



# Lower Saucon Township

-Established in 1743-

Volume 20 Issue 1  
Winter 2016

## *A Message from Council President Ron Horiszny.....*

### Happy New Year from Your New Council !

After the retirement of Jack Cahalan at the end of 2015, Council reorganized at its first meeting on January 4<sup>th</sup>. We welcomed back re-elected Priscilla deLeon for her 8<sup>th</sup> term, Sandra Yerger for her 3<sup>rd</sup> term after a 4-year absence (she didn't run in the previous election) and after an extended illness, Glenn Kern came back to continue his 3<sup>rd</sup> term along with newly elected Donna Louder of Steel City, who begins her 1<sup>st</sup> term. It is certainly good to have our Council at full strength again, especially with Kelsey Gatchel & Rachel Panek of SVHS sharing the Junior Council position.

We are thankful to Tom Maxfield who served Council for 2 terms and David Willard for 1 term. Both gentleman continue to serve on various Township boards.

Council liaison positions were also made at the re-organization meeting & can be found on our website [www.lowersaucontownship.org](http://www.lowersaucontownship.org). Almost all volunteer spots on our many boards & committees were assigned, two seats remain open on our Park & Recreation Board and will hopefully be filled soon. Interested parties should send a letter of intent to Leslie Huhn, our Acting Township Manager, 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bethlehem, PA 18015.

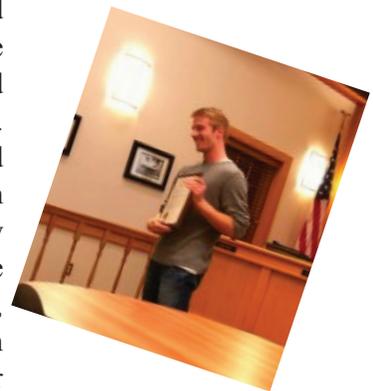
### *Ron*

Lower Saucon Township Council President

## Recognizing the 2015 Saucon Valley High School Football Team



The 2015 Saucon Valley High School football team and coaches were recognized by Lower Saucon Township Council on December 16<sup>th</sup> for their outstanding season by winning the District 11 championship and advancing to the AAA semifinal round of the State playoff's. The team's record breaking season included 13 new individual single



season records and career marks for rushing yards, sacks, receptions, tackle assists, total points scored, touchdowns and touchdown receptions. The team received a Resolution honoring their accomplishments from the Township Council.

*Photo's Courtesy of Josh Popichak*

Daylight savings time change will take effect on March 13<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 a.m. Change your clocks and spring ahead one hour.

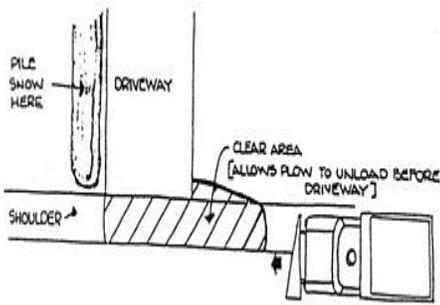
### *Inside this issue:*

- Snow Tips from Public Works & Zoning 2
- Winter Driving Tips 2
- Keystone Collection Group 3
- Free Lafayette Ambassador Bank Seminar 3
- Woodland Hills Preserves 3
- Library Information 4
- Northampton County Household Hazardous Waste 4
- Jr. Council 4
- Fire Marshall Message 5
- ReMix Program 5
- Compost Center 5
- LSTHS 6
- SVC 6
- Adopt-A-Road 7
- Election Day Info. 7
- LST RET Info. 8
- Over Saucon Video 8

## Snow Tips from Public Works and Zoning

Here are a few tips from the Township Public Works Department to clear the roads during a snow storm:

- When a snowfall is expected, remove your vehicle from the roadway so the plows can completely remove the snow.
- To minimize the amount of snow that the plow deposits in your driveway, we recommend clearing an area to the left of your driveway as you face the street. By doing this, the snow plow will unload into this area instead of your driveway.
- Never throw, blow or plow snow from your driveway onto the roadway. Remember--do not shovel snow from driveways into the roadway. This practice is illegal under the State motor vehicle code and is also hazardous. The Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code provides for a maximum fine of \$300.00 for this violation.
- Section 140-17 of the Code of Lower Saucon Township requires that sidewalks be cleared of snow and ice within 36 hours of termination of the precipitation event.
- Township Ordinance No. 2011-11 restricts parking in all of the Township's cul-de-sacs and dead-end streets during the periods when Public Works is removing snow or ice. Please cooperate and move your car so we can clear these areas as quickly as possible.
- In order to assist the Township snow plow operators in determining the edge of your lawn, please place flexible reflectorized markers which are available at your home improvement store at 50 foot intervals along your property. If no markers are in place and the snow plow tears up the sod in front of your property, it will not be repaired by the Township.
- If there is a fire hydrant near your property, please take a few minutes to clear the snow away from the hydrant. Having the hydrant visible and accessible will assist our volunteer firefighters response time.



Your cooperation and assistance is greatly appreciated in helping us to clear the roads as quickly as possible. Please visit the Township website [www.lowersaucontownship.org/pdf/snowremoval.pdf](http://www.lowersaucontownship.org/pdf/snowremoval.pdf) to read the Snow Removal Policy.

## Winter Driving Tips from Lower Saucon Police Department

Remember, if winter weather is forecast, eliminate all unnecessary travel. This will keep you and your family safe and allow road crews to more easily perform their winter duties. However, if you must travel, we offer the following tips for safe driving this winter season:

- Carry a winter emergency travel kit and a charged cell phone.
- Listen to weather and travel advisories, and if you don't have to travel in bad weather, don't.
- Keep your gas tank at least half full and make sure someone else knows where you are going and when you expect to arrive.
- Slow down, increase your distance to avoid sudden stops and starts.
- Beware of roads that may look wet, but are actually frozen, often referred to as "black ice."
- Use extra caution on bridges and ramps where ice can often form without warning.
- Do not use cruise control while driving on snow-covered roads.
- State law requires you to turn on your headlights when your wipers are on.
- Use your low beams in bad weather, especially in cases of heavy or blowing snow.
- State law requires you to remove snow and ice from the hood and roof of your vehicle, accident or injury as a result of falling snow or ice can result in a fine. Remove ice and snow from windows, mirrors and all vehicle lights as often as needed.
- If you do become stranded, it's better to stay with your vehicle until help arrives. Run the engine every hour or so, but make sure the tailpipe is clear and keep the downwind window cracked open and do not park or abandon your vehicle on snow emergency routes.
- Do not pass or get between trucks plowing in a plow line (several trucks plowing side by side).
- Do not drink and drive and always wear your seat belt.



## Keystone Collection Group - EIT is Due April 18<sup>th</sup>

Taxpayers with earned income in 2015 are required to file a Final Tax Return by Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. Your 2015 local earned income tax return filing deadline is approaching. The due date is extended to Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> this year because Washington DC is commemorating Emancipation Day on Friday, April 15, 2016.

Did you know the quickest way to get your refund is to file online? If you live and work in Pennsylvania, you can *e-file* on our tax administrator's secure website, which is available 24/7 at [www.KeystoneCollects.com](http://www.KeystoneCollects.com).

Keystone Collections Group's *e-file* is the easy, fast and secure way to file your 2015 tax return (Keystone redesigned *e-file* to make it even faster and more user-friendly). It lets you file your tax return when it is most convenient for you. You will need your W-2, Social Security Number and any other income documents that may apply (such as a PA-UE or a Schedule C).

If you have questions regarding local tax filing, visit Keystone's [Frequently Asked Questions](#) or call Keystone's **Taxpayer Helpline** at 1-888-328-0565 to speak with a local, knowledgeable Taxpayer Service Agent. You can also email your questions 24/7 to [Taxpayer Support](#). Taxpayer Service Agents try to respond to all online inquiries within three business days.

## Free Lafayette Ambassador Bank Seminar



Area residents are invited to attend a FREE seminar at the Hellertown Area Library. Presented by Lafayette Ambassador Bank, this seminar is provided as a service to educate the community on how to avoid the dangers of bank fraud.

**Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

To sign-up for this program, please contact the library, by calling 610-838-8381, or email [eclavier@hellertownlibrary.org](mailto:eclavier@hellertownlibrary.org).

This program is a partnership with Money Smart Week, a public awareness campaign designed to help consumers better manage their personal finances.

## Tour of Woodland Hills Preserve



In mid-October, members of the Township Council, Township Environmental Advisory Council, and the Parks & Recreation Board were given a hayride tour by Township staff around the Woodland Hills Preserve. The 148-acre former golf course property was acquired by the Township in 2014 for open space purposes. The property is accessible from Countryside Lane where a driveway and parking area have been installed along with toilet facilities. Two grass trails have been mowed around the property which allows visitors to hike, bird watch and walk their dogs on leash during daylight hours.

## Hellertown Area Library Information



### Happy New Year, happy new Library!

The top to bottom renovations are complete! Many thanks to Lower Saucon Township for providing the capital funds to us; matched by a Keystone Parks, Conservation and Recreation Funds grant. Every level of the Library was painted, carpeted and received new lighting. Additional furniture, provided by a grant from the Ronald McDonald House Children's Charities spruced up the Children's and Teen space. New information and circulation desks provide smarter and faster check outs for patrons. New doors and basement windows help reduce energy costs. Library staff is excited to share this new space with our patrons.

409 Constitution Ave.  
Hellertown, PA. 18055  
610-838-8381

[www.hellertownlibrary.org](http://www.hellertownlibrary.org)

### News from the Friends of the Hellertown Area Library

The Friends have set up a GoFundMe site to raise money to help complete the purchase of the remainder of the furniture needed in the library. To donate please go to [gofundme.com/9u8ufczg](http://gofundme.com/9u8ufczg). The Friends are also planning a get together on April 16<sup>th</sup> at the

Grist Mill. Initial plans include food trucks and a band! It is sure to be a fun time.

### Helping You with Financial Literacy

AARP tax preparation is back! Beginning Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, AARP staff will be here to help people over 55 in simple tax prep. Please check out their website at [www.hellertownlibrary.org](http://www.hellertownlibrary.org) or call Paul at 610-691-2191 or the library at 610-838-8381 to register.



## Northampton County Household Hazardous Waste Events

The NCDED is hosting two Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off's on May 21 & October 8, 2016, 8:30 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

Location: Northampton Community College, Main Campus, Bethlehem Township, PA (Green Pond entrance only)

Northampton County residents ONLY. Bring Photo ID or recent utility bill to verify residency.

No cost, except for tires.

Tire Collection Fee:  
Estimated \$1.00 per tire  
\$2.00 per tire with rim  
\$7.00 per tractor tire



### Household Hazardous Waste Accepted:

Adhesives, Aerosols, Antifreeze, Automotive fluids & cleaners, Batteries (all types), Compressed gas, Fire extinguishers, Fluorescent light bulbs, Herbicides/pesticides, Household cleaners, Mercury containing products, Motor oil/filters, Oil-based paint & stain, Propane cylinders, Thermometers, Thermostats, Old gasoline/oil mixtures, Flammables/combustibles, Pool chemicals

No electronics accepted

No latex paint or stains

No smoke detectors/radioactives

No medical wastes

Questions? Contact Ken Zinis,  
Environmental and Sustainability at:  
[kzinis@northamptoncounty.org](mailto:kzinis@northamptoncounty.org)  
or 610-829-6313

## Junior Council Representatives Appointed

Four (4) students from Saucon Valley High School presented themselves as candidates for the Junior Council Person Program at the November 18, 2015 Lower Saucon Township Council meeting. The Junior Council Person Program provides an opportunity for high school students to participate in local government and serve as a link between the municipal officials and the student's peers at the high school. The Township appreciates the level of interest that these students have shown in local government and looks forward to their participation and contributions during the coming year!

### Council appointed the students to the following

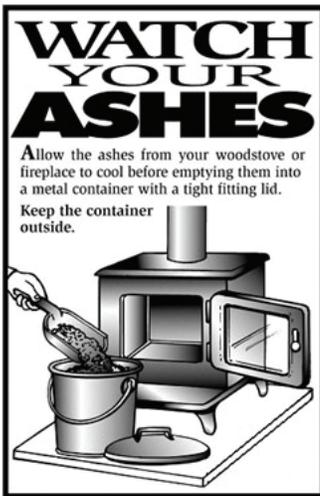
#### Councils & Boards:

Kelsey Gatchel, a junior and Rachel Panek, a junior, were appointed as the co-representatives to the Township Council.

Ryan Smith, a junior, was appointed as the representative to the Township Parks & Recreation Board.

Jake Nichols, also a junior, was appointed as the representative to the Township Planning Commission.

These four students join Kyle Bambu, a senior, who is serving as the Junior Council representative to the Township Environmental Advisory Council for his second year.



## Message from the Township Fire Marshal and Fire Chiefs:

Township fire companies have responded to several structure fires in the past few years that were caused by the careless disposal of ashes. Fireplace ashes should always be discarded in a **METAL CONTAINER**, then moistened and covered with a lid. Place the container outside away from buildings and decks.

- Please use extreme caution with the disposal of fireplace ashes.
- Never dump fireplace ashes until they have had at least four days to cool.
- Please have fireplaces and chimney's cleaned and inspected before using them during the winter season!

## ReMix Program



In cooperation with the Northampton County Department of Community and Economic Development and Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley, the Township hosted a latex paint collection event on Saturday, November 7, 2015.

The event was held at the Township's Public Works garage and attracted approximately 80 Northampton County residents who turned in nearly 600 containers of paint from which 300 gallons of paint was collected for recycling. It



was reported that Habitat generated approximately \$5,000 in recyclable paint revenue from this event.

The ReMix program collects up to 15 gallons of latex paint from residents at these events, which is recycled and made available for re-sale at the Habitat's ReStore facility in Whitehall Township.

## 2015 Saucon Valley Compost Center Season

2015 was another busy season for the Compost Center, which is operated jointly by Hellertown Borough and Lower Saucon Township.

Over 8,600 visits were made by residents using the Center, which was slightly higher than the 2014 total of 8,500 visits, but did not match the Center's high mark of 8,800 visitors who utilized the facility in 2013.

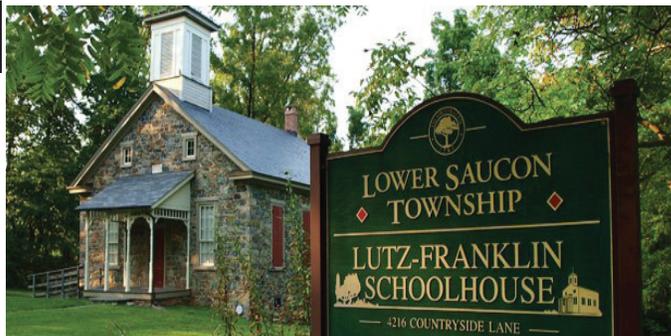


ID card use continued to work successfully allowing visitors to enter the Center and log in more rapidly. During the season, 245 new ID cards were issued to first time users bringing the total registrations for the Center to 2,396 customers.

The Center machine grinds the leaves and yard waste material that is dropped off throughout the year, which produced approximately 258 tons of excellent ground mulch that will be available free to residents in 2016. The machine loading of the compost, which is done by Public Works staff for a fee, generated \$3,820 in revenue for the year.

Our agreement with neighboring Williams Township that allows them to dispose of yard waste collected from their residents at their municipal Public Works facility continued to operate successfully again this year, resulting in approximately 329 tons of material being dropped off for a fee of \$3,500, which added to the machine loading revenue helps defray the Center's cost for the machine grinds. Look for 2016 Center dates to appear on our website in March.

## Lower Saucon Township Historical Society



Lower Saucon Township Historical Society meets the second Wednesday of most months in Seidersville Hall, 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike at 7:00 p.m. Visitors are always welcome to join us at a meeting. Please check our website, [www.lutzfranklin.com](http://www.lutzfranklin.com), for updated information on meeting dates and time. For additional information contact either [lshistorical@yahoo.com](mailto:lshistorical@yahoo.com) or call 610-625-8771. LSTHS office hours are on Tuesdays in Seidersville Hall from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., January through March. April through December office hours change to 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Historical Society maintains the Lutz-Franklin one room schoolhouse, a National Historic Site. The schoolhouse is located at 4216 Countryside Lane. Docents provide heritage education programs to third and fourth grade classes in April, May, and October.

The historical society collects memorabilia of Lower Saucon Township and maintains an Archive Room located in Seidersville Hall. The Archive Room is open on Tuesdays during office hours, and we are always looking for more volunteer help with the archiving work.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. Join us to learn about some of the long-term projects and special events planned by the society. Light refreshments will be served and guests are welcome.

Our April meeting will be held during Lower Saucon History Week. On April 27<sup>th</sup>, Ned Heindel will give a presentation on the Redington area of our Township. Ned has researched and written a book on the history of Redington. The presentation will be held at the Lutz-Franklin Schoolhouse, 4216 Countryside Lane at 7:00 p.m.



## Saucon Valley Conservancy—Heller Homestead Holiday

On December 7, 2015, Saucon Valley Conservancy held its annual Holiday Gathering at The Heller Homestead. The main house and the Widow's House, festively decorated for the Christmas season, were open for guided tours by volunteer youth docents in period costume. Hellertown artist Joe Sofka exhibited his fine watercolor paintings of local barns, streams, bridges, and historic properties in two rooms of the main house. Harpist Nichole Rohrbach from *Harp & Soul* provided the music, and the event included refreshments donated by Saucon Valley Conservancy members and a silent auction.

The event is held annually in December for SVC members and friends to thank them for their donations, time, and advocacy towards the documentation, maintenance, and preservation of the Michael Heller Homestead and the Saucon Creek Corridor. The Conservancy's mission is to preserve the historic and natural environment of the Saucon Valley as an educational and recreational resource for area citizens and visitors. Saucon Valley Conservancy extends a hearty thank you to the docents and to all the volunteers who decorated the home for the holidays and provided food for the holiday party.

The Heller Homestead will be participating in History Day, April 30<sup>th</sup> and hosting the Saucon Creek Arts Festival on June 4<sup>th</sup>, as well as offering more events for the community throughout the year.

For information, see [www.sauconvalleyconservancy.org](http://www.sauconvalleyconservancy.org)



## Adopt-A-Road Program Concludes 6<sup>th</sup> Year of Beautifying Township Roads



The Adopt-a-Road Program recently concluded its 6<sup>th</sup> year of service to the Township. Beginning in 2010 with four (4) organizations who stepped forward to adopt Township roads to keep them free of litter, the program has now grown to a total of twenty-four (24) Saucon Valley area organizations, churches, and families who have adopted roads and conduct twice-a-year litter clean-ups.

During 2015, the 233 Adopt-a-Road volunteers spent 134 hours of their time to remove 242 bags of trash and assorted tires, furniture, car parts, and discarded electronics from their adopted roads.

The Township is very appreciative of these groups for the time and effort they have volunteered to keep our roads clean and litter free!

There are still four (4) roads that are available for adoption by organizations or families. The Township supplies the adopting organization's volunteers with a safety orientation and equipment; gloves, litter grabbers and trash bags; and will be responsible for the collection and disposal of the trash bags that are filled by the volunteers. In recognition of their efforts, the Township erects permanent signs along the adopted road with the group's name. If your organization is interested in getting involved with this program, contact the Township Manager at (610) 865-3291 or [manager@lowsaucontownship.org](mailto:manager@lowsaucontownship.org).

Adopt-a-Road Participants: Lower Saucon Township Historical Society, Lower Saucon Sportsmen Association, Saucon Creek Watershed Association, Lower Saucon Township Environmental Advisory Council, Saucon Valley Wrestling, Saucon Valley Youth Sports, Saucon Community Bible Fellowship Church, Hellertown Lower Saucon Little League, Christ Lutheran Church, Lower Saucon United Church of Christ & Red Door, St. Theresa's Church, Saucon Valley Farmers Market, Future Business Leaders of America, IESI Landfill, Steve Lichak, Cheyenne Reiman, Jesse Repash and the Petak, Zimpfer, Muschlitz, Riegel, Macsek, Pagoda, Birkel & Palik Families.

## Election Day Locations



The Municipal Primary Election is **Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016**. Not sure where to go to cast your vote? Listed below are the voting districts and their addresses. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. For more information contact the Northampton County Election Office at 610-559-3055, or visit their website at [www.northamptoncounty.org](http://www.northamptoncounty.org). Please note the Township Offices are closed on Election Day.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>District # 1</u></b> <b><u>Lower Saucon-Hellertown</u></b> Saucon Valley High School Door #19 2097 Polk Valley Road Hellertown, PA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>District # 2</u></b> <b><u>Lower Saucon-Leithsville</u></b> Leithsville Social Hall 1995 Leithsville Road Hellertown, PA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>District # 3</u></b> <b><u>Lower Saucon-Lower Saucon</u></b> Christ Lutheran Church of Lower Saucon Old Schoolhouse at the Corner of Easton &amp; Mockingbird Hill Roads, Hellertown, PA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>District # 4</u></b> <b><u>Lower Saucon-Seidersville</u></b> Seidersville Hall (Old Town Hall) 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike Bethlehem, PA</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>District # 5</u></b> <b><u>Lower Saucon-Shimersville</u></b> Steel City Fire House 2121 Riverside Drive Bethlehem, PA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>District # 6</u></b> <b><u>Lower Saucon-Wassergass</u></b> Southeastern Volunteer Fire Co. 2687 Wassergass Road Hellertown, PA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>District # 7</u></b> <b><u>Lower Saucon-Colesville</u></b> SE-WY-CO Fire Company 3621 Old Philadelphia Pike Bethlehem, PA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>District # 8</u></b> <b><u>Lower Saucon-SE-WY-CO</u></b> SE-WY-CO Fire Company 3621 Old Philadelphia Pike Bethlehem, PA</p>

# Lower Saucon Township

3700 Old Philadelphia Pike  
Bethlehem, PA 18015



PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Lehigh Valley, PA  
Permit #618

## Lower Saucon Township Officials

Ron Horiszny	Council President
Sandra Yerger	Council Vice President
Priscilla deLeon	Council Member
Glenn Kern	Council Member
Donna Louder	Council Member
Lou Mahlman	Controller
Leslie Huhn	Acting Township Manager

## Important Phone Numbers

Emergency	911
Non-Emergency (Police)	610-759-2200
Police Department	610-317-6110
Administrative Offices	610-865-3291
Water/Sewer Authority	610-317-3212

Visit us on the web @  
[www.lowersaucontownship.org](http://www.lowersaucontownship.org)

## Lower Saucon Township's Tax Information



Lower Saucon Township Tax bills for 2015 were due to the Township by February 15<sup>th</sup> of 2016. Reminder notices were not mailed last year so please contact the office to ensure your payment was received.

The 2016 Real Estate Tax bills were mailed in early February. If you would like confirmation of receipt of your 2015 bills or have questions regarding your 2016 tax bills, please contact the Finance Department. You can also email questions at [fin1@lowersaucontownship.org](mailto:fin1@lowersaucontownship.org). We will be happy to answer any questions.

## Over Saucon Video

A recent aerial video of Lower Saucon – Hellertown that was produced by **Scott Krycia** entitled "Over Saucon", has been posted on the Township website. We appreciate Scott allowing us to use the video to show you the fall beauty of the Saucon Valley!



## Meeting Schedule

**Council**  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays – 7:00 p.m.

**Parks & Recreation Board**  
1<sup>st</sup> Monday – 7:00 p.m.

**Environmental Advisory Council**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – 7:00 p.m.

**Planning Commission**  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursday – 7:00 p.m.

**Zoning Hearing Board**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday – 7:00 p.m.

**Lower Saucon Authority**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday – 7:00 p.m.

**Office Closed**  
March 25, 2016 – Good Friday  
March 28, 2016 – Easter  
April 26, 2016 – Election Day  
May 30, 2016 – Memorial Day

