

# Quakertown

## BOROUGH

### FALL NEWSLETTER 2022



#### WHAT'S INSIDE

- 3** Borough Contact Numbers
- 3** Welcome New Businesses
- 4** Schedule of Events
- 5** Quakertown Alive!
- 7-10** Police Department
- 12-14** Finance Department
- 15** Free Fall
- 16-18** Parks & Recreation
- 20-21** Autumn Safety Tips
- 21** Public Works Curbside Leaf Collection

#### President's Letter

October 1, 2022

Autumn brings budget season to the Borough. This is an important time as the administration and council determine and prioritize the projects and public improvements for the subsequent year.

The budget is determined under a 'ground up' basis, where each department carefully assesses what is needed to supply the essential services that the community has come to know and expect. Public safety, utilities and roadways are always of the highest concern and receive the bulk of the budget.

Council and the administration remain committed to providing these necessary and expected functions in a manner that both exceeds your expectations and is effective and cost efficient. We strive to do this without increases in our real estate tax rates or our electric rates. It has been over a decade since our residential electric rates have increased and nearly forty years since our real estate tax millage has changed.

The public is invited to attend our budget work sessions and meetings. A budget work session will be announced for late October or early November. The draft budget is presented and explained at the November 28 work session, and we anticipate voting on the final budget at the December 7 formal meeting.

Enjoy the fall season here in Quakertown. Many events are on tap, including Parks and Recreation Fall Festival, the Lion's Club's Halloween Parade, downtown Christmas Tree Lighting and more. A full calendar can be found on the Borough's website.

Best regards,

*Donald Rosenberger*

Donald Rosenberger  
Council President

.....  
*Visit us at [Quakertown.org](http://Quakertown.org)*

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## QUAKERTOWN BOROUGH HALL

35 North Third Street, Quakertown, PA 18951  
 Office hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m (Monday-Friday)  
 Phone: 215-536-5001  
 Website: [www.Quakertown.org](http://www.Quakertown.org)  
 @BoroughOfQuakertown

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

Emergency, Fire, Ambulance or Police dial 9-1-1

Customer Relations: .....267-347-5009  
 Police Administration: .....215-536-5002  
 Police Non-Emergency Dispatch: .....215-328-8505

Parks and Recreation Department: .....267-372-7275  
 24-hour Anonymous Crime Tip Line: .....267-371-5094  
 Utility Emergency after hours: .....215-721-3520



## NEW BUSINESSES

**Goddess by Gina**  
 328 W. Broad St.

**honeygrow**  
 69 N. West End Blvd.

**Jennifer Parente L.M.T. LLC (Massage Therapy)**  
 336 W. Broad St.

**Liberty Thrift**  
 1465 W. Broad St.

**Moon Rabbit Collective LLC**  
 239 W. Broad St.

**To Dye for Salon & Spa**  
 26 W. Broad St.

**Total Liquidators QT**  
 240 S. West End Blvd.



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# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
October 3-7	Bulk Trash Collection (on scheduled trash day)		
October 5	Coffee with a Cop	8:00am-10:00am	Dunkin Donuts (224 W. Broad St)
October 5	Council Meeting	7:30pm	Borough Hall
October 6-8	Community Yard Sale	Dawn-Dusk	
October 8	Bucks County Household Hazardous Waste Collection	8:30am-2:00pm	Strayer Middle School
October 8	Yard Waste Drop-Off	9:00am-12:00pm	Rear Entrance of the Sewer Plant
October 8	Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat	3:00pm-7:00pm	Park at 4th
October 13	Planning Commission Meeting	7:00pm	Borough Hall
October 16	Lions Club Halloween Parade	2:00pm	
October 17-21	Curbside Yard Waste Pick-Up (on scheduled trash day)		
October 22	Yard Waste Drop-Off	9:00am-12:00pm	Rear Entrance of the Sewer Plant
October 22	Bus Trip: Ocean City, MD for Sunfest (must be pre-registered)	7:00am	
October 24	Council Work Session	7:30pm	Borough Hall
October 28	Parents Night Out (must be pre-registered)	5:30pm-8:30pm	Skate Shelter
October 29	National Drug Take Back	10:00am-2:00pm	Quakertown Borough Hall Parking Lot & St. Luke's Hospital
October 31	Trick or Treating		
November 2	Council Meeting	7:30pm	Borough Hall
November 7-11	Bulk Trash Collection (on scheduled trash day)		
November 10	Planning Commission Meeting	7:00pm	Borough Hall
November 21-26	Curbside Yard Waste Pick-Up (on scheduled trash day)		
November 24-25	Thanksgiving Holiday		Borough Hall Closed
November 28	Council Work Session	7:30pm	Borough Hall
November 28 – December 16	Letters to Santa		Borough Hall
December 5-9	Bulk Trash Collection (on scheduled trash day)		
December 7	Council Meeting	7:30pm	Borough Hall
December 15	Shop with a Cop		
December 19-23	Curbside Yard Waste Pick-Up (on scheduled trash day)		
December 23-26	Christmas Holiday		Borough Hall Closed
December 30 - January 2	New Years Holiday		Borough Hall Closed

**AUTUMN ALIVE!**  
FALL FESTIVAL



**OCTOBER 15, 2022**  
10AM - 4PM  
DOWNTOWN QUAKERTOWN

PET PARADE  
CUPCAKE CONTEST  
VENDORS  
FOOD COURT  
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**FREE FAMILY FUN!**


RAINDATE: OCTOBER 22



QUAKERTOWN ALIVE! PRESENTS...

**Christmas Tree Lighting**

DOWNTOWN QUAKERTOWN  
DECEMBER 2 - 5:30 - 8:30PM



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YOUR MAIN STREET PROGRAM

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St Luke's  
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Fall back safely. Test your smoke alarms monthly and change replaceable batteries at least once a year





# CALVARYCHURCH

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE  
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**Borough of Quakertown Police Department**  
35 North Third Street, Quakertown, Pennsylvania 18951  
Phone: 215-536-5002 • Fax: 215-536-5140  
[www.quakertown.org](http://www.quakertown.org)  
Scott C. McElree, *Chief of Police*



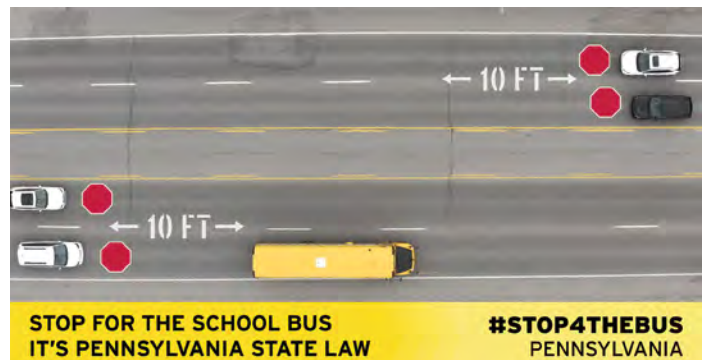
## New School Bus Safety Program Launched

As our students in our community returned to school this August, Quakertown Borough Police Department is proud to announce the start of a new School Bus Safety Program in partnership with the Quakertown Community School District (QCSD) and in line with PA Motor Vehicle Code § 3345.

As part of the program, all school buses that transport QCSD students will be outfitted with safety technology to make the ride to and from school safer for all. This technology includes stop-arm enforcement cameras designed to detect vehicles that illegally pass stopped school buses while the bus's stop sign arm and red lights are engaged. The police department then reviews the footage to determine whether to issue a violation by mail.

The safety of our children is a top priority. Pennsylvania's Operation Safe Stop reported more than 250 illegal passes in just one school day in 2021, and reports estimate that state school buses are illegally passed 2.18 times per bus per day. QCSD is no exception. Over time, this safety initiative seeks to curb dangerous driving behavior around school buses.

In addition to automated enforcement technology, QCSD buses will be outfitted with other critical safety features, including interior cameras, GPS tracking, and emergency response solutions. All this technology has been provided at zero cost to the school district or taxpayers as the program is 100% violator funded.



*If you would like more information, we invite you to visit [Quakertown.org/BusSafety](http://Quakertown.org/BusSafety).*

## Citizens Police Academy

Community oriented policing plays an important and vital role in reducing crime in any community. Therefore the Quakertown Borough Police Department instituted a Citizens Police Academy in 2014 to improve communications and obtain citizen support throughout the borough. The goal of this program is that the graduates will partner with Quakertown Police in identifying problems and solutions to criminal issues that are affecting our community. Graduates can take the knowledge back to their neighborhoods where they can use it to enhance the quality of life.

The Citizens Police Academy is a program designed to provide participants with a working knowledge of the Quakertown Borough Police Department. The program consists of a series of classroom instruction and practical field exercises. There will be a total of eight sessions, held one evening per week for a period of two hours.

The Citizens Police Academy gives an in-depth view into several areas of law enforcement. It is an educational and informative program that allows citizens the opportunity to learn more about the issues that affect law enforcement in Quakertown Borough.

Individuals who apply for the Citizens Police Academy must be 18 years of age. The academy is open to anyone, but priority will be given to those who live or work in Quakertown Borough. The academy is offered at no cost. A valid driver's license is required and applicants may be subject to a background check. The academy will begin on Tuesday, March 7th, 2023 at 6:30pm. Applications for admission can be found on the borough's website at [www.quakertown.org/cpa](http://www.quakertown.org/cpa).

*If you have any questions about the program, please contact  
Sergeant Steven Stoneback at 215-536-5002 or email [ssstoneback@quakertown.org](mailto:ssstoneback@quakertown.org).*

## Project Lifesaver

The Quakertown Borough Police Department is proud to offer the Project Lifesaver program! Project Lifesaver is the premier search and rescue program operated internationally by public safety agencies and is strategically designed for "at risk" individuals who are prone to the life threatening behavior of wandering. The primary mission of Project Lifesaver is to provide timely response to save lives and reduce potential injury for adults and children with the propensity to wander due to a cognitive condition. Project Lifesaver is a community based, public safety, non-profit organization that provides law enforcement, and caregivers with a program designed to protect, and when necessary, quickly locate individuals with cognitive disorders who are prone to wandering. The necessity of this program was determined through the correlation between cognitive conditions and the act of wandering. With the dramatic increase of cognitive conditions since the inception of the organization, the program has grown from a localized program to a program recognized internationally as a proven and effective method of "bringing loved one's home."

Project Lifesaver was the first to apply such locating techniques to aid in the search and rescue of individuals and is the most widely used and proven most effective program in the nation that is specifically designed to protect the "at risk" populations in our communities. The program was structured in a way that strategically combined state of the art locating technologies, innovative search and rescue methods, and community policing courses that educated first responders about cognitive conditions. The search times for certified Project Lifesaver agencies have been reduced from hours, potentially days, down to minutes. Recovery times for Project Lifesaver agencies average 30 minutes, which is 95% less time than standard operations without Project Lifesaver. The method relies on proven radio technology and specially trained search and rescue teams. Citizens enrolled in Project Lifesaver wear a small transmitter on the wrist or ankle that emits an individualized frequency signal. If an enrolled client goes missing, the caregiver notifies their local Project Lifesaver agency, and a trained emergency team responds to the wanderer's area. The first responders will then use the client's individualized frequency to locate the position of the individual. The knowledge given from the community policing courses is best applied in this situation because the first responders will know how to best approach the client once found, and allow them to be brought back to safety.

A fee may apply and if you are interested in more information on how to join the program, please contact Sergeant Steven Stoneback at [ssstoneback@quakertown.org](mailto:ssstoneback@quakertown.org) or call 215-536-5002.

More information on [www.quakertown.org/ProjectLifesaver](http://www.quakertown.org/ProjectLifesaver)

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127 S. 5TH ST, Quakertown. text/call 267-509-7717





## 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SHOP WITH A COP

### Quakertown Borough Police Department In Partnership with Surrounding Law Enforcement Agencies

With the holiday season rapidly approaching, Quakertown Borough Police Officer Robert Lee and Officers from surrounding Police Departments are preparing for the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual **SHOP WITH A COP** event on December 15.

**SHOP WITH A COP** is a national program pairing police officers with children at the elementary school level to afford them a better Christmas. The program allows children to view police officers in a different atmosphere to promote positive relationships. The children are faced with life challenges such as a parent losing a job, homelessness, military deployment, economic shortcomings, and other hardships.

**SHOP WITH A COP** is funded through the generous donations from our own community, from private sponsors to local businesses. Volunteers from our community help with gift wrapping, hosting, and registration. Each child is allotted a monetary gift card to purchase gifts for themselves and family members, allowing for a more enjoyable holiday. All participating police officers volunteer their own time to support the program.

**SHOP WITH A COP** started in December 2011 with 14 children and increased to over 230 children in 2021, with each child receiving a \$150 Walmart gift card and a school backpack full of essential items.

**SHOP WITH A COP** was created to help make the holidays brighter for disadvantaged families in the Quakertown School District, and now branched out to our surrounding communities. We cannot do it without your support! Questions or sponsorship information - please contact Julie Bender at 215.536.5001 x2134 or [jbender@quakertown.org](mailto:jbender@quakertown.org).

- Elf – One Child - \$150.00
- Reindeer - Two Children - \$300.00
- Snowman – Three Children - \$450.00
- Santa – Seven Children - \$1,050.00
- (Your logo on event t-shirt & all marketing – Due by Nov. 11)

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### THANK YOU for Your Commitment to SHOP WITH A COP

Please complete and return this form, along with your check payable to:

Borough of Quakertown - ATTN: Julie Bender

35 N. Third Street, Quakertown, PA 18951



PLEASE CUT HERE





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# National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

Saturday, October 29, 2022 | 10 am - 2 pm

Quakertown Borough Hall\*

St. Luke's Upper Bucks Campus



Drive Up & Drop In  
Safely dispose of your unused, unneeded or expired medications!

## What's accepted?



Prescription and over-the-counter medications and vitamins



Liquid medications, creams, ointments, inhalers and nasal sprays



Pet medications



Vaping devices, cartridges, pods and e-liquids (please remove batteries)

## What's not accepted?



Injectables and needles



Illicit substances

## Why do we collect?



To protect our youth and the environment! Help keep our kids, our homes, our pets and our streams safe.

Register for a Homebound collection by contacting Bucks County Area Agency on Aging: 267-880-5700 or [aging@buckscounty.org](mailto:aging@buckscounty.org).



## Questions?



Scan the QR code, visit [www.bcdac.org](http://www.bcdac.org) or call 215-444-2700 for complete details!

\*The Quakertown Borough Hall site will also be collecting sharps and distributing Narcan\*



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[www.quakertownvetclinic.com](http://www.quakertownvetclinic.com)

## Utility Bill Payment

### Where to Pay:

#### Mail the payment to:

Quakertown Borough  
35 North Third Street  
Quakertown, PA 18951

#### Pay your bill at:

Quakertown Borough walk-in or drive thru  
After Hours Drop Box also available.  
**Beginning October 2022, QNB Bank will no longer be accepting Quakertown Borough Utility Payments.**

#### Pay online at:

[invoicecloud.com/quakertownpa](https://invoicecloud.com/quakertownpa)

**Electronic Bill Payment:** The Borough of Quakertown offers electronic bill payment at [invoicecloud.com/quakertownpa](https://invoicecloud.com/quakertownpa). If the bill payment is made through an automatic charge to your credit card or an automatic withdrawal from your bank account, you have the right to know when the automatic payment will be made – either the number of days after the bill is issued or the actual date. You are not required to enroll in an electronic payment program even if you choose to receive your bill electronically. An online banking fee in the amount of \$3.50 is charged for each credit card transaction.

**YOU MUST MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PAY YOUR BILL BY ITS DUE DATE.  
UNFORTUNATELY, THERE ARE TIMES THAT FURTHER ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED.**

### What Is LIHEAP?

LIHEAP is a Federally-funded program that helps low-income households with their home energy bills. LIHEAP can help you stay warm in the winter and cool in the summer. By doing so, you can reduce the risk of health and safety problems (such as illness, fire, or eviction).

The federal government does not provide energy assistance directly to the public. Instead, LIHEAP operates in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Indian tribes or tribal organizations, and the U.S. territories.

### Who Is Eligible To Receive LIHEAP Assistance?

The LIHEAP program in your community determines if your household's income qualifies for the program. The LIHEAP program may also require households to meet additional eligibility criteria to receive LIHEAP assistance.\*

*\*NOTE: The availability of LIHEAP assistance is not guaranteed. Often most of the Federal LIHEAP funds are spent during the winter.*

### How Do I Apply?

DHS will be accepting LIHEAP applications through the COMPASS website or by paper application. You may call **1-877-395-8930** to request a paper application be mailed to you. Paper applications can be mailed to the County Assistance Office (CAO) in your county.

### What is LIHWAP?

The Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is a temporary emergency program to help low-income families pay overdue water bills. LIHWAP is a grant. You do not have to repay it.

### How does LIHWAP work?

LIHWAP Crisis grant may be available if you have an emergency and are in jeopardy of losing your water service. You can receive one Crisis grant for your drinking water service and one Crisis grant for your wastewater service, up to \$2,500 each.

### How do I apply?

- Apply online at [www.compass.state.pa.us](https://www.compass.state.pa.us)
- Request an application by calling the Statewide Customer Service Center at 877-395-8930 or call PA Relay at 711 for the hearing impaired
- Applications are available at your local county assistance office

**BUCKS COUNTY OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL: 215-345-3295**

**SALVATION ARMY: 215-529-6547**



# WHERE THE LOCALS GO

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The **Helping Hands for the Holiday** program is a wonderful way to give a small gift that could really make a difference in the lives of families experiencing temporary problems in this time of economic uncertainty. Simply submit a form to the Customer Relations Department with payment of the amount you wish to give. You can have a specific recipient in mind, or we can randomly select a recipient who is struggling to pay their bill.

### How to donate?

The Helping Hands for the Holiday program is reliant on the generosity of individual donors in the Quakertown Borough community. To donate, please fill out the donation form located on our website, [www.quakertown.org/helpinghands](http://www.quakertown.org/helpinghands). Every dollar helps!

### Questions?

Contact the Quakertown Borough Customer Relations Department by calling **267-347-5009** or emailing [customer care@quakertown.org](mailto:customer care@quakertown.org).



Quakertown Borough

## CIVICS ACADEMY

**FALL 2022**

### ABOUT THE ACADEMY

Civics Academy is a seven-week course that gives community members the opportunity to learn about the basic functions of Borough government through face-to-face meetings, activities, and guest speakers.

### SIGN UP TODAY

Register today on [QuakertownRec.com](http://QuakertownRec.com)

This is a free course open to the community!

Must be 14 years and older to register

**OCT. 12 - NOV. 16**

6 Wednesday Classes  
& 1 Saturday Class

### COURSE TOPICS

General Overview

Finance

Highway and Zoning

Water and Electric

Sanitation Department

Police and Public Safety

Parks and Recreation

*\*Participates are not required to attend every session, but it is highly recommend\**

Nicole Barbarito, *Summer Intern*

Free Fall has drifted naturally into the season with the crisp orange and yellow falling leaves. At our greenest in the summer, we hosted many community events, especially like our first-ever youth summer camp. And as the leaves began to fall in color, we sent out some scholarships to local college students and hosted our well-known 13th Annual Free Fall Event.

This summer we held our first ever Free Fall Skate Camp for skateboarders under the age of 18. They learned the culture, action, and construction that goes on in conjunction with skateboarding. Our summer camp hosted a variety of skate games like our creative 80's Trivia which taught the kids where skateboarding comes from along with the tricks and fashion that came with it! We also provided specialized instruction on skateboarding based on level. Many kids learned reverts, drop-ins, Ollie's, and some even skated on our ledges and ramps! To add more creative fun that is applicable on and off the course, the students learned how to make DIY PVC rails, a beginner obstacle for the students to all learn on. They took home all their knowledge, even their handmade PVC rails!


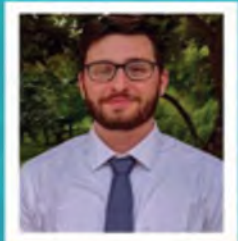
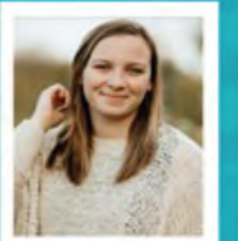
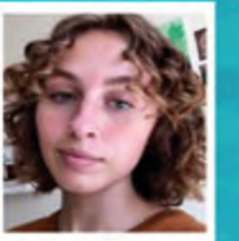
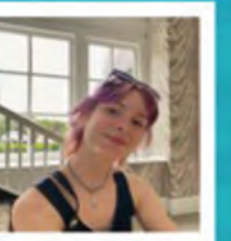


*Skate Camp with Students and Coaches*

By the time the early Fall came around, Free Fall Action Park was eager to announce five recipients of the Free Fall Action Park Goodlum Scholarship. The students who receive these scholarships are active members of our community and contribute to our culture and vision in some way. Each recipient receives an annual scholarship of \$1,000 for up to four years to help offset the cost of their higher education. All of these students deserve recognition so join us in showing support for Aaron Brezner, Allison Biegler, Caitlin Rivera, Erin Kelley, and Nicole Barbarito.

Although this is being written before our highly anticipated 13th Annual Free Fall Event, as a community it could not go without mentioning the plans. It is exactly how it sounds, an event happening in the Fall with FREE food, drinks, action-sport competitions, and prizes! New for 2022, Nitro-Circus pro-skater Beaver Fleming will extend our event a second day. He intends on co-hosting a skate-church where he will give a speech, perform a skate demo, as well as skate around with the community.

Look forward to our next events on our website. [Visit freefallqtown.com](http://www.freefallqtown.com)

				
<b>Nicole Barbarito</b>	<b>Aaron Brezner</b>	<b>Erin Kelly</b>	<b>Caitlin Rivera</b>	<b>Allison Biegler</b>
<b>Kutztown University</b>	<b>CAIRN UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>LANCASTER BIBLE COLLEGE</b>	<b>DELEWARE VALLEY UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>BUCKS CO. COMMUNITY COLLEGE</b>
<b>ENGLISH AND PROFESSIONAL WRITING</b>	<b>YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY</b>	<b>SOCIAL WORK AND BIBLE STUDIES</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE</b>	<b>ART</b>

**FREE FALL** Inspiring the Next Generation Forward! **FREE FALL**

*Parks & Recreation*

# SUMMER

# RECAP

**T**here are unmistakable signs that summer is flowing into fall. The lush greens of June and July are morphing into autumn shades, and for those who crave it, pumpkin spice season is just around the corner as we are writing this! Before we turn our back to summer, let's look at all the wonderful events we celebrated this summer.



## QUINBY'S PLAYGROUND

There was no better way to kick off this summer than with QuiNBy's Playground grand opening and Day of Play! The day began with a ribbon cutting ceremony featuring remarks from Parks Coordinator Courtney Burns, QNB Bank CEO Dave Freeman, Director of Services Joe Murgia, Borough Councilman Doug Propst, and other local and state representatives. Then, as soon as the ribbon was cut, kids rushed all over the new all-inclusive playground. From the happy squeals, sweaty faces and red cheeks, to the "I don't want to leave" tears on the way out, it was an incredible day for our community. QuiNBy's Playground is now open daily from dawn to dusk.

## COMMUNITY POOL

As the hot summer sun beamed down on us, residents flocked back to the Quakertown Community Pool after being closed during the 2021 season for facility renovations. Upgrades to the facility included a new liner, tile work, and new features such as a new sprayer in the zero-degree entrance and a rock wall in the deep end. For the summer of 2023, we are excited to have the baby/program pool open and splash pad installed.







## K.I.D.S. CAMP

This summer marked K.I.D.S. Camp's 50th year in our community. For the past half-century, K.I.D.S. Camp has served as a place for children to play, laugh, and grow together. The friendships and memories built at camp are uniquely strong. Some unforgettable memories from K.I.D.S. Camp this summer include the foam party, a surprise visit from the Iron Pigs, water week, and of course trips to the pool.



## SOUNDS OF SUMMER

From Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo to Scotty McCreery and everyone in between, it's been the most successful summer yet for the Univest Performance Center and the Sounds of Summer Concert Series presented by Sands Auto Group. The concert series which began in 2017 with about 1,900 concert attendees has grown into a "must attend summer event" attracting well over 10,000 attendees from all over the tri-state area.

We have exciting things happening at the Univest Performance Center! The Sounds of Summer Concert

Series will continue to draw both residents and visitors alike to enjoy quality live music, experience our downtown and businesses, and further our goal of revitalizing Quakertown through music. We can't wait to show you what we have in store for you next summer!

## EVENTS & PROGRAMS

If a new playground and pool, K.I.D.S. Camp, and concerts weren't enough, the Parks and Recreation Department also hosted their annual Movie in the Park, multiple Fitness Series in the Parks, Free Sunday Concerts in the Park, and assisted the Police Department in their National Night Out Ice Cream Cruise. As you can see, this past summer was quite busy for us, but we do not plan on slowing down into the fall and winter months. We hope you will join us for upcoming events and programs such as our Fall Festival, Parents Night Out, and Letters to Santa.



# PARKS & RECREATION

Quakertown Borough Parks & Recreation

## FALL FESTIVAL

*& Trunk or Treat*

**SATURDAY, OCT. 8TH • 3PM-7PM**  
**AT THE PARK AT 4TH**

Food • Activities • Crafts • Hayrides • Games  
 Costume Contest • Music • and much more!

**WRISTBANDS REQUIRED FOR CHILDREN -**  
**PURCHASE YOURS AT QUAKERTOWN.ORG/FALLFEST**

## LETTERS TO Santa

November 28- December 16  
 Quakertown Borough  
 Hall Drive-Thru  
 (35 N. 3rd Street)

To receive a personal response from Santa your letter must:

- Include the child's first and last name
- Include a return address
- Be submitted to Borough Hall before 12/16

## Parker's Days of ELFING!

Parker has packaged up 12 and 24 days of Elf fun with easy to follow directions and most supplies included. Your child(ren) can enjoy your elf's antics without all the stress!

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*\*Elf not included, kits are limited\**

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## Autumn is Here!

### The Borough of Quakertown Offers Autumn Safety Tips for the Quakertown Community

With autumn fast approaching, more and more people in the Quakertown area will be enjoying the change of the leaves and the cooler temperature. Unfortunately, some autumn-related weather activities such as hiking and camping, turning the furnace back on, cleaning the chimney, and trick-or-treating do present their share of hazards. To help ensure everyone in the community enjoys a safe autumn, the Borough of Quakertown offers the following tips and suggests you post them where they are likely to be seen by your family members and co-workers.

#### **Chimney maintenance is vital to your family's safety.**

- Have your chimney inspected and cleaned on a regular basis.
- When possible, burn seasoned woods (dryness of the wood is more important than hard wood versus soft wood).
- Smaller, hotter fires will burn more completely and produce less smoke than larger fires.
- Do not burn cardboard boxes or trash, as they can spark a chimney fire.
- Install stovepipe thermometers, which help monitor flue temperatures where wood stoves are in use, then adjust burning practices as needed.

#### **TRICK-OR-TREAT SAFETY**

Don't get caught up in the holiday spirit —make sure your children trick-or-treat safely.

- Rather than buying a mask, use makeup to decorate children. That way, they can see more easily.
- If your kids go trick-or-treating after dusk, make sure they have a flashlight and are wearing retro reflective material. Dress children in warm, light colored clothing so that they may be easily seen when crossing the street.
- Do not purchase Halloween costumes and other items which are not marked "Flameproof" or "Flame-Retardant".
- Remind children to skip houses that are not well-lit.
- Check candy before allowing kids to eat it.
- Avoid tricks that could cause bodily injury, destroy property, or cause a fire.



#### **HIKING AND PICNICS/CAMPING**



As you take in the fall's beautiful scenery, think ahead, be prepared, and stay safe.

- Check the weather forecast before heading outdoors for a hike. It is not safe to hike when thunderstorms or heavy snowfall is expected.
  - Carry drinking water. Don't drink from streams, springs, or lakes without first properly treating the water.
  - Observe wildlife from a safe distance. Don't try and get too close to wild animals.
  - Stay on the trail — if you leave it, you may get lost.
  - To help prevent food poisoning, keep cold foods cold and hot foods hot. Don't store perishable foods in a hot car.
  - Clean all surfaces and utensils that come into contact with raw meat or meat juices before re-using them.
  - Wash hands frequently when preparing food, and before serving and eating.
  - Keep kids away from grills and lighter fluid, and keep grills away from anything that can burn them.
- Be aware of tiny deer ticks that carry Lyme disease and know which symptoms to watch out for. When in a potentially infested area, apply insect repellent, wear light-colored, long sleeved-shirts, pants, and socks.
  - Do not build a fire near tree trunks, fallen trees, or over hanging branches.
  - When extinguishing a campfire, let it die down, then break up the coals or logs, spread the pieces, soak them with water, and then cover the area with dirt or sand.

## BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY

- Parents must do some homework to keep their kids healthy and safe. Don't let safety "fall" by the wayside.
- Walk and ride to school safely. Obey traffic lights and signals, walk only in crosswalks, and listen to the crossing guard.
  - If your kid's bike to school be sure they wear a helmet.
  - If possible, always walk your child to the bus stop and pick them up as well.
  - Keep backpacks light — a child's backpack should only be 5 to 10 percent of his or her body weight, according to the American Chiropractic Association.
  - A backpack with wheels is easy to maneuver and reduces back stress. If your child does choose to wear a backpack, utilize both straps. Slinging the backpack over one shoulder may cause spinal curvature.

## PET SAFETY

- Watch out for family pets as you prepare for the cold, festive days of fall.
- Many brands of antifreeze are highly toxic. Store new and used antifreeze in a sealed container.
  - Chocolate is a special treat for nearly all humans during Halloween and Thanksgiving, but it is toxic to dogs, cats, and birds.
  - Holiday meals can be hazardous to pets. Chicken and turkey bones can get stuck and pierce the digestive tract. Rich foods can cause pancreatitis or bloating.
  - Indoor pets not acclimated to winter temperatures should not be outside in cold weather for long periods. Outdoor pets can withstand fairly cold temperatures, but make sure they have proper shelter from wind and rain, and provide them with good bedding. Frostbite is a winter hazard to pets.



## FALL CLEANUP

Yard work does not end simply because summer is over. Here are some safety tips for tackling autumn tasks around your home.

- When lifting heavy bags of mulch, use a wheelbarrow when possible, and remember to lift with your legs, not with your back.
- Be careful when pruning. Pruning from a ladder is especially dangerous.
- To avoid blisters when doing yard work, wear gloves.
- If you are doing a lot of raking, try an ergonomic rake, which can be found at most hardware stores and garden centers

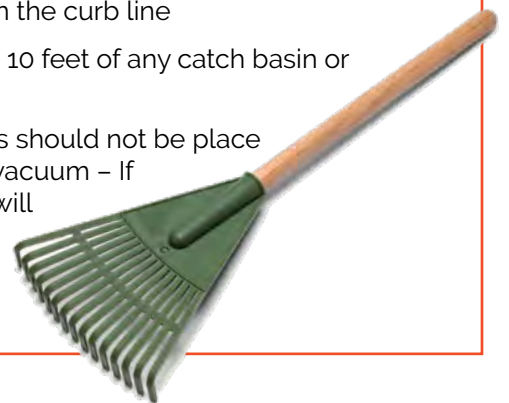
**Most important of all, remember to call 911 in the event of an emergency.**

**For additional information and safety tips contact Douglas C. Wilhelm, Fire Marshal at 215-536-5001 Ext. 2114**

## PUBLIC WORKS CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION

The Public Works Department will begin their **Fall Curbside Leaf Collection on Monday, October 3rd**. Leaves will be collected every Monday throughout the month of October. To ensure a successful curbside leaf collection at your residence, please view the following reminders:

- Leaves should be raked to the curb by 7:00am Monday morning
- Leaves should be no more than 5 feet from the curb line
- Piles of leaves should not be placed within 10 feet of any catch basin or within 20 feet of any intersection
- Sticks, stones, cans, or other hard materials should not be placed in your pile. These items damage our leaf vacuum – If these items are mixed in your leaf piles, it will result in a non-pickup.



# Christmas Tree Safety



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.



## PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



## PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



## LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.



## After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.

Check with your local community to find a recycling program.

Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

## FACTS

- ! **Almost one third** of home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems.
- ! Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- ! A heat source too close to the tree causes more than **one in every five** of the fires.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

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