



MIDDLE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWS

Summer 2019



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

MOSIER'S DAIRY:

Reincarnation: New project plans to re-purpose icon of the area into a building for the community.

More on page 24

15TH ANNUAL

Memory Makers Luncheon:

Free for Long Time Residents

- Lived in the area 30 years or more
- Lived in the area 20 years or more and age 60 or older

This year's theme:

Class Reunion of Middle Smithfield Elementary School
August 17th at the Whispering Pines Banquet Hall

MID-YEAR REPORT

To the public
July 25, 7 pm

WHAT'S GOIN' ON

- July: 7/25 Supervisors Meeting 7pm Presentation: Midyear Report to the Public
- August: 8/2 3rd Quarter Sewer Payments Due
Master Gardener in Residence at the Community Gardens Park every Saturday, 10a-12n
8/10 Free Dog Training at W. Leroy Lewis Dog Park, 11am
8/17 Flood of 1955 Anniversary
8/17 15th Annual Memory Makers at the Whispering Pines
- September: 9/2 Labor Day office closed
9/7 Fundraising Golf Outing at CCP to benefit Wounded Warrior (Veterans)
9/21 "Drying your Herbs and Flowers for Arrangements" Gardening Class
9/28 1000 Feet of Street Fall Litter Pickup
9/28 Fundraising Golf Outing at CCP to benefit the Marshalls Creek Fire Company
- October: 10/4 & 10/5 Cleanup & Freecycle AKA "Dumpster Day" (Drop Off Only 7am-4pm)
10/5 Free Dog Training at W. Leroy Lewis Dog Park, 11am
10/14 Columbus Day
10/16 National Fossil Day™ celebrating Marshalls Creek Mastodon
10/19 "Planting Garlic" class in Bushkill Outreach Raised Beds
10/21 Fall Leaf Collection Begins
10/26 6th Annual Trunk or Treat, 12pm
- November: 11/2: 4th Quarter Sewer Payments Due
11/5 Election Day office closed
11/10 MST Veteran's Luncheon at Whispering Pines
11/11 Veteran's Day office closed
11/15 Fall Leaf Pickup Ends
11/23 Shop Local Now thru 1/2/19
11/28 Thanksgiving office closed
11/30 7th Annual Tree Lighting, 6pm
- December: 12/5 Supervisors Meeting 7pm Presentation of the Budget to the Public & Year End Review
12/25 Christmas Day office closed
12/31 New Year's Eve
1/24/2020 2019 Person of the year and Volunteer Appreciation Banquet

Note: All Gardening Classes are taught by Penn State Master Gardeners, and all Beekeeping Classes are taught by Monroe County Beekeepers Association, and held at the township's Community Gardens Park from 11am-12n unless otherwise indicated. Classes are tentative and subject to change due to weather, call to confirm.

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2018 PERSON OF THE YEAR UPDATE: WHAT THEY ARE UP TO...



DAVID PASKIET
2018 PERSON OF THE YEAR
Phoenix Martial Arts Society
Phoenix Martial Arts Society is seeking donations to keep the program running as well as sponsorships for their 2020 July camp weekend. Read more in page 26.



THOMAS WATSON
2018 PERSON OF THE YEAR FINALIST
Meals on Wheels
Monroe County Meals on Wheels has a lot going on this summer! Join the fun with a Summer Concert, a Car Show or Meals on Wheels Day! Read more on page 26.



FRANCIS OQUENDO
2018 PERSON OF THE YEAR FINALIST
Boy Scouts of America
Troop 87 had a successful golf outing and silent auction in June! This summer they are staying busy with Eagle Scout Projects, Camping, Hiking and More! Read more on page 27.

COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Parks & Recreation Board 6:30pm 2nd Monday of Every Month	Regional Parks at Smithfield Township 7:45pm 3rd Monday of Every Month
Golf Course Committee 8:30am 2nd Monday of Every Month	Historical Commission 9am 1st Wednesday of Every Month
Economic Development Committee 6:00pm 2nd Monday of Every Month	Board of Supervisors Meeting 7pm 2nd & 4th Thursday of Every Month
Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Composting Board Call for Schedule	Planning Commission 5:30pm 4th Thursday of Every Month

Mark Oney
Annette Atkinson
and Mike Dwyer



A WORD FROM YOUR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

Summer vacation! No matter how long you've been out of school, spring fever soon turns into daydreams of summer vacation. In spite of that, your township has been, and continues to be, hard at work! From our annual Memory Maker's Luncheon for long-time residents (more on page 22), to preserving our past for the future by salvaging an icon of the area (Mosier's Dairy Farm), to repairing/replacing bridges, paving roads (and even constructing a new road), and construction of the new Middle Smithfield Community & Cultural Center, and Library of the Smithfields, your township staff remains hard at work.

For those who can't see the forest for the trees, there's our summer report card to put it all in context: the annual Mid-Year Report every July. We hope to see you at our Supervisor's meeting on July 25th, at 7pm when your township staff reports on how their committees and departments are doing with the goals set in the beginning of the year, and give more details and overviews of projects. (Each year, the township gives several presentations to the public: every December, presentation of the next year's budget to the public, and then the adoption of the budget and Year-End Report; every January, the Preview of the Upcoming Year; and every July, the Mid-Year Report.)

We will also be lucky enough to present our 2018 Person of the Year, David Paskiet, and the two finalists, Tom Watson and Francis Oquendo, with their plaques. (We wouldn't be surprised if some other elected officials turned up to congratulate them as well!) We will also honor Mal Law and Frank Primrose for their work.

And, of course, we couldn't be more excited about constructing what promises to be the centerpiece of our township. Hope to see you Thursday the 25th!

Your Township Supervisors



Middle Smithfield Township Administrative Office
147 Municipal Drive East Stroudsburg, PA 18302
570-223-8920 | info@mstownship.com
MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com

Middle Smithfield Township Board of Supervisors
Annette Atkinson | Chairperson | x124
Michael Dwyer | Vice Chairman | x123
Mark Oney | Supervisor | x125

Middle Smithfield Township Staff

Michele Clewell | Township Secretary Human Resources Director & Assistant Administrative Director
mclewell@mstownship.com | x112

Joan Woisin | Sewer Department Manager
Open Records & Right to Know Officer
jwoisin@mstownship.com | x115

Dave Manter | On Lot Sewage Enforcement Officer
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Ray Wolfe | Budget & Finance Manager
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Kevin Dixon | Country Club of the Poconos Pro Shop Manager
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Committee Chairpersons

Ray White | Golf Advisory Committee | x205
golfadvisorycommittee@mstownship.com

Jenna Componovo | Parks & Rec | x201
parksandrecreation@mstownship.com

Jenna Componovo | Litter & Beautification | x202
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Carrie Wetherbee | Historical Commission | x203
HistoricalCommission@mstownship.com

Joe Memoli | Economic Development | x204
EconomicDevelopmentCommittee@mstownship.com

Josephine Ferro | Zoning Hearing Board | x112

A WORD FROM THE TREASURER

By Mike Dwyer

The Township remains in good financial health. Our conservative budgeting over the past 8 years has proven to be beneficial and our credit rating continues to be positive. Stringent budget controls are in place so that, if there are any unforeseen expenses, they are covered by reserve funds.

A number of significant improvements are in progress; the most notable is the new Community Center / Library at Echo Lake Park. This \$4,000,000 project is being funded by Middle Smithfield Township and the Eastern Monroe Public Library. The township has also received State and Local grants to offset a portion of the expense.

As of July 1, 2019, you should have received notice of your certified property valuation from the County. Please review that information as soon as you get it, as the time frame to appeal the assessment expires on August 12, 2019.

MUNICIPAL BOND ISSUE

By Ray Wolfe

On July 8, 2019 the Township issued its 2019 General Obligation Bonds, in the amount of \$8,655,000. These bonds will be used to refinance the pre-existing 2009A (\$1,240,000) and 2009AA Build America Bonds (\$4,625,000) and to finance the building of the Library and Cultural Center at Echo Lake park. Eastern Monroe Public Library will also contribute \$1,000,000 to the construction project.

Just like refinancing your home mortgage at a lower rate, the Township will receive a Net Present Value *Savings* of \$680,500.

BRINGING
FEDERAL
DOLLARS
TO MIDDLE
SMITHFIELD

By Patrice Dume

Congressman Matt Cartwright hosted a municipal leaders' conference on May 19th at Northampton Community College, Monroe Campus. Supervisor Annette Atkinson was invited

to present at the conference, along with various other state leaders and Congressman Cartwright himself. They discussed issues ranging from federal grants to USDA rural development programs. Atkinson's presentation topic was "Economic & Community Development at the Local Level".

"What we need is for municipal leaders to learn about federal grants programs, because that's the way we do a responsible job of pulling our fair share of federal tax money back into northeastern Pennsylvania," Cartwright said. The Congressman serves on the House Appropriations Committee.



Congressman Matt Cartwright with Supervisor Annette Atkinson

GREATER POCONO CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE
CHOOSES MIDDLE
SMITHFIELD!

Middle Smithfield Township will now have a presence on the Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Recently, Economic Development Manager Patrice Dume was voted onto the board.

The township is proud of this appointment, enabling the township to be a greater resource for the business community, while supporting its growth. The Chamber offers a wide variety of networking opportunities, interactive workshops and seminars plus discounted marketing and advertising. One on one business counseling is available for startup businesses, those expanding as well as those relocating to the area. The on-going workshops and seminars cover from the basic business principles to the hottest topics of today. Area experts share their experiences and knowledge in areas such as: marketing, networking, sales growth, best practices in hiring etc.



issues relevant to businesses owners and the community as a whole. Whether it is legislative issues, educational concerns, one-on-one counseling or more networking opportunities, the Chamber does it all!

The Chamber takes pride in listening to membership and their needs. They approach



Patrice Dume, Economic Development Manager

NEPA CHOOSES MIDDLE
SMITHFIELD

Township Economic Development Manager, Patrice Dume, has been selected to take the Monroe County seat on the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance, Business Finance Board. As a board member, Patrice will be able to vote on new projects applying to loan programs.

The NEPA Business Finance Center, through its pool of federal, state and local funds, provides low-interest loans to qualified small businesses. Interest rates range from 1% to 4% and are fixed throughout the term of the loan, regardless of any upward movement

in prime lending rates.

NEPA Alliance Business Finance Corp. (BFC) is certified by the Small Business Administration (SBA) as a Certified Development Company (CDC) that is the intermediary between the SBA and Banks/Small Business clients. The SBA 504 Loan allows small business owners access to bond financing though a month debenture offering on Wall Street. Loan terms are 10, 20 and 25 year, fixed rates and allow clients to do projects with as little as 10% down payments, thereby keeping valuable capital within the companies. The objective is to provide financing to help small business create/retain jobs, attract additional investment from banks and other sources of private and public funding.



MIDDLE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER & LIBRARY OF THE SMITHFIELDS

It has begun! How we are spending our summer stay-cation: (learn more at our Mid-Year report on 7/25 at 7pm!) The project at Echo Lake Park has started. As you heard in our "Preview of 2019" and previous issues of this newsletter, the new Middle Smithfield Community & Cultural Center to be constructed in Echo Lake Park will also house the Library of the Smithfields, as well as a host of other things: little local museum, American Red Cross Eastern Pennsylvania Region certified emergency shelter, display space for Pocono Arts Council, and more. AND, we'll be incorporating an icon of the area, the old Mosier's Dairy Farm, into the new



building, so that Mosier's can live on, along with an educational and historical display.

Thanks to so many in the community who've helped, and more are collaborating in the effort every day. The Brodhead Watershed Association as well as the Penn State Master Gardeners of Monroe County look forward to collaborating on rain garden construction, as well as taking the opportunity, in the extensive new landscaping plan, to develop a well-balanced eco-system, and educate the public. Members of the Monroe County Beekeepers Association look forward to another location for an apiary within the township, and opportunities to instruct the public.



A study commissioned by the state Department of Education's Office of Commonwealth Libraries, in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Library Association, determined the economic benefit of the commonwealth's public libraries. The study revealed:

- Libraries provide a return on investment of \$5.50 in benefits for every \$1 of tax support.
- If public libraries did not exist, the economic loss would be \$1.34 billion a year.
- Of 9.1 million adults in Pennsylvania, 51.6 percent visited a public library in a year's time and 13.2 percent connected with one online.
- Public libraries reported 40.8 million in-person visits in the year preceding the study.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Gina Bertucci | Vice Chairperson: Joe Memoli | Secretary: Beverly Brown
Members: Chris Barrett, vacancy | Economic Development Manager: Patrice Dume



Owner, Aleksey Gadayev's barber shop is a cut above the rest!

WELCOME AL'S POCONO BARBER

By Patrice Dume

On June 7th, 2019, Al's Pocono Barbershop had their Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. They made it extra special having a barbeque event. Residents, friends, and officials, all came out to support the new business at Middle Smithfield Township.

Stop by and meet the barber himself! Aleksey Gadayev, former owner and lead master barber at Armani and Alex Barbershop in Melville, New York brings a traditional Barber Shop of the highest quality with a local based attitude to the Poconos.

Al says "It's my vision to bring a traditional Barber Shop – comfortable, friendly and professional -- to the Poconos. Being a barber is my passion and I take pride in what I do. My goal is to make you, the customer, look and feel your best. As you walk in I already know which style will look great on you. The truth is that anyone can look like a million dollars; you just have to come to my barbershop and let me create that look for you. I believe I can help you with that!"

Al's Barbershop is located on 5126 Milford Road Suite 900 (between Scotty's and Taco Bell).



State Representative Rosemary Brown offers well wishes at the ribbon cutting.

NOW, IS THAT ETHICAL?

By Brenda Romanow

Did you know that Pennsylvania has a State Ethics



Commission? The Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission is the main ethics commission for the Government of Pennsylvania which includes local municipalities. On June 20, 2019, the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) course, taught by Scott Coburn, "Navigating the Ethics Act Minefield", was offered to Middle Smithfield Township and surrounding municipalities.

It is important for the public to know that their elected officials are acting ethically and are actively taking steps to continue and refresh their knowledge of ethical behavior according to the State Ethics Commission. There have been a number of violations reported to the Ethics Commission in the past, mostly involving conflicts of interest. For example, a Lower Southampton Supervisor was accused of voting, along with the rest of the board, for his restaurant to cater the Christmas parties in 2015 and 2016, and also voted to approve payment for the catering amounting to \$2,000, without ever disclosing he owned the restaurant. Another example comes from East Earl Township Supervisor between 2009 and 2015, who used his position to advance land deals he and his brother had financial stakes in. He has since been ordered to pay \$14,000 in fines. These and other examples were discussed at the class that Middle Smithfield township hosted; Middle Smithfield elected officials and employees, along with others from surrounding municipalities, attended.

The class covered what is allowed and what is not allowed for candidates, elected officials and employees. It covered how to proceed in cases of conflicts of interest and other areas that might result in complaints to the Ethics Commission. The instructor was prepared, knowledgeable, entertaining and interactive. The course material was informative and thorough as to what permissible ethical behavior is, and what is not according to the Ethics Commission.

Residents should be aware and reassured that Middle Smithfield Township and surrounding municipalities are doing everything they can to uphold and maintain ethical standards in accordance with the State Ethics Commission.



TOWNSHIP SECRETARY MAKES HONOR ROLL!



Michele L. Clewell, Township Secretary & HR Director

Middle Smithfield Township is proud to announce that Michele L. Clewell, Township Secretary/HR Director has been included on the list of Distinguished Clerks from across the country.

"While not surprised, because Michele aces whatever she tackles -- we still couldn't be prouder", said Supervisor and Administrative Director Annette Atkinson, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors. "Michele wears many hats; she manages and implements the day to day operations of the township as well as oversees human resources for Middle Smithfield Township employees."

Added Mark Oney, Supervisor and Zoning & Planning Director, "While working closely with each department including planning, engineering and legal, Michele has acquired extensive knowledge of local government under the Pennsylvania 2nd Class Township Code."

The online Municipal Clerks Honor Roll program was created by General Code in 2001 to give municipal officials and private citizens a chance to recognize specific Clerks for a job well done, and nominate a clerk or staff member who goes above and beyond every day.

When asked about the award Michele said "if we are lucky, each of us goes through our work day, doing our job because we love what we do, never thinking or expecting to be honored for doing what we love."

To see the full list of Distinguished Clerks, visit www.generalcode.com/municipal-clerks-honor-roll/

Monroe County Area Agency on Aging's Newest Talent

As part of her commitment to the Pocono Leadership program and to continue being an active leader in the community, Michele has been invited to participate on the Monroe County Elder Abuse Task Force. The task force mission is to enhance collaboration between key agencies and organizations in an effort to educate older Monroe County residents, as well as the general public, on topic of elder abuse.



2019 POCONO LEADERSHIP PROGRAM GRADUATE!

You might remember that in the fall of last year, the Middle Smithfield Township Board of Supervisors was pleased to announce that Michele Clewell, out of all professionals in Monroe County, was selected as one of just 25 to participate in the 2019 Leadership Pocono Program at Northampton Community.

Now, we are proud to announce that she has graduated the program with flying colors!

Leadership Pocono, first recognized in the late 1980s, and revamped by Northampton Community College Center for Business and Industry is an elite leadership program for the next generation of community leaders in the greater Pocono region.

Leadership Pocono is a distinguished forum for leadership development, regional and nonprofit education, and professional networking. The program is specially designed to bolster the leadership capabilities of individuals who participate.

Held at Northampton Community College – Monroe Campus, the immersion program focus is to prepare leaders of today and tomorrow, to serve and be instrumental in sustaining a healthy community. It nurtures a sense of responsibility and commitment to apply these learned skills to the benefit of our community.

Michele enjoys giving back to the community by volunteering for Breast Cancer Awareness, United Way and numerous community events. Michele said "What I learned from Pocono Leadership is that being a leader is not just what you do for a living but how you live your life.. With the tools given and taking what was learned; I have come to realize that giving back to your community is the best example of a true leader. "

ZONING

Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer: Shawn McGlynn | zoning@mstownship.com
570-223-8920 x126 | **Zoning Department Administrator and Assistant**
Zoning Officer: Judith Acosta | jacosta@mstownship.com | 570-223-8920 x128
Zoning Hearing Board: Josephine Ferro – chairperson,
Arthur Jenkins – vice chairperson, Jeff Senholzi, Gary Morris, Melonie Schmid



FIREWORKS FALLOUT

Since the adoption of House Bill 542 which legalized the use of consumer fireworks in PA, the night skies have been illuminated by more than just stars. While it is all in fun to shoot off a few fireworks there are also great risks. That is why State Law also regulates how the consumer fireworks may be used. Yet many residents ask – who is tasked with enforcing this state law?

State Laws are enforced by the state, i.e., either a local police department or the state police troopers. Municipal code Enforcement Officers cannot enforce state law. At this time, if you have a complaint or concern regarding the use of consumer fireworks in your area we must direct you to the State Police Station in Stroudsburg, 570-619-6480. Ongoing issues or concerns can also be directed to your State Representative, Rosemary Brown, at 570-420-8301.

CONSUMER FIREWORKS SPARK UP PA

By Judy Acosta

Note: This article ran in last summer's issue of the newsletter, but is just as relevant this year, so we are re-printing it)

“Consumer Fireworks” are defined in part as “any combustible or explosive composition or any substance or combination of substances intended to produce a visible or audible effect by combustion and is suitable for use by the public” such as firecrackers, roman candles and bottle rockets. They are also known as 1.4G fireworks. Anyone 18 years of age, and older, may purchase and use consumer-grade fireworks in PA and are not required to obtain a permit from the municipality. However, there are restrictions on where and how consumer fireworks may be used.

Consumer fireworks cannot be...

- ... ignited or discharged within 150 feet of any occupied structure
- ... ignited within or discharged into, or thrown from, a motor vehicle or building
- ... ignited or discharged on public or private property without express permission from the property owner.
- ... used by a person who is under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or another drug.

The American Pyrotechnics Association has resources available at www.americanpyro.com. You can also check out this website, www.celebratesafely.org, that promotes fireworks safety.

IN THE ZONE

By Judy Acosta

Middle Smithfield Township was pleased to host the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute in the presentation of “The Course in Zoning Administration” in June. The course offered an in-depth look at the technical aspects of the various zoning applications and appeals such as variances, special exceptions and nonconforming uses and the requirements of the zoning hearing board.



This class was well attended with a number of municipalities from Monroe and bordering counties. PMPEI is an educational program of the PA Chapter – American Planning Association and PA State Association of Boroughs.



Flag Day, June 14, 2019: Francis Oquendo 2018 Person of the Year Finalist, oversees Troop 87's Flag Retiring Ceremony.

OUR WEBSITE PAGES FOR ZONING AND BUILDING ARE NEW AND IMPROVED!

We have recently made significant changes to our zoning and building department website pages to include updated information, including permit applications, and increased ease of use. Check it out at www.MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com

- Click on Zoning & Building to find our quick links to the most sought out information:
- Middle Smithfield Township Zoning Ordinance
- Middle Smithfield Township Zoning Map
- Zoning Permits & Information
- Building Permits & Information

Our Zoning Permits page includes permits for fences, resale certificates and short term rental licenses. Click on “Do I need a Zoning permit?” to find out what projects on your property require a zoning permit.

The Building Permits page offers similar information, just related to building permits. It also offers a list of general inspections required for projects requiring a building permit.

We hope these small improvements assist our residents. Stay tuned for more updates to our website offerings in the near future!

SHORT TERM RENTALS

In light of the recent Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision in the matter of Slice of Life, LLC. Vs. Hamilton Township Zoning Hearing Board, the Monroe County Planning Commission hosted a roundtable discussion regarding Short Term Rentals on June 5, 2018.

James Fereri, Esq., solicitor for the Monroe County Planning Commission, provided an overview of the Slice of Life matter and offered insight into the decision of the PA Supreme Court. A number of other court cases were discussed as well as the impact that this Supreme Court decision may have on those cases. In summary, the recent decision concludes that in a residential zone, where a single family detached dwelling is a permitted use, and where family is defined as a “single housekeeping unit”, a zoning ordinance will be found not to permit short term rentals even if short term rentals are not defined in the ordinance. Municipalities

can still permit Short Term Rentals, however, under zoning or a stand-alone ordinance.

Theresa Johnson, Monroe County Treasurer, and Marlo Merhige, Monroe County Controller, provided information on the registration, collection and oversight of the Monroe County Hotel Excise Tax. Under ordinance 2017-1 amended 2/6/19, an excise tax of 3% is imposed on each transaction of renting a room or rooms to accommodate transients. It is the responsibility of each homeowner (known as the booking agent or operator) to register and submit quarterly filings. The majority of the money collected by this tax is used by the Pocono Mountain Visitor's Bureau to promote Monroe County as a vacation destination, boosting revenue gained through tourism. The Visitor's Bureau is working hand-in-hand with the Treasurer's Office to identify properties in

violation and bring them into compliance, boosting the county revenue base.

Finally, local municipality representatives who have adopted Short Term Rental stand-alone ordinances and/or amended their zoning ordinance to permit short term rentals were invited to share their experiences with those in attendance. Our Assistant Zoning Officer, Judy Acosta, was in attendance and participated in sharing Middle Smithfield Township's success in adopting an ordinance and regulating Short Term Rental properties. Varied opinions were offered on how to create and enforce a local ordinance for Short Term Rentals. Monroe County Planning Commission recommends that each municipality at least define the use in their zoning ordinance. The MCPC also offers a model ordinance giving municipalities who wish to permit and regulate Short Term Rentals a starting point for creating their own ordinance.

If you are RENTING or SELLING your home, Middle Smithfield Township requires a Certificate of Occupancy for every lease or sale. Commercial properties too. Contact Zoning at 570-223-8920 ext.128



If you are offering your home on AirBNB, VRBO, HomeAway, etc., you MUST apply for and obtain an ANNUAL SHORT TERM RENTAL LICENSE from Middle Smithfield Township. Contact Zoning at 570-223-8920 ext. 128

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chairman: Bob Early | **Vice Chairman:** Parin Shah
Members: Wayne Bolt, Mark Oney, Melonie Schmidt, **Alternate:** Carrie Weatherbee
Engineer: Christopher McDermott, | **P.E.:** Reilly Associates
Recording Secretary: Michele Clewell

VACANCY

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE!

By Holly Freese

The Planning Commission serves as an advisory board to the Board of Supervisors that makes recommendations to the Supervisors, Zoning Hearing Board, and to the Zoning Officer. The Commission also reviews all major and minor subdivisions, land development plans and any new zoning changes such as variances or home occupations. The members of the Commission also meet with the Supervisors from time to time to work on new zoning changes and ordinances.

If you want to be more involved with your township and want to join the Planning Commission please email a resume and a volunteer application to info@mstownship.com

Volunteer application can be found here:

<http://www.middlesmithfieldtownship.com/11787/planning-commission-vacancy/volunteer-application-form-2/>

PLANNING UPDATE FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 2019

By Holly Freese

An active Planning Commission means a developing community! The Middle Smithfield Township Planning Commission recently reviewed and made recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for two land development plans:

1. April 2019- Mt. Nebo Apartments, LLC. Land Development Plan: Mt. Nebo Apartments, LLC., is planning to construct 4 apartment buildings with 96 two-bedroom apartments in total off of Mt. Nebo Road. The property will also contain a walking trail, a common area and a picnic area.
2. May 2019- Echo Lake Library and Community Center Land Development Plan: The community center will house the new location for the Library of the Smithfields, as well as a local museum and a Red Cross shelter. The new construction will be 12,465 square feet located at the Echo Lake Park off of Milford Rd.

MIDDLE SMITHFIELD RESIDENT ACHIEVES EAGLE SCOUT

By Brenda Romanow

Hunterdon Watts of Troop 86 received his Eagle Scout court of honor on June 2nd. Bob Honicker, Trustee at Middle Smithfield Evangelical Presbyterian Church, spoke about Hunterdon Watts' Eagle Scout Restoration Project. Hunterdon coordinated the efforts of approximately six to ten volunteers, over the course of three Saturdays last fall, to paint the large shed on the property, and restore the directory board, straighten up the gravestones. He also collected all the names of veterans buried there dating back to the Revolutionary War and engraved their names onto a handmade plaque to honor them.



Hunterdon received a citation from both State Representative Rosemary Brown and Senator Mario Scavella.

Mr. Honicker shared that the tombstones date back to the 1700's and possibly even the 1600's and that it was, "A very important project to take on," and that Hunterdon Watts was, "A very nice young guy to work with." Middle Smithfield Township congratulates Hunterdon Watts on a job well done, and achieving the rank of Eagle Scout!



The end of a perfect summer day at Otter Lake Resort in Middle Smithfield Township

NEW COMMUNITY MAP COMING SOON!

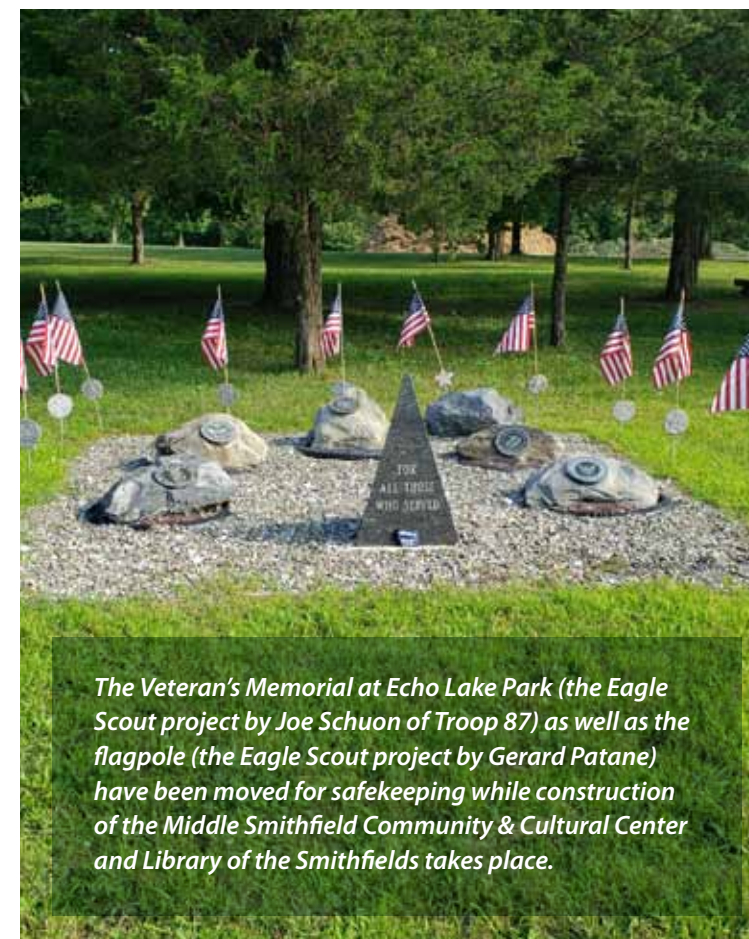
Holly Freese

Middle Smithfield Township is finalizing the 4th edition of our Community Map, and we can't wait for you to see it!

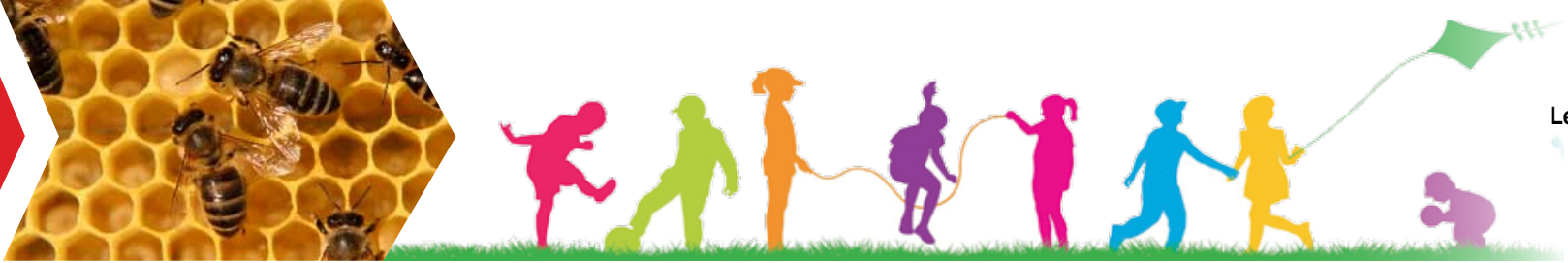
The last community map was printed and mailed to all of our resident, in 2014. Since then there have been plenty of changes in MST and we want to make sure our map, and our residents, are up to date!

The new map will be in circulation for at least 2 years and has been made possible by many advertisers. The map will also include information about township committees, departments as well as contact information for local agencies such as fire, police, EMS and other government offices.

We hope this map will continue to be a useful tool for our residents and businesses and are excited to share it with you!



Township resident Regina Ireland-Auer photographed this Barred Owl in her yard. You've probably heard them on a summer night; go to this website to hear what they sound like: www.audubon.org/news/learn-identify-five-owls-their-calls. Want to help Pennsylvania's wild birds? Learn more about the Audubon Pennsylvania's Bird Habitat Recognition program on page 12.



Director: Mike Dwyer | Chairperson: Jenna Componovo
Lead Coordinator, Dog Park: Laura Massaro
Lead Coordinator, Community Gardens Park: Michelle Dellavalle
Lead Coordinator, Judy Putek Park: Dan Timpson
Lead Coordinator, Resica Park: Jaime Frailey
Liaison: Christopher Rain | crain@mstownship.com

TOWNSHIP PARKS:

- **Leroy W. Lewis Dog Park**
108 Leroy's Lane (off of Milford Road/209; adjacent to the National Recreation Area)
facebook.com/MSTDogPark
middlesmithfieldtownship.com/parks/
- **Echo Lake Park:** Site of the new Community Building
5206 Milford Rd (on Route 209 across from the Middle Smithfield Evangelical Presbyterian Church)
facebook.com/MSTEchoLakePark
middlesmithfieldtownship.com/parks/
- **Judy Putek Park**
182 Municipal Drive (across from the Municipal Building)
facebook.com/MST-Judy-Putek-Park-1570884379874069/
middlesmithfieldtownship.com/parks/
- **Resica Park**
1 Gravel Ridge Road (behind Resica Elementary School)
facebook.com/MSTResicaPark
middlesmithfieldtownship.com/parks/
- **Community Gardens Park**
989 Coolbaugh Road (4 miles north of 402/Coolbaugh Road intersection)
facebook.com/MSTCommunityGardens
middlesmithfieldtownship.com/parks/
mstcommunitygardenspark.com/

REGIONAL PARKS

- (i.e., formerly Eastern Monroe Regional Park Commission)
- **Mt. Nebo Park**
406 Mt. Nebo Road (in Smithfield Township)
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
facebook.com/MtNeboPark
middlesmithfieldtownship.com/parks
 - **River's Edge Family Bike Park**
123 River Road (in Smithfield Township)
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
facebook.com/RiversEdgeFamilyBikePark
middlesmithfieldtownship.com/parks/

NATIONAL PARKS

- **National Park Headquarters**
1978 River Road Bushkill, PA 18324
facebook.com/DelWaterGapNPS/
nps.gov/dewa/index.htm
- **Hidden Lake** (national park within our township)
no street address; entrance near Hidden Lake Drive and Keystone Road delawariver.natgeotourism.com/content/hidden-lake-bushkill-pa/del163a03909b0065c79
facebook.com/HiddenLakeMST/

THE BIRDS AND THE BEES:
Give Pollinators a Hand

By Christopher Rain

The Middle Smithfield Township Parks Department and Parks Committee are collaborating with the Penn State Master Gardeners of Monroe County on a new project to certify township parks as bird, butterfly, and pollinator friendly. Three programs from the Audubon Society, Monarch Watch (Monarch Waystation), and Penn State provide certifications for a property that meets the requirements to be friendly to birds, monarch butterflies, and other pollinators, respectively.



Once a certification program is completed, a sign is posted at the designated property for that program. Each one has requirements regarding native plantings, preferred plants, storm water drainage, and limitations on pesticides among others. Middle Smithfield Township plans to start by certifying the Community Gardens Park for each program before branching out to the other parks in the township.

Anyone can certify their property through one or more of these programs. For information about each program, including the application to certify your own property, please visit the websites below:

- Audubon Society, for bird friendliness: pa.audubon.org/audubon-home
- Monarch Watch, for monarch waystations: monarchwatch.org/waystations
- Penn State, for pollinator friendliness: ento.psu.edu/pollinators/public-outreach/cert



James F. and a beekeeping class with the Monroe County Beekeepers Association



Gardening class



Pet University Dog Training



YOUR TOWNSHIP'S PARKS EVENTS AND CLASSES FOR 2019

Event dates may be subject to change, or may have a rain date to be announced later. All events are FREE to attend. Please check future newsletters, www.facebook.com/mstparksandrec

or contact theparksdepartmentat570-223-8920x119 or Parks&Recreation@mstownship.com for more information.

Parks & Litter Events, 2019		
Event dates are subject to change, or may have a rain date TBA		
EVENT	DATE & TIME	LOCATION
Dog Training: by Pet University	Sat. 8/10, 11am	W. Leroy Lewis Dog Park
Drying Herbs: by Penn State Master Gardeners, Monroe County	Sat. 9/21, 11am	MST Building
1000 Feet Litter Pickup	Sat. 9/28, 8am-12 noon	MST Building, et al.
Dog Training: by Pet University	Sat. 10/5, 11am	W. Leroy Lewis Dog Park
Garlic Planting: by Penn State Master Gardeners, Monroe County	Sat. 10/19, 11am	MST Building
6th Trunk or Treat	Sat. 10/26, 12 noon	Resica Park
Winter Flower Displays by Penn State Master Gardeners, Monroe County	Sat. 11/16, 11am	MST Building
7th Tree Lighting	Sat. 11/30, 6pm	Echo Lake Park

RIVER'S EDGE BIKE PARK NOW OPEN

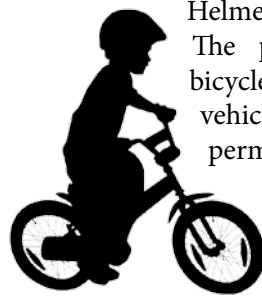
By Christopher Rain



River's Edge Family Bike Park is open for the season! Grab your bikes and head down to take a ride.

The park was previously closed for a period during spring and early summer due to drainage issues. The first part of mitigating this issue is now complete. Additional work may take place later this year, but the park has opened for riding in the meantime. The pump track is open daily from sun up to sun down, but should only be ridden in good weather.

Located on River Road in Smithfield Township, River's Edge features hills, berms, and bumps appropriate for all skill level bikers. Since opening in fall 2017, the bike park has drawn bikers from as far away as Philadelphia and Long Island because it is the largest pump track of its kind on the east coast.



Helmets are mandatory. The pump track is for bicycles only. No motorized vehicles of any kind are permitted on the track. Pets are allowed, but must be leashed at all times and may not be on the track. Please visit

the park to see a full list of the rules. River's Edge Park is located at 123 River Road, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301. The park is jointly owned and operated by Middle Smithfield and Smithfield Townships. For more information, please call 570-223-5082 for Smithfield Township or 570-223-8920 x119 for Middle Smithfield Township, or email riversedgefamilybikepark@gmail.com.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Director, Supervisor: Mike Dwyer
Public Works Department Administrator: Karen Stapleton |
kstapleton@mstownship.com | 570-223-8920 x118

SEWER

Joan Woisin | Sewer Department
Manager | jwoisin@mstownship.com
570-223-892 x115

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

By Michael Dwyer

Since the beginning of the year, our Public Works Department has spent a significant amount of time repairing/replacing bridges in our township. As of July 4th, the little bridge on Big Ridge Drive has been replaced. This bridge took a long time to complete due to the electrical lines that ran through the old bridge and had to be relocated by MetEd. Once the electric was removed/relocated, our crew completed the replacement in less than 4 weeks. While the overpass is still stone and gravel, it will be paved by the end of the Summer.

You may not have noticed but our crew also paved the parking areas and entrances at the Marshalls Creek Fire Department station off Creek Road. With the help of Price Township, Cory Willis Trucking, and efforts of Smithfield Township, the work was completed within the week of June 3rd.

Other projects being worked on by our crews include clearing at Echo Lake Park for the new Middle Smithfield Township Community Center, which will also house the Library of the Smithfields, small local museum, and Red Cross certified shelter capabilities.

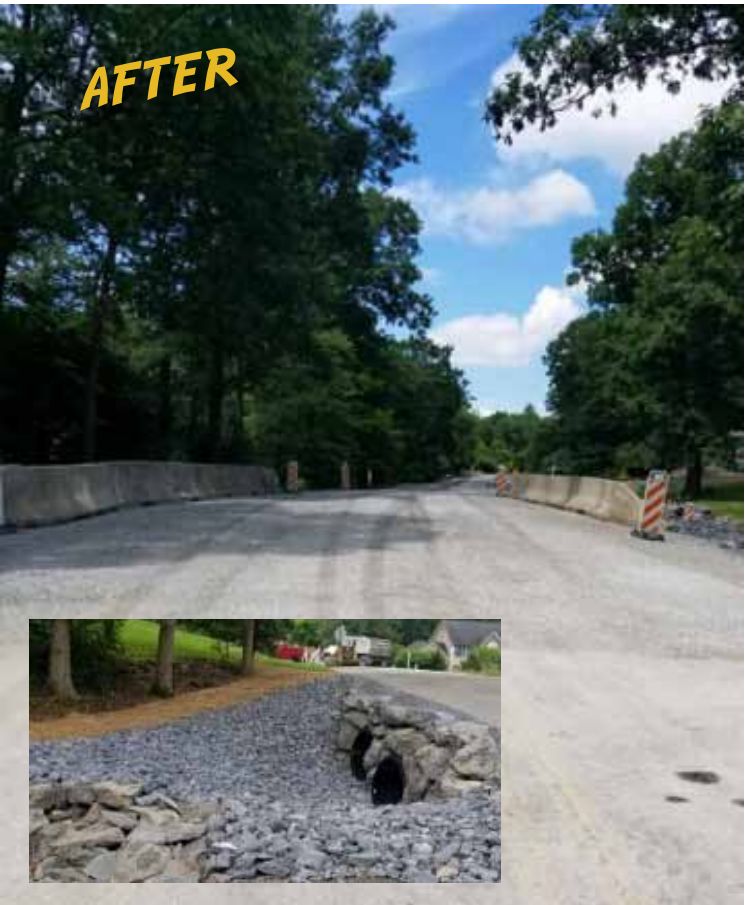
It is important to note, particularly since we have had tremendous amounts of rain this year, that culvert maintenance is important because an unmaintained culvert which is adjacent to a public roadway, driveway or neighboring properties can cause drainage problems, damage to roads, driveways and your neighbor's property. Culverts tend to fill with natural debris. Weeds, grass and other summer growth, as well as fallen leaves can quickly fill a culvert. **Homeowners are responsible for residential culvert maintenance and repair.**

Please don't forget to let PennDOT know how much you appreciate their well-maintained roads. Compliments for roads, such as Route 209, Route 402, and just about every other state road can be called in to 1-800-FIX-ROAD.



Middle Smithfield Township paved the Marshalls Creek Fire Department Lot.

BRIDGE REPLACEMENT ON BIG RIDGE DRIVE



2019 ROAD PROJECTS	
ROAD	ACTION for 2019
BIG RIDGE DRIVE (BRIDGE 2)	Bridge Replacement Nearly completed.
DENISE LANE	Pave
DISS WAY (i.e., the temporary access road to CCP / Big Ridge Drive)	Construct – in progress. Tree/Brush removal complete
FIRESTONE ROAD	Road Improvements (Dirt/Gravel Road Grant from DCNR)
FISH COURT	Pave
FREEMAN TRACT ROAD	Road Improvements (Dirt/Gravel Road Grant from DCNR)
FRUTCHEY DRIVE	Chip Seal
McCOLE ROAD	Chip Seal
OAK GROVE ROAD	Surface Treatment
PRIMROSE LANE	Pave (Bridge to Rt. 209)
TURKEY RIDGE ROAD	Pave (Winona Lake to Upper Lakeview)
VILLAGE DRIVE (BRIDGE)	Remove and Replace

RENT A PAVILION AT MST PARKS

Summer is here! That means getting outside, seeing family and friends, and having picnics. Need a great outdoor venue to host your summer party? Middle Smithfield has two great pavilions: One at Echo Lake Park and one at Resica Park. However, for everyone's safety, due to the construction of the new Community Center and Library of the Smithfields at Echo Lake Park, the pavilion at Echo Lake park will NOT be available to rent after Labor Day, 2019.

Each pavilion comes with picnic tables, grills, and is adjacent to a playground to keep the kids entertained. Electricity is available at Echo Lake Park only. Pavilion rentals require a rental form and cost \$50 plus a \$50 refundable deposit due at the time of booking. The deposit is refunded after your event and a successful site inspection by the township staff.

To rent a pavilion, call 570-223-8920 x119, or email Parks&Recreation@mstownship.com

SEWER UPDATE

2019 Capital Improvement Projects:

Rehabilitation of Pump Station 4 – Maple Lane
This project involves the replacement of the piping in the wet well and valve vault and new control panel. This project has been awarded to Blooming Glen Contractors with an estimated cost of \$135,499. This project is tentatively scheduled for August 2019.

Mt. Nebo Sewer Extension:
The Mt. Nebo Sewer Extension was awarded a grant in the amount of \$231,950. We are currently in the design phase for the Pump Station on Mt. Nebo to facilitate the connection of the Mt. Nebo Apts to the sewer system.

Sewer Crossover:
The Sewer Crossover bringing the sewer line to the North side of 209 for the Mt. Nebo Extension is complete. The cost was \$76,700.

Generators
A new more efficient generator for the Fernwood Plant will be installed as soon as the site prep work is complete. This will keep the plant operational during power outages and save our Public Works Department time and labor required to fuel the generator during these outages. Generators for the Pump Stations will be replaced as needed to make them more efficient over the next few years.

Sewer payments are net 30 days; the Billing Cycle is quarterly:

Quarter	Billing Date	Deadline to pay	\$25.00 Late Charge Applied
First Quarter	Jan 1 st	Feb 2 nd	March 3 rd
Second Quarter	April 1 st	May 2 nd	June 3 rd
Third Quarter	July 1	Aug 2 nd	Sep 3 rd
Fourth Quarter	Oct 1 st	Nov 2 nd	Dec 3 rd

MONROE COUNTY LITTER CONTROL PROGRAMS CONTINUE TO GROW

The Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau (PMVB) has announced expansions to their Pick Up the Poconos anti-litter campaign. Pick up the Poconos was started in 2018, and is based on MST’s own “1000 Feet of Street” litter pickup program.

PMVB announced two new initiatives designed to grow their program: the Multi County Anti-Litter Coalition and the Pocono Community Caring Company.

The Multi County Anti-Litter Coalition expand Pick Up the Poconos into Luzerne County and the Lehigh Valley. It will bring these areas on board and spread awareness in these regions. It will be supported by Keep PA Beautiful and DiscoverNEPA. The program will include anti-littering television messages in all three regions as well as adapting the existing anti-litter programing already in place in Monroe County. The program aims to:

- Make the environment clean and green for future generations
- Create a positive impression on visitors to the region, which puts more money into the local economy
- Reinforce the concept that “tourism cares” and that it gives back to the community
- Produce a higher sense of pride in the community

The Pocono Community Caring Company (Pocono 3C) is a collaboration between the PMVB, United Way, Street2Feet, and the Monroe County Waste Authority. The program will give persons who are homeless, or in danger of becoming homeless, a job and case work to get them back on their feet. This provides them with an income by collecting litter, as well as experience to build a resume, lunch on their work days, and case management.

- Street2Feet will be choosing the future employees, providing the case work, and will become their employees’ direct employer.
- Pocono Mountains United Way will handle the disbursement of funds and preparation of financial services.
- Monroe County Waste Authority will be the entity providing transportation to the employees to and from each work location, supervising employees while on the job by using a Waste Authority Police Officer.
- The PMVB will be funding and publicizing the project.



PICK OF THE LITTER:
Highlighting the Road Adopters in MST

By Christopher Rain

This quarter’s Pick of the Litter is Phoenix Martial Arts Society, a local organization that adopts Echo Lake Park.



Phoenix Martial Arts Society is a non-profit martial arts education program founded by David and Dawn Paskiet and is governed by a nine member board of trustees. Their mission is to provide the opportunity to experience/ receive the benefits of martial arts training to all members of the community regardless of economic status or ability. David Paskiet was MST’s 2018 Person of the Year recipient for his work with PMAS.

PMAS currently has 32 students, including children and adults, and three volunteer instructors. Twelve of these students and instructors assembled on June 1 to clean up Echo Lake Park, and they plan to do additional litter cleanups at the park during the summer.

PMAS strongly believes in the power of community. Providing students and their families the chance to volunteer their time, serve their community, and help their neighbors encourages everyone to become the kind of productive, contributing members of society that PMAS hopes to create.

“PMAS is proud to be part of Middle Smithfield Township and are grateful and proud to be able to do our part to keep our town and community the great place that is to live, learn, work, and play,” says Paskiet.

MST thanks Phoenix Martial Arts Society for their contributions to our community and for keeping Echo Lake Park, and our township, a clean, healthy place.



JOIN THE MST ADOPT A ROAD PROGRAM

By Christopher Rain

The MST Adopt a Road Program organizes our residents, businesses, and organizations who want to keep our streets litter-free. Individuals or groups can adopt a road and pledge to pick up litter along their stretch at least twice a year. These cleanups can coincide with our twice yearly litter program, 1000 Feet of Street, or at any time at the adopter’s convenience. Your road is marked with a sign to let your neighbors know that you are helping to keep MST pretty. Thank you to our many residents who adopt roads in MST, who, in total, have adopted 47 roads for a total of 40 miles! That’s 53% of our township’s roads!

If you are interested in adopting a road, please contact Christopher Rain at 570-223-8920 x119, or email crain@mstownship.com. A list of roads available for adoption can be provided. All cleanup equipment including bags, pickers, and gloves, are provided by the township when you clean your road. Adopt a road today and add your name to the list!

NEWLY ADOPTED ROADS

- Pocono Café Latin Cuisine & Colombian Bakery – Dancing Ridge Road
- John Melair – Community Drive
- Int’l Child Abuse Prevention Task Force – Upper Lakeview Dr, Turkey Ridge to Lower Lakeview
- River Road – Integra Home Counseling, Inc.
- Mt. Nebo Road & Pardees Loop – Chahlie’s Angels

OAK GROVE & RECYCLING

www.ogmmcpb.com
Chairperson | Mike Dwyer

The Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Processing program is jointly operated and available to residents of Middle Smithfield, Smithfield and Lehman Townships, located at 3305 Oak Grove Drive (Oak Grove intersects with Milford Road/Route 209 by PriceChopper) in Middle Smithfield Township. Hours: Monday – Saturday, 7am-2pm. Closed Holidays.

To use the facility you must be a resident of one of the participating townships or a commercial business (via permit only) located in the townships. Acceptable materials include leaves, shrubs (no roots) and shrubbery, tree trimmings, and branches cut into 3-4 foot lengths and no larger than 12 inches in diameter.

Self-serve products and materials offered at the facility are free mulch and compost (pending availability), and you must load the materials yourself. If loading assistance is needed an appointment must be made in advance and the fee is \$10 for each 3 yards.

To make an appointment, purchase a commercial permit, or have any questions, please contact kstapleton@mstownship.com or call 570-223-8920X118.

Product Received	Brush Yards	Chips Yards	Leaves Yards	Total Yards
January	280	28	76	384
February	12	-	-	396
March	752	-	-	1148
April	1481	164	702	2347
May	804	-	211	1015

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Funded entirely by donations, not taxes



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT! SUBSCRIBE AND \$AVE

It's subscription time for Bushkill Emergency Corps. Subscription year 2019/20. Visit <https://bushkillemergencycorps.com/subscriptions> for more information. Bushkill Emergency Corps, P O Box 824515, Philadelphia, PA 19182-4515

- Subscription cost: \$70.00
- Subscription term: July 1 through June 30 of each year.

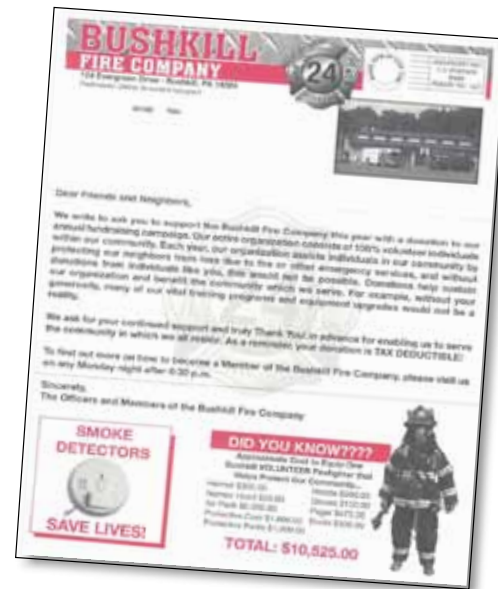
Subscription Summary

1. Subscription will apply to all calls deemed medically necessary.
2. Emergency transport is per Bushkill Emergency Corps policy.
3. Insurance will be billed for 911 calls first and any co-pays, deductibles and co-insurances that you are responsible for will receive a write-off of up to \$500 per call.
4. For any transport not deemed medically necessary, a discount will be applied to the billing balance.*
5. Services are based on crew and vehicle availability. Subscriptions are honored through mutual aid agreement partners. Subscription valid if full amount is enclosed.

*A medical necessity is defined by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid service guidelines.

A WORD FROM BUSHKILL FIRE COMPANY

Our donation letter is out! If you live in Lehman Township or the Bushkill portion of Middle Smithfield Township, please watch out for our donation letter in the mail. This is one of our primary sources of income, so please do consider donating. If you don't get one by next week, June 14th, we want to know! Call our station and leave a message at 570-588-6033. Share this with your friends and family. If you don't live in the area but support what we do, feel free to donate as well. Thanks to everyone who will donate or has donated in the past, we need you and appreciate you.



55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARSHALLS CREEK EXPLOSION

by Holly Freese

On Wednesday, June 26th the Marshalls Creek Fire Company commemorated the 55th anniversary of the Marshalls Creek Explosion.

Just before dawn on June 26, 1964 a truck travelling north on Milford Road, that was carrying the oxidizing ingredient in fertilizer, blew two tires and proceeded to catch fire. When a passing driver noticed the smoke they used a nearby payphone to call the Marshalls Creek Fire Company.

The fire company arrived shortly after 4 am and moments after their arrival the truck exploded killing three volunteer fire fighters and three bystanders. Ten others were injured and the explosion cost close to a million dollars in damage.

The three fire fighters killed in the blast were Earl Miller, 50, Leonard Mosier, 38, and Edward Hines, 42.

Bystanders killed were John Regina, a 23-year-old local resident, Joseph Horvath, a truck driver from Scranton, and Lillian Paesch from Baltimore Hazmat.

The truck was not marked and fire fighters who arrived to the scene were unaware that it was carrying explosives.

Afterwards the Marshalls Creek Explosion became a textbook example of the dangers of hazardous materials on the roadway.

After the explosion more than a dozen local fire chiefs petitioned state and local representatives to have precautions in place to protect volunteers. As stated in the Hazardous Materials Chemistry for Emergency Responders the explosion "led to the implementation of the DOT placarding and labeling system and the development on the ERG (Emergency Response Guidebook)."

In 2014 for the 50th Anniversary of the explosion the Marshalls Creek Fire Company built a memorial to honor the members who lost their lives. A dedication ceremony was also held and was attended by your township supervisors, and local fire companies from around the area, as well as locals who vowed to never forget the tragedy.

The public can visit the memorial located at the Marshalls Creek Fire House located at Marshalls Creek Road and Resica Falls Rd.

Bushkill Emergency Corps (Ambulance)
(570) 223-1906, [BushkillEmergencyCorps.com](https://www.facebook.com/BushkillEmergencyCorps)
Captain - Bill Duffy (elect)

Marshalls Creek Fire Company
(570) 223-8445, [facebook.com/MarshallsCreekFireCO](https://www.facebook.com/MarshallsCreekFireCO)
Fire Chief - Joe Luisi, Jr

FIND FIRE & EMS ONLINE!

Marshalls Creek Fire Co.
(570) 223-8445
112 Marshalls Creek Road
East Stroudsburg, PA 18302
Facebook: @MarshallsCreekFireCo

Shawnee Fire Co.
(570) 476-0736
102 Firehouse Lane
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
Facebook: @ShawneeFireCo36
Website: [ShawneeFire.org/](https://www.shawneefire.org/)

Bushkill Volunteer Fire Co.
(570)588-6033
124 Evergreen Drive
Bushkill PA 18324
Facebook: [facebook.com/Bushkill-Volunteer-Fire-Company-1643189702644270/](https://www.facebook.com/Bushkill-Volunteer-Fire-Company-1643189702644270/)

Bushkill Emergency Corps
570-223-1906
P.O. Box 174
Bushkill, PA 18324
office@BushkillEmergencyCorps.com
[facebook.com/BushkillEmergencyCorps/](https://www.facebook.com/BushkillEmergencyCorps/)

textCaster

BE IN THE KNOW

2018: Two blizzards, a tornado and multiple power outages that lasted for days. Were you in the dark about the relief offered by Middle Smithfield Township? Receive Textcasts to your phone and/or email for important emergency and relief information. Free water, free ice, warming and charging stations, hot showers – and information. Be in the know!

Visit:
[MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com/mst-text-alerts](https://www.MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com/mst-text-alerts) to sign up!

GOLF

COUNTRY CLUB OF THE POCONOS

Chairman: Ray White | **Vice Chair:** Craig Weatherbee
Secretary: Mike Sweeney | **Members:** John Smith, Mike Yesunas
Member and Pro Shop Manager: Kevin Dixon | 570-223-8099
Golf Committee Liaison: Holly Freese | 570-223-8920 x132



BANQUET HALL AT WHISPERING PINES

Banquet Hall Liaison: Christopher Rain
570-223-892 x119

RAINY SEASON AT CCP

Great for ducks, but not birdies or eagles

by Kevin Dixon, Pro Shop Manager

Country Club of the Poconos Municipal Golf Course opened for the season on April 5, 2019 and was off to a good start for the month of April and continued into May. The weather, however, has affected our summer start this season. The record amount of rain we have received is definitely not Par for the course. In addition to the weather not cooperating, some greens challenges have hampered play. We are looking forward to a drier fall and remedied course conditions as the season progresses.

Despite the weather our Monday Night League and our Friday Night Scrambles continue to grow tremendously. Mady's Angels had their most successful golf outing to date on May 15th. It was a pleasure working with Laura, past Person of the Year, MJ and their staff of volunteers to raise money to help local charities.

Speaking of Person of the Year, Francis Oquendo, 2018 Person of the Year finalist, had his first every Boy Scout Golf Outing Fundraiser at Country Club of the Poconos. You can read more about it on page 21.

Coyotes at Country Club of the Poconos, captures by resident Neil Boushell of the Pocono Photo Club. He says most of his coyote photos are from the 17th green; some are from between 14 and 15.



The Milford Masonic Lodge had a great outing on June 15, and we look forward to working with them again next year.

Country Club of the Poconos is always willing to help raise money for local charities! If you would like to raise money for your organization, give us a call at 570-223-8099!

Upcoming Charity Golf Tournaments:

September 7th- Wounded Warrior Golf Outing & Banquet

September 28th- Marshalls Creek Fire Company Golf Tournament & Banquet



Rich Schuon with daughter Jessica. Rich's son Joe Schuon, a Scout who became Eagle Scout, was the photographer for the day. Joe's Eagle Scout project was the Veteran's Memorial in Echo Lake Park.



Left to right: Rich Schuon, Outdoor Activity Chair for Troop 87; Scoutmaster Luis Santiago, Troop 87; Supervisor Mark Oney, and Pro-Shop Manager Kevin Dixon.



Boy Scout Troop 87 Golf Outing at Country Club of the Poconos

by Holly Freese

Boy Scout Troop 87 held their first ever 10-hole golf outing at Country Club of the Poconos Municipal Golf Course on Sunday, June 9th.

The scramble had about 30 golfers and also featured a silent auction and a dinner that non-golfers could participate in.

Silent Auction prizes included:

- Thai Orchid Thai Cuisine gift card for \$25.00
- Scout Families Gift Baskets
- Shawnee Mountain Garlic Festival tickets
- Camelback Mountain Coaster ride tickets
- Family YMCA Family 3 month membership
- Kalahari Water Park tickets
- DJ Services for one event from DJ Sounds

Other prizes were also given during the golf outing for the golfers.

Proceeds from the golf outing, silent auction and dinner will go towards summer trips and camping in 2019.

Troop 87 follows a traditional Boy Scout program. Most of the Scouts come from Lehman, Middle Smithfield, and Smithfield Townships in the East Stroudsburg area and are a member of the Minsi Trail's Council, Pocono District.

Rank advancement and program development in Troop 87 are completely Boy Scout driven. 90% of the Scouts that stay with the troop have become Eagle Scouts. The troop also strongly believe in community service and participate each year in various local events such as: Scouting for Food, Veterans and Fourth of July parades, Veterans flag replacement at local cemeteries, Lehman Haunted Park and local road cleanup events.

Since opening its doors in 2000, Troop 87 has had the honor of achieving 23 Eagle Scouts among its ranks who along with other Scouts have given 1000's of hours of community service.



BANQUET HALL DATES STILL AVAILABLE FOR 2019:

The beautiful Whispering Pines banquet hall is still taking reservations for all your golf outing, charitable, or private party needs in 2019!

Our dining room area is comprised of two rooms separated by a majestic floor to ceiling stone fireplace, providing flexibility for your event. The larger room includes a dance floor and seating for up to 150. The smaller room is perfect as a breakout room or smaller dinner needs with seating for up to 30. Each room is equipped with a TV for your audio/visual needs. A completely equipped commercial kitchen includes china place settings, silverware and glassware for your use. The bar area can seat 26 and is ready to supply your favorite beverage.

Please call Chris Rain at 570-223-8920 x119 or email crain@mstownship.com for availability and costs. Non-profit organizations may receive a discounted price or qualify to have the fees waived. Let us help you make your next event special.

Upcoming Community and Charity Events, 2019

Wounded Warrior Golf Tournament, Sat 9/7

Marshalls Creek Fire Company Golf Outing and Banquet, Sat. 9/28

RISE Fundraiser, Sat 10/12

Veterans Day Luncheon, Sun 11/10

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Chairperson: Carrie Wetherbee | **Vice Chairperson:** Robert Huffman
Secretary: Patricia Francis | **Member:** Charisse Fallon | **Member:** Ken Johns
Historical Commission Liaison: Michaela Kennedy | recept@mstownship.com
570-223-8920 ext.100



THE FLOOD OF 1955

By Michaela Kennedy

The week of August 10, 1955, Middle Smithfield and the surrounding areas would see one of the most devastating natural disasters of its time. Earlier in the week Hurricane Connie rolled through and brought about some welcomed rain; it had been a dry summer up until that point. A few days later, though, Hurricane Diane swept through and the waterways hit their breaking points. The Delaware River, Bushkill Creek, and many other waterways overflowed with the rain of Diane and water rushed through the towns. When all was said and done, approximately twenty five inches of rain fell that week. The water washed out homes and businesses, covered roads and railways, and destroyed infrastructure for miles. Throughout Monroe County twenty bridges were destroyed, including

what is now the interborough bridge connecting Stroudsburg and East Stroudsburg.

One woman, Helen Brown, traveled through the flood to help people evacuate. She remembered having a big problem with sewer rats, recounting some that were the size of small cats. Because of the flood, seventy five people lost their lives, although some reports claim the toll was much higher. It took a long time to clean up after the water receded, and over 2,000 homes and 350 businesses had been damaged.

Now, the Flood of '55 acts as a local benchmark for storms and flooding; no storms have caused quite as much flooding in our area since Connie and Diane.



MEMORY MAKERS: Your Class Reunion is Just Around the Corner!

By Michaela Kennedy

That's right, the 15th annual Memory Makers luncheon is approaching! It will be held on Saturday, August 17th from 12-4pm, at the Whispering Pines Banquet Hall in the Country Club of the Poconos.

The theme this year will be "Middle Smithfield School Reunion!" We will be exploring our photo archives, identifying students from the 50's through the 70's that attended Middle Smithfield School, and reliving the memories of some of Middle Smithfield's brightest students.

We have a great lineup of guest speakers who attended Middle Smithfield School, including Gene Dickison from "More than Money!", and State Representative Rosemary Brown.

Residents who have lived in the township for thirty years or more, or who are at least sixty years old and have lived in Middle Smithfield Township for twenty years or more, are invited. To RSVP, call Michaela at 570-223-8902 ext. 100. Seats are limited!



Middle Smithfield Historical Commission Vice Chairperson Bob Huffman, a former Marshalls Creek firefighter, visited the Marshalls Creek Fire Company Memorial in remembrance of the Marshalls Creek Explosion of 1964. Read more about the explosion on page 19.

MCHA THIRD THURSDAY LECTURE: "Historical Formation of the Latino Community in the Poconos"

On September 19 from 7pm to 9pm, the Monroe County Historical Association is pleased to present its Third Thursday Lecture Series about the 'Historical Formation of the Latino Community in the Poconos.' Dr. Anthony Stevens-Arroyo will share the history and growth of the Latino community in the Poconos. Items of interest such as event programs, family photographs and newspaper reports will be on display. The Third Thursday Lecture Series is free, but reservations are required due to limited space. Light refreshments will be served. The presentation will be held on the second floor of the historic Stroud Mansion, which is not handicap-accessible. For additional information or to make a reservation, please contact the Monroe County Historical Association office at 570-421-7703 or email info@monroehistorical.org.

IDENTIFY OUR PHOTOS!

Did you attend Middle Smithfield School from 1950 through 1980? If so, you may be in our pictures! We had boxes upon boxes of slides donated by Velma Knight and Wesley Rusk. These pictures were taken by the late Mr. Wallingford, a teacher at MSS. If you'd like to look through our archives and possibly spot yourself in one of the pictures, visit facebook.com/MSTHISTORY and take a scroll through our Middle Smithfield Elementary School Photo Archives! No computer? No problem! Just stop in and Michaela Kennedy will help you.



RAISE YOUR GLASS AND SUPPORT THE PAST

The Monroe County Historical Association will host a three-course wine-pairing dinner and auction fundraiser on Thursday, September 5, 2019, from 6 to 9 p.m. The 5th annual "Raise your Glass & Support the Past" event will be held at The Lodge at Mountain Springs Lake in Reeders, Pa. Wine will complement each course. The evening begins at 6 p.m. with butlered hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar, while a silent auction of high-quality items is open for bidding. A live auction of additional valuable items by Hartzell's Auction Gallery will follow dinner. All proceeds benefit the Monroe County Historical Association; a portion of the funds raised will be used to assist with the preservation of the organization's museum and library collections. For additional information, call the Monroe County Historical Association at 570-421-7703.



SUMMER CRAFT FESTIVAL AT QUIET VALLEY LIVING HISTORICAL FARM

By Michaela Kennedy

Quiet Valley partners with the Pocono Art Council and Pocono Chapter of the PA Guild of Craftsmen for this event on Saturday & Sunday August 24 & 25, 2019. This is a great weekend to shop for fine art and crafts, watch demonstrations of various crafts, and enjoy live music.

Historic buildings will be open for viewing, but no regular tours will take place these two days. There will be wagon rides for a small fee, weather permitting, as well as a bake goods and bread sale. While you are there visit the one room school. The event takes place from 10:00am to 5:00pm both days. For more information call 570-476-4460 or visit quietvalley.org



Mosier's Dairy Farm barn (opposite page), the farmhouse (above), and sign from their longtime store & deli located on Rt 209/Seven Bridges Road in Smithfield Township for many years.



The Monroe County Commissioners have graciously agreed to designate Saturday, August 17th, as Monroe County Meals on Wheels Day.

We are looking for local businesses who would be interested in helping us fundraise on that day. It can be as simple as putting our donation canister by your register.....or we can work with you to design an in-house fundraiser that requires minimal effort and cost to you.

All participating businesses will be recognized on our website and on our social media pages. You will also receive a MCMOW Day window cling to display in your window.

If you are interested in participating please contact, Stacey Koeck – skoeck@monroemeals.org or 670-424-8794.

MOSIER’S DAIRY FARM: AN AREA ICON REINCARNATED

If you’ve lived in the area anytime from the mid 1960’s to the mid 2000’s, then you remember Mosier’s Dairy Farm, and their famous chocolate milk.

Mosier’s Dairy Farm: Past

Mosier’s Dairy Farm was located near the intersection of 447 and 209 (Seven Bridges Road) in Smithfield Township. The dairy was started on Friday the 13th, October of 1965, by Milton and Dorothy Mosier. At the peak of the dairy’s production in the 1980’s, 126 cows produced over 575 gallons of milk a day.* In an era before Mr. Z’s, the farm would also sell potatoes -- in 50 lb sacks at a time.

But, the history of Mosier’s Dairy goes back far. Home to 7 generations of the Mosier family, the carving in front of the farmhouse bears the date 1873. The barn was originally built in the mid 1800’s.

Photos and captions of Mosier’s Dairy Farm can be found in local author Marie Summa’s books. A past member of the Middle Smithfield Historical Commission, Marie reports in her book “Eastern Poconos: Delaware Water

Gap to Bushkill”, that “the farm was a favored spot for many years to take schoolchildren on field trips.” This foreshadows the current theme of Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm, where Milt Mosier now works: “The farm is the heart of our community.” You can look for more articles regarding local history of Mosier’s Dairy Farm’s past in upcoming newsletters. You can also keep track of Mosier’s Dairy Farm’s future in upcoming newsletters as well!



Mosier’s Dairy Farm: Future

Karl Moeller of Moeller’s Construction has deconstructed Mosier’s Dairy Farm, where elements such as sleeper logs, louvers, hand-hewn timbers, and the like will be re-purposed and incorporated into the Middle Smithfield Community Center and the Library of the Smithfields. Stay tuned for more!

**How did we calculate this? Because Milt Mosier remembers having to wash exactly 2,310 half gallon milk bottles every other day.*



Bloom where you are planted; thrive where you are transplanted.” Middle Smithfield Township intern Elijah Brown digs up “Grammie’s peonies” and other flowers from the farmhouse garden at Mosier’s Dairy Farm. They, and other transplants, will be part of a garden at the new Community & Cultural Center and Library of the Smithfields.

THE SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) ensures that low-income children can continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. Meals are served free to any child 18 and younger, as well as persons with disabilities who are already participating in associated school programs, at any of the “OPEN” sites. A few sites require registration. All sites closed July 4th.

You can help fight the Summer Meal Gap by volunteering to help transport meals, serve meals, and supervise sites. If you are interested, visit VolunteerMonroe.org to sign up today. Check PoconoHunger.org for the most up-to-date information on locations, hours, and eligibility.

Location	Dates	Meals	Eligibility
East Stroudsburg Area School District			
J.M. Hill Elementary 151 East Broad Street East Stroudsburg, PA 18301	Jun 19 - Aug 9	Breakfast – 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Lunch – 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM M, T, W, TH, F	OPEN SITE
East Stroudsburg Elementary 93 Independence Road East Stroudsburg, PA 18301	Jul 1 - Aug 8	Breakfast – 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Lunch – 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM M, T, W, TH	OPEN SITE
Middle Smithfield Elementary 5180 Milford Road East Stroudsburg, PA 18301	Jul 1 - Aug 8	Breakfast – 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Lunch – 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM M, T, W, TH	OPEN SITE
Smithfield Elementary 245 River Road East Stroudsburg, PA 18301	Jun 18 - Aug 16	Breakfast – 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Lunch – 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM M, T, W, TH, F	OPEN SITE
Bushkill Elementary 131 North School Drive Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328	Jul 1 - Aug 16	Breakfast – 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Lunch – 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM M, T, W, TH, F	OPEN SITE
Resica Elementary 1 Gravel Ridge Road East Stroudsburg, PA 18302	Jul 1 - Aug 8	Breakfast – 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Lunch – 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM M, T, W, TH	OPEN SITE
East Stroudsburg High School South 279 Courtland Street East Stroudsburg, PA 18301	Jul 29 - Aug 16	Breakfast – 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Lunch – 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM M, T, W, TH, F	OPEN SITE
Dansbury Park 15 Day Street East Stroudsburg, PA 18301	Jun 10 - Aug 16	Breakfast – 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Lunch – 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM M, T, W, TH, F	OPEN SITE



DAVID PASKIET
2018 PERSON OF THE YEAR
Phoenix Martial Arts Society



PHOENIX MARTIAL ARTS SOCIETY: CAMP SEEKS SPONSORSHIPS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

By David Paskiet, 2018 Person of the Year

Our camp is at Stony Acres Lodge off Marshalls Creek Road and runs from July 12- July 14. This camp gives the best in martial arts training to all the students. We bring in instructors from many disciplines in order to make this a truly great learning experience. There is also social time where the students get to spend time with each other and really get to know each other.

The flyer can be found at <https://phoenixmartialartssociety.com/PDF/CampRegistration2019.pdf>.

We are looking for sponsors and donors to not only help keep this program alive but to also ensure that ALL of our students get to go to camp. For many, this may be the only 'vacation' they get.

6th ANNUAL
Wheels For Meals
CAR SHOW
SAT. JULY 27, 2019 9AM-3PM | RAIN DATE JULY 28, 2019
INSIDE THE GATES AT THE
WEST END FAIR GROUNDS - RT. 209 GILBERT, PA
DASH PLAQUE & GOODY BAGS (TO FIRST 100 CARS) • FOOD • DRINKS • AWARDS • DOOR PRIZES
TRICKY TRAYS • ENTERTAINMENT BY: TAMMY G. • JUDGING BY MEALS ON WHEELS
ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS SHOW TO BENEFIT THE
**MEALS ON WHEELS ORGANIZATIONS OF
NORTHAMPTON AND MONROE COUNTIES**
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: DAVE BROWN AT 570-424-5329 or DAVEFLOBBROWN@VERIZON.NET



THOMAS WATSON
2018 PERSON OF THE YEAR FINALIST
Meals on Wheels



MEALS ON WHEELS SUMMER EVENTS

By Tom Watson, 2018 Person of the year Finalist

1. Summer Choral Concert –

Wednesday, July 24th – 7:30PM

This event is being held at the Stroudsburg United Methodist Church, 547 Main St. It is presented by the Pocono Summer Chorus. The concert features folk songs, pop, sacred, secular, classical and Broadway selections. Admission is free. Donations will be accepted by Monroe County Meals Wheels.

2. Wheels for Meals Car Show –

Saturday, July 27th – 9am-3pm

This event is being held at the West End Fairgrounds, Rt. 209 Gilbert. It is presented by the Monroe County Cruisers, Trolley Shops Cruisers, Hi-Winders, Pocono Area Corvette Club, & Easton Area Corvette Club. All proceeds from this show go to Monroe County Meals on Wheels and Meals on Wheels of Greater Lehigh Valley. Admission is free for the public. There will also be food, music, and a Tricky Tray. It is \$15 to preregister a car, \$20 the day of show. To register a car please contact Dave Brown, 570-424-5329 or daveflobrown@verizon.net

3. Monroe County Meals on Wheels Day –

Saturday, August 17th

This event is being held at businesses throughout Monroe County. The County Commissioners have designated this day as Monroe County Meals on Wheels Day. Businesses across the county will be holding in-house fundraisers to benefit Monroe County Meals on Wheels. For a list of participating businesses, please go to www.monroemeals.org and click on the Monroe County Meals on Wheels Day logo.

If you are a local business owner and are interested in participating, please contact Stacey Koeck, skoeck@monroemeals.org or 570-424-8794.



FRANCIS OQUENDO
2018 PERSON OF THE YEAR FINALIST
Boy Scouts



TROOP 87: SCOUTING SUMMER EVENTS

By Doreen Santiago, Troop 87 Chair

Troop 87 of Bushkill Currently has two Eagle Scout Candidates, Brandon Larregui and Matthew Pavlovsky, who currently are working on their projects in Echo Lake Park. They are each working on an exercise station situated on the perimeter of the park.

On June 22nd, Troop 87 participated in a Historical Bethlehem hike covering 15 miles. They covered a lot of ground toward a 50 Mile challenge to be done by the end of 30 days. At the same time, it will be rewarding and educational.

The Troop supported the local Township, our sponsors, by marching in the local 4th of July Independence Day Parade in Bushkill which started at the Lehman



Township Municipal Building and ended at the Newman Smith American Legion Post 514 located at 2334 Milford Rd.

In July, Troop 87 attended Boy Scout Summer Camp at Trexler Scout Reservation in Jonas, PA from July 14th through 7/20th. There, the scouts worked on Eagle required Merit badges such as Citizenship of the Nation and World as well as other things like Nuclear Science and Fingerprinting.

In the fall, Troop 87 will be hosting its Third Annual Fall Canoe Camporee the weekend of September 20th. The Troop is hosting the event for the entire Pocono District and can usually average close to 100 canoers and campers. It is a memorable event and lots of fun and had been very successful and well attended.

The 3rd Annual Canoe Fall Camporee hosted by Troop 87 of Bushkill is the weekend of September 20th.



BE A FRIENDLY VISITOR!

By Merle Turitz, Director, Monroe County RSVP program

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Monroe County (RSVP) is the largest organized volunteer program for adults age 55 and over. RSVP provides meaningful and challenging

opportunities to use your skills and talents to help other non-profit organizations and the populations they serve. Many of the people we serve are seniors who are homebound and isolated.

At this time we have about twenty clients that are in need of either Grocery Shopping services or Friendly Visitors. The time involved may only be an hour or so each week, but the impact of those few minutes are tremendous. The ultimate purpose of these tasks is to try and keep capable seniors safe and independent in their own homes, where they feel most comfortable and can enjoy a better

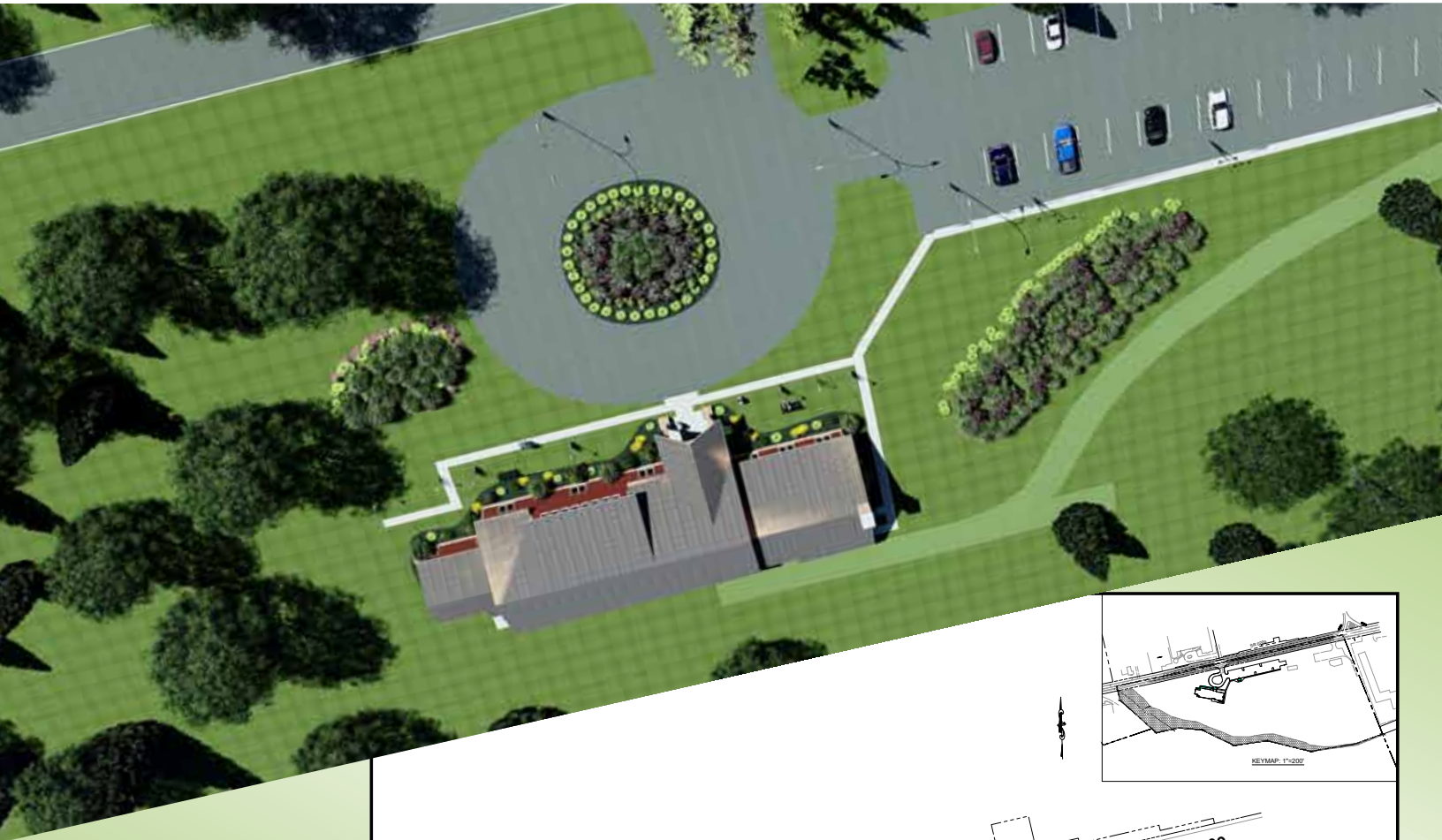
quality of life than being in a facility. Sometimes, just a little help can enable a senior to live at home. All our volunteers are required to pass the PA State Criminal Clearance, giving the clients we serve, complete peace of mind. If you believe that that extra hour or two that you have can be put to use helping others in the county, please consider contacting the RSVP Office and say, "I'd like to help!"

The RSVP office is located in Stroudsburg. Please call 570-420-3747 any weekday. We're ready to welcome you to the world of volunteering.

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