

# LOWER SALFORD

## TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



Spring/Summer 2022 • Published by the Board of Supervisors • Founded 1741

### Message From the Chairman

Welcome to spring, when our clocks move forward and our outside activities increase. Spring also brings change, when leaves and flowers blossom, and the drab view of winter is painted with bright spring colors.

The Township is not immune to change. The November election brought Dave Scheuren to the Board of Supervisors, with his term beginning January 2022. We welcome Dave and look forward to working with him. See the profile on page 11 in this newsletter.

The police department is also changing. We had three police officers retire and two more scheduled to retire this summer. We have hired five new police officers to replace the outgoing officers. You can read the details of these five professionals in an article on page 6. We welcome them to the Township family and are excited about the injection of fresh ideas and enthusiasm brought by new members to the Department.

Chief Medwid is doing a great job in transitioning to the new faces and places caused by the retirements and new hires. We all owe a debt of gratitude to our retirees: Officers Kim Kratz, Brian Kriebel, and Pat O'Brien; Corporal Jack Haasis; and Sergeant Bill O'Connell. We thank them for their years of service and dedication to the Township and all its residents.

Also new to the Township are two bridges often discussed in the past, but now open and in service. Take a ride on the Alderfer Road and Camp Wawa Road bridges. Enjoy these transportation improvements paid for with your tax dollars. We owe a big "thank you" to our Director of Public Works, Doug Jones, and our traffic engineer, Stephanie Butler, for all their efforts in finalizing these projects.

So it's spring and our outlook on life brightens with the sun's increasing intensity. And I haven't mentioned COVID-19 in this letter until now. We are all tired of the restrictions and effects of the pandemic. I only hope we are finished with all that, but I am realistic enough to type this with my fingers crossed, which isn't easy for a hunt-and-pecker.

*Douglas Gifford*  
Chairman, Lower Salford Board of Supervisors

*Spring has sprung  
in Lower Salford*



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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*  
Keith A. Bergman – *Vice Chairman*  
Christopher R. Canavan  
Kevin Shelly  
David Scheuren

## 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)

### Montgomery/Bucks County Office:

56 West Fourth St., Floor 2  
Red Hill, PA 18076  
215-541-2388 • fax: 215-541-2387

### Harrisburg Office:

Senate Box 203024  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3024  
717-787-3110 • fax: 717-787-8004

## Our Representative in the PA General Assembly

Representative Tracy Pennycuik (147th District)  
[www.reprtracypennycuik.com](http://www.reprtracypennycuik.com) • email through website

### District Office:

410 Main St., Suite 200  
Harleysville, PA 19438  
215-256-6030 • Fax: 215-256-6069

### Harrisburg Office:

116 Main Capitol, PO Box 202147  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2147  
717-787-9501 • fax: 717-787-8215

## 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:

Patrick O'Brien [pobrien@lowersalfordtownship.org](mailto:pobrien@lowersalfordtownship.org)

## President of the United States

President Joseph R. Biden

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

### Philadelphia Office:

2000 Market St., Suite 610  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
215-405-9660 • fax: 215-405-9669

### Washington, D.C. Office:

393 Russell Senate Office Building,  
Washington DC, 20510  
202-224-6324 • fax: 202-228-0604

Senator Pat Toomey

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

### Philadelphia Office:

US Custom House  
200 Chestnut Street, Suite 600  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
215-241-1090 • fax: 215-241-1095

### Washington, D.C. Office:

248 Russell Senate Office Building,  
Washington DC, 20510  
202-224-4254 • fax: 202-228-0284

## PA Representative in the United States Congress

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

### Norristown Office:

101 E. Main Street, Suite A  
Norristown, PA 19401  
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# What's Happening at Lederach Golf Course?

## Advantage Card Free to Township Residents

Whether you are new to the game or a scratch golfer, if you are a resident of Lower Salford Township, you can save your hard-earned dollars the next time you play Lederach Golf Course. Lederach Golf Club is a Municipal Public Golf Course and residents are eligible to get a FREE Advantage Card for the 2022 season. The Advantage Card, which provides cardholders with discounts all season, is \$30 for non-residents.

Why not stop out at the course and ask about this discount program? Just a few of the advantages include:

- Golfers aged 60+ can enjoy playing Monday – Thursday for only \$34 (a \$15 savings from the normal \$49 rate). Friday savings continue with the 60+ rate being \$44 instead of \$59, another \$15 savings.
- Golfers ages 59 and younger can enjoy playing Monday – Thursday for \$49 and on Fridays for \$60.

- On weekends, regardless of age, golfers who are Advantage Cardholders will receive a \$10 discount.

To receive your free Advantage Card, please provide something that proves you are a Lower Salford Township resident such as a driver's license, utility bill, etc.

After the round, why not visit Leddy's Pub and grab a bite to eat? There are new renovations to the clubhouse, and we welcome one and all to stop out and visit.

Even if you don't golf, stopping out to relax on the patio while watching golfers come in from the 18th green can be enjoyable. The course is in great shape and the restaurant and driving range have some great renovations as well. See you there!



Sunrise at Lederach Golf Course

## Top 10 Yard Care Tips to Protect Our Streams

1. Water your lawn no more than 1 inch per week. Use a rain gauge to keep track.
2. For the healthiest lawn possible, set your mower to its highest setting.
3. Reduce your fertilizer use, and use organic, slow-release fertilizers.
4. Choose native plants from the nursery to reduce maintenance and increase the habitat value of your yard.
5. Capture rain from your roof with a rain barrel. Use the captured rain to water your lawn and flower garden.
6. Choose alternatives to harmful pesticides such as beneficial insects or non-toxic chemicals.
7. Compost your yard and kitchen waste. Use the compost as an excellent fertilizer for your lawn and gardens.
8. Remove invasive plants growing wild in your yard, and refrain from purchasing invasives from nurseries.
9. Test your soil so you can identify and address problems.
10. Reduce the size of your lawn to save money and time on maintenance



For any questions or concerns regarding stormwater or if you observe pollutants entering the storm sewer or stream, please call the Township at 215-256-8087.



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# From the Harleysville Community Center

435 Park Avenue (Between Kulp Road and Maple Avenue) • 215.256.9315

## Welcome to the 2022 Swimming Season Pools open Saturday, June 4

NOW is the perfect time to make your plans for swimming at the HCC pools. Membership information is ready to go for summer 2022. Opening Day is set for Saturday, June 4.

For a limited time, member registration will be available online. For membership information please visit [www.harleysvillecommunitycenter.com](http://www.harleysvillecommunitycenter.com). On the HCC home page, look for the “Click Here to Register Now” button.

HCC offers a full range of swimming lessons from non-swimmers to advanced swimmers. Call the pool office after June 4, for more information.



The McCoy Family will be back as our snack stand vendor. The Cool Eats Snack Bar offers full lunch and dinner menus, as well as snacks of all kinds. Party packages will be available for members who would like to celebrate their child’s birthday at the pool. They will be accepting credit cards, selling gift certificates, and having the most delicious, hand-cut, crispy French fries...made to order!



HCC has been the proud home to the Harleysville Swim & Dive Team for over 60 years. For more information visit: <https://www.teamunify.com/Home.jsp?team=recbssdlhsdt>

HCC pool memberships are required for all Harleysville Swim & Dive Team members.



\*\*\*\*\*

Since its inception in 1957, HCC has relied on community donations, pool memberships, and facility-use fees to finance its projects and required maintenance of facilities. We appreciate all the community support and continued membership to help keep the Harleysville Community Center an important place for family and friends to gather and share memories.

*Thank you!*

A special Thank You goes out to our Community partners – Lower Salford Township, Excel Communications, Harleysville Bank, Harleysville Jaycees, Harleysville Lions, and Harleysville Rotary for their ongoing support of HCC.

To learn more about the Center’s interesting history, visit [www.harleysvillecommunitycenter.com](http://www.harleysvillecommunitycenter.com) and look for the “About HCC” button.

## LOOKING BACK: HCC CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS IN JULY



On July 25, 2021, HCC hosted its first Christmas in July event. The pool staff organized an antler ring toss, a water balloon toss, and a big splash contest to benefit the Keystone Opportunity Center. Members and guests were asked to bring in non-perishable food items to donate to the Keystone Opportunity Center.

The Community Center received over 200 donations, which amounted to 301.8 pounds of food. The special day was enjoyed by both our patrons and the pool staff!



# From the Lower Salford Police Department

## New Officers Join the Lower Salford Police Department



Connor McGovern

If you read the previous article in our Winter 2021 newsletter on the Township's retiring police officers, it is only fitting that we introduce you to the five new officers who have started over the last year. Please join the Township in welcoming these new officers to the family.

**Connor McGovern**, who started in May 2021, was previously a police officer at SEPTA since 2018; he attended Kutztown and West Chester universities, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice.

**Glenn Seymour**, who started in June 2021, was previously a part-time officer at Bridgeport Borough; he attended East Stroudsburg and Widener universities, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice.



Glenn Seymour

**Zachary Snyder**, who started in July 2021, previously worked for the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources as Chief Ranger for Evansburg and Ft. Washington State parks. Zack attended Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice.

**Donovan Sobetsky**, who started in January 2022, was previously a police officer in Philadelphia and Norristown for a total of five years. He attended Christopher Dock High School and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Mercyhurst University.

**Sara Miller**, who started in 2022 and was previously a part-time officer at Telford Borough, earned an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice at Montgomery County Community College. She is also currently a sergeant in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard.



Zachary Snyder

The five officers each spent one week of orientation meeting township employees, conducting firearms and use-of-force qualifications and policy review, before being assigned to a patrol squad for one year of field training.



Donovan Sobetsky & Sara Miller with Chief Tom Medwid



### Find Us on Facebook

The Lower Salford Police Department has a Facebook page. Please "like us" to receive information on the community and other news.

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# HARLEYSVILLE FIRE COMPANY STATION 89



Dear Township Residents,

There are many exciting things occurring at the fire company and we look forward to sharing that with all of our residents and businesses. 2022 marks 100 years of service to the community of Lower Salford Township. With this large milestone, the Fire Company is celebrating all year long. There will be many exciting ways we will be celebrating with the community. The finishing of our memorial on the front of the property will take place this year; banners and memorabilia displayed at the firehouse; and, of course, a large 100th-anniversary Open House on October 1.

Our 2022 fund drive mailer was a huge success. We had a record year for donations via the fund drive and we have you to thank for that. This is a major portion of our annual funding and allows us to save toward capital projects. The scheduled replacement and maintenance of our apparatuses is one of the most important things we do to maintain a safe and effective operation, and the costs of this continue to rise dramatically. Keep an eye out for the 2022 mailer in September.

The company placed an order for a 2022 Pierce Enforcer PUC Rescue Pumper, with delivery scheduled in early 2023. This truck will be a replacement for our current apparatus Squad 89. This truck will serve the community as a first-out apparatus for any motor vehicle accidents or special rescue-type calls.

As a reminder, when we clean our yards of leaves, branches, and twigs, open burning of yard waste is strictly prohibited by Township ordinance. Please see the Township website for more information ([www.lowersalfordtownship.org](http://www.lowersalfordtownship.org)). If you are not sure of the regulations, please contact us or the Fire Marshal and ask before having any type of controlled fire.

While our numbers remain strong, volunteers are desperately needed in many capacities. Times have certainly changed in the past 100 years of this company. Now more than ever, we are in need of your help to keep us as a 100% volunteer-based company for another 100 years. Please consider donating your time in such a rewarding way. Stop by on a Tuesday after 6 p.m. and speak with a member to learn more, contact the station, or log onto our website: [www.harleysvillefire.org](http://www.harleysvillefire.org).

To keep up to date, and to learn more about what the Fire Company is doing, follow us on our social media pages.

I wish you all an enjoyable and safe spring and summer season.

*Ryan Nase*

Ryan Nase, *Fire Chief*



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# From the Indian Valley Public Library

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Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sunday, 1 p.m to 5 p.m.

## Contact Us

100 E. Church Avenue  
Telford, PA 18969  
Phone: 215-723-9109  
Email: [refdesk@ivpl.org](mailto:refdesk@ivpl.org)

## Free Museum and Historic Site Passes

Looking for new adventures? IVPL offers passes (with your library card) that provide free admission to local museums and historic sites. Check out the available passes at <https://www.ivpl.org/museum-passes>

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- Brandywine Conservancy and Museum of Art
- Bucks County Children’s Museum
- Chanticleer
- Elmwood Park Zoo
- Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle
- Museum of the American Revolution
- National Constitution Center
- Pearl S. Bucks International
- Philadelphia Magic Gardens
- The Shofuso Japanese House and Garden
- Tyler Arboretum
- Wings of Freedom Aviation Museum



## Mobile Printing Now Available



Did you know you can print to the library’s printer from your home, from your laptop, from your smartphone, or from any mobile device?

### Here’s how:

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**BLACK AND WHITE** [iv-pl-bw@printspots.com](mailto:iv-pl-bw@printspots.com)

**COLOR** [iv-pl-cl@printspots.com](mailto:iv-pl-cl@printspots.com)

Only the attachment will be printed. This will send your print job to the Self-Service Kiosk, located behind the Reference Desk. This cost is 15 cents for BW or 25 cents for color.

You can find more information at <https://www.ivpl.org/wireless-printing>.



## Summer Quest 2022

June 20 - August 31

Children age 11 and under are encouraged to join the Summer Quest - Oceans of Possibilities. Join us for storytimes at the library and in the community. (we’ll be at local parks throughout the summer), activities, and reading. Check our website ([ivpl.org](http://ivpl.org)) in June for more information.

## What has the Communications Committee Been Up To?

Since their first meeting in April of 2021, members of the Communications Committee hit the ground running with ideas for boosting information dissemination throughout the Township. One of their first orders of business was to implement a new layer of communication by using the internet to report concerns and/or provide feedback or suggestions regarding any number of topics in the Township. This service, called the “Resident Request Portal,” was created by the engineering professionals at McMahon Associates using ideas provided by the Communications Committee and Township staff. This new portal went live on the Township website in September 2021. You can link to it through the QR Code accompanying this article.

The Communications Committee hasn’t stopped there. It is currently working on ways to get more information into the hands of Township residents, especially those who may rent or lease their homes. They are hoping to do this by providing a list of contacts of area services and organizations. This listing is still in the draft stage but should be distributed to multi-dwelling complexes before too long.

In the meantime, the Communications Committee, as well as the Township Supervisors and staff, encourage everyone to take a more active role in your community. Have a question? Wonder what is being built near you? Have a concern you would like to address?

The Township staff is here to help, but we are not mindreaders. Give us a call, come to a meeting, send us an email, sign up for the bi-monthly emails (use the QR Code accompanying this article), send in a report from the new Resident Request Portal, or stop into the office during regular office hours. We look forward to hearing from you!

Resident Request Portal:



Sign Up for Emails





# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

**Saturday, May 21: Temple University Ambler Campus**

**Saturday, June 18: Norristown Area High School**

**Saturday, June 25: Abington Junior High School**

**Saturday, September 24: Spring-Ford 9th Grade Center**

**Sunday, October 23: Lower Merion Transfer Station**

**Dropoffs are permitted by appointment only; preregistration is required at [montcoparecycles.org](http://montcoparecycles.org).**

This is a residential collection only; businesses and contractors will be turned away.

These free residential collection events are held outdoors. There are no permanent dropoff locations, only these collection events. Montco residents may also attend any HHHW events held by Bucks, Chester, Delaware, or Philadelphia counties.

Please do not contact the host sites, as they are not affiliated with the event.

In case of severe weather, call 610-278-3618, option 6 for event status.

For more information, including dropoff guidelines and a list of items accepted for recycling, visit [montcoparecycles.org](http://montcoparecycles.org)

## Battery Recycling

What is the proper way to dispose of batteries that are no longer useful? The correct answer depends on the type of battery. Here is a list of different types of batteries and how to dispose of them in Montgomery County.

**Alkaline batteries:** Alkaline batteries include common disposable, such as AA through AAAA, C, and D batteries, 9-volt batteries, and button batteries with LR at the beginning of the code printed on the face of the battery. Alkaline batteries are safe to dispose of with household trash. There are companies that will send you a bucket to fill with alkaline batteries (as well as other types of batteries) that you can send back to be recycled for a fixed rate, such as the iRecycle kit found at [www.batterysolutions.com](http://www.batterysolutions.com)



**Nickel-metal-hydride batteries:** Nickel-metal-hydride batteries are most commonly found in the rechargeable versions of alkaline batteries. Nickel-metal-hydride batteries can be recycled at household hazardous waste collection events.

**Lithium-ion batteries:** This type of battery is used in many different devices in the home, including cell phones, cameras, tablets, laptops, portable device chargers (also known as battery banks), wireless headphones, cordless vacuums, electric lawnmowers, and many other devices. Lithium-ion is also used in button batteries with CR at the beginning of the code printed on the face of the battery. Lithium-ion batteries can be recycled at household hazardous waste collection events.

**Lead-acid batteries:** Lead-acid batteries are typically used in cars, boats, wheelchairs, snowmobiles, motorcycles, and golf carts. Lead-acid batteries can be recycled at household hazardous waste collection events.



**Municipal and state regulations require that residents, commercial establishments, and non-residential establishments recycle all recyclable materials. Commonly recycled materials include paper, plastic, glass, and metal. You should check with your hauler for a complete list of acceptable recyclable materials.**

## Online Resident Request Portal

Lower Salford Township has launched a new layer of communication for residents. With the idea from the Communications Committee and the technical knowledge of McMahon Associates, citizens can now submit an online request and/or a concern to the Township.



This new feature has been linked to the Township website ([www.lowersalfordtownship.org](http://www.lowersalfordtownship.org)) and is called "The Lower Salford Resident Request Portal." Residents have the option of several topic areas to report concerns and/or make requests.

To view this new feature, visit the Township home page and look for the Resident Request link, or use the phone on your camera to access the QR Code below.

If you prefer to speak with us directly instead, we are always here to help; give us a call at 215-256-8087.



# Eye on Development

**SKETCH PLANS (concepts submitted to the Township that appear before the Planning Commission, but are not reviewed by the Township Engineer's Office.):**

**Shihadeh Sketch Plan** – Project proposed on Lederach Cross Road and Harleysville Pike to construct three twin buildings for a total of 6 residential units.

**Florence Moore Property** – 431 Indian Creek Road – 12 new single-family homes on 80,000 - plus square-foot lots on 68 acres.

**PRELIMINARY PLANS (under review by the Planning Commission):**

**Lederach Village Homes** – located in the Village of Lederach, the plan calls for two sites: one on Harleysville Pike consisting of 5 residential dwellings and keeping an existing dwelling, and one on Morris Road proposing 10 residential dwelling units.

**931 Harleysville Pike** – 4 single-family detached homes.

**Creekside at Mainland** – land development at 17 Mainland Road, preserving the existing Mainland Inn and building and calling for 41 residential dwellings.

**ALMAC – 25 Fretz Road** – 78,000-square-foot expansion of an existing facility, including parking facilities and stormwater management, at the corner of Fretz and Wambold Roads.

**PLANS APPROVED FOR, OR CURRENTLY IN, CONSTRUCTION:**

**Jacob's Crossing** – 42 attached residential units on Oak Drive (past the Post Office) and 1 single-family home on Meadow Lane.

**Rittenhouse Property/Spring Hill Realty** – Residential development for 30 single-family homes at 167 Harleysville Pike.

**Silver Springs Farm** – 7,700-square-foot warehouse addition at 640 Meetinghouse Road.

**Chinmaya Mission Harleysville** – Approx. 18,000 s.f. religious use building at 991 Lucon Road

**Mainland Pointe** – SHR Harleysville, LP - Mixed Use Land development plan on Main Street. Includes single-family dwellings, apartment buildings, and commercial pads for lease.

**PDC Machines (formerly JERC Partners)** – a 150,000-square-foot manufacturing facility and warehouse at 59 Fretz Road

**Park Crossing at Salford** – Metropolitan Development Group. 48 single-family homes on Maple Avenue between Oak Drive and Route 113.

**Highpointe at Salford** – Metropolitan Development Group: 19 two-family dwellings (38 units) and 8 three-family dwellings (24 units) for a total of 62 units on Oak Drive at the corner of Harleysville Pike.

**DEH Machine – 285 Wambold Road** – 2 Industrial Buildings: one 25,436-square-foot and a future building at 24,200-square feet for Light Industrial use and wholesale sales.

*Changes to this list happen often. For a more up-to-date listing, please visit the Township Website, or call the office at: 215-256-8087*

## Meet the Township's Newest Supervisor

*Dave Scheuren was elected to the Board of Supervisors last November and took office in January. He recently sat down to answer a few questions to introduce himself to the community at large.*

**Tell us about your family.**

My wife Donna and I will have been married for 26 years this June. She serves as Vice President of the Souderton Area School Board and is currently running for State Representative in 147th District. We have a lot of family in this area, as most of our siblings, as well as my mom, live in Harleysville, but my brother lives just outside the Township in Telford.

**Where did you grow up and go to school?**

I was born and raised in Langhorne, graduated from Neshaminy Langhorne High School, and then Penn State University. I graduated from PSU with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering.

**How did you wind up in Lower Salford?**

I started building our house in Harleysville in the evenings after work and on weekends back in 2000. We moved in July 2001.

**What kind of work do you do?**

I am currently an Engineer, Project Manager, and Owner of Construction Services International, Inc., which is currently in its 34th year. My brother and I started the business from scratch and have grown it over the years. We currently have almost 40 full-time employees.

**Have you had any previous public service?**

I have been a member of the Lower Salford Township Sewer Authority and continue to serve on that board as well.

**Why did you decide to run for Supervisor?**

Having lived in the township for more than two decades, we have come to love the area. One of the reasons I ran for a seat on the board is to help maintain that small-town feel of Lower Salford. I also want to maintain and support quality public services and keep taxes low. We haven't raised taxes in eight years! That's a great accomplishment.

**What challenges does the township face?**

We need to make sure our infrastructure keeps pace with the increasing population, i.e. traffic concerns, roads, bridges, sewer, and water, etc.

**What are your "Passion Projects?"**

I want to make sure the Police and Fire Departments, along with EMS have everything they need to keep Lower Salford a great place to live. We are currently ranked as the 8th safest municipality in Pennsylvania. I want to maintain the fiscal responsibility of the Township and keep taxes under control.



# From the Fire Marshal's Office

## Grilling and Outdoor Fire Safety

There's nothing like outdoor grilling. However, a grill placed too close to anything that can burn is a serious fire hazard. They can be very hot, causing burn injuries. Follow these simple tips and you will be on your way to a safe grilling season:

- Propane and charcoal grills should only be used outside.
- Grills should be placed well away from the home and deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep small children and pets away from the grilling area.
- Keep your grills clean by removing grease or fat buildup from inside and outside the grill.
- Never leave your grill unattended while in use.
- Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.
- Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquid to hot coals or an open flame.
- As with fireplace ashes, when finished, let coals cool completely; before disposing of them in a metal container.



## Firepits and Chimineas

Many people enjoy the use of an outdoor fire pit or chiminea to provide some ambiance for a family or social gathering. While not illegal in Lower Salford on private property, using these devices improperly can cause serious damage and injury.

For these reasons, we ask you to use your device in a safe manner. Vice-Chairman Keith Bergman advises to always have a fire extinguisher, a bucket of water, or a garden hose nearby in case a fire gets out of control. Chimineas or other types of firepits must be at least 15 feet from a residence.

## Fish Stocking Fun!

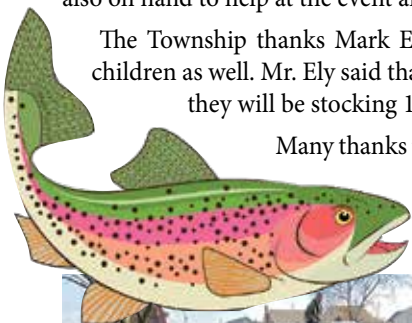
Every spring, the Township contracts with Limestone Springs Fish Hatchery out of Lebanon County to stock Dan Roth Park Pond, Alderfer Road Pond, and Briarwyck Park Pond with Rainbow Trout.

This year's stocking took place on Friday, March 25, and students from Ms. Paula Mandracchia's 6th Grade Seasons class from the Souderton Charter School were involved in the fish stocking. Also present were three officers from the Pennsylvania Fish & Boating Commission to answer questions of the students.

Officer Michael Blair provided facts such as that Pennsylvania has an extensive waterway system and each year stocks these waterways with over three million fish. Officers Peter Labosh and AJ Mottola were also on hand to help at the event and answer questions from the children.

The Township thanks Mark Ely of Limestone Springs for taking the extra time to speak with the children as well. Mr. Ely said that Limestone Springs raises over 400,000 pounds of trout each year and they will be stocking 150,000 pounds of those fish in Pennsylvania's waterways.

Many thanks to everyone involved, especially Township Public Works Director Doug Jones, for coordinating this event, and to his crew for helping stock as well as assist the children. It was truly a fun and educational day.



## Proper Use of Township-Owned Open Space Benefits Everyone

The acquisition of open space is for the enhancement of life for all of our residents. "Studies have substantiated the positive financial benefit of increasing the property values of all residents by these acquisitions," said Supervisor Chris Canavan.

The increased frequency of the intrusion into Township-owned open space by individuals has been brought to our attention and is a source of great concern. Open space is for the benefit of the entire community, not just abutting neighbors. It is vital that everyone refrains from any actions that may alter the open space in any manner.

It should be common sense that open space not be used for the disposal of yard waste or other waste of any kind. Illegal dumping is a danger to public health and safety; it decreases property values, lowers the quality of life, and costs our Township taxpayers money to clean-up and restore the area. Please contact the Township Office or Police Department if you see any abuse of Township open space.

Residents are not permitted to plant trees, or place trailers, sheds, boats, or fences on Township open space. Free gardening permits may be obtained from the Township to plant annuals or mow the grass; however, no mowing permits will be issued in the Township "riparian buffer zones." These "no-mow zones" protect the water quality of our streams and prevent erosion.

Township parks are open from dawn to dusk.

When using the parks and community paths, you must clean up after your pets for the health and safety of everyone. Please help keep our Township parks and open spaces clean!



## Reminder: Leaves and Yard Waste Disposal

The Township provides a leaf/yard waste (**no grass clippings**) drop-off location in the back parking lot at the Township Building, 379 Main Street. Leaves and yard waste in biodegradable bags may be deposited there at no cost throughout the year.

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

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# Historical Happenings

## *How to Get Involved with the Heckler Plains Folklife and Lower Salford Historical Society*

Some of you may remember the Children's Colonial Education Programs that were conducted by the Heckler Plains Folklife Society beginning in 1975 that continued until about 2018. Reasons for the decline in participation by Souderton and North Penn elementary schools are many, but the combined Lower Salford History and Folklife Society has received requests from two area schools to resurrect this unique program.

However, in order to do so, we need volunteers who enjoy history, handcrafts, and working with children.

Here is how the day is structured. Children arrive at around 9:30 a.m., are divided into groups of 12-20, and are greeted by their costumed hosts for the day, where they become part of the Heckler family and spend the day doing "chores" the family would have done while learning what life was like in our area in the 18th and 19th centuries. They dip candles, card wool, punch tin, practice scissor cutting (scherensnitte) or Fraktur, perhaps, even work with clay or flax, depending on their ages. At the end of the day, the products of their hard work go home with them as souvenirs.

In the past, depending on the involvement of the teachers and parents, chicken corn soup was made over open fires, and pies that the children had made in school before their field trip were baked in the bake oven. That was their lunch.

The benefit of the program is that children learn history by doing history – a lesson that never leaves them.

If you are interested in becoming involved in the Children's Colonial Education Program, please contact Joan DiMaria (JH.DiMaria@hotmail.com) or call 215-822-7422. All volunteers will be trained in advance and only scheduled as your time permits. Thank you.

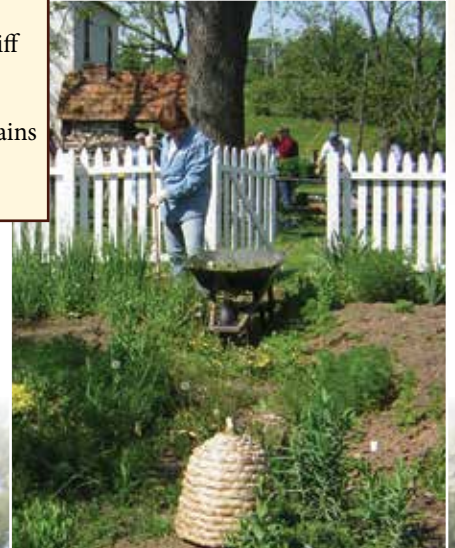
### 2022 Calendar of Events

**June 18:** Plant Exchange, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Jacob Reiff

**July 17:** Ice Cream Social, 7 p.m. at Bergey Mill

**August 27:** Hecklerfest, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Heckler Plains

**December 9:** Carol Night, 7 p.m. at Heckler Plains



## Township Receives Grant Funds for Park Use

The Township has received grant funds through the Schuylkill Highlands Mini-Grant Program totaling \$10,000. The money will be used toward the installation of a security camera system for Township Parks.

This project will be funded in part by a grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program, under the administration of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation in support of the Schuylkill Highlands Mini-Grant Program administered by Natural Lands.



## Farming and Land Preservation

In keeping with the Township's beginnings, the Board of Supervisors has been encouraging land preservation for decades. The process of land preservation began in the Township back in the 1960s and is still a priority today.

Often, when someone drives through Lower Salford Township on Main Street, they may think, "Wow, look at all this development." And that is true, but leave the Main Street corridor of Route 63 and you will see a different side of the Township, the one that has been there all along, the one with rolling hills, country vistas, parks, streams, and farms.

Many of those farms have been around for over a century, some even longer. The Township takes pride in the number of acres it has been a part of preserving over the years and is even more proud of the number of acres it provides to our local farming community to raise their crops at no cost.



### Did you know?

- Agriculture is Pennsylvania's #1 industry and annually contributes \$4.5 billion to Pennsylvania's economy.
- Pennsylvania has "A Right to Farm Act" that protects farming practices.
- The Township owns over 1,165 acres of open space, which includes 12 parks.
- Of the 1,165 acres of open space, the Township provides local farmers over 300 acres to farm free of charge.
- 345 plus acres of privately owned farmland are permanently preserved.
- 603 plus acres are in the Agricultural Security Program.

For more information on farming, preserving land, and the Agricultural Security Program, visit the Montgomery County website at: <https://www.montcopa.org/690/Farmland-Preservation-Program>

## Park Updates

In the 2021 Spring Newsletter, the Township reported that a new playground was in the works for Briarwyck Park. As you may already have realized, it has taken the Township longer than expected to install the equipment. Due to delays in shipping along with other storm-related activities of the Public Works department, the installation has taken a bit longer than anticipated. However,



we are near the finish line and by the time you are reading this, the new equipment will be open for business!



The Township will also be installing benches in the near future, as well as planting additional trees in the area. Thanks to everyone (especially our ages 2-12 residents!) for their patience. The Township hopes this park improvement will be well-utilized by residents and their guests.

# Plant Buffers Along Our Streams and Ponds

## What is a buffer and why is it needed?

A riparian buffer along a stream, creek, or pond is a vegetated area to help the water quality in the waterway. The vegetated area provides shade and filters the water that runs off the adjacent land into the waterway. During a rain event, the water running to the streams picks up soil, fertilizers and pesticides from lawns, and oil and grease from roads or driveways. Slowing the water down before it reaches the stream also helps to prevent erosion of the soil and streambanks.

## How do I plant a Buffer?

Typically a buffer area consists of 3 zones. The size of each zone will vary depending on the space available.

**Zone 1:** Along the edge of the stream, creek, or pond, it should be planted with native trees and shrubs that can tolerate wet conditions.

**Zone 2:** Adjacent to Zone 1, it should be planted with native trees and shrubs plus wildflowers and grasses to provide a transition.

**Zone 3:** Next to Zone 2, it should be an area of native grasses and wildflowers to slow the water and allow some to be absorbed into the ground.

## How do I maintain the buffer?

Initially, the buffer will need to be maintained with watering and weeding to help the plants establish and remove invasive plants. The

grasses and wildflowers in Zone 3 should be mowed twice a year, in the spring and fall, to prevent overgrowth. The trees and shrubs should be pruned to remove any dead, dying, or diseased branches.

## Where can I learn more about Buffers?

Information about buffers and the appropriate plants can be found on the following websites:

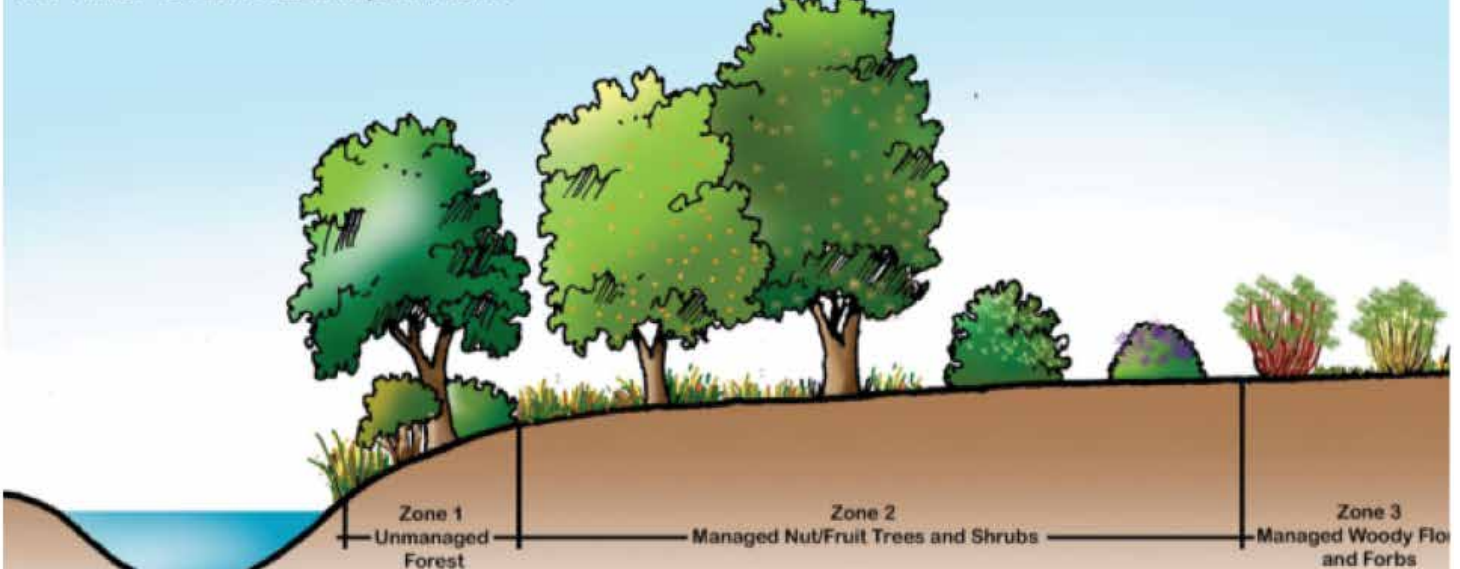
- Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources: <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/Water/RiparianBuffers/Pages/default.aspx>
- Penn State Extension: [www.extension.psu.edu](http://www.extension.psu.edu)

For more stormwater information, please visit the Township website at [http://www.lowersalfordtownship.org/your\\_community/stormwater\\_management](http://www.lowersalfordtownship.org/your_community/stormwater_management)

For any questions or concerns regarding stormwater or if you observe pollutants entering the storm sewer or stream, please call the Township at 215-256-8087.



Non-Timber Forest Products Riparian Buffer



## Did You Know?

There is a drop-off box for retired U.S. flags outside the Township Building entrance.

Flags left there will be disposed of according to proper guidelines.

## 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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# Tax Collector's Office Hours



Douglas K. Souder, Tax Collector  
 P.O. Box 129  
 Harleysville, PA 19438  
 Phone: 215-256-9858

## 2022 Office Hours

- Tuesday, May 31, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Saturday, August 13, 10 a.m. to noon
- Thursday, August 18, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Saturday, August 20, 10 a.m. to noon
- Thursday, August 25, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Saturday, August 27, 10 a.m. to noon
- Wednesday, August 31, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Monday, October 31, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

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## Toys for Tots 21 Wrap Up

I would like to express my sincere “thank you” to everyone who helped make the 2021 Montgomery-Harleysville Toys For Tots Campaign the most successful year ever!



From speaking with other regional coordinators, I can safely say that 2021 was another very challenging year for all of us. We again dealt with continuing COVID issues, which affected staff, volunteers, and schedules. We also all saw a dramatically increased need for toys for older children (8+), which none of us could seem to keep in inventory. As fast as toys for the older kids came in, they were gone, and we had to scramble to purchase more to fill orders. Each year, the need for toys for older children increases and we ask that everyone keep the older children in mind when donating toys.

As always, because of the extraordinary generosity of so many, we were able to distribute a record total of 11,807 toys, books, and stocking stuffers to over 2,000 less fortunate children. A very special “thank you” goes out to all the volunteers who worked beside me this year. I would not have made it through without you!

As always, monetary donations are greatly appreciated, can be made year-round, and can be submitted directly to this campaign online at <http://harleysville-pa.toysfortots.org> and clicking on the “Ways To Donate” option.

*Barbara J. Jansons*, Toys For Tots Coordinator

*Montgomery-Harleysville Region*

## From the Lower Salford Police Department

### When You Go on Vacation...Tips for Securing Your Home

Summer is a time when many residents will be leaving home for extended periods of time. A vacant home is an attractive target for thieves. Here are a few steps you can take to secure your home:

#### Make doors crime resistant

- Install deadbolt locks, solid doors, and sturdy hinges and strike plates. Be sure all materials meet building fire codes.



#### Secure sliding doors

- Install locks to prevent sliding or lifting.
- Drill a hole through the inside frame, and insert a nail to prevent sliding.
- Place a strong piece of wood in the track.

#### Prevent window entry

- Use window key locks. Keep keys and locks for quick exit in case of emergency or fire.
- For double-hung windows, drill holes downward where the inside and outside sashes meet and insert
  - Have peace of mind when you're away. Inform a trusted neighbor of travel plans. Have him or her collect mail and other deliveries. Don't share your plans with strangers.
  - Leave shades in their normal positions.
  - Have police conduct security checks on your home while you are on vacation.

If you are interested in vacation security checks, please contact the Police Department at 215-256-9500.

nails or bolts.

- Consider grates for basement and first floor Windows. Check local fire codes first.

#### Crime-proof outside areas

- Keep yard, porch, and entrances well-lit. Look into motion-detection lighting.
- Store all tools, toys, etc after use.
- Never hide keys outside your home.
- Keep bushes trimmed near doors and windows.



#### Safeguard valuables

- Engrave electronics and other household valuables with some identifiable number or label.
- Rent a safe-deposit box for small valuables



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Kevin Shelly	Supervisor
David Scheuren	Supervisor
Joseph Czajkowski	Township Manager
Holly Hosterman	Assistant to the Township Manager



*Spring/Summer 2022*



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