

LOWER SALFORD

TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



Spring/Summer 2023 • Published by the Board of Supervisors • Founded 1741

Chairman's Message

Dear Residents:

Join me in welcoming Spring!

As I write this, we have just changed the clocks (perhaps for the last time) and I, like many, am still trying to adjust.

Just like the clock changes, the township has experienced a few changes of its own. By now you may have read that a new supervisor has been appointed to fill the vacancy of long-time Supervisor and Chairman of the Board, Doug Gifford. In Mr. Gifford's retirement we have gained a new supervisor, but someone with significant township involvement, Kent Krauss. Kent has a longstanding commitment to Lower Salford Township in volunteering on the Harleysville Community Center Board, the Harleysville Area Jaycees and is also currently the Chairman of the Lower Salford Park Board.

We appreciate all the volunteers throughout the community and Kent's efforts are included in that appreciation. While we were understanding of Mr. Gifford's departure, we are delighted to have Mr. Krauss join the Board of Supervisors.

Other recent changes at the township include the addition of new police officers and township staff, which we welcome to our township family, and my new appointment as Chairman of the Board.

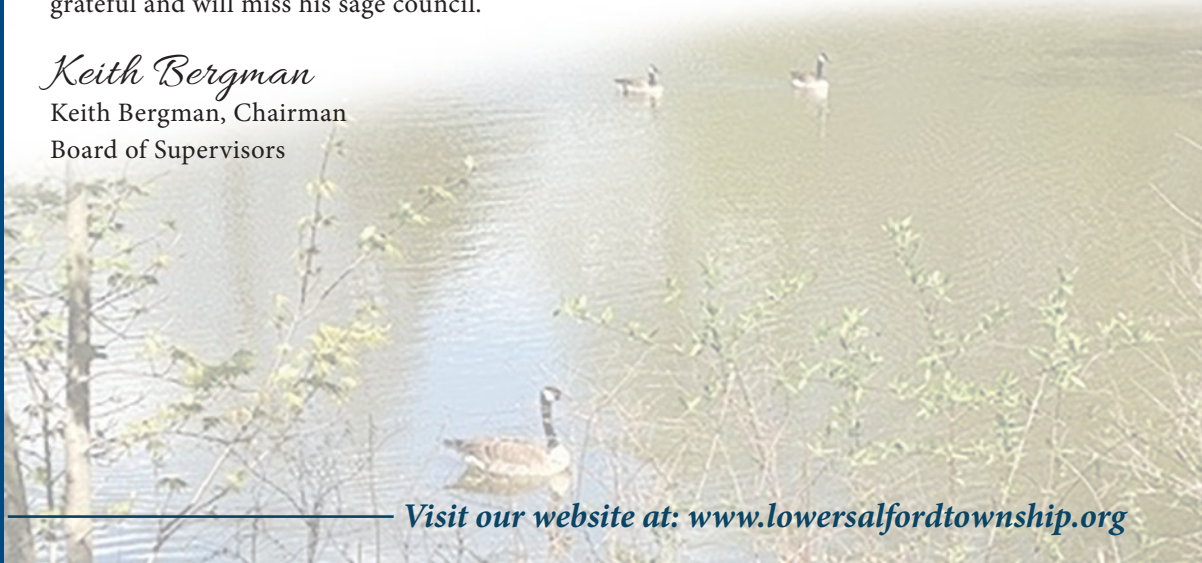
With the coming of spring and summer, we can look forward to land development projects and roadway construction in completing infrastructure improvements throughout the township. The township staff and our consultants continue to pursue federal, state, and county grant opportunities to expand our trail system and continue to upgrade our park system. I should also note that the milder winter temperatures have permitted Lederach Golf Course to successfully operate all winter, and with some luck a pleasant spring/summer the trend will continue (fingers crossed).

I would also like to add a special note of thanks and true appreciation to Doug Gifford's involvement with the township and his longstanding commitment to the Board of Supervisors. While it would be difficult, if not impossible, to list the many challenges and hurdles that Doug has helped the township navigate in his 30-plus years of service, we might all offer a thought of "Thanks Doug" for his involvement and sacrifices in serving the township. We are truly grateful and will miss his sage council.

Keith Bergman
Keith Bergman, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

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Lower Salford Township Contact Information

379 Main Street • Harleysville, PA 19438 — 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.

Township Administrative Office Emails:

General Township Email: township@lowersalfordtownship.org • **General Zoning Email:** buildingandzoning@lowersalfordtownship.org

Inspector's General Email: inspector@lowersalfordtownship.org

Communications Committee: communications@lowersalfordtownship.org • **Permit Submissions:** permits@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

Keith A. Bergman, **Chairman**, kbergman@lowersalfordtownship.org
Christopher R. Canavan – **Vice Chairman**, ccanavan@lowersalfordtownship.org
Kevin Shelly, kshelly@lowersalfordtownship.org
David Scheuren, dscheuren@lowersalfordtownship.org
Kent Krauss, kkrauss@lowersalfordtownship.org

Montgomery County Commissioners

Kenneth E. Lawrence Jr., Chair
Jamila Winder, Vice-Chair
Joseph C. Gale, Commissioner

Court House
Swede and Airy Streets
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www.montcopa.org

Our Senator in the Pennsylvania General Assembly

Senator Tracy Pennycuik (24th District)
www.senatorpennycuik.com • email through website

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 Donna Scheuren (147th District)
www.repscheuren.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 Josh Shapiro

www.governor.pa.gov • email through website
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

Chief of Police: Thomas A. Medwid
tmedwid@lowersalfordtownship.org

Investigations: cmoyer@lowersalfordtownship.org
Sgt. Cory Moyer

Patrol and Traffic: vmedveckus@lowersalfordtownship.org
Sgt. Vince Medveckus

IT Administrator: mantonucci@lowersalfordtownship.org
Michael Antonucci

Police Clerk: pobrien@lowersalfordtownship.org
Patrick O'Brien

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President Joseph R. Biden

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Pennsylvania Senators in the United States Congress

Senator Robert Casey
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 John Fetterman
fetterman.senate.gov • email: linked through website

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

Washington, D.C. Office:
Dirksen Senate Office Building
Suite 8408
Washington DC, 20510
202-224-4254

PA Representative in the United States Congress

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

Norristown Office:
101 E. Main Street, Suite A
Norristown, PA 19401
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TAX COLLECTOR

Douglas K. Souder, Tax Collector | P.O. BOX 129 | HARLEYSVILLE, PA 19438 | PHONE: 215-256-9858



A Message from the Lower Salford Real Estate Tax Collector

If you will be away from your primary home for an extended period of time, please inform the Tax Collector. Due to governmental postal regulations, real estate tax bills are not being forwarded, even if there is a forwarding address on file with the USPS.

Please provide the Tax Collector with an email address where your tax bill can be sent. You may email Doug Souder, Tax Collector at: dmsouder@verizon.net or call him at 215-256-9858 with your updated information. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

TAX COLLECTOR HOURS FOR 2023

May

31 (Wednesday), 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

August

12 (Saturday), 10 a.m. - noon

17 (Thursday), 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

19 (Saturday), 10 a.m. - noon

August (continued)

24 (Thursday), 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

26 (Saturday), 10 a.m. - noon

31 (Thursday), 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

October

31 (Tuesday), 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

WHERE YOUR TAX DOLLAR GOES



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

81%

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FIRE SAFETY TIPS

From the Lower Salford Township Fire Marshal's Office

Burning Regulations Reminder: With the arrival of warm weather, we remind residents that burning yard waste, leaves, rubbish, and trash is NOT permitted here in Lower Salford Township.

However, a small fire for recreational and ceremonial purposes, which are identified as fires for the purpose of roasting marshmallows, hotdogs, worship, etc. are allowed.

All recreational and ceremonial type fires must be contained in an outdoor fireplace, barbecue grill, burn pit, chiminea, or fire ring. They must be located at least 15 feet from any residence, shed, deck, or combustible material. An extinguishing agent (fire extinguisher, bucket of water, garden hose) must be easily accessible nearby.

Freedom Valley Medical Rescue

(Previously known as Harleysville Area EMS)



Freedom Valley Medical Rescue was created by the merger of Harleysville Area EMS and the EMS division of Trappe Fire Company and provides a regional approach for Emergency Medical Services to the communities that the Harleysville and Trappe Ambulance previously provided 911 ambulance service to.

Freedom Valley Medical Rescue proudly serves the Harleysville region from our station here in Harleysville (309 Main Street). Staff and vehicles were transitioned over with the merger and re-branding of the organization is currently ongoing.

Additionally, we launched an EMS Training Institute division who provides high quality community CPR and First-Aid class for community members and businesses.

For further Information regarding Freedom Valley Medical Rescue, or to find out about First-Aid and CPR classes, please contact us at: info@FVMedRescue.org or by calling 215-513-1880.





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A MESSAGE FROM THE HARLEYSVILLE COMMUNITY FIRE COMPANY



HARLEYSVILLE FIRE COMPANY STATION 89

To the Lower Salford Community,

There are many exciting things occurring at the fire company, and we look forward to sharing that with our residents and businesses.

Our 2022 fund-drive mailer was a huge success. This is a major portion of our annual funding and allows us to save for capital projects. The scheduled replacement and maintenance of our equipment is one of the most important things we do to maintain a safe and effective operation. As with everything, these costs continue to rise dramatically. The company is currently buying structural fire fighting turnout gear for members. Also, needed maintenance on our aging building is being done.

This summer, the company's new Pierce Enforcer PUC Rescue Pumper is expected to be delivered. We are excited to get the truck on the road and in service to respond to emergencies in the township.

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. If you are not sure, please contact the township Fire Marshal and ask before having any type of controlled fire.

Make sure your house number is clearly marked and visible from the street. In the time of an emergency, we want to be able to find you easily and quickly.

While our membership numbers remain strong, volunteers are desperately needed in many capacities. Times have certainly changed in the growth of the company, and our call volume has increased. Now, more than ever, we are in need of your help to keep us as a 100%-volunteer-based company. 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 or contact the station.

To keep up to date and to learn more about what the fire company is doing, follow us on our social media pages and check out our recently upgraded website. *I wish you all an enjoyable and safe spring and summer season.*

Ryan Nase - Fire Chief



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Meet Your Newest Supervisor: Kent Krauss



Last December, Douglas Gifford announced his retirement from the Board of Supervisors (see his “Goodbye” letter also in this newsletter). This left a vacant seat that, according to Second Class Township Code, would need to be filled as soon as possible through an appointment.

The Township put the word out that there was a vacancy to be filled, and it received seven “Letters of Interest” from residents showing their desire to be appointed to the Board. After an interview process at a public meeting on January 30, 2023, the Board appointed Kent Krauss at the February 1, 2023 Regular Board Meeting to serve the remainder of the term, which expires December 31, 2023.

Supervisor Krauss is a longtime resident of the Township. In fact, his father (pictured here with Kent’s wife and son), also served as a Supervisor for Lower Salford Township. Kent’s commitment to the community is apparent as he currently volunteers his time on the Harleysville Community Center Board, the Harleysville Area Jaycees and is also the Chairman of the Lower Salford Park Board.

The Township looks forward to having Kent continue to serve the residents of Lower Salford.

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 in the container at no cost throughout the year. Biodegradable bags are available at the Township Building: two bags for \$1.00; 50 bags for \$22.00.



Sgt. Bill O’Connell Bids Farewell

On December 2, 2022, Lower Salford Township bid farewell to Sgt. Bill O’Connell after 33 years of dedicated service to the community. Sgt. O’Connell started his law enforcement career working part-time with the Limerick and Franconia police departments in 1988 before starting full-time at Lower Salford in 1989.

Sgt. O’Connell has also been a member of the Harleysville Ambulance for 24 years and has served our country in the U.S. Navy Reserves for 21 years, currently holding the rank of Master Chief.

Sgt. O’Connell has had many accomplishments at Lower Salford over the years, including being our first Accreditation Manager, responsible for maintaining our Professional Standards. Lower Salford was the 20th agency to be accredited in Pennsylvania and is currently a Premier Agency thanks to the efforts of Sgt. O’Connell.

We thank Sgt. O’Connell for his many years of loyal service and wish him continued happiness and good health in his retirement.






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From the Lower Salford Fire Marshal: Outdoor Fire Pit Reminders

Residents in Lower Salford Township can have an outdoor fire pit in their yards as long as it meets the following main criteria:

- Outdoor fire pits must be at least 15 feet away from any structures such as a house, fence or shed;
- Outdoor fire pits can only be used for a recreational fire (campfire style fire pit to sit around and cook marshmallows or hot dogs, for example);
- Outdoor fire pits cannot be used for burning yard waste such as leaves and or grass clippings, furniture, household trash, or rubbish;



- Outdoor fire pits should not be larger than 4 feet by 4 feet; and,
- During a fire, an extinguishing agent (garden hose, bucket of water, fire extinguisher, dirt) must be readily available to be used to put out the fire, if needed.

The above list of regulations are the main points but the entire Township ordinance regarding outdoor burning in Lower Salford is available online at <https://ecode360.com/9506912>

2023 VOTING INFORMATION

THIS YEAR'S PRIMARY ELECTION IS MAY 16 &

THE GENERAL ELECTION IS NOVEMBER 7.

POLLS FOR BOTH DAYS ARE OPEN FROM 7 A.M. TO 8 P.M.

To educate yourself more on the voting format, please visit the Montgomery County Voter Services webpage at: <https://www.montcopa.org/3112/New-Voting-System>. Not sure where your polling location is? Visit the Township Voting Page for links to find out: https://www.loweralsfordtownship.org/your_community/voting_districts. If you do not have internet access, please call Montgomery County Voter Services at 610-278-3280.

The Township encourages everyone registered to vote to come out and cast your ballot in both the Primary and the General elections.



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I would like to express my sincere “Thank You” to everyone who helped make the 2022 Montgomery-Harleysville Toys For Tots Campaign another successful year.

This year we again dealt with continuing COVID issues. Added to that was the still high unemployment rate, plus the extremely high inflation rate of everything!!! Due to these factors, we again experienced a huge increase in requests for help from families in need. However, we experienced a decrease in the number of toys donated, which made filling orders in October and November almost impossible. I think I can safely say that every Toys For Tots Coordinator’s bank account took a BIG hit this year purchasing toys that were desperately needed to fill those orders.

However, as always, because of the generosity of so many, by the end of the campaign, we were able to distribute 15,097 toys to 3,578 less fortunate children in our area.

As always, monetary donations are greatly appreciated and desperately needed, and can be made year-round. Your donations can be submitted directly to this campaign on-line at <http://harleysville-pa.toysfortots.org> and clicking on the “Ways To Donate” option. By donating through this website all donations stay with the Montgomery-Harleysville Campaign. Checks are also accepted year-round and should be made payable to Toys For Tots, and mailed to Barbara J. Jansons, Toys For Tots Coordinator, 481 Stover Road, Harleysville, PA 19438.

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy and safe 2023.

Barbara J. Jansons, Toys For Tots Coordinator
Montgomery-Harleysville Region



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Proper Use of Township-Owned Open Space Benefits Everyone



The acquisition of open space is for the enhancement of life for all our residents.

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

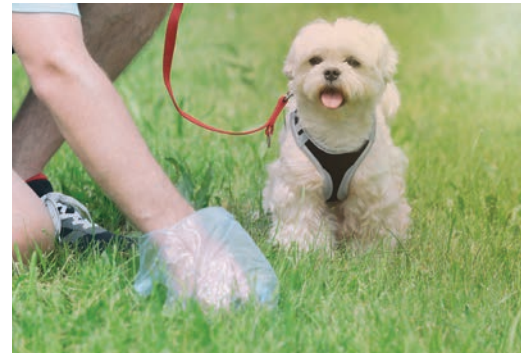
may be obtained from the Township to plant annuals or mow the grass; however, no mowing permits will be issued in the Township "riparian buffer zones." These "no-mow zones" protect the water quality of our streams and prevent erosion.

REMEMBER...

When using the parks and community paths, you must clean up after your pets for the health and safety of everyone.

Keep Our Trails Clean

We want your trail experience to be safe and enjoyable so please be courteous to the other users. No littering - please practice "Carry In and Carry Out"! Township parks are open from dawn to dusk.



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GOODBYE

On December 7, 2022, longtime Board of Supervisors Chairman Doug Gifford announced he would leave the board the following month. These are the comments he made to the public that night.

I want to announce that I am retiring from the Board of Supervisors and submitting my resignation to be effective on January 3, 2023.

I had decided some time ago that I would not run for another term. My current term will expire on December 31, 2023, and if I sought reelection, I would have to run in November 2023. At my age and place in my life, I feel that I just don't have it in me.

The Board will have to appoint someone to fill the vacancy. It is my hope that an individual is found who is willing to make decisions based only on what is in the best interest of the Township. By resigning now, I am hopeful that just such an individual can be found who will be willing to run for election in November, 2023.

I was appointed to the Board by Dick Prescott and Herb Knechel in January, 1990, after I served for four years on the Zoning Hearing Board. I filled the vacancy created when Jay Moyer was elected Montgomery County Treasurer. I ran for election in 1991, 1993, 1999, 2005, 2011, and finally in 2017. I think that's enough. I would like to thank the voters in the Township who saw fit to vote for me in all those elections.

I need to thank numerous people for all the help through all the years, but I must start with my family. My wife, Kathleen, has backed me throughout the 33 years on this Board and the four years on the Zoning Hearing Board, indulging me in my interest to serve. She's covered for me at all the children's events that I couldn't make due to one Township function or another. My children, Rob and Katie, always understood. You can't do this for all these years without strong family support. I've had that, and more.

It has truly been an honor to serve with the Board members who shared my idea of public service over the years. I started with Dick Prescott and Herb Knechel and over the years I was joined by Rich Delp, Phil Heilman, Jeff Parkhouse, Doug Johnson and my current fellow Board members, Keith, Chris, Kevin and Dave.

I've served under five Township Managers. For those who don't know, the managers are here for the day-to-day decisions and problems that come in the door. If pressed, I would have to admit that the manager has far more to do with running the Township than any Supervisor does. I'm blessed to have had Loretta Romanowski, Steve Bennett, Steve Wiesner, Del Plank and now Joe Czajkowski in that position during my tenure. Mary West, Loretta's daughter, and Holly Hosterman have been the Assistant Managers who both served as the Park Board liaison. More importantly, both Mary and Holly are problem solvers who know how to resolve issues. The dedicated staff members keep the office running with little assistance from the Board of Supervisors.



Doug Gifford

I've served with only two police chiefs, Terry Scholl and Tom Medwid, who was appointed in 1999. That stability is appreciated and reflected in the department as it exists today. A more dedicated and effective police force you will not find.

In the Public Works department, I've served with Directors Bobby Lutz, Arcky DiRocco, Lorenzo Cuoci and now Doug Jones. In the 33 years I've been here, I've had two resident phone calls complaining about snow plowing. That says enough about how I've benefited from these folks, and the continued hard work of all the crew and its members over the years.

There have been two Finance Directors during my tenure, Sheila Freed and Cecilia Parent. Our Auditors, and therefore the Board, have appreciated both for their meticulous approach to the finances.

Rob Reilley and now Mike Beuke have been the Zoning Officer. They've had to tell residents why they can't do something on their property, without pointing out that the Supervisors are the ones who passed the Zoning Ordinance.

Ralph Wert, Barry Wert and Robin Youmans from Metz Engineers, and now Michele Fountain from CKS Engineering, have been the Township Engineers. Over the years they have kept the water still flowing downhill and making sure all the plans meet all the codes. Stephanie Butler from McMahon Associates, a Bowman Co., has been the only Township Traffic Engineer we've ever had. It frightens me to think about the grants we would have missed without Stephanie.

Tom Garrity was the Township Solicitor when I was first appointed, and his son, Jim Garrity, ascended to the throne when Tom retired. He's done all he could to keep us all on the straight and narrow. I feel that Jim and I have grown old together. I'm just wondering if Andy Freimuth is somehow related to Jim.

I would be here all night if I tried to name all the employees of all the departments and the volunteers on all the boards and committees that I've had the pleasure to work with over the years.

To all of the above, named and not named, I say "Thank you." You've made my experience the best it could be. You've never let me down.

I'll say "goodbye" for now. I'm still going to be living in the Township and serving on the Recreation Authority, if the Board chooses to reappoint me. I'll keep an eye out for problems about which I can call and complain. I'm sure there won't be many.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE

**Sign Up
For Enews!**



**And Enter the
Resident Portal!**



In January and February of this year, the Communications Committee circulated a link to a survey regarding how our residents choose to get their information about Township happenings. More than 300 people responded.

As you may suspect, most people use electronic means to find their info, but a larger portion than expected use the Township newsletter that is sent in the US Mail. We are sure there is a good mix of both for many, but having a piece of paper in your hand is still beneficial, so you will continue to see our newsletters in your mailbox twice a year. The Top 3 responses to the question "How do you typically get information about the Township?" were: 63.75% Email/Constant Contact; 57.40% Printed Newsletter; and 52.87% Township Website.

For a complete listing of the results, please head over to our website. If you have any questions, or don't have access to a computer, please give us a call, we will be happy to forward the information to you. Or better yet, come to a Communications Committee Meeting where this information will be discussed. *A big thank you to everyone who responded!*



SUMMER ATTRACTION DISCOUNTS

As of this writing, the Township has verified that the following attractions will be participating in the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society (PRPS) discount admission program:

- Adventure Aquarium
- Baltimore Aquarium
- Crayola Factory
- Dutch Wonderland
- Knoebels
- Morey's Piers
- Museum of the American Revolution
- Philadelphia Zoo
- Splash Zone
- Tree Trails Adventures in Trevoese, PA (*new this year*)

Tickets arrive in late-May each year. Check the Township website for more information as it becomes available. As always, contact the Township Office for questions: 215-256-8087.



Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell a message about Spring.

ALLERGIES
APRIL
BASEBALL
BEES
CROCUSES
CYCLAMENS
DAFFODILS
DANDELIONS
EASTER
EQUINOX
FLOWERS

FROGS
GOLF
GRASS
GREEN
GROWTH
IRISES
LILIES
MARCH
MAY
NEW LEAVES
PLANTING

RAIN
RENEWAL
ROBINS
SEASON
SNOWMELT
SOFTBALL
SPRING BREAK
SPRING CLEANING
TULIPS
WARMER
WET

T	L	E	M	W	O	N	S	S	S	A	R	G	L	A
G	C	Y	C	L	A	M	E	N	S	A	L	I	L	P
G	N	G	R	O	W	T	H	R	L	L	L	L	R	S
O	Y	I	I	D	L	S	A	R	A	I	E	S	N	N
L	A	L	N	K	A	I	E	B	E	R	R	O	H	E
F	M	L	O	A	N	F	E	S	G	M	I	P	W	W
E	N	A	E	E	E	S	F	I	U	L	R	R	A	L
I	O	B	Q	R	A	L	E	O	E	C	S	A	B	E
R	S	T	U	B	E	S	C	D	D	F	O	S	W	A
I	A	F	I	G	R	N	N	G	L	I	N	R	H	V
S	E	O	N	N	R	A	E	O	N	I	L	C	C	E
E	S	S	O	I	D	E	W	W	B	I	R	S	B	S
S	I	N	X	R	G	E	E	O	A	A	R	M	E	G
A	Y	F	L	P	R	O	R	N	M	L	W	P	E	O
E	T	E	W	S	S	P	I	L	U	T	R	S	S	R
R	E	T	S	A	E	P	L	A	N	T	I	N	G	F

From the Building and Zoning Office



Spring and summer are the busiest seasons for home renovations. And here at the Township, we can easily see upwards of 90 new permit applications a month. Permit applications take approximately three weeks to go through the review process before being approved and ready for the homeowner.

Maybe you want to add a deck, a swimming pool, a hot tub or are hoping to expand your driveway. All these projects, and more, require a permit from the Township prior to putting a shovel in the ground (so to speak). The Township also requires permits for placing a shed on your property and/or a gazebo, as well as fences and roofs. Make sure you plan accordingly and get your permit before your project starts.

For a permit checklist, as well as applications and the most recent fee schedule, visit the Building and Zoning page of the website at: https://www.lowersalfordtownship.org/building_zoning/permit_applications

Historical Events for 2023

- May 6 - Herb Festival & Plant Sale at Heckler Plains, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m.
- June 3 - Plant Exchange at Jacob Reiff Homestead, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m.
- July 16 - Ice Cream Social at Bergey Mill Farmstead, 6:30 p.m.
- August 26 - Hecklerfest at Heckler Plains, 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.
- December 8 - Carol Night at Heckler Plains, 7:30 p.m.

One of Lower Salford Township's historic architectural treasures will be part of the PA Historic Barn & Farm Foundation's Barn Tour weekend in June 2024. The group plans to have the Heckler Plains Rhine Valley Bottom Barn, one of only two in Pennsylvania, on their tour of barns in Lehigh and Montgomery counties.

In other news, The Society's goal is to turn the Jacob Reiff Farmhouse into a museum and research center that houses the numerous deeds, maps and artifacts we have on hand that are too valuable not to be available to anyone interested. We welcome any interest and assistance in cataloging and organizing the collections. Want to help? Send us an email: athecklerplains@hotmail.com.





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EYE ON DEVELOPMENT



PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLANS UNDER REVIEW:

- **355 Maple Avenue** (Former Harleysville Insurance Building) - Proposed building renovation - Administrative Office (AO) district – Developer/owner: VV355, LLC
- 531 Main Street (Clemens' Mill) - Land development for Office Building and 13 residential units

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 (almost complete).
- **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.
- **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 Machine** - 150,000-square-foot manufacturing facility and warehouse at 59 Fretz Road.
- **Park Crossing at Salford** - 48 Single-family homes on Maple Avenue between Oak Drive and Route 113 (Fox Lane Homes – almost complete).
- **Highpointe at Salford** - 19 two-family dwellings (38 units) and eight three-family dwellings (24 units) for a total of 62 units on Oak Drive at the corner of Harleysville Pike (Fox Lane Homes).
- **DEH Holdings** - 285 Wambold Road - Preliminary Plan for two industrial buildings: one 25,436-square-feet and future building at 24,200-square-feet for light industrial use and wholesale sales.
- **Vernfield Premier Realty** - Minor two-lot subdivision at 235 Morwood Road.
- **931 Harleysville Pike** - Plan for four single-family homes accessed by a shared driveway.
- **Creekside at Mainland** - Plan for land development at 7, 17 and 29 Mainland Road, preserving the existing Mainland Inn and building 41 residential dwellings.
- **Lederach Village Homes** - Northeast side of Morris Road near Harleysville Pike - Two six-unit, three-story apartment buildings (12 units) and two four-unit, three-story apartment buildings (eight units) for a total of 20 units.
- **Lederach Village Homes** (712 Harleysville Pike) - Two four-unit apartment buildings and retaining the existing dwelling and converting it to an apartment - nine total units.
- **Christopher Lane Realty** - Land Development for a 22,000-square-foot light industrial building at 130 Christopher Lane (Hagey Road, LLC).
- **841 Main Street** - Proposed 4,800-square-foot office building and six apartments on 1.39 acres in the Village Commercial (VC) District (SCK2 Group, LLC).
- **Arby's Restaurant** - sit-down and drive-through within the Mainland Pointe development.
- **Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen Restaurant** - sit-down and drive-through within the Mainland Pointe development.
- **ALMAC - 25 Fretz Road** - Plan for 78,000-square-foot expansion of the existing facility, including parking facilities and stormwater management at the corner of Fretz and Wambold roads.

What's Happening at the Public Works Department?

You may not realize it, but the Public Works Department plays a major role in keeping the Township in tip-top shape. They are the crew that plows our roads, fill potholes, paint lines on the roads and at intersections, install signage, mow grass at all 12 of our parks and numerous acres of open space, keep the playground equipment operational and safe, and empty the garbage in all the trash receptacles. They cut down dead trees, attend to our historic homes, clean storm drain grates, replace or repair underground drainage pipes, and the list goes on.

But did you know that all of this, and more, is handled by just ten crew members? And all of it is coordinated by the Director of Public Works, Douglas Jones. The Township salutes Doug and his crew on the amazing job they do to keep Lower Salford one of the most beautiful townships to live in.

Below is this year's list of roadways to be paved. Check the Township website for timing as the summer season gets closer.

Championship Drive	Sand Trap Circle	Par Circle	Putting Green Circle
Summerwind Lane	Sunset Drive	Winding Creek Way	Brookdale Lane
Flint Drive	Arrow Lane	Surrey Lane	Pioneer Circle
Whittaker Way	Paterno Drive	Red Fox Run Rd.	Astor Drive (east side)
Belcourt Way	Manor Rd.(Belcourt)	Belle Lane	April Hill Way
Wrenfield Way	Lederach Station Road		

From the Harleysville Community Center

WELCOME TO THE 2023 SWIMMING SEASON

Pools open Saturday, June 3

NOW is the perfect time to make your plans for swimming at the HCC pools. Membership information is ready to go for summer 2023.

For a limited time, member registration will be available online. For membership information please visit www.harleysvillecommunitycenter.com. On the HCC homepage, look for the "Click Here to Register Now" button.



If you are interested in joining our team as an employee, please visit our homepage on the HCC website (listed above) and click either the Employment Application button (for pool positions) or the Snack Stand Application button (for snack stand positions).

In 2015, we welcomed the McCoy family to HCC as our Snack Stand vendor. Sheila has decided to reduce the number of Snack Stands she will be operating in 2023. We thank Sheila and her crew for seven great years (we did not open the pool in 2020 due to Covid).

While we are sad to have Sheila leave, we thank her for the recommendation she gave us when we began our search for a new vendor. The Board is happy to say that we have secured a new vendor who will be taking over the HCC Snack Stand this coming season: Ernie Pio.

Ernie is a 1987 graduate of the Culinary Institute of America and has many years of experience as a chef and owner in fine dining establishments as well as years of catering events of all sizes. Ernie is currently owner of Street Food Sandwich Shop in Hatboro, and vendor of the Hatboro Pool Snack Stand.

The HCC Pool will again be offering community swim lessons. Members will have access to weekday lessons Monday through Thursday at 10:15 a.m., 10:50 a.m., or 11:25 a.m. Members and Non-Members can sign up for Saturday morning lessons throughout June and July, as well as private lessons offered throughout the day. Look for information in the coming weeks on the HCC Pool Membersplash page.

HCC SWIM LESSON STAFF 2022

Last season, on Sunday September 4, the HCC Pool hosted its first **Member Appreciation Day**. Members of the pool got to enjoy an extra hour of swim, music, and games. All members who came were entered into a raffle to win guest passes and the grand prize of a half-priced membership for the 2023 season.

Be on the lookout for special events at the HCC Pool This coming season: ***Christmas in July, Member Appreciation Day, and other exciting events to come.***



HCC has been the proud home to the Harleysville Swim & Dive Team for over 60 years.

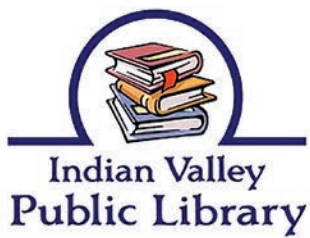
For more information visit: <https://www.teamunify.com/Home.jsp?team=recbssdlhsdt>. HCC pool memberships are required for all Harleysville Swim & Dive Team members.

From 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.

A special "thank you" goes out to our Community Partners: Lower Salford Township, Harleysville Bank, Excel Communications, The Mulch Barn, Harleysville Jaycees, Harleysville Lions and Harleysville Rotary for their ongoing support of HCC.

To learn more of the Center's interesting history visit www.harleysvillecommunitycenter.com and look for the "About HCC" button.

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Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Contact Us

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Phone: 215-723-9109

Email: refdesk@ivpl.org



Summer Reading Challenge

BEE a Part of Your Community - Summer Learning Challenge invites children, teens, and adults to learn, grow and have fun over the summer by reading and completing a variety of activities. You can complete activities online using Beanstack, or track your progress with a paper version of our digital challenges. Visit ivpl.org for more information about current and future programs.

Truck-a-Palooza Returns!

Last September, we held our first Truck-a-Palooza. For the fun and free event, we collaborated with local organizations and businesses to bring together police cars, fire trucks, mail vans, tow trucks, and more. Hundreds of children had the opportunity to explore unique vehicles and meet the people who serve the community. Save the date for our next Truck-a-Palooza, scheduled for **Saturday, September 23 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

2022 BY THE NUMBERS

- Visits: 98,785
- Hours Open: 3,432
- Library Cards: 29,989
- Programs: 1,149
- Program Attendees: 13,469



StoryWalk at Alderfer Park

Have you visited StoryWalk at Alderfer Park? We are currently featuring the book "Lola Plants a Garden" by Anna McQuinn.

StoryWalk is a delightful way for children and adults to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time. Pages from the story are placed in the displays along the walking path, so visitors can read the book and do the accompanying suggested activities. New books will be added four times a year. IVPL is thrilled to partner with Lower Salford Township to bring books to you through this nationally recognized program.

Alderfer Road and Park Avenue Basins

Work will be starting soon on two basins along either side of the West Branch of the Skippack Creek between Alderfer Road and Park Avenue. We are modifying the existing basin on the Park Avenue side and creating two basins along Alderfer Road to remove pollutants from the stormwater runoff prior to the water entering the stream.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) requires municipalities to reduce sediment and nutrients in several streams in the Township. These basins are designed to help meet these requirements.

The existing basin on the Park Avenue side has a concrete low-flow channel and a sloping basin bottom that allows the runoff for smaller rain events to pass through the basin quickly. To slow the water down, the low-flow channel will be removed and the bottom of the basin will be flattened. Meadow grasses will be established in and around the basin. The meadow grasses have longer root systems that will uptake some of the runoff and improve the infiltration into the soil. By slowing down the water, the sediments in the water can settle in the basin before entering the stream. The grasses and infiltration will help to reduce nutrients in the water before it is discharged to the stream.

The drainage from Alderfer Road and the Hunter Crest development along the southwestern side of the road discharges to two low areas on the northeastern side of the road into the existing field area. There are two low areas where the water is piped under the walking path to the stream. The proposed construction will create two small basins in this area to collect and store the water before it is discharged to the stream. Similar to the Park Avenue basin, meadow grasses will be established in and around these basins to remove pollutants from the runoff prior to discharge.

Once completed, these basins will help the Township to address the water quality in our streams and to comply with the Township's permit from the PADEP. Keep watching the Township's news to see when future projects will be constructed.

To help the Township address the water quality in our streams, please report any pollution that enters our streams and storm sewers to Lower Salford Township by calling the Township office at 215-256-8087.



From the Lower Salford Police Department

As the summer months approach, we are happy to offer several tips so everyone can enjoy a safe and enjoyable season:



- **As you plan for vacation, please know the police department provides security checks of the exterior of the home while residents are away for extended periods of time.** You can complete a vacation check request through the township website or they can stop by the police station and complete the information in person.
- **Remember to contact the post office to have mail delivery put on hold when you are away.** You should also suspend newspaper deliveries, and have a trusted neighbor or family member take trash cans away from the curb so that it does not appear that you are away from home.
- **With warmer weather, expect to see solicitors knocking on your door.** Soliciting is permitted under the law, as long as the individual(s) comes to the police department and completes the Soliciting Permit Process. Valid/approved solicitors must wear/display their issued Lower Salford permits so it can be clearly read. Do not be afraid to ask to see the individual's permit. When in doubt, please contact the Lower Salford Township Police Department so we can verify the solicitors are approved. Soliciting is not permitted after sundown, so you should not expect late visitors to your home.

The Lower Salford Township Police Department wishes you a safe and happy summer and feel free to contact our office with any questions or concerns at: 215-256-9500 or via email at: police@lowersalfordtownship.org. **Follow us on Facebook at: Lower Salford Township Police Department.**

From The Partnership TMA



The Better Biking in Montco program is managed by The Partnership TMA, which provides free fitted bike helmets and bike safety resources at local community events and at their Montgomeryville office.

New helmets and bike safety resources will be available at the following events and other events over the next few months:

- June 6: North Wales Summer Kick Off Event, Weingartner Park, 200 Summit Street, North Wales
- June 17: Hatfield Founders Day, Centennial Park/ Cherry Street, Hatfield Borough
- August 1: National Night Out Celebrations



The Partnership TMA is your local transportation management association; it offers a range of programs and services to residents and employers. For more information on The Partnership TMA, visit www.ptma-mc.org, drop them an email at info@ptma-mc.org, or give them a call at 215-997-9100.



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JACOB REIFF PARK SEES NEW GREENHOUSE, BARN DOORS

You may have recently noticed increased activity at the Jacob Reiff Homestead at 775 Quarry Road. This 73-acre park is seeing new life this year with the installation of two greenhouses to grow native plants and to help increase the butterfly populations.

The Township has partnered with the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy to allow the park to be their new headquarters for growing thousands of native plants they use to restore streambanks, revitalize park and open space areas, and create riparian buffers. The second greenhouse will be home to butterfly research, as well as propagation. Both greenhouses bring new life to the homestead.

In addition to the new greenhouses, the barn at the homestead is receiving new doors. The existing doors were rotting near the bottom after decades of rainwater splashing on their surface. The new doors will not be without a piece of the past, however, as the iron hardware on the old doors will be repurposed on the new doors. If you have time, stop out and enjoy one of the township's gems.



PLEASE DON'T FEED WILD ANIMALS

Many are familiar with Dan Roth Park in the Township. This area has come to be known as “The Duck Pond” as there are many ducks and geese that call this pond their home. For years, the Township has asked that visitors to the park not feed the ducks, geese or other wildlife. We know it is hard to resist, but feeding the wildlife, specifically the waterfowl, causes them to become dependent on humans.



When wild animals become dependent on humans for their food, several things will happen: 1) They will become sick due to poor nutrition from eating unnatural foods their bodies can't process, 2) They stop foraging for food causing imbalances in the ecosystem in and around the pond, 3) They become aggressive to humans and other wildlife as they fight for the food, 4) While fighting for the food they may bite, peck, scratch or charge at park visitors or other waterfowl, which may cause injuries, and 5) More wildlife will gather hoping to be fed causing overcrowding, which causes more fighting as well as imbalances in the health of the pond and the areas around the pond.

For these concerns and more, we ask that you please do not feed the wildlife, even if it is a feed designed for them, as these feeds are for animals in captivity, not in the wild. **For more information on this topic, please visit the following links:** <https://www.pgc.pa.gov/Wildlife/WildlifeHealth/Pages/Please-Don't-Feed.aspx>, <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage/dontfeedwildlife/dont-feed-wildlife>



Fish Stocking Fun!

A few raindrops did not dampen the fun for the children who participated in this year's annual trout stocking.

Each year, the Township stocks rainbow trout over three separate area ponds prior to fishing season: Briarwyck Pond; Alderfer Road Pond; and Dan Roth Park Pond (affectionately known as the “Duck” Pond). For decades the Township has contracted with Limestone Springs Preserve out of Richland, Pennsylvania to provide the trout for the ponds.

To help stock this year, Paula Mandracchia's Seasons Class at the Souderton Charter School Collaborative participated, along with much younger participants from the YMCA Preschool program in Harleysville. Children were able to literally “catch a fish in a barrel” and take the fish by net to the pond, where members of the Township Public Works Department assisted in the fish transfer to their new home at Dan Roth Park Pond.



The Township would like to thank Mike of Limestone Springs, who made a brief presentation to both groups of youth about the Preserve, as well as the following organizations and businesses: PA One Call; North Penn Water Authority; Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy; Sips & Berries; and Henning's Market, all who donated items for the children to take with them; and Tractor Supply, which donated the use of the stock tanks for the fish. Last but not least, a big thank you to Township Public Works Director Doug Jones for organizing this event, as well as his crew. Everyone helped to make this a great day of fun and learning!

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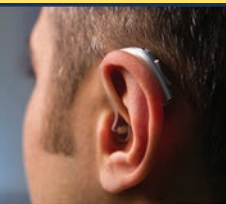
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Quakertown Office
Milford Village Offices
2115 Allentown Road
Quakertown, PA 18951

Maple Glen Office
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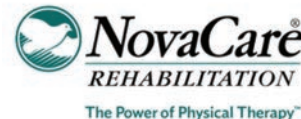


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- **Professional arborist services** for all large trees including pruning, shaping, deadwood removal, cabling, bracing, cavity work, storm damage repair, hazard evaluation, and tree removal.
- **Complete landscaping services** from design through installation and maintenance. Design services from our own in-house Registered Landscape Architect. We grow our own trees and shrubs to ensure top quality, hardy installations.
- **Cutting-edge plant health care treatments**, including nutritional support, feeding, pest control, and treatment of disease.

"SATISFACTION THAT GROWS!"



Lower Salford Township

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Township Officials

Keith Bergman	Chairman
Christopher R. Canavan	Vice Chairman
Kevin Shelly	Supervisor
David Scheuren	Supervisor
Kent Krauss	Supervisor
Joseph Czajkowski	Township Manager
Holly Hosterman	Assistant to the Township Manager



Spring/Summer 2023

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