



The LOWER MERION MESSENGER

Township of Lower Merion:
A First-Class Township



From the Manager's Desk

Reconnecting with 'Blackboard Connect', One Year Later

Last year this time, Lower Merion Township was preparing to launch a powerful new communications tool that would allow us to speak more directly to you, the residents we serve.



With a large and diverse Township of about 58,000 people and some 18,000 households, we found that our web site and email notifications, our government-access TV channel (LMTV) and our social media sites (Facebook and Twitter) all served different facets of the population. But in this era of rapid digital changes in communications, ironically, we found that often, the best way to reach the greatest number of people at one time is by phone. This seems true in times of emergency, or when general outreach is needed immediately to inform the public about, say, an important meeting or impending road closure.

The result was the implementation of **Blackboard Connect**, a leading national mass notification platform, which facilitates important communications and emergency preparedness. It was a tool that I found invaluable in my former community of West Chester. Residents with "land line" telephones are automatically a part of the service, and since October, hundreds have signed up to add their cell phones as well (for calls as well as text messaging), along with email addresses. The service has TTY/TDD service for people who are hearing impaired, too.

The platform enables Township, Police, Fire and Emergency officials to send and track personalized messages, to multiple phone numbers and email addresses for residents, businesses and Township staff members, within minutes. This came in handy very early in our use of the service. When the area awoke to extremely icy conditions on a bright Sunday morning in January, we heard from many residents who were grateful for the early morning warning that may have saved many broken bones.

Severe weather is one application, but the Lower Merion Police Department has been making regular use of Blackboard Connect, too, with targeted phone calls to specific neighborhoods about crimes, and to issue general alerts.

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Lower Merion Messenger Newsletter

Volume 7 No. 3

Lower Merion Messenger is published quarterly for the residents of the Township of Lower Merion and is designed to keep residents informed about Township activities, policies and services.

Your comments and suggestions are invited:

Public Information Office
Township of Lower Merion

75 E. Lancaster Avenue • Ardmore, PA 19003-2323
e-mail: twalsh@lowermerion.org
Phone: (610) 645-6199

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Fire	(610) 645-6190	Township Administration Building	(610) 649-4000
Parking Services	(610) 645-6230	Township Manager	(610) 645-6103
Parks and Recreation	(610) 645-6220	Township Secretary	(610) 645-6145
Police	(610) 649-1000	Township Treasurer	(610) 645-6210
Public Information	(610) 645-6199		
Public Works Administration	(610) 645-6150		

**The Township Administration Building is open
Monday through Friday from 8:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

This publication is posted in its entirety on the Township's website, www.lowermerion.org



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Continued from cover ...Reconnecting with 'Blackboard Connect,' One Year Later

And of course, we used the service to tell you about road conditions and closures, very recently having to do with the Pope's visit to Lower Merion Township and St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood.

We hope that you've come to rely on Blackboard Connect and find it as convenient to use as we do. If you haven't done so already, go to the site at www.blackboardconnect.com and sign up all the cell phones in your family for instant info in case of an emergency, and to keep up with the latest need-to-know outreach information. Especially with potential snowstorms right around the corner, we want to make sure everyone in the Township has quick and up-to-date information.

Sincerely,

Ernie B. McNeely
Township Manager



Honors for Harcum College, St. Paul's Lutheran Church

An official commendation and recognition of the 100th anniversary of **Harcum College** was presented to Dr. Jon Jay DeTemple (at right), president of the Bryn Mawr institution on September 16, 2015 by the Lower Merion Board of Commissioners. Harcum was founded by Edith Hatcher Harcum as the Harcum Post Graduate School on October 1, 1915 in Melville Hall in Bryn Mawr. The first class had three students and five pianos, according to Harcum.edu, and Mrs. Harcum's stated goal was to "start a school where the individual talent of each girl would be treated as an integral part of her education." In 1955, Pennsylvania granted the College the right to be the first two-year college in the Commonwealth's history to confer the associate of arts and the associate of science degrees. Lately, the school has been experiencing rapid growth, Dr. DeTemple said. Harcum is now the 22nd member of the "Bryn Mawr 100" – institutions that have been operating in the village for at least a century.



Likewise, the Board of Commissioners recognized **St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church** in Ardmore that evening on the occasion of its 250th anniversary. On August 16, 1765, the German Lutherans of "Merrion Township" banded together to purchase land for a place of worship and burial ground for "German Protestants, German Reformed, and Lutherans, conjointly." (StPaulsArdmore.com) The earliest tombstone at St. Paul's Cemetery at W. Wynnewood and Argyle roads is that of M. Smith who died on November 27, 1765. In 1809, the trustees purchased another 1/4 acre of burial ground, and 19 years later a stone wall was built enclosing the cemetery. Veterans of all American wars are interred at St. Paul's Cemetery, site of the Township's Memorial Day services each year following the parade through Ardmore.

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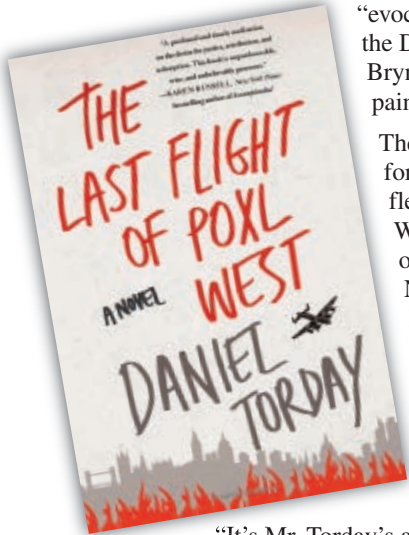
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Bryn Mawr Prof is Author of 'One Book One Lower Merion' Selection

For the first time ever, One Book One Lower Merion has chosen a book by a local author for its community reading program. Professor **Daniel Torday**, the Director of the Creative Writing Program at Bryn Mawr College, has written "**The Last Flight of Poxl West**" and it will be the 2015 OBOLM book.

A March 2015 review of the book in *The New York Times* called it "evocative," and that Mr. Torday, the Director of Creative Writing at Bryn Mawr College, has "a painterly eye for detail."



The novel is a tale of a Jewish, former RAF bomber pilot who flew several missions during World War II, killing thousands of German citizens—or is it? Narrated by West, born Leopold Weisberg, and his nephew Elijah Goldstein, this story within a story slyly questions how truthful memoir needs to be as it describes the true essence of experience.

"It's Mr. Torday's ability to shift gears between sweeping historical vistas and more intimate family dramas, and between old-school theatrics and more contemporary meditations on the nature of storytelling that announces his emergence as a writer deserving of attention," the review stated.

Events will include:

- An opening talk on Sunday, Nov. 8, 2015 at 9:45 a.m. at Temple Beth Hill/Beth El in Wynnewood, by **Jonathan Tobin**, editor of Commentary Magazine and the former editor of The Jewish Exponent, will cover the book's themes

and a light breakfast will be provided.

- A lively book review and discussion will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 10, at 1 p.m. at the Bala Cynwyd Library. For the first time, **Bev C. Rosen**, a dynamic and popular leader of literature, film and theatre reviews, will lead the discussion. Bev's passion for this particular book will add a great deal to this session.
- The most popular and well-attended event of the season will be the talk by author, Daniel Torday, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, November 22nd, 2015 at the Thomas Great Hall at Bryn Mawr College, followed by a question and answer session, as well as book sales and signing. Book clubs, enthusiastic readers, community members and college students are all invited.



SOCIAL SERVICE PROJECT

Given the nature of this year's book and the Veterans Day timing, the OBOLM committee is asking event audiences, library patrons and others to donate paperbacks in good condition which will be distributed to U.S. military personnel at local Veterans Administration hospitals and out-patient clinics. Please bring your donated books to the One Book events, where they will be collected. (No collections at our libraries.) For more information, visit www.lmls.org.

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False Fire Alarms, Risk to Life On the Increase in Township

The problem, and the response

The Lower Merion Fire Department responds to over 2,500 fire calls per year and **almost half (46%) of these are false or unnecessary alarms – in both residential and commercial facilities.**

Responding to these types of false alarms, especially if they could have been prevented, is costly to both you and the Township. **More important is the undue risk our firefighters are exposed to when responding to these false alarms.**

Unless we know differently, our response to a fire alarm at a house or business is at **emergency speed** – as if there is a real fire. With the growing number of new homes and businesses in the past several years, there has been a very large increase in the number of alarm investigations.

The Township of Lower Merion Fire Department is a combination fire service made up of both career and volunteer firefighters. Once a call is received by the Montgomery County Emergency Dispatch Center, the call is dispatched for our fire companies to respond. This means that our volunteers leave their homes or employment to respond to the fire house where career staff are waiting to respond to the location. Again, the response is always as if there is a real fire.

Steps to prevent false alarms

1. Notify the Fire Department Communications Center at 610-265-5533, and your alarm company before testing or repairing the system and tell them to place the system ON TEST or OUT OF SERVICE.
2. Know how to cancel a false alarm. If the alarm goes off and you are absolutely certain you know what caused it, notify the alarm company immediately and tell them that the *“Homeowner wishes to cancel the alarm and that there is no need for the Fire Department to respond.”* Have the alarm company’s phone number handy. If there is any doubt as to whether there really is a fire, don’t take chances – let the Fire Department respond to check it out.
3. Dust and smoke detectors do not get along! Dust looks just like smoke to a smoke detector. If you are spray painting, sanding floors, installing new drywall, working with heat or doing anything else that produces visible dust, smoke or

fumes, there is a good chance that you will set off a smoke detector. Cover smoke detectors during construction to prevent dust in the detector chamber. Once construction is completed remove the covers and clean the system.



4. Fire alarm systems need regular testing and maintenance by a technician. Deal only with qualified, licensed professionals.
5. Fire alarm equipment must be installed properly. Smoke detectors do not belong in kitchens, garages, attics, or just outside of bathrooms with showers. Heat detectors can be used to protect these areas without false alarms. Photo-electric alarms can minimize the likelihood of false alarms.
6. Make sure the alarm company has your contact information. Often when we respond to a call, the “responsible party” information is not available. Once dispatched to an alarm, the Fire Department is obligated to respond to the scene. If no one is on site, the alarm company needs your contact information to inform you of the alarm and the Fire Department might require your response in order to assist in gaining entrance to the building.

By following these simple steps, you can do your part in helping to reduce the risk of false alarms, and therefore avoid the hassle and expense they cause. The safety of the residents of The Township of Lower Merion and its Firefighters is the main priority for the Lower Merion Fire Department.

Whenever there is an emergency requiring the Fire Department, our crews will be there to assist. At the same time, the Fire Department is working to educate businesses and citizens on ways to reduce non-emergency calls so that our crews will be available to respond where emergency help is truly needed. If a fire alarm is activated in your home or building, it is always recommended that someone call 9-1-1 should you see fire, smoke, or should you smell something burning. Until the cause of the alarm activation can be clearly determined, the Fire Department should be notified to ensure the safety of everyone in your home or building.

Let There Be Light



Changing light bulbs on Lancaster Avenue in Ardmore, in 90-plus degree August heat: No problem for the Electrical Shop guys, a division of the Public Works Department.



Township of Lower Merion Parks and Recreation Late Fall 2015 and Winter 2016 RECREATION INFORMATION

ON-LINE REGISTRATION:

New to the Parks and Recreation Department is a wonderful, new software system for our Membership and Program Registration. This program enables participants to view programs offered and register on-line, via mail or walk-in for programs and pool memberships. If you have on-line access, please visit www.lowermerionrec.com Parks and Recreation Department page to create or log in to your account. If you do not have on-line access, no need to worry. You can still mail or walk-in to register for programs and pool memberships.

PROGRAMS



ENGINEERING FOR KIDS

At Engineering For Kids we believe that children are natural born engineers who have unlimited imaginations and unbridled enthusiasm. We offer fun, hands-on learning for children ages 4 to 12. Our activities range from building flashlights and rockets to programming video games and robots. The variety of programming is extraordinary!

For more information on current class offerings please contact greaterphila@engineeringforkids.net

To register, please visit www.engineeringforkids.com

Weekend Workshops – Junior Space Pioneers: Programming with Scratch (Ages 4 – 7)

Using the acclaimed video game software developed by the engineers at MIT, come and embark on fun journey to space with Scratch! Send an astronaut to the moon and defend your moon base from space rocks. Learn how to use Scratch to create and program sprites, backdrops and basic scripts. Create a new program each day, leave with evidence of your wild space adventure and be inspired to explore the universe of programming as a Space Pioneer.

Day/Time: Saturdays, 10:00am - Noon

Fall Session: December 5, 12 and 19 (3 Weeks)

Session Fee: Resident/\$99, Non-Resident/\$120

Group Limit: 14 participants

Weekend Workshops – Apprentice Minecraft: Traveling into the Future (Ages 8 – 12)

Join us in an apocalyptic future, one where the earth has been ravaged by a series of natural disasters. Each day, students rely on the engineering design process to solve a series of challenges such as building a city on a series of islands, escaping from a bunker on Mt. Everest and even building a rocket to land on the moon! Through the application of engineering principles, students solve numerous challenges as they make their virtual world of Minecraft a safe place for humanity once again.

Day/Time: Saturdays, 12:30 – 3:30pm

Fall Session: December 5, 12 and 19 (3 Weeks)

Session Fee: Resident/\$149, Non-Resident/\$170

Group Limit: 12 participants

SPECIAL RECREATION WEEKEND CLUB For adults with special needs

The Special Rec Weekend Club will meet on select Saturdays each month for trips to the movies, mini golf, theatre, shopping and much, much more. Trips vary session to session. Participants must sign up in advance. Group will meet for departure at Lower Merion Twp Administration Building, 75 E Lancaster Avenue, Ardmore. Transportation is provided by Lower Merion Township.

Days: Saturdays

Time: TBD

Age: 18 years and older

Please contact the Parks and Recreation Office or visit our website for a Current Schedule.

Registration Minimum: 5 Participants
Maximum: 16 Participants

Schedule is subject to change. No trips will be schedule December through March. Refunds will not be offered for missed trips.



VIVA COMMUNITY FITNESS

For more info or to purchase equipment call 856-751-0095 or go to www.vivacommunityfitness.com

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Location: Bala Gym, Bala and Union Avenues

Pilates – Tuesdays, 7:30 – 8:30pm

Winter Session: January 12 – March 22 (11)
Resident/\$120, Non-Res/\$145

Pilates – Thursdays, 8:00 – 9:00pm

Winter Session: January 14 – March 24 (11)
Resident/\$120, Non-Res/\$145

Pilates – Fridays, 11:00am - Noon

Winter Session: January 15 – March 25 (11)
Resident/\$120, Non-Res/\$145

continued on next page...

New program idea? Let us know! We are always looking for new programs to offer our residents. Email recreation@lowermerion.org or give us a call 610.645.6220.

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through skill-based programs that teaches positive values, wellness, responsibility, conflict resolution, and goal setting. NLS offers basketball, football and track programs, as well as week long summer camps.

To register for any NLS Program, please visit www.nlsports.org

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS



Rhythmic Gymnastics is the perfect sport to teach body awareness and control - skills that will assist in the development of athletic potential for any sporting endeavor. This is a fascinating Olympic sport that has already gained great

popularity in the United States. It is a marvelous blend of traditional gymnastics, dance and ballet with the use of such apparatus as the ribbon, rope, ball, hoop and clubs. It is a sport that develops grace and beauty for young girls and challenges them to exceed while improving their skills in ballet, dance and coordination. In addition to instructional and beginners classes, special hours are offered for our competitive Rhythmic Team. The instructor at Bala Gym is Ms. Valeriya Neikova, an experienced Rhythmic coach from Bulgaria. Give your daughter the right start in life! Let her experience Rhythmic Gymnastics and watch her confidence and self-esteem grow by leaps and bounds.

Location: Bala Gym, Bala and Union Avenues

Ages: 5 yrs and Over

Please contact Valeriya Neikova at (610)580-4714 or (610)918-4635 or e-mail tsedra@yahoo.com or balagymnastics@tmo.blackberry.net

ICE SKATING - The Philadelphia Skating Club & Humane Society



PSC&HS offers many fun and encouraging skating programs. Group lessons and Parent and Me classes are available for all ages and abilities and taught by qualified instructors. Our programs are a great way to introduce yourself and your family to the wonderful sport of ice skating.

For more information call 610-642-8700 or email pschs@pschs.org

2016 WINTER PROGRAMS

DAVID BROIDA INDOOR TENNIS

For more information, contact David Broida – dbroida@gmail.com or (610) 864-4303.

Learn the fundamentals of the sport, including forehand, backhand, serve & volley, as well as basic offensive & defensive strategy. Instruction will be provided for Beg. & Int. players, as well as training for middle & high school tennis team members.



Location: Radnor Racquet Club, 175 King of Prussia Road, Radnor, PA 19087

Ages: 4 – 18 yrs & Adults

Dates: Sundays, January 10 – March 20 (No Class Feb 14)

Session 6: 3:00 – 4:00pm, Beginner and Advanced Beginner

Session 7: 4:00 – 5:00pm, Beginner and Advanced Beginner

Session 8: 5:00 – 6:00pm, Advanced Beginner & Intermediate

Session 9: 6:00 – 7:00pm, Advanced Beginner & Intermediate

Session 10: 7:00 – 8:00pm, Adult & Teen – All Levels

Fee: Resident/\$195, Non-Resident/\$225

LOWER MERION TOWNSHIP BASKETBALL



Learn and practice the basic skills of basketball and enjoy skill related games each session.

Location: Bala Gym, Bala & Union Avenues
Days: Saturdays
Classes fill quickly! Please check our website for class availability.

January 9 — January 30

Session 1: 10:00 – 10:45am, Ages 4 – 5

Session 2: 11:00 – 11:45am, Ages 6 – 8

Session 3: Noon – 12:45pm, Ages 6 – 8

February 20 — March 12

Session 4: 10:00 – 10:45am, Ages 4 – 5

Session 5: 11:00 – 11:45am, Ages 6 – 8

Session 6: Noon – 12:45pm, Ages 6 – 8

Fee: Per Session, Resident/\$80, Non-Resident/\$90

Group Limit: 15 Participants

UK ELITE SOCCER



To register for any UK Elite Program, please visit www.ukelite.com

UK Petite – “Parent & Me” –

Ages 2 & 3 yrs – Winter

This class offers young children an introduction to playing fun games that revolve around a soccer ball with one of their parents. The Parent and Child classes will have a fun curriculum that

utilizes soccer to increase early physical and emotional development. The fun, healthy and exciting world of soccer can now be part of their active lifestyle.

Location: Bala Gym, Bala & Union Avenues

Days: Fridays, 10:00 – 10:45am
Fridays, 1:00 – 1:45pm

Winter Session: January 22 – March 4 (8 weeks)

Fee Per Session: Resident/\$130, Non-Resident/\$140

UK Petite Soccer – Winter

This program is designed to allow every child the chance for maximum development and enjoyment. Each child will enjoy learning the fundamentals of soccer.

Location: Bala Gym, Bala & Union Avenues

Ages: 3 – 5 yrs

Winter Session: January 18 – March 10 (8 weeks)

Days/Times:

Mondays, 1:00 – 2:00pm

Mondays, 2:00 – 3:00pm

Tuesdays, 1:00 – 2:00pm

Tuesdays, 2:00 – 3:00pm

Thursdays, 10:00 – 11:00am

Thursdays, 11:00am - Noon

Fee Per Session: Resident/\$130, Non-Resident/\$140

UK ELITE – Technical Program – Winter

Technical Training Programs are intense training blocks designed to make you a better individual player.

Location: Bala Gym, Bala & Union Avenues

Ages: 5 – 12 yrs

Time: 1 Hour Time Slot (See available times)

Winter Session:

Wednesdays, January 20 – March 9

5:00 – 6:00pm, 5-6 yr olds

6:00 – 7:00pm, 7 – 8 yr olds

7:00 – 8:00pm, 9 – 10 yr olds

8:00 – 9:00pm, 12 – 14 yr olds

Sundays, January 17 – March 6

7:30 – 8:30pm, 8 – 11 yr olds RAPID

8:30 – 9:30pm, 12 – 14 yr olds RAPID

Fee Per Session: Resident/\$170, Non-Resident/\$180

UK Elite – Schools Out Camp – Winter

Location: Bala Gym, Bala & Union Avenues

Ages: Ages 5 – 10 yrs

Time: 9:00am – Noon

Winter Session 1: Monday, January 18

Winter Session 2: Monday, February 15

Fee Per Session: Resident/\$40, Non-Resident/\$45

continued on next page...

DVA VOLLEYBALL WINTER CLINICS



Delaware Volleyball Academy NOVA is designed specifically for the beginning volleyball player. This program includes age-appropriate instruction, focusing on motor skills, ball skills, game skills and most importantly, fun!

Location: Baldwin School, 701 Montgomery Avenue, Bryn Mawr

Session 1: January 10, 17 and 24 (3 Weeks)

Session 2: February 28, March 6 and 13 (3 Weeks)

Future Stars

Boys and Girls, Ages 5 – 8 yrs

Days/Times: Sundays, 3:30 – 4:30pm

Fees: Resident/\$40, Non-Resident/\$50

Trailblazers

Boys and Girls, Ages 9 – 14 yrs

Days/Times: Sundays, 3:30 – 5:00pm

Fees: Resident/\$65, Non-Resident/\$80

CHESS CLUB

Learn how to play chess from a Shining Knights chess coach! Our coaches are professional instructors and have taught thousands of children to play chess. Class time is evenly split between lesson and play. Lessons range from learning the rules to advanced tournament strategies. Play time is structured to pair each student against an opponent of similar skill. All chess supplies provided.



More information can be found at www.shiningknightschess.com

Location: Bryn Mawr Community Center, 9 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue

Ages: 4 – 14 yrs

Day/Time: Tuesdays, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Winter Session: January 5 – March 22

Fee: Per Session: Resident/\$156, Non-Resident/\$187

Group Limit: 25 Students

YOUNG REMBRANDTS



Our innovative, step-by-step curriculum and engaging subject matter will show your child that drawing can be fun and interesting! During our classes, we teach skills that will help them grow, develop and excel while your child creates memories that will last a lifetime. Your child will enjoy ALL NEW LESSONS each week!

For more information on current class offerings please contact katie.opher@youngrembrandts.com

To register, please visit www.youngrembrandts.com/chestercounty

Cartooning Class (Ages 5 – 12)

Learning, drawing, and fun are the ingredients for a great time. In a Young Rembrandts cartoon class, our students will create skillfully drawn cartoon illustrations. Our wind expressions lesson will blow them away as they learn how to draw expressive faces. They'll also learn how to transform ordinary inanimate objects into fully-realized characters as they convert school supplies and lunch items into relatable personalities. Our students will also capture the spirit of the season as they imagine themselves going apple picking. Get ready to have fun and become an awesome artist.

Location: Bryn Mawr Community Center, 9 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue

Day/Time: Saturdays, 11:15am – 12:15pm

Winter Session: February 6 – March 12

Fee: 6 Week Session, Resident/\$90, Non-Resident/\$120

Per Class: Resident/\$20, Non-Resident/\$25

Group Limit: 15 Students

MAD SCIENCE WORKSHOPS

Mission — “We aim to spark the imagination and curiosity of children everywhere by providing them with fun, entertaining and educational activities that instill a clear understanding of what science is really about and how it affects the world around them.”



Mark your calendars. Please visit our website for more information!

Location: Bryn Mawr Community Center, 9 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue

Ages: 5 – 12 yrs

Group Limit: 20 Students

Days/Times: Saturdays, 9:30am – 12:30pm

Winter Session 1: February 13, Earth’s Amazing Wonders!

Winter Session 2: March 19, Crazy Chemistry!

Winter Session 3: April 16, Slimy Smokey Science!

Fee: Per Session: Resident/\$45, Non-Resident/\$60

Residents - sign up for more and save! Sign up for 3 classes and pay \$120/Resident

ENGINEERING FOR KIDS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB



At Engineering For Kids we believe that children are natural born engineers who have unlimited imaginations and unbridled enthusiasm. We offer fun, hands-on learning for children ages 4 to 12. Our activities range from building flashlights and rockets to programming video games and robots. The variety of programming is extraordinary!

Location: Bryn Mawr Community Center, 9 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue

Information regarding Winter 2016 classes will be posted as it becomes available. Please contact greaterphila@engineeringforkids.net or visit www.engineeringforkids.com



DISCOUNT SKI LIFT TICKETS FOR LOCAL RESORTS

Please check www.lowermerion.org for the complete price list!

What you need to know:

- Tickets are non-refundable.
- We accept Cash, Check or Credit Card (fees apply) as payment.
- Tickets can be used any time during the 2015 – 2016 season
- Tickets are sold from December 2015 through early March 2016
- These are tickets, not discount vouchers
- Call ahead for availability: (610) 645-6220
- Prices are subject to change.

ARDMORE AVENUE COMMUNITY CENTER

122 Ardmore Ave., Ardmore

Phone Number: (610) 896-7256

Director: Linda Jackson

Program Coordinator: Larry Scovens

Program Assistant: Crystal Uter

Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday: 3:00 – 10:00pm

Saturday: 10:00am – 6:00pm

Sunday: CLOSED

Holiday Bazaar & Winter Carnival

To be held in early December - call for more details.

Shop ‘til you drop, play carnival games and enjoy socializing with your friends and neighbors. Vendor space is available call for more details. Open to all!



There Really is a Santa

Unwrapped new toys will be accepted November through early December. Sometimes even Santa needs our help! There are many families in our immediate area that can use help during the holidays. Toys for children ages 3 to 12 may be dropped off at the Community Center after 2pm daily. These toys will be distributed to needy children.

African American History Month—February

February is African American History Month! The Center has a month full of programs celebrating this strong history.

What else is going on? Call for information on these and other programs: Volleyball, Basketball, Hip-Hop, Movies, Special Events, Trips, and more!

SENIOR CENTERS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS INFORMATION

The Center for Positive Aging in Lower Merion (PALM)

117 Ardmore Avenue, Ardmore, PA 19003
(610)642-9370

ElderNet, www.eldernetonline.org

9 S Bryn Mawr Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
(610)525 - 0706

RIVERBEND

Riverbend Environmental Education Center has a lot to offer our community year round, from weekend programs for families to Year-Round Camp days offered on school holiday. Please contact Riverbend directly at 610-527-5234 or visit their website for more information www.riverbendec.org.

Family Programs at Riverbend

Saturday, November 7th

2:00-4:00pm
Wilderness Survival

Saturday, December 12th

6:00 – 8:00pm
Full Moon Night Hike and Campfire

For more information, visit www.riverbendec.org.

Year Round Exploration Camps at Riverbend

At Riverbend, we understand that school days off for children are not always work days off for parents! From Columbus Day to Spring Break, Riverbend takes the pressure off parents and engages their children during the various school holidays. Our year-round exploration camps offer a relaxed combination of hands-on activities, including hikes, stories, crafts, science experiments and free exploration. Flexible and low-key, our program meets the needs of busy parents while providing children the perfect place for holiday fun. Year Round Exploration Camps run 9:00am to 3:30pm (extended day option from 8:00am to 6:00pm). Perfect for ages 4-11.

2015-2016 Dates and Themes

November 25th

Day Before Thanksgiving
Keepers of the Earth

December 21st, 22nd and 23rd

Winter Break #1
Wacky Science

December 28th, 29th and 30th

Winter Break #2
Winter's Warriors

January 18th

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Food Chain Frenzy

February 15th

President's Day
Planet Protectors

March 21st to 25th

Spring Break #1
Nature Superheroes

March 28th to April 1st

Spring Break #2
Pollination Power

For more information or to register online at www.riverbendec.org or call 610-527-5234.

LOWER MERION CONSERVANCY

The Lower Merion Conservancy invites you to come with us to explore the nature and history of Lower Merion in new and fun ways in a very exciting place: our outdoor classroom full of native Pennsylvania streams, forests and meadows.

LM Conservancy's Stream Camp

For more information or to register for Lower Merion Conservancy's Stream Camp, please visit www.lmconservancy.org or call 610-645-9030.

PROGRAM PROVIDERS

Lower Merion has a number of groups that offer various recreational opportunities for leagues and other activities. Visit our website to view and or print a table of Program Providers with their contact information. Each group conducts their own registration during different times of the year. Please contact them directly if you are interested in any additional information.



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REGISTRATION FORM - Lower Merion Parks & Recreation

Name of Activity: _____ Fee: _____

Location: _____ Session/Date/Time: _____

Participant's Name: _____ Age: _____ DOB: _____

E-mail: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Emergency Contact & Phone Number: _____

Medical Conditions/Allergies/Medications: _____

Physician's Name & Phone Number: _____

I, the undersigned parent/child participant, hereby release the Township of Lower Merion, its officers, agents, employees, sponsors, organizers, and all leaders assigned by them, from all liability for any damage and injury to any person or thing in connection with the above activity. Furthermore, I hereby agree to refrain from bringing suit against any of the above named on my own behalf or on behalf of my son or daughter (named above) as a result of any damages or injuries to any person or thing that occurred in connection with the above activity. I also hereby agree to permit the video recording and or photographing of this activity for the purposes of program advertisement by the Township of Lower Merion.

Print Parent's Name _____ Parent's Email _____

_____/_____/_____

Adult Participant's or Parent's Signature DOB Date Cell/Day Time Telephone

The above registration form applies to all programs, except the music program, pool membership and trips.
Please mail to: Department of Parks & Recreation, 75 E. Lancaster Avenue, Ardmore, Pa. 19003-2376,
or register in person Monday through Friday, 8:15 a.m. 4:30 p.m.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Treasurer, Township of Lower Merion

GENERAL INFORMATION

Department of Parks & Recreation Phone:
610 - 645 - 6220.

Special Accommodations: Special accommodations can be provided by contacting the Department at least two weeks prior to the beginning of the program.

Cancellations: The Township reserves the right to cancel any programs, scheduled times, location and/or activities due to insufficient registration or weather conditions.

Registration Information: Program registration is limited to residents of Lower Merion until two (2) weeks prior to the start of the program, when it shall then be open to non-residents.

Refunds: Refunds will be given only if the reason for the request meets an established set of standards, which can be obtained from the Department of Parks & Recreation. Check website for Refund Processing Fee.



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2014 Annual Report and 2015-2016 Calendar Published

If you have not received your copy in the mail or would like another copy, stop by the Township Administration Building at 75 E. Lancaster Avenue, Ardmore PA 19003.

Change at the Dump

The Refuse Division has changed the method for disposal of residential waste at the transfer station located at 1300 North Woodbine Avenue, the Township's Koegel Complex. Instead of dumping directly into the refuse holding pit, we have placed trash trucks on the pit floor to receive residential waste. Our staff will be on hand to run the hopper, and dump the truck directly into the compactor daily. Use of the pit will now be reserved for overflow events.

E-Z Park Smart Card Available for Purchase

An E-Z Park Smart Card is the quick and convenient way to pay for parking at Township parking meters. The card eliminates the need to carry change and even refunds unused time on the meter back to the card. The card is available for purchase at the Parking Services Office and Ludington Library.

You can now pay parking tickets online at www.lowermerion.org using credit cards or in-person at the Parking Services Department. This is the quick and easy way to pay a parking ticket. Residents paying on-line also have the option of paying directly from their checking accounts, via Automated Clearing House (ACH).

A parking ticket payment drop box is located at the front of the Public Safety Building. Payment envelopes can be deposited 24/7,

and all payments are processed within 24 hours, except weekends. The box is secure, saves time, and is convenient for paying parking violations.

Envelopes for payment of computerized parking tickets are located inside the drop box door.

The Parking Services Department is located in the lobby of the Public Safety Building. Office hours are Monday – Friday from 8:15 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Additional information is available by calling (610) 645-6230.



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National Night Out

The National Association of Town Watch (NATW), in partnership with Lower Merion Community Watch, hosted the annual “National Night Out” (NNO) Festival in the Ruby’s lot in Suburban Square in Ardmore on **Tuesday, August 4th**. Guests enjoyed live music, food, rides, carnival games, Fire and EMS exhibits, funnel cakes, photos with kids aboard LMPD motorcycles, roving entertainment, photo booths, child fingerprinting/video, and home safety information.



Online streaming and On-Demand

Just a reminder that LMTV, Lower Merion Township’s government-access television channel (Comcast ch. 7, Verizon ch. 37), now offers all of its programming online, both as a live stream and on-demand.

LMTV streaming is available at lmtv.viebit.com. Viewers may watch Committee and monthly Board of Commissioners meetings live, as well as replays as they air (Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 4 a.m. and noon; or Tuesdays,



Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.)

On-demand content is also available at lmtv.viebit.com. All recent Committee and Board meetings are available, as are the televised

Comprehensive Plan Workshops, dating back to April of this year. Other content, including original shows and other programming, will be added in the coming weeks and months as it is recorded and created.

'Coffee With a Cop'



On Wednesday, July 29, 2015, officers from the Lower Merion Police Department and community members came together in an informal, neutral space to discuss community issues, build relationships, and drink coffee. The event was held in the morning at **Saxbys Coffee** (346 W. Lancaster Ave., Ardmore) and provided a unique opportunity for community members to ask questions and learn more about the department's work in Lower Merion's neighborhoods.

The majority of contacts law enforcement has with the public happen during emergencies, or emotional situations – not always the most effective times for relationship-building with the community. Coffee with a Cop breaks down barriers and allows for a relaxed, one-on-one interaction.

“Community members felt comfortable asking questions, bringing concerns, or simply getting to know our officers,” said Lower Merion Police Superintendent Michael McGrath. “These interactions are the foundation of community partnerships.”

Coffee with a Cop is a national initiative supported by The United States Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. Similar events are being held across the country, as local police departments strive to make lasting connections with the communities they serve. The program aims to advance the practice of community policing through improving relationships between police officers and community members one cup of coffee at a time.

A second Coffee With a Cop event is scheduled for Oct. 29th from 8-11 a.m. at Cosi in Bryn Mawr (761 W. Lancaster Avenue).



Bryn Mawr Day 2015

The Fifth Annual Bryn Mawr Day celebration was held Saturday, Sept. 12, 2015, in the municipal parking lot at Lancaster and Bryn Mawr avenues. The free family day of fun, food and festivities encompassed the entire town and included restaurants and local businesses, institutions and one-day-only special entertainment and performances.



“A Taste of Bryn Mawr” was the highlight of this year’s festival, which had its largest crowds yet, with a larger and more diverse array of restaurants and merchants than in past years. Along with musical acts and the Bryn Mawr Business District-sponsored “Give and Take Little Circus,” there were fire trucks rides and free history bus tours of some of the remarkable sites and institutions that make up the “Bryn Mawr 100” — institutions that have been in Bryn Mawr for 100 years or more.





Cardboard Boat Regatta

The Lower Merion Parks & Recreation Department closed out the summer in style with a Cardboard Regatta at the Belmont Hills Pool on Labor Day.



Township Receives 26th Consecutive 'Distinguished Budget Presentation Award'

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) announced this summer that the Township of Lower Merion received its Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the Township's 2015 Budget document. This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting and marks the 26th straight year that Lower Merion has been honored with it.

With 26, Lower Merion has received this award more than any other municipality or county in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. For the year, Lower Merion is one of only 13 jurisdictions in Pennsylvania to receive the GFOA honor.

"This recognition of excellence has become a standard for our Finance Department staff, and for all staff who help prepare the budget report on our financial health," said Township Manager Ernie McNeely. "It is never something we take for granted. Only hard work keeps that recognition coming each year."

Tens of thousands of municipalities, counties, school districts, colleges and other entities—in both the United States and Canada—are eligible to seek the GFOA Budget Presentation Award. Historically, less than 3 percent of the more than 35,900 types of municipalities in the United States receive GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

The Government Finance Officers Association is a nonprofit professional association serving 14,000 government finance professionals throughout North America. Its Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program is the only national awards program in governmental budgeting.

In addition to the Budget Presentation prize, the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has also been awarded to the Township, for 21 consecutive years.

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Public Access TV Back on Channels 99 & 34

After gaining a recommendation from the Lower Merion Township Cable TV Advisory Board earlier this summer and then approval from the Township's Board of Commissioners in August, Lower Merion's Public Access station (serving the Township and Narberth Borough) began broadcasting again in September.

The station – channel 99 on Comcast and channel 34 on Verizon – is managed by the public access television station run by our neighbors in Radnor Township, who have been operating successfully for years under the name Radnor Studio 21.

As a resident or as a group in Lower Merion or Narberth, you are encouraged to get involved with public access TV – as a beginner or a veteran TV person; as a nonprofit group; as a camera person, producer or on-air talent; or as a fund-raiser, too. Whatever your talents or level of involvement, it will be valued.

In addition to its existing studios in Wayne, Radnor Studio 21 will also maintain space in the lower level of Ludington Library in Bryn Mawr. If you have ideas for shows or would like to get involved, contact General Manager George Strimel at (610) 687-5189 or by email at rs21@rs21.org.



Rosie's Senior Jamboree; Ruth Sperber Honored

On Wednesday, July 15th, scores of senior citizens filled South Ardmore Park for the Township's 36th Annual Rosie's Senior Jamboree. A picnic lunch of hot dogs and hamburgers was prepared and served by Parks & Recreation staff members and volunteers, and a variety of tables offered attendees the opportunity to learn more about programs and services available to them in the Township.

Once again, Tommy Tunes DJed and local and state elected representatives were on hand. Bryn Mawr Hospital had a table set up to monitor blood pressure for seniors in attendance, and officials were there to sign folks up for "Lock For Life" – a program available through ElderNet of Lower Merion and Narberth and administered by the Lower Merion Township Police Department. And continuing a long tradition, desserts will be coordinated by ElderNet staff and volunteers.

"ElderNet appreciates the opportunity to partner with the Township each year because the very people we want to serve are the seniors who attend the Jamboree," said **Ruth Sperber**, who recently retired as ElderNet's Executive Director. "We're delighted to hand out desserts and fruit donated by local bakeries and markets, while raising awareness of the many ways ElderNet can help older citizens."



Ms. Sperber was honored by the Lower Merion Board of Commissioners on September 16, 2015 for her 21 years of service to ElderNet. "Under your leadership ElderNet grew and prospered and our residents reaped those benefits of your caring and dedication," said Board Vice President Paul McElhaney. Ms. Sperber will remain in ElderNet's Advocacy Committee and its Community Advisory Council.





2015 RECYCLING SCHEDULES AND CLEANUP WEEKENDS



RECYCLING Week "A"	MONTH	WEEK BEGINNING	RECYCLING Week "B"	MONTH	WEEK BEGINNING
	November	9th, 23rd		November	2nd, 16th, 30th
	December	7th, 21st		December	14th, 28th

When It Snows

Before you know it, it'll be that time of year again.

The Lower Merion Township Highway Supervisor controls and coordinates winter operations throughout the Township's nine snow districts. A supervisor is assigned to each district to oversee the operations in each area. Thirty-five vehicles equipped for snow duty, including large dump trucks, pickup trucks and utility vehicles, are assigned routes within these districts.

The Township road system is divided into three priorities:

- Priority I roads are the main arteries throughout the Township.
- Priority II roads are connected to the main arteries throughout the Township.
- Priority III roads are all other tertiary roads and cul-de-sacs.

When Snowfall Begins...

There are two aspects of a snow operation—salting and plowing. When roads start to freeze from falling precipitation, salting operations begin on Priority I roads and continue until all roads are completed or until it is no longer effective to salt due to the depth of the snow. In consideration of the environment, all roads are salted only once. The more traffic there is on a road, the more effective the salt. When temperatures dip below 20 degrees Fahrenheit, salt has little effect on secondary streets that have light traffic. Liquid calcium chloride is used with the salt to speed the melting process. If a snowfall accumulates to 2 inches, plowing is required and salting ceases. As long as the snow keeps falling, the Township's first responsibility is to keep the main roads open and passable. In such instances, it is unlikely that Priority III roads will be reached because main roads must be repeatedly plowed and kept open while the snow continues. Once all roads are plowed, crews will continue to widen the roads with additional plow passes, moving snow back to the curb where possible. This is done to make room for the next snowfall and to clear as much of the road as possible before it freezes. When the snow stops and final plowing is accomplished, a



salt/liquid calcium mixture is spread on the roads. All roads are monitored for icy spots and re-salted where necessary.

If you HAVE a driveway, PARK IN IT!

Please keep in mind that it is almost impossible to keep snow from being deposited at your driveway during plowing because the plow cannot be lifted or stopped at each driveway as it passes. If you have your driveway plowed before the street is completed, clear an area to the right of the drive entrance. In many cases, when your

street is plowed the snow from the plow can be unloaded in this area instead of your driveway.

Municipal Lots & Sidewalks

After road salting and plowing operations are completed, township crews are scheduled to clean municipal lots, typically between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. Parking lots are scraped by loaders and snow is piled for removal at a later time. All lots are salted and made as safe as possible.

Many miles of Township-owned sidewalks are shoveled after each snowfall and salted by hand once the snow stops. Residents and business owners are reminded that, by ordinance, all private sidewalks are to be shoveled within 30 hours after a snowfall.

Please be patient...

Snow plowing is a difficult and time consuming job. Because Township crews need many hours of intensive labor to complete snow clearing operations, travel during or immediately following a snowfall should be delayed unless truly necessary. The less traffic there is on the roads, the quicker the job of clearing snow from the roads can be accomplished.

All snow operations are conducted from the Township's Highway Division Office, (610) 667-1590, ext. 709. When you call the Highway Division about a condition, the information is immediately dispatched to a truck in your district. There is no need to call a second time.

Here's to a mild winter!

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