

# ONEIDA ADVISOR

NOVEMBER 2018

ISSUE 18

## Meet our new Emergency Management Coordinator!!



Originally hailing from Oneida Township his parents are Stephen and Connie Magill. He is married and currently lives in Walker Township with his wife, Phallen who is a nurse in the cardiac cath lab at JC Blair Memorial Hospital. They have a six year old son, Brayden, who goes to Southside Elementary School.

Shaun likes to hunt and is an avid sports fan. His son, Brayden, plays soccer, both indoor and outdoor in the spring and fall. He also has a great sense of humor, just ask his family and close friends. Every other year he goes on a hunting trip out west with his family and close friends. Jim Ferrenberg, the Oneida Township Roadmaster, says he makes the trip worth the while, whether they get any animals or not.

Shaun Magill has been involved in the McConnellstown Fire Company since 1998. He has been a 911 Dispatcher for 8 years. Having grown up in the area he has a strong sense of community service which is evident when you talk with him.

Shaun is also a part-time employee of Oneida Township, helping Jim Ferrenberg with the snowplowing during the heavy snowfalls.

We are very lucky to have him as our new EMC and warmly welcome him on board!!

### ONEIDA TOWNSHIP

#### PERSONNEL

John A. Skipper,  
Chairman

James E. Ferrenberg,  
Vice-Chairman,  
Road Master

Stephen R. Magill  
Supervisor

Chris L. Carper  
Maintenance

Hank Strong,  
Treasurer

Doris Hayden,  
Secretary

Nicholas Newfield,  
Solicitor

Susan P. Hurley,  
Tax Collector



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PO Box 406  
Huntingdon, PA 16652  
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Fax: 814.643.0524  
Hours: M,T,TH 9:30-3:30

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PO Box 406  
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## FIRE FIGHTER CRISIS ACROSS THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

The volunteer fire company is a long and cherished tradition dating back to 1736 when Benjamin Franklin founded the nation's first all-volunteer force in Philadelphia.

Unfortunately, today manning fire companies with volunteers has become a major issue. Volunteers are dwindling, training requirements have intensified, and costs are soaring while donations are down.

Real viable solutions are needed now or many local stations will be forced to close their doors.

Volunteers at fire companies across the state have dropped from 300,000 in the 1960's and 70's to below 50,000 today.

At least 75% of fire companies are struggling with manpower while the state's population is aging. The average age of a fire fighter today is in the 50's.

To switch to paid fire companies, communities would need to raise almost \$10 billion a year across the state.

Recently, township officials passed a resolution at the 96<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) requesting that Governor Tom Wolf call a special session to address this crisis. Bipartisan Senate Resolution 6 Commission has been assigned this task. The deadline for their report is November 30, 2018.

PSATS are urging the state legislature to enact real and feasible solutions now, before the General Election Day, with such options as allowing variable training standards for rural, suburban and urban areas; granting a tax incentive for employers who permit employees to respond to a call during work hours; and providing a fix for out-of-control insurance rates at the State Workers Insurance Fund.

Contact your representatives and let them know that this crisis real and needs a solution now.

This article has been abridged from the PSATS Townships Today, second quarter 2018.



**ELECTION DAY**

**NOVEMBER 6, 2018 7 am to 8 pm @ the Fire Hall**

**TOWNSHIP OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED**

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**Please remember to keep roadways clear so that Maintenance can take proper care of them.**