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Council recognizes Radnor Town Watch and Radnor Citizen's Police Academy

Delaware County Council recognized Radnor's Town Watch and the Radnor Citizen's Police Academy during its weekly public meeting held at the Radnor Township Building on May 2. Council recognized both organizations for their partnership with law enforcement to ensure the safety of families, schools and businesses in Radnor Township.

Radnor's Town Watch, which was established on April 7, 1977, is celebrating its 40th year of protecting the community. For four decades the volunteers have been the extra eyes and ears of the Radnor Township Police Department. Members patrol the township's 13.8-mile radius in their vehicles, which are equipped with two-way radios for communication. They interact with residents, business leaders and law enforcement with the goal of creating a greater sense of security and reducing crime. Some members have more than 30 years of service to the Town Watch.

The Radnor's Citizen Police Academy was formed through the Town Watch in 2015. The program was designed to build and foster a positive relationship between the community and law enforcement. Members are comprised of volunteers from the township who complete a nine-week course including classroom instruction and practical field exercises to gain a working knowledge of the Radnor Township Police Department and learn more about the issues that affect law enforcement in Radnor Township and also throughout the country. 15 members will graduate on May 3, bringing the total number of members to 80 since the program was formed in 2015.

"All you have to do is listen to or read the news to realize how important it is to build relationships and mutual respect between police and the community," said Councilman Mike Culp. "Town Watches and Citizen's Police Academies, like the ones in Radnor, are an excellent way to strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and citizens and, in the end, to keep our communities safe. Public safety is the common goal."

Members of both the Radnor Town Watch and Radnor's Citizen Police Academy have worked with law enforcement to assist in public safety and crowd control in major events such as the Papal visit in 2015, annual events such as Wheels Wayne and the Radnor Pumpkin Patch, weather disasters, traffic control and nights such as New Year's Eve and Mischievous Night.