



# MIDDLE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWS FALL 2017



*Resica Falls in Middle Smithfield Township was one of the stops highlighted on the Brodhead Watershed's annual "River Ramble", which was conducted entirely in Middle Smithfield Township this year. This fall photo is by Nicholas A. Tonelli and licensed under Creative Commons.*

## **VOTE** NOVEMBER 7, 2017 POLL HOURS: 7:00 AM - 8:00 PM

*If you live East of Route 402, you vote at the*  
**MIDDLE SMITHFIELD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
5205 Milford Rd (route 209), East Stroudsburg, PA

*If you live west of Route 402, you vote at*  
**THE TOWNSHIP BUILDING (SCHOONOVER MUNICIPAL CENTER)**  
147 Municipal Drive, East Stroudsburg, PA

## **REGISTER TO VOTE ONLINE BY OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup>**

Just go to [PAVoterServices.State.PA.US](http://PAVoterServices.State.PA.US) to register online. Its quick & Easy!

### **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

October 31, 2017 - Absentee Ballot Deadline  
October 11, 2017 - Last Day to Register to Vote  
November 7, 2017 - Municipal Election Day

### **HELPFUL LINKS:**

[PAVoterServices.State.PA.US](http://PAVoterServices.State.PA.US)  
**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS:**  
[LWVMonroeCountyPA.com](http://LWVMonroeCountyPA.com)

**VOTER REGISTRATION/VOTER INFORMATION: 570-517-3165**

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

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Park is NOW OPEN!**

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**Its Time for  
Fall Clean-up**

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**Meet the Independent  
Judge's Panel for the  
2017 Middle Smithfield  
Township Person of the Year**

*Page 19*





Photo by Nancy Tully

WHAT’S GOIN ON

- OCT 10 Last Day to Register to Vote
- OCT 12 Fossil Day: Marshall's Creek Mastodon
- OCT 13 - 14 Clean up and Freecycle aka “Dumpster Day”
- OCT 19 - 21 Freecycle
- OCT 21 4th Annual Trunk or Treat at Resica Park
- OCT 23 Fall Leaf Pickup Begins through 11/10
- OCT 31 Last Day to Apply for a Civilian Absentee Ballot
- NOV 3 Last Day to deliver Voted Civilian Absentee Ballots
- NOV 7 2017 Municipal Election Day
- NOV 10 Dinner for Vets at Whispering Pines
- NOV 17 Person of the Year & Volunteer Appreciation Banquet
- NOV 20 Shop Local Discount Cards available
- NOV 25 5th annual Tree Lighting at Echo Lake Park
- DEC 7 Presentation of the 2018 Budget to the Public
- DEC 16 Wreaths Across America

Never miss another township event again! Sign up for Textcaster to receive text alerts and choose which events you want to know about! <http://www.middlesmithfieldtownship.com/1412/mst-text-alerts/>

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**  
6:00pm | 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  
Bushkill Outreach isn’t closing after all!  
More on page 18



ALBERT COMPOLY JR.,  
2016 PERSON OF THE YEAR FINALIST  
OPERATION CHILLOUT  
Operation Chillout  
For the Veterans: More on Project Tiny  
Home PA in 2018. More on page 18



ANDREW ZASO,  
2016 PERSON OF THE YEAR FINALIST  
MADY’S KITCHEN  
Update on Dinner for Veterans.  
More on page 18

A WORD FROM YOUR  
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

Mike Dwyer, Mark Oney, and Annette Atkinson

FALL: Back to School, Back to Work, and on the cusp of another busy holiday season peaking at us from around the corner. Fall cleanup for homeowners, and businesses embark on planning and budgeting for the following year. It is now that Daylight Savings plays its cruel trick: Just when you need the days to be longer to get everything done, they get shorter!

Speaking of holidays around the corner, one of the things we are excited about is the first ever Veteran’s Day Dinner set up by 2016 Person of the Year finalists Andy Zaso (Mady’s Kitchen) and Al Compoly Jr. (Operation Chillout). If you know of a Veteran, please ask them to come, as our guest.

This September culminated a lot of summer activity in our Zoning Department: after a summer of meetings, presentations and information sessions to realtors, trade and government organizations, homeowners associations and the public, the Short Term Rental Ordinance was passed (on the heels of the Move in Move Out Ordinance in the spring) and the revisions to the SALDO are imminent (Subdivision And Land Development Ordinance). There is more about the Move In/Move Out Ordinance and the Short Term Rental Ordinance in the Zoning section starting on page 14, but the main question we are asked: Why are we doing this? Quite simply, to improve the quality of life for our residents.

Both ordinances improve safety, by ensuring that properties being sold or rented (whether for the short term or the long haul) meet basic safety requirements. As always, Homeowners / Property Owners Associations are welcome to create, apply, and enforce their own more stringent rules.

As for the SALDO – that is intended to work hand in hand with the Zoning Ordinance, and while there have been several new zoning ordinances (another one is coming!) and many updates in the just the last 7 or 8 years alone, the SALDO has not been updated in almost 25 years. Kudos to the Planning Commission for taking this on! Happy Autumn everyone!

Your Township Supervisors



On the evening of September 21st, Congressman Cartwright held a Town Hall at the Middle Smithfield Township Building. Left to right: Supervisor Annette Atkinson, Congressman Matt Cartwright, Supervisor Mark Oney

**Middle Smithfield Township Administrative Office**  
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570-223-8920 | [info@mstownship.com](mailto:info@mstownship.com)  
[MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com](http://MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com)

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

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**Kevin Dixon** | Country Club of the Poconos Pro Shop Manager  
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**Gina Bertucci** | Economic Development | x204  
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**Mal Law** | Zoning Hearing Board | x112



# FINANCE: TREASURER'S NOTE

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

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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

## BUDGET PREPARATIONS BEGAN

It's after Labor Day (the unofficial end of summer), back to school time, and the official start of fall – so it must be budget time! Throughout the year, the Board of Supervisors, Budget and Finance, and staff meet periodically to discuss the status of the current year's budget. Those meetings increase in frequency once fall arrives to prepare the upcoming year's budget. Income is reviewed to determine if we are on-track and there are no major concerns. Expenses are reviewed biweekly to be sure that spending is in line with the budget projections established in the prior year.

Typically starting in September, preparations of the following fiscal year's budgets commence in earnest. Preparing the budget requires each department look at cost trends and contact many vendors to see what the anticipated costs for the year will be, as well as to negotiate discounts. Are insurance costs on the rise? Is state funding (such as liquid fuels) going to be the same? Are there needed capital improvements that must be performed? Plus so much more.

### NO tax increase anticipated for 2018

Over the past 6 years, since preparation of the 2012 budget, the township has stayed within budget. Over the same period, there has not been a municipal tax increase and, quite honestly, there does not seem to be a need for an increase in 2018. We, at the township, have learned how to live within budget and not increase spending beyond our budget limitations. The successes over these years have also been noticed by Bond Rating Agencies such as Standard and Poors (who twice increased our credit rating), and this helps keep expenses down. The township's performance and two increases in credit ratings in 6 years is in stark contrast to the state, which recently receive its second downgrade in credit rating from Standard and Poor's in three years.

We already know that, in 2018, there are state-mandated, unfunded, expenses that we will incur. The most recent MS-4 (which is a DEP program that requires municipalities to maintain a storm water protection

prevention plan) will add over \$40,000 annually to our expenses. We do not, however, receive any federal or state income to offset this new expense.

We also expect to decrease operational expenses because of the many improvements we made over the past few years. Some examples include: replacement of older plowing trucks with newer, more efficient one; the addition of cinder/salt storage facility in Wooddale (see article on page x); and capital improvements within the sewer system, which will undoubtedly cost less to maintain throughout the year.

While we cannot predict every dollar of income or every penny of expense, we can continue to work hard at keeping our costs down. We will have our draft 2018 budget proposal prepared and ready for public review at the Board of Supervisors December 4, 2017 meeting.

## BACK TO SCHOOL WORK!

### ESU ~ MST Intern Program

Leah Walsh is a senior, studying Political Science with a pre-law concentration, at East Stroudsburg University. Walsh is the Vice President of ESU's Political Science Club, in addition to being involved in College Republicans and more recently the Criminal Justice Club. She is also interested in research, particularly the study of women in politics. Walsh Presented original research on the topic at the 6th International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Science Studies at Harvard University. Ms. Walsh is intrigued by our intricate legal system, and the well-being of the public. She has had experience shadowing at a Law Office in her hometown of Scranton, where her appreciation of an all-encompassing profession, such as law and government developed. Resolving conflicts for the betterment of the commonwealth,



Leah Walsh

as well as understanding the influence government has on our everyday lives is what attracted Ms. Walsh to the study of Politics.

She is currently interning at Middle Smithfield Township, and will be engaging in various local government activities. Throughout her semester spent she hopes to bring about change to the community and learn more about government procedures

and policies. She hopes to learn how to engage in government effectively for a potential future career. Although she has yet to declare what path she is going to take post-graduation, she hopes this experience will help guide her decision process. Welcome Leah!



Look for this new eatery coming to the PriceChopper Plaza soon



## BEAUTY SUPPLY STORE IS THE APPLE OF OUR EYE:

### Giving Back to the Community

Big Apple Beauty Supply is a retail establishment for that has been in Middle Smithfield Township for the past nine years. They have a large selection of wigs, hair extensions and hair care products. Donna Gonzalez, owner of Big Apple Beauty Supply, located at 5224 Milford Rd, in the Marshall's Square Shopping Plaza (next to Echo Lake Park), was recognized by State Representative Rosemary Brown for giving back to the community with more than 300 bags filled with back to school supplies for area students.

Donna says "I am a firm believer that education is the key to a child's future. With that being said I feel that if can give a child a book or a pencil to encourage and motivate them I will. "The school supplies giveaway is Donna's way of helping families, and thanking her customers for their support over the years.

Another way she gives back to her community is providing families with Thanksgiving Turkeys for the holiday. She gave 100 turkeys, stuffing and pies to families in the past. Donna said "I will be giving turkeys again this upcoming holiday season."

Donna and Big Apple Beauty Supply are currently working on a scholarship for students, which will be available in the spring of 2018. Donna is a dedicated, community minded Middle Smithfield Township business owner who is also one of five finalists for BW NICE, Businesswoman of the Year Award. This award will honor a Monroe County woman who inspires with leadership, energy, concern for others, and her commitment to business and the community. On August 28<sup>th</sup>, members of the BW NICE Board and a member of the selection committee announced the 5 businesswoman of the year finalist on Gary in the Morning 96.7!

Each of the women has a long list of accomplishments and community organizations they are a part. Donna Gonzalez is honored and humbled to be a finalist! The winner will be announced during the BW NICE Red Shoe Luncheon & Fashion Show on Friday September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 from 10am-2pm. Finalists are: Tarah Probst-, Owner Charcuterie/Mayor Stroudsburg; Lisa Diemer, Owner Kitchen Chemistry/Pocono Soap; Jennifer Wise, Owner Wise Attorney/Werkheiser Garden Center; Donna Gonzalez, Owner Big Apple Beauty Supply; Charlie Lynn Trapasso, Owner Desaki/President, Pocono Township Parks & Rec.

## THE ANNIE STORES DOUBLES THEIR SIZE!

### Furniture Store Adds Appliances to Inventory

The Annie Stores is located on 4543 Milford Road, Suite 60, next to PA Nails in the Price Chopper Plaza. The Annie Stores is a modern day, affordably priced furniture store offering a variety of furniture, accessories, and mattresses. Now you will find that the Annie Stores expanded to the space next door to provide customers with more options. They added appliances to their inventory, and you can find stovetops, freezers, refrigerators, washing machines, drying machines and more furniture options.



Need financing? Anything over \$199 can be financed with 2% cash back, and they also have layaway services. The Annie Stores also wants customers to know that they always give discounts to senior citizens and service workers, regardless of the time of year. Some service workers would include: Police Officers, Firefighters, and Military personnel.

The Annie Stores doesn't just need more space – they need more employees, too! The store is actively **HIRING** for the following positions: Sales Associate, Delivery Drivers, and Assemblers. If you are an interested party 21 and older, send your resume to [theanniestores@gmail.com](mailto:theanniestores@gmail.com).

Questions? Email [theanniestores@gmail.com](mailto:theanniestores@gmail.com) or call 570-664-9910. The Annie Stores are open 7days a week: Monday to Wednesday 10:00am to 7pm, Thursday to Saturday 10:00am to 8:00pm, and Sunday 10:00am to 6:00pm. You can follow them on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/TheAnniestores/> or visit their website at: <https://theanniestores.com/>.





# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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Members: Beverly Brown, Joe Memoli | Economic Development Manager: Patrice Dume



## MONROE COUNTY ECONOMIC OUTLOOK SUMMIT AT ESU Middle Smithfield Presents its Economic Development Strategies

Middle Smithfield Township Supervisors Annette Atkinson and Mike Dwyer were invited to present the township's Economic Development Strategies to the county at the 5th annual Economic Outlook Summit at East Stroudsburg University on September 8th. Middle Smithfield was one of four municipalities invited to participate in a panel presentation and discussion about what townships are doing to advance their economies. Monroe County Commissioner John Christy chaired the panel on Monroe County Economic Highlights, and Christine Meinhart-Fritz, Director, Monroe County Planning Commission facilitated the discussion. In addition to Middle Smithfield, the panel included: Chestnuthill, with Chuck Gould, Chair and Dave Albright,

Manager; Stroud, with Edward Cramer, Supervisor; and Tobyhanna, with Annie Lamberton, Chair; John Jablowski, Manager.

The theme for the fifth annual Economic Summit was "Monroe 2030 — Action Now!" Guest speakers included regional business owners, entrepreneurs, national experts, and elected officials, including PA Senator Mario Scavella, 40th District, and PA Senator John Blake, 22nd District, as keynote speakers. The good news from this year's summit is that Monroe County improved demonstrably in its position with other counties, and the summit highlighted how townships are working together to help each other, and bring business to Monroe County.

## RAIN BARREL WORKSHOP Collaboration Creates Community

Rain barrels capture water from a roof and hold it for later use such as on lawns, gardens or indoor plants. Collecting roof runoff in rain barrels reduces the amount of water that flows from your property. It's a great way to conserve water and it's free water for use in your landscape

Just before the River Ramble (story on page 13), a Rain Barrel Workshop was hosted and organized by BWA member and Stream Sponsor Middle Smithfield Township as a fundraiser for the Brodhead Watershed Association. The class was taught by Annie Mikol, Watershed Specialist from the Monroe County Conservation District / Kettle Creek Environmental Center. She is also a Penn State Master Gardener. The class was sponsored by Home Depot of Stroudsburg, who provided the fittings, and Abarta/Coca-Cola of Mt. Pocono who provided all the barrels. Everyone went home with better knowledge of water conservation and a working rain barrel! (well – almost – one leaked.)



The class was filled to capacity, and there is a waiting list for barrels! We had hoped to conduct another class in the fall, but ran out of bandwidth. (or should we say barrels!) Stay tuned for a class in spring!

Thank you Rain Barrel Workshop sponsors:



Left: Patrice Dume, Economic Development Manager, Judy Acosta, Zoning Administrator, Dana Francis, Community & Municipal Projects Assistant.

## AUTOZONE BREAKS GROUND!

We are all excited to see AutoZone, the township's first LERTA applicant, break ground and move forward with development. The Monroe County Board of Assessment Revision approved LERTA on the AutoZone building plans at a regular Commissioner's meeting on August 2, 2017. With the nearest auto parts store over 10 miles away from most of the township, AutoZone is a great addition to the business community.

AutoZone is set to open in Middle Smithfield Township right along Route 209 between CVS and ESSA bank. AutoZone is the first business to take advantage of the township's Local Economic Revitalization Assistance (LERTA) program. The Township's new sewer financing program is also available. Both programs are designed to ease the costs of opening or expanding a business in Middle Smithfield. When a business constructs or expands, the property is re-assessed, and often, these improvements result in higher taxes for the property owner. The LERTA allows local taxing authorities (County, Municipal, and School District) to phase in the additional new taxes The Tax Abatement or "phase in period" is over 6 years starting with 0% of the new taxes due in the first year, 20% each of the following years, etc..

"The Township is beyond thrilled to have a publicly traded, national leading retailer and distributor of automotive replacement parts and accessories come to Middle Smithfield Township," says Patrice Dume, Economic Development Manager. "We are also very pleased that our LERTA program is attracting businesses to our area. More businesses not only means more jobs for our residents, but also more tax income for the township—putting less of the tax burden on our residents."



## TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON: The Four Seasons Diner Undergoing Renovations

You thought it was abandoned didn't you? Well the Four Season's Diner property, located on Milford Road, right next to the Sunoco across from Dunkin Donuts, was just "on pause" for the past year and half.

Residents can look forward to the Four Seasons opening within the next year or so after undergoing major renovations. The owner, Harjaap Chatka, is currently planning on a casual restaurant and sports bar theme, with a variety menu. This will definitely be an exciting addition to future Middle Smithfield Township Restaurant Week promotions. Harjaap is no stranger to the restaurant business and owns several successful venues in the Lehigh Valley area. Soon, residents can look forward to more options when deciding to dine locally!

## YOUR AD HERE

Consider advertising in our next edition. A great way for your business or organization to be seen by thousands.

Call or email for information  
570-223-8920  
info@mstownship.com





NEW SHADE PAVILION AT  
COMMUNITY  
GARDENS PARK

A new shade pavilion was installed at Community Gardens Park in July. The pavilion will provide a much needed break from the sun for our gardeners.

“It’s absolutely beautiful,” said gardener and Parks Committee member Danielle Cloward. “It’s such a great addition to our garden that everyone can enjoy.”

The pavilion was ordered from and delivered by Steve Stoltzfus of R&G Services, a local business who also gave a generous discount. The pavilion was paid for in part by a \$2,000 grant received from St. Luke’s University Health Network over the winter to support the Community Gardens. A placard will be installed on the pavilion to thank St. Luke’s for their generosity.

“We’re grateful to St. Luke’s for their support,” said Chris Rain, MST Parks and Recreation Coordinator. “And we hope that they will be interested in supporting other projects in our township in the future.”

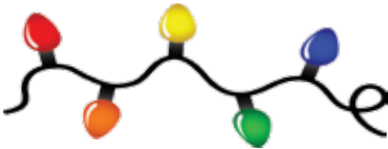
In addition to providing a shady place for gardeners to rest and gather, the pavilion will serve as teaching space for the Penn State Master Gardeners. Their Demonstration Garden which is located adjacent to the pavilion.



MST IS VERY EVENT-FALL!

Fall is a very busy time in the Middle Smithfield Township parks! We have several events coming up in the next few months.

Event dates may be subject to change, or may have a rain date to be announced later. All events are FREE to attend. For more information about MST parks or events, please contact the Parks Department at 570-223-8920 x119 or [Parks&Recreation@mstownship.com](mailto:Parks&Recreation@mstownship.com).



5TH ANNUAL TREE  
LIGHTING (11/25)

On Saturday November 25, the 5th Annual Tree Lighting ceremony will be held in Echo Lake Park, located at 5206 Milford Road.

Celebrate the season with Santa, Mrs. Claus, and the Marshalls Creek Fire Company as we light the tree. Music will be provided by the local school and church choirs and bands. Cocoa and treats, as well as photos with Santa, will also be available. Parking will be available at the Marshall’s Square shopping center next to the park.

The event is completely FREE to attend, and donations in the form of toys or non-perishable food items are always welcome for Toys For Tots and Bushkill Outreach; two organizations that help share the cheer for families in need every holiday season and throughout the year.



4TH ANNUAL TRUNK OR  
TREAT (10/21)

On Saturday October 21, the Parks & Recreation Committee will host its 4th Annual Trunk or Treat at Resica Park, located at 1 Gravel Ridge Road behind Resica Elementary School. The event begins at noon and ends at 2pm and is for all township children 12 and under! Candy is available while supplies last! The rain date is October 22.

What is Trunk or Treat, you ask?

It’s an event where participants dress in costume and decorate the trunk of their car. Children can go safely from car to car to collect their treats!

Activities will include trunk or treating, face painting, sand art, and spin art. Children can also take a pumpkin from our pumpkin patch. Candy and pumpkins will only be available for as long as supplies last, so make sure to arrive early!

Attendees are also encouraged to bring non-perishable goods, which will be collected and donated to the Bushkill Outreach food pantry.

If you would like to decorate your car for Trunk or Treat, you must pre-register your car by Thursday October 19 at 4pm. Just coming to enjoy the event? No pre-registration is required. For more information, contact Chris Rain at 570-223-8920 x119.

EASTERN MONROE REGIONAL PARKS:

RIVER’S EDGE FAMILY BIKE PARK  
NOW OPEN!

Middle Smithfield Township is excited to announce the opening of the new River’s Edge Family Bike Park! The park officially opened to the public on October 1.

Located on River Road in Smithfield Township, River’s Edge Family Bike Park is jointly owned by Middle Smithfield and Smithfield Townships and was built as a collaborative effort by both municipalities. The park is being constructed in three phases. The first phase, now complete, is called a pump track and includes berms and hills for biking. Rain gardens to contain runoff are also included. Future phases will include a skills area in the front and a jumps area in the back.

“This project has been in the works for many years and it is exciting to see it finally happening,” said Mike Dwyer, Middle Smithfield Township Supervisor and Parks and Recreation Director.

Funding for the project came from a grant from the Monroe County Planning Commission as well as donations to the Valley Mountain Bikers, a local bike club.

The Public Works Departments of both townships began work on July 10 under the supervision of Jim Dellavalle of Dellavalle Designs, an avid biker who designed the park and donated the plans. Starting August 14, Dellavalle Designs took over the project to complete the features.

Volunteers and riders are encouraged to help keep the park maintained. Jim Dellavalle plans to perform all-volunteer maintenance on the track on Wednesdays. Anyone interested in helping to keep the park in good working order are encouraged to participate.

The Bike Park opened on October 1 and is open seven days a week during daylight hours, weather permitting. Riders should not ride in poor weather to minimize damage to the features. The park is



for bicycles only. No motorized vehicles of any kind are permitted at the park. Helmets are mandatory.

For more information, email [riversedgefamilybikepark@gmail.com](mailto:riversedgefamilybikepark@gmail.com) or call 570-223-8920 x119.

TOWNSHIPS REHAB MT. NEBO PARK

This summer, Middle Smithfield and Smithfield Townships began a rehabilitation project at Mt. Nebo Park. The project is funded by grants from Monroe County and the Pocono Forests and Waters Conservation Landscape Mini-Grant Program.

Phase 1 of the project included new signage, clearing the overgrown entrance, and planting native wildflowers. Phase 2 includes an inventory of local wildlife and the installation of new interpretive signage to educate the public about the plants and animals that live in the park. Staff members from Pocono Environmental Education Center and the Monroe County Conservation District donated their time to this part of the project. Phase 2 will also include trail maintenance and tree tags to identify local tree species.

Mt. Nebo is located at 406 Mt. Nebo Road in Smithfield Township and is jointly owned by Middle Smithfield and Smithfield as a regional park. The park includes two hiking loops that extend over two miles through the forest.



David J. Henon of University of Pets is back this fall for a special Ask the Dog Trainer!

ASK THE DOG TRAINER:  
THERAPY DOG TEST (10/14)

Looking to get your dog tested to be a therapy dog? On Saturday October 21 at 11am, David will give a FREE AKC Canine Good Citizen Program therapy dog test.

Started in 1989, the CGC Program is designed to reward dogs who have good manners at home and in the community. The Canine Good Citizen Program is a two-part program that stresses responsible pet ownership for owners and basic good manners for dogs. All dogs who pass the 10-step CGC test

may receive a certificate from the American Kennel Club.

The MST Dog Park is located at 108 Leroy’s Lane. GPS sometimes has difficulty finding this address. If you have trouble, try 6819 Milford Road instead. The park is located along Milford Road (Rt. 209) between the Fernwood Resort and the National Park entrance.

This event is for dogs that are people and dog-friendly. Aggression can be discussed one on one. For More Information, visit [www.universityofpets.org](http://www.universityofpets.org) or contact Chris Rain at 570-223-8920 x119.



FALL LITTER CLEANUP:  
1000 FEET OF STREET

On Saturday September 30, over 140 volunteers joined Township Supervisors, Parks & Recreation, Litter & Beautification, Adopt a Road, and the Public Works Department to help clean up our Township's Roads. Supplies including bags, pickers, gloves and safety vests are all provided by the township as well as light refreshments.

"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.

Volunteers to the Fall 1000 Feet of Street received a Free one-trip Pass to a Township Cleanup and Freecycle (aka "Dumpster Day") as a thank you.

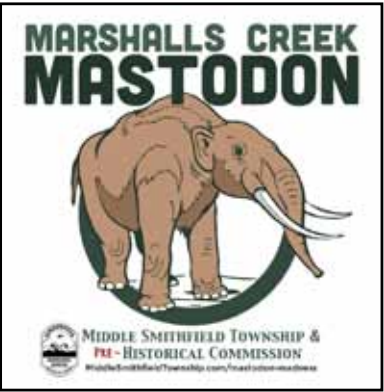
In April, volunteers cleaned 69 miles of roadside (or 34.5 miles of road, both sides) along Rt 209, Winona Falls Road, Timothy Lake Road, Coolbaugh Road, Pocono Wild Haven Estates, and Tom X Road among others and filled hundreds of bags of trash. Thank you to all of our Spring & Fall 1000 Feet of Street and Adopt a Road volunteers!



Volunteers and businesses can also Adopt-A-Road and have a sign placed in your honor along the road that you clean. Please contact Chris Rain at 570-223-8920, x119.

FOSSIL DAY 2017:  
Learn about the  
Marshall's Creek  
Mastodon

National Fossil Day is every October, and this autumn it "falls" on October 11th. National Fossil Day was established in the United States by the National Park Service to promote the scientific and educational values of fossils -- such as the discovery of our very own Marshalls Creek Mastodon! Generally, National Fossil Day is commemorated by the education and stewardship of fossils through enabling children to better understand the history of life, science of paleontology and other educational objectives through a wide variety of classroom, museum, field trip and outdoor activities. This nationwide celebration was first held on October 13, 2010, during Earth Science Week. The National Park Service and over 270 partners, including museums (such as the state museum in Harrisburg



that now has our mastodon), institutions, organizations and other groups, joined together to celebrate fossils.

Please join us, as well as relatives of those who discovered the Mastodon, right before the Board of Supervisors meeting on Thursday, October 12th at the Township building to celebrate the discovery of the Marshalls Creek Mastodon and National Fossil Day from 5:30-7p. (Of course, you are welcome to stay afterward for the Township Meeting.) Various activities such as a presentation by Field Paleontologists, Mike & Roberta Straka on dinosaurs, short film about the Mastodon with interviews of local residents, display of artifacts and light refreshments will be provided, as well as educational (and fun!) materials for schoolchildren.

"Employees of the State Museum of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg and five excavation crews were called to the scene in Marshalls Creek, just north of the old Mountain Lake House Resort off Route 209. After two weeks of digging, the most complete mastodon skeleton ever found in Pennsylvania was transferred to Harrisburg." ~ the Monroe County Historical Association.

TEXTCASTER: NOT JUST FOR DISASTERS  
Sign Up for Two Ways to be a Winner:  
1. Be in the Know AND  
2. FREE TICKETS



What is Text caster? It is an excellent way for residents to be informed about local news, events, alerts, and any important information via text and/or email. (Read: Never miss another township cleanup again! And yes, you can opt out at anytime.)

How does it work? Visit MiddleSmithfieldTownship.com/1412/mst-text-alerts/ and sign up.

Residents that sign up for Text caster between October 1 and November 30th will automatically be entered for a drawing to win 2 Tickets to Pocono Tree Ventures. If you have any questions or need help signing up feel free to contact Patrice Dume, Economic Development Manager, at 570, 223-8920 ext. 130! Sign up fast! You're only a text away from being informed!

- Sign up for one (or all) of these message groups:
- 1. Township News, Meetings & Announcements
  - 2. Township Boards, Committees, and Commissions
  - 3. Severe Weather Warnings
  - 4. Sewer: Bill Reminders, Announcements, and News

MEMORY MAKERS LUNCHEON 2017:  
History of Modes of Transportation  
in the Poconos

Another successful year! Thanks to our longtime residents, this year's 13th annual Memory Makers luncheon Saturday, August 19th was a huge success, with almost 200 guests attending.

This year's theme was "the History of Modes of Transportation in the Poconos" (or "we used to have a train!") featuring two wonderful guest speakers. The Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission's own Kim Williams, board member, is also a local train expert. He gave a short presentation on what was affectionately called "The Dinky." (Kim is available to give his full presentation to any interested groups. Just contact the township building at 570-223-8920 x121)

This year's keynote speaker, Dr. Martin Wilson, Associate Professor of History at East Stroudsburg University used his vast knowledge of transportation and the history of the area, specifically Delaware Water Gap, in his presentation fittingly titled "Crossing the Delaware". These presentations captured just how influential transportation has been in shaping and molding the Poconos. Ed Dehm, local resident, said "This was my first year attending. I thought it was a very nice lunch and that the presenters were extremely interesting." Sakina Mohyuddin who has been a resident for nearly 50 years, expressed to staff her great appreciation for the luncheon. "I try to encourage many of my friends and family to attend. It is important to remember and understand the great history of our area" Mohyuddin said.

As always, guests were encouraged to bring and share any old photos, documents and memorabilia they had pertaining to the history of Middle Smithfield Township. Staff was on hand to scan those items into the township digital archives so they could be preserved for the next generation! Longtime resident, Bonnie Ahnert-Rudeski brought several items once belonging to her father, who worked on the Phoebe Snow Train. Tom and Nancy Tully also brought several beautiful photos of trains from the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad.

Also present at this year's Memory Makers Luncheon was local author, Michelle Jacques. Michelle and co-author John Beljean have combined various archives along with scrapbooks from local residents to create their book "Images of Rail, Delaware Valley Railway: 1901-1937" featuring Middle Smithfield Township. Michelle was on hand to sign copies of her book and share stories and memories with local residents.

We would like to give very special thanks to this year's Memory Makers sponsors: Wayne Bank, Visiting Angels Living Assistance Services, Perkins Restaurant & Bakery, Wendy's and Pocono Palace.



Dingmans Bridge & 1935 Chevy by Tom & Nancy Tully



East Stroudsburg University Associate Professor of History, Dr. Martin Wilson, engaging the crowd in his "Crossing the Delaware" presentation.



# PUBLIC WORKS

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

## COOLBAUGH ROAD IMPROVEMENTS Completed on time and within budget

Prior to school opening this Fall, the improvements to the intersection of Route 402 (Resica Falls Road) and Coolbaugh Road were completed. The repaving of Coolbaugh Road, from Route 402 to just north of Tego Lake was completed on September 5, 2017. These improvements were completed on time and within budget by our Public Works Department. We also want to thank both Barrett and Smithfield Township for their help.

While the construction may have been a small inconvenience, the road improvements were needed.



Before



After

## 2017 FALL LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE:

**Monday, October 23rd – Friday, November 17th**

See article on back cover for detailed road list.

## NEW FACILITY IN WOODDALE

### Welcome us to the neighborhood!

In 2017, our Public Works Department will operate even more efficiently and at less cost to the taxpayers because of the development of a NEW material storage facility in the Wooddale section of our township.

On July 13, 2017, the Board of Supervisors approved the purchase of a parcel of land on Dancing Ridge Road. An important function of Street Maintenance is to provide snow and ice removal to ensure a safe and accessible transportation system during winter months.

With winter maintenance materials available in Wooddale, our snow plowing and cindering / salting of the roads in Wooddale will be completed in less time and at less expense than we now spend.

Presently, during a snow storm, plow trucks that need to reload materials travel from Wooddale to Municipal Drive and return, which costs valuable time. During a storm that dumps 2"/hour, there could be times when over 3-1/2" of new snow are on the road and not plowed. The addition of a facility in Wooddale means vehicle operators can spend more time plowing, and less time fetching materials.

*Construction starting soon!*

## ANNUAL FALL CLEANUP AND FREECYCLE

### (also known as "Dumpster Day" 10/13 & 10/14)

Twice a year (in the spring and in the fall) Middle Smithfield hosts "Dumpster Days" at the township building at 147 Municipal Drive to help residents do their fall and spring cleanings, as well as offer FREE PAPER SHREDDING. You can even save a trip to the Oak Grove Leaf Composting Facility, and drop off your leaves, too. Middle Smithfield Township's annual Fall Clean Up is Friday October 13th & Saturday 14th from 7am to 4pm both days, with free paper shredding on Saturday from 9a-3p. Participating residents share the cost to operate the clean-up with the township: the clean-up costs \$5 per car load (slightly more for larger vehicles) and tire disposal starts at \$4 each tire. For residents, the township clean-up is much more economical and convenient than the closest dumps in Taylor and Pen Argyl, which charge a minimum of \$62-\$73 per vehicle. Still, if you literally have a ton of stuff, we included the dump information below this article.

Middle Smithfield will accept bulk items, furniture, toys, washers, dryers, bicycles, lawn mowers, water heaters, batteries, nails, screws, empty paint cans – just no household garbage, construction debris or hazardous materials. (Have more questions? See "DETAIL" at the end of this article.)

*(continued on page 15)*

## Middle Smithfield stars in the 2017 "River Ramble" Annual Watershed Eco-Toured our Township

Every year, the Brodhead Watershed Association conducts an eco-tour called the "River Ramble" to highlight different parts of the watershed. On Sunday, August 6th, the parks, waterfalls and environmental treasures of the Marshalls Creek / Pond creek watershed were the setting for the 2017 River Ramble.

Marshalls Creek, which starts in the Delaware State Forest, and Pond Creek which parallels the Delaware River and RT 209, join in the village of Marshalls Creek and form the Marshalls Creek main stem which flows to the Brodhead Creek near River Road and I80. Marshalls Creek is typical of high gradient streams in the Poconos, falling hundreds of feet from the Pocono Plateau with waterfalls and fast flowing water. In contrast, Pond Creek meanders slowly along the valley created by the Delaware River with numerous lakes created by beaver dams.

The eco-tour started at the Middle Smithfield Township building, and those who wanted to start early attended the optional Rain Barrel class (see article on page 17.)

From there, the participants in the self-driving tour travelled to natural highlights along a mapped driving route, each spot staffed by some of the area's finest naturalists eager to share their knowledge and love of the watershed.

The first stop was the 12.8 acre Judy Putek Park, which was previously farmland, and is now preserved as open space for passive recreation with walking paths and wildlife watching. It is known for rare birds and plants. The park includes wetlands and a small stream that are part of the Pond Creek system. The

park is named for Judy Putek, a long time environmentalist and advocate of open space and resident of Middle Smithfield Township who wrote the grant that made it possible for the township to own the park. Ramblers met Darryl and Jackie Speicher, environmental educators with the Monroe County Conservation District, and Daryl is president of the Pocono Avian Research Center (PARC). Daryl and Jackie gave a talk on the differences between the Pond Creek ecosystem and other streams in Marshalls Creek watershed, and pointed out the varied birdlife here.

From there, Ramblers visited the Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Composting facility and met Don Miller, both a Brodhead Watershed and Pocono Heritage Landtrust member. Don described the view in the distance (Mosier's Knob, etc), between here and New Jersey, and the geology that caused the abandonment of this section of the Marshalls Creek bypass. Also at this stop was Pat Calpin, designer of the composting facility. He described how the composting facility is set up, how it works, and what services it provides.

Before ending at Resica Park for refreshments, ramblers visited the centerpiece of the tour – one of Middle Smithfield's landmarks – Resica Falls at the Resica Falls Boy Scout Reservation. Bob Hartman, the Conservation Chairman for the Boy Scout Reservation gave a talk about their educational programs, environmental practices and efforts on the property.



The 2017 River Ramble was such a success that a 2018 repeat performance is being considered. If you would like to join the township in protecting one of our vital resources – pristine water – please call the township for more information.

A big Thank You to the 2017 Sponsors: Country Club of the Poconos, Oak Grove Composting Facility, Perkins, Retro Fitness, Sibums Auto Parts, and Wendy's, and Thank You Friends of BWA: Richard's Tree Farm, Annette Atkinson, and Walmart.



## WHERE FALL LEAVES GO TO COMPOST:

### OAK GROVE MULTI-MUNICIPAL COMPOST PROCESSING FACILITY

The Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Processing program is jointly operated by and available to Commercial Businesses as well as the residents of Middle Smithfield, Smithfield and Lehman Township. The facility is centrally located at 3305 Oak Grove Drive in Middle Smithfield Township and is open Monday – Saturday, 7am – 2 pm. (Closed Holidays)

Drop off your Fall Clean Up yard debris! Acceptable materials include leaves, shrubs (no roots), tree trimmings, and branches cut into 3 -4 foot lengths and no larger than 12 inches in diameter.

The Oak Grove facility is a regular provider of mulch, woodchips, and compost to the Middle Smithfield Township Community Gardens Park on Coolbaugh Road. Your garden can benefit too! Pending availability, you must load the products yourself. If you need loading

assistance, make an appointment. The fee for loading assistance is \$10 for each 3 yards.

Commercial Businesses can drop off materials too, but need a one year membership permit for \$100.00, which includes unlimited vehicle permits. Products are available for purchase by appointment at a rate of \$10 for each 3 yards.

For appointments, permit purchase or questions, please email kstapleton@mstownship.com or call 570-883-8920x118.



## SHORT TERM RENTALS CAN CAUSE SHORT TEMPERS

A hot topic in recent news is Short-Term Rentals, or vacation rentals. They have been around for years, but received new attention with the rise of internet platforms such as Air BnB, making rentals easy. The dip in real estate prices (recession) and popularity of HGTV “flip it” shows encourage people to consider purchasing properties in resort areas such as the Poconos as investments to be rented out, either short or long term.

Short Term Rentals are a great option for someone who wants a second home in the Poconos, but can’t support the costs associated with that second home without supplementing their income – what if they could rent out the home when they are not vacationing there? It’s also a great option for our “snowbirds” who live six months in the area and then head south for the winter.

Unfortunately, it is also big business for property owners who cater to large groups and advertise their house to rent as the ultimate party spot. This type of rental

detracts from the neighborhood character and minimizes the enjoyment and quality of life of neighboring property owners.

Prior to the adoption of Ordinance 215 and 216 on September 14, 2017, short-term rentals were prohibited in Middle Smithfield Township. In fact, many property owners have been issued Enforcement Notices for establishing a use that is not permitted. This did not seem like the best approach, however, that would benefit the majority of our residents.

So, on August 14, 2017, the Board of Supervisors adopted two separate ordinances to permit – but regulate -- short-term rentals in Middle Smithfield Township. Ordinance 215 amended Chapter 200 of the Township Code of Ordinances, Zoning, to include a definition for Short-Term Rental and to provide regulations of this new use. While this use is permitted in all zoning districts, it is limited to no more than 179 days in the Conservation, Rural Reserve, and the R1, R2 and R3 residential zoning districts. A change of use permit is required under Zoning for this use.

Ordinance 216 is a stand-alone ordinance for the addition of Chapter 150, Short Term Rentals, to the Township Code of Ordinances.

This chapter further regulates the short term rental use of a property by requiring a permit and establishing standards that must be upheld. A local agent or contact with 24-hour availability is required on the permit application. The standards restrict the amount of overnight guests to two per bedroom as well as regulate parking and disorderly conduct, among other things. A separate permit under this chapter is also required. New and renewed permits will require an inspection by the Zoning Officer. One inspection is included in the application fee with subsequent inspections at \$50. A permit can be revoked, or an application for renewal denied, for three uncured or repeated violations such as in a rolling 12 month period.

This was a topic of the recent Realtor and Community Information Question and Answer Session hosted by the Board of Supervisors at the Township building on Tuesday, September 19th. The majority were very pleased to see that the Township will now not only allow Short Term Rentals but will also regulate the use. This will surely improve the Township for our residents.

A copy of the ordinances are available on our website or by request.

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: SALDO REVISED!

The MST Planning Commission set out to revise the (“SALDO”) Sub-division and Land Development Ordinance in 2016 and THEY did it!! Exciting news . . . well, for anyone submitting subdivision or land development plans to the township that is. (The current ordinance was adopted back in 1994.)

A big thank you to Charlie Schmehl of URDC (Urban Research Development Corporation) the Board of Supervisors, legal, engineering, zoning and staff. The township expects to adopt a new ordinance by the end of the year.

The Planning Commission members held numerous public work sessions in 2016-17 in order to provide recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

The date of the pumping and evaluation must be within 12 months of the date of application. If a report is already in the file, perhaps from a previously submitted application such as in the case of a rental property, then we will only require a new pump report with evaluation following the standard guidelines for pumping.

**What if I plan on “flipping” the house and I don’t plan on occupying?**  
Indicate on your application your intentions. In this case, we will not inspect the property and will simply issue a Temporary Access permit which only allows you to access the building for the purpose of completing repairs. The initial fee is still the same and will afford you one inspection. Once you have completed repairs and are ready, contact our office to schedule your inspection. (An inspection after issuance of a Temporary Access Certificate does not guarantee issuance of a clear Certificate of Occupancy. Re-inspections are \$50.)

**What are some examples of minor violations frequently discovered that will result in a Temporary Occupancy Certificate?**  
GFCI outlets not on all receptacles within 6 feet of a water source  
Electrical wires or ground wires that are not covered or connected  
The stove is lacking an anti-tip device  
No graspable handrails on stairway with more than 4 risers  
Construction completed without permits  
Septic system has not been pumped and evaluated within one calendar year.

**What are some examples of major violations that will result in a Temporary Access Certificate?**  
Malfunctioning septic system  
No water  
No electricity  
Major structural damage

**What if I am renting my property? Is this required every time I have a new tenant?**  
Yes, for each new tenant renting for more than 30 days, a new certificate must be applied for and obtained. You must provide a copy of the lease agreement, in addition to the deed, with your application.

A copy of the ordinance and applications are available on our website or by request.

## MOVE IN / MOVE OUT ORDINANCE Here is an update!

Chapter 179 of the Middle Smithfield Township Code, Use and Occupancy of Real Property, was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on May 25th of this year. The purpose behind this new ordinance is to ensure the health, safety and welfare of our business owners, residents and visitors to the area. Inspections will ensure compliance with both the Zoning Ordinance and the Building Code with regard to safety matters.

Since then the word has spread about this new chapter: a Resale, Use and Occupancy Certificate must be applied for and issued with each sale or rental of both residential and commercial properties. (see our Summer newsletter for more details) In fact, seventy-five certificates have been issued as of the writing of this article. Once the Resale Certificate application is completed, a building inspection is done. If all safety requirements, and basic building and zoning codes\* are met, the certificate is issued. If not, a Temporary Certificate (either Use and Occupancy or Access) is issued, and the applicant has a period of time to complete repairs and be re-inspected.

The Zoning Office, with the support of the Board of Supervisors, met with the Pocono Mountain Association of Realtors’ Government Affairs Committee as well as realtor members of the Pocono Mountain Association of Realtors to present information on this new requirement. Both meetings

not only proved to be a success but also provided valuable input, which the Township incorporated into some of the procedures behind the ordinance.

In addition, this and the Short Term Rental Ordinance were presented at township’s Fall Homeowners Association Networking Session September 9th, and the Board of Supervisors also hosted Realtor and Community Information Session at the Township building on Tuesday, September 19th. The Resale Use and Occupancy Certificate was one of the topics that prompted many questions and a great discussion. Here are some answers to our most frequently asked questions...

**Will this postpone my closing?**  
No. Our office cannot, by state law, postpone your closing for not obtaining a resale certificate. We do our best to perform inspections and issue certificates within a timely manner upon receipt of a complete application and payment of fees.

**What happens if we do not obtain a certificate prior to closing?**  
The responsibility will fall on the buyer and they will have to obtain the certificate post closing. This will not make for a happy buyer – it is highly recommended that sellers comply and obtain the certificate prior to the sale.

**What is required for private septic systems?**  
Buyers must supply proof of pumping with a professional evaluation either indicating that the system is functioning or what items must be repaired.

## ANNUAL FALL CLEANUP AND FREECYCLE (continued from page 12)

**Fall Clean Up:**  
Friday & Saturday, October 13th & 14TH: 7am-4pm  
Residents can bring their refuse AND drop off Freecycle articles (but not pick up Freecycle articles.)

**Freecycle:**  
Thursday, Friday & Saturday, October 19th, 20th & 21st: 7am-2pm  
The public can come, browse and take five (5) Freecycled items.  
What is “Freecycle?” Residents can drop off their gently used items with the knowledge that they won’t go to a landfill – but one of their neighbors or a charitable organization instead! Everyone wins – the Fall Clean Up costs the taxpayers less money (because we need less dumpsters), Pennsylvania landfills don’t fill up as quickly, and residents and local charities receive needed goods at a price that can’t be beat – FREE!

What do we do with leftovers? After the Freecycle event, charitable organizations such as Bushkill Outreach, the Salvation Army, and Women’s Resources of Nassau County can come and pick up whatever is left over. Any books in good condition will be held by the township and delivered to the Hughes Library for their annual book sale.

**If you literally have a ton of garbage:**  
**Alliance Sanitary Landfill**  
389 S. Keyser Avenue  
Taylor PA, 18517  
Disposal Rate: approximately \$62/ton  
Hours: Weekdays 7:30am to 3:00pm; occasionally on Saturdays  
www.alliancelandfill.wm.com  
**Grand Central Sanitary Landfill**  
1963 Pen Argyl Road  
Pen Argyl, PA 18072  
Disposal Rate: approximately \$73/ton  
Hours: Weekdays, 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturdays: 7 to 9 a.m.  
www.wmsolutions.com

DETAILS:	FEES:
FREE Paper Shredding (Saturday 10/14, 9a-3p) .....	FREE
Automobile/Small SUV's Load.....	\$ 5.00
Large SUV's, Pick-up trucks and vans.....	\$10.00
Small utility trailers (up to 8 ft. in length).....	\$10.00
Dump Truck (single axle) and box trucks (up to 12' box) .....	\$60.00
Dump Truck (one-ton).....	\$40.00
<b>Excessively Large Bulk Items may require an extra charge .....</b>	<b>\$ TBD by Staff</b>
<b>TIRES:</b> Small tires are \$4.00 each; with rims \$6.00 each. Large tires are \$12.00 each; with rims \$14.00 each. <b>MAXIMUM OF TWELVE (12) TIRES PER RESIDENT ACCEPTED</b>	

**NO:** NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE  
NO AUTOMOBILES or AUTOMOBILE PARTS  
NO PAINT CANS WITH CONTENTS, THINNERS  
NO PESTICIDES, HERBICIDES, or ANY OTHER HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  
NO BUILDING MATERIALS or DEMOLITION WASTE  
(for example: LUMBER, SHINGLES / SHEETROCK, DIRT, CEMENT, ETC.)

**YES:** WE WILL ACCEPT: Bulk items, for example: furniture, toys, washers, dryers, bicycles, lawn mowers, water heaters etc. BATTERIES WILL BE ACCEPTED. NAILS AND SCREWS - (MUST BE IN CLOSED CONTAINER)

**Containers will be available during cleanup for leaf drop off. FREE Paper Shredding Saturday, 10/14, 9 am - 3 pm.**





# BANQUET HALL AT WHISPERING PINES

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

## FALL INTO GOLF

As we head into our fall season we look forward to some beautiful scenery from some of the greatest vistas in the Poconos. Country Club of the Poconos is a must see for fall golfers. Take advantage of our especially low October rates to enjoy some of the most beautiful vistas in the Poconos. As always our course is in excellent condition (after all – Mother Nature watered us well this past season!)

Hopefully our fall weather will treat us better than this past summer. The weather has proved to be a formidable challenge for the golf industry in the Northeast and Country Club of the Poconos is no exception. Rain has hampered nearly 50% of our calendar days this summer.

We have recently teamed up with Golf Now, at no cost, with a new computer program that will automatically sense trends in tee times and adjust our rates accordingly in order to maximize the revenue we should be receiving. For golfers that means – look for flash sales! In addition, with Golf Now's agricultural buying power, we are able to save even more money on our maintenance purchases.

## SEWER

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

### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS:

- ✓ Steel Bridge Pump Station in Winona Lakes – Completed

- 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. Project was awarded to Blooming Glen, with an estimated cost of \$611,740. Plans have been approved; tanks are being fabricated.

### Upgrades to Pump stations:

- Bids were opened at the Board of Supervisors meeting on June 8th, 2017. See award for Pump Station #6; bids for the other pump stations are still under review.

- Pump Station 3 – McCole and Route 209

- Pump Station 4 – Maple Lane

- Pump Station 5 – Rte 209 & Municipal Dr

- Pump Station 6 – Route 209 and Sellersville (CVS) The project for the rehabilitation of Pump Station 6 was awarded to Pioneer Construction. The estimated cost is \$39,264 and work was scheduled to begin at the end of September.

- Pump Station 8 – Lake of the Pines Pump Station

## “Raise the Roof” for the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center Golf Tournament



### On Monday, 10/9, Columbus Day!

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

10:00 am Registration & Breakfast  
11:00 am Shotgun Start  
4:30 pm Dinner & Awards

Scramble Format  
Men's and Women's  
Mixed divisions.

Only \$75 per Individual golfer  
\$275– Foursome (save \$25)  
\$25– Lunch only

Sponsorship Opportunities are  
also available!

Please make checks payable to:  
PHLT / Pocono Heritage

Land Trust  
700 Sarah Street  
Stroudsburg, PA 18302

Call Cindy at (570) 424-1514 or  
email her at cmiano@phlt.org to  
register or sponsor.

### About the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center:

Brodhead Watershed Association and Pocono Heritage Land Trust are partnering with Stroud Township in a campaign to make ForEvergreen Nature Preserve a natural hub of community life. The Brodhead Creek Heritage Center is a key component of this effort. The existing building at the Preserve, formerly a golf clubhouse, cannot be salvaged. A 3,000 square-foot nature, culture and heritage center is planned to replace it, to advance the goal of helping children, their parents, and grandparents connect with nature.

## THE FALL IS ALSO A BUSY TIME FOR GOLF OUTINGS AT THE CLUB:

Thursday, September 14th 9:00am  
Council of Governments Scramble

Saturday, September 23rd 1:00pm  
Wounded Warriors 8" Cup Scramble

Saturday, September 30th 11:00am  
Marshalls Creek Fire Company  
24th Annual Fall Classic

Monday, October 9th 10:00am  
Brodhead Creek Heritage Center  
Fundraiser golf tournament

Tuesday, October 17th 12:00pm  
CIAC Charity Golf Outing

Would you like to raise \$300-\$400 or more in just 4 hours for your charity? Call the pro shop and ask about our special 9-hole outing package (570-223-8099).

## Banquet Hall Reservations Still Available for 2017

It may be fall, but the beautiful Whispering Pines banquet hall still has dates available for all your golf outing, charitable, or private party needs in 2017!

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@mstowship.com](mailto:crain@mstowship.com) for availability and costs. Dates are available in 2017 and 2018. Non-profit organizations may receive a discounted price or qualify to have the fees waived. Let us help you make your next event special.

## We Care Every Day, In Every Way.®

- Meal Preparation
- Light Housekeeping
- Errands • Bathing Assistance
- Assistance with Mobility
- Alzheimer/Dementia Care
- Friendly Companionship
- Up to 24 Hour Care
- Respite Care for Families

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Caregivers. Call number above to inquire!**

## IS YOUR AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM SYSTEM PUTTING A STRAIN ON YOUR FIRE COMPANY?

By Joseph Luisi

Fire Chief, Marshalls Creek Fire Company

The Marshalls Creek Fire Company, along with many other Fire Companies around the nation respond to many automatic fire alarms which are deemed false alarms.

The Marshalls Creek Fire Company was dispatched and responded to well over 100 automatic fire alarm incidents last year alone that required no services from the Fire Company but we are required to respond and investigate.

These false alarms not only tie up many resources that could be dispatched to another emergency elsewhere and now have a reduced the fire companies response time, put false alarms also put additional wear and tear on apparatus and puts a lot of unnecessary strain on our volunteers.

Many times, false alarms can be greatly minimized or even eliminated by doing a few simple things:

Keep your information up-to-date with your alarm company provider. (key holder names, proper dwelling address, directions to the dwelling and contact numbers for all key-holders)

Check your smoke detector manufacturing dates, THEY DO NOT LAST FOREVER. Smoke detectors have a 10 year lifespan and need to be replaced. We respond to many false alarms due to “expired” malfunctioning detectors. If you don't have the resources to check/maintain your detectors, please contact your alarm company provider, they can provide this service to you.

Maintain the batteries in your smoke detectors. Even “hardwired” smoke detectors have battery backup so they can work during a power outage. Please follow the manufacturing instructions for your detectors. Some smoke detectors now contain a “lifetime” battery which doesn't need to be changed.

Test your detectors at least monthly: press the test button on each unit and follow the manufacturing instructions.

If your automatic alarm system activates due to a false smoke alarm (for example, a cooking event or shower steam) and you do not require the assistance from the fire company, please contact your alarm company provider ASAP and tell them it is a false alarm and the fire company isn't needed. If the proper key holder and phone numbers are on file with your alarm company, your alarm company should be calling you in the event of an alarm.





Bob Phillips



Connie Roberts



Marcia G. Welsh, Ph.D.



Gary Smith



George Roberts



Tim O'Donnell



Al Compoly Jr.



Kate Newman,  
Person of the Year

## BUSHKILL OUTREACH FOOD PANTRY TO REMAIN OPEN

Middle Smithfield Township was excited to learn that the Bushkill Outreach Food Pantry, which announced plans to close at the end of August, has decided to remain open after all.

When the volunteers heard the pantry was planning to close, they organized to take over the fundraising and put together a new board,

led by Joe Ballestrieri and Johanna Haltmeier. The outgoing board was happy to have someone take over the operations. Mr. Ballestrieri and Ms. Haltmeier are sharing the responsibility of running the Outreach while they get the new board in order.

The food pantry, which has been serving Middle Smithfield and Lehman Townships for 39 years since 1978, is an amazing asset to our community. The pantry serves over 1,200 people on a monthly basis. MST residents, local churches and gardeners from Community Gardens Park regularly make donations to support the food pantry.

Bushkill Outreach is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9am to 12pm. Donations can be made at the outreach center in Lehman Township, which is located at 3222 Rt. 209 in Bushkill, near the traffic light at Rt. 209 and Bushkill Falls Road. They can also be reached at 570-588-0660.

## DINNER FOR VETERANS

Andy Zaso (St. John's Church; Mady's Kitchen) has been hard at work with fellow 2016 Person of the Year finalist Al Compoly Jr (Operation Chillout) and Dave Manter (Dave Manter Inspections; Tall Cedars), who have collaborated on a Dinner for Veterans, free for all veterans in Middle Smithfield Township and their guest. It is a reunion of sorts, together again: fellow cook Dave Manter and his organization Tall Cedars is stepping up to the (dinner) plate to cook and serve with Andy, just like they did in 2015 for a fundraiser for Neil Davis' "Walk Across America" for PTSS



Andy Zaso: Mady's Kitchen

### Free dinner for Veterans living in Middle Smithfield Township and their guest.

*Know a veteran? Pass the word along!*

Friday, November 10th, 5pm-8pm  
At the Whispering Pines Banquet hall at 1445 Big Ridge Dr.  
If you would like to help or volunteer in some way, please call  
Holly at 570-223-8920, x132

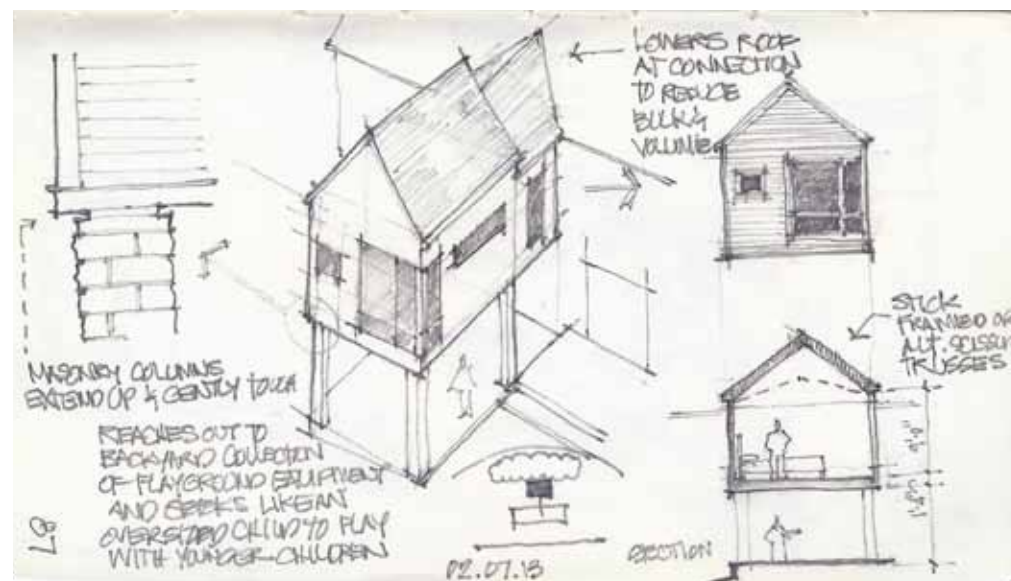


Al Compoly

## BIG MISSION: TINY HOUSE

Operation Chillout and their Homeless Veterans Outreach Program has a big mission tucked away in all those tiny houses: Building state of the art, high energy-efficient, stylish, comfortable and affordable

individual custom tiny homes for homeless veterans in New Jersey now coming to Pennsylvania. Al has arranged for a presentation unveiling Tiny House PA at the Dinner for Veterans. If you would like to help or donate, please call or email Holly: hfreese@mstowship.com, 570-223-8920, x132.



## CHAIRMAN of the Independent Judges' Panel

### Bob Phillips

Bob Phillips attended night school at the University of Scranton, earning a bachelor's degree in business administration, with a concentration in accounting. He acquired businesses along the way, "everything from restaurants to electrical contracting to real estate investments." In 1999, Phillips answered a newspaper ad seeking a business development specialist for the Pocono Chamber, someone who would help encourage and guide job-sustaining businesses -- and the rest is history. He got that job and a year later, became the chamber president and CEO, and has served as such for the last 17 years, retiring just this past year. Phillips also served for six years on the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority Board.

### Alternate Judge

#### Connie Roberts

Co-Owner, George Roberts Productions

Connie works full time in her role at George Roberts Productions, the video production company she co-owns with her husband.

Connie also served as the chairperson for the American Red Cross of Monroe County from 2007-08 and is one of the original organizers of the Run for the Red Pocono Marathon, which attracts runners from all over the world.

### Judges:

#### Marcia G. Welsh

President, East Stroudsburg University

Marcia G. Welsh, Ph.D. was appointed as the 13th president of ESU in April 2012 by the Board of Governors for the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education and assumed her role as the first female president of ESU in July 2012. Dr. Welsh earned both her undergraduate degree in physical sciences and master's degree in anatomy from Colorado State University, and her doctoral degree in anatomy from the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio.

### Gary Smith

"Gary in the Morning," Pocono 96.7

Born and raised in Passaic, New Jersey, Gary has been in the radio industry for over 25 years. He has received many awards including a Bizzy Award, Several "Greatest Around the Poconos" Awards as well as a few Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters Awards. He loves using his show to reach out and help as many people as he can, and radio allows him to have a stage to perform on and be himself.

### George Roberts

Chairman, Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce

Owner, George Roberts Productions

Now working full time in video production, George got his start at a radio station in Mount Pocono while he was still in college. After graduating from the University of Scranton in 1982, he worked full-time in radio throughout NEPA.

George began his television career in 1988 and was the first news anchor hired for the new Eyewatch News Team on TV 13.

Now George, along with his wife Connie, are a part of many local organizations including the Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Monroe County, and Red Cross of the Poconos.

### Tim O'Donnell

2015 Person of the Year Finalist, Kiwanis Daybreak Club of the Poconos

Tim O'Donnell is an active member of both the Kiwanis Club of the Poconos Daybreak and in the community, who fosters a passion for education.

Tim's goal is to give every kid in Middle Smithfield the chance to gain knowledge about their home.

He has led the initiative with the local leaders of the National Parks Service, the Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC), Middle Smithfield Elementary, East Stroudsburg University, and many other local education centers to create partnerships and programs that would allow children to learn the most about our rich natural features.

### Al Compoly Jr.

2016 Person of the Year finalist, Operation Chillout

In 1968 Al enlisted in the United States Air Force and after separating from the Service in 1975, Al went to Brookdale Community College and obtained an associates in Arts degree and then went onto Trenton State College where he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Art Therapy.

After many years of working at various hospitals doing rehabilitation, counseling and art therapy, Al moved to the Pocono Mountains.



At a recent Town Hall at the Schoonover Township Building, Congressman Matt Cartwright thanks Robert Lewis, WW2 Veteran, for his service to our country. Robert, who will celebrate his 91st birthday this November, will attend the township's Dinner for Vets with his wife of 57 years, Dorothy.

Congressman Cartwright's office assists veterans with a range of issues, including federal benefits. Need help? Call his Military & Veterans Affairs Caseworker, Sabrina A. McLaughlin, 570-624-0140.



\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSSDDM\*\*\*\*\*

## POSTAL CUSTOMER

### 2017 FALL LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE:

**Monday, October 23rd – Friday, November 17th**

Please have the leaves raked to the side of the street – but not onto the traveled roadway!

Only leaves are picked up – please, no sticks, limbs, stumps, grass clippings or any other yard wastes.

This is a tentative schedule which is subject to change without notice depending on weather, volume or leaves, and any other emergency that may arise.

Under township ordinance, all 'open burning' of leaves is prohibited

Do not place your garbage or recyclables with or into the leaves!

Please see detailed schedule below for curbside service. If you live in a Homeowners Association, the township will pick up

leaves in the established centralized location within your community\*. Miss the schedule? No problem! All residents of the township are welcome to drop off leaves and brush at the Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Facility 3305 Oak Grove Road, East Stroudsburg, PA 18302  
Hours: Monday through Saturday 7am-2pm, CLOSED HOLIDAYS  
Please empty leaves and brush into proper bins (no plastic bags accepted)

\*If you wish to participate with our HOA/ POA Leaf/Brush Program, a centralized collection point must be established within your community. Please contact Karen at 570-223-8920x118 or email [kstapleton@mstownship.com](mailto:kstapleton@mstownship.com).



Photo by Nancy Tully



### 2017 FALL LEAVE PICK UP SCHEDULE:

#### Weeks #1 & 2 Monday, October 23rd – Friday, November 3rd

Alexander Court	Eastridge Lane	Overlook Lane
Auburn Way	Fig Court	Paper Lane
Avenue De Guy Road	Fish Court	Pine Hill Court
Azalea Way	Footprint Road	Pine Hill Road
Barren Road	Forest Run	Reservoir Ridge Road
Besecker Drive	Flagstone Lane	Reservoir Road
Big Bear Drive	Georganna Drive	Rue De John
Big Buck Lane	Glenview Court	Shady Hill Road
Brook Hollow Road	Green Meadow Drive	Sidorick Lane
Brushy Mountain Road	Havenwood Drive	Skyview Lane
Buckhorn Drive	Hiawatha Lane	Stonewall Court
Charley Drive	High Meadow Drive	Stony Brook Drive
Clear Spring Court	Honeysuckle Drive	Summit Drive
Cold Springs Road	Jennifer Lane	Summer Drive
Colonial Drive	Kassidy Court	Sugar Works Drive
Coolbaugh Road	Knob Hill Circle	Sycamore Lane
Creek Run	Knoll Drive	Tego Lake Road
Crown Point Court	Laurel Ridge Road	Thornberry Court
Crown Point Drive	Ledgewood Court	Timbercrest Lane
Crown Point North Drive	Mackenzie Drive	Travis Drive
Crown Point South Drive	Magnolia Drive	Watershed Way
Dancing Ridge Road	Main Road	Waverly Drive
Dawn Lane	Manzanedo Road	Westridge Court
Deer Track Drive	Maplewood Drive	Whipporwill Lane
Deer Track Lane	Marshalls Creek Road	White Birch Drive
Denise Lane	Melvin Lane	Wooddale Road
Dry Pond Drive	Mountain Laurel Drive	Woodland Trail
		Yellow Leaf Court

#### Week #3 Monday, November 6th – Friday, November 10th

Arbutus Lane	Frutchey Drive	Oak Grove Road
Big Ridge Drive	Gravel Ridge Road	Pardees Loop
Bowie Lane	Hidden Lake Drive	Primrose Lane
Buroojy Court	Hollow Road	River Road
Calvary Court	Holy Cross Road	Russell Ridge Road
Charlotte Way	Huckleberry Drive	Sand Hill Road
Chateau Drive	Huffman Hill Road	Scenery Court
Columbia Boulevard	Keystone Road	Sterling Court
Community Drive	Marjore Court	Timber Mountain Drive
Corral Court	McCole Road	Timothy Lake Road
Courtright Lane	Michaels Road	Tom X Road
Custard Drive	Mosiers Knob Road	Village Drive
Firestone Lane	Mount Nebo Road	White Birch Lane
Foxmoor Drive	Municipal Drive	Winona Falls Road
Freeman Tract Road	Newton Run Drive	

#### Week #4 November 13th – Friday, November 17th

Pleasant Ridge Road	Stony Ledge Drive
Sellersville Drive	Turkey Ridge Road
(above Tom X Road)	Upper Lakeview Drive

