

ELK TOWNSHIP



Spring 2017 Message from the Mayor

ARTICLES:

- Message from Mayor Poisker
- Police Report, Chief Defalco
- Special Needs Registry
- Economic Development Update, Ted Schmidt
- Recreation Committee Overview Carolyn Sammons
- Environmental Commission Report Donna Weiss and Donna Nicholson
- Veteran/Senior/Disable Tax discount
- Notes:
 - Support Businesses in this newsletter.
 - Dog census this year
 - Senior/Disable Tax reminder

Dear Elk Township Residents:

Spring is in the air! I hope you are enjoying the spring and taking advantage of outdoor activities. There are lots of things to do at our recreation parks as we offer baseball fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, soccer fields, playgrounds as well as walking and jogging trails. Let's not forget the covered pavilion where you can meet with friends and family for parties and other gatherings. If you would like to reserve the pavilion for parties, please contact our township clerk for an application.

A common theme amongst towns throughout America is cost sharing and government downsizing in order to control spending to minimize increases in property taxes for you the resident. Our township committee as well as our Municipal Staff and Police Department have been working hard to accomplish that task. In fact, Elk Township residents will see a zero tax increase for the township portion of your tax bill as a result of our hard work. Your tax bill is broken down into three different budgets. Approximately, 25% Elk Township, 25% County and 50% School district makes up your entire tax bill.

You may have also noticed all of the new paving projects throughout the town. In fact, we were fortunate to receive grants in 2016 to resurface both Moods Road and Willow Grove Road. The County also resurfaced Ellis Mill Road and installed a traffic light at the corner of Clems Run and Ellis Mill Road. These are all nice improvements to our town. Additionally, natural gas lines are being installed throughout the town. South Jersey Gas has been busy running pipe in parts of town that I never thought would see natural gas. A project for 2017 is an expansion from Rt. 77 down Ewan Road to Moods Road and Iredell Road.

Lastly, running a town is no easy task. You have to control spending while providing essential services for the residents. This is a task that I do not take lightly. Under my leadership, we will continue to improve our great town. But, you can help by joining some of our sub-committees or volunteering for one of our three fire companies. If you would like to join a sub-committee or fire company, please call the municipal building and express your interest.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or another member of your township committee. I can be reached

by calling the municipal building 856-881-6525 or email me at epoisker@elktownshipnj.gov.

Kindest Regards,
Mayor Ed Poisker





ELK TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

APRIL 2017

The Elk township police department is committed to providing a meaningful and responsive law enforcement service to the residents of elk township. We are sworn to preserve the peace, protect the innocent and enforce state and local laws. As our community continues to grow, so do the challenges we face as a police department and we are committed to meeting those challenges.

Offenses/activity statistics for year ending 2016

Calls for service: 15,845 arrests: 168 mv summons: 1,965 mv crashes: 169, (74 injuries)

Burglaries/thefts: 75 simple assaults: 16 sexual assaults/contacts: 1 aggravated assault: 0

National prescription drug take-back day

On Saturday april 29, 2017, from 10am to 2pm at the police department will once again be participating in the national prescription drug take back day. The goal of this program is to allow citizens of new jersey to rid their homes of unused, unwanted or expired prescription medications by turning them in to their local police department. This program has been extremely successful in getting prescription medication out of our homes. You can find more information at: https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/ or contact Lieutenant Walt P. Garrison ii at 856-881-6688.

Safety Tips

As the summer approaches we would like to remind everyone to drive safely, obey the traffic laws and most importantly do not drink and drive. Residents are reminded to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity by calling 911. Remember if you see something unusual or suspicious say something. You can always call 911 emergency operations center and make an anonymous report.

I encourage our residents to visit the police department face book page and also the townships webpage. On behalf of myself and the officers of the elk township police we wish you a safe and happy summer.

Chief Charles A. Defalco

ATTENTION: NJ SPECIAL NEEDS REGISTRY WWW.REGISTERREADY.NJ.GOV OR CALL 2-1-1 DESIGNED TO HELP EMERGENCY RESPONDERS LOCATE AND SAFELY EVACUATE PEOPLE THAT NEED EXTRA HELP IN THE EVENT OF A MAJOR DISASTER.

MOOD'S FARM MARKET

 901 Bridgeton Pike Mullica Hill, NJ
478-2500

Pick Your Own Fruit Hayrides Apple Cider



Economic Development Update

The home building markets appears to be opening up and construction at various subdivisions are moving forward. We helped the owners of The Pantry One convenience store secure a liquor license for Package Goods, and they are planning an addition to their existing building this Spring as well, to house the Liquor store.

We have a couple other indicatives' we will be working on going forward this year that includes developing a catalog of all the existing Commercial building sites, with a full description as well as pictures and other information a perspective business person would need to have to make a decision to settle in Elk. We will continue to work with Rowan University on their expansion plans to try and get them to include Elk in them. We will also be putting together a package for our existing businesses on the resources that we can bring to them to help them expand their businesses.

Contact Us

Ted Schmidt

680 Whig Lane
856/881-6525

Web site: elktownshipnj.gov

In 2016 we did some research on the feasibility of helping interested farmers move into the Wine Grape market which is growing in NJ, as well as the production of Hops for the microbrew industry that is also expanding in NJ. Though it is an expensive undertaking we believe it could be a money maker for farmers who choose to undertake the project and will assist where we can.

We will finally be having a sign pointing the way to our Industrial park, as we were given permission to erect the sign at the Ellis Mill entrance road. This should help us market those sites to perspective businesses as well.

We attended the Gloucester County Economic Development group and had a tour of the SJ technical Park recently. We will be working with the Tech Park in getting startup businesses to work with them and relocate in Elk Township.

We are also planning to have an Elk Township Business Breakfast this summer to allow our business community to meet each other, share common interest and provide feedback to Local, County and State elected officials. Please contact Ted Schmidt or Mike Pantaleo no later than May 30th if you are interested in participating in this venue.

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ELK TOWNSHIP RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Recreation Committee is busy doing various events for the residents throughout the year namely:



1. Easter Egg Hunt – held the week prior to Easter;
2. Elk Opening Day – held in conjunction with Elk's Baseball Opening Day;
3. Movie Night In the Park – held in the summer the date is determined by the County;
4. Tree Lighting – held the first Friday in December;
5. Senior Holiday Luncheon – held the first Saturday in December.

These events are posted on the marquee in front of the municipal building a week prior to the event. Currently we have a few residents that volunteer their time to make these events successful, although we are lucky at the Senior Holiday luncheon to have a more residents come out and help as we have a nice turn out for this event.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at the municipal building.



Please come out and see what Recreation does, we would like to have you attend or possibly join!

Weber's Power Equipment, Inc.

We Service What We Sell

HOURS: Monday – Friday: 8-5 • Saturday: 8-12



868 Elk Road (Rt. 538)
Monroeville, NJ 08343

E-mail: cweberpower@comcast.net

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Fax (856) 881-5246
weberspower.com

Rainey's Servicenter LLC



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Environmental Commission Report

The Environmental Commission is made up of interested community residents, from a variety of backgrounds, who are appointed by the mayor to represent the citizens of Elk Township with regard to environmental issues. The commission focuses on encouraging the preservation and protection of Elk Township's agricultural lands, woodlands, and environmentally sensitive areas in order to support an environmentally responsible and friendly community.

The commission has been actively involved in the management of the Elephant Swamp Nature Trail which is listed on the National Rails to Trails Directory and works on various community enhancement, outreach, and education activities such as: grant writing, Arbor Day tree planting, educational programs and sapling distribution, reviewing land use and development applications and providing recommendations to the Planning/Zoning Board regarding potential environmental impact.



The Elk Township Environmental Commission was established in 1976 and recently was designated a "Green Team" and registered as working on Sustainable NJ Community certification. We currently have two open seats for community members on our "Green Team" who are interested in joining our dynamic commission and helping our community work toward Sustainable NJ Certification.

We meet the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm in the Municipal Building – please come and join us.

Please contact our township liaison, Donna Nicholson, at donna.nicholson@elktownship.gov, or Donna Weiss, ETEC Chairperson at

dweiss01@temple.edu for more information.

Attention: Veterans



Property Tax Deductions

A \$250 deduction is available for qualified veterans or a surviving spouse of a veteran. Disabled veterans or surviving spouse may be entitled to full exemption from property taxes. For an application or more information about these programs contact the Tax Assessors located

1200 North Delsea Drive Clayton 856-307-6445

Attention: Seniors & Disabled Residents



Property Tax Deductions

A \$250 deduction is available for income qualified homeowners who are 65 years and older or disabled or a surviving spouse of a senior or disabled resident. Please call 856-307-6445 for forms, applications, and/or more information.

The Property Tax Reimbursement Applications (PTR) have been sent out from the state. This application is due by June 1st. This application must be signed by the collector prior to mailing. If you are not already enrolled in this program, I have extra books in my office. You will need to be at least 67 years old in 2017 to file this application. Please stop by the tax collector's office. If you have any questions, please feel free to call 881-6525 ext. 112. Susan Defrancesco

Township Committee Members

Mayor – Ed Poisker
Deputy Mayor – Carolyn King-Sammons

Committeeperson – Donna Nicholson
Committeeperson – Mike Pantaleo
Committeeperson – James Rambo

CFO- Steve Considine

Township Clerk- Debbie Pine

Township Committee Meetings: First Thursday and Third Tuesday (work session) of each month

Meeting Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Elk Township Municipal Building

680 Whig Lane, Monroeville, NJ 08343

Phone: (856) 881-6525

Website: elktownshipnj.gov

NOTES: (1) Please support the businesses that have provided donations to offset the cost of this newsletter:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ▪ -Moods Farm Market | Richard Mood (856) 478-2500 |
| ▪ -Bank of Elmer | Hyacinth Mason (856) 358-7000 |
| ▪ -Rainey's Auto Service | Bill Rainey (856) 881-0806 |
| ▪ -Weber's Power Equipment | (856/) 81-2592 |
| ▪ -Edward Jones | Gabe Mastrobuono (856) 415-7800 |
| ▪ -Stephen P Considine CPA | (856) 881-5792 |

(2) A Dog Census is being conducted this year, to avoid fines and court costs please register your dog(s) ASAP. Please see Township Clerk: \$10.00 sprayed/neutered; \$13.00 non-sprayed/non-neutered. There is a \$10.00 late fee per dog after February 28, 2017.

If you would rather receive the Township newsletter via email please forward your email address to mpantaleo@elktownshipnj.gov

Sending the Newsletter by email reduces cost and can be issued more frequently.