

Washington TOWNSHIP

Lehigh County • Pennsylvania

Slatedale

Friedens

Emerald



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A Message from the Emergency Management Coordinator

The New Year is a natural time to pause, reset, and check in. A New Year Preparedness Checkup is a simple way to make sure you and your household are ready for emergencies in the year ahead.

Preparedness does not have to be overwhelming. A few small updates now can make a big difference later. Start by reviewing what you already have in place. Do you know your local risks? Are your emergency alerts turned on? Can you quickly find your emergency kit if you need it? Take a few minutes to review emergency contact information and make sure phone numbers and meeting locations are still correct.

Changes happen throughout the year. New jobs, new schools, new phone numbers, or new pets can all impact your emergency plan. January is a great time to talk through your plan together, so everyone knows where to go and how to stay in touch if plans change.

Preparedness works best when it fits into everyday life. A short checkup now can help reduce stress and build confidence before the next emergency. Learn how to review your risks, update your plans, and start the year prepared by visiting the Ready PA preparedness resources at pa.gov/agencies/ready/get-prepared

Staying informed is one of the most important parts of preparedness. Knowing what is happening before, during, and after an emergency helps you make safe decisions for yourself and your family. Emergency alerts and travel information tools provide timely updates about weather, road conditions, and public safety situations. Receiving alerts early allows you to adjust plans, avoid dangerous conditions, and stay aware of what is happening in your community.

Taking a few minutes to sign up for alerts and review how you receive information can help you stay connected all year long. Staying informed supports safer travel, better planning, and greater confidence when conditions change.

Stay in the know by signing up for alerts so you can get important updates when they matter most. Visit pa.gov/agencies/ready/stay-informed/emergency-alerts for more information.

Matt Stevens

Emergency Management Coordinator

Visit pa.gov/agencies/ready/stay-informed/emergency-alerts for more information.

Check out the Washington Township Emergency Management FACEBOOK page, www.readypa.org and pema.pa.gov for more preparedness information.



Don't forget to sign up for CODE RED, Lehigh Counties emergency alert service. Find more information at www.lehighcounty.org/Departments/Emergency-Management-9-1-1.

Thank you for taking a few minutes to look at this year's edition of our Township newsletter. Inside you will find a wealth of information relating to government services, news, and activities occurring within the Township this year. As always, we encourage you to support our many community organizations, as well as those businesses who sponsor our newsletter.

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Northern Lehigh America 250 Committee

Announces Community-wide Celebration for America's Semiquincentennial

The Northern Lehigh America 250 Committee is excited to invite residents from across the region to join in commemorating a once in a lifetime milestone—**America's 250th Anniversary**. Throughout May 2026, the community will come together for a series of themed weekend events honoring local history, celebrating community spirit, and recognizing the nation's rich and diverse heritage.

Designed for families, neighbors, and visitors alike, these celebrations will highlight the unique character and pride of the Northern Lehigh area. Whether you're passionate about history, enjoy community gatherings, or seek moments of reflection and unity, there is something for everyone to enjoy.



EVENT SCHEDULE

• May 2 – History Day

Dive into the stories that helped shape Northern Lehigh and the nation. History Presentation on Native Americans in Eastern Pennsylvania and The Forts of The Blue Mountains. Vigilant Fire Company, Slatington, 2 PM.

• May 8 – Kickoff Celebration at the Slatington Farmer's Market from 5 PM – 9 PM.

Celebrate the start of America 250 weekend festivities with music, local vendors, community partners, and special activities. *(Details to be announced.)*

• May 9 – Main Celebration at Northern Lehigh Bulldog Stadium Grounds

Join us from **2:00 PM to 8:00 PM** for the largest gathering of the month—featuring entertainment, activities for all ages, food, community showcases, and more. In the event of inclement weather, some activities will be held in the Northern Lehigh High School Auditorium and Gymnasium.

• May 17 – Religious Day

A multid denominational service will be held at **2:00 PM at St. John's UCC Church**, offering a moment of reflection, unity, and gratitude as we honor this historic anniversary.

June TBA – Free Swim @ NL Swimming Pool *(Date and details to be announced)*

The Northern Lehigh America 250 Committee looks forward to celebrating with the entire community as we mark 250 years of American independence and local pride. Stay tuned for more updates as event details continue to develop! Please check Facebook and the Town & Country Gazette leading up to the May celebration.

Washington Township

7951 Center Street, Emerald, PA 18080 • 610-767-8108 • www.washingtonlehigh.org

Check website for additional information

Township Staff

Shawn Wanamaker – Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

Thomas Dengler – Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

Robert Schramel – Member of the Board of Supervisors

Wade Marlatt – Township Manager

Duane Dellecker – Zoning Officer/Planning Director

Brenda Park – Secretary & Treasurer

Joan Jones – LST Clerk

David Wotring – Roadmaster

Barry Isset and Keycodes – Residential Building Code Inspectors

Eric Erb – Sewage Enforcement Officer – 610-865-4555

All personnel can be reached at 610-767-8108

The Washington Township Board of Supervisors meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM in the Township Municipal Building.

Zoning Board Members

Aaron Oswald – Chairman of the Zoning Board

Timothy O'Brian – Vice Chairman of the Zoning Board

Shane Pepe – Member of the Zoning Board

Scott Green – Alternate for the Zoning Board

The Zoning Hearing Board meets on the third Wednesday of the month on an as needed basis. Hearings begin at 7:00 PM and are conducted in the Washington Township Municipal Building.

Planning Commission

David Lear – Chairman of the Planning Commission

Andrew Mack – Vice Chairman of the Planning Commission

Brian Hoffman

Gary Van Norman

Todd Lichtenwalter

Chris London

Robert Herzog

Planning Commission meets on the last Monday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Township Municipal Building.

The Northern Lehigh Historical Society

The mission of the Northern Lehigh Historical Society is to contribute to the conservation and preservation of the natural and historic resources of the Northern Lehigh area for the benefit and use of local families, individuals and visitors to the region. The major project of the NLHS was the initiation, planning and construction of the Slate Heritage Trail. As a member of the Venture Group, the NLHS participated in the development of the Slatington Trailhead site. The Society continues to be involved with the maintenance and care of the infrastructure of the Slate Heritage Trail and Slatington Trailhead. The NLHS and Venture Group meet the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Slatington Trailhead pavilion at 6:00. Meetings are held March through November.

FMI: nlhs101@hotmail.com



Learn and explore at the Lehigh Gap Nature Center!

Are you a nature lover? If so, did you know that Washington Township is home to one of the region's best places to explore the great outdoors? Lehigh Gap Nature Center (LGNC) invites you to visit our 756-acre wildlife refuge on the Blue Mountain, where you can walk, hike, or bike our 13 miles of trails, access the Lehigh River, and participate in a wide array of educational programs. The best part? Our refuge is open to the public **free of charge, every day of the year!**

Begin your visit to LGNC at our Osprey House visitor center, located at **8844 Paint Mill Rd., Slatington**. In addition to classrooms, a gift shop, and a research library, the Osprey House offers public restrooms, drinking water, trail maps, and information on our local history and ecology. Additional parking is available on the western end of our refuge near Bowmanstown.

To learn more about upcoming programs and events, sign up for our email list at:

Website: www.lgnc.org **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/lehighgap

Instagram: www.instagram.com/lehighgapnaturecenter



LGNC is a small nonprofit with a big impact. With the support of our members and volunteers, we have restored life to a once barren and polluted mountainside, annually deliver educational programs to over 10,000 people, and provide a free community resource for visitors of all ages to enjoy. If you'd like to support our conservation and outreach efforts, we invite you to join us as a member or volunteer.

Please contact LGNC at 610-760-8889, mail@lgnc.org, or P.O. Box 198, Slatington if you have any questions or wish to get involved. We hope to see you on the refuge soon!



Township Clean-up

Township clean-up will be held on June 6th, 2026, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM. Items that will be accepted are old furniture and trash. Items that will be recycled are white goods, metals, electronics, and tires. We also accept old batteries, which are used to offset the purchase of batteries for Township equipment. Tires are now \$2.00 each. Large truck or tractor tires are now \$10.00 each. Tires should not have rims. No commercial or race tires. There will be a \$15.00 charge for removal of Freon. Electronics will be accepted with fees.

No construction material will be allowed, this would include insulation, plaster board, etc. this will be the only clean-up for the year and it is not known, at this time, if there will be other fees involved with collection. There will be a charge of \$25.00 for every mattress accepted. Starting in April, the Township will be open to drop off yard waste on Saturdays between the hours of 8am-12pm.

Fall Leaf pick up:

Soon after the leaves start falling, the township will start our leaf pick up. Please remember to place your leaf piles as close to the road or curb as possible. Also be sure that leaf pile only contain leaves, vacuuming up rocks, branches or debris can be harmful to our staff and equipment. The township cannot safely pick up leaves on the following state roads: PA 873, Mountain Road or Old Post Road. Before putting leaves along any state road, please call the township to see if pick up will be possible. If you prefer to drop off your leaves or brush, this can be done at the township yard on Center Street between the hours of 7:30am and 3:30pm, Monday – Friday. Please be aware that brush burning is prohibited and leaf burning is only permitted during the month of November. Leaf burning in the VC zoning district is prohibited all year. Please check our web site for a copy of the complete burn ordinance and our yard hours.



Northern Lehigh Food Bank

Submitted by: Barbara Scheirer, Director, Northern Lehigh Food Bank

The Northern Lehigh Food Bank serves the Northern Lehigh School District in Lehigh County

Office/Delivery Hours: Tuesday 9:00 am to 12:00 noon and other hours by appointment.

Food Distribution: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Thursday from 4:00 pm to 5:45 pm; and Last Saturday from 9:30 to 11:15am each month. Also 2nd Monday from 1:00 pm to 2:45 pm. *New clients please call to register.*

Thank you, everyone, individuals and businesses who donated food and or monetary donations this year to help us get through some very trying times.

The household sizes we serve are from 1-11 people. Last year we served about 178 households per month which is about 518 people monthly.

Food and cash donations are always needed and appreciated. We no longer accept clothing, books, toys, furniture, or household items.

The Northern Lehigh Food Bank is located at 7884 Center St., Emerald. The mailing address is PO Box 255, Slatington, PA 18080. The telephone number is 610-767-9525.



Slatington Lions Club

Lions Clubs International is committed to supporting individuals with visual and hearing impairments. Locally, the Slatington Lions Club proudly serves as a key resource for those who are blind or visually impaired, while also providing assistance to neighbors in need throughout our community.

The Lions Club hosts several fundraisers throughout the year, including our annual Comedy Night (first Saturday in March), the Slatington Open (July) our participation in the Walnutport Canal Days (third weekend in October), and our annual Christmas tree sales (Saturday after Thanksgiving until sold out).

We are proud to share that 100% of the donations and funds we raise go directly toward helping others. The Slatington Lions Club supports many local organizations, including the Slatington Library, the Slatington Pool, local first responders, food banks, local church programs for children, as well as local organizations who present holiday programs for area children. We also provide scholarships to deserving Northern Lehigh graduating Seniors.

Our club is proud to have 48 dedicated members. We want to take this opportunity to honor and thank all of the Lions who worked tirelessly for many years and are no longer with us, as well as our current members who continue to devote their time and energy to serving the community. We also welcome anyone who is interested in joining our cause—your support and involvement will help make our club even stronger.

For more details on our fundraisers, how to get tickets, or general information about our Club, message us on our Facebook page, or call Lion Steve Walden, 610-390-3275.

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themillgermansville@gmail.com
Facebook: The Mill in Germansville

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6748 MADISON STREET NEW TRIPOLE, PA 18066 (610) 298-8811 | 7747 CLAUSSVILLE ROAD OREFIELD, PA 18069 (610) 395-8834 | 4892 BUCKEYE ROAD EMMANUS, PA 18049 (610) 421-4001

Fire House Activities

Emerald Fire Co. Emerald, PA

OFFICERS:


- President - Wade Marlatt
- Vice President - Brent Williams
- Secretary - Rodney Cressman
- Treasurer - Marc Chandler
- Financial Secretary - Dan Hamm
- Fire Chief - Tito Burgos
- Trustees - Dennis Scholtis, Vicki Riga, Allen Rex, Donald Berger, Dan Riga

To Rent Emerald Picnic Woods,
call Josh Friebolin at 610-248-6906
Please visit starhosefire.com for hall
rental information.

EMERALD FIRE COMPANY

2026 Upcoming Events

July 11 (July 12 as the rain date)
Fireworks and Picnic, 4:30 pm
Emerald Classic Golf Tournament -
TBD

Continue checking starhosefire.com and
Emerald Fireworks and Picnic Facebook
page for the latest updates. 

Citizens Fire Company #1 Slatedale

For general questions, hall rentals, or event information please call the fire company at 610-767-6887.

Mailing Address:

Citizens Fire Co. #1
3922 Main Street
PO Box 179
Slatedale, PA 18079
General Email: slatedalefireco@gmail.com
Hall Rental Email: slatedalehall@gmail.com
Facebook: Slatedale Fire Department
Website: www.citizensfirecoslatedale.com

REMINDERS:

- Always have your house number visible for first responders to locate you and your emergency.
- Clear away snow at hydrants that are located on your property for easier access.
- If you have trees along your driveway, please clear away any limbs for height and width clearances for our emergency vehicles to access your home.
- If you have an emergency, please do not call the fire company, call 911.

To become a member, firefighter, or fire police, stop by on Wednesdays from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, Thursdays from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM, or any event that we have. Check our Facebook page or the Town and Country Gazette for our upcoming events.

2026 LIST OF OFFICERS

- | | |
|--|--|
| • President - Michelle Schramel - 610-760-9652 or 610-248-7217 | • Deputy Chief - Brandon Danner - 610-984-5404 |
| • Vice President - Tiffany Yesik-484-866-0173 | • Assistant Chief-Tyler Danner - 610-984-5405 |
| • Secretary - Cindy Lock | • Assistant Chief - Robert Schramel - 610-248-8207 or 610-760-9652 |
| • Treasurer - David Delong | Trustees - Robert Schramel Jr. 484-330-1538; |
| • Recording Secretary - Suzanne Zellner-610-767-2305 | James Hegarty 610-442-2196; |
| FIRE OFFICERS | Dawson Genovese 610-849-3246; |
| • Chief - Timothy Vanblargan - 610-762-2820 | Parker Haydt 484-761-6900; |
| | Leon Haydt 610-393-9580 |

SLATEDALE FIRE COMPANY EVENTS FOR 2026

- Fire Meeting:** 1st Monday of the Month at 7 p.m.
Bingo: Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. (off Jun/Jul/Aug)
Filling & Bacon Dressing Sale: Start Feb 18; Pickup Mar 28
Craft Show: Mar 28 (Setup March 27)
Filling & Bacon Dressing Pickup: Mar 28
Dye Eggs: Apr 1
Breakfast and Egg Hunt: Apr 4
Car Cruise: Apr 24, May 29, Jun 26, Jul 31, Sep 18
Grocery Bingo: April 26
Mother's Day: May 10
Basket Social: June 19 and 20
Picnic and Car Cruise: Aug 8
Cookie, Pumpkin Roll, Filling, Bacon Dressing, and Soup Sale: starts Oct 28 and pickup Nov 14
Trick-or-Treat: Oct 28
Craft Show: Nov 14
Santa Comes to Town: Dec 20
Keep up-to-date by [Facebook@SlatedaleFire](https://www.facebook.com/SlatedaleFire) or our website for any new events.

BOARD

- 5 Year: Leon Haydt - 610-393-9580
3 Year: Tami Dimmig-610-767-0130 and Ricky Kistler
1 Year: Parker Haydt - 484-761-6900 and Dwayne Kern

Friedens Fire Company

FIRE OFFICERS FOR 2026

- Fire Chief- Joel Merkel 610-844-1668
- Deputy Chief- Jeremy Merkel 610-739-0145
- Asst. Chief- Bob Schmoyer 610-442-9474
- Captain - Tim Jones
- Captain-1 - Brent Merkel
- Lieutenant-1 - Jim Chrapowicz
- Lieutenant-Calvin Deprill
- Engineer - Jeff Szoke

FIRE CO OFFICERS FOR 2026

- President - Jeremy Merkel 610-739-0145
- Vice President - Jim Chrapowicz-610751-5261
- Secretary-Amanda Sterner
- Treasurer - Kristin Chrapowicz
- Trustees - Tim Jones 484-764-7231
Brent Merkel-610-597-4010
Kyle Schmoyer-610-509-2404

For any rentals, call Joel Merkel at 610-844-1668

Our hall has two floors to rent.

Upstairs - Can hold 75 people

Downstairs - Can hold 175 people

Throughout the year, we have various functions at the Fire Co. you can find out on our billboards on 873 across from the Friedens Church. You can always check our website for information on the fire company at FriedensFire9.com

2026 SPRING AND SUMMER PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



BULLDOG BLAST

7 WEEKS OF GAMES, SPORTS, ARTS & CRAFTS, FIELD TRIPS,
AND SUMMER FUN!

- June 22nd - August 7th
- 9:00 am - 1:00 pm (Monday - Friday)
 - Extended hours: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm (Monday - Thursday)
- Monday - Thursday will be at an NLSD Facility
 - Fridays will be held at Eagles Nest Park 9 - 1 (no extended day)
 - Online registration only
 - Registration opens March 2nd at 8 am
- Ages 6-12
- Bus trips to multiple local spots!
- \$225 for 7 weeks NLSD Residents / \$40 per week for extended day
- \$281.25 for 7 weeks for Non-NLSD / \$50 per week for extended day



DAY IN THE PARK

Saturday, July 18th, 2026

Victory Park

Music

Food Trucks

Local Adult Beverage Vendors

Local Craft Vendors

Local clubs / organizations

Activities

Lovers of food, the outdoors and community will be able to indulge all at the upcoming Northern Lehigh Day In The Park!

Wednesday UnWine'd

The Slatington Trailhead is the place to be again this summer for good wine and great music!

D&L Trailhead- Slatington
6 to 8 P.M.

Schedule:

- July 8: TWO of a KIND
- July 22: The Two Taboo
- August 5: TBD
- August 26: Jeni Hackett
- September 9: Jerry Ammerman
- September 23: TBD



Summer Concert Series

Victory Park | 6 - 8 P.M.

- June 19: Midnight Special Band
- July 10: Rustix
- July 31: Steel Creek
- August 15: Band of Brothers



Grab some food from the local food truck, enjoy a drink from a local vendor, bring a lawn chair, and sit back and relax!

RECREATION & FITNESS

SIMPLY ATHLETIC STRETCH AND STRENGTH (SASS)

Join us for this adult group of any age fitness class and discover your new favorite way to get into shape, stay fit, and have fun using a combination of stretching, light weights, resistance bands and balls.

Instructor: Erna Lake
Days: Mondays & Fridays, ongoing after
Times: 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Location: Slatington United Presbyterian Church
Cost: Resident:
 10 class Discount Card: \$25
 Drop-In: \$3
Non-Resident:
 10 Class Discount Card: \$30
 Drop-In: \$3.50



YOGA WITH SHARON

Whether you are brand new to yoga or yoga master, this weekly class is for you! **Online pre-registration required.**

Instructor: Sharon Schnyder
Days: Thursdays
Times: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Location: Peters Elementary School, Music Room
Dates: Session I: January 22 - March 26
 Session II: TBD
Cost: Resident: \$45
Non-Resident: \$56.25



**individual class purchase option available.

YOGA WITH DEEPA

This class focuses on alignment, sequence, and timing with the use of props

Instructor: Deepa Savant, 200RYT
Days: Wednesdays, ongoing
Times: 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Location: St. John's Lutheran Church - Day Care Room
Cost: Resident: 10 class Discount Card: \$45
 Drop-In: \$5
Non-Resident: 10 Class Discount Card: \$55
 Drop-In: \$6





COMMUNITY

Thank you to everyone who supported NLRA by donating to our 2026 Annual Campaign! NLRA is possible due to the support we receive from our various funders, sponsors and YOU!

Have you thanked a council member today?

Northern Lehigh Recreation was formed through a partnership between the Borough of Slatington and Washington Township to bring new programs and events to you!

Borough of Slatington:

Contact us at: 610-767-2131

- Ryan Mayberry:** President
- David Schnaars:** Vice President
- William Schippers**
- Kevin Steckel**
- Aaron Schoch**
- Andreas Hassold**
- Robert Krebs**
- Jeralyn Schoch:** Mayor
- Roy Hambrecht,** Borough Manager

Find us on

NORTHERNLEHIGHPA.MYREC.COM

NLRECAUTHORITY@GMAIL.COM

484-633-0093

Washington Township:

Contact us at: 610-767-8108

- Shawn Wanamaker:** Chairman
- Thomas Dengler:** Vice Chairman
- Robert Schramel**
- Wade Marlatt,** Township Manager

Slatington Parks & Recreation Commission

Join the P&R commission on their yearly park clean up! Sign up will be at the Church Street Maintenance Building day of! April 18 | 9 am - 12 pm
Lunch is provided!

New & in the works!

In addition to the events and programs we already have planned and those we are working on, we will continue to add programs, special pop-up events, and other fun surprises! If there is something you would like us to offer OR if you have a program that you would like to propose or teach, contact us!

NORTHERN LEHIGH RECREATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Zachari Halkias
NLRA Chair

Jessica Mack
NLRA Vice-Chair
BMSD Teacher

Dave Schnaars
NLRA Treasurer
Councilperson, Borough of Slatington

Josh Friebolin
Special Education Teacher

Nicholas Sander
NLSD Teacher

Michelle Raber
NLSD Teacher, Retired
NL Community Center

Earlene Smyth
Washington Township

Shawn Wanamaker
Supervisor, Washington Township

Taylor Jones
NLRA Secretary
Interstate Batteries

Kasey Meixsell
Executive Director

THE BARKER: 2026 SPRING & SUMMER EDITION



SLATINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

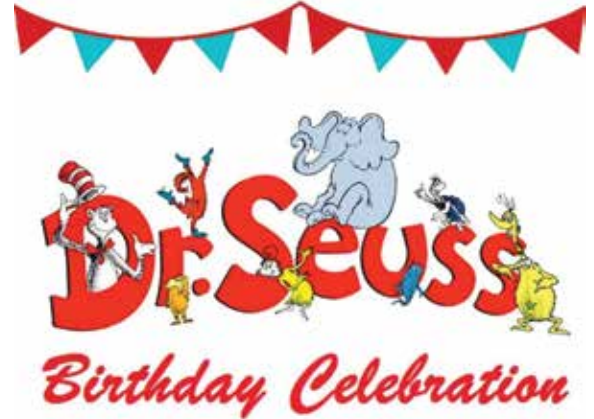
650 Main Street, Slatington • 610-767-6461 • Email: slatlib@ptd.net

“When you let go of what you are, you become what you might be.” This profound quote is attributed to the ancient Chinese philosopher Laozi (Lao Tzu) from the *Tao Te Ching*. Discover more about him at the library. The library is located at 650 Main Street in Slatington.

There have been some major changes at the library, Our Library Director and Librarian retired in December, and we have hired two new individuals. Pamela DeNardo as Interim Library Director and Theodore Zukowski as Assistant Librarian. They are settling in very nicely.

The Mission of the Slatington Public Library is to improve and enrich the lives of the residents in our community through information, recreation, and education, using both traditional methods and emerging technologies. Some of the programs coming up for Spring are:

- Dr. Seuss' Birthday program will be February 28th. Marshale George is the Guest Reader.
- April 27 is the Woman's Club Art Show and 50/50 "Hearts to Arts" raffle.
- Spring Book Sale. Date TBA on website and social media.
- The Donald Owens Reading Challenge. February 18 - May 31.
- Story Hour will be Tuesday's March 3 - April 14.
- The Library Book club meets in person or via Zoom the first Monday of the month.
- The Genealogy club meets the second Saturday of the month.
- In addition, the library is selling its collection of Norman Rockwell plates. Stop by and take a look. The librarians will be able to assist.
- We have had several graduates from the 1000 books before kindergarten. It's never too late to join in the fun, birth to school-age.



This is an exciting year for us. We will be celebrating our 90th Anniversary as a public library with special events throughout the year! Check the website and Facebook page for more information.

Save the date for our 30th Basket Social Date September 26, 2026, in Slatedale. Other Fall events are being scheduled. Check our website and your Fall newsletter.



If you are interested in a volunteer position or Friends of the Library, contact the library.

REMINDER: If you have applied for a library card and have not received it, please stop by the library during its open hours to pick it up. We regret they cannot be mailed.

We thank everyone who has sent a donation. The donations are used for operational expenses and programs. We have added a PayPal link to the Library home page to provide another way to donate. No donation is too small! The Slatington Public Library is a non-profit 501c3 corporation.

Did you know there are computers, both PC and Apple, at the Library for the public's use? In addition to computers and WiFi, we offer a printer/copier/fax service for a fee.



A Legacy of Care: Helping Families Heal for Over Seven Decades.

Nathanael Horvath
Supervisor

Amber Horvath
Funeral Director

25-27 N. Second Street, Slatington, PA 18080 • 610-767-3011
www.hardingfuneralhomeinc.com



This year’s Board of Trustees, term expirations, and municipality represented are as follows:

Wanda Owens	President	2028	Slatington
Marilyn Steckel	Vice President	2027	Washington Twp.
Lynne Fedorcha	Treasurer	2026	Washington Twp.
Hali Kuntz	Asst. Treasurer	2028	Walnutport
Joyce Thompson	Secretary	2027	Slatington
Beverly Benfer		2026	Slatington
Renee Evans		2026	Washington Twp.
Debbie Moyer		2026	Walnutport
Vacancy		2028	Walnutport



Pamela DeNardo



Ted Zukowski

Our Librarians:

Pamela DeNardo	Library Director
Ted Zukowski	Librarian

LIBRARY HOURS:

Library Hours: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays • 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays • 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays • 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays

Website: www.slatingtonlibrary.org

Do not forget to check out the Slatington Public Library on Facebook and Instagram.

CODE CORNER



Call the Washington Township Zoning/ Building Code Office at 610-767-8108 with any questions.

Always remember the 4P’s – Proper Planning Prevents Problems. Zoning regulations deal with use of property and placement of structures. Building codes deal with elements of construction (how to build something that will be safe and last.

POOLS

- Permits are required for all swimming pools capable of holding more than 24” of water. This includes “storable” swimming pools.
- A plot plan showing the location and setbacks of the pool is required.
- Barriers (fences, gates, alarms etc.) should be included on the plot plan.
- Electrical and bonding design is required to comply with the 2018 IRC.
- The building inspector must be called to conduct electrical, bonding, and barrier inspections.
- When completed & all inspections pass, the Zoning Officer must be called to conduct a site placement inspection.

DECKS

- Permits are required to build a deck. When the deck exceeds 30” above grade, a building permit is also required.
- A plot plan showing the location and setbacks of the deck is required.
- For decks subject only to Zoning, a site plan must be submitted & the Zoning Officer must be called to conduct a site placement inspection when the project is complete.
- For decks subject to the building codes, the building inspector must be called to conduct footer, framing (including stairs & guards), and final inspections.

FENCES

- Permits are required to install a fence or wall. In residential districts, the maximum height of a fence is six (6’) feet (in front yards, fences are limited to four (4’) feet in height).
- A plot plan showing the location and setbacks of the fence is required.
- The plot plan must show any easements located on the property.
- When completed, the Zoning Officer must be called to conduct a site placement inspection.



As stormwater flows over driveways, lawns, and sidewalks, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. Stormwater can flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland, or coastal water. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water. Polluted runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water.



By practicing healthy household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids off the ground and out of stormwater. Adopt these healthy household habits and help protect lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands, and coastal waters. Remember to share the habits with your neighbors!

Make your home
The SOLUTION TO STORMWATER POLLUTION!

A homeowner's guide to healthy habits for clean water



Healthy Household Habits for Clean Water

Vehicle and Garage

- Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn or other unpaved surface to minimize the amount of dirty, soapy water flowing into the storm drain and eventually into your local waterbody.



- Check your car, boat, motorcycle, and other machinery and equipment for leaks and spills. Make repairs as soon as possible. Clean up spilled fluids with an absorbent material like kitty litter or sand, and don't rinse the spills into a nearby storm drain. Remember to properly dispose of the absorbent material.

- Recycle used oil and other automotive fluids at participating service stations. Don't dump these chemicals down the storm drain or dispose of them in your trash.

Lawn and Garden

- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Avoid application if the forecast calls for rain; otherwise, chemicals will be washed into your local stream.
- Select native plants and grasses that are drought- and pest-resistant. Native plants require less water, fertilizer, and pesticides.
- Sweep up yard debris, rather than hosing down areas. Compost or recycle yard waste when possible.
- Don't overwater your lawn. Water during the cool times of the day, and don't let water run off into the storm drain.
- Cover piles of dirt and mulch being used in landscaping projects to prevent these pollutants from blowing or washing off your yard and into local waterbodies. Vegetate bare spots in your yard to prevent soil erosion.

Pet Care

- When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local waterbodies.

Swimming Pool and Spa

- Drain your swimming pool only when a test kit does not detect chlorine levels.
- Whenever possible, drain your pool or spa into the sanitary sewer system.
- Properly store pool and spa chemicals to prevent leaks and spills, preferably in a covered area to avoid exposure to stormwater.

Septic System Use and Maintenance

- Have your septic system inspected by a professional at least every 3 years, and have the septic tank pumped as necessary (usually every 3 to 5 years).
- Care for the septic system drainfield by not driving or parking vehicles on it. Plant only grass over and near the drainfield to avoid damage from roots.
- Flush responsibly. Flushing household chemicals like paint, pesticides, oil, and antifreeze can destroy the biological treatment taking place in the system. Other items, such as diapers, paper towels, and cat litter, can clog the septic system and potentially damage components.

Storm drains connect to waterbodies!



Remember: Only rain down the drain!

For more information, visit
www.epa.gov/nps/stormwater
 or
www.epa.gov/nps

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 Phone: (610) 960-2503

Email: webmaster@macungie.pa.us



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Property & Per Capita Taxes

Township property tax, School property tax, and Per Capita tax are issued and collected yearly. Please direct all questions regarding these taxes to the Tax Collector, Ashley Wilk. Her phone number is 610-767-8108 Ex. 6 and email address is ashleywilk@outlook.com. Office hours will be held at the Municipal Township Building (7951 Center Street, Emerald, PA 18080) on Mondays from 5:00 PM until 6:00 PM or by appointment.

NOTE: Mortgage companies pay township, county, & school taxes – township taxes are paid by your mortgage companies so do not pay them or duplicate payments are made. Most mortgage companies receive your tax amounts electronically without receiving the tax bill from you, but it is recommended for you to check with them. Per Capita taxes are not paid by your mortgage company – you are responsible to pay them.

- **Township Real Estate** is issued April 1
- **School Real Estate** is issued July 1
- **Township and School Per Capitas** are on the same bill and are issued together July 1

Delinquencies are turned over to the following companies and once turned over, these companies are who need to be contacted for resolution.

- Township – Elite Revenue Services
- School – Portnoff Associates
- Township Per Capita – Berkheimer Associates
- School Per Capita – Statewide Tax Recovery
- Township Street Light and Hydrant – Creditech Collection Agency – if applicable



Road Maintenance

Roads for Road Maintenance this year are; Bottom Road, Oakwood Lane and Cider Press.

Northern Valley Emergency Medical Services, Inc.

Northern Valley Emergency Medical Services, Inc. (NOVA) is a nonprofit organization committed to offering affordable, community-based emergency medical care. We provide primary 911 emergency services to Heidelberg, North Whitehall, and Washington Townships, as well as the Boroughs of Slatington and Walnutport, and parts of Lowhill Township.

Our experienced paramedics and emergency medical technicians respond to over 3,600 calls each year from three stations located at 2375 Levans Rd., Coplay; 524 W. Church St., Slatington; and 6272 PA Route 309, New Tripoli, dispatching the nearest available unit.

Beyond emergency responses, NOVA also offers standby services for sporting events in Northwestern Lehigh and Northern Lehigh School districts, as well as for churches, bike races, marathons, and various community gatherings requiring ambulance support.

Our Subscription Drive is NOVA's largest fundraiser. Flyers were mailed to households within our primary response area in

November. Subscriptions sustain our operations and grant you valuable cost-sharing benefits.

Subscriber benefits include:

- Up to \$500 reduction in cost-sharing (co-payments and coinsurances) per emergency ambulance trip.
- A \$500 discount on emergency services not covered by your insurance.
- A \$500 discount on ambulance trips if you are uninsured.
- No cost lift assists.

NOVA subscriptions are valid from January 1 to December 31. For more information, visit our website at www.northernvalleyems.com. Your support and donations are deeply appreciated.

Stay updated with the latest news by following our Northern Valley Emergency Medical Services Facebook page.

Thank you for your support!



THANK YOU

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



Help Us Help You

In an emergency, can the ambulance quickly find your residence, access your driveway, and get to your house? The extra minutes emergency response teams spend searching for your address or trying to navigate your driveway can make a real difference for a loved one in need. Ordinance #63 requires all property owners to post their address on their mailbox or building face. Make sure your driveway is maintained and is clear of obstructions such as low branches so that the emergency equipment can get to your house. Excessive swales in your driveway can also be an issue for the larger emergency vehicles. Contact the NOVA 610-262-1075 if you would like a number sign for your home.

REFLECTIVE ADDRESS SIGN ORDER FORM

Cost: \$10.00 per sign

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Sign made: (Circle one) Horizontal Vertical

Mail this form to:

Northern Valley Ambulance

Attn: Address Sign Order

2375 Levans Road

Coplay, PA 18037-2202

Please do not mail money to NOVA. Payment is due when picked up.
 Payment can be cash or check (Neffs Volunteer Fire Company)

Forgotten Felines and Fidos



Washington Township is partnering with Forgotten Felines and Fidos—a no-kill shelter at 6022 Mountain Road, Germansville—to help manage the township’s feral cat population through Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) services in 2026. Residents may call 610-760-9009 (option 1) to leave a message and receive a callback to schedule a TNR appointment. While the shelter can’t assist with trapping, traps are available for loan with a refundable deposit upon return.

Surgery is done at the Germansville shelter, where the Forgotten Felines and Fidos veterinarian examines each cat, performs the spay/neuter surgery, and updates all required vaccinations. If a cat is friendly/adoptable and there is space available in the shelter, Forgotten Felines may offer to intake the cat with the resident’s permission.



Emergency Preparedness: POWER OUTAGES

Power outages can occur during any season and have different effects so it is helpful to be prepared at all times.

Before a power outage occurs:

- Make sure you have an emergency kit created. You can find what you should put in it at ready.pa.gov
- Always have cellular devices charged
- Have enough water in the home for 4 days along with food (that may not require electricity to heat)
- If you have a generator, always maintain enough fuel and test the generator monthly
- Keep your car’s fuel level up
- If you have electric medical equipment, ensure you have a battery or manual way of handling the equipment.
- Have a working battery-operated radio so you can receive updates for shelters and evacuations if necessary

During the power outage:

- Utilize flashlights rather than candles due to the risk of fire
- Keep refrigerators/freezers closed so the temperature can remain consistent

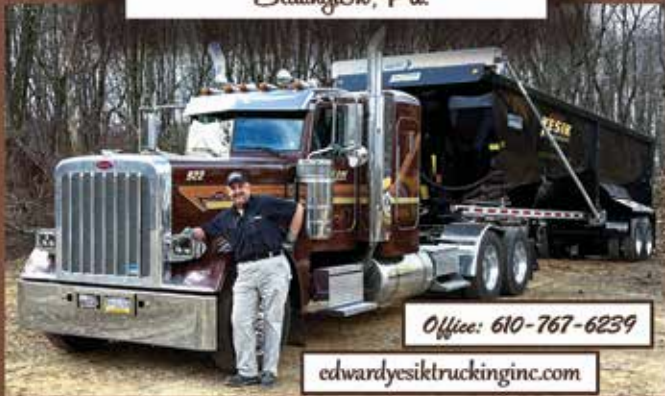
- Dress in layers according to time of year
- Disconnect appliances so there are no surges when power does return
- If using a generator, remember to not have the generator inside and keep away from your home so fumes do not enter your home

Once power returns:

- Throw away any food that may have dropped below approved temperatures
- Slowly turn electrical devices back on
- If you have natural gas and need someone turn it back on, have someone approved come out
- Restock any supplies you may have used out of your emergency kit or go bags.

Remember: BE PREPARED





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7419 Saegersville Road, Germansville, PA