

NORTHAMPTON

Township



Winter 2016

BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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Northampton Township Welcomes 2016

Hello Everyone,

The Board and I hope you had a relaxing holiday break with your family and friends. Each year brings change at the municipal level with our annual reorganization meeting. This issue gives you all the updated information you'll need to know for the year.

This issue is more than just updates, though.

- Did you know the Township housed one of 200 anti-aircraft missile bases in the 1950s?
- Do you know the true meaning of our township's name?
- For businesses, have you heard about our LERTA program or Behind the Biz! feature?

All of this good information is included in this issue.

All the best,

Larry Weinstein, Chairman

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Larry Weinstein
Chairman



Barry Moore
Vice-Chairman



Eileen Silver
Secretary



Dr. Kimberly Rose
Treasurer



George F. Komelasky
Member

Administration Building Holiday Closing

The Northampton Township Administration Building will be closed on:
Monday, February 15 (Presidents' Day); Friday, March 25 (Good Friday)

NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

55 Township Road, Richboro, PA 18954 • 215-357-6800 • Fax: 215-357-1251

www.northamptontownship.com





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Our own Ice Cream • Fresh made Milk • Fresh Produce • Fresh Fruit
Fresh Baked Pies • Wide Variety of Dairy Products

1070 Hatboro Road • Ivyland, PA 18974
Corner of Almshouse Road & Hatboro Road
215-357-1716



Doylestown Health Primary Care
is pleased to welcome

Harvey N. Lisgar, DO

Board Certified, Family Practice

Now
Accepting
New
Patients



Now accepting new patients at: 95 Almshouse Road, Suite 202, Richboro, PA 18954

Appointments & Information

215.364.4141 | DoylestownHealth.org

 **Doylestown Health**
Primary Care

As part of Doylestown Health, Doylestown Health Physicians are an employed, multi-specialty physician group including providers from primary care, cardiology, cardiothoracic surgery, breast surgery, neurology and more.

NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP



55 Township Road • Richboro, PA 18954

215-357-6800 • Fax: 215-357-1251 • www.northamptontownship.com

Administration:	215-357-6800 x201		
Manager's Office:	215-357-6800 x201	Library:	215-357-3050
Finance Department:	215-357-6800 x241	Parks & Recreation:	215-357-6800 x249
Planning Department:	215-357-6800 x206	Recreation Center:	215-357-5396
Codes/Zoning/Permits:	215-355-3883	Senior Center:	215-357-8199
Public Works Department:	215-355-3433		

EMERGENCY * 911

Police Department Non-Emergency 215-357-8700

Fire Marshal: 215-357-6800 x210

Northampton Township Board of Supervisor 2016 Liaison Responsibilities

Larry Weinstein, *Chairman*

- Planning Commission
- Zoning Hearing Board
- Building Code Board of Appeals
- Code Enforcement
- Open Space Preservation
- Planning and Zoning Administration
- Veterans Advisory Commission
- Historical Commission

Barry Moore, *Vice Chairman*

- Free Library of Northampton Township
- Park Facilities
- Recreation Programs and Services

Eileen Silver, *Secretary*

- Northampton Bucks County Municipal Authority
- Fire Protection Services
- Blight Property Review Committee
- PSATS Voting Delegate

Dr. Kimberly Rose, *Treasurer*

- Council Rock School District
- James E. Kinney Senior Center
- Southwestern Bucks Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWBSWAC)

George F. Komelasky, *Member*

- Administration
- Finance
- Personnel
- Pensions
- Insurance
- Public Works Services
- Public Facilities
- Southwestern Bucks Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWBSWAC)
- Police Protection Services
- Emergency Medical Services
- Emergency Management

NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP

55 Township Road • Richboro, PA 18954 • 215-357-6800 • Fax: 215-357-1251
www.northamptontownship.com

2016 Meeting Schedule

Board of Supervisors

Public Meetings – 7:30 p.m. • Agenda Review Meetings – 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 27-Wed-Public Meeting	Jul. 27-Wed-Public Meeting	Nov. 9-Wed-Budget Workshop (6 p.m.)
Feb. 24-Wed-Public Meeting	Aug. 24-Wed-Public Meeting	16-Wed-Public Meeting
Mar. 23-Wed-Public Meeting	Sept. 28-Wed-Public Meeting	Dec. 14-Wed-Public Meeting
Apr. 27-Wed-Public Meeting	Oct. 3-Tues-Budget Presentation (6 p.m.)	
May 25-Wed-Public Meeting	26-Wed-Public Meeting	
Jun. 22-Wed-Public Meeting		

Planning Commission

Public Meetings - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 p.m.
 Agenda Review - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.

Parks & Recreation

1st and 3rd Thursday @ 7:00 p.m.
 Agenda Review @ 6:45 p.m.

Library Board 25 Upper Holland Road

4th Thursday @ 7:30 p.m.; No Meetings: July, Aug. & Nov.

Zoning Hearing Board

2nd and 4th Monday @ 7:00 p.m.

Veterans Advisory Commission

3rd Monday @ 7:00 p.m. (Sept. meeting on Sept. 7)

Historical Commission 25 Upper Holland Road

3rd Thursday @ 7:00 p.m.; No Meetings: July & Aug

Administration

Northampton Township recently presented certificates to employees for service milestones at its December 2015 Board of Supervisors meeting.

40 years

Fred Smith
Public Works

30 years

Lonnie Murdock
Public Works

25 years

Ken Carman	Police
Dave Mangione	Public Works
Chuck Pinkerton	Police
Heather Pine	Library
Lynn Salapka	Library

20 years

Kathleen Bracken	Parks and Rec
Bill Leck	Public Works
Jeff Lynn	Public Works
Charles Woolson	Crossing Guard
Dave Egan	Police

15 years

Joyce Anderson	Crossing Guard
Chris Clifton	Police
Kathleen Croak	Crossing Guard
Lynn Gorlick	Parks and Rec
Rob Holmes	Fire Marshal's Office
John Laub	Police
Lori Mangieri	Library
Mike Robertson	Police
Ann Votta	Crossing Guard

10 years

Rob Hackman	Public Works
Kathy Gurevitch	Senior Center
Ken Koreck	Police

5 years

Adriana Fetzer	Library
Tom Halpin	Dispatcher
Sean McLaughlin	Police
Zach Wyant	Police



Building and Codes Department

The devastation and destruction of Superstorm Sandy in 2012 continues to linger in our minds, particularly during the fall and winter months. Consequently, in an effort to better protect our homes and our families, generators have become a popular addition to many households.

It is very important to be fully-informed before purchasing a generator. Below are tips from the Building and Codes Department to help guide you in the process:

- Determine how much power and what type of generator you will need. Do you want a standby or portable generator? It may be useful to consult with a professional for advice.
- Evaluate your existing electric and/or gas service(s). An electric service or gas meter upgrade may be necessary. Contact PECO (215-956-3270) for additional information.
- Hire an experienced licensed contractor to perform the work.
- Secure a proper construction permit from the Township before installation. An electrical permit is required for all generators; a mechanical permit is required for natural gas-fueled generators. Refer to the following link for permit applications and gas generator requirements: <http://www.northamptontownship.com/departments/building-codes/documents-forms.aspx>.
- Obtain final inspection approvals from the Township before using your generator including the final electrical inspection.
- Feel free to contact the Building and Codes Department at 215-355-3883 with questions. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



LERTA Program

Have you heard about the Township's LERTA (Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act) program?

Enacted on December 17, 2014 for a period of five years, the program allows taxing authorities such as the Township, School District and County to exempt new construction and/or improvements to business properties from increased real estate taxes in pre-determined areas of the community to encourage investment by the private sector. Since the program was enacted, six (6) businesses have already taken advantage of it.

Here's how it works:

The program - only available to commercial properties - provides a tax exemption to the additional assessed valuation on the actual costs of new construction or improvements to deteriorated property. Any person who is an owner of an eligible property and who desires the tax exemption must apply in writing on a form provided by the Building and Codes Department.

The application must be received within sixty (60) days following the date of issuance of a building permit for any new construction or Improvements.

****Please check out our website for a larger map rendering or stop in the Administration Office to review.***

Businesses that take advantage of the program are eligible to have a 100% exemption portion of assessed valuation for each of the five tax years following completion of construction.

BEHIND THE BIZ!



Have you seen the **Behind the Biz!** program yet? The Township leads viewers on a tour of local businesses to get an inside look at how they work. One business is featured every month with videos shown on our municipal channel (Comcast - Ch. 22 and Verizon - Ch. 24) and YouTube channel.

Want to See your Business on Behind the Biz!?



Would you like to see your business featured on our cable channel and YouTube channel? It is a great way to show the community what your company offers and how it contributes to the local economy. There is no cost to participate in the program.

For more information, contact Jamie Gwynn 215-357-6800 ext. 206 or email at jgwynn@nhtwp.org.

TOWNSHIP TIDBIT:

The origin of the name of Northampton Township has never been officially verified, it is believed to have come from Northamptonshire, England, "ham" meaning home, and "tun" meaning settlement.

Trash and Recycling



TRASH COLLECTION

- Trash, recyclables, and one bulk item are collected on the same day. Place trash at curb no later than 6 a.m. on the day of collection, but no earlier than 7 a.m. on the prior evening. Each household is limited to 12 bags or cans of trash per week.
- Use plastic or metal trash cans or plastic trash bags. All trash should be bagged. Please do not put out trash in paper bags, cardboard boxes, or containers smaller than 20 gallons.

TRASH WILL NOT BE COLLECTED ON THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS:

New Year's Day	Fri. 1-1-16
Memorial Day	Mon. 5-30-16
Independence Day	Mon. 7-4-16
Labor Day	Mon. 9-5-16
Thanksgiving	Thur. 11-24-16
Christmas	Sun. 12-25-16

RECYCLING

- The Township does single stream recycling, which means all recyclables go into the same bin. This includes plastics stamped #1 - #7, aluminum cans, foil, tin cans, paper, cardboard, and glass. No plastic bags.



YARD WASTE



Yard waste will be collected only in biodegradable bags. Make sure the bags do not weigh more than 50 pounds when full. Biodegradable yard waste bags can be purchased at the administration building.

- **December 16 - March 31:** An additional five bags or cans of yard waste are permitted.
- **April 1 - December 15:** Unlimited yard waste collected the day after your trash day.
- Tree branches and shrubbery must be no more than 36 inches long and less than 3 inches in diameter. They may be bundled then tied/taped, or placed into cans or biodegradable bags, as long as they do not extend over the top of the can/bag.



Northampton Township Guide for Mandatory Commercial and Institutional Recycling



PA State Law and Local Ordinance require the recycling of the following materials:

- Aluminum Cans
- Office Paper
- Corrugated Cardboard
- Yard Waste

All commercial businesses and institutional facilities are required to have a recycling program. If you need assistance setting up a recycling program, please contact your waste hauler or property manager.

A GOOD IDEA IS NOW THE LAW
PENNSYLVANIA BUSINESSES ARE REQUIRED TO RECYCLE.
LEARN WHAT IT TAKES TO KEEP YOUR BUSINESS IN COMPLIANCE.

PLEASE RETAIN THIS GUIDE FOR YOUR RECORDS.





Officer John Sands

Officer Sands is a graduate of William Tennent High School in Warminster. He is a 2015 graduate of the Montgomery County Municipal Police Training Academy. Officer Sands is married and resides in Glenside.

He is now assigned to the field training program until his training is completed when he will be assigned to the Uniform Patrol Division.



CHIEF CLARK'S SAFETY TIPS



Driving during the winter months can be dangerous. Even careful drivers can experience skids when driving on wet or snow covered roadways. If a driver feels their vehicle begins to skid, it's important to not panic and follow these simple steps:

- Continue to look and steer in the direction in which the driver wants the vehicle to go.
- Avoid slamming on the brakes as this will further upset the vehicle's balance and make it harder to control.
- Everyone just needs to be extra cautious when driving on the wet or snow covered roadway.

Remember: Slow down, and avoid hard braking or turning sharply movements. And always allow ample stopping distance between you and the vehicle in front of you.

NEW CRIME TOOL

The Police Department has a new tool to assist its officers with investigations: the Door Hanger. It's a laminated card designed to obtain information from our residents who are not home when a crime happens in their neighborhood.

The card will explain what happened and the time the incident took place. It has a phone number and e-mail address listed so that residents can contact the department.

Our hope is that our residents will be able to provide vital information to solving crimes and make our community a safer place to live.



TOWNSHIP TIDBIT:

Back in 1788, there were many different occupations in Northampton Township: weaver, shoemaker, grist miller, carpenter, saw mill operator, cooper, blacksmith, stone cutter, and doctor.

A Citizen's Guide to Snow Removal

A record-breaking winter last year has reminded us all of the importance of effective snow removal in our town. Every winter storm, our crews work around the clock to clear the snow and ice. The Township first plows major streets for emergency vehicle passage as the highest priority. After that, clearing side streets is the next priority. Once all the streets are passable, then crews work on cleaning snow from intersections and parking spaces.

The Township will plow "curb to curb" if there are no cars parked on the street, but we are not always able to return to clear on-street parking spots when cars are parked in them during storms. If you are parked on the street during a storm, you should expect that you will be plowed in, and have to clear the area around your car yourself.

We know that residents hate the "windrows" (those long piles of snow on each side of the road) that plows leave behind, and that often bury freshly shoveled sidewalks and driveway aprons. We receive a lot of calls from angry folks that a plow has "pushed the snow back in their driveway". Unfortunately, the reality is that these "windrows" are an unavoidable part of plowing. You can reduce the amount of snow that ends up in a windrow in front of your drive or on your walk by doing certain things:

- Do not push snow from your walk, drive or parking area out into the street as it will only be pushed back in when the plow passes (and it is unlawful to do so and you could be fined)
- When you clear snow, also clear the snow from the road shoulder about 15' feet "upstream" of plow traffic direction (the direction that the plows comes from) On a standard two-way street this would be the left side of your driveway as you face the street. This way, when the plow passes by, less snow will be pushed back into your driveway. The smartest thing to do is not to shovel out the end of your driveway until the road is plowed. Otherwise your driveway will be plowed in again.

Please be patient and courteous to crews. They are working long hours doing a difficult job with the goal of getting you out and about as soon as practical.

Tips for successful sidewalk clearing:

- Clear all your sidewalks, the full width of the sidewalk, down to the bare pavement.
- After the sidewalk is cleared, sprinkling a little sand can help keep the sidewalk from becoming slippery as night falls and temperatures drop.
- Pile the snow you clear in your yard as it's against the law to shovel snow into the streets and alleys.
- If you have a corner property, clear curb cuts at corners and crosswalks to the street gutter to create a safe passageway.
- Don't wait to clear the snow. The longer you wait the harder it becomes to move it because it melts and re-freezes in an ice cover.
- If you will be away on vacation or health issues prevent you from clearing your sidewalk, make arrangements for help before the snowfall season.
- Business owners should clear the sidewalk and attempt to provide a walkway from the street to allow customers using street parking to get safely to the sidewalk without climbing over snow banks.
- Be a good neighbor.

Ordinance Corner

Our full Code of Ordinances can be found at <http://www.keystatepub.com/>.

Chapter 20: Solid Waste

Part 1: General Parking Regulations • §20-103. Property Owners to Participate in a Township Waste Collection Program.

"Northampton Township, or authorized persons under contract by the §20-103 Solid Waste §20-105 20-5 Township, shall collect, transport, process and dispose of all municipal waste generated at residential properties within the Township. In the event that the Township, or an authorized person or persons under contract by the Township, does not collect, transport, process or dispose municipal waste, then all persons owning or occupying residential properties shall contract directly with a licensed collector or licensed waste hauler for such services."

This 2007 ordinance established the ability to have one company collect, transport, process and dispose of all municipal waste. This ordinance led to a savings for residents while lowering trash-truck traffic on townships roads.



Free Library of Northampton Township

Children's Programs: Register by Calling 215-357-3050
or online at northamptontownshiplibrary.org



Children's Programs: Winter 2016



Hey Kids, Kindness is Contagious!

Now until February 27

Have you ever performed a random act of kindness?

Kindness can range from a simple gesture such as holding the door for someone to donating items to a food pantry to handing out flowers to strangers or even paying for someone's lunch! And guess what, kindness is contagious! When you do something nice for someone, chances are they will do something nice for someone else! So to help promote kindness in our community the library will be hosting a winter long kindness event.

Get kindness on your mind. When you perform a random act of kindness come into the library and let us know! Write your kindness story in our library journal and you will get a star to hang from our ceiling. We want our ceiling to be filled with twinkling stars to represent all of the kind acts performed!

Join us in spreading Kindness!

Winter Reading Club

Now until February 20

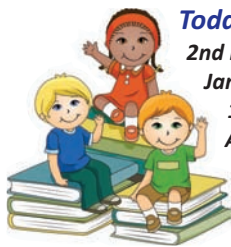
Preschool- 6th grade

The weather outside is frightful, but in the library it's so delightful!



Stop in and pick up a winter reading log beginning January 4.

Write down the title of each book you read. Come in and show us your progress. We'll give you a sticker for each book you read. Once you have read 5 books you will receive a prize!



Toddler Playgroup

2nd Friday of the month

January – May 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Ages 2 – 3 ½.

Come and play at the library!

Meet new friends and enjoy some social time. For moms, dads, grandparents, caregivers and their toddlers! *No registration necessary, just drop in!*

Dog Days at the Library

1st Saturday of the month

January – May at 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Preschool – 6th grade.

The Nor'Wester Readers will bring their tail wagging therapy dogs to the library. Pick out a book, take a seat and read to these wonderful dogs. *No registration necessary, just drop in!*



Lego Club

4th Saturday of the month January – May

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Come build with us! We provide the Lego's, you provide the imagination! Bring the whole family! Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. *No registration necessary.*

On My Own Preschool Story Time

Mondays January 11 – February 1 at 2:30 p.m.

Ages 3 ½ -5.

This story time is designed to allow the preschooler to be on their own while a parent is close by. Join us for stories, music and crafts. *Registration begins December 22.*

Baby Story Time

Wednesdays, February 17 – March 9

at 10:30 a.m.

Ages 6 – 23 months.

A 20 minute "lap-sit" program with simple stories, rhymes and songs followed by free play.

This program is a great way to introduce children to books and meet other new parents.

Registration begins February 3.

Book Bunch Book Group

2nd Thursday of the month February 11,

March 10, April 14 and May 12 at 4:30 p.m.

3rd – 5th grade.

Register in person so you can pick up a copy of your free book. *Registration begins January 14.*

Space is limited.

Cocoa and Cookies

Night Time Story Time

Thursday February 18 at

7:00 p.m.

Preschool – 1st grade.

Help banish the winter blues!

Join us for some stories and

crafts and enjoy some hot

cocoa and cookies as well!

Registration begins January 21.



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The library is pleased to introduce its improved website at www.northamptontownshiplibrary.org. The site is easier to navigate with a modern, more readable design. The tabs are gateways to using the library, conducting research, exploring the community and finding library events. Check it out and support the library.

Every "Second Saturday" and every "Third Thursday (beginning in March) programs are sponsored by the generosity of the Library's Friends group.



"SAY GOODNIGHT, GRACIE"

But not before you see Albert Long portray George Burns on Saturday March 12 at 2 p.m. With his black-rimmed glasses and trademark cigar, Mr. Long will have you staring in disbelief—it is the legendary George Burns. Spend the afternoon with "Mr. Burns", one of the most beloved comedians of all time. *No registration necessary.*

KICK OFF 2016

DARLA DE MORROW

Shake off winter blues and dust with Darla De Morrow presents "Spring De Clutter" on Thursday March 17 at 7 p.m. With before and after examples and 5 simple steps to organizing any space, Darla De Morrow (a certified professional organizer) provides tips and strategies to solve every organizing challenge. Attendees are urged to bring questions and pictures for on-the-spot declutter troubleshooting. *No registration necessary.*

FRED MILLER

Second Saturday April 9 at 2 p.m. Fred Miller returns with another wonderful lecture-in-song about American music.

**DISCOUNT SKI TICKETS
NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP
PARKS AND RECREATION**

Purchase tickets only at the Recreation Office
located in the Administration Building
55 Township Rd., Richboro
For further info. Call: 215-357-6800 x 249



BEAR CREEK	GATE PRICE	DISCOUNTED PRICE	SAVINGS
Weekday (open to close)	\$ 49.00	\$ 33.00	\$ 16.00
Weekend (not valid on Holidays)	\$ 65.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 5.00
Night (4-10PM)	\$ 36.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 11.00

BIG BOULDER/JACK FROST	GATE PRICE	DISCOUNTED PRICE	SAVINGS
Adult Weekday (open to close - 19+ Yrs)	\$ 48.00	\$ 38.00	\$ 10.00
Adult Weekend (open to close - 19+ Yrs)	\$ 55.00	\$ 44.00	\$ 11.00
Adult Holiday (open to close - 19+ Yrs)	\$ 57.00	\$ 49.00	\$ 8.00
Youth (5-18) Weekday (open to close)	\$ 35.00	\$ 33.00	\$ 2.00
Youth (5-8) Weekend (open to close)	\$ 43.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 8.00
Youth (5-18) Holiday (open to close)	\$ 45.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 5.00
Night (3PM - close) BB only	\$ 30-34.00	\$ 27.00	\$ 3-7.00

BLUE MOUNTAIN	GATE PRICE	DISCOUNTED PRICE	SAVINGS
Weekday (6 hour)	\$ 55.00	\$ 48.00	\$ 7.00
Weekend/Holiday (6 hour)	\$ 70.00	\$ 62.00	\$ 8.00
Night (any night)	\$ 40.00	\$ 32.00	\$ 8.00

ELK MOUNTAIN	GATE PRICE	DISCOUNTED PRICE	SAVINGS
Weekday (day or twilight)	\$ 54.00	\$ 51.00	\$ 3.00
Weekend/Holiday (day or twilight)	\$ 66.00	\$ 61.00	\$ 5.00

MONTAGE MOUNTAIN	GATE PRICE	DISCOUNTED PRICE	SAVINGS
Adult Weekday (open to close - 19+ Yrs)	\$ 50.00	\$ 39.00	\$ 11.00
Adult Weekend (open to close - 19+ Yrs)	\$ 59.00	\$ 49.00	\$ 10.00
Youth (6-18) Weekday (open to close)	\$ 35.00	\$ 27.00	\$ 8.00
Youth (6-8) Weekend (open to close)	\$ 45.00	\$ 37.00	\$ 8.00
3 HR Snowtubing (Fri-Sun or Holiday)	\$ 20.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 3.00

SHAWNEE MOUNTAIN*	GATE PRICE	DISCOUNTED PRICE	SAVINGS
Adult Lift - Any Day	\$ 50.00-60.00	\$ 48.00	\$ 2.00-12.00
Youth (18 & Under) Any Day	\$ 40.00-45.00	\$ 38.00	\$ 2.00-7.00
Ski/Snowboard Pkg (Tix, Rental, Lesson)	\$ 90.00-95.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 15.00-20.00



NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION 2016 SUMMER CAMPS



Every Summer Has a Story – It's Time to Write Yours
DON'T MISS OUT.....REGISTER BY MARCH 31

Ready for a fun-filled summer? Northampton Township Parks and Recreation is! Whether they are 3 years old, 14 years old, or somewhere in between, we have every child's summer covered! For almost 40 years, the camp staff has been helping children make memories every summer. It's our tradition! With half day and full day options, Northampton Township has the summer program to fit your needs! **REGISTER TODAY – CAMPS FILL FAST!**

*For full camp descriptions, visit www.northamptonrec.com.
Questions? Contact Jennifer Fean at jcfean@nhtwp.org or call 215-357-5396 X312.*

Parks and Recreation will once again have discounted tickets to the Philadelphia Flower Show - "Explore America" - and celebrate 100 years of the National Parks Service. For \$27, you can climb a mountain, ford a stream, hike the trails and pitch a camp at the Philadelphia Convention Center March 5 – 13. Tickets are available at the PR Office. Call 215-357-6800 ext 249 for availability.



FACILITY AND PARTY RENTALS

Hold your next party or event at the Recreation facility near you! The Recreation Center houses a variety of party planning options from a multi-use gym, dance room and a variety of party spaces for groups large or small. Think ahead, and think outdoors as the Northampton Municipal Park has beautiful picnic pavilions and areas for your family or organization get-togethers.

Call 215-357-6800 ext. 249 for details.





JOIN THE NORTHAMPTON SWIM CLUB TODAY!

Located at Northampton Valley Country Club, Harmony Drive & Newtown-Richboro Roads

Join before April 1, 2016 to take advantage of special discount rates for fun in the sun, Monday through Friday, all summer long!

Members enjoy bonus events throughout the season PLUS special rates for swim team and swim lessons too.



Membership is Monday through Friday only. There is *NO* weekend swimming available.



Family is a husband and/or wife and dependent children under age 21, residing at the same address on a permanent basis.



One caregiver age 18 or over may be added to a family membership.



Children under 14 may join only with another family member who is 21 or older.



Children 14 and older are required to provide proof of age to join as a single member.

Parental signature is required granting permission for 14 to 18 year olds to attend the swim club alone.



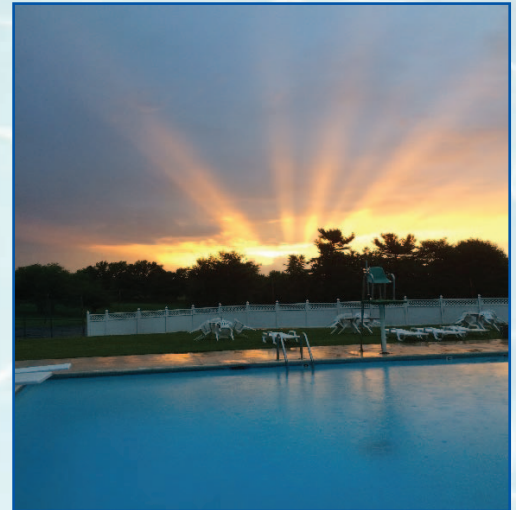
No charge for children under 2, however the child's information is needed to process the membership.



Senior rate is available for individuals age 62 and over, or couples both age 62.



Age determined as of the first day of the season, May 30, 2016.



Single \$210 • Family of 2 \$415 • Family of 3 \$540 • Family of 4 \$630 • Each Additional Family Member \$50
Senior Single \$130 • Senior Couple \$215 • Non-Northampton residents are welcome to join for just \$30 more!

TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE DISCOUNTED RATES, FULL PAYMENT MUST BE MADE BY APRIL 1, 2016. TO REGISTER, STOP BY THE PARKS & REC OFFICE, 55 TOWNSHIP ROAD, RICHBORO, OR CALL 215-357-6800 EXT 249. SORRY ON-LINE REGISTRATION IS NOT AVAILABLE.

**good for you.
good for all.**
PENNSYLVANIA PARKS & RECREATION

The Northampton Township Parks and Recreation Board was formed in June of 1975 in an effort to provide the community with a complete park and recreation program. The first session of programs were offered for school aged children and included programs such as baton, gymnastics, basketball, soccer, wrestling, volleyball, and a marching drum corp. Adult programs such as basketball, volleyball and square dancing were offered as well. The program grew the next few years to include a community theatre, a playground program and special events such as the Halloween Happening which to this day continue to be offered. The now seven person volunteer Parks and Recreation Board continues to be committed to providing Northampton residents with quality recreation programs and facilities.

This year, 2016 will mark 40 years of Northampton Township providing recreation programs to the community. Don't miss out, see what's "Good for you!"



SUPPORT YOUTH SPORTS



Your business ad can be seen by thousands on the outfield fences of Township area ball fields or inside the Recreation Center.

For information on the Banner Program, call the Parks & Recreation office at 215-357-6800 ext. 256.



**TAKE A PEEK AT SOME OF OUR UPCOMING BUS TRIPS!
ANYONE CAN JOIN IN THE FUN!**



**Wednesday, March 9
Sand's Casino in Bethlehem**



Cost is \$33 per person which includes:
\$20 in Slot Play, \$5 Food Voucher,
transportation & Driver Tip.
Bus departs the center at
9:15 a.m., will return at 5 p.m.
(must be 21 years
of age or older)

Not a gambler?? Why not
do some shopping at the newest outlets in Pennsylvania.
Attached to the casino are the outlets at Sands offering
brand name shopping like Coach, Chico's, Talbots & more!
Along with some great restaurants to choose from such
as, Emeril's Italian Table or Chop House, Carnegie Deli or
the Steelworks Buffet & Grill.

**Wednesday, April 6
Turkey Hill Experience & Shady Maple**

Who doesn't love to delve into a big bowl of ice
cream? Well here is your chance...not only will you learn
about the dairy culture and the story of how the Turkey
Hill Company's ice cream & iced tea flavors are selected
and created, but you will get a "hands-on" experience
allowing you to develop & taste a flavor of ice cream that
you create in the Turkey Hill "Taste Lab"! Yummy!!



Once we leave Turkey Hill we will stop at the famous
Shady Maple where you will take pleasure in indulging
yourself with some delicious authentic Pennsylvania Dutch cooking. You
will also have time to check out their market as well.

All of this for only \$70 per person, includes transportation & driver tip.
The motor coach will leave the center at 8 a.m. and return at 6 p.m. Get
ready for a day of indulging & lots of fun!

**FREE
ADMISSION**

**SPRING FLING
SHOPPING EVENT**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 30
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**HOSTED BY
THE JAMES E. KINNEY SENIOR CENTER
165 TOWNSHIP ROAD, RICHBORO, PA**

Join us for this great
shopping event. Just in time
for Mother's Day, teacher
gifts or your favorite grad or
special Dad! There will be
over 50 vendors with a
variety of handcrafted
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décor, candles, baked goods
and much more!

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available for purchase~

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ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

**NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP
JAMES E. KINNEY SENIOR CENTER
165 TOWNSHIP ROAD, RICHBORO**



\$12

Friday, March 18

Dinner will be served from 4:00 - 6:30 p.m.
*Come any time during those hours



Tickets Go On Sale in February
No tickets will be sold at the door

**DINNER INCLUDES:
HAM & CABBAGE,
ROASTED POTATOES, GREEN BEANS,
APPLESAUCE, DESSERT & BEVERAGE**

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Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. • Tuesday and Thursday 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

- Aerobics
- Art Studio
- Beginner Spanish
- Bereavement Support Group
- Billiards
- Bingo
- Bocce (Spring & Summer)
- Book Club
- Bridge
- Canasta
- Ceramics
- Chair Yoga
- Coloring Club
- Cribbage
- Darts
- Dinners
- Gentle Yoga
- Golf (Spring & Summer)
- Indoor Shuffleboard
- Line Dance
- Luncheons
- Mah Jongg
- Meetings/Programs
- Music Lessons
- Parties
- Pinochle
- Scrabble
- Seniorcise
- Sing-A-Long Group
- Stained Glass
- Stress Reduction
- Table Tennis
- Trips
- Watercolors
- Wood Carving
- Yoga

The center always welcomes new members. For a membership fee of \$20 per year, anyone age 55 or better can be a part of the "best bargain in town." For more information stop by the center for a tour or call 215-357-8199.

PARTY & MEETING ROOM AVAILABLE FOR RENT

The center has a beautiful, bright 3,000 square foot room available for your parties, celebrations and meetings. Reasonable rental packages are available.

Fire Marshal's Office

The Fire Marshal urges all residents who utilize wood burning appliances or fireplaces to dispose of all ashes properly. Ashes from stoves and fire places can remain hot and capable of igniting a fire for two weeks after removal from the stove or fireplace. Ashes should be placed in a metal container equipped with a lid, wetted, and stored outside away from your home or combustibles. Ashes should never be stored inside your home, or garage.

Can we find you?

Township ordinances require that all assigned street numbers be displayed prominently on your home, or mailbox. Please make sure that your address is posted, and clearly visible from the street.



Tax Collector Office



Real estate tax bills for both Northampton Township and Bucks County will be mailed to residents on March 1. By law, these bills must be mailed to residents. If you do not receive your bill within two weeks after the mailed date, call the tax office for another mailing.

Special note: If you have a mortgage, please forward your tax bill to your bank for payment.

Contact Information: Bob Borkowski

Phone: (215) 357-1343

Email:

bobborkowski167@gmail.com

Website:

<http://northamptontaxcollector.wordpress.com/>

Hours of Operation: Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Historical Commission

By: Andrea Mangold, NHT Historical Commission

The history of Northampton Township can be traced back through land deeds from William Penn and place names that originated in the surnames of local farming families. More sublime, however, is our Township's connection to the era challenge that began in the shadows of the Cold War and helped launch Bucks County into the Space Age.



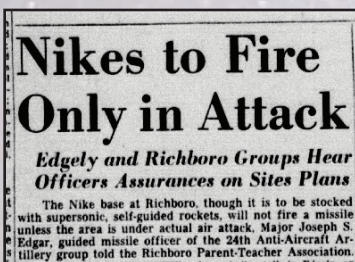
By the mid-1950's over 200 Nike anti-aircraft missile bases existed in the United States, situated around major cities such as Philadelphia, Washington D.C and New York City. The U.S. War Department initiated the Nike missile program in 1944 in response to the emerging threat from enemy fighter jet attacks. In Richboro, Nike Base PH07 occupied the property that is now a part of the Northampton Township Parks and Recreation Department, on land formerly owned by Dr. Arthur Widenmeyer; a second control facility was located on Twining Ford Road. The base was one of twelve in the suburban Philadelphia region, forming what was sometimes called a "ring of fire" designed for defensive attacks.

The base stored twenty Nike Ajax missiles, the first operational anti-aircraft weapon designed to be a crucial defense against the threat of attack that underwrote the political tensions of the time. The precursor to nuclear warheads, Ajax missiles had a range of 25 miles and could travel at 1,000 mph.

The Army manned the Richboro base from 1954 through 1960, and soldiers spent their free time amongst the neighboring residents. In Memories of the Richboro Nike Base (link below), township historian Virginia Geyer recorded this anecdote that while humorous, gives a hint of the very real threat that became a part of everyday life in Northampton:



"On a summer afternoon, my mother, who wore a hearing aid, was sitting on the back porch enjoying the garden and the birds at the feeders. Suddenly she gave a loud call for me -- her hearing aid was beeping at close regular intervals. What could it be? This happened off and on all the weekend. I mentioned it to the Mississippi soldier we knew. He thought about it for a short time and began laughing. Every time the army base trained on the radar, it sent out high intensity, radar charged waves that my mother's hearing aid picked up. I wonder how many other people had the same problem, but never got the answer."



Though the Ajax missiles became obsolete and were eventually decommissioned in the early 1960's, the twin facilities remain. The Twining Ford Road facility was later obtained by the Council Rock School District and was repurposed as an administrative and operational site. The cavernous missile storage facility's secrets, literally lying beneath Township recreational land, remain tightly sealed within a vast, underground concrete chamber. As vestiges of a war that never happened, and a doomsday scenario that fortunately never came to fruition, the Nike facilities remain silent sentinels of our township's role in a pivotal point in American history.

Acknowledgment for information included in this article to Mr. Doug Crompton and Mrs. Virginia B. Geyer. Web sources for this article: <http://patch.com/pennsylvania/levittown/old-missile> • <http://www.historicbuckscounty.org/richboro/nike/RichboroNikeGeyer.pdf>
Photos: Andrea Mangold (2012); Google Earth (satellite image)

Clothes Dryer Safety

Doing laundry is most likely part of your every day routine. But did you know how important taking care of your clothes dryer is to the safety of your home? With a few simple safety tips you can help prevent a clothes dryer fire.

- Have your dryer installed and serviced by a professional.
- Do not use the dryer without a lint filter.
- Choose a CO alarm that has the label of a recognized testing laboratory.
- Make sure you clean the lint filter before or after each load of laundry. Remove lint that has collected around the drum.
- Rigid or flexible metal venting material should be used to sustain proper air flow and drying time.
- Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. Once a year, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer than normal for your clothes to dry, clean lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
- Keep dryers in good working order. Gas dryers should be inspected by a professional to make sure that the gas line and connection are intact and free of leaks.
- Make sure the right plug and outlet are used and that the machine is connected properly.
- Follow the manufacturer's operating instructions and don't overload your dryer.
- Turn the dryer off if you leave home or when you go to bed.



www.nfpa.org/education



and Don't Forget...

- Dryers should be properly grounded.
- Check the outdoor vent flap to make sure it is not covered by snow.
- Keep the area around your dryer clear of all things that can burn, like boxes, cleaning supplies and clothing, etc.
- Clothes that have come in contact with flammable substances, like gasoline, paint thinner, or similar solvents should be laid outside to dry, then can be washed and dried as usual.

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Thank You!

Northampton Township would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and to recognize them each as supporters and cornerstones of our community. For it is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents.

If you're selling a home in Northampton Twp, make sure you get RESULTS!

- Ranked #12 of 1007 Agents in Total Sales For Bucks County
- Ranked #1 in Total Sales for Northampton Township
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- 17 Days-On-Market Average vs. Bucks County Average of 66 Days



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