



SOUTH FAYETTE T O W N S H I P

A Community Growing Together



Broadmore Senior Living residents John Mierun, Marge Puchany and Betty Lou Schmidt join Broadmore executive director Amy Shonts (second from right) on the fireplace hearth where actors Diane Keaton and John Goodman shot a movie scene in February. Residents of the senior home in South Fayette Township appear as extras in the holiday movie "Love the Coopers."



SOUTH FAYETTE

IN THE MOVIES

Senior home residents act as extras in holiday film with Diane Keaton and John Goodman

By Andrea Iglar

When a film starring Diane Keaton and John Goodman hits theaters later this year, South Fayette moviegoers may see familiar faces.

Some residents of Broadmore Senior Living, in the Lakemont Farms community on Washington Pike in South Fayette Township, acted as extras in the Christmas-themed movie "Love the Coopers" (originally titled "Let It Snow") that filmed at the retirement home Feb. 24.

The experience earned Broadmore resident **Marge Puchany**, 89, the family nickname "Movie Star" and gave her the memorable opportunity to meet Mr. Goodman, the famous actor known for the TV show "Roseanne" and movies such as "The Big Lebowski."

"I talked to John," Ms. Puchany said. "He was the same as you see him on TV. He was funny at times. I told him how great I thought they were, and he said to me, 'Honey, I'm not so great. It's you people that make me great.'"

South Fayette Township Police Chief John Phoennik and Township Manager Ryan Eggleston visit the movie set at Broadmore Senior Living.



More than 200 cast and crew members spent 41 days filming in the Pittsburgh region, and Day 22 was spent in South Fayette Township.

Outside Broadmore, crews decorated lampposts with holiday décor and set up an equipment staging area, complete with an artificial snow machine to ensure a blanket of white for their holiday film setting.

Inside, director Jessie Nelson and her crew filmed multiple takes of a scene in which Ms. Keaton and Mr. Goodman stood on the hearth of Broadmore's fireplace singing carols to an audience that included actors and Broadmore residents. The extras were asked to sing along and clap.

"I thought it was fun, and to me it was interesting to see how they made the movie because you don't realize what goes into it when you see it on the screen," said resident **Betty Lou Schmidt**, 83.

Resident **John Mierun**, 90, enjoyed the experience of being an extra, but he said it wasn't as exciting as other adventures in his life, such as skydiving at age 84.

"I'm a little bit older. I've been through the Depression, war, all kinds of thrill rides, all that stuff, so you know, this was like another day," Mr. Mierun said.

Amy Shonts, executive director of Broadmore, said location scouts chose Broadmore last winter from about 20 Pittsburgh-area senior citizen residences.

"The director said she loved it," Ms. Shonts said. "The fireplace had a nice, cozy feel for a Christmas movie."

The Friday before filming, the crew opened a casting call to more than 100 residents. Those interested in being extras—a daylong job that paid about \$50—had their photos taken. About a dozen residents were chosen.

Ms. Puchany said as an extra, she spent a lot of time sitting and waiting and repeating the scenes. "I was thinking, 'This is a long day,' but the next day I was glad I did it," she said. "It was a good experience."

Ms. Shonts said 15 hours of filming would be whittled down to about three minutes in the movie.

Ms. Schmidt enjoyed seeing the actors who stood in for Ms.

Keaton and Mr. Goodman while the crew set up different camera angles for each take. "What was quite interesting about it was the people that filled in for them, they looked so much like them," she said.

The Broadmore extras wore their own clothing. Mr. Mierun wore a red shirt, and Marge donned her snowman jersey. The crew put Santa hats or a scarf on some people.

When the movie is released this November, the Broadmore residents plan to hold a viewing party.

Mr. Mierun said if you don't blink, you just might see him in a scene alongside a cute, fluffy animal actor.

"Hey, they're not going to cut the dog," he said, "so they're not going to cut me."



Be Kind to One Another

South Fayette Township teen donates toys to local kids, thanks to The Ellen DeGeneres Show

By **Andrea Iglar**

When South Fayette High School graduate **Taylor Dickens**, 19, wrote a fan letter to comedian/actress/television host Ellen DeGeneres last year, she had no idea where it would lead.

Taylor, along with her mother, sister and two friends, were surprised in December when producers of The Ellen DeGeneres Show put her on the daytime talk-variety program via Skype to chat with Ellen.

They were further shocked when Ellen awarded them presents through the show's "12 Days of Christmas" promotion. The package included toy store gift cards, so Taylor decided to spend about \$1,000 on toys for children in her hometown of South Fayette Township.



South Fayette High School graduate Taylor Dickens, 19, used gift cards from TV host Ellen DeGeneres to buy toys for children in South Fayette Township.

"I wrote into the show because I'm one of her biggest fans," said Taylor, a freshman at California University of Pennsylvania. "I wanted to donate to families in the community because Ellen gives to people and has inspired me to do the same."

After receiving the gift cards this spring, Taylor assembled three red wagons full of toys, games and sports equipment to help local kids have fun this summer.

In April, the South Fayette Police Department delivered the toys to children in three families in the township.

"I think it's fantastic that there are people out there like Taylor who have such a spirit of giving," Police Chief John Phoennik said.

On her TV show, Ellen often reminds the audience, "Be kind to one another," so Taylor included those words on signs attached to each toy wagon.

"We hope the toys put a smile on somebody's face," mom **Christa Dickens** said. "That's what my Taylor is all about."

South Fayette Township Independence Day Fireworks

FRIDAY, JULY 3 AT DUSK

Display will launch from the El Rancho field on Hickory Grade Road, in the I-79/Route 50 area of the township.

SouthBridge EMS recognized for outstanding pediatric service

By Andrea Iglar

South Fayette Township's hometown ambulance service is a master at delivering excellent emergency care to children.

SouthBridge Emergency Medical Service, based on Hickory Grade Road in South Fayette, was honored April 24 by the statewide Pennsylvania Pediatric Voluntary Recognition Program for achieving the highest "master level" of pediatric service above and beyond state requirements.

"We're proud to be able to extend that additional level of care in the community," SouthBridge operations manager **Dan Miller** said.

The recognition ceremony was held at the UPMC Children's South Center, which opened

in South Fayette last fall.

Mr. Miller said that as a result of the UPMC Children's facility, SouthBridge has begun serving more pediatric patients—an average of about six per month.

"It gave us that extra push to go to that top level," he said.

SouthBridge is a nonprofit that provides paramedic, ambulance and other services to the communities of South Fayette Township, Bridgeville Borough and Cecil Township.

SouthBridge has completed all four levels of the voluntary recognition program, including requiring all EMS providers to obtain child abuse background clearances; installing

optional pediatric-specific equipment in their ambulances; providing four hours a year of child-focused continuing education; and being active in multiple community outreach programs.

Mr. Miller said that by participating in this program, SouthBridge is demonstrating it is

"truly prepared for pediatric patients" and "ready to respond to any and all emergency situations involving Pennsylvania's youngest citizens."

The program so far has recognized 107 total agencies across Pennsylvania. SouthBridge is among only 21 ambulance services recognized in Allegheny County, and among only 30 in the Emergency Medical Services Institute region, which covers 10 counties in southwestern Pennsylvania.

The recognition program was created by the Pennsylvania Emergency Medical Services for Children program, in partnership with the Department of Health, Bureau of EMS and the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council.

The program is supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of EMS.



Above: Celebrating the Certificate of Recognition for SouthBridge Emergency Medical Service (l to r) are: SouthBridge supervisors Michele Miller and Janis Miller; SouthBridge director Denis Valentine; Thomas Winkler of the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council; and UPMC Children's South administrators Lisa Mott and Chris Troup.

Left: Zoey Potts, 1, enjoys the ceremony with her mother, SouthBridge paramedic Sarah Potts.

South Fayette Township Police trained to give life-saving meds

By Andrea Iglar

The entire South Fayette Township Police Department is being certified this spring to administer the medication naloxone, commonly known by the trade name Narcan, to reverse the effects of overdoses on narcotics such as heroin or prescription painkillers.

Police Lt. Bob Kurta said naloxone can be administered to either an intentional user or

someone who accidentally ingests a drug, such as a child who swallows a prescription pill.

Police officers—who may arrive at a scene several minutes before emergency medical professionals—can immediately dispense the medication, which works instantly to counteract the effects of an overdose.

"Our ability to respond quickly is a potential lifesaver," he said.

When administered during an overdose, naloxone can prevent death by blocking the effects of opioids on the brain and restoring breathing within 2 to 8 minutes, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs website.

SouthBridge Emergency Medical Service, based in South Fayette Township, is equipping all police vehicles with a Narcan kit at no cost to the township, **Police Chief John Phoennik** said.

St. Clair Hospital authorizes and supplies the medication to SouthBridge, which in turn provides it to the police department, under

New Badges

Two police officers hired in South Fayette Township

By Andrea Iglar

Two new faces joined the South Fayette Township Police Department in April: **Collin Griffith** and **Michael Benney**.

The officers emerged as top choices after the township received 99 applications for the patrolman positions. A total of 69 applicants took a written exam and a physical agility test, and the Top 20 were interviewed.

"I'm looking to hire good people first, and that's what these guys are," Police Chief John Phoennik said.

Officer Griffith, who grew up in South Fayette, said he is excited to follow in the footsteps of family members—including his father, Jay—who have served in law enforcement.

"This is a Class A community," Officer Griffith said. "And it's my hometown. It's the icing on the cake."

Officer Griffith had completed his internship in South Fayette while studying criminal justice at Edinboro University. And he met his new boss long ago, when Chief Phoennik led his fifth-grade class in the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program.

Prior to joining the South Fayette department, Mr. Griffith served part-time in Bridgeville and in Mt. Pleasant, Washington County. He is eager to gain knowledge from fellow officers in South Fayette.

"I'd like to take the best that each person does and learn from that," he said.

Officer Benney became interested in law enforcement after graduating from Carlynton High School and joining a gym where police officers worked out. He was drawn to their stories and camaraderie and decided to study criminal justice at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

He previously spent four years as an officer for the City of Pittsburgh and now aims to become more familiar with South Fayette Township.

"I want to focus on building rapport with the community," Officer Benney said.

The South Fayette police department now has 16 officers, including the chief, and at least one additional officer is set to be hired this year. Three total police retirements are expected in 2015.

Name: Collin Griffith

Occupation: Patrolman, South Fayette Township Police Department

Age: 24

Family: Wife, Meaghan; parents, Rhonda and Jay; sister, Shelby

Education: South Fayette High School; Edinboro University; Allegheny County Police Training Academy

Name: Michael Benney

Occupation: Patrolman, South Fayette Township Police Department

Age: 30

Family: Wife, Elizabeth; parents, Tonna and Jeffrey; siblings, John and Maria
Education: Carlynton High School; Indiana University of Pennsylvania; City of Pittsburgh Police Training Academy

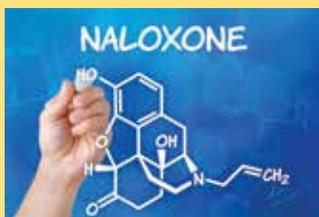


Collin Griffith (l) and Michael Benney (r).

agreements among the agencies, SouthBridge director **Denis Valentine** said.

"We're all working together to accomplish this," he said, noting the police's ability to administer the medication a few minutes sooner "can make a big difference."

The police training materials are provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, and produced in cooperation with the



Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association and the Ohio Attorney General's Office.

The police training course covers information about the medication naloxone, opioid use in Pennsylvania and PA Act 139, which allows police and other first responders to administer naloxone to people experiencing an opioid overdose.

Naloxone offsets the effects of opioids and opiates, which may be either synthetic or derived from the opium poppy. Examples are heroin or

prescription narcotics such as morphine, codeine, methadone, oxycodone (Percodan, Percocet, OxyContin), hydrocodone (Vicodin), meperidine (Demerol), propoxyphene (Darvon) and hydromorphone (Dilaudid), among others.

A "Good Samaritan" provision in PA Act 139 encourages people to call 911 if they witness a friend or loved one overdose on narcotics, by offering certain criminal and civil protections that quell the fear of arrest, the Drug and Alcohol Programs website says.

In the event of an emergency in South Fayette Township, please call 911.

2015 Summer Recreation Programs

Register at: www.southfayettepa.com/RecRegister

Summer Playground Camp (Ages 5 – 12)

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, 23	SF Middle School
Week 6	July 27, 29, 31	Morgan Park

Morning Session: 9:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M. \$10 per session

Afternoon Session: 12:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M. \$10 per session

All Day Session: 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. \$20 per day*

Whole Week (3 days): 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.* \$50 per week

*Campers in all-day sessions must bring lunch

**No Whole Week rate available for Week 2

Summer Tennis

6-WEEK SUMMER SESSION I: June 8 – July 19

5-WEEK SUMMER SESSION II: July 20 – August 23

PEE WEE Clinics/Quickstart (Ages 5 – 6)

Monday/Friday (11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.)

Junior Beginners Clinics (Ages 7 – 10)

Monday/Wednesday/Friday (9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.)

Junior Advanced Beginners (Ages 11 – 14)

Monday/Wednesday/Friday (10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)

High Performance Beginner Clinics (age 12 – 17)

Monday/Wednesday/Friday (8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.)

Tennis pricing: www.southfayettepa.com/recregister

Summer Art Camps (Ages 6+)

Your child will create themed art and play a variety of amusing games.

\$65 per child per week
9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

"It's a Jungle Out There"
June 22 – 25
Fairview Entrance Pavilion

"Yee-Haw Wild West"
July 13 – 16
South Fayette Senior Center

Broadway Acting Camps

Vocal, acting, and dance lessons will be enhanced by fun theatre games and activities. On the last day of camp, family and friends will be amazed by a musical performance.

July 27–31

\$145 per child
Oakridge Fire Hall

FROZEN (Grades 1-3)
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

GREASE (Grades 4-6)
1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Line Dancing Tuesdays @ 6:15 P.M.

\$7 per class at South Fayette Senior Center

Yoga & Hikes

June 5, July 17, Aug. 14

& Sept. 11 @ 7 P.M.

\$10/session

Panhandle Trail entrance

Sturgeon (at Station & Main)

Sunrise Yoga

Wednesdays @ 8 A.M.

Session #1 (June 10-July 1)

Session #2 (July 8-July 29)

Boys Home Park Field

\$40 (4 weeks) or \$10/class



Outdoor Yoga in the Park

Mondays & Wednesdays @ 7 P.M.

July 13 – August 5

\$50 once/week or 4 classes

\$90 twice/week (all 8 classes)

Boys Home Park Field

Senior Yoga

Mondays @ 8 A.M.

Session #1 (May 11-June 1)

Session #2 (June 8-June 29)

South Fayette Senior Center

\$40 (4 weeks) or \$10/class

21-Day Fix

Wednesdays @ 7 P.M.

July 15 – August 19

\$55 for 6 weeks or \$10/class

South Fayette Senior Ctr.

Free classes: 5/24, 6/7, 6/28

Brazil Butt Lift® Class

Wednesdays @ 7 P.M.

May 27 – July 1

\$55 for 6 weeks or \$10/class

South Fayette Senior Ctr.

Jump Start Sport Camps (Ages 4-12)

Kids play a variety of sports and games at Fairview Park.

Half Day: 9 A.M. – noon

\$90 per week

Full Day: 9 A.M. – 3 P.M.

\$125 per week

Olympic Sport Camp
June 15 – 19

Ultimate Warrior Camp
July 6 – 10

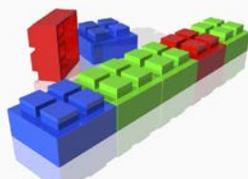
College Days Sport Camp
July 27 – July 31

Snapology LEGO® Minecraft® Camp (Ages 5-14)

Come join us as we bring Minecraft® to life using Lego® bricks.

June 15 – 18
1 P.M. – 4 P.M.

\$145 per child
South Fayette Library
Meeting Room



Class, Camp & Program Registration:

www.southfayettepa.com/RecRegister

South Fayette Township Parks & Recreation

Paula Simmons, Recreation Director

412-221-8700 x 17 / psimmons@sftwp.com

515 Millers Run Road / Morgan, PA 15064



SOUTH FAYETTE
TOWNSHIP

A Community Growing Together



PLAYGROUNDBREAKING

South Fayette Township children can slide, climb and frolic on new playground equipment this spring.

Community members broke ground April 17 for a new playground in Fairview Park, behind the Rotary Pavilion. The \$30,000 playground is funded by the Parks & Recreation budget.

For the groundbreaking ceremony, South Fayette Township officials were joined by school district administrators, the South Fayette High School show choir quartet and residents. Dunkin' Donuts in Collier Township donated refreshments.



SOUTH FAYETTE COMMUNITY FUND

The groundbreaking doubled as a celebration of the new South Fayette Community Fund, which was formed this year under the umbrella of The Pittsburgh Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization.

Corporate sponsors, memorial donors and other contributors can give tax-deductible funds earmarked for the township's parks, recreation and community development projects.

Please visit www.southfayettepa.com/fund to learn more and donate online.

South Fayette Township broke ground April 17 for a Fairview Park playground, expected to open in June. Left to right: South Fayette Township Recreation Director **Paula Simmons**; South Fayette High School senior **Lindsey Myers**, junior **Corina Campbell**, junior **Matthew Burroughs**, residents **Landon Whitewood** and mother **Deb Whitewood**; senior **Alex Fraser**; Township Manager **Ryan Eggleston**, **Lacey Fetcko** of The Pittsburgh Foundation; township Commissioners **Ray Pitetti** and **Lisa Malosh**; school Superintendent **Bille Rondinelli**; and Parks & Recreation Board member **Ron Miller**.



Replace **smoke detectors** every 10 years, fire officials urge

By **Andrea Iglar**

Every month, South Fayette Township's four volunteer fire departments respond to calls that a smoke detector is beeping, but when firefighters arrive, they find no fire or smoke. And changing the battery doesn't stop the chirping.

So why all the noise?

"The detectors themselves are beyond their life expectancy," Fire Chief Joe Janocha says. "Most smoke detectors have a lifespan of 10 years, and nobody knows they need replaced."

The U.S. Fire Administration and the Pennsylvania Office of the State Fire Commissioner say to replace all types of smoke alarms after 10 years.

"Smoke alarms are inexpensive protection for your family that doubles the chances of survival," according to the fire commissioner website.

There are two types of smoke alarms, which can cost as little as \$6 each. Photoelectric alarms generally respond faster to smoldering smoke, while ionization alarms respond faster to flaming fire.

The USFA recommends that every home have both types of alarms, or else use combination alarms (\$24 and up) that contain both types of sensors.

Alarms using lights or vibrations also are available for people with hearing loss.

Smoke detectors may be powered by a disposable 9-volt battery; a non-replaceable 10-year lithium battery; or your home's electrical system with a back-up battery. No matter the type, all alarms should be replaced after 10 years.

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

In addition to fire alarms, every home should have detectors for carbon monoxide—a poisonous, odorless, invisible gas that can originate from fuel-burning appliances such as a furnace, generator, stove, water heater or fireplace.

The lifespan of a carbon monoxide detector varies. Some last 5 to 10 years, while others last 2 to 3 years. Replace alarms according to the package instructions.

Smoke Alarm Tips

- Test alarm monthly.
- Change the battery at least once each year.
- Replace all types of smoke alarms after 10 years.
- Install alarms in high places on every level of your home and next to every sleeping area.
- Make sure everyone knows the sound of the alarm.
- Plan your escape route and agree on a meeting place outside.
- When the alarm sounds, get out fast and call the fire department from a neighbor's house.
- Once out, stay out!

www.southfayettepa.com/fire



Vacation *with* Education

Library keeps kids learning over school break with Summer Bridge Activities

By Andrea Iglar

This year, South Fayette Township Library is making it easier than ever for children to participate in educational activities over summer vacation.

The Summer Bridge Activities Club returns June 22 with accommodations for morning and afternoon sessions at two locations: the South Fayette Township Senior Center and the Bridgeville Public Library.

No registration is required. Rather than signing up ahead of time, children drop in and join a session until space is filled.

Jody Wilson,

Youth Services Manager at South Fayette Township Library, said the

Nidhi Pakulath and Vasu Pakulath read in South Fayette Township Library.

Summer Bridge Activities Club is extremely popular.

"The South Fayette Township community as a whole is very committed to education," Ms. Wilson said. "People are interested in keeping their kids' skills sharp over the summer."

The program is open to children who are entering kindergarten through fifth grade this fall.

Thanks to a generous donation from the South Fayette Elementary PTA, Summer Bridge is free except for the cost of the workbooks (about \$14 each). Workbooks are available for sale starting June 15 in the South Fayette Township Library. A limited number of free workbooks are available to families experiencing financial hardship.

Middle- and high-school students are needed as tutors, who can earn volunteer hours for their service. Volunteers who work the most may earn a \$100 stipend.

With guidance from the tutors, Summer Bridge participants complete workbook pages in subjects such as reading, writing, arithmetic, social studies, history and geography. The comprehensive curriculum aligns with the Common Core Standards, which are used in the South Fayette Township School District, Ms. Wilson said.

Kids get fun prizes for every seven workbook pages they complete, and at the end of each session, they play skill-building board games.

"Programs have to be both fun and educational; that's what works in South

Fayette," Ms. Wilson said. "It is fun. The kids have a ball."

OTHER SUMMER LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Accelerated Reader access will be available all summer to kids entering grades 1-5. A finale event Aug. 8 will feature a prize party for grades 1-5 and a Battle of the Books for grades 3-5.

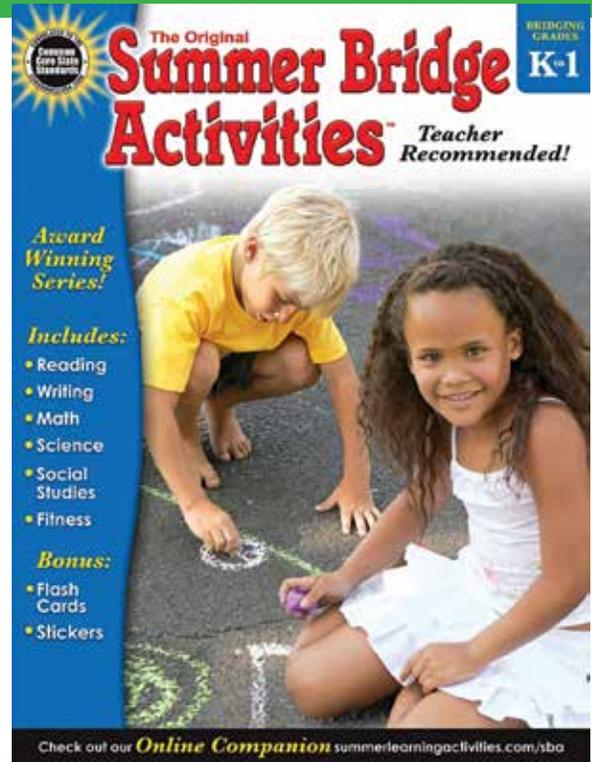
The library will hold weeklong science, art and chess summer camps, such as:

- Silly Summer Science for PreK-grade 2
- 3 Little Pigs Learn to Build Asset STEM Workshop for grades K-2
- Eco-Engineers Camp for grades 1-5
- Chess camps for beginners and intermediate players
- Learn to Draw programs for grades 1-5
- Art, photography and writing programs for grades 5-8
- Writers Unleashed high school writing program for grades 9-12
- Volunteer opportunities for grades 7-12

Pending grant approval, a two-week-long Natural Science program in August will include outdoor activities and a trip to the Museum of Natural History for grades 1-5.

Five weekly story times and a Rolling & Strolling program at local parks also will continue.

For updated information, please visit the Calendar of Events at www.southfayettelibrary.org.



April 2015

60
volunteers

450
bags of litter

17
road miles

Lots of
hard work!



**SOUTH FAYETTE
TOWNSHIP**

A Community Growing Together

Thanks to our volunteers & sponsors!

Alice's Restaurant
Bee'z Pizza
CDM Equity Group
Embroidery PGH
Firestone Bridgeville
John Kosky Contracting Inc.

Laurie McGlothlin
R.F. Mitall and Associates Inc.
South Fayette Township Community Members
South Fayette Township School District Students
South Fayette Township Staff
Waste Management



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.solarizeallegheny.org/southfayette

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Keep in touch with your community!



Sign up for custom news and alerts from South Fayette Township, sent directly to your email or text inbox!

www.southfayettepa.com/notifyme

Thanks

to the sponsors of the 2015 South Fayette Egg Hunt!

- Alpine Hunting & Fishing Club
- B&B Supply
- Deckman Company
- Judge Maureen McGraw-Desmet
- Warchol Funeral Home
- South Fayette Township
- South Fayette Township School District

