

# moon

messenger

The Official Newsletter of Moon Township | moontwp.us

WINTER 2019

## Trail Tales

8

Check out the new trails in Moon!

## MCA-TV Awards

17

MCA-TV Brings Home Three Pittsburgh Community Media Awards



Community Development



Public Works



Green Initiatives



Parks & Recreation



Community Television



Police



Fire



Library

**Moon Township Administration Office**

1000 Beaver Grade Road  
Moon Township, PA 15108  
412.262.1700  
moontwp.us

**Moon Township Board of Supervisors**

David Bachman, Chairman  
John Hertzner, Vice Chairman  
Michele Santicola  
Jim Vitale  
Joe Wise

**Moon Township Staff**

Dawn Lane, Township Manager  
Jeffrey Ziegler, Assistant Township Manager  
Scott Brillhart, Assistant Township Manager/Planning Director  
James Koepfinger, Director of Communications and Technology  
Sharon Gologram, Finance Director  
Jim Henkemeyer, Public Works Facilities Manager  
John Scott, Public Works Operations Manager  
Mike Jakub, Public Works Foreman  
Dave Meinert, Building Inspector  
Lora Dombrowski, Code Administrator  
Greg Shermeto, Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer  
Greg Seamon, Police Chief  
Doug Ogden, Police Captain  
Amy Ottaviani, Community Engagement Director  
Stacey Sommerfeld, Parks and Recreation Director  
Celeste Fryz, Senior Citizen Event Director  
Lisa Shaughnessy – Youth Program Coordinator and Mooncrest Knowledge Connection Site Manager  
Christine Ree, Communications Director  
Allison Eastham, Director MCA-TV  
Frank Vieira, Assistant Director MCA-TV  
Amber Paxton, Community Development Administrative Assistant  
Renee Cameron, Administrative Assistant  
Janine Spezialetti, Receptionist

**Other Moon Township Contact Information**

**Always call 911 in an emergency**

Moon Township Police Department  
412.262.5000  
Moon Township Fire Department  
412.262.5004  
Moon Parks and Recreation  
412.262.1703  
Moon Community Access Television  
412.269.1191  
Moon Township Municipal Authority  
412.264.4300  
Moon Township Public Library  
412.269.0334  
Elected Property Tax Collector: Catherine Tress  
412.299.7446  
Earned Income Tax Collector: Jordan Tax Service  
724.731.2300

**Township offices will be closed:**

Christmas – December 24 and 25  
New Year’s Day – January 1  
Presidents’ Day – February 17

## Table of Contents

Administration	3
MTA	4
Community	5
Green Initiatives	6-8
Public Works	9
Public Safety	10-11
Parks & Recreation	12-15
Library	16
MCA-TV	17
Valley Ambulance	18
Tax Information	19



Community Development



Public Works



Green Initiatives



Parks & Recreation



Community Television



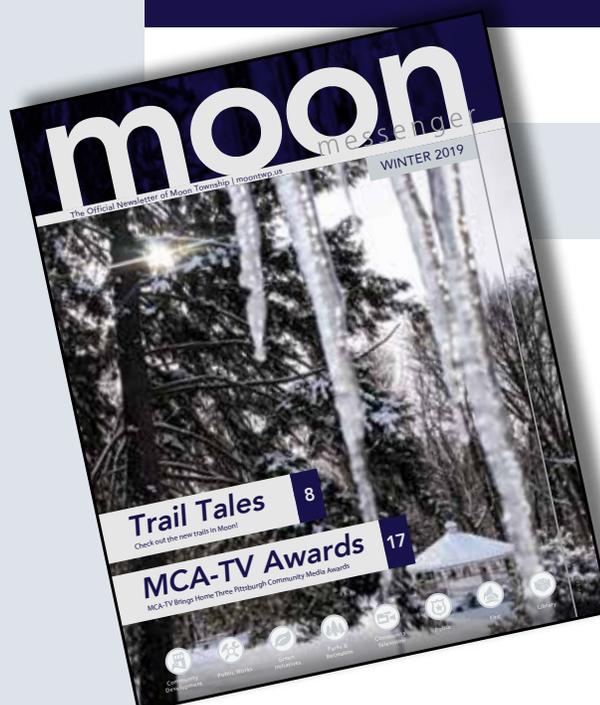
Police



Fire



Library



## The Cover

Winter never looked better at Robin Hill Park!

The Moon Township Messenger was arranged by Communications Director Christine Ree and designed by Web & Graphic Designer Frank Vieira.

Read the Winter 2019 Moon Township Messenger and past editions online at [moontwp.us](http://moontwp.us).

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT make it moon



As 2019 comes to a close and I think of all we have accomplished this year, I know it could not be done without the dedication and efforts of many individuals, including:

**The residents.** Whether you realize it or not, your small acts of kindness such as saying hello or thank you or giving a friendly smile or wave, gives the employees a sense of pride and achievement which in turn makes it easy for us to come to work each day.

**The volunteers.** The township has 11 boards and two authorities with seats filled by 63 Moon Township residents. These residents, without fail, volunteer their time serving the needs of the township. These appointed board members attend meetings monthly, recommend actions, review new development plans, and set activities in motion to make Moon Township the community we are.

I am happy to announce the appointment of seven residents to the newly-established Moon Township Military Banner Committee. The committee has been working diligently over the past six months to identify areas for banners to be displayed, establish guidelines, and develop the overall process by which a resident can honor a family member. Watch for details to be published on the Moon Township website and Facebook.

This year, over 375 individuals and more than 30 groups, businesses and organizations have volunteered for a variety of events within the township. Thank you volunteers.

**The Moon Township Volunteer Fire Company.** These men and women are called to perform at all times of the day and night as volunteers. What many do not know is that on top of answering calls, fundraising and meetings,

they have mandatory training and updates. They do all this because of their dedication and commitment to help others.

**The staff.** Several employees have dedicated their careers to serving this community; some may call them “homegrown.” But whether born and raised and now residing in Moon Township or commuting from a neighboring community, each employee comes to work to serve the needs of the residents and does it most effectively and as efficiently as possible.

One of the most critical tasks of the year is for the Board of Supervisors to pass an operating budget for 2020. The board and staff are committed to being good stewards of revenues received. By doing so, it will enable the township to provide essential services – like police, public works, community development and parks and recreation – as well as programs such as curbside leaf/branch pickup and the composting drop-off/pick-up site for residents; the availability of beautiful parks, amenities, trails, and programs through parks and recreation for all ages; the building of sidewalks, stormwater systems, and roadways; the continuation of operations like MCA-TV, with partnerships through MASD and RMU; and helping to fund the Moon Township Public Library. Individually, these may seem easily achievable, but collectively it takes time and effort to make sure they all fit and have a place. After all, you are worth it.

My wishes to all for a safe, fun, and happy winter season!

*Dawn Lane*  
Township Manager

## Meet Our New Employees



Moon Township welcomed Sharon Gologram as Finance Director. Sharon came to Moon after two years as the Finance Manager for Five Star Development, a custom software developer located on Pittsburgh's North Shore. Previously, Sharon spent 10 years in finance in the public school sector working at Keystone Oaks and Western Beaver school districts.



The township also welcomed Amber Paxton as Community Development Administrative Assistant. She's a current member of the 171st Air Refueling Wing of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard, serving for 16 years.

# MTA make it moon



## MTA Unlocks Economic Development

By now, it's likely that most Moon Township residents have passed through the construction site at the Thorn Run interchange. It's hard to miss the heavy equipment, orange cones, road closures and detours. But for all the inconvenience, the project is going to make the intersection safer and much more efficient. What a lot of people don't know is that the Moon Transportation Authority (MTA) is leading the project. In fact, a lot of residents aren't familiar with MTA at all, so here's a little background.

MTA was established in 1986 by joint action of Moon Township, the Moon Area School District and Allegheny County. It was created under the Municipality Authorities Act of 1945 for the purpose of acting as a financing and project coordination agency for the improvement and construction of transportation infrastructure in Moon Township. The primary goal was, and is, to promote new economic development and enhance the safety and welfare of Moon area residents. A Transportation District was established under the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act ("LERTA"). A board of five volunteer directors guide and oversee the Authority's projects and activities, working closely with its Executive Director, Lynn Colosi, who is employed by Delta Development Group which is the firm contracted by MTA to manage the authority.

MTA is primarily funded through the LERTA Act of 1977 which is a revenue allocation program that can be used as a mechanism to finance certain transportation infrastructure improvements in a designated transportation district. Properties within the designated district are exempted from real estate taxes on the value of new commercial buildings or improvements to commercial properties for 10 years after construction. Owners of commercial properties within the district then contribute the amount that they would otherwise have paid in taxes on the new buildings or improvements to the MTA to advance specific transportation projects.

The designated LERTA district for Moon Township extends along the parkway from just beyond International Drive to the west to just beyond Ewing Road to the east. The program applies only to commercial buildings themselves and not to the land on which they are located. It does not apply to residential property. MTA receives a contribution from the landowner in the same amount as the portion of real estate taxes that would otherwise be paid to Moon Township, the Moon Area School District and Allegheny County. Taxes on the land itself (as opposed to on the commercial building) continue to be collected by the School District, the Township and the County.

To complete the current Thorn Run interchange reconstruction MTA worked with several partners to obtain the \$10.4 million needed to complete the project. MTA contributed \$5.8 million and worked diligently to secure a federal grant in the amount of \$800,000 and a PennDOT contribution of \$3.8 million. The ramp from Moon to I-376 West has been installed and is awaiting finish work. Sections of Cherrington Parkway, Rouser Road and Thorn Run Extension have been completely rebuilt to tie in the new interchange ramps. The project will continue into mid-2020 as crews complete the offramp from I-376 West and install the traffic signals at four intersections.

MTA is also working to connect Stevenson Mill and Rouser Road with University Boulevard to open more than 60 acres of land for development, an initiative that also triggers offsite improvements to Moon Clinton Road and University Boulevard. With the alternative layouts evaluated and environmental analyses complete, this project is currently in the preliminary engineering phase which is expected to be finished by April 2020. Then, it will take about a year to complete final engineering plans and specifications and prepare the project for construction. Once engineering is finished in 2021, MTA will then seek funding to construct Stevenson Mill, Rouser Road and

ancillary intersection upgrades. In a best-case scenario, construction of this project has a targeted completion date in 2023.

In another effort, the Moon Township Board of Supervisors recently asked MTA to expand its jurisdiction to include an undeveloped area around Market Place Boulevard, a 500-acre site that the Township has targeted as a priority economic development district. Both the School District and the Township have unanimously approved the expansion. MTA is currently working with the County, seeking its approval as well. As several developers have submitted plans to the Township to build office space, housing and light retail in that area, infrastructure improvements, including the Montour Run interchange, will be necessary to accommodate and manage anticipated traffic growth. Cost estimates of transportation infrastructure to prepare for and facilitate development will surpass \$30 million, and while the developers are willing to contribute to the project, the total is far too large for them to absorb alone. That's when MTA works to bring together multiple parties and funding sources to accomplish the initiative.

"The Authority is truly a novelty in Pennsylvania as we're one of only a few in the state," said Colosi. "MTA represents more than 30 years of funding success, having facilitated 2.5 million square feet of new commercial development that generates \$10 million plus annually in new tax revenue for the Township, School District and the County. While the Township guarantees some of the debt the MTA incurs, the Authority has never defaulted on a loan. Our partners see the value in that and the fact that the Authority is able to invest in and deliver its own projects."

MTA invites anyone interested in learning more about the Authority and its projects to attend the monthly board meetings, held at the Municipal Building at 6:00 p.m. on the first Monday of every month. Public comments are welcome, but not necessary.

# COMMUNITY make it moon

1000 Beaver Grade Road | 412.262.1700 | moontwp.us

## 2020 Community Engagement Guides Now Available

Moon Township offers a variety of opportunities for businesses and organizations to invest in the health and wellness of our community by funding events, programs and open space improvements. Residents of Moon Township, as well as neighboring communities, value our parks and recreation, green initiatives, MCA-TV events and programming as part of their everyday lives. Be a sponsor and increase your exposure in the community, develop deeper relationships with your customers, and build a positive image.

The 2020 Sponsorship Guide is now available for all businesses and organizations both in hard copy and online at [moontwp.com/business/sponsorships.php](http://moontwp.com/business/sponsorships.php).

Look for the 2020 New Resident Guide, full of helpful information for new and existing residents. Learn about township administration, police, fire, community development and engagement, parks and recreation, MCA-TV and much more. This guide is available at the Municipal Building kiosk and online at [moontwp.com/residents/new-resident-guide.php](http://moontwp.com/residents/new-resident-guide.php).

We are planning a New Business Guide for early 2020 that will be full of information to support businesses operating and locating to Moon.

## Home Owners Association Forum Coming in 2020

Moon Township will host Home Owners Association (HOA) Forum meetings in 2020. The Forums will serve as an opportunity for appointed representatives from HOAs within Moon Township to meet to discuss common issues and concerns and to learn what is happening in the township. A township staff member will attend to facilitate and participate in the discussion. One feature of the HOA Forum will be an HOA Guest Speaker Bureau to include professionals from the township, police, fire, public works, and parks and recreation, as well as area professionals. All interested HOA representatives should email [aottaviani@moontwp.us](mailto:aottaviani@moontwp.us). Look for the 2020 meeting schedule to be posted in the next Messenger, on [moontwp.com](http://moontwp.com) and the [Moon Township Facebook page](#).

## Farmers Market Wraps Up

### Another Successful Season

We enjoyed another fantastic season at the Moon Township Farmers' Market. Many farms, vendors and crafters set up shop every Wednesday at Municipal Complex. Hundreds of weekly shoppers saw no rain all season long! Please continue to support the vendors by visiting them throughout the offseason. You'll find a list with contact information at [mooparks.org](http://mooparks.org).

Thanks to our sponsor West-AirComm Federal Credit Union over 250 children received coupons weekly to exchange for free fresh food and vegetables. West-AirComm also provided giveaways designed to educate children and youth about healthy foods and healthy savings. And special thanks to Pastor Jon Gott and volunteers from Pathways Church for helping out at the market.

Mark your calendar to join us on June 3 for opening day of the 2020 season. We always welcome new vendors. Email [aottaviani@moontwp.us](mailto:aottaviani@moontwp.us) or call **412.852.3582** to sign up.



# GREEN INITIATIVES make it moon

1000 Beaver Grade Road | 412.262.1700 | moontwp.us



A rain barrel can be ruined if it is not properly drained and stored during winter months.

## Winter Rain Barrel Maintenance

Many homeowners use rain barrels as an important tool to help control stormwater and slow runoff. Freezing temperatures are just around the corner, meaning now is the time to prepare the rain barrel for winter. Protect it by properly draining and storing it to prevent damage from freezing during the winter months. Indoor storage is best if possible, but if the rain barrel needs to stay outside it can be flipped over and covered with a tarp. Downspout extensions must be reconnected to direct water away from the house. Now is also a great time to clean any accumulated sediment from the barrel and filter screen so the rain barrel will be ready for the next growing season.

## GROWING TOGETHER:

### Teaming Up with Experts to Preserve Our Trees

Moon Township's Green Team has partnered with Bartlett Tree Experts for a tree management service plan that will include specific services over a three-year period for trees in the parks. For forested areas, we have partnered with the Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry.

The scope of work includes an inventory of all park trees greater than six inches in diameter and taller than 4.5 feet, which amounts to roughly 650 trees. The tree inventory will use GPS field information to determine the need for an in-depth assessment and treatment. All trees will eventually have an identification tag and QR code sharing their specific details.

## WM At Your Door Program

Can't make it to one of the electronics collections or our recycling day? Waste Management offers a residential curbside special materials pickup. The "At Your Door Special Collection" program allows Moon Township residents who have Waste Management services to easily and safely dispose of household materials.

After scheduling your collection date and time, a Waste Management representative will provide you with information and instructions for preparing your collection. More information on the program and a list of accepted materials can be found through the program's website at [WMatYourDoor.com](http://WMatYourDoor.com) or by calling a representative at **1.800.449.7587**.



**MOON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY**  
**REFUSE CUSTOMERS**  
**COLLECTION**  
 OF ELECTRONIC & HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE  
**SIGN UP 3 EASY WAYS**

- 1** ONLINE AT: [WMATYOURDOOR.COM](http://WMATYOURDOOR.COM)
- 2** CALL: 1.800.449.7587
- 3** EMAIL: [ATYOURDOOR@WM.COM](mailto:ATYOURDOOR@WM.COM)

Additional information about this program is available from the Moon Township Municipal Authority at [moontma.com](http://moontma.com) or by phone at 412.264.4300.  
 A message from the Moon Township Environmental Advisory Council 2017 in partnership with...

MOON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  township of **MOON**



# GREEN INITIATIVES make it moon

## Fall is for Planting

### New Trees Have Popped Up All Over Moon

This fall has seen several tree and native species plantings in our township parks.

Tree Pittsburgh donated and planted 10 native species trees in October with the help of the Moon Township Environmental Advisory Council, public works and parks and recreation. Three varieties were selected for their suitability to growing adjacent to water: bald cypress, swamp white oak and boulevard linden. As these trees grow, they will play an important role in the health of Nelson Pond by shading and cooling the water. This will make the water healthier and a better environment for fish and other animals. The trees also help establish a buffer along the pond, which will filter water and runoff before it reaches the pond. Managing runoff and sediment is a key part of the township's compliance with Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) regulations. Thanks to Tree Pittsburgh for their instruction in tree-planting and maintenance best practices to ensure this project can be enjoyed by park visitors for decades to come!

Several staff members became tree tender certified with Tree Pittsburgh, which also donated and planted 300 saplings on a hillside in Moon Park near DeVenio Field to assist in re-forestation of trees removed for park development. Volunteers from Community School West and Alcoa assisted.

Columbia Sportswear and Dick's Sporting Goods kicked off the fall season with pond improvements, trail improvements and the planting of six serviceberry trees at Nelson Pond. Special thanks for this on-going amazing partnership. Columbia Sportswear also donated 20 rain jackets to our MCA-TV Moon Tiger football film broadcast crew.

Several tree donations in memory of loved ones were also made to Moon

and Robin Hill parks.

The beautiful Fleur de Lune Garden at Robin Hill received 15 red bud tree saplings on the hillside. A special thank you to Girl Scout Silver Award honoree Maura Brovitz, volunteers from Hope Grows and the Moon Township Garden Club, which also paired up with Hollow Oak Land Trust to work on the native species plant nursery at Robin Hill. They continue to add plantings and seedlings of native species plants to be transplanted after invasive species are removed from the parks and trails. Invasive species targeted include knotweed, oriental bittersweet clematis, Norway maple saplings, burning bush, privet, garlic mustard and others. Thank you to interns, student volunteers and Thermo Fisher Scientific interns and employees.

Community Development coordinated a grant-funded planting of 11 river birch and white pine trees and 125 shrubs at the riparian buffer at Olson Park. Volunteers from FedEx Ground and AMROCK assisted.

## Did You Know?

**A mature tree can intercept more than 500-4,000 gallons of rainwater per year, filtering contaminants and slowing the flow of water during rain events?** source: Penn State Extension

## Sign Up to Plant- Make a Difference in Your Environment

Moon Township is seeking organizations and corporate partners to donate trees and/or volunteer to plant trees. Anyone interested should email [aottaviani@moontwp.us](mailto:aottaviani@moontwp.us) or call 412.852.3582.



# GREEN INITIATIVES make it moon

1000 Beaver Grade Road | 412.262.1700 | moontwp.us

## Trail Tales

Moon Township Community Engagement, along with the Parks and Recreation department, worked with many schools, organizations, businesses and corporations to continue to maintain and to grow our trail system in all our parks. New trails in 2019 include:

### **Moon Park**

A new trailhead and message board were added across from Challenger Field to access Cross Country, Spring Beauty and Hollow Oak trails, and a new trailhead and message board were at the DeVenzio parking lot area.

### **Olson Park**

Enjoy the new Silver Trail and Flaugherty Trail.

### **Robin Hill Park**

Through the generous donation of stewardship, time and money from Chevron we were able to improve many trails, adding about two miles. We also completed a re-route on Ridgeback Trail to reducing the slope and improve the water runoff. Through easements with Heritage Valley Health Center and Montour Heights Country Club we added two new trails – Christmas Fern and Ravine – that will be completed in 2020. A 90+-acre trail system adjacent to Robin Hill was designed and started. We are naming this wooded area “90 Acre Wood” in the spirit of Hundred Acre Wood of the Winnie the Pooh series of children’s stories. When completed it will be a wide open, wooded trail system with challenging terrain, water feature and filled with wildlife.

Thanks to everyone who came out for our first-ever Walk the Moon event that saw staff from Moon Township and Hollow Oak Land Trust leading hikes in all three parks. Thanks to Chevron for providing the fanny packs. We hope you’re putting them to good use. Walk the Moon 2020 is scheduled for October 3, but we hope to offer monthly guided walks/hikes in all parks throughout the summer. If you’re out walking our trails, please remember that trails are marked to indicate the level of difficulty: green circle is easiest, blue is intermediate/more difficult, and the black diamond is the most difficult. And you can find a copy of park trail maps online at moonparks.org or at any of the township offices.

Special thanks to Chevron Corporation, RMU Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity, AMROCK Corporation, FedEx Ground, Dick’s Corporation, Columbia Sportswear, Thermo Fisher Scientific, MASD Teams on Trails, University of Pittsburgh “Make a Difference Day”, All State, and many others for your continued support of our trail system. We are always seeking volunteers from area organizations and businesses to help build and maintain our trail system. We train all volunteers.



## COLD Weather is Here... Time for Better Beer!

It’s no secret that Hollow Oak Land Trust’s volunteers love good beer. How else could they have built 10 miles of hiking and biking trails that soon will link Moon Park to the Montour Trail through Montour Woods Conservation Area?

Of course, Hollow Oak volunteers are hikers, trail runners and mountain bikers, so they do have extra hearty appetites!

Fortunately, the 5th Annual Brewhaha benefit event is coming soon, March 28th, 2020. The incredible food prepared by Chef Chaz Smith is paired with the latest offerings from 10 local craft breweries.

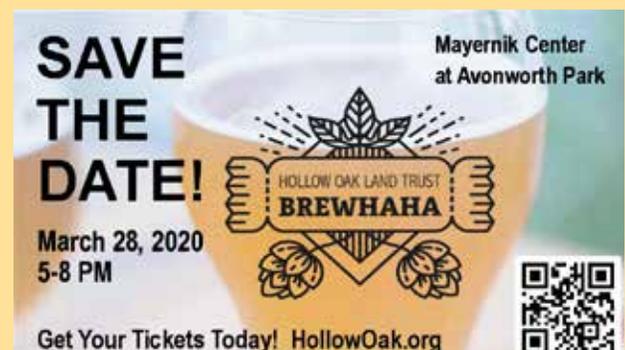


## 10 Breweries, 5 Courses, 1 Cause!

Brewhaha proceeds and membership support keep Hollow Oak working with municipal partners in Moon, Coraopolis and Avonworth to link woodlands and stream valleys with trails so people can enjoy access to nature year-round.

### For trail maps and more info:

[www.hollowoak.org](http://www.hollowoak.org) [Facebook.com/HollowOakLandTrust](https://www.facebook.com/HollowOakLandTrust)  
[info@hollowoak.org](mailto:info@hollowoak.org) 412.264.5354





# **PUBLIC WORKS** make it moon

1000 Beaver Grade Road | 412.262.1700 | moontwp.us

## *Winter Weather Tips!*

*With the arrival of the winter season, the Moon Township Public Works Department reminds residents of the following:*

Check that your tires are safe for snow. Drivers expecting to encounter snow-covered roads should replace their tires when they reach approximately 5/32" of remaining tread depth to maintain good mobility. Tires need more tread depth in wintry conditions to compress snow in their grooves and release it as they roll.

Be aware of changing road conditions and know how to brake on slippery roads.

Stay 100 feet (or 5 car lengths) from the snow plow truck so the driver can see you.

Do not park on township roads between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. (Chapter 15, Section 403 of the Moon Township Code of Ordinances)

Residents are required to remove snow from their sidewalks. (Chapter 21, Section 107)

Do not pile snow in a manner that blocks motorists' view of oncoming traffic.

To help reduce the amount of snow that will be pushed back into your driveway during snow plow operations, pile snow near the road on the right side of the driveway.

Remove portable basketball hoops, hockey nets, and any other obstructions from public roadways, cul-de-sacs and township rights-of-way.

Place garbage cans and recycling containers back in the driveway entrance to avoid spillage. Questions pertaining to garbage collection should be directed to the Moon Township Municipal Authority at 412.264.4300.

### *Don't Fear Old Man Winter!*

Winter weather has the power to turn your familiar everyday routes into something unfamiliar – snowy, slippery, and even scary. But thanks to our public works crews, and your safe driving precautions, winter journeys don't have to worry you.

Beginning as early as September, employees review snow removal routes and inspect and service equipment. Township salt storage facilities are stockpiled with salt and calcium chloride, which aids in melting snow and ice in frigid temperatures. Additionally, the township has a mutual agreement with Allegheny County where the township received salt brine free of charge in exchange for grass mowing at county-owned property located within the township.

Salt brine is granulated salt that is diluted in water. It adheres to and stays on the roadway prior to any winter weather accumulation and can be applied hours ahead of an anticipated event. This provides more immediate, increased safety for motorists once accumulation begins. Regular granulated salt, when applied before snowfall, would usually be swept away by traffic.

Road crews maintain 14 snow routes covering 137 miles of township roads and 25 miles of state and county roads. It's important to note that University Boulevard, Interstate 376, Stoops Ferry and Montour Run are state roads that are maintained by PennDOT, not Moon Township.

During anticipated snow events, employees closely monitors the latest weather information, road temperatures and radar data to determine when it will be necessary to dispatch salt crews. Priority is given to primary roads and bus routes, then state and county roads, followed by subdivision streets and cul-de-sacs. A second shift maintains major roads throughout the night. Crews also help maintain township facility parking lots and some sidewalks.

Do not plow or shovel snow from driveways, parking lots, or sidewalks into the streets.  
(Chapter 21, Section 401)





# POLICE make it moon

1000 Beaver Grade Road | 412.262.5000 | moonpolice.us

## Moon Officers Stay Involved in the Community

Moon Township police officers attended several events in support of our community this fall. Sgt. Shener Ulke and Officer Mike Beachy hosted a table at the Senior Citizens Wellness event presented by Pennsylvania State Representative Valerie Gaydos. Seniors learned about a variety of topics including estate planning, taxes, health insurance, driver safety and fraud prevention. Our officers enjoyed receiving the positive support and words of encouragement from those who attended.



Sgt. Ulke (I) and Officer Beachy with Allegheny County District Attorney Stephen Zappala and PA State Representative Valerie Gaydos

Sgt. Ulke and Cpl. David Stitch hosted a table at FedEx's employee safety day where attendees had the opportunity to use fatal vision goggles which simulate the effects of impairment by alcohol. Many were surprised that they had difficulty completing field sobriety tests even when using the lowest intensity goggles which simulate a blood alcohol content of .06 and lower. Employees who are parents of young children received tips on how to properly install a safety seat and learned about the laws governing their use. Sgt. Ulke is one of three Moon officers who are National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) certified child safety seat technicians. The Moon Township Police Department is an NHTSA approved Child Safety Seat Inspection Station. Parents, grandparents, or any caregiver may make an appointment to have their child safety seat inspected, checked for recalls and properly installed. Any caregiver who needs a child safety seat and is not able to purchase one may be issued a new seat for free through our lending program. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 412.262.5000 or email [childseat@moonpolice.us](mailto:childseat@moonpolice.us).

Sgt. Ulke also visited preschoolers at The Goddard School and K-2 students Rhema Christian school. He talked to them about a variety of topics including when and how to dial 911, stranger danger, bicycle safety, playing safe outdoors, and safety at home.

Finally, Officer Mike Beachy and School Resource Officer Angela Zane decorated a patrol car for the Moon Parks and Recreation Halloween Spooktacular. Kids were treated to candy, giveaways and "mug shots". The police trunk received the Most Interactive award. Great job!



## Cpl. Stitch Honored as Tree of Life Responder

The South Hills Area Council of Governments (SHACOG) held an awards ceremony to honor members of the SHACOG Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) who responded to the Tree of Life Congregation Synagogue in October 2018. Moon police officer Cpl. David Stitch was among those honored at the event. A member of the CIRT team, Stitch was part of a joint operation of tactical teams that offered support to first responders by assisting with search and rescue and providing aid to the injured.

SHACOG is a Pennsylvania non-profit corporation composed of 22 member municipalities who voluntarily collaborate to pursue and address areas of mutual interest and concern. Within that framework, it undertakes projects and implements programs for the benefit of its members while taking advantage of the economy of scale afforded by its size.

Moon police officer Sgt. Frank Starke is one of the leaders of the CIRT team which is comprised of 28 tactical operations members who respond to critical incidents within the SHACOG jurisdictions or at the request of an outside agency. These include preplanned events, such as serving high-risk warrants and dignitary protection, as well as rapid response events, such as hostage or active shooter situations. Members are on call and prepared to respond 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## EMERGENCY

In the event of an emergency or to report an occurring crime or threat, always call Moon Township Police Department's Dispatch Center at 412.262.5000 or dial 911 for immediate assistance. Please don't rely on email or Facebook for emergencies as these are not monitored on a 24/7 basis.

Citizens may also call the Dispatch Center to speak with a Moon Police official regarding information related to a crime or victim of a crime. Callers may choose to remain anonymous.

Moon Dispatch Center • 412.262.5000

Emergency Services • 911

Crime Tips Hotline • 412.262.5202



# FIRE SAFETY make it moon

1000 Beaver Grade Road | 412.262.5000 | moontwpfire.com



**2019**  
BY THE NUMBERS  
As of 10/31/19

**484**  
incidents

**1389**  
man-hours  
(incidents)

**4,792**  
man-hours  
(training, fundraising, awareness)

## Member Profile: *Mike Walter*

After 30 years, Mike Walter retired from the Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire where he served as a fire truck mechanic and responded to active fires (the bureau sends two mechanics to every multiple-alarm fire). Currently, he is employed as a fire truck mechanic at Glick Fire Equipment.

Mike joined the MTVFC six years ago as a pumper truck driver and operator at the request of Fire Chief John Scott who knew about Mike's experience fixing fire trucks and thought his knowledge would be an asset to the fire company. It helped that Mike's children were members. His daughter Christina and son Daniel have since departed to pursue their careers, but his son Will is still active – when he's home. Will is a Navy Corpsman who is often deployed on active duty. A third son, Sam, serves as a firefighter and medic in Reading, PA.

Mike's most memorable moment as an MTVFC member was watching his two sons respond to a train derailment in Sewickley several years ago. "It was a very proud moment watching them work together," he said, adding that it's very hard to watch his children enter a burning building. "I want to be there with them. I've seen what can go wrong. But my role is to operate the pumper and make sure they get all the water they need."

Experience has taught Mike that Moon residents are very blessed to have high-quality first responders. "I've seen a lot of different communities. Some can't afford the equipment we have. Some can't afford to have their equipment repaired. And some barely have enough volunteers," he said. "We're thankful to have the support of our community, and I'm proud to be a Moon firefighter."

## Thank You

The men and women of the MTVFC extend their appreciation to everyone who attended the open house in October during National Fire Prevention Week.

## Sportsmen's Bash Tickets on Sale

The annual Moon Township Volunteer Fire Company Sportsmen's Bash will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2020 from 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building located at 1000 Beaver Grade Road. Tickets, which include food and refreshments, are available for a \$30 donation. Contact a fireman or visit one of the fire stations on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. to obtain a ticket.



## Lenten Fish Fry

Fridays

February 28 through April 10

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

4 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Public Safety Building

Join the Moon Township Volunteer Fire Company for their annual Lenten Fish Fry. Choose from fish, shrimp, chicken fingers, and desserts. All dinners include fries and the special firehouse recipe coleslaw. Both sit-down and takeout dinners are available. To place a takeout order, call **412.262.5006**.



# PARKS & RECREATION make it moon

1000 Beaver Grade Road | 412.262.1703 | moonparks.org

## New Park Amenities

In September, Calgon Carbon made a significant donation for a stunningly beautiful fountain for the circle at Robin Hill Park. Thanks also to Ryan Inches and Inches Nursery for order and installation help. It will add beauty for years to come.



AMROCK Corporation, one of our trail partners, donated \$5,000 for naming rights to a six-hole disc golf course at Olson Park. The design is underway, so look to play soon!

Naming rights are available for the following amenities at Moon Park: a new pavilion, pickleball courts, volleyball court, lion water fountain and Nelson Pond fishing dock. Email [aottaviani@moontwp.us](mailto:aottaviani@moontwp.us) or call 412.852.3582.

## Tobacco Free Parks Update

We added additional signage at facilities and fields as well as the new playground at Moon Park. We would like to thank park visitors who have been very cooperative with this new initiative. Thanks to you, we have significantly reduced children's exposure to secondhand smoke, littering and wildlife endangerment with tobacco waste. We are ahead of the health curve on banning vaping in our parks as well.



## Display Your Child's Art Work at Moon Park

Our first round of children's art tiles has been installed next to the Clearview Federal Credit Union Splash Pad, and they look beautiful! We are now accepting orders for the winter 2019 order. Now, you have the option to add a second tile to keep for yourself. The second tile must be the same as the tile that goes in the park. The cost of the first tile is \$100. Your second tile of the same design is \$55. Ensure that your child's art is part of Moon Park for years to come by ordering before December 20. Visit [www.moonparks.org/resources/sponsorships.asp](http://www.moonparks.org/resources/sponsorships.asp) for more information.

## 2020 Park Pavilion Rentals

The first day of pavilion rentals for the 2020 season for Moon Township residents is Monday, February 10 at 8:30 a.m. Reservations must be made in person at the Moon Township Municipal Building. Thereafter, reservations can be made at the Parks and Recreation office at Moon Park. Non-residents may reserve a pavilion beginning Tuesday, February 18. All pavilions and fees are listed at [moonparks.org](http://moonparks.org).

## Robin Hill Center Rentals

Robin Hill Center reservations may be made up to one year in advance. Reservations must be made in person. To receive the resident rate, the contract must be signed by and payments made by a Moon Township resident. All fees are listed at [moonparks.org](http://moonparks.org). To schedule a tour of Robin Hill Center, please call 412.262.1703 or email [info@moonparks.org](mailto:info@moonparks.org).



# PROGRAMS & EVENTS make it moon

1000 Beaver Grade Road | 412.262.1703 | moonparks.org

## Moon Lights Holiday Festival

Thursday, December 5  
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Moon Park

Enjoy an evening of music, crafts, story time, ice carving, hayrides, Christmas carols, and snacks as we light up Moon Park and wait for Santa to arrive on the fire engine. This event is entirely outdoors this year so please dress for the weather. Admission is free.

Thanks to our Sponsors:  
Tapestry Moon Township Assisted Living and Memory Care and Michael Baker International.

## Brunch with Santa

Saturday, December 7  
9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Moon Township Senior Connection  
\$5 children and seniors;  
\$6 adults

Don't wait in line for hours at the mall just for a few moments with Santa! Join us for our annual Brunch with Santa. Kids will have the opportunity to meet and eat with Jolly Old Saint Nick himself! The event will feature a pancake breakfast, carolers, and seasonal crafts. This year brunch moves to Tapestry Senior Living. Tickets are available in advance and are sure to sell out quickly.

Register for events by  
calling 412.262.1703.  
Payment is due at time of  
registration.

## Fitness

### Totally Toned

Adults & Teens 15+  
Mondays, January 6 – February 24; no class 1/20 and 2/17  
7:15 – 8:15 p.m.  
Moon High School Fitness Room  
\$45 residents; \$50 non-residents, per 6-week session  
Instructor: Karla Tobias  
This class is designed to help tone your entire body including abs, thighs, back, arms, and glutes. It is appropriate for all fitness levels. Bring hand weights, a mat and water.

### Pound

Adults and Teens 15+  
Tuesdays, January 7 – February 11  
Tuesdays, February 18 – March 24  
6:30 – 7:15 p.m.  
Municipal Building  
\$45 residents; \$50 non-residents; \$10 drop-in  
Instructor: Karla Tobias  
POUND is a full-body cardio jam session, combining light resistance with simulated drumming. The workout fuses cardio, Pilates, strength movements, plyometric and isometric poses. Through continual upper body motion using our lightly weighed exercise drumsticks, called Ripstix, you'll turn into a calorie-torching drummer, POUNDing off pounds as each song flies by! Bring a mat and water.

### Pilates

Adults and Teens 15+  
Wednesdays, January 8 – February 12  
Wednesdays, February 19 – March 25  
8:45 – 9:45 a.m.  
Robin Hill Center  
\$45 residents; \$50 non-residents, per 6-week session; \$10 drop-in  
Instructor: Judy Elias  
The Pilates method of body conditioning is a unique system of stretching/strengthening exercises that work the entire body. Expect to flatten your abs, strengthen your core muscles, increase flexibility, firm buttocks/thighs, and improve your posture. For all fitness levels. Bring a mat, hand weights and water.

### Senior Workout w/Linda Francis

Seniors 55+  
Wednesdays, February 19 – March 25  
9:30 – 10:30 a.m.  
Municipal Building  
\$21 residents; \$25 non-residents, per 6-week session; \$4 drop-in  
Instructor: Linda Francis  
Come out and meet our instructor, Linda Francis! This class will help seniors maintain a fitness level to stay mobile. It is a "LOW" impact aerobics class that will work on balance and strengthening while having fun and meeting new people.

## Yoga: Basics and More

Adults and Teens 15+  
Tuesdays, January 7-28  
Tuesdays, February 4-25  
7:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
Municipal Building  
\$40 residents; \$45 non-residents, per 4-week session; \$12 drop-in  
Instructor: Jen Stratakis  
Whether you are yoga-curious or yoga-proficient, this is the class for you. No experience required. Instructor Jen Stratakis, E-RYT, will lead you through an hour-long class, which includes standing and seated poses, breathwork and guided relaxation. Modifications are given to accommodate all levels of yoga experience. With regular practice, yoga can improve lung capacity, flexibility, cardiovascular endurance, mental calm and more. Participants should bring a yoga mat and water. Namaste!

## Winter Pool Programming

### Open Swim

Monday – Sunday  
Dates and times vary.  
Visit moonparks.org for exact times.  
Children 2 and under FREE; ages 3-17 \$2;  
over 18 \$3  
Moon Area High School Natatorium  
Enjoy open swim at the Moon High School pool. You can swim laps, improve your water skills, or just simply have a great time. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a guardian or adult.

### Elementary School Pool Parties

Hyde Elementary, December TBA  
8:00 – 9:30 p.m.  
\$5 per child  
Moon Area High School Natatorium  
Each month we host one pool party that is just for all the kids from one elementary school! It's a great opportunity to hang out with friends and perhaps meet new ones. There will be pool toys, music, and fun for all. Kids under 10 must be supervised by a guardian or adult. Cash only accepted at the door.

### SKWIM

Ages 12 and up  
December 8 and 22  
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Moon Area High School Natatorium  
\$5 drop-in per person  
SKWIM™ is a fun, fast-paced surface water-disk sport. It is easy to learn and a ton of fun to play. People of all ages and swimming ability can get in the water, grab a disk and have a blast. The game is played with a soft foam disk that skims across the surface of the water. Team members, swimming with special fins, pass the disk to one another and score by skimming the disk into the center trap of their opponent's floating goal. The goal is circular and allows players to score from 360°.



# PARKS & RECREATION make it moon

1000 Beaver Grade Road | 412.262.1703 | moonparks.org

## Fall Swim Lessons: Water Babies

Ages 2 and under  
December 7 and 21  
12:00 – 12:45 p.m.  
Moon Area High School Natatorium  
Call for pro-rated fee  
Children ages 2 and under will learn to love the water through games and songs. One parent or guardian must participate along each registered child. Swim diapers must be worn by all children. Disposable swim diapers are allowed.

## Arts

### Splash – Water/Mixed Media Art Classes

Adults 18+  
Thursdays, January 16 – March 5  
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Robin Hill Center  
\$74 residents; \$79 non-residents, fee does not include supplies  
This class is designed for new and returning students. This is an 8-week course designed to engage all students in the fun and exciting world of water-based materials. No previous experience is necessary – just a desire to have fun. A supply list will be given at the first class for new students.

## Youth / Teens

### Safe Sitter® Babysitting and Safety Class (Grades 6-8)

Choose one session:  
Saturday, December 14  
Sunday, January 5  
Sunday, February 2  
10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Carriage House at Robin Hill  
\$50 residents; \$60 non-residents  
Do you feel ready to stay home alone, watch your brothers and sisters while your parents are gone, or babysit for younger children? Then maybe it's time for Safe Sitter®. Safe Sitter® is for young teens in grades 6-8 who are ready to learn the skills they need to care for themselves and younger children. In addition, Safe Sitter® teaches young teens life and business skills, so that they know how to be prepared, be responsible, and be considerate whether they are babysitting or doing odd jobs for family, friends, or neighbors.



### Safe@Home by Safe Sitter® (Grades 4-6)

Choose one session:  
Wednesday, December 18  
Wednesday, February 12  
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.  
Carriage House at Robin Hill  
\$25 residents; \$35 non-residents  
Safe@Home by Safe Sitter® is a program designed for students in grades 4-6 to prepare them to be safe when they are home alone. Safe@Home is a 90-minute program that teaches students how to practice safe habits, how to prevent unsafe situations, and what to do when faced with dangers such as power failures or weather emergencies. Students are also introduced to the Safe Sitter® First Aid Chart and learn a system to help them assess and respond to injuries and illnesses.

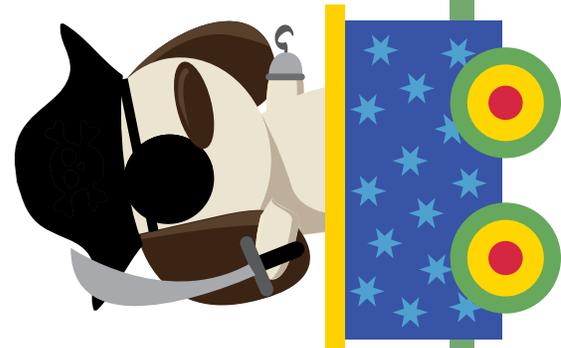
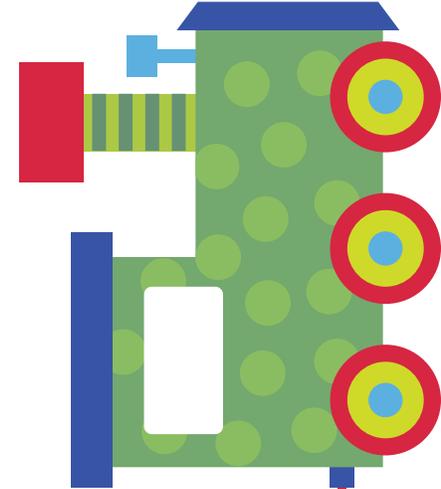
### Holiday Tea Party

Ages 5-12  
Wednesday, December 11  
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.  
Robin Hill Center  
\$10 residents; \$15 non-residents  
Everyone attending must be registered, both adults and children. Enjoy holiday cookies, cocoa and crafts at our cozy holiday tea at Robin Hill Park. Carols and candy are just a few of the fun things you can look forward to as we deck the halls with comfort and joy! Light refreshments and sweets will be served. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

### Teacher Clerical Day/No School: Rockstar for a Day!

Ages 5-12  
Monday, January 20  
Program 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; early drop off at 7:30 a.m.; late pick up by 5:30 p.m. (included)  
\$35 residents; \$45 non-residents (\$5 discount for additional siblings)  
Robin Hill Center  
Come out for a rockin' good time while we have snacks, games, crafts and more! Be a rock star for a day with karaoke, glam face paint, and a far-out photo booth.

Register for events by  
calling 412.262.1703.  
Payment is due at time of  
registration.



# Park Programs & Events

## Seniors

Unless otherwise noted, all Senior Connection activities and events are held at the Moon Township Senior Connection Center located at Tapestry Senior Living, 550 Cherrington Parkway, Moon Township, PA 15108.

Please note that the Senior Connection will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas, New Year's Day and Presidents' Day.

Register for Senior Connection events by calling 412.262.1703 ext. 415 Monday through Thursday from 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### Senior Connection Daily Programming

Monday – Friday

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Open to anyone age 55 and older. Get connected at the Senior Connection at Tapestry. Daily programming includes Sit & Fit, Tai Chi, sing-alongs, bingo, dancing, Tone & Stretch, crafts, computers, cards, billiards, darts, piano, games, painting, movies of the week, swimming pool (opening soon), and more! Daily schedules are available at the center. Visit us for a tour. Coffee and tea free every day. Here's a sample of the types of activities you can expect:

### Tuesday Tea Parties

Tuesdays

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

A lovely time tasting different teas and having conversation, crafting or game playing. Participants take turns bringing a treat for the group. Some enjoy bringing their own tea cup. Free.

### Piano Playing and Sing-Along with Margi

Thursdays

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Entertaining and fun whether you just listen and tap your feet or sing-along. Free.

### Trivia Challenge Game with Prizes

Thursdays

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

You don't need to be an expert. If you like random facts and know lots of stuff, come and play. Fun and entertaining. Free.

### Adult Paint-by-Number with Acrylics

Fridays

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

A great form of relaxing and letting your creativity come out. All supplies provided. Easy and fun. Free.

### We offer many more activities and daily programming.

### Ways to Connect with Angels and More

Thursday, January 16

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Enjoy a wonderful presentation by Mary Celine Miller. Educational, informational and moving. Attendees are encouraged to make a financial donation at the door to benefit the West Hills Food Pantry. Register by Monday, January 13.

### Learn to Play Corn Hole

Friday, January 10 or Friday, January 24

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Gentlemen and ladies, come to learn and play this fun summer game. Gentle exercise included with a little challenge. No ability required, just luck. Beverages and fresh popped popcorn provided. Free to attend. Register by Monday, January 6 for the January 10 event. Register by Monday, January 20 for the January 24 event.

### Blueberry Pancake Breakfast

Tuesday, January 28

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

\$5 per person

Celebrate National Blueberry Pancake Day! Wear purple and enjoy a delicious blueberry pancake breakfast with coffee and juice, followed by fun and exercise while line dancing to musical favorites. Register by Monday, January 20.

### Elvis Movie Fest

Monday, February 3

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

What's better on a cold winter Monday than sitting back and enjoying the "King" himself on the big screen? Movies include *Jailhouse Rock*, *Harum Scarum* and *Spinout*. Fresh popcorn, hot coffee and tea provided. Free to attend.

### Lovebug Miniature Therapy Horse Presentation and Pizza Party with Bingo

Friday, February 14

10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

\$7 per Person

An informative and interactive presentation about how our equine friends provide comfort, support and love. There will be a chance to get a picture with them too. Afterwards, enjoy pizza and beverages, and then bingo with prizes. Don't miss this one! Register by Friday, February 7.

### Carnegie Science Center & Mummy Exhibition Bus Trip

Monday, February 24

Bus departs Senior Connection at 10:30 a.m.; returns around 4:00 p.m.

\$52 per Person

Travel by motor coach to a fun-filled afternoon of science, history and wonders of the world. Enjoy the Carnegie Science Center's many interesting interactive exhibits. Fee includes admission to the "Mummies of the World" introduction seminar and exhibition. Café will be open for snacks or lunch on your own. Register by Monday, February 17.



Cookies, Cocoa, & the Clauses  
at Moon Township Public Library  
Sunday, December 8, 11 AM-2 PM  
\$10.00 Per Child

Come Home for the Holidays to Moon Library!



Bring the little ones out for a visit with the Clauses. Each child will get to make a keepsake ornament with Santa & Mrs. Claus and decorate cookies while sipping some hot chocolate.



Live music, a performance by West Point Ballet, a holiday scavenger hunt, games, and crafts will also be part of the fun.



And don't forget to stop by our 4th Annual Cookie Walk where you can fill a container with homemade treats for \$10.00





# COMMUNITY TV make it moon

1700 Beaver Grade Road | 412.269.1191 | mca-tv.org



## MCA-TV Brings Home Three Pittsburgh Community Media Awards

MCA-TV co-hosted the third annual Greater Pittsburgh Community Media Awards in October at Alloy 26 in Nova Place on Pittsburgh's North Shore. The evening was a celebration of community media producers from Pittsburgh Community Television (PCTV), Bethel Park Public Access (BPTV), and Moon Community Access (MCA-TV). The event honored the unsung heroes who use local media to educate, inspire, and enlighten area audiences.

The MCA-TV programs nominated included *Ink Shrink*, *Inside the Humidor*, *Half Hour*, *Full Moon*, *Yinz Brewin'?*, *Core Conditioning*, *Public Awareness Weekend*, *Building for the Future*, *Robert Morris University Softball*, and *Get Involved Moon Township!*

The awardees, each dedicated to the noncommercial use of media for the public good, were some of the finest local television producers in the area. MCA-TV claimed awards in the following categories:

**Entertainment – *Yinz Brewin'?* – Frank Magnotta, producer**  
**Sports – *RMU Softball* – Becky Schoenecker, producer**  
**Community – *Half Hour, Full Moon* – Nina Pompeani, producer**

Congratulations to all our nominees and award winners on their hard work and dedication!

PCTV, BPTV, and MCA-TV have a combined record of 97 years of service to the community. The stations are community access television stations that provide training and access to television production facilities and equipment. The programs produced by the community are cablecast on local channels.

## MCA-TV

Moon Community Access Television  
 Comcast channel 14  
 Verizon Fios channel 35  
 mca-tv.org

## MAG-TV

Moon Area Government Television  
 Comcast channel 18  
 Verizon Fios channel 37  
 moongovtv.us

## Public Awareness Weekend Scheduled for March

Join MCA-TV for the annual Public Awareness Weekend scheduled for March 27 and 28. Public Awareness Weekend is a two-day, 24-hour live television event featuring interview broadcasts with Pittsburgh-area nonprofits. Each group receives a 30-minute segment to educate viewers about their cause and encourage the community to get involved. All interviews air live during the event and are rebroadcast periodically on MCA-TV, reaching approximately 45,000 households in Moon Township and surrounding areas. Any nonprofit organization interested in participating in Public Awareness Weekend should contact Allison Eastham at [aeastham@moontwp.us](mailto:aeastham@moontwp.us) or call MCA-TV at **412.269.1191**. Interviews are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.

## Call for Entries: MCA-TV Film Fest Returns June 6

The MCA-TV Film Festival returns for its ninth year on June 6. We are accepting entries in the following categories:

- Best Feature Film
- Best Documentary Feature Film
- Best Narrative Feature Film
- Best Short Film
- Best Documentary Short Film
- Best Narrative Short Film

Early bird submissions are due on or before May 1 for a fee of \$15. After May 1, the fee is \$20. The deadline to submit a film is May 21. The event airs live on MCA-TV on Saturday, June 6. Films will be judged by a panel of film experts from the Pittsburgh area. You do not have to be a Moon Township resident to participate. For more information, visit [mca-tv.org](http://mca-tv.org) or contact Allison Eastham, Director of Community Programming, at [aeastham@moontwp.us](mailto:aeastham@moontwp.us) or **412.269.1191 ext. 603**.



# VALLEY AMBULANCE AUTHORITY



Valley Ambulance Authority (“VAA”) is proud to serve as the designated community provider of emergency medical services and medical transportation for Moon Township.

VAA also provides EMS services to Moon Township and the neighboring communities of Crescent Township, Coraopolis Borough and Neville Island.

Moon Township residents in need of an emergency ambulance should call 9-1-1.

VAA’s mobile intensive care units are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week by more than 60 dedicated, professional paramedics and EMTs. The ambulances respond from the Authority headquarters building located at 3550 University Boulevard in Moon Township.

VAA has earned a reputation for providing prompt, professional emergency medical services. Last year, Valley Ambulance Authority responded to more than 2,200 emergency ambulance calls in Moon Township. Total annual ambulance responses in our combined service area are more than 7,000. We also provide approximately 2,800 non-emergency wheelchair van transports to patients within the service area.

Valley Ambulance Authority, a non-profit municipal authority, relies on community support and billing fees to fund its operating budget which totals more than \$3 million annually. Residents often are surprised to learn that VAA receives no municipal tax revenue!

Moon Township residents can support VAA through participation in its annual subscription program. The subscription program provides residents with unlimited emergency medical services and an opportunity to often save hundreds of dollars by providing a 50 percent discount on any outstanding balance related to emergency medical services.



The subscription program also provides access to certain types of non-emergency ambulance services and discounted rates for wheelchair van transports.

VAA annual subscription fees again this year are only \$60 for a family or \$40 for an individual. VAA subscriptions are valid from March 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021.

To keep up with increasing expenses, Valley Ambulance Authority also conducts an annual capital fund raising campaign. Residents may contribute tax deductible donations by visiting VAA’s web site at [valleyamb.org](http://valleyamb.org).

To schedule a non-emergency transport, inquire about CPR training or to obtain additional information about the life-saving services provided by Valley Ambulance Authority, please call 412.262.2620, visit our web site at [valleyamb.org](http://valleyamb.org) or scan the QR code to the right.



# TAX INFORMATION



Moon Community Center, Lower Level  
1700 Beaver Grade Road Moon Township, PA 15108  
Office Phone 412-299-7446  
Office Fax 412-299-7420

[Home](#)
[Tax Due Dates](#)
[Qualifying Tax Relief](#)
[FAQ](#)
[Online Payment](#)
[Important Links](#)

“Hello! My name is Catherine Tress and I am the Property Tax Collector of our community.”

*-Catherine Tress, PQMC*



## Tax Information

### Reminders and Updates from the Property Tax Office

My office is currently collecting both the Moon Area School District and Moon Township property taxes at the 10 percent penalty period, which ends December 31. We must receive your payment on or before December 31 in order to reconcile and close the 2019 collection year records in preparation for the annual audits for both taxing authorities. The online payment option will also close at midnight on December 31 for the 2019 tax collection year. Please remember that the delinquent collector will add additional fees and penalties to the 10 percent penalty amount as listed on your statement once the accounts have been turned over to them during the first week of January 2020. If you are unsure that you paid, don't hesitate to call us. It's far easier to check than for my office to process duplicate payments and you are waiting for any refunds.

**Please Note:** My office has received and processed a large number of additional taxes this year from Allegheny County. If you received an interim billing or additional tax statement due to an increase in your assessment or new home billed previously at the land only assessment and the collection periods extend beyond the 2019 calendar year, the taxes will be collected by an outside agency. The dates on the original statements will be accurate

and honored. However, you may not receive a new statement so it's up to you to send your payment to the outside agency or call my office for their phone number or mailing address. If you forwarded those bills to your mortgage company, you should follow up with them to ensure they sent the payment on your behalf. Many mortgage companies do not honor supplemental statements.

In October, I attended the annual Pennsylvania State Tax Collectors' Association 61st Annual Conference in York, PA where I earned a minimum of two continuing education credits for this calendar year. This is a requirement under ACT 48, passed in 2015, to maintain my Qualified Tax Collector status and run for re-election for the next term. These credits are reported to the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). To be considered qualified, tax collector must hold a current valid certificate of qualification issued by DCED. All tax collectors holding office are required to be designated as Qualified Tax Collectors. Each tax collector must take the Basic Qualification Class and pass the final exam initially, and then earn a minimum of two education credits to remain in office.

Finally, if you choose to pay your property tax(es) with a credit card using the online payment service through my website, please note that the opening page of the portal states what will be listed on your credit card statement. My office received a record number of online payments this year, but unfortunately, I also received several credit card dispute notices from the online payment company because the property owner didn't record the amount or make a note of how the payment is listed or titled on their future statements. Once my office was notified, I attempted to contact the taxpayers and stop the dispute reversing their school payments, but it was too late since it takes a while for the information to make it to my office. So if you plan on paying your property tax using a credit card and you are concerned, never hesitate to contact my office first.

### The office will be closed for the following holidays:

**Christmas – Monday, December 23 through Friday, December 27**

**New Year's Day – Wednesday, January 1**

**The office will be open Tuesday, December 31**

**(FINAL DAY to accept outstanding payments).**

## Township of Moon

1000 Beaver Grade Road

Moon Township, PA 15108

Phone: 412.262.1700

Fax: 412.262.5344

**moontwp.us**

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
PERMIT NO. 1528

# STAY CONNECTED TO MOON TOWNSHIP

## Submit a Question or Concern Online

Submit a question, comment or concern to township officials through the Citizen Request System. This feature allows residents to submit a concern and track its resolution through ongoing updates ensuring a timely response from Moon Township staff. A link can be found at [moontwp.us](http://moontwp.us) under the "Residents" tab.

## Tune In to Local Government

Watch Moon Township Board of Supervisors and Moon Area School Board public meetings on MAG-TV, Comcast channel 18 and Verizon channel 37. Schedule information is available at [moongovtv.us](http://moongovtv.us). View the meetings and MCA-TV's community produced programming online at [mca-tv.org](http://mca-tv.org).

## Visit Moon Parks and Recreation

Get involved in the many events and programs offered by Moon Parks and Recreation. Find the most current schedule information at [moonparks.org](http://moonparks.org).

## Stay Informed with SwiftReach

Sign up for SwiftReach at [moonpolice.us](http://moonpolice.us). This system will call registered phone or cell phone numbers in the event of an emergency or to share important community information.

## Like Us on Facebook

"Moon Township"

"Moon Community Access Television"

"Moon Parks & Recreation"

"Moon Township VFC"

"Moon Township Public Library"

"Moon Township Police Department"



make it moon  
makeitmoon.com