



THE BOROUGH OF

# LEBANON

HUNTERDON COUNTY • NEW JERSEY

SPRING

LANTERN

2023

## Winter Got You Confused? You're Not Alone.

Helpful tips to limit the impact of unseasonably warm temps on your plants

**M**ost people in Lebanon would probably agree that this winter has been most unusual. Alternating periods of spring-like weather followed by freezing temperatures have confused plants and birds alike. Worms were crawling around in the middle of February.



Birds have been singing mating calls and territory claims, and trees and shrubs have been budding and blooming prematurely.

On one level, this early season activity is exciting: Winter is almost over! But it's also damaged the flower buds of some plants, particularly white rhododendrons. While you won't get flowers on some plants, now is an excellent time to cut them back. They will respond with renewed vigor as they can use all their stored energy for leaves and branches. *(Continued on page 16.)*

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One of the Borough Council's most important jobs is ensuring that roads in the borough are in good shape. While repaving or repairing streets may seem like a simple job, it can take months of planning, from sizing up a job, receiving bids for the work, financing the projects (which most often includes finding the right grants), coordinating with utility companies, the sewer authority, among others, and scheduling.

This year, three major infrastructure projects are planned. Here is the schedule of projects, but please be aware that some aspects of any job are out of our control and timelines may change. One thing that is certain is that none of the projects will interfere with the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade.

1. Culvert just west of 43 Main St. (Dr. Thorne's office)
  - Plans are underway to replace this culvert. Once plans are complete, the bid process will begin. We expect this project will begin after July 4. We will need to adjust traffic patterns as portions of Main St. will have to be closed for 5-6 weeks once the project begins.
2. Resurface of Chestnut Place
  - The bid process should begin shortly.
  - We expect this project to be completed before July 4.
3. Intersections of Main St. and High St. and Main St. and Maple St. This project will improve the transition between Main Street and both High and Maple streets, improve the ADA compliance of sidewalks, and improve drainage at those intersections.
  - We expect this project to be completed before July 4.

**Rich Burton**  
Borough Council President and Chair of the Infrastructure Committee.

## The Sound of Music at Lebanon Borough School Just Got an Upgrade

**A**s winter turns to spring, we at Lebanon Borough School are excited about the field trips, assemblies, school events, and performances that are coming soon.

We are also excited about our new music room! Many districts are cutting the arts to address budget shortfalls, we have worked hard to manage resources and recent grants to affirm and expand our commitment to the arts by converting our unused kitchen space into a music room for all students to enjoy.

LBS is proud to offer general music classes in pre-school through sixth grade and instrumental music instruction in grades 4-6, with band opportunities for all three grades. Under the direction of **Mrs. Schaefer**, our music program has flourished. Even when we had to offer music virtually due to



Covid, our musical groups created virtual performances that were shared with families. Since last spring, our performances have been live and in person.

The music room is a dedicated space for all our students to learn to appreciate, understand, and perform. At LBS, we believe that the arts are an integral part of a complete elementary education and develop the creative talents of our students. The educational experience we provide is cross-curricular and our arts, physical education, media, technology, social/emotional, and core academics (math, science, English/language arts, and social



studies) all work in harmony to nurture the whole child and help each to find their passions and talents.

We look forward to showing off the new space before our spring performance, which is scheduled for May 25, which will include our 4th grade band, 5th/6th grade band, and the whole school in a musical performance of Annie Jr.! Please come out and celebrate an evening of theater, music, and artwork that you are sure to enjoy.

**Bruce Arcurio Ed.D.**  
Superintendent



**When: July 5-Aug. 4**

**Time: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to noon**

**Where: Lebanon Borough School Park Picnic Tables**

The Lebanon Borough Park Camp summer program is open to children entering their second year of pre-school through those entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade by September 2023.

Park Camp will be led by LBS staff including first grade teacher **Mrs. Walsh** and second grade teacher **Ms. Barkel**. The program is sure to entertain and educate each camper while they enjoy summer fun!

Pick up registration forms at Boro Hall or check out the flier at [www.lebanonschool.org](http://www.lebanonschool.org)  
Please return completed forms before June 30.

### ***Kindergarten Registration***

If you have a child turning 5 before Oct. 1, 2023, please see the flyer at [www.lebanonschool.org](http://www.lebanonschool.org) for information. Registration is available there, at the main office, or by calling (908) 236.2448.



Wolf Den 4 of Cub Scouts Pack 190 recently collected Comfort Animals — stuffed animals that can be used to comfort and calm kids in stressful situations — as part of their service project for Duty to County loop. The animals were delivered to the Lebanon Fire Company (special thanks to **Sonny Francisco** for coming to drop them off) and now, when the company is responding to a call in which young children are involved, they can take the animals to give to the kids. For more information about Cub Scouts Pack 190, go to [pack190hunterdonnj.org](http://pack190hunterdonnj.org).

Pictured at left, Sonny delivering the Comfort Animals to Fire Chief **Kevin Saharic**.



**Lithium-ion batteries** supply power to many kinds of devices including smart phones, laptops, e-scooters, smoke alarms, toys and even automobiles. If not used correctly, or if damaged, these batteries can catch fire or explode.

### The problem

- These batteries store a large amount of energy in a small amount of space.
- Batteries not designed for a specific use can be dangerous.
- Defective lithium-ion batteries can overheat, catch fire or explode

### Safety tips

- Purchase and use devices that are listed by a qualified testing lab.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Only use the battery that is designed for the device.
- Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed or on a couch.
- Do not keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
- Keep batteries at room temperature when possible. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32° F (0° C) or above 105° F (40° C).
- Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire.

### Signs of a problem

- Stop using the battery if you notice these problems: Odor, change in color, too much heat, change in shape, leaking or odd noises. If it is safe to do so, move the device away from anything that can catch fire. Call **9-1-1**.

Commemorative t-shirts for the **76<sup>th</sup> Annual Lebanon Borough 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade** will go on sale through the Lebanon Borough 4<sup>th</sup> of July website later this month. This year, you can select from three adult sizes (small, medium, large) and two kids sizes (small and medium). You will be able to pick up your t-shirts ahead of July 4 at Borough Hall.

Visit [www.lebanonboro4thofjulyparade.com](http://www.lebanonboro4thofjulyparade.com) for details and to place your order. You can pay via PayPal through our site or print and mail the order form with a check. Full details will be available on the website on or before April 1.

Look for a complete schedule of parade event times and places in the next issue of the Lantern. And please keep an eye on the mail for our annual appeal letter, coming to you later this spring. The parade and the picnic are 100% funded by your generous contributions, so please give what you can to help keep this 76-year-old tradition alive.

See you on the 4<sup>th</sup>!



**M**addie Savage is a North Hunterdon High School Junior who plans to study journalism in college. Her family has lived in Lebanon for many years: her grandparents, who were involved in the community for many years, on Main St. Maddie has learned about the borough from her parents and grandmother through the lens of architectural history and the journey of people who have come to call Lebanon home.

The Lantern is launching a new feature called Maddie's Column in which she will offer her own perspective on and window into the community through interviews with community members and her own observations.

Here is a little more about Maddie.

### **What are your academic goals?**

I love writing and animals but as a career, I'd like to be a journalist.

### **What brought about your interest in history and architecture?**

My parents and Grandma. We walk around the Borough and my Dad points out different architectural styles of homes. We talk about how old the homes are and the care that people put into them to keep them maintained. We meet a lot of people walking and I enjoy hearing their stories: how they came to live here and the things they observe...their perspective. It's the people who layer into the history of the community, new residents and families who have been here a long time that keeps the borough's history but adds fresh ideas.

### **How important is volunteering?**

Volunteering gives a window into new opportunities — career paths —without money being a distraction. The time spent (volunteering) can change how you see things, meeting and talking to people that you might not otherwise be around. I'm excited to have the opportunity.

Look for Maddie's Column in the next issue of the Lantern, where she speaks with a long-time member of the Planning Board who is retiring.

# FPO

# April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Senior Bingo 1 p.m. Boro Hall	4 Senior Exercise, 1 p.m. Boro Hall	5 Senior Game Day, 1 p.m. Boro Hall	6	7 Good Friday Boro Hall closed	8
9	10	11 Planning Board, 7 p.m. Boro Hall	12	13	14	15
16	17 Senior Bingo 1 p.m. Boro Hall	18	19 Boro Council, 7:30 p.m. Boro Hall	20 LBSA 7:30 p.m. Boro Hall	21	22
23	24	25	26 Senior Meeting, 10 a.m., Boro Hall	27	28	29
30						

# May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Senior Bingo 1 p.m. Boro Hall	2 Senior Exercise, 1 p.m. Boro Hall	3 Senior Game Day, 1 p.m. Boro Hall	4	5	6 Town-wide Yard Sale 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
7	8	9 Planning Board, 7 p.m. Boro Hall	10 Bulk Pick-up	11	12	13
14	15 Senior Bingo, 1 p.m. Boro Hall	16 Senior Exercise, 1 p.m. Boro Hall	17 Boro Council, 7:30 p.m. Boro Hall	18 LBSA 7:30 p.m. Boro Hall	19	20
21	22	23	24 Senior Meeting, 10 a.m., Boro Hall	25	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31			

# June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Senior Bingo 1 p.m. Boro Hall	6 Senior Exercise, 1 p.m. Boro Hall	7 Senior Game Day, 1 p.m. Boro Hall	8	9	10
11	12	13 Planning Board, 7 p.m. Boro Hall	14	15	16	17
18	19 Senior Bingo, 1 p.m. Boro Hall	20 Senior Exercise, 1 p.m. Boro Hall	21 Boro Council, 7:30 p.m. Boro Hall	22 LBSA 7:30 p.m. Boro Hall	23	24
25	26	27	28 Senior Meeting, 10 a.m., Boro Hall	29	30	



**Environmental Commission/Shade Tree Committee**

**2 open seats**

**Historical Committee**

**1 open seat**

**Office of Emergency Management**

**1 open seat**

**Planning Board/Board of Adjustment**

**1 open seat**

Please contact Boro Hall for more information on these volunteer openings.

## Lebanon Crisis Response Team Gets Real-World Test

Two recent incidents at the Grist Mill provided a timely evaluation of the crisis response protocol in Lebanon Borough. Partner agencies, led by the Lebanon Fire Company (Fire 18), ensured that our senior residents were evacuated, temporarily sheltered with food/beverages while mitigating the community challenge. The residents reported feeling confident and at ease despite the complexities of the circumstances. Both incidents provided a valuable exercise and successful test of current emergency protocols.

Fire 18, together with the Lebanon Borough Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and the New Jersey State Police (NJSP), are focused on protecting life and property of the borough's residents, businesses and their employees, as well as people traveling through the borough.

What does this focus look like? Lebanon's OEM Director **Lex Saharic**, Borough Administrator **Karen Romano** and a rotation of OEM volunteer members attend course instruction and meetings to keep up to date on best practices as well as any new regulations.

In fact, the OEM team recently worked with the county and state to be sure protection protocols were aligned with the latest body of knowledge and current federal, state and county emergency management regulations. Beyond the focus on protection, the team also concentrates on mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

### Using all the tools available

Integrating the work of these partners, which include South Branch Emergency Services, into a comprehensive emergency management protocol includes leveraging today's technology, proven management practices and putting into practice an incident command system. It's a lot of work, but OEM will complete the integration process by educating the general public through a series of publications, pamphlets and public service announcements.

In the meantime, here are some valuable resources for borough members:

- How to prepare for the unexpected: Go to [nj.gov/njoem/plan-prepare/your-kit-plan.shtml](https://nj.gov/njoem/plan-prepare/your-kit-plan.shtml) to follow the "Three steps to safety."
- If you need special assistance during an emergency, consider putting your name on the Hunterdon County Special Needs Registry. Click here [www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/DocumentCenter/View/6217/Hunterdon-County-Special-Needs-Registry](https://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/DocumentCenter/View/6217/Hunterdon-County-Special-Needs-Registry) to find out how.
- Click here [www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/473/2021-All-Hazard-Mitigation-Plan](https://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/473/2021-All-Hazard-Mitigation-Plan) for information on the Hunterdon County hazard mitigation plan.

## Meet South Branch Emergency Services Volunteer Kavya Famolari

At 15, Kavya started learning emergency medicine and giving back to her community

By the time she passed her EMT class last summer, Kavya Famolari, 17, had already logged nearly two years as a South Branch Emergency Services volunteer.

Kavya knew she wanted to pursue a career in medicine, and becoming an SBES junior cadet meant she could start gaining real-world experience at age 15.

“Right away, I was learning a lot of things that I otherwise probably would not have a chance to learn until medical school,” she said.

Now 17, Kavya said volunteering has taught her more than she could have imagined about emergency medicine, helping people get through extremely difficult circumstances, and working as part of a team. She and her family had only recently moved to Lebanon when she joined, and SBES has also allowed her to learn about and become part of the community.

“I love every bit of it,” she said.



### Making a difference from the start

As a junior cadet, Kavya could not ride the ambulance, but she was able to train and participate in practice drills alongside more experienced EMTs, all of whom were happy to share their knowledge with her.

“SBES does a great job with training,” she said. “I was asking a lot of questions and everyone was super happy to answer them. It was so exciting and fun.”

### On the ambulance at 16

That training and mentoring from more experienced SBES EMTs gave Kavya a solid knowledge base and skill set for riding the ambulance once she turned 16.

“I would serve my shift after school. Going on calls, you never know what to expect — it’s always walking into a situation that requires on-your-feet problem solving, and that is a big adrenaline rush,” she said.

While Kavya could not yet provide hands-on patient care, she was able to use her training to determine what patients needed and what equipment and supplies her full EMT team would need to provide direct care. “At a car accident, you have to think about what kind of devices are needed to safely extricate a patient — a backboard or a cervical collar, for example,” she said.

In addition to the technical aspects of emergency medical care, Kavya has also learned to communicate in all kinds of circumstances. “A lot of delivering care with SBES is about being able to talk to people, to comfort people,” she said. “Those kinds of interpersonal skills are always important.” *(Continued on the next page.)*

### A team of teams

Kavya enjoys the teamwork that comes from working as one member of a three-person ambulance crew. She was amazed the first time she was on a call that required a multi-agency response and proud to be part of it.

“There had been a motorcycle accident which required set up up a landing zone for a helicopter that would transport the patient,” she said. “All aspects of emergency medical service were involved – EMTs, paramedics, firefighters, and people in the helicopter. You really get to see everybody mobilize and work together.”

### What's next

As a Cadet EMT, Kavya is able to act as a National Registry EMT under the supervision of a more experienced EMT until she turns 18 and can earn her state certification.

She is now a junior in the Hunterdon County Vocational School District's Biomedical Science Academy and hopes to one day become a cardio-thoracic surgeon. She also plans to keep volunteering with SBES even when in college. “I will come when I can and work when I can,” she said.

Kavya recommends volunteering with SBES to people of all ages. “Training is free. It's an exciting and rewarding experience and a great way to give back,” she said.

To learn more, volunteer, or pursue a paid EMT position with SBES, visit [SBES365.org](http://SBES365.org).



# North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District

"Providing Success For All Students"

**S**pring is a busy time in the high school district as we wind down the school year. From musicals and concerts to standardized testing to proms to graduation, there is a lot scheduled for the last few months of school!

The high school district will be closed for **Spring Recess** from April 7-14.

The district administered the required New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment to all juniors the week of March 13. The next **standardized test** from the state will be the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment given to all freshmen the week of May 15. Any student taking an Advanced Placement class will have their **AP exam** within the first two weeks of May. **Good luck to students in all their tests!**

For **music performances**, North Hunterdon Theater Organization performed *Les Miserables School Edition* March 2-5. They will perform a Spring Cabaret on May 5-7; please check North's website ([www.nhvweb.net/nhhs/home/](http://www.nhvweb.net/nhhs/home/)) closer to the performance dates for ticket information. Over at Voorhees, the Drama Club will perform *9 to 5 The Musical* on April 20-23. For tickets, visit [www.nhvweb.net/vhs/theatre/](http://www.nhvweb.net/vhs/theatre/).

**Spring concerts** will be performed at North Hunterdon on May 11 and 18 at 7 p.m. and at Voorhees on May 17 and 24 at 7 p.m. All concerts are free and open to the public.

It's **prom season!** North Hunterdon's Senior Prom will be held on Friday, May 19, and the Voorhees Junior-Senior Prom will be held on Thursday, May 25.

**Final exams** are scheduled for June 7, 8, 9 and 12, with make-up exams on Tuesday, June 13. June 13 is also the last official day of the school year. The graduation ceremony for the Class of 2023 will be held on June 14 at 10 a.m.

**We wish our graduates good luck in all their future endeavors!**

Maren Smagala  
District Communications Coordinator  
North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District  
(908) 713-4195

## Calling All Athletes: Don't Neglect Your Mouth!

Even though the winter has been relatively mild, springtime often means more people getting out to run, jog, bike or walk. For athletes, sticking to a dedicated training schedule, eating well and staying hydrated are all essential aspects of reaching their performance goals. While they may consult trainers, physical therapists and nutritionists, they often forget about their oral health.



What does oral health have to do with athleticism? It's not a surprise that teeth are susceptible to erosion and decay when people drink liquids that are high in acid, sugar or artificial sweeteners. Many athletes — professional and amateur — consume these types of refreshments every day.

If you're an athlete who enjoys drinks like Gatorade or Vitamin Water during a practice or sporting event, alternate sips of water to help rinse the sugary beverage from your teeth. Also, many popular brands also make fitness waters without sugar. Check them out!

## What's the Going Rate for a Lost Tooth?

Remember the excitement of losing your first tooth as a child and wondering if the tooth fairy would visit while you slept?

If you're a parent, you may have passed on this tradition to your own children.

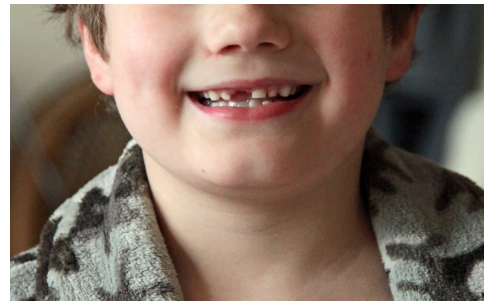
From pennies to dollars, the tooth fairy tends to bring children different amounts of money all across the globe.

Here are a few average "payouts" for a lost tooth from around the world:

- Canada: \$3.44
- United States: \$3.19
- Australia: \$5
- United Kingdom: \$2.52.

But not every country celebrates losing a tooth with cash. Children in Pakistan celebrate by throwing their teeth into rivers and making a wish for the future. In Argentina, kids put their teeth in a glass of water in hopes that El Ratoncito (a little mouse) will drink it while they sleep and leave candy or coins in its place.

How does your family celebrate?



Jeff Thorne, DDS  
43 Main St.  
Lebanon

*(Photo credits: Shutterstock, Staticflickr)*



Longtime Lebanon Borough Sewerage Authority members **John Saharic** and **Edward Cichone** were honored for their many years of service at the authority's December meeting. Each received a citation and a highly valued golden plunger. (Pictured from left: John Saharic, Edward Cichone, LBSA Chair **Rich Burton** and LBSA Attorney **Joe Novak**.)

## Plant a tree, leave a legacy

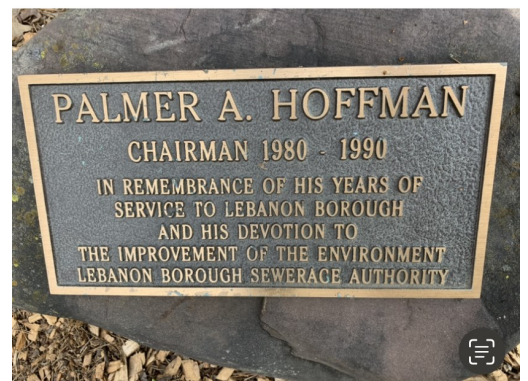
Now is also a good time to think about planting a tree. While the Lebanon Borough Shade Tree Committee plants some trees every year, we can only plant on Borough property, so the rest of town is up to you. Deciduous trees — those like maples and oaks that lose their leaves in the fall (“deciduous” means “falling off at maturity” or “tending to fall off”) — have traditionally been planted on the south side of properties to shade the homes from summer sun. That also helps reduce air conditioning costs. In addition, as you may know, trees absorb carbon dioxide and sequester carbon. And, of course, they are also beautiful.



Another reason to plant a tree is to memorialize an important event. Some families have a tradition of planting a tree when a child or grandchild is born. The child and the tree can grow together. Some folks also plant trees as a memorial for a relative or close friend who has passed away.

Did you know that Lebanon has several trees planted as memorials? One is a flowering pear on the south side of Lebanon Borough School. If you check it out, you’ll see a plaque explaining that it was planted in the memory of Palmer Hoffman.

Palmer was the first chairman of the Lebanon Borough Sewerage Authority who worked for years to provide a safe and cost effective sewerage system, which helped the town prosper. With a kind and gentle manner, Palmer never lost his temper or had a harsh word for anyone. In the photo above, Palmer’s widow, Charlotte, and the newly appointed chairman (me) are pictured at the site. Note the size of the tree in the photo and the fact that there are no other trees on that side of the building. Now take a look at the picture from this March. The large oak now behind the pear was three inches tall when it was plucked from a lawn. Wow!



**Joe Hauck**  
Lebanon Shade Tree Committee

**Come rent a plot in our new community garden!**

**Q: Where will the garden be?**

A: On Cherry St. by Pedowitz Machinery Movers

**Q: When will the garden be operational?**

A: May 1-Oct. 31

**Q: How much does it cost to rent a plot?**

A: \$10 for the season

**Q: How many plots are available?**

A: Just 10, and they may go quickly. Rent one to-day!

**Q: Who do I contact for more information?**

A: Lisa Zambito, 908.268.5340 or [lisazambito@embarqmail.com](mailto:lisazambito@embarqmail.com)

**Q: Is there a deadline?**

A: Yes! It's April 16.





**Please remember that recycling must be clean of all liquid and food and must be loose. No recycling in plastic bags! Also, pizza boxes are not recyclable. Help us keep our costs down. (Which helps keep your costs down!)**

**From the Lebanon Borough Sewerage Authority**

We have mailed out 2023 sewer bills. If you have not received yours, or if you have any questions, please call 908-236-2704. First quarter payments are due March 30.

*(Photo credit: Staticflickr)*







## Lebanon Borough Municipal Building

Attn: Communications Committee  
6 High Street  
Lebanon, New Jersey 08833

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM RETAIL

LEBANON BOROUGH  
BUSINESS AND RESIDENT

# PLEASE KEEP THE BORO CLEAN

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## Important Phone Numbers

**Emergency - 911**  
**State Police - 908-730-6100**

**Lebanon Borough Volunteer Fire Dept - 908-236-2792**  
**Lebanon Borough Municipal Building - 908-236-2425**

## Lebanon Borough Governing Body

**Mayor Jim Pittinger**  
mayor@lebanonboro.com

**Council President**  
**Richard Burton**  
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## Municipal Contacts

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*Borough Administrator/Clerk*  
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908-236-2425

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## Get Lebanon Alerts

Sign up for alerts and updates on our website [www.lebanonboro.com](http://www.lebanonboro.com).

Want to get the Lantern via email?  
Got something to say?

Drop us a line at [lantern@lebanonboro.com](mailto:lantern@lebanonboro.com)  
The deadline for the Summer 2023 Lantern is  
Friday, May 28.