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November 12, 2020

Township Video News

Every township must adopt their 2021 budget by December 31, but can you approve it earlier? Good question. We explain. Also, click here to catch up on previous Questions of the Week. (1:08)

Latest News

State Police Continues to Cite Liquor Violations

Pennsylvania State Police liquor control enforcement officers visited 904 licensed liquor establishments from Monday, November 2, through Sunday, November 8, to ensure that businesses are abiding by COVID-19 mitigation requirements that include social

distancing, masking, and other health and safety requirements of the Liquor Code.

Officers issued 76 warnings and 29 violations for failing to follow COVID-19 requirements during this time frame. That brings the total violation count to 292 over the last 131 days (2.23 per day statewide). To view a summary of the number of checks and warnings issued by enforcement officers since July 1, click here and scroll down.

Pa. Department of Agriculture Releases COVID-19 Restaurant Enforcement Numbers

The state Department of Agriculture has released COVID-19 restaurant enforcement actions taken during the week of November 2 to 8. The Bureau of Food Safety issued five formal warning letters and two citations after performing 675 total inspections, 20 of which were complaint-driven and 15 of which were COVID-19-specific complaints. The bureau distributed 35 COVID-19 complaint-driven education letters and referred eight COVID-19-related complaints to local and county health departments. A county-by-county breakdown can be found by clicking here.

FDA Approves Monoclonal Antibody Therapy as COVID-19 Treatment

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued an emergency use authorization for the investigational monoclonal antibody therapy bamlanivimab for the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in adult and pediatric patients who are at high risk of severe COVID-19 and/or hospitalization. This treatment is not authorized for patients who are hospitalized due to COVID-19 or require oxygen therapy due to COVID-19. Click here for more.

Apprenticeship Programs Include Water Treatment

Gov. Tom Wolf has announced new apprenticeship programs in southcentral and southeastern Pennsylvania in water treatment, abatement, and industrial manufacturing and mechatronics. The water treatment program is with the Mifflin Academy of Science & Technology in Lewistown and is for water systems operation specialists. The academy will partner with the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Lewistown to provide the program-related instruction. To learn more, click here.

PSATS Town Hall – Personnel Management During COVID-19

Join PSATS and attorneys from Eckert Seamans for a free PSATS Town Hall on Thursday, November 19 from 3-4 p.m. focused on helping townships navigate the many personnel challenges raised as a result of COVID-19. Get answers to all sorts of personnel questions, including whether your township employees need to quarantine if they are a "close contact" of someone with COVID-19, whether your township can or should require employees to get COVID-19 tests if they are not feeling well, or how the township should be handling PTO requests from employees with children in virtual school or relatives who are sick.

If you have questions that you would like to raise with the presenters, please email them to scoburn@psats.org.

For those seeking CLE credits, there is a $15 fee.

Click here to register.

Learn

Strategic Planning For Fire Service Operations In Townships - Virtual - 11/18/20
This virtual session will review the top 10 challenges facing volunteer fire departments and identify the responsibilities of the township when it comes to volunteer fire companies. Methods for assessing community expectations will also be discussed. Participants will be provided "show and apply" methods to conduct a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) analysis of their current fire service operations and how to develop a standard of response based on public expectations. Qualifies for 4 PMGA Public Safety points. Click here to register.

Webinar-How To Assure Your Township's Families Benefit From PA's Child Development Account-11/18/20
Learn about Keystone Scholars and the PA Saving Pledge and working with the PA Treasury. We'll share ways you can make sure your residents are aware of both new programs, how to gain access to their Keystone Scholar account and how to win money for their child by taking the PA Savings Pledge. Join PA Treasury for a webinar on winning and success! Qualifies for 1.0 PMGA Administration Point. Click here to register.

Quickbooks - Getting Ready For The Township Audit 11/19/2020

Part of the PSATS Summer/Fall 2020 QuickBooks Series

In this session, we will discuss what to look for, how to ensure that your financial records are correct, and how to close down the book for the year. Click here to register.

Webinar - Employment Law Update: Things You May Have Missed During Quarantine - 12/10/20

This program will provide an overview of recent and upcoming developments in employment law. Whether your township has one employee or one hundred, the program will address lessons learned from 2020, proactive strategies to plan for changes in the law, and recommendations for new policies and practices in 2021. Eligible for 1 PMGA Administrative Point. Eligible for 1 Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Credit. Click here to register.

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

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.