Lower Gwynedd Renor

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Mark G. Grey, Chairman

As we start this new decade, I want to welcome two new members, Danielle Duckett and Tessie McNeely, to the Board of Supervisors. This is certainly an exciting time and with the new vision and fresh ideas the Township will continue moving in a positive direction. Welcome Danielle and Tessie!!

In 2020 two major roadway projects will begin, the first project is the Spring House Intersection Improvement which will widen the culvert on Sumneytown Pike as Phase I of the intersection improvement. This widening will allow for the second and final phase of the project to be installed at a later date adding additional lanes (both eastbound and westbound) and improving the flow of traffic at this busy intersection. The second project is the 202 Parkway Project which will be a multi-year project

(estimated end date 2024) by PennDOT to improve traffic patterns and flow along Route 202 (see www. US202.com for further information).

The Township continues to work with the Wissahickon Clean Water Partnership which consists of 13 municipalities and 4 wastewater treatment plants to create a shared Water Quality Improvement Plan for a cleaner Wissahickon Creek. The requirements handed-down to all the municipalities that house the Wissahickon Creek from the EPA was responded to with a science based, more affordable, collaborative plan which is currently in review by both the PA-DEP and EPA. We are hopeful for both agency sign-offs which would begin a twenty-year water quality plan for all the communities in the partnership.

With the new decade, new vision, new construction, new Board Members all beginning in 2020, we must wish farewell to our Public Works Director; Mike DeStefano, who will be leaving his position and moving to Florida with his family. I wish Mike success in his new adventure and thank him for his 12 years of dedicated service to Lower Gwynedd Township.

Mark G. Grey, Chairman

Meet the Board of Supervisors



Standing Left to Right: Kathleen Hunsicker, Edward Brandt, Tessie McNeely; Seated Left to Right: Danielle A. Duckett, Mark Grey.

INDEX

O

ur Newly Elected Supervisors3			
2019 Citizen of the Year3			
Township Directory4			
Election 20205			
	The Wissahickon Clean Water Partnership5	5	
	Landscape Maintenance6	5	
	2020 Road Program6	5	
	Route 202 Construction Starts6	5	
2	Land Development & Subdivision Update7	7	
S	Electric Vehicle Charging Stations7		
t	Recycling News8	3	
8	EWaste Recycling Day & Paper Shredding Event9)	
	Historical "DIG"9)	
	Wissahickon Valley Historical Society10)	
	From the Fire Marshal10)	
	North Penn Volunteer Fire Company11		
Fr	ee Shredding Event11		
Lower Gywnedd Township Police Department12			
rks & Recreation13-19			

1130 N. Bethlehem Pike P.O. Box 625 Spring House, PA 19477 Phone: 215-646-5302 Fax: 215-646-3357 www.lowergwynedd.org





215-659-5239

OUR NEWLY ELECTED SUPERVISORS



Danielle A. Duckett

Danielle A. Duckett

Danielle Duckett is a life-long fourth-generation Lower Gwynedd resident. She is a mother, caretaker, disability rights advocate and career public servant. Upon graduation from Temple University, Danielle began her career as a civil servant with the Montgomery County Department of Behavior Health and Intellectual Disabilities. Following the completion of the public administration graduate program with a certification in city management at Villanova University, Danielle continued her public service with the Commonwealth

of Pennsylvania as a regional licensing administrator for individuals with disabilities. Currently, she serves as policy director for the office of State Rep. Chris Rabb.

Tessie McNeely

Tessie McNeely is a wife, mother, career scientist, and entrepreneur. Long time LG residents, Tessie and her husband, David Frank, have two children who are recent graduates of the Wissahickon School system. Tessie graduated from Berea

College, Berea, KY and received her PhD in Pathology from UNC Chapel Hill, NC. Her scientific interest is infectious disease, which has been the focus of her decades' long research career. She is an employee of Merck, Inc. where she researches pediatric vaccines and innovative cancer treatments. She has served as the Inspector of Elections at LG ward 1-2 for over 16 years. She is also a co-founder of start-up PhotoSonix Medical, Inc. Tessie will bring her problem solving and strategic planning skills, business and scientific expertise, and passion for environmental preservation to her new role as Lower Gwynedd Supervisor.



Tessie McNeely

NEW FINANCE DIRECTOR

Lower Gwynedd Township welcomes *Chuck Wilson* as the new Finance Director. Mr. Wilson is a Certified Public Accountant with thirty years' experience in financial and administrative management including having served as a Corporate Controller for two publicly traded companies.



2019 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR ~ DICK TARGET



Dick Target and his wife, Kathy, have been Lower Gwynedd Township residents for over 33 years. They have two children Danielle and Rick. Dick is a senior engineer in the paper industry with over 44-years' experience. He has worked in 39 countries improving machine designs for corrugated shipping containers. Dick spent over ten years managing and supervising the Lower Gwynedd Little League. He has served as Judge of Elections for a number of years at Poll location 1-3. Dick served on the Park and Recreation Board for five years and during that time he identified and marked over 25 miles of trails in the Township. He is on the Presidents Council at Gwynedd Mercy University and is a Paul Harris Fellow in Rotary International. Dick, a former Captain in the Marine Corps, has been the Master of Ceremonies at the Township Annual Veterans Day Ceremony for the past five years.

From left to right: Edward Brandt, Kathy Target, Mark Grey, Honoree Dick Target, Kathleen Hunsicker, and Dick Booth.

LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP

1130 N. Bethlehem Pike, P. O. Box 625, Spring House, PA 19477 • <u>www.lowergwynedd.org</u> Administration: Phone: (215) 646-5302 • Fax: (215) 646-3357 • Police: Emergency: 911 Phone: (215) 646-5303

> <u>Board of Supervisors</u> Mark G. Grey, Chairman Danielle A. Duckett, Vice-Chairman Edward J. Brandt Kathleen Hunsicker Tessie McNeely

Township Manager: Craig McAnally Assistant Manager: Jamie Worman Asst. Sec.: Carole Culbreth Police Chief: Paul Kenny Interim Solicitor: Thomas Speers, Esq. Engineer: Jim Hersh, Gilmore & Associates Zoning Officer: Kenneth Amey E.I.T.; B.P.; Merc. & LST Collection: Berkheimer Associates Fire Marshal: Al Comly Building Inspector/Plan Review: Keystone Municipal Services Recreation Director: Sandi L. Feight Parks Superintendent: Mitch Kulp Real Estate Tax Collector: Betty Lou Yost

LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings to be held in the Administrative Office at 1130 North Bethlehem Pike, Spring House

NOTE: Generally meetings are as follows except when holidays conflict: Board of Supervisors (7:00 pm) – 2nd & 4th Tuesday Zoning Hearing Board (7:00 p.m.) - 2nd Thursday Planning Commission (7:00 p.m.) - 3rd Wednesday Park & Recreation (6:30 p.m.) - 4th Tuesday Environmental Advisory Council (7:00 p.m.) – 2nd Wednesday

Deadline for Submissions:

Zoning Hearing Board 30 days prior to scheduled meeting

Planning Commission 30 days prior to scheduled meeting UPCOMING TOWNSHIP_ HOLIDAYS ARE AS FOLLOWS: April 10 (Good Friday) May 25 (Memorial Day) July 3 (Independence Day Holiday) September 7 (Labor Day)



@LowerGwyneddPA



Find our page on Facebook at "Lower Gwynedd Township"

Sign Up for News and Alerts on the Website

Township residents can register their email address to be notified when news items or alerts are posted on the website. Just visit the Township website at **www.lowergwynedd.org** and click the **Email Alerts icon** at the top of the page to register. Take the time today and register on the website and you can begin receiving alerts.

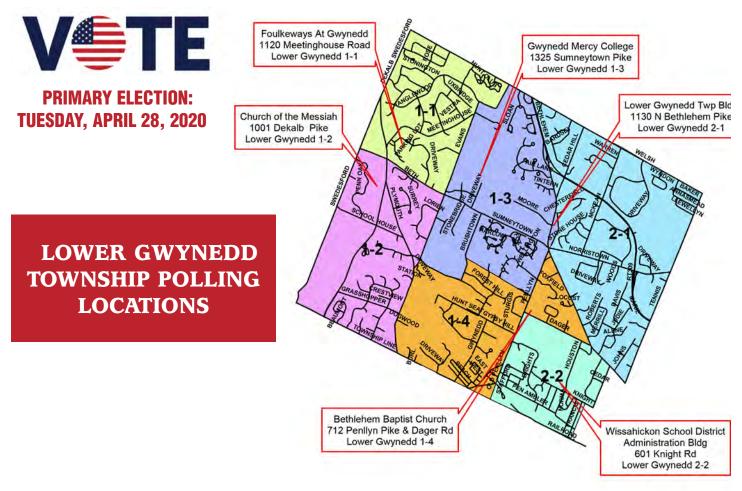




The census is much more than just a head count. It provides a picture of our nation that helps determine where to build new schools, hospitals, and businesses; how federal funding is distributed; and how congressional seats are apportioned. It also helps us see how our communities have changed over time. It happens every 10 years. In early 2020, you will be asked to count everyone who lives in your home as of April 1.



ELECTION 2020



EVERY VOTE COUNTS!!

The Wissahickon Clean Water Partnership

The Wissahickon Creek meanders through the suburbs of Philadelphia, flowing through 16 municipalities across Montgomery County and Philadelphia County. The majority of Lower Gwynedd Township lies within the Wissahickon Watershed. Many residents do not realize that the entire main stem of the Wissahickon and most of its tributaries are impaired. This impairment determination, made by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) means that pollution has hindered the creek's use for drinking water supplies, fishing, recreation or the aquatic life that call the waterways home.



In 2016, in response to new proposed regulations, 13 municipalities, including Lower Gwynedd Township, and 4 wastewater treatment plants joined together to form a coalition called the Wissahickon Clean Water Partnership, recognizing that collaborating at a watershed-wide scale is the best approach to improving the health of the Wissahickon Creek. The group has been supported by regional partners like the Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association, Pennsylvania Environmental Council, Temple University, Montgomery County Planning Commission, and Environmental Finance Center of the University of Maryland.

This team of stakeholders has been working for the past three years on a "Water Quality Improvement Plan". The plan is an adaptive, flexible management plan that will help our community improve water quality and habitat in the Wissahickon Watershed through continual incorporation of new data and information, and identification of opportunities and actions to positively impact the watershed over time. The plan is our roadmap for the future, helping to identify and prioritize projects, policies, and collaborative programs.

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

Lower Gwynedd Township asks that property owners maintain their roadside landscaping and trees. Roadside landscaping and trees that are not maintained and protrude out into roadways becomes a safety issue for the pedestrians and motorist.

All roadside landscaping and trees shall be trimmed back approximately 1 foot behind the face of the curb line or edge of roadway and to a minimum height of 13 feet. Corner property owners and property owners that live on the inside curvature of a roadway shall take extra care to make sure their landscaping does not interfere with sight distances when entering and exiting cross streets or negotiating the curve within the roadway. Properly maintained landscaping allows for safe passage of pedestrians and motorist that are using our roadways.





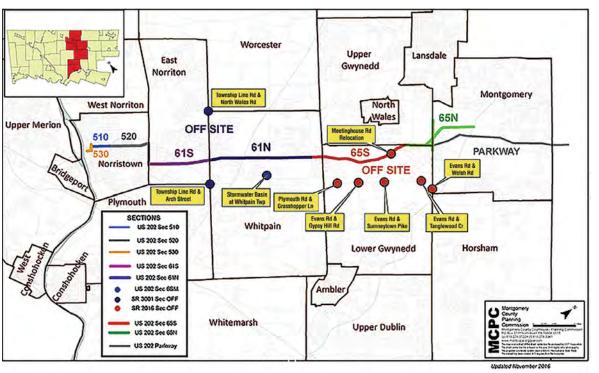
2020 ROAD PROGRAM

This upcoming summer Lower Gwynedd Township is tentatively scheduled to complete roadwork on approximately 3.85 miles of the 49 miles of roadway the Township is responsible to maintain. The roadwork will consist of asphalt base repairs, new wearing course and ADA ramp modifications if applicable. The following roadways are the proposed candidates for this year's road program.

- Township Line Road (From Wood Spring Road to Plymouth Road)
- Knight Road (From Mt. Pleasant Avenue to Houston Road)
- Dager Road (At Intersection of Bethlehem Pike)
- Foxfield Road
- Llanfair Road
- Baker Road

- Llewellyn Road
- Annasmead Road
- Radcliffe Lane
- Arbor Lane
- Foulke Road
- Marion Avenue
- Norma Road
- Rotelle Drive
- · Old Buckley Road
- Houston Road





Construction has started to Widen, Reconstruct 2.9-Mile Section of U.S.202 in Montgomery County. Motorist are advised to allow more time for travel in the work areas because backups and slowdowns will occur. All scheduled activities are weather dependent. (www. US202.com)

LAND DEVELOPMENT & SUBDIVISION UPDATE

Below is a summary of the various land development and subdivision projects currently being reviewed, approved, or under construction within Lower Gwynedd Township at the time of this publication.

Preliminary Review

- Hunt Seat Associates Subdivision (#19-08SUBD): Residential Subdivision; Location: Hunt Seat Dr.; Applicant: Hunt Seat Associates LLC (Guidi Homes); Summary: 3-lot residential subdivision of a lot recently created through the Penllyn Club Subdivision (525 Gwynedd Ave Sub), applicant proposes a single-family dwelling on each lot with individual driveways taking access from Hunt Seat Dr.; recommended for approval by Planning Commission 1/15/20; Awaiting Board of Supervisors approval
- Spring House Court Subdivision (#19-07SUBD): Residential Subdivision; Location: 1217 N. Bethlehem Pike; Applicant-Pat Sparango; Summary: 3-lot residential subdivision and land development where applicant proposes to construct three townhomes with a common private driveway and associated improvements; recommended for approval by Planning Commission 1/15/20; Awaiting Board of Supervisors approval
- Foulkeways at Gwynedd-Residential "S" Unit Expansion Land Development (#19-06LD): Residential development; Location: 1120 Meetinghouse Rd.; Applicant-Foulkeways at Gwynedd; Summary: Consolidate 5 parcels and construct 4 new residential buildings that will add 6 residential living units; associated improvements including sidewalk and trail re-alignment, and stormwater management facilities; recommended for approval by Planning Comission 2/19/20; Awaiting Board of Supervisors Approval.
- MRA Spring House Innovation Park Conditional Use & Land Development Application (#19-04CU & #19-05LD): Non-residential mixed-use redevelopment project; Location-727 Norristown Road; Applicant-MRA Group; Summary-Conditional Use approval required for a number of proposed uses including a hotel, restaurant, and conference center; a Land Development application was filed simultaneously for the redevelopment of the existing buildings that will include the uses noted above, as well as office space, research and development center, fitness center/court, associated parking and required improvements; Conditional Use and Preliminary Land Development approval granted and then appealed by applicant; Settlement of the appeal was reached on December 30th, 2019; Final land development application not yet received

Approved/Under Construction

- Waiver of Land Development-Janssen Research & Development LLC (2019WLD): Temporary parking lot; Location 1400 McKean Road; Applicant-Janssen Research & Development LLC; Summary-installation of a temporary parking lot consisting of 137 parking spaces in three locations on the campus; spaces will be removed 9 months from completion of permanent parking areas or 18 months from issuance of grading permit for temporary spaces (whichever comes first); Janssen will also contribute to the traffic study on McKean Rd., and clean out culverts crossing McKean Rd. at Warren and Wooded Pond Roads; Approved 12/10/19
- Penllyn Club-525 Gwynedd Ave Subdivision (#19-03SUBD): Residential subdivision; Location: 525 Gwynedd Avenue; Applicant-Hunt Seat Association LLC; Summary-2-lot minor residential subdivision; Approved 9/10/19
- 604 Dekalb Pike (#18-02LD) "Overlook at Gwynedd Valley": Residential subdivision/land development; Location-Dekalb Pike; Developer- Prospect Acquisitions; Summary- 17-unit residential townhouse development and associated improvements. Approved 9/11/18. Construction has started; first block of townhome foundations with decks installed

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS

Last year, the Lower Gwynedd Township's Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) recommended to the Board of Supervisors that they investigate the possibility of installing electric vehicle (EV) charging stations throughout the Township. The elected body was very much aligned with the EAC's effort to reduce emissions and saw this initiative as an important step in that direction. Township staff applied for funding through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Level 2 EV Charging Rebate Program, which is part of Governor Tom Wolf's Driving PA Forward Program, and received approval for two stations. Funding was also secured through PECO's funding incentive program for municipalities who were taking advantage of the DEP Program. After reviewing the information about the stations and the rebate and incentive programs available to offset costs, the Township staff met with and selected a company named, Chargepoint Inc., to provide the equipment for the level 2 charging stations. During this process staff identified two locations for the charging stations as they were required to be placed on public land that was easily accessible. The parking lots at the Township Building and Veterans Park were selected. The project entailed the installation of a dual plug charging station at each location. The stations are smart stations and patrons can utilize the station by downloading an application on their phone through Chargepoint. From this smart phone app, they will be able to pay for their charging transaction. The Township envisions many users as people learn of the availability of the charging stations. We believe many residents are already driving electric vehicles and we anticipate the number of electric vehicles will continue to increase.



Township Building Electric Charging Station

RECYCLING NEWS

Residents of Montgomery County can now recycle clothing and electronic devices directly from their home. Montgomery County has partnered with Retrievr, a service that allows residents to easily schedule collection of clothing and electronic devices via text.

Retrievr will pick up the following clothing:

All men's, women's, children's, and infant clothing including shirts, pants, shorts, dresses, skirts, blouses, sweaters, jackets, raincoats, overcoats, outerwear, sleepwear, swimsuits, T-shirts, undergarments, and formal wear. Footwear: shoes, boots, sandals, heels, slippers. Accessories: belts, hats, scarves, jewelry, ties, gloves, handbags, Bedding: comforter, sheets, pillow cases and blankets. Household items: curtains/draperies, Halloween costumes, cloth napkins, table cloths, towels.

Retrievr will also pick up the following electronic devices:

Computers, cell phones, hard drives, keyboards, mice, PC speakers, PC power supplies, printers, fax machines, stereo equipment, TVs, VCRs, CD players, and laptop and cell phone batteries.



Retrievr collects most items for free except for televisions and microwaves (\$35-\$50 for TVs under 150 lbs.; \$100 for TVs 150 lbs. or greater; \$10 for microwaves). It does not charge for picking up other electronic equipment and clothing.

If you cannot text, call 610-839-8262, and they will call you back to schedule a pickup. For more information, retrievr.com. All of Montgomery County is in their service area.



Spring Leaf/Yard Waste Collection Dates:

Lower Gwynedd Township has a leaf and yard waste recycling program where our contracted hauler, Waste Management, provides curbside leaf/yard waste collection opportunities throughout the Spring and Fall. The current contract provides for eight collections dates, two in the Spring and six in the Fall. The two scheduled dates for this Spring are Saturday, March 21st, 2020 and Saturday, May 9th, 2020. All leaf and yard waste must be placed in biodegradable bags and there is a limit of eight bags per pick-up.

Montgomery County Recycling

Montgomery County also offers opportunities for public waste collection events. Montgomery County will host a household hazardous waste collection event from 9am-3pm on the following dates and in the following locations:

- Saturday, April 25th, 2020.....Boyertown Middle School East, 2020 Big Rd., Gilbertsville
- Saturday, May 2nd, 2020 Indian Valley Middle School, 130 Maple Ave., Harleysville
- Saturday, May 16th, 2020 Temple University-Ambler Campus, enter at 1431 E. Butler Pk., Ambler
- Saturday, June 13th, 2020.....
 Norristown Area High School, 1900 Eagle Dr., Norristown
- Saturday, June 20th, 2020......Abington Junior High School, enter at 2056 Susquehanna Rd., Abington
 Saturday, September 26th, 2020.....Spring-Ford 9th Grade Center, 400 S. Lewis Rd., Royersford

For additional information visit www.MontcoPARecycles.org or call the recycling hotline at 610-278-3618.

Montgomery County Tire Collection:

Montgomery County will host residential tire collection events from 9am-12pm on the following dates and in the following locations:

- Saturday, May 9th, 2020 Montgomery County Community College, 340 Dekalb Pk., enter at 1313 Morris Rd., Blue Bell
- Saturday, May 30th, 2020 Green Lane Park, Morrow Pavilion, Green Lane
- Saturday, June 27th, 2020...... Western Montgomery Career & Technology Center, 77 Graterford Rd., Limerick

Lower Gwynedd Township E-WASTE RECYCLING DAY & PAPER SHREDDING EVENT April 4th, 2020 8am-12pm



Lower Gwynedd Township is partnering with SAMR, Inc. and Shred-It for a **COMMUNITY RECYCLING DAY!** We will be accepting **PAPER** and **ELECTRONICS** (anything with a plug or battery) at no cost to you.

WHAT:	Lower Gwynedd Township E-Cycle Event
WHERE:	Lower Gwynedd Township Municipal Building,
	1130 N. Bethlehem Pike, Spring House, PA 19477
WHEN:	April 4, 2020- 8:00 AM-12:00 PM (or until full capacity)
QUESTIONS:	Contact Jamie Worman, Lower Gwynedd Township, Phone: (215) 646-5302

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS: electronics-laptops, computers, fax machines, telecommunications equipment, stereos & radio equipment, televisions, humidifiers, propane tanks, monitors, cable attachments, e-book readers, UPS/ battery backup, monitors, scanners, wire, speakers, microwaves, dehumidifiers, metal, metal non-ferrous, cell phones & telephones, MP3 players, large appliances, printers, keyboards & mice, main frames, vcr/dvd players, air conditioners, space heaters, servers, copiers, cameras modems; PAPER.



**This service is for Township residents only, proof of residency required. Items can only be dropped off during the event time. Items delivered early or late will not be accepted!! Excessive amounts of paper and/or electronics may be turned away at the Township's discretion.

Historical "DIG" at Gwynedd Friends Meeting for the PennDOT Road to the Future

The road changes to the historic corner of Sumneytown Pike and Rt. 202 (DeKalb Pk.) are coming at last. After decades of planning, PennDOT is nearing the first steps of reconstructing these big local roadways to provide safer, more negotiable intersections, traffic lanes and bike paths. To get here however, the pinch point between the landmark Wm. Penn Inn and the Pre-Revolutionary burial ground at Gwynedd Friends Meetinghouse had to be addressed. PennDOT, against expectations, provided a truly comprehensive, sensitive design process OVER 30 YEARS to discern the best way forward with great respect for all stakeholders.

A team of PennDOT archaeologists provided a ground search for historical relics on the Meetinghouse property to rival the National Geographic. Of concern was the possibility of disturbing any human remains where road work was planned. The Meetinghouse, was founded in a log structure in 1698 at the corner of farms owned by the original four Evans brothers. The Friends (Quakers) know of only a portion of its buried souls because early Quakers deemed it too worldly to mark one's grave. As such, Revolutionary soldiers treated at the Meetinghouse (turned hospital during the Revolutionary War), Yellow Fever epidemic victims and countless Quakers are buried without clear locations recorded.

The archaeologists squared off one-meter sections of ground not five feet from the busy Sumneytown Pike traffic and dug by hand and spatulas down to a depth showing human activity. In that two-foot zone before solid subgrade depth, the team found old pottery and smoking clay pipes with specific dimensions indicating having been made about 1715. Thankfully, they found no human remains. But they did find a stone foundation to a building the size of a modern garage which the Meeting had not previously known. The building, just off the stone wall along Sumneytown Pike could have been part of a second Meetinghouse built in the early 1700's to replace the original log structure. The Meetinghouse historian is now researching old files further to clarify this and other finds.

Indeed, the process initiated by PennDOT has inspired the Friends Meeting to do further archaeology and historical research into a special property that dates back to before property lines were recorded. Because of the religious use dating back to before the founding of America, none of the land was ever tilled or much disturbed by development through the centuries. The minimal impacts provided an unusual space to do archaeology and even though little was found, much was added to the area historical understanding. And, the roadwork can now proceed knowing there will be a clear path.

Neil F. Trueblood, Gwynedd Friends Meeting Member

WISSAHICKON VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Our Local Historical Society Seeks to Increase its Membership

In 2015 The Wissahickon Valley Historical Society merged with The Historical Society of Whitpain. This newly formed Society kept The Wissahickon Valley Historical Society (WVHS) name and serves Ambler and Lower Gwynedd and Whitpain Townships. The Society's mission is to preserve the heritage of these municipalities and educate residents about an area of Pennsylvania steeped in history. WVHS maintains two properties of historical significance: The Franklinville School on Morris Road and the 1895 Whitpain Public School on the corner of Skippack Pike and School Road—both in Blue Bell.

The recently restored Whitpain Public School holds the society's collections and preserves a "turn of the twentieth century" classroom. Specific to Lower Gwynedd is a first edition of Sally Wister's Journal, a first-hand account of a young girl's life in Gwynedd during the British occupation of

Philadelphia in 1777-1778--as well as artifacts related to Spring House Tavern, The William Penn Inn and the Gwynedd Meetinghouse. In addition to the classroom, the second floor has a library holding books and manuscripts--some over 200 years old--pertaining to the area.

The Whitpain Public School is open to the public every Thursday from 10 to noon and the third Sunday of every month (except for December, January and February) from 1 to 4PM. Society members enjoy special monthly presentations.

A goal of WVHS is to increase its membership of residents from Lower Gwynedd—currently only 10% of the Society. If interested in becoming a member, please visit www.wvalleyhs.org for more details.

Joe Langella *Board Member*, Wissahickon Valley Historical Society

FROM THE FIRE MARSHAL

The New Year is now well under way and we look toward Spring. As we begin to think about getting back outside, here are a few reminders:

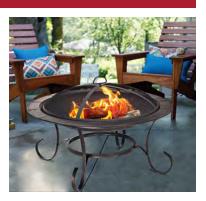
- No burning of trash, garden waste or any similar material is allowed in Lower Gwynedd *Township.* This is appropriate environmentally and respects each of our neighbors in addition to being a good fire safety practice.
- Outdoor fire pits, chimenias and other similar manufactured products are allowed, with proper separation from combustibles. Building a campfire in the backyard is not one of the allowable burning choices, although special permission can be granted through the Fire Marshal's Office for a ceremonial event.
- Use of barbeques on combustible decks is not a good practice. It is a code violation for all but single-family residences. Use of Barbeques on a porch or in a garage is a dangerous practice due to the potential for carbon monoxide poisoning.
- *Fire Alarm systems should be inspected.* Smoke detector batteries, if you have them, should be replaced. Better solution is to purchase the up-to-date detectors with the 10-year lithium batteries—then you can just check operation and avoid the annual battery changes.
- *Warmer weather will mean that indoor fireplaces will no longer be used.* Start planning now to get them cleaned and checked to avoid the rush when the weather turns cold again in the Fall.

Recently, Montgomery County Emergency Communications had a seminar where information was provided about emergency responses and procedures. Several interesting facts were shared at that time

The emergency response begins with a call to 9-1-1. The County is working on a system that will allow texts to 9-1-1, but for now the sure way to know help is coming is to call. This activates police, fire and EMS. Posting on Facebook or Instagram will not generally initiate a response, unless someone just happens to see it. Far better to have several calls go to the Emergency Operations Center, than to have none be received. There have been some recent events in other parts of the country where no 9-1-1 calls were received on a major incident, but multiple social media postings were found in post incident evaluations.

Alarm system maintenance. In the County there were close to 8,000 fire calls to 9-1-1 from Automatic Fire Alarm systems in 2019. Of those calls, approximately 110 required actual service from the responders—about 1.4%. This ratio, while County-wide, is also reflected in the calls in Lower Gwynedd Township—with a significant portion of that 1.4% resulting from system maintenance problems. Lower Gwynedd's fire responders are all volunteers. Please include the inspection and maintenance of your alarm system in your yearly plans.

Thank you—have a safe and enjoyable Spring and Summer season!





NORTH PENN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY



As the days get longer and the temperatures begin to rise, the North Penn Volunteer Fire Company (NPVFC) would like to extend our invitation for you to stop by our firehouse to meet the members and see what we're up to. Whether you're out for a walk with the dog (we always have dog biscuits), or would like to bring the kids to see the trucks and meet their neighborhood fire fighters, we'd love to see you. Or perhaps if you are more inclined for an adult beverage or game of pool, a visit to the social club atop our engine bay is more your tune. Either way, you can generally find at least one member available on Mondays from 6pm to 9pm. If our bay doors are open, please stop in!

Or if you've always considered the possibility of helping out, there are many ways to volunteer even a small amount of time with the NPVFC. Because we are fully non-profit and volunteer operated fire company, we are responsible for every aspect of operations. This includes the obvious positions such as firefighter and apparatus operator (driver), but also not-so-often thought of positions such as social media writer, event planner, long-term planning strategist and accounting assistant. All of these positions are equally as important for a functioning organization and are all opportunities to which folks from all walks of life to contribute. If you are interested in putting your skills to work, even for short amounts of time, give us a call at (215) 699-4337 or email us at publicrelations@northpennfire.com



Bonus points: Our annual calendar fundraiser is wrapping up, you still have a chance to purchase yours! While the calendar is, well, a calendar, it also is an entry in a raffle where you could win an average of \$20 and up to \$500. At only \$20, how could you say no? Stop by our Main Street fire station Monday at 7pm to pick one up or contact Fundraising@NorthPennFire.com to arrange your purchase.

Thank you, and we will see you around town!

Signed, the members (your neighbors) of the North Penn Volunteer Fire Company

JOIN US FOR A **FREE SHREDDING EVENT** HOSTED BY STATE REP. LIZ HANBIDGE, SENATOR MARIA COLLETT, STATE REP. MARY JO DALEY, & LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2020

from 9 AM - 11 AM

Wissahickon High School, 521 Houston Rd, Ambler, PA

PLEASE NOTE:

- All documents must be in brown paper grocery bags and a three bag per vehicle limit will be strictly enforced
- Drivers should remain in their veh_icles while items are being unloaded by staff
- · Parking is available for those who would like to see their documents shredded
- Documents will be accepted until the truck is full

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

plastic bags, CD's/CD cases, accordian files, metal objects, x-rays, moving boxes, commercial/industrial/medical office documents

QUESTIONS? CONTACT REP. HANBIDGE'S OFFICE AT 610-277-3230 OR E-MAIL US AT REPHANBIDGE@PAHOUSE.NET

LOWER GYWNEDD TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTENT



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICE

Congratulations to the PA SADD School Resource Officer of the Year, our very own Beth Sanborn.

In November, Detective Beth Sanborn attended the PA Student's Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) conference in Seven Springs, PA., where she was presented with the 2019 School Resource Officer (SRO) of the year award.

In January, Beth was presented The Honorable Louis D Stefan Law Enforcement Award by the Montgomery Bar Association. The Stefan Award is presented to a law enforcement officer who promotes the rule of law and administration of justice. We look forward to see what Beth has in store for the rest of 2020!

Are You Connected?

Just under a year ago Lower Gwynedd Police partnered with Ring and the Ring neighbor's app (portal) to make our township a little bit safer. The Ring neighbor's portal allows the Police and users to make BOLO (Be on the lookout) posts, informing fellow residents of suspicious activity, persons or vehicles in our Township. It also allows users and Lower Gwynedd Police to post video of these activities. This technology has proven to help neighbors and police work together to solve crimes as well as prevent future ones.



Over the past year there have been several posts and videos shared; everything from stolen packages, suspicious and stolen vehicles, suspicious person walking around house and ringing doorbells, and even a burglary. Our hope is to see more residents get involved and partner with us to help keep our residents safer.

Residents can download the neighbor's app for free at download.ring.com/lowergwynedd or text lowergwynedd to 555888.



DOG ORDINANCE

Just a reminder that Lower Gwynedd Township has an ordinance that specifies letting dogs run loose without a leash is prohibited. All dogs must be on a leash of no more than ten feet when on streets, public grounds or property (see ordinance below). This includes all parks and ball fields.

§ 620.02 Dog regulations.

[Ord. 77. Passed 8-17-1964; Ord. 407. Passed 2-18-2003]

(a) Dogs at Large Prohibited. [Amended 8-23-2016 by Ord. No. 509]

(1) As used in this Section 620.02, the term "at large" shall refer to any dog that is not restrained by the dog's owner or keeper with a leash having a length of not more than 10 feet.

(2) It shall be unlawful for the owner or keeper of any dog, licensed or unlicensed, to permit such dog to run at large over the streets, public grounds or property, or upon the private property of anyone other than the owner or person having custody of the dog or of the property of anyone who has consented to the dog being at large on their property. The owner or keeper of the dog must be of appropriate age and discretion to properly control the actions of the dog.

Registration

Pre-Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise indicated. Registration are accepted with full payment and completed forms inperson or via mail. No phone registration are accepted. Registration forms can be downloaded from the Township website: lowergwynedd.org forms can also be faxed or emailed. We accept cash, checks (payable to Lower Gwynedd Township), and credit cards. There is a service fee for all credit card transactions. There will be a \$25 service charge on all returned checks.

Refunds: Full refunds will only be issued if the Parks & Recreation Department cancels a program. All discounted amusement and ski tickets sales are final and nonrefundable. All refunds requested by the registration that are granted will be charged a \$5 administration fee.

Cancellation Policy: Programs are subject to cancellation if there is insufficient enrollment, inclement weather or other reasonable causes.

Photo Policy: The Lower Gwynedd Township Parks & Recreation Department may take photos of program participants or park visitors. Please be aware that these photos are for department use only and may appear in future brochures, newsletters, website or flyers.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

DATE: SATURDAY APRIL 4 Location: Oxford Park Time: 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.



Young Rembrandts Art Kids Art Classes



SPRING CLASSES

Its spring time and that can mean only one thing: SPRINGTIME DRAWING WITH YOUNG REMBRANDTS! If your children are baseball fans, they will love our baseball still life lesson. Learning about warm colors and cool colors will be the focus as our artists draw a detailed exterior of a house. We'll also learn about legendary artist Edward Hopper as we recreate one of his masterpieces. Finally, we'll take an imaginary trip to Japan and learn about the artistry of the kimono. Sign up for classes today! Time: 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Location: Penllyn Woods Community Building Cost: \$70 per person Ages: 5-12 years Session 1: April 7 – May 5 Session 2: May 12 – June 9



SUMMER CLASSES

JUNIOR DOWN ON THE FARM WORKSHOP: We will explore a farm and all the elements that are seen on a farm, including a barn and a tractor, among others. In addition, we will learn to draw a variety of animals that live and play on our farm. On the last day we will combine all the pieces we learned previously into one large farm scene - full of fun! We will use pencils, markers and color pencils to complete our drawings. Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11 a.m. Location: Penllyn Woods Community Building Cost: \$105 per person Ages: 4-7 years Session 1: August 17 – August 20

ANIMAL CARTOON WORKSHOP

Laugh-out-loud-funny! Mind-bendingly-adorable! Awesome-beyondbelief! These are just some of the words that best describe our Cartoon Animals Workshop. If your child is a fan of cuddly animals and funny cartoons, this drawing workshop is especially tailored for his or her needs. Over the course of this session, our students will learn how to draw animals of all shapes, sizes, and colors. They will learn how to personify ordinary animals, transforming them into fully-realized cartoon characters. Be a part of the something fun and special. Enroll your budding artist today!



Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Location: Penllyn Woods Community Building Cost: \$105 per person Ages: 8-14 years Session 1: August 17 – August 20

Young Rembrandts Art Kids Art Classes (continued)



This workshop gives our students the chance to draw all the different things we see and imagine under the sea! Narwhals, jellyfish, mermaids and more will fill our pages in bold colors and strong shapes. We will complete our last day with one large scene showcasing a whimsical underwater kingdom complete with all it's subjects. Enroll today to get your spot!

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11 a.m. Location: Penllyn Woods Community Building Cost: \$105 per person Ages: 4-7 years Session 1: August 24 – August 27



FAVORITE APPS AND VIDEO GAMES

Art is all around us, including on phones and online! Join Young Rembrandts for a workshop mimicking the amazing imagery of our Favorite Apps and Video Games! Every day students will learn new illustration and coloring techniques inspired by popular video games. Artwork is inspired by a pixel block characters, plants, zombies and many more classic apps and games. If your child loves to game or

draw, they'll have a blast putting their own personal touches on some of these favorites! Register your special gaming artist today! Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Location: Penllyn Woods Community Building Cost: \$105 per person Ages: 8-14 years Session 1: August 17 – August 20



DISCOUNTED TICKETS

The Parks & Recreation Department offers Discounted Ski tickets to area Ski Resorts from December through March. May through September a variety of discounted tickets are available for amusement parks. Tickets can be purchased at the Township Building Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. For a complete listing of the tickets available visit the Parks & Recreation page on the Township Website, **www.lowergwynedd.org.**

THURSDAY KNITTING GROUP

This group meets at the Penllyn Woods Community Building every Thursday afternoon (except for Holidays) from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. If you have questions on a pattern, want to learn how to knit or crochet please join us.

PENLLYN WOODS COMMUNITY BUILDING

Need a place to a party, baby shower, bridal shower? Consider using the Penllyn Woods Community Building. For more information about the facility contact Parks & Recreation Department 215-646-5302.





TRAIL CLEAN UP

Please join us as we focus on cleaning up some of the trails in the Township. There is no rain date in the event of inclement weather. DATE: Saturday April 25 at 9:00 a.m. MEETING LOCATION: Lower Gwynedd Township Building







Smart Phone, iPad/iPhone, Android Tablet, Kindle, Nook, eReader? Got Questions? We've Got Answers!



Date:Wednesday March 18Time:1 p.m. - 3 p.m.Location:Lower Gwynedd Township Building, 1130 N. Bethlehem Pike
Appointments are required and available at 1:00 or 3:00 pm.
Call Wissahickon Valley Library, Blue Bell Branch, 215-643-1320

You must bring your Amazon (Kindle) or Adobe Digital Editions (Nook) logon information with you. Disclaimer: The library's intent is to help people learn to use their devices. The library cannot assume responsibility for devices that are not working and cannot fix devices.

Trail Dusters

Do you know where all the trails are located in the Township? Have you seen a path but not sure where it goes? Join us as we explore a trail a week. Meetings locations vary each week and upon registering for the program you will receive a list of where the group is meeting.

Dates:	Tuesday and Thursdays April 7 – May 14
Time:	6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Location:	Varies each week, participants will receive a list of walking
	locations upon registering for the program.
Cost:	\$5 per person



Know your Medicare Options

Please join us at Lower Gwynedd Township Parks and Recreation Penllyn Woods Building

on Tuesday May 19th from 6:30pm to 8:00pm

During this free educational seminar you will learn:

- · How Medicare works and what it covers
- How Part "D" prescription cards work and how to pick the right one for you
- The differences between Medicare supplements and Medicare Advantage plans

Senior Advisors

Independent Medicare Playsing Specialists

Have your questions answered so you can make the right choice when planning for Medicare or Medicare Advantage decisions.

Presenter: Steve Perlman, DelVal Senior Advisors, Independent Medicare Planning Specialist

DelVal

To register: Contact the Parks and Recreation Department (suggested, note required)

Presented by DelVal Senior Advisors

Lower Gwynedd Township

SUMMER CAMP Parks & Recreation





2020 CAMP TO BE HELD AT PENLLYN WOODS

There is limited space per week. When registering you must indicate what weeks you are registering.

> AGES FOR THE CAMP: 6 years or completed kindergarten to 12 years.

TIME: 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. POST CAMP: 3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Summer Camp Employment

Lower Gwynedd Township is accepting applications for Summer Camp program. All applicants must have their clearance checks completed prior to their hiring. Employment Application can be found on the Lower Gwynedd Township website.

Camp Counselors (paid position) must be 15 years of age or older. Counselors in Training (volunteer position) 13-14 years.

REGISTRATION CAMP OPTIONS:

WEEKLY RATE OPTION

- \$150 first resident child per week
- \$125 for each additional resident child per week
- \$175 first non-resident child per week
- \$160 for each additional non-resident child per week
- \$120 post camp per week per child (3 p.m. 5 p.m.)

SELECT THE WEEKS YOUR CHILD WILL BE ATTENDING

- **June 22 June 26**
 - June 29 July 3 (no camp July 3)
- **July 6 July 10**
- **July 13 July 17**
- **July 20 July 24**
- July 27 July 31
- August 3 August 7
- August 10 August 14



Trail Identification System

As the Spring and Summer season is upon us, our parks and trails have much to offer. Lower Gwynedd Township has 25 miles of walking trails located throughout the Township. As you enter the trails please take note of the trail marking system the Parks & Recreation Board continues to work on. At each each trail entrance there is a sign indicating the section of trail you are entering and the numbered sections. There are white delineator posts installed along the trails to indicate the section of trail you are in. In the event of an emergency you can call 9-1-1 and indicate to dispatcher your location, or if you come across a maintenance issue you can call the Township Offices to report any trail concerns 215-646-5302.



PARKS & RECREATION FREE! SUMMER CONCERT SERIES



June 24 ANALOG GROOVE Oxford Park (Cambridge Dr & Welsh Rd) Concerts take place Wednesday Evenings 7:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

July 8 ZYDECO A GO GO



July 1 MONTGOMERY COUNTY

JAZZ BAND

July 15 ERIC MINTEL







WHEN YOU'RE WASHING YOUR CAR IN THE DRIVEWAY, REMEMBER YOU'RE NOT JUST WASHING YOUR CAR IN THE DRIVEWAY.



If you have questions regarding storm water, please contact your municipality or Pennsylvania Department of Enviromental Protection's Regional Office. For general questions, you may also contact DEP's Bureau of Water Management at (717) 772-5661 or visit www.dep.state.pa.us. Thanks to the Washington State Water Consortium for permission to adapt and use this poster

All the soap, scum, and oily grit runs along the curb. Then into the storm drain and directly into our lakes, streams and into coastal waters including the Chesapeake Bay. And that causes pollution which is unhealthy for fish. So how do you avoid this whole mess? Easy. Wash your car on grass or gravel instead of the street. Or better yet, take it to a car wash where the water gets treated and recycled.



June 15-August 14 WWW.gacamp.org





738 BETHLEHEM PIKE FLOURTOWN, PA 19031 215-233-1063

WWW.SCOOGIS.COM



Water Heaters • Sump Pumps • Boilers Water Treatment & Purification

Third Generation Family Owned!

281 East Butler Avenue • Ambler, PA Office: 215-643-1188 • Fax: 215-643-0758

LuskinPlumbing.com

Sewer & Drain Cleaning Video Pipeline Inspection High Pressure Water Jetting Water & Sewer Line Repair/Replacement



· AMBLER ·

WINNER!

· AMBLER ·

WINNER



SINCE 1995

arpeggiobyob.com



We are talking about your house... Who you choose matters!

MONICA MABEN, REALTOR® LOWER GWYNEDD ROOTS



904 Moore Drive, Springhouse, PA 19477



22

BE SERVED NOT JUST SOLD!

Brett Wetherill Dillon, REALTOR®, ABR, ASR, ASP, CNE BHHS Fox & Roach—Blue Bell Philly 5 Star Agent for 8 years 215-542-2200 x589 (main office) 610-212-1362 (mobile) brett.dillon@comcast.net (email)



A Lifelong Resident of Lower Gwynedd

"My family interviewed a number or Realtors to list our Parents home in Ambler,PA. Brett did a great job presenting valuable information and making my parents and I very comfortable and confident in the process. The advice and insights were invaluable as we prepared the home for sale she helped us identify contractors and was there personally to meet and support the family during the entire process! I appreciate her personal and professional attention to our families needs and highly recommend her to serve your family!"

gene Lugat

NEGOTIATION * COMMUNICATION STAGING * MARKETING BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices Fox & Roach, REALTORS

BH

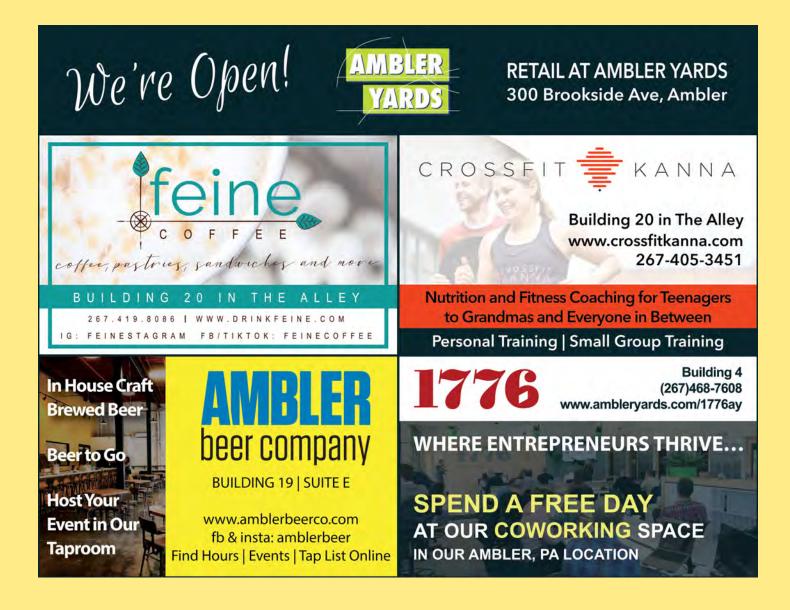
LIFE, ON A SCALE OF YOU.

Studio/ 1-BR Living Opportunities at Foulkeways



A Life Plan Community

215-283-7010 | foulkeways.org Quaker-Inspired Values. Environmental Stewardship.



Lower Gwynedd Township Spring House, PA 19477 Phone: 215-646-5302 Fax: 215-646-3357 www.lowergwynedd.org

PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID HARRISBURG PA PERMIT NO 609

Volume 25, Number 1 • SPRING 2020



This Community Newsletter is produced for Lower Gwynedd Township by Hometown Press • 215.257.1500 • All rights reserved® To Place An Ad Call Rose Mary At Hometown Press • 215-805-2121





BE HEALTHY. BE STRONG. BELONG.

Membership benefits include: **FREE** Group Exercise Classes, **FREE** Consultations with a Wellness Coach, **FREE** Child Watch, Nationwide Membership and so much more. Come in for a tour and check out everything we have to offer!

AMBLER AREA YMCA • 215-628-9950 • philaymca.org

