



Potter Township

2020 Winter Newsletter



Butch Shamp



SaraBeth Miller



# 2020 MOMENTS IN POTTER



Father & Son Training



Grandfather & Grandson Training



Lois Podwar



**HALLOWEEN**  
Dawn Neely



Rebecca Matsco





## Rocky Bend Nature Preserve: A Bird-Watching Hopspot

Looking for something different to do? Something socially distant but not awkward or frustrating? Something you can do safely, without a mask, and close-to-home? Try bird watching! All you need is a pair of binoculars and some patient time outdoors at Rocky Bend Nature Preserve.



**INDEPENDENCE**  
— CONSERVANCY —

Thanks to the efforts of several local birders, Rocky Bend is on the map as a bird-watching hotspot. You can follow their sightings in almost-real time at Cornell University's eBird.org: <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L11830320>. As of December 20<sup>th</sup>, these sharp-eyed folks have verified 108 different species of birds at Rocky Bend, making it the #11 birdwatching hotspot in Beaver County. Rocky Bend has been moving up eBird's chart since July, when local birders began recording their sightings. Not only did they "round up the usual suspects" like Mourning Dove, European Starling, and American Robin, but they also spotted waterfowl, raptors, game birds and migrating songbirds aplenty. These include protected species like the Turkey Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Eastern Screech Owl, American Kestrel, Osprey and our national symbol, the Bald Eagle.

Less common birds – ones you may have never heard of, or didn't realize might be found here – include Louisiana Waterthrush, Palm Warbler, Acadian Flycatcher, Magnolia Warbler, and Yellow-billed Cuckoo. This past fall, many visitors to Rocky Bend were surprised and delighted by a flock of dozens of hooded mergansers taking flight, their wingtips splashing in Raccoon Creek.

Why so many birds at Rocky Bend? Our part of the country lies within the Atlantic Flyway, a route used by birds migrating north to south, and back again. The Preserve's varied habitat – open water, old field, mature woodlands and unmown meadows offer food and shelter for many creatures. Rocky Bend's shallow wetlands – a gift to the community from Shell - are a big draw for all kinds of wildlife, especially birds that feed on caterpillars and flying insects. Even standing dead timber is valuable for cavity-nesting birds like the Pileated Woodpecker and Northern Flicker.

If you can't get outside to enjoy some birdwatching, Cornell's eBird.org can help you identify the visitors to your back yard feeder. Photos and descriptions of each bird include links for their songs. Take time to click a few of these links. Imagine a summer meadow in the call of a Red-winged Blackbird, or get lost in the ramblings of a Northern Mockingbird – a sure cure for the Covid quarantine blues.



*Scarlet Tanagers were seen in great numbers this summer, hunting roadsides and gardens for insects. These brilliant red songbirds live in mature forests of oak, beech and hemlock - like the woodlands of Raccoon Creek. Scarlet Tanagers spend their winters in tropical rain forests east of the Andes Mountains in South America.*



"Dante Zuccaro scouts the wetlands at Rocky Bend Nature Preserve for new birds to add to his list of well over 100 species sighted in 2020.

eBird.org catalogs the songbirds, waterfowl, game birds and raptors observed at Rocky Bend by visiting birders, including our national symbol, the bald eagle. Rocky Bend's wetlands are a gift to the community from Shell. Now in their third year of maturity, the wetlands add habitat diversity and year-round interest to the landscape."

**POTTER TOWNSHIP DATES TO REMEMBER  
2020**



Dec 28-31 6:00 pm Municipal Office Closed—Holidays

**2021**

Jan 4 4:30 pm—Work Session—Twp Building  
 Jan 4 6:00 pm—Organization Meeting—Twp Building & ZOOM  
 Jan 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day—Twp Office Closed  
 Feb 3 6:00 pm—Work Session—Twp Building  
 Feb 10 6:00 pm—Business Meeting—Twp Building & ZOOM  
 Feb 15 Presidents' Day—Twp Office Closed  
 Mar 3 6:00 pm—Work Session—Twp Building  
 Mar 10 6:00 pm—Business Meeting—Twp Building & ZOOM  
 Apr 7 6:00 pm—Work Session—Twp Building  
 Apr 14 6:00 pm—Business Meeting—Twp Building & ZOOM

**Potter Township Municipal Building  
206 Mowry Road  
Monaca, PA 15061**

**Township Office Hours**

**Monday—Thursday: 10 am—4 pm  
Friday: CLOSED**

**Municipal Office** 724-495-6220  
 Fax 724-495-3222  
 Email linda@pottertwp.comcastbiz.net  
 Secretary/Treasurer Linda McCoy  
 Road Department Justin Cwynar  
 Zoning Officer Justin Cwynar  
 Website www.pottertwp-pa.gov  
 Facebook Potter Twp Beavercountypa

**Emergency** 911  
 Police—non-emergency 724-774-0271  
 Fire—non-emergency 724-495-3364  
 Animal Control 724-775-5801

**Schools**  
 Central Valley School District  
 Central Valley Office 724-775-5600  
 Central Valley High School 724-775-4300  
 Central Valley Middle School 724-775-8200  
 Todd Lane Elementary 724-775-1050  
 Center Grange Primary School 724-775-8201  
 Latch Key Program 724-774-7020

**Utilities**  
 Duquesne Light Co. 412-393-7100  
 Peoples Natural Gas 800-764-0111  
 Center Township Water Authority 724-774-7960  
 Municipal Water Auth of Aliquippa 724-375-5525  
 J. Young Refuse 724-495-6199

**Real Estate Tax Collector**  
 Victoria Leininger 412-759-9184  
 taxcollector@pottertwp.comcastbiz.net

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Rebecca Matsco, Chair  
Earl "Butch" Shamp  
Al Cwynar**

**Work Sessions:**  
 1st Wednesday 6pm  
 3rd/5th Wednesday—if needed 6pm

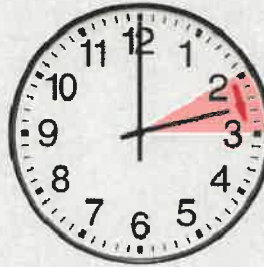
**Regular Meetings:**  
 2nd Wednesday 6pm  
 4th Wednesday—if needed 6pm

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

**Regular Meetings—if needed:  
Thursdays 7pm**

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME  
Sunday, March 14, 2021**

Daylight Saving Time starts on the second Sunday of March. Clocks are turned forward one hour from 2 am to 3 am.



**SAVVY CITIZEN SavvyCitizenApp.com**



To receive real time updates of what is occurring in **Potter Township**, download the free **Savvy Citizen App**. If you do not want the app, you can sign up for **text or email notifications**. The app will display both emergency notifications and community events.

**FOR APP USERS** — Download the "Savvy Citizen" app from the App Store or Google play. Open the app and put in the requested information if you would like to create an account OR skip all steps until it asks for your zip code. Type in 15061 and select Potter. Complete the setup by choosing if you want information from surrounding communities (check mark the communities you want to receive information from). When asked about Push Notifications, click ALLOW to receive notifications.

**FOR TEXT OR EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS** — Go to the **Savvy Citizen** website. Click "sign up" to create an account. Put in your zip code (15061) and select Potter. Then, as prompted, type in your cell phone number for text notifications and/or your email address for email notifications.



# POTTER TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS



Vicki Carlton - Chief  
James Gabel - Asst. Chief/Pres.  
Sue Nash - Captain/Secretary

Lois Podnar - Treasurer  
Ray Maylone - V.P./Trustee

247 W. Mowry Road  
Monaca, PA 15061  
Phone: 724-495-3364

Fax: 724-709-7074  
Email:  
PotterTwpVFD@yahoo.com

## Merry Christmas and Warm Wishes for a Healthy and Happy New Year!



A huge thank you to everyone for the generous donations and participation in the fundraisers we have been able to have this year! Our food ticket was won by Marge from Hopewell, and she generously donated money back to the department.

We have multiple fundraising events planned for next year as soon as the powers that be give us the green light... keep an eye out for Bourbon and BBQ, Night at the races, and Wine Tasting!



Training has been tricky this year but we did manage to get a few classes in, showing some of the newer members "the ropes" so to speak. Speaking of new members, we would like to welcome Aaron into the firefighting family. He is new to the area from Texas, but will be a permanent Shell employee.



And now for the public service announcement... Please make sure to keep your tree watered! May be a little late but check those chimneys before burning and make sure to burn only the proper wood in your fireplace!



*Stay safe and have a happy holiday season!*



**A wonderful article  
about the American Flag  
from Senior Airman  
Zoe Wockenfuss,  
daughter of Brian and  
Melanie Wockenfuss of  
Potter Township!**

## **OLD GLORY**

**by Senior Airman ZOE WOCKENFUSS—Public Affairs Specialist with the  
171st Air Refueling Wing Pennsylvania Air National Guard**

Throughout American history, there has always been a constant. The American flag is a knot in the American legacy that won't come undone. It is worn on the right sleeve of our uniform. It is painted on every military aircraft. It was raised atop Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima and at Ground Zero of the World Trade Center after the attacks of 9/11. It was oil-spattered and saved from the wreckage of the USS Arizona during Pearl Harbor. It was planted on the moon's rocky surface in 1969. It lines the streets of American hometowns and is painted on the cheeks of children for Independence Day. It is the American flag and it represents the freedom, dignity, and true meaning of being an American.

The servicemen and women who take an oath to fight for this country are prepared to give their lives. They swear to protect it and bring honor to its colors. Red symbolizes hardiness and valor while the color white symbolizes purity and innocence. The blue represents vigilance, perseverance, and justice. American citizens are willing to stand for the American flag, and all that it represents, time and time again.

To the American service member, the American flag is more than just fabric, it is a connection to one another. It is a symbol of freedom and equal opportunity. It embodies our common mission and history as well as service members' timeless bond. Each of the 13 stripes represents the original colonies that fought for our independence and the stars depict every one of the 50 United States. Those stars and stripes unite us, as Americans, to protect and defend this nation. Citizens enjoy the freedom and liberty to express their constitutional rights thanks to the sacrifices Americans have made throughout the years.

Often called "Old Glory", the American flag has come to mean a great deal to Americans. It flies over the land of the free and the home of the brave. It has been there with us through times of war as well as times of great triumph. We carry it with us when we are deployed overseas. It gets tattered and torn during firefights and missions outside the wire but it is mended by the tired hands that carried it. Some members will carry it for many years, while others' time is cut short. At the end of their days, they return home in a flag-covered casket. The ultimate sacrifice was made and they are to be honored with the red, white, and blue. While the flag rests atop the casket, there can only be one sound, the sound of Taps. The flag is then folded in half, and then again from corner to corner until its final position is that of a triangle. And one final salute, to that American flag.



## **2021 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ORGANIZATION MEETING**

The Supervisors' Annual Organization Meeting will be held on **Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM** at the Municipal Building and on ZOOM.

A Work Session will be held at 4:30 pm before the meeting.

The Township Office will be closed for the Christmas and New Year holidays from December 25, 2020 through January 3, 2021.

**The success of Potter Township is a reflection of the ever-increasing dedication and enthusiasm that the staff and volunteers display on a continual basis. The Board would like to personally thank you for your contribution of time, creativity, and energy. We look forward to working with you in 2021!**

We're always focused on providing safe and reliable power to our community. As a winter storm approaches, we're here to help you and your constituents prepare. We want to provide the tools and resources needed, should your community be impacted by the storm.



**HOW YOU CAN PREPARE**—Severe winter weather can immobilize an entire region. Even areas that normally experience mild winters can suddenly be hit with heavy snowfall or intense cold.

**REPORT AN OUTAGE**—Power outages are possible during severe winter weather events, whether they're caused by heavy snow and ice bringing down tree branches and wires or motor vehicle accidents.

If you experience an outage, please don't assume DLC knows your power is out. If your power is out, let us know!  
**Ways to Report an Outage:**

Online: by visiting our website <https://duquesnelight.com/login?redirecturl=/outages-safety/report-outage>  
DLC Mobile App: by downloading the app from the [Apple Store](#) or [Google Play](#).  
Call Center: by calling 412-393-7000.

Visit the **Outages & Safety** section at [DuquesneLight.com](http://DuquesneLight.com) for additional storm information including:

**Current Outages, Restoring Power, Electrical Safety** and more. Do not wait until it is too late. If a storm hits your area, be vigilant, focused and prepared. Our DLC Team is here to assist you!

### **Paying your Township Real Estate Taxes:**

*Payments can be mailed to:*

Victoria M. Leininger, CPTC – Real Estate Tax Collector / 105 Mowry Road, Monaca, PA 15061  
(Please mail real estate bill with self-addressed stamped envelope if you desire a dated receipt)

*Appointments:*

Please call 412-759-9184 for an appointment or if you have any questions. (Please leave your name and phone number along with a message and the RE Tax Collector will get back to you ASAP!)

**REMINDER:**

*The Real Estate Tax Collector does not collect taxes at her residence. No one other than the Real Estate Tax Collector can accept your payment for taxes.*



# POTTER TOWNSHIP GARBAGE PROVIDER



**J. Young Refuse Phone: 724-495-6199**

**PICK UP DAY – Friday Please make sure your garbage is set out by 6:00 AM**

*J. Young Refuse is closed for the following holidays: (ONLY 3)  
Thanksgiving Day—Christmas Day—New Years Day*

*Collection is the following day for customers whose collection day falls on or after these three holidays.*

Potter Township 2021 Recycling																											
January							February							March							April						
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31																											
May							June							July							August						
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30	31																										
September							October							November							December						
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26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				26	27	28	29	30	31		
							31																				

## ROAD DEPARTMENT

Justin has been busy this year managing the Township Road Department:

- He helped oversee the 2020 Paving Project that brought newly paved roads to Potter
- He has been moving the newly purchased Speed Alert Trailer around the Township to discourage speeding on our roads
- Along with keeping the Road Department equipment in great shape, mowing our beautiful Township, stockpiling road materials, he has kept our roads cleared when it snows for safe traveling—*please remember to keep vehicles off the road so that Justin can plow—Whether shoveled or plowed, snow must remain on your property and not be put on Township roads or rights-of-way.*



**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK JUSTIN Cwynar**

Potter Township Municipal Office  
206 Mowry Road  
Monaca, PA 15061

Phone: 724-495-6220  
Fax: 724-495-3222  
Email: linda@pottertwp.comcastbiz.net



**SUPERVISORS**

Rebecca Matsco    Earl 'Butch' Shamp    Al Cwynar

Work Sessions — 1<sup>st</sup> Wed of each month — 6 PM

Regular Board Meetings — 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed of each month — 6 PM

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**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Lauren Patton    Lenny Miller    Philip Floyd

Mark Summerville    Tom Ruff

(Alternates - George Barnes and Ed Kolis)

Regular Meetings — 3rd Thur of each month 7 PM (as needed)

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*All meetings are held at the Municipal Building*

*206 Mowry Road, Monaca, PA 15061*

**ALL TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND!**

**The Potter Township  
Supervisors and  
Employees extend to  
you & your family our  
very best wishes for a  
Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year!**