LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP

EST. 1805

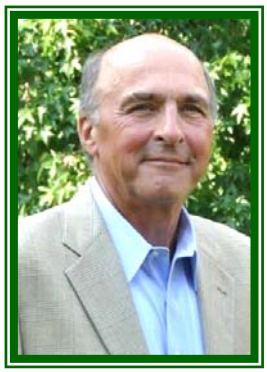
Annual Report 2018

2018 Board Of Supervisors

Patrick Duffy
Chairman

Jason Sorgini
Vice Chairman

Colleen Eckman



Peter MacFarland

Gary Neights

Boards, Commissions & Authorities

Those Serving in 2018:

Auditors

Marie Dotts, Chairwoman
Timothy O'Connell, Vice Chairman
Jonathan Perrone, Secretary

Library Board

Nancy Klein, President
Lucy Arnold, Vice President
Arthur Miller, Secretary
Ben Simkin, Treasurer
Lisa Bono
Earl Catagnus
David Nawrocki
Gary Neights, Board of Supervisors Liaison

Zoning Hearing Board

Kathie Eskie, Chairwoman
Gail Hager, Vice Chairwoman
Patricia Alzamora
George Ozorowski
Joseph Pucci
Robert Hardt, Alternate
Jill Zimmerman, Alternate

Sewer Authority

Fred Walker, Chairman
Charles Rose, Vice Chairman
Robert Tschoepe, Secretary
William Stanczak, Treasurer
Doug Hager

Parks and Recreation Board

Beth Ann Mazza, Chairwoman
Jean Akers
M. Joseph Clement
Erin DiPaolo
Charlotte Mandracchia
J.P. Mascaro
John Neilson Jr.
Katherine McGrath, Student Rep.
Kendall Ozorowski, Student Rep.
Dylan Pompe, Student Rep.
Reilly Smith, Student Rep.
Patrick Duffy, Board of Supervisors Liaison

Planning Commission

Mark Kuberski, Chairman
Kristina O'Donnell, Vice Chairwoman
David Akers
David Atkins
William D. Brooke Jr.
Virginia Kricun
Susan LaPenta
Patrick Duffy and Jason Sorgini, Board of Supervisors Liaisons

UCC Appeals Board

M. Steven Gillan
Richard Firth
Joseph McKeon

Vacancy Board

Gloria Corcoran

Lower Providence Township ▪ 100 Parklane Drive ▪ Eagleville PA 19403
Lower Providence Community Library ▪ 50 Parklane Drive ▪ Eagleville PA 19403
Lower Providence Township Sewer Authority ▪ 20 Parklane Drive ▪ Eagleville PA 19403

2018 - The Progress Continues

2018 saw the tremendous progress the Township has experienced over the past five years continue in both obvious and subtle ways throughout our community. Our gateway entrances on Ridge Pike are bustling with activity as Providence Place is renovating and adding to the old Collegeville Inn, while Lidl has broken ground on the former Norristown Ford property. These long-vacant properties are being brought back to life with significant investment which will increase property values and add hundreds of jobs to the Township. Dunkin Donuts will soon begin construction on a new store at Trooper Road and Ridge Pike as well. The Audubon Village Shopping Center has been fully renovated by its new owners and Redner's Markets has signed a lease to occupy the supermarket site there, joining Ebru Coffee Roastery, Bowties Salon and Corropolese Italian Bakery in the freshly energized Audubon Village. Likewise, Ollie's Bargain Outlet has found a home in Eagleville and added to the continued trend of filling long-vacant commercial properties.

The progress has not been limited to these obvious signs of growth. The Township was able to obtain a $2,000,000 multimodal grant from PennDOT for the realignment and signalization of the Crawford Road/Park Avenue/Eagleville Road intersection. The Township has now secured $5.3 million dollars in grants and funding for this project and has begun the engineering and planning phase. A $100,000 grant was obtained from the County for the installation of sidewalks in the Park Pointe Business Center. Improvements like these has led to increased investment in this section of town. In 2018, seven properties in or near Park Pointe sold for a total of $41.3 million dollars. Early in 2019, another property sold for an additional $21 million. These sales of commercial properties equate to over $300,000 in transfer fees to the Township budget. The Township, in coordination with the Lower Providence Business Association, developed a new and updated Sign Ordinance which meets the needs of our businesses, but limits the amount of distractions that signage can cause. New five-year labor contracts with the Police and non-uniform unions ensure that our valued employees are fairly compensated, while at the same time provide financial certainty to the Township. Supervisor Colleen Eckman is leading an ad hoc committee examining all the Township open space, trails and sidewalks in an attempt to add connectivity throughout the community. This subtle, and less publicized progress is essential in keeping the municipal tax rate one of the lowest in Montgomery County.

John Zollers, Volunteer of the Year

The safety of our residents is vital to the Township. 2018 saw the placement of a traffic light at Pawlings Road and Station Avenue; the removal of a tree and installation of guard rails on a dangerous stretch of Arcola Road; the enactment of a fireworks ordinance which limits the number of times and hours fireworks can be set off; and the denial of a request to open a questionable massage parlor on Ridge Pike. The wholesome way of life the Township strives to achieve is why scores of nominations were received for the first annual business, volunteer and citizen of the year awards in the Township. Congratulations to Metropolitan Veterinary Associates, Jon Zollers and Pasquale Mascaro for winning these awards!

On the following pages, this Annual Report will highlight the work done on behalf of the Lower Providence Township community in 2018. I'd like to thank our volunteers and Township staff for their work and my fellow Supervisors for their leadership and support. My appreciation, also, goes to the residents and business community for their support in making Lower Providence an incredible place to live, work and play.

Patrick T. Duffy
2018 Chairman
Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors

Finance

Mission Statement

The mission of the Finance Department can be categorized into three basic functions: Formulating and recommending financial, tax and fiscal policies; enforcing Township tax code ordinances; and maintaining the central accounting and reporting system. To further these objectives, the staff processes and analyzes financial data so that it can be effectively used by the Board of Supervisors as a tool for Township-wide decision-making.

2018 Highlights

- The Township started 2018 on solid financial footing, having realized a year-end General Fund surplus in 2017 for the sixth consecutive year. Earned Income Taxes remained solid with 101.65% of the budgeted amount collected. Real Estate Transfer taxes and Local Services taxes also were up, with collection rates of 113.34% and 106.25%, respectively, of the budgeted amounts.

- The 2018 General Fund Operating Budget of $10,513,254 included a 2.355% increase in expenditures but carried no tax millage increase. The increase in expenditures reflects contractual wage increases for police and non-uniform personnel. Sound fiscal policies and oversight allowed other expenditures to remain steady or decrease.

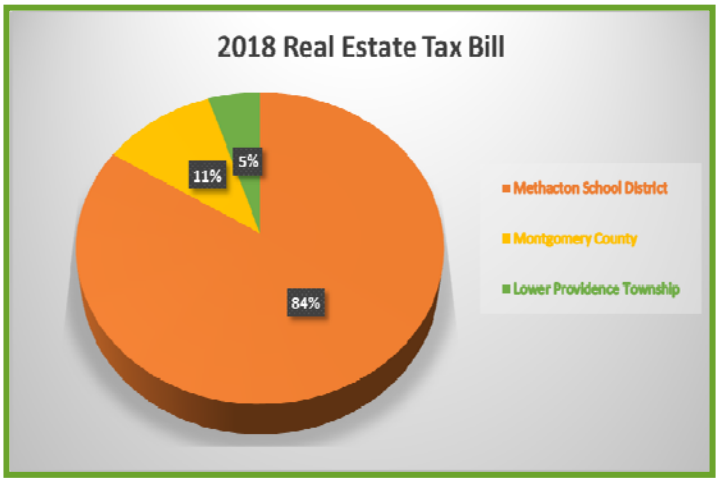
- There were two large unbudgeted items in 2018: An emergency road repair of $118,045 and a transfer of $425,000 to the Unrestricted Capital Fund. As of this writing, 2018 ended with a deficit of $116,513 which included the two above unbudgeted items. The final numbers will be subject to audit review.

2018 Real Estate Tax Rates

Lower Providence Township	Millage
General Fund	.905 mills
Library Fund	.345 mills
Debt Service Fund	.276 mills
Parks & Recreation Operating Fund	.241 mills
Methacton School District	29.4585 mills
Montgomery County	3.459 mills
Montgomery County Community College	.39 mills

Understanding Your Real Estate Taxes

The real estate tax bill is levied by three different taxing authorities: Lower Providence Township, Methacton School District and Montgomery County. **Of the total real estate tax bill, 84% goes to Methacton School District, 11% goes to Montgomery County, and 5% comes to the Township.** The amount of the real estate tax millage is approved each year by the governing bodies of those authorities. A millage is calculated as $1 of tax on every $1000 of a property's assessed value.



2018 General Fund Budget

Revenues

REAL ESTATE TAXES	$1,488,967
LOCAL ENABLING TAXES	$6,733,800
FEES & PERMITS	$538,600
ROAD OPENING PERMIT	$10,000
FINES	$125,000
INTEREST	$22,000
RENTS	$5,300
STATE GRANTS	$43,475
STATE SHARED REVENUES	$628,178
LOCAL GRANTS	$10,000
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	$54,650
INSPECTIONS	$750,436
MISCELLANEOUS	$16,500
REIMBURSEMENT	$52,218
MISCELLANEOUS	$34,130
Total Revenues:	$10,513,254

Expenses

LEGISLATIVE	$20,635	SAFETY COMMITTEE	$500
EXECUTIVE	$554,943	DONATIONS	$5,500
FINANCE	$140,646	TRASH & RECYCLING	$15,500
TAX COLLECTION	$113,775	PUBLIC WORKS	$1,065,214
LEGAL	$130,350	PROJECTS	$500
ENERGY	$149,500	STORM WATER MANAGEMENT	$25,000
TECHNOLOGY	$132,380	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	$10,000
ENGINEERING & PLANNING	$30,000	MISCELLANEOUS	$10,050
BUILDINGS MAINTENANCE	$43,000	PENSION CONTRIBUTION	$1,195,946
POLICE	$3,706,599	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	$2,034,958
FIRE	$486,075	INSURANCE	$139,630
AMBULANCE	$67,000	REIMBURSEMENT	$61,223
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	$338,686	INTERFUND TRANSFERS	$35,044
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	$600	ENDING BALANCE	$0
		Total Expenses:	$10,513,254

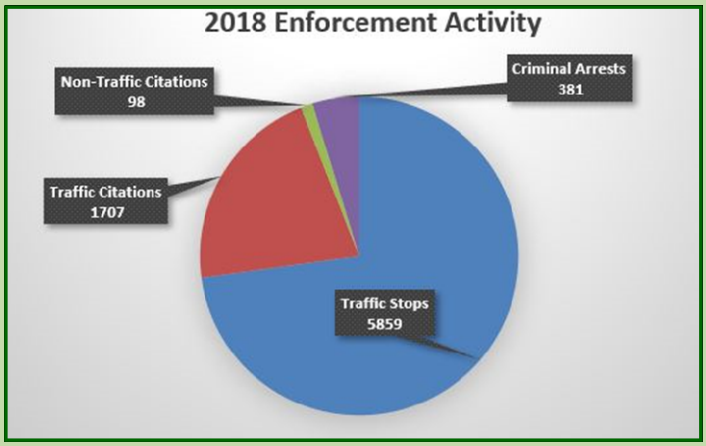
Police Department

The Lower Providence Township Police Department is a professional, progressive, community oriented law enforcement organization committed to making the Township a great place to live, work and play. The department consists of 31 police officers, two civilian dispatchers and a part-time evidence clerk. The department was accredited by the PA Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission in 2006.

2018 Highlights

Activity

- Police vehicles logged 284,737 miles during the year.
- Department personnel attended 1,123 court proceedings.
- 25 offenders participated in the Drug Education and Abuse Prevention (DEAP) program.
- Assigned personnel assisted with Montgomery County SWAT-Central Region and Montgomery County Major Incident Response Team mutual aid assignments.
- The detective unit conducted 380 new or follow-up investigations.
- There were 193 Part I Crimes reported with a clearance rate of 44%.
- There were 514 Part II Crimes reported with a clearance rate of 65%.
- State UCR data shows 2.1 % of all reported crime in Montgomery County occurred in Lower Providence Township.



Personnel

New Hires:

- Officer Patrick Young was hired in May.

Accrediation:

- The department was awarded accreditation for the Fifth Time. Originally accredited by the PA Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission in 2006 the department has received reaccreditation every three years since 2006. Accredited status has been awarded to less than 7% of the 1200 law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth.

Commendations

Letters of Commendation:

Officer W. Timothy Arthur - Naloxone save
Officer Devon Auge - (3) Naloxone saves
Officer Matthew Barber - Naloxone save
Officer Matthew Cerasuolo - (3) Naloxone saves
Officer Justin Hubert - Naloxone save
Officer Joseph McCreary - Naloxone save
Officer Michael Nastasi - Naloxone save
Officer Ryan Singleton - Naloxone save
Officer Patrick Young - (2) Naloxone saves

2018 Police Officer of the Year :

Officer Zachary Wise

District Attorney Medals:

Detective Reginald Nealy Jr. - Child Abuse Investigation
Detective Sgt. Terrence Kennedy - Child Abuse Investigation
Officer W. Timothy Arthur - Child Abuse Investigation
Detective Charles King - Child Abuse Investigation
Lieutenant Michael Jackson - DEAP program
Detective Scott Dreibelbis - Child Abuse Investigation

Life Saving Commendation

Sergeant William Hopkins
Corporal Michael Slattery
Officer Matthew Barber
Officer Ryan Gill
Officer Matthew Cerasuolo
Telecommunicator Dominique Memmo

Distinguished Unit Citations:

Chief Stanley Turtle - Armed Subject
Lieutenant Michael Jackson - Armed Subject
Sergeant Mark Stead - Armed Subject
Corporal Michael Slattery - Armed Subject
Detective Reginald Nealy Jr. - Armed Subject
Detective Scott Dreibelbis - Armed Subject
Officer Matthew Barber - Armed Subject
Officer Ryan Gill - Armed Subject
Officer Daniel McGuffin - Armed Subject

Fire Department

The Lower Providence Township Volunteer Fire Department was established in 1945. It is a completely volunteer organization and operates from two stations, 3199 Ridge Pike in Eagleville and 24 Lark Lane in Audubon. The volunteers of the LPFD provide the community with fire suppression, rescue, fire police, community outreach, fire prevention support to the Township Police Department and Emergency Medical Service agencies.

2018 Highlights

Calls for Service (*December - November*)

- Fire calls - 553 (20% increase from 2017)
- Officer calls- 27
- Fire Police calls - 45
- Total calls for service - 625
- Total call staffing hours - 3,230 (21% increase from 2017), does not include fundraising, meeting and administrative hours

Staffing

- 50 firefighters
- 8 fire officers
- 7 fire police officers
- 4 junior firefighters
- All firefighters are trained to the National Fire Protection Association's 1001 standard that requires 188 hours for completion

Training

Current Fire Company Officers have excelled far beyond the minimum requirements and share a combined tenure of 165 years of service.

- 50 in-house training sessions - Tuesday evenings, approximately 2.5 hours weekly
- Additional certification training held at Station 53 with Fire Academy instructors
- Elevator rescue - 16 hours
- Special vehicle rescue - 16 hours
- Vehicle and machinery rescue 1 & 2 - 64 hours
- Aerial operations - 16 hours
- Driver training
  - NFPA 1001 Firefighter 1 – 188 hours
  - Emergency Vehicle Operations Course – 16 hours
  - Pump Operations 1 & 2 – 32 hours
  - Aerial Operations 16 hours
- Fire Officer training
  - All Firefighter & Driver Requirements
  - NFPA 1001 Firefighter 2
  - NFPA 1041 Fire Instructor 1
  - NFPA 1021 Fire Officer 1

Equipment Acquisition

- Rescue truck
- Rescue Equipment
- Rescue struts
- Milwaukee battery tools
- Hydraulic rescue pumps
- Wood cribbing
- Hand tools and boxes

Daily Operations

Emergency Services

- Respond to emergency calls
- Equipment maintenance
- Apparatus maintenance
- Training
- Incident reporting
- Pre-incident planning

Administrative

- Station maintenance
- Fundraising
- 12 In-house committees
- Administrative officer tasks
- Business operations
- Financial planning

Funding

- Annual township contribution
- Emergency Services millage
- Fire Department billing - Insurance companies only
- 2% Tax on Out of State Insurance (Relief Association)
- State ACT 84 Requirement
- Fundraising - Fund Drive, Fireman's Fair, donut sales
- Misc. Donations

Emergency Medical Service

Lower Providence EMS is a Non-Profit Combination Emergency Service entity providing Advanced Life Support Services to Lower Providence Township, as well as sections of Upper Providence and Worcester Townships. It currently operates four ALS ambulances from two stations. Lower Providence EMS is managed by a nine-member Board of Directors, along with a full-time Executive Director. Operational management consists of a full-time Chief of Operations along with an Operational Officer Line along with various Committees.

2018 call total: 3,571

- 2,944 - Lower Providence Township
- 219 - Worcester Township
- 199 - Upper Providence Township
- 116 - Upper Merion Township
- 93 - Other

2018 volunteer membership:

- 228 volunteer shifts
- 2,444 total volunteer hours

2018 Goals & Accomplishments

Establish new Committee format with written expectations

- Written job description created for all committee head positions. Job descriptions implemented and in place for Career Supervisor / Deputy Chief, Clinical Care Coordinator, QA Coordinator, & QA reviewer Training Coordinator. QA committee & Training committee staffed and progressing. Clinical Care is nearly completely established, first meeting in 1st Quarter 2019.

Complete transition to new ePCR (Patient Care Records) System – Cloud PCR

- Completed transition to Cloud PCR. After evaluation system did not work as promised or needed. Another switch made to ESO in August of 2018. New system is working well.

Become paperless with PCR's

- Transitioned to nearly completely paperless PCR transactions. PCR's no longer printed and all documents scanned into system for electronic storage. Signatures and transfer of care/ Refusal forms still on paper.

Evaluate and purchase tablets for mobile PCR completion

- Not currently completed, looking for update in 3rd quarter of 2019.

Size and purchase new uniforms for the entire LPEMS Staff

- New uniforms sized and purchased. New uniforms and patches have been placed into service. Uniforms are more professional appearing and more durable.

Layout and purchase new Ambulance

- New Medic 322-1 was designed and purchased in 4th quarter of 2018.

Install new full station generator

- New full station generator was installed and is operational.

Have MDC's (mobile data computers) installed in all LPEMS Ambulances

- MDC's have been installed and are operational in 3 of 4 units. 4th unit will be installed upon arrival of new Medic 322-1 in the summer of 2019.

Use PA State Grant funding to purchase Drug Control Device

- Grant funding received and vending machine and software purchased to ensure proper storage and dispensing of drugs and high value medical equipment.

Become More Visible in the Community

- New website, medic322.com, and growth of LPEMS official Facebook page.

Clean out loft area and construct a secure cage system for sensitive documents

- Turn current document storage room into functional gym area for members. This project is not yet completed. Pricing has been obtained and will look to be implemented in Quarter 1 of 2019.

Examine SAM pelvic wrap for possible purchase

- Not yet complete - waiting for restock of supply at Paoli Memorial ER

Purchase new tables and chairs for Training/Meeting Room & Crew Kitchen area

- Not Completed - hopeful for Quarter 1 2019

Purchase whiteboard and TV's for Training Room

- Not Completed - hopeful for Quarter 1 2019

Community Development

The Planning, Zoning, Building Code, Code Enforcement, and Fire Marshal functions of the Township are consolidated under the Community Development Department. Again, this year the Department focused on coordinating efforts across functions and with other Township departments, to provide more efficient and seamless services to Township residents and business operators. We really are on the same side of the table….

Planning

Conditional Use Applications

3848 Yerkes Road – Subdivision of existing parcel to create two additional residential flag lots. The proposed driveway and culvert encroached into steep slopes and riparian buffer zone, which requires additional review.

Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority – Installation of a new sanitary sewer interceptor through and adjacent to the Perkiomen Creek.

2830 Ridge Pike – Conversion of existing business building into mixed use

Audubon Square V Revision – Revision of land development plans to facilitate a larger strip retail center and additional pad drive-thru restaurant site.

Eagleville Hospital - Modernization of campus facilities to more efficiently deal with medical and residential functions. Licensed institutional uses require conditional use approval.

Evansburg Winery – Repurposing of historic property to retain residence and convert barn into winery production and tasting business. Alcohol beverage sales require conditional use approval.

Land Developments

60 Eagleville Road – Montgomery County Emergency Operations Center Expansion – Construction of a 24,000 Sf garage and 15,000 SF accessory warehouse building.

3444-50 Germantown Pike – IROY Gym – Proposed combination of three parcels, demolition of several existing buildings and construction of 47,100 SF indoor fitness facility

Audubon Square V – Construction of 21,000 SF retail strip center and 6,400 SF restaurant pad site.

Evansburg Winery – Repurposing of property for wine production and tasting.

Moscariello at Crosskeys – Proposed construction of 30 townhouses and four story commercial/residential building on an undeveloped parcel.

Business Development

- Multiple new businesses
- Collaboration with others on the Business Development Committee

Visit **www.lowerprovidence.org/planning-and-development.htm** for more information and project updates.
The Planning Commission meets the fourth Wednesday of each month. The Zoning Hearing Board meets the fourth Thursday of each month.

Code Enforcement

- 441 Service Requests addressed and 424 closed
- 1572 Issued Permits
  - ♦ 30 Building
  - ♦ 200 Electrical
  - ♦ 24 Fire Suppression
  - ♦ 235 Mechanical
  - ♦ 212 Plumbing
  - ♦ 254 Resale Permits – 10 Commercial/253 Residential
  - ♦ 202 Zoning Permits
  - ♦ 35 Alarm

Zoning

- 17 Zoning Hearing Board Appeals filed

Subdivisions

- **3531 Arcola Road** – Subdivision to create an additional residential building lot at the rear of an existing historic home.
- **Liberty - N. Park Ave.** – Residential subdivision to create two additional flag lots to the rear of 801 N Park Ave.

Construction Activity

- **Providence Place** – Renovation of Collegeville Inn and creation of 160 assisted living units.
- **Audubon Square V** – New construction of Tru Hotel and First Watch restaurant.
- **John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove** – Construction of a new, approximately 22,000 SF museum and education center
- **Landis Mill Estates,** Lucia Lane - 9 single-family homes – near completion
- **Courts at Brynwood,** Germantown Pike and River Rd - 139 townhomes
- **2621 Van Buren** – Renovation to accommodate several new tenants
- **Arcola Intermediate School** – Auditorium renovation

Other Matters

- **Sign Ordinance**
- **Medical Marijuana Ordinance**

Public Works

The Public Works Department is responsible for a wide range of duties and services including snow/ice removal during the winter months, year-round roadway repairs, and vehicle, equipment and building maintenance. In addition, the department is responsible for traffic signal repairs, street lights and all storm sewers. Currently, the Township owns and services 91 miles of roadway.

2018 Highlights

Weather Events

Mother Nature kept the Department busy throughout 2018. The Department's crews were called upon to handle 16 weather-related events during the year, as compared to just seven in 2017. The bouts of freezing rain and snowstorms included three powerful Nor'easters which hit the Township in March. PECO noted that one of these, winter storm Riley, was the third most destructive storm in its history. In addition, the township experienced record rainfall during the year.

Routine Maintenance

Routine maintenance is vital to keep all infrastructure functioning properly.

- 36 street signs were repaired or replaced
- 770 storm sewer inlets were cleaned
- 6 storm sewer inlets were reconstructed
- 13 roadways were crack sealed
- Street sweeping , roadside mowing, tree trimming
- Approx. 2,500 PA One Call notifications were processed

Equipment/Facilities

- New dump truck/plow/spreader purchased – the truck provides low maintenance and reliable service
- New waste oil tank installed at the Public Works garage - recycled waste oil is used to heat the garage
- Handicap ramp/walkway installed and parking lot paved at the Shoemaker House at the Township complex - the house is the new home for the Lower Providence Township Tax Collector

Record rainfall brought reminders of the destructive power of water.

Storm Sewer Rehabilitation

- Landis Mill Road: A 30" corrugated metal pipe was removed and replaced. The pipe had deteriorated and caused a large sinkhole.
- Pinetown Road: The storm sewer pipe was replaced and existing guiderail extended for safety. The tree removal for pipe installation improved visibility for traffic.
- Catfish Lane: A large 60" storm water pipe, 60 linear feet in length was repaired in place. A wide area of paving and shoulder restoration was completed.

Road Reconstruction

In conjunction with the Sewer Authority, the Township paved approximately 4 miles of roadway during the year. The Township itself paved over 2.5 miles and was able to pave an additional 1.5 miles by working closely with the Sewer Authority. Combining their contracts allowed both the Township and the Sewer Authority to obtain the most cost-effective pricing.

The base repair and asphalt overlay portion of the 2018 road improvement bid was awarded to Allan Myers at a cost of $706,513.07. Recon Construction Services Inc. was awarded the cold mill recycling work at a cost of $202,611.65. The portion of the improvements where restoration was being completed in areas impacted by recent sanitary sewer main replacements was funded by the Sewer Authority.

Roads paved in 2018:

Level Road - Lenape Drive to Yerkes Road
Sandpiper Road (Park Avenue to Shearwater Drive)
Tomstock Road (Belmont Avenue to Woodland Avenue)
Brimfield Road (Woodland Avenue to just past Sandown Road)
Cardinal Road
Wren Road
Robin Lane (Off Egypt Road)
Tomahawk Drive
Shawnee Circle

Roads paved that were affected by the sewer line installation:

Kenney Road
Brandt Road
Mann Road
Wayne Avenue
Oaklyn Avenue - Ridge Pike/Marilyn Ave
Walker Lane - Summit Ave/E. Mt. Kirk Ave

Cold in-place recycling work on Tomstock Road – the existing asphalt is being removed and reused.

Parks & Recreation

Many safety improvements to our parks, on-going maintenance to the parks and open space areas, as well as the coordination of the Township's many community events and programs kept the department busy throughout 2018. For Parks and Recreation information or to register for programs, visit www.lptrec.com or call us at 610-635-3543.

SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM

Camp Perkiomy

- 230 campers in Kindergarten through Grade 5 registered at 3 sites - Audubon, Arrowhead & Eagleville Elementary Schools
- 25 staff members: 1 director, 3 site supervisors, 6 group leaders, 13 counselors, 2 floaters
- 7 week program, 8:00am - 4:00pm, Monday - Friday
- 79 registered for extended-day option

Perkiomy Trailblazers

- 101 campers in grades 5 - 8 registered at 2 sites – Eagleville & Woodland Elementary Schools
- 7 week program, 8:00am - 4:00pm, Monday - Friday
- 8 staff members: 2 site supervisors, 6 counselors
- 36 registered for extended day option

Counselor in Training Program

- (12) 13-15 year olds learned what it takes to be a counselor at Camp Perkiomy

Bus Trips

- 7 day-trips offered to multiple locations
- 125 residents attended

Recreational / Specailty Program

- 115 sessions of recreational activities offered (sports, music, exercise)

Special Events

Thanks to our many corporate sponsors, the Parks and Recreation Department is able to provide special events to the community at no cost.

- 39th Annual Easter Egg Hunt
- 23rd Annual Independence Day Fireworks & Concert
- 31st Annual Community Fall Festival
- 10th Annual Community Tree Lighting
- 10,000 plus total attendees

Discount Amusement & Movie Tickets

- 484 summer amusement tickets sold
- 37 winter ski lift tickets sold
- 1764 discount Regal movie tickets sold
- 1125 discount Movie Tavern tickets sold

Permits

- 16 seasonal permits issued for use of ball fields
- 72 pavilion rentals at Eagleville & Eskie Parks
- 28 Level Road Schoolhouse rentals

For Parks and Recreation information or to register for programs, visit www.lptrec.com or call us at 610-635-3543.

CARING AND SHARING

- Made possible by the generosity of residents and local businesses – thank you!
- 10 Thanksgiving dinner baskets were provided for Township families
- 10 Holiday meals and gifts were provided for Township families
- Year-round food collection (bins located in Administration Building Lobby)
- Collection of winter coats & gloves (bins located in Administration Building Lobby)

CAPITAL PROJECTS

- *Audubon Recreation Fields* – Parking lot curb stops
- *Dell Angelo Park* – Installation of new play structure
- *Eskie Park* – Removal of old backstop
- *Hoy Park* – Fishing pier repairs

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Congratulations and thanks go out to our local Eagle Scouts whose hard work culminated with these projects:

- ***Dan Falvo, Troop 267***
  Construction and installation of bat houses at Eskie Park

- ***Sean Doran, Jr., Troop 267***
  Construction of limestone walking path to connect sidewalk to play structure at Sherwood Park

Sherwood Park playground.

Special Projects & Technology

The department coordinates the work of the Business Development Committee with the goal of helping current businesses thrive, secure new development, and planning for future growth opportunities.

2018 Highlights

- The Committee's work continued to see results in 2018 with Lidl developing the former Norristown Ford site at Ridge Pike and Trooper Road, Providence Place Senior Living preserving the Collegeville Inn building, and new construction of a Tru Hotel and First Watch restaurant on Trooper Road. Additionally, at year's end, it was announced that Redner's Market will be coming to the Audubon Village Shopping Center in 2019.
- 37 new businesses brought 335 new employees to the Township
- $41.3 million - Sales of seven properties in Park Pointe at Lower Providence business park
- 11 new businesses, representing 212 new employees, joined the Park Pointe at Lower Providence Business Park: Airos Medical LLC; Bald Birds Brewing Company; BSB Equities, Inc.; The Learning Experience; Firehouse Subs; Greenlane Marketing; GTT Americas, LLC; QualSat, LLC; Signal Perfection Ltd.; Starbucks Coffee; and Strumis LLC.
- Along the Ridge Pike corridor, several new businesses began operation during the year, including Nirvana Indian Bistro (replacing Dosa Hut); The Urban Hound; Two Amigos Taqueria; Pallets and Paints; and Ollie's Bargain Outlet.
- In the Audubon area, new additions included Bowties Salon and Ebru Coffee Company on Egypt Road.
- A Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA) designation was adopted by the Board of Supervisors for the 950 Rittenhouse Road Superfund site to encourage redevelopment of the property.
- The Department assisted with an early morning Supervisors' Meet and Greet for business and property owners in the Audubon/Trooper Road area. Held at Bald Birds Brewing Company in the Park Pointe at Lower Providence business park, the event allowed the Supervisors and staff to answer questions and review various Township information provided by the Township's traffic consultant and engineer.

The Business Development Committee hosts welcome events for businesses new to the Township such as this one held at Ollie's Bargain Outlet.

Technology

- 37 new businesses licenses were issued
- 335 new jobs created as a result of all new businesses
- Business Development Facebook page

Special Projects

Meeting Rebroadcasts on Community Access Cable Channel (Comcast 28, Verizon 42)

- 22 Board of Supervisor meetings
- 9 Zoning Hearing Board meetings
- Residents who subscribe to cable TV may view the rebroadcasts the week following the meeting on Comcast channel 28 and Verizon channel 42. The meetings are rebroadcast on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays at 1 a.m., 9 a.m., and 7 p.m.

Meeting Rebroadcasts Online

- Working with Township's video recording vendor, meeting rebroadcasts have been made available online at, www.municipalmeeting.com/channel/Lower-Providence-Township/1 for viewing anytime by residents.

Santa's Hotline Phone Operation and Setup

- Assistance provided for Lower Providence Optimist Club's annual Santa hotline

Community Relations

The Community Relations Department is responsible for providing timely and accurate information to the Township's residents and business community utilizing a variety of communication media. Addressing citizen concerns is a top priority. Additionally, the department serves as Township's Open Records Office.

2018 Highlights

Communications/Community Outreach

- **New Residents' Welcome Package**
  - To help new residents as they settle in to their new homes in Lower Providence, a packet with important contacts and resource materials was compiled. The packets are mailed to new residents. Additionally, a link to the packet is posted on the Community Relations page on the Township website.
- **Citizen and Business Recognition**
  - In 2018, the Board of Supervisors initiated a program to recognize outstanding contributions to the Township by citizens and businesses. Nominations were sought for Citizen, Volunteer and Business of the Year. The inaugural awards presentation took place at the Board's last meeting of 2018.

Website

- The Township continued to fine tune its redesigned website. Some key features to look for: Important announcements and information at the "News" tab on the home page; summaries of Board of Supervisors' actions on the board's webpage; frequently requested forms in the "Document Center" in the Citizen Action Center on the home page. **lowerprovidence.org**

Newsletter and Annual Report

- The Township's newsletter earned a third-place award in the PA State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) state-wide communication contest in the "Most Improved" category. The layout of the publication was changed to better showcase both news content and advertising.
- The newsletter is published three times per year. Advertising sponsorship covers the cost of newsletter production, allowing the printed publication to be mailed to all residences and businesses.

Social Media

- The Township continued to utilize Facebook and increase its use of Twitter during the year. Both are valuable communication tools.

Cable Community Access Channel

- Board of Supervisors and Zoning Hearing Board meetings are rebroadcast on the public access channels, Comcast Channel 28 and Verizon Channel 42. During the week following a meeting, the recording can be viewed on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 1 a.m., 9 a.m. and 7 p.m

Administration

- Responsible for wide range of administrative duties, including scheduling, correspondence, and maintenance

LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP

100 Parklane Drive ■ Eagleville, PA 19403
Phone: 610-539-8020 ■ Fax: 610-539-6347
www.lowerprovidence.org

WELCOME!

We wanted to take this opportunity to welcome you to Lower Providence Township. We're glad you've chosen to make our community your home!

Lower Providence Township is one of the 62 townships and boroughs located within Montgomery County. You'll find that your new home is referred to by many names - you'll hear folks mention Audubon, Collegeville, Eagleville, Evansburg, and Trooper. The Township is rich in history and these are the names of villages that were first settled and grew into the community of Lower Providence Township that we know today.

As a Township of the Second Class, the municipality is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors, with day-to-day staff operations under the guidance of a Township Manager. We invite you to take advantage our beautiful park facilities, Community Library, and visit www.lptrec.com to explore the many programs offered by our Parks and Recreation Department.

The Township website, **www.lowerprovidence.org**, provides valuable information about our services and resources. Take a moment to "Like" us on Facebook for daily updates on Township happenings and look for

Open Records Office

- 963 Requests for Information were logged and processed,
  - 808 were requests for Police Reports
- On-going research on precedent and PA Office of Open Records determinations

Business Development

- Member of Business Development Committee, completing:
  - Preparations and publicity for Supervisors' Open House
  - Welcome events for new businesses
  - Promotional efforts throughout the year

Emergency Notification System

- The Township utilizes Montgomery County's ReadyMontco's Everbridge system for alerts and community messages. Residents and businesses are encouraged to set up an account with the system, ReadyMontco.org to receive notifications by phone, email or text messages. The system allows them to set preferences as to how and when they would like to receive messages. They are also encouraged to sign up for Smart911.com which provides helpful information to first responders in the event of a 911 call at their residence.

READY MONTCO

Human Resources

The Human Resources Department is responsible for a wide variety of areas including personnel, policies, training, labor relations, safety, workers' compensation, medical and commercial lines of insurance.

Insurance Management

2018 Highlights

Group Health

- Administration of medical, dental, life, short-term and long-term disability insurance

Workers' Compensation

- Administration of workers compensation insurance coverage and claims

Commercial Lines

- Administration of property, public officials and police liability, and automobile insurance coverage and associated claims

Pension Plan Administration

- Administration of Township pension plans
- Administration of post-retirement medical benefits plan for police officers
- Administration of voluntary 457 deferred compensation plan

Safety Committee

- Township maintains a Safety Committee and is instrumental in promoting a safety-first atmosphere among employees. Serve on Committee.

Personnel and Labor Relations

- Negotiation of AFSCME and Police Collective Bargaining Agreements
- Ensure compliance with all applicable mandates and internal agreements

Finance

- Ongoing administration of extensive internal controls
- Comprehensive yearly financial audit
- Fixed Asset Administration

Employee Development and Training

- Focus on local and in-house options
- Coordination of equipment and safety training for Public Works and Parks employees

Tax Collector

Office of the Tax Collector
Michael Deal
PO Box 7220
Audubon, PA 19407-7220
610-666-1980
lptaxcollector@verizon.net
www.lowerprovidencetaxcollector.com

The Real Estate Tax bill is levied by three different taxing authorities: Lower Providence Township, Methacton School District, and Montgomery County. The amount of the real estate tax millage is approved each year by the respective governing bodies of those taxing authorities. A millage is calculated as $1 of taxes on every $1000 of a property's assessed value.

Township Real Estate Tax bills are issued on March 1 of each year. A discount period is available from March 1-April 30, for those who wish to receive a 2% discount. Taxes paid after July 1 are subject to a 10% penalty. If a tax bill is delinquent by December 31st the year it is due, a lien will be placed against the property.

Tax bills for County & Township real estate taxes are mailed on March 1st and should be received during the first week of March. Methacton School District Real Estate tax bills are mailed on July 1st and should be received during the first week of July. If you do not receive your tax bill by then, please contact the tax office for a replacement.

Installment plans are available for the Methacton School District RE tax bill. More information about the installment plan can be found at www.methacton.org.

Payments at the end of each period (discount, flat) will be accepted as long as they are postmarked by the last due date. If you are mailing a payment during the last few days of a period, please have the post office hand stamp your envelope with the postmark.

The tax collector is available Monday thru Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to answer your calls, except on the dates when he is collecting taxes in person. If you receive the answering machine, please leave your name, address, parcel number, and phone number so that your call can be returned. Your phone number is the most important piece of information.

In-Person Payment

Shoemaker House
30 Parklane Drive,
Eagleville, PA 19403.

The Shoemaker House is the stone farmhouses located off the main drive of the Township complex. There is a handicap accessible ramp to the kitchen entrance of the building.

Hours are 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Dates for County and in-person collections are located on the Township website on the Finance Department page.

Lower Providence Community Library

Mission

The Lower Providence Community Library provides the highest quality library services to its patrons of all ages. The materials, resources, services and facility meet community needs for education, recreation, technology, and cultural enrichment.

2018 Highlights

The Library received 185,111 visitors in 2018 and loaned 230,533 items. The Library was open for 2,937 hours of service to the community. The teen area received a facelift this year with the addition of new furnishings. Two easy chairs, a table, a café height computer table with outlets and charging ports, and three café height stools replaced the existing furniture and serve to set the area apart. Three free-standing charging stations were place around the library in the teen area, the café, and the adult area.

The Museum Pass collection was expanded to include family passes for the new Museum of the American Revolution and the John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove, for a total of 12 area sites. Passes were checked out 1,502 times. The $1.00 fee to checkout DVDs was dropped in 2018. Since the elimination of the fee, DVD checkouts have increased by 72%. Free and equal access to all library materials is available to everyone.

A community-wide survey was distributed in the fall to assess the needs and preferences for library services and use of space as part of the process of strategic planning for the future.

Friends of Lower Providence Community Library

The Friends of the Lower Providence Community Library provide support through volunteer work and fundraising efforts. In 2018 they assisted with the Annual Wine Tasting event and sponsored other fundraising activities, including an ongoing used book sale, supermarket receipt refund programs, raffles and the Wine Tasting basket raffle. The Friends donated $18,000 to the Library in 2018, which was used to fund children's and teen programs and the museum pass collection, and purchase new library materials, including e-book content for library Kindles. The **Teen Advisory Board** (TAB) is the junior division of the Friends. Members help with Library fundraising events, children's programs and activities, the Township's Easter Egg Hunt and Fall Festival, and decorating the Library for the holidays.

Funding

The Library is partially funded by allocations from the state and from Lower Providence Township real estate taxes. The remaining funds for the operating budget are raised by the Library through fundraising events, donations, grants, interest, fines, and fees. In 2018, the Library spent $29.74 per capita for each Lower Providence Township resident, $21.41 (72%) of which came from local tax dollars. The two major fundraising events for the year were the 18th Annual Wine Tasting held in March and a Vegas Night in November. Income for 2018 was $756,506; expenses were $760,459.

INCOME $756,506		EXPENSE $762,889	
LP Real Estate Taxes	$544,647	Personnel	$418,013
State	$71,291	Library Collection	$97,322
Other	$140,586	Programs	$9,560
		Debt Repayment	$105,872
		Other	$132,122

The Library collection totals 54,355 physical items; 428,389 e-books, 365,635 downloadable audiobooks and music, 41,193 downloadable and streaming videos, and 100 digital magazine titles. Patrons had access to 34 electronic resources, 10 public desktop computers, 9 laptops, an early literacy computer and tablet, 4 iPads, and a wireless internet access point.

Adult Programs/Events

The Adult Department, under the direction of Barbara Loewengart, offered 594 programs with an attendance of 6,070. Weekly programs included Mahjong Club, Crafters Canasta, Cercle Francais, yoga, chair yoga, and meditation. Other programs included book discussion groups, computer and technology classes, movies, gardening, art, crafts, finances, food, Medicare, Social Security, musical performances, writing, well-being and more. A Volunteer Fair was held in November with 13 community organizations participating

Children & Teen Programs & Events

The Children's & Teen Department, under the leadership of Sandrah Moles, hosted 449 programs attended by 9,951 children, teens, and adults. These included story times, a STEM-based literacy programs, Science in the Summer, Pennsylvania One Book, Every Young Child, and the Teen Advisory Board. Families enjoyed programs by magicians, storytellers, musicians, and theater groups. Firefighters from Lower Providence Fire Company brought a fire engine to the library and spoke to children about fire safety. The Library worked cooperatively with Methacton schools by participating in Back-to-School night events in the schools and their summer library program. Library tours were provided for preschool groups and library space was made available for homeschool group activities. Children in the Township's summer camp programs also participated in library programs.

Staff & Volunteers

The Library staff, led by director Lynn Burkholder in 2018, includes 3 full-time and 16 part-time workers. There were 146 volunteers who donated 2,944 hours of service in the Library. Many other volunteers contributed their time for fundraising activities. In recognition of this service, the Library Board hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Ice Cream Social in August.

Sewer Authority

The Township Sewer Authority maintains approximately 100 miles of pipe, 1200 manholes, and 18 sewage pumping stations within the township. On average, 3.5 million gallons of sewage per day is collected and sent to the treatment plant in Oaks.

Pennsylvania One Call

A PA One Call is a preventative measure to identify the underground sewer lines before a contractor digs. In 2018, the Sewer Authority responded to 1813 PA One Calls. The Sewer Authority's marking color is **Green**

Customer Service Requests

The Sewer Authority wants customers to know that its employees are always available during regular business hours by calling 610-539-6161 and after hours by calling 1-800-379-5713 to address emergency situations. **If you should have a backup in your outside line, contact us so that we can verify that it is not being caused by a blockage in our main line before you call a plumber.** The Sewer Authority responded to 33 customer service requests in 2018.

Routine Maintenance

- Inspected 17 new connections and 11 repairs on sewer laterals.
- Cleaned and/or televised 12,500' of main sewer line.
- Plunged and cleared 16 laterals.
- All 17 of the sewage pumping stations are inspected three days per week

Board Meetings

Sewer Authority Board Meetings are held at the SA Office in the Board Room and are open to the public. Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 6:00 PM. *(Exceptions: December 9, 2019 meeting will start at 5:30 p.m. and the November meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12th.)*

Sanitary Sewer Line Replacement Project:

A number of sanitary sewer lines were replaced throughout the Township including:

- North Park Avenue between Village Green Lane and Foster Avenue
- Midland Avenue and Midland Avenue right-of-way between Midland Avenue and Park Avenue
- Village Green Lane, Long Meadow Road, Martha Lane, Highgate Road and the right-of- way between Village Green Lane and Walker Lane

The contractor found substantial leaks in the main and laterals. We are happy to report that the work has had a major impact on the I/I (Inflow and Infiltration) issues that were found in those areas.

Lower Providence Sewer Authority
20 Parklane Drive ■ Eagleville ■ PA 19403

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Phone: 610-539-6161
After-Hour Emergencies: 1-800-379-5713
Fax: 610-539-4795
Email: lptsewer@lptsa.org

Township Ordinances

#651 An ordinance creating Chapter 130, "Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance" (LERTA) and designating a property within the township eligible for tax assistance pursuant to the PA LERTA Act.
Enacted January 2, 2018

#652 An ordinance amending Chapter 143, Zoning, concerning the regulation of signs.
Enacted January 18, 2018

#653 An ordinance amending Chapter 138 "Parking Regulations," amending parking times limitations on the west side of Clearfield Avenue from Ridge Pike to Oakdale Avenue.
Enacted February 15, 2018

#654 An ordinance amending Chapter 143, Zoning, adopting new regulations for a medical marijuana dispensary use and a grower/processor use.
Enacted March 15, 2018

#655 An ordinance repealing Chapter 77, Drug Paraphernalia, to permit the summary charging of possession with the intent to use drug paraphernalia.
Enacted March 15, 2018

#656 An ordinance amending Chapter 83, Fire Prevention, establishing the requirements for the use of consumer and display fireworks.
Enacted September 20, 2018

All Ordinances and Resolutions adopted in 2018 are available for review at the Township Building.
View the Township Code online at www.lowerprovidence.org (click the "Codes/Ordinances" link in the Citizen Action Center on the home page).

LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP EST. 1805

PLANT ROOTS. GROW FUTURES.

100 Parklane Drive
Eagleville, PA 19403

ON THE COVER: 1857 Map of Lower Providence, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania

www.lowerprovidence.org

PLANT ROOTS. GROW FUTURES