



# Sellersville

## BOROUGH

FALL/WINTER 2022

Official Newsletter

### LETTER FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Greetings to our Friends and Neighbors!

Summer is slipping away, and we welcome the beauty and briskness of autumn. Fall blesses us with the colorful spectacle of changing leaves. We hope this year, as the temperatures drop, that you take some time to appreciate the amazing colors of our local foliage. We are so fortunate to have a wonderful park system and trails here in Sellersville. We hope you use them often and enjoy the refreshing and rejuvenating benefit of communing with nature. You can take a leisurely stroll or a vigorous power walk. Play disc golf, tennis, or pickle ball. Please do your best to keep our parks clean for others!

We continue to be excited as our community is re-inventing itself. New businesses on Main Street as well as thriving established businesses are giving our downtown a new look and new life. The Sellersville Senior Residences have brought new folks into Sellersville and added a well-designed building to our Borough.

We work best when we all work together. Consider volunteering for a Borough committee, the Sellersville Fire Department, Sellersville Fire Police, or community youth sports or scouts. Learn more about your community by attending a Borough Council meeting (see website for schedule). We value your voice and input, and we promise we will not bite! Becoming involved helps the Community that you have chosen as your home to be a better place. If we want to ensure that our legacy of neighborhood pride and small-town atmosphere continues in the future, we must be willing to give back and be part of the team. We love Sellersville Borough, and hope that you do too!

*Lois Dodson*  
Sellersville Borough Council President

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## Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs Conference

The Sellersville Borough Council and several Borough Staff employees attended the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) 110th Annual Conference in Hersey, PA from May 22 through 25, 2022. During the Conference, they visited exhibitor booths to learn about services and products available to the Borough, attended training sessions, and attended an uplifting keynote address from Scott and Tiffany Smiley. Mr. Smiley was severely injured and blinded in Iraq while serving as an officer in the U.S. Army but overcame these disabilities and flourished with help from his own "team" of supporters. Attendees also networked with other council members and staff from Pennsylvania boroughs and chose from a large variety of educational classes.

This year's conference theme was "A Salute to our Past: Together Everyone Achieves More." PSAB President Thomas C. Gramling, Sr. has used the phrase "TEAM Work; Together Everyone Achieves More" as his message throughout his career. When we serve boroughs and local communities, it requires teamwork to accomplish great results.



Left to Right – Marie Howells, Donald Crouthamel, Alexander Potoczny, Lois Dodson, James Hull, Kathleen Hallman, Lynne Saylor

While attending the conference, Council member James Hull received the Cecil K. Leberknight Award. This award is given to council members who have completed ten or more years of Borough service. Council member Lynne Saylor received her Certificate of Completion of the Certified Borough Officials (CBO) Program, a voluntary professional development leadership course.

The Borough also received First Place Recognition in the 2,501 to 5,000 population Category for the Borough News Communication Contest. This award is given to boroughs that highlight effective communication in their communities, awarded to Sellersville for the publication of this newsletter, our revamped website at [www.sellersvilleboro.org](http://www.sellersvilleboro.org), and for our social media presence on Facebook at Sellersville Borough.



### *A Big Thank You to Our Businesses*

This publication is made available through the generous advertising sponsorship of the businesses listed throughout our newsletter. We wish to encourage your patronage of these establishments; they play a substantial role in the economic vitality of our Community.



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Thank You For Shopping!

## A Message from Chief Schurr

The Perkasie Borough Police Department would like to remind all residents to double check that your vehicles are kept locked, even when parked in your driveway. Theft from vehicles is a crime of opportunity with offenders looking for unlocked/unsecured vehicles that may contain cell phones, cash, computers, and other valuables.

As we enter our fall season and school is back in session, the Police Department would like to offer the following safety tips from PennDOT and AAA:

### School Bus Safety

School bus safety is a high priority in Pennsylvania. Students, parents, teachers, administrators, transportation personnel, and the motoring public all play important roles in keeping our children safe while on or around the school bus.

### Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law

- Motorists must stop at least ten (10) feet away from school buses that have their red lights flashing and stop arm extended.
- Motorists must stop when they are behind a bus, meeting the bus or approaching an intersection where a bus is stopped.
- Motorists following or traveling alongside a school bus must also stop until the red lights have stopped flashing, the stop arm is withdrawn, and all children have reached safety.
- If physical barriers such as grassy medians, guide rails or concrete median barriers separate oncoming traffic from the bus, motorists in the opposing lanes may proceed without stopping.
- Do not proceed until all the children have reached a place of safety.

### The penalties if convicted of violating Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law include:

- \$250.00 fine
- Five points on your driving record
- Sixty (60)-day license suspension

For more information, review Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law Fact Sheet at <https://www.dot.state.pa.us/Public/DVSPubsForms/BDL/BDL%20Publications/Pub%2097.pdf>

### Tips for Parents and Students:

- Arrive at the school bus stop at least five minutes early so you will not have to run across the road to catch a bus.
- When waiting for the bus, stay away from traffic lanes. Line up at least five giant steps away from the curb or roadway to wait for the bus.
- Never run after the school bus if it has already left the bus stop.
- Never push when getting on or off the school bus.
- Always walk at least ten feet in front of the bus when crossing so that the school bus driver can see you.
- Be Aware — Cross with Care! Wait until the school bus has stopped all traffic before stepping out onto the road.
- When the school bus is moving, always stay in your seat. Never put your head, arms, or hands out of the window.
- Talk quietly; do not distract the school bus driver.
- If your school bus crosses railroad tracks, be calm and quiet so that your driver can listen for a train. Always obey your school bus driver's instructions, so that he or she can make safe decisions.
- Never play with the emergency exits. Backpacks, band instruments, or sports equipment may not block the aisle or emergency exits. If there is an emergency, listen to the driver and follow instructions.
- When getting off the school bus, make sure that all drawstrings and other loose objects are secure so that they do not get caught on the handrail or the door.
- Never cross the street behind the school bus.
- If you leave something on the bus or drop something outside of the bus, never go back for it. The driver may not see you and begin moving the bus.
- Never speak to strangers at the bus stop and never get into a car with a stranger.



## Pedestrian Tips

- Be Visible!
- Always make sure you are visible to drivers and make eye contact with them whenever possible. This is especially important at night, in low-light conditions such as dusk or dawn, or in inclement weather. According to NHTSA's National Center for Statistics and Analysis, 32 percent of all pedestrian fatalities occur between 8:00 p.m. and 11:59 p.m.
- Wear lightly colored or reflective clothing at night and brightly colored clothing during the day.
- Stay in well-lit areas, especially when crossing the street.
- If possible, make eye contact with drivers in stopped vehicles to ensure they see you before you cross in front of them.
- Stay Alert – Avoid Distractions!
- Distractions are everywhere today and becoming more and more difficult to avoid. Remember that as a pedestrian, your eyes and ears are your best tools for keeping safe. Stay alert and watch out.
- Put down your phone! Smartphones and handheld electronic devices are a daily part of life, but they take your eyes off the road and distract your attention.
- Do not wear headphones. Your ears will tell you a lot about what is happening around you – be sure to use them.

## Follow the Rules

- Know and follow all traffic rules, signs, and signals. You need to be aware of the rules vehicles around you must follow to properly anticipate what drivers will do. This will help increase your safety.
- Never assume a driver will give you the right of way. Make every effort to make eye contact with the driver of a stopped or approaching vehicle before entering the roadway.
- Walk in Safe Places.
- Use crosswalks when crossing the street. If a crosswalk is unavailable, be sure to find the most well-lit spot on the road to cross and wait for a long enough gap in traffic to make it safely across the street.
- Stay on sidewalks whenever possible. If a sidewalk is not available, be sure to walk on the far side of the road facing oncoming traffic. This will help increase your visibility to drivers.
- Avoid walking along highways or other roadways where pedestrians are prohibited.

## Avoid Alcohol Consumption

Almost half of all traffic crashes resulting in pedestrian casualties involve alcohol consumption. Surprisingly, 34 percent of that total was on the part of the pedestrian. Alcohol impairs your decision-making skills, physical reflexes, and other abilities just as much on your feet as it does behind the wheel.

## Tips for Drivers

- Be Alert!
- Always look out for pedestrians. When you are operating a vehicle, you have accepted a heightened responsibility for other people on the road. Safety is a two-way street. Often, pedestrians— especially younger ones— are not where they should be or where you would expect them to be. Always remain vigilant.
- Follow posted speed limits at all times, especially in areas with heavy pedestrian traffic. This is even more important in areas that have lower speed limits, such as school zones and neighborhood streets, where pedestrians may appear suddenly.
- Stay Alert – avoid distractions – put down your phone. Smartphones and handheld electronic devices take your eyes off the road and distract your attention.
- Overall visibility is limited in bad weather conditions and poorly lit areas. Not only is it more difficult for drivers to see oncoming pedestrians, it also is harder for pedestrians to see you. Make sure your lights are on and you use your signals properly. Use extra caution in these circumstances.
- Be mindful of pedestrians when pulling into and out of driveways – especially if you are backing up. Pedestrians can easily enter your path without your knowledge.

## Crosswalks

- Always yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk.
- When approaching a crosswalk, reduce your speed and be prepared to stop.
- When you are stopped at a crosswalk, allow enough room between your vehicle and the crosswalk so other drivers can see the pedestrians for which you have stopped.
- Do not pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk. They have stopped to allow pedestrians to pass or make sure the way is clear.

*The Police Department is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Administrative office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding holidays. The Police Department's non-emergency contact phone number is 215-257-6876. For emergencies, please dial 9-1-1.*



*The Perkasie Borough Police Department wishes all our residents a safe and happy Fall and Winter Season.*

## SELLERSVILLE SPOTLIGHT: RamPacks

Article submitted by Donna Huff of St. Paul's UCC



The mission of RamPacks is to provide meals on weekends and school holidays to children experiencing food insecurity in the Pennridge School District (PSD), so they are able to come to school ready to learn.

RamPacks was started in 2018 out of St. Paul's UCC in Sellersville. In the PSD, one in four children come to school hungry. Most receive free or reduced-cost breakfast and lunch during school days. However, many do not get sufficient food on weekends and school holidays, making it difficult for them to stay focused, attentive, and ready to learn when they arrive back at school on Mondays or after holidays.

Through a plea to their congregation for volunteers and with financial help from their Endowment Fund, St. Paul's UCC began a weekend food program. The people of St. Paul's sprang into action! A Boy Scout stepped up and asked if he could clean out, paint, and help set up an area of the church that could be used for the pantry as part of his Eagle Scout project. The Endowment Fund gave money to buy shelves, reusable bags to give out the food to the children, bins to carry the bags to the school each week, and of course, to buy food. Others stepped up and volunteered to purchase the food, donate food, pack the bags, and deliver the bags.

Donna Huff contacted the PSD, and they were very excited to be partners in this endeavor. The principal and school counselor at Sellersville Elementary helped identify children who would participate and manage the delivery of the bags and return the empty reusable bags each week. RamPacks began serving twenty-five children every week.

Since its inception, the Program has grown considerably. Donna reached out to other churches in the Pennridge Ministerium, and many stepped up with equal enthusiasm. RamPacks soon had enough money to supply another school. They officially became a 501(c)3 organization, with a Board of Directors and their own bank account, website, and Facebook page. They formed numerous packing teams and started serving the children at Guth Elementary School. The RamPacks Board realized that the pantry at St. Paul's would not be able to house the amount of food they were going to need. Blooming Glen Mennonite Church offered their church as a second pantry location. The goal was to open up to ALL of the schools in the PSD.

The onset of the global pandemic in March 2020 put a small hitch in the operation. RamPacks managed to get food to the children every week and on holidays throughout it all, even moving to deliveries directly to homes. More schools and another pantry at Souderton Brethren in Christ Church in Hilltown were added to the mix.

The 2021-22 school year has been the most successful to date. RamPacks served children from all the elementary schools and middle schools in the PSD, and by the end of the year were serving over 145 children each week.

The relationship with the District has been wonderful! Every school has their own way of handling their RamPacks routine, and each of the pantries has a point person to connect with the schools they serve directly. There is a pantry manager at each church who makes the menus and gets ready for the pack each week, a packing team manager who organizes the fifteen teams each week to be at the three pantries to pack. There is a food buyer who orders food and makes sure each pantry has what they need, drivers to help pick up and deliver food to the pantries, and drivers to take the bags to the schools each week.

If you would like more information on RamPacks, please visit the website [www.rampacks.com](http://www.rampacks.com). Donations are accepted on their website or can be mailed to RamPacks, 104 Green Street, Sellersville, PA 18960. Any questions can be emailed to Donna Huff at [rampacks2019@gmail.com](mailto:rampacks2019@gmail.com).

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## Trash Service During the Holidays

Republic Services will be modifying their trash and recycling pickup schedule for the 2022 holidays.

**REPUBLIC SERVICES**  
**HOLIDAY TRASH PICK UP**



### Labor Day, Monday, September 5, 2022:

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

If your normal trash pickup days are Tuesday and Friday, your trash will be picked up on Wednesday, September 7 and Saturday, September 10

### Thanksgiving, November 24, 2022:

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

If your normal trash pickup day is on Fridays, your trash will be picked up on Saturday, November 26.

No changes will be made for Christmas 2022 or New Year's Day 2023.

## Shred Event

Sellersville Borough will be holding a Shred Event for Borough residents on Saturday, September 24, 2022 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. The event will take place at Sellersville Borough Hall, 140 East Church Street, Sellersville.

There is a limit of four bags or boxes per household. Staples are acceptable, but all clips or metal bindings must be removed. The documents received will be shredded in a truck onsite. Only personal shredding is allowed. No documents from commercial businesses will be accepted.



## Junior Council Person Program

Do you have a Junior or Senior high school student interested in participating in local government? Sellersville Borough Council is seeking a Junior Council Person to serve as a link between the Borough and their peers at school. The Junior Council Person Program provides youth with an opportunity to engage in Borough government and develop leadership skills. It also allows the Borough Council Members to serve as mentors to students who will be the future leaders in their communities.

Guidelines:

- Applicant must be a resident of Sellersville Borough
- Applicant must be a Junior or Senior high school student
- Applicant must be willing to serve a one (1) year term to coincide with the duration of the school year.
- Applicant should be able to attend all Council meetings and participate in Community events.
- Applicant must submit a written statement of interest in being appointed as a Junior Council Person to the Borough Manager.
- Junior Council Persons cannot vote or participate in Executive Sessions.
- Junior Council Persons must observe Borough Council meeting rules.
- Junior Council Persons are encouraged to ask questions, provide comments, and make reports.

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# 2022 BUCKS COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENTS

Registration is not required in Bucks County this year.

<b>April 2</b>	Lower Bucks	Bucks County Community College 275 Swamp Road, Newtown, Newtown Township
<b>May 7</b>	Upper Bucks	Upper Bucks Area Vocational Technical School 3115 Ridge Road, Perkasie, Bedminster Township
<b>June 25</b>	Central Bucks	Central Bucks South High School 1100 Folly Road, Warrington, Warrington Township
<b>August 13</b>	Lower Bucks	Bensalem High School 4319 Hulmeville Road, Bensalem, PA 19020
<b>October 8</b>	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 Lye
- Metal Cleaner
- Oven Cleaner

### 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 Corded Devices
- LATEX PAINT**-Non-Hazardous Waste/Water-based\*
- Appliances**-with or without Freon
- 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**
- Tires**
- 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](http://www.buckscounty.gov/recycling)  
 215-345-3400  
 or  
 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.



1260 Almshouse Road • Doylestown, PA 18901  
 215-345-3400 Fax: 215-345-3886

Email: [planningcommission@buckscounty.org](mailto:planningcommission@buckscounty.org) Website: [www.buckscounty.gov](http://www.buckscounty.gov)

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.

### Bucks County Board of Commissioners

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



03/23/2022

## Sellersville Museum Events

The members of the Sellersville Historical and Achievement Authority are pleased to announce the remaining 2022 Events being held at the Sellersville Museum, 120 East Church Street, Sellersville:

Star Wars Display – September 10 and September 11

Sellersville Maps Display – October 8 and October 9

Model Trains Display – November 12 and November 13

**Returning this year!** The Annual Christmas Tree Forest – December 10 and December 11

All Museum events are free, but 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](mailto:volunteer@sellersvillemuseum.org).

## The "History Mystery" Column

Beginning with this issue of the Borough Newsletter, we will regularly feature an historic photograph pulled from the Sellersville Museum's archive collection.

Most of this building is still standing today (but went through a major renovation). Can you tell us where this building was located in Sellersville, and what it was used for?

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

If you believe that you have solved this "mystery," email your response to the Borough Office at [sellersville@sellersvilleboro.org](mailto:sellersville@sellersvilleboro.org), or call Brenda at (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.



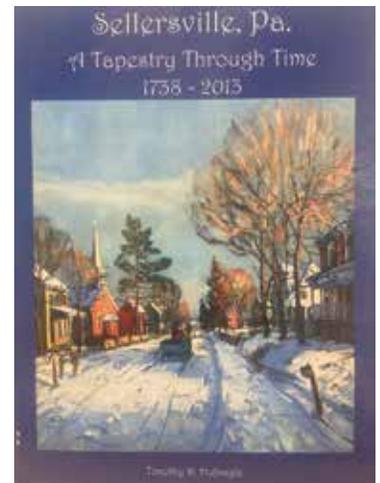
## A Tapestry Through Time

Back in 2013, the Sellersville Historical and Achievement Authority published a 400-page hardcover book named *“Sellersville, Pa. – A Tapestry Through Time, 1738-2013”* in conjunction with the year’s 275th anniversary of Sellersville’s settlement and founding.

Only 500 copies were printed and they sold out within several months of being released. The original price per book was \$40.

The Authority is asking the community for input and feedback to determine whether there is enough interest in publishing a second edition of the book for those who missed out on purchasing it the first time. If “yes,” are you in favor of having the book slightly expanded to include some additional material and an index? (This would increase the sale price of the book.)

Please call the Borough Office at 215-257-5075 or send an e-mail to [sellersville@sellersvilleboro.org](mailto:sellersville@sellersvilleboro.org) and provide us your input.



## Sesquicentennial Celebration in 2024



In 2024, the Borough of Sellersville, Bucks County, PA will be celebrating their 150th anniversary of incorporation as a Borough, known as a Sesquicentennial Anniversary. The Sesquicentennial Committee has been formed and events are being planned to be held throughout the 2024 Anniversary year.

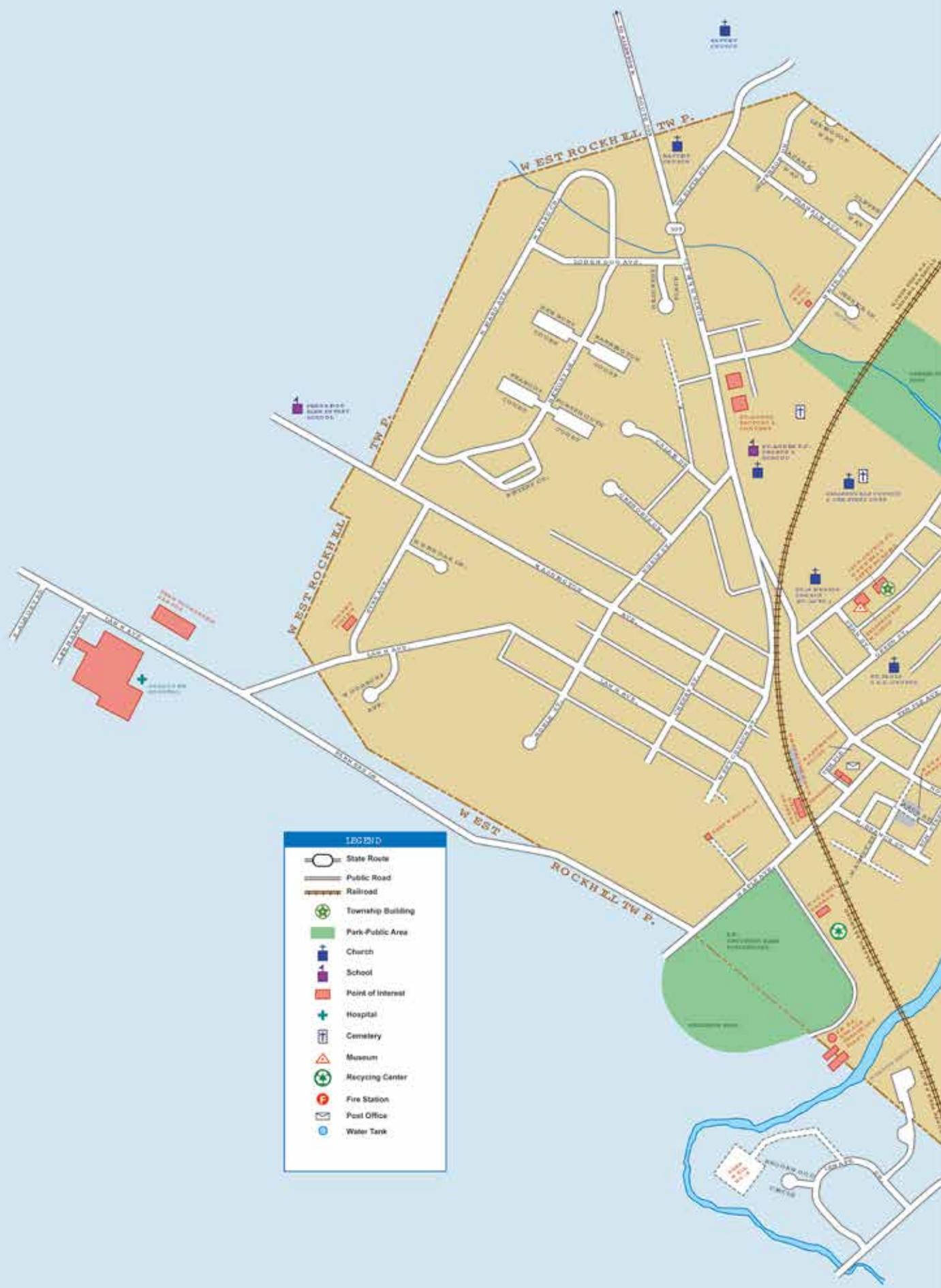
Plans are underway to host a larger Memorial Day Celebration on Saturday, May 25, 2024. We are looking for volunteers to help make the events of the day run smoothly. If you are interested in being involved with this event, or any of the planned activities during the Anniversary Year, please send an email to [sellersville@sellersvilleboro.org](mailto:sellersville@sellersvilleboro.org).

The Sesquicentennial Committee is also looking for donations from businesses and individuals in the surrounding area to help defray the costs of some of the events that will take place throughout the year. If you are interested in being involved with sponsorship, please reach out to Sellersville Borough.



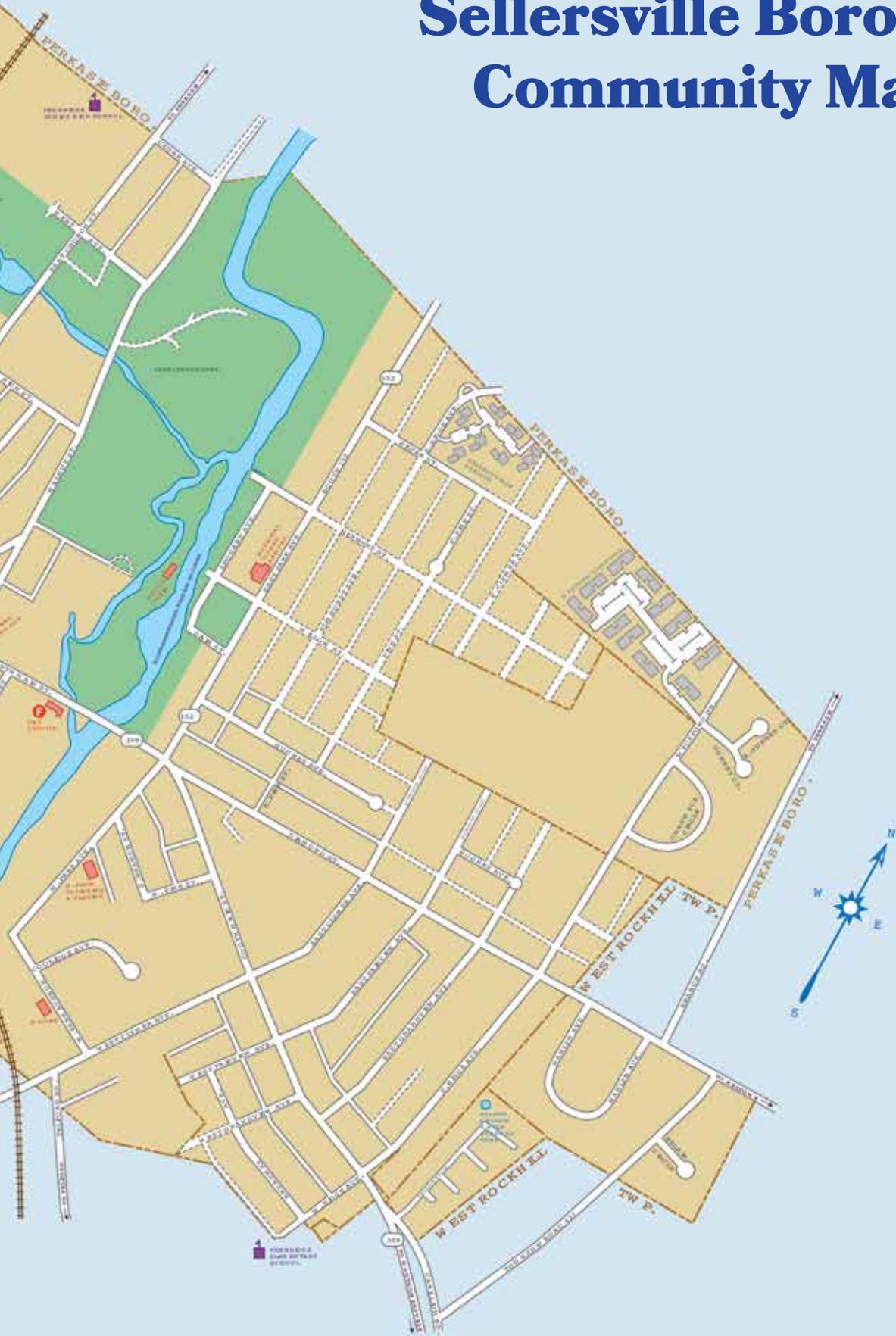
### Banners on Main Street

If you have driven on Main Street by the Sellersville Firehouse recently, you may have noticed there are six new additional banners on the new bridge. The Sellersville Industrial Development Authority purchased six banners to pay homage to our Armed Forces: the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and Pennsylvania National Guard. We thank those who have served and are still actively serving for their service to our Country. Your bravery, sacrifice, and strength do not go unnoticed. We will always be indebted to you and your family for all that has been given to our Country.



LEGEND	
	State Route
	Public Road
	Railroad
	Township Building
	Park-Public Area
	Church
	School
	Point of Interest
	Hospital
	Cemetery
	Museum
	Recycling Center
	Fire Station
	Post Office
	Water Tank

# Sellersville Borough Community Map



# Pennridge Fish Celebrates Fifty Years of Service to the Pennridge Community



The Pennridge Fish Organization celebrates our 50th year of service to the Pennridge Community this year, thanks to the generosity of Sellersville residents and local organizations.

At its core, the Fish movement was created to encourage people to serve our neighbors by aiding members of our community in need. It was in June of 1972 when a group of local church representatives came together to establish a Fellowship In Serving Humanity, or Fish Organization, in the Pennridge district.

Pennridge Fish had its humble beginnings in a small library closet with volunteers responding to calls for emergencies in the community. This included needs for groceries and meals, temporary childcare and housing, home nursing, clothing, and household items such as furniture.

Fifty years and four locations later, Pennridge Fish is now a registered 501(c)3 charitable organization that has evolved alongside the needs of the community. Fish now operates as a food pantry, clothing outlet and emergency financial aid for those in the Pennridge community in need of assistance. The organization is run by a group of dedicated and caring volunteers, officers and board members who embody the Fish mission of neighbors serving neighbors.

The Sellersville community has been instrumental in the growth of Pennridge Fish over these fifty years. Without the financial contributions, volunteer hours, and donations generously provided by the Sellersville community, we would not be able to live out our mission statement: to serve low-income households with food, clothing, and emergency financial assistance to assist in the alleviation of hunger, poverty, and homelessness in the Pennridge School District.

If you or your organization would like to support FISH financially, through volunteering or with donations, please call (215) 257-7616, email [pantry@pennridgefish.org](mailto:pantry@pennridgefish.org), or visit our website at <https://pennridgefish.org/>.

As the busy holiday season approaches, Pennridge Fish extends our gratitude for the continued support we can count on from the Sellersville community. With a growing client base and generous support structure, FISH will continue to serve our neighbors for many more years to come. We are humbled to be recognizing fifty years of service to the Pennridge Community.






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# Sellersville Volunteer Fire Department Events

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Emergency Dial 911 | Business: 215.257.4028  
E-mail: [admin@sellersvillefd.com](mailto:admin@sellersvillefd.com)



## Sellersville Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary Designer Bag Bingo

The Sellersville Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary will be holding a Designer Bag Bingo on Sunday, September 25, 2022 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 16, 2022 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.

## Sellersville Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary Craft Fair

The Sellersville Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary will be hosting a Craft Fair on Saturday, November 12, 2022 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 great 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 4, 2022. 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 17, 2022. Look for the lights and listen for the sirens! Santa Claus is coming to Sellersville!



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## Building Permits and Zoning Applications

Did you know that when you make modifications around your property, there is a strong possibility 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.

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.



## 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. Applications must be submitted to Sellersville Borough along with the Rental Property Inspection Fee of \$80.00 per unit. Forms and instructions can be found at <https://sellersvilleboro.org/forms.html> under "Residential Rental Dwelling Registration Form."



## 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 or 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 attempts to plow all roads from curb to curb. This may not always be possible if vehicles are parked in the road. When a storm is forecasted, move vehicles to off-street parking when possible, and keep them off the road until plowing has been completed.

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# Why Does My Community Flood More Than It Used to?

*Written by Jennifer Fetter, Penn State Extension Educator, Water Resources*

Beyond being a nuisance, floods have a significant impact in our communities. Floods cause loss of life as well as damage to buildings and other structures. In 2017 alone, Pennsylvanians suffered nearly \$7 million dollars in property damage and two people lost their lives as a result of flooding.

What exactly happens during a rainstorm that would lead to a flood? It starts with understanding what options rainwater has when it hits the ground. In a forest, up to fifteen inches of rain per hour can be absorbed into the soils, becoming groundwater that fills our aquifers and provides water for trees and other plants to grow. In our developed communities, most of that rainwater instead becomes runoff. There are very few places left for water to soak into the ground, so it rolls downhill off our rooftops, over streets and sidewalks, until it reaches a low point like a stream or river.

The raindrops might also take the fast-track downhill by collecting in a storm drain along the edge of a street or parking area. Inside the pipes below the storm drains, rainwater gathers in large quantities and picks up speed as it travels. Eventually, the storm drain system ends at an outlet. In most Pennsylvania communities, that outlet is the nearest stream or river. And the water gushes out of the pipes with power and volume that those waterways are not able to handle without consequences. In a heavy rainstorm, the water quickly overflows the banks and causes flash flooding.

Like many people, you might have noticed more and more talk about flooding in your community and across the United States. There are a number of different factors that are contributing to the increase in flooding. One thing that is contributing is the increased number of heavy rainfall events that we experience each year. Heavy downpours are increasing nationally, especially over the last three to five decades. The heaviest rainfall events have become heavier and more frequent, and the amount of rain falling on the heaviest rain days has also increased.

We also have many more paved and developed surfaces in our communities than we used to. Homes, businesses, roadways, and parking lots all prevent water from soaking into the soils the way it would in a forest or meadow. Even our lawns prevent most rainwater from soaking into the grounds because they have been so compacted during development. Between 1990 and 2007, the amount of developed surfaces associated with new single-family homes was estimated to have increased about 34 percent across central Pennsylvania and the rest of the states surrounding the Chesapeake Bay. At that same time, the region's population only increased by 18 percent. So, our communities are adding these impervious surfaces faster than we are adding new people.

Increased flooding can also be attributed to Pennsylvania's aging communities. Many towns and cities have systems in place that are well over one hundred years old. When they were designed and installed, people had no idea what volumes of stormwater people would be dealing with in modern day Pennsylvania. All these factors add up to a flood of issues.

When local streets, parking areas, and home properties flood but they are not located right next to an overflowing stream or river, it could be because the storm drains are clogged with litter, mud, or yard waste and not allowing water to pass through. Or, they are overflowing themselves from having to carry away more water than the pipes can handle. It could also be from poorly directed downspouts draining water off rooftops into areas where the water has nowhere else to go.

When you see a flood, keep in mind that water is not the only thing carried into storm drains and into our local streams and rivers when it rains. The rainwater picks up litter and debris, automobile fluids and other hazardous chemicals, soils eroding off disturbed areas, pet waste, and anything else that happens to be on the ground.

It is important to play it safe around flood waters. All that water is carrying all sorts of potential hazards that it has picked up along the way. Children and adults should never consider flood waters as an opportunity for recreation. Just six inches of rushing water has enough power to knock over an adult, making drowning a serious possibility. The power of flood waters is also strong enough that just twelve inches of water can carry away most small cars. Do not take a risk and try to drive through flooded streets. You cannot see what potholes and other hazards are under the water that could damage your car.

All the rushing water, and all of the pollutants it has picked up, will eventually travel to our streams, which flow to our rivers. Many of Pennsylvania's communities rely on these waterways as their source for public drinking water, as a place for recreation and fishing, and as habitat to our diverse wildlife. Right now, Pennsylvania's municipalities are working hard to improve stormwater management to reduce flooding and water pollution.





*Tricia Brennan, CRNP  
Jacquelyn Carr, MD  
Asim Ali, MD*

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## Parks and Recreation News



### Halloween Party

The Parks and Recreation Board will host a Halloween Party on Saturday, October 29, 2022 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. Register your house no later than October 15, 2022 at [sellersville@sellersvilleboro.org](mailto:sellersville@sellersvilleboro.org) and your house will be put on this year's tour map. Please be sure to include your name, address, and phone number. All registered houses are eligible for monetary First, Second, and Third prizes.

The map to vote for the houses will be available to download at <https://sellersvilleboro.org/rec-about.html> by October 21st. Voting will take place from October 22 to October 31.



### Winterfest

The past few years have been a challenge for Winterfest planning, but we are looking forward to hosting a new and improved Event this year! One BIG change you will see is that Winterfest will be held on Saturday, November 26. The Saturday after Thanksgiving is known as "Small Business Saturday" and we would like the festivities to revolve around the small businesses we have to offer here in town. Our plans include the businesses in town, music in various locations, activities for the family, Santa's arrival in the afternoon, and a special tree lighting in town once the sun goes down. 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 2022 Holiday House Decorating Contest. You can decorate your Sellersville residence in festive holiday fashion and register it for the competition with the Borough at [sellersville@sellersvilleboro.org](mailto:sellersville@sellersvilleboro.org). Include your name, address, and phone number. Register your house no later than Tuesday, December 6, 2022. The Parks and Recreation Board will be judging in the evenings from December 12 through 18. Monetary prizes will be awarded First, Second, and Third place.

## 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>.

### 2022 Borough Council Meeting Schedule

Borough Council meets the 1st Monday after the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. This meeting is the official Borough meeting. Meetings are held in Council Chambers, Sellersville Borough Hall, 140 East Church Street, Sellersville, PA.

The Public Management Committee (PMC) meets each month on the second Monday after the monthly Council meeting. This meeting is a Borough work session meeting, and is also held at 7:00 p.m. at Sellersville Borough Hall, 140 East Church Street, Sellersville, PA.

# BE HALLOWEEN Safe

Halloween is a fun, and spooky, time of year for kids. Make trick-or-treating safe for your little monsters with a few easy safety tips.



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## HALLOWEEN FIRE SAFETY TIPS

- »» **When choosing a costume**, stay away from long trailing fabric. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough so he or she can see out.
- »» **Provide children** with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costume.
- »» Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper catch fire easily. **Keep all decorations** away from open flames and other heat sources like light bulbs and heaters.
- »» **Use a battery-operated** candle or glow-stick in jack-o-lanterns. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution. Make sure children are watched at all times when candles are lit. When lighting candles inside jack-o-lanterns, use long, fireplace-style matches or a utility lighter. Be sure to place lit pumpkins well away from anything that can burn and far enough out of the way of trick-or-treaters, doorsteps, walkways and yards.
- »» **Remember** to keep exits clear of decorations, so nothing blocks escape routes.
- »» **Make sure** all smoke alarms in the home are working.
- »» **Tell children** to stay away from open flames including jack-o-lanterns with candles in them. Be sure they know how to stop, drop and roll if their clothing catches fire. (Have them practice, stopping immediately, dropping to the ground, covering their face with hands, and rolling over and over to put the flames out.)

If your children are going to **Halloween parties** at others' homes, have them look for ways out of the home and plan how they would get out in an emergency.

### Did you know?



Decorations are the first thing to ignite in roughly **800** reported home fires each year. More than one-third of these fires were started by a candle.



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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](http://www.sellersvilleboro.org)

Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### Sellersville Borough Council

Lois Dodson, *President*

Alexander M. Potoczny, Jr., *Vice President*

James G. Hull, *President Pro Tem*

Donald Crouthamel, *Member*

Kathleen Hallman, *Member*

Marie G. Howells, *Member*

Lynne 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*

Carol Penney, *Finance*

Barry Snyder, *Public Works Director*

Jim Derstine, *Public Works*

Mike Zischang, *Public Works*

Robert Schurr, *Chief of Police*

Randal White, *Borough Solicitor*

Cowan Associates, *Borough Engineer*

Sue A. Snyder, *Real Estate Tax Collector*

David Zipf, *Borough Planner, Bucks County Planning Commission*

Craig Wilhelm, *Emergency Management Coordinator*

## Sellersville Borough Website

**Have you seen the new Sellersville Borough website yet?** Our goal with this new website is to provide our residents and visitors an easier way to get information on news, events, parks, government meetings, forms, codes and more. It is user friendly, ADA compliant, and mobile accessible on all devices. Visit us at [www.sellersvilleboro.org](http://www.sellersvilleboro.org) and stroll through the beautiful graphics and pictures depicting our quaint town. Let us know what you think. Feel free to make improvement suggestions.



## Facebook Page

Like and follow us at [www.Facebook.com/Sellersville-Borough-100252518965119/](http://www.Facebook.com/Sellersville-Borough-100252518965119/) to find out what is going on in your community. We often post information on what our local businesses and organizations are up to. Don't have a Facebook account? You can still see our posts! Find them on the Sellersville Borough homepage under the "Follow Us" feature. You can easily scroll through the area to see what has been posted on our Facebook page.



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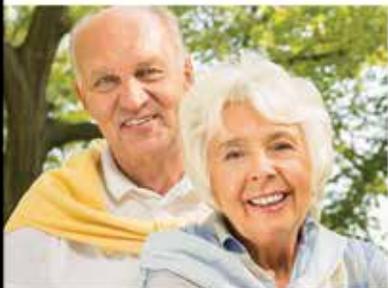
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