

# IN

An INCOMMUNITY Magazine

# Marple Newtown



## Culbertson Elementary School Ribbon Cutting Celebration

**School District & Township News**

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**Special Section: Trends in Education**

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# COMMUNITY

# fall 2021

## features



### ◀ Fresh from the Farmers Market!

Farmers markets are back for the 2021 season! Get outside and visit your local farmers, artisans, and vendors for the freshest produce, beautiful flowers, and homemade baked goods.

### ▶ Special Section: 2022 Trends in Education

A look at the current direction of education, from pre-K to trade school or college, including top trending majors, high-paying vocations, saving for school, types of loans and managing post-college debt.



### on the cover

Marple Newtown School Board Directors and Administrators celebrate Culbertson Elementary School with a ribbon cutting ceremony. See story on page 10. Photo by Todd Murray, Barksdale.

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IN Community is a publication dedicated to representing, encouraging and promoting the Marple Newtown area and its comprising municipalities by focusing on the talents and gifts of the people who live and work here. Our goal is to provide readers with the most informative and professional regional publication in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



## FROM THE CEO



Welcome to the fall issue of IN Marple Newtown magazine.

Don't miss our Farmers Market Guide to kick off the season! Fall is also a special time of year when there's no better place to be than outside in the sunshine and crisp air, exploring local farmers markets that showcase the bounty of late summer and fall. See our listing of local farmers markets that will keep your produce basket overflowing.

As the kids head back to school and college, be sure to read our Education Special Section, "2022 Trends in Education." Throughout the global pandemic, the education community learned that change is possible. Some changes came out of necessity and fell flat, while others proved to be a beneficial addition to the way students learn and teachers teach.

Wishing you a fabulous fall!

Wayne C. Dollard



IN Community Magazines is the largest magazine publishing company in Pennsylvania. We are pleased to be partnered with the Marple Newtown area communities.



## CONNECT WITH US!

Follow us on Facebook @icmags for a calendar of events in your community as well as featured stories on extraordinary people and places!



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### SEND US YOUR STORY IDEAS!

We'd love to hear from you if you know someone in your community who is making a difference or has done something extraordinary. We're also looking for interesting story ideas (little-known facts, history or other news) within your community.

If you have suggestions, email us at [p.urscheler@icmags.com](mailto:p.urscheler@icmags.com).

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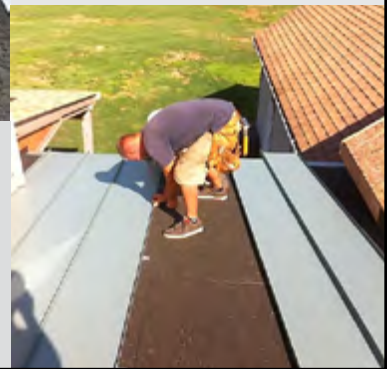


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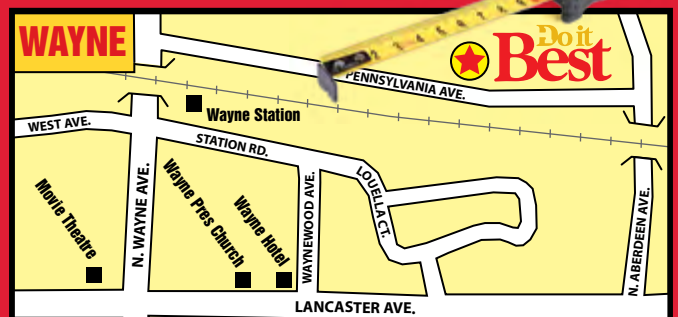
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# LOOP

IN THE

WHAT'S NEWS IN  
**MARPLE NEWTOWN AREA** BY PETER URSCHLER

## RITTENHOUSE SQUARE FINE ART SHOW

**September 17 to 19**

Founded by artists in 1928, and run by a board of artists today, the Rittenhouse Square Fine Art Show is billed as the oldest outdoor art show in the country. Steeped in rich history and tradition, there is absolutely no other show like it. The show takes place twice a year in June and September.

The Rittenhouse Square Fine Art Show features professional artists from across the nation who come together to share their original art with the Philadelphia region. The show takes place in beautiful Rittenhouse Square from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Admission to the show is free. For additional information or to plan your visit, go to [rittenhousesquareart.com](http://rittenhousesquareart.com).



Rittenhouse Square Fine Art Show

## THE 2021 DELAWARE COUNTY SENIOR GAMES

**September 27 to October 1**

Delaware County senior athletes will have the chance to showcase their athletic skills in the Delaware County Senior Games, being held Sept. 27-Oct. 1 at venues throughout the county.

After a pause in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the games will resume for a one-week condensed version this year. The theme for the 2021 Senior Games is "Rebounding Strong!" and residents age 50 and older of every skill level are welcome to participate.

Physical activity, even moderate, can help seniors by improving mental capacity, preventing disease, improving healing, increasing balance, and increasing life expectancy. The Senior Games encourage older residents to stay socially and physically active throughout the year and achieve their personal best. They also foster friendships among the athletes.

The 2021 Delaware County Senior Games will kick off with pickleball mixed doubles at BYC's O'Donoghue Fieldhouse in Concordville, and bocce and field events at Rose Tree Park in Media.

The Senior Games are sponsored by Delaware County Council, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Delaware County Office of Services for the Aging (COSA). Co-chairs for the 2021 Senior Games are Marc Manfre, Director of Parks and Recreation, and Barbara S. Nicolardi, Director of COSA.

Gold, silver, and bronze medals are awarded in every age category and all participating seniors and volunteers receive a free Senior Games t-shirt. A Winner's Circle picnic celebration will be held at the Redwood Community Center in Upland Park on Thursday, Oct. 7.

Registration for the games is \$15 and is open to all Delaware County residents age 50 and older. Registration is required for all events. Forms are available at the Parks and Recreation Office in Rose Tree Park, at local libraries, COSA, and senior centers. Additional information and registration forms can be found at [delcoseniorgames.org](http://delcoseniorgames.org).

In addition, anyone wishing to receive a COVID-19 vaccination can visit the county's COVID-19 vaccine website for more information: [delcopa.gov/covid/vaccination.html](http://delcopa.gov/covid/vaccination.html).

## MAIN LINE ANIMAL RESCUE CRAFT FESTIVAL

**October 2**

Main Line Animal Rescue is holding its first-ever Happy Tails Fall Craft Festival! The festival will be held at Main Line Animal Rescue located at 1149 Pike Springs Road in Phoenixville from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Food and beverages will be available from multiple food trucks and local breweries. Vendor applications are open. For more information, visit [mlar.org/fallfestival](http://mlar.org/fallfestival).

## DRESSAGE AT DEVON

**September 28 to October 3**

Dressage at Devon 2021 will take place Sept. 28 through Oct. 3 at the Devon Horse Show Grounds in Devon. The committee, sponsors and vendors are excited to welcome everyone back to the show and are committed to delivering a comfortable experience. Visit the website for updated health and safety guidelines.

Dressage at Devon has been a premier North American equestrian event since its





Main Line Animal Rescue

founding in 1975. The six-day event attracts riders from around the world. To learn more visit [dressageatdevon.org](http://dressageatdevon.org).

## SHOES 'N BREWS 26.5KM RUN

### October 3

The inaugural Shoes 'N Brews is coming! A collaboration between The RUNegades (Shoes) and the Conshohocken Brewing Company (Brews), this flat, fast, point-to-point race on the SRT will take participants from Conshohocken to a rockin' after-party on Bridge Street in Phoenixville.

At 26.2KM this "metric marathon" is 16.28 miles—basically a half-marathon plus a 5K. It's perfect for marathon training or for anyone who wants more than a half-marathon but is not quite ready for a full. The after-party at the Rec Room by Conshohocken Brewing on Bridge Street will feature a live DJ, and all runners will receive a free buffet lunch.

For more information or to register, visit [runsignup.com/Race/PA/Conshohocken/ShoesNBrews](http://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Conshohocken/ShoesNBrews).

## PINTS IN THE SQUARE POSTPONED

The Pints in the Square Committee as well as the Newtown Square Fire Company members hope you and your families have remained healthy during the pandemic. After careful study of the situation, the group has concluded that things are not at a point where it can

safely hold Pints in the Square for 2021. As disappointing as this is, the organizers need to do what is in the best interest of all involved.

The Pints in the Square team is energetically working for a September 2022 event. Primary indications show a possibility of holding the event on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022. The group looks forward to seeing everyone next year, so watch for "Save the Date" notices.

We all want a safe environment where everyone can have fun and enjoy themselves. The Newtown Square Fire Company No. 1 is 100% committed to public safety and thanks the community for all the support shown both in the past and moving forward. Events like Pints in the Square would not be possible without you.

Email [info@pintsinthesquare.com](mailto:info@pintsinthesquare.com) with any questions.

## REDWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER REOPENS AFTER COVID-19 PANDEMIC CLOSURE

To the delight of many area seniors, Delaware County's Redwood Community Center in Upland Park has reopened its doors after a long hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The center reopened on Aug. 26 and is resuming programming in September. Masks are required for indoor activities.

A schedule of activities can be found at [delcopa.gov/departments/parks/pdf/RedwoodMonthlySchedule.pdf](http://delcopa.gov/departments/parks/pdf/RedwoodMonthlySchedule.pdf). ■



Dressage at Devon



# Marple Township News

## Veterans Park New Playground Coming Soon

Marple Township is excited to announce that the construction of the new all-inclusive playground has begun. The Township is pleased to have the opportunity to enhance the recreation activities for our community and this



playground will be one of the most advanced recreation sites in the area. This new addition to the Marple Township Parks Program will provide our community with a safe place where children of all abilities can play together and are developmentally appropriate for children with and without disabilities.

The Marple Township received \$425,000 in grants from Delco Greenways Grant Program, Department of Conservations & Natural Resources, Greenways trails & Recreation Program, along with donations from Broomall Rotary Club and Marple Township Parks and Recreation Fund. We know our residents will enjoy using this space and we look forward to seeing children of all abilities and all ages playing here together.

Unfortunately, during this new initiative, the Township must close the existing playground so that our contractors can prepare the new site and begin construction of the new park area. The good news is we are optimistic the new playground will be completed by November of this year.



## The Delaware County Emergency Rental Assistance Program is Offering Township Residents Help

With the end of the Federal Moratorium on Evictions, the Delaware County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (DELCO ERA) stands ready as a vital resource to help qualified low-income renters with emergency rent and utility assistance.

Since April 1, 2021, DELCO ERA has received 7,000 applications, approved and/or funded 2,600 grants for a total of \$19.5 million.

"We are grateful to the U.S. Treasury and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for their confidence in DelCo ERA with the \$37 million allocated for ERA 1 and the \$11.9 million down payment on ERA2," said Delaware County Councilman Kevin Madden. "Each day 50 to 60 households register for DelCo ERA. Our network of Community Partners and our investment in our production system means that DelCo ERA has the capacity to effectively serve our residents in need.

DelCo ERA can assist qualifying households with up to twelve months of back rent and utilities and up to three months of future assistance. Registration for the program is open for both tenants and landlords at [delco-era.com](http://delco-era.com).



DELCO ERA is fully equipped to move quickly to help qualifying applicants facing eviction. Tenants and landlords are strongly encouraged to register for assistance at [delco-era.com](http://delco-era.com). Applications from tenants experiencing or facing eviction are processed at the highest priority.

In an effort to support residents or landlords without access to the Internet or devices to apply, In-Person Application Intake Sessions are held every Saturday at The County's Upper Darby Office, (20 South 69th Street, Upper Darby) on the fourth floor. Sessions are by appointment only. Call: 484.729.4200 or Email: [info@delco-era.com](mailto:info@delco-era.com) to schedule an appointment. Program staff are eager to serve residents in need of assistance.



# MARPLE NEWTOWN

## School News



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## A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Marple Newtown Community,

This fall issue includes a culminating ceremony of the newly renovated Culbertson and Loomis Elementary Schools, introductions to our Teaching and Learning Team, and an application timeline for our Marple Newtown High School STEM Academy.

This school district section highlights recent Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies for Culbertson and Loomis Elementary Schools to celebrate the completion of the construction projects. The ceremonies included current and former Board Directors, current and former Culbertson and Loomis Elementary School Principals, Central Administrators, local elected officials, and local law enforcement. The festive ceremony included opening remarks provided by Matthew Bilker, School Board President, an official ribbon cutting, a plaque dedication, and a guided tour of the school from the school principals.

Both Culbertson and Loomis Elementary Schools will be hosting an Open House for the community to attend. A detailed invitation is included in this issue to allow our community, alumni, and former staff members and administrators the opportunity to see firsthand how the schools have been renovated and transformed.

We are excited to introduce you to our administrative Teaching and Learning Team. Our team offers over 100 years of combined experience and service in education and share the common passion and commitment to curriculum development, best practices for educational instruction, and supporting our students' needs. Our Teaching and Learning Team works closely with our central administrators, school principals, and educators through various settings.

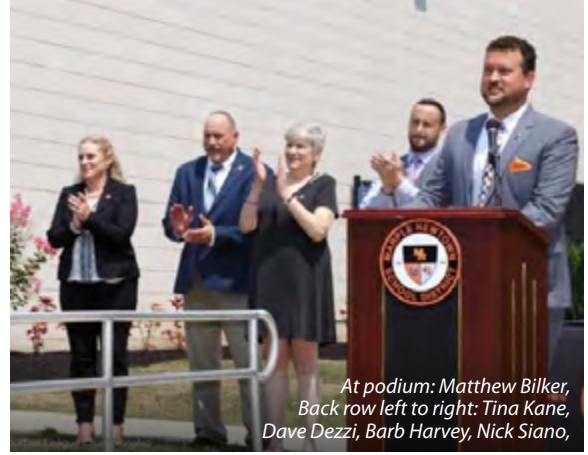
I sincerely wish you all wonderful start to a school year!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Tina M. Kane  
*Superintendent*  
*Marple Newtown School District*





First row left to right: Barbara Harvey, Matthew Bilker, Nick Reynolds, Jaime Smyth  
 Second row left to right: Dave Dezzi, John McKenzie, Tina Kane, Nick Siano  
 Third row left to right: Jake Gallagher, John Lucas, Chief Brandon Graeff



At podium: Matthew Bilker, Back row left to right: Tina Kane, Dave Dezzi, Barb Harvey, Nick Siano,



School Board President, Matthew Bilker and Loomis Elementary School Principal Jaime Smyth

## Loomis is Glowing and Growing!

By Jaime Smyth, Loomis Elementary School Principal

Loomis Elementary School recently hosted a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on July 28th to celebrate the newly renovated, updated, and expanded school building located in Broomall. Originally built 63 years ago in 1958, the school's latest project was completed in Fall 2021.

The project involved a 9,960-square-foot, one-story addition to the existing elementary school, which provided several new offices, small-group instruction rooms, a conference room, a multi-purpose room, six new classrooms, as well as an expansion to the existing cafeteria. The cafeteria kitchen was gutted and revamped, creating more counter space, while adding a walk-in freezer, walk-in refrigerator, a storage closet, and deeper sinks. The original Loomis stage remains in the cafeteria and is used for assemblies and performances. However, after sanding and staining, the stage looks like new, complete with a lush new curtain, projector, large retractable screen, and upgraded sound system.

The Loomis Library received new bookshelves and carpet making it a wonderful space to pick the perfect book to read and a

great place for collaboration and peer-to-peer learning. The Loomis gymnasium was renovated with a new durable gym floor, basketball backboards, and orange padded walls that boldly and proudly showcase the Loomis name.

The school building received new floors, new windows to allow for natural light to flow in, ADA-compliant bathrooms, student cubbies, storage cabinets, and SmartBoards throughout making the learning and working environment inclusive, functional, and absolutely beautiful.

The new and renovated Loomis Elementary School will assist with meeting the district's vision and goal of providing students with equitable opportunities so they are best prepared for middle school and future college and career readiness.

Loomis Elementary will be hosting an Open House for community members or any former Loomis students and staff to see the new and improved school. The Open House will take place on Wednesday, October 6 from 6pm-8pm. We hope to see you there!





First row left to right:  
 Kathryn Chandless, Barbara Harvey,  
 Matthew Bilker, Desiree Tomasco  
 Second row left to right: Dave Dezzi,  
 Tina Kane, John McKenzie, Nick Siano  
 Third row left to right: A.J. Baker,  
 Leonard Alteri, Nick Reynolds, Jim Wigo

## Culbertson Construction Project

By James Wigo, Culbertson Elementary School Principal

After several planning meetings and preparation, the renovation project for Culbertson Elementary School began in June of 2019 when the contractors arrived on school grounds to begin Phase I. During this first phase, the classrooms in our main hallway were completely renovated. The first and second grade rooms were given new ADA compliant bathrooms, new windows, a new HVAC system, new floors, new cabinetry, new cubbies for our students, new interactive boards, new floors, and a brand new lighting system. In addition to the classroom renovations, our cafeteria and kitchen was also in the beginning stages of being renovated. The cafeteria renovation began with

the removal of the existing stage, old windows, and all of the kitchen appliances. During the course of the next three months, the contractors were able to knock down the wall behind the stage and enlarge the cafeteria by an additional twenty feet. By September of 2019, Culbertson had many of its classrooms renovated, a brand new cafeteria with all new appliances, new windows, a rebuilt stage to include a state of the art lighting and sounds system, as well as a new HVAC system.

During this same time frame, Culbertson also started Phase 1A of the project. Phase 1A of the project included the addition of a brand new wing of classrooms. Within this wing, Culbertson added





Culbertson Elementary School Gymnasium



Left to right:  
Dave Dezzi,  
Jake Gallagher,  
Nick Siano



Bonnett Associates – Peter Medica, Donald Bonnett

10 additional classrooms. Each classroom includes new windows, HVAC systems, interactive boards, cabinets, cubbies for our students, as well as handicapped accessible ramps for easy access for all students and visitors. Culbertson was ecstatic to announce that after eight months (February of 2020), we were able to open the additional wing of classrooms to our 4th and 5th grade students. In February of 2020, the students and staff were able to enjoy a day where they were able to walk through the new wing and have a question and answer session with the architects and some of the contractors. This was a great day for our Culbertson students in helping with their transition to their new classrooms.

In June of 2020 Culbertson's construction project started Phase III of the renovation project. During this phase, several classrooms, library, gymnasium, and large group instruction area were renovated. In our gymnasium we added brand new windows, backboards and rims, colorful padding around the gym walls, and a new floor. Our library was packed up and stored in our administration building. While everything was painted, they installed new carpet, new bookshelves. In addition, the library also received a new interactive board along with new furniture for our students. The last part of this phase was the restructuring of the large group instruction area. This space was transformed into seven different office areas and four additional classrooms for our teachers and students.

In September of 2020, the Culbertson Elementary School had been fully renovated and the construction project was complete. As many of us know, when taking on a project of this magnitude, there are many people involved, multiple planning meetings throughout the process, and various moving parts. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the people involved in making this a reality for our students. First and foremost, we would like to thank the Marple Newtown School Board of Directors, both our current Board Directors and those who served as former Board



Culbertson Elementary School Principal,  
James Wigo, gives a tour of the school.

Continued on next page >

Directors in the beginning stage of planning for this project. A special thank you to our Superintendent, Dr. Tina Kane, Joseph Driscoll, Business Administrator, and Jake Gallagher, Director of Operations, for all of their hard work, support, and dedication. Thank you to our architects from Bonnett Associates and our general contractor, Sean McManus. Lastly, we would like to thank all of our staff for their flexibility, patience, hard work, and dedication towards our students. During this project our teachers and staff did not miss a beat with our students. Some of the teachers relocated classrooms midyear where others needed to pack and unpack materials several times, and regardless of the situation, they never allowed the construction process to be a distraction to our students' learning. Overall this project was a tremendous success for the Culbertson Community. We look forward to building a better future for our students in our state of the art elementary school for many years to come.



Left to right: A.J. Baker, Dave Dezzi, Nick Siano

**MNSD INVITES  
YOU TO**

Culbertson and Loomis Elementary Schools  
**OPEN HOUSE**



Marple Newtown  
School District  
invites our  
school community  
to tour  
our newly  
renovated  
schools!



Loomis School  
Wednesday, October 6, 2021  
from 6:00-8:00pm  
-----  
Culbertson School  
Thursday, October 7, 2021  
from 6:00-8:00pm



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- Entrance exam administration: October 29, 2021
- Deadline for applications: November 8, 2021
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**ATTENTION  
8TH GRADERS**



# Meet the MNSD Administrative Teaching and Learning Team

Meet Marple Newtown School District's Teaching and Learning team. This team is responsible for supporting curriculum development; curriculum implementation; instructional practices; teacher development; student assessment; and much more. They work closely with the Superintendent, the building principals, teachers, and the various departments across MNSD to maintain the District's vision and academic priorities, and the matters that influence them. You can find members of this team circulating in any of six schools during the school year smiling and laughing with students, visiting classrooms, speaking with teachers, or meeting with the building principal.



## Team Member: Joel DiBartolomeo, Ed.D.

**Role: Director of Administration and Academics**

**Years in MNSD: 0**

**Years in Education: 25**

**Experience:** Joel is a graduate of Marple Newtown High School. He is a former accountant turned secondary math teacher. His teaching career began in southwest Philadelphia and took him to Haverford Township where he remained for 21-years. He served as the middle school athletic director, an assistant principal, and then for eleven years served as an elementary school principal. Joel is eager to give back to the community and profession that proved to be the catalyst to his adolescent growth. He is an avid reader of literature, non-fiction, and philosophy. Joel and his wife, Sharon, of 21-years live in Narberth with their three teenage boys and dog, Hugo. You can find him in his leisure moments walking with his dog in the Wissahickon, knocking the keys on the piano, or with a pen in hand writing. To help relieve stress, he bikes, swims, and studies martial arts. Among his greatest joys are spending time with his family and watching his boys play lacrosse or football.



## Team Member: Dorie Martin-Pitone, Ed.D.

**Role: Director of Teaching and Learning**

**Years in MNSD: 11**

**Years in Education: 22**

**Experience:** Dorie has been a teacher and reading specialist for every level of education including college. Her educational journey has afforded her the opportunity to work in both Delaware and Montgomery counties. She has worked in neighboring districts as an educator and central administrator, as well as, for the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit. Her work as a Pennsylvania Institute for Instructional Coaching (PIIC) as a mentor coach and as a Professional Learning consultant, reignited the desire to focus on leveraging up the teacher leader. Dorie is a devout believer of Collaborative Leadership, remains passionately curious and is committed to continuous improvement in the best interest of our students. Her previous experience at Paxon Hollow Middle School cemented the special bond to the MNSD community. It is the place where she was exposed to Tiger Pride and supported in her path to obtain her principal certification and doctorate degree as a teacher. Dorie and her husband reside in Springfield, PA along with their two rottweilers. Family and friends are the grounding force in Dorie's life. Her adult children, Nick, Tom, and Katie, ages 27-23, are the constant reminder of what matters most in our life and in our profession- the kids.



## Team Member: Donna Reynolds

**Role: Confidential Secretary**

**Years in MNSD: 22**

**Experience:** Donna is a graduate of Marple Newtown High School. She went to a secretarial school in Philadelphia to master her skills in the field. She is a lifetime resident of Marple Newtown where she raised seven children with her husband. Donna started working in the district in 1999 at Paxon Hollow Middle School as secretary to the Assistant Principal. In 2001 she was hired by the Assistant Superintendent as a confidential secretary at the administration building. Donna is currently the secretary to the Director of Administration and Academics. She has worked for 2 assistant superintendents and 3 directors during her 20 years at the administration building. Some of her duties include the following: District Calendar, Board Policies, Home School Coordinator, Enrollment, CIT Agenda, Student Teaching Coordinator, Teacher Induction, PA-EETEP, Field Trips, Clubs, and Elementary Handbooks. When not working Donna loves to cook, bake, workout, and play the piano. She especially enjoys her time with her large family including her 23 grandchildren and her little dog, Doogie!



## Team Member: Matthew Flood

**Role:** Supervisor of Humanities and the Arts

**Years in MNSD:** 17

**Years in Education:** 28

**Experience:** Matthew Flood is a member of the Marple Newtown School District Teaching and Learning Team. He is the Supervisor of Humanities and the Arts. In this role along with the Teaching and Learning Team, he works with district administrators and teachers to improve curriculum and instruction, through teacher professional development and data meetings, to affect student achievement. Another component of his role as supervisor consists of collaborating with staff members in selecting educational resources that align with district curriculum and identifying Pennsylvania state standards for all courses.

Mr. Flood began his teaching career in 1993 at Beverly Hills Middle School in the Upper Darby School District. In 2004, he accepted a sixth grade social studies teaching position at Paxon Hollow Middle School. After four years of teaching in the district, he transitioned to a Lead Teacher position with Athletic Director duties. After a brief time serving in that role, he became an assistant principal at the middle school, serving in that position for 8 years. Mr. Flood coached soccer, basketball, baseball, wrestling, and lacrosse during his time as a teacher. A considerable amount of his time and efforts at Paxon Hollow consisted of collaborating with students, parents, teachers, and administrators to promote student success.

Serving as a member of the district Teaching and Learning Team since January of 2017 allows him to be involved throughout the entire district. His personal interest in sports and athletics reinforces his belief in open communication, teamwork, and preparation, as essential key elements to achieving success in reaching set goals.



## Team Member: Matthew Oberecker

**Role:** Supervisor of Instruction and Technology

**Years in MNSD:** 3

**Years in Education:** 20

**Experience:** Matt strives to promote the 21st century skills of creativity, collaboration, communication, and critical thinking among students and teachers. Formerly an elementary STEM teacher in the Central Bucks School District, Matt's passion for educational technology helps to foster personalized classrooms where instructional best practices and technology resources can live symbiotically. He has contributed to many district initiatives, including the K-12 Schoology implementation, MNHS STEM Academy, and MN ConnectEd virtual academy. An avid music lover, he resides in West Chester with his wife and four children.



## Team Member: Jonathan Regino

**Role:** Supervisor of Teaching and Learning for STEM (Math and Science)

**Years in MNSD:** 0

**Years in Education:** 17

**Experience:** Jonathan is a former middle school math and science teacher at Twin Valley School District. He left the classroom to be a Professional Development Specialist at Delaware County Intermediate Unit. During his time at DCIU, he was a Technology Integration Specialist, and a Teaching and Learning Specialist. Jonathan left DCIU for a short time to work as an Educational Consultant with the Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN) in the areas of math, computer science, assistive technology, and STEM. For the last 6 years, he has been a facilitator for Code.org as well as a Program Manager for Code.org for Eastern PA. Jonathan and his wife reside in Morton with their 3 children and two dogs.



# MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

The mission of the Marple Newtown School District is to provide rigorous educational opportunities for all students in a safe, healthy, and effective learning environment through a collaborative commitment involving students, staff, families and community.

The Marple Newtown School District has a long tradition of excellence in education. There are approximately 3304 students enrolled in Grades K through 12 with accelerated and advanced placement courses offered in all the academic areas. The academic curriculum of the district reflects the strength of traditional programs while meeting the changing needs of a technological society.

The district is a clear leader in the county in the development of academic standards. In addition to a strong academic program, 23 Advanced Placement (AP) and 21 Honors courses are offered to students at Marple Newtown High School. A variety of opportunities are available to students through elective courses, independent study programs, dual enrollment, cyber learning and a wide range of extra-curricular activities and athletics. There are accelerated courses in all disciplines and a comprehensive Special Education program for students who require special instruction.



## DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

### District Administration

Marple Newtown School District  
40 Media Line Road  
Newtown Square, PA 19073  
610-359-4200  
www.mnsd.org

### Tina Kane, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

### Joel DiBartolomeo, Ed.D.

Director of Administration  
and Academics

### Joseph Driscoll

Business Administrator

### Michael Larkin

Director of Communications  
& Development

### James Orwig

Director Human Resources

### James Gallagher

Director of Operations

### Gina Ross

Director of Pupil Services

## MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL BOARD

### Marple Newtown School Board Directors

Matthew J. Bilker, President  
Barbara S. Harvey, Vice President  
Tracy A. Alberti  
Kathryn V. Chandless  
David Dezzi  
John P. McKenzie  
Nicholas J. Reynolds Sr.  
Nicholas V. Siano  
Desiree C. Tomasco

### Non-voting members

Joseph Driscoll, Board Secretary  
Denise Land, Treasurer  
Mark A. Sereni, Esq., Solicitor

## MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOLS

### Culbertson Elementary School

3530 Goshen Road  
Newtown Square, PA 19073  
610-359-4340  
Principal: James Wigo, Jr.

### Loomis Elementary School

369 North Central Blvd  
Broomall, PA 19008  
610-359-4350  
Principal: Jaime Smyth

### Russell Elementary School

2201 Sproul Road  
Broomall, PA 19008  
610-359-4310  
Principal: Dennis Reardon

### Worrall Elementary School

2979 Pennview Avenue  
Broomall, PA 19008  
610-359-4300  
Principal: Stephanie Sturdivant

### Paxon Hollow Middle School

815 Paxon Hollow Road  
Broomall, PA 19008  
610-359-4320  
Principal: T. J. Gretchen, Ed.D.  
Assistant Principal: Daniel Keehn  
Assistant Principal: Christine D. White

### Marple Newtown High School

120 Media Line Road  
Newtown Square, PA 19073  
610-359-4215  
Principal: John Beltrante  
Assistant Principal: Christian Jaspersen  
Assistant Principal: Christa Palladino  
Assistant Principal: Donald Tabar  
Athletic Director: Christopher Gicking  
Assistant Athletic Director: Julie Rufo



# MARPLE NEWTOWN RECREATION

Providing Recreational, Cultural and Educational Programs & Activities to the Marple Newtown Community since 1970.

## COMMUNITY CENTER

### Where to Find Us

The Marple Newtown Recreation office is located inside the Robert C. Gauntlett Community Center adjacent to the gymnasium. Please access the office from the West Chester Pike side of the building via the side drive entrance (if facing building, side drive is to the right). Parking is available in the West Chester Pike lot. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm.

### WEBSITE

Please visit [mnrecreation.org](http://mnrecreation.org) for a complete listing of program offerings.

If you haven't already done so, you will need to create a new account to register for your favorite programs and activities. Simply visit [mnrecreation.org](http://mnrecreation.org) and click on the Create New Account link to open your account and gain easier access to program registration. Be sure to then add all the members of your household into the account. Also, don't forget to enter your cell number with the carrier so we can text you with last-minute program changes and updates.



## ADULT PROGRAMS



### Walk 15

Walk 15 class takes the best features from low impact group exercise and keeps it easy to follow! The program is designed with "walking based" moves so that all fitness levels and all ages can do it – At Your Own Pace! This is a fun workout with walking moves set to the beat of

current and oldies music. Ages 18 and above are welcome. All you need is a good pair of walking shoes / sneakers, water and a towel. Grab a friend and join us! Class will be held at Drexel lodge Park in Newtown Square. The program coordinator is Barb Campbell, a Master Walk 15 instructor. Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit [mnrecreation.org](http://mnrecreation.org) to register.

**Dates:** Oct. 20 – Nov. 24

**Day:** Wednesday

**Time:** 10:00am – 11:00am

**Site:** Drexel Lodge Park

**Price:** \$50

### Tai Chi – 24 Form

Tai Chi is one old form of Chinese exercise beneficial to health, and it is also a subtle, sophisticated, and scientific method of self-defense. It is basically made out of several forms or sets originally derived from martial arts, and it takes the forms of the natural movements of animals and birds. However, unlike martial arts, Tai Chi is performed deliberately slow, softly, and gracefully with smooth and even transitions between movements. Those who practice regularly will develop a healthy body and a calm, tranquil mind. It also provides a practical avenue for learning about balance, alignment, fine-scale motor control, and rhythm of movement. Therefore, the practice will enable you to better stand, walk, run and correct poor posture. This program is suitable for ages 18 and above and requires no special equipment. Class will meet in the Community Center. Lucia Coren will provide the instruction. Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit [mnrecreation.org](http://mnrecreation.org) to register.

**Dates:** Oct. 27 – Dec. 8 (no Nov. 24)

**Day:** Wednesday

**Time:** 6:00pm – 7:00pm

**Site:** Comm. Center

**Price:** \$40

### Zumba Fitness

The Zumba® program fuses Latin and international rhythms with easy-to-follow moves to create a one-of-a-kind fitness program that feels more like a disco party than a workout. Very little motivation is required because when you hear the music, you cannot help but move! Our goal is simple: we want you to love working out! You can achieve long-term benefits while experiencing an absolute blast in one exciting hour of calorie-burning, body-energizing, awe-inspiring movements meant to engage and captivate for life. The routines feature interval training sessions where fast and slow rhythms are combined to tone and sculpt the total body while burning fat, especially targeting the mid-section. Zumba® Fitness is so fun that it is now offered in over 100 countries worldwide. Certified Zumba® instructor Pam Nelson will coordinate the program. Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit [mnrecreation.org](http://mnrecreation.org) to register.

**Dates:** Oct. 21 – Dec. 2 (no Nov. 25)

**Day:** Thursday

**Time:** 6:15pm – 7:15pm

**Site:** Comm. Center Gym

**Price:** \$55

### Pilates

This dynamic program offers a system of mind and body exercises focusing mainly on the abdomen, oblique muscles, and lower back. Pilates dramatically transforms the way your body looks, feels and performs. It builds strength without excess bulk, creating a sleek, toned body. Other program benefits include increased lung capacity and circulation, as well as improved coordination, posture and balance. Because Pilates teaches balance and control of the body, many participants experience positive body awareness for the first time. Ages 18 and above



are welcome. Class will meet in the Community Center Gym. Please bring a rubber exercise mat and light hand weights (2-5 lbs.) to class. Certified Pilates instructor Donna Giordano will conduct the program. Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit mnrecreation.org to register.  
**Dates:** Oct. 20 – Dec. 1 (no Nov. 24)  
**Day:** Wednesday  
**Time:** 6:15pm – 7:15pm  
**Site:** Comm. Center Gym  
**Price:** \$55



### Yoga

With “Ha” meaning Sun and “Tha” meaning Moon, Hatha yoga is a style of yoga that is physical and at the same time deeply meditative. Through a variety of yoga postures, attention to proper alignment is learned. Gentle movement in union with breathing strengthens the body and increases flexibility, while freeing the mind from daily stress. A sense of harmony and balance is discovered. Other benefits include increased energy flow as nerve channels are cleared, improved concentration, blood circulation and digestion! Students should wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat to class. This six-week yoga program will be taught by Yvette Pecoraro, a certified TriYoga instructor and RYT with Yoga Alliance. The class will meet in the Robert C. Gauntlett Community Center. Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit mnrecreation.org to register.  
**Dates:** Oct. 25 – Nov. 29  
**Day:** Monday  
**Time:** 6:00pm – 7:00pm  
**Site:** Comm. Center  
**Price:** \$55

### Adult Bocce Ball League

Marple Newtown Recreation conducts fall and spring Adult Bocce Leagues at the bocce court located at Veterans Memorial Park in Broomall. Teams/players wishing more information about these leagues should contact the recreation office at 610.353.2326.

### Hypnosis

Marple Newtown Recreation has partnered with Mr. Barry Wolfson to offer the following Hypnosis programs. Mr. Wolfson, Director of the Hypnosis Counseling Center of New Jersey (www.hypnosisnj.com) for over 30 years, has formal training in both counseling and hypnotherapy. Please bring a small pillow to class. The beginning of each session will be dedicated to the history and background of hypnosis and addiction. The remaining time will include the actual hypnosis. Reinforcement CD is strongly recommended and is available for purchase for \$18. Please

call 610.353.2326 or visit mnrecreation.org for additional details and/or registration information. Ages 18 and older welcome. All classes will be conducted at the Gauntlett Community Center.  
**Stop Smoking**  
**Date:** Oct. 12  
**Day:** Tuesday  
**Time:** 6:30pm – 7:30pm  
**Price:** \$60

**Weight Loss**  
**Date:** Oct. 12  
**Day:** Tuesday  
**Time:** 7:30pm – 8:30pm  
**Price:** \$60

**Better Sleep**  
**Date:** Oct. 12  
**Day:** Tuesday  
**Time:** 8:30pm – 9:15pm  
**Price:** \$60

### Know Your Medicare Options 2021

During this free educational webinar, you will learn how Medicare works and what it covers, How Part “D” prescription cards work and how to pick the right one for you, and the differences between Medicare supplements and Medicare Advantage Plans. This webinar is suitable whether you have decisions to make during the upcoming open enrollment period (Oct. 15 thru Dec. 7), or just want to learn in preparation of that time. Presented by Michael Bobrin, a Medicare planning specialist with DelVal Senior Advisors. Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit mnrecreation.org to register. A link to the webinar will be provided once registered.  
**Date:** Oct. 14  
**Day:** Thursday  
**Time:** 6:30pm – 8:00pm  
**Price:** No Charge

### Kitchen Wizards Hors D'Oeuvres & Dips (Adults)

In this 2-hour VIRTUAL program, participants will work along with Kathy Wolper of Kitchen Wizards to prepare some fabulous and easy additions for your next cocktail party. This year, we'll be so happy to join together for holiday

celebrations so why not introduce your clan to some new-to-you tasty morsels? One week in advance, you'll receive a list of ingredients and tools necessary for this program. Set up your laptop or iPad and prepare yourself for a fun and tasty class! Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit mnrecreation.org to register.  
**Date:** Nov. 7  
**Day:** Sunday  
**Time:** 2:00pm – 4:00pm  
**Site:** Virtual  
**Price:** \$25/Household

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

### Driver Education

PA-certified Virtual Driver Education Theory and Skills Course (classroom only) for new drivers will be conducted by the Defensive Driving Academy, Inc. of Broomall beginning September 25. This 24-hour course will meet virtually on Saturday mornings (8 weeks) from 9:00am to 12:00pm each week. Minimum age to attend is 15. This course is recommended for high school students preparing for either their permit test and/or their driver's license test. Driver's permit is not required to attend this course. Most insurance companies will provide a discount for course completion. Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit mnrecreation.org to register. Once registered, you will receive login information to connect virtually to the program (must have internet and device must have camera and microphone capability).  
**Dates:** Sept. 25 – Nov. 13  
**Day:** Saturday  
**Time:** 9:00am – 12:00pm  
**Site:** Virtual  
**Price:** \$100

### Introduction to Guitar

This is a beginner's class for first-time guitar players (ages 13 and above welcome) who don't know where to start. Throughout the three classes we will go over different types of guitars, basic maintenance, exercises and how

Continued on next page >



to start learning songs. The instructor is local musician and guitar player Daniel Essaf. Classes will be conducted at the Gauntlett Community Center. Each participant must supply their own guitar. Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit mnrecreation.org to register.

**Dates:** Oct. 4, 11 & 18  
**Day:** Monday  
**Time:** 5:30pm – 6:30pm  
**Site:** Comm. Center  
**Price:** \$95



### Junior Tennis Clinic

This clinic, for children ages 5 to 12, emphasizes the fundamentals of tennis and will include fun-filled drills, conditioning and match play. It will use an age-appropriate format recommended by the USTA. Instruction will be provided by the staff from PATTA/Just Tennis who have been conducting fall and spring programs in Marple Newtown for the last few years. Players must supply their own racket. All other equipment will be provided. The clinic will take place at the Kent Park Tennis Courts on Cedar Grove Road in Broomall. Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit mnrecreation.org to register.

**Dates:** Oct. 2, 9, 16 & 23  
**Day:** Saturday  
**Session 1:** 2:00pm – 3:15pm (ages 5-8)  
**Session 2:** 3:15pm – 4:30pm (ages 9-12)  
**Site:** Kent Park Tennis Courts  
**Price:** \$75

### Triton Swim Team

Are you NEW to competitive swimming or looking for a NEW team? The Triton Swim Team, a USA Swimming Club sponsored by Marple Newtown Recreation, is now enrolling swimmers ages 5 and older. Coaches Tim McCullough and Dave Boyer will be coordinating and leading the club which will utilize the Marple Newtown High School Pool. Triton Swim Team is focused on developing individual skills in an energetic team atmosphere where all are encouraged to succeed and to promote swimming as a lifelong sport. Please contact MN Recreation at 610.353.2326 for additional details and visit mnrecreation.org to register. All are welcome – Join anytime.

**Fall Session:** Sept. 8 – Nov. 13  
**Winter Session:** Nov. 15 – March 26  
**Spring Session:** March 28 – May 27

### Learn to Swim Private Lessons

A “Learn to Swim” program will be held at the Marple Newtown High School Pool and will meet once weekly for five weeks beginning October 2, 2021. Qualified instructors will teach

lessons for Beginner and Advanced Beginner swimmers. Lessons are open to anyone six years of age and above. All lessons are one half hour in length and meet Saturdays between 9:00am and 12:00pm. Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit mnrecreation.org to register.

**Dates:** Oct. 2 – Oct. 30  
**Day:** Saturday  
**Time:** 9:00am – 12:00pm  
**Site:** MNHS Pool  
**Price:** \$155



### MNBA Youth Basketball for Kids

The MNBA, sponsored by Marple Newtown Recreation, offers children in grades K through 12 a combination of basketball opportunities. Male and female leagues for players in grades 2 to 12 will begin in December. In addition, a six-week instructional clinic for children in grades K&1 will commence in April 2022. Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit mnrecreation.org to register.

### Kitchen Wizards

Make Holiday Cooking a Family Affair  
(Parent-Child ages 6 & up)

Join Kitchen Wizards on Saturday, December 4th for a 3-hour VIRTUAL extravaganza, baking all the cookies you want and need for the holidays – as a family! Grandparents and parents will love having the kids working side-by-side to make short work of this item on everyone’s To Do list! We’ll make an assortment of cookies with

different flavors and shapes – no cut-outs! You’ll learn how festive your trays can look without the tedium of rolling out and frosting cookies. What’s even better is the delicious flavor of the cookies. One week in advance, you’ll receive a list of ingredients and tools necessary for this program, which will be taught by Kathy Wolper of Kitchen Wizards. Set up your laptop or iPad and prepare yourself for a fun and tasty day! Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit mnrecreation.org to register.

**Date:** Dec. 4  
**Day:** Saturday  
**Time:** 10:00am – 1:00pm  
**Site:** Virtual  
**Price:** \$35/Household



### Kitchen Wizards Winter Break Camp (Children ages 8-12)

In this 3-day VIRTUAL “mini-camp”, kids will learn to prepare a variety of “comfort foods”, from mac’n’cheese to chocolate pudding, and so much more! Makes a fabulous “Holiday Gift”, and the whole family will benefit from the delicious foods the kids prepare! Offered in partnership with Kitchen Wizards. One week in advance, you’ll receive a list of ingredients and tools necessary for this program. Please call 610.353.2326 for additional information and visit mnrecreation.org to register.

**Dates:** Dec. 27 – Dec. 29  
**Days:** Mon. – Wed.  
**Time:** 2:00pm – 4:00pm  
**Site:** Virtual  
**Price:** \$65/Child



Triton Swim Team



# NEWTOWN TOWNSHIP

Our mission is to be the preeminent Township dedicated to Public Service with integrity achieved by Encouraging Communication and Protecting Resources.



## *Get Strategically involved in your Community.*

20 Boards, Commissions and Public Meetings

21 Upcoming Events

22 Sustainable Newtown

Stormwater Audit

23 Public Works News

# Coronavirus UPDATE :

The Township building is open during normal business hours.



## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- John A. Nawn, P.E.  
Chair
- Edward Partridge  
Vice Chair
- Tina Roberts Lightcap  
Supervisor
- Michael F. Russo, Jr.  
Supervisor
- Leonard B. Altieri III, Esq  
Supervisor

The members of the following Township Boards are appointed by the Board of Supervisors at the re-organization meeting each January.

**To learn more about each Board and the members, please check our website!**

- Municipal Authority
- Parks and Recreation Board
- Planning Commission
- Zoning Hearing Board
- Library Board
- Environmental Advisory Council
- Shade Tree Commission
- Finance Committee
- Trails & Greenways Committee

## \*MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings are at 7:00 pm and take place at the Township Building

<b>Board of Supervisors</b>	2nd and 4th Monday @ 7pm
<b>Municipal Authority</b>	1st and 3rd Monday @ 7pm
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation</b>	1st Thursday @ 7pm
<b>Planning Commission</b>	4th Thursday @ 7pm
<b>Zoning Hearing Board</b>	3rd Thursday @ 7pm
<b>Library Board</b>	3rd Tuesday @ 7pm
<b>EAC</b>	1st Monday @ 5pm
<b>Shade Tree Commission</b>	2nd Thursday in Feb., March., May, July, Sept., Nov. @ 6:30pm
<b>Finance Committee</b>	3rd Wednesday @ 8am
<b>Trails &amp; Greenways Committee</b>	3rd Tuesday @ 6pm

*\*Always check the Township Website for the most up-to-date meeting schedule information! [www.newtowntownship.org](http://www.newtowntownship.org)*

Sign up for news updates at Notify Me! on the Township website, [www.newtowntownship.org](http://www.newtowntownship.org).



## TOWNSHIP STAFF

209 Bishop Hollow Rd, Newtown Square, PA 19073  
 Township Hours: 8:30am-4:30pm Monday thru Friday  
 Phone: 610-356-0200 | Fax: 610-356-8722 | [www.newtowntownship.org](http://www.newtowntownship.org)

### Administration:

Stephen Nease	Township Manager	ext 111
Steven Bradly	Administrative/Public Works Support	ext 148
Suzanne Wolanin	Administrative Services Director/HR	ext 111
Nicholas Schlegel	Administrative/Finance Support & AR	ext 146

### Finance Department:

Rich Lafiata	Finance Director	ext 115
Denise Gibbone	Utility Billing	ext 138
Mike Newell	Accounts Payable	ext 130

### Codes Department:

Andrew Reczek	Codes Director/Zoning Officer/BCO	ext 116
Heather Hastings	Codes Administrative Support	ext 110
Zach Axt	Rental Inspector	ext 147
Karl Keehn	Fire Marshal	ext 110
Suzanne Pyle	Health Inspector	ext 110
John Hosbach	Arborist	ext 110

### Public Works:

George Sharretts	Public Works Director	ext 112
Steven Bradly	Administrative/Public Works Support	ext 148
Harry Robinson	Public Works Supervisor	ext 134

Look for us on: [facebook.com/newtowntownshipdelco](https://facebook.com/newtowntownshipdelco)

[twitter.com/NewtownTwpDelco](https://twitter.com/NewtownTwpDelco)



# UPCOMING EVENTS:



## Library

- Newtown Public Library Zoom Book Club @ **2pm:**
  - **Wednesday, Sept. 22, 2021** – “Searching for Sylvie Lee” by Jean Kwok
  - **Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2021** – “The 7 1/2 Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle” by Stuart Turton
  - **Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2021**– “The Dutch House” by Ann Patchett
  - **Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021** – “The Stranger Diaries” by Elly Griffiths
  - Join us on Zoom for this special virtual monthly book discussion. All books are available online via HooplaDigital.com. Register at [newtownlibrary.org](http://newtownlibrary.org) to receive the Zoom invite.

## Environmental Advisory Council

- **Friday, September 17 @ 1:00pm** – Rain Garden Planting at the Township Building
- **Saturday, September 18 @ 9:00am** – Rain Garden Planting at the Township Building
- **Saturday, October 2 @ 8:00am** – Bird Walk at Meadow Preserve
- **Friday, October 15 @ 9:00am** – Native Tree Planting at Township Building

## Kid's Programs

- **Mondays @ 10:00AM** – Outside Story Time @ Gable Park (Weather Permitting)
- **Wednesday, Sept. 22 & Oct. 13, 2021:** Kids-Look-Learn-Listen-Create – Best for ages 4-7! Listen, create, and play fun games learning about classical music and art, then do your own art project! @Drexel Lodge Park
- **Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2021 @ 4:30PM** – International Day of the Girl Child – A program for elementary kids and high school kids to talk. Virtual Zoom Event – Register at [newtownlibrary.org](http://newtownlibrary.org)
- **All Month in October** – Make your Teddy Bear! Pick up a kit at the library to make your own bear! Available while supplies last.
- Register at [newtownlibrary.org](http://newtownlibrary.org). Please check the website for the most up-to-date information on programs.



## Parks and Recreation

- Murals Painting at Drexel Lodge Park and Gable Park – **Late September/Early October**
- Operation First Response Benefit Concert at Drexel Lodge Park on **Saturday, September 18th!**
- Bocce Ball Courts and Horse Shoe Pits to be installed at Drexel Lodge Park in **October!**

# Sustainable Newtown

In May 2021, the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution declaring that Newtown Township will participate in the Sustainable PA Community Certification Program and commit becoming a more sustainable municipality.

Back in 2015, the Township Board of Supervisors entered into a contract with Practical Energy Solutions to perform an energy audit. The audit results recommended that the Township move to utilizing LED lighting, change to a geothermal heating and cooling system and increase insulation throughout the building. The Township underwent a remodeling of the Township building in 2016 and 2017 and focused on ways to be more sustainable and save money. The Township changed the entire HVAC system in the Main Building from a Water Chiller with over 30 different heat pumps and air handlers to a more efficient geothermal HVAC system. Not only has this saved on electricity and natural gas usage, it has saved a significant amount of water. The Township implemented a LED light system in all areas of the interior and exterior building.

During that same time, the Township joined numerous other municipalities in the Delaware Valley Region to request bids for a project to replace all township-owned street lights with LED light fixtures and bulbs. Again, this has saved a significant use of electricity.

Over the last couple of years, the Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) has been exploring ways for the Township to enhance its protection of the environment and create a culture of sustainability. The EAC along with the Township staff recommended participating in the Sustainable PA Certification program. The Township Board of Supervisors recognized that this program would not only help the Township be more sustainable, but assist with achieving several of the outcomes outlined in the 2020 Strategic Plan.

The Sustainable PA Certification program is divided into 10 categories, 26 areas of impact and 130 best practices, actions or policies. Sustainable PA also has five levels of Achievement: Associate, Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum.

Best practices include; (1) working with other municipalities to achieve economies of scale and, hopefully, a reduction in environmental impact; (2) financial management that looks to the



future and prepares for the unexpected; (3) good communication that ensures the community is aware of environmental initiatives and encourages their participation in these initiatives. They focus on energy savings, green infrastructure and maintaining open space. The practices look at walkability, bicycle accommodations and public transportation. There are many additional practices to be investigated and potentially implemented. Each best practice is assigned a point value from one to four by the Sustainable PA Certification Program. These points are obtained when a municipality initiates a practice and documents proof of the practice. The total earned points dictate the level of achievement for the municipality.

To achieve this significant undertaking, the Township has assigned each of the 130 Best Practices/Actions to a Township staff member and to a Township committee, commission, board, and in some cases non-profit organizations. These non-profit organizations are those whose missions are aligned with the Township's mission to accomplish such tasks. The Township has also assigned Suzanne Wolanin, the Township's Administrative Services Director/Human Resource Director, with the task of spearheading the Township's focus and resource allocation to becoming sustainable. Stay tuned over the next few months as the Township determines which best practices it has already implemented, and which new ones it will implement.



## Stormwater Audit

Directive #2 of the Strategic Plan speaks to supporting environmental initiatives. The third outcome under Directive #2 requests that, "Stormwater is managed to maintain a sustainable community by reducing flooding and supporting healthy streams and rivers." In an effort to assess how well the Township is implementing best practices for Stormwater Green Infrastructure, which influences water quality, the Board of Supervisors has entered into an agreement with Pennsylvania Environmental Council to audit of Township Ordinances and Policies. This in-depth audit will look at the Township's existing ordinances and Policies to see if there are barriers to the implementation of Green Stormwater Infrastructure. Upon completion of the audit report card, the PEC will make recommendations for how the Township can improve upon existing ordinances and policies. The goal of the Board of Supervisors is to have a complete evaluation that will allow the Township to celebrate where it meets or exceeds best practices for stormwater and to develop an improvement plan to implement best practices where the Township is not currently doing so.







### Residential Single-Stream Recycling Collections occur from each home twice every month:

**Zone #1 on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays and  
Zone #2 on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays.**

There is no collection when there is a 5th Thursday in a month.

Be sure to have your recycling out and ready to be collected before 7:00 AM.

Recycling days that fall on holidays will be collected the following day.

Please visit the Township web site under the "Public Works" tab for additional recycling information, schedules, maps and Household Hazardous Waste Collection, Electronic Recycling and Yard Waste Collection events.

[www.newtowntownship.org](http://www.newtowntownship.org)



## Businesses and Schools Do Their Part to Recycle Too!

All commercial and institutional properties are required by state and local law to at a minimum separate from the waste stream high-grade office paper, aluminum and corrugated paper and recycle it. Leaf waste and electronic waste too must be separated and recycled without being placed into the trash. They must report to the Township their annual recycling results. Many businesses and schools recycle more materials than the minimum and are to be commended.



## Electronics Recycling Event

Newtown, Marple and Springfield Townships are partnering for an electronics recycling drop-off event on Saturday, September 25, 2021.

Visit the Public Works page on the Newtown Township website for information and to pre-register your visit.



## Did You Know That Street Sweeping Is About Keeping Our Streams Clean?

Street sweeping is performed by Public Works throughout the Spring and Summer. It may make the streets look cleaner, but it's real benefit is about preventing contaminants from getting into our streams. Know that we do this job with care of our water ways in mind.

Do all that YOU can to keep our streams clean. Every home, business and school can do their part. Check out the Township website at [newtowntownship.org](http://newtowntownship.org) and look under "Our Environment" and then "Stormwater" to see all the things you can do.



*The street sweeper has been busy, cleaning our streets and keeping pollutants from entering our streams*



# Fresh from the Farmers Market

Farmers markets are back for the 2021 season! Get outside and visit your local farmers, artisans, and vendors for the freshest produce, beautiful flowers, and homemade baked goods.

BY PETER URSCHLER



Ripe tomatoes, sweet corn and summer fruits are just a few of the highlights at farmers markets and farm outlets around Delaware and Chester counties. With over 200 farms selling directly to the public, farmers markets and farm outlets provide farmers and other agricultural entrepreneurs the opportunity to grow their businesses and connect with their community

“Right now is arguably the best season to shop at the farmers market,” says Growing Roots Partners owner Christy Campli. “Local food tastes better and it’s especially true with seasonal produce like tomatoes—everyone knows a tomato just tastes better in season!”

Farmers markets and farm outlets are much more than culinary destinations, they directly impact the success of many local farm businesses that depend on connecting directly with their community to sustain their businesses.

“Farmers markets play a crucial role in allowing us farmers to direct market our products to consumers,” says Jeremy Dunphy of Pasture Song Farm. “This allows us to capture more value from our items and gives us a stable cash flow throughout the year. Connecting with the community and shortening supply chains are big reasons we enjoy participating in farmers markets.”

Throughout the challenges of the past year, market managers, farmers and vendors have quickly adapted to implement extra safety practices, keeping their communities healthy and fed. Many farmers markets experienced an increase in new customers drawn by the fact that products sold there pass through a limited number of hands, and that many farmers markets are held outside.

“I not only get to share recipe ideas, but I get to learn how all these families are incorporating our beef into their weeknight tacos or weekend trips to the shore,” says Jodi Gauker of Gauker Farms. “I love food with a story.”



## Delaware County Farmers Markets

### Lansdowne Farmers Market

30 N. Lansdowne Avenue, Lansdowne  
610.220.1385  
lansdownefarmersmarket.com

### Booths Corner Farmers Market

1362 Naamans Creek Road, Garnet Valley  
610.485.0775  
boothscorner.com

### Swarthmore Farmers Market

121 Park Avenue, Swarthmore  
610.299.0904  
swarthmorefarmersmarket.org

### Lancaster County Farmers Market

389 W. Lancaster Avenue, Wayne  
610.688.9856  
lancastercountyfarmersmarket.com

### Oakmont Farmers Market

Grace Chapel parking lot,  
1 W. Eagle Road, Havertown  
oakmontfarmersmarket.org

### Tinicum Farm Market

Governor Printz Park,  
101 Taylor Avenue, Essington  
484.436.1229

### Linvilla Orchards Farm Market

137 W. Knowlton Road, Media  
610.876.7116  
linvilla.com/farm-market



### Media Farmers Market

Edgemont St. between State Street and  
Front Street, Media  
mediafarmersmarket.com

### Wolff's Apple House

81 S. Pennell Road, Media  
610.566.1680  
wolffsapplehouse.com

### Indian Orchards Farm

29 Copes Lane, Media  
610.564.0794  
indianorchardsfarm.com/our-farmstand

### Ruth Bennett Community Farm

**\*will resume operation soon**

1318 Carla's Lane, Chester  
201.788.8158  
ruthbennettcommunityfarm.org/  
farmers-market

### Ridley Park Farmers Market

**\*will resume operation soon**

105 E. Ward Street, Between Swarthmore  
Avenue & Cresswell Street  
610.547.5775  
facebook.com/ridleyparkfarmersmarket

❁ Due to the uncertainty of the weather, dates and availability may change. Call or visit the websites for the most up-to-date information and mask protocol.

❁ Didn't see your favorite local farmers market? No worries! Let us include it in next year's listings. Email [editors@icmags.com](mailto:editors@icmags.com) with the information. ■





# 2022 Trends in Education

A look at the current direction of education, from pre-K to trade school or college, including top trending majors, high-paying vocations, saving for school, types of loans and managing post-college debt.







NO ONE CAME OUT OF A YEAR OF ONLINE LEARNING UNSCATHED, BUT AS THE GREAT ALBERT EINSTEIN ONCE SAID, "IN THE MIDST OF EVERY CRISIS LIES GREAT OPPORTUNITY."

The past two years brought about changes to every element of our lives, forcing us into a new reality. Educators, students, and parents across the globe scrambled to reinvent the school day—what was once a reliable constant in our daily lives. Parents adjusted work schedules to act as a teacher’s helper, they set up mini classrooms in a corner of their homes to create a workspace that was adequate for their children to learn, and tried providing a sense of normalcy in what was a far-from-normal time.

Students of all ages learned a digital way to communicate with their peers and their teachers, blowing the screen time recommendation limit out of the water with daylong online learning. Teachers reinvented ways to connect with their students, recreating a classroom in their own home, working tirelessly to develop ways to not only educate, but entertain students who struggled with online learning.

No one came out of a year of online learning unscathed, but as the great Albert Einstein once said, “In the midst of every crisis lies great opportunity.” The education system across the world is rethinking the way students learn. While it is undoubtable that most students learn best in person, benefiting from both social interactions and one-on-one attention, there is a desire to continue optional virtual learning. In many instances, virtual learning meets a need for students with certain medical conditions, others who may have transportation challenges, or those who simply prefer to learn virtually.

What the entire education community learned through a global pandemic is that change is possible. Some changes

came out of necessity and fell flat, while others proved to be a beneficial addition to the way students learn and teachers teach.

### Where Virtual Learning Falls Short

Technology-forward schools likely saw an easier transition to virtual learning simply because students already had the technology they needed. A computer or tablet and reliable internet are two things many students only have while they are in the classroom. The pandemic brought to light the inequities between socioeconomically advantaged and disadvantaged schools based on access to technology. Even families in advantaged schools struggled with the ability to provide multiple children the resources needed to all be online at the same time.

Increasing access for students in need was also slow on the uptake. Many teachers turned to their own resources to aid students when and where possible. Yet, even as students received access to adequate technology, there was a learning curve for students, teachers, and parents alike. Teachers needed to quickly learn how to adapt lesson plans to an online platform, while learning the new technology themselves. On the other end of the computer screen, students and parents scrambled to install learning platforms, locate the mute/unmute button, and learn best practices on how and when to use the camera.

It was almost overnight that virtual learning was adopted and considered the way for the near-term future. While many schools returned to hybrid or in-person learning, there are still challenges that schools are addressing for technology and the future of education.

Continued on the next page >

### Trends for 2022:

- **Increased access** – Policy makers, school administrations, and teachers say there's no going back to the way things were prior to the pandemic. Although many districts are going back to in-person learning, the need and desire for a more structured option for virtual learning is clear. Requests for grants to increase access to technology and a reliable and safe infrastructure are being submitted by administrators to provide their student populations with the option for virtual or hybrid learning.
- **Greater focus on data privacy and cybersecurity** – Devoid of the safety of protected private school networks, data privacy and cybersecurity continue to be a concern for school administrators. Ensuring the safety of students and faculty is a top priority, but it's been challenging to manage.

### Victories of Virtual Learning

Remote learning also had its successes. The change to virtual forced students and teachers to quickly master and adapt to a new way of learning—a way that will now be a viable option for the future of education.

Teachers found groups of other educators who were going through the same trials, sharing best practices, finding mentors in the field, and becoming a stronger community through the process. Younger generations were helping older generations adjust to using new technologies, while students were finding new and unique ways to maintain their social relationships through virtual means. Online learning opened new opportunities for students to learn at their own pace, provided access to resources that may never have been available to them in a physical setting, and gave the entire world a crash course in a new way of learning that would have otherwise taken years to achieve.

### Trends for 2022:

- **Option for self-paced learning** – The online classroom provided students with the flexibility to set the pace for how and when they learn, giving them the best opportunity for success. Some students were even afforded the opportunity to learn from other educators beyond the “four walls” of their classroom.
- **Push for tech-related learning** – Students and parents alike are recognizing that the future is bright through technology. As students forced themselves to become more tech savvy and solve internet issues, deal with devices crashing, and learn new software, they've discovered an interest in technology (beyond social media) that they never knew existed.

### The Future: Recovering from a Year “Lost”

Although the first few months were a struggle mentally, physically and emotionally, we were all in it together. Families started finding routines to balance remote learning time with time spent together. Students were finding the mute/unmute button with ease, and on-camera slip-ups were happening less often. The learning gap will be felt throughout the world, but teachers, students, and parents have proven their ability to adjust. It's safe to say that the future of education has virtually changed forever.

### 10 College Majors That Hold Promising Career Paths

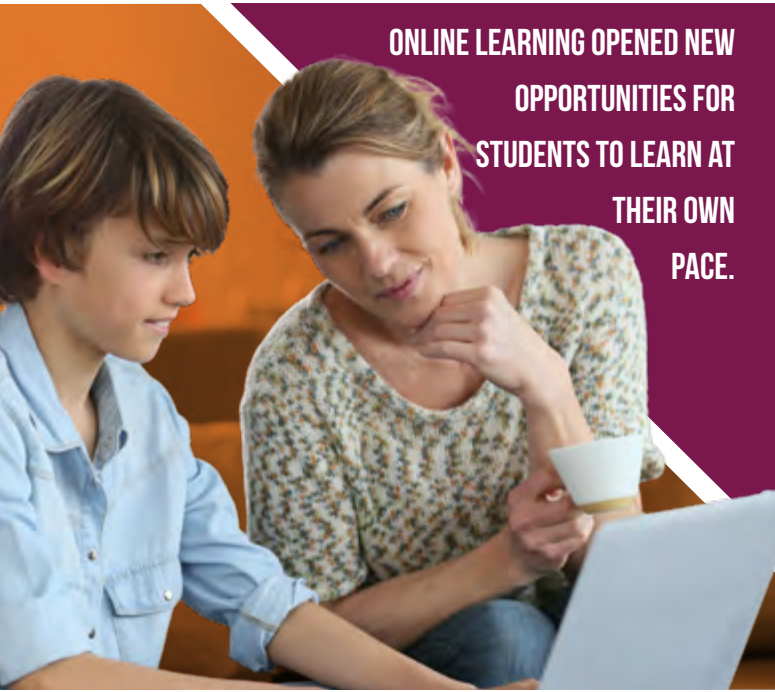
Preparing for life after high school can be stressful but choosing a college major shouldn't be! Although you should take time to explore your strengths and passions, also keep in mind specific industries that are of interest to you. Many college majors can teach you the general tools you need to succeed in a certain profession and can be applied across several industries. The following majors are just a peek into the top college majors in demand today.

1. **Nursing** – If this past year has proved anything, it's that health care workers are true heroes. Nursing has had a steady employment rate for years, and in recent times continues to grow. With the once largest generation of Baby Boomers entering later stages of life, and the now largest generation of Millennials having children, nurses are in high demand for our increasing population.
2. **Computer Science** – This major can span many industries and focuses on exposure to both computer hardware and software. The current advancements in technology have computer science majors learning about robotics, natural language recognition, and artificial intelligence, among others. Careers with this degree include IT consultant, information systems manager, database administrator, games developer and technical writer.
3. **Business Administration** – If you're not quite sure what career path to take, business administration could be a good option. A degree in business administration could open a myriad of doors to industries large



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ONLINE LEARNING OPENED NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO LEARN AT THEIR OWN PACE.

and small, allowing your skills to be versatile.

Business administrators typically work in an office setting and hold a managerial position.

4. **Accounting** – Another major that is in demand across industries is accounting. You can find accountants working for organizations from sports teams to nonprofits. If math is a strong suit for you, this major could open a lot of opportunities to choose a company that aligns with your passions but capitalizes on your strengths in your day-to-day role.
5. **Physical Therapy** – Due to an increasing aging population, physical therapists are in high demand. Working in this field, you could find a job in a hospital, rehab facility, or even working with a sports team. Because physical therapists can work in several different areas, the unemployment rate is low.
6. **Medical Assistance** – Another role in the health care industry, medical assistants support doctors and other health care professionals in a clinical setting. Most only need an associate degree from a two-year college to get started.
7. **Software Engineering** – Interested in learning another language? Programming language, that is! The rapidly advancing field of software engineering studies the scientific and mathematical side of computer software. If you're good at problem solving and excited by the opportunity for continuous learning, a software engineering major could be of interest.
8. **Psychology** – Psychologists can work in a variety of locations: within schools, private practices, or even large hospitals. To become a psychologist, you must graduate with your bachelor's degree, then go on to master's and doctorate degrees to work in a clinical setting.
9. **Marketing** – Another degree that can lead you to many different career paths, marketers develop strategies to

promote products and services for companies. Areas of marketing, such as digital marketing, are growing rapidly with the increase in online shopping, making targeting ads to consumers even easier and more profitable.

10. **Education** – Although the field of education is changing dramatically, the demand for quality educators remains high. Teachers can choose to teach in person or online, depending on the type of school and the subject.

### Trade and Technical Schools

Trade school enrollment continues to increase since the early 2000s, but a steep decline in vocational education in the 1980s and '90s led to a shortage of skilled workers across the nation. The need to gain back these critical workers has meant an increase in wages and jobs, encouraging students and parents to see past an old stigma of choosing vocational school over college. Plus, over the past 30 years, the cost to attend a four-year college has increased by 213 percent, leaving some students wanting to avoid the hefty price tag of a four-year degree.

### Highest-paying trades or vocations available, according to Indeed.com

- **Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)** – Working under the direction of doctors and registered nurses, LPNs are responsible for updating patient charts and keeping doctors and nurses up-to-date on patient health changes. LPNs work long shifts and can work in a hospital, outpatient facility, nursing home, or other caregiving facility.
- **HVAC Technician** – Installing, repairing, replacing, and maintaining systems are all part of an HVAC tech's role. Heating, ventilation, refrigeration, and air-conditioning systems are required to properly maintain workplaces, hospitals, and homes, among other buildings.
- **Home Inspector** – Ensuring the safety of a home or building is the main job of home inspectors. They are required to be familiar with all types of systems that are in a home including heating, electrical, plumbing, and the overall structural system of a home. Being a home inspector requires you to be physically fit and capable of climbing ladders and crawling through small spaces during inspection.
- **Plumber** – Not only responsible for unclogging toilets and drains, but plumbers also often install and repair gas supply lines as well. It's critical to understand the flow of these systems and to problem-solve and troubleshoot when issues arise within them.
- **Electrician** – Training to become an electrician takes about as long as it takes to get a bachelor's degree and a license, but this job training pays for itself along the way. If reading blueprints and installing or repairing wires and other electrical components interests you, this career might be electrifying.
- **Landscape Designer** – If you enjoy the outdoors and gardening, look into landscape design. These professionals offer plans on designing outdoor spaces for residential and commercial settings that take into account

Continued on next page >

environmental challenges, features that are meant to be emphasized, and overall aesthetics.

- **Respiratory Therapist** – Respiratory therapists work with patients who have breathing difficulties, and also aid in emergency situations such as drowning, heart attack, or shock. They assess patients’ respiratory needs and make sure they’re receiving proper care through breathing treatments.
- **Dental Hygienist** – Smile! Your career could be in making teeth brighter. Dental hygienists work to clean teeth, take x-rays, and educate patients on oral health. They are also ranked among the most satisfied workers. You’ll need an associate degree to pursue this career.
- **Ultrasonographer** – After obtaining an associate degree, sonographers go on to prepare patients for procedures, review and process images for physicians, and administer ultrasounds. They are also responsible for operating imaging equipment.

### Types of Educational Loans

Getting into college is one of the most exciting times of a student’s life and is the first step in shaping a variety of careers. Many colleges and universities offer a myriad of grants or scholarships to assist with paying for postsecondary education, but often these are not enough. Student loans provide financial assistance for students to cover the costs associated with attending a college or career school, including tuition,



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supplies, books, and living expenses. There are several types of loans available including need-based, non-need-based, state, and private.

Need-based loans are provided to students who are unable to pay the amount needed to cover all costs to attend college. Need is determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which can be completed online at no cost. Need-based loans are available as a Federal Perkins Loan, awarded to students with the highest need, or a Federal Direct Subsidized Loan, provided interest-free while in college.

If FAFSA determines that a student is ineligible for a need-based loan, non-need-based loan options are available as a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan or Federal Direct PLUS Loan. Unsubsidized loans allow the borrower to add interest to the total amount borrowed after graduation, but beware: this leads to owing even more money when it comes time to start paying off the loan. Direct PLUS Loans provide graduate students or parents the opportunity to borrow the total cost of attending college, minus other financial aid received.

Unlike the loans mentioned above that are sponsored by the federal government, state and private loans are sponsored by banks, colleges, foundations, and state agencies. The U.S. Department of Education manages all college loans available by state and requires students to be in-state residents or enrolled in a college in that state. Private loans are an option for borrowers but come with terms and conditions that may not be as favorable as federal loans. Private loans also require a cosigner who is responsible for repaying the money if the student fails to do so.

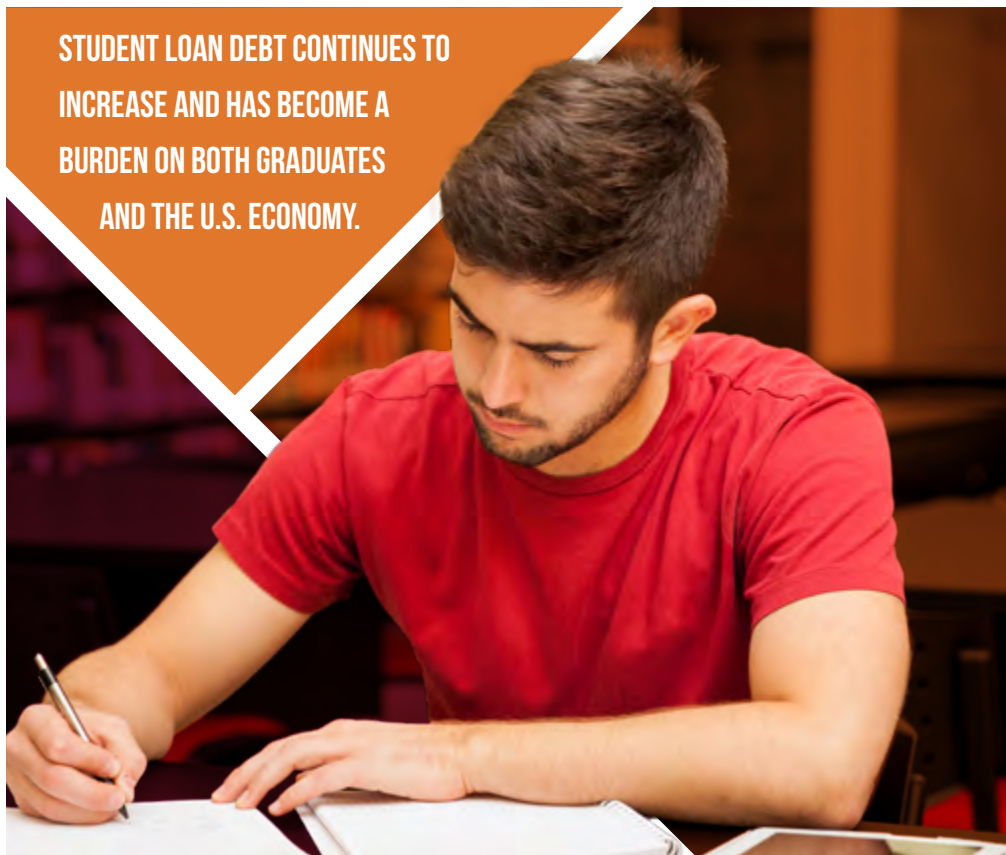
## Managing Debt After College

Student loan debt continues to increase and has become a burden on both graduates and the U.S. economy. There are a variety of loan repayment options for students. Here are some tips on how to approach repayment:

- **Figure out what you'll owe and start to save early.** Creating a budget early will allow you to build a solid foundation for repayment after graduation. Setting aside money each month toward future savings for repayment will set you up for success come graduation day.
- **Understand your repayment options.** There are several different options available to start paying off student loans based on the type of loan you received. Common federal loan plans include standard, graduated, extended, or income-based.
  - Standard plans are payments in fixed amounts that ensure that loans are paid off in 10-30 years (these payments are often very high for new graduates).

- Graduated plans are payments that start out lower and increase every two years, also ensuring that loans are paid off within 10-30 years (based on loan). This plan assumes you'll continue to make more money as you continue your career path, so additional money is allotted to repayment as you go.
- Extended plans may be made in a fixed amount or a graduated amount and ensure payment in full within 25 years.
- Income-based plans take 10-15 percent of your discretionary income, and are recalculated each year. Once you are married, your spouse's income will also be considered if filing jointly on tax returns. Any outstanding balance on the loan will be forgiven after 20-25 years.
- **Consolidate for ease.** If you have multiple federal loans, consolidating them into one can make repayment easier. But there may be fees or other conditions associated with consolidating, so be sure to do your research.
- **Is forgiveness an option?** Some programs offer loan forgiveness if you meet certain criteria or work in a particular field. People in government, nonprofit, and other public-service jobs may have the remainder of their loans forgiven after 10 years of service. Additional forgiveness options are available for nurses, teachers, AmeriCorps and Peace Corps volunteers, and some state and private programs. ■

STUDENT LOAN DEBT CONTINUES TO INCREASE AND HAS BECOME A BURDEN ON BOTH GRADUATES AND THE U.S. ECONOMY.





## Duportail House

BY KATE E. FREY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DUPORTAIL HOUSE.

In 1740, a Welsh Quaker named John Havard, Jr. built a stone farmhouse on a large William Penn land grant, amid the fertile fields of Chester County's Great Valley. During the Continental Army's encampment at Valley Forge in 1777-78, the Havard family played host to a guest from France, General Louis Lebègue Duportail. Recruited by Benjamin Franklin, Duportail served as the Army's chief engineer, designing fortifications at Valley Forge that could enable Washington's troops to hold off a potential attack by the British army, which was encamped in nearby Philadelphia.

Fortunately, those defenses were never tested. After the departure of Washington, Duportail, and the Continental Army, the house and surrounding farm remained in the Havard/Davis family until 1903. In April of that year, the property was purchased by Lawrence McCormick, who was the general manager of the elegant Bellevue Stratford Hotel in Philadelphia. The property became known as Cressbrook Farm at this time because watercress grown in the streams on the property was used in the kitchens of the Bellevue Stratford.

It was during renovations of the house for McCormick that General Duportail's original map of the Valley Forge defenses was found in the attic rafters. Since 1908, the map has been in the collections of the Pennsylvania Historical Society.

In 1926 the property was acquired by Henry L. Woolman, a University of Pennsylvania alumnus who subsequently donated it to the university. Penn proposed to build a suburban campus for some of its undergraduate students, with administrative headquarters at Duportail House, but these plans were put on hold during World War II and eventually abandoned.

In 1974, the Fox Companies purchased the land from the university to become part of an 865-acre planned community

development known as Chesterbrook. When the development was finally approved in 1978, Fox was able to repair some of the Duportail structures. In 1985, the buildings and three acres of the original farm were conveyed to the nonprofit organization that continues to manage the property today.

On an inside wall of the barn at Duportail are inscribed the words "The Federal Barn 1792," as well as "Jonathan Moor his work" and "John H. Moor 1792." While the 1792 date of construction means that the barn was not in place at the time of General Duportail's visit, it is nonetheless an historic site, being the only known bank barn in Pennsylvania to be signed by its builder. In poor shape by the time the property was acquired by the Fox Companies in 1974, repairs were made to the stonework prior to the barn's new lease on life in the hands of the nonprofit Duportail House organization.

As with any 200-year-old structure, maintenance is an ongoing challenge for the Federal Barn. With the roof in need of replacement, a structural engineer was hired in 2011 to recommend any steps needed to ensure the barn's physical integrity. As a result, the Duportail board of directors hired Highline Construction of Christiana, Lancaster County, to make significant repairs in early 2012.

Owned and staffed by Amish craftsmen, Highline reinforced the foundation at the rear of the barn and replaced several beams that had reached the end of their useful life. Because of the team's experience in working with old barns, they were able to locate similar beams that had been salvaged from other barns, complete with the axe marks found on hand-hewn lumber.

Both Duportail House and the Federal Barn are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Duportail is located at 297 Adams Drive, Chesterbrook, PA 19087 and is open to the public each Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., except holidays and during special events. Duportail House and the Federal Barn can accommodate weddings, corporate dinners and picnics, small meetings, bar and bat mitzvahs and large special celebrations with up to 160 guests depending on usage and time of year.

For more information, visit [duportailhouse.com](http://duportailhouse.com). ■





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