

# THE BOROUGH OF WALNUTPORT

*Northampton County, Pennsylvania*

 **SPRING 2016 NEWSLETTER**

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## *Greetings From*

### **MATTHEW NEWHARD, COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Spring is here and with that are those days being outdoors enjoying everything nature has to offer. This newsletter is being provided to you free of charge with the help of the local businesses that you will find within these pages. The borough hopes you find the information within useful and if you would like to see anything added please let us know.

*Thank you and enjoy!*

## **PAVILION RENTAL**



If you are looking for a place to hold your family reunion or a graduation party you could rent the pavilion at our Recreation Center at 215 Lincoln Avenue. There is \$100.00 security deposit due when you sign the agreement. The date will be held once we receive the signed agreement and security deposit. The rental fee of \$175.00 is due 2 weeks before your rental date.

The pavilion rental includes the use of the handicapped accessible restrooms and the kitchen area. The security deposit will be returned to you once the pavilion is cleaned and inspected and there is no damages. For more information or to rent the pavilion stop by the borough office and the secretaries will be able to help you.

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Kevin E. Hunsicker, Supervisor  
Tel: 610 767-3700

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& Cremation Services  
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Susan A. Tretter, Supervisor  
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Hours of Operation: 7 am-4:30 pm  
Monday through Friday



# BOROUGH OF WALNUTPORT

417 Lincoln Avenue | Walnutport, PA 18088

610-767-1322 | 610-767-4938 (fax)

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

[www.facebook.com/walnutportboroughpa/](https://www.facebook.com/walnutportboroughpa/)

Borough Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## WALNUTPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL

*Matthew Newhard, President*

*Harold Greene, Vice President*

*Joan Rehrig*

*William Turk*

*David Stankovic*

*Patrice Hunsicker*

*Nancy Treskot*

### MAYOR

*Wayne Weidner*

### TAX COLLECTOR

*Robert Treskot*

## PLANNING COMMISSION BOARD

*Michael Newhard*

*Kevin Rex*

*Henry Kline*

## ZONING HEARING BOARD

*Shirley Chimich*

*Tony Rosencrance*

*Donald Evans*

*Earl Snyder-alternate*

## CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

*Michael Wentz*

*John Kirchner*

*George Burke*

## BOROUGH SOLICITOR

*Michael F. Corriere, Esquire &*

*Edward J. Andreas, Esquire*

433 East Broad Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018

610-865-5566

## BOROUGH ENGINEER

*SSM Group, INC*

1047 North Park Road, P.O. Box 6307

Reading, PA 19610-0307

610-621-2000

## ZONING OFFICER/ BUILDING CODE OFFICIAL

*Sean Corey, 610-767-8202*

*Office Hours:*

*Thursday 6:00 p.m.-8:00 pm*

## ROAD FOREMAN/ CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

*Eric Strohl*

## SECRETARY/TREASURER

*Annette S. Lacko*

## ASSISTANT SECRETARY

*Deborah Paules*

## VACANCY BOARD

*Looking for an interested candidate*

## UCC & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE APPEAL BOARD

*Kevin Rex*

*Looking for 2 interested candidates*

## RECREATION BOARD

*Joan Rehrig*

*Looking for 6 interested candidates*

## MEETING DATES

- Workshop meeting is the first Thursday
- Regular council meeting is the second Thursday
- Walnutport Authority meeting is the second Tuesday
- Walnutport Planning Commission meets the Third Thursday only when there is something on the agenda
- Walnutport Zoning Hearing Board only meets when there is a hearing



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[www.ssmgroup.com](http://www.ssmgroup.com)

## ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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- Site Engineering and Infrastructure
- Indoor Environmental Quality
- Water and Wastewater
- Facilities Engineering
- Civil Engineering



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## A NOTE FROM CHIEF PETER WAYDA

Just a reminder from your Police Department, if you happen to see any suspicious activity or anything you feel is out of the ordinary in your neighborhood please call the Walnutport Police at 610 437-5252. If we don't know about it we can't help you.



If you have an emergency or wish to report a crime in progress please dial 911.

The Police Administration number is 610 767-1134 this number is for administrative purposes only and should not be used to report crimes or suspected criminal activity.

We would also like to remind residents to lock your vehicles to avoid theft and prevent damage and please pay attention in your neighborhood to anything unusual or out of place. We like to work in conjunction with our citizens to make Walnutport a safer place to live and work.

The Police Department recently secured a medication drop-off box, this is a cooperative program sponsored through Northampton County. The drop-off box is conveniently located in the hallway of Borough Hall near the Police Department entrance. WE CANNOT ACCEPT SYRINGES or LIQUID FORMS OF MEDICINE.

The Walnutport Police Department and many other surrounding Police Departments in Northampton County have recently started carrying Naloxone, for those unfamiliar Naloxone is used to reverse the effects of an Opioid overdose. All Walnutport Police Officers are certified in the use of Naloxone and carry it on patrol.

## A NOTE FROM THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ERIC STROHL



### Ordinance 2012-08 section 141-1 "Building Number-A Safety Issue".

"The houses, stores and other buildings being or fronting on any of the public streets or alleys of the Borough shall be numbered in the manner hereinafter provided, and the owner or owners thereof shall be required to place numbers plainly faced upon the front of any such house, store or other building, The numbers shall be plain and distinct and shall be of figures at least three inches in height, to be securely fastened to the door frame or on transoms over the door or on the front of the building in such a manner as to be easily seen from the adjoining public street or alley."

This ordinance is for the safety of everyone. We want to make sure if there is an emergency at your house or business the emergency personnel can find your house or business as soon as possible. We also ask that you keep your shrubbery, flowers, trees or whatever else away from the numbers so they can be visible to the street.

If you have any questions about any ordinances you can look them up on our website or stop in the borough office and one of the secretaries will be able to help you.

## WALNUTPORT AUTHORITY REPORT – RONALD KUNTZ, CHAIRMAN

The Walnutport Authority now has a web page where public notices, water quality reports and contact information with office hours and location are listed. You can visit this site at [www.walnutportauthority.org](http://www.walnutportauthority.org).

**OFFICE HOURS 7AM-3PM MON.THROUGH FRIDAY**  
Drop box accessible 24 hours at front entrance  
Payment accepted by cash, check, or money order  
*We do not accept credit/debit cards*

A reminder on Authority billing and collection policy: All bills are mailed quarterly (every three months), and it is the responsibility of the customer to notify the Authority if they have not received a bill. The same policy stands for payments lost in the mail, as the Authority cannot exonerate customers' bills of late fees because of possible mishandling by the postal service. The Authority does have an afterhours drop box located outside of the main entrance to our building. We ask you to identify your payment with "water and /or sewer" to insure proper handling of your payment.

The Borough of Walnutport has received notification that it has been approved for a state grant for street reconstruction and water main replacement on Lehigh Street. The existing 4" water main will be replaced with 6" ductile iron pipe. This project is expected to begin sometime in 2016 with residents being notified as construction time nears.

# A NOTE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF JOHN KIRCHNER

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Diamond Fire Company is to respond in a safe manner to all reported emergencies in the Borough of Walnutport and other neighboring communities requesting such assistance to help the citizens deal with natural and man-made emergencies using available resources at all times having the utmost regard for the safety of fire personnel of the company and to work to the best of its abilities to limit the loss of life, the environment and property.

## WE NEED YOU!

Imagine making a difference in the lives of others in our community. Opportunities and training are available for:

**FIREFIGHTING OPERATIONS:** Explore the exciting world of firefighting and receive the training to do it safely. As a firefighter, you will do the work necessary to advance the hose line, to perform search and rescue, and to position ladders strategically.

**RESCUE OPERATIONS:** As part of Rescue Operations, you will respond to specialized calls, including automobile accidents, carbon monoxide alarms, medical emergencies and rescue calls.

**FIRE POLICE OPERATIONS:** Fire police assist in traffic management and crowd control, and provide general assistance at emergency scenes.

**SOCIAL FUNCTIONS:** If firefighting is not for you, assist with the many functions held at the fire company during the year that include fish dinners, flea markets, drawings, etc.



*Be part of the tradition.  
Be part of the family.  
Be part of the community.*  
**BE A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER!**

**For more information call  
610-767-9629**

*(leave a message if no answer)*  
Or stop by the Fire Station any  
Wednesday evening

## FIRE SAFETY TIPS: SMOKE DETECTORS

Installing smoke detectors is the smart thing to do. It's also the safe thing to do. Follow these tips to help save your life & property from fire:

- For minimum protection, **install a smoke detector** outside of each bedroom or sleeping area in your home.
- **Keep your bedroom doors closed** while you are asleep. Better, install detectors on every level of your home.
- **Keep your smoke detectors properly maintained.** Test them once a week to ensure that the detectors are working properly.
- Every Spring and Fall when you change your clocks, remember to **change your smoke alarm batteries.** Use only the type of batteries recommended on the detector.
- **Develop an escape plan** and review the plan with all members of the family frequently. Be aware that children and elderly people may need special assistance should a fire occur. Establish a meeting place outside the house for all members of the family to ensure that everyone gets out safely.
- When fire occurs, **get out of the house** and use a neighbor's telephone to notify the Fire Department.



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FDIC MEMBER

*Thank you*

The Borough of Walnutport would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and to recognize them each as supporters of our community. For it is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents.



## WE NEED VOLUNTEERS

## WALNUTPORT RECREATION BOARD

Walnutport Borough Council reenacted the Recreation Board in 2011. Unfortunately we do not have enough volunteers to fill the board. If you are a registered voter and resident of the Borough of Walnutport we are asking you to help support the community and volunteer your time to our recreation board. You can send letters of interest to the borough office.

## UCC & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE APPEAL BOARD

If you have experience and knowledge in the UCC (building code) or International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) we need to sit on our appeal board. This board only meets when their UCC permit is denied or if they are sent a violation of the IPMC. Please send a letter of interest to the borough office.

## VACANCY BOARD

Are you a registered voter? So you live in the Borough of Walnutport? If you said yes to both of those questions you qualify to be on the Vacancy Board. What is the Vacancy Board? What do they do? You would be responsible to find someone to fill a vacancy on borough council. That means if someone resigns from council, you would reach out to the residents in town and help find someone to fill that seat...or you could put in for that vacant seat. You can send letters of interest to the borough office.



## A NOTE FROM THE WALNUTPORT CANAL ASSOCIATION, INC.



Incorporated in 1982, the mission of the Walnutport Canal Association, Inc. (WCA) is to maintain and preserve the Walnutport section of the Lehigh Canal and to present an interpretive history of the Canal Era at the Locktender's House and Museum. The Association maintains 4 ½ miles of watered canal and adjoining towpath, a restored original locktender's house, a pavilion and a Heritage Center with office.

### *Upcoming events sponsored by the WCA include:*

- May 1st ..... Spring Breakfast
- May 7th ..... Canal Cleanup
- June 11th ..... Float Your Boat Parade
- October 15th ..... Towpath Trot
- October 16th ..... The Canal Festival

The WCA will host the Lehigh River Sojourn on June 26 & 27, and participate in the Walnutport Playground Association's carnival July 12 - 16.



**For more information**  
call 610-767-8703  
or email [wca1@ptd.net](mailto:wca1@ptd.net).

## A NOTE FROM THE WALNUTPORT PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION'S TREASURER BOB TRESKOT

Once again we had a successful year in 2015. We supported both **girls' softball teams and boy's baseball teams**. It currently costs the playground approximately \$150 per player for the season. The annual Carnival is our main fund raiser which allows us to keep the cost of sign-ups down. We experienced thunder storms Thursday night and lost the whole night. The 2015 Carnival's bottom line was not very good; however, we are looking forward to a better year in 2016. The Carnival will run from Tuesday, July 12 thru Saturday, July 16 with a fireworks display on Friday Evening, July 15. There are many costs associated with running our programs; therefore, we are encouraging anyone to attend our monthly meetings (first Tuesday of the month at 7 PM in the Recreation Building and during the winter we meet in the Borough Council Chambers), ask all the questions you want and perhaps bring new ideas to our Board.



The Playground also gives back to the community every year with the following activities. An **Easter Egg Hunt** for children 0 to 10 years of age, with many lucky eggs, great prizes and the appearance of the Easter Bunny. This year the Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday March 26 at 1 PM. We also will do our annual **Easter Flower Sale** on Friday, March 25 and Saturday, March 26 in the Pavilion. We also sponsor a local Phillies Home Run Derby for boys and girls from anywhere in the area. A month or two later the Regionals for the Home Run Derby is hosted by the Walnutport Playground. Congratulations to all the boys and girls who participated. We also do a fund raiser for

Dream Come True where all money raised is donated to the Dream Come True Foundation. It is an exciting and entertaining night where the boy's team plays against the girl's team. Let's plan for a successful 2016 Season!! The 2015 Fund Raiser managed to raise \$3,200.00 which will be presented to the Dream Come True Foundation at Penn's Peak later in the year. **Please volunteer some time!!**

## A NOTE FROM THE VENTURE GROUP

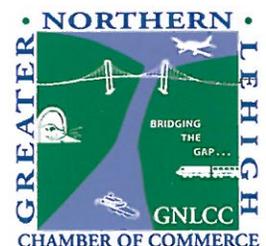
Don't forget the Annual Gathering event, sponsored by the Venture Group, at the 7th Street Covered Bridge location on **Saturday, October 3 from 1 pm to 10 pm**. This event has been held for the last 12 years and the profits are used to support the maintenance and upkeep of both the covered bridge and the main street trailhead. The event will attract all age groups with the free music, the Chinese Basket Auction, and the Beer Garden and the nightly conclusion of the fireworks. Local organizations will again offer a variety of food items for sale. Look for the 50/50 tickets in your mail or contact any Rotary Club member to participate. The biggest event will be the Duck Race managed by the Northern Lehigh Community Center. Please buy your duck early! Those are just a few of the games and events that are scheduled for this fun filled day. Many groups are still working on interesting events to sponsor during the day. Please mark your calendar for this fun filled day.

The Venture Group is made up of local non-profit groups including, The Rotary, The Lions, The Northern Lehigh Community Center, Walnutport Playground Association, The Greater Northern Lehigh Chamber, Future Focus and the newest additions are the Parade Committee and the 150th and Beyond Group. Also the Slatington Borough and Washington Township have an active group participating in the organization. Our meetings are held the last Wednesday of every month at the Slatington Borough Hall, all meetings are open to the public.

## A NOTE FROM THE GREATER NORTHERN LEHIGH CHAMBER

The Greater Northern Lehigh Chamber not only supports our local businesses but also our local communities. In the past several days the group had a very successful **Spirit Award** evening, this is an event in which we honor local residents in our footprint that has done outstanding volunteer work for both the community and local businesses. This year we had the pleasure to honor Mr. Nick Smith of Walnutport. As part of the event a Basket Auction is held and all the profits were donated to the Walnutport Canal Association.

One of our biggest events is to honor our Heritage during the **July 4th holiday**. This year the event takes place Monday, July 4 at the Slatington Baptist Church, the corner of 2nd and Church Street in Slatington. The program starts at 10. This is a free program that honors all Veterans in our area. This year our speaker will be the highest ranking non-com in the Pentagon. Master Sergeant Daily, who is a local man from the Lehigh area, will be our guest speaker. Come out and hear the Freedom Chorus and the Band honor this country.





[www.responsiblerecyclingservices.com](http://www.responsiblerecyclingservices.com)

Be Environmentally Friendly!

Recycle your old unwanted, broken and outdated electronics and appliances

## **ELECTRONICS RECYCLING DAY!!!**

**Borough of Walnutport  
417 Lincoln Avenue, Walnutport, PA 18088  
Wednesday, May 18th  
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

### ***Items that can be recycled FREE of charge are listed below:***

- ♻ Desktop & Laptop Computers
- ♻ Keyboards & Mice
- ♻ Printers/Fax Machines
- ♻ Cables & Cords
- ♻ Cell Phone & Laptop Batteries
- ♻ Calculators & Adding Machines
- ♻ UPS Battery Backups
- ♻ Toner & Ink Cartridges
- ♻ Audio Visual Equipment
- ♻ Telephones & Cell phones (*please remove batteries*)
- ♻ DVD Players & VCR's
- ♻ Gaming Systems
- ♻ Stereos & Speakers
- ♻ Microwaves & Small Appliances
- ♻ Metal Items
- ♻ Exercise Equipment
- ♻ Car Batteries (sealed lead acid)
- ♻ Bed Frames & Rain Spouting
- ♻ Filing Cabinets

### ***Additional Items that can be recycled with a FEE:***

- ♻ Washers & Dryers - \$20.00
- ♻ Dishwashers - \$20.00
- ♻ CRT Monitors - \$12.00 (Tube Type)
- ♻ LCD Monitors - \$8.00
- ♻ Televisions under 42" - \$35.00 ALL TYPES
- ♻ TVs (in wooden cabinet, projection.  
Large TV's \$55.00
- ♻ Air Conditioners - \$25.00
- ♻ Dehumidifiers - \$25.00
- ♻ Refrigerators - \$30.00
- ♻ Floor Freezers - \$30.00
- ♻ Ranges (Stoves) - \$20.00
- ♻ Floor Copiers - \$20.00

### ***Destruction Services for a FEE:***

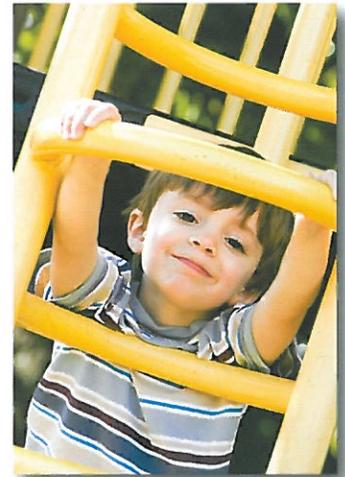
- ♻ Hard Drive Destruction (offsite) - \$10 per drive, *includes a Certificate of Destruction*
- ♻ Document Destruction (offsite) - \$10 per standard paper size box, *includes a Certificate of Destruction*

## **CASH OR CHECKS ONLY**

**Please Make Checks Payable to Responsible Recycling Services or RRS  
TV's must be complete, no broken TV's accepted.**

# PLAYGROUND SAFETY

## A quick checklist for parents



Place this list in a prominent area of your home for quick reference. Then, before your children head out the door for the playground, check that:

Supervision is present, but strings and ropes aren't.

Adult presence is needed to watch for potential hazards, observe, intercede and facilitate play when necessary. Strings on clothing or ropes used for play can cause accidental strangulation if caught on equipment.

All children play on Age-appropriate equipment.

Preschoolers, ages 2-5, and children ages 5 -12, are developmentally different and need different equipment located in separate areas to keep the playground safe and fun for all.

Falls to surface are cushioned.

Nearly 70 percent of all playground injuries are related to falls to the surface. Acceptable surfaces include hardwood fiber/mulch, pea gravel, sand and synthetic materials such as poured-in-place, rubber mats or tiles. Playgrounds surfaces should not be concrete, asphalt, grass, blacktop, packed dirt or rocks.

Equipment is safe.

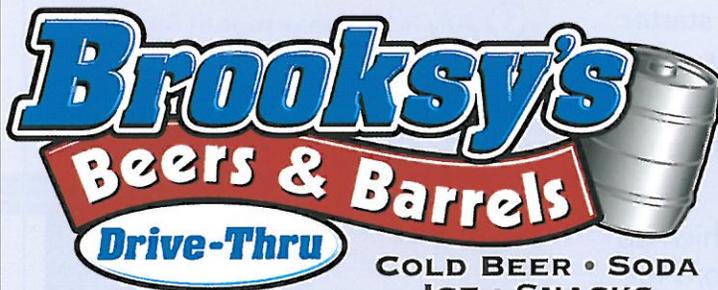
Check to make sure the equipment is anchored safely in the ground, all equipment pieces are in good working order, S-hooks are entirely closed, bolts are not protruding, there are no exposed footings, etc.



Checklist is from the National Program for Playground Safety (NPPS) at [www.uni.edu/playground/](http://www.uni.edu/playground/)

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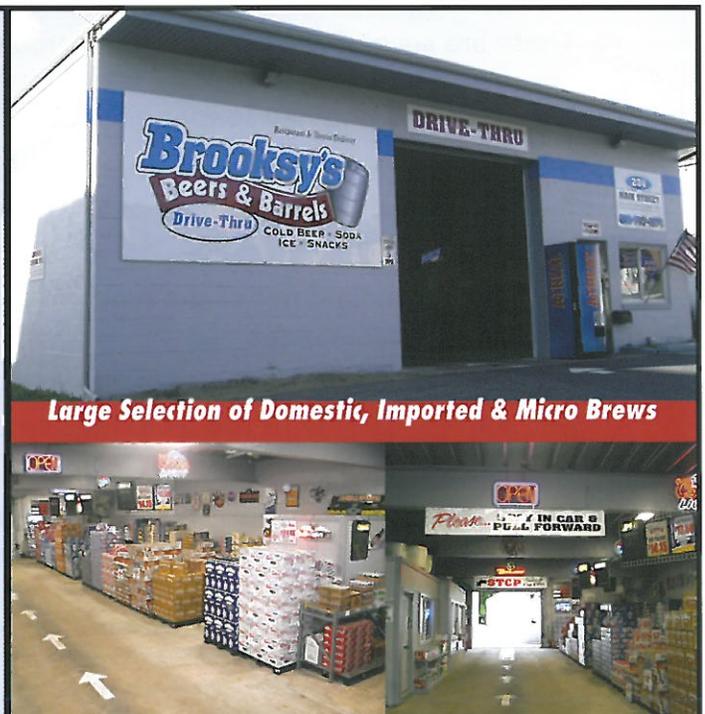


[www.BrooksysBeer.com](http://www.BrooksysBeer.com)

610-767-1876

**NEW HOURS:** MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY .....10am-8pm  
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY .....10am-9pm  
SUNDAY .....10am-5pm

234 Main Street • Slatington, PA 18080



# Grilling Safety

There's nothing like outdoor grilling. It's one of the most popular ways to cook food. But, a grill placed too close to anything that can burn is a fire hazard. They can be very hot, causing burn injuries. Follow these simple tips and you will be on the way to safe grilling.

## SAFETY TIPS

- » Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- » The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- » Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- » Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- » Never leave your grill unattended.
- » Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

## CHARCOAL GRILLS

- » There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use. Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- » If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- » Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- » There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- » When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

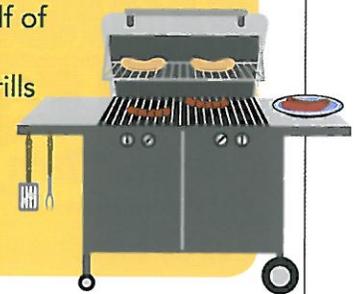
## PROPANE Grills

Check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off both the gas tank and the grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department. **If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department.** Do not move the grill.

If the flame **goes out**, turn the grill and gas off and wait at least **15 minutes** before re-lighting it.

## FACTS

- ! July is the peak month for grill fires.
- ! Roughly half of the injuries involving grills are thermal burns.



For more safety tips visit:  
[www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education)



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

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**John H. Simons**, Supervisor  
**Frances Bensing**, Funeral Director

### ON-SITE CREMATORY

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Bath, PA 18014

**610-759-3901**

[www.bensingfuneralhome.com](http://www.bensingfuneralhome.com)

## BECHTEL'S PHARMACY, INC.

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Adult Immunizations • Medication Management Services  
EMERGENCY PRESCRIPTION SERVICE

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with fireworks

# Becky's

DRIVE-IN

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Adults only \$9.00 ★ Children 3-12 yrs only \$6.00

- ★ Digital Projection
- ★ Delicious Hot Food & Fresh Funnel Cake

**WITH THIS COUPON**  
Pay ONE Adult Admission with the  
SECOND Adult Admission at Child's Price  
**\$15.00 VALUE**

**Coming Events:**  
June 4: 70th Anniversary  
Celebration Fireworks  
September 3 & 4: 13th Annual Dusk til Dawn Marathon  
October 2: 29th Annual Lehigh Township  
Benefit, Festival & Car Show

## Charles H. Mantz, Inc.

**Fuel Oil • Kerosene**

65 Second Street  
Slatington, PA 18080

**610-760-2680**

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