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June 2, 2020

Welcome to the PSATS Morning News.

Missed yesterday's PSATS Morning News? No problem! A [PSATS Morning News Library](#) is available online for your viewing pleasure!

We're excited about this new concept and want to hear what you think. Email comments and suggestions to morningnews@psats.org.

Township Video News

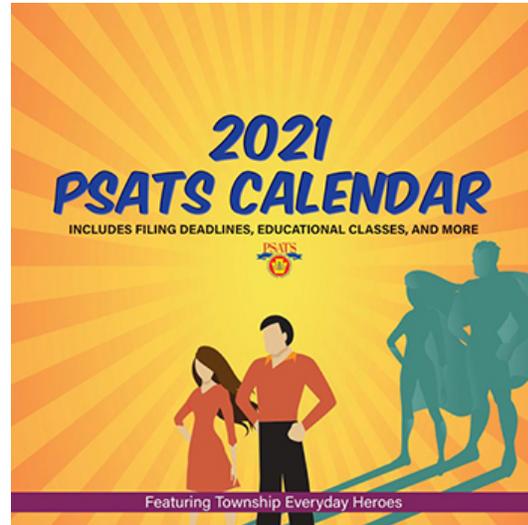


Many of PSATS 2020 Conference workshops have gone virtual, and starting June 4, you can go to learn.psats.org and browse the catalog of more than 60 courses being offered this summer. Participate in the live sessions or watch them on demand. Plus, we're offering special member pricing. (2:30)

Latest News

PSATS Looking for Photos of Township "Everyday Heroes"

Attention, township officials! PSATS wants photos of your "Everyday Heroes" for its 2021 calendar! [Read more](#) for details.



Census 2020: Shaping the Future for 2020 Grads

It's graduation season! The results of the 2020 Census will impact graduates for the next 10 years as they go to college, begin a career, start a family, buy a home, and decide where to live. Learn more about the "Five Ways the Census Can Shape the Future for 2020 Grads" [here](#). It's important that everyone be counted. Spread the word and promote the census to your residents!



New COVID Cases Lowest in Months

In a bit of good news, positive COVID-19 cases reported for June 1 in Pennsylvania were 356, the lowest in months.

Independent Fiscal Office, Department of Revenue Release Year-to-Date Revenue Reports

May revenue collections of \$2.11 billion fell below monthly projections released by the Independent Fiscal Office (IFO) in August 2019 by \$502.6 million (-19.3 percent) due to the impact of continued business closures and other mitigation efforts to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. [Read full story](#).

Governor Wolf Extends Voting by Executive Order

Governor Wolf signed an Executive Order to extend the mail in ballot deadline for 6

counties affected by his civil unrest declaration of emergency issued Sunday, May 31. County Election offices in Allegheny, Dauphin, Delaware, Erie, Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties will have until next Tuesday, June 9 to finalize the unofficial count for totals in today's primary election. Ballots must still be postmarked by today, June 2, 2020. Election results will be delayed.

LCB Issues Guidance for Licensees in the Green Phase

To supplement Commonwealth Guidance, the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (LCB) has issued additional information for licensees in green-phase counties, informing them of permissible and impermissible activities. [Read full story.](#)

FEMA Releases Starter Kit for Preparedness in a Pandemic

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has released a Preparedness in a Pandemic Exercise Starter Kit to help whole community partners by providing samples of documents that state and local governments can use to conduct their own preparedness workshops in a pandemic. [Click here](#) for more information.

Agriculture Receives Extension of COVID-19 Disaster Food Distribution

The state Department of Agriculture has received approval to continue operating the Disaster Household Distribution Program, through The Emergency Food Assistance Program, through June 25. The waiver eliminates the need for individuals to verify financial eligibility upon arrival at a food bank or pantry. In addition, the waiver allows the department and its partners to distribute U.S. Department of Agriculture foods to those in need.

Townships in Lancaster and York Counties May Apply for Fish and Boat Grants

Townships in Lancaster and York Counties may apply for grant funding to address habitat improvement and sediment reduction projects through the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. Applications are due July 31, 2020. [Read full story.](#)

20 Safest Cities in PA....Are Mostly Townships!

In a Pennlive news report, safewise.com updated its annual listing of the 20 safest cities in Pennsylvania. As you can see from the link, most in the top 100 are townships with a few boroughs. In 2020, nearly half of Pennsylvanians polled expressed concern about safety every day in the state, according to a study done by safewise.com. That number, which is higher than the national average, comes despite the commonwealth having lower crime rates than average.

The study found that Pennsylvania's violent crime rate is 3.1 incidents per 1,000 people, which is lower than the national rate of 3.7.

Using crime statistics from the FBI and US Census population data, the study ranked the

safest cities in the state. Five cities in the state reported zero violent crimes. In all, only 34 total violent crimes were reported by the 20 safest cities.

[Here](#) are the 20 safest cities in Pennsylvania.

Legislation & Policy



The House and Senate are scheduled to return to Harrisburg on Monday June 8th.

PSATS Urges Governor to Sign Alternate Sewer Plan Legislation

On June 1st, PSATS sent a letter to Governor Wolf urging him to sign SB 1030 into law. SB 1030 would amend the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act to require the state Department of Environmental Protection to accept any conventional or alternate sewage system that meets site conditions at a proposed new land development.

[Click here](#) to read the letter from PSATS. Special thanks to Senator Gene Yaw for providing this municipal solution.

Note: SB 1030 would fulfill a PSATS resolution

Learn

WEBINAR WEDNESDAY - The Pros And Cons Of Selling Municipal Water/Sewer Assets - 6/3/20

This webinar is designed to provide attendees with information regarding the current market for selling and acquiring municipal water/sewer assets, including a summary of recent public and private transactions, updates on the environmental and PUC developments related to sales/acquisitions and the potential benefits



and challenges associated with sales and acquisitions. Join Steve Hann and Tom Wyatt as they cover all sides of this important issue. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Public Works Point. Qualifies for 1 CLE Credit. [Click here](#) to register.

For full list of webinars and classes please visit <https://learn.psats.org>.



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