



SENIOR CONNECT

JANUARY 2026



Lawrence Township Celebrates Community at Annual Tree Lighting

Lawrence Township residents braved the chilly December evening on Friday, December 5 to gather at the Municipal Building for the annual "Deck the Town Hall" tree lighting celebration. Despite the cold weather, the festive atmosphere warmed hearts as families enjoyed an evening filled with holiday cheer.

The well-attended event featured cookie decorating, children's crafts, a trackless train ride, and visits with winter characters. Santa Claus made a spectacular arrival at 6:30 p.m., just in time for the official tree lighting ceremony. Families enjoyed free hot chocolate and cookies while supplies lasted.

The evening's success was the result of outstanding teamwork across multiple township departments and volunteer groups. The Lawrence Township Recreation Department coordinated the planning, with dedicated support from the Recreation Advisory Committee. The Lawrence Police Department helped ensure a safe and smooth event, while local fire companies and EMT's brought Santa to the delight of children and families.

Mayor and Council members joined the celebration, greeting residents and participating in the festivities. The Public Works Department deserves special recognition for their extensive preparation and beautiful display, with particular appreciation to Bob, Dave, and Joe (who embraced his inner "Buddy the Elf") for their exceptional work.

The Lawrence Township Tree Lighting continues to be a beloved tradition that brings the community together to kick off the holiday season. Thank you to everyone who attended and to all the volunteers and staff who made the evening possible.

Spotlight on



Chief Kevin Reading, the Lawrence Township Police Department and the American Red Cross would like to thank everyone that came out to donate on December 1st at our most recent blood drive. 29 whole blood units were collected, which will help around 87 hospital patients.

Chief Kevin Reading and the Lawrence Township Police Department sincerely thank Kulak Arms & Outfitters LLC, Lawrence Township FOP Lodge 209, and Lawrence Township residents for their continued generosity. Because of you, another successful toy drop was made possible, with donations going to HomeFront to help local families and children



Police Officer Na'Air Campbell recently had a wonderful experience shopping with Middle School students at Quakerbridge Mall. The children enjoyed meeting Santa, touring a Lawrence Township Police vehicle, and building positive connections with Officer Campbell. It was a great day filled with smiles and fun.



Christopher Longo
Deputy Municipal Manager and
Director of Public Safety



Lawrence Township is pleased to announce the appointment of Christopher Longo as Deputy Municipal Manager and Director of Public Safety. A lifelong Lawrence Township resident, Longo brings over 25 years of public service experience, having served the Lawrence Township Police Department from dispatcher to Chief of Police before retiring in January 2025.

"I am honored to continue serving the community I have called home my entire life," said Longo.



Let's talk about Sustainable Jersey certification levels!

Lawrence Township just earned SILVER—a significant honor that places us among NJ's leading sustainable communities. But we've heard the question: "Why not Gold?"

Here's the key: Sustainable Jersey's Gold is NOT a higher level of municipal certification. It's a specialized "Gold Star" designation awarded only in limited categories (like Energy or Water) and requires meeting extremely demanding, measurable standards across the ENTIRE community—including utilities, private-sector energy use, water agencies, and resident behavior that municipalities cannot directly control.

Gold Stars also require extensive data modeling, technical verification, long-term monitoring, and often substantial capital investment. Only a handful of NJ towns have achieved Gold in any category.

Our Silver Certification reflects the excellent sustainability work our township CAN control—and we're already excelling at it.

We're grateful to Lawrence Township resident Bonne O'Flanagan Giglio for stepping up to organize the November food drive! Thanks to her dedication and the generosity of our community, she collected and donated 5 large deliveries of food to neighbors in need through

Arm and Arm.

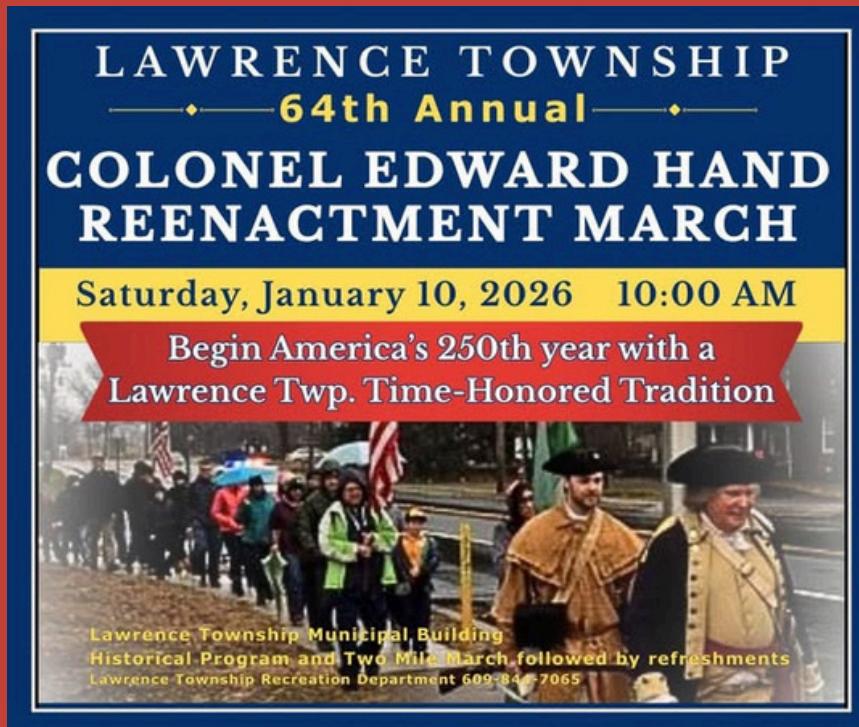
Every can, box, and bag truly makes a difference in ensuring everyone in Lawrence has a place at the table. Thank you, Bonne, for embodying the spirit of neighbors helping neighbors!

Neighbors helping Neighbors:

Thank you to township resident Bonne O'Flanagan Giglio for volunteering and organizing a November food drive that provided 5 deliveries of food to neighbors in need through Arm and Arm!



SAVE
the DATE



SAVE
the DATE



Need help
with Energy
Bills?

Need help with utility bills?

"Income limits are higher than ever," DCA Assistant Commissioner and Director of the Division of Housing and Community Resources, Janel Winter said. "If you're struggling to manage your bills, now is the time to apply."

Apply now: <https://conta.cc/4gOpIU6>

Funds are limited – don't wait!



Congratulations to this years 2025 Holiday House Decorating Contest Winners!

BEST INFLATABLE DISPLAY



2114 PRINCETON PIKE

BEST CLASSIC DESIGN



152 HARMONY AVE

MOST EXTREME DISPLAY & CHILDREN'S CHOICE AWARD



9 MERRITT DRIVE



Our senior center got creative with a festive winter craft! Participants decorated pinecones with bells and ribbon, then coated them in peanut butter and birdseed to create beautiful bird feeder ornaments. Check out the Senior Center Calendar for the many great upcoming activities for Seniors age 60+.



The Lawrence Senior Center is open to Lawrence senior citizens, 60 years of age and older, for a wide range of activities, including exercise, health and wellness options, educational talks, intergenerational programming and socialization/recreation opportunities. The Senior Center is located on 30 Darrah Lane East and is open Monday-Friday from 8:30am-4:30pm.



THE LAWRENCE HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS HOSTING:

FREE DRIVE THRU RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC

Saturday January 17, 2026

12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

2207 Lawrence Rd. (Municipal Bldg. Parking Lot)

For Dogs & Cats 7 months and older

Pre-registration On-Line is Required

Registration closes at 5 pm on January 12, 2026

**DOGS must be securely leashed, if necessary,
muzzled, and under the control of an adult at all times.**

CATS must be in carriers.

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For more information or questions:

visit www.lawrencetwp.com/departments/animal-control

call (609) 844-7082



Lawrence Township Health Department



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



ARE YOU OR DO YOU KNOW A HOMEBOUND LAWRENCE RESIDENT?



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Lawrence Township Health Department

If you are a Lawrence Township resident who is homebound and in need of resources, please connect with the Lawrence Township Health Department and provide the following information:

- Name
- Date of Birth
- Phone Number
- Email Address
- Home Address



ASK US ABOUT COVID-19 & FLU VACCINES

Homebound is defined as the situation where people cannot leave their homes independently without assistance. (National Institutes of Health)



**EMAIL THE LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP HEALTH
DEPARTMENT AT: lawrencetownshiphealth@gmail.com**



CALL US AT: (609) 844-7089

January 2026

Expand All

Subscribe

Meetings Only

| | | | | | | |
|----|---|--|---|---|----------------------|---|
| 28 | 29 Leaf Collection | 30 Leaf Collection | 31 Leaf Collection | 1 Leaf Collection Municipal Offices Closed - New Year's Day | 2 Leaf Collection | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Trails, Open Space & Stewardship Advisory Committee (canceled) | 8 | 9 | 10 64th Annual Commemoration of Colonel Edward Hand's Delaying Tactics March |
| 11 | 12 Historic Preservation Committee | 13 Growth and Redevelopment Committee Meeting | 14 Senior Executive Committee | 15 | 16 | 17 Free Dog/Cat Rabies Clinic |
| 18 | 19 Municipal Offices Closed - Martin Luther King Day | 20 Township Council Meeting | 21 Zoning Board Meeting | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 Shade Tree Advisory Committee | 27 Lawrence Alcohol and Drug Alliance Meeting | 28 Environmental Resources & Green Advisory Committee Meeting | 29 | 30 | 31 |

February 2026

[Expand All](#)[Subscribe](#)[Meetings Only](#)

| 1 | 2 | Planning Board Meeting | 3 | Township Council Meeting | 4 | Trails, Open Space & Stewardship Advisory Committee Meeting | 5 |
|----|----|---|----|--|----|---|----|
| 8 | 9 | Historic Preservation Committee | 10 | Growth and Redevelopment Committee Meeting | 11 | Senior Executive Committee | 12 |
| 15 | 16 | Municipal Offices Closed - Presidents Day | 17 | Township Council Meeting | 18 | Zoning Board Meeting | 19 |
| 22 | 23 | Shade Tree Advisory Committee | 24 | Lawrence Alcohol and Drug Alliance Meeting | 25 | Environmental Resources & Green Advisory Committee Meeting | 26 |
| 1 | 2 | Planning Board Meeting | 3 | Township Council Meeting | 4 | Trails, Open Space & Stewardship Advisory Committee Meeting | 5 |
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