

# MIDDLE PAXTON

*digest*



**A Great Place to Live,  
Grow & Work**

### Municipal Office Hours

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Wednesday

**CLOSED FRIDAY**

10 Elizabeth Avenue  
Dauphin, PA 17018

717-921-8128

### The office will be closed:

Tuesday, November 5  
(Election Day)

Monday, November 11  
(Veterans Day)

Thursday, November 28  
(Thanksgiving)

Friday, November 29  
(Day After Thanksgiving)

Wednesday, December 25  
(Christmas)

Wednesday, January 1  
(New Years Day)

### SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING UPDATE

In the upcoming months, the Township will be working on composing bid specifications for the new Municipal Solid Waste & Recycling contract that will begin in October of 2025. The new contract will go out to bid this coming Spring. The Board of Supervisors would appreciate resident feedback to better help determine what options to include or remove in the bid specifications in order to provide service most fitting to the wants and needs of our residents. Below is a QR code to a short survey that can be scanned using a smartphone, or residents have the option to fill out a paper survey, which can be found on page 7 of this newsletter. Surveys must be submitted by **November 1, 2024**.

Completed paper surveys can be mailed to the Township at:  
**PO Box 277 Dauphin, PA 17018**

or dropped off to the Township office at:  
**10 Elizabeth Avenue Dauphin, PA 17018.**

*Additional comments and suggestions are encouraged.*

We understand cost is a big factor for most residents, and **although we legally cannot negotiate cost of service**, we can look at options to change the current service we have in order to **potentially** save money on our next contract. **We are not guaranteeing prices will lower**, but we strongly hope that providing more options in our bid specifications for haulers will prevent prices from increasing.

Thank you so much for taking the time to complete the survey and provide us with your feedback and suggestions!



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MGNLFX>

**Board of Supervisors**

*1st Monday of the month  
@ 7 p.m.*

*Workshop Meetings — 3rd  
Tuesday of the month  
@ 7 P.M. (if needed)*

**Jeffery A. Smith**  
Chairman

**Wilbur Evans**  
Vice Chairman

**Lawrence Cooney**  
Treasurer

**Mike Sudia**

**Ryan Evans**

**Zoning Hearing Board**

*2nd Wednesday of the month  
@ 7 p.m.  
(if needed)*

**James Allen**  
Chairman

**Joseph McConlogue**  
Vice Chairman

**Debra Eshelman**  
Secretary

**Patrick Armstrong, Esq.**  
Solicitor

The public is invited to  
attend all meetings.  
Meetings are held at the  
Middle Paxton Township  
Municipal Building.

10 Elizabeth Avenue  
Dauphin, PA 17018

**Middle Paxton  
Township**

**Julie Ann Seeds**  
Township Manager/Secretary

**Truman Heberlig**  
Zoning & Codes Enforcement

**Jeffrey Warfel**  
Road Foreman

**Michael Miller, Esq.**  
Solicitor

**Herbert, Rowland &  
Grubic, Inc. (HRG)**  
Engineer/Floodplain  
Administrator

**Barry Isett & Associates**  
UCC 3rd Party Inspector &  
Plan Reviewer

**Brian & Carrie McFeaters**  
Sewage Enforcement Officers

**Robert Rusbatch**  
Emergency Management  
Coordinator

**Dauphin-Middle  
Paxton Fire Co. #1**

**Shane Swenson**  
Chief

**Matthew Shive**  
Deputy Chief

**Mike McKenna**  
Assistant Chief

**Jon Fleming**  
Captain

**Tax Collector**

**Tanya Pomeroy**

**Dauphin-Middle  
Paxton Joint Park  
Authority**

**Shannon Scott**  
President

**Nichole Staley  
O’Gorman**  
Vice President

**Ron Hull**  
Secretary

**Tim Wenrich**  
Treasurer

**Michael Cohen**

**Lawrence Cooney**

**Planning  
Commission**

*2nd Monday of the  
month @ 7 p.m.  
(if needed)*

**Liz Rodda**  
Chairperson

**Jeffrey S. Smith**  
Vice Chairperson

**Thomas “Chip” Brown**

**Gary Deimler**

**Donald Morse**

**Ralph Stone**

**Justin Wingenfield**

**Julie Ann Seeds**  
Secretary

# Important Phone Numbers

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9 a.m.—4 p.m., Wednesday 9 a.m.—noon

**CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC FRIDAY**

Middle Paxton Township Municipal Building—(717) 921-8128

**\*After hours emergency, contact Julie Ann Seeds, Township Manager, at (717) 943-5131\***

Township Zoning & Codes Enforcement Officer—(717) 921-8128 x107

**APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED**

Township Sewage Enforcement Officers—(717) 813-6492

» Brian & Carrie McFeaters

Township Tax Collector—(717) 921-8737

» Tanya Pomeroy

\*Payments can be dropped off at 1140 Victor Lane, Dauphin, PA 17018\*

* CAT Shared Ride (Bus)	(717) 233-5657
* Comcast Customer Service (Cable/Internet)	(800) 934-6489
* Dauphin Area Senior Transit—Registration Only (Rue Megonnell)	(717) 921-2727
* Dauphin Area Senior Transit—Scheduling of Rides	(717) 921-8128
* Dauphin Borough Office	(717) 921-2633
* Dauphin County—Controlled Burns and Non-Emergency	(717) 558-6900
* Dauphin County—Recycle Center	(717) 982-6772
* Dauphin-Middle Paxton Fire Co. #1 Non-Emergency	(717) 921-8242
* Dauphin-Middle Paxton Meals on Wheels—Sonya Boden	(717) 991-5815
* Magisterial District Judge—The Honorable Dale Klein	(717) 671-8720
* PA State Police Non-Emergency	(717) 671-7500
* PPL Electric	(800) 342-5775
* State Representative Joe Kerwin	(717) 652-6820
* State Senator John DiSanto	(717) 787-6801
* UGI Emergency Gas Leaks	(800) 276-2722
* UPMC Community LifeTeam (Ambulance)	(717) 848-4740
* Veolia Water—Customer Service	(888) 299-8972
* Waste Management—Service	(800) 869-5566
* Waste Management—Billing	(800) 642-8850

## Reporting Dead Animals on Roadways

* State Roads (Rte. 225, Rte. 443 & U.S. 22/322)	(717) 787-5391 or (800) 349-7632
* Township Road—Bears	(610) 926-3136
* Township Road—Deer	(610) 926-1966

# On-Lot Sewage Management Program

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**REMINDER:** Residents in Zone 1 (West of 225 to the western banks of the Susquehanna River) have until December 31, 2024 to have their septic system pumped and inspected by a pumper/hauler who is registered with the Township. If your system needs repaired or replaced, there are grants and programs offering low interest rate loans to residents to assist. Please reach out to the Township office if you have concerns or questions about having your system pumped and inspected, or for more information on financial assistance mentioned above.

## Common Questions Regarding the On-Lot Sewage Management Program

- \* I had my system pumped 2 years ago. Do I need to get pumped again? **Yes. The owner of any property must have their system pumped and inspected within the time period specified in the Township's notification letter, unless the owner can provide the Township with a receipt or other written evidence showing that the tank has been pumped within the past one (1) year.**
- \* How do I know who is an approved hauler/pumper? **The list can be found on the Township website and at the bottom of this page.**
- \* My hauler/pumper isn't on the list. How do they become an approved hauler/pumper. **Simply have your hauler/pumper contact the Township office at 717-921-8128.**
- \* Why does a hauler/pumper need to be approved by the Township? **To protect homeowners and ensure legitimate, legally licensed/permitted and properly insured companies are being used.**
- \* I heard about the new On-Lot Sewage Management Program but I didn't receive a letter. Do I need to send in my last pumping report? **No. You will receive a letter when your zone is due for pumping. The Zones are as follows: Zone 1 - West of 225 to the western banks of the Susquehanna River, Zone 2 - Clarks Valley, Zone 3 - Stoney Creek Valley, Zone 4 - Fishing Creek Valley including Front Street, Roberts Valley Road and Greggs Road areas.**

## Registered Septic Waste Haulers

### **Advanced Septic Services, Inc.**

65 Richard Lane, Landisburg PA 17040  
717-789-4548

### **Associated Products Services, Inc. (Mr. Rooter)**

2 East Road, Mechanicsburg PA 17050  
717-766-5397

### **Bauman's Septic Service**

39 Homestead Road, Grantville PA 17028  
717-469-2463

### **Bressler's Septic and Excavating**

55 Farm Lane, Hegins PA 17938  
570-682-3986

### **Central Penn Septic LLC**

725 Edgewood Lane, Mechanicsburg PA 17055  
717-766-1280

### **Dillsburg Excavating & Septic, Inc.**

516 Range End Road, Dillsburg PA 17019  
717-432-9704

### **Gerberich-Hoffman Septic Services**

585 N. Mill Street, Jonestown PA 17038  
717-865-2015 or 717-867-5024

### **Hoke's Septic Service**

545 Million Dollar Road, Halifax PA 17032  
717-599-5794

### **Kauffman's Septic Service, LLC**

236 Governor Stable Road, Bainbridge PA 17502  
717-367-8228

### **Martin Septic Pumping**

37 Gillaford Road, Port Royal PA 17082  
717-443-0901

### **SAFE Septic Service LLC**

PO Box 343, East Berlin PA 17316  
717-491-1740

### **T&T Services, Inc.**

P.O. Box 102, Millersburg PA 17061  
717-692-0656

### **Walters Environmental Services, Inc.**

P.O. Box 400, Grantville PA 17028  
717-469-0588

# Septic System Knowledge

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## Why Maintain Your Septic System?

- \* **It saves you money.** Regular maintenance fees range from \$250 to \$500 versus the cost of repairing or replacing a septic system, which can be upwards of \$15,000.
- \* **Keeps you and your neighbors healthy.** A properly functioning septic system removes most pollutants from your household wastewater. A failing or malfunctioning system is unable to do such, causing bacteria, viruses and chemicals to contaminate groundwater. Contaminated groundwater can potentially cause acute gastrointestinal illness and hepatitis.
- \* **Protects the environment.** Continuing with contaminated groundwater, poorly or untreated household water poses dangers to drinking water and the environment. The bacteria, viruses and chemicals that are released are toxic to local waterways. These pollutants harm our local ecosystems, killing native plants and fish.

## Ways to Prevent Malfunctions and Ensure Septic System Longevity

- \* **Protect it and inspect it.** Solids should be pumped out of your septic tank every 3-5 years, or when an inspection shows the tank is more than one-third filled with solids or scum. An inspector will also check that electrical float switches, pumps and mechanical components are all operating correctly.
- \* **Shield your field.** Direct rainwater run-off away from your septic system and drain field. Avoid planting trees or shrubs over or near your septic system. Keep anything heavier than your lawnmower off your drain field.
- \* **Think at the sink, and don't overload the commode.** Do not flush or rinse diapers, baby wipes (even ones marketed as "flushable"), cat litter, cigarettes, coffee grounds, fats, grease, solids, feminine hygiene products, prophylactic devices, household chemicals, gasoline, oil, pesticides, antifreeze, paint and high amounts of anti-bacterial soaps and detergents.
- \* **Don't strain your drain.** Stagger the use of water-based appliances. Don't do all your laundry in one day. Use high-efficiency plumbing fixtures and repair any leaks in your home.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/ourcommonwealth/pages/article.aspx?post=32>

**Penn State Extension is holding a number of FREE educational online webinars for all about On-Lot Septic Systems. The webinar dates and times are as follows:**

- **Introduction to On-Lot Septic Systems**  
Date: 10/01/2024      Time: 12:00 p.m.
- **Installation of On-Lot Septic Systems in Pennsylvania**  
Date: 10/15/2024      Time: 12:00 p.m.
- **Maintenance of On-Lot Septic Systems**  
Date: 10/29/2024      Time: 12:00 p.m.
- **Common Issues with On-Lot Septic Systems**  
Date: 11/12/2024      Time: 12:00 p.m.
- **Do On-Lot Septic Systems Impact Water Quality?**  
Date: 11/26/2024      Time: 12:00 p.m.
- **On-Lot Septic System Questions and Answers**  
Date: 12/10/2024      Time: 12:00 p.m.

**Webinar link:** [https://extension.psu.edu/catalogsearch/result/index/?education\\_format=Webinars&q=septic](https://extension.psu.edu/catalogsearch/result/index/?education_format=Webinars&q=septic)

# Solid Waste & Recycling

## History of Trash: How Did We Get Here?

The decision to become a single hauler community did not happen overnight. Prior to the adoption of Ordinance #53, Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling, it was up to each household to figure out how and where to dispose of their trash. This led to major issues with dumping/littering throughout the Township. Residents who wanted weekly trash pick up services had to seek out such on their own. Complaints surrounding various trash trucks being on our roads every day of the week and price gauging by haulers were frequent. A Township wide recycling program was first proposed in 1989 and officially began in 1991. The combined positive involvement with the recycling program and increased interest from residents for a weekly trash pick up service by a single hauler, discussion by the Board began in 1994 regarding such. It took until 1998 for the Board to vote to adopt an Ordinance for Township wide trash collection.



## The Bidding Process:

All municipalities must legally follow the **MAA (Municipality Authorities Act)** when seeking bids for a multitude of services based on price thresholds. Any purchase or contract over \$23,200 requires formal bidding. The formal bidding process from start to finish is as follows:

- ⇒ The Township composes bid specifications detailing what services they are seeking.
- ⇒ An Invitation to Bid is advertised in the local newspaper. This advertisement details what the Township is seeking bids for and provides a deadline for when sealed bids must be submitted by.
- ⇒ Sealed bids are opened at a public bid opening meeting.
- ⇒ The lowest responsible bidder is awarded the contract, or all bids must be rejected and the process begins again.



**Things to Know:** Bid specifications do not notate a price. When seeking bids, the Township's responsibility is to detail what services they are seeking. What the bidder submits to the Township in a sealed bid is what they say it will cost to provide the services being requested. The public bid opening meeting is when the Township opens the submitted bids and finds out what the cost will be. **Negotiation of cost is prohibited under state procurement laws.** The only options the Township has once bids are received and opened in front of the public is to either award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder or reject all bids.

In the next Solid Waste and Recycling bid specifications, the Township plans to provide as many different options as we can in order to receive bid responses from more haulers than previous year's bids. Things that may inevitably have to change in order to make this happen could include limiting or eliminating services that we currently have, the Township take over the responsibility of billing residents for trash and recycling services, and/or switching from loose trash bags to totes for automated trash pick up.



# PSATS Youth Awards Contest



*Pennsylvania State  
Association of  
Township Supervisors*  
4855 Woodland Drive  
Enola, PA 17025-1291



**SCAN TO  
SUBMIT  
ONLINE!**

*Recognizing youth groups who make valuable,  
lasting contributions to their communities.*

**Has your youth organization completed a  
community service project in a Pa. township?  
Enter to win \$500 and statewide recognition!**



**Deadline for entries: January 31**

## Entry Guidelines

### An Invitation to Enter

As a youth organization in Pennsylvania, you are invited to enter the PSATS Youth Awards Contest sponsored by the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors. The contest is held each year to recognize youth groups who make valuable, lasting contributions to their communities.

If your group meets the eligibility requirements and would like to be considered for an award, please express your interest to your local board of township supervisors. The board, in turn, will help you submit your entry to the president of your respective county association of township officials for his/her signature.

### Purpose of Contest

The contest is designed to recognize the valuable contributions made by youth groups involved in community projects that improve the quality of life in Pennsylvania's townships of the second class and encourage greater youth involvement in township government.

**Youth groups are encouraged to work with their township government to identify and address specific needs within the community.**

### Eligible Entrants

All officially established youth groups, such as 4-H clubs, Scout troops, school and church groups, and civic service club youth organizations from elementary school through grade 12 are eligible for the contest.



## From the Zoning Officer

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Thinking about replacing or adding an addition, deck, shed, fence, pavilion, or patio to your property? Maybe repaving or enlarging your driveway or remodeling your home or garage? Make sure to get a permit from the Township, and if you are unsure whether or not your project requires a permit, **always ask first**. Depending on your project, different applications may be needed. Starting a project without the required permit(s) will result in additional costs. All applications are available on the Township website, [www.middlepaxtontwp.org](http://www.middlepaxtontwp.org), under **Resources > Applications**.

Permit Process:

- Submit a **completed permit application** and **site plan** to the Township office.
- The application is reviewed by the Zoning Officer. If additional information is needed or required, the Zoning Officer will contact you.
- Once approved, the applicant is contacted with the required fees due at pick up.

The Zoning Officer is in the Township office **Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday**. Call the Zoning Officer at **717-921-8128, ext. 107** to schedule an appointment. **Appointments are required** to ensure the Zoning Officer is available and can allot time to answer your questions and explain the process and requirements without interruption. **Walk-ins cannot always be accommodated**.

**BE MINDFUL that the days of “build it now, beg forgiveness later” are no longer being tolerated!**

**Entities other than the Township, such as Dauphin County Conservation, PennDOT, Department of Environmental Protection, Dauphin County Tax Assessment, FEMA and PEMA are frequently in our municipality and make note of and question activity they see. Utility companies notify entities of work they are doing. PLEASE contact our Zoning Officer BEFORE you start any and all projects to confirm what permits you need, if any. Building without proper permits, and without meeting the proper criteria, will cost you even more money and time, and could potentially leave you in a position to remove your new structure entirely. Avoid the headache and hassle and simply reach out to our office, speak with the Zoning Officer and confirm the steps that need to be taken in order to properly fulfill your project desires without issue.**

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## Codes Enforcement and Compliance

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The Township's **Codes Enforcement Officer** is who handles enforcing Township ordinances and addressing complaints and violations. Residents are encouraged to report issues and concerns because we cannot be everywhere all the time. We ask that if you have a concern or issue, please **start by talking to the other party and try to resolve the matter amicably**. If this step is unsuccessful, please complete the following:

- **Submit a complete and signed complaint form to the Township office.** For a complaint to be acted upon, it MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING. Specific details, such as address of concern, type of animal, breed of dog or cat, make/model of vehicle, picture/video evidence must be included in the complaint so that action taken can be specific and justified. Without specific details and information, enforcement cannot move forward. Complaint forms are available at the Township office and on the website, [www.middlepaxtontwp.org](http://www.middlepaxtontwp.org). Please **do not** call and ask to verbally submit a complaint. **VERBAL OR ANONYMOUS COMPLAINTS WILL NOT BE ADDRESSED. Names of complainants are not released.** The Codes Official will review all properly filed complaints and determine the next steps.

If you file a complaint and the situation persists, please contact the Township office and let the Codes Enforcement Officer know. Too often it is assumed the Township isn't taking action when we are not aware that the situation has not been resolved.

**Please contact the Township office at 717-921-8128 Ext. 107 if you have questions or concerns.**

**FORMAL, WRITTEN COMPLAINTS ARE REQUIRED FOR ACTION TO BE TAKEN!**

# Public Works Roadway Etiquette & Responsibilities

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As autumn approaches and the leaves begin to fall, please do not blow or rake leaves, brush and/or any other yard waste into roadside swales or drainage easements. If you are unsure of whether or not you have a roadside swale or drainage easement on or near your property, contact the Township office and we can let you know.

Winter will be here before we know it. As always, this is your reminder to do your part to help keep roads, rights-of-way, sidewalks and fire hydrants clear of snow and ice this upcoming winter season. Middle Paxton Township has approximately forty (40) miles of roadway that gets maintained throughout the year. Our road crew works 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year when needed in order to keep our roadways and Township rights-of-way clear during inclement weather.

As a resident, during a snow emergency, you are responsible for removing items from Township rights-of-way, including but not limited to, cars, basketball hoops, trailers, campers and boats. This is necessary to ensure the safety of our road crew and to keep our equipment free of damage. If municipal personnel or property damage is incurred due to violations, you may be held liable. Please be patient and do not pass plow trucks for both the safety of our road crew, yourself and oncoming drivers.

**IT IS UNLAWFUL TO BLOW OR PLOW SNOW, ICE, SLUSH OR OTHER MATTER ONTO TOWNSHIP ROADWAYS!**

Thank you for your cooperation!

## PPL Guidance

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With severe weather comes downed trees. Sometimes these trees inadvertently take power lines down with them. Any trees on power lines must be directed to PPL. The Township cannot take care of these situations. PPL advises residents to call 1-800-DIAL-PPL (1-800-342-5775). Never approach downed power lines. Stay at least 10 feet away and keep kids and pets away. Always assume they are energized and carrying electricity.

## Generator Safety

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- Place generators in a dry, well-ventilated outdoor location.
- Generators emit carbon monoxide. Never operate a generator in your home, garage or any enclosed area.
- Use only safety-tested, heavy-duty cords designed for outdoor use.
- Turn off or disconnect all appliances and lights before you begin operating the portable generator.
- Remember to do maintenance between uses of generators: inspect filters, spark plugs, oil and fuel.

## Reflective Address Markers

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Ensure your house number is properly and visibly displayed with a reflective address marker. Reflective address markers help emergency services quickly locate your home in the event of an emergency. Markers can be ordered at the Township office. They are \$20.00 each, available in blue or green and can be made to hang either horizontally or vertically. Order forms are also available on the Township website, [www.middlepaxtontwp.org](http://www.middlepaxtontwp.org).



**Payment is due at the time of order.**

# Dauphin Middle Paxton Fire Co. #1



## 2024 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

President—Matthew Shive  
 Vice President—Mike McKenna  
 Secretary—Jon Fleming  
 Treasurer—Brad Field Sr.  
 Trustees—Shane Swenson, Al Smith, Noah Smith

## **VOLUNTEER!**

Dauphin-Middle Paxton Fire Company is always looking for new members. There are many ways you can help the fire company. We are always looking for:

- Firefighters
- Junior Firefighters
- Drivers
- Contributing Members

We have training every Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. Feel free to stop in!

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **BINGO IS BACK!** Starting October 3, 2024 through April 24, 2025. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and the first game starts at 6:00 p.m. We have food, pull tabs and 50/50 tickets.
- **Chicken Corn Soup Sale**—October 12, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. till sold out.
- Santa Claus will be coming around town on a fire truck December 7, 2024 starting at 11:00 a.m.



Bricks for the Honor Garden outside of the Firehouse/ Township building are still for sale. Bricks are \$75. If you would like to purchase a brick, please stop in at the station or email [Dauphinfire38@yahoo.com](mailto:Dauphinfire38@yahoo.com) for an order form.

## Join Your **Local Fire Company** Today!

Visit our website to find your local **Capital Region** fire company and learn how you can help!



[www.CAPITALREGIONFIREFIGHTER.org](http://www.CAPITALREGIONFIREFIGHTER.org)



Check out our Facebook page for our online raffles!

To purchase raffles, visit <http://www.dauphin-38-fire.com>.

# COMMUNITY BULLETIN

## HOPE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Election Day Food & Bake Sale  
Tuesday, November 5, 2024**



We will have a variety of food, drinks and baked goods.

Hot dogs, chili, BBQ, soups, etc.

After you vote, stop back to see what goodies we have!

## LIFELONG IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FITNESS TOGETHER (LIFT)

Penn State Extension of Dauphin County sponsors a strength training and nutrition program called Lifelong Improvement through Fitness Together (LIFT) in Middle Paxton Township at Dauphin County Agriculture and Natural Resources Building, 1451 Peters Mountain Rd.

This training was formerly called StrongWomen. Participants meet every Monday & Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Physician referral forms may be required for enrollment. Class fee is \$60 for 8 weeks or \$90 for 12 weeks.

What are the effects of inactivity? Older adults may be labelled a fall risk or have a reduced quality of life with an inability to age in place. Each class has an active warm-up, targeted exercises using arm and leg weights and ends with a cooldown. The result is to enhance overall functional fitness through improved strength, flexibility, and balance.

For more information, please call 717-921-8803 or visit:

<https://extension.psu.edu/lift-8>

## SPAY AND NEUTER

**Let's all do our part to help control the feral cat population and prevent suffering and homelessness.**

Kittens over 12 weeks of age, pregnant/nursing cats and tomcats with injuries can all be fixed. Cats will also receive vaccinations, including rabies. Transportation from the Township to and from the spay clinic can be provided. Traps for capturing wild and shy cats can also be provided, as well as referral information for low cost dog spay/neuter services.

Contact Linda Corson at 717-921-2117 or 717-580-1879 to make arrangements. Please leave a message if no answer.

## KEEP DAUPHIN BEAUTIFUL

Let's all do our part in helping to keep our community clean and beautiful.

If you see trash on the ground, take a few moments to pick it up and properly dispose of it.

We only get one world to live in!

**REMINDER: TRICK-OR-TREAT  
IS ALWAYS OCTOBER 31  
FROM 6 P.M. - 8 P.M.**

## DOG LICENSING

Friendly reminder that **all dogs 3 months and older** are **required** to be **licensed**.

Annual licenses are available in person at the Dauphin County Treasurer's office which is located at 101 Market Street, Room 105, Harrisburg PA 17101, online at [www.PADogLicense.com](http://www.PADogLicense.com), through the mail or at an agent location.

Our community's closest location is Hornung's True Value at 1000 Peters Mountain Road.

Lifetime licenses are available in person or through the mail and require either a microchip or tattoo.

Licensing is very important. The Dauphin County Treasurer's office maintains a database of licenses that are issued, which enables lost dogs to be returned to their owners more readily. It is also a mandated state law.

**NO LICENSE = \$500.00 FINE + COURT COSTS / PER DOG**

# COMMUNITY BULLETIN

## **DAUPHIN AREA SENIOR TRANSIT (D.A.S.T.)**

**D.A.S.T.** provides rides to various destinations for residents of **Dauphin Borough & Middle Paxton Township** who are 60 and older. Priority is given to medical and therapy appointments. Trips to the West Shore are restricted to medical appointments only. All riders must be able to move about independently (sorry, we cannot accommodate mobility scooters, power chairs, or wheelchairs in the van).

This is a **free** service, but donations are greatly appreciated! Rides must be scheduled at least 48 hours in advance by calling the Township office at **717-921-8128**. Appointments must fall between the hours of **8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday**.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Without the selfless efforts of a few faithful, caring folks, many in our community would struggle to make appointments, pick up needed medications, and get to the grocery store.

If you are willing to volunteer a few hours a month to drive, please contact **Rue Megonnell** at **717-921-2727**.

## **MEALS ON WHEELS**

Anyone wanting information about the Meals on Wheels program that serves Dauphin Borough and Middle Paxton Township, please call Sonya Boden at 717-991-5815.

## **MEALS ON WHEELS**

## **FISHING CREEK VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION:**

### **\*Fall Fest/Chicken Corn Soup sale\***

Saturday, October 26, 2024  
11:00 a.m.

### **\*Breakfast with Santa\***

December 7, 2024  
8:00 a.m. - 12 noon

**You must register for this event.**

### **\*Egg Hunt/Chicken Corn Soup sale\***

Saturday, April 12, 2025  
Promptly at 11:00 a.m.

**Bring containers if purchasing soup.**

Any questions please call Natalie Bailor at 717-503-9056 or email [fcvca1@aol.com](mailto:fcvca1@aol.com).

## **CLARK'S VALLEY ZION E.C. CHURCH**

Website: [www.cvzec.org](http://www.cvzec.org) Email: [cvzoffice@cvzec.org](mailto:cvzoffice@cvzec.org) Phone: (717) 921-8153



Join us Saturday, October 26, 2024 beginning at 6 p.m. at Clark's Valley Zion E.C. Church for a safe night of fun for the whole family! There will be FREE carnival games, raffles, prizes, crafts & candy! FREE food including hotdogs, french fries, chips, baked goods, apple cider, hot chocolate, and more. 100% fun and 100% free!

**You're Invited to Kingdom Kids Production of "Back to the Manger"**



Please join us at Clarks Valley Zion E.C. Church for our free performances on Saturday, December 14, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. AND Sunday, December 15, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

If you have questions please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

## **WHO TO CALL IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY?**

If you witness or pass an incident that you feel needs fire, state police and/or an ambulance,

# **CALL 911**

**DO NOT CALL THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE!**

Dauphin County Emergency Management (911) will properly dispatch the services needed, as well as gather vital information from callers in the process.

Every second counts in an emergency. Do not waste time—ALWAYS call 911!

If the incident is non-emergent, please call the non-emergency line: **717-558-6900**.

# Dauphin Borough-Middle Paxton Emergency Management

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## **PREPAREDNESS**

If an emergency happens, it is important to have a plan of action for you and your family. Creating an emergency contact list, planning for your family and having an emergency kit on hand are the most important things you can do to be prepared.

1. Meet with family members and talk about the dangers of different emergencies, such as floods, severe weather, nuclear attacks and flu pandemics.
2. Discuss how you and your family will respond to each possible emergency.
3. If your family is not together when an emergency happens, discuss ahead of time who will pick up the children and where you will meet if an evacuation is ordered. You should plan to meet as far away from the danger area as possible.
4. Discuss what to do in case the power is out or someone is hurt.
5. Draw a floor plan (map) of your home. List escape routes from each room.
6. Learn how to turn off the water, gas and electricity at main switches in your home. If for any reason you turn off natural gas service to your home, call your gas company to have it turned back on when the emergency is over. Do not try to restore service yourself.
7. Put emergency contact numbers near all telephones. Preprogram emergency numbers into phones with autodial features.
8. Teach children how and when to dial 9-1-1 to get help during an emergency.
9. Teach children how to make a telephone call to a trusted friend or relative if they are not with you during an emergency. Because it is often easier to call long distance numbers during an emergency than it is to call local numbers, one of your emergency contacts should be from outside your area.
10. Tell family members to turn on the radio, the weather station or television for emergency information.
11. Pick two meeting places—a place near your home and a place outside your neighborhood—in case you cannot return home after an emergency.

***\*Now is the time to replace the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors!\****

**Winter will soon be upon us. Are you ready?**

**Go to [READY.PA.gov](http://READY.PA.gov) to find out more information on being prepared.**

**Bob Rusbatch, Emergency Management Coordinator**

## **CANDLE SAFETY**

Did you know the holiday season is the peak season for candle fires, with December and January being the peak months and Christmas being the peak day?

If you do burn candles, make sure that you...

- Use candle holders that are sturdy, and won't tip over easily.
- Put candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface.
- Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.
- Don't burn a candle all the way down—put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.
- Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
- Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. **Never use candles.**

For more information on candle safety, visit the National Fire Protection Association's website:  
[nfpa.org/education](http://nfpa.org/education).



**Office Hours:** Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Other days available by appointment.

**Phone:** 717-921-2633

**Fax:** 717-921-8106

**Email:** dauphinboro@comcast.net

**Facebook:** Dauphin Borough

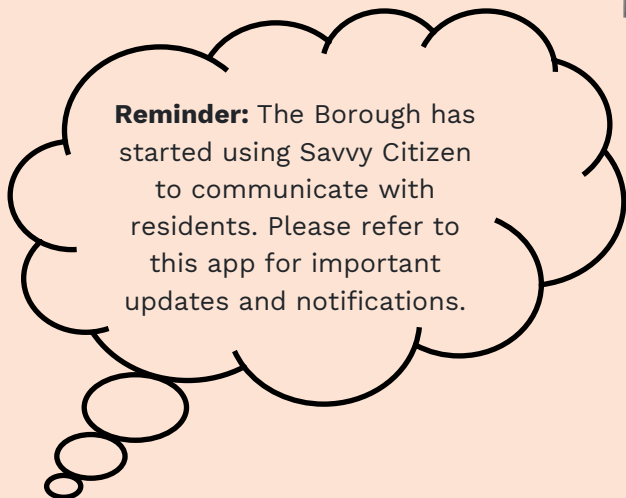
**Website:** dauphinborough.org

- President** – Brian Cuddy
- Vice President** – Kevin Musselman
- Council Pro Tem** – George Bechtel
- Councilwoman** – Kathryn Burton
- Councilman** – David Grbich
- Councilman** – Christopher Smith
- Councilman** – Steve Harris
- Junior Councilperson** – Jocelyn Long
- Borough Mayor** – Michael McKenna
- Treasurer** – Cindy Long
- Administrator** – Linda Durgin
- Roadmaster/Sewer Plant Operator** – Troy Toland
- Public Facilities** – Ryan Boyer
- Rental Properties & Sewer Delinquencies** – Trudy Kopenhagenver

Sending a huge thank you to all Borough, Township and surrounding municipality residents for their help with the ABC Promise Partnership project led by Jocelyn Long. We could not have successfully completed this project without the teamwork of the community to collect the 1,300 pounds of plastic caps and lids needed to get new picnic tables. The picnic tables are located at the Dauphin Borough Park under the pavilion. Two of the three tables are ADA compliant to allow wheelchair and stroller seating.



Are you in high school or college and interested in government? Dauphin Borough is looking for our next Junior Council Person. Please refer to our website for more information.



**Reminder:** The Borough has started using Savvy Citizen to communicate with residents. Please refer to this app for important updates and notifications.

**Residents are reminded to kindly review the following Borough ordinance:**

With winter weather soon upon us, it shall be the duty of each and every person, firm, corporation, or public institution within the Borough having pavements or sidewalks to remove any snow, hail, sleet or ice, within 12 hours after the same may have ceased to fall or be formed thereon. For more information, please refer to **§ 21-301. Timely Removal from Sidewalks** on the Borough’s website.

# Detweiler Park

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Exciting News!

We're thrilled to announce the launch of the Friends of Detweiler Park organization!

Who Are We? We're a passionate group of nature enthusiasts, community advocates, and park lovers dedicated to preserving and enhancing Detweiler Park for generations to come.

Our Mission: Our mission is simple: "To support and promote the preservation, recreation, and conservation of Detweiler Park as a natural area and to increase appreciation and awareness of the environment and its benefits through education."

Get Involved: Want to be part of something meaningful? Join us! Whether you're a hiker, birdwatcher, or simply appreciate green spaces, there's a place for you in our community. Contact Northern Dauphin County Parks Manager Kayla Harbert ([kharbert@dauphincounty.gov](mailto:kharbert@dauphincounty.gov)) if you are interested in becoming a member.

Upcoming Events: Stay tuned for exciting events like guided nature walks, trail maintenance days, and picnics under the sun.

Follow Us: Website coming soon! Keep up with our journey by following Dauphin County Parks & Recreation on social media.

Let's make Detweiler Park even more amazing together!



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## Penn State Extension Gardeners

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### Calling all garden enthusiasts - help your garden achieve the fall "WOW" factor!



The Penn State Master Gardeners of Dauphin County are committed to developing our horticultural expertise so we can share best practices in sustainable horticulture and environmental stewardship with the public and our communities. This fall, we offer you:

- A Garden Hotline ([dauphinmg@psu.edu](mailto:dauphinmg@psu.edu) or 717-921-8803) where you can get personalized solutions to your garden questions.
- Another [Saturday Garden Chat](#) at Forest Hills Park on Saturday, 10/5, from 10:00-11:00am. Here, we'll discuss fall garden ideas and tasks to do before the winter.
- Our final [Walk and Talk with a Master Gardener at Detweiler Park](#) on Friday 10/11, from 10:00-11:00am. Learn what flowers are blooming and what insects are roaming in one of our six demonstration gardens.
- Our final [Home Gardening Series](#) presentations of the year, which will

focus on adding colors, layers, textures, and biodiversity to your fall and shade gardens. Many of the plants explored are underused in the landscape. You may join us virtually or in-person at Wildwood Park's Olewine Nature Center on Saturday, 10/26 and 11/16, from 9:30 a.m - 11:00 a.m.



# Dauphin Middle Paxton Joint Park Authority

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Another baseball and softball season is in the books! Thank you to the Dauphin Baseball and Softball Associations, and their volunteers, for another outstanding season. Much of the work done to maintain the Dauphin Middle Paxton Community Park is performed by volunteers. We would be unable to keep it in the beautiful state that you see without this generosity. If you are interested in volunteering your time or making a financial contribution to defray the cost of park projects, please contact Nichole O’Gorman at [dmpjpa@gmail.com](mailto:dmpjpa@gmail.com). Monetary donations can be mailed to us at P.O. Box 521, Dauphin. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Thanks to a Dauphin County Local Share Gaming Grant, we have completed a master site plan for the park. You can see it on our website at [www.dauphincommunitypark.com](http://www.dauphincommunitypark.com). This will enable us to plan more effectively for park needs and make us eligible for other sources of grant funding. In conjunction with this plan, we will be able to make some improvements to make park facilities accessible to our residents with disabilities. Many thanks to our County Commissioners for their generous support of the park. Thanks are also due to the Township Supervisors, members of the Borough Council and all of the community organizations who supported our grant application.

As you make plans for picnics, parties, family reunions and other gatherings, consider renting one of the park’s pavilions. Rental fees are just \$50 for the large pavilion and \$25 for the small pavilion. Your rental includes use of the park ball fields, a handicapped accessible playground, and basketball and volleyball courts. If interested in reserving a date, please email us at [dmpjpa@gmail.com](mailto:dmpjpa@gmail.com).

As a reminder, **NO firearms or weapons are permitted on park property AT ANY TIME**. For the safety of everyone enjoying the park, **hunting is NOT permitted**. Also, dumping of yard waste, brush or other debris in any area of the park is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. **Our dumpsters are for park waste only** – please do not place your residential or business trash in them. Dumping impairs the public use and enjoyment of the park, creates expense and unnecessarily consumes volunteer resources for cleanup. Violators will be prosecuted.

Dauphin Middle Paxton Joint Park Authority Board meetings are open to the public. All are welcome to attend. Meetings occur on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m., January through October. May through September, meetings are held at the large pavilion at the park. All other meetings are held at the Dauphin Borough building.

Shannon Scott, President  
Nichole Staley O’Gorman, Vice President  
Tim Wenrich, Treasurer  
Ron Hull, Secretary

Larry Cooney, Member  
Michael Cohen, Member  
Jeff Thrush, Member

# Dauphin Middle Paxton Lions Club

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Please follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/middlepaxtonlions> for all Lions activities.

## **THANK YOU!!**

The Lions extend their heartfelt gratitude to all of the members of the community who pitched in to make our July carnival a success. You were there to help us set up. You filled key roles on our four nights of fun (we lost one night to Mother Nature). We are very fortunate to have so many friends like you to count on.

You're invited: We will say thank you again with an appreciation dinner for all of our community volunteers on December 11 at Zion Lutheran Church in Dauphin. We hope you can attend. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more details as the date draws closer.

## **A BUSY SEASON**

We were there: The Lions Club participated in National Night Out and the Dauphin-Middle Paxton Fire Company's 100th anniversary celebration in August.

Calling all witches and goblins: Our annual Halloween parade will step off at 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 19, at Erie and Delaware Streets. You may register there on the day of the parade or preregister online. We'll award cash prizes for the best costumes and floats. We would welcome school bands, and we would compensate them for participating.

Heritage Day: It's the Historical Society's big day on October 19 in Dauphin. Look for the Lions' table, where we'll be taking orders for subs, with a delivery day of October 29.

Nut sale: The Lions will be selling roasted and chocolate-covered peanuts and cashews during October. If you want to order, please see any Lions member or our Facebook page. The nuts will be roasted on November 16.

Here comes Santa Claus: The Lions' annual Christmas party will be held from noon to 2 p.m. on Saturday, December 7, at Hope Presbyterian Church in Dauphin. Please watch for more information on our Facebook page.

Become a Lion: You don't have to live in Dauphin Borough or Middle Paxton Township to be a member of our club. For more information, contact Erin Shannon at [berinshannon@gmail.com](mailto:berinshannon@gmail.com).

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# Zion Lutheran Church

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## **OUR OUTREACH**

Zion's signup for and distribution of Nutritional Senior Food Boxes continues on the third Thursday of each month, from 11 a.m. until 2 pm. Recipients can also sign up at [zlcseniorboxprogram@gmail.com](mailto:zlcseniorboxprogram@gmail.com) or by calling 717-921-2752. This is open to all senior citizens living in the 17018 zip code who meet the financial guidelines. For other information, please see Zion's Facebook page at "Zion-Dauphin". Questions? Email Melanie Mimmall at [zlcseniorboxprogram@gmail.com](mailto:zlcseniorboxprogram@gmail.com).

Zion's Isaiah 61 program feeds the homeless in Harrisburg on the fourth Wednesday of every month. Our volunteers make and pack the meals at 3 p.m. We welcome help from the community.

## **OUR COMMUNITY DINNERS ARE BACK!**

Zion's dinners on the second Saturday each month resume in October. Hot meals prepared by our volunteers are served from noon to 4 p.m. or until sold out. The community is invited to eat in or take out.

The menu:

October 12: Pork and sauerkraut  
November 9: Hog maw  
January 11: Chicken and waffles  
February 8: Tour of Italy  
March 8: Roast beef  
(No meal in December)

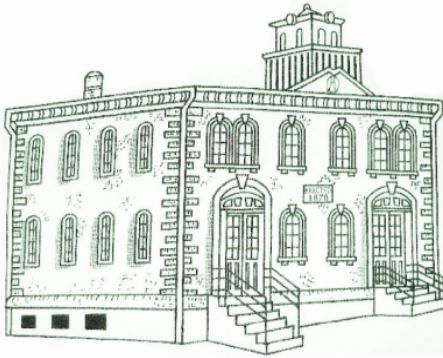
# Dauphin-Middle Paxton Historical Society's

16th Annual

# Heritage Day

Saturday, October 19, 2024

9 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



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The Middle Paxton Lions Club Halloween Parade will follow at 4pm!

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## LEARN ABOUT LOCAL HISTORY!

Be sure to stop by the Historical Society tent to see what has been happening! There will be a Military Display... and Kathy & Jeannette will bring you up-to-date on the projects they have been working on to restore our museum research library!

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## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES!!

Pony Rides!  
Hayrides!

**Pony  
Rides!**

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## ENTERTAINMENT & DEMOS

Irish Dancers @ 11am  
Floral Demonstration by Lindsay from Usztics @ 1pm  
Cider making Demo with Ben throughout the day!



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## SILENT AUCTION!!

Many great items from local businesses!

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## FOOD & DRINKS!

Chicken Corn Soup, Ham & Bean Soup and Hotdogs w/Chili & Sauerkraut!  
The following Food Trucks-Suzy Q's Coffee & BFD's Snack Wagon!  
Historical Society Bake Sale!!

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**Flea Market (bring own table(s)-\$5.00 charge)!**

**Personal Sales (bring own table(s)-\$5.00 charge)!**

**Antique Car Show-Bring your old car (trophy awarded)!**

**Antique Tractor Show-Bring your old tractor (trophy awarded)!**

**Hit & Miss Engines!**

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*See you at the Old Dauphin School Grounds!!  
Corner of Church & Allegheny Streets, Dauphin*

**Contact email** is [info@dmphs.org](mailto:info@dmphs.org)

**Website:** [www.dmphs.org](http://www.dmphs.org)



# Medicare Annual Open Enrollment October 15—December 7

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**Not sure which Medicare plan is right for you?  
Let us help you sort it out.**

**Medicare Annual Open Enrollment Event**  
November 21st 9:00am-2:00pm

**Middle Paxton Township Building**

10 Elizabeth Avenue, Dauphin, PA 17018

**To make an appointment:**

**Call PA MEDI, Dauphin County  
717-780-6130**

## **Review and Make Changes to Your Benefits**

**Make sure you have a plan that will meet your  
health needs and may save you money.**

- Review your current coverage
- Check if you qualify for any cost saving programs
- Compare your plan with other options
- Search for plans on the internet that meet your prescription and medical needs
- Give you clear answers to our questions
- Help you enroll in a plan

## **Can't make it to the event?**

**PA MEDI Can Still Help**

Call us for free, one-on-one help  
or to find out about our next  
enrollment event.

**Call us today!**

**717-780-6130**

**We offer help over the phone or  
in-person**

Sponsored by Dauphin County Area Agency on Aging



# 2024 Medicare Annual Open Enrollment Period Clinics

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PA MEDI Counselors will be available at these events to aid with Medicare Advantage and Medicare Part D plan comparisons and enrollments.

Please contact Dauphin County Area Agency on Aging at 717-780-6130 to register for the location you are interested in attending.

<b>October 21, 2024</b> 9:00am-2:00pm	Salvation Army 506 S. 29th Street Harrisburg, PA 17104
<b>October 23, 2024</b> 9:00am-2:00pm	Millersburg Senior Center 109 Edward Drive Millersburg, PA 17061
<b>October 28, 2024</b> 9:00am-2:00pm	Leader Center for Active Life 605 Cocoa Avenue Hershey, PA 17033
<b>October 30, 2024</b> 10:30am-2:30pm	Madeline L. Olewine Library 2410 N. 3rd Street Harrisburg, PA 17110
<b>November 8, 2024</b> 9:00am-2:00pm	Millersburg Senior Center 109 Edward Drive Millersburg, PA 17061
<b>November 13, 2024</b> 9:00am-2:00pm	Leader Center for Active Life 605 Cocoa Avenue Hershey, PA 17033
<b>November 18, 2024</b> 9:00am-2:00pm	East Shore Area Library Lower Level-Room A 4501 Ethel Street Harrisburg, PA 17109
<b>November 21, 2024</b> 9:00am-2:00pm	Middle Paxton Township Building 10 Elizabeth Avenue Dauphin, PA 17018
<b>November 25, 2024</b> 9:00am-2:00pm	Millersburg Senior Center 109 Edward Drive Millersburg, PA 17061
<b>December 2, 2024</b> 9:00am-2:00pm	Leader Center for Active Life 605 Cocoa Avenue Hershey, PA 17033

**\*\*Please bring the following information to our appointment:**

1. Your Medicare card
2. Other Health Insurance cards (PACE, ACCESS, Veterans, Supplemental Insurance, etc.)
3. A complete list of medications including dosage amounts and frequency.



## State Senator John DiSanto

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### Numbers to Know

Everyone knows to call 9-1-1 in an emergency to have a dispatcher send the appropriate first responders to the scene. But you should be aware of a couple other telephone numbers, for yourself and those around you, should a need arise.

Pennsylvanians, by calling 2-1-1, have access to a one-stop resource to find information about housing and human services, physical and mental health care resources, transportation, employment and many other programs. Specialists are available 24/7 to help find the best local resources and services to address almost any need. 211 can also be accessed online at [pa211.org](http://pa211.org), and information in more than 170 languages is available. 211 conversations are confidential and can be made anonymously.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline can be reached by calling 9-8-8. Available 24/7, 988 calls are directed to trained counselors waiting to listen and support individuals with thoughts of suicide or self-harm, or to advise someone about how to intervene with a loved one experiencing a behavioral or mental health need. Counselors can make referrals for outpatient services, provide therapeutic interventions or activate a local mental health crisis team. An online chat feature is available at [988lifeline.org](http://988lifeline.org).

As this will be my final submission to your township newsletter as state senator, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve you for the past 8 years. My staff (the smallest in the entire Senate!) and I have appreciated the calls, emails and letters about legislative matters, and it's been a pleasure to assist my constituents with resolving issues that involve state government. As the election approaches, I encourage you to learn all you can about the candidates seeking to succeed me. Wishing you all the best!

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## State Representative Joe Kerwin

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The Office of Rep. Joe Kerwin will offer breakfast to the 125th District's veterans and active-duty military personnel. The free breakfasts are scheduled for:

- ◆ Wednesday, Nov. 6, from 8-10 a.m. at Halifax VFW Post 5750
- ◆ Thursday, Nov. 21, from 8-10 a.m. at Linglestown American Legion Post 272

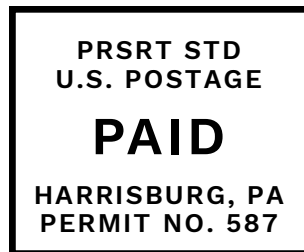
Registration is required. Call 833-431-0495 or visit [RepJoeKerwin.com/events](http://RepJoeKerwin.com/events).

At both events, Rep. Kerwin will be welcomed home from his ongoing deployment with the Pennsylvania Army National Guard in support of Operation Enduring Freedom – Horn of Africa.





**Middle Paxton Township  
10 Elizabeth Avenue  
P.O. Box 277  
Dauphin, PA 17018**



**\*\*\*ECRWSSSEDDM\*\*\***

**POSTAL CUSTOMER**



**2024 GENERAL ELECTION**

**Tuesday, November 5th**



**Last day to register to vote—October 21st, 2024**

**Last day to request mail-in or absentee ballot—October 29th, 2024**

**Middle Paxton Township Election Locations**

- \* **1st Precinct**—Township Municipal Building, 10 Elizabeth Avenue, Dauphin
- \* **2nd Precinct**—Fishing Creek Community Center, 1361 Fishing Creek Valley Road, Harrisburg
- \* **3rd Precinct**—Hope United Presbyterian Church, 931 Red Hill Road, Dauphin

The Middle Paxton Digest is published periodically for the residents of Middle Paxton Township and Dauphin Borough. Residents wishing to submit newsworthy items, including Township history, current or historical photos, or upcoming events, are urged to do so by providing articles and details via email, regular mail or by submitting to the Township Office, 10 Elizabeth Avenue. Mailing address is P.O. Box 277, Dauphin PA 17018. The Township reserves the right to edit materials submitted to meet space requirements.

For additional details, please call the Township Manager at 717-921-8128, or email your questions to [middlepaxtontwp@comcast.net](mailto:middlepaxtontwp@comcast.net).

The Township's website is [www.middlepaxtontwp.org](http://www.middlepaxtontwp.org).