



Doylestown Township

WINTER/SPRING 2019 • VOLUME 16 • ISSUE I

" Preserving the past, embracing the future "

The Bicentennial of Doylestown Township was successfully celebrated in 2018!

The events held this past year would not have been possible without the generous sponsors and our hard working volunteers of the Township. We had 22 sponsors who contributed not only monetarily but with time, effort and services. Also, to all of our Boards and Commissions, we want to thank you for your hard work, creative efforts and volunteerism this year. We could not have pulled off the Bicentennial year without all your help!

We encourage all of our Township residents to get involved in our community! There are various ways to get involved like serving on a Board or Commission, attending a Board of Supervisors meeting, becoming a member of the doylestown dog park, attending an arbor day tree planting event, participating in a parks & recreation program, or attending a movie or concert in Central Park.

Look for information on upcoming events/programs at www.doylestownpa.org.

Thank You To Our Bicentennial Sponsors

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
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Township Office Information

Doylestown Township

425 Wells Road

Doylestown, PA 18901

Main Phone Number: 215-348-9915

Fax Number: 215-348-8729

Website- www.doylestownpa.org

Hours- 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Board of Supervisors

Barbara N. Lyons, Chairman

Richard E. Colello, Vice Chairman

Ryan Manion

Ken Synder

Jennifer Herring

Township Staff

Stephanie Mason, Township Manager

Dean Logan, Chief of Police

Matthew O'Connor, Police Lieutenant

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Ken Wallace, Finance Director

Karen A. Sweeney, Director of Parks & Recreation

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Jackie Rowand, Open Records Officer

Keith Hass, Executive Director of DTMA

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YouTube Channel



Doylestown Township, PA
Google Group



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Comcast Channel 22
Verizon Channel 31

Township Closures

Holiday	Date
New Year's Day	January 1, 2019
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	January 21, 2019
President's Day	February 18, 2019
Good Friday	April 19, 2019
Primary Election Day	May 21, 2019
Memorial Day	May 27, 2019
Independence Day	July 4, 2019
Labor Day	September 2, 2019
Columbus Day	October 14, 2019
General Election Day	November 5, 2019
Veterans Day	November 11, 2019
Thanksgiving	November 28, 2019
Day After Thanksgiving	November 29, 2019
Christmas Day	December 25, 2019

Doylestown Township's Bicentennial Year

by Arthur Zapolski, Bicentennial Committee Chairman

Two thousand eighteen marked the two hundredth anniversary of Doylestown Township and it's been a year of celebration for us. Planning began in early 2017 with the formation of the Bicentennial Committee and we have been busy ever since. Now that 2018 has ended, it's a good time to look back at the events that took place over the last eighteen months.

We kicked off the Township's birthday bash with an actual bash - the Wrecking Ball at the old township municipal building on September 16, 2017. This family friendly day centered around the symbolic "bashing" of the old building before it was demolished with spray paint and a few judicious swings of a hammer by local residents, young and old. We really began to roll with the roll out of the new year. On January 6, 2018 the Township hosted for the public a Bicentennial Gala at Doylestown County Club. Included in this semi-formal evening was dinner, music and dancing by the ever popular 50's group, Lights Out.

Next up on the agenda was an evening at Delaware Valley University on March 13 commemorating the life and times of our native son, Dr. William Edgar Giel. He was one of the first world travelers to explore China and walk the entire length of the Great Wall at the turn of the Twentieth Century. Showing an award-winning film on Giel was part of the evening's program together with a presentation on Geil's life by a local historian.

Last summer was filled with Bicentennial events. We started off with a spectacular float in the Doylestown Memorial Day Parade on May 28. This was followed by an afternoon of Oscar Hammerstein music on the front lawn of his historic home, Highland Farms, on July 14. The sing-along featured favorites from The Sound of Music, Oklahoma, South Pacific, and many more. We ended the summer with the Township's huge fireworks display on September 29 that was made more special with the unveiling of our new flag which was the result of a competition sponsored by the Bicentennial Committee.

There were also joint celebrations with other committess. The Environmental Advisory Council hosted a Garden Party in Central Park to dedicate the Native Plant Demonstration Garden on May 6. In October, "200 Years, 200 Trees" concluded and contributed to the planting of 110 oak trees in Central Park. Also, 100 maple trees were sponsored and planted by Bucks Beautiful in other township parks.

The final sprint to the end of our Bicentennial year began in November with a Veterans Day Appreciation Luncheon on November 11, which marked the 100th anniversary of the Armistice from World War I. Dinner was provided to our veterans and their families. The highlight of the afternoon was a rendition of Andrew Sisters favorites sung by the local trio, Velvet Melody.

By the time you read this, our last event of the year will have taken place on December 18 with the dedication of a time capsule. Also, as part of the final event will be a specially designed post mark commemorating our 200th anniversary.

Thank you all for making 2018 a special year in the history of Doylestown Township!



Recycling: A Refresher Course

by Jim Baldassarre, Environmental Advisory Council, Member

The Problem

Most of us have lately seen an increase in the cost of curbside recycling, and wondering what we can do about it. This is not just a local problem. In fact, we are feeling the effects of a global crisis in the management of recyclable materials. And a large part of the problem is sitting right now just outside your house. We have to be smarter about how and what we recycle. One of the most important factors for waste haulers is the 'quality' of the recycling material stream. We don't have to sort glass, paper, plastic and metal, but the recycling stream must not become contaminated with non-recyclable materials like garbage and food waste. Contaminated recyclables cannot be processed and generally get dumped with other garbage. Contaminated recyclables is a money-loser for waste haulers, and that cost comes back to us.

Step one: Let's reduce our use of single use plastic and styrofoam

The best way to reduce waste is to reduce our use of 'stuff', especially single-use plastic and Styrofoam. Consider the lifecycle of packaging; we purchase something protected in plastic packaging, that packaging serves its purpose for a few days or weeks, and then lasts for many, many years in a landfill, or on our streets, our parks, and our oceans and our beaches. The same is true of single use plastic bags, plastic straws, cups, utensils, etc. Let's try to reduce our use of single use plastic!

Step two: Reuse rather than toss

Sometimes it's easier to toss something than to reuse it, but consider reusing certain plastics, like ziplock baggies and plastic utensils. Plastic toys can be cleaned and donated. Garden hoses can be mended and plastic furniture can be repainted. Sell or donate your old usable things to consignment.

We have a thriving market locally in Doylestown for used books, vintage clothing and 'freecycled' household items. Yard sales and flea markets are another way to make some money on your old usable stuff.

Step three: Recycle

Curbside recycling:

- paper and cardboard, including junk mail, catalogs and phone books, milk cartons and juice boxes.
- glass bottles and jars
- aluminum and steel cans
- plastic water/soda bottles, milk jugs and plastic food containers. Most single-use plastic containers are numbered 1 to 7 and can be recycled, including take-out food containers.

These materials should be empty, clean and dry. Your recycling bin should look and smell clean!

- No plastic bags! They gum up the sorting machines, so don't recycle your plastic grocery bags, and don't bag your recyclables. Plastic bags can be reused or recycled at a grocery store.
- No Styrofoam.
- No plastic toys or other unnumbered plastics.
- No food! Greasy pizza boxes are not acceptable, and food containers must be clean and dry.
- No rubber balls or hoses.
- No other trash of any kind.
- If in doubt, throw it out.



More information is available at www.buckscounty.org/docs/default-source/pc/2018recyclingguide.pdf

Let's do our part to make recycling work for everyone. Spread the word!

Snow Removal Reminders



Winter Preparation Tips

Make sure you have a good amount of supplies including a deicer for your walkway and/or driveway, shovels, ice scrapers and plenty of fluids for your car.

Prior to the snowfall, please make sure there are no obstacles on the street that will interfere with snow plows in the event of a winter storm. This includes trash cans, recycling cans and parked cars.

→ Fire Hydrants

Keep all fire hydrants nearest your home clean of snow and ice! **Adopt-a-Hydrant** at <http://www.adoptahydrant.org/>

→ Mailboxes

Residents should make sure their mailbox follow USPS guidelines. These guidelines include placement of the mailbox at least 6" to 8" back from the curb. This allows the postal carriers to reach it and makes sure there is no damage during snow removal.

From the Code Enforcement Office

It is the duty of all owners, tenants or occupants of real estate to remove snow, ice and sleet from the sidewalk abutting their property within 24 hours of precipitation. The sidewalk is to be cleared and free of ice, snow or sleet. If you are unable to clear the walkways, now is the time to find someone to aid you in the process.

Leaf & Yard Waste Recycling

Did you know that Doylestown Township will recycle your leaf and yard waste?

The drop off site is open every third Saturday of the month March - December from 9am - 11am.

Location: New Britain Road access to the back of Central Park.

425 Wells Road, Doylestown, PA 18901

Acceptable materials include small brush, leaves, sticks, and limbs. Find more information at our website. www.doylestownpa.org/information

Congratulations to Kutz Elementary for receiving the 2018 Youth Award from Bucks County Association of Township Officials.



Kutz elementary students created a Bicentennial video telling the story of Doylestown Township. This project was a collaborative effort of the Board of Supervisors, Township Staff, Adam Controy (Kutz Teacher) and Kimberly Cambra (CB Cares Educational Foundation).

2019 Budget Approved

by Ken Wallace, Finance Director



Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors at their regularly held meeting on December 18, 2018 approved the 2019 Budget. The Board along with the members of the Ways and Means Committee and the Township's staff began the budget process with public meetings in April and June. These early meetings focused on how revenues and expenses were developing through early 2018. In September we began to look ahead toward 2019 and beyond. Over the past few years, we've developed a five year budget plan for the Township. This enables us to better project our needs not only for the coming year but also what's on the horizon for the next five years.

Throughout the fall we began to drill down on specific needs for our various departments and look at long term planning for major capital items. These include but are not limited to \$1.7 million in stormwater management, an unfunded Federal mandate. \$1.3 million for the replacement of the Chapman Road Bridge and our extensive road program were also included in our budget process review. In addition with the assistance of our Ways and Means Committee and Pension Advisory Committee we were able to address some of the long term financial needs for our employee Pension Plans.

Residents will pay .5 mill increases in property taxes next year which will go toward our debt service obligations. This debt service will be for the new Police and Administration Building project.

The eventual replacement of the Chapman Road Bridge may also be addressed through debt service. The overall tax rate for 2019 will be 12.375 mills. A Township resident owning a property assessed at the Township average of \$40,638 would owe \$502.90 in property taxes yearly.

The 2019 budget revenues are expected to be \$16,280,462 and expenses are expected to be \$21,117,690. The Township is using \$4,837,228 million in reserve funds including funds from the recent bond issue for the building construction project.

Projects planned for the New Year include completing the new Township Building, road resurfacing and drainage, bridges and stream crossing repairs, MS4 stormwater work, trail work and recreation improvements at Turk Park I, II and III.

While the Township and the Ways and Means Committee developed the 2019 Budget as stated above we also worked on projecting revenues, expenditures as well as capital needs through 2023. This long-term planning has assisted the Township in projecting revenues and expenses beyond one year.

The Budget document, which is on the Township's website, provides information for the upcoming year as well where the Township anticipates we will be financially at the end of 2023.

The document can be reviewed on the Township's website at www.doylestownpa.org.

Thank You for the Privilege of Serving You

by Marguerite Quinn

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to be the voice and advocate for Doylestown Township and its residents while I served in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

Over the past 12 years, you've welcomed me into your homes, businesses, places of worship, award ceremonies and so much more. I've been enriched both personally and professionally from these experiences. Please know that they were influential on my decision making as your state legislator. Thank you very much.

I would also like to thank my current staff members, Diane Smith, Kyra Rumble and Cathy Waddington, and those who came before them.

They have been tireless advocates for all of us living and working in the 143rd Legislative District. I could not have served you well without them, and I wish them the very best.

My hours as state legislator often took me away from my family. I am blessed to have had their unending support over the last 12 years, and I am thankful for John, Maggie and Carolyn, and the rest of my close support system.

In closing, I have so enjoyed serving as your state representative, and I am humbled by the memories and your appreciation. I look forward to seeing you around Doylestown Township.

Why Sign Up for ReadyBucks Alerts?

Pennsylvania being a "Commonwealth" delegates the responsibility for all emergency services and disasters to the lowest form of government. All boroughs and townships are responsible to handle all emergency response issues until they need assistance, at which point assistance can be requested from next higher form of government.

An example of a possible emergency would be a chemical spill on Rt.611 where a vapor cloud forces the evacuation of a residential neighborhood, extensive storm damage, or a large fire in an apartment complex, again forcing the relocation of residents.

This means that Doylestown Township is required to be prepared to deal with all emergency situations until the incident becomes so large Township resources are exhausted or specialist assistance is needed. When this point is reached, assistance would be requested from the County; if the County becomes overwhelmed State and then Federal assistance would be brought on line.

One way to stay alert and receive notifications about emergencies, weather, crime and disasters is to sign up for ReadyBucks. Alerts are broadcast by authorized senders at the Bucks County Emergency Management Agency through Roam Secure Alert Network (RSAN) to residents who have signed up at ReadyBucks.

We encourage ALL RESIDENTS to sign up.

Visit BucksCounty.org to sign up now!

If you need assistance call 215-340-8700

or email at Everbridge@buckscounty.org.



Another way to stay updated on Doylestown Township alerts including severe weather, road closures, traffic alerts and more is by joining Doylestown Township's Google Group. It is a free email subscription and you can opt out at any time. Sign up on our township website!

Doylestown Fire Department No. 1

by Doylestown Fire Company No. 1



Doylestown Fire Company No. 1 has been serving the Doylestown area since 1879 as an all-volunteer organization. Over that time, the company has gone from horse and human pulled apparatus to the large, powerful vehicles we use today. We now take great lengths to train and equip our members to safely and professionally serve with the latest training and gear. So it stands to reason that we look at our response model to provide better service.

In January of 2016, the fire company started a stipend duty crew program. The program pays members a small stipend for the time they spend at the station. While still an all-volunteer organization, the stipend program is an enhanced level of service that has members who volunteer for shifts that they serve at the firehouse for the specified time. Unlike the normal response, where members are alerted to a call through a pager or app, or even sometimes the siren in town, these members are in the station throughout the shift, daytime from 8 AM - 2 PM, and nights from 9 PM - 5 AM. This allows for a faster response, bringing help as quickly as the firefighters are in the station.

The results are tangible. In the summer of 2016, damage at a fire at the Baliwick Commons office complex was minimized by the fast response

of a duty crew, saving surrounding buildings, including the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce offices.

More recently, quick response by the duty crew kept a fire at McDonalds in Doylestown Borough from spreading, allowing the firefighters to save valuable business data.

A recently released report from the Pennsylvania State Senate outlines actions needed to help the volunteer fire and emergency medical services.

But the key is people. Individuals who can dedicate time to firefighting, fire police, administrative and other tasks needed to keep our volunteer fire companies prepared and responding.

We continue to seek individuals who would like to serve with us, in firefighting or administrative roles. If you're interested in learning more, come out on a Wednesday night after 7 PM and talk to us. You can also contact us through our website at www.doylestownfireco.org or our Facebook page. We can also be found on Twitter and Instagram at [@dfc1979news](https://twitter.com/dfc1979news).

And remember, our annual Pancake Day is March 16, 2019. Look for more details on our channels in the coming months for ticket sales.

Changes To Doylestown Dog Park

by Kathy Brown, Dog Park Advisory Committee, Chairman

Our Doylestown Dog Park opened its gates 7 years ago. Since the opening, our goal has always been to provide a safe and fun place for socialized dogs and their owners to come together in our community.

We are happy to say we have been successful in that goal! However, as is expected with years of operation, we have discovered changes that are needed in order to continue the best operation of the dog park for all members.

The following changes began in the month of December. We ask you to remember that all changes are made for the long-term betterment of the dog park.

1. The fence was moved.

- ▶ The fence around what is known as the large dog area was moved so all areas are equal size. Now all three off-leash areas are one acre.
- ▶ This allows for all areas to be utilized for rotation. As areas are worn down from use and weather conditions, rotation can occur so there is minimal wear and tear going forward.
- ▶ A consistent rotation schedule will be determined to allow for optimum care of the turf.

2. Large dog area re-graded and drainage installed.

- ▶ This is a long term fix to a mud problem we have had since the gates opened.
- ▶ The grading will minimize/eliminate the collection of water between the gate area and the large tree, therefore preventing deterioration of the turf resulting in mud.
- ▶ The French drain will move water from the rotation area through the large dog area and out the low side of the fence.

3. Water turned off for the winter season.

- ▶ This will eliminate the potential freezing of waterlines.
- ▶ It will also prevent ice from building up near the pavilion.

As always, please remember that all rules are in place for the safety of all members and their member dogs.

Finally, and now that winter is upon us, it is important to note that the Doylestown Dog Park is a part of the Doylestown Township Park System. During days of snow and ice, residents' safety, which includes road clearing, is top priority for township staff. For the safety of everyone involved, we ask that common sense be used when planning visits to the dog park.

If you are interested in joining the dog park please go to www.doylestownrec.com and sign up for one of the following free Orientation Sessions to be held at Doylestown Borough Hall:

Saturday,	January 5th	@	10:30am
Saturday,	February 9th	@	10:30am
Tuesday,	March 12th	@	6:45pm
Thursday,	April 18th	@	6:45pm
Tuesday,	May 21st	@	6:45pm



Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick joins LWCF advocates to protect America's most important conservation program.

by Brian Fitzpatrick, Congressman



Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick joins LWCF advocates to protect America's most important conservation program.

Since its establishment over 50 years ago, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has promoted recreational activity and contributed to our nation's robust economy, along with conserving our national parks, forests, and critical wildlife areas. Treasured public lands such as Nockamixon State Park, Tyler State Park, and cherished community venues such as Hatfield Community Park are all just a few of the examples of the beneficiaries of this valuable fund.

Last month, I joined LWCF champions in a rally on the steps of the U.S. Capitol with conservation leaders and outdoor recreation advocates to demand Congress reauthorize and fully fund America's most important conservation and recreation program.

LWCF does not use any taxpayer dollars – it is funded using a small portion of revenues from offshore oil and gas royalty payments.

Outdoor recreation, conservation and historic preservation activities contribute more than \$887 billion annually to the U.S. economy, supporting 7.6 million jobs.

As we rapidly approach the end of the year, I am working in Congress to fully fund and reauthorize the LWCF, which affects 98 percent of counties here in the United States. I strongly support and cosponsored H.R. 502, bipartisan legislation to permanently reauthorize the LWCF and empower conservation efforts in our communities and across the country.

This bill ensures that public lands remain truly accessible to the American people for outdoor recreation by setting aside at least 1.5 percent (a minimum of \$10 million) of LWCF funds to increase access to existing federal public lands for hunting, fishing and other recreational purposes.

I am encouraged by the strong bipartisan support for permanent funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and look forward to seeing bipartisan action in the weeks ahead.

Thank You, Training for Warriors Doylestown

by Joe Salvati, Chairman Friends of Kids Castle



A very big Kids Castle thank you to Training for Warriors Doylestown for the wonderful fundraiser they organized and for all the donations we received through their generosity.

Mike (Subs) Sobczak, the owner of this gym, along with his family and staff members provided special exercise classes throughout the entire day, which included personal instruction at all skill levels so that everyone could participate and donate.

Smaller children had supervised games to play and a bounce-house to keep them entertained while their parents sweat, smiled and had fun.

The TFW Doylestown team also sought out special items donated by local businesses as part of a huge raffle held at the end of the day.

Kids Castle benefited from both the funds raised through the raffle ticket sales and donations made to participate in the exercise classes. What a fabulous event enjoyed by everyone!

The money raised through their generosity goes directly toward the ongoing improvements needed at Kids Castle for children of all abilities.

Through these improvements, children with diverse abilities will grow in the self-confidence that comes along with that sense of belonging by welcoming everyone to join in the fun at our playground.

Thanks to the ongoing support of caring people like Mike Subs and the Training for Warriors Doylestown Team, the magic of Kids Castle will continue forward for even more children for years to come.

Please consider joining our Circle of Friends who are helping to provide a place to play for all children by making a donation in any amount you can afford.

You can do this by visiting the "Donate Your Way" section of our website at SaveKidsCastle.org Thank you for your ongoing support!

'tis the season...

With the help of our volunteers at both the Bicentennial time capsule event as well as the annual Board and Commissions holiday party, Doylestown Township donated 159 lbs. of food to a local food bank!

Thank You!

Important Phone Numbers

Bucks County Courthouse
215-348-6000

Bucks County Free Library
215-348-9081

Bucks County Health Department
215-345-3318

**Bucks County Office of Consumer
Protection**
215-348-6060

**Bucks County Water & Sewer
Authority**
215-348-2538

Central Bucks School District
267-893-2000

Doylestown Borough
215-348-4140

Doylestown Fire Company #1
Non-emergency: 215-348-2656

Doylestown Hospital
215-345-2200

Doylestown Post Office
267-880-3918

PA Hotline (for State Roads)
888-349-7623

PennDOT
215-345-6060

Police Non-Emergency
215-348-4201
215-348-4200

Boards & Commissions

Agriculture Security Advisory Council

Bike & Hike Committee

Board of Auditors

UCC Board of Appeals

Dog Park Advisory Board

Environmental Advisory Council/ Shade
Tree Commission

Friends of Kids Castle

Historical Architectural Review Board

Doylestown Township Municipal Authority

Park & Recreation Board

Planning Commissions

Public Water & Sewer Advisory Board

Telecommunications Advisory Board

Traffic Advisory Committee

Ways & Means Committee

Vacancy Board

Zoning Hearing Board

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