

LOWER MOUNT BETHEL NEWS



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Michael DeBerardinis, Chairman
Susan Disidore, Vice-Chair
John Mauser, Supervisor
David Ascani, Supervisor
Christopher Cook, Supervisor

MUNICIPAL STAFF

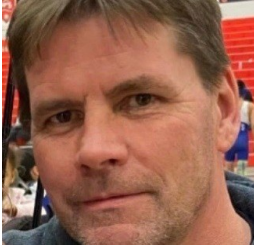
Jennifer Smethers, Manager
Melissa Mastrogiovanni, Secretary
Fred Heitzman, Foreman
Mark Hess, Road Crew
Shannon Parsons, Road Crew
Anthony DiSante, Zoning/Code Officer
Rodney Rothrock, Custodian
Justin Coyle, Township Engineer
Joseph Zator, Township Solicitor
Anthony Giovannini, ZHB Solicitor
Ryan Engler, Sewage Enforcement Officer

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

TOWNSHIP OFFICE: 610-252-5074
PA STATE POLICE: 610-759-6106
EMERGENCY: 911
LMB/SANDT'S EDDY FIRE CO. 484-548-8630
PENNDOT: (800) FIX - ROAD
GAME COMMISSION: (610-926-3136
WASTE MANAGEMENT: 610-440-3700
BASD Bus Transportation: 610-588-3590
Easton SD Bus Transportation: 610-250-2563

Office Holiday Hours - Spring / Summer
The office will be closed:
Monday, May 27th for Memorial Day
Thursday, July 4th for Independence Day
Monday, September 2nd for Labor Day

MEET THE NEW SUPERVISORS



Being a new township Supervisor can be an exciting experience filled with many opportunities on making positive impacts throughout our township. From the moment I stepped in, it was clear that this group of Supervisors and staff were going to help me navigate the ins and outs of our community with ease and I truly appreciate all the help.

With many events coming up in our township, I cannot wait to see everyone there. The sense of community and camaraderie that these gatherings bring is truly remarkable. Whether it's the plant sale, community day, or one of the great events our fire department put on, there is something for everyone to enjoy. I am looking forward to seeing familiar faces and meeting new friends during these great events – they are truly not to be missed.

May your summer be full of joy, safety and fun filled adventure.

Chris Cook, Supervisor/Assistant Roadmaster



Hello, I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself as your newly elected second term Township supervisor. For those of you that don't already know me, my name is David Ascani. I am a 3rd generation lifetime resident of Lower Mt. Bethel Township. My roots are as deep as my love is for the township.

Serving as your supervisor is my way of giving back to our community. I am here as your advocate and voice alongside the other supervisors. I think we now have a very diversified board that brings together tons of knowledge and expertise from individual careers to the community.

A little about myself. I am a graduate of Easton Area School District. I served in the United States Army reserves. I graduated from Allentown Police Academy and I was employed as a police officer for Lower Mt. Bethel Township from 1991 to 2000. I am currently employed with the H&K Group for the past 23 years. I started as a Redi mix concrete truck driver for 1 year and was quickly promoted to a safety manager for approximately 6 years and ultimately was promoted to Director of Security and still hold that position. I am very familiar with road construction, site construction, safety and security.

I am a conservative that has a deep love for our country and all its traditions. I will do my best to keep us rural and preserve our little piece of Pennsylvania. I look forward to seeing old friends along with new ones at the township meetings, events and functions. I urge you all to get involved with your township. We are all in this together. I am looking forward to Keeping Lower Mt. Bethel Great!

Sincerely, Dave Ascani, Supervisor

Greetings from the Zoning Department

LMBT's Zoning Officer and Building Codes Official is Anthony DiSante. Anthony's Office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays 8-12 p.m. Ian Wisnioski, Zoning Officer, has office hours on Fridays 9-1 p.m. They can be reached at zoning@lowermtbethel.org or 610-252-5074 ext. 3. Permit applications and fee schedule can be found on our website www.lowermtbethel.org

MANAGER UPDATE: CENTERFIELD SCHOOL COMPLEX

I am thrilled to report the long awaited tennis and pickleball courts will be completed by Memorial Day! And as some of you may already know, the playground improvements are finished, too! A BIG THANK YOU goes out to our funders: Northampton County Community Development Block Grant, GROW NORCO, and Livable Landscapes, Lehigh Valley Greenways Mini-grant and the Statewide Local Share Account Grant Program. Without their generous support, these projects would not have been possible. I also want to give credit to the township road crew for all their hard work prepping the sites, and the Centerfield Park Committee for their insight in the layout and design for the playground. With these improvements coming to an end, we will start focusing on our next township project and our many community events that I hope you all will attend.

Jennifer Smethers, Township Manager



ROAD DEPARTMENT NEWS

Tree Trimming: Residents are responsible for trimming their trees away from the roadway. If the Road Dept. sees trees overgrown and in the roadway, they will cut the limbs - not trim the trees.

Littering on Trails and Roads - We all love and enjoy our beautiful trail system that the Road Department works very hard to keep clean and maintained for all to enjoy. Please do not litter by throwing garbage on the trails or on the roads. Garbage receptacles are located at the entrance of the trails and parks. Do not throw old TV's on the roadside. We have no way to dispose of them.

Parks - We also love our beautiful parks that the Road Dept. does a fabulous job maintaining. Please clean up after your pets to keep our Parks clean and enjoyable for all. There are doggy waste bags at our parks so you can clean up after your pets.





MAYDAY FIREFIGHTER

PICNIC AND RAFFLE

LIVE PERFORMANCE

TIMEWHYS @ 4:00-7:30

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2024 @ 4:00 PM

✓ **CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
FOR UPDATES**

- ✓ FOOD FOR PURCHASE
- ✓ DRINKS FOR PURCHASE
- ✓ GUN RAFFLE
- ✓ MEAT RAFFLES
- ✓ RAFFLES
- ✓ BOUNCE HOUSE
- ✓ CHILDREN ACTIVITIES
- ✓ VENDORS
- ✓ FIREWORKS
- ✓ BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR

GUN RAFFLE TICKET \$20.00

**\$5 PARKING AND CHOICE OF SANDWICH
OR 2 HOTDOGS INCLUDED WITH PRE-PURCHASED
GUN RAFFLE TICKET.**

**SHOW GUN RAFFLE STUB UPON
ENTRY FOR FREE PARKING
\$5 TO PARK (CASH)**



LOCATION:

7701 MARTINS CREEK BELVIDERE HWY,
BANGOR, PA 18013

DRAWINGS ALL AFTERNOON FOLLOWED BY FIREWORKS AT DUSK

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

TIPS TO REDUCE STORMWATER POLLUTION THIS SPRING

Don't Over-Apply Fertilizer! Why?

Premature Plant Death

Over-application of synthetic or chemicals fertilizers can increase soil salinity and root burn in the long run, which may result in your plants not being able to properly absorb water and nutrients in the soil, leading to their untimely demise. Overuse of synthetic fertilizer can also disrupt soil chemistry and actually do damage to soils.



Harmful to Aquatic Life and Humans



When excess fertilizer gets into our storm drain system and travels into our waterways and oceans, algae blooms can form resulting in a loss of oxygen in the water. Algae blooms pose a direct threat to aquatic animals, which need to breathe just like we do! A well-maintained, natural lawn care system requires little to no fertilizer. Talk to your local garden center about how to care for your landscape and if you must fertilize, what products you can purchase that are organic and environmentally friendly.

Sweep, Don't Hose!

Sweep around your house and driveway vs. hosing to clean away the accumulated dirt and debris. When you sweep, pick up the debris and place it into the appropriate trash receptacle. Potentially impactful items and debris picked up and placed in the trash are less likely to get into the storm drain system and degrade water quality.

Take Your Car to A Car Wash

Spring is a great time for cleaning up inside and outside the home. However, when you spruce up your car, think of going to a local car wash vs. hosing it down at home. This actually saves water and reduces runoff to our waterways that contains soap and debris. A standard garden hose uses about 10 gallons per minute.



If you wash your car for 10 minutes, you might consume 100 gallons of water. While hosing with an automatic shut-off valve may save more water, it's still recommended to take your car to a commercial car wash that can properly dispose of harmful runoff (debris, oil, harmful soaps, etc.). Commercial car washes also have sophisticated reclamation systems that enable them to re-use water, so they only expend approximately 9-15 gallons of water during any given wash cycle.

Scoop Your Pet's Poop!



With warmer weather comes more walks with your fuzzy friend in the outdoors. Always remember to clean up after your pet's waste and place it in the trash. Pet waste contains harmful bacteria that will wash into our waterways after a rainfall- which there is plenty of in the spring!

Drain Swimming Pool Safely

If you have a pool, drain it only when a test kit does not detect chlorine levels. Whenever possible, drain your pool or spa into the sanitary sewer system, where it will be treated. Also, store pool and spa chemicals in a covered area to prevent leaks and spills to the stormwater system.



LMB/SANDT'S EDDY FIRE COMPANY

www.lmbtfire.org

We would like to thank all of the township residents, and businesses, for your continued support.

Greetings,

We are excited to share that our volunteer fire company has seen a significant increase in its membership this year, with new volunteers and residents stepping up to serve, bringing our active member count close to 30 individuals. Their dedication is irreplaceable as we respond to approximately 250 calls per year, ensuring the safety and well-being of our community.

Thanks to the new fire tax, we're making substantial upgrades to our equipment. We're currently replacing our 2012 pumper with a new 2022 Spartan Fire Engine and our 2002 Kenworth 3000-gallon water tanker with a new 2023 Kenworth 4000-gallon super water tanker, aligning with NFPA standards. In addition, we eagerly await the results of grant applications to replace our QRS/utility truck and brush truck. Furthermore, we have applied for a grant to upgrade all our hoses and nozzles, totaling approximately \$115,000. Should the hose grant be awarded, we'll need a 5% match of roughly \$5,750.00. While we continue to fundraise diligently to cover expenses and facilitate upgrades, we rely on your continued support. If you haven't already, we invite you to join us at our upcoming events for some family fun!

We are pleased to announce the implementation of the new fire tax within our community, aimed at securing the necessary resources for the maintenance and replacement of our fire truck apparatus. This tax is a crucial step in ensuring the safety and well-being of all residents in times of emergency. However, it's important to clarify that the fire tax does not cover all operational expenses of our volunteer fire company. Funds generated through this tax cannot be utilized for electricity, heating, supplies, firefighter gear, or other essential needs. Therefore, we rely heavily on your continued support through fundraisers and donations to cover these expenses and keep our operations running smoothly. Your generosity plays a vital role in sustaining our ability to serve the community effectively. Thank you for your ongoing support.

George Russo Jr., Fire Chief 484-548-8630

CONSIDERING VOLUNTEERING?

We have a lot of helmets and boots to fill, from firefighting, rescue, administrative, fundraising, and much more. Volunteering is not just about the work at hand. It also brings a sense of camaraderie and fulfillment, fostering friendships and the satisfaction of making a positive impact. If you are interested in getting involved go to our website, click on our QR code and fill out our quick form, stop by the fire station any Monday night, or call Fire Chief George Russo Jr at 484-548-8630. We are currently seeking individuals to get involved with our fundraising events!

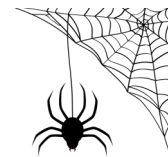
**For Permission to burn, please call
Chief George Russo Jr @ 484-548-8630**



The fire company must be notified before you begin any burning. Fires are permissible Monday through Friday between sunrise and sunset and on Saturday from sunrise until 3:00 p.m. No garbage whatsoever, or rubber of any kind, shingles, oil-based products, or toxic or hazardous materials shall be burned at any time or any place. All fires must be attended at all times by at least one adult person. No burning shall be permitted after 6:00 p.m. prevailing time. No burning of any kind on Sundays and legal holidays. See Ordinance 2010-07 for additional information.



SAVE THE DATE!



7th Annual Halloween Cars and Costumes Show 2024

Sunday October 20th, 2024 9-3p.m.

(Rain date is Saturday, October 26th)

Sponsored by LMB/Sandt's Eddy Fire Company

Location: 7701 Martins Creek – Belvidere Highway Riverton Field

Jerry Brunetti Environmental and Welcome Center

**Food/Drinks/Vendors – Participants are asked
to bring a bag of candy for trunk or treat!**

**PRE-REG IS \$15 / \$20 (per vehicle) DAY OF THE
SHOW 11AM – 3 PM**

For more info call Jeff Larrison at 484-221-2416

**Or visit our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/
lmbtfire26](https://www.facebook.com/lmbtfire26)**



GREETINGS FROM THE REC. BOARD!

A big thank you to the Rec Board, our wonderful volunteers, and our community who celebrated our 4th Annual Community Day last June. It was a big success and we are looking forward to seeing you all at this year's Community Day!

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming events:

Annual Plant Sale & Farmer's Market - Saturday, May 18th from 10:00am-2:00pm. The Rec Board will have an assortment of tomatoes, peppers, zinnias, and other assorted flowers for sale. We will also be joined by local businesses selling fresh produce, meats, eggs, canned goods, soaps, jewelry, and other handmade items!

5th Annual Community Day - Saturday, June 8th with a rain date of Sunday, June 9th from 1:00-5:00pm in the Village of Martins Creek.

Annual Christmas Tree Lighting: There will be holiday crafts, hot cocoa, and Santa at this year's Tree Lighting! Located in the Village of Martins Creek on December 7th from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

The Rec Board is always looking for volunteers to help at our events! If you'd like to donate a baked good for the cake walk or sponsor a basket for the Tricky Tray at Community Day, please reach out to Melissa in the Township Office.

Thank you so much for your support!

Warmly,

Nicole Palmeri, Chair of the Rec Board



THE LMBT RECREATION BOARD ANNUAL PLANT SALE AND FARMER'S MARKET

WHEN: Saturday, May 18TH from 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

WHERE: Lower Mount Bethel Township Municipal Office

2004 Hutchinson Avenue, Martins Creek, Pa 18063

RAIN LOCATION: If there is inclement weather, the event will be held indoors at the Centerfield Building – 6984 S. Delaware Drive, Martins Creek, Pa 18063

There will be tomatoes, peppers, zinnias, and assorted flowers to choose from. All proceeds will benefit the Lower Mount Bethel Township Community Day!

NEW THIS YEAR! We will have local businesses selling fresh produce, meats, eggs, canned goods, soaps, jewelry, and other unique handmade items.

We hope to see you there!

LOWER MOUNT BETHEL TOWNSHIP'S ANNUAL



Join the festivities with the LMBT Recreation Board
as we celebrate our Annual Community Day!



When: Saturday, June 8th, 2024, from 1pm – 5pm

Rain Date: Sunday, June 9th, 2024, from 1pm – 5pm

Where: The Village of Martins Creek

2004 Hutchinson Avenue, Martins Creek, Pa 18063

There will be a Tricky Tray with lots of great prizes!



Free games including a scavenger hunt, sack races, scooter races, spin art, face painting, tattoos, arts & crafts, take pictures with our aquatic bugs, our famous cake walk, touch a truck, and much, much more!

There will be complimentary popcorn, snow cones, pretzels, and lemonade. LMB/Sandt's Eddy Fire Company will be serving up hamburgers and hot dogs. Wine and spirits will be available from our local winery, Franklin Hill Vineyards.



The Rec Board needs volunteers for this event! If you are interested in volunteering, donating a baked good for the cake walk, or sponsoring a basket for the Tricky Tray, please contact Melissa at the Township Office (610) 252 – 5074.



2023 LMBT TREE LIGHTING





In Loving Memory



George Ott Jr.

Nov. 27, 1944 - April. 4, 2024

Scott Michael Foss

June. 7, 1960 - March. 30, 2024

Lorraine Mae Holland

Jan. 1, 1947 - March. 5, 2024

Elmer Dominic Collina

March. 21, 1934 - Jan. 25, 2024

Elizabeth Tressler

Aug. 21, 1921 - Dec. 15, 2023

Jean Kneebone

July 6, 1937 - Dec. 12, 2023

Donald Ascani

July. 1, 1933 - Nov. 11, 2023

Vincent Tarsi

Jan. 9, 1946 - Oct. 1, 2023

Masako Kaida Welsh

Nov. 12, 1924 - Sept. 3, 2023

Bertha (Pysher) Kutz

Sept. 28, 1924 - Sept. 7, 2023

Mary Corsi

March 6, 1928 - Nov. 5, 2023

PLANNING A PARTY OR PICNIC?

Consider renting a pavilion at one of the township's parks: Centerfield School, Riverton or Kiefer Parks. The cost is \$50 for residents and \$100 for non-residents.

The lower level of the Centerfield Building is also available for rentals. Please contact Melissa at 610-252-5074 for additional information and availability.

MEADOWS OF MARTINS CREEK CLEAN-UP DAY



The LMBT Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) will be sponsoring a community volunteer clean up day on Sunday, May 19th. We will be meeting in the parking lot at the Meadows of Martins Creek at 10:00 AM and we will be cleaning up along the creek in that area. Lunch will be provided. If you are interested in joining us, please let us know by contacting the township office at 610-252-5074 or email to Melissa at secretary@lowermtbethel.org.

Most Common Contaminants

Recycling

Keep these common contaminants OUT of your recycling bin.



NO RECYCLABLES IN PLASTIC BAGS

Empty recyclables directly into your bin and leave the plastic bag out.



NO FOOD & LIQUIDS

Compost instead! Otherwise it belongs in the trash.



NO ELECTRONICS & SMALL APPLIANCES

Donate if in good condition, or schedule a bulky item pickup, if available. Check earth911.com for a local drop-off site.



NO TEXTILES, BEDDING, RUGS & CARPET

Donate these items if they are in good condition. Large quantities may require special disposal.



NO TANGLERS, HOLIDAY LIGHTS, HANGERS & EXTENSION CORDS

They wrap around equipment and can shut down an entire facility! They all go in the trash.



NO PLASTIC BAGS, FILM/ SHEETING & FLEXIBLE FILM PACKAGING

Take plastic bags back to local retailers to keep them out of the recycling stream. Visit plasticfilmrecycling.org to find a drop-off location near you.



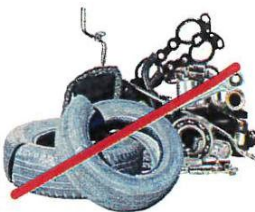
NO PAPER NAPKINS, PLATES, CUPS & TISSUES

Compost if possible, and remember to recycle the cardboard tube.



NO POLYSTYRENE FOAM

Foam and plastic containers are not recyclable curbside. Find drop-off programs for items like foam packing peanuts at earth911.com.



NO TIRES, AUTO PARTS & SCRAP METAL

(Not in recycling or trash.) All can damage equipment and are safety hazards. Contact your local scrap recyclers or retail tire stores for recycling options, or check earth911.com for a drop-off center near you.



NO CONCRETE, WOOD & CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS

Can damage equipment & are safety hazards. You may be able to schedule a bulky item pickup - otherwise throw it in the trash or order a roll off bin by contacting Waste Management Customer Service.



NO YARD WASTE & WOOD

Compost or put in your yard waste cart, if available. Otherwise it belongs in the trash.



NO NON-RECYCLABLE PLASTIC

Not everything that is plastic is recyclable! Recycle only food & beverage bottles, jugs and tubes.

To learn more, visit wm.com/recycleright

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www.responsiblecyclingservices.com

Be Environmentally Friendly!

Recycle your old unwanted, broken and outdated electronics and appliances.



ELECTRONICS RECYCLING DAY

Lower Mount Bethel Township

Centerfield School Building

6984 South Delaware Drive, Martins Creek, PA 18063

Saturday, May 11, 2024: 9am-12pm (or truck is full)

OPEN TO LMBT RESIDENTS ONLY

PLEASE BE PREPARED TO SHOW DRIVER'S LICENSE

OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH YOUR ADDRESS

NON CONTACT!! YOU MUST STAY IN YOUR CAR!

Items that can be recycled FREE of charge are listed below:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ♻️ Desktop Computers (Fee for Monitors) | ♻️ DVD Players & VCR's (no DVDs, CDs, or VHS tapes) |
| ♻️ Keyboards & Mice | ♻️ Gaming Systems |
| ♻️ Printers/Fax Machines | ♻️ String Christmas Lights |
| ♻️ Cables & Cords | ♻️ Microwaves & Small Appliances |
| ♻️ Cell Phone & Laptop Batteries | ♻️ Metal Items & Water Heaters |
| ♻️ Laptops | ♻️ Exercise Equipment |
| ♻️ UPS Battery Backups | ♻️ Car Batteries (sealed lead acid) |
| ♻️ Toner & Ink Cartridges | ♻️ Bed Frames & Rain spouting |
| ♻️ Audio Visual Equipment | ♻️ Filing Cabinets |
| ♻️ Telephones & Cell Phones (batteries removed)* | ⊘ No Household Batteries, Light Bulbs, Styrofoam |

Additional Items that can be recycled for a Fee:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ♻️ Washers & Dryers - \$20.00 | ♻️ Air Conditioners - \$25.00 |
| ♻️ Stoves - \$20.00 | ♻️ Dehumidifiers - \$25.00 |
| ♻️ Dishwashers - \$20.00 | ♻️ Refrigerators - \$35.00 |
| ♻️ Computer Monitors - \$20 | ♻️ Floor Freezers - \$35.00 |
| ♻️ Televisions under 42" - \$40.00 ALL Types | ♻️ Floor Copiers - \$20.00 |
| ♻️ TVs (in wooden cabinet, Projection, Over 42", TV Tubes (Broken TVs) - \$58.00 | ♻️ Console Stereos (in cabinet) - \$35.00 |
| | ♻️ Water Coolers & Dorm Fridge - \$25.00 |

Destruction Services for a Fee:

- ♻️ Hard Drive Destruction (offsite) - **\$10** per drive, Includes a Certificate of Destruction
- ♻️ Document Destruction (offsite) - **\$10** per standard paper size box, Includes a Certificate of Destruction

****Cash or Checks ONLY****

Please have exact change or check prepared.

****Please Make Checks Payable to Responsible Recycling Services or RRS****

“Celebrating Katherine Di Febo”

Happy 90th Birthday!

Katherine Di Febo easily personifies this line by poet Adrienne Rich: “...those who age after age, perversely, and with no extraordinary power, reconstitute the world.”

Katherine, is our *Deputy* tax collector! Who even knew we had one? Or that her official, unpaid position is required by state law?

Who knew that it is Katherine’s hands that open all the taxpayer envelopes; sorts and organizes their contents; checks, stamps and dates receipts with check numbers; and makes sure that all things are current, correct and ready for the *elected* tax collector, her daughter, Regina Marinelli, to finish the process of recording the payments, making deposits, and so on.



Seated at her desk/office, otherwise known as the Di Febo family dining table, Deputy Katherine rapidly shuffles through a breadbox-size carton of tax bills, receipts, and checks, along with a few handwritten notes and cards. In between explaining this process, she offers a visitor tea and a handful of tiny pecan tassies served on a china plate. The tassies are homemade and delicious! Katherine steps away from her desk for a minute to see if two large and puffy loaves of panettone have risen and are now oven ready.

Not quite, she says. And she picks up where she left off about tax collecting.

Bottom line, Katherine is one of those folks poet Rich salutes. Those who work quietly, confidently and dependably behind the scenes to get the world’s work done.

It’s a huge plus that this deputy tax collector has an affinity for figures and a knack for numbers!

No surprise to learn that Katherine starts each day doing the newspaper Sudoku puzzle, a challenge for non-numbers people, and a headache for her daughter Regina.

Apparently, Katherine’s never met a column of figures that she didn’t like. And when numbers don’t add up the way they should, Katherine keeps at it until they do. Sometimes she even finds answers in her sleep. Like the time an answer came to her in a dream explaining the reason why a calculation was off by ninety dollars!

Homer Haring, Katherine’s father and a timekeeper for Alpha Cement Company, recognized and encouraged his daughter’s gift for working with numbers. He even gave her some tips, like *Transposition Error*. She might not have known the term, but she saw how it worked.

The Harings got a telephone and then a TV in the mid to late 40’s. “All my friends would come to my house to watch”, she says. “Nobody else had it.” Katherine recounts all of this in the dining room of the house where she was born on April 17, 1934. Hers was a home delivery, not uncommon then, and in her grandma’s home. She would grow up across the street, less than 50 yards away, where her parents, Homer and Zelda lived and raised Katherine and her two older siblings, Arthur and Irene.

A generation later, Katherine, married to Bill Di Febo, would raise their four children---Richard, Raymond, Regina and Rosemarie-- in the same house that was her birthplace.

If the elders could see their homestead now, they might not recognize “The Compound”. Resembling a setting plucked from somewhere in the Mediterranean and plopped down on the main street of Martins Creek, it includes the original family home, a former butcher shop once operated by Katherine’s grandfather, now converted to a home, a third home, a backyard pool, awning-shaded veranda, carefully-tended lawn and trees, and artful arrangements of window boxes and planters.

Katherine cont'd.

As Bill (Katherine calls him "Billy") tells the story, on their first date, a meal at the Turnabout Diner in Phillipsburg, she ordered two cheeseburgers, French fries, pie a la mode and hot chocolate. Something about that---her decisiveness, perhaps---made him like her right away.

A few more dates and they said their "I do's" on May 19th, 70 years ago.

These and other numbers mark important milestones in Katherine's life, and in those of kinfolk in her various roles of daughter, sister, student, wife, mother, aunt, grandma, and caregiver to aged parents.

As a bookkeeper for three different local blouse factories, and then a postal clerk for 20 years, on her feet 8 hours a day (one of three women and ninety men), Katherine was a standout using paper and pencil before the emergence of computers. Younger clerks, sometimes "didn't know how to make change" she says, citing one particular example with a laugh, "I had to teach him."

Then there are the people and places in LMBT that she has served over decades, behind the scenes, "balancing people's checkbooks," she says, as financial secretary of the Three Church Hill Cemetery Board and the Hunter- Martin Settlement Museum.

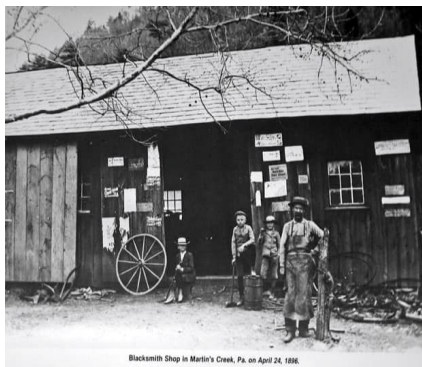
The conversation winds up just as the twin panettones are finished baking. Their enticing aroma wafts from Katherine's tiny kitchen into the area of her office/desk /family dining table.

She offers a visitor a slice of her bread topped with a pat of butter. A multitude of small gestures like that - and much more- show us the power of the "Katherines" of our communities, and how they "reconstitute the world".

Historical pictures of Martins Creek / Lower Mount Bethel



Alpha company store located on Alpha Ave. (Building now has apartments)



Blacksmith Shop in Martin's Creek, Pa. on April 24, 1896.



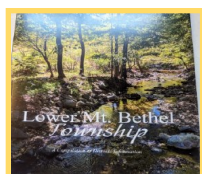
UPPER MILL, MARTIN'S CREEK, PA. 24APR1896



Flatfield School, Martin's Creek, Pa.: 1898.



Lower Mill, Martin's Creek, Pa.: April 24, 1896.



Learn about the history of *Lower Mount Bethel Township*. Books are available for purchase for only \$25.00. If you are interested in purchasing a book, they are available in the Township office or you can contact Karen Brewer at (484) 894-5661. Proceeds benefit the Slate Belt Heritage Center.

Lower Mount Bethel Township**P.O. Box 257****Martins Creek, PA 18063****Resident's address****Street Light Payments**

Street Light payments are due on June 14, 2024. Payments may be mailed or placed in the secure drop-box in the municipal office foyer. Payments made after business hours may be placed through the mail slot at the office front door. If you would like a receipt mailed/emailed to you, please indicate your request with your payment. You may also pay online using the Xpress Bill Pay link on the township website.

Elected Auditor

The Board of Supervisors is currently accepting letters of interest to fill the vacant position as Elected Auditor until the next Municipal Election. The Elected Auditors meets annually the day after the Board of Supervisors Reorganization meeting in January to set the salary of any working Supervisor. Submit your letter of interest to Melissa at the township office or by email to secretary@lowermtbethel.org

Register Now For **CodeRED
Emergency Notification System**

CodeRED is a **FREE** emergency notification service available to all residents and businesses. The system will notify you of emergency information through phone calls, text messages, social media and the CodeRED Mobile Alert App.

To sign up for **CodeRED**, please visit the township website at www.lowermtbethel.org or use your smartphone by texting "LMBT" to 99411.

