

The Upper Pottsgrove Township HERALD

Volume XIII, Issue 2

July 2018

Office Hrs Monday—Friday, 8AM—4:30PM 1409 Farmington Ave., Pottstown, PA 19464

www.uptownship.org

Phone 610.323.8675

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ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, November 6th, 2018 from 7AM to 8 PM is the date and time to vote.

Upper Pottsgrove's only polling place is at the Pottsgrove Middle School, 1351 North Hanover Street, Pottstown, PA 19464.

NOTE FROM OUR HISTORICAL BOARD (Copper Mining in UPT)

I was born in Philadelphia and lived there most of my young life. It was hard for me to ever think I would move to the country and spend most of my life in a place called Upper Pottsgrove Township. I married in 1944 and lived in an apartment in Daylesford, which is near Paoli. We lived on a busy roadway near a train stop, which was my main mode of transportation. After 3 years of marriage with my husband traveling to Pottstown, we decided to look for a house or property that was in a good location. I was working for Newtown Square School District at the time. We purchased the property on Yarnall Road in 1947.

When we moved to Upper Pottsgrove, Yarnall Road stopped at the farm below us. It was only a dirt tractor path to get to the apple orchards on both sides of the road up to what is now Mock Road.

When we bought the 13 acres 71 years ago, there was a huge wide deep hole in the northwest corner of our property. We were told that it was the back entrance to a copper mine. I believe we were told that by past commissioner Maurice Meeker, who lived in Upper Pottsgrove longer than we had. He used to farm our open fields when he was an active farmer. He had been in and out of the mine before it had closed.

The main entrance to the mine was where Maugers Mill Road comes off of Route 663 behind the building that was once "The Blossom Restaurant". The entrance was large enough to send mules and wagons into it. It went up and under what is now "Colonial Heights" and up through the fields on towards

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MEETING DATES & TIMES

Board of Commissioners-3rd Mon., 7 PM;
1st Mon. as needed

Planning Commission-2nd Mon., 7 PM

Open Space & Recreation Board-2nd Tues., 7 PM

Sewer & Water Committee-1st Tues., 6 PM

Fire Committee-2nd Thurs., 7 PM

Zoning & Hearing Board-Meets on Demand

Web Link to Calendar: www.uptownship.org

DEAD DEER - To report dead deer on N. Charlotte Street, Gilbertsville Road, Maugers Mill Road & Route 100, call PennDOT at (610) 275-2368 & "Press 0". The contractor for PennDOT has 48-60 hours to pick up the dead deer after it is reported. To report dead deer on UPT streets, call the PA Game Commission at (610) 926-1966.

SAVE THESE 2018 DATES:

- **ARCHERY HUNT** ~ Starts Saturday, September 15th (Register with the township by August 15th.)
- **COMMUNITY DAY** ~ Saturday, September 22nd - Pottsgrove Middle School, 1351 N. Hanover Street

TESTING 9-1-1 TO VERIFY YOUR PHYSICAL LOCATION

You may verify your address information by dialing 9-1-1 from your landline phone. Make sure you tell the emergency operator right away that you're not having an emergency and are only testing your 9-1-1 service to ensure your physical address is correct.

(When calling 9-1-1 from a mobile phone, 9-1-1 uses the closest cell tower to estimate the location you are calling from.)



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NOTE FROM OUR HISTORICAL BOARD (Copper Mining in UPT)

(Continued from Page 1)

the northwest portion of our property on Yarnall Road. The whole mine trail goes under our property. The huge, wide hole at the corner of our property was so deep we had to fill it in. It took several dump-truck loads of dirt to fill it in. After building and moving into our house in the beginning of 1948, we began to notice sink holes on our property in various locations. These sink holes are part of the copper mine



and they continue even today.

Within a very short period of time I was hired as a teacher for Lower Pottsgrove Elementary School which shortened my daily trip to work. Yarnall Road remained a dirt roadway for many years after we built our home. The road dead-ended right in front of our house. We had several children before the road continued up the hill. The late Henry Bealer was the one man that I remember digging the road through up to what is now Mock Road.

By Ruth Spaide
Chairman, Historical Board



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ROAD CLEANUP BRIGADE

We thank our volunteers who participated in our **Keep PA Beautiful Cleanup on April 14th** this year. Use this link to view very interesting data from the spring 2018 cleanup: <http://www.keeppabeautiful.org/>

We will meet again at the township building this October. Please call the township office at (610) 323-8675 to sign up to volunteer.

We really appreciate our residents who put their recycling into bags so that it does not blow all over the neighborhood and the streets.

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY SOLUTIONS

What to do? The Spotted Lanternfly is spreading fast. People who have never seen the nymphs are finding them all over their yard. Hopefully before they eat every tree and bush in sight! Here is advice gathered from professional sources (although the pros are just beginning to try to address the situation), plus some very useful and practical advice from folks who have been living with this prolific and destructive bug for a couple of years now. In case you don't know, the Spotted Lanternfly is from Asia and entered the US a couple of years ago in Berks County and is spreading at an alarming rate. They will eat trees, grapes, hops and almost everything else in their path. One gentleman reported they destroyed his vineyard in two days. They also swarm people, making it difficult to even be outside in infested areas. Here is a list for how to best deal with the nymphs, which is the stage the bugs are in now and is shown in the picture above.

1. Most folks prefer the sticky paper trap. The nymphs preferred method of locomotion is crawling. So putting a band of sticky tape in a circle around a tree, rosebush stem, or deck post- wherever you find the nymphs - will catch a lot of them. They are attracted to peppermint and spearmint, so these essential oils will entice even more pests, but they aren't necessary. Please monitor these traps, as they can catch beneficial insects, butterflies, birds and even squirrels. • Two popular methods - Catchmaster Giant Flypaper at TSC \$7.99 per 30 foot long by 10 inch high roll. It's wrapped in a red and yellow wrapper. Boyertown Tractor Supply has hundreds of rolls in stock due to the consumer demand in our area. • Rings of inside-out duct tape instead of the sticky paper • Smaller sticky fly paper for around bush stems and other places too small for the large flypaper • Cut a small piece off and tab the line of them off grape

Continued on Page 4



Upper Pottsgrove Township Open Space Plan Update Public Workshop

The Township is in the process of updating its Open Space Plan with help from the Open Space & Recreation Board, the Montgomery County Planning Commission, and the Pottstown Area Regional Recreation Coordinator. The 2018 Open Space Plan Update will build on the enormous progress that has been made in parks and open space development since the last Open Space Plan was completed in 2006.

Residents are invited to join us for a public workshop this coming fall where attendees will have the opportunity to share opinions and new ideas related to the future of Upper Pottsgrove's parks, trails, and open space areas. The workshop will include a public survey and interactive exercises that will help to identify parks and open space needs, opportunities and challenges, and how residents would like to see these important community assets evolve going forward.

Thursday September 27th ~ 5:30-7:30 PM
Upper Pottsgrove Township Municipal Building
1409 Farmington Avenue, Pottstown, PA 19464

Any questions can be directed to Michelle Reddick at 610-323-8675, ext. 203 or to Lauren Van Dyk with MCPC at 610-278-3749. Don't miss this opportunity to help shape the future of Upper Pottsgrove's parks and open spaces!

By Lauren Van Dyk, MC Community Planner,
Lvandyk@montcopa.org | 610-278-3749

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NOTARY SERVICES for Township Residents

- Contact Michelle Reddick to set an appointment for services: (610) 323-8675 x203.

Pavilion Reservations

Need a place for a party or a special get-together? Please consider making a reservation for either pavilion: **Heather Place Park**, 1420 Heather Place and **Sunset Park**, 1401 N. Charlotte Street. The fees are \$30.00 for residents and \$50.00 for non-residents. There is a deposit of \$100.00 required which will be refunded upon a good-standing inspection. Horseshoe pit and kickball supplies are also available for a deposit. Contact the township office @ 610-323-8675 to reserve.

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SUMMER PROGRAM 2018 ~ SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE



As part of this year's summer program, there will be many special events held here at the library and our local parks. All events are free! We also encourage children ages 0-18 to sign up to earn prizes for reading. There will be a level for all readers to participate: Pre-Readers, Elementary Readers and Tween/Teen Readers. Registration begins Monday, June 11 and ends Saturday, August 18.

Musical Monday's @ 2:00 PM

July 9 Violin & Viola
 July 16 Silly Sounds
 July 30 Bagpipes
 August 13 Bucket Drums

Toddler Tuesday

Storytime @ 10:30 AM

Stories, songs, crafts and fun
 for children ages 5 and under.

Wednesday Family Programs @ 10:30 AM

July 11 World Music with Daria
 July 18 Instrument Making
 August 1 Safari Party ~ Live Animal Show
 August 8 Cat's Pajamas ~ Musical Performance
 August 15 Discover Swedish Music

Tuesday Family Programs @ 6:00 PM

July 10 Jerry Brown the Monkey Man @ Old Timer's Field
 July 17 Forgotten Friends Reptile Show @ Riverfront Park
 July 24 Rock Painting Party
 July 31 Grins & Grins Variety Show @ Sanatoga Park Band Shell
 August 7 Indian River Live Raptor Program
 August 14 Silly Joe Sings

Thursday Tween & Teen Programs @ 2:00 PM

July 5 Make Your Own Bath Bombs
 July 12 1970's Pet Rocks
 July 19 1980's Rock Star Craft
 August 2 1990's Harry Potter Escape Room
 August 9 Name That Tune
 August 16 2000's Dance Off Party

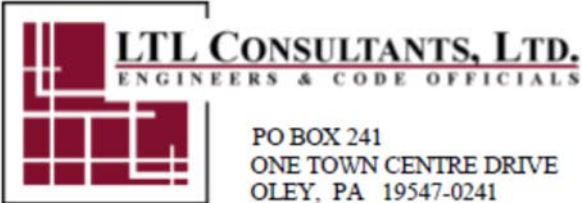
Students in grades 5-8 are welcome!
Please register, supplies are limited
lkraljevich@mclinc.org

Pottstown Regional Public Library ~ 500 E. High St. ~ Pottstown, PA 19464
www.prpl.mclinc.org

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY SOLUTIONS (Continued from Page 2)

vines. They don't see it coming, and you can catch many. • Olive oil and a gentle, warm bath with a little Dawn works to remove a bird from the tape. If they appear injured, take them to a wildlife center. One person reported that Vaseline works as well as glue to trap the bugs, but doesn't hurt birds, so try smearing Vaseline on tape around a plant and see!

2. Apparently, they love lemon-scented Mr. Clean. Put out a shallow pan of water with lemon-scented Mr. Clean in it, and they should dive into the water and die. Here is a great way to use it: take a funnel large enough for the nymphs to crawl through and place it in a wide mouthed Gatorade bottle filled with Lemon-Scented Mr. Clean. It helps if the funnel is silicone, because they can't climb out. (It is reported that simply placing a bowl of plain water outside will kill them. They go into the water and can't get out. How perfect!)
3. Vacuum them into a shop vac with warm soapy water in the bucket, and they will die. If you don't have a shop vac, you can buy a small bucket-sized one on Amazon or in many local stores.
4. Pour warm soapy water over them – people seem to mostly use Dawn dish detergent. They die instantly. Soap is harmful to plants, so this method works best on decks and other non-plant surfaces. Soap breaks down the outer protective layer on plants, and can make them more susceptible to disease.
5. Lysol spray cleaner kills them
6. Fly swatters, esp. teams of children carrying fly swatters. We have heard that paying 1 penny per nymph is a great incentive. These bugs jump, so it is hard to whack them. Best method is to come straight at them from in front as they are more likely to jump if you approach from the side or behind. For the techies out there, there are special electric tennis rackets made for this - Zap-It, twin bug zappers – the first zap stops them from flying, then you can squash or zap again-Zappers - Rechargeable Mosquito, Fly Killer and Bug Zapper Racket - 4000 Volt - USB Charging, Super-Bright LED Light to Zap in the Dark, available on Amazon.
7. Bug Assault is a gun that shoots table salt at close range. It's for mostly small insects like flies but it works great on lanternflies.
8. Spray them with 70% isopropyl alcohol.



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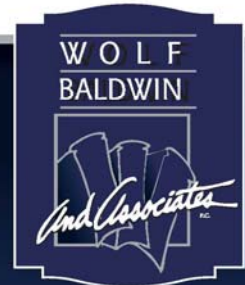
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LIBRARY NEWS

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**On Tuesday, June 19 at
6:00PM the Pottstown
Public Library and the
Sciencetellers invaded
Heather Place Park for a
free family performance.**

**The Sciencetellers
presented The Mystery
of the Golden Piano.**

**Miss Claire told an
engaging story of
thievery and deception
aboard a steam train
using science.**

**Audience members were
invited to participate in
science experiments.**

