... and there is still time to be a part of it.



Join us Veteran's Day weekend on Saturday, Nov. 10 at 6 p.m. to support and honor our veterans at the nearly completed remodeling of the Orwigsburg Veterans Community Memorial Hall. The theme of the evening is, "They did it for you!" It is now time for the community to show appreciation for all that was done and sacrificed.

The event will be highlighted with keynote speaker, General George Joulwan, former Commander-in-Chief, United States European Command and



**GEN. GEORGE JOULWAN (Ret)**

Supreme Allied Commander (SACEUR), who retired in 1997 as a 4-Star General, and is a Schuylkill County native.

General Joulwan's military career spanned 36 years. He is married to the former Karen Jones, an Orwigsburg native, whose father, Dan Jones, once served as the Mayor of Orwigsburg and was a long time member and officer of the Orwigsburg Lions Club.

Proceeds from this event are designated specifically to create the honor roll and memorial pieces to be adorned in the Veterans Foyer (main entrance) of the building.

Entry to the evening's activities starts at \$125 per person and will include heavy appetizers, a filet mignon and crab cake entree, roasted red potatoes, fresh vegetables, dessert, wine, beer and soda.

Additional options are available for business sponsorships and event representation. For those of you unable to attend, but looking for an opportunity to contribute, the committee is seeking sponsorships for veterans to attend at \$100 contribution each.

In July of 1950, this treasure of a building was dedicated as a tribute to all veterans of the Orwigsburg area. In August of 2005, a group of concerned citizens banded together to diligently work to bring the building back to the community cornerstone of its original intent, never swaying from its original purpose as a memorial to all veterans.

It is with this upcoming event, every community member has the opportunity to participate in the rebuilding and honoring efforts. Let's show our veterans how proud we are of their sacrifices and contributions to safety and freedom.

For tickets and more event information, contact Jeanne Porter via email at [jbpklp@gmail.com](mailto:jbpklp@gmail.com) or phone 570-640-1155. We look forward to sharing a wonderful evening with you.

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# Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library

## Library Marks 1st Anniversary at Independence Square

It's been one year that the Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library has been at its new spacious and beautiful space on the first floor of the Independence Square senior living apartment building at 216 W. Independence St.

The greater Orwigsburg area is fortunate to have such a vibrant library providing needed services to all ages and all interests. How about YOU Orwigsburg community? Have you stopped in to have a look around and see what's happening? It will truly surprise you!



### Holly Trail celebrates the season

Here's a great opportunity to get a peek at the new library if you haven't done so already. The annual Orwigsburg Holly Trail - a major fundraiser sponsored by the library - will be held Saturday, Dec. 1 from noon to 4 p.m. It's a wonderful opportunity to tour area homes and other locations "on the trail" professionally decorated for the holiday season.

Tickets for the Holly Trail can be purchased in advance at the Orwigsburg Library at a cost of \$20 per person or on the day of the event for \$25. The trail begins from the library where you will receive a program with site descriptions and the trail map.

At the conclusion of the Holly Trail, all area residents and visitors are encouraged to attend Orwigsburg's Festival of Lights celebration that takes place "on the square" from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

### Lots going on every day; join in

Your library is a gathering place for those with similar interests to meet and share those joys.

Newly formed, a Chess Club meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. All levels of skills, from beginner to worthy opponent, are welcome. Other regular groups include

Knitters on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m.; Mahjongg enthusiasts on the first, third, and fifth Wednesdays at 6 p.m. and also Fridays from 1 to 3 p.m.; Lego Club on the second Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.; Media Madness on the fourth Wednesday at 6 p.m.; and Book Club on the last Monday at 6 p.m.

### Family programming abounds

Regularly scheduled programs include Story Time on Tuesday mornings beginning at 10:30, for pre-school aged children, and Play K on Fridays at 10:30 a.m., for 3-to-5 year olds.

Family programs are held Thursdays at 6 p.m. and will feature "Safe and Steady" fall prevention on Nov. 8; "Making Holiday Cards for Veterans" (all invited to this community project with refreshments served) on Nov. 15; Pastor Jan brings music from around the world on Nov. 29; "Look Your Best for the Holidays" on Dec. 6; and a "Polar Express Party" for kids on Dec. 13.

Saturday mornings are special for youngsters with a Building Block Party and Story Time on the first and second Saturdays, respectively, beginning at 10 a.m. A new program for Tweens, Teens plus Adults features crafting on the third Saturday each month beginning at noon. The fourth "Crafty Saturday" is set aside for elementary



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# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

## 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 church office is now open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and can be reached by calling 570-366-2316. Additional information can be obtained at [www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org).



St. Paul's Lutheran will host the annual community-wide Thanksgiving eve church service this year on Wednesday, Nov. 21 beginning at 7 p.m. All are invited to give their thanks and share this special time of year with residents and visitors from throughout the region. The service will feature a combined choir of singers from all the local churches in addition to the Bell Choir of St. Paul's

The St. Paul's Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, and instrumentalists will present a candlelight Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 16 at 4 p.m.

All are encouraged to be part of St. Paul's Christmas Eve worship services. Each will have candle lighting and the sacrament of Holy Communion. A family ser-

vice for all ages will be held at 5 p.m. Evening services will be held at 9 and 11 p.m.

## Salem UMC

Salem United Methodist Church - where Liberty meets Independence - at 133 S. Liberty St. offers three unique worship services each Sunday - traditional at 8:45 a.m., contemporary at 10:45 a.m., and the SNL Coffeehouse at 6:30 p.m. Sunday school for all ages is at 10 a.m. A paid nursery attendant is on staff from 8:30 to 12:30 p.m. Salem is accessible to the physically challenged through ramps and a chair lift.

The 13th annual Holiday Stop and Shop will be held Saturday, Nov. 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. featuring 18 home business vendors and crafters. Team Orwigsburg will hold a soup and bake sale along with lunch items available. This event benefits both Team Orwigsburg and Salem's 2019 Free Community Block Party.

November offers unique worship themes at Salem. All Saints Sunday on Nov. 4 will remember loved ones who passed during the year. Laity Sunday features lay-persons in charge of the entire service. Thank Offering Sunday will be celebrated Nov. 18 ... attendees are asked to bring gifts and non-perishable food to supply the Orwigsburg Food Pantry.

December is filled with activities as we celebrate the Christmas season. Salem's annual Advent Workshop takes place Dec. 2 from 4 to 6 p.m. featuring a meal and make-and-take crafts for all ages. Christmas Bell Sunday will be observed Dec. 9 featuring The God Squad at both morning services. A Holiday Bake Sale will be held Dec. 15 from 9 a.m. to noon. December 16 is Music Sunday, beginning with breakfast at 9 followed by one combined service at 10. Church member caroling will replace SNL on Dec. 23.

Christmas eve services on Monday, Dec. 24 offer something unique for all ages. Three worship times will all feature candle lighting to represent the Light of Christ coming into the dark world. An early family service, for those with young children or those with



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December 1 - noon to 4 pm

**Christmas Eve Service**

December 24, 6:30 pm

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**NATIVITY DISPLAY DURING HOLLY TRAIL** - Sat. 12/1, 12-4 p.m.

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**CANTATA, "BETHLEHEM'S CHILD"** - Sun. 12/16, 10 a.m.

**YOUTH NATIVITY PAGEANT** - Sun. 12/23, 10 a.m.

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE** - Mon. 12/24, 8 p.m.

# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

busy plans later, will be held at 4 p.m. Salem's Praise Band will be featured at the 7 p.m. contemporary service and a more traditional service will be held beginning at 9 p.m.

Salem's church year is filled with many activities and small group gatherings. The church website [SalemUM.com](http://SalemUM.com) can provide additional information.

## Lighthouse Church

The Lighthouse Church (TLC), located along Rt. 61 at 10 Hollenbush Lane just south of Orwigsburg, is gearing up for a change of season!

People of every generation and background are invited to join us at 9 a.m. for our regular Sunday services at The Lighthouse Church. There is contemporary worship, a children's program and a time for fellowship over cookies and coffee afterwards.

This fall Pastor Bryan is preaching a series called "For His Glory" which will be an in-depth study of the book of Ephesians. TLC celebrates Christ and Christmas in December with our series "The Gift of a Son - For Us!"

Operation Christmas Child will once again be hosted at The Lighthouse Church during the week of November 12 as a "shoebox" relay center of craft and



personal items to help spread the Word to youngsters throughout the world.

A Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held Wednesday, Nov. 21 at 6:30 p.m. Our Christmas Eve candlelight service will be held Monday, Dec. 24 at 5:30 p.m.

More information can be found on our website, [www.thelighthousechurch.com](http://www.thelighthousechurch.com), on Facebook, or by calling the office at 570-366-1300.

## St. John's UCC

St. John's United Church of Christ, 232 E. Market St., Orwigsburg welcomes all spiritual seekers. No matter who you are or wherever you are on life's journey, you are invited to join us in our worship, Bible studies, health-related groups, and all other church events.

Sunday worship service is at 10 a.m. Sunday school for children in kindergarten through 6th grade is held during the worship service, after the children's sermon and blessing. Communion is offered the first Sunday of every month and the Lord's table is open to anyone who is seeking Jesus.

All are invited to visit the church on Saturday, Dec. 1 between noon and 4 p.m. to view a display of Nativity collections from around the world and

- Continued on page 26



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## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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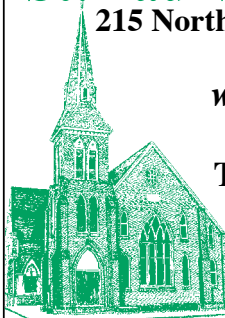
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**Christmas Concert**

Sunday, Dec. 16 – 4 p.m.

Featuring Chancel and Bell Choirs of St. Paul's



**Christmas Eve Worship**

Dec. 24 – 5 p.m. (families)  
9 p.m. and 11 p.m.



# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

- Continued from Page 25

to enjoy Christmas carols played on the harp. The church is a stop on the Orwigsburg Holly Trail that day and followed by the Festival Lights celebration "on the square."

St. John's will host a community Christmas potluck dinner at Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, Dec. 5 beginning at 6:30 p.m. The church's annual Christmas cookie sale will be held Saturday, Dec. 8, beginning at 9 a.m. until "sold out" (this happens quickly).

Upcoming special programs will feature a Christmas Cantata - "Bethlehem's Child" for choir and harp - on December 16 and the Sunday school Nativity pageant will be presented December 23 during the 10 a.m. worship service. Christmas eve Lessons and Carols Candlelight Service will be on Monday, Dec. 24 at 8 p.m.

Pastor Jan Remer-Osborn and family are again hosting a Community Thanksgiving Dinner from 2 to 4 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 22 at Fellowship Hall. Please call the church office at 570-366-2255 or Pastor Jan at 630-254-9236 to reserve your seat. A free-will offering in any amount will be appreciated.

Information on all activities of the church can be found at [stjohnorwigsburg.org](http://stjohnorwigsburg.org), call the church office, or follow on Facebook.

## Kimmels Church

As the seasons transition to colder weather and



Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas!

Please be our guest at this year's Holly Trail as the church is again the "tea and cookies" stop for the Orwigsburg Library's annual fundraiser. Get your tickets at the library and plan to stop by the church to take in the sights, sounds, and smells of Christmas.

All are invited to enjoy our special Christmas services that begin Dec. 2 and each Sunday until Christmas. Services begin at 10 a.m. A special Christmas Eve service Monday evening, Dec. 24 begins at 6:30 p.m. with carols, beautiful choral music, and candle lighting as we remember the light of the world, Jesus Christ and His birth.

Tickets will go on sale the beginning of December for both our Sweetheart Dinner, featuring comedian Gordon Douglass, on Saturday, Feb. 16 and for the annual Hunter's Banquet on Saturday, March 23 at the Landingville Fire Hall, featuring world champion game caller, Brodie Swisher.

For more information about these or other events, in addition to other regular ministries and social groups, visit our website at [kimmelschurch.org](http://kimmelschurch.org) or call the church office at 570-943-2759.

## Salem United Methodist Church



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**ADVENT WORKSHOP w/SUPPER AND CRAFTS**  
Sunday, Dec. 2 - 4 - 6 p.m.

**THE GOD SQUAD HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE**  
Sunday, Dec. 9 - 8:45 & 10:45 a.m.

**MUSIC SUNDAY 10 a.m. with BREAKFAST at 9 a.m.**  
Sunday, Dec. 16

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**  
Monday, Dec. 24 - 4, 7, and 9 p.m.

**Bible Study Opportunities - See Church Web Page**

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**SUN., DECEMBER 2nd**

**1st Sunday in Advent, Holy Communion**

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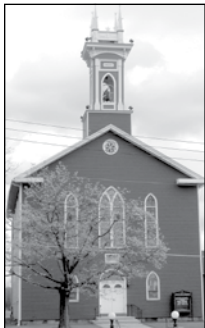
**See our article for more details!**



# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

## Zion's Red Church

Welcome to Zion's Red Church, a shared ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the United Church of Christ. Located at 1287 Centre Turnpike (Route 61) at Brick Hill Road, we are the oldest congregation in Schuylkill County.



The season of Advent begins on Dec. 2 this year as we begin our preparations for the celebration of the Christ child. All are welcome to join in this preparation each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. leading to a festive celebration of music, light, and story on Christmas eve, Monday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m.

Zion's Red Church will be a stop on the Holly Trail, benefiting the Orwigsburg Free Public Library on Saturday, Dec. 1. The doors will be open from 12 noon to 4 p.m. for Holly Trail ticket holders.

Also planned that day at the church is our first Christmas Bazaar. Still in the planning stages, gently-used holiday items, raffle baskets, and delicious baked goods will be offered. A wrapping station for those items purchased as gifts and food items will be available.

Additional church information can be found at [zionsredchurch.com](http://zionsredchurch.com) or call the church office at 570-366-1178.

## Faith Church

All are welcome to attend Faith Church's Celebration Service each Sunday at 10 a.m. as praises to God are sung and the Worship Band leads the congregational singing.

Faith is now live-streaming its services at [www.atfaithchurch.com](http://www.atfaithchurch.com) every Sunday or can be viewed later through the website. Additional information on our nearly 40 outreach ministries and all other church activities can also be found online or call 570-366-5131.

One such ministry is GriefShare, reaching out to those suffering from the loss of a loved one. In addition, visitation and nursing home ministries comfort those hurting from a loss or sickness. A "Quiet Christmas" service is being planned in December.

Faith Church, located on Rt. 61 South next to Ark Rentals, welcomes all to be a part of its family. Our mission statement is written on the sign out front - Loving God, Loving People and Serving the Community.



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## 2018 Remaining Holiday Schedule

*Orwigsburg Borough Offices will be closed  
the following days*

Monday - November 12th	Veterans Day
Thursday - November 22nd	Thanksgiving
Friday - November 23rd	
Monday - December 24th	Christmas
Tuesday - December 25th	
Tuesday - January 1st	New Year's

*We wish you and your families a very safe and  
happy holiday season and look forward to a  
great new year of serving you.*



# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

- Continued from Page