

IN

South Fayette



CONNECTING *with* *Community*

South Fayette Township launches logo, social media and www.southfayettepa.com



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Pastimes with Paula

New recreation director Paula Simmons is expanding activities in South Fayette Township.

By Andrea Iglar



Name: Paula Simmons

Age: 24

Occupation: Recreation Director, South Fayette Township

Hometown: Peters Township

Hobbies: Skiing, traveling, playing and coaching lacrosse

Family: Father, Robert; mother, Janice; brother, Jacob, 17; sister, Lily, 13; uncle, Scott

Favorite animal: Pig

Favorite movie: Grease

Three things always found in your refrigerator: Pizza, applesauce, orange juice

Puttering on the playground, practicing painting, picnicking in the park—you name the pastime, and Paula's planning it.

Paula Simmons, the new recreation director of South Fayette Township, is working to expand activities for all ages, from family picnics in the parks, seasonal events and bus trips to evening fitness, art and leisure programs.

This year, youth summer sports camps will be available in addition to the popular playground camp, and painting parties will join yoga in the list of adult options.

Paula is eager to collaborate with businesses, residents and community groups to hold fireworks festivities and a Community Day in July, add recreation programs, and expand park amenities and facilities. She also is looking for class instructors.

"I'm open to any ideas and suggestions," Paula said. "I'm here to serve the community, so I want to provide programs and events that the community wants to see and participate in."

Paula, 24, started working in South Fayette in January, having previously directed Brentwood Borough's recreation department.

She has been planning programs, revamping forms and preparing to improve the way residents can register for events and reserve pavilions.

"We are delighted to have Paula on board," Township Manager **Ryan Eggleston** said. "I am confident her enthusiasm and fresh ideas will expand recreation activities for South Fayette Township residents of all ages."

Paula, who lives in Peters Township, developed a strong work ethic growing up with her family's business, Simmons Farm. As a teenager, she worked in the Route 19 Simmons Farm Market, performed office and management tasks, picked and planted in

the fields, and planned public events such as fall hayrides and pumpkin picking.

"Whenever someone said, 'We had a great time here,' it made me very happy," Paula said. "I took pride in what I did."

Given her positive early experiences, Paula decided to pursue a career in recreation and earned a bachelor's degree in recreation and park management, with a tourism minor, from Kent State University in Ohio.

While in high school and college, she played club lacrosse, and now she coaches the Peters Township Middle School girls lacrosse team.

Paula said she appreciates the emotional, physical, psychological, social and environmental advantages of enjoyable, relaxing activities.

"There are so many different aspects of recreation, and it's wonderful to see people benefit and grow from those types of events," she said. ■

SOUTH FAYETTE TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION

• **Register for programs:**

Visit www.southfayettepa.com/reregister

• **Get recreation news, alerts & calendar items by email or text:**

Sign up at www.southfayettepa.com/notifyme.

• **Reserve a pavilion:**

Use new form at www.southfayettepa.com/reserve.

• **Share your program or class ideas, or make a donation:**

Contact Paula Simmons at 412.221.8700 x17 or

psimmons@sftwp.com.

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SOUTH FAYETTE TOWNSHIP

A Community Growing Together

Getting the Message Out

South Fayette Township launches new website, logo and social media

The letters "SF," the color green, and a history that began in 1842 are features that combine to bring one place to mind: South Fayette Township.

The township's new logo, along with the tagline "A Community Growing Together," is set to represent South Fayette's citizens for many years to come.

A group of children were introduced to the logo in January after their weekly story time in the South Fayette Township Library. The two- to four-year-olds colored their own logos, with some choosing green crayons and markers, and others preferring various colors of the rainbow.

The emblem appears on South Fayette Township's new, interactive website—www.southfayettepa.com—and on the township's newly created Facebook and Twitter pages.

"We now have multiple avenues for getting the word out to citizens," township Community Development Director **Andrea Iglar** said. "We hope enhanced communications will strengthen our sense of community as South Fayette grows." CivicPlus, a Kansas-based firm specializing in government websites, worked with township staff to design the new website, which gives citizens the opportunity to sign up to receive custom news and alerts by email or text.

"The website offers easy navigation, plenty of information and great interactive tools that benefit residents, businesses and the community," Township Manager **Ryan Eggleston** said.



Above: Achyuta Atreya age 3; Right: Rory Melville age 3.



Rachel Pollock, a junior at South Fayette High School, has been named winner of South Fayette Township's logo contest. An aspiring graphic designer, Rachel provided the key creative ideas that inspired the township's emblem and tagline, which were finalized by a professional firm. Community Development Director **Andrea Iglar** (right) recognized Rachel with a certificate and gift card during the February Board of Commissioners meeting. The township also acknowledged the support of her parents, Gary and Sheri, and her art and media teacher, Patrick McAndrew.



KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOUR TOWNSHIP

Website: www.southfayettepa.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SouthFayetteTownship

Twitter: www.twitter.com/SouthFayetteTwp

Sign up for news & alerts: www.southfayettepa.com/notifyme

Get meeting agendas, packets & minutes:

www.southfayettepa.com/agendacenter



Clockwise from above left: Ella Purdy, age 3; Lia Monzo, age 4; Kennedy Perris, age 2; Landon Beerhalter, age 2



TOP TEN RESOURCES AT WWW.SOUTHFAYETTEPA.COM

1. Get emails or texts on topics of your choice such as emergency alerts, news, and recreation programs www.southfayettepa.com/notifyme
2. Report an issue, request or concern www.southfayettepa.com/request
3. Provide an anonymous crime tip www.southfayettepa.com/crimetip
4. Learn about recycling www.southfayettepa.com/recycle
5. Register for recreation programs www.southfayettepa.com/parksandrec
6. Read meeting agendas, packets and minutes www.southfayettepa.com/agendacenter
7. Submit an event to our community calendar www.southfayettepa.com/submitevent
8. List your business or community group in our directory www.southfayettepa.com/yellowpages
9. Advertise community jobs www.southfayettepa.com/jobs
10. Find all of your community information at your fingertips! www.southfayettepa.com



Budget doesn't budge on taxes

South Fayette Township's 2015 budget holds the property tax rate

SOUTH FAYETTE TOWNSHIP BUDGET FACTS:

- \$9.57 million balanced general fund/operating budget
- No property (real estate) tax millage increase
- 3.48 mills = \$348/year per \$100,000 assessed property value

HIGHLIGHTS OF \$669,000 CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND:

- \$300,000 for road paving and seal coating
- \$40,000 toward a Traffic Task Force study of Washington Pike
- \$25,000 to develop 20-year paving plan

LONG-TERM FUNDING CHALLENGES:

- Road paving & street maintenance
- Stormwater management system improvements/flood prevention
- Trash and recycling collection

DID YOU KNOW...

... South Fayette Township has not raised property taxes in about 30 years.

... Property owners pay separate tax bills to South Fayette Township (3.48 mills), Allegheny County (4.73 mills) and South Fayette School District (25.21 mills).

... Township property taxes fund many public services, such as:

- Police protection (24/7)
- Fire services: contributions to 4 VFDs
- Road & storm sewer maintenance
- Snow & ice removal
- Trash & recycling collection
- Code enforcement & planning
- Tax collection
- Library: contribution
- Parks & recreation
- Website & newsletter



More at www.southfayettepa.com/budget.



Left: South Fayette Township Commissioner Lisa Malosh, left, at the ribbon cutting with ALDI district manager Candace Schmidt, ALDI real estate director Tina Morascyzk, ALDI operations director Lindsay Barton, ALDI vice president Brent Laubaugh, and shopping center developer Dale Greco. Rose Heller is the store manager.

Below: Shoppers line up for the ALDI grand opening in January.



Tina Morascyzk, the ALDI real estate director, said she chose the location partly because of its proximity to the highway, UPMC Children's South and the future Newbury Market.

"This is where we've got to be," Ms. Morascyzk said. "This community is growing. It's a great customer base for us here. We are happy to be able to provide this amenity to the community."

ALDI executives enjoyed working with South Fayette Township staff and officials. "They really have a strong commitment to bringing business to the community," Ms. Morascyzk said.

The grand opening featured remarks by South Fayette Township Commissioner **Lisa Malosh**. Also in attendance were South Fayette Commissioner **Deron Gabriel**, **Senator Matt Smith** and South Fayette Township staff members.

South Fayette Township also is home to the Giant Eagle supermarket on Washington Pike.

ALDI right moves in ALDI right places

Supermarket opens in South Fayette Township

By Andrea Iglar

Shoppers lined up around the corner for the grand opening Jan. 14 of an ALDI grocery store in South Fayette Township. Following a ribbon cutting, the 16th ALDI location in Allegheny County opened to area residents who had waited in brisk weather to fill their carts with snacks, produce, dairy, meat and other foods and goods.

ALDI is the first business to open in The Crossings at South Fayette, a shopping center that Dale Greco of Bridgeville Realty Partners is developing at Route 50 and Washington Pike, near Interstate 79. Other businesses set for the center include Starbucks, Chipotle Mexican Grill, Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches and a branch of Brentwood Bank.

Use the Force

Traffic Task Force targets road upgrades on Route 50 & Washington Pike

By Andrea Iglar

As business development heats up around Interstate 79, Route 50 and Washington Pike, South Fayette Township is working toward a plan for comprehensive road improvements aimed at easing traffic flow for decades to come.

South Fayette has created the Traffic Task Force with local commercial developers, the municipalities of Bridgeville, Upper St. Clair and Collier, and officials from the state and Allegheny County.



The group is working closely with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) and studying the best ways to construct and fund road improvements so traffic will move more smoothly on Route 50 and Washington Pike, which are state-owned roads.

South Fayette has asked the developers of Newbury Market, a large commercial center planned along Route 50, to defer scheduled traffic improvements while the task force looks at expanding the scope of work.

Estimated cost of all the proposed road work—including the original Newbury plan—is about \$4 million.

"We all want to do it right and do a decent amount of bridge and road widening at one time," township engineer **Mike Benton** said. "Our goal is a solution that will hopefully be good for 20 years."

ROAD WORK

- The task force has developed an evolving list of proposed work, such as:
- Widening the bridge over Chartiers Creek (on Washington Pike between Bridgeville and South Fayette) from 4 lanes to 7 lanes
 - Adding a dedicated right-turn lane to Chartiers Street for vehicles crossing the bridge into Bridgeville
 - Widening Chartiers Street
 - Adding a full left-turn lane on Washington Pike to access Aldi and The Crossings at South Fayette shopping center
 - Adding a second left-turn lane on Washington Pike southbound to access the I-79 ramps
 - Adding a dedicated right-turn lane from Bridgeville to the I-79 northbound ramp

TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Additionally, South Fayette plans to install an adaptive traffic light system this summer on Route 50 and Washington Pike, in the vicinity of I-79. The 7 or 8 signals "will constantly be talking to each other, communicating, and adjusting to the immediate traffic situation," Mr. Benton said.

The project is expected to cost about \$50,000 per signal. Funding will come mostly from traffic impact fees that local developers have paid to the township, and grants also are being pursued.

In addition, the timing and sequencing of the lights at the intersection of Route 50 and Washington Pike were adjusted recently, at the recommendation of South Fayette Township Police, to relieve traffic congestion.



Perfect Fit

Cheryl Napsha aims to create a tailor-made library for South Fayette Township

By Andrea Iglar

Cheryl Napsha wants to customize your library. The new director of the South Fayette Township Library plans to hold public forums and surveys to find out what programs, services and materials residents want.



Cheryl Napsha, director of the South Fayette Township Library.

"Every library should be unique to a community, so I need to know what South Fayette people want and value," Cheryl said. "My job is to be a vehicle to create the perfect library."

She expects to build on the success of children's educational enrichment activities, while expanding and promoting adult services such as book clubs, e-books and online films.

Since joining South Fayette in November, Cheryl has worked to reorganize and clean the library, add new furniture, and make the children's

department more inviting. The colorful kids' area includes puppets, silk scarves and other materials meant to strengthen motor skills and encourage imagination.

As director of both the South Fayette and the Bridgeville libraries, Cheryl is taking a broad look at how communities can work together to make the most of limited resources.

"We need to be as thoughtful and creative as possible," she said.

To this end, the library has partnered with pediatric professionals at the UPMC Children's South facility in South Fayette to offer free community education classes for children, teens and adults.

Topics range from preparing new parents for their baby's arrival to teaching kids how to stay home alone. Find details on classes and registration at www.childrenspeds.com/community-education.

A brief online survey to plan future classes is at www.southfayettelibrary.org.

Cheryl said the partnership will be expanded in the future, with the library and Children's South sharing programming space.

"We really value what Children's brings to the community," she said.

Cheryl has 24 years of experience as a public library director, including at the Bethel Park Public Library, the Adams Memorial Library in Latrobe, and libraries in Ohio, Michigan and Massachusetts. Originally from Neville Island, she holds a Master of Library Science from the University of Pittsburgh and a Bachelor of Arts in English literature from Seton Hill University in Greensburg.

Cheryl said she enjoys meeting library patrons and welcomes everyone to stop by and say hello.

"If you want to bring me coffee, that's cool," she said with a chuckle.

**South Fayette Township Library, 515 Millers Run Road
412.257.8660, www.southfayettelibrary.org**

Cleanup Day

Thursday, April 23, 2015



Residents, businesses and community groups are invited to participate in South Fayette Township's annual cleanup day in honor of Earth Day! The township coordinates morning and afternoon activities and provides volunteers with all the needed supplies.

If you would like to participate but are unavailable on April 23, the township may be able to accommodate you on a different day.

Contact Tammy Rosko, 412.221.8700 x19, trosko@sftwp.com





South Fayette Township Parks & Recreation held its annual Disabled Sportsmen's Hunt in October for deer hunting enthusiasts with physical limitations. Volunteers and sponsors assisted with hunting activities, provided meals and offered prizes during the three-day event.

"If it wasn't for this organized hunt, I wouldn't be hunting at all," said South Fayette resident Tim Thompson, who has participated for three years. "It really helps me look forward to getting out of my house to spend time with other people."

South Fayette Township sincerely thanks the many individuals and businesses who contributed to the success of the 2014 hunt, including:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Ace Sporting Goods | Commissioner Lisa Malosh | Outback Steakhouse - Washington |
| Applebee's - McMurray | Coraopolis District Sportsmen's Association | PA One Call |
| Applebee's - Washington | Cuddy Sports Club | Pepsi Bottling Group |
| Bernie Krek | D & M Painting Corp. | Philly Pretzel Factory |
| Bethel Park Outdoorsmen Association | Dr. Bille Rondinelli | Pittsburgh Bottleshop Cafe |
| Beverly Nickolas | Eat 'n Park | Ponderosa - Washington |
| Bob Evans | Grande Italian Restaurant - McMurray | Portman Farms |
| Buffalo Wild Wings | Harry's Pizza | Reeve's Sport Shop |
| Burgh's Pizza & Wing Pub | James & Lonnie Campbell Family | Reliable |
| Cellone's Bakery | John Kosky Contracting | Rep. Jesse White |
| Colussy Chevrolet | Julia Eggleston | Rita Truitt |
| | King's Restaurant - Scott Township | Shirley Petrillo |
| | King's Restaurant - South Fayette Township | Silhol Builders Supply Co. |
| | Kip's Deer Processing | Small Arms Manufacturing Co. |
| | KLH Engineers Inc. | Tammi Campbell |
| | Mark Mitchell | Texas Roadhouse - Collier Township |
| | McDonald Sportsmen's Foundation | Texas Roadhouse - Washington |
| | NAPA Auto Parts | Todd Petrillo |
| | Oakridge Volunteer Fire Department | Vocelli Pizza |
| | Olive Garden - Washington | Woltz & Wind Ford |



From top left, counterclockwise: Student volunteers Kylie Campbell, Sawyer Huwe, Jake Campbell and Ryan Silsley; South Fayette residents Mark Mitchell, Lou Quattro and Larry Crevets; Bob Gregory of Kennedy, Tim Thompson of South Fayette, Ed Leeper of Washington, Lonnie Campbell of South Fayette & her great-granddaughter Raina, 6, Ed Darney of West Mifflin, Ed Fink of Pittsburgh; Volunteers Tim Kelly of North Fayette, Mike Chiodo of South Fayette and Ben Ellis, who grew up in South Fayette.

Let's have some **FUND!**

South Fayette Township creates nonprofit fund for park and community projects

By Andrea Iglar

Donating to the South Fayette Community Fund is a new way businesses and residents can contribute money to enhance township parks and recreation.

Formed under the umbrella of The Pittsburgh Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, donors can give tax-deductible funds earmarked for the township's parks, recreation programs and community development initiatives.

"This is a way people can give back to the community and parks, and local businesses can get involved," Recreation Director **Paula Simmons** said.

While donations may be made to the account at any time, the township also will launch targeted fundraising efforts for projects such as building a concession stand and adding a playground at the new pavilion in Fairview Park. Money also could be collected for a community marker such as a welcome sign or public clock.

The fund was created thanks to the efforts of the Parks &



The Parks & Recreation Board hopes to add a playground in Fairview Park near the newest pavilion, which accommodates about 200 people.

Recreation Board, in conjunction with township's staff and elected officials. Park board members are **Mark Briner, Debbie Amelio-Manion, Carl Helbling, Ronald Miller, and David Wolf**. Thanks also go to Board of Commissioners liaison **Lisa Malosh**, school board liaison **Lex Czaplicki** and township Commissioner **Ray Pitetti**, who previously served on the parks board.

For information on donating to the fund, please contact Paula Simmons at 412.221.8700 x17 or psimmons@sftwp.com.

To receive future updates on fundraising activities, sign up to receive Recreation News by email or text at www.southfayettepa.com/notifyme.

SOUTH FAYETTE TOWNSHIP RECREATION PROGRAMS



RUN, DOG, RUN!

Fairview Park includes the Off-Leash Dog Run for your pet's enjoyment.

All dog park users—whether renewing a tag or applying for the first time—must complete the new application form at

www.southfayettepa.com/dogpark. Tag renewals are due to the township before June 30 each year.

Please remember to clean up after your pooch. Cleanup resources are available in the dog park.

EGG HUNT & BREAKFAST WITH BUNNY

Saturday, March 28
9 a.m.-11 a.m.



South Fayette High School Food Court Commons & Amphitheater.

Cost: \$5 for breakfast and egg hunt, or \$1 for egg hunt only. No registration required.

BUS TRIP TO WILDWOOD, NEW JERSEY

June 8-June 11

\$349/person includes round-trip motor coach, hotel, 3 breakfasts, 3 dinners and much more at the Jersey shore!



LINE DANCING

Tuesdays, March 24-April 28
6:15 - 7:30 PM

South Fayette Township Senior Center
515 Millers Run Road, Rear Entrance
\$42 (all 6 classes)
\$7 (one class)



21-DAY FIX WORKOUTS

Wednesdays, April 1-May 6
7 PM

South Fayette Township Senior Center
515 Millers Run Road, Rear Entrance
\$55 (all 6 weeks)
\$10 (one class)

Register for Recreation Programs at:
www.southfayettepa.com/recregister

Questions?
Recreation Director Paula Simmons
412.221.8700 x17
psimmons@sftwp.com

NEW! JUMP START SPORT SUMMER CAMPS AT FAIRVIEW PARK (AGES 4 - 12)

Half Day: 9 a.m. - noon (\$90)
Full Day: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (\$125)

OLYMPIC SPORT CAMP

June 15 - 19

Children are divided into countries to learn about a wide variety of Olympic sports, including soccer, hockey, team handball, and track and field. Campers learn about the culture and history of their adopted country and make a flag to carry at the closing ceremonies and medal presentation.



ULTIMATE WARRIOR CAMP

July 6 - 10

Safe, age-appropriate games and tasks include obstacle courses, relays, tug-of-war, and many other fun activities designed to teach cooperation and teamwork while also developing self-esteem.

COLLEGE DAYS SPORTS CAMP

July 27 - July 31

Children "enroll" in a college and have a blast playing a wide variety of college sports, including basketball, soccer, hockey, volleyball, lacrosse, and more. Campers make a school pennant and wear their school colors to demonstrate their spirit.

SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAM (AGES 5 - 12)

New games, activities, special guests and much more! Register starting Mon. May 18.

There is limited space, and sessions are filled on a first come, first served basis.

Week 1	June 22, 24, 26	Fairview Park
Week 2	June 29 & July 1	Fairview Park
Week 3	July 6, 8, 10	Morgan Park
Week 4	July 13, 15, 17	Fairview Park
Week 5	July 20, 22, 24	SFMS
Week 6	July 27, 29, 31	Morgan Park

Morning Session: 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

\$10.00 per session

Afternoon Session: 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

\$10.00 per session

BOTH Sessions: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

\$20.00 per day

Whole Week: \$50.00

Children attending whole day sessions must bring lunch.

TENNIS AT MORGAN PARK

8-week Spring Session
April 13 - June 1, 2015

Complete the registration form and mail form, along with check payable to South Fayette Township, to:

Kent Johnson Tennis Academy
830 Wheatland Circle
Bridgeville, PA 15017
(More info: 412.200.0144
kentjohnson@myway.com)

PEE WEE CLINICS/QUICKSTART (AGES 5-6)

Mondays, 5:15 - 6:00 PM

Focus on developing hand/eye coordination, basic stroke and fun!

Residents: \$10/week

(\$80/session)

Non-Residents: \$12/

week (\$96/session)

JUNIOR BEGINNER CLINICS (AGES 7-10)

Mondays, 4:15 - 5:15 PM

Stress correct form, basic rules and court etiquette, fun drills and games

Residents: \$15/week (\$120/session)

Non-Residents: \$17/week (\$136/session)

JUNIOR ADVANCED BEGINNER CLINICS (AGES 10-14)

Mondays, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

More advanced drills with an emphasis on fine-tuning tennis strokes through games galore!

Residents: \$15/week (\$120/session)

Non-Residents: \$17/week (\$136/session)

HIGH SCHOOL HIGH PERFORMANCE TENNIS ACADEMY

Mondays, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Incorporates advanced stroke analysis, footwork, strategy, drills and games

Residents: \$25/week (\$200/session)

Non-Residents: \$30/week (\$240/session)

HIGH SCHOOL HIGH PERFORMANCE MATCH PLAY

TBD

JUNIOR MATCH PLAY (AGES 7-13)

TBD



See pages 10-11 for our feature on Paula Simmons, the new South Fayette Township Recreation Director.

Rain, rain go away... but where to?

South Fayette studies stormwater needs

By Andrea Iglar

As **Brian Merritt** took a tour of South Fayette Township in January, his engineer's eye was drawn toward a common but normally overlooked house feature: the downspout.

Downspouts—which carry rainwater from gutter to ground—along with pipes, ponds, drains, bridges and other features, make up the widespread infrastructure every community needs to give the rain somewhere to go.

The goal is to direct all stormwater (another name for rainwater) into streams, creeks and rivers so the rainwater reenters the natural cycle, all the while aiming to minimize flooding and protect water quality.

The township is seeking residents, business owners and neighborhood association leaders to join the Stormwater Study Work Group. During the course of the study, volunteers will join township staff and Environmental Advisory Council members on the second Tuesday of each month to discuss the content, progress and final needs analysis of the stormwater study. No special knowledge is required. If you are interested in participating, please contact Mike Benton, township engineer, at 412.221.8700 or mbenton@sftwp.com.

Mr. Merritt, a water resources project manager with AMEC Foster Wheeler in Pittsburgh, is working on a study of the township's stormwater management system to determine exactly what we have, what we need, and what we should do to update our infrastructure.

In general, older infrastructure must be maintained and updated, while new building and highway construction require expansion, Mr. Merritt said.

The \$30,000 first phase of the Stormwater Needs Analysis will be completed this spring.

Township engineer Mike Benton, Public Works Director Butch Truitt, and AMEC project manager Brian Merritt examine a box culvert under a bridge on Mayview Road. The stormwater facility allows water to flow under the roadway.



Ducks enjoy a pond in the Lakemont Farms neighborhood. The scenic body of water doubles as a retention pond for rainwater and stream flow.



South Fayette Township Police Sgt. Glenn Davis (left) retired Feb. 27 after serving the department for more than 36 years. He was recognized during the February Board of Commissioners meeting with a plaque, photo and words from Police Chief John Phoennik. Also pictured are Commissioners Ray Pitetti, Jessica Cardillo Wagenhoffer and Lisa Malosh.



John Ballo prepares to clean one of the 13 salt trucks that Public Works uses to treat snowy, icy roads in South Fayette Township. In the winter, Nick Nickolas, the Public Works Superintendent, constantly examines weather reports and radar maps to help stay ahead of storms. Come spring, Public Works shifts gears to tasks such as mowing grass and maintaining roads, parks and stormwater systems.

Go solar!

Interested in solar panels for your home or business but not sure where to start?

Let South Fayette Township help you get solarized!

www.solarizeallegheeny.org/southfayette

The South Fayette Township Police Association is offering a \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior from the South Fayette Township School District Class of 2015 who plans to pursue higher education in the field of law enforcement or criminal justice. Application deadline is Weds. April 8, 2015. The winner will be announced on April 29, 2015, during the "Best of Our Best" celebration at the high school.

Get the application at: www.southfayettepa.com/policescholarship

Senator sets up mobile office in South Fayette Township



Photo, from left: Township Manager Ryan Eggleston, Board of Commissioners Vice President Lisa Malosh, State Senator Matt Smith and Police Chief John Phoennik.

The office of Senator Matt Smith has begun holding office hours from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at the South Fayette Township Municipal Building, 515 Millers Run Road. Residents may walk in and gain assistance on state-related issues such as driver and vehicle services, state applications and forms, legislation, and state agency issues. Residents, along with township staff and officials, greeted the senator during the mobile office's open house on Feb. 11.

Once Lost, Now Found

South Fayette police officers track missing people in Project Lifesaver program

By Andrea Iglar

Caregivers of adults and children with special needs now have a local resource to help find loved ones who wander away from home.

South Fayette police officers **Michael Blocher** and **Bryan Monyak** are ready to respond to calls from clients of Project Lifesaver, a nonprofit organization that aims to respond quickly when someone becomes lost due to cognitive conditions such as Alzheimer's, dementia, autism, or Down syndrome.

Officers find clients of Project Lifesaver by tracking their transmitter bracelet with a handheld or vehicle-mounted receiver. The signal is good within 1 1/2 miles.

"It provides a community service for special needs people in order to provide a layer of protection for them," Police Chief **John Phoennik** said. "That's why we are in the business: It all comes down to helping people."

South Fayette Township, Moon Township and Pittsburgh are among the 16 communities participating in Allegheny County.

The South Fayette officers are two of about 40 certified responders in the county. Since the program went live in February, they have signed up two clients—one in South Fayette and one in nearby Robinson—but have not had a real call yet.

From their training course last fall, however, the officers learned how to use the equipment: Go to the client's last known location, enter the bracelet's radio frequency into the receiver, listen for a changing chirp

that indicates the proximity and direction of the missing person, and search methodically. The average amount of time it takes to find someone is an hour.

"It works. It's amazing," said Officer Blocher, who has been a South Fayette patrolman for about 22 years.

TO LEARN MORE:
South Fayette Township Police Department,
412.221.2170

TO APPLY:
Allegheny County deputy district
attorney Tom Swan: 412.350.4401

PROJECT LIFESAVER:
www.projectlifesaver.org



Officer Bryan Monyak



Officer Michael Blocher demonstrates the tracking equipment used for Project Lifesaver.

Project Lifesaver is operated through the Allegheny County District Attorney's office. There is no cost to the township for equipment or training, and the service is free to clients and their families. The project is paid for with drug forfeiture money.

Caregivers or guardians who apply for the program will be assessed for eligibility, and if approved, be placed on a waiting list for a tracking bracelet.

"It's a good program," Officer Monyak said. "If somebody with special needs goes missing, it's a help to locate them."