

NEWS FROM THE

Bridge

COVERING DELAWARE TOWNSHIP

Vol.11 No.3 2008

General Election Day

When: Tuesday, November 4, 2008
Where: Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company, Rt. 523
Time: 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Terms Expiring:
12/31/08: Susan Lockwood and Kristin McCarthy
Local Vacancy: 2 Township Committee positions
2008 Republican Candidate:
Roger Locandro, Jr.
2008 Democrat Candidates:
Susan Lockwood and Kristin McCarthy
October 14: Last Day to Register to Vote for General Election
October 28: Deadline for Civilian Absentee Ballot Application by Mail

You can vote Absentee Ballot in person at the County Clerk's Office (Main Street, Flemington): M-F 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. or on the following special dates/times:
October 30: County Clerk's Office open until 7 p.m.
November 1 (Saturday): County Clerk's Office open between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. for Absentee Ballot voting.
November 3: 8:30am - 3 p.m. Deadline for Civilian Absentee Ballot Application in Person at the County Clerk's Office
Voter registrations/absentee ballot applications available at the Township Building and online at www.njelections.org Click on "Services" on the left. Then go to "A" for absentee ballot information and application, and go to "V" for voter registration application. Remember – you do not need an excuse to vote by absentee ballot. Anyone and everyone can vote by absentee ballot.

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Winning 8th Grade Essay

by Michael Kusant

Editor's note: Each year the Township Committee sponsors an essay contest for the 8th graders at Delaware Township School. This year's topic was, "If you could create a memorial in Delaware Township, who would you memorialize and why?" Note that many students named living people as part of their "memorial."

I would like a memorial in Delaware Township for the farmers that helped create Delaware Township. Farming was basically the livelihood of the people of Delaware Township in the beginning. Now there aren't many farmers left in the township.

My place for the farmer memorial would be at Dilts Farm. It would be a statue of a tractor with a farmer on it. Next to it would be a square bale made out of stone or some hard durable material that would have the farmers names on it. Due to the high cost of making this memorial, I would enlist the help of the local high school art department to help with making the memorial.

Some of the farmers that I would like the names of on the memorial are:

Henry Fisher. He farmed for many years in the township. He also helped many people around his farms. He was also on some township committees to help lead Delaware Township. He was a great farmer.

Wes Bodine is another farmer that I would like on my memorial. He has been in the township for years. Many people have seen him on route 523 driving tractors to and from his fields. He supplies many farms with hay for their animals.

Dave Bond would be another on the list for my memorial. He is trying to keep agriculture in Delaware Township. Most recently, he led a tractor brigade to Trenton to call attention to the need for the Department of Agriculture in New Jersey.

There are many more farmers that would be qualified to go on my memorial. This could be an ongoing memorial. Maybe each Delaware Township Community Day there could be more names put on it.

Being Water Wise: Tips to Reduce Usage Inside Your Home

Everybody worries about something. Some people fear the banks will fail and we will be plunged into another depression. Others bemoan the gas prices and are afraid we will no longer be able to afford to drive. Still others fear global warming, invasions by actual or extra-terrestrial aliens, or that a favorite reality show will be cancelled. Me, I worry about water.

Though over 70% of the earth is covered with water, only 1% of that is usable, that is, drinkable-fresh water. Most cities get their shared water from rivers, or large artesian wells. It is when you get out into the country that you encounter the private individual wells; each household with their own water supply. This at first seems like a pretty good deal: you paid up front for the well, so now you have as much water as you want for as long as you want it, right?

Wrong. Well water is not a bottomless pit, as many long-time township residents can tell you. Each has a story, some personal, about wells that failed in times of drought. And if the idea of conserving such a precious resource as water doesn't deter you, then perhaps the prospect of paying to have another well dug might. It shouldn't take a drought to remind us that water is a limited resource, and wasting it is not only selfish, but expensive.

"Well I don't waste it" you might be saying. "I have low-flow showerheads, a water-saving washer, and low-flush toilets." And of course, all of this is a good start. But there are other things, simple things, that can save hundreds of gallons of water. According to Newark Star Ledger staff writer Valerie Sudol, the average American household is a big-time water waster, consuming as much as 50-60 gallons per day per person. Taking a hard look at our water usage can be the springboard for change. For instance:

Compost vegetable waste instead of running the kitchen garbage disposal unit, which gobbles up huge amounts of water. The compost you make will be garden gold, acting as a great soil conditioner;

If you pre-rinse dishes before putting them in the dishwasher, do it in a basin of water rather than under a running tap. The basin water can then be used to water plants, and only run the dishwasher with a full load;

Keep a bottle of water in the fridge for drinking rather than running the tap until it gets cold. Also, put an aerator on the kitchen faucet. Mixing air with the water reduces water use by as much as 50%;

Don't let the water run while brushing your teeth or soaping your hands. Fill the sink with some water to rinse your razor while shaving;

Ban the half-hour shower, even for teenagers. A 5-minute shower uses less water than a bath, but longer than that wastes even more than taking a bath. Also, make sure you have a low-flow showerhead;

When turning on the shower, have a bucket under the faucet to catch the initial cold water. Turn the faucet fully to "hot," then adjust before getting in. Use the bucket water for plants outside, or, if this is inconvenient, use it to flush the toilet. Speaking of buckets, you could also keep one in the shower to catch flow while taking a shower;

Insulate hot water pipes to keep them warmer and reduce the wait for hot water at the tap. Also, for the same reason, get an insulating blanket for your water heater;

Position a bucket to collect water that condenses from air conditioners. You will be amazed at how much water has been

condensed from the humid air in your house;

Most toilets today are already low-flow. If yours is not, you can buy volume-displacing hard-fired bricks to put in the tank. (Just don't use common construction bricks; they can crumble). Or, you could fill a plastic bottle weighted with pebbles;

Finally, pace your water usage. In other words, give your well the time and opportunity to re-charge itself. What this means is not doing three loads of wash in one day, or remembering to pace your showers, your dishwasher, and even flushing the toilet.

These are some starting ideas for water conservation in the home. Next time we will talk about saving water for the garden.

Temporary Food Permits Required

The Township Board of Health requires that you obtain a Temporary Food Permit when holding an event which serves "potentially hazardous foods" and operates at a fixed location for a temporary period of time, not to exceed three days. For example, a fair, catered event, church supper, picnic, or sporting event.

There is a \$135.00 fee for the issuance of the permit. This fee is waived for township committees, fire companies, churches, and boy/girl scouts, but you will still need to obtain a permit.

You will need to apply for the temporary food permit at least 5 days prior to the event and the permit needs to be displayed in a conspicuous place the day of the event.

Questions and applications? Contact Danene Gooding, Board of Health Secretary at (609) 397-3240 x202.

Farmers Market

Everything from Alpacas to Zucchini!

The Sergeantsville Farmers Market is one of Sergeantsville's best kept secrets. Come experience our farm product alphabet soup every Saturday from 8:30 to noon on the township green. We have: Alpacas, bread, blackberries and Bonnie's dog biscuits, corn, cookies and candles, dill and DNA pots, eggs, French herbs and Flo's jewelry, garlic and Grandma Jo's baked goods, honey and hand crafted clothing, Julie and Jamie's herbs and organic greens, incredible edibles, kittens, Llamas, monogrammed hand towels, tee-shirts and a great new community spirit with Olivia's face painting, pottery, pony rides and peaches, not to mention quirky balloon hats and Rob's perennials, steaks, soaps and special orders, tomatoes and Uncle Joe's Sausage, it is a Vegan's veritable smorgasbord with watermelon, woven blankets and maybe even ideas for X-mas, yarn, yarrow and last but not least when it comes to production: Zucchini!

You can find additional parking behind the fire hall.

"Trunk" or Treat

Instead of driving your kids hither and yon for Halloween candy, try "Trunk" or Treat. Decorate your car, truck or mini-van and bring it to a parking lot near you (location to be determined). Your kids can trick or treat from car to car in the safety of a closed lot. Fun and games for the whole family. For more information see you child's backpack as Halloween approaches or contact Scott Emmons at (609) 397-1399.

Well Water Test Kits Available September 22 through October 8

The home well-testing program, which has been conducted for the past several years, is co-sponsored by the Environmental Commission and the South Branch Watershed Association. The program allows homeowners to collect a sample of drinking water in their homes. The South Branch Watershed Association coordinates the analysis of the samples and provide homeowners with the results.

Testing your well for chemical and biological contamination is very important, since many contaminants can be harmful even though they are tasteless and odorless. Public health authorities recommend annual testing. If your well has not been tested for the past several years, now is the time. Last year, of the 33 tests completed: one well tested positive for coliform bacteria; three for nitrate; one for iron; one for manganese; two for lead; three for arsenic; and none for volatile organics and pesticides.

Coliform is a bacterium present in the human gut. It enters drinking water through septic systems that may be too close or malfunctioning, or through a damaged well casing. Coliform contamination is colorless and odorless, and can only be detected by sampling and analysis. Coliform is an indicator organism because its presence may signal the presence of more dangerous bacterial or viral organisms.

Arsenic contamination is another potential cause of concern. The NJDEP is compiling a database of public wells where toxic metal arsenic has been detected. Since the geological formations where arsenic occurs are present in some parts of the Township, testing for arsenic is also recommended.

Residents who live near old dumpsites or industrial areas, where drinking water may be at risk, may want to purchase additional tests in addition to the Basic Kit. The test for volatile organics measures 32 different toxics, including solvents. Residents who are concerned about pesticide spraying near their homes may want to purchase tests for pesticides.

Please note that the test kits are not as comprehensive as the testing required by the Private Well Testing Act. They CAN NOT be used for this purpose if you are selling your home.

Test results are strictly confidential between the South Branch Watershed Association and the homeowners who submit the samples. The Township receives a generic notice about the findings so that it can act if it appears there may be a public health concern.

Water test kits will be for available for Township residents on Community Day, Sept 27, and from September 22 to October 8 at the Township Building. The kits may be purchased by a check payable to the South Branch Watershed Association (SBWA) — cash is not accepted.

Filled sample containers must be returned to the Township building on October 9 between 7:00 A.M. and 9:00 A.M.. Residents should follow the instructions that come with the sample kits and drop them off together with the completed paperwork

Test kit prices are:

Basic kits, coliform bacteria with fecal coliform confirmation and nitrates: \$50

Lead: \$25

Volatile organics: \$90

Arsenic: \$35

Iron: \$15

Pesticides: \$130

Manganese: \$15

Open Space Committee Update:

566 Acres Preserved and

Preservation Applications Being Accepted

Big things have been happening with Open Space preservation in Delaware Township in 2008. So far this year, the Township has added eight properties with a total of 566 acres to our inventory of preserved farmland and will be closing on two more farms for an additional 82 acres over the next few months. In addition, the Open Space Committee has learned that at least one, and perhaps two Delaware Township farms were selected in this year's County competitive farmland preservation round with the potential to add 129 more acres should sufficient funding be available.

How can Delaware Township preserve this much farmland with our limited financial resources? We do it by partnering with a wide variety of groups who also share an interest in open space and farmland preservation ranging from the Hunterdon County Agriculture Development Board (CADB), the Department of Agriculture's State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC), the New Jersey Conservation Foundation (NJCF), the Hunterdon Land Trust Alliance (HLTA), the Delaware and Raritan Greenway Association (D&R Greenway), the New Jersey Municipal Water Supply Authority, and the State Green Acres Program just to name a few. In the majority of farmland preservation transactions, Delaware Township usually provides approximately 20% of the funding and is able to leverage the other 80% from other sources; a very good arrangement for Township residents and taxpayers.

To continue to make use of the available County and State funding sources, the Open Space Committee has been working since last year to file an application for the SADC's Fiscal Year 2009 County and Municipal Planning Incentive Grant (delightfully named the "PIG"). As a result of the hard work by the Township's Agricultural Advisory Committee and the members of the Open Space Committee, Delaware Township is among the 15 county and 37 municipal applicants to receive conditional approval of our PIG application and may begin submitting specific projects for "green light" approval for consideration. That is the good news. The not-so-great news is that as of this date, the funding prospects for state participation in farmland preservation projects remains unclear since no consistent funding sources for farmland preservation were identified in this year's state budget. New Jersey's fiscal troubles have affected all aspects of state government interaction with municipalities, and farmland preservation is just one of many programs to suffer as a result.

The members of the Open Space Committee do not want to lose the positive momentum we've experienced with our Open Space program. Despite uncertainties about the State participation in various programs, and because of the variety of partners described above who may be able to participate in specific projects, the Township is currently accepting applications for farmland preservation, and the Open Space Committee is preparing an Open Space informational seminar for a date to be announced during the early autumn, so landowners may receive updated information on the status of preservation programs, and learn about new and innovative ways that preservation methods may work to the advantage of farmers, landowners, and Delaware Township in general. If you have any questions about Open Space or Farmland Preservation please leave a message for Jim Borders, the Open Space Coordinator, at the Township telephone number 609-397-3240, Ext. 210, or send him an email at jlrborders@verizon.net

Meet Your Neighbor: Mary Daly

by Mary Coffey

Living in a lovingly restored farmhouse on Dunkard Church Road is a soft-spoken, multi-talented woman who is a wife, mother, swim instructor, biologist, teacher, medical doctor, and artist. Mary Daly grew up in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Her father, who had the misfortune to graduate from college and go looking for a job during the Depression, finally landed a job at the Bridgeport Brass Company, and stayed there his entire life. Her mother was a homemaker, until Mary was about 10, and then she got a job at a local department store for 75 cents an hour as a salesperson.

Mary was one of four children: two girls and two boys. However, when she was five, her younger sister, then three, developed childhood kidney cancer and died two years later. So for most of her childhood Mary was the middle child with one brother five years older and the other, five years younger than she.

A big turning point in her life happened when Mary was 12. She was coaxed by a friend to go to the North End Girls Club in Bridgeport. There she learned how to swim, and play basketball. Eventually she became a day camp counselor, swim instructor and director of the swim program. Throughout high school her "day life was at a high-powered Catholic high school," while afternoons were spent at the Girls Club ("a different world"). Upon graduating, she received a scholarship from the National Girls Club to help pay her college expenses.

She attended the College of New Rochelle in Westchester County, New York, which was run by the Ursuline nuns, a progressive, liberal order that ministered to the needs of the disadvantaged. She graduated with a degree in biology and shortly thereafter married her high-school sweetheart.

It was the Kennedy era; the time of the Peace Corps. After a friend joined a program called "Teachers for East Africa", Mary got a "notion in her head" to skip graduate school and save the world by going to teach in Africa. Mary, five months pregnant, and her husband were sent on a cargo ship to Kenya. They went to a village with a hospital, schools and missionaries from around the world. For three years she taught all the sciences and math courses in a one-room high school. During that same time, two of her three children were born. The family left Kenya all suffering from malaria and parasites, and returned home.

As a result of her experience in Africa, Mary decided to return to school for an advanced degree in Public Health. She attended the University of North Carolina (UNC) in Chapel Hill, where she received a Masters degree and a PhD in epidemiology (the study of epidemic diseases). She took a job at the university as an instructor, but then decided to apply her skills to medicine.

She entered medical school at UNC and upon graduation moved to San Antonio, Texas. It was there she decided to pursue oncology, because "of all the internal medicine subspecialties, oncology has the most research and new things going on." She wanted to stay in academic medicine, and her family did not want to move.

The Air Force's Wilford Hall Military Medical Center needed an oncologist. However, she had to join the Air Force. She did, and after six years she was the Chairperson for the hematology/oncology division and established the Department of Defense bone marrow transplant unit. Because it was the main Air Force hospital, she saw a lot of unusual conditions, and "learned more clinical medicine in six years than she could have learned anywhere else."

However, she couldn't do research. Because the kids had finished school, she began looking for a research position. She went to work at the Fox Chase Cancer Center in NE Philadelphia and has been there for the past 19 years, concentrating on women's health and prevention, especially in breast and ovarian cancer.

Her marriage ended and she wanted to move to a house of her own. She had three requirements for her house: it needed to be in the country so she could have pets; she wanted to be able to play music without bothering the neighbors; and it couldn't be at the top of a hill because by the end of the day she would be too tired to bike uphill. She found her charming, 200-year-old farm house in Delaware Township.

Her love of bicycling led her to a new husband. Mary and Jim Borders were married at the Prallsville Mill, eleven years ago, after meeting while biking in Sergeantsville.

Mary devotes some of her free time to art work. This interest goes back to her childhood because after her sister died, her mother gave her drawing books to keep her occupied. She has taken print-making classes and went to the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts to take a lithography class. Lithography is her perfect medium because "you work on a stone and it has so much texture to it. You can create all these effects..." Last year she had a print in the Phillips Mill Art Show.

Mary loves living in Delaware Township, despite her two resident groundhogs, who have helped themselves to "the best lettuce crop she ever had" and reduced it to "tiny little stubs."

New Telephone System

Police/Roads Building and Township Building

The Delaware Township Police/Roads Building and the Township Building have new telephone systems. The extensions at the Township Building have changed to:

Construction Code Technical Assistant Diane McDaniel (and inspection line) – Ext. 201
 Board of Health Secretary/Animal Licensing Agent Danene Gooding – Ext. 202
 Tax Collector Brigid Pfenninger – Ext. 203
 Tax Assessor Michelle Trivigno – Ext. 204
 Clerk/Planning Board Secretary Judy Allen – Ext. 205
 Chief Financial Officer/Deputy Clerk Linda Zengel – Ext. 206
 Administrative Assistant Erica DiGiovanni – Ext. 207
 Board of Adjustment Secretary Kathy Klink – Ext. 208
 Zoning Officer Robert Miller – Ext. 209
 Open Space Coordinator Jim Borders – Ext. 210

Watch for the Jingle Elves

The Sergeantsville United Methodist Church Jingle Elves will this year celebrate its 15th year of service. Because of your kindness and generosity last year, we were able to help people beyond the holiday season. We were able to help recent fire victims when they lost everything. Gift certificates provided immediate help to buy food, medicines and personal items. Beginning Monday, November 17th, you can visit the Municipal Building in Sergeantsville and pick out a gift tag. There will always be gifts under \$10 and some for as little as \$1. Donations are also needed and can be dropped off at the Municipal Building or mailed to PO Box 500, Sergeantsville, NJ 08557.

Township Housing History

by James Drummond, Township Historian

Delaware Township has always been made up of a rural and agricultural environment, primarily consisting of farms and villages. Houses and farm buildings have consequently been the most prominent structures, both historically and currently. There have been relatively few commercial, industrial, or institutional buildings, such as churches, schools, stores, taverns, mills, or craftsmen's shops.

According to a 1999 study done by the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, the structures of particular historic interest were built during a period of over two-hundred years stretching from before 1750 to 1950. The architectural styles reflected the outlook and lives of the local population of those times but with roots in traditional approaches as well. The structures exhibit a number of building styles and construction elements, often using a variety of local materials and utilizing basic forms and decorative additions.

The cultural diversity of Delaware Township's inhabitants during the earliest periods is reflected in buildings of the 1700's with English, Dutch, and German being the most prominent. These cultural influences are particularly evident in Township barns. The wider world came to influence building practices in an evolutionary pattern in later periods as local needs and outside influences gave form to different architectural styles. Formal stylistic architectural fashions, such as Georgian, were prominent in the design and detailing of many Township buildings of the late 1700's, but by the middle of the 1800's traditional styles and construction gave way to factors of popular culture and new technological techniques, such as "balloon framing" versus post and beam construction.

The very earliest structures in the Township were constructed out of logs, and this approach, originally brought to America as a construction technique by the Swedes in the lower Delaware Valley below Philadelphia, was used to build houses and other necessary structures. Only one such building in Hunterdon County has survived, and it is a one-room dwelling in Franklin Township. Structures built in the 18th and 19th Centuries in Delaware Township that have survived are either of stone or frame construction. Deposits of stone that could be used for building (such as sedimentary rock argillite, known as "blue jingler" in this area) were available in large quantities throughout the area. Most surviving 18th Century houses in the Township are built of stone, and this remained a primary building material for most construction until the middle of the 19th Century. After 1850, stone was used primarily for foundations, retaining walls, small outbuildings, and arched bridges. Stone was again used for remodeling old farmsteads after 1950 as the area attracted a more affluent population. Protective stucco coverings were also often removed from the outside walls of old buildings to expose the underlying stone structure.

A good example of the Township's early stone construction can be seen in the Opdyke-Sergeant House near the Covered Bridge which is built of coursed rubble stone with one stone having a date of 1754 etched in it.

Dennis Bertland prepared for the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, a detailed and excellent study that is a rather complete account of the Township's housing stock, which was consulted for this article. Through analysis of that excellent study and other studies, as well as visual surveys, in the next part of this subject, I

would like to give an overview of later construction styles and building approaches that have been characteristic of the built environment in Delaware Township. A knowledge of what has gone into developing the Township as it was constructed over time can potentially give insight into how and what we should preserve in the future.

Farmstead Tour

The Delaware Township Historical Society will be hosting a Farmstead Tour on Sunday, September 28th from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. Several 18th- and 19th-century style farmhouses, barns, and outbuildings will be featured to explore the theme of local history. This will be a rare opportunity to view sites otherwise closed to the public. Tickets may be purchased for \$20 at the Holcombe-Jimison Farm Museum on Route 29 near Lambertville where the self-guided tour will begin (rain or shine). A map and general description of each farmstead will be provided. Docents will be at each stop to relay history and answer questions.

Historic Designation: Rosemont

On July 22nd, members of the Historic Designation Subcommittee held its first outreach meeting with residents of Rosemont whose properties may become part of a Rosemont Historic District. The well-attended meeting was hosted by the Café at Rosemont. Committee members presented background on why the Township Committee had authorized a subcommittee to pursue historic designation for Rosemont (and for Sergeantsville, which was not the topic of this meeting), and invited residents to ask questions about the designation process. The meeting was the beginning of a larger outreach effort, to ensure that residents are well-informed about the process and effects of historic designation, before the Township Committee authorizes any official submittal of an application to the State.

The Township is not seeking to place any restriction on the individual property owner's use of their property that is not already established by current municipal ordinance; interfere with tradition freedoms of choice such as house color, additions, removals etc; or interfere with a private property owner's right to alter, manage or dispose of property.

If there are any questions about historic designation, contact any member of the Subcommittee or Susan Lockwood at (609) 397-4265. The Historic Designation Subcommittee usually meets the last Thursday of each month at the Town Hall. The public is welcomed to attend.

March on Litter Day: October 11, 2008

The Delaware Township Environmental Commission's 17th Annual March on Litter starts and ends at the Dilts Farm Park, rain or shine, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.. All participants will be provided with gloves, garbage bags, an official March on Litter T-shirt, and lunch.

Adult volunteers are needed to accompany our many young volunteers. Children from Kindergarten through 8th Grade participate in this event, so adult assistance is really needed.

Sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Clean Community Program and the Delaware Township Environmental Commission.

Community Calendar

September 1: Labor Day - Township Offices Closed

September 6: Township Wide Yard Sale

September 27: Electronics Collection Day – Hunterdon County Library Complex 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 908-788-1110 for info.

September 27: Community Day Noon to 5 p.m. at Dilts Farm Park on Buchanan Rd.

October 11: March on Litter Day

October 13: Columbus Day – Township Offices Closed

October 26: Halloween Party at the Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company Parade starts at Delaware Township School at 2 p.m.

October 31: Halloween

November 1-2: Thanksgiving in the Country Annual House Tour

November 2: Daylight Savings Time Ends – Fall back!

November 4: Election Day 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Vote at Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Co.

November 6: Recreation Commission trip to Kittatinny Ridge

November 8: Household Hazardous Waste Cleanup Day – Hunterdon County Library 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Info: 908-788-1110

November 11: Veterans Day – Township Offices Closed

November 27: Thanksgiving Day – Township Offices Closed

November 28: Township Offices Closed

December 6: Free Rabies Clinic at Township Garage, Rt. 523 10 a.m. to Noon

December 6: Recreation Commission Trip to Bethlehem, PA

Township Committee: (usually Mondays) 8 p.m. on 9/8, 9/29, Tuesday 10/14, 10/27, 11/10, 11/24, and 12/8.

Planning Board: (usually Tuesdays) 8 p.m. on 9/2, 9/16, 10/7, 10/21, Wednesday, 11/5, 11/18 and 12/2.

Board of Health: (usually Mondays) 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday 9/3, 10/6, 11/3 and 12/1.

Open Space Committee: (usually Mondays) 7:30 p.m. on 9/15, 10/6, 11/3 and 12/1.

Board of Adjustment: (usually Thursdays) 7:30 p.m. on 9/11, 10/9, 11/13, and 12/11.

Recreation Commission: (usually Tuesdays) 7:30 p.m. on 9/9, 10/14, 11/11, and 12/9.

Environmental Commission: (usually Wednesdays) 7:30 p.m. on 9/17, 10/15, 11/19, and 12/17.

Agricultural Advisory Committee: (usually Tuesdays) 7:00 p.m. on 9/16, 10/21, 11/18, and 12/16.

Shade Tree Commission: (usually Thursdays) 7:00 p.m. on 9/25, 10/23, 11/20, and 12/18.

D.T.M.U.A.: 7:30 p.m. on 9/4, 10/2, 11/6, and 12/4.

Recycling Depot: Saturdays – 9/27, 10/25, and 11/29, and 12/27 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Delaware Township Garage on Rt. 523.

DTS Board of Education: Meets in Performing Arts Room Center at 7:30 p.m. on 9/23, 10/28, 11/25, and 12/16.

Hunterdon Central Regional H.S. Board of Education: Meets in the IMC/Library at 7 p.m. on 9/15, 10/20, 11/17 and 12/15.

Update: The Recreation Commission Nov 5th trip to see the Broadway show, Wicked, has been sold out.

Senior Citizens

For membership information call Mary Hoff at 609-397-2505.

Meetings:

September 3: Covered Dish Picnic at the Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company at Noon.

October 1: at Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company at 1 p.m.

November 5: at Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company at 1 p.m.

December 3: Holiday Party for members with paid up dues at YMAC in Lambertville at Noon.

Senior Trips:

All activities require a reservation by calling Dorothy Kurzenberger at 908-782-0635 or Dorothy Gilde at 609-397-2097. Please make all checks payable to “Delaware Township Seniors Group.” Bus leaves from Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company.

October 22: Wednesday – Penn’s Peak – Jim Thorpe, PA King Henry and the Showman – Lunch included. Bus departs 9:00 a.m. Arrive home around 5 - 5:30 p.m. \$35 for Members \$40 for Guests.

November 18: Tuesday – Hunterdon Hills Playhouse “A Playhouse Christmas 2008” Choice of menu provided when signing up. Everyone provides own transportation. Lunch begins at 11 a.m. \$40 for Members and \$55 for Guests.

December 3: Wednesday - Free Christmas party for members (dues paid up and attended 3 meetings) Y.M.A.C., 65 Wilson St., Lambertville, NJ Starts 12 Noon

Classes for Seniors

Call 908-788-1359 for information about upcoming senior citizens’ activities and classes or check its website at www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/aging

Delaware Township School Calendar

September 2: Faculty/Staff report

September 3: Students report: first day of 2008-2009 school year

September 30: School Closed. Staff Development

October 9: School Closed. K-5 Conferences 6-8 - In-Service

November 4: Early Dismissal. In-Service

November 5: School Closed. 6-8 Conferences. K-5 - In-Service

November 6-7: School Closed. NJEA Convention

November 26: Early Dismissal

November 27-28: School Closed – Thanksgiving Recess

Amwell Church of the Brethren

www.amwell.com 609-397-4842 Fax 609-397-9445

September 19-20: Rummage sale 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Lunch available. Call 908-782-6206.

October 5: 10 a.m. 275th Anniversary of the Amwell Church of the Brethren AKA The Amwell German Baptist Church. Guest speakers and special music. Lunch served. 609-397-4842.

November 26: 7 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Service

All Meetings are at the Town Hall Unless Otherwise Noted.

Recreation Commission Activities

Township Wide Yard Sale -- September 6th

The Recreation Commission will host the Township-wide yard sale on Saturday, September 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Residents interested in participating should register at Township Hall by calling 609-397-3240, Ext. 207 no later than August 30. There is no fee to register for the sale. Maps locating participating households will be available for purchase beginning at 8:30 a.m. on the day of the sale at Township Hall. The Township will advertise the sale in the Democrat. Downsize and make some extra cash!

Community Day -- September 27

The Township will hold its annual Community Day on Saturday, September 27 from noon to 5 pm at Dilts Park on Buchanan Road. This year's attractions will include music, hay rides, hot air balloons, fire trucks, rides, and games. Representatives from local government, businesses, volunteer organizations, and other community groups will be on hand to share information about their work. Admission is free. There will be a small admission fee for rides. There is no rain date for this event. For more information please call Recreation Commission Chairperson Laura Darby at 609-397-5932 or Karen Livoti at 908-788-9605.

Birding Trip -- November 6

Hawk Mountain is part of the Kittatinny Ridge in southeastern Pennsylvania and known for its thrilling migration of hawks, eagles and falcons. Hunterdon County Environmental Education Specialist Thomas Sheppard will be our guide. Participants will have to be able to hike about 1.5 miles up a moderate to difficult trail to the observation area. This trip is open to Middle School Aged children through adults. Start time is 8 a.m. For more information please call Laura Darby at 609-397-5932. Total price is \$30.00 per person.

Free Rabies Clinic

Saturday, December 6, 2008: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Mark your calendars now. The Delaware Township Board of Health will sponsor a free rabies clinic on Saturday, December 6th from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at the Delaware Township Garage on Route 523 between Sergeantsville and Stockton. Please bring your pet on a leash or in a carrier. Pets must be rabies certified through 2009 per state code in order to obtain a 2009 license. This clinic for vaccinations only, WE WILL NOT be accepting licensing information and payment at the clinic.

All Dogs and Cats must be licensed in Delaware Township no later than February 28, 2009 in order to avoid late fees. It is your obligation and your responsibility to license your pets. There will be a license form on the Township's website www.delawaretpnj.org and in the next newsletter. No form will be mailed to you. Even if you miss the newsletter and the clinic on December 1st, you are still responsible for meeting the licensing deadline. Fines for late registration are hefty! Remember – a vaccinated pet is a healthy pet! If you have questions or no longer own a dog or cat please let us know so we can remove them from our system. Please call Danene at 609-397-3240, Ext. 202.

Note: For other free rabies clinic dates and locations in the County please call the Hunterdon County Health Department at 908-788-1351.

Bethlehem's ChristKindmarkt -- December 6

Kick off your holiday season on Saturday, December 6th with a special shopping trip to the "Christmas City!" Recognized as one of the top holiday markets in the world, Bethlehem's Christkindmarkt features aisles (in heated tents) of exquisite handmade works by more than 100 artisans, live holiday music, demonstrations, children's rides and activities, and delicious German and Austrian food. From here, visitors may also choose to either walk or take the trolley up to the Main Street area, home of the famous Moravian Book Shop, the oldest continuously running bookstore in the world, the Star and Candle Shoppe at the historic Central Moravian Church, and many other distinctive stores. In addition, the trip will include a stop at the Banana Factory, Bethlehem's award-winning arts and cultural center, home of the GlassWorks glassblowing studio and other shops.

A chartered coach will bring the group to and from Bethlehem (picking up and dropping off passengers at the Township Building parking lot). The total cost for this trip is \$29 per person, which includes a seat on the coach and a Christkindmarkt ticket. We expect to spend approximately four hours total in Bethlehem.

Tickets are limited, and will be available from the Delaware Township Recreation Commission on a first-come, first-served basis. To secure yours, please mail your check (made out to Delaware Township) ASAP to Kristen Devlin, 852 Sergeantsville Rd., Stockton, NJ 08559. Questions? Kristen at 609-397-5610.

County Clean-Up Days

Household Electronics Collection Day

The Hunterdon County Utilities Authority is sponsoring a household electronics collection day on September 27, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hunterdon County Complex on Rt. 12. This is an excellent opportunity for residents to dispose of such items as computers, monitors, speakers, televisions, VCR's, DVD and CD players, fax machines, stereo equipment, radios, cellular and cordless telephones.

Household Hazardous Waste Clean Up Day

The Hunterdon County Utilities Authority is sponsoring a household hazardous waste clean up day on November 8, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hunterdon County Complex on Rt. 12. This is an excellent opportunity for residents to dispose of such items as motor oil, pesticides, insecticides, gasoline and kerosene, oil-based paint, and other items. In addition, the County will accept car and household batteries. It is difficult to find opportunities to dispose of these particular items, so take advantage of this opportunity to dispose of these items safely. The county will not accept electronics, tires, air conditioners, computers, monitors and propane tanks on this date.

For info: hcu@co.hunterdon.nj.us or call 908-788-1110.

Preliminary Report on Township Zoning

On June 19th, at a joint meeting between the Township Committee and Planning Board, the Zoning Review Committee presented its report of preliminary findings, conclusions, and recommendations on possible zoning changes in Delaware Township -- including "Transfer of Development Rights," change in zoning density, and provisions for encouraging cluster housing to preserve land.

The report is available on the Township's website (www.delawaretpnj.org). A paper copy is at town hall for viewing.

Basketball and Volleyball Recreation

All skill levels are welcome! The games are friendly and lots of fun. Come once or come every time. As of press time, the Recreation Commission requested permission from Delaware Township School Board of Education to hold the following recreational activities. Approval from DTS is first required.

These dates and times are tentative only. These activities are not held when there is no school that day. DTS activities take precedence over Recreation Commission activities. These recreational activities are available to Township residents only.

Adult men's basketball on Tuesday and Thursday nights, 7 to 10:00 p.m. at DTS cafeteria 10/7, 10/14, 10/16, 10/21, 10/23, 10/28, 10/30, 11/4, 11/11, 11/13, 11/18, 11/20, 11/25, 12/2, 12/4, 12/9, 12/11...

Adult women's basketball on Monday nights, 7 to 10:00 p.m. at DTS cafeteria on 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 11/24, 12/1, 12/8...

Adult Coed volleyball on Wednesday nights, 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. at DTS cafeteria on 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/12, 11/19, 12/5...

Teen Coed basketball and/or volleyball on Friday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. at DTS cafeteria.

The Newsletter Committee:

Editor: Susan Lockwood

Editorial Board: Judy Allen, Mary Coffey, Jim Drummond, Maureen Yefchek, and Ann Zeloof.

Logo Design: Christopher Dane

Mailing Support: Betty Fleming, Kiersten Frenchu, Mindi Martinez, Betsy Saja, Arlene Spotnitz, Kathy Superior, and Teresa Stahl

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**Delaware Township
Hunterdon County, NJ**

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Thanksgiving in the Country Celebrates 35 Years

This year will mark the 35th annual Thanksgiving in the Country House Tour. The tour will be held on Saturday, November 1st and Sunday, November 2nd, 2008. Buses will depart each day from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. from the Delaware Township Municipal Building on the corner of Routes 523 and 604 in Sergeantsville. The tour closes each day at 5:00 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Facial Reconstruction Unit at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Tickets and information are available by calling 908-996-4677 or 609-397-3427, or visit our website at www.ThanksgivingintheCountry.com.

During the past 35 years, the annual non-profit Thanksgiving in the Country House Tour has donated \$538,500 to the Facial Reconstruction Unit at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. We hope to make this the best year ever, so whether you are new to the area or are a veteran to the tour, please join us for a down-home day in the country in historic Delaware Township and help to make our 35th year of this event a memorable one!

Several uniquely beautiful homes, including local historical homes, will be on display this year. And, as always, our delicious home-cooked luncheon will be served at the Sergeantsville Methodist Church for \$8.00.

A complimentary tea with cookies will be served at the Prallsville Mills. Many area artisans and local crafters will also show their wares at the Mills.

This year, Thanksgiving in the Country will again sponsor a quilt raffle. Raffle tickets are available now and will also be available the weekend of the tour for \$1.00 each. All proceeds from the raffle will also benefit Children's Hospital. The quilt will be on display at the Municipal Building during the tour weekend. The quilt may also be seen on our website. The winning ticket will be pulled at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 2. You do not need to be present to win.

We seek volunteers to assist that weekend, so please call if you can help. Thank you to all of our volunteers past and present!

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Litter March: October 11

Farmstead Tour: September 28

Community Day: September 27

Town-wide Garage Sale: September 6