

LANCASTER

TOWNSHIP

newsletter

PUBLISHED BY THE LANCASTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WWW.TWP.LANCASTER.PA.US • PHONE (717) 291-1213

Spring/Summer 2007

No. 47

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Family Fun Fest: Friday, August 24, 4:00-8:00PM

Lancaster Township is starting a new tradition: Family Fun Fest! This event replaces Community Day, which was held in Septembers past.

The first Family Fun Fest will be held on Friday, August 24, 4:00-8:00PM. The group Mighty Fine will be performing bluegrass music. Some other planned events are pony rides and old-fashioned games such as checkers, croquet, jump rope, and a peanut scramble. The children will have a great time on an inflatable slide, and of course the crowd-pleasing Lancaster Township Fire Department ladder truck will be giving bird's-eye views of the surrounding landscape. Plan on staying for supper because there will be lots of different foods and drink for purchase.

Mark your calendars so you don't miss this great family time. ■



▲ THE LADDER TRUCK IS ALWAYS A BIG HIT.

NEW FIRE CHIEF FOR LANCASTER TOWNSHIP

The Lancaster Township Fire Department (LTFD) elected a new fire chief on January 2, 2007.

Ronald Comfort, Jr., a long-time member and past deputy chief, took over as head of the department.

Ron joined the LTFD as a junior firefighter in 1984 at the age of 16. Since then he has moved up steadily through the ranks, including training officer, engineer, lieutenant, captain, assistant chief, and deputy chief.

In spite of being very focused on the LTFD, he maintains other interests as well. He enjoys riding his Harley, working on cars, and spending time with his family. It's a rare day when there isn't something on his agenda. He frequently can be found at the fire station completing the all-important paperwork, working on a new project, or just socializing with other members.

The well-being of the community is always close to Ron's heart. A few years ago, he was at the Lancaster train station when he heard an emergency call on his scanner. A man at the station had collapsed. Ron's quick response with an automated external defibrillator (AED) saved the man's life, and he still gets an occasional visit from the gentleman.

Of course, the election of a new fire chief means there's an outgoing fire chief. Glenn Usdin led the LTFD for 15 years before retiring to devote more time to family and a new business. A major accomplishment at the beginning of his tenure was guiding and leading two separate fire companies when they combined as one—no easy feat! Glenn will not be gone, however. With his experience and abilities he was persuaded to stay on as deputy chief, which will certainly keep him busy.

We congratulate Ron on his election, knowing he will lead the department with heart and integrity. ■



▲ RONALD COMFORT, JR.

► **Dates to Remember:**

MARCH 11—DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS, **SPRING FORWARD!**

APRIL 22—EARTH DAY, **PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT!**

JUNE 18—COMMUNITY GET-TOGETHER, 1420 COLUMBIA AVENUE, 7:00PM

MAY 15—PRIMARY ELECTIONS, **GO TO THE POLLS AND TAKE A NEIGHBOR; EVERY VOTE IS IMPORTANT!**

► **Office Closings:**

APRIL 6—GOOD FRIDAY

MAY 28—MEMORIAL DAY

JULY 4—INDEPENDENCE DAY

SEPTEMBER 3—LABOR DAY

► **Do you know?**

You can request a presidential birthday greeting for anyone over the age of 80? Send a request four weeks prior to the event, including birth date, full name and title (i.e. Mrs., Mr., Capt., etc.), complete address and zip code to:

White House Greeting Office
Eisenhower Executive Office Bldg.
Room #39
Washington, DC 20502

*Happy
Birthday!*

New Ordinance



The following ordinance was recently passed:

Ordinance No. 2007-01: An ordinance establishing a residential permit parking zone.

2007 BUDGET

The Lancaster Township board of supervisors adopted the 2007 budget with no increase in the township real estate tax. It will remain at .6 mills or \$.0006 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation. This means a homeowner with property assessed at \$100,000 will pay \$60 in township taxes. ■

■ **TRASH, RECYCLING & ENVIRONMENT** ■

**LANCASTER CO.
SOLID WASTE
MUNICIPAL
AUTHORITY
(LCSWMA)**

The LCSWMA Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facility is open every Saturday 8:00AM to noon and weekdays, Monday through Friday 8:00AM to 4:00PM. Lancaster County residents may deliver the following HHW materials for FREE from their homes: computer & cell phones, transmission/brake fluids, antifreeze, used motor oil, batteries, fire extinguishers, household cleaners, floor and furniture polish, paint/stains, turpentine, paint thinners, rust inhibitors, pesticides, herbicides, insecticides, adhesives, kerosene, gasoline, old chemistry sets, photographic and pool chemicals, fluorescent bulbs and ballasts, thermometers, thermostats and other mercury-containing devices. LCSWMA can be called at 397-9968 for questions and is located at 1299 Harrisburg Pike. ■

**Large Appliance & Tire
Collection: May 7-10**

LARGE APPLIANCE AND TIRE PICKUP WILL OCCUR ON YOUR REGULAR COLLECTION DAY: MONDAY, MAY 7, TUESDAY, MAY 8, WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, OR THURSDAY, MAY 10. THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE MUST BE NOTIFIED OF ANY ITEMS TO BE COLLECTED. A \$12 BLUE TAG MUST BE PURCHASED AND ATTACHED TO EACH APPLIANCE. A \$1.25 PURPLE TAG MUST BE PURCHASED AND ATTACHED TO EACH TIRE.



IF YOU ALREADY HAVE TAGS, PLEASE NOTIFY THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE OF THE ITEM(S) TO BE COLLECTED. WE PROVIDE A LIST TO THE HAULER WITH ADDRESSES AND ITEMS TO BE COLLECTED. A SEPARATE TRUCK WILL COLLECT THESE ITEMS AND MAY ARRIVE AT A DIFFERENT TIME THAN THE TRASH TRUCK. PLEASE PLACE ALL ITEMS AT CURBSIDE THE EVENING PRIOR TO COLLECTION. THE HAULERS WILL NOT COLLECT ITEMS THAT ARE NOT AT CURBSIDE. ■



*Trash, Recycling & Environment
continued on page 3*

REFUSE AND RECYCLING GUIDELINES



▶ Refuse/Recycling Bill:

THE NEXT REFUSE/RECYCLING BILL WILL BE MAILED APRIL 1. THE SIX-MONTH FEE IS \$82.50. RESIDENTS AGED 60 YEARS OR OLDER CAN OBTAIN A SENIOR DISCOUNT. PRESENT PROOF OF AGE TO THE RECEPTIONIST FOR A REDUCED RATE OF \$74.25 FOR SIX MONTHS.

THERE IS A DROP BOX AT THE DOOR ON THE MAPLE AVENUE SIDE OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR AFTER-HOURS PAYMENT. ■

-  **Refuse:** There is a three (3)-container limit not to exceed 30 pounds each for regular trash.
-  **Recycling:** These items consist of #1 and #2 plastics, aluminum and tin cans, and glass (drink bottles and food jars). These items may be co-mingled in the recycling container. Newspapers should be placed in a brown paper bag or tied with string and placed on top or alongside the recycling container.
-  **Extra Trash:** Any amount over the three (3)-container limit needs a yellow tag (five for \$6.25) placed on each container.
-  **Oversized Items:** Any item weighing more than 30 pounds but less than 140 pounds is considered an oversized item, which requires a red tag (\$4.00 each).
-  **All extra service tags** may be purchased at the township office. Trash is to be placed at curbside the night before pickup. Recycling bins may be purchased at the township office for \$5.00 each.
-  **Drop Off Full Battery Bags:** When stopping by the township office to pick up a new orange battery bag, you may drop off a full bag. A white bucket has been placed inside the lobby area for drop-off of full battery bags. Cell phones also may be placed in these orange bags.

Yard Waste/Bio-Bag Collection Begins April 2, ends Oct. 5

TO DISPOSE OF LEAVES, WEEDS, BRUSH, SHRUBBERY, TRIMMINGS, AND BRANCHES LESS THAN TWO (2) INCHES IN DIAMETER, PLACE THESE ITEMS IN KRAFT BIODEGRADABLE BAGS, AVAILABLE FREE AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE BEGINNING MARCH 26.

GRASS TRIMMINGS ARE **NOT** TO BE INCLUDED IN BIO-BAGS. GRASS MAY BE BAGGED USING REGULAR GARBAGE BAGS AND SHOULD BE INCLUDED WITH REGULAR TRASH (COUNTED AS ONE OF YOUR CONTAINERS).

LARGER BRANCHES, NOT TO EXCEED A TWO (2)-INCH DIAMETER OR FOUR (4) FEET IN LENGTH, MAY BE BUNDLED USING BIODEGRADABLE STRING AND PLACED NEXT TO YOUR BIODEGRADABLE BAGS. ■

2007 Holiday Refuse Collection Schedule

- MEMORIAL DAY, MONDAY, MAY 28—
NO SERVICE MONDAY, ONE-DAY DELAY ALL WEEK
- INDEPENDENCE DAY, WEDNESDAY, JULY 4—
NORMAL MONDAY AND TUESDAY COLLECTION, ONE-DAY DELAY REST OF WEEK
- LABOR DAY, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3—
NO SERVICE MONDAY, ONE-DAY DELAY ALL WEEK
- THANKSGIVING, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22—
NO SERVICE THURSDAY, COLLECTION ON FRIDAY
- CHRISTMAS, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25—NORMAL MONDAY COLLECTION, ONE-DAY DELAY REST OF WEEK.

A P R I L							M A Y							J U N E						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
J U L Y							A U G.							S E P T.						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4							1
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
O C T.																				
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA														
	1	2	3	4	5	6														
7	8	9	10	11	12	13														
14	15	16	17	18	19	20														
21	22	23	24	25	26	27														
28	29	30	31																	

2007 Yard Waste Pick-Up Weeks

Planning & Zoning: Smoke Detectors Save Lives

The board of supervisors adopted an ordinance in 1996 that requires installation of battery-operated smoke detectors outside the sleeping area in all homes in the township. In 2000, the ordinance was amended to require hard-wired smoke detectors with a battery backup system in all existing dwellings at the time of an addition or interior renovations in excess of \$5,000.00 or when there is a change of ownership for any residential property. New dwellings, whether under construction or approved for construction, are also required to have the hard-wired battery backup system.

Smoke detectors are always important but especially so in colder weather. Accidents with fireplaces, space heaters, and furnaces can occur while the family is sleeping. Test the smoke detectors regularly and change the batteries on a schedule to be

certain everything is in good working order. Protect your loved ones, yourself, and your home.

Important Note: A new owner/occupant must send proof of installation and inspection of a hard-wired battery backup smoke detector system to the township before taking possession of the property. In the case of a combined fire and burglary system, the owner/occupant must file with the township evidence of an existing monitoring contract before occupancy.

It's the dog owner's responsibility

With spring just around the corner, it's important to keep in mind Lancaster Township code as it applies to dog owners.

Section 96-3 of the Lancaster Township code states: "No owner shall permit any dog to be upon any public property or the property of another person unless the dog is accompanied by or under the



immediate control of the owner."

Section 96-4 states: "No owner shall permit any dog or other animal to defecate upon any public property or the property of another person unless the owner immediately cleans up and removes the defecation and disposes of it in a sanitary manner."

Please be considerate of your neighbors, especially children playing in parks. Walk your dog on a leash and always clean up immediately after your dog defecates. This is not just common courtesy, it's also a matter of health. ■

School District of Lancaster

2007 Student Calendar:

April 4-6—No School

May 28—No School

June 6—Tentative Last Student Day

SDL Board Meetings,
7:00PM at J.P. McCaskey
High School
(3rd Tuesday of each month):

March 20

April 17

May 15

June 19

July 17

August 21

Advancing Learning in Lancaster



TOGETHER WE CAN

Call 291-6148 with any questions.

Reminder: If you need police assistance be sure to call 664-1180, the Lancaster County-Wide Communications. All police dispatching is done by this agency. In the case of an emergency please call 911.

Public Works: Warm weather services are beginning

Woody Material Drop-Off begins Monday, April 2. Woody materials may be taken to the maintenance facility at 1357 Meadowcreek Lane between the hours of 3:00PM and 6:00PM Monday through Thursday. Woody materials include garden debris, bushes, tree branches, and leaves.

Proper ID will be required of everyone to prove residency and the site manager may inspect your load to ensure no foreign objects (e.g., plastic, glass) are included.

Street sweeping begins April 10

Street sweeping will begin April 10 for streets with restricted parking signs. All other non-signed streets will be inspected on a regular basis and swept when necessary. Street sweeping will continue through October 10. Please obey the posted signs and remove your vehicles in a timely manner. This not only allows for more thorough street cleaning but also prevents ticketing for a parking violation.

Maintenance of street trees

Spring is almost here and thoughts naturally turn to outside activity. It is important

to remember that residents are responsible for all street trees along the streets and alleys. Take a look at the street trees on your property. All trees must be maintained at a height no less than fourteen (14) feet from the roadway surface. This allows for the safe passage of vehicles/trucks and street cleaning equipment without damage to the tree. If the trees are in need of pruning/trimming, please see that it is done.



If a tree is dead or dying, it is safest to remove it as soon as possible. The homeowner is liable for damage to neighboring property or vehicles if a tree falls down. Taking proper care of trees results in a much healthier and longer living tree. ■

Summer Road Maintenance Program

The following roads are scheduled for surface maintenance:

- North Bausman Drive: Microsurface the entire length
- Bentley Lane: Microsurface the entire length
- Bentley Summit: Microsurface the entire length
- Cottage Avenue: Milling and paving from East King Street to East Orange Street
- Fieldstead Lane: Microsurface the entire length
- Parkside Avenue: Milling and paving the entire length
- Quarry Lane: Microsurface the entire length
- Valley Road: Microsurface from North School Lane to River Drive

Residents will be given a written notice prior to the beginning of any work. ■



LANCASTER TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Lancaster Township is a beautiful area in which to live and work. Homes are well-maintained, forming the kind of neighborhoods that make us proud.

At the January 2007 meeting, the Lancaster Township Historical Commission (LTHC) had the honor of recognizing ten properties for their contributions to the community through home maintenance.

The homeowners were presented with original Fraktur Historical Preservation Awards. Each original award was hand-drawn and lettered by Lancaster County Fraktur artist Julie Kohler.

The awards recognize exemplary work by the owners. Through their tireless and enthusiastic efforts to maintain their properties, they have made the township a more beautiful place. The historical commission is proud to recognize the contributions



▲ GINNY GIBBLE, LTHC CHAIR, WITH RESIDENTS RECOGNIZED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY THROUGH HOME MAINTENANCE

of these residents whose work in conservation, preservation, and beautification of their properties is so

noticeably evident.

Congratulations and thank you to: Dennis and Lauri Ann Timmins, 345 Abbeyville Road; John Leed, Jr., 7 Michelle Drive; Jonathan and Jennifer Owens, 1630 Millersville Pike; Robert and Denise Baird, 1130 Wheatland Avenue; Dennis and Lorraine Schmick, 523 North School Lane; John and Mary Metzger, 25 Bentley Lane; Conestoga House, 1608 Marietta Avenue; Paul Mazmanian and Ronald Rowe, 38 Cottage Avenue; CrossWay Church of Lancaster, 318 Barbara Street; and Eric and Tina Royer, 46 Second Lock Road. ■

Spring Plant Sale

The Hamilton Park UCC Preschool will hold a plant sale just in time for spring planting. The sale will be held at the church, 1210 Maple Avenue, on Sunday, April 29 from 11:30AM to 1:00PM. The



sale will continue on Monday and Tuesday, April 30 and May 1, from 9:00AM to 12:00 noon. A wide variety of herbs and perennials will be available for purchase. Instructions for planting and care will be provided with each purchase.

Donations of plants from neighborhood gardeners will be accepted and appreciated. Volunteers are available to gather donated plants. Call the church office

at 397-9791 or Mindy Newcomer, 394-4926, to make a plant donation or for more information. All sale proceeds will benefit the preschool. ■

Lancaster Mustangs gearing up for 2007 baseball season

Last season the Lancaster Mustangs failed to make the District playoffs for the first time since 2003. Ending the season with a 7-7 record, the Mustangs were in a four-way tie for the final three playoff positions. The Mustangs ultimately lost the tiebreaker to Elizabethtown, based on the first game of the season, a 2-1, 9-inning loss! It just shows you how important every game can be.



This year, the Mustangs will have to replace many veteran players who are no longer eligible for the team. The 2007 season will start in May, after the high school season is over. To play for the Mustangs, your birth date must be after December 31, 1987 and you must reside in the School District of Lancaster. It doesn't matter what high school you attend. Home games are played at J. P. McCaskey High School on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Contact David Anderson at 872-5769 for information. ■

Hamilton Park has new owner: Lancaster Township

Late in 2006, the Hamilton Park Playground Association decided Hamilton Park to Lancaster Township. As the owners of Hamilton Park, the all-volunteer group was finding it increasingly difficult to maintain the park with fewer volunteers and increasing expenses.

By transferring ownership of the park to the township, they still have their association without the worries and costs of maintaining Hamilton Park. The association remains intact and will continue its family-oriented activities.

The township is pleased to take ownership of this popular neighborhood park. Improvements to the park's facilities will be made over the course of several years as time and money permits.

Lancaster Township thanks the Hamilton Park Playground Association for its gift of the park and playground.

All township residents benefit from the addition of more parkland. ■



Lancaster Public Library

Duke Street Branch
125 N. Duke Street, Lancaster
717-394-2651

Preschool playdates every Tuesday at 10:30AM, September to May
Preschool storytime every Thursday at 10:30AM, September to May
Monday night movies, 6:30PM on Mondays

NEW! Come visit **THE HUB**, our new teen center on the second floor! Books, graphic novels, recorded books, much more!

The **Duke Street Business Center** has resources for anyone in business. Check out the array of information (databases, directories, reference books, circulating books, business periodicals, small business resources) and classes available. Whether one is a budding entrepreneur looking to write a business plan, an established businessperson looking for information to help their business grow, or the manager of a nonprofit agency, there is plenty of information to help achieve success. A professional business librarian is available to provide assistance. Check our website, www.lancaster.lib.pa.us, or—better yet—come in and talk with Diane Pawling, business librarian, about how she can help!

Hours (Duke Street):

Monday—Thursday: 9:00AM to 9:00PM
Friday—Saturday: 9:00AM to 5:30PM
Sunday: Closed

Call 394-2651 for programs and other information. ■

Lancaster Township Officials

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LIMC GREENWAY REPRESENTATIVE

SUZANNE B. TESKE

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RON COMFORT, JR. (WEST END)
LANCASTER TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT
RON NOLT (EAST END)
LAFAYETTE FIRE COMPANY

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

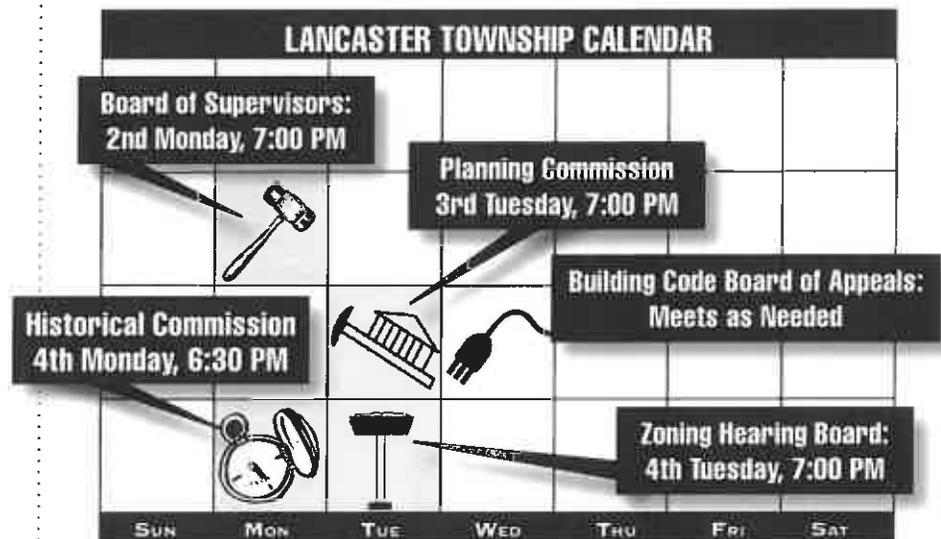
MICHAEL F. PICKARD



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Community Get-Together June 18

The board of supervisors continues with the tradition of meeting informally with residents. The next Community Get-Together will be held on Monday, June 18, 2007, 7:00PM at Maple Grove Community Building, 1420 Columbia Avenue.

This is a way for residents to meet with the supervisors on a very informal basis for discussion of any topic. Don't miss this chance to communicate openly and easily with the supervisors. ■