

TOWNSHIP

newsletter

PUBLISHED BY THE LANCASTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

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Be prepared for Swine/H1N1 and seasonal flus

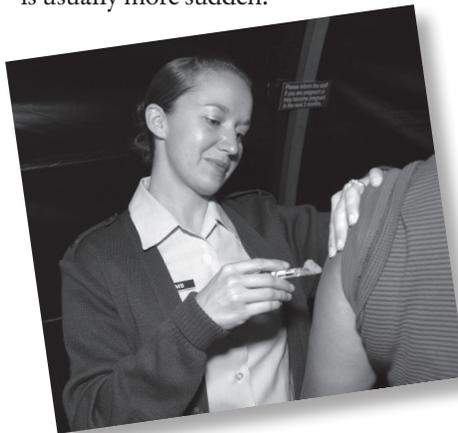
INFLUENZA A DOUBLE THREAT THIS YEAR

Much has been said and written in the media about the possibility of a pandemic Swine Flu/H1N1 influenza outbreak. No one can predict the future. There could be a very severe outbreak affecting millions or a much less severe outbreak with far fewer incidences of illness. Additionally, there is the annual incidence of the seasonal flu. Both types should be taken seriously, as they will result in some deaths. The best defense is in knowing what to expect and ways to lessen the possibility of contracting the flu. We would like to reiterate some of the important points before an outbreak occurs.

First of all, take the flu seriously and get your shots. Those who should be most concerned are pregnant women, children from infants to teens, adults and children with chronic diseases, seniors, health-care providers, and caregivers. Swine Flu/H1N1 shots are administered in two doses; the seasonal flu shot is administered only once a year.

The flu is a viral illness that spreads from person to person by coughing, sneezing, or through contact with surfaces that have been contaminated. Symptoms may include fever, headache, cough, muscle aches, runny nose, sore throat, and exhaustion, and are usually

more serious than a common cold. The symptoms can be similar to other viral illnesses; however, the onset of influenza is usually more sudden.



Even people *without symptoms* can carry and spread the virus. Infected individuals are contagious up to 24 hours *before* showing any symptoms and as long as 5 to 7 days *after* showing symptoms.

Here are some tips to reduce the risk of catching and/or transmitting the flu:

- Keep your immune system strong by eating well, staying active and getting proper sleep.
- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly, particularly after coughing or sneezing and before bringing hands near the nose or mouth as when eating or drinking.

- Cough and sneeze into your elbow/sleeve, or use a tissue instead of your hands.
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizers between hand washings and after coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid touching your nose, mouth or eyes as they are entry points for the influenza virus.
- Do not share food, cups, bottles, drinks, or personal items.
- Keep your personal items separate if a household member is sick.
- Use good housekeeping procedures, paying special attention to railings, door handles, faucets, light switches, etc. Keep common surfaces clean.
- Use a disinfectant to clean surfaces around a person who is sick with the flu.
- If you are sick, avoid going to work and being in large crowds as the flu spreads easily. Visit those who are sick *only if necessary*.
- See the doctor.

Most of these tips are common sense but may take that extra-added effort to implement and incorporate into your day-to-day routines. Keep your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers as safe as possible by following these guidelines. ■

► Dates to Remember:

- OCTOBER 12-DECEMBER 18:
CURBSIDE COLLECTION OF LEAVES
- OCTOBER 30: HALLOWEEN
CELEBRATED 6-8PM
- NOVEMBER 1: DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
ENDS (MOVE CLOCK BACK ONE
HOUR)
- NOVEMBER 3: GENERAL ELECTION—
VOTE!
- MARCH 14, 2010: DAYLIGHT SAVING
TIME BEGINS (SPRING FORWARD!)
- MARCH 29, 2010: MAINTENANCE
FACILITY OPENS FOR YARD WASTE
DROP-OFF

► Office Closings:

- SEPTEMBER 7: LABOR DAY
- NOVEMBER 26-27: THANKSGIVING
HOLIDAY
- DECEMBER 24-25: CHRISTMAS
HOLIDAY
- JANUARY 1, 2010: NEW YEAR
HOLIDAY
- FEBRUARY 15, 2010: PRESIDENT'S
DAY
- APRIL 2, 2010: GOOD FRIDAY
HOLIDAY

► Did you know ...

Commercial businesses are required to recycle.



Commercial business owners are reminded that they must recycle certain items as mandated by state and township ordinance. Those items include corrugated cardboard, high-grade office paper, glass bottles and jars, steel and aluminum cans, and #1 (PET) or #2 (HDPE) plastic items. Automotive repair shops should be recycling used motor oil, other vehicle fluids, tires, and batteries. ■

Approved Since Last Newsletter



Ordinance No. 2009-01: Allows for setting the Lancaster Township Schedule of Fees by resolution rather than by ordinance.

Lancaster County Prescription Drug Discount Card program

The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners is offering residents of this county a free prescription drug discount card. Lancaster Township is pleased to partner with the commissioners by making the card available for pick-up at the township office.

Any county resident without prescription coverage can use this program. Even if you have insurance for prescription drugs, you may still benefit from the card by receiving a discount on prescription drugs your existing plan does not cover. The Lancaster County Prescription Discount Card will provide a discount on prescriptions not covered by another health plan, filled by any of the 91 participating pharmacies in Lancaster County.

There are no eligibility requirements, no enrollment forms, and no membership fees. Simply pick up a card and take it to a participating pharmacy to receive a discount. One card can be used for the entire family.

For additional information or to find a participating pharmacy near you, visit www.caremark.com/naco or www.co.lancaster.pa.us, or call toll-free, 877-321-2652. The discount card is available through the commissioners' partnership with the National Association of Counties (NACo) and is administered by Caremark.

Stop by the township office to pick up a discount card and start saving. ■

**LANCASTER
TOWNSHIP STAFF
DIRECTORY**

Lancaster Township Office
1240 Maple Avenue
291-1213
.....
Maintenance Facility
1357 Meadowcreek Lane
293-1733

- Supervisors.....Tony Allen, Tom Schaller, Kathy Wasong
- Township Manager..... William M. Laudien
- Assistant Township Manager..... Suzanne B. Teske
- Public Works Superintendent.....J. Robert Eckenrode
- Finance Officer Diana Hess
- Planning & Zoning DirectorLynn M. Stauffer
- Planning & Zoning AssistantRebecca French
- Receptionist Faith S. Kelsey
- Office Assistant/Recycling Coordinator.....Joanne Yost

► **2009 Holiday Refuse Collection**

SEPTEMBER 7, LABOR DAY: ALL COLLECTION DATES MOVE FORWARD ONE DAY

NOVEMBER 26, THANKSGIVING: THURSDAY COLLECTION ONLY MOVES TO FRIDAY

DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS: NO CHANGES THIS WEEK

JANUARY 1, 2010, NEW YEAR'S DAY: NO CHANGES THIS WEEK



Other Important

► **Dates:**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12: YARD WASTE FACILITY OPEN 8AM-NOON

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3: YARD WASTE FACILITY OPEN 8AM-NOON

OCTOBER 12: CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION BEGINS

OCTOBER 19: LAST WEEK FOR YARD WASTE COLLECTION

OCTOBER 26: LARGE APPLIANCE & TIRE PICK-UP

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7: YARD WASTE FACILITY OPEN 8AM-NOON

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25: CLOSING DAY FOR YARD WASTE FACILITY

DECEMBER 18: LAST DAY FOR LEAF COLLECTION, WEATHER PERMITTING

MONDAY, MARCH 29: YARD WASTE FACILITY REOPENS

Yard waste pick-up weeks

Yard waste collection ends the week of **October 19.** The brown biobags will not be collected after that week.

Yard waste can then be taken directly to the maintenance facility or placed with your trash using regular garbage bags or cans. **Biobags may not be used for any purpose after this date other than taking it directly to the yard waste facility.**



The shaded areas of the calendars below are collection dates. Biobags are to be set out every other week on the same day as regular trash collection.

Yard waste biobags may be taken to the maintenance facility, 1357 Meadowcreek Lane, Monday through Thursday. The hours are 3:00–6:00PM until October 30 and, to accommodate daylight saving time, 2:00–5:00PM from November 2 to November 25. The facility is also open the first Saturday of each month, 8AM to Noon, until November 7. Biobags are available from the attendant, up to a maximum of ten (10), **until October 15.**

SEPTEMBER 2009						
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			

OCTOBER 2009						
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

Important information to remember:

- Yard waste will be randomly checked for contamination.
- Grass clippings may not be put in biobags; mulch it into your lawn as you mow, take it to the maintenance facility in separate bags, or include it with your regular trash.
- Yard waste drop-off at the maintenance facility will continue until November 25.
- After November 25, do not place yard waste in biobags. **Biobags should not be used for any purpose after this date.** See page 4 to learn more about yard and woody waste drop-off. ■



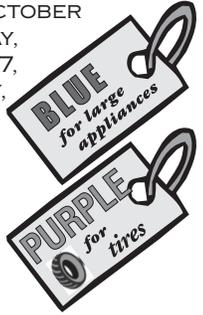
Remember, recycle #1 and #2 plastics, aluminum and tin cans, glass bottles, jars, and newspapers. Please refer to the Lancaster Township website (www.twp.lancaster.pa.us) for additional information on trash and recycling.

Large appliance & tire collection

OCTOBER 26–29
NEED TO GET RID OF TIRES, DEHUMIDIFIERS, CLOTHES WASHERS/ DRYERS, REFRIGERATORS, FREEZERS, STOVES, WATER HEATERS, AIR CONDITIONERS, ETC.?

LARGE APPLIANCE AND TIRE PICK-UP WILL OCCUR ON YOUR REGULAR COLLECTION DAY:

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, OR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29. **THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE MUST BE NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE OF ANY ITEMS TO BE COLLECTED.** A \$12 BLUE TAG MUST BE ATTACHED TO EACH APPLIANCE AND A \$1.25 PURPLE TAG ATTACHED TO EACH TIRE. ■



Christmas tree disposal

Christmas trees may be dropped off at a designated area at the township maintenance facility, 1357 Meadowcreek Lane, 7:30AM to 3:30PM, Monday through Friday. Christmas trees included with trash removal will require a \$4.00 red service tag. Trees may also be dropped off at the county's Central Park. ■



Illegal dumping

PLEASE NOTE THAT ACCORDING TO TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE, NO PERSON SHALL STORE, PROCESS, OR DISPOSE OF ANY REGULATED MUNICIPAL WASTE OR DESIGNATED RECYCLABLE MATERIALS EXCEPT AT A PROPER FACILITY. HOWEVER, YARD WASTE MAY BE COMPOSTED (IN ACCORDANCE WITH TOWNSHIP GUIDELINES) ON THE PROPERTY ON WHICH IT WAS GENERATED. NO YARD WASTE IS TO BE DUMPED ON NEIGHBORING PROPERTIES, ROADSIDES, CREEKSIDE, ETC.

TWO REQUESTS FOR RESIDENTS:

1. When scheduling any major repairs or maintenance at your home, please try to plan it for a non-trash pickup date. Large business trucks might block roadways, preventing trash trucks from making their rounds. Please keep this in mind when making appointments for home repairs.
2. If your trash is collected in the alleyway, please paint your house number on the can and bin.

Thanks to all who are recycling cardboard!

A dumpster was placed at the maintenance facility last year. To date, more than five tons of cardboard has been dropped off! The facility is open Monday through Thursday, 7:30AM to 6PM and Friday until 3:30PM. After November 25, the facility will close each day at 3:30PM. Thank you and keep up the good work.

What about pizza boxes? They are not recyclable. Although made from cardboard, once oil soaks in, the paper fibers cannot be separated and end up ruining a batch of what would have been a recycled product. Include items like pizza boxes and paper plates in your regular trash. ■



STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

One of the mandated requirements of the storm water management program is public education on what the average homeowner can do to keep Pennsylvania's streams cleaner. This is how you can help:

- ✓ Never put oil or cleaning fluids into the storm water drain system.
- ✓ Use pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers sparingly and properly.
- ✓ Report poorly managed construction sites to the township.
- ✓ Install rain barrels or rain gardens that capture storm water and keep it on your land instead of running into a storm sewer.
- ✓ Pick up pet waste and dispose of it properly.
- ✓ Store materials that could pollute in leak-proof containers and indoors.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Works Department

Fall leaf pick-up

Autumn is upon us, the winds will blow, and the leaves will begin to fall, which means leaf pick-up begins October 12 and continues through December 18, weather permitting.



As in the past, there will be no scheduled day for your leaves to be collected. The road crew will start at one end of the township and continue through the week until all streets have been cleared. Because of new developments and older areas with more mature trees, it is impossible to maintain a day-assigned scheduled.

Streets that have signs with parking restrictions are the exception. Those

streets will have leaf collection on the day stated on the sign and parking tickets will be issued to vehicles in violation of the sign.

The township will continue to collect bagged leaves on some high-traffic state highways where pick-up is unsafe for the road crew. Plastic leaf bags must be used. Please call 293-1733 when the bags of leaves are at curbside and ready for collection.

Snowstorm procedures

During a snowstorm, while the snow is still falling, the road crew will make an "emergency pass." This means the plow will go up one side of the street and down the other to allow for passage of emergency vehicles. The crew will return to widen the streets after the snow stops falling to allow for street parking.

Residents should remove their vehicles from the streets to allow the plow to get as close to the edge of the road as possible.

Because it is impossible to determine where the road ends and the yard begins, it's recommended that flags or reflective markers be placed along the edge of the yard in areas where there is no curb.

Mailboxes can sometimes be damaged or toppled if they are too close to the edge of the road or poorly mounted. Every effort is made to avoid or minimize damage to property; however, the repair of mailboxes, lawns, trees and shrubbery in the right-of-way are the responsibility of the property owner.

Yard and woody waste drop-off

Yard and woody waste drop-off will continue through November 25. Days

and hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, 3:00–6:00PM until October 29. From November 2 to November 26, the hours are 2:00–5:00PM. Please have ID ready for the gate attendant, who will inspect your load for contaminants and point out the proper place to unload.

A new area has been established for **lawn grass drop-off only**. Lawn grass must be processed independently and can no longer be mixed with other woody material. Please separate all grass from other woody materials.

This service is for township residents only. No contractors will be admitted because we are unable to accommodate the high volume of materials they generate.

Biobags are available from the attendant, up to a maximum of 10 bags, until October 15.

See page 2 about yard waste pick-up. ■

School District of Lancaster

2009/2010 Student Calendar:

November 2,3: No classes
 November 26,27,30: Thanksgiving Break
 December 24–January 1: Christmas Break
 January 18: No classes
 January 29: No classes
 February 12–15: No classes

SDL Board Meetings, 7:00PM

at J.P. McCaskey High School:

September 15
 October 20
 November 17
 December 1: Reorganization Meeting
 December 15
 January 19, 2010
 February 16
 March 16

Call 291-6148 with any questions.

Advancing Learning in Lancaster



TOGETHER WE CAN

Planning & Zoning:

New regulation tracks home-improvement contractors

Don't be taken in by unscrupulous home improvement workers. The Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act took effect July 1, 2009. Part of the law's intent is to weed out "fly-by-night" contractors who take advantage of unwary homeowners. How? By requiring all contractors working in the residential home improvement industry to register in a statewide database.

Consumers who hire a home improvement contractor can follow some basic steps to make sure the person or company is legitimate and able to do the requested work. To choose a reputable contractor, you should:

- Call your local builders association for a list of its members.
- Ask if the contractor is a member of a builders association.
- Verify that the contractor is registered with the state Bureau of Consumer Protection.
- Take your time when choosing a contractor. Most problems occur when consumers fail to investigate contractors carefully before hiring them.
- Ask for an insurance certificate to verify current workers' compensation and general liability insurance.
- Ask for references. Talk with others who have had work done by the contractor about the company's capabilities and quality of workmanship.
- Make sure the contractor has a permanent business location and a good reputation with local banks and suppliers.
- Include any warranties, guarantees, or other promises in the written contract. **Always insist on a written contract and written change orders.** (These are required by the state's Home Improvement Consumer Protection Act, which took effect July 1, 2009.)

- Be specific about starting and completion dates. Some delays are unavoidable and beyond the contractor's control.
- Beware of an unusually low bid or low advertised price. If a contractor cannot pay for labor, materials, and overhead, you are both in trouble.
- Select a contractor you are comfortable with—one who understands your tastes and needs and with whom you can communicate easily.

Some warning signs of possible trouble when selecting a contractor:

- The contractor does not display a state-issued registration number on all documents or advertisements.
- You can't verify the name, address, and telephone number or credentials of the contractor.
- A salesperson tries to pressure you into signing a contract by using scare tactics, threats, or intimidation.
- Although reputable contractors sometimes offer special discounts, be wary of those who offer unusually low prices.
- The contractor doesn't supply references or previous clients have reservations about the contractor.
- You are unable to verify that the contractor is insured.

Visit www.attorneygeneral.gov or call 717-772-2425 with any questions you may have.

House numbers: BIG and visible

Remember that house numbers should be large enough and in a location that can be easily seen from the street. The minimum allowable size is three (3) inches in height. Check that foliage is not obscuring the numbers from the street. If your numbers are on a separate sign, the sign must be a minimum of one and one-half (1½) feet off the ground to clear any snowfall.

These regulations are for the safety of all residents. Emergency vehicles need to be able to find the property to which they have been summoned. ■

Police blotter

**KNOCK,
KNOCK.**

WHO'S THERE?

Ayouth league member or scout comes to your door presenting an offer to help fund their group by selling magazines, candles, whatever. Harmless, right?

Sure, but other salespersons descend on our community on a regular basis and may have ulterior motives. Although most solicitors are legitimate, we must be careful not to fall for their deceptive practices. It is important to contact the township office (291-1213) and/or the police through Lancaster County-Wide Communications (664-1180) to inform them of suspicious activity in the neighborhood.

If a resident is unsure of the person at the door, *do not open the door.*

Lancaster Township asks that all salespersons stop by the office to obtain a solicitation permit. This allows the office to keep tabs on those going door-to-door and to be better able to answer resident's questions.

Remember, although you may catch on to a fraud, someone else may fail to see their deceit. Report all suspicious activity and help keep Lancaster Township safe. ■

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 PUBLIC LIBRARY
125 N. DUKE STREET, LANCASTER
717-394-2651 OR WWW.LANCASTER.LIB.PA.US

Children's programs: FAMILY PLACE™ Workshops begin September 21 at 6:00PM or September 22 at 10:00AM. The five-week Parent-Child Workshop is for families with 0-3-year-olds to share time together with blocks, books, puzzles, puppets, and more! There will be resource people from the community on hand to informally answer parenting questions and concerns each week. Program registration is required at 394-2651, extension 124.

Adult programs: Join us for book discussions on the second Thursday of the month at 10:00AM in the Windolph Room. Check our website or stop by for information about current book selections.

Citizenship classes will be held Mondays, September 21 through November 9, 7:00-8:30PM. This weekly class will help prepare one for all aspects of the U.S. naturalization exam and interview process to become an American citizen. Register at the reference desk.

Book Re-Sort Sale at 225 North Marshall Street, Lancaster: Thursday, September 17 through Sunday, September 20, 9:00AM-5:00PM. **Sunday is the half-price sale!** ■

DUKE STREET HOURS:
MONDAY-THURSDAY: 9:00AM TO 9:00PM
FRIDAY-SATURDAY: 9:00AM TO 5:30PM
SUNDAY: CLOSED

What's up at the Lancaster Recreation Commission (LRC)

Lancaster Township is a partner with the LRC along with the City of Lancaster and the School District of Lancaster. There is a wide variety of activities and sports for youngsters to seniors.

Youth Sports and Classes have scholarships available. Call the office at the number below for information. The offerings include Iddy Biddy Sports for ages 3-5, Music classes for ages 1-8, Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Youth Dance (Ballet, Tap and Jazz) and Tennis.

Adult Classes and Fitness include Dancing (Ballroom, Swing, Latin & Belly dancing), Tai Chi, Bridge, Pilates, Aerobics, Yoga, Ceramics, Indoor Bocce and Shuffleboard, Pepper Softball, Painting/Art, and Senior Orchestra.

Adult Sports Leagues for ages 16+: Women's Basketball, Women's, Men's and Co-ed Volleyball, and Co-ed Dodgeball.

Trips being planned are sightseeing in Washington, DC, and a visit to the Hollywood Casino at Penn National

Race Course.

Other Offerings: New! Cookie Decorating on December 5; Teen Idol Registration deadline is October 7; Battle of the Bands registration deadline is November 13; December 31 is Countdown Lancaster, Lancaster's New Year's Eve Celebration.

Contact the LRC at www.LancasterRec.org or 392-2115, extension 121. ■



▲ **A SWING SET HAS BEEN ADDED TO MAPLE GROVE COMMUNITY PARK RIGHT NEXT TO THE PAVILION. PACK A LUNCH AND TAKE THE KIDS TO ENJOY AN AFTERNOON AT THE PARK BESIDE THE LITTLE CONESTOGA CREEK.**

Lancaster Township Fire Department (LTFD)

FIREFIGHTERS GET NEW BREATHING APPARATUS



Inside, the home is filled with thick, black smoke. Outside, a group of firefighters prepares to enter the building, donning protective gear and breathing apparatus. The heat from the fire is so intense that exhaustion can set in after just a few minutes of fighting it.

When Lancaster Township firefighters find themselves in that exact scenario, the last thing they need to worry about is their equipment failing because it is outdated.

There have been two major upgrades to the design of firefighter self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) since the last purchase in 2000. The leadership

of the fire department wants to ensure that firefighters have the most up-to-date protection available.

LTFD recently purchased 38 30-minute Dräger high-pressure SCBA with spare cylinders, four

supplied air respirators with 10-minute escape cylinders, two one-hour rapid intervention team (RIT) kits, and personal face pieces for all active firefighters.

A committee spent 18 months researching and performing practical evaluations. Three manufacturers participated in a demonstration of their new SCBA that met the 2007 edition of the NFPA standard. Firefighters selected the Dräger SCBA based on various evaluation

criteria and activities. The Dräger SCBA contains special features such as Enhanced Personal Alert Safety System (PASS), enhanced air management, improved design of the pneumatics, and design of the backpack and harness. The equipment was purchased through the Lancaster Township Fire Department Relief Association for \$183,000 of which \$60,000 came from the Lancaster Township capital reserve fund.

Firefighters spent three weeks training with the new SCBA before the gear was put into service May 15, 2009. This new equipment helps to ensure the safety of firefighters who put their own lives on the line to help the residents of our community. ■



FIREFIGHTER KAILA MILLER, OF THE LANCASTER TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT, RECEIVED THE 2009 AWARD OF MERIT FROM THE LANCASTER COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION FOR HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM AT THE LANCASTER COUNTY CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER. MILLER JOINED THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN JUNE OF 2007 AS A JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER. CONGRATULATIONS, KAILA!

Does the old Bausman Schoolhouse ring a bell?

Do you remember the old-fashioned schoolhouses? Although the one- and two-room schoolhouses in Lancaster Township were relinquished from public use many years ago, they are still remembered with fondness and appreciation by those who once received their early education there.

In anticipation of the 100th anniversary of the Bausman Schoolhouse, the Lancaster Township Historical Commission is seeking information documenting its history.

If you were a student or a teacher at the Bausman School, or if you have a photograph, report card, or other artifact relating to the school, we would be very appreciative if you would share it, and your story, with us.

Please contact Marcia Tract at 393-5710 or the Lancaster Township Planning & Zoning Department at 291-1213 with any information. ■

