



Welcome to AMITY TOWNSHIP

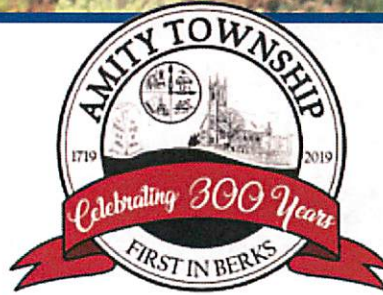
~ Berks County, PA ~



In This Issue:

Waste Water Treatment Plant	3
Sanitary Sewage System Projects.....	3
Summer Playground	4
Parks & Recreation	5
Camp Counselors Wanted.....	5
Street Sweeper	6
Bridge Closures.....	6
Basket Bingo Fundraiser.....	6
Online Payment Xpress	7
When Rain Drains.....	7
Recycling	8
Radon Detection.....	8
Little Red Mailbox of HOPE.....	9
Mavrik for Mayor	10
Message from the Police Chief.....	11
Donation to Safe Berks	12
Be Prepared for an Emergency	12
Beyond the Call of Duty.....	13
National Night Out	13
Amity Tax Collector.....	14
Monocacy Hill 2018 Spring Activities.....	14
Community Shred Event.....	14
Get Ready to Go Fishing	14

Township Hours
Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm



Board of Supervisors
Kim McGrath, Chair
David Hackett, Vice-Chair
Terry Jones • Paul Weller
Kevin Keifrider
Township Manager
Troy S. Binghaman

Happy Birthday, Amity Township!

Mark your calendars! Amity Township will celebrate its 300th Birthday in 2019! The Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution in October 2017 appointing a committee and allocating funds to begin planning events for this momentous celebration. Your 300th Anniversary Committee Members are: Chairperson, Kevin Keifrider, Terry Jones, Troy Binghaman, Brian Boland, Denise Harner, Karen LeBlanc, Victor Frederick, John McGrath and Thomas Flatley.

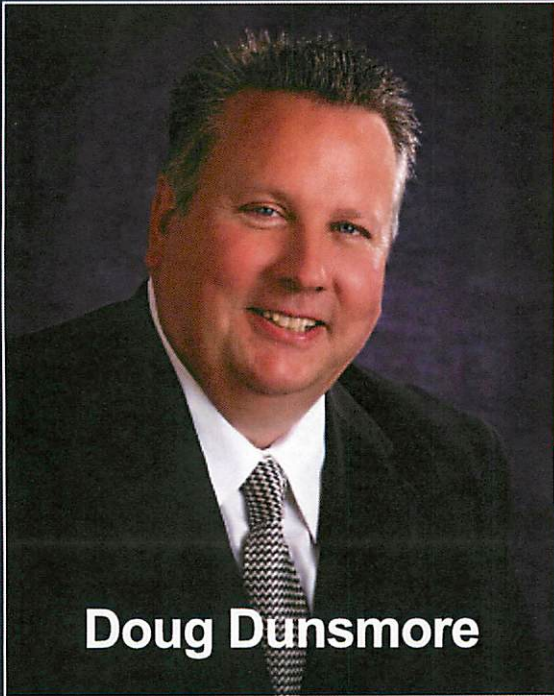
This year-long celebration will begin with Winterfest on December 31st with a family-oriented New Year's Eve celebration at Amity Community Park. Festivities will begin at 3:00pm and include a concert by Stephanie Grace, kid's rides, food truck and local vendors and will end with a fireworks display at 7:00pm. Join your committee members and Township Officials for some family fun, food trucks and fireworks. The raindate for this event will be January 1st, same times. Other major events are being planned throughout 2019.

Celebrating a 300th Birthday takes tons of planning and support. What can you do to help? Visit the Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/Amity300th/> to find out more about levels of individual contributions and business sponsorships and upcoming events. Information will also be updated on the Township's Facebook Page and website.

*Amity Township is a GREAT community.
Help us celebrate and be a part of history!*

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Saturday and Sunday:
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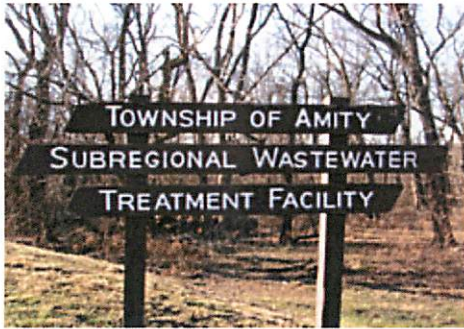
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Waste Water Treatment Plant



Amity Township has seven employees at the Waste Water Treatment Plant Facility that are responsible for the maintenance of the 2.2MGD (Million Gallon Daily) treatment plant, nine pump stations, 70 plus miles of collection system along with a 24/7 Emergency alarm call-out for plant and pump stations. The Township purchased a flush/vactor truck and camera truck which are used for maintaining the collection system by cleaning and televising lines, looking for broken pipes, blockages and tree roots. After identifying the problem areas, the employees make repairs using grout seal, pipe replacement or root cutting.

It's not cheap to keep the flow moving! In March of 2016, the Township purchased a new crane truck at a purchase price of \$72,441.00. This specialized piece of equipment is used to assist the collection system crew with maintaining the pump stations by lifting debris baskets for weekly cleaning and pulling pumps for inspections and service.



During winter months, the Waste Water staff assists the Road Department with plowing and cindering of snow covered roads throughout the Township to ensure our roads are safe.

Meet your staff at the Waste Water Treatment Plant: David Wheeler, Plant Superintendent; Thomas Orrs, Plant Operator; Randy Maguire, Collection System Operator; Jeffrey Levan, Assistant Plant Operator; Phillip Anstey, William Lingenfelter and James Bingaman, Maintenance Department. Each of the Waste Water staff is Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) certified and have a combined 700 plus

hours of certified Waste Water courses. Each licensed operator must take at least 30 hours of continued education during each certificate cycle to maintain their DEP Operator's Certification. The Waste Water staff can be reached Monday through Friday from 7AM until 3:30PM by calling 610-385-3400.

Sanitary Sewer System Projects

A number of Capital Projects relative to the sewer system are underway. For several years, obtaining Bog Turtle clearance and awaiting PADEP permits, the Township has awarded a contract to Almeida & Hudak to install the Leaf Creek Interceptor. This new sewer line will run from Aviemore Lane, behind the homes on Verdure Lane, through the Schmale Farm and tie into an existing manhole below Highmeadows Drive. The Leaf Creek Interceptor will redirect some of the 662 capacity which has on occasion become problematic, particularly during heavy rain events. As part of this project, Pump Station #6 (located behind Verdure Lane) will be decommissioned.

Another project going to construction is the upgrades to Pumping Stations 2 & 4. This work entails increasing a force main to carry additional flows, preventing existing line surcharging, as well as the addition of a third pump in one of the pump stations. The Township has additional plans to implement some new processes at the plant to maximize efficiency.

All of these initiatives come with a price tag; and, these are the reasons for the recent back-to-back sewer rate increases. Effective January 1, 2018 sewer bills increased from \$100.00/quarter to \$110.00/quarter. Based on administrative staff analysis, Amity's rates are relatively low when compared to surrounding municipalities. For sewer billing questions call 610-689-6000, ext. 225.

YOUR COMMUNITY WEBSITE!
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Amity Community Education Center
AmityCEC@gmail.com • 610-639-1439

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SUMMER PLAYGROUND

Are your children looking for something fun to do this summer? Do you need affordable childcare while your children are not in school? This summer, Amity Township Parks and Recreation will be having a summer playground program for ages 5-12! The program will be held at Amity Community Park and run for 8 weeks, starting June 18th and continuing through August 10th. This program offers fun outdoor activities for your children from 9am-2pm Monday through Friday! Some of the activities we will be offering this summer include:

- Daily crafts
- Tie-dying
- Water games
- Fine motor skills and agility activities
- Kickball
- Free time on the playground
- Four Square
- Organized sports games for older children

This day camp gives your child(ren) the opportunity to engage with others outside, under the supervision of our carefully selected counselors. We will be offering a variety of games for the children each day. Each day will have a different theme, with a themed craft! This camp is a great opportunity for your young ones to meet other children their age and participate in games and activities that are developmentally appropriate to their growth! All groups we create and activities we carry out are developmentally appropriate to the children who participate.

The cost of the program will be \$50 per week for the first child and \$45 for each additional child for residents, non-resident fees will be \$65 per week and \$60 respectively. Registration forms will be available at the Amity Township building and on the Amity Township website! The deadline for registration will be April 13th. If you want to get your children out and running around this summer, join us for a summer of fun in the sun!



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Parks and Recreation

Many Townships may have a park or two for recreation. Amity Township is lucky to have five recreational areas! Here's a little bit of what's happening at YOUR parks:

Lake Drive Park is Amity Township's oldest park. In 2016, the Township was awarded \$30,000.00 through a DCED grant which was used this past year to remove and replace the pavilion and pave the parking lot to create ADA compliant parking spaces. Thanks to Eagle Scout projects, eight picnic tables were refurbished, painted and mounted at the new pavilion, and the bathroom doors were painted. Another Eagle Scout will be restoring and building new benches as well as restoring park signs in 2018.

Lake Drive Park is in need of additional repairs to the tennis courts, basketball court and skate park. The Board of Supervisors have set aside Capital Funds for some of those repairs. With recent vandalism, the Board approved installation of hi-definition cameras at the park. The new cameras have night vision and are directly connected to the Police Department. They can be viewed in real-time and may aid in capturing those responsible for damages. Last year, the Township received \$1,500.00 for winning second place in the Commitment to Community contest for Dallas Data Systems Inc. The winnings from that contest were used toward the purchase of the new camera system at Lake Drive Park.

Monocacy Hill Recreation Area offers over 410 acres of natural forest for hiking, biking, and horseback riding. Monocacy Hill Conservation Association hosts organized hikes and an open house each year. The Hill is also the only Township property where hunting is permitted. When hunters and hikers enjoy the same area, it can be a little precarious. The Hill is also the only park in the Township where dogs are permitted. Please remember, dogs must be leashed and under the owner's control at all times. An Eagle Scout project in 2017 added an additional kiosk where hunting season information and warnings can be posted. Another Eagle Scout project has been approved by the Board for 2018 to build a 6-foot table and a 4-foot bench of durable plastic lumber.

Amity Community Park is our newest park, hosting many local sporting events (baseball, softball, field hockey, football and tennis). The park is heavily used and available for all to enjoy. With decreased development over the past few years, park revenues have declined. Therefore, the Board of Supervisors implemented a Recreation Tax of .15 mills (\$15/per \$100,000 of assessed value) to pay the original debt from the construction of the park.

Special thanks go out to our local Eagle Scouts who graciously volunteer their time and delegation skills to keep Amity Township a great place for recreation!



Chairperson Kim McGrath accepted the check from the Commitment to Community Contest. Amity Township entered the contest to make improvements at Lake Drive Park.

Thank you to all who voted and a special thank you to Dallas Data for making this possible!

Summer Camp Counselor Help Wanted



Help us make this a successful first year! Amity Township is seeking part-time seasonal staff for the Amity Parks and Recreation Summer Program. The ideal candidate would be a minimum of 16 years of age or older. Preferably, we are looking for those with an education/child development background or prior experience working with children between the ages of 5-12. Responsibilities would include: (1) creating games and activities to play with small groups and all children who attend the day camp; and, (2) overseeing the overall safety and growth of children 5-12 years of age. Activities for this program include organized games (sports, and other group games), with and without equipment, snack-time and crafts. We are looking for employees with creativity and a drive to ensure all children are having a good time in a safe environment. Because candidates will be working with children, ChildLine and criminal history clearances, as well as a drug test, will be required for these positions.

This job is a great opportunity to gain work experience while still having fun! The tentative start date of this program will be Monday, June 18, 2018 and will run through August 10th. This 8-week program will provide candidates with working experience with children in a fun setting! Applications can be picked up at the Amity Township building and on the Amity Township website at www.amitytownship.com. The deadline for accepting applications will be April 13, 2018.

Street Sweeping Made More Convenient!

The Public Works Department is looking forward to a busy spring with the addition of a street sweeper purchased from Exeter Township. The purchase of the street sweeper allows scheduling of the Township employees to sweep streets whenever it's most convenient and needed, rather than paying a contractor to do all streets at the same time. In past years, when a contractor was utilized, the entire road crew was involved in street sweeping. The new street sweeper will make the process more efficient by using less staffing and provide better flexibility of when work is done. We will not be posting "no parking" signs. Street sweeping will begin, weather permitting, around late March to early April. Street Sweeping will begin in the rural areas of the Township and through other areas similar to the leaf collection schedule.



The Public Works department has several responsibilities in relation to MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) compliance. Regulations in MS4 are enforced through the PA DEP and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Detention pond inspections are done annually. Debris is removed from catch basins once or twice a month. Leaves and debris are cleaned out of pipe ends along country roads monthly. All data is recorded as required by the regulations. The street sweeper will be instrumental in clean-up from the excess of salt and anti-skid from this past winter, resulting in less accumulation in detention ponds and ultimately waters of the Commonwealth.

Additional projects being planned for Public Works in 2018 are:

- Installation of a storm sewer project off of Nicholson Avenue
- Paving/Tar and Chipping: Magnolia Drive and Magnolia Court, Poplar Drive, Worman Road, Blacksmith Road, and Valley View Road
- Bridge work on Monocacy Hill Road

As always, the road crew will be busy with road-side trimming and small paving projects. Employees clean and stock bathrooms at all five Township parks, as well as check playground equipment. The public works department will be busy in 2018 with all of the little things they do on a daily basis to keep Amity Township a beautiful place to live.

BRIDGE CLOSURES

The **Blacksmith Road Bridge** will be closed between Sharon Drive and Buckhead Lane for a bridge replacement project.

The closure and detour route will remain in effect from February 19th through August 24th, at the latest.

Blacksmith Road will be detoured from the intersection of Boyertown Pike to the intersection of Route 662 (Old Swede Road). Local access will be provided to all intersections throughout construction, however, through traffic will be detoured.

The **State Route 562, Boyertown Pike Bridge** at Spotts Mill will be closed from May 21st through November 16th. During this closure, all traffic entering Spotts Mill will use Old Airport Road. Although the bridge will be closed during these dates, the project is scheduled for completion no later than May 10, 2019.

You may notice clearing being done around the bridge for relocation of utilities.

Please watch for construction vehicles and drive safely. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during these closures!



Basket B-I-N-G-O Fundraiser

Sponsored by the Amity Township Lioness

DATE: Sunday, April 8th

PLACE: Amity Fire Company

COST: \$20/per person

TIME: Doors open at NOON, Bingo starts at 1PM

Door Prizes + Raffle Items

Refreshments Available for Purchase

For tickets or information call Lioness Linda McCue at 610-385-6421



xpress BILL PAY

As a way to offer you more choices in how you pay your sewer bill, Amity Township has partnered with Xpress Bill Pay, a premier provider for online payments systems. You can make payments online, by phone or by the iPhone app. You can pay by electronic check, debit or credit card. You can set up AutoPay and not worry about your payment being late and incurring any penalties. You can even choose to go paperless; which, saves the Township (ultimately the rate payers) money! Once you sign up for your account and start using this service, you'll wonder how you ever got along without it!

To pay online, you will need an internet connection through a web browser and an email address. Every quarter, Xpress Bill Pay will send you a reminder email to let you know when your bill is online and ready to view. Then, you just log into your account at xpressbillpay.com and view your bill. You can also see two years' history of your account online, so you can compare your current bill to a previous bill.

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When Rain Drains



Did you ever wonder where the water goes when it rains? Water from rain enters storm drains, and with it carries residue from many pollutants including sediment, car oil, lawn fertilizers, pesticides, pet poop (and viruses and bacteria), and cigarette butts. As you might expect, this has many negative impacts on streams and rivers.

- Rivers are the source of our drinking water supply; when rivers aren't healthy, public health risks increase.
- Sediment harms aquatic life when it smothers macroinvertebrates and clogs spaces between rocks, destroying essential habitat for many species.
- Fertilizers stimulate excessive algae growth, causing algal blooms that remove oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic organisms can't exist in water with low dissolved oxygen levels.
- Bacteria and other pathogens can wash into swimming areas and create health hazards, making beach closures necessary.
- Debris—such as plastic bags, six-pack rings, and cigarette butts—washed into rivers can choke, suffocate, or disable ducks, fish, turtles, and birds.
- Household hazardous wastes like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, and motor oil can poison aquatic life.
- Land animals and people can become sick or die from eating diseased fish and shellfish or ingesting polluted water.
- Because groundwater levels don't get fully replenished, springs and wells can go dry.

*Learn what you can do to help to minimize pollution to stormwater at
<http://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/CleanWater/StormwaterMgmt/>*



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Recycling



As of January 4th, Eagle Disposal has been collecting the Recyclable materials you place by the curb. You should have received a flyer that provided important information and a calendar which indicated the collection dates for 2018.

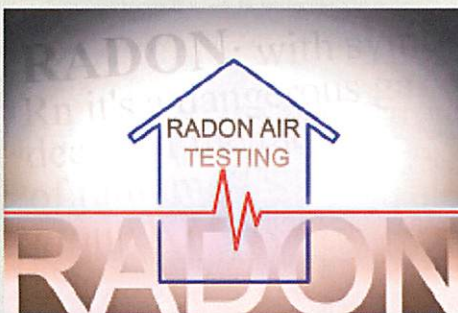
Recyclables will continue to be collected on Wednesday, with the exception of those weeks in which a holiday falls on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday as indicated on the calendar. If you did not receive the flyer or have misplaced it, you can download it from the Township website or pick-up a copy at the Township building. Placement should be either the night before collection or by 6AM, with the exception of SR 422, Ben Franklin Hwy, SR 562 (Boyertown Pike) and SR 662 (Old Swede Road) which should be placed the night before as collection takes place earlier than other areas of the Township. Please be sure to secure your materials to prevent spillage and/or blowing around the community. Boxes placed outside of the bin should be broken down and tied together with twine. Should your bin become knocked over or materials blow out of your container please be courteous to your neighbors

and pick up those materials. If you personally see materials being dropped by the collector or glass being broken on the roadway please let us know immediately.

We encourage our residents to recycle as much as possible. There is no limit to the amount of recyclables that may be placed curbside for collection. One bin is provided to each household in Amity Township for recycling. Stickers are provided at no charge for anyone wishing to use their own bin, can or toter. Stickers can be obtained by stopping by the Township building from Monday to Friday, 8AM until 4:30PM. If you would like to purchase an Amity Township recycling bin with a lid, they can be purchased for \$20.00 payable by check or money order.

Did you forget to put your recycling out and your bin is full; or host a party and your bin is overflowing? Eagle Disposal provides a container at the Township building where you can bring your recycling. Please leave only recyclables in this container!

Radon Detection



The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) reminds residents that radon – a colorless, odorless, and radioactive gas — is a known human carcinogen and the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Radon occurs naturally from the breakdown of uranium in soil and rocks and enters homes through cracks in the foundation or other openings. Due to its geology, Pennsylvania is prone to high radon levels, and has been detected in all 67 counties, with about 40 percent of homes having levels above national safety standards.

Winter is an ideal time to test, because doors and windows are generally closed, producing the most conservative results. High levels of radon tend to be found in basements, but the gas can be found anywhere in the home. Simple radon test kits are inexpensive and available at home improvement and hardware stores.

Amity Township has Radon Detectors available for use by Township residents. These units are calibrated prior to each use and left in your home for seven (7) days to ascertain if there is radon and record the level. There is a \$200 security deposit to use the unit; and, we also ask for a copy of your driver's license. Upon return of the unit, we return your check and shred your license copy.

Amity Township provides these devices to residents as a courtesy, only. Township Officials may make recommendations for radon reduction measures for readings exceeding 4.0 pCi, which is the EPA's action guideline. Although recommendations may be made, they are merely recommendations. The Township will not mandate any remediation for radon levels.

Should you be interested in using one of these units, please contact Kathie Benson at the Township, (610) 689-6000, ext. 221. Be advised, there may be a waiting list.

For more information on radon, testing and daily tips, visit the Department of Environmental Protection at <http://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/RadiationProtection/RadonDivision> .

Little Red Mailbox of HOPE Arrives in Amity Township



A shiny red mailbox with the initials CJW and the slogan #ruOKberks now sits in Amity Community Park. This is not JUST a mailbox. The Little Red Mailbox of HOPE was created by a woman in North Carolina shortly after she lost her mother in 2014. The original mailbox was erected at the Outer Banks, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. In this mailbox was a blank notebook, left there in hopes of providing a way to help others deal with loss or perhaps provide notes of inspiration, hope and prayers to those suffering illness or hardships.

As fate would have it, the Trombley family from Amity Township, traveled to the Outer Banks to try and help their daughter cope with the loss of her childhood friend, Ciara Jolie Whitney who tragically took her own life. The Trombleys came across the Little Red Mailbox of HOPE in the Outer Banks. After reading countless messages, it occurred to the Trombley

family that maybe hope shouldn't be so far away. Cyndi Trombley contacted Lisa Miller of the Parks and Recreation Board to find out if Amity Township would consider allowing her to help obtain a mailbox for the Township. The Parks and Recreation Board made a recommendation of approval which was granted by the Board of Supervisors. Cyndi worked with Township staff to facilitate obtaining the mailbox, post and notebook. Within weeks, the mailbox was installed and ready to go!

A short ceremony was held on November 4, 2017, under beautiful sunny skies, dedicating the mailbox and thanking the countless people who helped bring hope to Amity Township. Cyndi explained this mailbox was placed in a way that Ciara's initials will forever face the sunset which she so adored. Although the loss of Ciara was the reason the mailbox came to Amity, Cyndi reminded the crowd it was dedicated for the entire community. It should be a symbol of hope and inspiration. Families need to know that they are not alone and that there are resources available. The slogan #ruOKberks was placed on the mailbox as part of Berks County's Suicide Prevention Task Force which helps families cope with issues of mental illness and suicide. The ceremony concluded with a balloon release in remembrance of Ciara Whitney.

Maybe you have a loved one who you'd like to send a special note of inspiration or encouragement. Perhaps you are dealing with the tragedy of losing a loved one. Whatever your need, feel free to stop by Amity Community Park, pull the notebook out of the Little Red Mailbox of HOPE. Take a moment and write your own message of hope.

If you or someone you know is dealing with mental illness or suicide visit <http://www.ruokberks.com/> or call 1-877-236-4600 or 610-236-0530.

Thank You

The Township Supervisors and Administration thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and recognize each as supporters of our community. For it is with their participation that this newsletter has been published at no cost to our residents.

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Mavrik for Mayor

Some say Townships of the Second Class don't have Mayors. Well, maybe that's because they don't have someone like Mavrik John Laxton running for office!

Township Officials first met this feisty young man at the dedication for the Little Red Mailbox of HOPE. Mavrik was introduced by Cyndi Trombley as a 12-year old pint-sized power house who was born with one functioning lung and a compromised heart, survived nine open heart surgeries and continues to beat the odds. Everyone around Mavrik considers him the "Mayor of Amity" because he is such a symbol of hope to this town, and with that she presented Mavrik with an Appreciation of Hope award.

A few days later, Mavrik was air-lifted to DuPont and was told he was running out of options for treatment. Saddened by the news, Supervisors began plotting to find a way to let Mavrik know he is also "their mayor". Supervisor Kevin Keifrider made a mayoral t-shirt and sweatshirt for Mavrik, as well as a plaque and considered taking it to him in the hospital. As luck would have it, Mavrik began feeling better and news spread that he may be released. Supervisor Keifrider worked with the A-Team to get the word to hold a special swearing-in for our new honorary Mayor.

On November 22nd, Mavrik was picked up by Chief Kensey and given a Police escort through the streets of Amity Township, followed by fire trucks and motorcycles as many onlooking residents waved. Mavrik was greeted by a room full of friends, family and supporters. It was literally standing-room only! As Mavrik arrived he yelled "Let's do this!". Supervisor Keifrider presented Mavrik with his mayoral t-shirt and sweatshirt. The new Mayor was sworn in by Judge Victor M. Frederick. After taking his Oath of Office, Mavrik was presented a plaque commemorating his appointment by Chairperson Kim McGrath, who told Mavrik "You have been selected for this position because of your spirit and your strength. You have fulfilled the meaning of your name...by being a person whose behavior or views do not conform to the current image, practices or custom; in other words, one who stands up, one that can see past what may look or seem like the obvious. For that, you have been selected by the current awesome board of Elected Amity Township Supervisors to be not only our honorary mayor - but our first mayor". The crowd cheered as Mavrik smiled and laughed. As Mayor, Mavrik said he'd like to start a baseball team, and maybe buy a Porsche or Mercedes, but first things first, he was headed to lunch. Good thing, because with expenditures like that, the Board will clearly need to review the budget with the new Mayor!

It was a great day for Mavrik, his family and friends, and ALL of Amity Township.




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 summersnagy.com

Message from the Chief

On behalf of the men and women of the Amity Township Police Department, I would like to once again thank you for your overwhelming support. I am honored to have the privilege of serving this great community. As the Chief, I encourage all of you to work in partnership with us to continue to reduce incidences of crime in our community.

The dedicated professionals of the Amity Township Police Department serve a population of approximately 13,000. We truly care about the safety of our community and will continue to provide the highest quality of service. Furthermore, we will continue to respond to the needs of our community with the most effective measures available within our existing resources.



We encourage our community members to take the opportunity to participate in our community-related programs such as, Crime Watch <https://berks.crimewatchpa.com/amitypd/38494>, the Amity Township Police Department Facebook page, Citizen Ride Along Programs, National Night Out and more.

My policing philosophy focuses on a traditional style of policing with progressive steps to help move towards the future. I recognize that community problems are often best addressed by working in partnership with one another.

As your Chief of Police, I will always listen to your concerns and strive to be open and honest with you as well as the men and women with whom I serve.

As community members, you should know that your Township administration, including the Board of Supervisors and Township Manager, have made an uncompromising commitment to public safety within Amity Township. I too share this philosophy. Please feel free to contact me by email or phone with any suggestions or comments you may have.

Respectfully,

Chief Andrew J. Kensey
(610) 689-6000 Ext. # 227
akensey@amitypd.org

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Donation to Safe Berks – Helping Fight Domestic Violence



At the December 6th, 2017 Board of Supervisors meeting, Chief Andrew J. Kensey presented a donation of \$360 to Francine M. Scoboria, a representative from Safe Berks. Safe Berks, formerly Berks Women in Crisis, is a non-profit organization that provides a safe house and free support services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The Police Department used proceeds from the sale of “Support Your Local Police” signs to make the donation.

By taking a stand against this very serious crime, the Chief would like to remind our residents that there are still countless victims and survivors; their children and families, their friends and their communities that are impacted by domestic violence. Furthermore, the Chief wants our residents to know that the Police Department will help and are available 24/7. The Amity Township Police Department has a zero-tolerance policy for domestic violence.

Anyone in need of services can contact Safe Berks by calling the toll-free hotline at 1-844-789-SAFE (7233) or by texting “SAFE BERKS” to 20121.

If this donation provides a meal or shelter for one person during their time of need, then we’ve accomplished our mission.

Support Your Local Police signs are still available at the Township Building for \$20 each.

Be Prepared for An Emergency

The likelihood that you and your family will survive a house fire depends on having a working smoke detector and an exit strategy. The same is true for surviving other emergencies. Plan on having the tools and plans in place if disaster should strike.

Get a Kit of Emergency Supplies:

- Water, one gallon per person per day
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Filter mask or cotton t-shirt to filter air
- Moist towelettes for sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Manual can opener
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape
- Garbage bags and plastic ties
- Unique family needs, such as daily prescription medications, infant formula, important family documents

Make a plan for what you will do in an emergency. Be informed about what might happen. Get involved in preparing your community (www.citizen Corps.gov) For a more details, visit www.ready.gov

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Beyond the Call of Duty – Police Officers Receive Awards



Chief Kensey and Corporal Chris High presented Officer Shawn O'Rourke with a Drug Buster Award for use of his training and experience in narcotics investigations while responding to a 911 call for a drug overdose. Officer O'Rourke became aware that the property was being used to actively sell heroin and provided that information to local authorities. With Officer O'Rourke's assistance, Exeter Township Police arrested the dangerous felon.

The Chief and Corporal High presented Officer Shawn O'Rourke and Corporal John Coe Jr. with Meritorious Awards for their response to a report of a burglary in progress on Old Swede Road. Officer O'Rourke observed a female offender next to an open basement window and a male offender inside the basement hiding. Corporal Coe ordered the male outside and while attempting to place him in handcuffs noticed he would not roll over. Officer O'Rourke pulled a fully loaded .40 caliber handgun from the male offender's

pants pocket which was identified as a stolen gun. The victim told the officers the offenders were there to rob him of money and drugs. They were placed under arrest for felony burglary, related charges and weapons violations.

Congratulations to Officer O'Rourke and Corporal Coe on their awards!

National Night Out 2017



National Night Out is a designated night where many communities partner with local law enforcement for a night of fun and community pride. Karen LeBlanc and Tracy Walter worked with the Amity Township Police Department to organize and host the first annual Amity Township National Night Out on August 1st at the Amity Athletic Club Pool. An estimated 700 people attended this event!

If you were unable to attend, this is what you missed: McGruff the crime-fighting dog, Sassafras the Clown, Elvis and Dunk-A-Cop with our very own Chief Kensey and Officer Gauby! Swimming was free, as well as ice cream and hot dogs. Free t-shirts were given to the first 100 people in attendance. Amity Fire and Monarch Fire Companies, as well as Boyertown and Southern Berks Ambulances were present with apparatus.

The following local area groups participated in the first Amity Township National Night Out:

Amity Crime Watch, Amity Township Athletic Club, Amity Lions and Lioness, Amity Optimist, Berks Dog Search, Max's Moonbounce, Noah's Ark Rescue Project and Sanctuary, Hyres Pest Control and Jeff Krick Elvis tribute artist, Amity Township Police and Douglass Township (Berks) Police Departments. Food and drinks were donated by Dietz and Watson, Berks Products, Wawa, Turkey Hill, Yuengling Ice Cream, Corropolese Bakery and Lucky Squirrel Printworks.

Thank you to all of the businesses and law enforcement officers who participated. Thank you to all the residents who attended and made this first annual event so successful! Watch the Township website and Facebook page for information about the 2018 National Night Out.



Officer Tom Gauby is such a good sport! He didn't hesitate to volunteer for dunk tank duty.



Detective Mike DiMaria and McGruff reported for duty... and a little fun!

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Amity Township Tax Collector

Dean Fronheiser, Amity Township Tax Collector, will accept 2018 Real Estate Tax payments at his office in the Township Building on the following dates/times:



- March –** Wednesdays 10am to NOON and 5pm to 7pm
NO HOURS on March 21, 2018
- April –** Wednesdays 10am to NOON and 5pm to 7pm
Thursdays 5pm to 7pm
April 17th and April 30th 5pm to 7pm
- June –** June 29th and 30th 5pm to 7pm

Please make checks or money orders payable to **Dean E. Fronheiser, Tax Collector.**

Taxes may also be paid by mailing your check or money order to: Dean E. Fronheiser, PO BOX 167 Douglassville, PA 19518.

Monocacy Hill 2018 Spring Activities

- Sunday, March 25th** Walk in the Woods at 1:30pm
Sunday, April 8th Wildflower Walk at 1:30pm
Sunday, April 22nd Earth Day Hike (youth and family event) at 1:30pm
Wildflower Walk at 1:30pm
Sunday, June 10th Walk in the Woods at 1:30pm

Stop by for the Open House on Sunday, May 6th and enjoy one or all of these events:

- Walk in the Woods at 11:00am
- Spring Wildflower Walk with Dr. Susan Munch at 1:30pm
- Youth Scavenger Hunt at 4:00pm
- Sunset Hike at 7:00pm

Weather permitting, work weekends will be held on **March 17th and 18th, April 14th and 15th and May 19th and 20th.** Call 610-385-3226 for more information and to sign-up!

All events are held, weather permitting and are FREE to the public! Watch the Monocacy Hill Conservation Association Facebook Page for cancellations. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Monocacy-Hill-Recreation-Area/145318808836258>



Amity Township Crime Watch – Community Shred Event

Saturday, April 21st from 9am to NOON
Event will be held rain or shine!
Two trucks will be available at the Redner's Parking Lot in Douglassville

This event is open to all residents and small businesses in Douglassville and surrounding areas. Shredding performed by ProShred Security of Paoli. Donations will be accepted to help defray costs of the shredding truck.

Help stop identity theft by shredding your outdated documents!

www.amitytpcrimewatch.org or
Susan 610-385-3740
www.proshred.com – 484-323-2100

Get ready to go fishing!

Birdsboro Sportsmen's Club Community Children's Trout Fishing Rodeo will be held at the Rustic Picnic Area in Birdsboro on May 4th and 5th. The rodeo begins on Friday from 5-8pm and continues again on Saturday from 7am-4pm.

Children ages 6 to 15 will be placed into two separate groups:

Group A ages 6 to 10 and Group B ages 11 to 15

Prizes will be awarded in each age group.

Each participant must sign in to be eligible for a prize.

FREE hot dogs and drinks will be provided for all fishing participants

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