

MIDDLE PAXTON DIGEST

www.middlepaxtontwp.org

(717) 921-8128

middlepaxtontwp@comcast.net



2020

Fall Winter



COVID-19 and the Impacts to Our Community



Life as we knew it changed **drastically** in **March 2020**. Since then, everyone has been **required** to make changes to their daily routines, "**normal**" is an unknown state and we long for the **comfort** and **security** that was once part of who we are.

Along with **changes** in our **personal lives**, your **local** government has had to make **drastic changes** to how we conduct business. Initially the **Township Municipal Office** was closed to public access and business was conducted remotely. The office has since opened to the public but **masks or face coverings** are **required**, **social distancing** and constant **sanitation** are maintained.

Now, more than ever, **appointments are required** to meet with the **Township Manager** or the **Zoning Officer**. To make an appointment with the **Township Manager**, please call (717) 921-8128 Ext. 106; to make an appointment with the **Zoning Officer**, please call (717) 921-8128 Ext. 107.

The **Township** has **suspended** all **rentals** of **Hagy Park Pavilion** and **Fishing Creek Community Center** indefinitely. **Attendance** at public meetings is **limited** to **twenty-five** (25) persons which **include** the **members** of the Boards.

Every one of us has been affected by the **pandemic** in one way or another. We are **working diligently** to meet your needs but sometimes things do not go as planned. We continue to ask for your **understanding** and **patience** as we navigate the ever-changing restrictions and requirements. We are **grateful** for the many acts of **kindness** and **concern** that has been expressed for Township staff. **Lets work together to come out of this a stronger and better community.**

THANK-YOU!



Dauphin—Middle Paxton

Fire Co. #1, Inc.

Bob Rusbatch

Chief

Larry Snyder

1st Assistant Chief

Ryan Boyer

2nd Assistant Chief

Cary Rose

3rd Assistant Chief

Jon Fleming

Captain

Shane Swenson

Captain I

Mike McKenna

Lieutenant

Matt Shive

Lieutenant I



Board of Supervisors

1st Monday @ 7:00 PM

Jeffery Smith

Chairman

Michael Sudia

Vice Chairman

Wilbur Evans

Treasurer

James Fisher

Assistant Secretary

Lawrence Cooney

Dauphin Athletic Association

Matt Scott

President

Tim Wenrich

Vice President

John Lucas

Secretary

Dan Flickinger

Treasurer

Michele Bangert

Member at Large

Steve Burns

Member at Large

Jason Kieffer

Member at Large

Chris Barnes

Baseball Coordinator

Steve Ludwig

Softball Coordinator

Bryan Strahan

Soccer Coordinator

Dauphin Recreation Association

Jeff Thrush

President

Laura Updegrave

Vice President

Angela Alleman

Secretary

Susan Kenyon

Treasurer

Julie Ann Seeds

Township Manager

Robert Hofer

Road Master

Light-Heigel & Assoc.

Building Codes & Zoning

Brian McFeaters

Sewage Enforcement

Robert Rusbatch

Emergency Management
Coordinator

Zoning Hearing Board

2nd Wednesday @ 7:00 PM (if needed)

James Allen

Sebastian Detres

Debra Eshelman

Joseph McConlogue

Vacancy

Dauphin-Middle Paxton Joint Park Authority

Shannon Scott

President

Nichole Staley O'Gorman

Vice President

Ron Hull

Secretary

Tim Wenrich

Treasurer

Mike Cohen

Larry Cooney

Jeff Thrush

The public is invited to attend all meetings. Current restrictions limit the number of people allowed in the building at one time.

Meetings are held in the Middle Paxton Municipal Office Board Meeting Room
10 Elizabeth Avenue, Dauphin

Planning Commission

2nd Monday @ 7:00 PM

Liz Rodda

Jeffrey Smith


William Kotkiewicz

Donald Morse

Chip Brown

Gary Deimler

Ralph Stone



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS



TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL OFFICE HOURS
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 AM - **12:00 PM Noon Wednesday**
CLOSED FRIDAY

Masks or face coverings are required when entering the building.

Township Building Codes & Zoning Officer

(717) 921-8128 Ext. 107

Office Hours: Monday & Thursday

APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED

Township Sewage Enforcement Officer

Brian McFeaters (717) 813-6492

Township Tax Collector

Tanya Pomeroy (717) 921-8737

Payments can be dropped off at 1140 Victor Lane, Dauphin

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| * CAT Share-A-Ride | (717) 232-6100 |
| * Comcast Customer Service | (800) 934-6489 |
| * Dauphin Area Senior Transit—Registration Only | (717) 921-2727 |
| * Dauphin Area Senior Transit—Scheduling of Rides | (717) 921-8128 |
| * Dauphin Borough Office | (717) 921-2633 |
| * Dauphin County Controlled Burn | (717) 558-6900 |
| * Dauphin County Recycling Center | (717) 982-6772 |
| * Dauphin-Middle Paxton Fire Company Non-Emergency | (717) 921-8242 |
| * Dauphin-Middle Paxton Meals on Wheels, Sonya Boden | (717) 991-5815 |
| * PA State Police Non-Emergency | (717) 671-7500 |
| * UGI Emergency Gas Leaks | (800) 609-4844 |
| * UPMC Pinnacle Community Life Team—Business Office | (717) 782-4699 |
| * Waste Management—Service | (800) 869-5566 |
| * Waste Management—Billing | (800) 642-8850 |

Reporting Dead Animals on Roadways

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| * State Roads (Rte. 225, Rte. 325 & Rte. 443) | (717) 787-5391 |
| * Township Road—Bear | (610) 926-3136 |
| * Township Road—Deer | (610) 926-1966 |

FROM THE ROADMASTER

Roadway Etiquette and Responsibilities



Middle Paxton Township has approximately **forty (40) miles of roadway** to maintain throughout the year. Our road crew works day and night to keep our roadways safe and passable **24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year**. Township roadways do not stop at the end of the pavement; right-of-ways extend on both sides past the pavement.

In 2016, the Township adopted **Ordinance 2016-05**. This Ordinance established procedures for declaring a **Snow Emergency** and other conditions that are **governed** by that declaration. The Ordinance addresses the creation of **temporary or emergency traffic regulations**, required **parking regulations**, **sidewalk maintenance** and **fire hydrant clearing** requirements and the **penalties** for violations. It also addresses the placement of snow, ice, slush or other matter onto roadways. It is **unlawful to blow or plow snow onto the roadway** with the expectation that the Township plows will **take care** of it.

A Township **road assessment** was recently completed making note of all properties that have items sitting in the Township **right-of-way**. Letters will be sent to these property owners, requesting that these **items be removed**. These items include but are not limited to **cars, basketball hoops, trailers, or campers**. This action is necessary to ensure the **safety** of our road crew and to keep our equipment **free of damage**. If municipal personnel or property damage is incurred due to violations, you may be **liable for that damage**.



Thank you for your cooperation!

Posted Speed Limits and Stop Signs



Running late for work, trying to beat the **traffic backup**, needing to pick up the kids at the daycare or baby sitter, trying to cut through town because you just want to get home? We have all been faced with these situations; however, it is **NOT** okay to **break the law!** Several roads in the Township have **posted speed limits** and **stop signs**.

They are not a suggestion, they are the law! Speeding is a punishable offense. **"Rolling"** through the **"STOP"** sign is a **punishable offense**. You are **required** to come to a **complete** stop before proceeding. Several offenses have been observed at Denison Drive and Elizabeth Avenue, Charles Road and Elizabeth Avenue, and Claster Boulevard and Route 225.

Although the Township does not have its own police department, the Pennsylvania State Police do **patrol** in our township. Those few minutes gained by **speeding** or **"rolling"** are not worth the risk of causing or being in an accident or hitting a child. We are a rural community so deer or other animals crossing the roadways are common occurrences. **There is a reason for the posted speed limit or stop sign and they need to be obeyed. Be responsible!**



Reflective Address Markers



Reflective address markers are the best way to ensure that **emergency services** can quickly **locate** your home in the event of an **emergency**. **Markers** can be ordered at the **Township office**. **Markers** are **\$10 each**, available in either **blue** or **green**, and can be made to hang either **horizontally** or **vertically**. **Order forms** are also available on the **Township website**.

Payment is due at time of order.

FROM THE DESK OF THE BUILDING CODES & ZONING OFFICER

Building and/or Zoning **permits** are required for most building projects. **Permits** are also **required** when **starting** or **changing** a **business**. A permit is needed if you are building a **shed** or having one delivered, adding a **deck**, a **fence**, or a **retaining wall** or looking to add **solar panels** or an **addition**. **Starting** a project **without** the required **permit** will result in **additional costs**.



The **Zoning Officer** is in the Township office **Monday** and **Thursday**. Call the **Zoning Officer**, (717) 921-8128, Ext. 107, to **schedule** an appointment. **Appointments** are **required** to assure the **Zoning Officer** is available and can allot adequate time to **answer** your questions and **explain** the process and requirements without interruption. **Walk-ins cannot always be accommodated**. **Permit applications** are available on the **Township website**, www.middlepaxtontwp.org "**Resources-Applications**" or from the **Zoning Officer**.

Please understand that the front desk staff cannot provide you with permit applications or answer your questions.



CODES ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

Enforcing Township ordinances and **addressing complaints** or **violations** is done by the Township's **Codes Official**. The Township **depends** on **residents** to report issues and concerns because we cannot be everywhere all the time.



Here are a few **examples of issues** that **residents** need to report.

- ♦ **Animals roaming at large** - "**Free range**" applies to your property only, not your neighbor's.
- ♦ **Loud or harsh noises or disturbances** - Letting your dog bark incessantly may not be an annoyance to you but it may be to your neighbor.
- ♦ **Not picking up after your pets** - Again if it is on your property, that is one thing but not your neighbor's.
- ♦ **Burning of recyclables** is a violation of **Township Ordinance #67**.

We ask that if you have a concern, you **start by talking** to the other party and try to resolve the matter amicably. If this step is unsuccessful, please complete the following steps:

1. **Submit a completed and signed complaint form** to the Township office. We must have your complaint **in writing**. It is important that **specific details** (address of concern, type of animal, breed of dog or cat, make/model of vehicle) be included in the complaint so that action taken can be specific. Without this information, the **Township** cannot move forward with enforcement. Complaint forms are available on our website, www.middlepaxtontwp.org or at the Township office. **Please do not call** the office and ask to register a complaint. **Anonymous or verbal complaints** will not be addressed.
2. The Codes Official will review all filed complaints and determine next steps. If a violation is identified, a letter is sent to the property owner detailing the concern, along with a copy of the applicable ordinance. **Names of complainants are not released**.
3. If the situation persists, a **Notice of Violation** may be issued and possible fines imposed. The Township **depends on you** letting us know that the situation has not been resolved.
4. If the issue remains unresolved, the **Township** may file a **civil complaint** with the Magisterial District Justice. If a civil complaint is filed, the complainant may be asked to testify.

If you file a complaint and the situation persists, please contact the Township office and let the Codes Officer know. Too often it is assumed the Township isn't taking action when we are not aware that the situation has not been resolved. Please contact the **Township** office if you have questions or concerns; (717) 921-8128, Ext. 108. **If your concern is urgent**, please ask to speak to the **Township Manager**.

DAUPHIN BOROUGH-MIDDLE PAXTON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Welcome to Fall of 2020!

This year has greeted us with a **pandemic**, of which we all have survived with all the recommendations the government has provided, and the fact that most of the community has followed these.

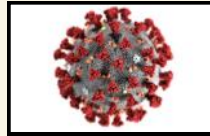
Are You
Prepared?

Resources from the Administration for Community Living (ACL):

ACL's [COVID-19/Emergency Preparedness Resource Guide for Kinship Families and Grandfamilies](#) provides information on, and links to, a variety of **resources** for families in which children are raised by their grandparents, other extended family members, or adults with whom they have a close family-like relationship.

The **CARES Act** included Economic Impact Payments of up to \$1,200 for adults and \$500 for children. To receive the payment for dependent children, some federal beneficiaries who did not file a tax return in 2018 or 2019 needed to provide information to the IRS. The IRS **is reopening the registration period** for people who were unable to provide their information in time to receive the payment.

From the Center for Disease Control (CDC):



How does the virus spread?

The virus that causes **COVID-19** is thought to spread mainly from **person to person**, mainly through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Spread is more likely when people are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).

Community spread means people have been infected with the virus in an area, including some who are not sure how or where they became infected. Each health department determines community spread differently based on local conditions. **For information on community spread** in your area, please visit your health department's website.

Hopefully, this **fall/winter and the year 2021** will bring us better knowledge and a vaccine to help fight this virus. Bottom line is we must protect ourselves and our families. **So please attempt to follow the recommendations.**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wear-cloth-face-coverings.html>

Weather for this past year **has been hot**. With the lack of rain over the year, ground vegetation has dried. If major amounts of rainfall and snow happen, there is a particularly good possibility of flash flooding of our streams. **Do you have a plan for floods?** Do you have a stock of **water, canned goods, pet food**, and if warned of possible flooding, do you have enough of your **medications** to last beyond the waters? These are also questions to answer for possible snow events.

WHAT IS YOUR PLAN???



PEMA and **FEMA** have many facts and aides to assist you. Reach out to their websites for more information: www.pema.pa.gov or fema.gov.

Remember to check on your neighbors and the elderly.

Assist them if you can.

Bob Rusbatch, Emergency Management Coordinator

RIGHT IN OUR BACKYARD



2020 has been a year like no other. The **COVID-19 Pandemic** has challenged everyone to embrace **major lifestyle changes** while continuing to try to complete day-to-day responsibilities. From the smallest to the largest, **all tasks have become hard** and we have been pushed to the brink at times. Perhaps discovering or continuing to enjoy some of **life's simple pleasures** in our community can help ease these burdens. **Middle Paxton Township** is home to several parks for outdoor enjoyment and escape. Dogs are welcome to accompany you to these parks but **please remember** they must be **leashed** and you are **responsible for picking up** after them.

The **Appalachian Trail**, part of the **National Park Service**, provides some challenging hiking opportunities and spectacular views. Access to the trail is located at the top of Peters Mountain, right off Rte. 225.

Boyd's Big Tree Conservancy, located in Fishing Creek Valley, is a 1,025-acre Conservation Area. It is one of the **newest Pennsylvania state parks**, boasting a variety of levels of hiking trails. **No horseback riding or biking is permitted**. About **800 acres** of the conservancy are **open to hunting and trapping**.

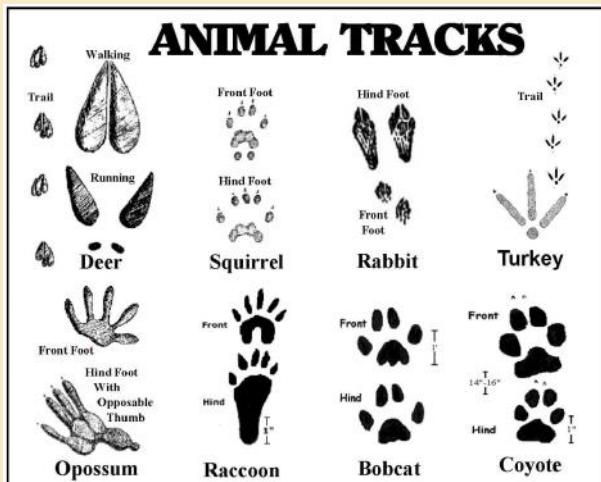
Detweiler Park, located off Peters Mountain Road, is the **largest** of eight parks owned and managed by the **Dauphin County Parks & Recreation Department**. Visitors are encouraged to explore more than **7 miles of trails** winding through varied habitats.

Hagy Park, 1120 Mountain Road, is a **Township maintained park of approximately 28 acres**, offering a variety of walking trails for all ages and abilities. The **paved walking trail is ADA accessible**.



Dauphin-Middle Paxton Community Park, located along Claster Boulevard, is owned and managed by the **Dauphin-Middle Paxton Joint Park Authority**. It offers a gravel walking track and natural walking trails.

Ibberson Park, located in Stony Creek offers another option for outdoor recreation. **No horseback riding or biking is permitted**. This area is **open to hunting and trapping**.



Given the trying times of the last several months, getting outdoors, exercising and seeing and learning about Mother Nature is a benefit we can all enjoy at no expense.

Go and enjoy!

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Township Ordinance #53 states that **ALL** township residents **MUST** have an account established with **Waste Management**, **regardless of service arrangement**; quarterly billed or tag-a-bag. A recent audit, completed by **Waste Management** was an effort by **Waste Management** to identify residents not adhering to the Ordinance. There are exceptions to this requirement; however, **approval** is needed by both the **Township** and **Waste Management**.



Standard Service (quarterly billed) includes two (2) large, 30-33 gallon trash bags, unlimited recycling and one bulk item weekly.

Tag-a-bag customers must affix a tag onto each bag placed out for pick up. Tags are available for purchase at the Township office for **\$5.30** each.

Tag-a-bag customers also have unlimited weekly recycling but special arrangements must be made with **Waste Management** for any bulk items.

Electronics of any kind will not be taken by Waste Management.

Be mindful that **burning of recyclables** is a **violation** of **Township Ordinance #67**. Recycle bins are available for purchase at the **Township** office. There are two sizes available; **18 gallon** rectangular container and **33 gallon** can. Both receptacles cost **\$18**. Residents who build a new home in the Township receive a free recycle container; just stop by the Township office. For the most up-to-date list of acceptable recyclables, go to **Waste Management's** website: <https://www.wm.com/us/en/recycle-right/recycling-101>.



Dauphin County Recycle Center is also an option for **large items, electronics** and **appliances** that contain **Freon**. For additional information and fees, go to their website: https://www.dauphincounty.org/government/departments/solid_waste_management_and_recycling/dauphin_county_recycling_center.php.

DAUPHIN COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM

Household hazardous wastes (HHW) are those wastes produced in our households that are hazardous in nature, but are not regulated as hazardous waste under federal and state laws. Each person in Pennsylvania produces an average of four pounds of HHW each year for the total of about 25,000-tons per year statewide.

Dauphin County's curbside Household Hazardous Waste Program is available to each household for **FREE**, one time per year. The program is simple, just do the following:

- Call **1-800-449-7587** to schedule your curbside collection.
- In 1-2 weeks you will receive a HHW Kit in the mail. The kit is used for the collection of your HHW.
- Sit you HHW Kit at your curb on the scheduled collection date.



DAUPHIN-MIDDLE PAXTON FIRE COMPANY #1, INC.

We would like to **thank you** for the **donations** from our yearly newsletter. You have been most generous in these trying times. We have all come together to assist each other throughout the last 9 months of this year. It has been trying for all of us, both mentally and physically. **The members of the fire company are here for you!**

Over the last few months, you may have noticed **our rescue** sitting out front with a **for sale** sign. Do not be discouraged, we still have the capabilities we need to perform our service. We have made modifications to our engine/pumper to carry the equipment necessary, that was on the rescue, to do this service. This was done at a minimum cost to the company. We are looking into **replacing** the rescue in the future.

Also, you may have noticed our utility sitting in front of our officer's homes. We initiated a **Duty Officer** program. The **Duty Officer** is to respond directly to the scene, initiate lifesaving protocols or do size-up of the scene and direct incoming apparatus.

We have applied for several **grants** in the last month. The first is the **SAFER Grant**, which is a joint grant through **CAPCOG**. We are one of 29 companies that have joined for this funding. It will provide us with funding for new fire fighters. Covering the cost of fire fighting gear (bunker coats and pants, helmet, boots, and gloves), their training, and uniforms. The other grant comes from the **State Fire Commissioners Office**. If granted, it will help cover our financial loss (lack of ability to do fundraising) because of the pandemic.

We are always looking for **new members**. We accept **membership** for **firefighting** (active membership), or for those interested in **helping** with our **fundraising** events (**contributing** membership). As a fire fighter we **will train** you **in-house** and send you to **HACC** or any other facility that will certify you as a fire fighter. Most of these facilities hold their classes weekday evenings and weekends. **Contributing members** assist us with **fundraising**, such as our Chicken BBQ's and flower sales in the spring. These members **free up** the **fire fighters** if there is an incident during the fundraiser.

Membership applications can be picked up at the fire station, located beside the Township office. We have the **RED** doors.

EVENTS for 2020



Chicken BBQ and Farm Show Milkshakes September 26th starting at 10am. This will again be a drive through pick up. It will end when the last chicken dinner is sold.

Boot Drive Date to be determined in October. We will be in the areas of the park and ride, the Home Association (old fire house), and near our station on Elizabeth Avenue.



Chicken Corn Soup Sale – possibly in October. Date to be determined.

Feel free to contact myself or any other officer of the fire company with questions or if you need assistance.

Bob Rusbatch, Fire Chief



LIGHT NIGHT

FOR FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS

September 27 – October 4, 2020

Landmarks and fire departments across the country will glow in respect of fallen firefighters and their families. The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation invites you to light your building or firehouse in red to honor America's fallen heroes during America's Tribute to Fallen Firefighters.

#nffflightthenight2020



SHINE YOUR LIGHT

Visit www.firehero.org/light-the-night to Join Us



Borough of Dauphin

Council Meetings are held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of every month at 7:00 PM in the Borough Building. The Public is invited to attend.

Borough of Dauphin

200 Church Street
P.O. Box 487
Dauphin, PA 17018

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Phone: (717) 921-2633

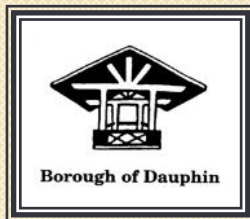
Fax: (717) 921-8106

Email

dauphinboro@comcast.net

Website

www.dauphinborough.org



Borough Council

Michael McKenna - Mayor

David Grbich - President

Brian Cuddy - Vice President

Donald Harner - Council Pro-tem

George Bechtel - Councilman

Kevin Musselman - Councilman

Jennifer Peck - Councilwoman

Jeffrey Thrush - Councilman

Linda Durgin - Administrator/Secretary

Cindy Long - Treasurer

Virginia Wynn - Tax Collector



JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBER

Dauphin Borough is pleased to introduce our first **Junior Councilperson, Jocelyn Long**. Jocelyn will serve a two year term while she attends college at HACC. Jocelyn has hit the ground running with two projects; **Tree City USA** and the **Trex plastic recycling** program. For her first project, Jocelyn will be assembling a board of residents to inform the **Tree City USA** program. If any **resident** would like to **volunteer** or help with this project, **please reach out!** Secondly, have you noticed the new park under construction in the borough? Jocelyn will be **collecting** and **managing** plastic for the **Trex** program recycling program to help with adding park benches at the new park. **Collection boxes** will be at the Borough building, so stop and drop water bottles, and other assorted plastics for collection. More information can be found at the Borough office or by reaching out to Jocelyn.

Please view our website for information on Agenda and Minutes of the Dauphin Borough Council.

Effective with the October 2020 sewer/trash billing, it was necessary to increase the trash billing from \$15.00 to \$18.00. Your total sewer/trash bill will be \$78.00 monthly.



Community Bulletin Board

DAUPHIN AREA SENIOR TRANSIT

Dauphin Area Senior Transit (D.A.S.T) provides rides to various destinations for residents of **Dauphin Borough** and **Middle Paxton Township** who are 55 or older. **Priority** is given to **medical** and **therapy** appointments; trips to the West Shore are restricted to medical appointments only. All riders must be able to **ambulate** independently. This is a fee-free service but donations are greatly appreciated. Rides must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance by calling the **Township** office (717) 921-8128; appointments must fall between the hours of **8:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Tuesday thru Friday.**



Van drivers are **dedicated volunteers** who give many hours of their time to help others in our community. **D.A.S.T.** is in great **need** of new **volunteers**. Contact **Rue Megonnell** (717-921-2727) to **register** for **D.A.S.T.** or to **volunteer** to be a driver. You are also welcome to attend a monthly meeting which are held the last Monday of the month at 9:30 AM at the Township Office.

Community LifeTeam Ambulance

Community LifeTeam provides **ambulance service** to residents of Dauphin Borough and Middle Paxton Township. They also provide **non-emergency** transportation as well as interfacility



transportation. Their paratransit division provides wheelchair van transportation for patient's being discharged from the hospital to home and from home to scheduled doctor's appointments. **2020 membership costs**, additional service **information** and an **enrollment application** can be found at:

<https://www.pinnaclehealth.org/our-services/emergency-urgent-and-walk-in-care/emergency-medical-services-ems/pinnaclehealth-community-life-team-membership-drive> .



MEALS ON WHEELS

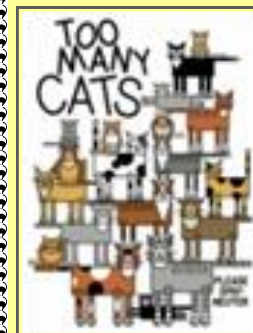
Meals on Wheels of the Dauphin-Middle Paxton community is coordinated by **Sonya Boden**. Anyone with questions about **Meals on Wheels** or to **start, stop** or **postpone** meals is asked to contact **Sonya** at (717) 991-5815 or (717) 921-8890. Please leave your **name, message** and **contact number** and your call will be returned as soon as possible.



Spay and Neuter

Prevent suffering and homelessness, whole litters at a time.

Transportation can be provided from the Township to the **spay clinic** and back. **Kittens** over 12 weeks of age can be fixed, **pregnant cats** can be fixed, **nursing cats** can be fixed, and **tomcats** with injuries can be fixed. Cats will receive **vaccinations** including rabies. We can provide **traps** for



capturing wild and shy cats. **Please call Linda Corson and leave a message!**
(717)
921-2117
or (717)
580-1879

Community Bulletin Board

Upcoming events

Clarks Valley Zion E.C. Church

210 McKelvey Road, Dauphin

October 31, 2020

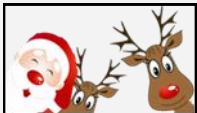
1-4pm

Clark's Valley Zion will be having a Drive-Through Trick-or-Treat alternative. Family bags will be distributed!



Fishing Creek Valley Community Association

1361 Fishing Creek Valley Road, Harrisburg



♦ Saturday, December 5, 2020 - First ever Santa's "Christmas from the Car" Drive-thru. The event will take place at Trinity E. C. Church of Fishing Creek Valley, 1629 Fishing Creek Valley Road. All children 12 and under will receive a gift. You must register by November 29th to participate. Call Natalie Bailor @ (717) 599-5698 or email @ fcvca1@aol.com. Snow date will be Saturday, December 12, 2020.

- ♦ Saturday, March 27, 2021 TENTATIVE!!! - Egg Hunt and Chicken Corn Soup Sale - This event will start promptly at 11:00 AM at the Fishing Creek Community Center and is dependent on the state of the pandemic. Please follow the Township website for updates. Please bring your own containers for the soup.



2020 ELECTION DATES

General Election

Tuesday, November 3, 2020



Middle Paxton Township Election Locations

- * **1st Precinct** — Township Municipal Building, 10 Elizabeth Avenue, Dauphin
- * **2nd Precinct** — Fishing Creek Community Center, 1361 Fishing Creek Valley Road, Harrisburg
- * **3rd Precinct** — Hope United Presbyterian Church, 931 Red Hill Road, Dauphin



The Township Office is closed the following days throughout the year. Please make note of these dates.

- * New Years Day
- * Good Friday
- * Primary Election
- * Memorial Day
- * Independence Day
- * Labor Day
- * General Election
- * Veterans Day
- * Thanksgiving Day
- * Thanksgiving Friday
- * Christmas



Saturday, October 31, 2020 is designated Trick or Treat night in the Township. The decision whether to participate will be left to the discretion of each household.

All safety protocols issued by the Governor must be followed.

DAUPHIN-MIDDLE PAXTON LIONS CLUB



DID YOU KNOW ...

... that you don't have to live in **Middle Paxton Township** or **Dauphin** to be a member of the **Dauphin-Middle Paxton Lions Club**?

No matter where you live, you're welcome to join.

The local club is more than **60 years old**. The **Lions' events** so far this year have been **cancelled** due to the pandemic, but they usually **sponsor** local **baseball teams** and the community's **annual Halloween parade**, children's **Christmas Party**, **Easter Egg hunt** and **July carnival**. It **co-sponsors** a **Learn to Swim** program and **Boy Scouts' Eagle Scout** projects. The **Lions** also award **two annual college scholarships** and provide a **scholarship** for the **Beacon Lodge Camp**, a summer camp for blind students.

If you're **interested** in **joining**, contact any **Lions** member. To name a few, the **officers** are: **Ron Hull**, **president**; **Pat Booten**, **first vice president**; **Skip Wachter**, **second vice president**; **Larry Potteiger**, **secretary**; and **Greg College**, **treasurer**; **Georgie Neufer**, **tail twister**; **Mark Freese**, **lion tamer**; and **Jack Rudy**, **Mike Neufer**, **George Coleman** and **Clarence Kuntz** as the board of directors.

THE DIFFICULT YEAR



The **COVID-19 pandemic** has hit the **Dauphin-Middle Paxton Lions** hard, as it has all organizations. In the interest of our community's health and safety, the spring nut sale, Easter Egg hunt and summer carnival were cancelled. The **Lions' fall nut sale and Halloween parade** have also been **cancelled**. No decision has been made about the **Christmas party**. For updates, watch the **Lions' website** at www.govserv.org and their Facebook page, as well as the websites and Facebooks pages of **Dauphin Borough** and **Middle Paxton Township**.

The Dauphin-Middle Paxton Historical Society

Due to the Pandemic, all meetings have been postponed until further notice. Please check our website for updates (see website below).

Veteran's Memorial Brick Orders

Veteran's Memorial Bricks are available for purchase in three sizes:
8"x4" - 3 lines - \$50; 8"x8" - 6 lines - \$500; 12"x12" - 8 lines - \$1000

The order form can be downloaded from the **Historical Society Website** under the "more" tab then choose "**Veteran's Memorial**". You can also email the society at dmphist@verizon.net. If you have never been to the square in Dauphin to see the memorial, please take the time and pay a visit!



Workshop Hours: The 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month – 10AM-12Noon

At this time, research will be by appointment only. Please email the society (email below) to set up an appointment.

Membership - Individual or gift memberships are **\$15.00** and couple memberships are **\$25.00**. Checks can be made **payable to: Dauphin-Middle Paxton Historical Society, P.O. Box 532, Dauphin, PA 17018**.

To contact the society please email to dmphist@verizon.net. Also visit our website <http://www.dauphin-middlepaxtonhs.weebly.com> or our Facebook as [Dauphin-Middle Paxton Historical Society!](#)

We wish to thank the community for your donations...from the smallest to the largest, the oldest to the most recent...all of the donations are very much appreciated...thank you!!



Girls Just Wanna Have FUN...if
YOU are looking for FUN, the Girl Scouts are looking for **YOU!**

Do a project to make a difference in your community

Expand your circle of friends

Develop your leadership skills

Gain confidence in yourself

Have FUN

It's now time to register for the **2020-2021 Girl Scout Year**. Girl Scout Troop are now forming in the Dauphin and Middle Paxton Area. Come on out and join in the **FUN, FRIENDS AND MEMORY MAKING GOOD TIMES**. Kindergarten thru 12th grade opportunities are available for you. Contact **Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pa** at www.gshpa.org or **Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania** at **717-233-1656 or 800-692-7816**

Looking for adventure? Want to learn new skills and responsibility while having fun?
Then the Boy Scouts want you!

If you're between the **ages of 11 and 17**, come and join our local **Boy Scout Troop 233** for fun-filled outdoor activities, sports, academics, camping, hiking and so much more!

"Scouts learn the best part of success is the journey!"

As everyone is aware, the **COVID-19 pandemic** has truly put a **damper** on the **scouting adventures** we had planned with a great time at **Camp Shenandoah** in the beautiful **Shenandoah Mountains** in Virginia. But that's ok as we are **planning on attending** in the **summer of 2021**.

Due to the current pandemic, we do plan on **going on some other campouts**, **helping our community parks, churches**, and also assisting our current **three scouts reach Eagle rank**. One of the boys is **reopening a walking trail** in the **Dauphin Middle Paxton Park**. Another is **making twin beds** and all accessories for children who do not have a bed. The third will be **making an honor garden** for our **community leaders** at the **Dauphin/Middle Paxton Township Fire Dept.** along with replacing the benches they currently have with commercial grade benches and picnic benches.

The boys will be able to pursue their own **individual interests** as well as **troop activities** such as kayaking, learning life-saving skills, environmental science; winter camp and lots, lots more! Our troop also is looking forward to our **fundraising activities** such as the **Chicken BBQ, Spaghetti Dinner**, and **sub sales**. Activities like this helps the scouts go on these awesome adventures.

Scout meetings are held **Wednesday evenings** at **Hope Church**, 931 Red Hill Road, Dauphin from **September through June** from **6:30 to 8:00**. We're are looking for **parent volunteers** to help out or become part of our troop's committee! If you would like to **join** our troop, need **more information** or are in need of **community service** to be provided by our scouts, please send an email to DauphinTroop233@gmail.com or visit our Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100009372471852>.

Dauphin Middle Paxton Joint Park Authority

It has been an **atypical summer** for sports for sure, but the **Dauphin Baseball and Softball Associations** have made the most of it. Our ball fields had plenty of use by kids very much in need of some time out of the house. **Thank you** once again to all of the **volunteers** who have helped to maintain the fields. A **very special thanks** to the **Boy Scouts** and **Girl Scout Troop #11958**. The **Boy Scouts spread** some much needed **mulch** in the playgrounds and dugouts. The **Girl Scouts painted** an **amazing mural** on the front of the **pool building**. If you haven't been to the pool lately, please stop by and take a look. **These girls are very talented artists!**



Much of the work done to maintain the **Dauphin Middle Paxton Community Park** is performed by **volunteers**, and **supplies** and **materials** are often **donated** by **local businesses**. We would be unable to keep it in the beautiful state that you see without this generosity. Are you in **need of service hours** for a school or religious organization? **We need you!** Most jobs are one-time or short term, and may include things like mulch spreading, painting, spring cleanup and trash can maintenance. If you are interested in volunteering your time or making a financial contribution to defray the cost of park projects, please contact **Nichole O'Gorman** at **(717) 921-2212** or nogorman@staleyogormanlaw.com. Monetary **donations** can be **mailed** to us at P.O. Box 521, Dauphin. **Your help is greatly appreciated.**

As you make plans for picnics, parties, family reunions and other gatherings, consider **renting** one of the **park's pavilions**. **Rental fees** are just **\$50** for the **large pavilion** and **\$25** for the **small pavilion**. Your **rental includes** use of the park **ball fields**, a handicapped accessible **playground**, and **basketball and volleyball courts**. If **interested in reserving a date**, please contact **Tim Wenrich** at **(717) 648-7490**. As a reminder, the **pavilions are available by advance reservation only**. Now that social distancing is our new norm, pavilion availability fills up fast.

Dauphin Middle Paxton Joint Park Authority Board meetings are **open to the public**. **All are welcome to attend**. Meetings occur on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m., January through October. April through September, meetings are held at the large pavilion at the park. All other meetings are held at the Dauphin Borough building.

PLEASE BE A RESPECTFUL AND RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER!

CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR PET!



The **parks** in **Dauphin Borough** and **Middle Paxton Township** are for **all** to use and enjoy. **Please extend proper pet etiquette and clean up after your pets!** The **Township** has an Ordinance in place that addresses this issue. **If you are caught not cleaning up after your pet, you could be subject to a fine.**

News from the Clarks Creek Watershed Preservation Association

The year **2020** so far has been a challenging one for the **Clarks Creek Watershed Preservation Association** because of the **COVID-19 Pandemic**. Due to limits on assemblies and activities, we were unable to have a **Creek Walk or Nature Walk** in our watershed, as we had planned.

Our **May 2020 Adopt-a-Highway** trash pickup session was **postponed; it is rescheduled for Saturday, September 26, 2020**. We also hope you can join us in **May, 2021!**

We held the **2020 Annual Meeting** of the Association: on **Tuesday, September 15, 2020**. This was our first **"Annual Meeting via Zoom"** with President Paula Zankel as Moderator. We hope that you were able to join us on video! At our Annual Meeting, a slate for new and returning **Board Members** was presented, **nominating Mike Blum, Ryan Evans, Arlene Taylor and Brett Zankel** for **2 year terms** on the **CCWPA Board** (through September, 2023), **joining** current **Board Members Sherry McLain, John Mimmall and Paula Zankel**, whose terms run through September, 2022. Officers and Committee Assignments for the 2021-2022 year are chosen by the Board at its first meeting after each Annual Meeting.

Won't You Join Us?

A famous public servant was once renowned for this phrase: **DO IT NOW!** If you haven't officially joined the **CCWPA**, or you haven't **renewed your membership** this year, take that hint: **DO IT NOW!**

Membership in CCWPA is very affordable:

- **Individual Membership: \$15 a year.**
- **Individual Life Membership: \$100.**
- **Business Membership: \$100 a year**
- **Non-Profit Entity Membership: \$25 a year.**
- **Non-Profit Entity Life Membership: \$150.**

You can **download** the **Membership Form** from our web site or directly from this link: <http://ccwpa.org/membershipform.pdf>. You will be reminded to renew your dues on the anniversary of your payment.



The **CCWPA** relies on membership dues to fund most of our operations. We are a **100% volunteer organization**, and, as our Mission Statement testifies, we are **dedicated to preserving, protecting and enhancing the environmental integrity of Clarks Creek**, and to advocate the conservation and sustainability of its natural resources while promoting restoration and safety within the watershed. Isn't this the kind of organization **YOU** ought to join?

Please visit our web site — <http://ccwpa.org> — or our Facebook page — <https://www.facebook.com/CCWPA/> — for more information, our By-Laws and Annual Meeting Minutes, helpful links to other **Watershed Preservation Associations**, information about **DeHart Dam** and the Emergency Plans, updates and links to the **Detweiler Park Master Plan** development, photos of **CCWPA** activities, and much more.

State Senator John DiSanto

15th Senatorial District

DiSanto Occupational Licensure Reforms Become Law

Legislation I introduced to extend second chances for rehabilitated citizens seeking state-issued job licenses was signed into law by the Governor as Act 53 of 2020 in July.

My legislation overhauls Pennsylvania's outdated licensing laws that deny qualified residents the right to work because of old or irrelevant criminal records. The new law requires the Department of State's 29 licensing boards that regulate more than 255 types of licenses to complete individualized reviews to determine if an applicant's criminal conviction is a disqualification for licensure.

Licenses shall not be automatically denied for those with certain convictions and may only be withheld for crimes directly related to the profession, or if an applicant's convictions pose a substantial risk to health and safety. Applicants will be able to request preliminary decisions to determine if their records would make them ineligible for a license before investing time and money for expensive training.

With government licensing boards acting as the gatekeeper to more than 1 in 5 jobs and as our economy rebounds from this pandemic, it is paramount we extend the recovery to all Pennsylvanians—including those turning their lives around upon release from the criminal justice system. My legislation provides fairness and transparency in licensing decisions, eliminates a criminal record's lifelong barriers to employment and supports our Commonwealth's skilled workforce needs.

Pennsylvania Operating on Partial-Year Budget

The state is currently operating under a \$25.8 billion interim budget, adopted in June, that funds all state agencies and departments until at least December. Although most agencies and departments were funded for five months, several line items were funded for the full year, including debt service and pension obligations, food support programs, and all levels of education from pre-kindergarten through college. That means our local schools, including the Central Dauphin School District, will receive the same amount of state funding in 2020-2021 as they did in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Outside of the short-term budget, we also approved COVID-19 relief bills to distribute a portion of Pennsylvania's federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding for critical needs created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding has been provided for nursing homes and other long-term living facilities, small businesses, first responders, early childhood education, services for individuals with an intellectual disability or autism, school districts, higher education, child care services, mortgage and rent assistance for affected workers, county programs and services, and others.

Expectations continue for a multi-billion dollar tax revenue shortfall this year as Governor Wolf implemented some of the most restrictive economic shutdown measures in the country, resulting in many business closures, some permanent, and one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation. I will continue to monitor the state's economic health as we look to enact a full-year budget and advocate for a responsible spending plan that does not further burden already overtaxed Pennsylvanians.

**For assistance with any state-related matters, contact my office at 717-787-6801 or
SenatorDiSanto.com**





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On-Lot Sewage Maintenance Program Update



At their July 6, 2020 meeting, the **Board of Supervisors** decided to **delay** advertising the proposed ordinance ***Adding an On-Lot Sewage Maintenance Program Governing Municipal Management of On-Lot Sewage Disposal Facilities*** because of COVID-19 and the restrictions mandated by Governor Wolf.

It was the consensus of the Board to delay advertising **until such time** as the Township will be able to accommodate the number of residents anticipated will attend the required public hearing.



The Middle Paxton Digest is published periodically for the residents of Middle Paxton Township and Dauphin Borough. Residents wishing to submit newsworthy items, including Township history, current or historical photos, or upcoming events, are urged to do so by providing articles and details via email, regular mail or by submitting to the Township Office, 10 Elizabeth Avenue. Mailing address is P.O. Box 277, Dauphin PA 17018. The Township reserves the right to edit materials submitted to meet space requirements.

For additional details, please call the Township Manager at (717) 921-8128, or email your questions to middlepaxtontwp@comcast.net.

The Township's website address is www.middlepaxtontwp.org.