With fire calls increasing and the 34-year-old Township firehouse outdated, Upper Allen is renovating the building and adding space that will benefit the 28 firefighters and more than 20 administrative staffers at the all-volunteer station.

The firehouse at 100 Gettysburg Pike has “woefully undersized office space and meeting rooms,” said township President Commissioner Ken Martin. “It is a tired, worn building that has had roof issues. The HVAC system is essentially shot.”

The administrative offices, kitchen and bunk and meeting rooms are being demolished and a two-story building for those facilities will be erected. Dorm-style rooms will provide live-in capability for four firefighters, up from two, and allow privacy for male and female members.

“The original facility was built to accommodate a male fire force. That’s no longer the case. We want to encourage females as well,” Martin said.

The force has two female firefighters.

Fire Chief Jim Salter cited the old firehouse’s mid-1980s technology.

“There was a lack of outlets, power, old door locks,” he pointed out. “The new building will enhance everything and have faster Wi-Fi service.

Driving the need for the renovation is Township growth.

New developments are going up on a yearly basis,” Salter said. “This is one of the fastest-growing municipalities. That creates more pressure on the fire department to expand and be able to cope with the increase in residential and commercial development, and traffic.”

Fire calls are up 12 percent this year and are expected to top out at 16 to 18 percent. Calls jumped 22 percent from 2016 to 2017.

The work at the station costs about $3.3 million, Martin said, with a bond issue covering about $2.8 million. Fundraising and money accumulated for capital expenditures should cover the remainder, he said.

Construction is expected to be completed in spring 2019.
Winding Hills Park offers soccer and baseball fields, walking paths, basketball courts and a concession stand. Now all those amenities will be linked by a central hub featuring an inclusive youth playground and tot lot, a central plaza with plenty of seating, and misting stations.

Work on that central area, which had been open space with a retention pond, will be completed in September.

The retention pond has been moved to the rear of the 61-acre park, said Assistant Township Manager Scott Fraser. Work on the hub included construction of an improved storm-water-collection system.

The central area, adjacent to the concession stand and close to restrooms, will be accessible to residents of all ages and abilities. The aim was to create an inclusive recreational space.

The new playground, compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, is a colorful mix of slides, ramps, bridges and ladders. The ramps allow physically challenged children to play on some of the elevated equipment.

The playground has a rubber safety surface, which is easier to navigate for those using wheelchairs. ADA-compliant porous paths wind through the hub.

Native plants enhance the central area, which was developed with a $200,000 grant from the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

The work at Winding Hills Park comes in response to the increase in population in Upper Allen Township and the growing need for safe and clean recreational space.

Community Development Projects

The “Development Projects” tab on the Township’s website, www.uatwp.org, is a tool that residents can use to stay informed about upcoming and ongoing development projects. The “Development Projects” tab can be accessed from the Home Page by selecting “Departments,” then “Community Development,” then “Development Projects.” Each development or project includes information such as the general location of the project, a description of the project, copies of the site plan and other design information, and status of development. Information is updated periodically as it becomes available to Township staff.
SHEPHERDSTOWN KEYSTONE MARKER

Upper Allen Township and the Keystone Marker Trust, a non-profit organization, have collaborated to restore the historic Shepherdstown Keystone Marker located along Gettysburg Pike. These cast iron markers were installed throughout Pennsylvania between the 1920’s and the 1940’s by the former Pennsylvania Department of Highways (now PennDOT) to mark the location of features such as cities, towns, rivers, streams, mountains, and historical sites.

The Keystone Marker Trust has established a cooperative program with the Cumberland Perry Area Vocational Technical School in Mechanicsburg in order to repaint these iconic traces of history. Residents may go to www.keystonemarkertrust.org for more information on this organization. The repainting of the marker came at no cost to the taxpayers.

The Shepherdstown Municipal Historic District consists of nearly 40 properties located along Gettysburg Pike. This district includes the largest number of historically and architecturally significant structures, many of which predate 1858. Once a crossroad settlement, the district includes several half-timber structures, later Victorian house, and the Union Hotel building.

POLICE RETIREES EXCELLED IN INVESTIGATIONS, RECORDS

In June, Upper Allen Police marked the retirement of two members of the department, a detective known for meticulous investigations and an administrative assistant considered an expert on criminal justice records management.

Detective Sgt. Thomas Kauffman began his career with the Township as a patrolman in 1988. He worked with the Tri-County Drug Task Force for two years, where he excelled in arrests and investigations. In 2002 he was named supervisory platoon sergeant. He was reassigned as detective sergeant in 2003.

Police Chief James Adams calls Kauffman “one of the best interrogators that central Pennsylvania has ever seen.”

“I have witnessed him get confessions out of people,” Adams said. “He has a way of building rapport and getting them to spill their guts to him.”

Kauffman was consulted by other police agencies and conducted interrogations for them. He was an expert at amassing evidence, Adams said.

“There probably was no one better at putting together circumstantial cases,” Adams said. “He would not back down.”

Kauffman was among the less than 1 percent of applicants who are selected to attend the FBI National Academy.

Administrative assistant Jennifer Brillhart joined the department in 1982, the only full-time civilian it has ever employed. She often worked past her regular hours, and her expertise in records management led her to assist other law enforcement agencies.

“She is the go-to person, not only in the department, but in the county and beyond,” Adams explained. “She knows (the records system) inside-out, upside-down, and has trained a lot of people outside the department.”

Calling Brillhart a “stellar employee,” Adams praised her professionalism.

“As far as integrity, my confidence in her is hard to put into words how much I trusted and valued her,” he said.

Township commissioners issued resolutions of appreciation for Kauffman’s and Brillhart’s service.
The Upper Allen Fire Department honored nearly 20 members of its volunteer force at an awards banquet in February.

As Fire Chief Jim Salter puts it, these personnel often are unsung heroes in the Township.

“These individuals don’t receive any compensation throughout the year to help keep our community safe,” Salter said. “All year long they sacrifice time with their families to answer the call and we are honored to recognize them for their dedication.”

The department presented these awards for 2017:

**Top 10 Fire Responders** (with number of calls)

1. Kevin Prest (342)
2. Jim Salter (313)
3. Kristopher Kaminski (304)
4. Jeff Stefanowicz (277)
5. Mike Leininger (270)
6. Ryan Bosserman (239)
7. Gaige Zettlemoyer (224)
8. Karl Kunkel (203)
9. Ryan Kunkel (184)
10. Robert Snyder (174)
10. Amber Serrano (174)

**Top 5 for Training** (with number of hours)

1. Kevin Prest (321)
2. Darren Feaser (210)
3. Jim Salter (192)
4. Anthony Cardinale (140)
5. Tom Shumberger (115)

**Top Fire Police Responder**
Kevin Woolverton (91 calls)

**Top Driver**
Mike Leininger (111 calls)

**Top Responder**
Kevin Prest (342 calls)

**Rookie of the Year**
Anthony Cardinale

“Monty Kreiger” Go-to-Guy Award
Ken Dean

**Chief Award**
Karl Kunkel

**Member of the Year**
Ron Dean
Deadline approaching to apply for 2017 school district property tax rebate

District homeowners who are 75 years old or older have until Dec. 31 to apply for a property tax refund ranging from $250 to $650 through the Mechanicsburg Area School District’s Property Tax Rebate Program.

To qualify, applicants must have paid their 2017 school property tax bill in full by December 31, 2017. The applicant or their spouse also must meet income eligibility guidelines and been previously approved to participate in the Pennsylvania Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program. Rebate amounts are based on household income.

For assistance with rebate applications, please contact the District Office at 717-691-4518. Applications and program guidelines are available online at www.mbgsd.org/apps/pages/Property Tax Rebate Program.

Mail completed applications to the Mechanicsburg Area School District, Attn: Property Tax Rebate Program, 1225 South Market Street, Suite 1, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.
Curbside Leaf Pickup

Leaf pick-up in Upper Allen Township will begin on October 15th and continue thru December 1st. If leaves are not picked up on your posted day, our crews will be back the next day to finish the posted area before they move on with the schedule. If you see a crew in your area before your posted day, then it means they are ahead of schedule; however, they will return on your designated day.

NOTE: Any leaf piles with grass, ornamental plants, sticks, or vegetation of any kind mixed in with the leaves will not be picked up. No exceptions will be made.

Monday
Flintlock Ridge, Holiday Crest, Park Hills, Winding Hills Development, Winding Hill Heights, Winding Hill Road, Gettysburg Pike (Cumberland Parkway to Route 114), Sunnyland, Webercroft, Georgetown, South Market Street (Gettysburg Pike to Mechanicsburg line), Lindenwood.

Tuesday
Rosegarden, Ashcombe Farms, Mallard Way, Gettysburg Pike (Grantham Road to Township line), Center Square, Country Square, Canterbury, Stumpstown Road, Creekstone, Gettysburg Pike (Rider Lane to Grantham), Spacious Acres.

Wednesday
The entire Mt. Allen area, Witney Ridge, Bowman’s Hill, Bumble Bee Hollow, Kimberly Meadows, Allenview, Spring Run, Reservoir.

Thursday
Millers Acres, Diehl Road, Old Grove Road, Sinclair Road, Hamilton, Peachtree, Trindle Station, Country Estates, Fisher Road, Williams Grove Road, Shepherdstown, Gettysburg Pike, Meadowview, Arborfield, York St.

Friday
Grantham Road, Mill Road, Lisburn Road, Bowmansdale, Route 114 (Market Street), Arcona Road, Ford Farm, Allen Glen, Apache Trail, Pima Circle, McCormick Road, Lisburn Road (Mt. Allen to Township line), Fair Oaks, Allendale Road and Wilson Road area.
The Stormwater Authority (SWA) Board will be implementing a stormwater fee that will be used to fund the Township’s ongoing Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program. The stormwater user fee is the result of unfunded mandates from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on stormwater discharges.

Keeping an active and successful MS4 Program will assist in meeting stricter federal and state standards and discharging cleaner stormwater into our rivers, creeks and streams. It will also reduce flood risks and damage, improve recreational and aesthetic values and protect property values. Once established, all of the revenue collected from the fee will be used solely for the operation, maintenance, and management of the MS4 Program. Stormwater fees secure funding in the most equitable way to assure that all mandated rules and regulations are being met.

Every property in the Township will be assessed a stormwater user fee, which includes residential property owners, commercial property owners, nonprofit entities, tax-exempt properties and public facilities. The user fee is proposed to bill according to the amount of impervious area coverage on every property parcel. Impervious surfaces are hard surfaces that do not allow rain or snowmelt to infiltrate at the same rate as natural surfaces such as grass or dirt. They include rooftops, driveways, patios, parking lots, and other man-made structures.

Property owners will pay a quarterly fee calculated using an Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) Fee Structure that will be included in their sewer bill beginning in January 2019. For those property owners who already receive a sewer bill, the stormwater fee will be a new line item on that bill. Those property owners who are not connected to the public sewer will receive a stand-alone stormwater bill.

Fees are based on 1 ERU per every 3,800-square-feet of impervious coverage, which a Township-wide analysis found is the average for a single-family lot. The anticipated annual fee rate is approximately $60 per every 3,800 square foot of impervious surface on a property (around $15 per quarter).

Upper Allen is not alone in deciding a fee is the fairest way to cover the rising cost of stormwater regulations; Hampden, Derry and Lower Paxton Townships are among municipalities that recently approved stormwater fees. Lower Allen, Susquehanna, Lower Swatara Townships, as well as Mechanicsburg and Carlisle boroughs, are considering it.

For more information, as it becomes available, go to the Township's website, www.uatwp.org, and click on “Stormwater Authority (SWA)” under the Government tab.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UPPER ALLEN TOWNSHIP
8 YEAR OLD CAL RIPKEN STATE CHAMPIONS!

Players:
Caleb Babyak
Austin Horn
Luke Reider
Chase Young
Brock Metz
Cam Clark
Danny Kurtz
Emitt Milligan
Ian Patrick
Kayden Rutherford
Noah Maser

Manager:
Kevin Rutherford

Coaches:
Eric Patrick
Jeremy Metz
Casey Milligan