

# Penn Township Sampler

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Henry A. Holman, II  
Chairman

Randy Plummer  
Vice-Chairman

Lucinda "CeCe" Novinger  
Supervisor

### Staff

Helen Klinepeter  
Secretary

Susan Long  
Treasurer

### Public Meetings

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
Last Wednesday of the Month  
7:00 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION  
Third Monday of the Month  
7:00 p.m.

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
First Wednesday of the Month  
7:00 p.m.

PARK & RECREATION BOARD  
Third Thursday of the Month  
7:00 p.m.

ZONING HEARING BOARD  
&  
UCC BOARD OF APPEALS  
As needed

All meetings are held at the Municipal  
Building at 100 Municipal Building Road

### Contacts

[www.penntownship.net](http://www.penntownship.net)

Township Office 834-5281  
Township Highway Dept. 834-4938  
Municipal Authority Office 834-6926  
Township Police Office 834-6414  
Police – Emergencies – 911  
To leave a message for  
Township Police 582-4311

## Township Motto

Lean, Efficient, Courteous, Service Oriented

## GREETINGS FELLOW PENN TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS!

As the newly elected Township Supervisor, please allow me to take a few minutes to introduce myself to those of you who may not know me. My name is Lucinda Novinger, but I prefer to be called "CeCe". I am a life-long resident of Penn Township, and I help my parents, Dick and Millie, who own and operate the Garden Seat Tea Room. Also, each weekday I can be found at Sheetz, working in the kitchen.

At home, I enjoy sewing and making crafts. My fiancée, Tom Reynolds, and I are the "staff" for our ten cats (all of whom were once strays) and one Cocker Spaniel (who only thinks she's a cat). I also serve as the Small Animal Coordinator for the Perry County Animal Rescue Team.

I'm very proud and honored to have been elected as the first woman Supervisor in Penn Township. The faith and trust that you, as the voters, have placed in me is extremely humbling. I do not take this position lightly, but as an awesome responsibility. There is a lot of work ahead of the Township in many areas, and we need to be prepared for whatever may come our way. I would encourage ALL residents to attend the various Township meetings as they are scheduled. This is the best way to find out firsthand what is happening in our community, and take an active part in it.

If, at any time, you have any questions, concerns or comments, please feel free to contact me, either in person or by phone. I may not have an immediate answer for you, since I am only one of three supervisors, but I'll certainly listen and take your concern back to the rest of the board.

Thank you and I look forward to serving YOU!!

## DELLVILLE ROAD BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

PennDOT has announced through Kinsey Construction that the 1-lane truss bridge will be replaced with a 2-lane multi-span prestressed concrete I-beam bridge. The construction is anticipated to begin on January 22, 2008 and concluded on November 7, 2008. The existing bridge will be closed and traffic will be detoured during the final phases of construction. All traffic restrictions will be given ample notice throughout the project.

## WE WILL MISS YOU JEANETTE

Jeanette Shaffer passed away last year. Penn Township and the community has lost a very kind, gracious and dedicated person. Jeanette was on the Penn Township Park and Recreation Board from 1997 until 2002. She helped to make the park into what it is today. Not only did Jeanette serve on the Park and Recreation Board but she would also pitch in and help whenever and wherever she was needed. At the December 2007 Board of Supervisor meeting, Penn Township dedicated a plaque in her honor. Jeanette's son Robert Shaffer, Sr. and her daughter Georgia Lepperd accepted the plaque while her other children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren watched. The next time you are in the township building, please stop by and view it.



## POLICE REPORT



The Penn Twp Police Department reports the following statistics for the year ending December 31, 2007. Officers received 600 reportable incidents of which 324 resulted in formal investigations. A total of 46 Criminal Complaints were filed with local and state courts. Other activities recorded and presented to the elected supervisors were as follows: 25 arrests warrants were executed, 42 accidents, and 65 preliminary hearings and or court appearances were attended by Twp Officers. Officers reported 48 assist calls to other agencies. Penn Twp PD filed 71 felony charges and 162 misdemeanor charges against perpetrators of criminal activity in the Penn Township during the reporting period.

Officers also issued or filed 43 non-traffic citations and 44 parking violations. They issued 227 traffic citations for infractions of local, state, and federal violations on the roadways throughout the township. Also reported were 54 verbal warnings and 25 disabled vehicle assists were conducted.

The Penn Township Police Department wants to recognize the accomplishments of Officer Leah Rissinger, a part time officer with Penn Twp Police Department since 2004 and a full time patrol officer with the Capital Police since 2001. At an awards ceremony held in the capital building in December 2007, Officer Rissinger was presented with a commendation for her alertness and professionalism during a traffic stop on Zarker Street in Harrisburg where a violator attempted to disarm her and a fellow officer, however the actions of Officer Rissinger foiled that attempt.

### **REMINDER:**

The Penn Township Police Department now has a web site [www.Penntwppd.com](http://www.Penntwppd.com). The site is still under construction but there are postings of some township ordinances that relate to nuisances, dogs, and curfew to just name a few.

## ROADWAY PROJECTS

The Highway Department has been out and about the Township cleaning stormwater drains, patching holes in the roads, and doing normal winter maintenance.

**Rohrer drive** – The Highway Department will be improving Rohrer Drive during the spring and summer of 2008. Storm sewers will be replaced and the road work is planned to be completed by the end of the year.

**Chipping and seal** of Ebersole Road, Mourning Dove Way, Quail Road, and Deer Path Road is in the works for the spring of 2008.

**PENN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION** – The following Subdivision/Land Development Plans were approved between September 2007 and January 2008

- Teresa Weaver Subdivision, Cove Road
- Lee Wright Subdivision, Hickory Drive
- Charles Stoner Preliminary Subdivision Plan, Linton Hill Road

As of the January 2008 meeting, the following Subdivision/Land Development Plans are pending:

- Jason Gehman, Holman Drive
- The Preserve at Mountain Side – East, Perdix/Cove
- The Preserve at Mountain Side – West, Cove
- Warden Properties, SR 849
- Charles Stoner Final Subdivision Plan, Linton Hill Road
- John Leiter Subdivision, Linton Hill Road



**ZONING DOCKETS** - The following Zoning Dockets were heard between September 2007 and January 2008

- Dr. Cummings Conditional Use, dialysis center. The docket was withdrawn.
- Furnley Frisch Zoning Hearing Board, request for lot size variance. The variance was granted.
- John Jones Zoning Hearing Board, variance request for additional signage. The docket was withdrawn.
- Bernard Radocha Zoning Hearing Board, request variance for a rear setback. The variance was granted.
- Dr. Alan Schwartz Zoning Hearing Board, request variance for signage setback. The variance was granted.
- Teresa Weaver Zoning Hearing Board, request variance for lot size. The variance was granted.

## **PENN TOWNSHIP PARK AND RECREATION BOARD**

### **Parks and Recreation Board set date for Fund raiser**

In an effort to be more proactive to the recreational needs of the township, Penn Township Parks and Recreation Board is organizing a multi-function fund raiser on March 29<sup>th</sup> calling it "Think Spring Day". On tap for the attendee is an arts and craft sale from 9 to 4, a giant yard sale from 8:00 AM. to 4:00 PM., the Rabies clinic from 1 to 2, and the Chicken BBQ from 10:30 to 3:00 PM. Or till we run out, whichever comes first. There are plans for about 100 yard sale spaces to be lined off, on the large



softball field. Also there will be 15 plus or minus vendor slots inside the township building for Arts and Crafts. As for the Chicken BBQ, we will be selling half chickens for \$4.00 and chicken dinners for \$6.00. Dinners include a roll, baked potato, and apple sauce. And for those of you who attended Duncannon School (now the Penn Township Building), we will have Bluebird boxes for sale made from wood we salvaged from shelving in the building. Supplies are limited. We hope to have 30 boxes ready and painted at \$25 each and are taking orders in advance at the township office. There are a lot of organizations doing BBQ's, but we wanted ours to be more of a community oriented program. As to the object of the fund raiser, our board is looking at some interesting potential future projects. We'd like to secure some river front property to construct a boat launch area. Other projects on the wish list includes, land to erect a sports complex, bike trails connecting different parts of the township, and there has been talk of a skate board park. This is why we are having the fund raisers, so we can reduce the impact such projects would have on the residents. If successful the majority of the cost can be paid by fund raisers and/or grants. Tax payer dollars would be a last source. And this sort of activity creates a win-win-win situation. You get something and help us create recreational opportunities for you and your family. Plus you might find a bargain or sell those garage orphans. So come on down! Who knows, you might even see your neighbor for the first time since the start of winter.

### **ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ – NEW LOOK**



This years Annual Penn Township Chicken BBQ is taking on a slightly different look which we hope you all will like and enjoy. First off the park should be a lot busier as we are currently signing vendors for an arts and craft show and sale. We will also be hosting an outside yard sale on one of the ball fields. So we are now calling it **THE THINK SPRING YARD SALE, ARTS AND CRAFT SHOW, AND CHICKEN BBQ.** But did I mention there will also be the annual Rabies and Distemper clinic in the afternoon for dogs and cats? That means we should name it **THE THINK SPRING YARD SALE, ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW, CHICKEN BBQ AND RABIES CLINIC.** That's a little over the top, so we'll just call it **THINK SPRING AT PENN TOWNSHIP DAY.** It's going to take a lot of work to pull this off and we need you to volunteer to help. We need people to direct traffic, to help with the BBQ, to run the concession stand, and help the vendors and yard sale people. As to why all the activity, the Parks and Recreation Board has decided to be proactive in its approach to the needs of the township. Simply stated there are projects in our future that will cost money. So rather than asking Supervisors for the funds, we are creating a capital

improvement fund to help offset costs or be used in the case of matching fund grants. So what this all comes to is, would you rather buy 2 chicken dinners or pay high taxes to cover costs of our parks and recreation system. For those of you that said higher taxes, please have your doctor check out the old brain box for cracks. Any way the money generated by this day will be put an interest bearing account ear marked for our Capital Development Projects.

So bottom line, wouldn't you really rather have a chicken BBQ or.....

## **BLUE BIRD BOXES**

For those of you that attended Duncannon Elementary School, now the Penn Township Municipal Building, the Parks and Recreation Board is again asking for your help. We are still gathering items from the past to be displayed in our hallway display case outside the township office. For more information contact the township office at 834-5281. Also the Parks and Recreation Board is currently constructing Bluebird boxes from old pine boards that formed a shelving unit in the basement. They will be on sale at the Chicken BBQ. So if you want a piece of your past and help a good cause stop and buy one. All money from sale is ear marked for our [HK1] capital improvement fund.



**THINK SPRING AT PENN TOWNSHIP DAY** schedule will be as follows:

Indoor Arts & Crafts/Food/Plant Sale – 9:00-4:00  
Outdoor Yard Sale – 8:00-?  
Chicken BBQ – 10:30 - ?  
Rabies Clinic – 1:00-2:00

The girls' softball team will be manning the concession stand during the day, too.

A Silent Auction will be held with the Indoor Sale, and the Parks and Rec group will have bluebird boxes for sale. Proceeds from these activities will benefit the township's Parks and Rec. Board, which has a number of projects underway to better serve our community.

If you're interested in participating, please e-mail [parksrec@ptd.net](mailto:parksrec@ptd.net) or call 834-0066 (leave message) or 834-5281 during business hours.

## **COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS**

March 29, 2008 – Think Spring At Penn Township Day

June 7, 2008 - Duncannon Borough will have a Town-wide Yard Sale

August 2, 2008 – Super-duper Saturday in Duncannon Borough. There will be Yard Sales,  
County Chili Cook-off, Chicken BBQ

Free clothing and bread are available at the caring closet every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month. Located at the Bethany United Methodist church, 400 Landsvale Street, Marysville. Phone is 957-3175 or you may reach Cherrie Fasnacht at 957-2803.

## REGULARLY SCHEDULED TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

### ■ MARCH 2008

- 5 Municipal Authority, 7 p.m.
- 13 Zoning Hearing Board, 7 p.m. (if needed)
- 20 Park and Rec., 7p.m.
- 17 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- 29 Road master Meeting, 8 a.m.
- 26 Board of Supervisors, 7 p.m.

### ■ APRIL 2008

- 2 Municipal Authority, 7 p.m.
- 10 Zoning Hearing Board, 7p.m. (if needed)
- 21 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- 17 Park and Rec. 7 p.m.
- 30 Board of Supervisors, 7 p.m.

### ■ MAY 2008

- 7 Municipal Authority, 7 p.m.
- 8 Zoning Hearing Board, 7p.m. (if needed)
- 15 Park and Rec., 7 p.m.
- 19 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- 28 Board of Supervisors, 7 p.m.

### ■ JUNE 2008

- 4 Municipal Authority, 7 p.m.
- 12 Zoning Hearing Board, 7p.m. (if needed)
- 16 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- 19 Park and Rec., 7 p.m.
- 25 Board of Supervisors, 7 p.m.

### ■ JULY 2008

- 2 Municipal Authority, 7 p.m.(Thursday)
- 10 Zoning Hearing Board, 7 p.m. (if needed)
- 21 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- 17 Park and Rec., 7 p.m.
- 30 Board of Supervisors, 7 p.m.

### ■ AUGUST 2008

- 6 Municipal Authority, 7 p.m.
- 14 Zoning Hearing Board, 7 p.m. (if needed)
- 21 Park and Rec., 7p.m.
- 18 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- 27 Board of Supervisors, 7 p.m.

### ■ SEPTEMBER 2008

- 3 Municipal Authority, 7 p.m.
- 11 Zoning Hearing Board, 7 p.m. (if needed)
- 15 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- 18 Park and Rec., 7p.m.
- 24 Board of Supervisors 7 p.m.

NOTE: All meetings listed above are held in the Municipal Building, 100 Municipal Building Road. Meeting times are subject to change. Please watch the Duncannon Record for any changes.

### MUNICIPAL OFFICE CLOSED

March 21, 2008 – Good Friday  
May 26, 2008 – Memorial Day  
July 4, 2008 – Independence Day  
September 1, 2008 – Labor Day

### DROP BOX

Penn Township now has a drop box for bill payments, items for the Police Department and the Township Office. It is located in the door at the rear of the building. The box is checked every morning. We ask that all items are put into an envelope and addressed.

**COMPLAINT POLICY** - Penn Township has a complaint policy. If you wish to make a nuisance or any other type of complaint, **you must put the complaint in writing and sign the complaint.** The Township will not release the name of the person filing the complaint. The complaint may be submitted to the Township in one of three ways. The first way would be either to download the complaint form from the website or pick up a form at the office. The second way would be to mail a letter into the office. The third and final way would be to e-mail the complaint letter to the Township.

**ZONING AND BUILDING PERMITS** - It is that time of year when everyone starts to think about spring and summer projects. If you have a project in mind to add, remove, or remodel your home or any building on your property, please contact the Township to discover if a zoning or building/inspection permit is necessary. The Township wishes you to have a hassle free project. It only takes a minute to find out if you need a permit. **Yes, a swimming pool and a hot tub need a permit. Even an inflated one. When in doubt call the Township Office.**

## **GETTING THE LEAD OUT**

New Online Resource Helps Reduce Toxic Materials in Landfills ~ *Courtesy of the Pennsylvania Township News magazine*

If you want to get rid of an old computer, VCR, or video game system, and don't want to dump it in a landfill, where it can leach lead, mercury, and other toxins, then check out *Use It Again, PA!*, a new online resource center for electronics reuse and recycling. *Use It Again, PA!*, located at [www.useitagainpa.org](http://www.useitagainpa.org), is a searchable guide to businesses that rent, repair, or sell used electronics statewide. *Use It Again, PA!* will help you find local electronic recyclers, national donation-based charities, and industry take-back programs, and provides general information on electronics recycling and reuse, current legislation, and the harmful effects of e-waste on the environment and public health.

The billions of pounds of electronic waste, or "e-waste," that will end up in landfills and incinerators over the next few years poses a serious threat to the environment and public health, says the Clean Air Council, a statewide environmental organization.

"Electronic equipment nearly always includes a toxic component, such as cadmium, lead, mercury, and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PDBEs), or a combination of them," council program director Emily Linn says. "When electronics are buried in a landfill or burned in an incinerator, toxins are released into the air, land, and water. Exposure to them can lead to serious brain and nervous system damage, developmental delays and birth defects in newborn children, and cancer."

Consider the following facts provided by the state Department of Environmental Protection: • By 2007, there will be from 315 million to 600 million obsolete computers in the United States, about 75 percent of which will be stored in households, offices, and warehouses.

- Computers destined to become obsolete within the next few years contain more than 1 billion pounds of lead, 1.9 billion pounds of cadmium, 1.2 million pounds of chromium, and nearly 400,000 pounds of mercury.

- Consumer electronics, including video game systems, digital cameras, computers, VCRs and DVD players, televisions, and cell phones, account for 40 percent of the lead found in landfills.

## **WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR YOUR TOWNSHIP? COMMUNITIES OF ALL SIZES NEED A HELPING HAND**

Whether you live in a township that's large or small, it takes a team to run it.

Township supervisors, managers, secretaries, road crews, police officers, code enforcement officials, and many others work together to ensure your family and home are safe and that you get the answers you need — when you need them.

Of course, on the surface, your community may appear to be a quiet place. Behind the scenes, however, it's a different story. You may not realize it, but each and every day the township is humming with activity as local officials take care of business so they can take care of the township and you.

That means patching potholes and paving roads, plowing snow, solving problems, patrolling streets, and carefully watching tax dollars. And while your township may run like a well-oiled machine, townships of all sizes and budgets can always use more help.

So maybe it's time to ask yourself: What can I do for my township? The answer to that question is simple enough: Get involved. Despite busy lives, many people have chosen to play a supporting role. Townships of all sizes and budgets need volunteers. You can serve on an advisory board or opt instead to perform other tasks, such as planting flowers and trees at the local park.

Last year, in fact, almost 2.7 million Pennsylvanians dedicated 350.2 million hours of their time to volunteer service, according to a 2007 report from the Corporation for National and Community Service, which sponsors such programs as AmeriCorps. While that figure is down slightly over the last two years, it represents an increase of almost 8 percent since 1989.

Not surprisingly, residents 65 or older did the most volunteering, followed by 35- to 64-year-olds. Those 25 to 34 years of age averaged the fewest hours of service but still exceeded the national average by a few percentage points.

As others have found, volunteering in a township can be personally rewarding. Think of it this way: By offering to help, you're choosing to give something back to the community that has given you, your family, and neighbors so much.

It can be an educational experience, too. With an insider's view of your local government, you'll see how township officials tackle issues and reach decisions to serve the best interests of the entire community.

Volunteering also allows you to play a role in shaping your township. That's what prompted John Haiko, a Chester County supervisor and an officer of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors, to get involved in his municipality, where he began his public service career on the planning commission.

"At the time, the township was sparsely populated but was beginning to see some development," he says. "If this change was going to happen, I wanted to have an opportunity to help manage it." Two years later, Haiko was appointed to the board of supervisors, where for the

## **WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR YOUR TOWNSHIP? Continued**

past 17 years, he and his colleagues have been employing innovative land use strategies to encourage growth in the township while maintaining its natural and historic beauty.

Above all else, though, when you donate your time and talents to your township, you're helping it reduce costs. For instance, in Jackson Township, Cambria County, a local business owner saved the community hundreds of dollars over the years by simply fixing its computer problems for free.

**Commit a lot or a little-** How much time you give is entirely up to you. While you can make a big commitment to your township by serving on its planning commission, the parks and recreation board, or its environmental advisory committee, if it has one of these, you can opt instead to perform smaller tasks. These include helping with a mailing, planting flowers and trees, installing playground equipment, or taking photos at a township-sponsored event.

To get the volunteer ball rolling, pick up the phone and call your township. Talk to officials about your skills, tell them how much time you have to offer, and ask them about the help they need. Township officials will appreciate your willingness to pitch in and will work with you to find opportunities.

**Make time for a meeting** - Volunteering is just one way to get involved in your township; attending meetings is another.

Sure, it's important to give something back to the place you've put down roots, but it's equally important to understand the issues, learn about projects the township supervisors are working on, and determine how these things will impact your municipality.

The supervisors meet once a month — sometimes twice — and it's at these public meetings that you will learn the most about your township. You can call the township or log onto its Web site, if it has one, to find out about upcoming meeting dates and times.

Typically, the board meetings last an hour or two and cover a variety of topics, from road maintenance to new developments. Township supervisors set aside time for public comment. Therefore, you can play an active role in grassroots governing by addressing the board face-to-face and helping guide its decisions.

If, however, it's difficult for you to attend a meeting, you can always read about it in the local newspaper, check out a rerun on the local public access channel, or visit the township's Web site. Many communities post meeting minutes on the Web that detail what decisions were made and why.

Getting involved in your township is as simple as devoting a few hours a week, a day or two a month, or several days a year. And if you're still a bit hesitant, remember these wise words: "Do all you can with what you have, in the time you have, in the place you are."

Now, don't you have a phone call to make?

Penn Township Board of Supervisors  
100 Municipal Building Road  
Duncannon, PA 17020-1100

Presrt Std  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Duncannon, PA 17020  
Permit #3

### TAX INFORMATON

The figures below illustrate the breakdown of real estate taxes to be paid by property owners in Penn Township to the three major taxing authorities in 2008. As you can see, a relatively small proportion of your real estate tax dollar goes to Penn Township. Real Estate Tax is based on an assessed value determined by the Board of Assessment of Perry County. Each entity of local government (county, school and township) sets its own tax rate. The major source of tax revenue for Penn Township is the earned income tax, also known as the Local Tax. Penn Township's tax rate is 1.8%. Penn Township receives 0.5% of the tax. The rest is designated for the school.



Penn Township .75 mils  
3%

Susquenita School District – 17 mils  
78%

Perry County – 4.05 mils  
19%