



ALLENTOWN, PA

Summer 2023 Issue

The Manor Vibes

Midway Manor's Official Newsletter

From the President

David Tagg, President

Happy Summer everyone!

We've finally reached the hot hazy days of summer. Summer in the Manor is a special place - kids playing at the park, folks walking their dogs, concerts at the park and the sound of lawnmowers. These are some of the things that make Midway Manor one of the most liveable neighborhoods in the City. Are we perfect? No. There are always issues here and there but we are fortunate that we generally have a quiet, respectful neighborhood with one of the lowest incident rates in the City. Thank you all for supporting our fundraisers, especially the Sweatshirt fundraiser, Sherman Street Bingo collaboration and the hoagie sale. Volunteers are our lifeblood and we are ALWAYS looking for help in everything we do so if you are interested please talk to any Board member or attend a monthly meeting. The more help we have, the easier it will be and the more we can offer.

Please read through this issue to see what's happening this summer in Midway Manor.

Have a fun, safe and healthy summer!

David Tagg



2023 Officers

OFFICERS

President	David Tagg
Vice President	Julie Rodrigues
Treasurer	Stephanie Sigafos
Secretary	Amy Feidler
Hispanic Community Coordinator	Enid Cruz

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Athletic Director	Marc Stewart
Website	Stephanie Sigafos
Audit	Ed Farrell
Security Patrol	Mike Valle
Activities	Various
Shed	Kim & David Tagg
Yardsale	Alice Romberger
Membership	David Tagg
Meals for Seniors	Vacant
Bulletin Boards	Alice Romberger
Welcome	Amy Feidler

Inside this issue

[The Vibes Info.....](#)

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Special points of interest

- MMCA is celebrating 65 years of community service this year
- All families living in Midway Manor are eligible to join the MMCA
- MMCA meets monthly on the first Monday at Meals of Wheels or the Park
- Read this issue to learn what's going on in your community

The Vibes is printed on recycled paper courtesy of the City of Allentown



Kids Need Kiwanis!



"Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world, one child and one community at a time"

Attend our meeting and learn about the great things we do for children!

The Kiwanis Club of Allentown Northeast meets on Wednesdays at Noon and the last Wednesday of the month at 5:15 pm at the Borderline across from Giant

Contact:

Catherine Kane 610-776-8270, or

Andrea Naugle 610-740-9391, or

David Tagg at

davidatagg@gmail.com

ALLENTOWN N.E. KIWANIS IS

PROUD TO SPONSOR:

Midway Manor Community Assn.

Dieruff High School Key Club

Ritter Elementary Student of the Month

Bethlehem Catholic Key Club

Roberto Clemente Charter High School Key Club

Roberto Clemente Elementary Charter School K-Kids

2023 Calendar of Events

Community Meetings / Events

All Meetings Held at Meals on Wheels, N. Sherman Street/Summer Meetings held at the Park weather permitting

No July meeting / August 7, Sept. 11, October 2 —Monthly Meeting

Concert at the Park - Municipal Band of Allentown Saturday July 8th

Concert at the Park - The Allentown Band Saturday August 5th

Halloween at the Park - To Be Announced



MIDWAY MANOR SECURITY PATROL

Midway Manor has a neighbor, Mike Valle of East Highland Street who has taken on the job of patrolling the neighborhood and reporting any suspicious activity that he sees to the Communications Center.

You may have seen him throughout the day driving through the Manor. His car has magnetic signs on the door identifying him as the Midway Manor Security Patrol. Unfortunately he is not able to patrol at night as we do not allow patrolling alone. If you would like to volunteer to help Mike, please contact him to find out the requirements to participate.

If you see him, wave and let him know you appreciate all he does in helping to keep our community safe!

CHECK MATE NUMBERS PROGRAM

The Allentown Police Department has a program call **Check Mate**, which allows callers to report incidents using a check mate number instead of their names and address. The number also expedites the reporting process resulting in quicker police response.

Check Mate applications may be picked up at any Community Association meeting or by emailing a request to info@midwaymanor.org

The Manor Vibes can be found on the City's website in the Neighborhood Groups section - <http://allentownpa.gov/CommunityNeighborhoodGroups/tabid/195/Default.aspx>



Midway Manor Little Lending Library

The Little Lending Library located by the Community bulletin board on Pennsylvania and Ulster Streets has proven to be a popular stop for our neighborhood kids. There are books and graphic novels for all ages and We are continually adding new content and often add holiday and other thematic books based on the time of the year. We are always looking for suggestions and would be happy to hear from you! Leave a note with any thoughts or suggestions in the Library and we'll do our best to fulfill it!

THANK YOU SHERMAN STREET BEER COMPANY!

The recent Bingo fundraiser held on May 23rd raised over \$200 for Midway Manor! We are fortunate to have such generous business owners like Beau and Casey who care about Our neighborhood. PLEASE patronize them - they have an outstanding selection of beers and slushies. Watch for weekly Bingo and Trivia Nights and Food Truck Sundays!

The Vibes Print Version Has Been Discontinued

The Vibes began as a newspaper titled "I NEED A NAME" in March of 1958. Manor resident Lonnie Pepper Wentling won the naming contest in April of 1958 with the name 'MANORTONES.' At that time, Lonnie was a fifth grader at the Midway Manor School. Other names considered were "MIDWAY MANORETTES," 'MANORHITS,' and "MIDWAY MANORISMS." Lonnie won an Arvin Table Radio, valued at \$34.95. For years the newspaper was published monthly and it remained the Manortones until the 1980's when it was renamed The Manor Vibes.

We made the decision to switch to online issues of the Vibes which will be available on our FB page, website and sent via email. If you are not on our email list, please do so now so that you do not miss any news and announcements.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We rely on volunteers to ensure the successful running of our organization and the many programs we offer throughout the year. We have a small core group of dedicated volunteers who have been mainstays but like any organization, the more volunteers we have, the less work for all.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE
HARD WORKING VOLUNTEERS WHO CURRENTLY
SERVE ON THE BOARD
AND COMMITTEES AND
WORK TO ENSURE THAT
OUR COMMUNITY IS
SERVED!

NOTE TO DOG OWNERS

Per City of Allentown ordinance, all pets are required to be leashed when off your property and while you're on walks. Also, please take your bagged poop home instead of disposing in the corner receptacles at the park - they are only emptied weekly and the odor can be overwhelming.

How Fireworks Negatively Affect and Impact Our Communities Throughout the State of Pennsylvania.

Pets

From the Humane Society of the United States: "Many pets become so frightened by the noise and commotion of fireworks that they run from otherwise familiar environments and people, and sadly become lost. Pets are more sensitive to loud noises, flashing lights and strong smells." Pets are more sensitive to loud noises, flashing lights and strong smells. Dogs are able to hear up to 60,000hz, while humans can't hear anything above 20,000hz, which is only a third of the capacity of dogs. This auditory acuity of dogs is one of the reasons the sound of fireworks can be so harmful to them. They show signs of overwhelming anxiety as they are unable to escape from the sound. Many urban dogs suffer negative symptoms from the explosions of firecrackers. Common reactions are freezing or paralysis, uncontrolled attempts to escape and hide, and tremors. Other more intense signs may also be present, such as salivation, tachycardia, intense vocalizations, urination or defecation, increased activity, hyper alertness and gastrointestinal disorders. All these signs are indicative of great discomfort. It has been pointed out that the reaction of dogs to the sound of fireworks is similar to post-traumatic stress in human animals. However, this effect could be much more harmful in dogs, because they do not have the ability to rationalize their anxiety, or the possibility of an immediate cognitive response that allows them to respond to their fear. It is likely they experience a deeper and more intense form of terror. This is in addition to the noise phobia which can be greater in some dogs due to personality differences. It is important to keep in mind that in the first years of their lives, dogs are especially vulnerable to the development of phobias, and exposing them to sounds like fireworks contributes to future fear responses that they might not otherwise have had. It has been estimated that one in two dogs has significant fear reactions to fireworks. The effects of fireworks on cats are less obvious, but their responses are similar to those of dogs, such as trying to hide or escape. However, regardless of the fear they have, they have a higher risk of being poisoned. Many cats who are near areas where firecrackers are made ingest them or their parts. In addition, they can go blind or be seriously injured by the explosions of firecrackers.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

For veterans, particularly those dealing with post-traumatic stress disorder, the past months have been particularly difficult. In cities across the United States, very loud and very bright showcases have interrupted nightly slumbers. While fireworks may be entertaining for some, or just a nuisance for others, for those living with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), the evening spectacles could trigger serious mental health consequences. In terms of fireworks, individuals with PTSD, as well as any combat veteran regardless of their PTSD status, are more likely to be triggered or respond to this kind of stimuli. So we have a loud, unexpected noise, often under the cover of darkness. If we think about what a combat scenario looks like, you're expecting incoming fire and explosions that you have to be on guard for, that are often happening at night. And fire-

Fireworks & Autism

Heightened senses like sensitivity to sounds, touch and smells are some of the experiences that a child with autism might feel.

From the smoke on the grill and loud pops during fireworks can all trigger anxiety for some kids on the spectrum. Although shining, loud fireworks are generally fun for the whole family, they can be overwhelming for children with autism. The sensory overload might just be too much to handle and can create a complication for families with autism. For some, fireworks are no fun, and they are more than a nuisance disturbing their sleep; they are a potential source of trauma.

Fireworks Affect Quality of Life

Illegal use of fireworks can be dangerous to you and to others and is a public nuisance. People who use fireworks carelessly, or without knowing what they're doing can be killed or maimed. They can also kill or maim others. Fireworks can burn down houses, damage entertainment venues such as nightclubs, frighten children and adults, cause bushfires, and terrify pets and wildlife. Noise from fireworks can cause distress, especially as fireworks can sound like gunfire. The noise can also cause tinnitus and deafness, or aggravate a nervous condition. People who suffer from asthma can experience discomfort and epileptics can experience seizures following fireworks displays. Fireworks set off since the beginning of May have caused residents to lose sleep, have their vehicles and homes hit by debris, clean up litter left behind from people shooting off fireworks, affect mental health, and have residents worrying about fires starting from the use of fireworks.

Fireworks Pollution

Fireworks cause extensive air pollution in a short amount of time, leaving metal particles, dangerous toxins, harmful chemicals and smoke in the air for hours and days. Some of the toxins never fully decompose or disintegrate, but rather hang around in the environment, poisoning all they come into contact with. Exposure to fine particles, like those found in smoke and haze, is linked to negative health implications, such as coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath, asthma attacks and even heart attacks, according to the EPA. People at greatest risk for problems are those with heart or lung disease, older adults and children. In a fireworks display, those particles that fall to the ground (chemicals and actual physical pieces of waste) often contain propellant chemicals and colorants, which find their way into the soil and our water systems. Many of the raw materials used to create fireworks are mined from mountains, a destructive process that cuts down forests and destroys wildlife habitats. Leftover rock is discarded into valleys, blocking and polluting flowing streams.

Firework Fire Dangers

Did you know that on a typical Independence Day more fires are reported than any other day of the year? Almost half (47 percent) of those fires are caused by fireworks. Fire prevention is particularly important when fireworks are involved. Fireworks can easily cause structure/home fires, vehicle fires, and forest fires. For homeowners, property damage from fireworks may not be covered under insurance policies. This is also true of vehicle fires. If you catch fire to a commercial or government building as a result of fireworks, the price you pay may be even higher. Forest fires are also a major concern, particularly during the summer months when conditions are drier. The most likely cause of fires started by fireworks is user error. The person letting off the fireworks is either too young, intoxicated, or simply inexperienced. Playing with fire is no game. Debris and sparks from commercial fireworks can spark fires. If a firecracker explodes, it can also shoot out debris and spark fires. Another way that fireworks can start fires is by improperly disposing of used fireworks. If you drop a hot firework in dry grass or near other flammable materials, it could easily reignite and start a fire. This fire could burn out of control in the matter of minutes.

Firework Injuries

On average, 180 people go to the emergency room every day with fireworks-related injuries in the month around the July 4th holiday. Remember, fireworks can be dangerous, causing serious burn and eye injuries. Small fireworks and sparklers cause most of these injuries. A sparkler is not a child's toy. Sparklers burn at temperatures that can melt metal. The best way to prevent injuries is to leave fireworks to the professionals. A burned hand or finger is the most common injury from fireworks. A minor burn causes redness and pain. More serious burns cause blisters. The most serious burns cause white leathery skin and damage under the skin. Eye injuries from fireworks can range from minor burns to complete loss of vision. An exploding firework sends dangerous particles flying through the air. They can pierce an eyeball. You can get an eye injury by standing too close. Besides burns, fireworks can cause severe hand injuries. These include deep cuts, torn tendons, and broken bones. Powerful fireworks can cause serious injuries to the face. Besides harming the eyes, fireworks can burn the face. Severe injuries to the face can also include broken bones and loss of facial tissue. Many severe hand injuries from fireworks cause loss of a finger or thumb. Very loud noise from fireworks can cause hearing loss. This could be temporary or permanent. Noise is measured in decibels. Noise louder than 85 decibels can cause damage to hearing. A firework going off three feet away can be 150 decibels. Besides loss of hearing, symptoms can include ear pain and ringing in the ears.

Meals on Wheels / Midway Manor Community Association Neighbor to Neighbor Event

Our first collaboration event with Meals on Wheels was held on May 17th at the MOW facility on Sherman Street. It was a very well attended and successful event. Many organizations and vendors were represented including Midway Manor. This event is held to expose neighbors and visitors to various businesses, organizations and services. Thank you to Midway Manor's own Alice Romberger for coordinating with MOW and making this a successful event!



The All America Graphics online store will reopen August 15th!

Midway Manor sweatshirts, hoodies, long sleeved tees and regular tees will be available

Sizes small to 6 XL

All completely online order and payment; items picked up by MMCA and delivered directly to you!

Store will be open until September 1st

MEMBERSHIP MANIA 2023

STILL TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Your dues help to support a wide variety of programs we offer to our community such as the Shed and Shed/Sports insurance, Easter and Christmas Activities, Halloween, our sports programs and much more.

PLEASE fill out the form below and along with your payment, mail or drop off to :
MMCA 1124 N Wahneta Street Allentown, PA 18109

ANNUAL FAMILY MEMBERSHIP DUES - PER YEAR
\$15 FOR THE FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD
\$10 FOR A SENIOR (60 AND UP) HOUSEHOLD

Any questions - send to info@midwaymanor.org or to davidatagg@gmail.com

MMCA MEMBERSHIP - FILL OUT FORM AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT

FAMILY NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NO. _____ EMAIL: _____

ADULT NAME(S): _____ YOUTH NAME(S): _____

PAYMENT (CHECK ONE) CASH _____ CHECK NO. _____ VENMO _____

VENMO PAYMENT : DavidTagg@midwaymanor

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The 49th Annual Leonard Buck Crime Watch Banquet

David Tagg was the recipient of the Leonard Buck Award for Community Service

Stephanie Sigafoos and Michael D'Amore received Certificates of Appreciation for their community service

AI Brings a New Twist to Fraud



One of the reasons fraud criminals remain relevant is their use of technology. They embrace emerging technologies because they know it's a new way to steal money and information. These days that is happening in the world of artificial intelligence—commonly known as AI. While this raises the fraud threat to new heights, we can bring our defenses to new heights, too.

How They Work

- You get a call from a child or grandchild who is in urgent trouble and needs money right away. Normally you might be skeptical, but the voice you hear is that of your loved one.
- An email arrives alerting you to suspicious charges on your bank account. You are used to getting scam emails like this that typically have terrible grammar, but this one is written perfectly.
- You see an online ad promoting ways you can access AI tools for your work or personal life. The ad directs you to a website where you can download the software for free.

What You Should Know

- With only a few seconds of someone's voice, often captured on social media videos, criminals can use AI voice-cloning to create a computer-generated version of a person's voice that can say anything.
- AI "chatbots" can clean up many of the grammar errors that are common to scam emails or texts. This removes a typical red flag that consumers have gotten good at spotting.
- Downloading AI software to test out for yourself can also be dangerous. The Federal Trade Commission warns that criminals are using online ads to drive people to fake websites that download malware onto their devices.

What You Should Do

- Remember that however convincing they might be, these scams are always going to ask with urgency for money or sensitive information. That fear, or panic, or excitement that comes from an out-of-the-blue message is your signal to disengage.
- If you get an urgent call from a loved one who needs money, hang up. Call them at the number you know to be theirs or check with another family member to make sure they are okay.

We can no longer trust links in emails or text messages—nor can we trust clicking on online ads. Always type in the destination website yourself to ensure you aren't sent to a fake version of the site.

As fraud criminals have access to increasingly sophisticated tactics, it is more important than ever to stay informed on the latest scam tactics and red flags. We'll keep you informed here, and you can learn more at aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork.



And one more thing...

We launched AARP VOA ReST, a free program that provides emotional support for people affected by a scam or fraud. ReST sessions are online, hour-long, confidential small groups led by trained peer facilitators. Experiencing a scam can be devastating, but it doesn't have to define you. Interested? Visit www.aarp.org/fraudsupport to learn more.

CITY OF ALLENTOWN -

Contact NUMBERS

Allentown City Hall

610-439-5999

Building/Permits

610-437-7592

Code Enforcement

610-437-7694

Garbage Complaints

610-437-8729

Police Non Emergent

610-437-7751

Recycling & Trash

610-437-8729

Streets

610-437-7639

**Midway Manor
Community Association**

PO Box 4236
Bethlehem, PA 18108

www.midwaymanor.org
Email :
info@midwaymanor.org
Facebook : [facebook.com/
groups/136048290175/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/136048290175/)



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Did someone say “YARD SALE” ?

Midway Manor Community Association's Yard Sale is set for Sat., Sept. 9th from 8am - 1pm with some exciting additions! Fingers are crossed that the Snack Shed in the park will be open this year for breakfast and early lunch! (Volunteers are appreciated!) Also, Stephanie Sigafoos has proposed that a neighborhood donation site for gently used clothing items be available at the park during the yard sale. This is a great opportunity for neighbors who are cleaning out their closets and would like to contribute clothing items. All proceeds would go to MMCA.

More details to come.

Once again participants (residents, non-residents and vendors) have the option of setting up their tables by their homes or at the park (2020 Pennsylvania St).

To participate in the 2023 MMCA YARD SALE, please give us your NAME, ADDRESS, EMAIL or PHONE NUMBER and LOCATION OF YOUR SALE: @your home or @ the park. A \$10 donation to Midway Manor Community Association is appreciated to defray yard sale expenses and to augment MMCA funds. Please respond no later than Tuesday Sept. 5 to be included on the MMCA YARD SALE SITE MAP.

If paying by CASH or CHECK, please drop-off or mail to 1325 N Van Buren St Allentown PA 18109.

If paying by VENMO, please send to DavidTagg@midwaymanor On the memo, please include YARD SALE and the ADDRESS (or PARK) for your yard sale location as well as contact information.

If you have any questions, please contact us at MMCA.YardSale@yahoo.com

We're looking forward to another successful community yard sale. Please help MMCA by participating and spreading the word to your friends .. face to face or by social media.

Your MMCA Yard Sale Committee

The Snack Shed

The Snack Shed, located at the park has been a source of funds for Midway Manor for over 40 years. It is open during any events sponsored by MMCA at the park including Spring and Fall Soccer, Halloween, Neighbor to Neighbor and other events.

We rely on a network of volunteers to help during these events. There are various tasks from manning the front taking orders to working the griddle or the fryers. The Shed menu has a varied assortment of food from hamburgers, hotdogs, French fries, pierogies, ice cream, sodas to candy and snacks. We also serve breakfast when we have early morning soccer games.

We also accept donations of goods that can be utilized such as paper goods, plasticware, soda, Gatorade, coffee, tea, etc. Other items we accept are small appliances in good condition such as coffee makers, crockpots, pots and pans.

BUT, the most important need is YOU! We typically like to have at least 3-4 people manning the shed at any given time. If you can help for an hour or all day, we can use you. If you are interested in helping out this season, please contact David Tagg.

MIDWAY MANOR NIGHT AT COCA COLA PARK



