

TOWNSHIP

newsletter

PUBLISHED BY THE LANCASTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
www.twp.lancaster.pa.us

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Lancaster Township Historical Commission

PROTECTING OUR HISTORIC SITES

“The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and aesthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania’s natural resources are the common property of all people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.”

—*Pennsylvania Constitution, Article I, Section 27*

To attain a goal set forth in the Lancaster Township Strategic Comprehensive Plan (1997-2001), the Board of Supervisors announced the appointment of members to the Lancaster Township Historical Commission (LTHC) on March 12, 2001. Those who graciously agreed to serve are Ginny Gibble (Chair), Alace Humphreville (Vice Chair), Scott Shonk (Secretary), Juliana Falk, James Jolly, John Loose, Nancy Rogers, and Gordon Reed (Ex-Officio/LTPC Liaison).

The LTHC held its first meeting in April and since then has met each month. Randy Harris, Executive Director of the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County, and Carole Wilson, Historic Preservation Specialist with the Lancaster County Planning Commission, have both made presenta-

tions to the LTHC and offered their assistance. They provided valuable tips and resources to help commission members accomplish their goals, which include identification of historic sites and properties in Lancaster Township.

The first consequential project is to survey and inventory all structures possessing historic and/or architectural significance. Not only can a building have historical and architectural value but it can also be a structure in which a person of historic importance lived or worked, or in which historic events occurred. As an example, Wheatland, the home of President James Buchanan at 1120 Marietta Avenue, meets more than one criteria for historical significance.

The LTHC will explore federal and state historic preservation

programs and grants to defray the costs of this worthy endeavor.

A Historic Resource Council (HRC) also has been established and consists of volunteers who are willing to assist the LTHC with details and research. HRC members are George Cook, Philip Cullen, Kathleen Gray, James Humphreville, Bess Mann, Page Steele, Benjamin Stigelman, and Phil Taylor. They will play an important role in helping to catalog Lancaster Township’s history. ■



▲ BUILT IN 1828, WHEATLAND, THE HOME OF PRESIDENT JAMES BUCHANAN, IS THE MOST FAMOUS OF LANCASTER TOWNSHIP’S HISTORIC SITES.



Legislative Update

The following ordinance has been passed since the last newsletter:

Ordinance No. 2001-04 Establishes a maximum speed limit on Bean Hill Road.

All ordinances are available for public inspection at the Township office, 1240 Maple Avenue. ■

► Office Closings:

NOVEMBER 22-23 – THANKSGIVING

DECEMBER 24-25 – CHRISTMAS

JANUARY 1 – NEW YEAR'S DAY

► Dates to Remember:

OCTOBER 28 – DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME ENDS; FALL BACK



OCTOBER 31 – HALLOWEEN,
TRICK OR TREAT 6-8PM

NOVEMBER 7 – ELECTION DAY

EXERCISE YOUR CIVIC DUTY: VOTE!

DECEMBER 4-5 – LARGE

APPLIANCE PICK-UP

JANUARY 12 – CHRISTMAS TREE

COLLECTION

Planning for the Future

The Lancaster County Master Planners Course is offered twice a year to residents of Lancaster County. The course includes comprehensive planning, zoning, land use, growth management, transportation, infrastructure planning, and economic development. Lancaster Township has set up a scholarship fund to assist Township residents with the cost of the course. To date, three civic-minded individuals and one company have contributed to this fund. They are Charles R. Winter, M.D.; Marilyn Berger; Robert E. Newcomer, and Camp Dresser & McKee. They are committed to better communities through better resident understanding of government. *Thank-you!*

The County has not set the next course date, but it is expected to begin in late February. If you would like to apply for a scholarship, please contact William L. Adams at 291-1213. ■

SPECIAL THANKS TO CIVIC-MINDED TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

Five members of our community felt strongly enough about Lancaster Township to bring several projects to fruition for the enjoyment of all Township residents. We send our best wishes and sincere thanks to Robert Field, Neil Meredith, Doris Russ, and Helen and Bill Adams.

Robert Field has long shown a commitment to essential quality of neighborhood and community. Mr. Field recently made a generous contribution to Lancaster Township for the installation and extension of paved walking paths in Lancaster Community Park. The paths were originally covered with wood chips, making them unstable for walkers and joggers. A later improvement covered the paths with millings left over from paving projects, which was better but tended to crumble. With Mr. Field's help, the paths are now paved with macadam, providing a stable, durable surface.

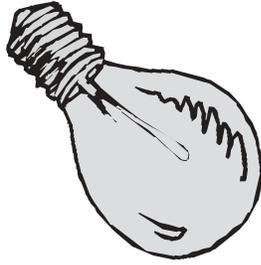
Neil Meredith has frequently dedicated himself to community projects. A senior at McCaskey High School, he has been involved in the Boy Scouts for 13 years, during which time he devoted many hours to the betterment of the community. Mr. Meredith took on a beautification project at Lancaster Community Park. He designed and installed flowerbeds at the Millersville Pike entrance and around the gazebo. He earned the award of Eagle Scout for his volunteer efforts towards improvements to the park. Mr.

Meredith is Vice President of his local chapter of the National Honor Society and attended the Governor's School of Excellence for Teaching this past summer, a great honor.

Helen S. and William H. Adams periodically pull on the waders; grab the rakes, shovels, and nets; and head for Maple Grove Park. After completion of the Maple Grove Riparian Restoration, Helen and Bill made a commitment to the Township to help maintain the natural beauty of the park and Little Conestoga Creek. They have spent hours pulling out tires, shopping carts, and various other pieces of junk and discarded trash. They also periodically clean up the curb area in front of the Maple Grove Community Building and the mill. Helen and Bill have volunteered their time and efforts to other activities of benefit to the Township on many occasions.

Doris Russ shared her time and knowledge in the field of heritage plants. As owner of Old World Gardens, she volunteered to assist with making decisions on what trees and plants should be planted at the Maple Grove Riparian Restoration project and other sites. Ms. Russ's expertise resulted in choosing appropriate native plants for the Little Conestoga Creek Riparian Restoration Project. The Township appreciates her efforts and knowledge in making Lancaster Township more beautiful. ■

From time to time the Board of Supervisors issues permits for canvassing and solicitation in order to keep track of these kinds of activities in the Township. The issuance of a permit, however, is *not an endorsement or recommendation of the product or service.* Lancaster Township does not sponsor these activities nor should residents feel obligated to participate.



Trash & Recycling Reminder

- THREE 32-GALLON CONTAINERS/BAGS, WEIGHING UP TO 30 POUNDS EACH, ARE ALLOWED PER RESIDENCE FOR CURBSIDE PICK-UP.

Trash & Recycling Reminder

- PLACE TRASH AND RECYCLABLES AT CURBSIDE THE EVENING BEFORE PICK-UP.

Trash & Recycling Reminder

- LARGE APPLIANCE PICK-UP: TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4 AND 5, 2001. PLEASE PURCHASE A \$12 BLUE TAG FOR EACH ITEM AND BE CERTAIN THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE HAS YOUR ITEM(S) ON THE MASTER COLLECTION LIST.

'LIGHTS OUT' PROGRAM OFFERS NEW RECYCLING SERVICES

The Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority has two new recycling programs. One program removes mercury from the county's waste stream and from the Resource Recovery Facility. The second program accepts for recycling computers and associated items such as monitors, printers, and keyboards.

As part of these programs, residents and businesses that generate fewer than 30 lightbulbs per month may now take used florescent lamps and ballasts to LCSWMA. This is a **FREE SERVICE** that operates as an extension of the Household Hazardous Waste Facility (HHW).

County residents may dispose of computers and peripherals free of charge. County businesses may take up to five computers for a nominal fee of \$10 per computer and \$5 per CPU.

Take your items to LCSWMA at 1299 Harrisburg Pike during the following hours only:

**Monday & Tuesday
12:30 - 3:30PM**

**Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
8:30AM - Noon**

**2nd & 4th Saturday of the Month
7:30 - 10:30AM**



Trash & Recycling Reminder

- TAGS AND BIODEGRADABLE BAGS ARE SOLD AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE. CALL 291-1213 IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS. THE STAFF WILL HELP IN ANY WAY THEY CAN.

Year-Round Holiday Trash Pick-up Schedule

If a holiday falls on ...

Monday:
Tuesday & Wednesday pick-ups will be Wednesday & Thursday.

Tuesday:
Tuesday & Wednesday pick-ups will be Wednesday & Thursday.

Wednesday:
Tuesday pick-up remains on Tuesday; Wednesday pick-up is on Thursday

For example:
December 25 falls on a Tuesday, which means Tuesday pick-up will be collected on Wednesday and Wednesday pick-up will be collected on Thursday.

POST AT HOME

Public Works: Preparing for Cooler Weather

Leaf Collection begins Monday, October 8 and continues through Friday, December 14. Please remember, although everything possible is done to maintain the following schedule, wet and rainy weather may force a bi-weekly pick-up. Delays could also occur if leaves drop all at once producing a large volume at the same time. Don't forget, you may call 293-1733 year-round to drop off residential leaves at the Township's composting facility.

Monday - All streets between Columbia and Marietta Avenue.

Tuesday - Hamilton Park area follows Tuesday morning posted street cleaning schedule, as do Davis Drive, Spencer Avenue, South President Avenue, 400 and 500 blocks of Atkins. East End follows Tuesday afternoon street cleaning schedule. This includes City Mill Road, Conestoga Woods Drive, and Conestoga Boulevard.

Wednesday - Hamilton Park area follows Wednesday morning posted

street cleaning schedule, as does School House Road. East End will follow Wednesday afternoon posted street cleaning schedule.

Thursday - All streets on the north side of Marietta Avenue to Newton Road.

Friday - West side of Abbeyville Road, Bausman area, Hoover Road, Honeysuckle Lane, Bentley Lane area.

Please place leaves on the street next to the curb and try to put them out as close as possible to the scheduled pick-up day.

Stormwater Inlets

Along with the dropping of leaves come clogged storm water inlets. There are over 500 inlets in the Township. Residents can assist by keeping them clear and putting the debris behind the inlet. Then call 293-1733 for debris pick-up or when there is a problem with drainage.

Where Your Yard Begins

Property markers or small flags should be placed in yards before snow arrives. It is impossible to know where a road ends and the lawn begins when it is covered with snow, especially in non-curbed neighborhoods. Please mark the lawn edge with three- to four-foot

stakes or flags to prevent damage. The Township is not responsible for repairing damage in the public right-of-way, which extends five to ten feet beyond the paved surface.

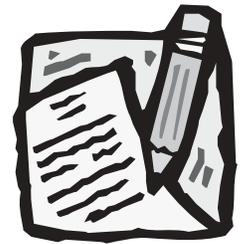
Clear the Limbs

Trees and bushes that overhang or protrude into the street must be kept trimmed. The lowest limb on a tree must be at least 14 feet above the road surface. Keeping trees and bushes trimmed not only makes for safe passage of vehicles and pedestrians, but also maintains the overall health of the plant. ■

Planning & Zoning: Strategic Comprehensive Plan Update

Preparations are under way to update the Lancaster Township Strategic Comprehensive Plan (SCP), which was adopted in December 1996. Rettew Associates Inc. has been retained to assist the Lancaster Township Planning Commission (LTPC) and Township officials in preparing this update.

The SCP is a visionary document that provides a roadmap for the Township's future decisions and growth.



Decisions made during this update planning process will later guide the direction for many subsequent changes in the Township.

To this end, the LTPC developed a citizen survey, which was mailed to all Township residences. Citizen input is essential in developing specific goals and objectives that accurately represent the thoughts of the community. Please take the time to voice your opinions by completing and returning the survey by **October 12**. Additional surveys are available by calling the Township office at 291-1213.

At a later date, the Township will also hold Community Get-Togethers and public meetings to hear resident comments and suggestions.

The results of the survey, along with other project progress reports, will be presented in this newsletter and on the Township website, www.twp.lancaster.pa.us ■



LANCASTER TOWNSHIP ROAD CREW IS ALWAYS ON THE JOB TO IMPROVE OUR STREETS.

School District of Lancaster Updates

SDL Board Meetings, 7PM:

- July 5 & 17
- October 4 & 16
- November 8 & 20
- December 6 & 18

School Calendar:

- November 1-2 - No School
- November 21-23 - No School
- December 24-January 1 - No School

Thanks to an extraordinary community, the School District of Lancaster has changed tragedy into triumph! Tremendous support from

the Lancaster community has turned the unfortunate structural problems at McCaskey East into an old-fashioned barn-raising that confirms the SDL's mantra: Together We Can!

Ensuring a safe and successful learning experience for students this year, despite being denied access to McCaskey East, was always a top priority. Now that the school year is well under way, we are happy to report that students are thriving in their new surroundings. ■

Lancaster Township Fire Department

FIRE ALARMS REALLY CAN SAVE YOUR HOME (THEY SAVED OURS.)

by Glenn D. Usdin
Chief, Lancaster Township Fire Department

Lancaster Township adopted one of the early ordinances in Lancaster County that required hard-wired, AC-powered smoke detectors in all Township residences. After considerable discussion, both pro and con, the Supervisors adopted the ordinance on October 23, 1995. Many of you will remember the mandatory inspection and certification process when you bought or sold a home in the Township.

When my family and I moved to a new home in Lancaster Township we had the required inspection. We not only have a hard-wired system, but I took the extra safety step of connecting with a central station alarm company. Not only do the smoke detectors sound an alarm in the house, but also, when activated, a signal is sent over phone lines to a company that notifies the fire department. We liked the extra protection and peace of mind and prayed that it would never be used.

A short while ago a candle was

inadvertently left burning overnight on the lower level of our home. I left home for work the next morning and the rest of the family went to our barn to care for the horses. With the family out of the house, there was no one to see a fire or hear the smoke detectors.

The candle ignited the wooden box in which it was sitting. Then everything else on the table caught fire. The flames started climbing the wall and then spread across the ceiling. The house filled with a huge volume of smoke, which set off the smoke detectors.

The alarm triggered the central alarm company. They could see three different smoke detectors in our home had been activated. The alarm company called 911 and the Lancaster Township Fire Department was immediately alerted.

The Lancaster Township Fire Department (LTFD) Deputy Chief arrived to find the lower level of the house in flames. The fire was quickly extinguished with assistance from our own fire department and some of our neighboring fire companies, and the house was cleared of thick choking smoke. Our cat, which made the mistake of staying in that day, also was rescued. Although damage to the lower level was extensive, the rest of our home sustained only smoke damage. Everything can be rebuilt or repaired because of a quick response to the emergency.

The point of my story is pretty obvious. If the Fire Chief's home can burn, anyone's can! Had our home not been equipped with working smoke detectors and alarm company notification, the fire would surely have grown destroying our entire home and everything in it. Had the fire occurred a few hours earlier, we would have been sleeping and perhaps injured. Don't play around with lives and property. Please use the example of your chief's misfortune as a wake-up call. ■

A Hero in Our Midst



LANCASTER TOWNSHIP FIRE CHIEF GLENN USDIN, PRESIDENT OF NORTHEAST FIRE APPARATUS, RECENTLY DELIVERED TWO USED RESCUE TRUCKS TO NEW YORK CITY. HE

AND OTHERS WHO CAME TO HELP EASE THE PAIN AT THE SCENE OF THE COLLAPSE OF THE WORLD TRADE CENTER TWIN TOWERS WERE GREETED LIKE HEROES. USDIN, A NEW YORK NATIVE, DESCRIBED THE TRIP AS EMOTIONALLY GRUELING. THE FIRE VEHICLES WERE PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO TWO SEPARATE REQUESTS. THE FIRST WAS FROM THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY, TO REPLACE A DAMAGED RESCUE TRUCK. THE SECOND WAS FROM USDIN'S FRIEND JOE BELTRANI, A FIREMAN FROM THE BRONX, NEEDING TO BORROW A TRANSPORT VEHICLE TO FERRY FIREMEN TO AND FROM FIREHOUSES.

"I HAVE NEVER BEEN SO PROUD TO BE A FIREFIGHTER AS I WAS THAT DAY IN NEW YORK," USDIN SAID UPON HIS RETURN TO LANCASTER.

In Memory Of ...

The Lancaster Township Fire Department sadly announces the passing of Jeff "Pookie" Wolfersberger on July 11, 2001 from a cardiac arrest. Pookie joined the Lancaster Township Fire Department in August 1987 and was an invaluable member. At the time of his death, he served as an engineer and a member of the LTFD Board of Directors. A Fireman's Funeral was held on July 14 with fire department members and friends participating. We will always keep our fond memories of a dear friend and a giving person. Jeff will long be remembered.

Fire Prevention Week is October 7-13. Check your home thoroughly for any fire hazards such as faulty or frayed wiring, packing boxes too close to heat sources, properly working appliances, etc. Plan and practice a fire escape plan with your family. Make certain all smoke detectors are in proper operating condition. Call the LTFD for help in making your home a safer place for you and your family. ■

**The Lancaster Township Fire Department has a new Web address:
www.ltfd.org**

Lancaster City Bureau of Police

**CHANGING SEASONS,
CHANGING DRIVING HABITS**

by Lt. Richard K. Fogie



Fall brings many changes and challenges to the motoring public. Tree leaves fall, the available sunlight decreases, and everyone is preoccupied with upcoming holiday activities. All of these factors can lead to inattentiveness and poor driving habits.

Always Alert

The safe operation of a motor vehicle is of utmost importance to all users of the roadways and to pedestrians. Be aware of wet leaves on the road, standing water, debris, and even deer that may be running across roads. Although you may be operating your vehicle under the posted speed limit, you can be held responsible for a vehicle crash under careless or reckless driving if you fail to demonstrate control of your motor vehicle at all times.

Blinded by the Light

As the Earth's axis changes during the fall, drivers can be temporarily blinded by the changing position of the sun. When confronted with unfavorable driving conditions, turn on the headlights for better visibility. Rain, snow, sleet, hail, fog, smoke, or smog requires the use of headlights when visibility becomes less than 1,000 feet.

Maintenance Check

This is also a good time to do a maintenance check on your vehicle. Check headlights, turn signals, backup lights, wiper blades, and reflectors. Check fluids and tires—and it may be time for an oil change, lube and filter. Carry equipment in the car that can be used during an emergency such as an ice/snow scraper, some sand or gravel for traction when stuck, and a blanket for warmth if the engine dies.

Reporting Accidents

Accidents are an unexpected occurrence year round. However, with

the shortening of daylight hours, the increase in winter road hazards, and extra holiday activity, accidents can happen. Motorists must report vehicle accidents of any nature that involve injury, death, or damage to any vehicle (to the extent that the vehicle cannot be driven without towing). Accidents involving large animals, such as deer, and include any of the above elements must also be reported to the nearest police agency.

Tire Traction

The safe operation of motor vehicles is a great concern to all motorists and pedestrians. Fall and winter weather creates an extra need for more vigilance while operating vehicles. Tire traction is extremely important. Summer tires do not give adequate traction for fall or

winter driving. Studded snow tires may be used on motor vehicles from November 1 until April 15. The use of studded tires, snow tires, or all-season radials will do much to improve your safety during the fall and winter months. ■

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.

Lancaster Township

Municipal Office
Phone: 717-291-1213 Fax: 717-291-6818
Maintenance Facility: 717-293-1733
Monday-Friday: 8AM-4PM

Helen S. Adams Elected Supervisor
Anthony J. Allen Elected Supervisor
Michael F. Pickard Elected Supervisor
William L. Adams Township Manager
J. Robert Eckenrode Superintendent of Public Works
Earl A. Groff Road Foreman
Marti Heim Planning & Zoning Assistant
Stacy Honer Administrative Coordinator
Lori K. Jacoby Office Administrator
Deb Jones Receptionist
Lynn M. Stauffer Director of Planning & Zoning
Suzanne B. Teske Administrative Assistant
Web Site www.twp.lancaster.pa.us

CLIP & SAVE

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HELEN S. ADAMS, VICE-CHAIR
ANTHONY J. ALLEN, TREASURER

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LIMC GREENWAY REPRESENTATIVE

SUZANNE B. TESKE

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GLENN USDIN (WEST END)
LANCASTER TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT
RON NOLT (EAST END)
LAFAYETTE FIRE COMPANY

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

MICHAEL F. PICKARD

LANCASTER TOWNSHIP CALENDAR

**Board of Supervisors:
2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m.**

**Planning Commission:
3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.**

**Building Code Board of Appeals:
3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.**

**Zoning Hearing Board:
4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.**

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

All meetings are held at the Township Office, 1240 Maple Avenue.



Lancaster Township officials urge residents:

**PROUDLY DISPLAY
YOUR AMERICAN
FLAG IN MEMORY OF
THE VICTIMS OF
SEPTEMBER 11
AND AS A SIGN OF
PATRIOTISM.**

**LANCASTER TOWNSHIP
1240 MAPLE AVENUE
LANCASTER PA 17603
(717) 291-1213
FAX (717) 291-6818**

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▶ DID YOU KNOW:

.....
RRTA bus routes
and schedules
are available in
the Township
office?



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