

FALLS TOWNSHIP

Fall / Winter 2021-2022

Bucks County, Pa.

Small Biz Help Not One Size Fits All

Signs of economic recovery – including this year’s addition of several million new jobs and an uptick in hourly wages throughout the U.S. – allude to our nation’s continued path back to normal following an arduous 18 months.

Locally, Falls Township is leading the region in new job creation with upwards of 10,000 jobs coming in the next several months and over the next decade.

Despite the sunny economic outlook, for some the return to business as usual has been a bit more challenging. Service-related jobs have become even harder to fill as people overwhelmingly want to continue working from home. The industry continues to struggle to bounce back with less employees and, in some cases, fewer offerings or shorter hours of operation.

In addition, the small business community is the segment perhaps hit hardest by the pandemic. According to a July 2021 U.S. Census Bureau survey, 24.4 percent of U.S. small businesses said that COVID-19 had a large negative impact on their business, while 42.9 percent of those surveyed said the pandemic had a moderate negative effect. Small businesses are vital to the U.S. economy, creating two-thirds of new jobs and accounting for 44 percent of economic activity.

Recognizing the important role that small businesses play in our community, Falls Township is working to kickstart an initiative aimed at helping small businesses. In conjunction with a municipal building renovation project expected to get underway in 2022, Falls will have approximately 9,000 square feet of space available to lease to entrepreneurs, startup companies, solopreneurs, or small businesses.

Dubbed the Falls Township Jumpstart Program, business owners could rent a desk, a full office, or an office suite. Collaborative space would also be available for meetings.

By sharing space, business owners would save on amenities such as a receptionist, IT support, and a conference room and would only need to rent the space that makes sense for their business, which would be far more cost-effective than leasing an entire office building.

Falls also plans to offer resources for the public, including business-related workshops, educational opportunities, and networking for fellow business owners.

The jumpstart effort would serve as an incubator program for our small businesses, providing various resources and support needed for them to nurture and grow their business. We envision this program as a customizable solution rather than a one-size-fits-all that business owners can, over time, use as a springboard to hit the ground running toward bigger and better opportunities.

Falls Township is excited to launch this business-building program. We look forward to developing greater partnerships with our small business community. We wish we could open our doors today and welcome in business owners to share our space. Unfortunately, all good things take time, and this program is no exception.

Please stay tuned for more details on the Falls Township Jumpstart Program as we move forward and as our dreams become a reality.

-Jeffrey Dence

188 Lincoln Highway, Suite 100 • Fairless Hills, PA 19030
215-949-9000 • www.fallstwp.com

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Falls Township Contact Information

188 Lincoln Highway, Suite 100 • Fairless Hills, PA 19030
 Website: www.fallstwp.com • Email: admin@fallstwp.org
 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Jeffrey Dence, Chairman
 Jeff Boraski, Vice Chairman

Jeffrey Rocco, Secretary / Treasurer

Brian Galloway, Supervisor
 John Palmer, Supervisor

Administrative Offices: (215) 949-9000

Police Information - Press 5

Township Information - Press 6

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

Township Manager - 7

Code Enforcement/Permit Information - 1
 Matt Takita, Zoning Officer/Asst. Twp. Mgr.

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) 328-8519

Township Tax Collector

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

Township Engineer

Joseph G. Jones
 Jones Engineering Associates
 188 Lincoln Highway,
 Suite 206
 Fairless Hills, PA 19030
(215) 377-9244

Township Solicitor

Michael P. Clarke
 Rudolph Clarke, LLC
 Seven Neshaminy Interplex
 Suite 200
 Treiose, PA 19053
(215) 633-1890

District Court - 07-1-10

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

Police Department

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) 328-8519**, or you may use the link on the Township website <http://fallstwp.com/tools-resources/no-solicitation-registry.aspx>.

(More Police Department News Can Be Found On Page 3)



No Parking On or Blocking Sidewalks

Pennsylvania Vehicle Code (Title 75) section 3353 (a) (2) (ii) prohibits parking a motor vehicle on a sidewalk. The fine is \$50. Residents cannot park their cars in any way that blocks a sidewalk or they are subject to being issued a state parking citation.

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 **Cpl. Mike Wolverton, (215) 949-9100 ext. 326** m.wolverton@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.

If you know anyone who would benefit from this program, or would like additional information, please contact the Falls Township Police Department at **(215) 949-9100**.

Find Us On Social Media



Falls Township Police department is now on social media outlets like Facebook and Twitter. Follow us to get information on what's going on in your neighborhood.



Police Reports Available Online

Police reports are now available online through Crashdocs.org. Cost is \$10 for individuals and \$15 for attorneys and insurance companies. Online report availability is provided through Carfax, which also offers an investigative element for police.

“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.

Parks and Recreation

Youth Kickball

Falls Township Parks and Recreation is 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). Dates are Sept. 11, Sept. 25, Oct. 2, Oct. 9, Oct. 16 and Oct. 30. 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**.



Yoga



Indoor Yoga will be held Mondays from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Falls Township Senior Center, 282 Trenton Road, in the annex building. The program begins Sept. 13 and continues for six weeks. Cost for a resident is \$48; non-resident \$54. Drop-in rate is \$10 per class. A minimum of eight participants must be registered to run

the class. Participants can register online using their existing Capturepoint/Community Pass Account. For further information or for registration help, please contact Brian Andrews at **(215) 949-9000 ext. 220**.

Medicare Workshop

Getting close to retirement and not quite sure what Medicare will and will not cover? We are offering the opportunity to get answers to these questions! A representative from DelVal Senior Advisers will be on hand to provide a FREE educational seminar on Thursday, Oct. 7 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the public meeting room at the Falls Township Municipal Complex, 188 Lincoln Highway. To pre-register, please contact Brian Andrews at **(215) 949-9000 ext. 220** or by email bandrews@fallstwp.com.

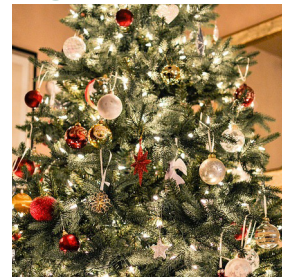
Halloween Party

Parks and Recreation is excited to announce it will be holding its annual Halloween Party for children all ages on Saturday, Oct. 23 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Falls Township Senior Center. Snacks, candy, 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 is required for this event through your Capturepoint/Community Pass account. Any questions, please contact Barbara Loessy at **(215) 949-9000 ext. 221**.



Holiday Party/Tree Lighting

Falls Township will be holding a Holiday Party and Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Falls Township Senior Center on Saturday, Dec. 4 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Pre-registration will be required using an existing Capturepoint/Community Pass account. Light refreshments and entertainment will be provided. Tree Lighting will take place at 6 p.m. For information, please contact Barbara Loessy at **(215) 949-9000 ext. 221**.



Park and Recreation Board Meetings

The Park and Recreation Board will meet the first Tuesday of the month at the Falls Township Municipal Complex, Suite 100, conference room, at 7 p.m. Meetings are open to the public. For questions or further information or to obtain a schedule of upcoming meetings, please contact Barbara Loessy at **(215) 949-9000 ext. 221**.

Touch a Truck and Family Festival

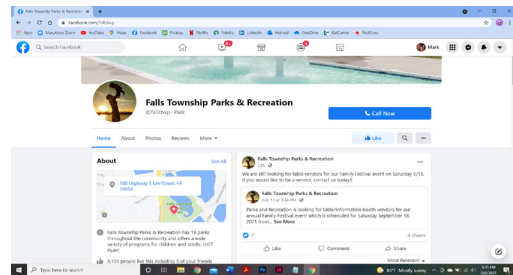
Our annual Touch a Truck and Family Festival will take place on Saturday, Sept. 18 (rain date for both is Saturday, Sept. 25).

Both events will be held at the Falls Township Community Park. Touch A Truck takes place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (9-10 a.m. will be a “quiet/sensory

friendly” hour) on the lakeside portion of the park. Come on out and explore construction vehicles, fire engines, police vehicles, and much more. There will be bounce houses, facepainting, balloon artistry and appearances from Elsa from Frozen and Ironman. The Family Festival will take place from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on the soccer field side of the park. We will have bounce houses, a balloon artist, facepainters, a caricaturist, costumed characters, and food and table vendors. The event culminates with fireworks at dusk.

We're On Facebook!

For the latest information on the Parks and Recreation Department, be sure to follow us on Facebook. Our Facebook page can be accessed by visiting www.fallstwp.com, clicking on the “Parks and Recreation” page, and looking for the link to the feed.



State & National Elected Officials

Pa. State Representative

Hon. John T. Galloway
8610 New Falls Rd.
Levittown, PA 19054
(215) 943-7206
www.pahouse.com/Galloway

Pa. State Senator

Sen. Steven Santarsiero
3 Terry Dr., Ste. 201
Newtown, PA 18940
(215) 497-9490
www.senatorstevesantarsiero.com

U.S. House of Representatives

Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick
1717 Langhorne Newtown Rd., Ste. 225
Langhorne, PA 19047
(215) 579-8102
<https://fitzpatrick.house.gov>

Governor

Pa. Gov Tom Wolf
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120
(717) 787-2500
www.governor.pa.gov

U.S. Senate

Sen. Bob Casey
840 W. Hamilton St., Ste. 301
Allentown, PA 18101
(610) 782-9470
www.casey.senate.gov

U.S. Senate

Sen. Pat Toomey
1150 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Ste. 101
Allentown, PA 18103
(610) 434-1444
www.toomey.senate.gov

Falls Township Polling Places

1-1	Fallsington Elementary School	134 Yardley Ave.	Fallsington
1-2	Pennsbury West High School	608 Olds Blvd S.	Fairless Hills
1-3	Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School	185 Walton Dr.	Morrisville
1-4	Village Park Elementary School	75 Unity Dr.	Fairless Hills
1-5	Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School	185 Walton Dr.	Morrisville
1-6	Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School	185 Walton Dr.	Morrisville
1-7	Fallsington Elementary School	134 Yardley Ave.	Fallsington
2-1	Oxford Valley Elementary School	430 Trenton Rd.	Fairless Hills
2-2	Pennsbury West High School	608 Olds Blvd S.	Fairless Hills
3-1	Oxford Valley Elementary School	430 Trenton Rd.	Fairless Hills
3-2	Oxford Valley Public Golf Course	141 N. Oxford Valley Rd.	Fairless Hills
4-1	St. Paul's Episcopal Church	89 Pinewood Dr.	Levittown
4-2	Penn Valley Elementary School	180 North Turn Ln.	Levittown
4-3	Manor Elementary School	401 Penn Valley Rd.	Levittown
4-4	Penn Valley Elementary School	180 North Turn Ln.	Levittown
4-5	Penn Valley Elementary School	180 North Turn Ln.	Levittown
4-6	Manor Elementary School	401 Penn Valley Rd.	Levittown
4-7	Manor Elementary School	401 Penn Valley Rd.	Levittown

Parks and Rec Guidelines Updated

The Township Supervisors are making strides to keep residents – and wildlife – safe.

The Supervisors voted unanimously to adopt several changes that had been proposed earlier this year to the Falls Township Parks Ordinance. The amendments bring the Township in line with the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

As adopted, the ordinance prohibits the release of helium balloons and luminaries. Parks and Recreation Director Brian Andrews said that families release balloons in memoriam of a loved

one. Released balloons contribute to litter and pollution and have been known to kill wildlife who mistake ribbons and balloons for food. Sea turtles, dolphins, whales, fish, and birds have been found to have balloons in their stomachs. Balloon ribbons and strings can cause entanglement, which can result in death.

Under the ordinance amendment, wading, along with swimming, is prohibited.

The updated regulations would be in force in all Falls Township parks, officials said.

Board Tackles Human Trafficking

With an eye on public safety, the Board of Supervisors adopted an ordinance that would crack down on human trafficking operations.

The board voted unanimously to adopt an ordinance for massage establishments. The regulation requires that all massage establishments and alternative therapy establishments obtain an annual license to operate legally.

In addition, guidelines of the ordinance require that all massage therapists be licensed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Copies of state licenses must be submitted along with the license application. Alternative therapy technicians must all be licensed by Falls Township. Proof of education, training or certification of graduation is required for all alternative therapy

applicants.

Township attorney Lauren Gallagher said the ordinance is modeled after similar regulations enacted locally.

Police Chief Nelson Whitney said that the regulation is aimed at detecting and preventing human trafficking. To illustrate the need for the ordinance, Whitney noted that police recently made a human trafficking arrest.

Falls police have “made cases” with massage businesses in the past, he said.

“This is something clearly we don’t want in Falls Township,” the chief said.

According to Whitney, the ordinance, as drafted, is “keeping pace” with similar efforts in Bucks County.

Board Extends Outdoor Dining

Those eating at restaurants in Falls Township will be able to continue dining al fresco – should they prefer – indefinitely.

The Falls Supervisors in August adopted an ordinance to permit outdoor dining on a permanent basis.

Under the regulation, Falls restaurants could offer outdoor dining either by right or under conditional use.

Supervisor John Palmer said he has heard positive feedback from residents regarding outdoor dining.

“They really enjoy dining outside,” Palmer said. “I think making this a permanent fixture is great for our community and I support it.”

Some changes would be required should businesses opt to continue offering outdoor dining on a permanent basis.

“A lot of the places are using parking spaces for the dining area,” Supervisor Chairman Jeff Dence said. “That’s not going to fly with this ordinance.”

The ordinance states that “areas for outdoor dining shall not interfere with any means of ingress or egress to a building, or with any emergency or safety exits.” In addition, restaurants would need to have a minimum sidewalk width of five feet which is separate from the area reserved for outdoor dining. The ordinance also states that the property “must provide adequate parking for the principal use” and include pedestrian barriers to either enclose or separate outdoor diners from pedestrians or motorists.



Falls expands Drive-In Movies, Concert offerings

Continuing through year’s end, Falls Township will offer drive-in movies and in-person concerts at Falls Township Community Park.

Drive-in movies were first offered last year during the height of the pandemic, according to Parks and Recreation

Director Brian Andrews.

“It was about getting people out to have something to do,” Andrews said.

Andrews said the offerings will expand to include in-person concerts. In addition, Falls is expected to generate revenue from the arrangement, he said.

The Supervisors approved an agreement with Mid-Atlantic Event Group related to the movies and concerts. The agreement also puts the “burden” on Mid-Atlantic to obtain the necessary licensing rights to movies and music, according to Township attorney Lauren Gallagher.

Manage Stormwater to Limit Flooding

Falls Township residents were drenched with heavy rains and flooding over the summer. The amount and speed of stormwater has increased as well, resulting in damage to properties and soil erosion.

Flooding is worsening

- Increasing amounts of rainfall throughout the year.
- Large rainfall events have become more frequent along with heavier downpours.
- Both have increased nationally over the past 30 years.
- Increase of hurricanes and tropical storms.
- Communities have more paved and developed surfaces resulting in greater amounts of runoff.
- Communities continue to add impervious surfaces at exponential rates.
- Old stormwater systems cannot keep up with new runoff capacities.
- There is a lack of maintenance on the stormwater inlets, basins and swales.

To help lessen the impacts, Falls Township is implementing a better maintenance program of its stormwater management system.



What residents can do

- Introduce the use of green infrastructure and good stormwater management practices.
- Add more rain gardens, tree plantings, rain barrels, permeable pavers,

and green spaces to increase rainfall absorption.

- Maintain and clear clogged storm drain inlets, often filled with leaves, sediment and trash.
- Educate yourself on stormwater best management practices and policies.

Substance Abuse Recovery Efforts Continue

Within the first six months of the Falls Township Supporting Recovery Program – which pairs Falls Township Police with a certified recovery specialist – personnel have answered 100 substance abuse calls and placed roughly one-third of people in treatment or under evaluation for level of care needed.

Falls Township was the first community in Bucks County to launch the Supporting Recovery Program. The grant-funded program began in February and has underlined the real need for recovery specialists.

Falls Township had 59 overdoses through July 31. Of those, four were fatal. Another three deaths could stem from overdoses, pending toxicology reports. Since 2010, there have been more than 900 drug overdoses in Falls.

Falls Township Supporting Recovery is funded completely through a grant from the Bucks County Drug and Alcohol Commission Inc. The commission pays the salaries of the Family Service Association of Bucks County's certified recovery specialists assigned to work with the police department.

As part of the collaborative effort, certified recovery specialists work in Falls full-time hours Monday through Friday. In addition to joining police in responding to substance abuse and overdose-related calls, certified recovery specialists provide

emergency medical care, promote treatment, and provide follow up focusing on access to care, transition in care, support for long-term recovery, access to health care benefits and providing connections to physical health related needs.

Falls is certainly not the only community battling addiction. Drug overdoses are the number one cause of injury-related death in the U.S., killing an average of 44,000 people per year, according to American Addiction Centers.

Even with the concerted effort between the Township, police, and recovery specialists, opioid addiction will take time to mitigate, Police Chief Nelson Whitney said.

Police report every overdose to the county drug taskforce. Falls police have gone a step further in distributing Narcan to Falls Township hotels. "Most" hotels have come on board, Whitney said. Falls police use Narcan, a nasal spray, to assist someone who has overdosed on opioids in breathing or regaining consciousness.

In cases where police have responded to overdose or substance abuse calls at hotels, Whitney said the people are "not typically" Falls residents, but instead tend to be from Bucks County or other neighboring communities.

"It feels like this uphill battle, because it is," Whitney said.

Code Department Goes Paperless

The Falls Township Code Department has digitized its application process, making it even easier to apply and pay for permits, schedule inspections and manage existing permits and inspections.

To get started, simply sign up by creating an account at: <http://www.accessmygov.com/contractors/?uid=2853>.

BS&A Online is an internet portal of municipal services providing instant and convenient access to common tasks. Save time and postage by submitting permits applications online. Once a permit is issued, simply print it and begin work. Users can schedule inspections online from a computer or smartphone. Quickly

browse the inspector's availability and find a time that suits you.

Users can also view and manage activity on permit applications and upcoming inspections and receive instant notifications when requests are approved.

Please direct any questions to Mary Jo Westerhold at (215) 949-9000 ext. 262.

Bulk Disposal Day Set For October 16

Mark your calendars for the next FREE BULK DISPOSAL DAY, which will be held on Saturday, October 16 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 additional information please 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, please call (215) 345-3400.

Limited Quantity of Bins, Barrels For Sale

Falls Township currently has 80-gallon Earth Machine Compost Bins and 55-gallon Rain Barrels available for purchase at the Township Municipal Building. We will no longer sell these two items once the current stock is depleted. Compost bins cost \$45; and the rain barrels cost \$57.

The Township also has 22-gallon green recycle bins available for \$16.

For information, or to see if either is still in stock, please contact the Finance Department at (215) 949-9000, ext. 233 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m..



Falls Welcomes New Businesses

Falls Township has had the pleasure of welcoming 10 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:

- Car Keyline LLC**, 309 W. Trenton Ave., Morrisville;
- Zion International Market**, 332 W. Trenton Ave., Suite 106, Morrisville;
- Processit, Inc.**, 81 Big Oak Road, Ste. 205, Morrisville;
- Airgas USA LLC**, 357 Tyburn Road A, Fairless Hills;
- Night Owl Security**, 333 N. Oxford Valley Road, Ste. 302G, Fairless Hills;
- Yadi Investments**, 333 N. Oxford Valley Road, Suite 302F;
- Mahant Investments LLC**, 85 Makefield Road, Morrisville;
- Thread'in Shape**, 85 Makefield Road, Suite 11, Morrisville;
- Le Gar Hair Salon**, 9080 Mill Creek Road, Levittown;
- Remede Wellness**, 791 W. Bridge Street, Morrisville.

Come in We're
OPEN



Food collections continue in area

Non-perishable food collections are often plentiful around the holidays. But, what about the other months of the year?

That was the question on Falls Township Director of Emergency Services/Assistant Manager Rich Dippolito's mind when he proposed to the Falls Township Supervisors his idea of offering a year-round food drive to benefit local food pantries.

"A kid should never be hungry," said Dippolito, noting that children in need line up early at school for breakfast because there is nothing to eat at home.

The easiest fix is to launch an ongoing food drive and invite the community to contribute non-perishable food items and toiletries as they are able. Pickup of donations can be arranged.

Donations would benefit a different Falls-area food pantry each month.

A representative of Mary's Cupboard Food Bank, which is located at St. Frances Cabrini Church on Oxford Valley Road, said the pantry is always in need of peanut butter, jelly, cereal as well as various household and personal care items including toothpaste, shampoo, dish soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper and paper towels.

Food pantries collect other non-perishable food items, including canned fruits and vegetables, as well as soup, canned pastas, crackers, cookies, bagged pasta, spaghetti sauce and more that is distributed to people in need.

To get involved

To arrange a food pickup, email Rich Dippolito at fallsfoodbank@fallstwp.com or send a message through the Falls Fire Marshal Facebook page. Donations will be picked up the first Wednesday of the month. Food should be left in bags at the curb for pickup. If you know a local food pantry that would benefit from food donations, please share with Rich.

Officer Yeager Retires Aug. 9

After 36 years of service with the Falls Township Police Department, Officer John Yeager retired on Aug. 9. He had dedicated his career to protecting and serving in our community and for the last several years he had been assigned to our Community Policing Unit. An integral part of our department, Officer Yeager worked to get adults and youth involved in many programs.

Officer Yeager created the Falls Township Police Youth Police Academy, Citizens Police Academy and Program H.E.R.O for high school students. Through this program, someone speaks at the high school and shares stories about choices they have made and the consequences they received. The program is designed to impart on students important lessons through these cautionary tales.



He has instructed D.A.R.E. and S.T.E.P.S for our elementary aged students and participated in the Cops N Kids program. For our high school students, he has instructed classes on health, driver's education, and career connection. For several years he worked Pennsbury's Prom, ensuring the safety of all attendees.

He has added Falls Township Police clothing bins in our Township, with proceeds going toward the Youth Police Academy. Funds cover the cost of cadets attending.

Throughout his career here in Falls Township, Officer Yeager has been an integral part of community events such as Fallsington Day, National Night Out, Coffee with a Cop, National Drug Take Back and Shredder Day.

Thank you, Officer Yeager for your years of commitment and dedication to the residents not only in Falls, but in the surrounding townships where you worked to help educate not only our youth but adults as well. We wish you the best of luck in your retirement!



FAIRLESS HILLS HEALTH CENTER

CHIROPRACTIC

215-949-3720

Dr. Michael Gaffin
 81 Crabtree Drive, Levittown, PA 19055
 Fax: 215-949-1831
www.fairlesshillshealthcenter.com



Farewell to Canine Crime Fighter

Since Cpl. Steve Langan met Tag, the dog who would become his 11-year partner in April 2008, the two were virtually inseparable. The K-9 officer and his four-legged partner lived and worked together. Tag accompanied the Langan family on annual vacations to Myrtle Beach and even traveled with them to Disney World.

“I took him everywhere with me,” the 23-year Falls Township Police officer said. “I literally spent every waking moment with him.”

When he speaks of the 14-year-old Belgian Malinois who stole his heart and always had his back, it’s clear to see how Tag could make such an impact on the officer and the community they worked together to protect and serve.

“Everybody’s lost a pet, but he was my partner,” said Cpl. Langan of Tag, who died recently. “He would’ve done anything for me. It’s a little bit harder to explain. He would’ve given his life for me without any question.”

Tag served with Cpl. Langan from 2008 until his retirement in August 2019. He continued to live at home with Cpl. Langan, his wife, their four kids and two

dogs until his passing.

“He wasn’t having any health problems per se. He was just getting older,” he said. “He just seemed to be slowing down a bit.”

Even with his active-duty days behind him, Tag continued showing up with his long-time partner for career day, school functions, K9 demonstrations, and community events.

“Everybody liked Tag,” he said. “If you start petting him on his back, he will roll into you and let you pet his belly. Not every dog’s going to give you his belly like Tag would. When nothing was going on he was like a regular dog.”

But Tag was a police dog. His instincts saved lives and helped police on numerous occasions. Cpl. Langan recalls a roadway stop where he was attempting to take a suspect into custody. The man resisted arrest and initiated a physical altercation. At the time, Tag was in the back of the police car, Cpl. Langan reached for the remote, hit the button, heard the clicking noise of the door opening and then Tag’s nails hitting the ground as he came running.

(Continued on Page 11)



Pollinator Partnership Wins Awards



John Ford, Falls Township resident and Senior Center Garden Committee member and Judy Archibald of Waste Management monitor the pollinators.

It was the perfect day for Molly. The second-grader from Falls Township was vacationing in Myrtle Beach, N.C. with her family and the two caterpillars she had collected at Waste Management of Pennsylvania's monarch tagging event conducted a few days earlier near her home. It was feeding time so Molly went to the refrigerator to retrieve the milkweed she had brought with her.

"Oh no! There is no milkweed!," the 7-year-old shrieked. Panic-stricken, she begged her mother, Sandy, to find some to save her caterpillars. Sandy looked through the Waste Management tagging instruction booklet, found Judy Archibald's contact information and sent an email hoping for help finding milkweed. Judy directed Sandy to the North America Butterfly Association and its blog. Success! Within minutes, Molly and Sandy were on their way to a nearby nursery.

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Sad Farewell to Fallen Canine Officer

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"He saved me," Cpl. Langan said. "He helped me for sure."

Other times, someone was "thinking about fighting and Tag would start barking in the back of the car. That would change their train of thought too."

At home, Cpl. Langan remembers the day Tag singlehandedly saved his young daughter from harm. Unbeknownst to her parents, the toddler was playing outside. From inside the house, Tag began running back and forth and was "all worked up." His wife let the dog outside and Tag started "running at top speed" toward their young daughter. At the last second, Tag went around her and grabbed a groundhog that was crawling toward the youngster.

"His cool status was elevated," Cpl. Langan said.

Tag was trained to serve in dual patrol, tracking and building searches and handler protection. His specialty was narcotics.

He won a national award in 2009 for bravery for apprehension of two robbers the previous year.

His nose has helped police find countless amounts of illegal drugs and even assisted in locating lost children and adults with dementia.

In one instance, Tag recovered seven kilos of cocaine from underneath the passenger floor of a vehicle stopped in Bensalem Township. Pennsylvania State Police had searched the entire car and could not find anything, so officers enlisted Tag's help.

"He smelled it right away," Cpl. Langan said of the cocaine, which had been wrapped several times and smeared with motor oil. "You could be somewhere (searching) for days potentially, and the dog would find it within minutes."

Cpl. Langan, who got his start as a Temple University police officer 25 years ago, was new to K9 policing when he met Tag 13 years ago. The two trained for two months together in Canada



before the pooch's official enlistment with the Falls Township Police Department began in June 2008.

Two weeks after the two returned home, Cpl. Langan's daughter was born. She grew up with Tag, even using him as a guide as she learned to crawl and later walk.

"I was very close with him. He was part of my family," he said of Tag. "He was a great partner and friend."

Pollinator Partnership Wins Awards

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This is one of so many amazing stories from the Waste Management of Pennsylvania Intergenerational Pollinator Partnership Project launched in 2013. In June, the partnership was recognized by the international Wildlife Habitat Council as it received Project of the Year Awards for its Landscape, Awareness and Community Engagement and Pollinator projects. Awards recognize the high quality and value of the project's habitat improvement and environmental education work. The partnership also holds gold certification by the Wildlife Habitat Council after meeting its strict requirements for voluntarily managing the site as a sustainable ecosystem.

"The Council's awards are very competitive and based on points scored on certification applications and are given to the highest-scoring projects in each category," said Judy Archibald, founder and leader of the project.

"Given their long-term, concerted dedication to pollinator conservation and advocacy, it is no surprise that the team at Waste Management's Bucks County landfills received three WHC awards this year, more than any other site," said WHC President Margaret O'Gorman. "This achievement will surely inspire others to address the global pollinator crisis through site-based conservation efforts."

Award-winning projects

The Landscape Project serves as the foundation for the Waste Management Pollinator Partnership Project. The one-acre pollinator garden and adjacent meadow were developed from a grass field in 2014. Today, there are 90 nectar-rich native plants growing in the habitat that support 66 different species of butterflies and other pollinators. In addition to its Wildlife Habitat Council credentials, the habitat retains certifications by the National Wildlife Federation, Monarch Watch, North American Butterfly Association and as a Penn State Pollinator Garden.

The Awareness and Community Engagement Project was launched by eight Waste Management employees who wanted to improve conservation awareness among employees and in the community. The over-arching goal is to actively engage employees and the community in learning



Waste Management of Pennsylvania Intergenerational Pollinator Project

To learn more

More information about the Pollinator Partnership and Fairless Landfill can be found by accessing the Fairless Landfill Facebook page.

opportunities that promote pollinator protection, biodiversity and sustainability. Partners joining the pollinator journey include Pennsbury Manor, the Falls Township Senior Center, The Pen Ryn School, Pennsbury School District, Snipes Farm and Education Center, Bucks County Audubon and Churchville Nature Center.

"This partnership provides so many learning opportunities," said Falls Township Senior Center Manager Cecelia Murphy. "And, our Garden Committee applied that learning by planning, developing and caring for a pollinator garden for our 850 members at our center."

Pollinators are responsible for the survival of 30 percent of the human food supply and 90 percent of wild plants. The Pollinator Project heightens awareness of the critical need to support pollinators and actively engages participants in pollinator protection. Since the project was developed, employees, families and community partners, in coordination with Monarch Watch, have tagged and released 541 Monarch butterflies.

Community volunteer Lois Bartle has first-hand knowledge of the excitement and value of these events. "My grandchildren look forward to participating each year. One of my granddaughters shared what she learned with the younger students at St. Michael the Archangel School and my other granddaughter relayed her experiences of raising, tagging and releasing the butterflies as feature on a Philadelphia radio station."

"We are thrilled to receive this high-level recognition and thank our employees and community partners for continuing to advance pollinator protection in Lower Bucks County by creating habitat pollinator gardens in the community," Fairless Landfill Senior District Manager, Bob Jones, said.



Sophia Monte and Liliana Purcell look at a monarch from the pollinator.

Curious pets are a fire hazard



Pets give us friendship, comfort and unconditional love. Our connection to them can be among the strongest relationships in our lives. But pets can cause fires. We need to be careful with pets in the home.

- Pets are curious. They may bump into, turn on, or knock over cooking equipment. Keep pets away from stoves and countertops.
- Keep pets away from candles, lamps, and space heaters.
- Always use a metal or heat-tempered glass screen on a fireplace and keep it in place.
- Keep pets away from a chimney's outside vents.
- Have a "pet-free zone" of at least 3 feet (1 meter) away

from the fireplace. Glass doors and screens can stay dangerously hot for several hours after the fire goes out.

- Consider battery-operated, flameless candles.

They can look and smell like real candles.

- Some pets are chewers. Watch pets to make sure they don't chew through electrical cords. Have any problems checked by a professional.

FACT:

Pets or wild animals have a part in starting about 750 home fires per year. These involve cooking equipment, fireplaces and chimneys, space heaters, lamps, bulbs, wiring, and candles.

Don't forget about smoke alarms

- Have working smoke alarms on every level of the home. Test your smoke alarms at least once a month.



- If the smoke alarm sounds, get out and stay out.

- Never go back inside for pets in a fire. Tell firefighters if your pet is trapped.

Generators useful, but know the risks

Downed utility lines, power company blackouts, heavy snow falls or storms can all lead to power outages. Many people turn to a portable generator for a temporary solution without knowing the risks.

- Generators should be used in well ventilated locations outside at least 5 feet (1.5 meters) away from all doors, windows, and vent openings. Measure the 5-foot (1.5 meters) distance from the generator exhaust system to the building.

- Never use a generator in an attached garage, even with the door open.

- Place generators so that exhaust fumes can't enter the home through windows, doors or other openings in the building. The exhaust must be directed away from the building.

- Make sure to install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home.

Just Remember ...

When plugging in appliances, make sure they are plugged directly into the generator or a heavy duty outdoor-rated extension cord. The cords should be checked for cuts, tears and that the plug has all three prongs, especially a grounding pin. If you must connect the generator to the house wiring to power appliances, have a qualified electrician install a properly rated transfer switch in accordance with the National Electrical Code® (NEC) and all applicable state and local electrical codes.

Follow manufacturer's instructions for



correct placement and mounting height.

- Turn off generators and let them cool down before refueling. Never refuel a generator while it is hot.

- Store fuel for the generator in a container that is intended for the purpose and is correctly labeled as such. Store the containers outside of living areas.

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 Town-

ship 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.

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 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.

...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 and reference account number 45014766.



Our mission starts with the communities we serve.



Our goal is to make a tangible impact in the communities we serve, including Falls Township.

Focused on making a difference, we strive to be good corporate citizens. Through community outreach opportunities, partnerships and programs, we're focused on working together to solve issues that are critical to the communities we service. WM is involved in activities that help make communities safer, stronger and more sustainable.

Want to learn more about WM's work at Fairless Landfill? Using your phone, scan these QR codes to visit our Facebook page and website.





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Fall/Winter Newsletter 2021-2022



**WE GET
 YOU HEARD**

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

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 Supervisors are continuing with the 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.

If each of the 13,000 Falls Township households spend as little as \$20 weekly on takeout dinner, or a gift from a local boutique, we could ensure that more than \$13 million is spent within our Township borders. The more spending our community does within Falls Township, the greater support we provide to our local businesses.

Our local businesses, in turn, give back to our community by:

- Creating local jobs for our neighbors
- Buying supplies and services from other local businesses
- Investing in our community
- Strengthening our local economy
- Generating tax revenue to reduce the need for municipal taxes



To nominate a business to be featured as part of our Live Here, Spend Here effort, email cedc@fallstwp.com.