

TOWNSHIP OF
—MIDDLETOWN—
BUCKS COUNTY

Celebrating Local Government Month in Middletown Township



At its most recent meeting, the Board of Supervisors proclaimed April as Local Government Month in Middletown Township. Local governments throughout the Commonwealth provide valuable services to the citizens of the communities they serve including law enforcement, public health and safety, recreational opportunities, and public works. Township employees and numerous volunteers participate in providing services to the residents and businesses.

“By proclaiming April as local government month, the Board of Supervisors will continue to work to promote civic education and engagement to educate citizens about their local government, strengthen the sense of community, and engage the next generation of local government employees and volunteers” said Chairperson Anna Payne.

As part of the Local Government Month celebrations, the second-grade class at Herbert Hoover Elementary was invited to visit the Municipal Center to learn about community helpers. More than 150 students had an exciting tour of the Police Department, learned about fire services with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, and even participated in a mock Board of Supervisors meeting where they decided between a playground and sports field. If you were wondering, the sports field was the winner!

Middletown Township residents are serviced by many different departments that all have crucial functions for the community.

- The Parks and Recreation Department is essential in maintaining and operating our parks and recreation facilities, provide programs, and summer camp.
- The Department of Fire and Emergency Services work alongside the four volunteer fire companies to provide round the clock services.
- The Police Department does an outstanding job in keeping the community safe and secure.
- Public Works Department gets the job done behind the scenes to ensure that the roads, sidewalks, and utilities are functioning properly. From plowing snow during the winter months to repairing potholes in the spring, they are always on call to keep the community running smoothly.
- Last but not least, the administrative departments including the Township Manager's Office, Building and Zoning, and Finance have essential roles in making sure the Township operates properly.

Each department is dedicated and committed to public service and making sure Middletown is a great place to work, live, and play.

Sergeant Mike Lubold Retires After 33 Years of Dedicated Service



Pictured from left to right: Township Manager Stephanie Teoli Kuhls, Vice Chairperson Dawn Quirple, Supervisor Dana Kane, Sergeant Mike Lubold, Chairperson Anna Payne, Secretary Bernadette Hannah, Supervisor Mike Ksizaek, and Chief Joe Bartorilla

After an impressive thirty-three and a half years of dedicated service, Sergeant Mike Lubold has retired. Police Chief Joe Bartorilla, Captain Pete Feeney, fellow police officers, and staff gathered to send him off with the love and respect he deserves. Colleagues and former co-workers took the opportunity to express their gratitude for his unwavering commitment to

his profession.

Sergeant Lubold was recognized and honored at the last Board of Supervisors meeting on April 17th, where Chief Bartorilla gave a heartfelt speech.

"Sergeant Lubold has imparted his vast knowledge of traffic safety and crash reconstruction to thousands of officers by serving as an accident reconstruction instructor, he is also a certified Emergency Vehicle Operations Course instructor, served for many years as ATV patrol and field training officer. Additionally he served as a member of the Police Departments PBA Board and Collective Bargaining Board", said Chief Bartorilla, "He had the reputation with Township administration as being forthright, reasonable, and more than anything else a true gentleman in the way he conducted himself in any negotiation."



Chief Bartorilla continued, "Despite all of his accolades and accomplishments, what he loved to do more than anything else was come into Police Headquarters to work a patrol shift. He spent the majority of his career working the overnight shift, he valued nothing more than patrolling the streets and neighbors of the Township and supervising his squad with the only expert way he could do it with keeping our citizens safe."

As he embarks on his retirement, we wish Sergeant Lubold all the best and hope he enjoys a long and relaxing break from his many years of dedicated service. Congratulations on your retirement, Sergeant Lubold, and thank you for your service to our community.

Celebrating National Volunteer Week: How Township Boards and Commissions Make a Big Impact

**NATIONAL
VOLUNTEER
WEEK**
2023



National Volunteer Week was celebrated April 16th through 22nd! In recognition of this special week, Middletown Township celebrates the countless individuals who generously donate their time and talents to make a difference in the community.

The Township is fortunate to have many residents who serve on the various different

boards and commissions, making an impact in a wide range of areas. From the Human Relations Commission to the Environmental Advisory Council, these dedicated volunteers work tirelessly to improve the quality of life for all who live here.

The nine different boards and commissions that serve the community address various issues and areas of concern in the Township:

- Zoning Hearing Board
- Planning Commission
- Environmental Advisory Council
- Parks and Recreation Board
- Financial Advisory Council
- Human Relations Commission
- Citizens Traffic Commission
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Youth Aid Panel

"The work of these boards and commissions may not always be in the public eye, but their contributions to the township are invaluable. Their dedication and commitment to serving their community have resulted in positive changes and improvements that benefit all residents, said Chairperson Anna Payne, "Their efforts have not gone unnoticed, and Middletown is incredibly grateful for their contributions to the community. Whether it's advocating for green initiatives, planning community events, or making decisions that impact local businesses and organizations, our volunteers are the backbone of Middletown Township."

Spring Gardening? Don't Let Stormwater Rain on Your Parade



Spring is a great time to get outside and tackle those yard projects that may have been put on hold during the winter months. However, it's important to keep in mind how these projects can impact stormwater runoff.

Here are some tips to prevent stormwater runoff during your spring yard work:

- Minimize the use of pesticides and fertilizers - chemicals from pesticides and fertilizers can be harmful to the environment and can contribute to stormwater runoff. Consider using organic alternatives or reducing the amount used.
- Avoid over-watering - watering your lawn too frequently can cause excess water to run off into nearby storm drains. Consider installing a rain sensor or using a smart irrigation system to prevent over-watering.
- Use permeable materials - when adding new walkways, patios, or driveways, consider using permeable materials such as gravel or pavers with spaces in between. This allows rainwater to soak into the ground rather than running off.
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces - redirecting your downspouts towards grassy or landscaped areas can help prevent stormwater runoff from collecting on paved surfaces.

By following these tips, you can help prevent stormwater runoff during your spring yard work. Remember, every little bit helps in protecting our environment and keeping our waterways clean.

There's Still Time to Apply for the Middletown Community Foundation Scholarship



Are you a high school senior or parent of one? The Middletown Community Foundation has a Scholarship Opportunity for you!

The Middletown Community Foundation (MCF) is a non-profit organization that has been serving the Middletown community for over 20 years. The foundation is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in the community.

One of the key ways that MCF provides support to the community is through its Annual Scholarship Program. This program provides financial assistance to local students who are pursuing higher education. Each year, the foundation awards several scholarships to deserving students who demonstrate academic excellence, community involvement, and a commitment to their chosen field of study.

The deadline to apply for the Annual Scholarship Program is Saturday, April 29th. Eligible

students must be high school seniors who reside in Middletown Township, have participated in community service throughout their high school careers, and be attending a college, university, or trade/vocational school to further their education.

More details about the scholarship are on [the MCF website](#) or you can apply [here](#).

Stop Spotted Lanternflies Before They Return



It is that time of year again - Lanternfly eggs have been spotted already! Lanternfly egg masses look like a gray smear of mud with a waxy covering. It is critical to scrape off and destroy the masses before they hatch in the Spring!

This imported bug is currently in its overwintering egg stage. Scout your property to see if any egg masses are on tree trunks, firewood, stones, outdoor furniture, or for that matter, any solid, flat surface. By smashing or otherwise getting rid of the masses, you can eliminate anywhere from 30 to 50 new

lanternflies per mass.

Penn State Extension recommends scraping the egg masses into jars or plastic bags with a small amount of alcohol or hand sanitizer in order to kill the eggs. Just scraping them off and letting the masses drop to the ground won't do the trick.

For more information about stopping this invasive bug, visit www.middletownbucks.org/SLF.

MTGo!



MTGo is Middletown Township's citizen service request portal. Residents and community members can report issues to the Township faster than ever before, only a button-click away.

To make your request, visit MTGo.co!

Stay Connected!



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www.middletownbucks.org

Thank you for reading this edition of the Middletown Township E-news. Feel free to share with

friends, family, and neighbors!

We'd like to hear from you! If you have an idea for something that we can cover in the E-news, please let us know by emailing Christina Bernhardt at cbernhardt@middletownbucks.org.

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