

# LOWER SALFORD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



Fall/Winter 2020-2021 • Published by the Board of Supervisors • Founded 1741



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## Message From the Chairman

Dear Residents:

It was March 13, 2020, when last I put virtual pen to virtual paper to author one of these messages. The true dimensions of the COVID-19 outbreak were not known, but feared. It was the first quarter of the shiny New Year, 2020. Little did I know we would look back on those times as the Good Old Days, when we went to Wawa without wearing a mask, and Zoom was something you did when you went on something called a vacation. The good news is we're here to look back.

Locally, we all owe a deep measure of gratitude to all the folks who helped give us the chance to look back and to look forward. The Township staff kept the doors open and provided invaluable information to all who called. The Public Works Department adjusted schedules to limit exposure but still got all its work done. Our parks were kept open and safe. The Police Department maintained its level of service without a hiccup while doing so in a whole new way requiring extra precautions and steps just to start each day. Harleysville Area EMS had to learn how to handle life-sustaining calls for service under life-threatening conditions. The fire department, composed solely of volunteers, provided -- and still does every day -- lifesaving work for no recompense and without expectation of any reward. Its selfless work continues. THANK YOU to all.

While we all have visions of vaccines dancing in our heads, the future looks brighter, if only because we know 2020 will end and possibilities abound. A national election will take place on November 3, 2020, and we urge everyone eligible to vote in the manner safest for you.

The Township will continue to "get the work done" just as if these were normal times. It's what we do, it's what we must do. It's only possible because of all the employees and volunteers who handle obstacles without complaint or question.

A New Year is on the horizon. Thank God.

Douglas Gifford

*Chairman, Lower Salford Board of Supervisors*



*A peaceful scene at the Township Gazebo as winter begins to fall across the Township*

## Sign Up to Stay in Touch

By signing up, you will receive informative Township E-News delivered directly to your Inbox. You can unsubscribe at any time. Please visit the homepage of our website to find the sign up link: [www.lowersalfordtownship.org](http://www.lowersalfordtownship.org)



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## Lower Salford Township Contact Information

**379 Main Street • Harleysville, PA 19438 — [www.lowersalfordtownship.org](http://www.lowersalfordtownship.org)**

**Township Office:** 215-256-8087 • **Fax:** 215-256-4869 • **Office hours:** Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**General Township Email:** [township@lowersalfordtownship.org](mailto:township@lowersalfordtownship.org) • **General Zoning Email:** [buildingandzoning@lowersalfordtownship.org](mailto:buildingandzoning@lowersalfordtownship.org)

### Supervisors Meetings

**The Board of Supervisors meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.**

Informal work sessions are held at 7:30 a.m. on the day before the regular meeting and the third Wednesday of each month.

At the work sessions, staff updates the Board on Township activities. No formal action takes place at these meetings.

### Township Supervisors

Douglas A. Gifford – *Chairman*

Douglas Johnson – *Vice Chairman*

Keith A. Bergman

Christopher R. Canavan

Kevin Shelly

### Montgomery County Commissioners

Dr. Valerie Arkoosh, Chair  
Kenneth E. Lawrence Jr., Vice Chair  
Joseph C. Gale, Commissioner

Court House  
Swede and Airy Streets  
PO Box 311, Norristown, PA 19404  
610-278-3000  
[www.montcopa.org](http://www.montcopa.org)

### Our Senator in the Pennsylvania General Assembly

Senator Bob Mensch (24th District)  
[www.senatormensch.com](http://www.senatormensch.com) • [bmensch@pasen.gov](mailto:bmensch@pasen.gov)

<i>Montgomery/Bucks County Office:</i>	<i>Harrisburg Office:</i>
56 West Fourth St., Floor 2	Senate Box 203024
Red Hill, PA 18076	Harrisburg, PA 17120-3024
215-541-2388 • fax: 215-541-2387	717-787-3110 • fax: 717-787-8004

### Our Representative in the PA General Assembly

Marcy Toepel (147th District)  
[www.reptoepel.com](http://www.reptoepel.com) • [mtoepel@pahousegop.com](mailto:mtoepel@pahousegop.com)

<i>District Office:</i>	<i>Harrisburg Office:</i>
410 Main St., Suite 200	116 Main Capitol, PO Box 202147
Harleysville, PA 19438	Harrisburg, PA 17120-2147
215-256-6030	717-787-9501 • fax: 717-783-2010

### Pennsylvania Governor

Governor Tom Wolf  
[www.governor.pa.gov](http://www.governor.pa.gov) • [governor@pa.gov](mailto:governor@pa.gov)  
508 Main Capital Building • Harrisburg, PA 17120  
717-787-2500 • fax: 717-772-8284

### Lower Salford Police Department

#### Emergencies: 911

379 Main Street • Harleysville, PA 19438  
**Office:** 215-256-9500 • **Fax:** 215-256-1212

**Police Dispatch:**  
215-256-9595 [police@lowersalfordtownship.org](mailto:police@lowersalfordtownship.org)

**Chief of Police:**  
Thomas A. Medwid [tmedwid@lowersalfordtownship.org](mailto:tmedwid@lowersalfordtownship.org)

**Investigations:**  
Sgt. Cory Moyer [cmoyer@lowersalfordtownship.org](mailto:cmoyer@lowersalfordtownship.org)

**Patrol and Traffic:**  
Sgt. Bill O'Connell [woconnell@lowersalfordtownship.org](mailto:woconnell@lowersalfordtownship.org)

**IT Administrator:**  
Michael Antonucci [mantonucci@lowersalfordtownship.org](mailto:mantonucci@lowersalfordtownship.org)

**Police Clerk:**  
Barbara Jansons [bjansons@lowersalfordtownship.org](mailto:bjansons@lowersalfordtownship.org)

### President of the United States

President Donald J. Trump

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington D.C., 20500  
[www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)

### Pennsylvania Senators in the United States Congress

Senator Robert Casey  
[casey.senate.gov](http://casey.senate.gov) • email: linked through website

<i>Philadelphia Office:</i>	<i>Washington, D.C. Office:</i>
2000 Market St., Suite 610	393 Russell Senate Office Building,
Philadelphia, PA 19103	Washington DC, 20510
215-405-9660 • fax: 215-405-9669	202-224-6324 • fax: 202-228-0604

Senator Pat Toomey  
[toomey.senate.gov](http://toomey.senate.gov) • email: linked through website

<i>Philadelphia Office:</i>	<i>Washington, D.C. Office:</i>
US Custom House	248 Russell Senate Office Building,
200 Chestnut Street, Suite 600	Washington DC, 20510
Philadelphia, PA 19106	202-224-4254 • fax: 202-228-0284
215-241-1090 • fax: 215-241-1095	

### PA Representative in the United States Congress

Congresswoman Madeleine Dean (4th District)  
[dean.house.gov](http://dean.house.gov) • email: linked through website

<i>Norristown Office:</i>	<i>Washington, D.C. Office:</i>
101 E. Main Street, Suite A	129 Cannon HOB
Norristown, PA 19401	Washington, DC 20515
610-382-1250 • fax: 610-275-1759	202-225-4731



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## Lower Salford Township Mailbox Policy

For convenience and practicality, mailbox installations have been allowed within the right-of-way of Lower Salford Township's public roads; however, it is important to recognize that such installations have two very important conditions:

- The mailbox must be installed in accordance with applicable standards to ensure that mail can be delivered and that the mailbox does not create an obstacle or safety hazard to those that use or maintain the highway.
- **The mailbox is installed entirely at the owner's risk.** In other words, if the mailbox incurs damage during any sort of highway operations or maintenance, the property owner is not entitled to replacement or compensation. In fact, if the mailbox was not installed in accordance with the applicable standards as stated above, the owner may even be held liable for injuries or damages that may have been incurred as a result.



It is the job of the Public Works Department to remove snow from the road surfaces. There is little that can be done to prevent snow from being discharged from the plow blade. Mailboxes must be securely fastened to a sturdy post anchored in the ground to resist the impact of thrown snow. The Township will reimburse the homeowner only when the Township snow plow or truck is found to have made direct contact with the mailbox, not when the box is knocked over by snow or slush that is thrown by the plow.

If a mailbox has been physically struck by a Township snow plow it must be reported to the Department of Public Works within 48 hours.

If it is determined that the mailbox has been struck by a Township truck or snowplow and the mailbox was installed in accordance with the United States Postal Service Specifications (41 inches to 45 inches off the ground and back 6 inches to 8 inches from behind the curb), the Township will offer a reimbursement not to exceed \$50 for damage to the mailbox.

It shall be the responsibility of the homeowner to make the necessary repairs and provide a receipt for reimbursement. Please refer to the US Postal Service Guidelines as noted on their website <https://www.usps.com/manage/mailboxes.htm>.



## Reminder: Leaves and Yard Waste Disposal

The Township provides a leaf/yard waste (no grass clippings) drop-off location. Leaves and yard waste in biodegradable bags may be deposited in the container at the Township Building Parking Lot at no cost throughout the year.

Biodegradable bags may be purchased at the Township Municipal Building (\$0.35 per bag, 3 bags for \$1 or 50 bags for \$16.50).

## Christmas Tree Recycling

Trees free of decorations can be dropped off during daylight hours at Reiff Park at the parking lot off Upper Mainland Road through February 28. The trees will be chipped and used for mulch throughout the Township's park system.







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## Harleysville Area EMS Update

**Our Annual Subscription Drive:** The new 2020/2021 annual ambulance subscription has been mailed to all Township residents. As your local emergency ambulance service, we rely heavily on your subscription and generous donations to help sustain our day-to-day operations as an emergency ambulance service.

If you have not received a subscription card in the mail, or if you have any questions, please visit us at [www.HAEMS.org](http://www.HAEMS.org) or give us a call at 215-513-1880.

Secure Online Payment Options Are Now Available at [www.HAEMS.org](http://www.HAEMS.org)

**First-Aid & CPR Training:** We continue to provide residents and local businesses with First Aid and CPR classes as well as other interesting and useful educational opportunities. For more information, or to schedule a training class, contact us at 215-513-1880 or at [CPR@HAEMS.org](mailto:CPR@HAEMS.org).

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## From the Public Works Department

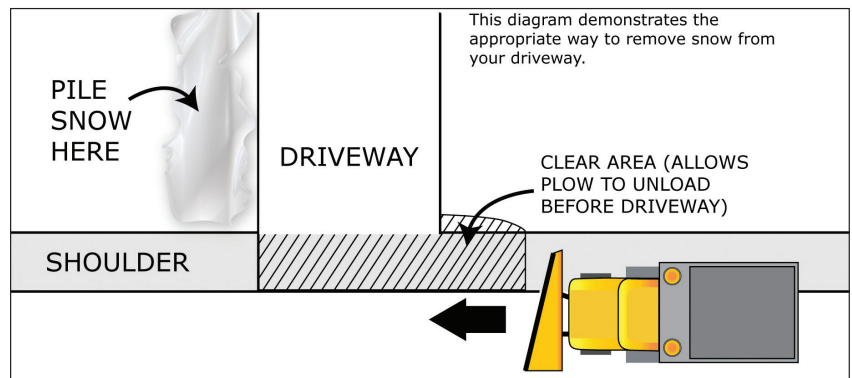
The Lower Salford Township Public Works Department has begun preparing for winter operations. Our main objective is to keep you safe as you travel through our township.

In an effort to do so, we need your help; when you hear of a pending winter event, please follow these few tips to aid us and everyone in our snow removal efforts:

- All vehicles must be parked off streets to allow for a safer, more efficient snow removal operation.
- Please remove your trash, recycling containers, and sports equipment from the street.
- Please ensure that your walks are cleared and treated within 10 hours of the end of a snowfall. If snow falls after 6 p.m. you will have until 11 a.m. the next day to complete clearing and treating your walks.
- Be certain that your sump pump discharges on your property or into a storm drain directly, not onto sidewalks or streets where it can freeze and cause a dangerous situation.
- PLEASE help our Fire Department by clearing any fire hydrants on your property during and after a storm and after the plows pass through. This is critical should the need to reach a hydrant occurs.

Lastly, our crews will be out working hard for the benefit of you and others. They will be spending long hours on duty situations and will, at times, need to rest and replenish nutrients. Please know that these periods are imperative to everyone's safety and are of great benefit to the overall operation.

We make every attempt to be efficient and professional. In the event that damage is caused, please wait until after the storm has ended to contact the Township and someone will get back to you.



Clearing the roads is our main goal. We will push snow toward the edge of the road and yes it will be at the end of your driveway (see the diagram that may help alleviate some of that).

Once again, we will use our Liquid Brine System to aid in the fight against Old Man Winter. Brine is our first line of defense in preventing snow/ice from bonding to the roadway.

We will be out applying Liquid Brine to our roads 24-48 hours ahead of a predicted snow/ice event. Please understand that not every storm is conducive to the use of brine. We will continue to evaluate each event individually and continue to watch temperatures and conditions closely. Our ultimate goal is to use this tool in an efficient manner to ensure all who reside here, travel through here, or visit our beautiful township, are kept safe. Once again, our overall goal is making the roads safe for everyone.

For Township emergency or meeting announcements, tune to KYW 1060 or WNPV 1440 for updates.

Thank you for your help, patience and understanding.



# HARLEYSVILLE FIRE COMPANY STATION 89

Residents of Lower Salford Township,

We welcome the return of the fall and winter seasons here at the fire company. While this time of year is usually very busy with fire prevention and community events, that was not the case this year due to the ongoing pandemic. We were happy to still be able to host a modified version of our annual Open House in October that was “drive-through” style to keep everyone safe. We thank all who came and visited us to learn a little about fire safety.

Our 2020 fund drive mailer went out in late August to all area residents. This fund drive serves as a major portion of our annual funding for the fire company. The fire company graciously thanks all of our residents for their dedicated support in the past and we are here to protect you, because of that support.

We have some very large capital expenditures scheduled for the next 5-6 years and these donations will go directly towards offsetting the costs of those projects to ensure the fire company and its people are equipped with the best technology and equipment to save lives and property. Please consider sending in an annual donation via the fund drive to help your local all-volunteer fire company.

While our numbers remain strong, volunteers are desperately needed in many capacities. Please consider donating your time in such a rewarding way. Feel free to stop by on a Tuesday after 7pm and speak with a member to learn more or contact the station. We are still growing our social media presence, so please follow us on Facebook and Instagram to learn more about the fire company and follow what we are up to.

We wish you all a wonderful fall and winter season.

Kevin Wasson - Fire Chief



## Fire Chief Going Back to the Basics

After five years serving as chief of the Harleysville Community Fire Company, Kevin Wasson is looking forward to getting back to “putting the wet stuff on the red stuff.”

“It’s what I love to do,” says Wasson. “It’s been in my blood since I was a kid.

At age 25, Wasson was the region’s youngest chief when he was elevated to the department’s top spot in December 2015. While he loved the job, Wasson says he spent most of his time at the scene in a command vehicle rather than hands-on firefighting, which he missed.

And when he wasn’t on a call, Wasson spent the rest of his 25 hours a week or so working on departmental administrative duties such as financial issues and wondering how to encourage a younger generation of residents to volunteer their time to the department. Like many area departments, Harleysville’s membership has dropped even as calls for service have increased.

The desire to get back on the front lines continued to pull at him. Earlier this year, having welcomed his son Owen to the world in May, Wasson figured it would be a good time to take a step back.

Ryan Nase has been elected as the next Chief for the company and will start his new role on December 1.

“It was a great experience,” says Wasson of his time leading the 65-member department.



*Kevin Wasson*

## Annual Santa Run

Our 2020 Santa Run is tentatively set to occur on Saturday, December 19, 2020. Santa and his helpers will begin making his rounds at 9:30am. He is usually done by about 3pm. We cover every street in the township. It is not possible for us to provide any kind of schedule due to changing routes, fire calls and other delays. If we miss you at home, it will not be hard to hop in the car and find us on many streets in town between these hours.

As in past years, we will be collecting non-perishable food and household items (paper towels, toilet paper, toiletries, etc.) for the Shepherd’s Shelf Food Pantry. Please bring donations out to the street where they will be collected by Santa’s helpers following his sleigh.

There will be a candy cane for all the good boys and girls!

Please listen for the sirens, and follow our website and social media pages for updates as we get closer due to the pandemic and possible changes to this plan.





## Police Department Accreditation

Accreditation is a progressive and time-proven way of helping institutions evaluate and improve their overall performance. The cornerstone of this strategy lies in the promulgation of standards containing a clear statement of professional objectives.

Participating administrators then conduct a thorough analysis to determine how existing operations can be adapted to meet these objectives. When the procedures are in place, a team of independent professionals is assigned to verify that all applicable standards have been successfully implemented. The process culminates with a decision by an authoritative body that the institution is worthy of accreditation.

The Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association introduced the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Program to the Commonwealth in July 2001. Since then, 126 of the nearly 1,100 agencies in Pennsylvania have attained accredited status.

Of particular interest this year, accreditation standards require prohibitions on neck restraints and choke holds and place an emphasis on de-escalation training and techniques. Lower Salford officers annually undergo use-of-force training.

The Lower Salford Township Police Department has been accredited since 2004 and is re-accredited every three years. Lower Salford was recently awarded "Premier Agency" status in recognition of maintaining accreditation for over 15 years. Currently, only 13 of the 126 accredited departments -- about 10 percent-- in Pennsylvania have achieved Premier Agency status.



L-R: James Adams and Richard Hammon, representing the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, Sergeant Cory Moyer, Sergeant Bill O'Connell and Chief of Police Tom Medwid

## From the Tax Collector's Desk

As of this writing, Township Tax Collector Douglas Souder will resume in-person office hours beginning in March of 2021. Due to COVID-19, additional restrictions will be in place once you enter the Township Office. For a complete listing of dates and times, please visit the Township Calendar on the website at: [www.lowersalfordtownship.org](http://www.lowersalfordtownship.org). Please note that Tax Payments can also be mailed to the following: Douglas Souder, Tax Collector, P.O. Box 129, Harleysville, PA 19438. If you have any questions, please contact Doug directly at: 215-256-9858.

### Where Your Tax Dollar Goes



**83.1%**  
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**10.0%**  
Montgomery County  
(3.849 mills)

**6.9%**  
Lower Salford  
Township (2.689 mills)

*\*The average residential assessment in Lower Salford Township is \$195,000.*



## 2020 Marine Corps Toys for Tots Campaign

The 73rd Marine Corps Toys For Tots Campaign kicked off on October 1. This will be the 19th year the Lower Salford Township Police Department has been collecting toys for this campaign.

New, unwrapped toys may be dropped off at the Lower Salford Township Police Department or at any of the other participating drop off locations throughout the Township. To find a drop-off location near you, go to <http://harleysville-pa.toysfortots.org>. Age groups where gifts are greatly needed are ages 8 and up.

Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated and can be made by check, payable to "Toys For Tots," and dropped off at (or mailed to) the Lower Salford Township Police Department, 379 Main Street, Harleysville, PA 19438. Online donations can be made by going to <http://harleysville-pa.toysfortots.org> and clicking the "Ways to Donate Local" button.

By using this link, any online donations will go directly to the Montgomery-Harleysville campaign. Companies can also make "matching donations" for any employee donations!

For more information, contact the Regional Coordinator, Barbara Jansons, at 215-256-9500 or via email at [harleysville.pa@toysfortots.org](mailto:harleysville.pa@toysfortots.org).

## Winter Ticket Discount Program

### *Ski Areas Moving to Online Reservation*

At the time this article was written, the Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society (PRPS), the agency that sponsors the discount ticket program the Township participates in, has indicated that due to numerous precautions ski areas will be taking this season, they are required to limit the number of skiers on the mountain.

Therefore, ski areas are choosing to do so by using online reservations. Due to this change, offering discount tickets at municipalities across the state is not feasible. If this policy changes, we will update our website with the information.

Please visit the Parks and Recreation page on the Township website to link directly to ski area websites to find out more individual area information.

Thank you for your understanding. The Township remains committed to keeping its residents safe.



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## Township Follows State Protocols During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced township administration and staff to fundamentally change the way we provide services to the public. We appreciate your cooperation as we work hard to keep everyone safe!

Here are some of the new policies and procedures that have been put in place. Please check out our website for the most up-to-date information.

- **Visiting the Township Building:** only two people at a time are permitted to be in the lobby. Face masks are required.
- **Submitting a Permit Application:** appointments are no longer required. Please enter the office and maintain a safe distance between others. Face masks are required.
- **Public Meetings:** Township meetings are open to the public and are currently being held via ZOOM. There are some in-person meetings. For a complete guide as well as instructions for attending ZOOM meetings, please visit the Township website and click on the "Agendas and Minutes" page.
- **Using Our Park System:** our park system is open to the public. Please maintain social distancing and other safety protocols.
- **Police Department:** our police department is operating on a normal schedule while observing health and safety protocols. If you need to speak to an officer, please call our non-emergency number (215-256-9500) Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. or call dispatch (215-256-9595) after those hours or on weekends. You can also send an email to [police@lowersalfordtownship.org](mailto:police@lowersalfordtownship.org)

*Of course, in an emergency, dial 9-1-1.*

The Township encourages all our residents and visitors alike to take an active part in educating themselves on the virus. For more information on COVID-19, please visit the Township Website to be linked to County, State and Federal guidelines. [www.lowersalfordtownship.org/news/what\\_s\\_new/coronavirus-\\_what\\_you\\_need\\_to\\_know](http://www.lowersalfordtownship.org/news/what_s_new/coronavirus-_what_you_need_to_know)

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## Eye on Development

### Preliminary and Final Plans Under Review:

- Metropolitan Development Group: Preliminary Plan for 48 single-family houses on Maple Avenue between Oak Drive and Route 113. (For more detailed information, visit the “What’s New” page on the Township website.)
- Metropolitan Development Group: Preliminary Plan for 19 twin houses (38 units) and eight 3-family dwellings (24 units) for a total of 62 units on Oak Drive at the corner of Harleysville Pike. (For more detailed information, visit the “What’s New” page on the Township website.)
- Christopher Lane Realty/Derbyshire Marine Products, LLC: Land Development Plan for a 22,000-square-foot light industrial building on Christopher Lane.
- Clemens’ Mill - Land Development Plan for Office Building and 13 residential units at 531 Main Street.

### Plans Approved for or Currently in, Construction:

- Jacob’s Crossing: 42 attached residential units on Oak Drive (past the Post Office) and one single-family house on Meadow Lane.
- Rittenhouse Property/Spring Hill Realty: Residential development for 30 single-family houses at 167 Harleysville Pike.
- Espenship Subdivision: three-lot residential subdivision on Old Skippack Road.
- Silver Springs Farm: 7,700-square-foot warehouse addition at 640 Meetinghouse Road.
- Chinmaya Mission Harleysville: approximately 18,000-square-foot religious use building at 991 Lucon Road.
- Wawa Convenience Store and Fueling Facility (Provco-Pinegood): Land Development (Mainland Pointe Mixed-Use Development) - Main Street
- Mainland Pointe - SHR Harleysville, LP: Mixed-Use Land Development Plan on Main Street, includes single-family dwellings, apartment buildings, and commercial pads for lease.
- JERC Partners - Plan for a 150,000-square-foot warehouse at 59 Fretz Road.

*The Mainland Pointe mixed-use land development begins to take shape at the intersection of Main Street and Quarry Road*



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Sun: Closed





# Alderfer Road Bridge Replacement Project

Lower Salford Township continues to prioritize necessary infrastructure improvements while balancing the need for fiscal responsibility. This is evident with the Alderfer Road Bridge Replacement project that is nearing completion of the engineering phase and will move into the construction phase in 2021.

This project includes a complete bridge replacement on Alderfer Road over Bull Frog Creek, as well as roadway improvements that will address existing substandard conditions. As with any bridge and roadway project, extensive coordination is needed for environmental permitting, floodplain conditions, utility relocations, etc.

The existing bridge is a 40-foot reinforced concrete slab built in 1940 and currently posted for 15 tons. It is supported on a concrete pier and concrete abutments with wingwalls. The guide rail and railings are also in need of replacement. The existing bridge opening is not large enough to handle regular two-year storm events, which is evident by the roadway flooding that occurs at this location whenever we get heavy downpours.

The new bridge will be a 51-foot, 6-inch prestressed concrete composite adjacent box beam bridge with an opening large enough to allow for a 100-year storm event so the roadway does not flood. The project also includes changes to the roadway, including shoulders and elevation, guide rail, and drainage. Accesses to the roadway will be adjusted to meet the new roadway profile.

The project is sponsored by Lower Salford Township as it is a Township-owned structure on a Township roadway. Lower Salford Township applied for, and was selected for, funding assistance through the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) Municipal Bridge Reimbursement Program (MBRP) in 2018. This will allow the Township to submit for up to 80 percent reimbursement of the total project cost following construction.

McMahon Associates, Inc., the Township Traffic Engineer, is completing the final design engineering in 2020. The project is anticipated to be advertised for construction over the winter and will proceed into construction in 2021. Keep an eye on the Local Construction page of the website for updates as they become available.



*Above and Below: Alderfer Road Bridge*



## More Bridge Updates

- Preliminary work on the replacement of the Camp Wawa Road bridge has begun. The bridge, which is owned by Montgomery County and was closed more than seven years ago, is being replaced under contract by the H&K Group. Work on the new bridge is scheduled to begin this fall and is expected to take close to a year to complete. This is good news for all residents and visitors who travel this road, as there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Please be aware of the construction vehicles as you are out that way or are visiting Camp Wawa Park. There will be a lot of activity over the next year, and extra caution is needed. Thank you in advance to everyone who has endured the long closure to get to this point.

- Just up the road from Camp Wawa Road bridge is the Bergey's Mill Road bridge. This bridge is also owned by Montgomery County and has been closed since 2012. Work has begun on replacement of this bridge as well, but this bridge has been deemed an historic structure (1893) and more footwork needs to be done before the replacement can begin. The hope is that replacement will begin in 2021.

The Township continues to monitor both bridges through the county website (<https://www.montcopa.org/377/Roads-Bridges>).



## Recent Eagle Scout Projects benefit local residents

The Township thanks the following Eagle Scouts for their ambitious projects that continue to benefit residents and visitors alike.



**Jake Calin:** Troop 137, stands on the new sidewalk he and his helpers installed to safely connect residents from the Arbour Square complex to the Shoppes of Harleysville.



**Tyler Currier:** Troop 178, built a foot bridge located at the new multi-purpose fields on Park Avenue to provide safe crossing of a swale for those using the fields.



**Jake Rees:** Troop 51, stands near the Heckler Plains Nature Trail that he recently refurbished by adding signage, reflectors and other safety measures to benefit visitors to the trail.



**Alex Spisak:** Troop 178, completed an Antique Tool Display Board to enhance the Bergey Mill House & Barn.

## DO NOT FLUSH!

### A Reminder from the Sewer Authority

In the Spring Newsletter, the Township provided guidance to its residents regarding items that should not be flushed down toilets and/or poured down drains. As a reminder, we will again provide the following listing. All of the items listed below can clog drain lines, causing back-up into homes as well as damage Township Sewer Authority equipment. Please refrain from flushing or pouring out the following:

\*Cloth rags or towels \* Paper (other than toilet tissue) \* Medications \* Feminine hygiene products of any kind \* Beauty products, Q-Tips, or Dental Floss \* Plastics of any kind \* Grease of any kind \* Baby wipes, toilet wipes, towelettes, disinfecting wipes, or cloth wipes of any kind – EVEN IF THE CONTAINER INDICATES THAT THEY ARE A “FLUSHABLE” PRODUCT \* Paint, Varnish, Paint Remover \* Garden Supplies (such as pesticides, fertilizers) \* Motor Oil, gasoline or any explosive material \* Sump Pump or Stormwater discharge.







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## Volunteer Spotlight – Township Fire Marshal Don Lynch

*(In this issue of the Township newsletter, we get to know a little bit about the man who investigates the origin and causes of fires, reviews building plans and enforces township fire codes, and teaches people how to keep their homes and business fire safe.)*

**Education/Training:** Don has completed over 6,500 hours of Fire/Rescue training classes from the Montgomery County Fire Academy, Bucks County Fire Academy, the Department of Defense, FEMA, National Fire Academy, and several other Fire/Rescue Academies. He has received training for Fire Fighting, Rescue, Hazardous Material Mitigation, Fire Scene Investigation to determine the cause and origin of a fire, Fire Code Interpretation and Enforcement, Emergency Scene Management, Building Plan Review for the Fire Service, and training for Advanced Emergency Medical Care.

**Experience:** Before joining Lower Salford, Don worked as a career firefighter and Assistant Fire Marshal for both the Whitpain Township Fire Department (2001-2011) and the Conshohocken Fire Department (12998-2001). He also worked as a full-time civilian firefighter/EMT for the U.S. Navy at the Willow Grove Naval Air Base Fire Department (1997-98). Don started his career with the Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company (1989-2001), climbing through the ranks to serve as Captain and Assistant Chief.



*Donald F. Lynch*

**More Community Service:** While he's not working, Don volunteers in several capacities, including as a member of the Montgomery County Haz-Mat Team, the Montgomery County Urban Search and Rescue Team, the Montgomery County Incident Support Team, and the Harleysville Volunteer Fire Company.

**How He Makes a Living:** Don has been Chief / Director of Operations for the Harleysville Area EMS since 2011. He is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the organization and for ensuring the daily supervision of all career and volunteer staff members and unit utilization in accordance with company policies and procedures. Don also acts as the EMS Incident Command Officer.

**Personal:** Don and his wife, Calista, live in Pennsburg. They have three children: Blaze, 21; Halligan, 15; and Ashley, 11.

**What He Says About Being Fire Marshal:** "I really enjoy being the Fire Marshal here in Lower Salford Township because it allows me to serve and be a part of this great community and to do a job that I truly love doing."

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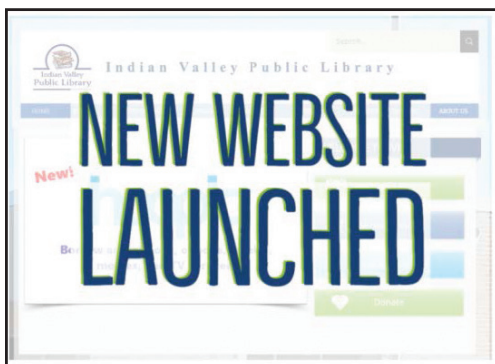


## Visit the Indian Valley Public Library

The Library staff welcomes you to visit in person, curbside, or virtually. For your safety and the safety of our staff, we must limit your time to 30 minutes browsing, one hour of computer use, and two hours of study room use. Masks must be worn at all times. We continue to offer curbside pickup to those not wishing to enter the building.

### Our New Hours:

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 10am to 6pm
- Tuesday and Thursday, noon to 8pm
- Saturday, 10am to 2pm



We are excited to unveil our new website ([www.ivpl.org](http://www.ivpl.org))! Check out the easy-to-navigate site with quick links to the card catalog, calendar of events, and so much more.

### Book Finders

Parents, are you looking for some book ideas? Can't get into the library?

Let our Book Finders pick the right books for you. Simply fill out this form (<https://bit.ly/332ZV6z>) and one of our Youth Services staff will select books

and place them on hold for you. You will be notified when they are available to be picked up. You can stop by the library during our regular hours and pick them up inside the library or through curbside pickup.

Please allow up to three business days for us to fulfill your request. Questions can be emailed to [youthservices@ivpl.org](mailto:youthservices@ivpl.org).



### Featured on-line resources

- **NEW! Hoopla:** Instantly borrow digital movies, music, eBooks, eAudiobooks, comics, and TV shows.  
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- **Overdrive:** Download digital audiobooks and eBooks  
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- **Axis 360:** Popular fiction and nonfiction titles available in ebook and audio formats for all ages  
<https://ivpl.axis360.baker-taylor.com/>



## Yoder Road Trail

The Township recently received a new trail along Yoder Road between Summerwind and Eastwoods Drive. This trail has been planned for quite some time and when the T.H.Properties Lincoln Woods development began in Franconia Township, the trail became a reality. The Township thanks T.H. Properties for installing this path that will eventually connect into the Lincoln Woods development.



*Reed Park at Sunset:* Fall sunset over the Charles Reed Park baseball fields.



### Thank You To The Businesses.

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## Why Naturalize Stormwater Basins?

### *First, what is a Stormwater Basin?*

Stormwater basins are areas that are constructed with earthen berms to hold stormwater after a rain event and release the water more slowly into the stream. When stormwater basins were built with older developments, basins were primarily to control flooding by holding back the runoff from a storm. More recently, regulations require stormwater basins also be designed to address water quality.

### *What is a Naturalized Stormwater Basin?*

Typically, a Naturalized Stormwater Basin allows for the vegetation in the bottom of the basin to grow into a meadow. These basins can be mowed once or twice a year to keep the growth from getting too high.

### *Why Naturalize a Basin?*

Many municipalities have been required by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to find ways to improve the water quality of the streams and lakes within and downstream of the municipality.

One method to improve water quality is to modify an older stormwater basin by removing or interrupting the flow in concrete channels in the basin, allowing a meadow to grow in the bottom of the basin and planting trees and shrubs.

The benefits of naturalizing a stormwater basin include:

- Allowing water to infiltrate into the ground to recharge the aquifer and be used by the plants.
- Reducing sediments and pollutants that wash downstream.
- Reducing the volume and rate of water that reaches the stream, which will help reduce flooding and streambank erosion.
- Reducing the need for mowing.
- Providing shade, which helps reduce the temperature of the water released into the stream.

To report an illicit discharge to the stormwater collection system, stream, creek, or river, please call Lower Salford Township Municipal Building at 215-256-8087.



## Prepare Your Home for Winter

As winter approaches, our thoughts turn to other activities as we plan for the annual hibernation to the indoors. This is also a good time to plan a safe hibernation for your house as well. The constant change in the weather can have a significant effect on your house that, if left unchecked, may result in major repairs in the future.

Now is the time to inspect your house for anything that does not appear to be normal. Things to look for include loose siding, missing or torn shingles, broken or sticking doors, missing caulking around windows or any other item that will leave your home exposed to the elements. Now is the time to start addressing these items before the cold weather sets in and these items are forgotten.

You may also want to take a look at other items that are often overlooked until it is too late. One important item is your home heating system. Most people who are not on a maintenance program forget to have service performed until well into the heating season when the furnace decides to stop working. Unfortunately, this is the time that most heating contractors are busiest and you may have to wait for service. Avoid the headache and plan ahead.

Items such as your water heater may need your attention as well as other home appliances. Remember to check and make sure water pipes are properly insulated and not exposed to freezing temperatures. Be sure that leaves and debris do not obstruct water flow from gutters and downspouts. Water that freezes and is allowed to back up rooftops often provides you with unwelcome leaks. The lists are endless, but remember your home is a major investment - take good care of it.



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Fall/Winter 2020-2021

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