



PENN TIMES

The Official Newsletter of Penn Township

VOL. 5 NO. 3

www.penntwpc.org

JULY, 2008

COME TO THE ANNUAL PENN TOWNSHIP FIRE COMPANY FIREMAN'S FAIR!!!



WHEN: Thursday, Friday & Saturday
July 31, August 1 & 2

WHERE: The Firehouse in Huntsdale
Directions: I-81 to exit 37, Route 233 South to
Pine Road (2 1/2 miles), turn left and go 1/2 mile.

Starts at 5:00 pm Each Day

This year, as always, we will feature our great food which includes our famous homemade Ice Cream, Soups, Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Cheese Steaks, Sausages, French Fries, Chicken Corn Soup, Cakes and Pies.



There will be an Ice Cream Eating Contest on Friday evening at 7:30 (Contestants to be announced).

We also will have our Games, Amusements and small Rides, with a Kiddies Land for the little ones.

The Fair will conclude Saturday night with a Large Fireworks Display @ 10:00 pm.

This is a very family and community friendly event and one of the largest attended in the state.



2008 Township Calendar

All meeting times 7:00 pm unless otherwise stated.

July

31 Fireman's Fair Begins 5:00 pm

August

1-2 Fireman's Fair
4 Planning Commission Meeting
7 Park & Recreation Board Meeting
13 Zoning Hearing Board Meeting
14 Board of Supervisors Meeting
26 Big Spring - First Day of School
29 Big Spring - Labor Day Recess

September

1 Labor Day
4 Park and Recreation Board Meeting
6 Fire Company Gun Raffle
8 Planning Commission Meeting
10 Zoning Hearing Board Meeting
11 Board of Supervisors Meeting
20 Fire Company Pot Pie Supper
27 Fire Company Sportsman's Raffle

October

2 Park and Recreation Board Mtg
6 Planning Commission Mtg
8 Zoning Hearing Board Mtg
9 Board of Supervisors Meeting

NOTE: Fire Company BINGO is held every Friday night, 7:00 at the Fire Hall

Please Note: **There is a "No Pets Allowed on Fairgrounds" Policy (THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE SERVICE ANIMALS).** Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



Amos Seiders working on the widening of Smith Road.

PENN TOWNSHIP PROJECTS UPDATE

Smith Road – The road crew has been busy widening Smith Road from Rt. 11 to the Rt. 81 overpass. Milling of the shoulders has been completed and trees and rocks are being removed to allow for increased safety when passing oncoming traffic. Paving of the shoulders is scheduled for August.

Lebo and Leeds Road Bridges – PennDOT has provided Penn Township with \$1.6 million dollars for the replacement of the Lebo and Leeds Road bridges. Engineering studies, environmental studies and permit applications are being performed and completion is scheduled prior to 31 December, 2009.

Act 537 – The engineering firm of HRG is finalizing the water samples of the wells in Centerville and the results will be used for grant applications to offset the cost of installation of the proposed sewer system for Centerville.

Warehouse – The new traffic signal at the intersection of Rt. 233 and the southbound ramp of the Newville exit of Rt. 81 has been installed and is operational. Please use caution when approaching the Rt. 81 bridge. The water & sewer lines installation from Oak Flat to the new warehouse location should be completed by the end of July. Key Logistics Inc has sold a parcel robert lloyd of land to Lauth LLC for development of the site. The ground-breaking for the first building of the warehouse complex is scheduled for July 17th.

District Magistrate Office – The Cumberland County Commissioners have signed a letter of intent to lease a proposed municipal building to be erected at the site of the former Centerville school for use as a District Magistrate office. Award of the contract and building construction will begin when issues with the Dept of Environmental Protection are resolved.



**Ron Tritt,
 Ernie
 Beecher and
 Jeff Gillaugh
 working
 on road projects.**

Newsletter Advertising

The PENN TIMES is published quarterly (January, April, July, and October), and offers area businesses the opportunity to advertise their businesses to all of the residents of the township. Advertisements may be changed to fit the seasons. Seasonal businesses may choose to advertise in the issue that is closest to their peak season.

The following are the prices for advertising in the 2008 PENN TIMES:

<u>Size</u>	<u>Cost/Issue</u>	<u>Cost/Year</u>
1/8 Page (Business Card)	\$50	\$175
1/4 Page	\$100	\$350
1/2 Page	\$200	\$700
Full Page	\$400	\$1400

Contact the township office at 486-3104 to reserve your space. You must provide the camera-ready artwork.

Advertising for the October issue is due by September 30.

Young's ATVs

- \$ SALES
- \$ SERVICE
- \$ ATV & MOTORCYCLE REPAIR
- \$ PARTS*
- \$ ACCESSORIES*



HOURS: Mon-Fri: 9am-7pm
Saturdays: 9am-2pm
Closed Sundays
***10% Discount**
Financing Available

Family Owned & Operated
1770 Walnut Bottom Rd.
Newville, PA
(717) 776-6666

ENVIROSPECT™

**Residential & Commercial
 Environmental Services**

EnviroSpect of Cumberland Valley
 1698 Walnut Bottom Road
 Newville, PA 17241
 Phone: (717) 776-4010
 Fax: (717) 776-9337
 Lloyd@pa.net
 www.envirospect.net

Robert Lloyd
 CMIA, CAI, CIAQT, Radon, MIES



Penn Township Personnel

Zoning Hearing Board

Holbert Myers, Chair
Todd Vogelsong
Seth Shaffer
Matthew Farkas, Voting Alternate
Richard Mislitsky, Solicitor

Planning Commission

Fred Leeds - Chair
Ron Tritt - Vice-Chair
Marcia Leeds - Secretary
Jan Roberts
George Rohrs
Victor Barrick
Kathleen Shirey
Richard Mislitsky, Solicitor

Parks & Recreation Board

Ron Tritt, Chair
Buck Shuller, Vice-Chair
Bill Feuchtenberger
Pat Walker
John Wardle
Susan Whitesel
George Rohrs, Voting Alternate

Fire Company Executive Officers

Ernie Beecher- President
Tim Knepp, Sr. - Vice President
Wayne Hockensmith - Treasurer
Loretta Hair - Secretary
Brenda Bowes-Assistant Secretary
Sally Miller - Financial Secretary
Fran Hair-Chaplain

Fire Company Line Officers

James Hair - Fire Chief - 226-4485
Robert Kough, Jr. - Deputy Chief
Chris Alleman - Assistant Chief
Kevin Enyeart - Captain
Dennis Shoff - Lieutenant
Tim Knepp, Sr. - EMS Captain
Westley Gingrich - EMS Lieutenant

Fire Company Auxiliary

Anna Group - President
Evie Seiders - Vice President
Mary Wert - Secretary
Joyce Wardle - Assistant Secretary
Romaine Sheaffer - Treasurer
Kay Kann - Financial Secretary
Erma Dingle - Facility Contact
Richard Kann - Chaplain

Fire/Police Members

Robert Kough, Sr., Captain
Bob Alleman, Lieutenant
Amos Seiders, Sergeant
Art Danner
Wayne Hockensmith
Jim Sheaffer
Ricky Stitt
Ron Tritt
Ira Wagner
John J. Wardle, Jr.

Emergency Management Coordinator

Robert Kough, Jr. - 226-6537
Ernie Beecher, Assistant

Codes Enforcement Officer

Fred Leeds
Ron Tritt, Assistant

Vacancy Board

J. Michael Ickes, Chair

Loan Grant Coordinator

Buck Shuller

Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors took the following actions at recent meetings:

April 2008

- Approved the E. Harold Thumma plan pending approval from DEP and the County and State Boards for Land Preservation.
- Ratified the agreement with the County for the District Justice office.
- Directed the township engineer to start a sketch plan for the easement for a water tower and a pumping station as a first step towards a sewer system in the Township.
- Approved the erection of a "No Fishing from Bridge" sign on Lebo Road.

May 2008

- Accepted the bids for road materials proposed by the road master from the bids received through the WCCOG.
- Opened the bids for the DJ office. They were: Poole Anderson \$426,593.00; Galbraith Design \$375,792.00; McCorkle \$347,792.00. The award will take place after the Supervisors have had a chance to review the bids.
- Approved the purchase of new tires for the township loader. They will cost \$1600.00 each.
- Approved a motion to draft a resolution for the Township to participate in a feasibility study for a Regional Police Force.

June 2008

- Tabled a vote on a cell tower agreement until the July meeting.
- Approved the expense of \$730.00 to pay for a wetlands delineation for the two bridges owned by the Township.
- Approved Ordinance 2008-2 No Parking on Township Streets
- Appointed Vice-Chairman Sheaffer as the primary contact for approvals on bridge preliminary work. Chairman Seiders was appointed the secondary contact.
- Reappointed Todd Vogelsong to the Zoning Hearing Board.
- Approved the expense of \$480.00 for Halteman Tree Service to remove 5 trees on Smith Road.
- Accepted the resignation of Vickie Wallick from the Park and Rec Board.
- Because of some issues with DEP, rejected all bids for the erection of the DJ office. When matters with DEP are resolved, the township will reissue the RFP to the original three bidders.
- Approved a motion to paint the inside of the municipal building.
- Approved a motion to advertise for bids to install central air and update the old furnace.

The complete minutes of the Supervisors' Meetings are available, once they are approved, at the Township Building or on our website, www.penntwpcc.org.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Penn Township is in need of a website developer. The township has been hosted by the county, but this will no longer be the case. We will need to get a new host, and re-develop the website as well. This is a volunteer position. If you have the necessary experience, please call the township office at 486-3104.



BIG SPRING PROUD!!!

Tyler Witter and Grace Gutshall Elected to Serve as State FFA Officers

On Thursday, June 12, 2008, Tyler Witter and Grace Gutshall were elected to serve the next year as Pennsylvania State FFA Officers. Tyler and Grace are Penn Township residents and 2008 graduates of the Big Spring School District. Both will join 9 other FFA members in deferring college for one year to represent the more than 8,000 high school members of the Pennsylvania FFA Association. Individually, they will travel more than 10,000 miles and dedicate more than 300 days to this service. As a team, they will have the opportunity to impact the lives of FFA members forever.

Tyler Witter, elected to serve as the 2008-2009 State FFA Vice President, is postponing plans to attend Colorado State University and study Crop and Soil Science. Tyler was a three-year member of the Big Spring FFA and just retired from serving as the Chapter President and Cumberland-Dauphin-Perry Area Vice President.

Grace Gutshall, elected to serve as the 2008-2009 State FFA Secretary, is postponing plans to attend Central Penn College and study Small Business Management. Grace was a four-year member of the Big Spring FFA and just retired from serving as the Chapter Corresponding Secretary. She was selected as the 2007-2008 Outstanding Senior FFA Member.

The team of 11 recently graduated FFA members were elected by a committee of their peers after two days of extensive interviews and group dynamic simulations. Throughout the year, the team will conduct two state-wide conventions, host two state-wide leadership conferences, present leadership workshops at schools across the state and deliver motivating key note addresses at banquets and celebrations all year. They also participate in Penn State's Ag Progress Days, the National FFA Convention and the National Farm-City Celebration.

Tyler and Grace will join the ranks of past Big Spring FFA members, Lloyd Bier, Kelly Zeigler, Mark Fulton, Sara Gutshall, and many others, as they volunteer their next year of their lives to serving their fellow FFA members. Congratulations to them on this great honor and may their year be fulfilling and memorable.

The National FFA Organization is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success. Founded in 1928, today this organization provides more than 450,000 students with the skills and knowledge for more than 300 different careers annually.

PARKS & REC



Our road crew will be busy this summer, finishing up the walking trail in between their road projects.

There is also the possibility of adding a playground to the walking trail.....more information on that to come.

Skateboarding on the picnic tables at the park is prohibited. Signs will be posted to deter people from doing so.

Thank you to John Wardle for donating five trees for the walking trail at the fire hall. The trees were planted by the benches.

Work will also begin shortly on soccer fields.



ROADMASTER REPORT

Widening to be done
on Smith Road

Please be aware of mowing operations
along Township roads

SLOW DOWN IN WORK ZONE AREAS !

Future work to be done:
Replacing Lebo and Leeds road bridges

Jeff Gillaugh

GYPSY MOTH SPRAYING PROGRAM



**Bell 206 LIII - "Long Ranger" Helicopter
Used To Spray in Penn Township to
Control Gypsy Moths**

T & M Aviation Company recently completed spraying work in several parts of Pennsylvania to control the outbreak of Gypsy Moths. The following is some information they sent to us about the process.

"For the Pennsylvania Gypsy Moth program we operated with a three man (Pilot-Ron Wolf, Crew Supervisor-Jason Heyn, and Truck Driver-Mark Cedar). We drove up from our home base in Abbeville, LA with the helicopter on a trailer. Once in Gettysburg we attached the main rotor blades to the helicopter and began flight testing and spray calibration.

We began spraying on May 5, 2008 in Hanover, Pennsylvania and finished on May 24, 2008 in the State College area. The product we were spraying was BTK (Bacillus Thuringiensis - kurstaki) which is an organic material that causes a fungus in

the Gypsy Moth (from what I understand).

Environmental conditions have to be just right for the aerial application to be conducted. The wind must be below eight miles per hour, relative humidity above 50% and the temperature below 70 degrees. If the conditions are exceeded it can cause the BTK to be ineffective.

Bell 206 LIII - "Long Ranger"

Specifications (Yellow helicopter - N30KH)

- Cruise: 130 mph
- Seating: 7
- 4150 Gross Weight
- AgNav II DGPS Guidance System
- Isolair Spray System
- Wire Strike Kit
- GPS-Color Moving Map
- TFM-500 FM/UHF Radio
- Range: 360 miles
- Useful Load: 1750 lbs.
- Cargo Hook & Litter Door
- AutoCal II Flow Control
- Beecomist Nozzles
- Emergency Locator (ELT)
- Dual 760 Comms
- DOI-Aviation Mgt. Carded

All in all we had a very safe, fun and productive spray program and we look forward to being invited back for any future aerial application work."

Best regards,
Jason Heyn
T&M Aviation, Inc.
Bell 206 LIII FAA 135, 133
& 137 Certified

**The Penn Township
Board of Supervisors
would like to thank everyone who contributed
their share toward the
Gypsy Moth Spraying**

PAVILION RENTALS AT CENTERVILLE PARK

Pavilion rentals are available to residents of Penn Township for private parties/events. The rate is \$45 per day with a \$100 security deposit (which is returned after the Township inspects the pavilion for damage).

To make a reservation, contact the Township office at 486-3104.

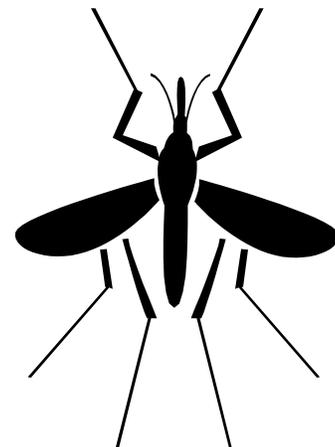


MOSQUITO CONTROL INFORMATION

Recent rains have left behind stagnant water providing excellent mosquito habitat. This has led to an increase in adult mosquito prevention inquiries from residents, especially in the Western areas of the County. Mosquitoes carry disease, including West Nile Virus. Cumberland County participates in the Pennsylvania West Nile Virus Surveillance Program.

The County Vector Control Office has been sampling and treating mosquito larvae habitat since early April. As intensive as this effort has been, the adult mosquito population continues to increase as the rainwater continues.

Therefore, beginning Monday, June 2, the office started adding treatments known as mosquito “adulticiding” or spraying areas where adult mosquito populations are very high. This method entails using an Ultra Low Volume sprayer mounted on the bed of a truck dispensing control material (see website or call for control product information). Areas still experiencing problems are those residential neighborhoods in or along mountain forest or where source habitat is difficult to get to. This effort is being made to provide relief in mostly in Western and Southern County municipalities.



FIRE COMPANY NEWS

It's been a busy year so far for the fire company.

There have been 84 fire alarms including: wires down, house fires, car and truck fires, brush fires and mountain fires. We also had 50 medical assist calls in the first half of the year. Fortunately there has been no death by fire in the township.

We now have six more EMT's in the Company, and all of our members in the Penn Township fire company continue to train so we can serve the community the best that we can. Our EMT'S just did a 164 hour class to get certified. **We still could use more help with everything in the fire service.**

Don't forget the Fireman's Fair coming up starting on July 31st and running through August 1st and 2nd. It starts at 5:00 pm all three nights with Fireworks on Saturday night at 10:00 pm.

On September 6th we have our big gun raffle. Tickets are reese wilson \$30.00 each. You can get your ticket by calling Chief Hair at 226-4485.

Last, but not least, we would like to thank everyone for the donations and help that the community has given to P.T.V.F.D. CO.50.

James A Hair
Fire Chief

It is important for all residents in all locales to look around their home and properties for potential mosquito breeding habitat. There are many objects around the home, which may contain water providing habitat for mosquitoes. Artificial water habitat may be in the following but not limited to:

- ◆ Discarded containers
- ◆ Bird bathes, ornamental ponds, pool covers
- ◆ Clogged roof gutters, storm drains
- ◆ Unused uncovered boats, wheelbarrows, ceramic pots

There are control products available to the homeowner at local home and garden stores (see our web page link below).

For additional information see Vector Control “Evening Control Program” web pages (<http://www.ccpa.net/index.asp?NID=2830>), or phone 240-7808 or 240-6539.

Find Your Name

The names of two Township residents, selected randomly from township records, are “hidden” out of context somewhere in this newsletter. Find your name and we will treat you to a \$20 gift certificate to Saylor's Market in Newville. If you find your name, claim the reward by stopping by the Township office before August 31, 2008. Our thanks to Curt Saylor for his donation to the newsletter.

About Penn Township....Irishtown

Robert Smith wrote, "South of Huntsdale there was a community named Irishtown. It is said that a number of freed slaves settled there. This may well be the case but it leaves the name unexplained. It is known that a number of black people lived there. Several cabins and a church stood along the road leading into the mountain. One abandoned cabin remains. The names of Sam and Dutch Johnson and Hun Shultz are recalled.

In 1934 or '35 Hap Seiders bought land in the area, including part of the settlement. At one time much of the acreage was owned by the iron interests. The nearby Cumberland Furnace and other furnaces such as Pine Grove and Boiling Springs were a market for the ore. In the 1870s the Crane Iron Company was the owner."

Rev. John Kuhn remembers, "About one half mile south of Huntsdale, back an old mountain road, we find this little hamlet. This area was originally known as Irish Gap Hollow. There is some mystery about just how it came to be known as Irishtown, when in later years the population became all black. There is a legend that tells us that it was started by freed slaves, but that could not be, because the settlement was here long before the Civil War.

From some of my historical papers, I have learned that prior to the Civil War, there were six families living in the hollow. The family that lived in the last house deep in the hollow was the David Galloway family."

Some Irishtown residents:

1858	1872	1920's – 1930's
David Galloway	C. Coffman	S. Johnson
Philip Coale	J. Sampson	P. Scott
Philip Kamper	C. Heller	J. E. Raglan
S. Beetem	J. Black	J. Sampson
I. Pepper	I. Sampson	H. Shultz
J. Thompson	M. First	Penn family
R. Lynd	Mrs. Campher	(All Black)



Rev. Kuhn writes, "The [residents] built for themselves log cabins and houses and a small church and established a cemetery on the south side of the church. On the north side of the church they built a pavilion, covered the top with tree branches and at night it was lighted with several coal oil lanterns. In this little pavilion they held camp meetings.

Today (2003) this little hamlet has vanished... The only things left to remind one of the past is a pile of rubble from one of the log cabins and the little cemetery with its marked and unmarked graves and the cornerstone from the little church mounted on a pedestal in the one corner of the cemetery with the following inscription: Elverson Memorial A.M.E, Zion Church June 19, 1892."



In 1993 James Hollenbaugh, son of Township residents Rachel and James Hollenbaugh, researched and accomplished the cleanup of the Irishtown cemetery for his Eagle Scout project. He wrote, "During the 1800's the Cumberland Furnace was a major employer in the Huntsdale area. A great many employees of the furnace lived in small log dwellings provided by the company. These employees included Irish, German, Welsh, and Afro-American individuals. It is believed that the original inhabitants of Irishtown moved to this area, south of Huntsdale, following the closing of the Cumberland Furnace." "This small community ... consisted of ten houses and a church. It is believed that John Sampson [was] the original founder of Irishtown and may be buried in the cemetery. The last person known to

have been buried in the cemetery was Bice Penn. She died about 1944."

Sources:

Penn Township 125 Years by Robert J. Smith, 1985

Days of Yore in Cumberland Valley by Rev. John L. Kuhn, 1989

Harvest Time Prior to 1920 by Rev. John L. Kuhn, 2003

"The Irish Gap Cemetery—A Brief History" by James Hollenbaugh

Looking for pictures and memories of the village of Huntsdale. If you have information to share, please call the Township office at 486-3104.

Penn Township
1301 Centerville Road
Newville, PA 17241

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US POSTAGE
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HARRISBURG, PA

If you know of a Township resident who did not receive this newsletter, extra copies are available at the Township office.

Penn Township

Address:

1301 Centerville Road
Newville, PA 17241
Phone: (717) 486-3104
Fax: (717) 486-3522

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday: 8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
2nd Monday of Each Month: 6:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.
Evening Hours by Appointment

Township Staff

Board of Supervisors

Amos Seiders, Chairman
Ken Sheaffer, Vice-Chairman
Gary Martin, Supervisor

Township Solicitor

Marcus McKnight, III

Township Engineer

John Shambaugh

Township Auditors

Charles Leeds, Chairman
Trina Manetta, Secretary

Township Tax Collector

Mable Stitt

Zoning Officer

Fred Leeds
Ron Tritt, Assistant

Employees

Ron Tritt & Ernie Beecher

Sewage Enforcement Officer

Vincent Elbel
Edward Elbel, Assistant

Township Secretary

Pat Sangialosi
Vickie Wallick, Assistant

Roadmaster

Jeff Gillaugh