



MIDDLE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWS

Spring 2018



*Photo by Sarina Cook of the Pocono Photo Club.
The Photo Club's Spring Exhibit Opening Reception is
April 29th, 6:30 pm at the Whispering Pines Banquet
Hall. The free exhibit runs through the month of May.*

**Did the Storm Twins
RILEY AND QUINN
hit you hard?**
**Get the
"211"**

(see page 8)

RESTAURANT WEEK 2018

Opens with Pocono Photo Club Exhibit

Running Sunday April 29th to Sunday May 6th, local residents, neighbors, and visitors alike will enjoy discounted menus and/or dishes from participating restaurants in Middle Smithfield Township.

There is something special for every plate! Customers can expect Italian, American, Hispanic, and so much more. With two new eateries added to the township this year, locals will have even more great options when looking for a bit to eat. Restaurant Week Kick Off: Sunday April 29th, 6:30-8:30 pm at the Whispering Pines Banquet Hall.

(see page 15)

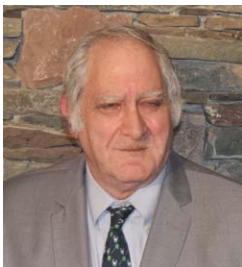
WHAT’S GOIN’ ON

- April:** 4/13 County Club of the Poconos opens, weather permitting
4/21 County Earth Day at Northampton Com. College
4/21 Second Harvest Food Truck Drive (see page 18)
4/23 Spring Leaf Collection Begins (till 5/18)
4/28 Litter Cleanup 1,000 Feet of Street at a Time
4/29 Restaurant Week Kick Off Event (Restaurant Week runs 4/29-5/7)
4/29 Pocono Photo Club FREE Opening Reception
- May:** 5/4 & 5/5 Cleanup & Freecycle AKA “Dumpster Day” (Drop Off Only 7am-4pm)
5/15 Election Day (Primaries)
5/26-5/27 Bushkill Outreach Flea Market (see page 18)
5/28 Memorial Day
- June:** 6/1- 6/2 Brodhead Watershed Native Plant Sale at Pocono Township Fire Company
6/2 Farm to Table Hoe Down (see page 18)
6/26 Anniversary of Marshalls Creek Explosion
- July:** 7/4 Independence Day
7/12 Supervisors Meeting 7pm Presentation: Midyear Report to the Public
- August:** 8/17 Flood of 1955 Anniversary
8/18 14th Annual Memory Makers at Shawnee
- September:** 9/3 Labor Day
9/8 MST Community Day at Middle Smithfield Elementary
9/29 Litter Cleanup 1,000 Feet of Street at a time
- October:** 10/5 & 10/6 Cleanup & Freecycle AKA “Dumpster Day” (Drop Off Only 7 am-4 pm)
10/15 Fall Leaf Collection Begins (till 11/16)
10/17 National Fossil Day™ & 3rd Marshalls Creek Mastodon Event
10/20 5th Annual Trunk or Treat 12 at Resica Park
- November:** 11/6 Election Day
11/11 Veteran’s Day Luncheon
11/20 Shop Local Now thru 1/2/19
11/22 Thanksgiving
11/24 6th Annual Tree Lighting 5:30 pm at Echo Lake
- December:** 12/6 Supervisors Meeting 7 pm Presentation of the Budget to the Public
12/25 Christmas Day
12/27 Adoption of the Budget & Year End Report
12/31 New Year’s Eve

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2017 PERSON OF THE YEAR UPDATE:
WHAT THEY ARE UP TO...



JAN KORB,
2017 PERSON OF THE YEAR
Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry

Support the Food Truck Drive at Dorney Park in Allentown!
read more on page 18



DIANE JIORLE
2017 PERSON OF THE YEAR FINALIST
Angel’s Closet

Spring cleaning your closets? Angel’s Closet is stocking up on winter clothing.
read more on page 18



THOMAS GANSEL
2017 PERSON OF THE YEAR FINALIST
Reformed Church of Bushkill
The famous Bushkill Outreach Memorial Day Yard Sale returns! OK, so they’re calling it a Flea Market now.
read more on page 18

A WORD FROM YOUR
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

Mike Dwyer, Mark Oney, and Annette Atkinson

We know it seems hard to believe, but it looks as if Spring is finally here! Hard to believe that with Spring peeking over our windowsills, it was ushered in by back to back nor’easters! We’d like to thank the first responders, and the road crews, who worked tirelessly to weather the storm.

As you might remember, Middle Smithfield Township was one of, if not the, worst hit area by Riley, with over 18” of snow, 55+ mile per hour winds, power loss of 3-8 days, and a sewer main break. We’d like to thank all the brave linemen who left their homes from as far as Ohio, North Carolina and Missouri to perform powerline repairs, including over 56 utility pole replacements . Our public works department received 55 PA One calls for excavation emergencies. They not only tirelessly plowed and cindered, interrupted by rescuing stranded vehicles and removing fallen trees from their paths, but fueled sewer pump station generators during the storm and lengthy power outage.

During all of this, the new public works facility in Wooddale proved itself to be a good decision: the township saved in the neighborhood of \$3,000 per storm by saving on labor, fuel, and equipment costs by staffing from Wooddale.

In this issue of the newsletter, we included a spread on our Emergency Services, who, unlike other states, are not solely funded by tax dollars, but by your much needed tax deductible donations. In the summer issue, you can look for a pull out section on Emergency Preparedness that can help our many residents stay prepared. In the summer issue, you can look for a pull out section on Emergency Preparedness with tips to help our many residents stay prepared and safe.

Your Township Supervisors

P.S., On another note, we are excited to announce that the Eastern Monroe Public Library has decided to locate the Library of the Smithfields branch in our township, right on 209/Milford Road, in Echo Lake Park. What better setting than a park for families, children and seniors alike, to take full advantage of all the programs the library offers. Look for more news in the summer issue about the new Community Center/ Library/Local museum!

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

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

Middle Smithfield Township Staff

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

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

Dave Manter | On Lot Sewage Enforcement Officer
dmanter@mstownship.com | x128

Ray Wolfe | Budget & Finance Manager
rwolfe@mstownship.com | x131

Karen Stapleton | Public Works Department Administrator
kstapleton@mstownship.com | x118

Shawn McGlynn | Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer
zoning@mstownship.com | x126

Judith Acosta | Zoning Administrator
jacosta@mstownship.com | x128

Michaela Correll | Director of First Impressions
recept@mstownship.com | x100

Christopher Rain | Community & Municipal Projects Coordinator, Parks & Rec Liasion, Banquet Hall Liaison
crain@mstownship.com | x119

Holly Freese | Community & Municipal Projects Coordinator, Golf Committee & Homeowners Association Liaison
hfreese@mstownship.com | x132

Patrice Dume | Economic Development Manager
pdume@mstownship.com | x130

Dana Francis | Municipal Projects Assistant & Historical Commission Liaison
dfrancis@mstownship.com | x121

Kevin Dixon | Country Club of the Poconos Pro Shop Manager
kdixon@mstownship.com | 570-223-8099

Committee Chairpersons

Ray White | Golf Advisory Committee | x205
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

Mal Law | Zoning Hearing Board | x112

FINANCE: TREASURER'S NOTE

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

INCREASING TAX REVENUE WITHOUT INCREASING TAXES

The impacts of the recent snow storms have obviously affected all of us. The township expended a significant amount of funds for not only manpower to maintain our roads, but also expended funds for: additional staffing during the storms, additional diesel/gas to operate our own fleet, some of our emergency service providers vehicles, and our generators at the sewer stations and plant. Other expenses were incurred after the storms to restore many areas of the township that had trees down. (Our road crew didn't get any mailboxes this season, so we saved a couple hundred dollars there.)

Each year, at the beginning of the year, the township does not receive much income; taxes are not due until April. To cover expenses during the early months of the year, we rely on reserves to get us through. If we did not have these reserves, we would have to borrow and borrowing costs more, with interest. (These are called "TAN's" -- Tax Anticipation Notes.) Efforts are made each year to decrease expenses where possible, and still provide excellent service to our residents and business owners. Thankfully, Middle Smithfield Township is financially stable.

We continue, in our 6th year without a tax

increase, to find ways to increase tax revenues without actually raising taxes. One of the most significant areas the Board of Supervisors hope to realize more revenue is by increasing the tax base (e.g., increasing the number of taxpayers, increasing property value). More commercial development complimentary to the character of our township not only contributes in the form of real estate taxes, but the jobs that go along with the new development also create income for our residents and Earned Income Tax (EIT.)

One most notable effort to unite those two objectives, decreasing expenses and increasing income, is by selling the golf course and surrounding township owned lands. The funds expended each year on the golf course can be better used to increase funding of our fire and ambulance companies that provide emergency services or improve our infrastructure or decrease taxes. The income that would be generated from putting that land back on the tax rolls (as long as the township owns it, the lands are tax exempt) as well as from a commercial development and a privately owned/operated golf course, would improve income for not only the township, but for the county and our school district. Turning an expense into an income only makes logical sense.

So, when we look at the township finances, we look at where we can not only decrease expenses, but areas where a potential exists

to increase income, we work hard to achieve that potential. Cooperation among our County Commissioners and local School Board are very important so see that these goals are met.



Photo by Ann H LeFevre, past officer and present member of the Pocono Photo Club. The Photo Club's Spring Exhibit Opening Reception is April 29th, 6:30pm at the Whispering Pines Banquet Hall. The exhibit runs through the month of May.

LIBRARY OF THE SMITHFIELD'S

By Seamus McGraw

Your Smithfield's Branch of the Eastern Monroe Public Library is more than just a collection of musty old books, and new ones straight from the bestseller list. It's a gathering place, a learning center, a resource, sort of the living room for the fast growing communities in the twin municipalities of Middle Smithfield and Smithfield.

And in April, there are plenty of good reasons to wander into the library's cozy quarters at 507 Seven Bridges Road.

If you're a parent or a grandparent looking for an adventure of the imagination for those really little ones, join us at 10:30 am on April 2, 16, 23 and 30 for Lap-Sit, a program of songs, stories and activities for toddlers ages 12 to 35 months.



Seamus McGraw is an accomplished author, and also Secretary on the Eastern Monroe Public Library Board of Trustees. Seamus was appointed to the Library Board to represent Smithfield and Middle Smithfield.

Older children, ages three for five, are certain to enjoy Story Time at 11 am, on the same dates. And if your son or daughter is fan of Minecraft they'll certainly be rocked by Minecraft Crafts, a hands on experience that'll teach them to experience their favorite game in a whole new way. The program, scheduled for 6-7 pm April 17, is open to kids from kindergarten to sixth grade. Registration begins on April 2. If you're looking for a learning experience for yourself, and are not as tech savvy as you'd like to be, join us on April 11 at 10:30 am for our free Introduction to Computers class. Registration

is required. Call us at 1 (570) 223-1881. And if genealogy is your thing, you might learn how to begin that search for your long lost rich uncle whom you're sure left you everything he had by joining the Family Roots Genealogy Group which meets on April 25 at 3 pm at your Smithfields Branch. Want to learn to knit? Sit in with the Knotty Knitters on Friday, April 18 from 3-4 pm. And oh, yes, we do love books, and are always looking for more to love, and so if you're a voracious reader or just have a favorite you want to share, why not drop in on April 12, from 7-8 pm and chat with the other folks in the Omnivorous Readers Book Club. Be prepared to share your recommendations about a book that you have read. Contact Sue Young (570) 223-1881, cyoung@monroepl.org. April is a great month at your Smithfields Branch. Come visit and you'll see. If is, after all, your library.

WELCOME MOE'S CHARCOAL GRILL! REAL CHARCOAL, REAL FOOD, GREAT

Moe's Charcoal Grill has been a family owned business since 1973. Their professional cooking and grilling is done with different flavors from all around world in the heart of New York City. Nothing excites them more than making creative, innovative, and delicious food to be enjoyed with families and loved ones. Using fresh and locally sourced ingredients ensures the top quality of their food!

They've been catering and serving the people of New York for 30 years and now, it's time to make their family bigger and share the love and deliciousness with you, Pennsylvania. Want try something new? Stop by 4543 Milford Rd Unit 40, East Stroudsburg, PA 18302, in the



Price Chopper Plaza and enjoy a variety of dishes with chicken, ribs, steak, salmon, shrimp, cod fish, and so much more! Everything is grilled over charcoal! There is literally something for everybody!

Not to mention, residents can

enjoy their weekly specials:

Monday - FREE Dessert with any full or half orders

Tuesday - FREE side, free large side, with any full order or free small side with any half order.

Wednesday - FREE DRINK, free 16 oz drink with any half order or free 2-liter with any full order.

Thursday - \$5 OFF with any purchase of \$25 or more.



SHOP LOCAL SURVEY RESULTS

The residents have spoken! Residents took the time to share their opinions about the program. According to the survey results:

- Residents used their cards most frequently at: True Value (now ACE Hardware), Retro Fitness, Pa Nails, Great Clips, Pub 570, and Los Tres Amigos.
- According to the residents, True Value had the best discount this year
- Overall residents want to see more businesses added to the program, and a longer duration.

We thank all the residents that took the time to fill out the surveys, we welcome any other ideas or suggestion you may have for future Shop Local programs. All residents who participated in the survey received a free pass to the Township's Spring Clean Up an Freecycle event.



From left to right: Sawmill Furniture owner Jud Krinsky, winners Carl and Judy Moeller, and store manager Jesse Krinsky.

SAWMILL FURNITURE CONTEST WINNERS

The winners have been selected! Big congratulations go out to Carl & Judy Moeller who are the lucky grand prize winners of Sawmill Furniture's 30th Anniversary Sweepstakes. Carl & Judy received a \$3,000 room makeover of their choosing. They haven't selected their prize yet but they are excited about the possibilities! As always, the township would like to thank Sawmill Furniture for all they do for our community and, of course, offer our congratulations to Carl & Judy on their prize!



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



Photos by Eric Goins



Carrot Toss and other games at the Eggstravaganza were a big success!
Photo by Eric Goins of the Pocono Photo Club.

Thank you to our 2018 Eggstravaganza Sponsors!

Golden Eggs

CRE Bushkill Group, LLC

Good Eggs

M&G Convenience/Empanadas

Bronze Eggs

Mignosi's Super Foodtown,
Muller's Family Restaurant

The Bunny's Helper

Annette Atkinson

A-OK Market & Deli, Quick Stop Sunoco

Special thanks to our volunteers for making our event possible: Mellissa McPartland, East Stroudsburg Softball Little League, Marshalls Creek Fire Company, and Bushkill Emergency Corps. Resica Park is located at 1 Gravel Ridge Road next to Resica Elementary School. MST parks are open daily during daylight hours. Resica Park is closed to the public during school hours. Please call 570-223-8920 x119 for more information, or email crain@mstownship.com.

IT WAS A HOPPING GOOD TIME AT THE 11TH ANNUAL EGGSTRAVAGANZA!

On Saturday March 24, Middle Smithfield Township's Parks & Recreation Board hosted the 11th Annual Eggstravaganza at Resica Park. Despite four blizzards in the three weeks prior to the event, spring was in the air.

Children from 0 to 10 and their families came out to play games and collect their eggs. Some lucky egg hunters collected Golden Eggs with a special prize from Pocono Zip Racer donated by CRE Bushkill Group, LLC. Our very special guest, the Easter Bunny, also stopped by to visit with the kids and take some pictures.

BIKE PARK SET TO OPEN FOR THE SEASON IN APRIL

Spring is coming, and that means the River's Edge Family Bike Park is set to open for the season! The park will open in April (exact date TBA) after some regular spring maintenance to make sure the park is ready to go.

Located on River Road in Smithfield Township, River's Edge features hills, berms, and bumps appropriate for all skill level bikers. The park was built in the summer and fall of 2017 and had a soft opening last year before it closed for the season. It drew bikers from as far

away as Philadelphia and Long Island because it is the largest pump track of its kind on the east coast.

The bike park is intended for bicycles only. No motorized vehicles of any kind are permitted. Helmets must be worn at all times. Other park rules are posted on site.

River's Edge is one of two parks, along with Mt. Nebo Park, jointly owned and operated by Middle Smithfield and Smithfield Townships. Further expansion of the park is planned in the future.

River's Edge Family Bike Park is located on River Road (use 123 River Road, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 when searching on GPS). The park is open daily during daylight hours from April to November, weather permitting. For more information about the park, contact Middle Smithfield Township at 570-223-8920 x119 or Smithfield Township at 570-223-5082, or email riversedgefamilybikepark@gmail.com.



Master Gardeners
PennState Extension

CLASSES
FOR 2018

Have an interest in gardening? Whether you have a bed at the Community Gardens or just want to learn more, come out to a gardening class hosted by the Penn State Master Gardeners. Each class is taught by a certified Master Gardener at Community Gardens Park, weather permitting.

This is a tentative schedule. Dates may change and classes may be added. Please check future newsletters or www.facebook.com/mstcommunitygardens for more information.

April 14, 11a-12p: Plant Diseases and Good Bugs vs Bad Bugs
May 19, 11a-12p: Which Ones are Weeds?
June 16, 11a-12p: Companion Planting
Oct 13, 11a-12p: Garlic Planting



The playground at Echo Lake Park is ready for Spring! Photo by Ann H LeFevre of the Pocono Photo Club, whose Spring Exhibit opens at the Whispering Pines on Sunday, April 29th.



The soccer fields at Echo Lake Park are always busy! Photo by Ann H LeFevre of the Pocono Photo Club, whose Spring Exhibit opens at the Whispering Pines on Sunday, April 29th.

MAKE YOUR BED AT MST COMMUNITY GARDENS IN 2018



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

Come garden with us in 2018 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@mstownship.com, or stop by the Township Building at 147 Municipal Drive. Plots reservations require a short reservation form and a \$50 refundable deposit per plot to hold your spot. There is a maximum of 3 plots per household during the initial signup period.

We hope to hear from you soon and look forward to another great growing season in 2017!

MST Community Gardens Park is located at 989 Coolbaugh Road. MST parks are open daily during daylight hours. For more information, call 570-223-8920 x119, email parks&recreation@mstownship.com, or visit www.facebook.com/mstcommunitygardens.

BEEKEEPER NEEDED

The MST Community Gardens apiary is in need of a volunteer beekeeper! For health reasons, our 2017 beekeepers are not able to physically manage the hives in 2018 – but they can mentor someone! Whether you have experience in beekeeping or would just like to learn, and would like to volunteer to manage our hives, please contact the Parks Department at 570-223-8920 x119.



Experienced beekeepers will assist our new beekeeper in their duties and help with the new-bees. The more people we have who know how to tend the hives, the better they will be!

Native Plant Sale June 1-2 featuring non-invasive plants at the Pocono Township Fire Company building in Tannersville. Plant Sale benefits the Brodhead Watershed Association. Want a discount? Become a member! More info at <http://www.brodheadwatershed.org/>

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Funded entirely by donations, not taxes



MARSHALLS CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY 2018 FUND DRIVE

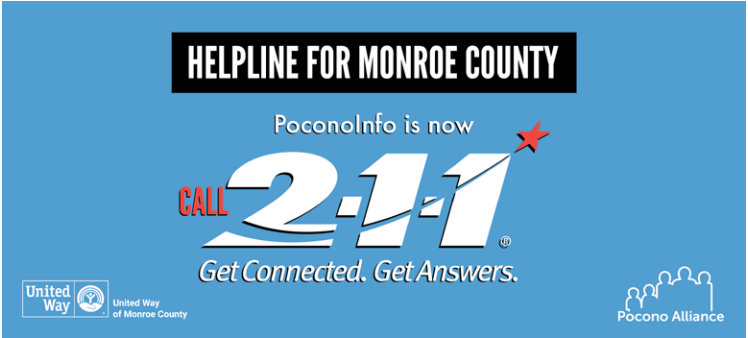
By Joe Luisi, Jr. Fire Chief, MCFC

It's that time of year again where we humbly ask for our neighbors and businesses within the Marshalls Creek Volunteer Fire Company response area to support our annual fund drive. This crucial fundraiser is vital to our overall functionality. Without your generosity, many of our vital programs and equipment upgrades would not be a reality.

We are coping with challenging economic times. Our operational costs and equipment needs are consistently increasing. This climate also makes it difficult for our company to stretch our capital. We continue to aggressively seek and obtain grant funding from a number of resources to further subsidize our efforts, but these funding options are limited.

Since the inception of our Fire Company in 1945, our strong mission and core values have always been the forefront of our overall infrastructure. We are focused and committed to our community's needs and continue to adapt to those increased demands. We must also prepare for the future by investing in the latest technologies and training to operate more safely and efficiently.

Our true success emanates from the support of our entire community—whether it is the generous tax-deductible donation that you make today or the unmatched dedication and compassion of your neighbors who volunteer their time and risk their lives to protect you and your loved ones, enhance your sense of well-being and improve the quality of life for everyone.



LOOKING FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES? JUST DIAL: 2-1-1 or visit, PoconoInfo.communityOS.org

by Michael Albert, President and CEO, United Way of Monroe County

United Way of Monroe County, in partnership with Pocono Alliance, Family Service Association of Northeastern PA, and United Way of Pennsylvania recently launched a 24-hour-7-days-a-week information and referral service for residents in Monroe County.

Whether it's information about opioid abuse, availability of child care services, accessing homeless shelters, connecting to federal assistance programs, or support for an aging parent, Monroe County residents need only dial, toll-free, 2-1-1 to connect with a caseworker who will guide them through a comprehensive database of local, state and federal health and human service programs available in our community.

"This is the first place people should call when they are in need of community services," says Maria Schramm, PoconoInfo Manager at Pocono Alliance, and one of the caseworkers who handles calls to 2-1-1 for Monroe County residents. PoconoInfo has been an information and referral program supported by United Way and implemented by Pocono Alliance for years. Late last year, however, by bringing several partners together, this service is now available 24-hours-a-day-7-days-a-week and through the toll-free number: 2-1-1.

In addition to information and referral, 2-1-1 recently incorporated a new coordinated entry system for those calling who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Connect To Home: Coordinated Entry System (CES) of Eastern PA – available through 2-1-1 – coordinates access, assessment, prioritization and referral into the housing crisis response system for all households and populations in a 33-county region, including Monroe County.

In the past, callers at risk of becoming homeless would be referred to different organizations assisting with housing, such as United Way partners, Salvation Army, Pocono Area Transitional Housing, Family Promise, Street 2 Feet, and others. Now, by calling 2-1-1, Connect To Home will place people directly into a system where homeless providers can immediately pull cases to ensure limited housing and

resources are prioritized for the people who need them the most, while generating more accurate data to address housing challenges in the future.

"Housing issues have always been one of the top reasons people call 2-1-1. We are pleased to partner in a coordinated effort to address homelessness," said Anne Fogoros, statewide operations director for PA 2-1-1. "A call to 2-1-1 connects you to a trained specialist who will ask questions about your housing needs. 2-1-1 information and referral specialists also refer callers to community services such as food programs, utility assistance and more. One call can address multiple needs."

In addition, this March, United Way of Monroe County launched a partnership with the County Commissioners and Federación Latina para Educación sobre Culturas Hispano - Americanas/ Federation of Latinos for Education about the Cultures of Hispanic America (FLECHA) to increase access to information, referral and case management services for the Hispanic community in Monroe and Pike Counties. Through the Latino Countywide Services Partnership, implemented by United Way, Hispanic callers to 2-1-1 with limited understanding of English are referred to a local Hispanic caseworker who will work closely with the caller to guide them through services available in the 2-1-1 database. The caseworker then works with the caller to ensure they are accessing the services they need through interpretation and translation needs.

For more information, visit UnitedWayMonroe.org/get-help. Or simply dial 2-1-1 to speak with a caseworker.

BUSHKILL EMERGENCY CORPS: SUBSCRIPTION PROGRAM

By Debbie Kulick, President, BEC

For those who have lived here for some time, it is a yearly ritual to subscribe and support the local nonprofit ambulance service. New to those who may have just moved into the area, these services are not provided as they are in large metropolitan areas. Planning for emergency care, much like health insurance is something that needs to happen before you need the service.

Health care in our nation is changing and dramatically. Taking advantage of the subscription and donation program is simply something that in the long run, is designed to save the user money. The key is to know how and why it is important. Subscription and donations keep the organization running, just in case you need them. But for the user, it does much more than that.

(continued on page 12)

Bushkill Emergency Corps (Ambulance)
(570) 223-1906, BushkillEmergencyCorps.com

Captain - Bill Duffy (elect)

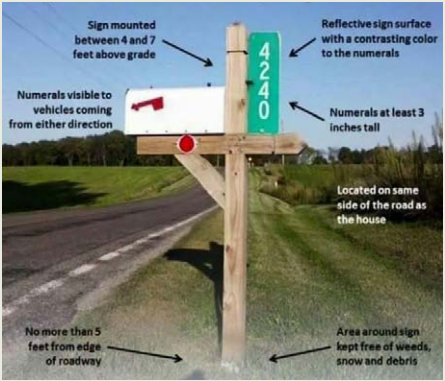
Marshalls Creek Fire Company
(570) 223-8445, facebook.com/MarshallsCreekFireCO
Fire Chief - Joe Luisi, Jr

IF WE CAN'T FIND YOU, WE CAN'T HELP YOU!

Make Sure Your 911 Reflective Address Marker are Up and Visible

Since 2011 Monroe County, along with local municipalities, has been working to make sure every residence has a 911 reflective address marker on their property.

In addition to signs not being posted, recent storms and plowing efforts have knocked over some address markers. These signs help police, firefighters and other first responders who might not be familiar with an area find a home in the case of an emergency. If you need a sign or a replacement please visit www.bushkillemergencycorps.com/911-sign-order-form.html or call 570-223-1906.



Placement of your sign:

- Place sign at the end of your driveway where it intersects with the street
- The top of your number sign must be 4 feet from the ground
- You may place your sign on a tree at the end of your driveway or your mailbox, only if it is at the end of your driveway. However, it must be visible from BOTH directions (special mounting hardware is available.)
- Townhouses: if you live in a townhouse, please contact the township regarding placement instructions.

textCaster

Stay informed during emergencies like Nor'easter Storms Riley, Quinn, and Toby.

Sign up for Textcaster at www.tinyurl.com/MSTalerts

PUBLIC WORKS

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

LITTER & BEAUTIFICATION

litter&beautification@mstownship.com

ANNUAL SPRING CLEANUP AND FREECYCLE, MAY 5TH & MAY 6TH (also known as “Dumpster Day”)

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 Spring Clean Up is Friday May 5th and Saturday May 6th from 7am to 4pm both days, with free paper shredding on Saturday from 10a-3p. (Friday, May 5th, locked bins will be on the premises to drop off.)

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.

Residents must bring proof of residency such as a tax bill, rent receipt, drivers license, etc. in order to participate. This is an extremely “user friendly” program!

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.)

Spring Clean Up:

Friday & Saturday, May 5th and 6th:
7am-4pm

Residents can bring their refuse AND drop off Freecycle articles (but not pick up Freecycle articles.)



Freecycle:

Thursday, Friday & Saturday, May 10th, 11th and 12th:
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.

FEES:

FEES: \$5-\$40+ for carloads; \$4-\$14 for tires
FREE Paper Shredding
(Saturday 10/14, 9a-3p).....FREE

Fees are per vehicle and range from \$5.00 per car load for Automobiles and Small SUV’s to \$40 for a one-ton dump truck.

Tire disposal cost \$4 to \$14 each depending on size and rims.

Not Accepted: Household garbage, autos or auto parts, cans of paint or paint thinners, hazardous materials such as pesticides, contractor waste (lumber, shingles, sheetrock, etc.)

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)

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.co



ADOPT A ROAD TODAY! Add your name to the list!

The MST Adopt a Road Program organizes our residents, businesses, and organizations who want to keep our streets litter-free. Individuals or groups can adopt a 2 mile stretch of road and pledge to pick up litter along their stretch at least twice a year. These cleanups can coincide with our twice yearly litter program, 1000 Feet of Street, or at any time at the adopter’s convenience. Your two mile stretch is marked with a sign to let your neighbors know that you are helping to keep MST pretty.

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

Thank you to our great residents, organizations, and businesses who adopted roads and participated in 2017, including:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Brushy Mountain & Barren Roads – PA Treatment & Healing | Marjorie Court & Timber Mountain Drive – Frank Lowe |
| Burooj Court – Robert & Eileen Early | Michaels Road – James Meegan |
| Charley Drive – Darlene & Mark Picchianti | Municipal Drive – MST Board of Supervisors |
| Coolbaugh Road – Ann Vansulkema | Oak Grove Road – Mountain Stream Baptist Church |
| Firestone Lane – Resica Falls Scout Reservation | Pocono Wild Haven Estates (all roads) – Pocono Wild Haven Estates HOA |
| Foxmoor Drive – Monroe County Meals on Wheels | Stoney Acres – ESU Student Activity Association |
| Gravel Ridge Road – Bob and Anne Marie Pohlman | Summit Drive, et al. – Stephen & Elsie Della-Calce |
| Hidden Lake Drive – Kathy Mitchell | Turkey Ridge Road – Annette Atkinson |
| Macy Way, et al. – Halterman & Meryweather Families | Upper Lakeview Drive – Robert Post |

2018 SPRING LEAF COLLECTION

Monday, April 23rd through Friday, May 18th

The township will pick up leaves on township roads starting Monday, April 23rd (no sticks, limbs, stumps, grass clippings or any other yard waste.) Leaves must be at the road edge, and not in bags.

The schedule is subject to change without notice depending on weather, volume of leaves or any other emergency (please, no more Nor’easters!) Under township ordinance, open burning of leaves is prohibited.

4/23-5/4: Wooddale/Coolbaugh Area

5/7-5/11: Route 402/Oak Grove/Hidden Lake/Timothy Lake/Milford Road areas

5/14-5/18: Upper Lakeview Area

Not on a Township Road? No problem! You are welcome to drop off leaves and brush at a central location in your community designated by your HOA, or at the Oak Grove Multi-Municipal Compost Facility located at 3305 Oak Grove Road, East Stroudsburg. Hours: Monday through Saturday, 7am-2pm. Closed Holidays.

ZONING

Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer: Shawn McGlynn | zoning@mstownship.com | 570-223-8920 x126 | **Zoning Department Administrator:** Judith Acosta | jacosta@mstownship.com | 570-223-8920 x128
Zoning Hearing Board: Mal Law – chairperson, Josephine Ferro – vice chairperson, Frank Primrose, Art Jenkins, Jeff Senholzi, Melonie Schmid - alternate



Peter Wulforth, Economic and Community Development Educator with Penn State Extension, teaches the class in Zoning at Middle Smithfield Township.

THE ZONING OFFICE HOSTS ANOTHER COURSE FOR LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES.

“The Course in Zoning” was held at the Middle Smithfield Township building for three consecutive weeks in March offering local and neighboring residents, volunteers, and staff, the opportunity to learn the “nuts and bolts” of drafting, amending, administering and monitoring zoning ordinances.

Over twenty people participated in the course presented by PA Municipal Planning Education Institute (PMPEI), an education program of the PA Chapter –APA and PA State Association of Boroughs. Course topics included the MPC authority for zoning, comprehensive plans, basic and advanced zoning techniques, and flexible regulatory techniques. Ordinance reviews, mapping problems and special zoning issues such as regulation of medical marijuana land use was also included in the course. A variety of participants from Zoning Officer, Zoning Hearing Board members, Planning Commission members and even Township Supervisors made this course a success. Middle Smithfield Township is looking forward to hosting even more educational seminars and courses in the future.

(continued from page 11)

The Township volunteers will focus on our “Main Street” Route 209 and other roads throughout the Township. Some volunteers will be assigned to do other beautification projects, such as planting flowers.

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 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](tel:570-223-8920) or email crain@mstownship.com.

(continued from page 9)

With many residents moving here from areas where ambulance service is a municipal service, it may be interesting to learn that is not the case in our area. As a matter of fact, a significant portion of the financial support our local non-profit ambulances receive comes directly from our subscription programs. Ambulance services in our area rely upon the kind support of our residents and local officials. Ambulance service is vital and of course, like most medically related services, requires highly trained personnel, technically advanced equipment and a sincere commitment and passion for patient’s well-being. Subscriptions help provide for updating equipment as well as providing advanced training programs.

The subscription provides a discounted rate for portions of billings not covered by your insurance for services determined to be “medically necessary” by their standards. Our subscription program is honored through our Mutual Aid agreements with surrounding ambulance services. (Suburban EMS, St. Luke’s EMS, Pocono Mountain Regional EMS, West End EMS and Regional EMS) This means that seven services will honor the program.

With respect to insurance payments, the Corps bills most insurance companies directly. Some insurance carriers issue checks directly to the patient/subscriber. When a payment or denial is received, the payment/denial should then be forwarded to the ambulance corps providing the service. Not doing so is considered insurance fraud and voids the subscription benefits.

With the current uncertainty of healthcare coverages, a subscription is perhaps even more important than ever before and subscription rates have remained the same as last year.

If you need more information or did not receive a flyer, you can request one by contacting the office of Bushkill Emergency Corps at: 570-223-1906 or visit the website at www.bushkillemergencycorps.com.



Saturday, April 21 -
A county-wide Earth Day celebration at Northampton Community College’s Monroe Campus.

Native Plant Sale

Friday & Saturday, June 1-2, featuring non-invasive plants, at Pocono Township Fire Company building, Route 611, Tannersville.



OAK GROVE & RECYCLING

www.ogmmcpb.com
Chairperson | Mike Dwyer



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

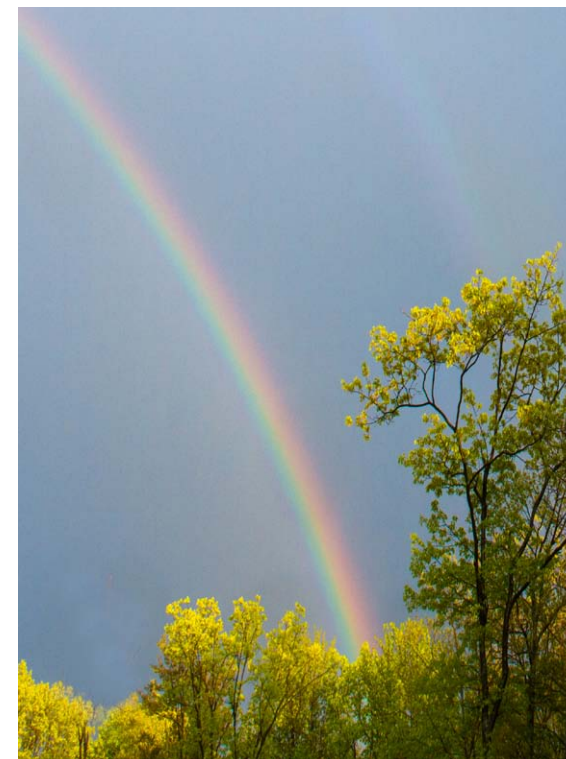
To use the facility you must be a resident of one of the participating townships or a commercial business (via permit only) located in the townships.

Acceptable materials include leaves, shrubs (no roots) and shrubbery, tree trimmings, and branches cut into 3 -4 foot lengths and no larger than 12 inches in diameter.

FREE MULCH / COMPOST / WOOD CHIPS

The Oak Grove facility is a regular provider of mulch and compost to the MST Community Gardens on Collbaugh Road. Your garden can benefit too! Self-serve products and materials offered at the facility are free mulch and compost up to three (3) yards (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.



Sarina Cook of the Pocono Photo Club finds a rainbow over Middle Smithfield Township.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chairman: Bob Early | **Vice Chairman:** Parin Shah
Members: Wayne Bolt, Dr. William W. Suriano, Mark Oney
Engineer: Gilmore & Associates Fred Courtright | **PE Solicitor/ Solicitor Firm:** Weitzmann, Weitzmann, and Huffman | **Recording Secretary:** Michele Clewell
Alternate: Carrie Wetherbee

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE:

In the last issue of the newsletter, we reported that the “SALDO” Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance was to be adopted by The Board of Supervisors on December 4, 2017 and it was!! Many thanks to the MST Planning Commission members for accomplishing something that hasn’t been done since 1994.

The planning commission is beginning to see an increase in requests from applicants for the commission members to review sketch plans of potential development within the township. A sketch plan is an unofficial plan that is presented to the planning commission for comments and suggestions. So far this year, there have been two sketch plans and official submissions of land development plans are expected in the near future. This is just the first step to bring new and exciting development to the township.

SEWER

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

2018 Capital Improvement Projects:

Rehabilitation of Pump Station #1:

Replace 150,000 gallon Steel Equalization Tank/Pumping Station at the Fernwood Wastewater Treatment Plant. Tank is now operational and cleanup of old tank is underway.

Rehabilitation of Pump Station #6:

Awarded to Pioneer Construction with the estimated cost of \$39,264. This project involves replacement of the piping in the wet well and valve vault. Newly coated pipes have been received and work will commence around mid-March.

Frutchey Extension:

The township received a grant for this project, which involves extending the Municipal Sewer line through the Commercial Zone on Frutchey Dr. Bids were opened November 2017 and the project was awarded to Pioneer Construction. Project expected to start around mid-March in conjunction with Pump Station #6 upgrade.

Upcoming Projects for 2018 are:

Rehabilitations to the following Pump Stations:

Pump Station 3 – McCole and Route 209

Pump Station 4 – Maple Lane

Pump Station 8 – Lake of the Pines

Sewer Extension down Mt. Nebo (tentative)

Grant Applications :

The sewer department has applied for a grant to defray the cost of upgrading and expanding our sewer system to the North side of Route 209 and down Mt. Nebo to the end of the township boundary.

GOLF

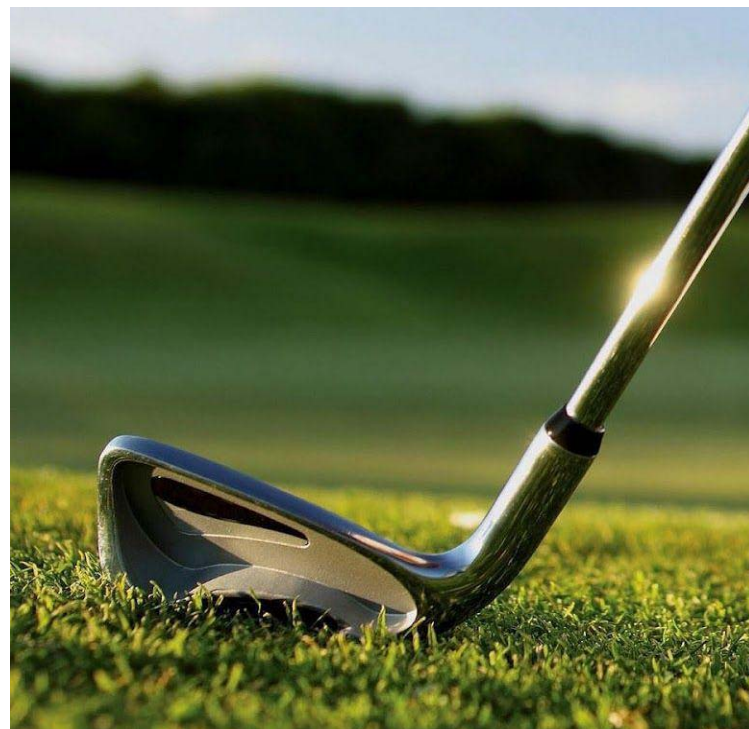
COUNTRY CLUB OF THE POCONOS

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



BANQUET HALL AT WHISPERING PINES

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



ITS TIME TO HIT THE LINKS!

Spring is here, and the golf course is scheduled to open March 30th – weather permitting. Get ready for the season now, and buy a 2018 membership for Country Club of the Poconos Municipal Golf Course.

Some of the benefits you'll get when you join at CCP golf, along with the best golf value in the Poconos are:

- Full access to the course & clubhouse facilities
- Unlimited play any day—includes greens fees and handicap fees
- Member locker room facilities
- Preferred and advanced tee times
- Members only golf outings and special events
- Discounted greens fees for guests
- Pro-shop discounts
- And more....

Memberships cost \$850 for a single membership or \$1,050 for a couples membership. Does that sound like too much for you to afford all at once? No problem! We accept monthly payments over the course of the season (8 months) for around \$100 a month!

For more membership information and how to join call 570-223-8099 or visit www.ccppagolf.com

WE'RE ALL FOR THE COMMUNITY!

We are proud to support the many charitable organizations in our neighborhood, and we are proud to donate our time and facilities to help good folks fundraise. Need funds for your organization? Give us a call and let's talk about a golf outing.

Some of the charitable fundraisers scheduled for 2018:

4/21, Saturday: Tall Cedars (to benefit military veterans)

4/22, Sunday: ESU Lambda Iota Charity Fundraiser

5/20, Sunday: Mady's Angels Charity Fundraiser

7/21, Saturday: ESU Phi Sigma Kappa Memorial Golf Outing

9/ 8, Saturday: Wounded Warrior 8" Cup Charity Fundraiser

9/29, Saturday: Marshalls Creek Fire Company



Photo of Spring Serviceberry by Eric Goins, 2nd Vice President, Pocono Photo Club. The Photo Club's Spring Exhibit Opening Reception is April 29th, 6:30 pm at the Whispering Pines Banquet Hall. The free exhibit runs through the month of May.

RESTAURANT WEEK KICKOFF EVENT FREE FOOD SAMPLES - FREE WINE TASTINGS!

Stop by the Whispering Pines in Country Club of the Poconos on Sunday April 29th, at 6:30pm to 8:30pm, and sample some of the great menu items you can find in Middle Smithfield Township during Restaurant Week! This event kicks off the Restaurant Week program, while giving participants the opportunity to meet and greet restaurant owners as well as other residents in the community!

In conjunction with the kickoff, the Pocono Photo Club will host their Photography Exhibit in Middle Smithfield Township, joining with our Economic Development Committee. While enjoying unique food and wine pairings, residents will be able to view great art pieces from the Pocono Photo Club. This free event will be a night filled with art, music, wine, food and fun! And the best part is that everything is FREE!

BANQUET HALL TAKING RESERVATIONS FOR 2018:

The beautiful Whispering Pines banquet hall is now taking reservations for all your golf outing, charitable, or private party needs in 2018!

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.



Highlights from Restaurant Week 2017

Restaurant Week KICKOFF DETAILS

Sunday April 29th, 6:30-8:30PM

WHISPERING PINES BANQUET HALL

LIVE MUSIC, FREE FOOD,
FREE WINE TASTING, PHOTO EXHIBIT

POCONO PHOTO CLUB SPRINGS INTO PHOTO EXHIBIT

Did you like the photography sprinkled throughout this newsletter? A big thank you to the Pocono Photo Club! Come see more -- Middle Smithfield Township will host the 5th Pocono Photo Club's free photography exhibit. The month long photography exhibit will have its opening reception on April 29th 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 photo exhibit will mainly highlight Middle Smithfield Township.

The exhibit's opening reception will also be held in conjunction with the 2018 Restaurant Week Kick-Off. Featured restaurants will be there to serve up some samples of their signature dishes.

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.



Photo by Sarina Cook, of the Pocono Photo Club. The Photo Club's Spring Exhibit Opening Reception is April 29th, 6:30 pm at the Whispering Pines Banquet Hall. The free exhibit runs through the month of May.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Carrie Wetherbee | **Vice Chairperson:** Robert Huffman
Secretary: Ken Johns | **Member:** Kim Williams | **Member:** Patricia Francis
Historical Commission Liaison: Dana Francis | dfrancis@mstownship.com
570-223-892 x121



HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION PLANS BUS TRIP TO THE NEW MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION IN PHILADELPHIA

By Amy Leiser, Executive Director

The Monroe County Historical Association will offer a bus trip fundraiser to the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia on Thursday, April 12, 2018. The bus trip includes general admission to the museum with a special guided program titled, "Philadelphia: A Revolutionary City," and chartered bus transportation. The Museum of the American Revolution is located three blocks from the Independence National Historical Park, featuring Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell. Guests will have time to explore Historic Philadelphia independently following the museum visit. Lunch is not included, however a list of nearby restaurants will be provided.

The cost of the bus trip is \$50.00 for Monroe County Historical Association members and \$55.00 for non-members. The chartered bus will depart from BJ's Wholesale Club, Rt. 611 in Stroudsburg, PA at 7:30 a.m. and will return by approximately 6:30 p.m.

Reservations with payment must be made by Friday, March 30, 2018 and are accepted on a first come, first served basis as space is limited. Tickets are non-refundable. For additional information, or to make a reservation, please contact the Monroe County Historical Association at (570) 421-7703 or e-mail at admin@monroehistorical.org. Please visit www.MonroeHistorical.org for additional details.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Revisiting the Golden Era

The Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission was lucky enough to receive a donation of boxes of slides from Middle Smithfield School's yesteryear (now Middle Smithfield Elementary). The slides were obtained by residents Velma Knight and Wesley Rusk after beloved teacher (many of you may remember) Mr. Glenn Wallingford passed away. After much discussion, Mrs. Knight and Mr. Rusk decided to donate the slides to the Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission so as many people as possible could view and enjoy them.



*Know any of these people? Can you identify the date, place or event?
Call Dana at 570-223-8920, x121*

Mr. Wallingford and Mr. Rusk were the two 5th Grade teachers at Middle Smithfield School during this era and would take their students on a field trip once a month from Washington to Boston and everywhere in between! After each trip the two 5th grade teachers would share the photos with all their students. There are so many forgotten memories captured in these images. Not only do these slides contain images of field trips, but class photos, headshots of individual students and many other school events.



*Want to see more photos? Visit www.tinyurl.com/MiddleSmithfieldSchoolHistory.
No computer? No problem! Stop in to the township and visit with Dana.*

"The lost Middle Smithfield School pictures. Amazing and they come to life again. Glenn did good. To say the least I am blown away at these lost Wallingford Middle Smithfield School pictures. Thank you Mr. Rusk for the donation to our old village and township history that took us back in time to relive" said former student and former Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission Chairperson, Steven Kulick. Kulick is the Facebook Administrator to the site "Middle Smithfield School: The Best Of". Kulick is estatic and appreciates the "gift of fond memories -- when the township was a simple school village area and everyone knew everyone down the road".

"When I see many of our school pictures by Mr Wallingford, I feel I am back at my old school desk or walking the old oak wooden floor in the hallway. Wallingford was often the 'unofficial photographer' for many gym demonstration shows, concerts, holiday school programs and other events. These photos paint a fond, simple era of elementary school back in the 50s, 60s and 70s." said Steven Kulick, whose father, Joseph M Kulick, was principal of Middle Smithfield School from the late 40s until his retirement in the late 80s, and often spoke of Glenn's dedication to the school and "his classroom kids" children. The amazing field trips offered children the opportunity to see sights they normally would possibly not see on their own. From Washington DC to Hershey Museum/park to coal mines

to Roadside America Attraction, Mr Wallingford provided education in ways that would be remembered by stidents many years later now as parents and grandparents.

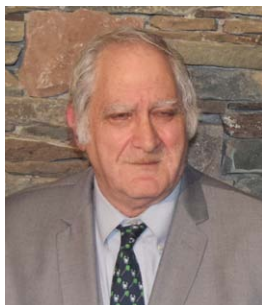
Kulick appreciates the donated photos digitized, curated and promoted by township supervisors and staff. "They truly care about our community, and area history", Steven said.

The Middle Smithfield Township Historical Commission digitized all of the slides, and created a Flickr account for all historical photos and albums. We post photos to the township Flickr account each week, accessible on the Historical Commission's webpage on the township website: <https://tinyurl.com/MiddleSmithfieldSchoolHistory>. We also share the photos to Facebook, so residents can comment, and identify the people, places, and thing in the photo. Be sure to follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/MSTHISTORY/>) to be notified when the latest photos are up for your viewing pleasure! If you recognize yourself, a friend or family member in any of the images, please contact Dana with as much information & detail as you can provide at dfrancis@mstownship.com.

East Stroudsburg Area School District Kindergarten Registration

The East Stroudsburg Area School District announces the beginning of kindergarten registration for the 2018-2019 academic year. For a child to be eligible to enroll in kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school term, he or she must turn five years old on or before September 9, 2018.

To register your child, contact Central Registration located at 50 Vine St., East Stroudsburg, PA between 8:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. at 570-424-8500 x10902 for an appointment. A complete registration package is available online at <http://www.esasd.net/register>. Two acceptable proofs of residency documents are required at the time of registration, verification of birth date and immunization record. (See registration packet.)



JAN KORB,
2017 PERSON OF THE YEAR
Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry

Second Harvest Food Bank Upcoming Events:

Food Truck Food Drive | Saturday, April 21st: WFMZ and Dorney Park will host the 2nd Annual Food Truck Food Drive from 10 am- 2 pm in the Dorney Park parking lot. The event will include food truck from the region. The event is free with a suggested cash or food donation. More details to follow on www.shfbvlv.org

Farm-to-Table Hoedown | Saturday, June 2nd: The Farm-to-Table dinner will be held at the Flint Hill Farm Educational Center located at 1922 Flint Hill Rd, Coopersburg, PA 18036. The multi-course dinner will feature other local farms and locally produced spirits. The event will also feature live music from the Godfrey Daniels Musicians. 10% of proceeds will support Second Harvest Food Bank. Visit www.flinthillfarms.org for more information.

Empty Bowls 2018 | October 20th: Save the Date! From 6-9 pm Second Harvest will e holding their annual Empty Bowls event at the food bank warehouse located at 6969 Silver Crest Rd, Nazareth, PA 18064. The event will include food and drinks, live music and a silent auction! More details to follow at www.shfbvlv.org.



DIANE JIORLE
2017 PERSON OF THE YEAR FINALIST
Angel's Closet

Winter Clothes Needed

Are you following The Angel's Closet on Facebook? Because you should be!

The Angel's Closet will be using Facebook as their primary way to get information out about events, work nights, donations and more!

You can find them at www.facebook.com/theangelsclosetpa.

The Angel's Closet is also in need of winter clothing for next year! Cindy Barth, President of the Angel's Closet noted that with spring coming, winter clothing is on sale now!

They are also always in need of socks and receiving blankets and accept clothing sizes 0-12 months.

In addition to donations, they are always in need of volunteers for their work nights. If you are interested in volunteering follow The Angel's Closet of Facebook or call 570-426-8197.



THOMAS GANSEL
2017 PERSON OF THE YEAR FINALIST
Reformed Church of Bushkill

Bushkill Outreach THRIFT SHOP

Bushkill Outreach had their Grand Opening of the Bushkill Outreach Thrift Shop, located in the cottage house to the right of the pantry, this past March 6th.

Thrift Shop Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 9 am-1 pm.

Bushkill Outreach also accepts donations during work hours, but CANNOT accept:

- furniture
- appliances
- baby cribs
- car seats
- TVs
- computers
- exercise machines

FLEA MARKET/YARD SALE

Bushkill Outreach will once again host it's famous flea market/yard sale over the Memorial Day weekend at Lehman Park ("Magic Valley" to old time residents) and is accepting donations. Please drop-off donations at Bushkill Outreach during working hours only, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 9 am- noon.

The Flea Market will be held on Saturday, May 26 from 9 am-4 pm and Sunday, May 27 (\$5 bag day) from 9 am-3 pm at Lehman Park.

For more information visit www.facebook.com/bushkilloutreach or www.bushkilloutreach.org



Photo by Ann H LeFevre of the Pocono Photo Club, whose Spring Exhibit opens at the Whispering Pines on Sunday, April 29th.

RSVP: VOLUNTEERING ENRICHES YOUR LIFE WHILE HELPING OTHERS

By Merle Turitz, Director RSVP

Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Monroe County is 650+ strong, eager and experienced adults aged 55 and over, giving back to their community by volunteering in a number of ways. With just as little as two hours a month, RSVP volunteers are making life better for thousands of residents in our county. For 28 years, RSVP has been on the front lines helping the most vulnerable populations right here in our country.

We have grocery shoppers, friendly visitors, tutors, storytellers, minor home repair volunteers, crafters, meal deliveries, hospital assistants and so much more. With almost 90,000 hours a year of donated time, our volunteers are making a huge impact in the lives of those who need assistance most in our county.

There's a lid for every pot, as they say. Whatever is your talent, your passion or your curiosity, RSVP can help make a great match for your volunteer service. As the weather begins to warm up, our Minor Home Repair program becomes more active. Our goal this year is to build three handicapped ramps for the three residents who fit the criteria. We need people who enjoy working outdoors and can use a hammer. The Minor Home Repair program also installs safety bars and performs minor fixes all year round, so retired contractors who are looking for something to do using their skills to help those in need, are always in demand.

For our hand crafters, keep those hands busy and the blood flowing by crocheting and knitting lap robes for the wheel-chair bound seniors or nap blankets for our Head Start students. This year we started a new project to crochet recycled plastic bags into sleeping mats for the homeless.



RSVP Volunteer Nora Goodwin and Annie Perdomo teach Spanish to children ages 4 – 6 in RSVP's SPECTACULAR class.

This is a great project plus a wonderful way to connect with others who have similar interests.

We currently have almost 100 volunteers who contribute two to four days a month grocery shopping or paying a friendly visit to homebound seniors. We have volunteers in almost every food pantry and volunteers who specifically want to help our veterans get back on their feet. Perhaps one of the most rewarding volunteer opportunities, these programs provide much socialization and food security to our seniors who may not talk to another adult for weeks.

Many of these requests have blossomed into treasured friendships over the years. Some of our teachers who will soon be retiring from the school system have enjoyed using their classroom skills to help tutor students or read to pre-K toddlers. It's like having all the fun of still being in the classroom without the pressure of having to attain learning benchmarks. Of course, there are certain state-mandated clearances that are necessary to be in the education program, but we can help walk you through the process. You don't have to be a teacher to do these tasks, you just have to love children.

Many of our volunteers enjoy learning and mentoring in areas that require specific training. The APPRISE program counsels seniors aged 65 and above about their Medicare coverage and helps find the most appropriate healthcare for them. All this training is provided by the State of PA. The Senior Medicare Patrol program educates seniors about preventing Medicare Fraud and is a great volunteer opportunity for anyone who enjoys public speaking.

Our newest program called SPECTACULAR is the only program in around here teaching young children how to speak Spanish. We are looking for Spanish-speaking volunteers who can help us grow that program to other areas of the county.

RSVP is always seeking new programs to add to its cache of serving 80+ different agencies. We can definitely find a way for you to spend those extra hours you have. Don't sit in front of your TV! Get up, get active, get moving! RSVP can help you enrich our own lives while helping others. Please call the RSVP office any weekday at 570-420-3747 and say, "Yes, I can help!"

RSVP Volunteer Nora Goodwin and Annie Perdomo teach Spanish to children ages 4 – 6 in RSVP's SPECTACULAR class.

*****ECRWSSDDM*****

POSTAL CUSTOMER

ILLEGAL DUMPING: DON'T DO IT!



Illegal Dumping is a real and damaging problem at the Middle Smithfield Township recycling area . The Township's recycling area accepts ONLY:

CARDBOARD: corrugated cardboard and boxes,

PAPER: office, newspapers, magazines, junk mail, shredded paper, books, cereal boxes and the like

PLASTICS: all numbers accepted

METAL: aluminum, bi-metal cans, plastic bags, film and glass: all colors and has designated containers as such.

Anything else is illegal dumping.

The township has recently replaced its surveillance equipment, and installed several high quality digital surveillance cameras to get pictures/videos of illegal dumpers and pictures of their cars and license plates. Video/pictures are then given to the Monroe County Municipal Waste Management Authority Police Enforcement Department who files a complaint with the Monroe County Magisterial District Judge, and proceeds with enforcement.

Please call 570-643-6100 or visit thewasteauthority.com to find out how to dispose of household waste which is not accepted at our recycling area. Although, the township does offer it's Spring/Fall Clean-Up which lets you dispose of your household waste for fractions of the cost of hauling to a waste fill.

Penalties

Someone convicted of illegal dumping can be subjected to any or all of the following penalties:

Incarceration. For misdemeanors, sentences may involve 12 months or less in the county jail or state prison, depending on the state. For felonies, the sentence can be one or more years. The judge may require that the entire sentence be served in jail.

Fines. Courts impose fines to penalize defendants. These fines vary greatly, depending on the circumstances. For misdemeanors, the fine may be as little as for a traffic ticket, but for felonies can be thousands of dollars. Some fines can accrue daily until the illegally dumped waste is cleaned up.

Probation. A person on probation regularly meets with a probation officer and fulfills other terms and conditions, such as maintaining employment and attending counseling.

Community service. Courts often include as a part of probation the requirement that the defendant work for a specified number of hours with court-approved organizations, such as charities.

Restitution. Courts often require defendants to pay for any damage they caused to someone's property by their illegal dumping.

Remediation. Courts may require defendants to clean up and repair property damaged by their illegal dumping.

ITEMS THAT DO NOT FIT THROUGH THE BLUE BIN CONTAINER OPENING ARE NOT RECYCLABLES, SO IF RECYCLABLES DON'T FIT, TAKE IT WITH!