



# Lower Milford Township NEWS Fall Festival Edition 2016

## Get Ready to Rock and Roll !

Volume 19, Issue 2

### A great lineup of music for the 14th Annual Fall Festival!

On Saturday, September 24 From 10 AM to 1 PM,  
we'll be boppin' to the  
oldies with the great dance sounds of

## Mike Mettalia & Midnight Shift



“In the twelve years they've been together Mike Mettalia and Midnight Shift has pioneered a sound they call Rhythm Rockin' Boogie fusing blues and 50's rhythm n jump into a danceable infectious mix. The group has forged a strong following and solid reputation throughout Eastern PA, NJ, DE, and NYC. They are also a touring band having backed up Delmark Recording Artist Rockin' Johnny from Chicago, NYC blues legend Tony O, 50's Sun Record Artist Rayburn Anthony as well as harmonica great Steve Guyger.” *band bio*

#### Did You Know?

- Lower Milford Township was once part of Bucks County.
- Hosensack means pants pocket.
- The first preserved farm in Lehigh County is located in Lower Milford.
- George Washington did not sleep here! We think.

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## The Peter Johann Band



Is back to rock us from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM with the dance hits of Joe Cocker, Billy Joel, Paul Simon, Queen, Prince and more of your favorite artists!

“The Peter Johann Band has evolved into a top tier dance band by offering a unique blend of performance background and musical ability that is sure to engage any crowd. Each show is a unique experience filled with spot on harmonies, jazz-influenced improvisa-

tion, soulful vocals, and a tight rhythm section. The fun and energy is contagious when the Peter Johann Band hits the stage!” [peterjohannband.com](http://peterjohannband.com)



Come out and enjoy fresh cider slushies, tempting baked goods, terrific barbeque, funnel cake, just to mention a few! New entertainment for the kids! And don't forget the Silent Auction for holiday shopping. The alpacas will be here along with the carriage rides. Support our Library by purchasing from Friends of Southern Lehigh Library's book sale. Vendors and demonstrations all day.

There's something here for everyone's taste!

Saturday, September 24 here at the Township Building



**Lehigh County Executive Tom Muller** presented an overview of the proposed 2017 County Budget on Wednesday, August 31 at Lower Milford Township's historic Limeport Stadium. Highlights of the budget overview include the expectation of a year end 2016 budget surplus of \$5.3 million, no tax increase for 2017 and special funding for the Limeport Stadium of \$10,000.

## LowerMilford.org

The new Township domain and website. Created and designed in-house by our Zoning Officer and Planning Administrator, Ms. Alene Shafnisky, the website is easy to use and contains lots of information and news about Lower Milford. If you have not yet visited our new website, please do and let us know what you think!



## Reminder

### from our Public Works Director

The Lower Milford Public Works Department may not remove trees from PennDOT roads. If electric wires or communications wires are involved in the downed or hanging tree, the utility must remove their wires before our department may clear Township Roads. The following phone numbers may be used when calling PennDOT or the utilities.

Verizon 1-800-837-4966

Service Electric Cable 610-865-9100

PPL 1-800-342-5775

PennDOT 610-798-4280



The Lower Milford Fire Company extends their gratitude to everyone who supported the 2016 Carnival! It was a huge success!

**The Township Offices will be closed  
on the following dates**

Thanksgiving - November 24 and 25

Christmas - December 23 and 26

New Year's - January 2, 2017



**Tuesday, November 8 at the  
Lower Milford Twp. Building  
Polls open at 7 AM  
and close at 8 PM**

**Southern Lehigh Public Library will host an  
ELECTRONICS & APPLIANCE RECYCLING DAY  
Saturday, October 15 from 9 AM to 12 Noon**

Questions? Call **Responsible Recycling Services** at: 484-641-5156



**Remember to check out,  
"Hi Neighbor, Buy Neighbor" on the Town-  
ship website: [lowermilford.org](http://lowermilford.org). You will find  
a list of local farms selling fall produce,  
pumpkins and gourds, Christmas trees, spring  
and summer produce and much more.**

**Trick or Treat Night  
Friday, October 28  
6 PM to 8 PM**





**The Lehigh Valley** is at a critical crossroads. In June, Bo Koltnow, reporter for WFMZ, wrote an article entitled, *"Pushing for farmland preservation in the Lehigh Valley."* He indicates that farmland is fighting for survival. Looking at the Lehigh Valley Comprehensive Plan of 2005 and updated in 2010, the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission recommends that 25 percent of land area in Lehigh and Northampton Counties be preserved for agricultural use. Sadly, that goal has yet to be met. In fact, according to RenewLV, an advocacy group working to preserve agriculture within the Lehigh Valley, only nine percent of farmland has been preserved to date. An additional 2.3 square miles of agricultural land in the Lehigh Valley is lost each and every year to development.

Our local news sources report groundbreaking of new warehouses and applications being made to local municipalities for construction of even more warehouses. Just think! We can become the next inland port nightmare! Traffic fatalities and accidents are a daily occurrence with many involving tractor trailers. Warehouses and freight depots are touted as bringing jobs to the Lehigh Valley. However, most of the jobs appear to be low paying and part-time. Is that really benefiting our valley? Is the trade off in highway safety, destruction of infrastructure, poor air quality and general decline in quality of life really worth it? Some tout the wonderful tax base to be gained by warehouses and distribution centers. Really? The farm field that the warehouse now sits on provided crops or pasture, produced little stormwater but aided greatly in absorbing stormwater, cost the municipality only pennies of each tax dollar that the farm owner paid, did not increase student population and contributed to the well being of everyone who was lucky enough to view it.

We stand poised to continue losing our farmland if we, the residents of this valley do nothing. How many articles have you read that made you shake your head? Will we be a sea of warehouses? Will our trips to work or school become unreasonably long because of more and more traffic? The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission publications forecast that truck traffic will increase from the current, uncontrolled numbers to double in the next 20+ years. How was that projection calculated? Was it based upon increasing the warehouse and distribution facilities beyond what exists? According to a CBRE Group, Inc. July 2016 report, the Lehigh Valley inland port is growing twice as fast as the top 12 inland ports in the nation. There we have it! Because of the booming e-commerce (and no one wants to wait a few extra days for their purchase to ship), we are giving away our safety, health and sanity.

People can change the course of events by speaking up to their local officials and County Commissioners. Write letters and attend meetings. Petition your local officials to amend zoning laws before it is too late. When put to a vote, the residents of the Lehigh Valley spoke loud and clear that preservation of farmland is a priority. Over 90 percent of residents support increased funding to preserve farmland. Thankfully, the Lehigh County Commissioners voted 8 to 1 to increase their support for funding the farmland preservation program over the next three years. Get involved. This is our Lehigh Valley.

**Submit your photos taken in Lower Milford for the  
Photo Contest!**

**Photos will be judged by a professional photographer. Ribbons,  
recognition and lots of bragging rights!**



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The *Township News* is provided by the Board of Supervisors and Staff of Lower Milford Township—Ellen L. Koplin, Editor

Many song lyrics and poems have been written about the serenity and beauty found along a country road; the expectation of home and hearth or a loved one waiting at journey's end. In the words of the late radio broadcaster Paul Harvey, *"What's mainly wrong with society today is that too many Dirt Roads have been paved. . . . because Dirt Roads give character. . . . Our values were better when our roads were worse! People did not worship their cars more than their kids, and motorists were more courteous. . . . Dirt Roads taught patience."*

We in Lower Milford are fortunate. We don't have to remember with fond nostalgia because we still have country roads, some hard surface and some dirt. They are also some of the most scenic roads in eastern Pennsylvania. So enjoy what we have that others only long for. As the season changes the landscape to the vibrant colors of autumn, appreciate the beauty that is Lower Milford by taking a drive on our country roads.