

FALL/WINTER 2023

Official Newsletter

LETTER FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Although we are squarely in the midst of a beautiful summer in Sellersville as I am writing this, by the time my words reach you, my fellow "Sellersvillians," autumn will be approaching with all of its color and splendor. The fall season brings with it each year an opportunity to let our voices be heard as we exercise our precious right to vote on Election Day. It may be helpful for all of us to remind ourselves of what this really means and how our votes impact our daily lives, especially at this very local level.

Citizens and elected officials both have important responsibilities. Our political system, from the federal level down to our local level, is a representative democracy. Our right to choose our representatives is coupled with responsibilities: to stay educated and informed; to be aware of community needs and interests; and to understand that our individual rights may sometimes interfere with other important rights and interests that are for the common good.

The Borough Council, as elected officials, have the responsibility to make policy decisions and enact laws on your behalf in order to protect the public interest. We certainly understand that there will frequently be divergent opinions on issues, as individual rights and needs conflict with the rights and needs of the entire community. Our Borough Council is committed to balancing these potentially conflicting needs as fairly and equitably as possible, and to finding a compromise that is acceptable to the majority of our citizens.

We encourage and welcome citizens to be involved by offering public comment during our regular meetings. But, in the end, we must make our decisions based on the public interest and common good. And, if you do not agree with those decisions, we ask only that you understand and respect our imperative as publicly elected officials.

Lois Dodson Sellersville Borough Council President

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New Addition to the Borough Staff

When stopping by Borough Hall or driving through town, you may see several unfamiliar faces in the form of new Borough Employees.

Regina Stevenson has joined the staff as our Finance Clerk, filling a vacant position. Reggie hails from Hilltown Township and has over thirty-five years of professional experience in the accounting field. She will be responsible for accounts payable, receivable, and maintaining our general ledger accounts and monthly reporting. You will also see her in the front reception area if you stop by, helping out with phones and walk-in customers.





Joining our Public Works Department is local resident Conner Pfaff, who replaces James Derstine, a long-term employee who has retired. Conner comes with experience in water and sewer maintenance, as well as general public works. He is also an active member of the Sellersville Fire Department.

Sellersville welcomes these two additions to our staff, and we are excited to see what changes they may bring.

Sellersville Museum Events

The members of the Sellersville Historical and Achievement Authority are pleased to announce the remaining 2023 Events being held at the Sellersville Museum, 120 East Church Street, Sellersville:

To Be Determined – September 9 and September 10

Star Wars - October 14 and October 15

Model Trains Display - November 11 and November 12

The Annual Christmas Tree Forest – December 9 and December 10



All Museum events are free; however, your generous donations are graciously welcome! Information on the Museum can be found at https://sellersvillemuseum.org/ or their Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/SellersvilleMuseum

The Sellersville Historical and Achievement Authority's mission statement is "The Sellersville Historical and Achievement Authority, a not-for-profit organization, is a local government-appointed Board, committed to the presentation and interpretation of the history of Sellersville and the surrounding area. The Authority is dedicated to community enrichment through the presentation of exhibits, special events, demonstrations, and participatory programs. Its objective is to support both an understanding of the past and a vision for the future. One way this is achieved is by the management of the Sellersville Museum."

The Sellersville Museum is staffed entirely by volunteers, dedicated to preserving and honoring the memory of local residents and businesses. If you would like to become involved with volunteering at the Museum, please email volunteer@sellersvillemuseum.org.





301 S. Main Street | Sellersville, PA | 215-257-2119 Thank You For Shopping!

Fostering Hope

Article submitted by Lindsay Moyer



Fostering Hope Bucks is a local non-profit, currently located at St. Paul's UCC on Green St in Sellersville, and has recently expanded to a space at Blooming Glen Mennonite Church. Established in 2018 in Montgomery County, the Bucks branch opened in June of 2022. Fostering Hope fills a gap for those experiencing foster care in Bucks County. During their short time of being open, the Bucks branch has been able to provide for more than 400 children!

Fostering Hope meets the needs of children in foster care through three main initiatives. The first is their *Dignity Duffles*. Working closely with Bucks County Children and Youth (BCCY), they provide duffle bags to social workers for use when children are removed from their homes.

This small notion of replacing trash bags with duffle bags allows children to have a sense of dignity during a very trying time.

Their second initiative is their Bags of Hope. These bags are filled with

basic toiletries and personal care items to be used during the first few nights or weeks in a

new home. Included in these bags are pajamas, underwear, a toothbrush and toothpaste, a nightlight, etc., as well as a small activity or craft that can be helpful as a distraction during tough conversations they need to have with older children before entering placement.



Finally, another very important initiative is the *Foster Share Closet*, a completely free of charge location where children come to shop for clothing and other necessities. Most of the time, children come with little to no clothing of their own. Fostering Hope will either deliver packed bags to the children when they enter foster care, or the children can come shop for themselves.

In addition to all of these initiatives, Fostering Hope also provides car seats, beds, high chairs, strollers, school supplies and so much more to both traditional, kinship, safety plan and reunified children. To learn more about this organization, find them on Facebook at *Fostering Hope Bucks* or through their website www.fosteringhopepa.com

Dog Leash Laws at the Park

One of the greatest pleasures in life is living in a healthy, safe community, where everyone can enjoy all that the town has to offer. In Sellersville, this includes walking through our park system and enjoying the open spaces throughout the area. It can be disruptive if you encounter someone walking along, but with their dog unleashed.

Animals are unpredictable, and often do unexpected things, often creating hazards for other people and animals. It is stressful to others, as well as potentially dangerous.



It is unlawful for a person owning or possessing a dog to allow that animal to run at large. This means that the presence of your dog in any place without a restraining leash, other than in a fenced-in area, is against the law.

Always remember that your domestic animals must be always leashed and under your control when not fenced in on your own property. Everyone should be able to enjoy our community equally, without the disruption an unleashed pet can cause.

Article submitted by Curvin Stine

The beautiful Lake Lenape Park in Sellersville holds one of the area's best disc golf courses. Disc golf is a sport enjoyed by people of all age groups, from children to seniors. Since it is generally free to play (minus the cost for the discs you use), people from every economic status can enjoy disc golf. Disc Golf is played much like traditional ball golf, and many of the same rules apply. However, instead of a ball and clubs, players use flying discs made from special plastic. Disc golfers employ a wide range of discs with varying flight characteristics to suit their needs, much like how a ball golfer uses a set of clubs with different shapes. The "hole" is not a hole in the ground, but a metal basket with chains which "catches" the disc.



The course in Sellersville was originally designed and installed by Sellersville Borough native, Jerome von Mechow back in 2011. Since that time, thousands of people from across the country (and globe) have used the course. It is enjoyed by many local players on a regular

basis through a weekly "league" on Saturday mornings and weekly doubles on Monday evenings. For several years, there has been a youth league to teach and encourage young people to play outdoors and make friends. It has also hosted dozens of tournaments for players of all ages and skill levels. Many of these tournaments are charity focused and raise funds for many different organizations.

Since 2013, the course has been used to raise funds for our local Pennridge FISH Organization. Pennridge FISH has been a focal point for the local Sellersville Disc Golf Club which runs an annual FISH Bowl tournament. This year was the 10th anniversary of the FISH Bowl which has donated over \$20,000 over the years. It is held in July with amateur players on Saturday and professionals on Sunday. Spectators are welcome to attend and watch throughout the course.

Disc golf is a growing sport which has been around since 1975. It has seen a boom since 2020 and there are now over 1 million people playing in the United States on over 9,500 disc golf courses. That's more courses in the US than Dunkin Donuts with 8,500 locations. Everyone is encouraged to give it a try and have some fun. If you're interested in learning more about disc golf, you are encouraged to visit the course any Saturday morning. Players there are willing to discuss the game and show you the basics. If you are interested in sponsoring or promoting your business at events like the FISH Bowl, please reach out to sellersvillediscgolf@gmail.com.





Sesquicentennial Celebration in 2024

written by Donald Crouthamel, Council Member

In the early years of its existence, circa 1738, Sellersville, known then as the village of Sellers Tavern, was a sleepy little town of a few hundred souls. Located half-way between Philadelphia and the Lehigh Valley, it served as a major stagecoach stop on the Bethlehem Pike, (originally, a trail used by Native Americans). At that time, the local economy depended, in large part, on the sale of local farm produce and a cottage industry of cigar-making. But when the North Pennsylvania Railroad began construction on the first rail line through the area in 1853, things began to change.

Originally organized as a village in Rockhill Township, the residents began to consider the benefits that might be realized by incorporating their sleepy village into a borough. According to Mr. Timothy Hufnagle, in his superb book, <u>Sellersville, PA: A Tapestry Through Time</u>, the main reason was residents' frustration with the existing schools and the desire for a stronger educational system. After an unsuccessful attempt to incorporate in 1865, Mr. Allen R. Cressman, in 1874, convinced forty-seven property owners to sign his "Petition for the Incorporation of Sellersville", and on December 7, 1874, Sellersville became an incorporated Borough of Pennsylvania.

Now, fast-forward 150 years, and how things have changed! That sleepy little village is a community of 4,500 or so. The cigar industry is a thing of the past and even the railroad is in large part gone. But Sellersville remains. Sellersville's parks, its cultural attractions, (including the theatre and the Sellersville Museum), its restaurants, and its distinctive small-town USA feel, along with the excellent schools make Sellersville a great place to live.

Sellersville Borough Council believes that 150 years, a Sesquicentennial, deserves a celebration! And so, the Council and Borough Staff are hard at work planning a year-long celebration of Sellersville's 150th Anniversary of its Incorporation. While planning for these events is not complete, the Council wanted to get the tentative schedule of events out to the residents so people can begin planning their social calendar and allow them to take in as much of the Sesquicentennial fun as possible. Below is a listing of the events now being planned.

Event	Date
Annual Easter Egg Hunt	March 30
Community Banquet	April 13
Car Show	April 20
Memorial Day Parade	May 25
Fourth of July Bell Ringing (Museum)	July 4
5K Run and Community Day	July 7
Community Picnic	August 17
Gallery of the Arts	September 15
Halloween Parade/Party	October 26
Winterfest – Including Fireworks	December 14

While some of these are familiar, recurring, events that our residents have enjoyed over the years, we plan to make them

special for the Anniversary year. Others are being planned specifically with our Sesquicentennial in mind. Planning is still underway for the Community Banquet. Tentatively scheduled for April 13, it will be held at the Moose Lodge on West Park Avenue and will include music, dancing, and a formal program. The Car Show, scheduled for April 20, will be held in the Fire House parking lot. As many as 130 cars or more will be on display and trophies will be awarded by each member of Borough Council and Sellersville's Mayor, Thomas Hufnagle.

While the annual Memorial Day Parade, scheduled for May 25, would normally be held in Perkasie in 2024, the parade will once again be held in the streets of Sellersville and is expected to be bigger and grander than ever. Multiple bands and fire companies from the surrounding communities will be represented and it is hoped that Sellersville organizations of all kinds, including churches, clubs, scouting, and little league teams, as well as local businesses will participate. Information about the parade and how to register for it has already gone out. (Questions concerning the parade and how to register can be directed to the Borough office.)

Independence Day will feature the Annual National Bell Ringing, which will once again be held in front of the Sellersville Museum on E. Church Street. As in the past, the ceremony will feature patriotic music and the reading of the Declaration of Independence. Local children will help ring the museum's bell, once for each of the original thirteen colonies. Members of Sellersville's Borough Council will be dressed in period costume, and we hope to have a surprise special attraction this year.

On July 7, Sellersville is planning to hold a 5K run through Lake Lenape Park. The event will be run in cooperation with Pennridge Community Day. Beginning around noon, an expanded Community Day celebration with games, crafts, and much more will be spread throughout the entire park area between Perkasie and Sellersville. An old-time baseball game is planned, but not confirmed.

Sellersville is tentatively planning to hold a Community Picnic on August 17. Menu plans are being discussed, with talk of including a chili cooking contest!

Gallery of the Arts will be held on September 15 in 2024, and we hope with a focus on "old-time" crafts.

Finally, the second Saturday of December, WinterFest will be held to close out the Anniversary Year, in what we hope will be explosively spectacular fashion.

So, friends, residents, civic organizations, clubs, and businesses alike, mark your calendars and begin planning to help yesterday's sleepy, old village of Sellers Tavern and today's thriving community of Sellersville to celebrate our 150th Anniversary of Incorporation, our Sesquicentennial, in the style it deserves. If you have any ideas that you think might help to make the celebration even better, please let us know by calling the Borough office.



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A Message from Chief Schurr

The Perkasie Borough Police Department is implementing several new programs to assist our residents.

The first program is a Blue Envelope Program, which is modeled after a program that was first developed and distributed in the State of Connecticut. The program has also been adopted by police agencies in several other states, including New Jersey.

The purpose of the Blue Envelope is to improve the interaction between a driver with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and Police Officers on a traffic stop. The Blue Envelope provides written information and guidance on enhancing effective communication between police officers and persons with ASD.

The primary goal of the Blue Envelope Program is to assist drivers with ASD with document organization and to help them understand what to do on a motor vehicle stop. The envelope's instructions warn the driver that the officer might have a radio and flashing lights on their patrol car. The instructions also direct the driver to keep his or her hands on the steering wheel until they receive further instructions from the officer. The directions detail the process of events that should occur during the stop and how the driver should respond.

The Blue Envelope also provides Police Officers with the means to quickly identify an operator of a motor vehicle who has ASD and helps to guide Police Officers with the interaction.

The Police Officer's section of the envelope explains some behaviors that the driver might exhibit, including repetitive body movements and signs of high anxiety. Police Officers are also instructed to allow the driver extra time to respond, to use the most simplistic language possible and to clearly tell the driver when he or she can leave the scene.

The ASD driver can place a copy of their driver's license, registration, and insurance cards inside the envelope for quick access. The envelope also contains an emergency contact form for the ASD driver.

The Blue Envelopes are available for pick up at the Perkasie Borough Police Department located at 311 S. Ninth Street, Perkasie.

The second program is a Handle with Care Registry. Law enforcement and other first responders frequently have contact with residents who have communication, cognitive and physical needs that make providing services to them more difficult. Emergency situations often create high anxiety, excitement and physical demands thus exacerbating these pre-existing conditions. In an effort to preemptively address these needs, the Perkasie Borough Police Department has embarked on an initiative to better assist our residents with special needs called, 'Handle with Care.' 'Handle with Care' residents can include, but are not limited to, elderly, dementia, Alzheimer's, autistic, or any other cognitive or physical condition which may require specific attention or assistance in an emergency.

Handle with Care Information can be accessed through the department Crime Watch web page https://bucks.crimewatchpa.com/perkasieboroughpd

The data will be used to provide officers with information they need to help a "Handle with Care" resident who is without their caregiver, who may have wandered from home or who otherwise needs assistance. This form will provide the officers with vital information to ensure the 'Handle with Care' resident is properly cared for in an emergency situation. All information in the registry will be held in strict confidence.

Last but not least the Perkasie Borough Police Department has partnered with the Bucks County Human Services Division to participate in an Upper Bucks Co-Responder Program.





Background and Purpose

The Human Services Division in Bucks County (the "County") oversees funding and contractual services for individuals in need of social services throughout the County. The following entities fall within the Human Services Division: the Area Agency on Aging, Behavioral Health and Developmental Programs, Children and Youth Social Services Agency, and the Bucks County Drug and Alcohol Commission. The mission of the Division is to support and strengthen individual and family wellness through community connections, collaboration, integration, and responsible stewardship of resources. The over-arching goals of the Initiative are to: (i) decrease the time law enforcement spends responding to situations involving social service's needs, (ii) provide a more effective emergency response through the addition of clinical-informed support and an enhanced community resource knowledge base, and (iii) divert individuals primarily presenting with social services needs from further penetration into the criminal justice system.

The following Upper Bucks Police Departments are participating in the program, Perkasie Borough, Pennridge Regional, Hilltown Township, Bedminster Township, Dublin Borough, Springfield Township, Tinicum Township, Richland Township and Quakertown Borough.



Two Co-responders were hired under a three-year grant program to support the nine Upper Bucks police agencies. Co-Responder Chris Doheny (pictured) is based out of Perkasie Police Headquarters and provides co-responder service to Perkasie Borough, Sellersville Borough, Dublin Borough, Hilltown Township, Tinicum Township and Bedminster Township. The second co-responder is assigned to remaining municipalities although both co-responders work as a team and can respond to any municipality if needed.

So far, the program has proven to be successful in providing necessary services to our residents and diverting resources that are not typically police related calls for service to countywide social support agencies.

The Perkasie Borough Police department is excited to be involved in all the new programs and initiatives.

It is hard to believe that with summer coming to an end, school is starting. The police department reminds drivers to be watchful for pedestrians/ school children walking to school and waiting for school buses at bus stops. Please be mindful of our school crossing guards, school bus red lights and stop arms when activated and fifteen (15) mile per hour school speed limit zones.

The police department wishes everyone a safe and happy fall season.

Mark your Calendars for the 55th Annual Pennridge Gallery of the Arts

Founded in 1968 to honor the legacy and impact of local artist Walter E. Baum, The Pennridge Gallery of The Arts has been committed to furthering the Arts in the Pennridge Community year after year. Celebrating the talents of local artists and crafters of all ages and backgrounds, the annual Art Exhibition and Crafts Festival takes place in the heart of Sellersville, PA each September and strives to recognize the beauty and creativity of the arts in Bucks County and the surrounding areas.

With booths lining the streets filled with art and crafts, the day also features live music throughout the festival, children's entertainment and activities, Sellersville Restaurants open to the public, plus food trucks, as well as local breweries, wineries and more. Striving to recognize our local talents in all forms is an important part of Walter Baum's legacy.



A Tapestry Through Time

In 2013, Sellersville was celebrating the 275th anniversary of the town's founding in 1738. To help celebrate the anniversary, the Sellersville Historical and Achievement Society decided to publish a book that would provide a pictorial history of Sellersville. The effort, directed by Sellersville native, Timothy D. Hufnagle, resulted in a hardbound, 386-page volume, filled with maps, photos, drawings, and historical narrative. The superb book provides an outstanding history of the town, focusing on areas such as transportation, the town's churches, commerce and industry, the schools, the town's residential and business districts, and much more. The book was printed as a Limited Edition of five hundred (500) hardbound copies, and it sold out almost before the books could be distributed. At the time, the books were priced at \$40.00 each. For those who pre-ordered the book, the price was \$30.00.

those who pre-ordered the book, the price was \$30.00.

As we approach the 150th Anniversary of the town's incorporation as a Borough in 1874, the Historical and Achievement Authority is considering a reprint of this excellent book. The cost per book will depend on two things; 1) the number of copies printed and 2) whether the book is printed as a hard-bound edition, as the original copies were, or as a soft-cover version. Whether or not a soft-bound version is possible, has not yet been determined. If an additional five hundred copies are printed as hardbound, it is expected to cost approximately \$60.00 each. Whether or not a discount will be offered for those pre-ordering has, also, not yet been determined.

To help determine the level of interest, the Authority is asking those who think they would be interested in such a book to please advise them of your interest and whether you would prefer a hard or softbound copy. Those interested can do so by calling the Borough office at 215-257-5075, or by sending an email to bookinterest@sellersvillemuseum.org. All profits from the sales of the book will be used to benefit the Sellersville Museum.



that if we are going to celebrate "let's do it right." He wants Governor Stone here and is almost certain that he can induce his friend, Ex-Governor Pattison to attend. Judge Verkes, Congressman Wanger and other notables should be invited. He confessed that he was ashamed of our depot and our electric lights, too, but he will hustle these prominent men out of town before the current is turned on. Some thought December 7 was too late in the year for an out-door demonstration and if that opinion becomes general the affair will likely be postponed to spring. In this case we may have a depot that will bear the closest inspection of any State or County officials that may

Dr. C. D. Fretz and C. M.Berkemeyer preferred an indoor celebra-

tion, comprising literary exercises during the day and a banquet in the evening. Dr. Fretz stated that the borough movement 25 years ago had its inception in a movement for better schools. The schools should have a prominent part in the celebration, for they, probably, have made more progress than any other institution in town. Mr. Berkemeyer considered Dec. 7, the town's birthday, a splendid opportunity to stir up a local pride and interest in the borough's welfare. A number others, however, favored a street demonstration, that being the only means to draw strangers and interest the public.

The meeting was a profitable one

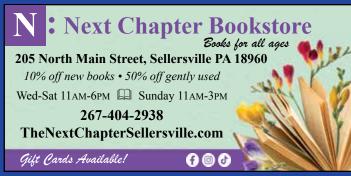
Timothy Hufnagle of the Sellersville Historical & Achievement Authority contributed the following images of the September 29, 1899, article from the **Sellersville Herald**. The article was discovered while working on the microfilming/digitization grant project to preserve Sellersville's First Newspaper Editions. The article discusses the meeting that was held to determine how to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Borough's incorporation.

The meeting was a profitable one in that it brought out the importance of grasping the opportunity to make known to the world that there is such a town as Sellersville and that its people are alive and up-to-date. No definite plans were decided on, the meeting deciding that borough council should give it official distinction by first adding its approval and suggest the future course of the project. According-ly W. F. Day, Prof. Nauman and E. E. Althouse were appointed a committee to visit council and school board next Monday evening to present the matter and ask for their encouragement.













The "History Mystery" Column

In each issue of the Borough newsletter, we feature an historic photograph pulled from the Sellersville Museum's archive collection. We then give our readers clues and a chance to figure out what the "mystery" photo is.

The answer to the Spring/Summer 2023 issue's "mystery" is . . .

An overturned automobile (and onlookers) at the crossing gate for North Main Street and the P. & R. Railroad (Philadelphia and Reading Railroad) tracks, circa 1910.

The large stone building in the background is the former Teller's Mill building, constructed around 1866/1867 by Jesse Roeller for use as a flour mill and steam sash factory. It was later converted into a cigar factory after the nearby stream failed to produce enough mill





power. By 1892, Frank Teller and Company had taken ownership of the cigar business and the name "Teller's Mill" stuck. Several businesses have occupied the building over the past century, and today the building is known as "Teller's Mill Condominiums" (#320-324 North Main Street).

The watchman's tower (on the right side in the antique photo) was used by the P. & R. Railroad for several purposes: to watch and listen for oncoming locomotives while also signaling them; to open and close the crossing gates to prevent accidents (like the one pictured); and to sound the alarm bell when volunteer firefighters needed to be called into action.

On the far-right edge of the historic photo, a glimpse is provided of a hammer and fire gong apparatus. The gong was an "iron tire" (the rim of a railroad car wheel) which was given by the P. & R. Railroad in 1892 to the Borough and the Sellersville Volunteer Fire Company. By the early 1940's, the gong was relocated in front of the southern end of the present-day Fire Department property (#2 North Main Street).





Now, onto this issue's "Mystery Photo":

It looks like just another busy day at this Sellersville factory, circa 1900. Do you think you know where this building was? [HINT: The building is still standing, but they do not make cigars there anymore, and they do not allow horses to loiter in front of it.]

Get your detective hats on and go out and explore the town to find the answer!

If you think you have solved this "mystery," call the Borough Office (215-257-5075) and tell us!

In the next issue of the newsletter, we will correctly identify the photograph and feature a new one for you to solve.

Bucks County Free Library

Entertain Your Kids with These 4 Library Items...That Aren't Books!

Looking for free things to do with the kids this fall? Your Bucks County Free Library branch has you covered!



"The Perkasie branch offers books, of course, and many other items that parents and caregivers can use to keep kids learning and having fun on weekends or over breaks," says Holly Ambrose, Bucks County Free Library's director of collection management.

You can browse the shelves at the Perkasie Library, or log into your online account to place a hold for items, like:

- Backyard games: The library offers backyard toys like paddle ball, a washer toss game and a Bocce ball set
- **Kits:** Get into the great outdoors! The catalog includes a tabletop telescope kit that's great for looking at the moon. Or borrow a bird-watching kit, which comes with binoculars and two guides for identifying local birds.
- **Board games:** When the forecast calls for rain, grab a board game! Popular games for kids include Munchkin Deluxe, Kingdomino, Ex Libris and Codenames: Pictures.
- **Binge Boxes:** A Binge Box gives you multiple DVDs in one convenient box. For kids, we recommend the Binge Boxes with Pixar movies, 90's kids movies, Disney Warrior Princess movies, or Nickelodeon movies.

Learn more about the library at buckslib.org. The library's catalog and online accounts are accessible from that website.

The Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy is Gearing Up for Their Annual Winter Race Series Events

Do not let Ol' Man Winter get you down! Stay active this winter and participate in the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy's Winter Race Series! Hit the trails and celebrate with bites and brews.



The Series kicks off with the Freeze-Up 5K at Free Will Brewing in Perkasie on Sunday, December 3. Registration for the Freeze-Up will open in October. Every participant gets a free drink ticket!

Second-in-line is the 18th Annual Snowshoe 5K at Spring Mountain on Saturday, January 27! This race is acknowledged as the largest organized snowshoe race on the East Coast, with popularity increasing every year. Last year, nearly 250 participants hit the slopes. This proves a wonderful time for novice snowshoers, seasoned snowshoers, adventure-seekers, and everyone in-between!

Lastly, the March Meltdown will close out the Winter Race Series on Sunday, March 10. The Meltdown will also be held at Free Will Brewing in Perkasie. Thaw out and welcome spring with a fun, flat run, and a refreshing beverage!

More details about the Winter Race Series can be found at https://www.perkiomenwatershed.org/winter-race

Stay up to date on Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy's events and opportunities by visiting www.perkiomenwatershed.org

Sellersville Borough Code Ordinances

Licensing and Inspection of Residential Rentals in Sellersville Borough

All owners of property leased for residential occupancy must have their property inspected through the Sellersville Borough. The property must be inspected before it is rented to a new tenant or at least every three years, and at change of tenant/owner. Applications must be submitted to Sellersville Borough along with the Rental Property Inspection Fee of \$100.00 per unit. Forms and instructions can be found at https://sellersvilleboro.org/forms.html under "Residential Rental Dwelling Registration Form."



Sellersville Volunteer Fire Department

2 N. Main Street | PO Box 315 Sellersville, Bucks County, PA 18960 Emergency Dial 911 | Business: 215.257.4028

E-mail: admin@sellersvillefd.com



As we approach the Fall season, your Sellersville Fire Department firefighters want to pass on some fire safety tips about smoke alarms. The National



Fire Protection Association (NFPA) stresses the importance of ensuring you have enough smoke alarms in your residence. Through NFPA's fire research, "today's modern furnishings can make fires can spread much more rapidly than in the past when more natural materials were used." This research found that having a sufficient number of smoke alarms in your home is a lifesaving necessity. NFPA 72 (National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code) requires a minimum of smoke alarms to be installed in every bedroom and on every level of your home. Homes that were built prior to this standard being updated do not meet these minimum requirements. Please take proactive steps to make sure that you have a smoke alarm located in every bedroom and on each level of your home.

Smoke Alarm Safety Tips:

- ✓ Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- ✓ On levels without bedrooms, install smoke alarms in the living room or near a stairway to the upper level.
- ✓ Smoke alarms installed in the basement should be installed on the ceiling at the bottom of the stairs.
- ✓ Smoke alarms should be installed at least ten' (feet) from the kitchen, to minimize false alarms when cooking.
- ✓ Smoke alarms should be mounted high on ceilings or walls as smoke rises. Wall-mounted alarms should be installed not more than twelve" (inches) away from the ceiling.
- ✓ Do not install smoke alarms near windows, doors, or ducts where drafts might interfere with their operation.
- ✓ NEVER paint smoke alarms or put stickers or other decorations on the alarms as this could keep the alarms from working properly.
- ✓ Did you know there are two types of smoke alarms? One type is the Ionization smoke alarm which is more responsive to flaming fires. The second type is the Photoelectric smoke alarm which is more responsive to smoldering fires.
- ✓ Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

Testing Smoke Alarms:

- ✓ Smoke alarms should be maintained according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- ✓ Test smoke alarms at least once a month, using the "test" button on the alarm.
- ✓ When you change your clocks, change your smoke alarms' batteries.
- ✓ Make sure everyone in the home, including children, understand and recognize the sound the smoke alarm makes and how to respond. Conduct fire drills.
- ✓ Smoke alarms with a 10-year non-replaceable lithium battery are designed to remain effective for up to 10 years. If the alarm chirps, warning that the battery is low, replace the entire smoke alarm right away.





Sellersville Volunteer Fire Department Events

Sellersville Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary Designer Bag Bingo



The Sellersville Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary will be holding a Designer Bag Bingo on Sunday, September 24, 2023 at the Sellersville Firehouse, 2 North Main Street. Doors open at 11:30

a.m. with games beginning at 1:00 p.m. Twenty (20) games are included in the packet. Several special games and a grand prize game will be available. \$30.00 for tickets in advance. Only two hundred tickets will be sold. Call (215) 257-4028, extension #302 for tickets.

Ham Dinner

The Sellersville Fire Department will be holding a "Contactless" Drive-Through Ham Dinner on Sunday, October 15, 2023 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Sellersville Fire House, 2 North Main Street. The dinner includes Leidy's ham, homemade mashed potatoes, green beans, corn, the Sellersville Fire Company's own pickled cabbage, dinner roll, and in-house made pie. Preorders are preferred – call (215) 257-4028, extension #305.

Sportsman's Bingo

Sportsman's Bingo will be hosted on Sunday, October 29, 2023. Check www.sellersvillefd.com for details.

Sellersville Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary Craft Fair

The Sellersville Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary will be hosting a Craft Fair on Saturday, November 11, 2023 at the Sellersville Fire House, 2 North Main Street. There will be sixty tables of hand-made craft items with a wide variety of items available for purchase. This is a wonderful place and time to start your holiday gift buying. The kitchen will be open for a light lunch. Raffle tickets will be available to win crafts donated by the vendors.

Sellersville Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary 5th Annual Winter Basket Bingo

The Sellersville Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary presents their Fifth Annual Winter Basket Bingo Event at the Sellersville Fire House, 2 North Main Street on Sunday, December 3, 2023. Admission includes twenty-four games. Extras will include Raffles, Chinese Auction, 50-50 Chance, Bingo Ball Pull Tabs, a Grand Prize Game, and more. Longaberger baskets will be filled to the top. Admission is \$25.00 in advance. These tickets sell fast! Call (215) 257-4028, extension #305.

Sellersville Fire Department's Santa Run

Santa will be trading in his sleigh for a fire truck ride as he goes around town to greet the children in Sellersville Borough for the holiday season, on Saturday, December 16, 2023. Look for the lights and listen for the sirens! Santa Claus is coming to Sellersville!



Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs Conference

The Sellersville Borough Council and Junior Councilperson attended the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) 111th Annual Conference in Hersey, PA from June 4 through 7, 2023. The Conference allows the Council members to have the opportunity to network with fellow municipal officials, meet with municipal vendors offering a range of products and services to assist the Borough, and attend educational sessions that benefit our local communities.

PSAB President Edward Child choose his theme "The Power of Advocacy" to let the state legislators know what boroughs feel is needed from them for effective borough governance. His theme was tied into the Conference with an Advocacy Day at the State Capitol. During that time, attendees had the opportunity to meet with state representatives and senators to discuss important legislative issues affecting borough communities.

Council Members also attended an uplifting keynote address from the legendary Joe Theismann. Joe was a two-time Pro Bowl Player and the most productive quarterback in the



history of the Washington Redskins. He suffered from a compound fracture to his leg, shattering both his career and his boyhood dream. He faced starting over his personal life and professional career. His message is to teach everyone to tackle change by keeping a positive mental outlook and committing to a vision that guides us to the top.

Snow Removal Tips from Public Works

Before you know it, snowfall will be arriving. We present these helpful tips to make managing the job of snow and ice more efficient and less stressful.

Residents are reminded that the Borough of Sellersville requires the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks within twenty-four (24) hours after snow or ice has ceased to fall. The minimum width of a cleared pathway is thirty inches (30") wide, for the entire length of the sidewalk. Do not throw snow or ice onto the road. It is illegal to push snow from a sidewalk, driveway, or parking lot onto a Borough roadway, as it presents a safety hazard.

Begin clearing your sidewalk driveway after an inch or two of accumulation. Starting sooner can make shoveling less strenuous, as it is less likely the snow will have frozen to the ground. Pace yourself and be sure to take frequent breaks. Consider taking a break after twenty to thirty minutes of shoveling, especially when the snow is wet and heavy.

Pushing the snow with the shovel instead of lifting it can help reduce the strain on your body. When lifting snow, bend your knees and lift with the strength of your legs.

Public Works staff attempt to plow all roads from curb to curb. This may not always be possible if vehicles are parked on the road. When a storm is forecast, move vehicles to off-street parking areas when possible, and keep them off the road until plowing has been completed.

Stormwater Pollution **Prevention Tips**



Melting Snow Is Stormwater Too!

Check out some steps that you can take to prevent stormwater pollution this winter.

- Start shoveling early! The more snow you remove, the less salt and sand you'll need.
- · Pile snow in locations with the most opportunity for it to infiltrate into the ground.
- Use deicing salt sparingly. Follow product instructions and give it time to work. Sweep up any remaining material.
- Clear away any snow that may have been thrown onto the storm drains.
- Salt is not effective once temperatures hit 15 degrees Fahrenheit or below. Consider using traction materials that contain acetate, potassium chloride, magnesium chloride, or cracked cornmeal.

Visit our website to learn more: www.perkiomenwatershed.org







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Rain Barrel Winter Maintenance - Don't Forget to Disconnect!

Updated: December 15, 2022



Authors Andy Yencha, Extension Educator, Renewable Natural Resources Expertise: Private Drinking Water Supply, Water Quality Testing, Pond Management, Watershed Restoration Planning, Water Friendly Residential Landscaping Practices

Rain barrels need little annual maintenance, but it's best to empty and disconnect them every winter.

Many people in Pennsylvania use rain barrels to capture rainwater that washes off the roof of their home or business. These rainwater storage containers reduce stormwater runoff and provide free water for outdoor lawn and garden needs. Rain barrels require minimal care, but one maintenance task is very important: draining the barrel and disconnecting it from the downspout before cold weather arrives to avoid ice damage. When should you disconnect your rain barrel for winter, and when is it safe to reconnect? To be on the safe side, empty and detach the barrel before the normal - also called median -- first hard freeze date for your locality and wait until the median last hard freeze date in the spring has passed before hooking it up again.

A hard freeze is when the temperature dips below 28°F for an extended period. This cold weather is enough to turn a barrel of water into ice. Pennsylvania's typical first hard freeze date varies from early October in some northern counties to late November in



Empty and disconnect your rain barrel in the fall to avoid damage from freezing water.

Picture by Jennifer Fetter, Penn State Extension

the Philadelphia area. The typical last hard freeze date ranges from mid-March in southeastern Pennsylvania to early May in a few north-central counties. You can learn your area's first and last hard freeze dates by visiting the National Weather Service (https://www.weather.gov/)'s website and following the instruction included in this article.

How to find the median first and last hard freezes dates for your town

- Visit National Weather Service(https://www.weather.gov/)
- Scroll over the map of the United States and click on the spot closest to where you live in Pennsylvania to open the landing page for your Regional NWS Forecast Office
- On your regional page, scroll over the words "Climate and Past Weather" and click the choice called "Past Observed Weather" to open a nifty tool for viewing historic weather data.
- Under the choice called "Location" scroll until you find the town where you live or the town closest to where you live. Under the choice called "Product" select the option called "first/last dates". Under the choice called "Options" enter 28°F as the temperature. Finally, select "go" to generate the data.

Most liquid compounds shrink when they freeze, but water grows in volume by approximately 9 percent. As it forms, ice expands with enough force to easily crack open a wooden or plastic rain barrel, especially when the container is full or near full. And even if the water does not crack the barrel following a hard freeze, the ice could remain throughout the winter, reducing the capacity of the barrel to capture new runoff and your ability to drain it.

After disconnecting their barrel, some people store them inside a garage or shed, but it's also very common to leave them outside all winter. If you decide to store your barrel outside, and it has a screened opening on the top, you should turn it upside down, so it doesn't fill with rain. Empty plastic barrels should be secured with straps or heavy objects to avoid the wind blowing them away. Depending on your rain barrel setup, you may also want to install a downspout or gutter extension after you disconnect the barrel to keep roof water from splashing onto buildings or sidewalks, where it might become a slippery hazard for people and pets. Winter is also an excellent time to remove any accumulated sediment, leaves, or sticks from inside the barrel and replace any leaky or worn drain valves, torn screens, or leaky inlet hoses if you're using a downspout diverter.

Interested in learning more about rain barrels from Extension?

- Rain Barrels(https://extension.psu.edu/catalog/product/view/)
- Rain Barrels: Information and Guide(https://extension.psu.edu/rain-barrels-information-and-guide)

2023 BUCKS COUNTY

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENTS

Registration is not required in Bucks County this year.

April 1	Lower Bucks	Bucks County Community College 275 Swamp Road, Newtown, Newtown Township
May 13	Upper Bucks	Upper Bucks Area Vocational Technical School 3115 Ridge Road, Perkasie, Bedminster Township
June 24	Central Bucks	Central Bucks South High School 1100 Folly Road, Warrington, Warrington Township
August 12	Lower Bucks	Bucks Technical School 610 Wistar Road, Fairless Hills, Bristol Township
October 28	Upper Bucks	Strayer Middle School 1200 Ronald Reagan Drive, Quakertown, Richland Township

Collection events run from 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM Rain or shine







What You Can Bring

Up to 25 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous products, Hazardous products will have cautionary words on the label, for example: Danger, Warning, or Caution. Other words or phrases that can signal hazardous products include: poisonous, hazardous, combustible, flammable, corrosive, volatile, caustic, irritant, explosive, toxic, use with adequate ventilation, or avoid inhaling.

Pesticides

- Chlordane
- DDT
- Malathion
- Sevin
- Rodent Poison

Flammables

- Aerosols
- Gas/Oil Mixture
- Gasoline - Heating / Motor Oil
- Kerosene

- Oil-based Paint

- Paint Thinner
- Spot Remover

Caustics

- Ammonia-based Cleaners
- Degreasers - Drain Cleaner
- Household Lve
- Metal Cleaner

- Oven Cleaner

Email: planningcommission@buckscounty.org Website: www.buckscounty.gov

Fire Extinguishers Toxics

- Antifreeze
- CFLs (fluorescent bulbs/tubes)
- Mercury
- Photographic
- Chemicals - Pool Chemicals
- Rust/Paint Remover - Weed Killer

Batteries

- Button Batteries - Lithium Batteries
- Re-Chargeable Batteries

Lead-Acid Batteries

- Car - Marine
- Motorcycle
- Truck

Propane Tanks

- Mini Propane Tanks Only (2 lbs. or less)

What You Can't Bring

ELECTRONICS-TVs-Computers-Cell Phones-Any

LATEX PAINT-Non-Hazardous Waste/Water-based*

Appliances-with or without Freen

Asbestos

Explosives / Ammunition Gas Cylinders

Household Batteries-Regular Alkaline

Medical Waste / Prescription Drugs Non-Hazardous Waste

PCBs Pressurized CFCs / Freon

Propane Tanks-Greater than 16 oz.

Smoke Detectors

Radioactive Waste

Unidentified Waste

*Remove lid to allow to air dry or mix with absorbent (e.g., kitty litter) until no longer a liquid and discard in plastic trash bag.

For additional information on disposal options, contact:

Bucks County Planning Commission www.buckscounty.gov/recycling

215-345-3400

The PADEP Recycling Hotline at 1-800-346-4242

Why bring your household hazardous wastes to a scheduled event?

Household products containing toxic chemicals, like pesticides, oil-based paints, solvents, cleaning products, weed killers and automotive batteries can be a threat to people and the environment if improperly discarded. Never throw these materials into the trash, as the toxic chemicals may harm sanitation workers, or result in fires in collection vehicles. It is also not safe to pour them into a sink or storm drain as they can end up in the environment polluting the air, water, or soil



215-345-3400 Fax: 215-345-3886

This program is a community service of the Bucks County Board of Commissioners and participating municipalities and is not open to business, industry, or institutions.

Robert J. Harvie, Jr., Chair Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia, LCSW, Vice Chair Gene DiGirolamo, Secretary

Bucks County Board of Commissioners



02/21/2023

Sellersville Borough Meetings

Have you ever wondered what is going on in Sellersville? What discussions are being held regarding improvements and revitalization? How can you be involved in your community but not be obligated to attend every meeting? All of Sellersville Borough Council and Committee meetings are open to the public. The meeting schedule can be found on the Borough's website at https://sellersvilleboro.org/calendar.html.

Certified Borough Officials (CBO) Program

Join us in congratulating Borough Assistant to the Manager, Brenda Detweiler on completing the Certified Borough Officials (CBO) Program offered through the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs.

The CBO Program is a voluntary professional development leadership course that promotes continuing education for borough officials and excellence in local government service. The CBO designation signifies a commitment to education, leadership, and staying informed on the important issues that affect borough communities.

Congratulations, Brenda, and thank you for your commitment to our community!



Trash Service During the Holidays

Republic Services will be modifying their trash and recycling pickup schedule for the 2023 holidays.

Labor Day, Monday, September 4, 2023:

If your normal trash pickup days are Monday and Thursday, your trash will be picked up on Tuesday, September 5 and Friday, September 8

If your normal trash pickup days are Tuesday and Friday, your trash will be picked up on Wednesday, September 6 and Saturday, September 9

REPUBLIC SERVICES HOLIDAY TRASH PICK UP

Thanksgiving, November 24, 2023:

If your normal trash pickup day is on Thursdays, your trash will be picked up on Friday, November 24.

If your normal trash pickup day is on Fridays, your trash will be picked up on Saturday, November 25.

Christmas, December 25, 2023:

If your normal trash pickup days are Monday and Thursday, your trash will be picked up on Tuesday, December 26 and Friday, December 29

If your normal trash pickup days are Tuesday and Friday, your trash will be picked up on Wednesday, December 27 and Saturday, December 30

New Year's Day, January 1, 2024:

If your normal trash pickup days are Monday and Thursday, your trash will be picked up on Tuesday, January 2 and Friday, January 5

If your normal trash pickup day are Tuesday and Friday, your trash will be picked up on Wednesday, January 3 and Friday, January 6

Check our website at www.sellersvilleboro.org/recycle.html for details about holiday trash schedules throughout the year.

Building Permits and Zoning Applications

Did you know that when you make modifications around your property, chances are that you need a permit from Sellersville Borough? Plumbing, mechanical, electrical, additions, demolitions, decks/patios, pools, roofing, fencing, or putting a shed on the property are some projects that require a permit, just to name a few.

BUILDING PERMIT

Ordinary non-structural repairs such as painting, new flooring, new kitchen and bathroom cabinets, or replacement of windows or doors where the existing opening in the structure is

not altered do not require a permit. If you are altering, adding to, demolishing, or making a change to the occupancy of a structure, you need to apply for a permit. This includes converting a garage into a room, moving walls, installing electrical outlets, adding new openings for windows or doors, or moving plumbing.

More information can be found on our website at https://sellersvilleboro.org/forms.html under Zoning: Building Permit Application and Instructions, or Zoning Permit Application. When in doubt, give us a call at Borough Hall and we will help you determine if you are required to apply for a permit.

Parks and Recreation News



Halloween Party

The Parks and Recreation Board will host a Halloween Party on Saturday, October 28, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Sellersville Fire House, 2 North Main Street, Sellersville. There will be food, games, and crafts for

everyone to enjoy. Costumes are encouraged.

If you are looking to clean out your closet of children's old costumes, there will also be a "costume swap" held during the party. All costumes must be washed and in good wearable condition. Costumes must arrive by the start of the party to participate in the swap. All costumes must be children's sizes.

Halloween House Decorating Contest

If you decorate your house for Halloween, consider registering your house for the Annual Halloween House Decorating Contest. Your registered house will be put on the tour map and will be eligible for monetary First, Second, and Third prizes.

Keep an eye out on the Borough website and Facebook page for further details on the dates of eligibility, voting, and the map.



School Age Child Care jobs in Bucks County

Recent high school graduates who want to gain some childcare experience and earn some money with a flexible schedule. 15 - 25 hours a week

College Students - living at home and attending Bucks County Community College, TCNJ, Universities in Philadelphia, etc. – Earn money with our flexible schedule while you attend college. We have employed many students from local colleges. 15 - 25 hours a week.

Retired Men and Women who want to get out of the house, earn some money, and enjoy time with children.

15 - 25 hours a week.

Moms who want to go back to work. 15 – 25 hours a week.

email resume to ELEARNING.KIDSCARE@GMAIL.COM

Winterfest

Last year, Winterfest was celebrated differently, and we received quite a bit of positive feedback. Instead of holding it in one location, the festivities were held around town. At the start of the festivities, Santa, Mrs. Claus, and their elf arrived at their house in the Mini Park at N. Main and E. Walnut Streets, courtesy of the Sellersville Fire Department and their fire





truck. Businesses in town participated with Winterfest specials, music was held in various locations, activities were spread out for the families, and a special tree lighting was held once the sun went down.



This year, Winterfest will be held on Saturday, December 9. Mark your calendars and keep an eye out on our website and Facebook page for further details as we get closer to the date. In the meantime, feel free to share your thoughts and ideas with us. Together we are planning an event to include the entire community.

Holiday Decorating Contest

The Parks and Recreation Board is hosting the 2023 Holiday House Decorating Contest. You can decorate your Sellersville residence in festive



holiday fashion and register it for the competition with the Borough. Monetary prizes will be awarded First, Second, and Third place. The Parks and Recreation Board will be judging in mid-December. Keep an eye out on the Borough website and Facebook page for details.





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Cynthia Martin, DO



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SELLERSVILLE BOROUGH GENERAL INFORMATION AND BOROUGH DIRECTORY

Borough Hall

140 East Church Street | Sellersville, PA 18960
Phone (215) 257-5075 | Fax (215) 257-6163 | Website – www.sellersvilleboro.org
Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sellersville Borough Council

Lois A. Dodson, *President*Alexander M. Potoczny, Jr., *Vice President*James G. Hull, *President Pro Tem*Donald Crouthamel, *Member*Kathleen J. Hallman, *Member*Marie G. Howells, *Member*Lynne A. Saylor, *Member*

Sellersville Mayor

Thomas C. Hufnagle, Mayor

Borough Staff

Eileen M. Bradley, Borough Manager
Brenda Detweiler, Assistant to the Manager
Cheryl Zischang, Treasurer/Utilities Manager/Payroll Administrator
Regina Stevenson, Finance
J. Barry Snyder,, Public Works Director
Michael Zischang, Public Works
Conner Pfaff, Public Works
Robert Schurr, Chief of Police
Randal S. White, Borough Solicitor
Cowan Associates, Inc., Borough Engineer
Sue A. Snyder, Real Estate Tax Collector
David C. Zipf,, Borough Planner, Bucks County Planning Commission
Craig Wilhelm, Emergency Management Coordinator



Board/Committee Vacancies

Sellersville Borough is looking for Borough residents to fill the following vacancies:

- Park and Recreation Board (2 openings)
- West Rockhill-Sellersville Joint Recreation Authority (1 opening)
- Historical Achievement Authority (2 openings)
- Industrial Development Authority (2 openings)
- Blighted Property Board (1 opening)
- Crossing Guard (1 opening)

All positions are unpaid volunteer positions. Most committees and boards meet once a month. Questions and letters of interest can be directed to sellersville@sellersvilleboro.org



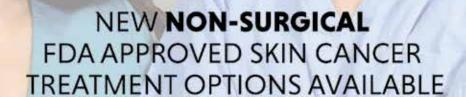








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FALL/WINTER 2023



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