



MIDDLE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWS

SPRING 2017



Photo: Mother Goose and Goslings in the pond at the Big A Grillhouse; photo by Bruce Brandli, owner, chef, and photographer! A member of the Pocono Photo Club, Bruce's stunning wildlife photos are on display both at his restaurant and the photo exhibit. Bruce is also participating in the Restaurant Week kickoff.

RESTAURANT WEEK 2017 AND POCONO PHOTO CLUB EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION

From Saturday, April 29th through Sunday, May 7th, local residents, neighbors and visitors alike will enjoy discounted menus from participating restaurants in the Middle Smithfield Township area.

There's something for every palate, and the kickoff event is an opportunity to try signature dishes or dining deals for Restaurant Week, paired with a wine sample from the Blue Ridge Winery, who will also conduct a wine tasting.

FREE FOOD SAMPLES AND WINE PAIRING*! PHOTO EXHIBIT

Sample some of the great menu items you can during the Restaurant Week kickoff at the Whispering Pines on Sunday, April 30th, 6:30-8:30pm.

The Pocono Photo Club is again exhibiting their work at the Whispering Pines. Last year's event drew a crowd of 200, so come early! Enjoy a night of talented photography, live music, and fine wine from Blue Ridge Winery and fine food from our participating restaurants.

*Must be 21 years or older to participate



Middle Smithfield Township
mstEatLocal.com

**RESTAURANT WEEK:
SATURDAY APRIL 30TH -
SUNDAY MAY 7TH**

MIDDLE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWS

WHAT'S GOIN ON

APRIL 1 Homeowners Association Networking Meeting
APRIL 7 Golf Course Opens (weather permitting)
APRIL 8 10th Annual Eggstravaganza
APRIL 24 Bushkill Outreach Tricky Tray
APRIL 24 Leaf Collection Begins (until 5/19)
APRIL 29 Litter Cleanup "1,000 Feet of Street" at a time
APRIL 29 Eat Local – Restaurant Week until 5/7
MAY 5 - 6 Clean up and Freecycle
MAY 11 - 13 Freecycle
MAY 16 Primary Election
JULY 13 MID YEAR REPORT
AUGUST 12 Vets Summer Fest
AUGUST 19 Memory Makers
SEPT 9 Homeowners Association Networking Meeting
SEPT 30 Litter Cleanup "1,000 Feet of Street" at a time
OCT 11 Fossil Day: Marshall's Creek Mastodon
OCT 13 - 14 Clean up and Freecycle
OCT 19 - 21 Freecycle
OCT 21 4th Annual Trunk or Treat
OCT 23 Fall Leaf Pickup Begins through 11/10
NOV 7 Election Day
NOV 17 Person of the Year & Volunteer Banquet
NOV 20 Shop Local Discount Cards available
NOV 25 5th annual Tree Lighting
DEC 7 Presentation of the 2018 Budget to the Public
DEC 16 Wreaths Across America

COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Parks & Recreation Board

6:30pm | 1st Monday of Every Month

Golf Course Committee

8:30am | 2nd Monday of Every Month

Economic Development Committee

6:30pm | 2nd Monday of Every Month

Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Composting Board

Call for Schedule

Regional Parks at Smithfield Township

7:45pm | 3rd Monday of Every Month

Historical Commission

9am | 1st Wednesday of Every Month

Board of Supervisors Meeting

7pm | 2nd & 4th Thursday of Every Month

Planning Commission

5:30pm | 3rd Thursday of Every Month

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2016 PERSON OF THE YEAR UPDATE: WHAT THEY ARE UP TO

KATE NEWMAN, 2016 PERSON OF THE YEAR

BUSHKILL OUTREACH

Tricky Tray held Monday night, April 24th at the Whispering Pines Banquet Hall.

The gardeners at the MST Community Gardens Park are always growing good things (organically, of course) for the Bushkill Outreach Food pantry through the "Grow a Row" program.

Find out more about how you can help! (on pages 15)



ALBERT COMPOLY JR., FINALIST

OPERATION CHILLOUT

Join Operation Chillout on Saturday, August 12th from 11 am- 8 pm at Vasa Park in Budd Lake, NJ for the Vets Summer Fest, a Homeless Vets FUNraiser. The event is open to the public and donations will be accepted for entry, proceeds will benefit Operation Chillout.

More information at www.VetsSummerFest.org (on pages 15)

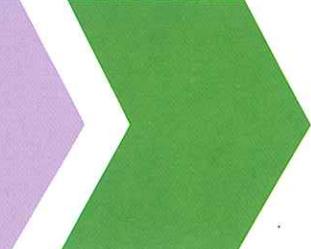


ANDREW ZASO, FINALIST

MADY'S KITCHEN

If there's a Community Dinner somewhere – you can almost always find Andy Zaso behind it. What's he cooking up for 2017? Besides the monthly Mady's Kitchen Dinner the last Sunday of every month, this year, Al is putting together a Veteran's Dinner. (on pages 15)





A WORD FROM YOUR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

Mike Dwyer, Mark Oney, and Annette Atkinson

Spring is here, and after Stella, couldn't be more welcome. Coolbaugh Road (which seems to have its own weather system, along with the Wooddale area) has even welcomed Spring, evidenced by the flurry of activity in the Community Gardens Park on Coolbaugh Drive as the bees prepare their hives, and gardeners plant their beds with everything from fruits to flowers, from bees to blooms. (there's still time to reserve a raised bed, just give a call!)

Speaking of blooms, there's one bloom we hate to see; with the melting of the snow, roadside litter is revealed. Please join all of your Township Supervisors on Saturday, April 29th as we clean up our roads, "1,000 Feet of Street" at a time. Just give a call, or show up Saturday morning – whether you have 30 minutes or 3 hours to help, it's all good and greatly appreciated.

After that, you should have worked up an appetite! Join us later Saturday evening at 6:30pm at the Whispering Pines Banquet Hall for the Kickoff of Restaurant Week. Once again, enjoy free samples of specials and signature dishes of your favorite local restaurants, paired with a wine from the Blue Ridge Winery.

What a way to Welcome Spring! Enjoy this issue of the newsletter to see what else is happening.

Best regards,
Your Township Supervisors



Recently we were visited by our State Senator, Mario Scavello, and featured in the first of his series of television broadcasts from each of his 40 townships. (From this view, you can see why we are so happy to welcome Retro Fitness!) Seriously, you can catch the Senator's Legislative Reports on his website, www.senatorscavello.com/audiovideo/

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

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Open Records & Right to Know Officer
jwoisin@mstownship.com | x115

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Patrice Dume | Economic Development Manager
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Dana Hollinger | Municipal Projects Assistant
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Kevin Dixon | Country Club of the Poconos Pro Shop Manager
kdixon@mstownship.com | 570-223-8099

Committee Chairpersons

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golfadvisorycommittee@mstownship.com

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

Jenna Componovo | Litter & Beautification | x202
litter&beautification@mstownship.com

Carrie Wetherbee | Historical Commission | x203
HistoricalCommission@mstownship.com

Gina Bertucci | Economic Development | x204
EconomicDevelopmentCommittee@mstownship.com

FINANCE: TREASURER'S NOTE

Treasurer, Supervisor: Mike Dwyer | Budget & Finance, Manager: Ray Wolfe

SPRING: DON'T TAKE IT FOR GRANTED

For 5 continuous years, the township remains in good financial health. Over the last 5 years, we have seen our credit rating from Standard & Poors increase twice and our financial audits from our independent Auditors state that the township's fiscal management practices are very good. These key compliments are always positive information should the township need a loan for an unforeseen circumstance.

Good financials don't always translate into grant awards, however. Although most grants, either from the County or State, require "matching funds" which are generally 50% of the cost of the project (we have reserves and funds earmarked for capital improvements) projects for the less financially healthy projects that are "voter-friendly" are sometimes more popular recipients of grant awards. Our township's applications for a generator to create a Red Cross Emergency Shelter or for parks equipment did not fare well, for example. However, we do get awarded grants throughout the year, because of the hard work of the township staff and supervisors and support by our Congressional, State, and County Representative and Senator.

We are thrilled to report that we received a sizeable grant to extend our sewer line further into our Commercial District! (See more below in the sewer section)

We have also received a grant from St. Luke's University Health Network for our Community Gardens Park. (more on page 8) We thank our reps for their support.

Alas, the arrival of Spring also signals the arrival of your local tax bill (Summer heralds in your school tax bill). We are often asked what your local (county, municipal, and library) taxes provide. Your local tax bill came with an insert explaining your municipal taxes: you do get a lot for your local taxes. Middle Smithfield Township is among the few that maintain over 74 miles of roads, offer 5 parks, and provides numerous community services. The township also supports our emergency services providers (fire and ambulance) and many organizations that provide needed services to our community, such as the 2017 Person of the Year organizations, Bushkill Outreach, Operation Chillout and Mady's Kitchen..

We were pleased to report that we ended 2016 in a positive position as our conservative budget estimates proved to be in-line with income and expenses for the year. And our positive outlook for 2017 expects this year to be just as good financially, which supports our plan to make some major improvements to our township this year.

SEWER

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

SPRING INTO ACTION: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

As you know, the Middle Smithfield Township Municipal Sewer System is an aging system, and a plan was created to ensure that service is not interrupted to our nearly 2,000 customers, and to keep the system in good working order. The biggest news for our improvement plan? The Middle Smithfield Township application for the Frutchey Road Sewer Line Project was approved for an LSA (Local Share Account) Monroe County Grant at the March 29, 2017 CFA (Commonwealth Financing Authority) Board meeting in the amount of \$200,000. This grant will enable the township to extend the sewer line laterally into the commercial district.



MOUNT DIANA TEA

Diana Kersey, owner of the Tea and Soap store on 5062 Milford Rd, East Stroudsburg, Pa 18302 (across from Werry's Pub), welcomes you to stop by, because there is something for everybody! From natural handmade soap, herbal teas, loose leaf teas, and tea accessories, Diana can guide you with all the information necessary in deciding what to purchase. Diana and her husband travel to Asia every year to visit organic tea farmers for her organic teas and tea accessories. She also offers tea tastings and group tea tastings. Residents can schedule a time for tea tasting or just drop by. You'll find not only your new favorite tea, but health, strength, peace, and love whenever you stop by Mount Diana!

www.mountdiana.com

**BUSINESS HOURS ARE THURSDAY -
SUNDAY, 10:00AM~ 6:00PM**

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR 2017

- Rehabilitation of Pump Station #1: This project involves providing and installing all equipment, materials and labor to replace the existing 150,000 gallon Steel Equalization Tank/Pumping Station at the Fernwood Wastewater Treatment Plant. Bids were opened for this project on March 23, 2017.
- Steel Bridge Pump Station in Winona Lakes: plans have been approved, and work will begin in April
- Upgrades to Pump Stations:
 - Bids are tentatively scheduled to be opened on May 11.
 - Pump Station 3 – McCole and Route 209
 - Pump Station 4 – Maple Lane
 - Pump Station 5 – Rte 209 & Municipal Dr
 - Pump Station 8 – Lake of the Pines Pump Station

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Gina Bertucci | **Vice Chairperson:** Carrie E. Wetherbee | **Secretary:** Carl Wilgus |
Members: Beverly Brown, Joe Memoli | **Economic Development Manager:** Patrice Dume

MST EAT LOCAL: RESTAURANT WEEK 2017

The first week of May, residents and visitors can look forward to great deals from participating restaurants in Middle Smithfield Township's 4th annual Restaurant Week, which will run from Saturday April 29th to Sunday May 7th.

Coordinated by Middle Smithfield Township, and their Economic Development Committee, residents and visitors can look forward to a week of delicious deals.

Restaurant Week will have a Kickoff Event to whet everyone's appetite on Sunday, April 30th at the Whispering Pines Banquet Hall at Country Club of the Poconos from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. There will be free food samples from participating restaurants paired with a wine from Blue Ridge Winery, and guests will have a glimpse of all the great dishes they can try during restaurant week.

Gina Bertucci, Chairperson of the Middle Smithfield Township Economic Development Committee said, "We continue to create events that focus on businesses in Middle Smithfield Township. It is the goal of the Economic Development Committee to raise awareness of Township businesses. We do that through our annual holiday Shop Local campaign and our spring Restaurant Week promotion which is in its fourth year."

"Residents and visitors to our Township can get a sense of the variety and quality offered by our restaurants with many offering special menus that highlight their chef's creativity. It is a great night out that affords customers the opportunity to try specialty dishes."

Whether you enjoy Ribs, Crab Cakes, Shrimp, Burgers, Sandwiches, or anything in between, there is something for everybody during Restaurant Week!

Check out the deals at
www.mstEatLocal.com



Middle Smithfield Township
mstEatLocal.com



FERNANDO'S ANTIQUE FURNITURE: EVERYTHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN!

Fernando's Antique Furniture (located along Route 209/Milford Road, in between Scotty's gas station and Taco Bell) is one of the township's hidden gems. Don't let the name of the shop deceive you. Fernando not only sells Antique Furniture he also refinishes, reupholsters, buys and sells a variety of other items. Fernando is available to pick up and deliver locally too!

Judy Acosta, Zoning Administrator and resident, stopped by the store recently. "We saw a fire pit on display so we stopped by. We ended up buying a leaf blower, shovel and the fire pit for a great deal!" While her husband was loading up their finds, Judy took a better look around. "There's something for everyone at Fernando's; furniture, appliances, tools, ceramics, and more. Just as we arrived another resident was loading up her purchases for the day including three bookshelves that she was planning to refinish and use in her child's room.

As a father of 5, Fernando relies on his local business to supplement his family's income. Something he understands very well is the value of a dollar. And that is why he tries to give his customers the best price possible while also providing top-notch craftsmanship.

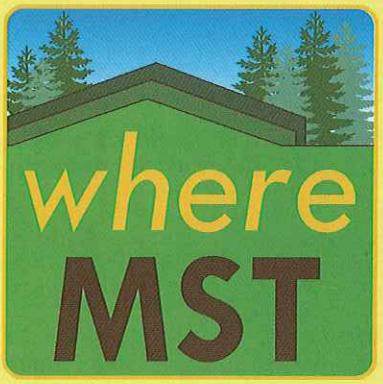
Patricia Francis, a long time MST resident, has nothing but positive remarks for Fernando's shop. "My husband and I had an old set of dressers that were given to us by both of our mothers when our daughter was born. We took them to Fernando to refinish for our grandson's nursery. They came back looking brand new! He helped preserve furniture we hold dear to our hearts for the next generation in our family and that is something very special."

Even Township Supervisor Annette Atkinson has used Fernando's: "We had a set of teak chairs for outdoor furniture, and after years of use, the arms kept coming out – now they are good as new and sturdy!"

Next time you are driving down Route 209 be sure to stop by and say hi to Fernando; you are sure to find something that catches your eye!

To contact Fernando 570-350-8722

TO FIND OUT ALL
THE DINING DEALS
DOWNLOAD THE
WHERE MST APP!
www.FindItInMST.com



PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Director, Supervisor: Mike Dwyer

Public Works Department Administrator: Karen Stapleton |

kstapleton@mstownship.com | 570-223-8920 x18

2017 PROJECTS

| ROADS | ACTION |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| COLD SPRINGS | Pave |
| COOLBAUGH ROAD 402 TO TEGO LAKE ROAD | Pave/Intersection Realignment Project |
| DANCING RIDGE ROAD | Tar/Chip |
| FIRESTONE LANE | Dirt/Gravel Improvements |
| MARJORIE COURT | Right Pave |
| RESERVOIR ROAD | Tar/Chip |
| RIVER ROAD | Tar/Chip |
| TIMOTHY LAKE ROAD | Tar/Chip |
| WINONA FALLS ROAD | Widening/Bank Stabilizer |

2017 SPRING LEAF COLLECTION

Spring Leaf Collection is **Monday, April 24th – Friday May 19th:**

4/24 – 5/5: Wooddale Area and Coolbaugh Road

5/8 – 5/22: Route 402, Oak Grove, Hidden Lake and Timothy Lake

5/15 – 5/19: Lower Lakeview and Sellersville Drive

FOR A FULL LIST OF ROADS, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE.

Only leaves will be picked up – no sticks, limbs, stumps, grass clippings or any other yard waste. Leaves must be placed at the road edge and must not be in bags.

The schedule is subject to change without notice depending on weather, volume of leaves or other emergency that might arise. Under township ordinance, open burning of leaves is prohibited.

If you do not live on a Township Road your leaves will not be collected. However, you are welcome to drop off leaves and brush at your HOA's central drop-off or the Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Facility located at 3305 Oak Grove Road, East Stroudsburg, PA 18302. The hours of operation are Monday through Saturday, 7am-2pm. Closed on holidays.

OAK GROVE & RECYCLING

www.ogmmcpb.com

Chairperson | Mike Dwyer

SPRING IS HERE!

TIME FOR FREE MULCH/COMPOST/WOOD CHIPS

The Oak Grove facility is a regular provider of mulch and compost to the MST Community Gardens Park on Coolbaugh Road. Your garden can benefit too! 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 **570-883-8920x118**

The Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Processing program is jointly operated and available to residents of Middle Smithfield, Smithfield and Lehman Townships. The facility is centrally located on Oak Grove Drive in Middle Smithfield Township and is open **Monday – Saturday, 7am – 2 pm (Closed Holidays)**

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

**A Message from our Resident,
written March 18, 2017 to Mike Dwyer,
Supervisor and Public Works Director:**

Hey Mike,

Just want to say thank you to you and your staff as well as the hardworking employees that put forth a great effort to keep our roads cleared of snow this past storm. I know that with the amount that actually hit the ground it must have been difficult.

We always seem to take the townships efforts for granted and it seems to be easier to complain than to compliment on the job that is done. After reading and watching some of the horror stories in other towns and townships, we are very lucky to have the dedicated personnel along with the excellent job they do, day-in and day-out!

THANK YOU!

Michael W Carmeci Sr

TOWNSHIP SPRING CLEANUP (AKA "DUMPSTER DAY") AND FREECYCLE

- Middle Smithfield Township's annual Spring Clean Up is Friday & Saturday, May 5th & 6th from 7am-4pm
- FREECYCLE: Residents can drop off gently used items knowing they won't go to a landfill. Instead, they will go to a neighbor or charitable organization that will put them to good use.
- Free paper shredding is Friday, May 6th from 9:00AM – 3:00PM; locked bins will also be on the premises for drop off on Friday & Saturday.

Residents must bring proof of residency such as tax bill, rent receipt, driver license, etc., in order to participate. This clean up is an extremely "user friendly" program. We urge all residents to take advantage of this opportunity. Especially since Bushkill Outreach will NOT have their Memorial Day yard sale this year.

Each year, we are thrilled that so many residents take the time and pride in their properties to clean up, and dispose of refuse properly (instead of in the woods or on our roads), and then go the extra mile to see what they can donate to Freecycle for their neighbors.

COOLBAUGH ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Mike Dwyer, Supervisor & Public Works Director

Now that winter is over, we are focusing on road improvements. While a number of roads will be repaired and or paved, a major safety improvement project is about to begin.

Major changes are going to be done at the intersection of Coolbaugh Road and route 402 (Resica Falls Road.) As you can see from the plan (inset), the major sweeping right turn onto Coolbaugh from Route 402 southbound, is going to be eliminated. Also, dedicated lanes to turn off Coolbaugh onto Route 402, in either direction, will be divided from the single turn onto Coolbaugh.

Temporary lanes will need to be placed, so drainage can be rerouted. Slight elevation changes will be made to improve the intersection as well.

The project will take probably 4 – 6 weeks to complete. While the construction period may cause some delay and inconvenience, once completed, these improvements will make the intersection safer.

In addition to the intersection, we will be paving a good portion of Coolbaugh Road from Route 402 to approximately Tego Lake Road. That's roughly 2 miles of road!

We are asking all drivers for patience and understanding. Construction does take time -- but the end results will last a long time. Please drive carefully, and please slow down through the construction site.

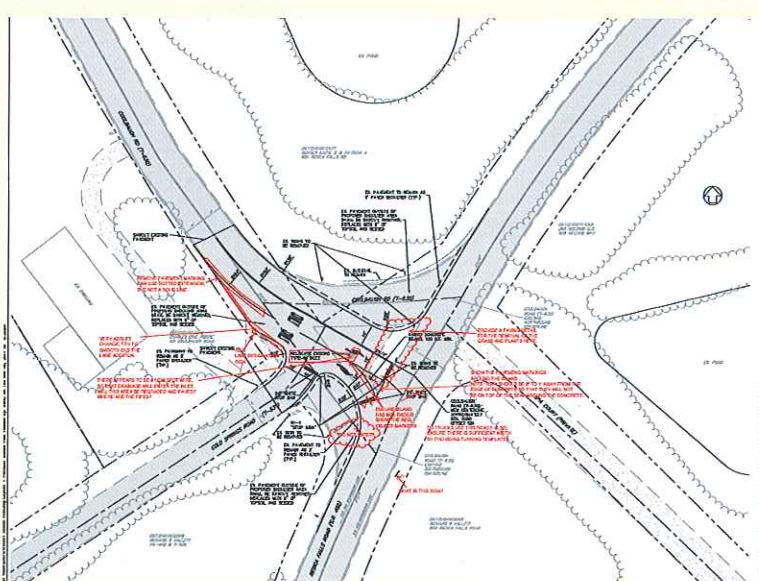
SPRING CLEANING: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP CLEAN TOWNSHIP ROADS

On Saturday April 29, please join Township Supervisors, Parks & Recreation, Litter & Beautification, Adopt a Road, and the Public Works Department to help clean up our Township's Roads.

"Middle Smithfield Township is a beautiful community within the Pocono Mountains. When our residents and business owners join the township in cleaning up 1,000 feet of street at a time, miles of beautification can be accomplished in just a short time," said Michael J. Dwyer, Township Supervisor.

How this works: Volunteers will meet at the Township building at 8am the morning of April 29 for supplies, be split into groups, and depart to various locations throughout the Township to beautify Middle Smithfield. The Township volunteers will focus on our "Main Street" Route 209 and other roads throughout the Township. Middle Smithfield Township will provide reflective vests, road crew signs, and other supplies as needed. Breakfast is available at sign in and each volunteer will be provided with a snack from Sunoco Mini Mart to take as they clean. Volunteers to the Spring 1000 Feet of Street also receive a Free Pass to the fall Township Cleanup and Freecycle as a thank you.

To volunteer, please contact Chris Rain at 570-223-8920 x119 or email crain@mstownship.com



PARKS & RECREATION

IT WAS AN EGG-CELLENT TIME!

It was an egg-cellent time on April 8 for the many children who hopped on down to Resica Park for the 10th Annual MST Eggstravaganza. Township children from infant to 10 years old played a series of games and collected their candy filled eggs. A few were lucky enough to win one of six Golden Eggs, containing prizes donated by the Bushkill Group.

Township residents came out to enjoy the beginning of spring and catch up with friends and neighbors while the kids collected their eggs. Snacks and drinks were also available to the happy egg hunters.

"It's a great event to kick off the spring," said Parks and Recreation Committee Chair Jenina Comonovo. "We are excited to be celebrating the tenth anniversary of this wonderful program."

All attendees went away with a bag of eggs in their hand and a smile on their face.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2017 EGGSTRAVAGANZA SPONSORS:

GOLDEN EGG SPONSORS:

Bushkill Group
Retro Fitness

SILVER EGG SPONSORS:

Wayne Bank

BRONZE EGG SPONSORS:

Shear Envy Salon

Road to Excellence Child Care & Learning Center

GOOD EGG SPONSORS:

Pocono Indian Museum
Starting Gate Ski Shop
Pub 570
Annette Atkinson

THE BUNNY'S HELPERS:

Great Clips

Thank you also to Bushkill Group for donating the prizes for the Golden Eggs!



2017 Eggstravaganza guest hops on bunny's lap



2017 Eggstravaganza guest finds a Golden Egg. Thanks Bushkill Group!



2017 Eggstravaganza guest sports her Easter Bonnet

COMING SOON: RIVER'S EDGE FAMILY BIKE PARK

Middle Smithfield Township in conjunction with Smithfield Township and the Eastern Monroe Regional Parks Commission are excited to begin construction this spring on the River's Edge Family Bike Park.

Located on River Road in Smithfield Township near Brodhead Creek, River's Edge Family Bike Park will have a number of beginner level bumps and paths that bikers of every level can enjoy. Construction is scheduled to begin by the end of March, and the Supervisors of Middle Smithfield and Smithfield Townships hope to have the park open by the end of June.

"This project has been in the works for long time," said Middle Smithfield Township Parks Director Michael Dwyer. "We are excited to finally move into this first phase of construction."

River's Edge Park is one of two parks run by the Eastern Monroe Regional Parks Commission, an intergovernmental group dedicated to developing and maintaining parks in the eastern part of Monroe County. Future phases of expansion at the bike park are planned for future years. The Commission was originally formed as a cooperative effort between Middle Smithfield, Smithfield, and Price Townships and Delaware Water Gap Borough and consists of members from each community. Mt. Nebo Park, located at 406 Mt. Nebo Road, was also formed under the Commission.

RENT A PARK PAVILION

Summer is coming! That means getting outside, seeing family, and having picnics. Need a great outdoor venue to host your summer party? Middle Smithfield Township has two great pavilions: one at Echo Lake Park and another at Resica Park for you to rent, each pavilion is equipped with picnic tables, grills, and playgrounds to keep the kids entertained. 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 successful site inspection by Township staff. To rent a pavilion, call 570-223-8920 x119 or email parks&recreation@msttownship.com

2017 COMMUNITY GARDENING LEARNING SERIES

Master Gardener



PennState Extension

EARTH DAY! | APRIL 22ND | 11AM-NOON

Starting Plants Indoors

Pat Zeman Penn State Master Gardener

APRIL 22ND | 10AM-NOON

St. Patrick's Day Pea Planting Party

Green Snacks, Music

MAY 20TH | 11AM-NOON

MSTCG Potluck PicNic/Meet n Greet

Companion Planting Demo/Presentation

JUNE 24TH | 11AM-NOON

Annette Atkinson, Penn State Master Gardener
Identifying weeds and how to manage them

JULY 15TH | 11AM-NOON

How to use what you have planted

AUGUST (DATE TBD) | 11AM-NOON

Canning Beans Demo

SEPTEMBER 23RD | 11AM-NOON

Winter Sowing/Preparing beds for Winter Demo

OCTOBER 14TH | 11AM-?

Celebration of Harvest

MAKE YOUR BED AT MST COMMUNITY GARDENS PARK

Attention, gardeners! Are you interested in having a plot at the MST Community Gardens?

Come garden with us in 2017 by reserving a plot at Community Gardens Park on Coolbaugh Road. This year we are excited to have the Penn State Master Gardeners host a gardener in residence to help everyone grow their best garden possible! The Master Gardeners will also have a demonstration garden and will host a gardening learning series all year long.

For more information or to reserve your garden bed, please call 570-223-8920 x119 or email crain@msttownship.com, or stop by the Township Building at 147 Municipal Drive. Plot reservations require a short form and a \$50 refundable deposit per plot to hold your spot. There is a maximum of 3 plots per household during the initial sign-up period.

COMMUNITY GARDENS PARK RECEIVES GRANT

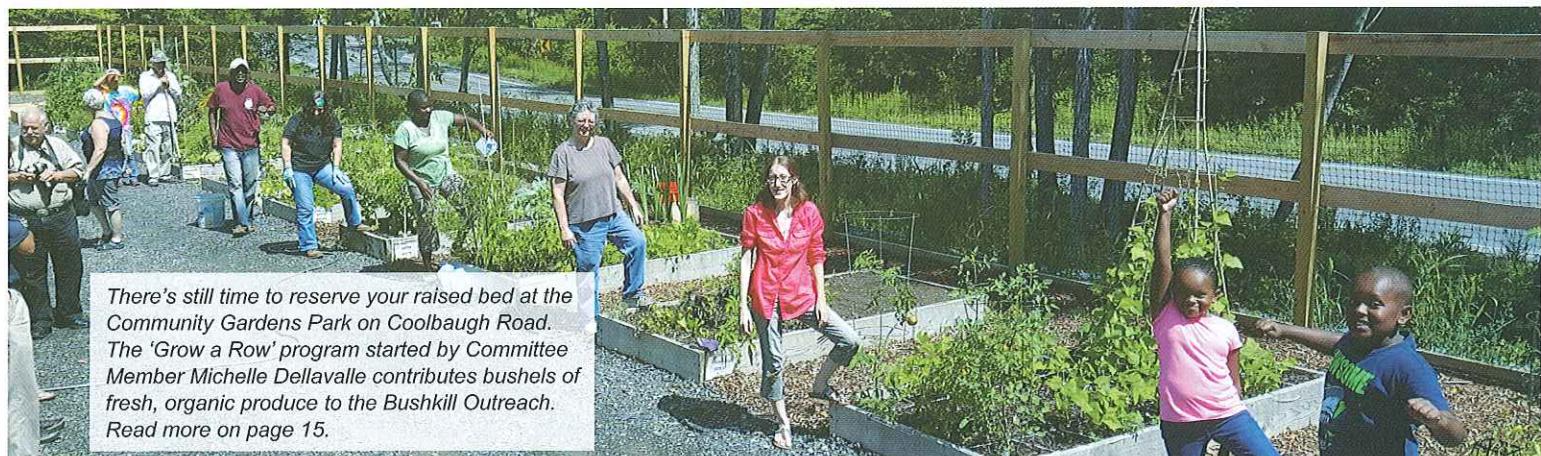
The Middle Smithfield Township Board of Supervisors and their Parks and Recreation Committee are excited to announce that Middle Smithfield Township was awarded a \$2,000 grant from St. Luke's University Health Network for the Community Gardens Park Improvements and Expansion Project.

St. Luke's offered the 2017 Community and School Garden Grant as part of its Healthy Citizen Program, which promotes healthy lifestyles through good nutrition and community outreach using local farms and community gardens.

Middle Smithfield Township plans to use the funds to make improvements to Community Gardens Park, located at 989 Coolbaugh Road. Planned improvements include additional raised garden plots, a 10' x 10' native plant and pollinator demonstration garden run by the Penn State Extension Monroe County Master Gardeners, reinforcing and protecting the apiary from local wildlife, providing gardeners with supplies such as mulch, manure, and soil, and planning for the next phase of expansion at the park.

The Community Gardens Park is open to the public year round. Township residents, non-profit organizations, and businesses may reserve up to 3 raised plots. Gardeners are required to attend a free organic gardening course from the Monroe County Penn State Master Gardeners, which are offered throughout the year at the Gardens and Township Building. Gardeners are also encouraged to donate part of their produce to the Bushkill Outreach Food Pantry via its "Grow a Row" program.

**WE HOPE TO HEAR
FROM YOU SOON AND
LOOK FORWARD TO
ANOTHER GREAT
GROWING SEASON IN
2017!**



ZONING

Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer: Shawn McGlynn |
zoning@msttownship.com | 570-223-8920 x126

Zoning Department Administrator: Judith Acosta |
jacosta@msttownshlp.com | 570-223-8920 x128

IN THE ZONE:

The Board of Supervisors adopted ordinance 213 on March 23, 2017, amending Chapter 200, Zoning, Division 83, Zoning Hearing Board, section 083-010, Membership. The amendments will allow for the appointment of Zoning Hearing Board Alternates and adds qualification requirements for Zoning Hearing Board members.

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN
VOLUNTEERING AS A ZONING
HEARING BOARD ALTERNATE,
PLEASE CONTACT THE TOWNSHIP!**

The Zoning Hearing Board acts as a "local court" for zoning matters. The five member board hears various appeals from the determinations of the zoning officers, may grant relief from the literal terms of the ordinance in certain hardship situations, hears challenges to the validity of the ordinance, and reviews applications for "special exception uses", which are permitted uses requiring a review. When submitted to the Monroe County Planning Commission for comment, they praised the efforts of the Supervisors saying "The Township should be commended for ensuring members are aware and proficient in their duties as a regulatory body." The township expects that the additional education requirements will assist the Zoning Hearing Board in their voluntary role in the community.

MIDDLE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP HOSTS "COURSE ON ZONING ADMINISTRATION"

The PMPEI (PA Municipal Planning Education Institute) course in Zoning Administration is a 3-session in-depth course for zoning hearing board members, zoning administrators, planning commissioners, and elected officials in the principals and practices for administering municipal zoning ordinances. The course covers the technical aspects of the various zoning applications and appeals, such as variances, special exceptions and nonconforming uses, and the requirements for zoning hearings. Issues of fairness, compliance, and ordinance enforcement are included.

Part of the new educational requirements of zoning hearing board members, as adopted in ordinance 213 on March 23, 2017 (see separate article), is participation in this course. Normally, this course is held hours away from our region; however, Middle Smithfield Township proactively arranged to host this course at the township building on Tuesdays, April 25, May 2 and May 9. Now, neighboring townships also have the opportunity to participate.

PMPEI is an educational program of the PA Chapter-APA and PA State Association of Boroughs. This course is sponsored by the Northeast Section of PA Chapter-APA and Middle Smithfield Township.

SIGN OF THE TIMES:

The Board of Supervisors adopted ordinance 212 on March 23, 2017, amending sections of Chapter 200, Zoning, Division 90, Signs. Amendments include, but are not limited to, additional and updated definitions, additional prohibited signs, and clarification of special event signs. Letters to all property and business owners along Route 209 were sent in early April advising of the newly adopted revisions and how it may affect the display of signs on their properties. The Board of Supervisors, through the efforts of the Zoning Office, is working to create a more shopper-friendly and profitable business corridor for the benefit of all residents and business owners in Middle Smithfield Township.

THE ZONING OFFICE IN ACTION

Under the direction of the Board of Supervisors, the Zoning Office has been hard at work to clean up the Route 209 Commercial Corridor of illegal signs. Often, the property owner is not aware that the signs that have been placed along the edge of the road are, in fact, not permitted. But we have found that property owners are more often than not willing to comply.



PLANNING COMMISSION

Chairman: Bob Early | **Vice Chairman:** Parin Shah

Members: Wayne Bolt, Carrie Wetherbee, Dr. William W. Suriano, Mark Oney

Engineer: Gilmore & Associates Fred Courtright | **PE Solicitor/ Solicitor Firm:**

Weitzmann, Weitzmann, and Huffman | **Recording Secretary:** Michele Clewell

Alternate Member: Carrie Wetherbee

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

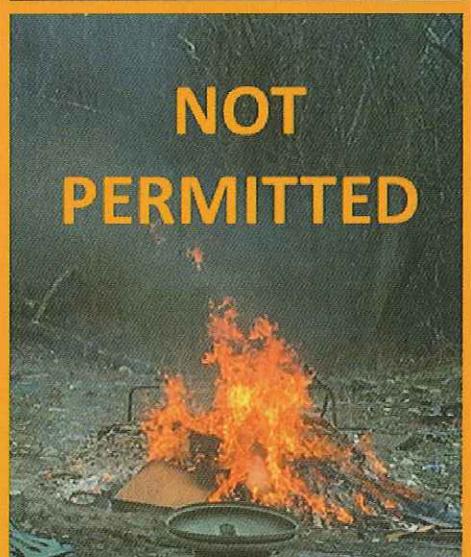
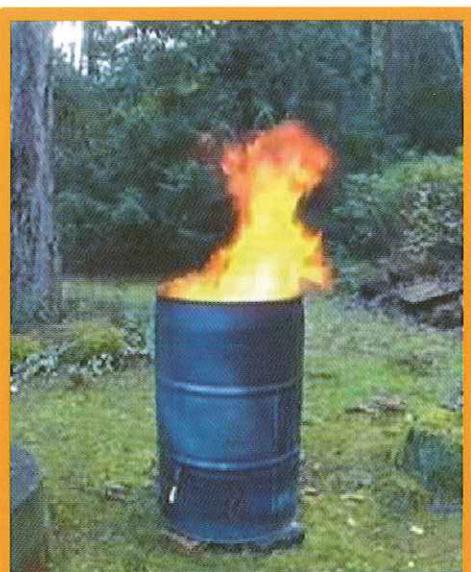
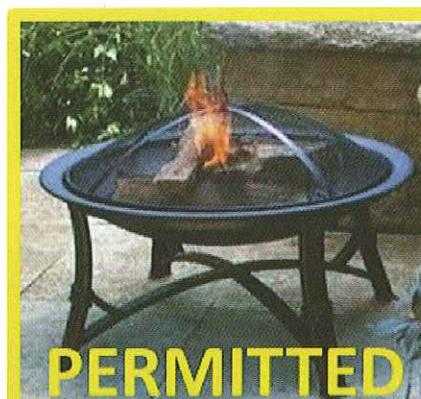
Would you like to be more involved with your local government, have a voice in the process? Middle Smithfield Township is seeking volunteers to serve on the Middle Smithfield Township Planning Commission. Recently, the Board of Supervisors passed an Ordinance that now allows for alternate commission members to serve. If you would like to learn the planning process from the beginning stages, please submit your resume and letter of interest to mclewell@msttownship.com

OUTDOOR WOOD-FIRED BURNERS ORDINANCE:

The Board of Supervisors adopted ordinance 211 on February 23, 2017, adding chapter 196 entitled "Outdoor Wood-Fired Burners" to the township code. This ordinance requires that any person desiring to install an outdoor wood-fired burner first obtain the necessary permits from Zoning Office. The Building Code regulates fireplaces and furnaces inside the home; this ordinance regulates the placement, installation and proper use of wood burning furnaces outside the home. It also allows the Zoning Officer to initiate enforcement remedies against any property owner that violates the ordinance. For the health, safety and welfare of all residents, this ordinance will ensure that outdoor wood-fired burners are maintained and operated in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and that only appropriate substances are burned.

AS A REMINDER, BURNING IS NOT PERMITTED in Middle Smithfield Township.

The only exception to this rule is a recreational fire pit in which you burn fire wood. Open burning of any substance, even in a burn barrel, is strictly prohibited and could result in a fine.



IT'S YARD SALE SEASON

...be sure to obtain a permit for your yard sale. Total due at the time of application is \$15.00, and \$10.00 is refunded when you take down your signs. Each property can have at most six yard sales per year so please plan accordingly. Please contact Chantel at extension 100 for more information. P.S. Bushkill Outreach will NOT have its annual Memorial Day yard sale.

GOLF

COUNTRY CLUB OF THE POCONOS

Chairman: Ray White | **Vice Chair:** Craig Weatherbee

Secretary: Mike Sweeney | **Members:** John Smith, Don Henry

Member and Pro Shop Manager: Kevin Dixon | 570-223-8099

Golf Committee Liaison: Holly Freese | 570-223-8920 x132



SPRING INTO GOLF!

Although the late snow in March delayed our opening we are still looking forward to another fantastic season at the golf course. We plan to continue to capitalize on the successes from the previous years to increase the number of rounds played as well as revenue for the 2017 season.

We have already solidified a number of outings to help benefit local charities and non-profit organizations and continue to work on more. If your organization would like to learn more about increasing your fundraising through golf please feel free to contact Kevin at the golf course for further information.

It's not too late to join one of the most beautiful golf courses in the Poconos featuring some of the most picturesque holes in the Northeast. Our membership rates is the best value around, and with our new monthly payment plan, it is more affordable than ever.

Dust off your clubs, shine up your shoes, and come out and join us for a relaxing round of golf. We look forward to seeing you on the links.



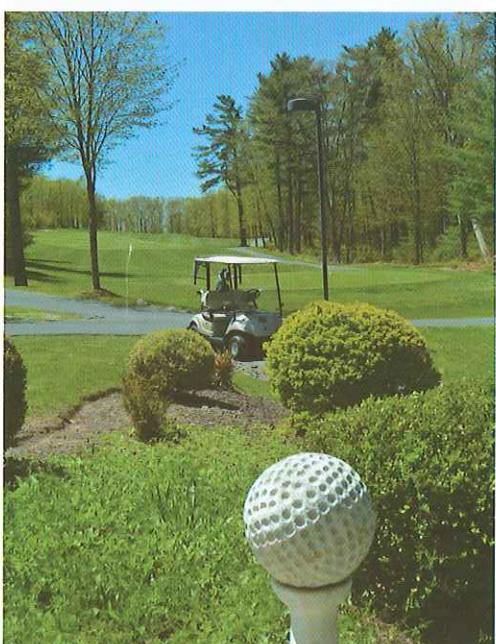
MADY'S ANGELS

Mady's Angels was established in Memory of Madyson Law. Mady's Angels' goals include awarding scholarships to local students and providing contributions to local charities and causes that were supported by Madyson, with the intent to "pay it forward."

Mady's Angels 4th Annual Golf Tournament will be held on May 7th at 10:30 am, at Country Club of the Poconos Municipal Golf Course. The cost is \$100 per golfer, and must have a team of 4. Price includes a T-shirt, golf and dinner and prizes will be given after the tournament.

Sponsorships are available for businesses and those who don't golf. Sponsorships range from tee sponsors at \$75 to hole sponsors at \$200. Other sponsorships can include donating a product, service, gift certificate or door prize to be given out after the tournament.

To register or become a sponsor visit www.Madysangels.org.



GOLF FOR THE GOOD: CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENTS

4/22: Tall Cedars/ Vet Stock

5/7: Mady's Angels

9/30: Marshalls Creek Fire Company

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

2017 Membership Rates:

Single: \$850

Couple: \$1,050

**Low monthly payments available over 8 months (approximately \$85/single, \$105/couples)*

Member benefits:

- Best golf value in northeastern Pennsylvania
- Full access to course & clubhouse facilities
- Unlimited play any day— includes greens fees and handicap fees
- Member locker room facilities
- Low monthly payment plan available (over 8 months)
- Preferred and advanced tee times
- Members only golf outings
- Members only social events at Whispering Pines
- Discount of 20% on all soft goods in the pro shop
- Member referral incentive- earn \$50 in golf shop credit for each new member you refer
- Discounted greens fees for guests of members (member must golf with guest)
- 50% off Whispering Pines Banquet Hall rental for personal use
- Handicap system provided to members

CALL 570-223-8099 TO JOIN NOW!



BANQUET HALL AT WHISPERING PINES

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

POCONO PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB SPRING COLORS PHOTO EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION

Middle Smithfield Township will host the 4th Pocono Photo Club's free photography exhibit. The month long photography exhibit will have its opening reception on April 30th at 6:30 pm at the Whispering Pines Banquet Hall at the Country Club of the Poconos Municipal Golf Course at 1445 Big Ridge Drive in East Stroudsburg.

The theme of the photo exhibit will be "Spring Colors," and will also feature several photos from around Middle Smithfield Township.

The exhibit's opening reception will also be held in conjunction with the 2016 Restaurant Week Kick-Off. Featured restaurants will be there to serve up some samples of their signature dishes and will also be paired with a wine from Blue Ridge Winery, who will also be there to do a wine tasting.

Come join us and meet some of the most talented and enthusiastic local photographers as they share the compelling stories behind their photography over a local bit to eat. Every photograph will be an original from a local photographer and will be for sale.

WHISPERING PINES TAKING RESERVATIONS FOR 2017

The beautiful Whispering Pines banquet hall is now taking reservations for all your golf outing, charitable, or private party needs in 2017!

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.

HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION NETWORKING MEETINGS

Twice a year Middle Smithfield Township holds a meeting specifically for the board members of Homeowners Associations in the township. These meetings are designed to provide valuable information to the HOA's for them to take back to share with their residents to help make their community a better, safer place.

The spring meeting was held on Saturday, April 1st at the township building and featured 3 different speakers. Sergeant Michael Walsh from the Pennsylvania State Police spoke about the heroine epidemic in Pennsylvania, ways to identify it in a community and enforcement. Jon Motz and Roger Spotts from the Monroe County Conservation District spoke about road and driveway maintenance, environmental protection and answered questions about how to coexist with nature in a community. The last presenter was Gene Tick from Community Associations Institute, who spoke about the benefits of a community being a member of the organization.

BUSTLES TO BUSINESS CARDS: HONORING WOMEN, LEARNING ABOUT THE HISTORY OF MONROE COUNTY WOMEN, AND NETWORKING

On Wednesday March 15, 2017, in honor of March Women's History Month, the Monroe County Women's Commission hosted a business networking event, "Bustles to Business Cards" at the Whispering Pines Banquet aHall, in Country Club of the Poconos. During the event, seven distinguished women of Monroe County were honored with citations by State Legislators, and Monroe County Commissioners, for their contributions to the community. After the presentations of their citations, Amy Leiser, Director of the Monroe County Historical Association, delivered a presentation about Pocono women who've shaped (and are still shaping) Monroe County. The presentation was not only educational, but it was inspirational! Furthermore, the Monroe County Women's Commission actively promotes growth and builds awareness through networking and collaboration, in efforts of making this county more supportive to all women and girls! Look out for similar events in the future! For more information about the commission visit:

www.WomensCommissionOfMonroeCountyPA.com



Left to Right: Andrea McLaren, Pocono Midwives, Monroe County Commissioner John Christy, Donna Zlocki, McDonalds, Dr. Karin-Susan Breitlauch, Creature Comforts, Gina Bertucci, Bushkill Group, and Rosemary Brown, State Representative.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Carrie Wetherbee | **Vice Chairperson:** Robert Huffman
Secretary | Member: Kim Williams | **Member:** Marie Summa
Historical Commission Liaison: Chantel Wilder | cwilder@msttownship.com |
570-223-8920 x100

MST MARKS THE SPOT!

Last year saw the first state historical marker erected in Middle Smithfield Township, commemorating the Marshall's Creek Mastodon. State markers are issued by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and must follow a set of criteria; namely, that the site has significance to the state. But what if the site is historically important locally, but does not meet state criteria? Starting in 2017, Township Historical Markers are available! The Township, in conjunction with their Historical Commission, has completed the application and criteria for the Township Marker program!

The Township's Historical Commission is considering many sites for township historical markers, including those identified by the 2007 Comprehensive Plan. The Middle Smithfield Presbyterian Church, Pocono Indian Museum/ Coolbaugh Mansion, and Wesley Chapel for instance, just to mention a few. But the Historical

Commission would like to hear from YOU! Is there a site you feel should be commemorated by a township Historical Marker? Please stop by the township office to pick up an application packet, or download one from the township's website at

www.MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com/historical-commission/

MEMORY MAKERS 2017:

BY LAND AND BY RIVER!

This year's Memory Makers will be at Pocono Palace on August 19th, 2017. The theme will be on the history of modes of transportation, such as railroad, steamboats, ferries, stagecoach, rafting and more! The third calendar theme for 2018 will match this year's Memory Makers theme, modes of transportation.

HISTORICAL PHOTO ALBUM ONLINE!

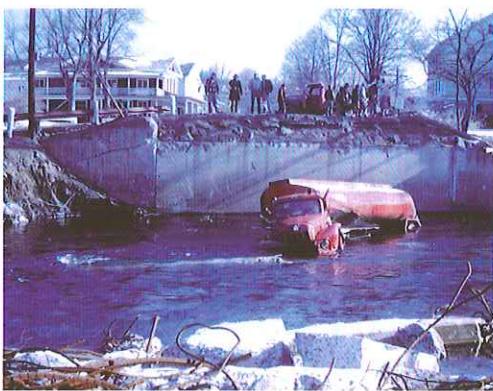
Check out the new (old) photo archive online! Each album has its own set of photos. We thank our residents for generously donating old photos, documents and artifacts for us to scan in – time to sit back and view your collections! The township is still adding more items every week, thanks to you. We would like to particularly thank residents Velma Knight and Wesley Rusk, former teachers, for donating many boxes of slides of old school trips. Those slides will be posted soon, with a fun contest, to see if anyone can identify the people, places, dates, and things in the slides.

The township would also like to thank Steven Schoonover, who donated digital scans of slides of the Flood of 1955. These images were given to Steven Schoonover by Sonny Albrecht.

We need your help! If you can identify the people, places and things in the photos, please by all means give us a call or send an email. In particular, we would like information on the Flood of '55 photos (see album online.)

The Historical Commission is also in the process of creating a photo archive of historical sites and buildings within Middle Smithfield Township, particularly those within the National. These photos and others will be available on the Township's website soon! The township would like to thank the Pocono Photo Club members who are participating in this project. Are you a shutterbug?

We would appreciate your help too!
Call Chantel at **570-223-8920, x100.**



The photos on this page were provided to the township by Steven Schoonover, donated by Sonny Albrecht and are part of a collection of the Flood of 1955.

MEMBER NEEDED

Calling all local historians! Middle Smithfield Township's Historical Commission currently has a vacant seat and they are seeking to fill it immediately! If you are a resident of Monroe County and over 18 years old and would like to learn or contribute to our community's history then join today. The Historical Commission meets once a month for a couple of hours, current members assist the Township with organizing history related events, calendars, markers and so much more!

The Historical Commission is comprised of historical educators, local residents and committed volunteers that aim to foster and promote public knowledge and interest in Township history. Since its establishment in 2012, the Commission has served as an advisory resource for those interested in township history. Members have been involved with identifying significant architectural, historical, and natural sites in Middle Smithfield Township; the goal is to create a registry available to all residents.

Please stop by the Township office or call Chantel Wilder at **570-223-8920**, ext. 100 for additional information.

PERSON
OF THE YEAR
MIDDLE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP
AWARD



Kate Newman and Christine Guarnaccio of Bushkill Outreach at the Community Gardens Park, harvesting produce for the pantry. Gardeners are encouraged to "Grow a Row" in their raised beds for the food pantry.

OPERATION CHILLOUT

Operation Chillout is a 100% volunteer organization that is dedicated to ending homelessness for veterans throughout New Jersey and Northeast Pennsylvania.

Many steps Operation Chillout take to help those in need include promoting awareness, provide solutions and programs to those that are poor, addicted, abused and homeless and provide them with basic needs to help get them back on their feet.

There are several ways to support Operation Chillout, such as donating a backpack with clothing, sponsoring a location, providing legal, medical or mental health services and monetary donations. A full list and how to help can be found at www.operationchillout.org/support-us or by calling 908-509-1462.



At the "Preview of 2017" Presentation of the public, the 2016 Persons of the Year received their checks and engraved plaques from Middle Smithfield Township, as well as citations from Congressman Cartwright, Senator Scavello, and State Representative Rosemary Brown. From left to right: Supervisor Mark Oney, 2016 Person of the Year Kate Newman, State Representative Rosemary Brown, Senator Scavello, Dr. April Niver from Congressman Matt Cartwright's office, Person of the year finalists Albert Compoly Jr and Andy Zaso, Supervisors Mike Dwyer and Annette Atkinson.

2016 Person of the Year Update

BUSHKILL OUTREACH GROW A ROW

Are you a gardener and want to garden for a cause? There are plots at the Community Garden on Coolbaugh Road tended by volunteers and the produce all goes to the Bushkill Outreach. Everyone is also encouraged to donate part of their produce to the Outreach ("grow a row")

The program has been active since the gardens opened in 2015. Last year over 150 pounds of produce were donated from people's gardens.

To volunteer or reserve a box in the community gardens call Chris at **570-223-8920 ext 119**.

OPERATION CHILLOUT

What: Vets Summer Fest

When: Sunday, August 6

Where: Vasa Park, Wolfe Road, Budd Lake, New Jersey

Cost: Tickets Available Soon

Event website: www.OperationChillout.org // www.vetssummerfest.org

MADY'S ANGELS

What: 4th Annual Golf Tournament

When: Sunday, May 7

Where: Country Club of the Poconos Municipal Golf Course, 1445 Big Ridge Drive, East Stroudsburg, PA 18302

Cost: \$80 per golfer before April 15/ \$100 per golfer after April 15

Event website: www.madysangels.org

What: Mady's Kitchen- Free Community Dinner

When: Last Sunday of every month, 4-6 pm

Where: Church of St. John, 5171 Milford Rd, East Stroudsburg, PA 18302

Cost: Free

Event website: www.madysangels.org

What: Mady's Snow Day

When: Sunday, August 6, 1-11 pm

Where: Barley Creek, 1774 Sullivan Trail, Tannersville, PA 18372

Cost: \$10 per person

Event website: www.madysangels.org

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THANK YOU TO THE RESTAURANTS SPONSORING THE KICKOFF

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TOM X PUB

BIG A GRILLEHOUSE

PUB 570

WERRY'S

WINTERGREENS BAR & GRILL

SPRING 2017 INTERN



With Spring comes fresh beginnings – and fresh interns! Dr. Kimberly Adams, Professor of Political Science at East Stroudsburg University was instrumental in beginning the program, along with Supervisor Annette Atkinson. Last year, the program was featured in an article by PSATs (the Pennsylvania Association of Township Supervisors.) Says Dr. Adams: *"Middle Smithfield Township's internship program is highly impactful and quite rewarding. Over the last six years, several of my students have been selected to serve as interns for the township. The internship enabled the students to gain professional experience while serving the public in very meaningful ways. Their experiences were truly transformational! I sincerely hope that Middle Smithfield Township will continue to work with ESU to provide such highly impactful opportunities for our students."*

Mia Gaeta is a Political Science major with a concentration in International Relations at East Stroudsburg University, class of 2018. Before ESU, Mia received her associates degree in General Studies from Northampton Community College.

Her most recent accomplishment was traveling abroad in February 2016 for the 16th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates in Bogota, Columbia. There she attended workshops centered on the global development and sustainability of peace efforts and how to better promote and sustain peace among different cultures.

Says Mia: *"I am incredibly excited to begin! Working with everyone here will provide me with the skills and knowledge needed to be successful in local politics and understand aspects involved in making sure the Township runs smoothly."*

Restaurant Week
MIDDLE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP



KICK OFF

Sunday, April 30th
6:30 pm- 8:30 pm
Whispering Pines Banquet Hall
1445 Big Ridge Dr. E. Stroudsburg, PA 18302

ENJOY FREE FOOD SAMPLES FROM PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS AND
A WINE TASTING AND WINE PAIRING BY BLUE RIDGE WINERY.

THE KICKOFF WILL BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 4TH POCONO PHOTO CLUB EXHIBIT

Restaurant Week 2017 runs from
April 29- May 7

For a list of participating restaurants and deals visit www.MSEatLocal.com