

# FALLS TOWNSHIP

Fall / Winter 2019

*Bucks County, Pa.*

## Opioids Staggering Locally and Globally

**W**hile it may not be on the front pages as much as in years past, make no mistake that the opioid crisis is still causing loss and pain across America and in Falls Township. The numbers are staggering; according to the Centers for Disease Control, from 1999 to 2017 almost 218,000 Americans died from prescription opioids. And the death toll in 2017 was five times higher than it was in 1999. For comparison, consider that in the almost 18 years Americans have fought in Afghanistan the death toll for U.S. forces is around 2,400. It is an epidemic that affects neighborhoods all over America and people of all ages, races, genders, orientations and income levels.

Falls Township, like other suburban communities around America, is seeing the effects of this epidemic in every neighborhood. Our own statistics for the past few years are disturbing but important for everyone to see. In 2017 our police responded to 117 total overdoses, 20 of which were fatal. In 2018 there were 136 overdoses, 17 of which were fatal. As of June 30, Falls police responded to 56 overdoses, five of which were fatal. Over the past two and a half years our police have also administered the life-saving drug Naloxone more than 250 times.

While these numbers can be disheartening, a close look at the statistics shows some hope. If the number of overdoses for 2019 stays at its current rate it will mark the lowest number since 2016 and the first time the number has dropped in seven years. Similarly, we may see the fewest number of fatalities since 2013. Still, we must always keep in mind that even one overdose, one lost life, is too many.

For the past several years Falls Township has taken steps to combat this crisis. It begins with the wonderful, long-term relationship our police have had with Pennsbury School District. The education program known as DARE has been expanded and improved upon over the years and remains the most extensive program of its kind in Bucks County. Recently the program was expanded to specifically address opioids.

The Board of Supervisors has also taken steps to help our police by passing the Hotel/Motel Registration Ordinance in 2017 which requires establishments in Falls to keep records of those staying in their rooms. Our police have used these records to cause significant damage to the flow of drugs through our Township and make many arrests. The Board also voted in December 2018 to join a class action lawsuit against opioid manufacturers to recover expenses the Township has incurred over the past decade. Joining the suit costs the Township nothing since the law firms handling the suit only get paid if the suit is successful.

Finally, our police officers, the ones on the front lines of this epidemic, along with the rescue squads, take every opportunity to spread information to those addicted to drugs and their families and friends. The information includes contact information for the Steps to Recovery treatment facility in Middletown, and a hotline to call to report suspected drug activity. This is all in addition to the "Push out the Pusher" campaign, which has also helped our police make arrests in Falls Township.

(The Chairman's Message Continues On Page 2)

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# Inside This Edition

Police Department News .....	3-4	Board Rejects Elcon Application .....	8
Park and Recreation News .....	5	Date Set for Bulk Disposal .....	8
Touch a Truck Event a Big Hit .....	6	Public Works Department News .....	9
Falls Welcomes New Businesses .....	6	Winter Tips from the Fire Marshal .....	10
Board Backs Adopt a Book Plan.....	7	Township Employment Milestones .....	11
Grant Sought For Traffic Signals .....	7	'Live Here, Spend Here' Initiative .....	11

## Falls Township Contact Information

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Jeffrey Rocco, Secretary / Treasurer

Brian Galloway, Supervisor  
 Jeff Boraski, Supervisor

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**Police Information - Press 5**

**Township Information - Press 6**

After you press 6 for Township Information, the following numbers indicate each department

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**Fire Marshal Emergency Management, Environmental - 2**

Richard Dippolito, Fire Marshal

**Public Works Department - 3**

Jason Lawson, Public Works Director

**Parks and Recreation - 4**

Brian Andrews, Director

**Finance Department - 5**

Betsy Reukauf, Director

**Tax Office - 6**

Kimberly Scarpiello

**Police Department:** (215) 949-9100

William J. Wilcox, Chief of Police

**Animal Control:** (215) 945-3100

**Township Tax Collector**

Kimberly Scarpiello  
 188 Lincoln Highway,  
 Suite 108  
 Fairless Hills, PA 19030  
**(215) 949-9008**

**Township Engineer**

Joseph G. Jones  
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 188 Lincoln Highway,  
 Suite 206  
 Fairless Hills, PA 19030  
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**Township Solicitor**

Lauren Gallagher  
 Rudolph Clarke, LLC  
 Seven Neshaminy Interplex  
 Suite 200  
 Trevoze, PA 19053  
**(215) 633-1890**

**District Court - 07-1-10**

Jan Vislosky, District Judge  
 9187 New Falls Road  
 Fallsington, PA 19054  
**(215) 736-0231**

# The Opioid Crisis Still Having Local Impact

**(Chairman's Message  
 Continued From Front Cover)**

As with any other problem, we will only be successful if we all work together. We encourage those with addiction problems to seek help. For families and friends, please take advantage of the resources mentioned here to help those you care about. And for those who have suspicions about drug activity in their neighborhoods, please contact our police. Every decision has the potential to save a life.

Falls Township is taking part in the HITBACK Program, which provides an anonymous avenue to turning in drug dealers or providing tips to police about drug activity in your area. There are several ways you can help us in this way. Call the Tipline at **(215) 949-9120** or email [hitback@fallstwp.com](mailto:hitback@fallstwp.com). You can text the word **BUCKSDRUGTIPS** and your tip to **TIP411 (847411)**.

You can also contact a substance abuse professional through the Steps To Recovery program for a free consultation and guidance at **(888) 755-7227**.

*-Bob Harvie*



# Police Department



## Follow Us On Social Media

You can stay up-to-date with the Falls Township Police Department by following us on Facebook, Twitter and CrimeWatch at <https://bucks.crimewatchpa.com/fallstwpd>

## Anonymous Tip Line: (215) 949-9120



Falls Township Police has created a tip line allowing the public to contact the Police department anonymously.

Members of the public are encouraged to report suspicious individuals or activity. Tips are then analyzed and passed on to the appropriate division for follow-up. Because the tip line is anonymous, the sender will not receive a response.

The tip line is not an emergency number. If you witness a crime in

progress or have an emergency that requires the police, please call 911.

## Neighborhood Watch Program

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of residents in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce crime, solve problems, and improve the quality of life in your area.

Neighborhood Watch is a group of concerned citizens, joining together to assist local law enforcement in identifying and reporting suspicious or criminal activities in their neighborhoods.

By taking an active role in the protection of their homes and families, residents are better able to discourage criminal activity and keep their neighborhoods safe.

For more information, please contact **Officer John Yeager, (215) 949-9100 ext. 434** or emailing [j.yeager@fallstwp.com](mailto:j.yeager@fallstwp.com).



## SafetyNet Tracking Systems



Caring for someone with a cognitive condition who wanders is a considerable responsibility. SafetyNet Tracking Systems helps public safety agencies quickly find and bring home loved ones who may be lost.

Falls Township Police can provide your loved one with a SafetyNet bracelet that they should always wear. Water-proof bracelets feature a radio frequency transmitter that emits a continuous signal. If a loved one is missing, caregivers would contact authorities immediately. Trained search and rescue teams track the signal emitted from the bracelet, locate the missing person and return him or her home safely.

Radio frequency technology can work in densely wooded areas, building and shallow water, even when GPS and cellular technology can not.

For information or to inquire about registering a family member or someone under your care, contact Falls Township Police Administrative Assistant, Gina Seiler at **(215) 949-9100 ext. 303**.

## Citizens Police Academy

The Falls Township Police Department's Citizens Police Academy is designed to educate Township residents about department procedures, responsibilities and demands on Police officers. Some of the topics that will be covered include: An overview of the department's structure; recruitment and training; interview techniques; a visit to the (911) county radio room; traffic enforcement; as well as observation of court hearings at the local District Justice. In addition, participants will be given an opportunity to "ride along" with a Patrol officer.

Check our website, Facebook or Twitter for dates.

## "Coffee with a Cop"

Coffee with a Cop allows Police and residents to come together in an informal, neutral space to sit down with a mix of officers, detectives, sergeants, lieutenants and the Chief to ask questions, discuss happenings in the area, voice concerns, and get to know the officers who patrol their areas. This is a great way to strengthen police-community partnership and build friendships throughout the community.

Coffee with a Cop is just another way to allow our residents to make Falls Township a better place to live.

Check our website, Facebook or Twitter for coming dates.



## Kids in Command For One Day



Our Chief for a Day wrapped up in June. Eleanor Roosevelt, Fallsington Elementary, Manor Elementary, Oxford Valley Elementary, Penn Ryn School and Penn Valley Elementary each had one of their students in 5th grade serve as a Chief for Day. This program was developed to give students the opportunity to interact in a positive way with our Chief, members of the Falls Township Police Department and our local District Justice, Jan Vislosky. We look forward to continuing this program for the upcoming school year. In the photo at left, the student Chiefs pose with (in back row from left) District Justice Jan Vislosky, Supervisor Jeff Boraski, Supervisor Chairman Bob Harvie, Supervisor Vice-Chairman Jeffry Dence and Chief William Wilcox.

## Officers Awarded For Going Above and Beyond

At a recent Falls Township Supervisors meeting, Chief William Wilcox presented several awards to our officers for going above and beyond the normal call of duty. The following officers were issued awards:

### Police Life Saving Awards

Corporal Steve Langan, Officer Bruce Rhodunda, Corporal Gerard Piasecki, Corporal Nicholas Pinto, Officer Nicole Diviny, Officer James Szamboti and Officer Ryan Murphy

### Unit Citation Awards

Corporal Victoria Crosier, Corporal David Ahrens, Detective Catherine Coffman, Officer John Yeager, Officer Jonathan Caesar, Officer Richard Krotz, Officer Matthew Killeen, Officer Stephanie Metterle, Sgt. Bryan White, Corporal Michael Callahan, Officer Edward Elmore, Sgt. Christopher Clark, Sgt. Anthony Fanelli, Detective Matthew Tomcho, Detective's Administrative Assistant Renee Thompson, Sgt. Martial Belinsky, Corporal Nicholas Pinto, Lt. Nelson Whitney, Sgt. Ray Fanelli, Officer Michael Parnes, Officer James Szamboti, Officer Bruce Rhodunda, Detective Steven Reeves, Officer George Thomas, Officer David Gold, Officer Brian Fisher, Officer Ryan Murphy, Detective Dennis O'Connell, Det. Gregory Small, Det. John Vella, Officer Jeffrey Omlor, Officer Christopher Iacono, Retired Officer Howard Shook, Deputy Sheriff Mitchell, Deputy Kesler and Deputy Parker

### Police Meritorious Award

Detective Catherine Coffman, Officer Edward Elmore (and K9 Monty), Sgt. Christopher Clark, Officer James Szamboti

### Letters of Commendation

Officer Brian Fisher (and K9 Leo), Officer Stephanie Metterle and Det. Sgt. Raymond Fanelli were all issued letters of commendation.

## Add Your Name to the No Solicitation Registry

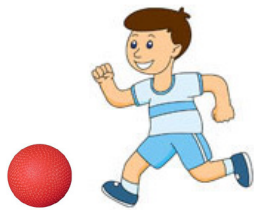
In 2014, the Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance that allows residents to add their name to a No Solicitation Registry. This list is distributed to anyone that applies for a Solicitation Permit with instructions not to solicit at any of the addresses on the list. To be placed on this list, please contact the Police Records department at **(215) 949-9100**, or you may use the link on the Township website <http://fallstwp.com/tools-resources/no-solicitation-registry.aspx>.



# Park and Recreation

## Youth Kickball

Falls Township Parks and Recreation is once again holding a youth kickball program (ages 7-11) on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Mill Creek Road Sports Complex (Levittown Continental Challenger Field). The program will begin Sept. 7 and conclude on October 12. Cost for a resident is \$10. Cost for a non-resident is \$15. For further information or to register, please contact Brian Andrews at (215) 949-9000 ext. 220.



## Falls Township Family Festival

Looking for a great family event? Look no further than the annual Falls Township Family Festival. This year's event will be held on Saturday, September 7 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Falls Township Community Park. The event features bounce houses, food and table vendors, face-painting, petting zoo, a photo booth, balloon artist, and a DJ. The event culminates in an awesome fireworks display at dusk. This is a FREE event. For further information, please contact (215) 949-9000 ext. 221. Rain date is Saturday, September 14.



## Yoga

Yoga continues on Monday evenings from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Parks and Recreation Office (Room 105) at the township building. Six-week session cost is \$48 for a resident; or \$54 for a non-resident. For further information or to register, please contact Brian Andrews at (215) 949-9000 ext. 220.

## Halloween Party

Parks and Recreation is excited to announce it will be holding its annual Halloween Party for children (all ages) on Saturday, October 26 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Falls Township Senior Center. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Games, arts and craft activities, and prizes for the best costumes will be awarded. There is a nominal charge of \$1 per registrant. Pre-registration will be required for this event through your Capturepoint account. Any questions, contact Barbara Loessy at (215) 949-9000 ext. 221.



## Park and Recreation Board Meetings

The Park and Recreation Board meets the first Tuesday of the month at Three Arches (335 Trenton Road) at 7 p.m. These meetings are open to the public. Note: The first meeting of the fall will be Tuesday, September 3. For questions or further information, contact Barbara Loessy at (215) 949-9000 ext. 221.

## Medicare Information Workshop

Getting close to retirement and not quite sure what Medicare will and will not cover? Learn more during our FREE educational seminar on Thursday, October 3. A representative from DeVal Senior Advisers will be on hand from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. to answer your questions. The workshop will be held in the public meeting room at the Falls Township Municipal Complex (188 Lincoln Highway). To pre-register, contact Brian Andrews at (215) 949-9000 ext. 220 or by email [b.andrews@fallstwp.com](mailto:b.andrews@fallstwp.com).

## Fall Photo Contest

Parks and Recreation will be holding its fifth annual photo contest this Fall. Entries will be accepted (electronically only) beginning October 1 and continuing through November 30. Photos can be submitted for the following categories: Plants, Landscape, Architecture, Wildlife, and Other. Participants can submit as many photos as they wish, but will only be eligible to receive one prize. All photos must be taken within the boundaries of Falls Township. For further information, please call Brian Andrews at (215) 949-9000 ext. 220.



## Holiday Tree Lighting

The annual Falls Township Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place Saturday, December 7 at 6 p.m. at Three Arches. This event is open to the public. Light refreshments will be provided. For information, please contact Barbara Loessy at (215) 949-9000 ext. 221.

## Breakfast with Santa

Our annual Breakfast with Santa will take place Saturday, December 21 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Falls Township Senior Center. There is a nominal fee of \$1 per registrant. Event is for children of all ages. Pre-registration will be required through your Capturepoint account. A delicious breakfast will be served, and children will have the opportunity to complete a craft project and get their picture taken with Santa. For information or to register, call Barbara Loessy at (215) 949-9000 ext. 221.



# Touch a Truck Nets \$10K for Nonprofit



Executive Director of the Barkann Family Healing Hearts Foundation Mike Barnes, second from right, stands with Falls Township officials (from left) Public Works Director Jason Lawson, Supervisor Brian Galloway, Supervisor Jeff Rocco, Supervisor Chairman Bob Harvie, Supervisor Jeff Boraski and Park and Recreation Director Brian Andrews. The Board of Supervisors presented Barnes with a check for \$10,850, the proceeds from the Third Annual Touch A Truck event. Not pictured is Supervisor Vice-Chairman Jeff Dence.

Falls Supervisors presented funds to The Barkann Family Hearts Foundation.

The Falls Township Board of Supervisors presented a check for \$10,850 to The Barkann Family Healing Hearts Foundation.

The funds were raised through more than 20 sponsorships as part of the third annual Touch a Truck event, which was held on April 27 at Falls Township Community Park. The free family event was a collaborative effort with the Falls Township Parks and Recreation department, Supervisor Jeff Boraski and township staff. The day featured dozens of various construction, landscaping and emergency response vehicles, as well as heavy machinery and equipment.

"It's probably our most successful year yet," Boraski said.

Middletown Township resident Mike Barnes, Executive Director of the Barkann Family Healing Hearts Foundation, accepted the contribution on behalf of the nonprofit organization and thanked organizers for putting together an inclusive fun family event.

"We were so honored and grateful to be part of the event," Barnes said. "Welcome to our Healing Hearts family."

## Falls Welcomes New Businesses

Falls Township has had the pleasure of welcoming nearly two dozen new businesses to town in the last six months. A tenet of our Live Here, Spend Here campaign is that by shopping Falls first we continue to bolster our local economy, creating jobs and helping our local businesses to thrive.

We welcome the following new business additions:

**Steam Team, LLC**, 225 Lincoln Highway, Suite 217, Fairless Hills  
**Web Linked Solutions**, 251 S. Olds Boulevard, Fairless Hills  
**The Falls Banquet by Eventroostr**, 80 M Y Lane, Morrisville  
**Superior Carwash**, 553 Lincoln Highway, Fairless Hills  
**Priva, LLC**, 81 Big Oak Road, Suite 202, Morrisville  
**Sewing Shop**, 24 Fallsington-Tullytown Road, Levittown  
**Ace Automotive**, 212 Lincoln Highway, Suite 301, Fairless Hills  
**Poke Ocean Japanese Cuisine**, 229 Plaza Boulevard, Suite 29A, Morrisville  
**Micro Trap Corporation**, 225 Lincoln Highway, Suite 19L, Fairless Hills  
**Mid-Atlantic Event Group**, 225 Lincoln Highway, Suite 183, Fairless Hills  
**Resource Recycling Management**, 60 Solar Drive A, Fairless Hills  
**Fortunoff Backyard Shop**, 109 Lincoln Highway, Fairless Hills  
**Dulce Bistro & Bakery**, 229 Plaza Boulevard, Suite 27, Morrisville  
**Fairhills Appliance Repair**, 10 Victoria Lane, Levittown



**Celtic Healthcare**, 225 Lincoln Highway, Suite 149, Morrisville  
**Maule's Auto Service**, 100 Central Avenue, Fairless Hills  
**Dominicano Cargo**, 225 Lincoln Highway, Suite 18M, Fairless Hills  
**Kmarie Braiding Salon**, 900 W. Trenton Avenue, Suite 5, Morrisville  
**Young Nail & Facial, Inc.**, 93 Makefield Road, Morrisville  
**Genesa Home Health Care**, 164 Lincoln Highway, Suite 202, Fairless Hills  
**Artistic Nails Plus**, 493 Oxford Valley Road, Fairless Hills  
**Zimora's Beauty Boutique**, 312 W. Trenton Avenue, Suite 3, Morrisville



# Board Backs Adopt-a-Book Plan

With an eye on helping to save Bucks County's history for future generations, the Falls Township Board of Supervisors contributed \$5,000 to the county's Adopt a Book record of deed preservation project.

Recorder of Deeds Robin Robinson attended a Supervisors meeting and shared with the governing body that many of the county's 1,400 deed books were falling apart and rotten from age, poor care and failure to keep the books in climatized storage.

Robinson, who has been in her position since January 2018, discovered the dilapidated books soon after beginning her term.

"The history of our county was on the floor of the warehouse," Robinson said of the shock she felt in finding the books scattered about and in such poor condition.

She soon launched the Adopt a Book program and has since raised almost \$14,000 to cover the repair of about 200 books. To date, Falls Township has contributed the most to the preservation program.

"These books belong to the people of Bucks County and the people of the United States," Robinson said of their importance. "Maybe we'll spark some child's interest in history."

In February, Robinson attended the Falls Supervisors meeting to show off the freshly bound two-volume Book 1, which resulted from the township's generous contribution. The deed books have records dating back to 1684, she said.

"I picked these books because there's a lot of Falls information in there," she said. "I've been taking the books all around the county. Everyone is so excited and grateful to Falls Township."

Supervisor Chairman Bob Harvie said it was a shame that the deed books had "fallen into embarrassing states of disrepair," but said the Supervisors were happy to help preserve local history.

"This is the history of the county," Harvie said. "It's the history of the Commonwealth."

The county's records of deeds are online from 1980 to present. However, anyone researching genealogy, or a deed record prior to 1980 would need to refer to the books.

Some of the pre-Civil War records listed the buying of slaves.

"Quakers would buy slaves and set them free," Robinson said.

"They would record the sale and freeing the slaves in our books."



**Falls Township Supervisors donated \$5,000 to Bucks County's Deed Preservation Project**

Books with those records are on loan to the Pearl S. Buck House for the next year, she said.

The archival polyester sleeve over the books allows them to be touched without causing harm, Robinson said. The books also have UVI protection for light. If properly cared for, Robinson said the books are expected to stay in good condition for 500 years.

Books will be kept in the storage unit in the former sheriff's department, which is locked and climate-controlled, Robinson said.

Robinson applied for four grants to help cover book repair costs and is accepting contributions to cover further preservation efforts. She has spoken to local community groups and organizations about the preservation process and the importance of the history in the deed books. To learn more or arrange for Robinson to speak to your organization, call her assistant, Jacqueline Alexander at (215) 348-6209.

## Falls Seeks Grant for Adaptive Traffic Signals

With an eye on helping to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality - all while being fiscally responsible - the Falls Township Supervisors set the wheels in motion for a grant request. If received, the grant would largely fund an adaptive traffic project.

The board voted unanimously to accept a grant and proposal that Remington & Vernick Engineers will submit to the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission on behalf of the township. The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program provides 80 percent funding, with a 20 percent local fund-

ing match, for transportation projects that it determines to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality.

Falls applied for a grant to install adaptive traffic signals at heavily traveled roads throughout the township, including Lincoln Highway, West Trenton Avenue and Oxford Valley Road. Officials said adaptive traffic signals adjust almost instantly to the changes in traffic. Instead of motorists having to wait for a pre-determined traffic cycle, adaptive traffic signals would change based on the volume of vehicles in any given lane, meaning the lane with no cars in it, for example, would not

be given the green light while drivers in other lanes waited their turn.

The Supervisors approved Remington & Vernick Engineers to undertake the application, which is more than 20 pages long, at a cost not to exceed \$4,500. Applications were due to the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission by June 28. The Commission anticipates awarding grants during its Oct. 24 meeting.

A Remington & Vernick official told the board that Middletown Township recently finished an adaptive traffic project which has been shown to dramatically reduce traffic congestion.

# Board Rejects Elcon Project

Following a land development presentation, the Falls Township Supervisors unanimously rejected the Elcon Recycling Services application during a special meeting. The governing body decision follows Falls Township Planning Commission rejection. The Elcon plan was first discussed five years ago.

Following the vote, Supervisors Chairman Bob Harvie noted that the Department of Environmental Protection decision is still forthcoming. He also cited numerous issues with the application itself, including omissions of details, such as local hospitals and how a spill or other mishap would be handled.

Falls Supervisor Jeff Boraski was first to question Elcon representatives on several concerns. Elcon engineer Erik Garton said details were still being worked out.

Boraski and Falls Supervisors Vice Chairman Jeff Dence pressed representatives about the proposed seven-foot-high retaining wall and how employees would leave the property in the event of an emergency. Fire Marshal Rich Dippolito, a volunteer fire-

fighter for more than 40 years, voiced concerns about emergency services crews being able to gain access given the retaining wall and proposed fence above it.

Falls Engineer Joseph Jones said he was concerned about Elcon's plan to use 70,000 cubic yards of soil to bring the site above the floodplain. That amount of soil would amount to 5,000 dump trucks hauling soil in, Jones said.

"It's exorbitant," he said, adding that constructing the retaining wall alone will take "a long period of time in months, not weeks."

After Elcon's presentation and roughly an hour of questions from the board and its professionals, Boraski made a motion to deny the application, which Supervisor Jeff Rocco seconded.

"I don't think this site fits," Boraski said.

Since the law requires public comment before any vote is taken, the board heard from 34 residents and non-residents alike who spoke in opposition to the Elcon plan during the allotted 90-minute public comment period.

## Bulk Disposal Day Set For October 12

Mark your calendars for the next FREE BULK DISPOSAL DAY, which will be held on Saturday, October 12 from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. This bulk disposal program is for resident homeowners of Falls Township and Tullytown Borough. Proof of residency is required. It is not intended for commercial customers or contractors.

**WHERE:** GROWS Landfill behind

Waste Management's Turkey Hill Office 1000 New Ford Mill Road, Falls Township

**DROP OFF:** Bulky waste items, yard waste and appliances. For information, call Waste Management at **(800) 869-5566**.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The following materials cannot be accepted: liquids, oil, paint, car batteries, propane tanks, gas cylinders, hazardous household wastes, tires, chemicals,

pesticides and spray cans. No refrigerators, air conditioners or freezers. No electronics, including TVs, computer equipment, stereo equipment, or any other electrical item that plugs in or operates on batteries. Bucks County organizes household hazardous waste collections throughout the year. For further details on the household hazardous waste collections, call **(215) 345-3400**.

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81 Crabtree Drive, Levittown, PA 19055  
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www.fairlesshillshealthcenter.com

## Leaf Pickups, Holiday Tree Collection Dates Are Set

Falls Township will collect all yard waste, as well as leaves, on October 26, November 9 and November 23.

We will not accept yard waste with the regular trash.

Leaves **MUST** be bagged in 30-gallon biodegradable PAPER BAGS or placed in 30-gallon trash containers **WITHOUT LIDS**.

They are to be placed curbside by 6 a.m. on the designated collection day in the same location as your regular trash pickup. **LEAVES IN ANY OTHER CONTAINER WILL NOT BE COLLECTED.**

Christmas trees will be collected January 11, 2020 and January 25, 2020.

Trees will not be picked up with the regular trash.

Please check, [www.fallstwp.com](http://www.fallstwp.com) for any updates





## Tips For Safe Snow Removal

While enjoying the winter wonderland, remember these tips to help Falls Township crews clear the roads more quickly and efficiently:

- Mailboxes should be installed in accordance with U.S. Postal Service standards. Mailboxes installed incorrectly and, as a result are struck by a Township plow during snow removal operations, will be the sole responsibility of the property owner to repair.

- Move your vehicles out of the street and into private driveways (this also reduces the amount of snow you have to shovel).

- During any snow emergency, all vehicles must be removed from roadways.

- Wait to shovel your driveway until the plows have completed their final pass along the curb line or edge of pavement. A pass or two through the neighborhood does not mean the Township is finished with snow removal and your effort to clear your driveway entrance might be wasted.

- Shovel to the right-hand side of your driveway to reduce the amount of snow pushed back onto your driveways by plows.



- Clear your sidewalk by shoveling and salting within 24 hours of the last evidence of precipitation.

- Do not throw snow from any sidewalk or driveway into the roadway. Doing so is illegal, and you will be cited.

- Keep all receptacles (trash and recycling) on the sidewalk, not in the street.

- If you have an inlet in front of your property, please assist the Township in keeping it clear of snow and ice. This will prevent ice from accumulating and reduce drainage issues when snow begins to melt.

Please be patient during the snow removal process while the Township's plow operators work to clear roadways. We are here to get the roads open for travel as quickly as possible. Please remember we try to plow the roads from curb to curb to open the roadway as wide as possible. Some residents have no grass buffer between the curb and their sidewalks and snow is plowed onto the sidewalk area. This cannot be avoided. Snow is plowed to the shoulder of the roads to clear the travel areas.



## Use Precaution Around Overhead Electrical Lines

Be aware of power lines at your job site, and assume ALL lines are energized and potentially dangerous.

Mark a safety boundary to keep workers and equipment at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines. Lines carrying more than 50,000 volts require clearance greater than 10 feet. Power-operated equipment, when used in construction, must maintain 20 feet of clearance from lines up to 350kv until specific safety measures have been taken. Visit the OSHA website at [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov) for specific clearance requirements.

It is important to use a dedicated spotter when operating heavy equipment, but do not try to guide a load and be a spotter at the same time. But most importantly, know what to do if your equipment contacts a power line.

### 5 Safe Excavation Tips

1. Plan your job and pre-mark your dig area with white paint, flags, and/or stakes.
2. Call 811, the state-required number of days before you dig.
3. Wait the required time for utilities to locate and mark their lines.
4. Respect the marks when digging.
5. Dig with care and follow hand excavating rules.

### Paint and Flag Locator Mark Colors

- Red = Electric
- Yellow = Gas, Oil or Steam
- Orange = Communications Lines, CATV
- Blue = Water
- Purple = Reclaimed Water, Irrigation, Slurry
- Green = Sewers and Drain Lines
- Pink = Temporary Survey Markings
- White = Proposed Excavation

If for any reason you are unsure what is happening in your neighborhood, please call the Public Works Office at **(215) 949-9000 ext. 280** for a possible explanation. Not all utilities must notify the Township when doing work in your area.

## Safety Tips For a Fire-Free Winter

### Preventing workplace fires:

**Get Organized** – Practice good workplace housekeeping. Clutter contributes to fires by providing fuel and by preventing access to exits and emergency equipment.

**Designated Smoking Areas** – Smoke only in designated areas and extinguish smoking materials safely. Never smoke in storerooms or chemical storage areas.

**Fire Extinguishers** – Maintain the appropriate type and number of fire extinguishers and learn how to properly use a fire extinguisher. Did you know that the Falls Township Fire Marshal's office offers free fire extinguisher training?

**Electrical Hazards** – Report all electrical hazards. Many fires start in faulty wiring and malfunctioning electrical equipment.

**Access to Control Panels** – Electrical control panels need to have free access maintained so that the electric could be shut off easily.

**Maintenance** – Maintain machinery to prevent overheating and friction sparks.

**Sprinkler Systems & Smoke Detectors** – Never block sprinklers, firefighting equipment or emergency exits. Observe clearances when stacking materials. Test sprinkler systems and smoke detectors at least annually.

**Chemical Safety** – Use and store chemicals safely. Read the label and the Material Safety Data Sheet to determine flammability and other fire hazards. Provide adequate ventilation when using and storing these substances.

**Waste Control & Storage** – Control the accumulations of flammable and combustible waste materials and residues so that they do not contribute to a fire emergency.

**Prevent Ignition** – Use all precautions to prevent ignition in potentially explosive atmospheres such as those containing flammable liquid vapors or fine particles. Use non-sparking tools, and control static electricity as required.

**Exits** – Emergency exit diagrams should be posted and emergency exits should be well-lit with neon regulation signs.

**Contact Info** – Employees should have a list of emergency contact phone numbers in case of emergency. Remember that people will often panic in an intense situation; therefore, basics such as the company address, phone number and floor plan should be posted.

**A-C-T, don't panic** – **A** – ASSESS THE SITUATION  
**C** – CHOOSE YOUR RESPONSE  
**T** – TAKE ACTION

And don't forget to call 9-1-1.

Wintertime is the time to fire up the fireplaces, turn on the furnace, and get that space heater out of storage. This can increase the risk of residential fire, so follow the safety tips below when heating your home during the holidays.

### Fireplaces

Inspect your chimney regularly for cracks and obstructions.

Don't let creosote build-up in your chimney, as it could set off a roof fire.

Don't "over build" your fire using too much paper. You could ignite the soot in your chimney.

Never burn charcoal in your fireplace. It gives off deadly carbon monoxide.

Keep your damper open if there are hot ashes in your fireplace. Closing the damper could enable hot ashes to heat up and cause a damaging fire.

Let ashes cool in a sealed metal container. They can stay hot for multiple days. Make sure they are cool before you put them in a trash can.



### Furnaces

Before you turn on your furnace, have it inspected by a qualified professional.

Make sure to check the condition of the automatic controls and emergency shutoffs.

If the walls and ceiling around your furnace feel hot, add insulation or additional clearance space.

Keep all trash and combustibles away from the furnace.

Check your chimney for cracks or loose bricks.

Seal all unused flue openings with solid masonry.

### Space Heaters

Make sure your space heater has a working safety light, alarm, automatic shut-off switch, and a cut-off device to prevent overheating.

Keep all objects, people and pets at least three feet away from the heater.

Never use a space heater in your bathroom. Water and electric appliances don't mix.

**Fire Prevention Week  
is October 6-12**



# Congrats

Falls Township would like to recognize our dedicated staff for reaching years of service employment milestones.

## 5 years

*James Szamboti  
Ronald MacPherson  
Brian Andrews*

## 10 years

*Stephanie Metterle  
Edward Neubauer  
Deborah Perkiss  
Matthew Killeen*

## 15 years

*Maria Lopez  
Dennis O'Connell  
George Thomas*

## 20 years

*Peter Gray  
Steven Langan  
Jeffrey Omlor  
Barbara Loessy*

## 30 years

*Scott Gowton  
Michael Wolverton  
Bruce Rhodunda*

## 35 years

*Martial Belinsky*

# Fast Facts From Waste Management...

## ...on Waste Removal

**When should trash be placed at the curb?**

Place trash and recyclables out after 6 p.m. the evening before your pickup day. Place containers so they are not blocked by parked vehicles.

**What size containers should I use?**

Household waste containers should be between 20 and 35 gallons and may not exceed 50 pounds in weight. Use up to 10 sturdy plastic or metal containers with handles and detachable lids. Recyclables should be placed in a recycle bin or can clearly marked as "Recyclables."

**How do I dispose of leftover paint?**

Evaporate latex paint by air-drying or mixing with kitty litter, shredded newspaper or other absorbent. Bag and put out with your regular trash.

**Which wastes are not acceptable?**

We do not accept liquid waste of any type, tree stumps or tires. We do not accept HHW of any type, including insecticides, pesticides, gasoline, waste oil, non-latex paints, varnish, thinners, drain cleaner, pool chemicals, car parts or similar materials as part of your regular waste removal services. Hold all Household Hazardous Waste materials for special HHW collection events.

## ...on Holiday Pickups

**What if my pickup day falls on a holiday?**

If a scheduled holiday (Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day) falls on your regular pickup day, trash and recyclables will be collected on your next regular service day.

For more information, call (800) 869-5566.

## ...on Bulk Items

**When are bulk items collected?**

Larger items are collected on the second pickup day of the week, sometimes by a second crew.

**What type of bulk items are collected?**

Examples of regular bulk items include furniture, cabinets, washers and dryers.

**How much can I discard at once?**

The limit is one bulk item per week.

**What about refrigerators?**

Some items require an appointment, such as refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners and dehumidifiers containing CFCs. To make an appointment, call (800) 869-5566.

# Falls Continues "Live Here, Spend Here"

In an effort to promote existing Township businesses and encourage residents to spend more – or all – of their hard-earned money within Township borders, the Falls Township Board of Supervisors is continuing with its popular "Live Here, Spend Here" initiative. Spending in one's hometown not only supports the local business community, but creates jobs, strengthens the local economy and helps lessen the

need for municipal taxes.

"Live Here, Spend Here" was the brainchild of Supervisors Vice Chairman Jeffrey Dence, who said he got the idea for the program while working in Burlington County, N.J. That community has a similar program and promotes it with a logo and stickers in local merchants' windows.

Locally, two Falls Township businesses are featured each month in an article and

photos posted on the Township's Website: [www.fallstwp.com/information-services/live-here-spend-here-campaign.aspx](http://www.fallstwp.com/information-services/live-here-spend-here-campaign.aspx) and shared on the Township's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/fallstownship-municipalbuilding>.

If you know of a local business you would like to see spotlighted, contact Township Manager Peter Gray at [p.gray@fallstwp.com](mailto:p.gray@fallstwp.com) or (215) 949-9000.



**Falls Township**  
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## Fall/Winter Newsletter 2019



This Community Newsletter was produced by  
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To Advertise in the Next Newsletter, Call Theresa at (215) 519-8833

# Youth Police Recipient of 'Extreme' Donation



Supervisors Chairman Bob Harvie, Officer John Yeager, Supervisors Brian Gallo-way, Jeff Boraski, Jeff Dence and Jeff Rocco recognize Marty McLoughlin (third from right) of Extreme Fitness Personal Training for his fundraising support of the Youth Police Academy.

Marty McLoughlin of Extreme Fitness Personal Training presented a check to Falls Township Police Officer John Yeager for the police department's Youth Police Academy during a recent Board of Supervisors meeting.

Extreme Fitness has been fundraising to support the Youth Police Academy for the last three years, raising a total of \$16,270 over that time frame. The first two fundraisers were 5K races, but McLoughlin opted to focus this year's fundraiser on a strength-based event for men and women.

For 2019, 42 cadets attended the 10-day Youth Police Academy program, which concluded in August. Yeager said many of the cadets are repeat attendees. As a result, he changes about 60 percent of the curriculum each year.

"We like to keep it fresh," Yeager said. "This is the only program like this in Bucks County."

McLoughlin said he looks forward to continuing his support in future years.

"We love the program," he said. "We're honored to be part of it."