

## The Paper Shredder Event

Sponsored by Whitpain Police Association and Tompkins VIST Bank



Join us for this free event on Saturday May 15, 2021 between 10am-1pm, or until the truck is filled. Due to the increased interest by residents and bank customers there will be a maximum of three boxes/bags allowed per vehicle in order to assist as many people as possible.

Location: Prophecy Creek Park – 205 W. Skippack Pike, Ambler

The Paper Shredder event is one of the ways in which the Whitpain Police Association shows it's appreciation for all the support we get throughout the year. This event is sponsored and paid for by the WPA and is open to all Whitpain residents. This year we partnered with Tompkins VIST Bank in Blue Bell and are welcoming their customers as well.

It is an easy, safe and efficient way to dispose of all of your sensitive paperwork that is no longer needed; particularly after tax season. DO NOT risk throwing away sensitive documents in a trashcan where your personal information can be stolen and used for Identity Theft!

ProShred Security will set up their on-site shredding truck and Whitpain Police Association members will be available to assist you with getting your sensitive documents shredded. ProShred warrants that its paper shredding service will be completed exclusively onsite by trained, insured, and certified customer service professionals in compliance with the company's ISO 9001-2008 policies and procedures. The on-site truck is only capable of shredding paperwork. Please bring any documents that you would like destroyed and make sure that they are free from rubber bands, binders, or anything else that could impede the shredding process.



## Your donation dollars at Work

Over the years the WPA has received tremendous support from our residents and we want make sure you know how much it is appreciated. In addition to helping retired officers with medical expenses, your donation dollars go towards many WPA sponsored events throughout the township, including:

- Sponsoring Whitpain Recreation Association youth baseball teams.
- Donating food and toys to the Law Enforcement Food Drive which goes to the Mattie N. Dixon Community Cupboard and the Norristown Salvation Army.
- Supporting various local charities and township residents facing difficult times.
- Donating to Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center
- Sponsoring children's games and prizes for the township's annual Harvest Fest/Community Day.
- Keeping Whitpain residents and businesses informed through a community newsletter.
- Assisting with special events in the community.
- Sponsoring a free paper shredder event for residents.



**Thank You for your continued support!**  
**WhitpainPoliceAssociation.com**



### Whitpain Police Association Members 2021

#### Association Officers:

Ofc. Seth Homan, *President*  
Det. Brad Potter, *Vice President*  
Ofc. Veronica Schimpf, *Treasurer*  
Ofc. Matt Bealer, *Secretary*  
Det. Sgt. Thomas Wittig  
*Financial Secretary*

#### Association Officers:

Chief Kenneth Lawson  
Lt. William Armstrong  
Lt. Joseph Fenerty  
Ofc. Scott Buchanan  
Sgt. Jon Bleuit  
Ofc. Steve Nickel  
Ofc. George Frost  
Ofc. Christopher Rotondo  
Ofc. Brian Richard  
Sgt. Brian Sweisfurth  
Ofc. Michael McGuire  
Ofc. Brian Daly  
Sgt. Fran Rippert  
Ofc. Shaun Beitler  
Sgt. Frank Franco  
Sgt. Jonathan Gallagher  
Ofc. Ivan Kosty  
Ofc. Richard Houser  
Ofc. Bianca Vuotto  
Ofc. Matt Frank  
Ofc. Joseph Sullivan  
Ofc. Asa Ott  
Ofc. Jamil Van  
Ofc. Rubia Branco

#### Retired Members:

John Blake  
David O'Brien  
Joseph Stemple  
Wayne Straub  
Anthony Lepore  
Thomas Medwid  
Harvey Foster  
Michael Adgie  
Mark Smith  
Marc Azeff  
Cathy Penecale  
Jeff Franck  
Georgette Hill  
Jay Pratt  
Brian Wilfong  
Anthony Cianci

# Whitpain Police Association 2021 Newsletter

## Whitpain Golf Classic



Benefitting

The Whitpain Police Association,  
and the Stony Creek Day Camp Scholarship Fund



Monday, June 21, 2021

## Bluestone Country Club

711 Boehms Church Road, Blue Bell, PA 19422

Join Honorary Chairman,  
The Legendary Voice of  
The Philadelphia Eagles

Merrill Reese

\$165 per Golfer

Price includes round of golf with cart, lunch,  
beverages on course, contests, one hour open  
bar, full buffet dinner, giveaways, prizes, and more!!

\$60 per Non-Golfer

Includes cocktail hour and dinner

Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

For More Information Go To :

WhitpainRec.com or call (610) 277-2400

**WhitpainPoliceAssociation.com**



@WPA46

# Whitpain Police Association 2 2021 Department Update

In 2020-2021 we experienced the progression of several careers, the conclusion of one career after 25 years of service, and recognition of one of our officers for outstanding service and dedication.

## Retirement:

First, we would like to recognize the 25 years of service that Sergeant Anthony Cianci dedicated to the Whitpain community. Sgt. Cianci attended the Temple Police Academy in 1994 and was hired by Whitpain in 1995. He was assigned to the Detective division in 2000 and was later moved to the Patrol Division. Anthony is now enjoying his retirement with his 4 boys and wife, Kim. We will miss Sgt. Cianci and wish him the best!



Sgt. Cianci reading to students

## Promotion:

With retirements come promotions. After going through a rigorous 3 step testing process, three patrol officers were promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Sergeant Fran Rippert began service to his community and Country by serving in the United States Marine Corps for 10 years, and he is also a combat veteran who served overseas. He received his Bachelor of Science degree at Temple University in Criminal Justice and was hired by Whitpain PD in 2007. He most recently earned his master's degree in criminal justice. Sgt. Rippert is assigned to the Patrol Division where he leads a squad comprised of four other officers.

Detective Sergeant Tom Wittig is also a Temple graduate. Prior to working in Whitpain, Sgt. Wittig worked in the mental health field counseling adolescents. He was hired by Whitpain PD in 1999 and served nine years as a patrol officer, and 13 years in the detective division. Sgt. Wittig has been instrumental in numerous investigations throughout the years and his new role as Detective Sergeant will add supervisory responsibilities overseeing the Detective division.

Sergeant Jon Gallagher is a Penn State graduate and he was hired by Whitpain PD in 2013 after serving with the Pottstown Police Department for eight years. Sgt. Gallagher is also in the process of obtaining his Master's degree in Criminal Justice and he is assigned to the Patrol Division where he leads a squad comprised of four other officers.



Pictured from left to right: Ofc. Shaun Beitler, Sgt. Jon Gallagher, Chief Ken Lawson, Sgt. Fran Rippert, Det. Sgt. Tom Wittig

## Recognition of outstanding service:

Patrol Officer Shaun Beitler was awarded the 2020 Montgomery County Central Region, Lieutenant Joseph Roscoe SWAT Officer of the Year award. This award was named after one of the founding members of the Montgomery County Central Region SWAT Team, Lieutenant Joseph Roscoe, who was also an Officer with the Whitpain Township Police Department.

This award is given to tactical officers who go above and beyond in their duties while serving as a SWAT operator. Officer Beitler has shown a high proficiency during training and active events and dedication to the team and his community. Congratulations to Officer Beitler, the entire department is proud of you.

Congratulations to all of these officers on their accomplishments and careers.

# SCAM ALERT

Fraud and scams are here to stay so here are some tips and facts to help protect yourself and your family.

- Seniors are the #1 target of fraud and scams, followed by students and the military.
- Beware of so-called agents calling from "Government agencies"
  - If you have a legitimate concern and are unsure, call them back but look up the phone number yourself instead of using the number they provide.
- Routinely check your bank and credit card statements to make sure they're accurate
  - Look for small unauthorized transactions, which can be a precursor to a much larger fraudulent transaction
- Beware of the family member in distress scam
  - A law enforcement agency will never ask you to send money because your child or grandchild is in jail
- Beware of charity scams
  - You can check their legitimacy through the Better Business Bureau or the PA Dept. of State
- Beware of the Microsoft scam
  - Someone calls you and says there is a virus on your computer and they need access to your computer
- Beware of COVID-19 scams
  - Do not give out personal information to unknown sources or pay fees to get on a vaccine list or receive doses of the vaccine
- Beware of in person scams
  - Distraction scams while you are outside of your home
  - Driveway paving scams – get the company info and do your research. Don't use the numbers on the brochure/flyer, do your own research online
- Use caller ID and if you don't recognize the number let them leave a message
- Don't ever send money to someone who insists on immediate payment
- Never give out your personal information unless you made the call
  - Tell them you will call them back and look up the appropriate phone number (i.e. the number on the back of your credit card)
- Resources regarding fraud and scams:
  - PA Department of Banking and Securities – [www.dobs.pa.gov](http://www.dobs.pa.gov)
    - Great resource for free webinars on these issues
  - Federal Trade Commission – [www.FTC.gov/complaint](http://www.FTC.gov/complaint) - 877-FTC-HELP
  - Office of Consumer Advocate – [www.oca.state.pa.us](http://www.oca.state.pa.us) – 800-684-6560
    - If you're a victim of a utility scam
  - Do not call list – register through [www.attorneygeneral.gov/protect-yourself/do-not-call-list/](http://www.attorneygeneral.gov/protect-yourself/do-not-call-list/) and national donotcall.gov or 888-382-1222
    - Note - This will only help with legitimate sales calls, not scams
  - Annualcreditreport.com – receive a free credit check once a year