



PENN TIMES

The Official Newsletter of Penn Township

VOL. 6 NO. 2

www.penntwpcc.org

APRIL, 2009

SPRING CLEANUP!!! PENN TOWNSHIP CURBSIDE TRASH PICKUP

June 1-5 West side of Rt. 233

June 8-12 East side of Rt. 233

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

Items not normally picked up by your trash hauler

Refrigerators and freezers – DOORS MUST BE REMOVED AND CLEANED OUT - NO ROTTEN FOOD

Air conditioners

Maximum Four (4) tires per property – MUST BE OFF RIMS (NOTE: Due to extra cost of disposing of tractor and dump truck tires, residents who wish to dispose of these tires must call the Township office in advance and a fee of \$15.00 per tire will be assessed.)

Metal Items – MUST BE STACKED SEPARATELY, NOT OVER SIX FEET IN LENGTH AND SWING SETS MUST BE TAKEN APART
LARGE ITEMS MUST BE CUT UP SO THEY CAN BE HANDLED AND PUT IN DUMP TRUCKS

As much as possible, items must be in cans or plastic bags or bundled – DO NOT OVERFILL

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

Normal household trash, paints, paint thinner, cleaning agents, petroleum products, tree stumps, tree trunks, brush, lumber, concrete, concrete blocks, rocks, blacktop, bricks, shingles, broken glass, burn barrels, computers, commercial or industrial waste, leaves, grass clippings, Christmas trees, or fence wire (NOTE: BROKEN GLASS WILL POSITIVELY NOT BE PICKED UP)

ITEMS NOT COLLECTED WILL BE LABELED WITH REASON FOR NON-COLLECTION

Materials must be placed curbside prior to first day of clean-up – **NO SECOND TRIPS OR CALL BACKS**



For questions, call the Township office 486-3104 Monday and Tuesday 8 AM to 3 PM and Wednesday 9:30 AM to 5 PM

Items not collected will be labeled with reason for non-collection.

2009 Township Calendar

All meetings are held at the Township building, 1301 Centerville Road, Newville, PA at 7:00 pm unless otherwise stated.

May

- 4 Planning Commission Meeting
- 7 Park and Rec Board Meeting
- 14 Board of Supervisors Meeting

June

- 1 Planning Commission Meeting
- 1-5 Spring Cleanup West of Rt. 233
- 8-12 Spring Cleanup East of Rt. 233
- 4 Park and Rec Board Meeting
- 11 Board of Supervisors Meeting

July

- 2 Park and Rec Board Meeting
- 6 Planning Commission Meeting
- 9 Board of Supervisors Meeting

September 5: Cancer run/walk & Yard Sale

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

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDED FOR PENN TOWNSHIP

We need a volunteer to do the township newsletter. Microsoft Publisher experience is desirable. Newsletter is published quarterly...January, April, July, October. Most content is pre-written. Please call the township office if you are interested at 486-3104.



CAUTION- ROAD WORK

Spring is here and state and local personnel will be out performing road maintenance. Please drive with care when approaching or traveling through construction zones. Penalties for speeding, failing to obey flagmen, and accidents carry severe penalties. Do not let a few minutes of impatience change the rest of your life. As the recent accident in West Pennsboro Township illustrates, both of the injured workers and the driver of the vehicle will carry the scars of the accident forever.

DON'T FORGET YOUR PERMITS!!!

The Penn Township Building Ordinance is available for viewing on the website and at the township offices. You must follow this ordinance and fill out a Township, Zoning or Driveway Permit, also available online or at the office.

If you have any questions, please give us a call at 486-3104.



Residents can enjoy the newly completed walking trail



PARKS & REC

What's new with Park & Rec? We now have the volleyball sand court completed and ready to be used. Ron Tritt and Lloyd Jones were able to put the final touches on the court in March by installing the poles and net. The court is regulation size and available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please supply your own volleyball.

We have a swing set ready to be picked up for summer use. It will have two regular swings and two child safety swings. The exact placement of the swing set has not been determined yet, but we will have it installed for summer use.

Rose Petit has donated a bouncy duck children's playground ride to Penn Township Parks & Rec. We will have this installed for summer use also. We would like to send a big thank you to Ely Associates for their contribution to our park.

Lastly, with summer close upon us George Snyder Jr., we have already had numerous calls regarding rental of the pavilion at Centerville Park. We will be having a cancer run/walk and yard sale September 5th. This will benefit Pancreatic Cancer Research. Booth spaces will be available for all with a small fee which will be included in the donation. We are in the early organization stages of this event and will have more details in our next newsletter. Enjoy your park and trails and have a safe and happy spring.

Vickie



The new volleyball court is up and ready for use. Available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please bring your own ball.

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
George Rohrs - Vice-Chair
Marcia Leeds - Secretary
Gary Cribbs
Victor Barrick
Kathleen Shirey
Ron Tritt
Richard Mislitsky, Solicitor

Parks & Recreation Board

Lloyd Jones, Chair
Pat Walker, Vice-Chair
Vickie Wallick, Secretary
Pat Sangialosi, Treasurer
Bill Feuchtenberger
Ron Tritt
John Wardle, Jr.
Susan Whitesel

Fire Company Executive Officers

Ernie Beecher- President 226-2895
Tim Knepp, Sr. - Vice President
Wayne Hockensmith - Treasurer
Loretta Hair - Secretary
Brenda Bowes-Assistant Secretary
Bill Wardle- 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
Westly 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
Cindia Whisler - 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

Vacancy Board

J. Michael Ickes, Chair

Loan Grant Coordinator

Buck Shuller

Board of Supervisors

Supervisors' Meeting Minutes

January 2009 Reorganization:

- Elected Gary Martin Chairman of the Board of Supervisors
- Elected Ken Sheaffer Vice-Chairman of the Board
- Made the other appointments as necessary and approved salaries for 2009

January 2009:

- Approved an Open Records Policy for the township. Details are available at the township office.
- Tabled discussion of the Penn/Cooke Township lines until pricing can be obtained.
- Tabled discussion of a Floodplain Ordinance pending the scheduling of a workshop.
- Approved the Township Construction Permit
- Approved signing an agreement with the county to allow the township access to a new GIS mapping program.
- Approved the solicitation of bids for a 3-bay addition to the municipal building.
- Accepted the resignation of Ron Tritt as Assistant Zoning Officer.
- Approved the payment of \$3364.00 for the last piece of privacy fencing around the new District Justice office.

February 2009:

- Tabled discussion of the Floodplain Ordinance.
- Tabled the engineering study of the Penn/Cooke Township lines until such time as Cooke Township has the funds to help defray the cost.
- Approved a pension agreement whereby an employee can contribute to his pension fund.
- Approved the burning of the 2001 files insofar as the law allows.
- Tabled discussion of a Waste Ordinance.
- Approved an agreement to have HRG inspect the township bridges. County will pay for the inspections.
- Approved a motion to allow PennDOT to build a 24X24' shed on their property on Rt. 233.
- Accepted the bid of Skelly and Loy for the Phase 2 Bog Turtle study at a cost of \$5690.00
- Approved Resolution 2009-004 on the ACT 537 plan.
- Approved the re-investment of \$240,000.00 that is left from the District Justice building fund.
- Lloyd Jones reported that all but two of the security cameras have been installed on the hike/bike trail.
- The development of a walking trail in Centerville is progressing.
- Approved a plan to provide public access to a Civil War cemetery located on Lowell Hassinger's land.

March 2009:

- Approved the conditional use of an accessory building on Allen Linton's land to allow Mr. Linton to be able to run a small, part-time sharpening and welding business on his property on Centerville Road.
- Approved the replacement of the furnace at the municipal building.
- Adopted ordinance 2009-001, the Floodplain Ordinance.
- Adopted Ordinance 2009-002, Township Construction Permit.
- Approved \$800.00 for the purchase of a new computer for the office
- Tabled presentation of the new Citizens Award until the recipient can be present.
- Approved contacting Southampton Township to see if their waste hauler has the capacity to add the township to it's sole source contract as a potential option in the future.
- Approved a motion to advertise for bids on the reconstruction of the Leeds Road bridge.

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

About Penn Township.....Huntsdale Stores

Huntsdale had several stores documented during its long history. Rev. Conway Wing stated in 1879 that "Huntsville, formerly Spring Mills, is a station on the Harrisburg and Potomac Railroad. It has several mills, two stores, a warehouse and school house." One of those stores was the Ernst and Clever store on the corner of Pine and Leeds Roads. The current owner, Jeannette Utech, told the story that during the civil war the house was burned by the Confederates. The owners had packed up their valuables and moved further up into the mountains when they heard the soldiers were coming.



Ernst and Clever were partners in a chain of general stores, and the store also had a post office. During the 1930's Gilbert Hutchinson and son, Paul ran a small grocery store and barber shop in the old Ernst and Clever store site. They also sold gasoline and at one time were postmasters.

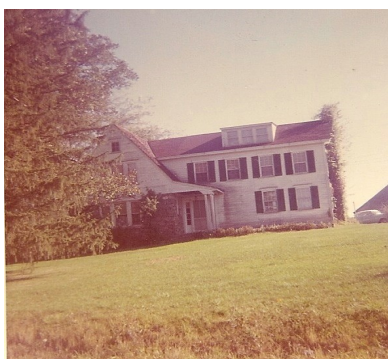


The house on the southwest corner of Pine and Leeds was originally a hotel and store. One resident said that he believed this to be the oldest building in the village still standing.

There was a store run by a man named Russell and later by Isaac Castle. This store was in Huntsdale before 1860. The iron works, in operation from 1789 to 1854-55,

also had a company store.

In the early years of the 20th century, there was the Himes and Williamson General Store. Jake Heims and Oren Williamson were store keepers and post masters. In ca. 1920, W.I. Sheaffer partnered with Williamson until his death in 1925. Williamson took over the store and post office at that time and ran it until it was purchased by Ralph Clopper in 1933. Clopper kept the store until 1943.



Marjorie Seiders was the last person to have a store in the village, and the Brough farm (now Hoedecker) was the last post office, closed in 1951/2.



Lastly, no history of Huntsdale would be complete without mentioning the fish hatchery. In 1932, the Pennsylvania Fish Commission sent Ted Dingle, Sr. from Erie to survey the land and water possibilities for a hatchery. Funding came from the Commission and from the W.P.A., and 20 men were hired to construct the original hatchery. The business is still a going concern and employer in the township.

Sources:

History of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, Rev. Conway P. Wing, D.D. and others; James D. Scott, Philadelphia; 1879 (by Hon. J. M. Weakley)

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

The Past Remembered; Harvest Time Prior to 1920 by Rev. John L. Kuhn, 1993

Penn Township 125 Years by Robert J. Smith

Interview with Jeannette Utech, 29 September 2008

Interview with Lowell Hassinger, Louise Potteiger, Butch Brough, and Bob Brough, 4 December 2008

PROJECT UPDATES

Lebo and Leeds Road bridges

Lebo Road bridge is on hold pending a Bog Turtle study scheduled for Spring of 2009. The Leeds Road bridge permits have been submitted and bids have been advertised for the installation of a culvert and wingwalls. Township staff will demolish the existing span and perform final grading and paving. The contract will be awarded mid-May and a construction schedule will be developed at that time.

Act 537

Act 537 has been forwarded to the county for review and comments. When returned, a public hearing will be scheduled to provide an opportunity for residents to ask questions and provide input prior to adoption by the Board of Supervisors.

New Township Equipment

The township staff recently purchased a self propelled telescopic boom (see picture below). The boom has a vertical lift of 60 feet and will be used for trimming trees and general john conaway maintenance in the township.



Verizon Tower

The Board Of Supervisors has approved the Verizon/ Zimmerman Land Development Plan for the erection of a communications tower to be located at 768 Centerville Road.

Township Tower

The Board of Supervisors approved an agreement with Priority Tower to erect a communication tower

on Township property. Priority Tower will solicit customers and compensate the Township according to the number of users.

Municipal Building Addition

The Board of Supervisors have initiated a project to add three equipment storage bays to the municipal building.

District Justice Office

An open house was held at the new District Justice Offices on February 9th from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



COURTROOM



Penn Township residents enjoy the open house

CAN YOUR HOME BE EASILY IDENTIFIED BY EMERGENCY VEHICLES??

There is a Township Ordinance that requires all homes to have the street number four inches high so that emergency vehicles can easily find your home. These street numbers are available for only \$10 from Bob Kough, 385-2179. This is not-for-profit, and Bob does this as a favor to the fire department.

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THE FOLLOWING IS A PORTION OF THE BURNING ORDINANCE OF PENN TOWNSHIP

A FULL COPY IS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING
ON THE WEBSITE: www.penntwpcc.org



It is against public policy to permit uncontrolled outdoor burning. The purpose of this Ordinance is to prevent needless public damage to life and property because of public and private nuisances caused by outdoor fires deliberately or carelessly set and maintained.

A. Compliance with Ordinance

- (1) It shall be unlawful to burn, ignite, incinerate, maintain or permit to burn any materials whatsoever, of whatever nature, without complying with this ordinance.
- (2) Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent fire-fighting training by Township designated fire-fighting organizations or the process of extinguishing a wildfire.

B. Public Roads and Public Properties – No person can set, start, feed, permit to burn or maintain a fire upon any of the streets, sidewalks, alleys or public grounds in Penn Township except where a designated area has been set aside or reserved for this purpose and an appropriate container has been provided to contain it.

C. Safe Distances

- (1) It shall be unlawful to allow any fire, except cooking grills, within a 20 foot distance from a building or property line.
- (2) No fire shall be set, started, fed, permitted to burn or maintained where such fire may, in the opinion of the Enforcement Officer or his designee, endanger any building or property, except where such building or property is used by the fire company for training purposes.
- (3) Nothing herein shall be deemed to prohibit indoor cooking activities providing reasonable safeguards are maintained.
- (4) Cooking grills may be less than twenty (20) feet from a building providing reasonable safeguards are maintained.

D. Control of Burning and Unattended Fires

- (1) Fires may be able to burn only under the supervision of a responsible individual.
- (2) No fires shall be permitted to burn whenever drought or extreme weather conditions exist or when a ban on burning has been placed into effect by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or other government body. The Board of Supervisors may prohibit any and all outdoor fires when outdoor conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous.
- (3) No fire shall be set that results in uncontrolled burning of vegetation (field fire) except for fires of leaves, brush and/or natural untreated wood that grew on the property where it is to be burned and where the location of the fire is at least 300 feet from any residence on adjoining properties.
- (4) Out-of-door fires shall be confined in a non-combustible container that is in good repair, covered with a wire screen of one-half inch or smaller mesh, except for fires of leaves, brush, and/or natural, untreated wood that need not be confined to or covered by a non-combustible container.

E. Extinguishing Unsafe Fires – It is a violation of this Ordinance for any person to allow any fire to burn under adverse weather conditions or unsupervised, or otherwise in an unsafe manner. Any such fire may be extinguished by the Enforcement Officer or designee or extinguished immediately upon request by such official, except a fire set in conjunction with the production of agricultural commodities in their un-manufactured state on the premises of the farm operation.

F. Hours

- (1) No person shall burn or cause to be burned any paper, boxes, rubbish, leaves or any other kind of substance, nor shall any person or persons set or maintain any fire, or burn or cause to be burned a fire of any substance or material of any kind, out-of-doors, anywhere in the Township of Penn between sunset and sunrise.
- (2) Recreational fires using natural, untreated wood are permitted at any time so long as they comply with all the other provisions of this Ordinance.
- (3) No burning shall be permitted on Sunday or the holidays of Memorial Day, July 4th, or Labor Day.
- (4) Domestic Refuse may be burned only between the hours of sunrise and sunset.

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 May 31, 2009. Our thanks to Curt Saylor for his donation to the newsletter.



Who are we? Commuter Services is a professionally staffed organization funded by federal Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality funds. Through our free services, we work to reduce traffic congestion by helping commuters find alternatives, other than driving alone, and by reaching out to employers so they can help their workforce find those options. Using alternatives also helps improve air quality, and fewer cars in rush hour can mean safer highways, too.

What's in it for Employers? Especially in Central Pennsylvania with its relatively low unemployment rate, having a commuter assistance effort helps employers compete for and retain a qualified workforce. Surveys show commuting costs are a major concern for many workers and often a reason to accept or stay at a job. You'd be surprised at the many ways there are to encourage or help employees. We'll show you how.

What's in it for Commuters? You could save a bunch of money just by carpooling with another person. Try transit or a train. Join a vanpool. Walk, bike or telecommute. Ask your employer to participate with Commuter Services. Check out our ridesharing database and information about reimbursement for emergency rides home. Tell a friend about us.

Who is eligible for free help? Employers and commuters in Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry, and York counties. The last census estimated that there were 823,000 commuters in this seven-county area. Most now drive alone.

How do I get help? Employers and commuters can call or email us. Who runs this program? Your regional chambers, transit agencies and county planning organizations developed Commuter Services and sit on our board (the Susquehanna Regional Transportation Partnership).

1.866.579.RIDE

Customer_Service@pacommuterservices.com

ZONING BOARD VACANCIES

Penn Township has 2 vacancies on the Zoning Hearing Board and request interested residents to submit a completed application. The form is available in the Township office or on the Township website.

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 2009 PENN TIMES:

<u>Size</u>	<u>Cost/Issue</u>	<u>Cost/Year</u>
1/8 Page (Business Card)	\$50	\$175
¼ Page	\$100	\$350
½ 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 July issue is due by June 30th.

Thank you!

This issue concludes the history articles on the villages of the township. Writing these articles has been a joy for me. I have met many people I might never have known otherwise, and learned so much about the township and early families. I have gathered many more pictures and stories than I have been able to share in these articles and hope to someday find the right vehicle to share them, as well.

I want to thank all the residents who shared their time, their stories, and their pictures to put the “meat on the bones” of the documented histories. I could not have done this series without your help. There are too many to list individually here, but I have hopefully listed you all as sources through the run of articles. Thank you, also, to the township supervisors who have supported the newsletter since its inception, and allowed me to present this material.

Linda Piekut

Penn Township
1301 Centerville Road
Newville, PA 17241

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #583
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

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

Employees

Ron Tritt & Ernie Beecher

Sewage Enforcement Officer

Vincent Elbel
Edward Elbel, Assistant

Township Secretary

Pat Sangialosi
Vickie Wallick, Assistant

Roadmaster

Jeff Gillaugh