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Issue
TEN

Keeping you connected to your community

in **Lehman**

Fall/
Winter
2022-23

elected officials >>>

A Message from your Supervisors:

Not enough is said about the Township employees that make it possible to continue to improve the services we provide for our residents each year. Our Road Department of Dean, Frank, Chris and Cody; our Police Department of Mark, Harold, Tyler, Ken, Merrit, Don, Ed and Justin; our Zoning Officer Christine; our Recycling and Social Media Coordinator Chrisandra; and our Township Secretary Laura.

Some of these employees have been with the Township more than 30 years. But none as long as our Treasurer Al Cragle who is in his 44th year with us. A special thanks to Al and all our great employees for keeping the Township running smooth and efficient. Working with such an outstanding team of employees makes our job so much easier. If you see any of them in your travels, please tell them thank you.

Dave, Doug and Ray

Township Meetings are held the third Monday of each month at 7:00pm unless otherwise advertised.

Recycling in 2022 >>>

Thank you for Recycling with us!

We are pleased to continue to provide a free Recycling Center for our residents. This year has been extremely successful with the amounts of clean, rinsed and accepted items being recycled. We have had no issues with illegal dumping or the attempt to place un-recycling items in our bins. We know that having our attendant Donny, strategically placed permitting rules as well as our camera systems and monthly advertising about accepted items are helping. If you ever have a question about what you can and cannot recycle, you can always find the answers on our website as well as in our ad in the Back Mountain Community News.

Many other community members have also made the change to recycle with us. We continue to be thankful for everyone's participation in recycling. Its only together that we can make this world a little cleaner.

Lehman Township Police Department's New Programs

The Lehman Township Police Department is dedicated to the continuous growth of our department to make Lehman Township a safe and welcoming place to live. With this in mind, our department has introduced 3 new programs in 2022.

HOME CHECK PROGRAM

In the Spring, Chief Liparela introduced the House Check program. The purpose of the Home Check Program is to give our residents some piece of mind while traveling. The goal of this program is to hopefully prevent any break-ins, vandalism and/or robbery to an empty home. Officers will drive by often to check on the registered home while the home owner is away. This program also provides emergency contact information, in the event police are called to the registered home for an emergency or suspicious activity.



ANONYMOUS TIPLINE

In the Fall, the Department introduced our last new program for 2022. Lehman Township Police Department's Anonymous Tipline went live in October. This is an anonymous and confidential form to report information

about a crime that has occurred. As always, if you are witnessing a crime in progress, call 911.

The TipLine can be found on our website under the Police Dept tab at the top of the page or at <https://lehmantwp.com/tipline/>.

Lehman A Crime Fighting Initiative Lookout

CAMERA REGISTRY PROGRAM

The Lehman Township Police proudly introduced the Lehman Lookout program – a community crime fighting initiative in the Spring of this year.

The Lehman Township Police Department wants your help in fighting crime by taking part in the Camera Registry Program “Lehman Lookout”. The Lehman Lookout program allows residents and business owners to register the locations of their video surveillance systems with the Lehman Township Police Department. When an investigation is underway, police will be able to identify the locations of nearby video cameras and enlist the assistance of the resident’s surveillance to help officers follow up on leads.

Through the program, the Lehman Township Police Department will be able to directly contact Lehman Lookout registrants who are using video surveillance in an area in which a crime or suspicious and unusual activity has occurred. Police would ask Lehman Lookout registrants to check their video surveillance system on a specific date and time for video that may show activity related to their investigation. Such video may help by showing the direction in which a person/people of interest was headed. If any video evidence is found, the resident or business owner can contact the Lehman Township Police at (570) 675-1483 to make arrangements for video retrieval.

This program will allow Lehman residents to be extra eyes and ears for the department. By registering home or business surveillance systems, residents are helping the department in the prevention of crime and drugs in our area.

road department >>>

It has been another busy season at Lehman Township. The Road Department has paved Carol Street, Roberts Street, the public section of Metropolitan Street, Oak Drive from Idetown Road to Hemlock, Park Street, Lasalle Avenue, Greenwich Street, Walnut Woods, Mountain View Drive and Mill Street. This is all made possible by dedicated workers here at Lehman Township and the co-ownership of the paver and roller. By doing these smaller jobs in-house, we save our taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars.

In previous years, we have had to contract out work for crack sealing. We are very happy to announce we have received an LSA Grant in which we applied for earlier this year. This grant is for \$100,000 to purchase our own crack sealing machine. The machine is set to arrive before December. Again, by doing these projects in-house, we are able to significantly reduce our costs.

Old Route 115 completion!

Lehman Township is thrilled that Old Route 115 has been completely reconstructed and repaved. After a few long years of funding and COVID setbacks, the project is fully finished from Route 118 to Huntsville-Idetown Road. This completes Lehman Township's section of Old 115.

The project was fully funded by two multimodal grants. One was through PennDOT and the second was through the DCED (Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development) for a project grand total of \$847,000.

project updates >>>

The Road Department wrapped of the 2021 Dirt and Gravel Roads Grant on Sayre Road this summer. We will continue to apply for and hopefully receive these grants that assist us financially in keeping our township dirt roads in great condition.

There are emergencies that happen on our roadways. Missing stop signs are a great example. If you see a road hazard that could cause injury or harm, please call 911.

Dedicated Foreman Vehicle.

The Lehman Township Road Department now has a dedicated vehicle for Road Foreman Dean Kreidler. If you see him out and about making sure all our roads are safe, give him a wave!

This 2014 Ford Explorer is a hand-me-down from our Police Department and has been outfitted with emergency road gear. This vehicle will also be used for after-hours emergencies and call-outs.

zoning office >>

Welcoming our new Zoning Officer.



Please welcome Christine Pope, Lehman Township's new Zoning Officer. Christine has been a zoning officer for 4 years and we are glad to have her working here in our Township. Should you need to speak with Christine regarding Zoning, she can be reached at 570-675-8224 or

zoning@lehmantwp.com

Ms. Pope wanted to remind all residents of the Property Maintenance Ordinance – 10-15-12: The exterior of the premises and surrounding yard shall be kept free of hazards which include, but are not limited to: brush, weeds, stumps, filth, garbage, trash, refuse and debris.

HAPPY RETIREMENT MR. WELBY



After years of dedication to our residents as Lehman Township's Zoning Officer, Mr. Welby retired from the position in early 2022. We are honored to have worked alongside Mr. Welby for all these years and wish him the best in his retirement.

We are UNDER CONSTRUCTION

**PLEASE EXCUSE
OUR APPEARANCE
WHILE WE ARE**



If you've visited the Lehman Township municipal building or have noticed some construction over the last 7 months, our police department is currently undergoing a major expansion project.

Over the last several years, our police department has expanded from 2 full time officers to seven. We also have 2 part time officers that work as needed. We have expanded our fleet of patrol cars from 4 to 8. Currently officers work out of a single "squad" room which has become small and outdated. This project has been in process for a few years and is finally taking shape. With the building addition added onto the existing police station, officers will have more room to conduct daily police operations and special investigations. Individuals coming in contact with the police will also have much added privacy and security. The municipal building and police station will have new state of the art camera system and the public

will be able to make contact directly with the police instead of having to make initial contact with township administration.

We are also adding a 4-bay heated garage for the police vehicles. Having a garage will greatly increase the overall longevity of the police vehicles and reduce idle time during the winter, thus cutting down on gasoline costs. The garage will also keep vehicles cooler in the summer while not in service thus cutting down on extreme interior temperatures and potentially harming computers, police equipment, and interior cameras.

We look forward to having an "Open House" night on December 19th before the regular township meeting. A plaque of appreciation will be presented to the township administration and the new police station will be open for residents to get a look. Light sandwiches and refreshments will be served. More information on the police open house will be announced on Facebook. As always, the best way to contact the police is by using 911.

~ Chief Liparella

events >>>

We are a drop-off location for Community Angels for Veterans collection drive. Some donation ideas are: personal hygiene items, paper products, non-perishable food and gift cards. All donations will be distributed to local Veterans in the Back Mountain during the holiday season. If you are or know of a Veteran in our area who is in need, please contact Christine Pope at CMP62275@gmail.com

Our Paper Purge will be on November 12, 2022 this year. As always, we ask participants to bring a food donation item for our local food bank! Please see details on our website or our October ad in the Back Mountain Community News!



**Community
Angels for
Veterans**



Collection now – December 22, 2022

Visit us on



*"Lehman Township,
Luzerne County, Pennsylvania"*

Call us at **570-674-7788**

or check our website
www.lehmantwp.com

PAPER PURGE!

SAFE & SECURE PAPER SHREDDING EVENT AT

LEHMAN TOWNSHIP

Lehman Township will host our 6th annual Community Shredding Event on

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2022

9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

at the

Lehman Township Municipal Building
& Recycling Center

with onsite shredding provided by:



Document Destruction Service

Sponsored by Luzerne County Recycling Office